

ADMIT ONE

SAP'S SEMI-OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER


 **Saline Area Players**

Volume 1, Issue 4

Summer 2008

SAP Annual Meeting Set for June 21



The Saline Area Players Annual Meeting & Party is scheduled for Saturday, June 21 at 6:00 pm. In addition to the customary bonhomie, camaraderie and general fun, the event will also include elections for the 2008-2009 SAP Board.

Terms expiring this year include Leo Babcock, Sara Honsowetz and Mary Rumman. While Leo and Sara have exercised their options to experience life after SAP Boardmanship, Mary will be standing (or sitting, as appropriate and a propos as the case may be) for re-election.

Three additional candidates have begun wooing superdelegates for the open positions on the Board. Kara Coulter, Scott Harris and Cecilia Ozminkowski will join Mary as candidates at this year's election. Interested parties who would also like to be considered should contact Doug Harris or attend the Annual Meeting and let their intentions be known.

The Annual Meeting & Party will be hosted by Doug Harris; the address is 9176 Pine Hill Court, Saline. Hot dogs, hot tub and hot weather are on the house, but BYOB and BDTP (bring a dish to pass). See everyone there!



Mabel Marie (Gleason) Cook of Saline Township died after a long illness in the early evening of June 2, 2008, at the Saline Evangelical Home. Mrs. Cook graduated from Saline High School in 1949 and married the love of her life, Bob Cook, in August 1954. They raised four children on the family homestead in Saline. Throughout her life, Mrs. Cook was the lynch-pin of her family's life

and home, and filled her time with countless sewing, gardening and craft projects. She was well known in the community, participating in many performances with the Saline Area Players. She will be remembered by family and friends as a loving wife, a great mother, sister and friend.

More than an efficient production

PUBLISHED: April 24, 2008, The Saline Reporter

The story of Frank and Lillian Gilbreth and their 12 children is all about time -- time saved and time lost. As industrial engineers, the husband and wife team were pioneers in the field of motion study and carried their pursuit for top efficiency into their well-run home.

In the play "Cheaper by the Dozen," currently being staged by the Saline Area Players this weekend, time appears in all its forms. There is the present. The story is narrated by two of the children, Frank Gilbreth Jr. (Jeremy King) and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey (Grace Walters), who together wrote the popular 1949 memoir on which the play is based. The pair stands downstage under a soft spot as they recall life in the Gilbreth household when they were children.

There is the past. As Frank and Ernestine reminisce, their memories fold over into the play's three acts, presenting the Gilbreth living room circa 1924, where all the action takes place over a span of six months or so. And there is the future - - or the lack of it. Frank Gilbreth Sr. (Dean Klepaczyk), we learn early in the first act, has less than a year to live because of a bad heart.

"Time is too precious," he tells his family at one point. On its surface, the play centers on the eldest daughter, Anne (Esther Jentzen), and her efforts to break out from under her father's conservative and efficiency-driven structures.

"Aren't you tired of looking like a freak?" she asks her younger sisters, Ernestine and Martha (Kelley Donnelly), when she reveals she has purchased a pair of silk stockings. Jentzen plays Anne as the perfect ingénue, longing to attend dances, date boys and be popular at school.

This puts her in direct conflict with her father, of course, who sees dating boys as a waste of time. He has other ideas of how his children's time should be spent, such as learning French or German while taking their baths or mastering a method for multiplying two double-digit numbers.

In its production, the Saline Area Players cast hits most of the comedic moments dead-on -- and there are plenty. The children, played by Jentzen, King, Walters, Donnelly, Marshall Gardner (Bill), Sam Ozminkowski (Fred), Alexander Jassman (Dan), Christina Fosheim-Hoag (Lillian) and Ellie Falahee (Jackie), are a talented bunch of young actors who clearly have fun on stage and with one another.

As Anne's boyfriends, Lee Bracken as cheerleader Joe Scales and Kevin Anderson as Larry, are entertaining and mine some laughs of their own. As Gilbreth, Klepaczyk pulls off the balance of being both strict with and indulging of his children, and Robin Fosheim (Lillian Gilbreth) is a fine foil for his obsessive idiosyncrasies.

The strong cast is rounded out by Janine Hutchinson as the cook, Mrs. Fitzgerald; Blair Driskell as Dr. Burton; and Ann Marie Mann, who milks the role of snooty Miss Brill for all its worth. Aply directed by Saline Area Players veteran Mary Rumman, making her directorial debut, with a handsome set design by Leo Babcock and wonderful period costumes by Raynette Kempf and Patt Lambarth, "Cheaper by the Dozen" is fun family fare.

What is missing from the production is a palpable pathos that could transform "Cheaper by the Dozen" from merely a comedy into a powerful theater experience. Gilbreth learns early in the first act that he is likely to die within the year from a defective heart and the news drives him even more to get his house in order.

Suddenly, his observations about time management take on a broader, deeper meaning so that when Anne asks him, "What if I do waste one afternoon?" the question should reverberate. Near the end of the play when Gilbreth declares with some satisfaction, "It's like the whole house is getting to run itself," it's evident he has been preparing his family to continue on without him.

It's not until late in the third act that we see the pent-up awareness of the short time he has left emerge from the characters. In the end, "Cheaper by the Dozen" is about more than just a father's fascination with time efficiency. It is about the good use of one's time, however short it may be.

A Baker's Dozen of "Cheaper By the Dozen"



SALINE AREA PLAYERS

P.O. Box 334
Saline, MI 48176
E-mail:
President@salineareaplayers.com



Although technically founded in 1973, the Saline Area Players' first production was in 1972. Performers come from all walks of life, drawn together by their love of the stage. None of them are paid; they all do it for the enjoyment. In addition to performing onstage, all of the cast members (along with their family and friends) are asked to help out backstage - painting or building scenery, sewing costumes, putting up posters, etc. The Saline Area Players pride ourselves on our commitment to educating our members and performers and giving them a chance to be creative.



Important Dates to Remember

June 21	Annual Party & Meeting	9176 Pine Hill Ct., Saline
Sept. 27	"Harvest Time"	Rentschler Farm
Nov. 7-9, 14-15*	"On Golden Pond"	Liberty School
March 20-22, '09*	"Chicago"	Saline Middle School

*Tentative –stay tuned for more details

Yes! I would like to support Saline Area Players!

Name _____ Email _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

- I am interested in becoming a member.** I understand that membership is for one season and includes the quarterly newsletter, advance notice of auditions and shows, and voting rights. Membership is required of performers.
- Student (\$15)
- Individual (\$20)
- Family (\$40)
- Lifetime (\$250)
- I am interested in sponsorship.** I understand that sponsorship includes my name in the season's programs for one of the levels listed below, as well as 2 complimentary tickets at the Silver Sponsor level and 4 complimentary tickets at the Gold Sponsor level.
- Friend (\$25-\$49)
- Supporter (\$50-\$99)
- Patron (\$100-\$249)
- Silver Sponsor (\$250-\$499)
- Gold Sponsor (\$500+)

Complete this form and return it along with your check made payable to:

Saline Area Players

P.O. Box 334, Saline, MI 48176

Thank you for your generous support!