

The Phoenix Players Youth Ensemble *The Phoenix Players* **Phire Phlies**

Newsletter

December 2009

CHRISTMAS COCOA, COOKIES, & COMEDY SNACK THEATRE

The next show planned by the Players is a Christmas event, with two one-act plays presented by The Phire Phlies. Our now



traditional *Scrooge Has Left the Building* will be presented, along with a new spoof, *T'was The Night Before Christmas or What Happened to the Stockings Hung by the Chimney With Care*, written by Anne Levy. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served afterward for audience, cast, and crew. The shows will be presented as matinees at 2:00 on Saturday, December 19, Sundays, December 20 & 27, Mondays, December 21 & 28, Tuesdays, December 22 & 29 and Wednesday, December 30. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and reservations are recommended because of the space limitation at the Township Hall. The cast of the shows will include: Emma Branch, Ava Carter, Valdon Cassoutt, Bailey, Mitchell & Trevor Hannah, Alexis & Brad Oyster, and Nick Viau. Anne Levy will direct, Sammi Kowalski will be in charge of tech, Kris Kowalski, Jim Wate, Sally Smith & Sheri Rogge will be production assistants, and Sandy Jordan will again be in charge of ticket sales.

We will be in need of people to sell tickets, usher and help with the snack time. Additionally, Phoenix Players are being asked to make some extra Christmas cookies during their annual baking to donate to the cause.

For tickets or more information, call our new dedicated Phoenix Players phone line: 810-588-3662.

SECRET GARDEN

We could not have asked for a more successful opening show for our new venue than *Secret Garden*. The second weekend, we had to turn many people away as word spread about the production. Audiences loved the show, and nothing but accolades have come in for all phases of the production. As an example, the following letter was sent (unsolicited by any PP) to the



South Lyon Herald and The Brighton Argus:

There is a group of people known as the Phoenix Players who are providing live theater productions in cooperation with the Green Oak Township Historical Society.

Two Sundays ago, I sat with a few other fortunate individuals and experienced the Phoenix Players production of "The Secret Garden." The set portrayed Victorian England with actors as young as 8 years old who all developed impressive English accents for the play.

At this time, the Phoenix Players productions only have seating for 48. If the seating were any closer to the actors, one would be on the stage. This allowed the audience members to immerse themselves in the story.

One scene was of a young English gardener handing out flowers to passers-by as they were on their way to a county fair. For a moment, the audience became passers-by and various people were handed a real flower by the gardener.

Surely the Phoenix Players production of the "Secret Garden" is the very impressive result of many talented people working tirelessly to provide wholesome entertainment. I commend their achievement.'

*Dennis Dubuc
South Lyon*

TOWNSHIP HALL RENOVATIONS

Thanks to the hard work of many people, but especially Gary Griffin and Jim Wate, the renovations to the Historic Township Hall were finished in time and under budget. The risers were put into place on the Sunday before *Secret Garden* opened, and



the backstage area was cleaned out and ready just in time. New seats arrived and were put in place, and a new portable sound system was purchased and used to great success during the show. The Green Oak Township Historical Society members were very pleased with our respect for the facility, and have agreed to let us keep the risers and lights in place for the time being. We will continue to do further updates and renovations in cooperation with the GOTHs. We have been given the approval to have an audience size of 50, which means that we will likely increase the number of shows we do to accommodate our audiences.

CASINO NIGHT

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped out at our first Casino event: Jim & Casey Branch, Scott & Kathy Carter, Derek Cassoutt, Linda Hannah, Sandy Jordan Ryan-Iver Klann, Anne Levy, Brad & Kathy Oyster, Jarett Reinmann, Lori Strauss, Ralph Viau and Jim Wate. While we did not make as much money as we would have liked, we did gain valuable experience that will help us in future events. We are now looking for a larger venue which will net us greater profits. In the works is some dates at Northville Downs, where they run a poker room from noon to 2 am every day. The schedule at these larger places is booked far in advance, but we are trying to get on the calendar. We are allowed 4 licenses for each calendar year, but it looks like it will be 2010 before we can run one again. Some places are already booked through next year. Stay tuned for further information, as these can be very big money makers for the group when we find the right location.

*Happy Holidays
to all
The Phoenix Players family!*