

Board of Directors

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Chris Phistry	Member	345-9805	cphistry@yahoo.com
Dan Subach	Member	835-0535	dan.subach@doa.state.wi.us

Please contact any board member, if you have a question or concern about OSHP!



Oregon Straw Hat Players
P.O. Box 292
Oregon, WI 53575

That's Italian!



Special thanks to the Nichols and Kapusta families for once again organizing the 2004 Summerfest Meatball Booth. With the help of many volunteers, the stand raised over \$2000 in its "final hurrah!" OSHP would especially like to thank Pete and Annette Nichols for their many years of service at the meatball booth.



Oregon Straw Hat Players
striving for excellence since 1982

November 2004 Newsletter

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Summer Show Committee Created

At its November meeting, the OSHP Board created an ad hoc committee to come up with three recommendations for our summer 2005 show. We are looking for member volunteers to help review possible shows and make a recommendation. Volunteers must be available on Dec. 6 at 6:30 PM and other needed meeting times before Dec 14. The Dec 6 meeting will be held at the new banquet room at Oregon Family Restaurant. We encourage you to plan on ordering food to support Oregon Family Restaurant. If interested, contact Jeanne O'Malley no later than Dec 1 at 257-0230 or jacquesJOM@excite.com. If you have suggestions, but can't attend the meeting, please leave a message with Jeanne by Dec. 5.

OSHP to Produce *The Hobbit*

OSHP is excited to announce its "winter" production! In April we will be presenting an adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic tale, *The Hobbit*. This fast-paced, one-act adventure play journeys through the exciting world of Middle Earth. The main character, Bilbo Baggins, loves good stories and soon finds himself on a quest that takes him through mountains, forests, bogs, and caves.

Director Chris Phistry notes that there are roles for over 20 actors along with additional "extra" roles. ALL AGES of actors are needed and there are roles for both males and females. Many roles are "gender-neutral." Jeanne O'Malley will be producing the show and Kate Nipko will be Stage Manager. We are hoping for a big turnout at auditions, which will be held in early February.

Performances of *The Hobbit* will be held April 7-10 at the Prairie View Elementary School Little Theatre. This is the same theatre in which we have produced many of our winter plays in the past. We have specially chosen these performance dates to assist our "student" actors. The final week of rehearsal, when rehearsals often run the latest, will be during Spring Break, so students and parents will not have to worry about getting ready for school the next morning.

Information on exact audition dates, when known, will be found at the OSHP website (www.oregon-straw-hat-players.com), at www.madstage.com, and in local newspapers in January. For more information about how to prepare for auditions or to offer your assistance with the project, contact Chris or Jeanne. Their contact information is listed on the back of the newsletter.

Upcoming Events

Dec 6	Summer Show Committee Mtg.	6:30 PM
Dec 10	Caroling in Downtown Oregon	6:30-8:00 PM
Dec 18	Caroling in Downtown Oregon	11 AM- 1 PM
Dec 14	OSHP Board Meeting	8 PM
early February	Auditions for <i>The Hobbit</i>	
Apr 7-10	Performances of <i>The Hobbit</i>	
early July (tent.)	Auditions for Summer Show	
Aug 26--Sept 3	Summer Show Performances	

Who Could Imagine How Beautiful It Was?

As most of you probably either attended, helped out with, or performed in *Narnia*, you already know the answer to the question! With the work of many volunteers, OSHP performed the work based on C.S. Lewis's novel *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. In addition to working with many of our friends from past productions, OSHP also welcomed a number of new individuals and families to our group this past summer. In fact, two of our new board members join us directly due to their involvement in *Narnia*.



Many late hours and long nights were necessary to bring the show to life. Thanks to everyone who was involved in the production this summer, and special thanks to our producer, Stan Hill, and our director, Querida Funck. We hope that many of you join us again soon in another OSHP project or production.

At its October meeting, the OSHP board decided to not produce *School House Rock Live!* this year.

Historic Truss Makes First Appearance

OSHP has a great history reaching back over 20 years. Talk to any "veteran" of OSHP and each will have his or her own story to tell about a production or an event. Our theatre history helps shape who we are and connects us as a group.

For those of you who have been around for awhile, you might remember our production of *Pippin* in 1996. Kurt Schnabel was the designer for the show and had a fabulous idea for a lighting truss which would encircle the stage on the floor of the old OHS Cafetorium (a room which itself contains enough history for its own book!). Jace Nichols, who directed the show, had created beautiful stage pictures based on the truss to help tell the story. With the help of a number of workers, the truss was created and was ready to be used in the show. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, it was never used in the production and has, since that time, resided in our storage space on Market Street.

This season, however, the truss found a new temporary home. Strollers Theatre, a group with which many OSHP members work, incorporated the truss into its set design of its recent play *Saint Joan*. While not in its original shape, the piece looked great on stage and one can only imagine the powerful presence it might have had in *Pippin*.



YOUR SOURCE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION
ABOUT THEATRE

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SHOWS INVOLVING OSHP MEMBERS

December 5, 2004	MATC Show Choir Holiday Concert
December 2004	<i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> St. Bernard's Players
February 2005	<i>The Boys Next Door</i> Oregon High School
March 2005	<i>A Little Night Music</i> Strollers Theatre
May 2005	<i>Five Women Wearing the Same Dress</i> Strollers Theatre

These are the shows of which the editor was aware at publication. Please accept his apologies if he missed yours. Let everyone know about your show by responding to Querida's emails and publicize it to our email list!

Additional Board Assignments

Artistic Policies	Jeanne O'Malley
Community Resources	Pam Crary
School Liaison	Jen Kapusta
Volunteers	Duane Draper
Physical Properties	Chris Phistry
Marketing/Publicity	Dan Subach

Contact these people, if you have a question about a particular area.

Fundraising Goal Set

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Individual Shining Stars program last year. Your contributions help us offset the many expenses beyond productions that we have throughout the year.

The board has organized a special fundraising committee to help address our growing need for money. Last year, group expenses totaled over \$8250 and expenses will increase this year with our larger shed and need to purchase some new equipment. The board also recognizes the value of people's time and hopes to create a plan where we can maximize our income, while limiting the amount of time spent on fundraising projects.

The more money we can collect from our Shining Stars program, the less work we all have to do on other fundraising. If each member could consider adding \$25-40 to their contribution, we could eliminate the need for some of our other fundraisers. When you consider the fees that students pay for school activities, the money charged for after school sports, or the amount of money you spend taking the family to just one movie, you realize the bargain that OSHP really is. We are asking you to make your contribution early this year and to add something to it to help us meet our fundraising goal.

Contributions can be sent to
OSHP; PO Box 292; Oregon, WI 53575.

OSHP is a 501 (c) (3) organization and all contributions are tax exempt to the fullest extent of the law.

*****DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO OSHP*****

CATEGORIES OF DONATION: BENEFACTOR (at least \$1000)
SPONSOR (at least \$500)
STAR (at least \$250)
ANGEL (at least \$100)
PATRON (at least \$50)
FAMILY/FRIEND (at least \$25)

AMOUNT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION _____
NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR IN THE PROGRAM _____
YOUR ADDRESS _____ YOUR PHONE NUMBER _____

DO YOU SHOP AT BILL'S?

OSHP participates in the Bill's Supports Oregon campaign. At the checkout ask for a "sticker," which will be placed on your receipt. Save all your receipts and turn them in to any other board member or place them in our drop box at the Oregon Manor (see Pam Crary).

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

If you would like to be a part of the fundraising committee and, perhaps, help organize one of our fundraisers this year, please contact Duane Draper or Jen Kapusta.

Many hands make light work
and raise lots of cash!