

Ripples

Dear River Company Members and Friends:



*Stephen Wallace, Christine Tupper
and Allison Eddyblouin*

The Board met at Crissy's Coffee & Breakfast Bar in January to celebrate the success of the 2015 season and plan for the 2016 season, our 19th!

Board Business:

We reluctantly accepted the resignation of Ann Foskett, Bill Glendinning, Nick Buck and Judy Dumont. Ann joined River Company in its very early days and directed/acted in many memorable performances for the company. Ann will be remembered from these most recent River Company productions: *Blithe Spirit*, *Over The River and Through the Woods* and *The Outgoing Tide*. Bill Glendinning joined the board of River Company in 2011 and was involved in many productions off and onstage, including playing Dayton Rivers in *Political Suicide*. Bill was also the advertisement sales person for our seasonal programs. Nick Buck has been involved in theater in the Midcoast area for more than thirty years and was honored to be able to serve as a board member of River Company. He has moved on to pursue some of his many other interests. Judy Dumont was Treasurer of River Company for four years and helped with tickets and refreshments at some of the shows.

Three new board members have been welcomed to the board: Christine Tupper, Stephen Wallace and Allison Eddyblouin. Christine will be remembered as Mrs. Bradman in River Company's *Blithe Spirit* in 2013. Christine has been a faithful volunteer for River Company and has helped with several recent productions by house managing and ticket sales. In the past, she has also enjoyed being a host on haunted history tours in Damariscotta.

Stephen Wallace, a well known local actor, has also been welcomed to the board. Stephen most recently performed in LCCT's fourth Gilbert and Sullivan production *Iolanthe* as the Lord Chancellor and in Heartwood's *Our Town* as Simon Stimson.

Allison Eddyblouin studied theater in Toronto before coming to the US for College. Allison joined the Lincoln Theater community theater crowd when she came to Midcoast Maine soon after graduation in 1997. Her interests are in broadening the pool of actors in our community by introducing novice performers to the joys of the theater. She was also most recently seen in *Our Town* as Mrs. Gibbs.

At our April board meeting, long time board member Mitchell Wellman was presented with a RICO 2 award for his involvement in 20 River Company productions.

Andrea Handel - President; Mallory Adams - Secretary; Charles Waterman - Treasurer; Suzanne Rankin; Erin Blomquist; Tom Handel; Tyson Bailey and Mitchell Wellman round out our Board. Ellen Whalley and Charles Waterman are supportive ex-officio members.

2015 Season Recap:

Our eighteenth season turned out to be another successful one:

In July we presented *The Housekeeper* by James Prideaux. Tom and Andrea Handel starred in the strange story of Manley Carstairs, a deluded hack of a writer, and Annie Dankworth, the obviously self-absorbed kleptomaniac he has unwittingly hired to take care of his home after his mother's passing. Audiences were kept in stitches by this quirky comedy, directed by Charles Waterman. With its wacky characters and the hilariously shocking revelations they make as they come to realize that they were made for each other, *The Housekeeper* made for a lively start to the 2015 season!

Our October production took a more serious turn with *The Outgoing Tide* by Bruce Graham and directed by Andrea Handel. The show starred Charles Waterman, as Gunnar, a man whose mind is deteriorating and has decided to take drastic steps to go out on his own terms, with stellar support from Ann Foskett as Gunnar's wife, Peg, and Mitchell Wellman as his son, Jack. This heart wrenching and often hilarious tale examines this family as they wrestle with the difficult end-of-life decisions that face so many today. The company also gave a special luncheon performance of excerpts from the show at Spectrum Generations and hosted open forums after the matinee performances for audiences to discuss the challenging subject matter.

Our second annual staged-reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* starred Geary Smith as Scrooge, with Mert Aspinwall, Sumner Richards, Emma Flesser, Frieda Hanlon, Erin Blomquist, Mitchell Wellman and featured Scotty Peterson as Tiny Tim and the Goose Boy. Directed by former board member Margo O'Leary, 2015's two performances resulted in \$1000 donated to ElderCare Network of Lincoln County.

2016 Season:

What's on tap for 2016? This summer we are looking forward to putting on John Cariani's most recent play *Love/Sick*. This romantic comedy is structured very similarly to Cariani's other well known play *Almost Maine*, with one act and nine short plays with just two actors in each scene. We watch couples struggle through the evolution of love, from "new love" to "old and tired" and all the stages in between. Full of surprises, *Love/Sick* will have you laughing and crying and perhaps questioning your own relationship status.

July 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 8,9,15,16 at 7:30 PM; July 10,17 at 3:00 PM



Andrea presenting Mitchell his RICO 2 Award

This fall, we plan to follow up last year's success of *Outgoing Tide*, with a staged reading of the play, with Charles Waterman and Mitchell Wellman reprising their roles and Suzanne Rankin taking over as "Peg" for Ann Foskett. Performances will be in The Boothbay Region, in order to reach out to an interested audience who missed out last year. Dates are to be determined.

Community Outreach:

On December 4 will be our 3rd Annual staged reading of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, starring local business owners and community members. And once again, the two performances will be directed by Margo O'Leary and this year's beneficiary will be Meals on Wheels.



The Housekeeper



The Outgoing Tide

Membership:

We look forward to your support again this season. A membership and return envelope are enclosed with this newsletter. Becoming a member gets you on our mailing list for reminders of upcoming productions, and your ticket will cost you \$2 less at each performance. Tickets this year will be \$15 for members and \$17 for everyone else. We will still be in the Porter Hall at Skidompha Library, Elm Street entrance. Specific dates for the shows are above, so mark your calendars now and we will *see you at the theater!*

How to contact Us:

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