

NOT SO COMMON TIMES



NOT SO

COMMON PLAYERS

Godspell was originally conceived, written and directed by [John-Michael Tebelak](#) (who originally wrote *Godspell* as his Masters Thesis project at Carnegie-Mellon University in 1971), with music and new lyrics by [Steven Schwartz](#) (Schwartz's credit of "new lyrics" is because several of the show's original lyrics originated from the Episcopal hymnal).

Godspell is a rock musical loosely based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew, with some parables taken from St Luke. It is a whimsical blend of mime, charades, vaudeville routines and impersonations.

The director is given a wide berth in interpretation and presentation and each production is very unique. *Godspell* has remained an important part of modern musical theatre because of its versatility. Many times the scene is set in a school yard or in a circus atmosphere. Director Michael C. Mensching has chosen a New York City subway on September 11, 2001 as the time and setting for this production. We are honoring the deceased firefighters from 9/11 and have chosen Thomas Foley, West Nyack, NY as our hero. Thomas (age 32) was among the early responders to 9/11 from Rescue 3. We will never forget the sacrifice of these great heroes.



"Prepare Ye The Way Of The Lord", "Day By Day" (which landed on the pop billboard charts in 1972), "Turn Back O Man", "By My

Side", "Bless The Lord" and "We Beseech Thee" are just a few of the memorable songs from *Godspell*.



Mensching and David Rossi, musical director, have assembled an ensemble cast (Adam Coons, Dashira Cortes, Sean Fagan, Emmett Ferris, Nicolle Galligan, Kristin Lopez, Edmund Metzold, Marie Pflieg, Robert Rice and Alana Sangiacomo) who will charm and disturb you. Christine Marcella has spiced it up with stunning choreography. Set designer Michael McDermott with assistance from Mensching (and many helpers) have created a replica of a NY subway car. Costume, Lighting, Sound and Make-up Designers (Debbie Lummis, Jim Mackenzie, Michael Silvia and Marcia Lenehan) bring it all together as a package. Marlene Countermine and Sally Burke are proud to bring this production to fruition.

We have "Prepared the Way". Now it is time for you to join us in a very special revival of *Godspell*.



The Magic of Theatre...Look How We've Grown!

In less than ten years, **NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS (NSCP)** has grown by leaps and bounds. From a fledging community theatre troupe that produced one summer show per year, we've become an award-winning, sought-after group producing three to four shows year-round. Throughout our history, we've been fortunate to have the continued support of the Town of Clifton Park.

Now, **NSCP** is preparing to take the next step forward in our evolution. To position ourselves for continued growth and success, **NSCP** is beginning the process of incorporating as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. This status will provide us more flexibility in our operations, allow us to accept donations (which many of our audience members have asked us about), and free up many hard-working Town staff who help us year after year with our increasingly voluminous administrative tasks.

cont'd Page 3



Volume 5, Issue 1
Spring 2009

Inside this issue:

GODSPELL 1

The Magic of Theatre 1

Spotlight On 2

BYE BYE BIRDIE 2
Clue 3
THE MUSICAL

the Spitfire Grill 3

Recap

TANYS Awards

The Magic...cont'd 3

Arts and Culture 4

Costumes...Directors 4

Performances:

April 17, 18, 19
23, 24, 25, 26

Friday & Saturday

8:00PM

Sunday Matinee

2:00PM

Shenendehowa HS

East Little Theater

Clifton Park NY

FREE

Musical Theatre

Sponsored by

The Town of

Clifton Park



“Spotlight On” is a regular feature of our newsletter, profiling a person who has made a positive impact on NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS



Jeremy Noble



**Performances
July 10, 11, 12
16, 17, 18, 19
All performances
at 7:30 PM**

!!!Auditions!!!

**May 4th & 5th
6:30 to 10:00 PM
Shenendehowa
Senior Center
Vischer Ferry Road
At the Clifton Common**

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

**PLEASE PREPARE 16 BARS
FROM A BROADWAY SHOW**

**PREPARE TO READ FROM THE
SCRIPT**

**DRESS COMFORTABLY FOR A
A DANCE AUDITION**

GOOD LUCK!

SPOTLIGHT ON: JEREMY NOBLE

He may be young, but Jeremy Noble has accomplished more in his 29 years than many people do in a lifetime!

Jeremy serves as Treasurer on the board of NSCP, and has been active onstage and backstage as well. It's no wonder, as he comes from a creative family: Jeremy's father is well-known local actor John Noble; his sister, Polly B. Noble, is a NYC costume designer and wardrobe specialist; and his brother, Chris Noble, is CEO of Kompolt, which runs high-profile cause marketing events.

At age 13, Jeremy did his first show with Colonie Youth Summer Theatre. Many shows followed during his high school and college years. Jeremy graduated from Colonie High School, and went to Arizona State University to bowl and study accounting (an avid bowler, he has thrown a few 300 games!) Jeremy finished his bachelor's degree in accounting at SUNY Albany, and then earned a master's degree in taxation from SUNY Albany.

Jeremy worked in public accounting for five years after college. He has been a NYS licensed Certified Public Accountant since 2004, is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the NYS Society of CPAs (NYSSCPA), and is on the Board of Directors of the Northeast Chapter of NYSSCPA, currently serving as Vice President. Jeremy also previously chaired the Northeast Chapter's Young CPAs committee and served as its treasurer. Currently, Jeremy works as Chief Financial Officer of Tully Rinckey PLLC, one of the largest full-service law firms in the Capital Region, which opened a Washington, DC office last year. He lives

with his girlfriend, Jennifer Dott, and their chihuahua, Bradley, in Colonie.

Jeremy volunteers with several organizations in addition to NSCP, proudly serving as treasurer of Family & Child Service of Schenectady and the Schenectady County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). Jeremy also recently joined the board of the NYS Child Care Coordinating Council, and serves as chair of its Finance Committee. He is also a NYS Peace Officer and captain of the humane law enforcement division of the Schenectady County SPCA.

With such a busy schedule, Jeremy says, "My board involvement with NSCP has allowed me to stay in the theatre without the major commitment of doing a show." He does try to get onstage at least once per year, though. Jeremy has acted locally with NSCP, Confetti Stage, Mac-Haydn Theatre, Curtain Call Theatre and Debuts Theater Company. For NSCP, Jeremy has appeared onstage in *Crazy for You*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *National Icon*, and has worked backstage on *Into the Woods* and *The Spitfire Grill*. He has even trained with the United Stuntmen's Association in Seattle!

When asked about favorite shows he's seen, Jeremy cites *Rent*, *Jekyll & Hyde* and *Wicked*. However, he can't name a favorite role he's played quite as easily – he says, "Who knows? They are all fun in their own little ways." In a nod to having stepped into several shows after other actors dropped out, Jeremy jokes that audiences are likely to find him in shows where "there are only two weeks of rehearsals!"

NSCP Rocks and Rolls in our Summer 2009 Show!

Teen idols... celebrity excitement... parents and teenagers who just don't understand each other. These aren't modern-day issues – they've been around for generations!

This summer, join NSCP for a joyful celebration of swooning teenagers, hip-gyrating rock idols and parent-kid miscommunications, in one of America's most popular and best-loved musicals, *Bye, Bye Birdie!*

Bye, Bye Birdie tells the story of rock and roll singer Conrad Birdie, an Elvis Presley-type, who's about to be inducted into the Army. Conrad's stressed-out manager and songwriter, Albert, and Albert's long-suffering secretary and sweetheart, Rose, have worked hard to keep Conrad at the top of the charts and in the hearts of teenage girls everywhere. But with Conrad headed off to the Army, Rosie concocts one final national publicity stunt: Conrad will bid a typical American teen girl goodbye with an all-American kiss.

When Conrad travels to the home turf of the se-

lected girl – and he shakes, rattles and roils the tranquil town of Sweet Apple – all the girls go wild! Mayhem ensues, parents and kids find themselves at odds with each other, and hilarity abounds. But by the end, all is made right. Lovers are reunited, friendships are repaired, and the town of Sweet Apple restores itself to a semblance of calm.

A musical satire about small-town wholesomeness under siege in the age of Elvis, *Bye, Bye Birdie* bursts with energy, verve and charm. The original Broadway show won Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Featured Actor in a Musical (Dick Van Dyke, as Albert), Best Direction and Best Choreography.

Bye, Bye Birdie, directed by Sean Carter with musical direction by David Rossi, will hold auditions at the Shenendehowa Senior Center on May 4 and 5, from 6:30 to 10:00 pm. The production will run July 10-19 at the outdoor stage at Clifton Common. Join us for a rocking, rolling great time!

For info: http://civic.bev.net/sme/byebyebirdie/Birdie_info.html#synopsis

Do You Have A Clue?

Based on the popular board game, this rousing, fun-filled musical brings the world's best-known mystery suspects to life on the stage, and invites the audience to play along to solve a mystery. *CLUE THE MUSICAL* is an international theatrical sensation, wowing both audiences and press. The suspects sing, dance and joke their way into your heart... or into suspicion, as you guess which one of the 216 possible endings, different every performance, is the answer to: whodunit, in what room, with what weapon. *CLUE* will be directed by Laura W. Andruski, with musical direction by Pat Douglass.

Available Roles

MR. BODDY, the musical's savvy host, who senses motive in the air. His guests won't rest easily, until he rests permanently. Soaring baritone/tenor.

MRS. PEACOCK, the rose of the Peacock Family and Chairperson of Peacock Enterprises. Well-known, well traveled and well preserved. Mezzo with a belt.

MR. GREEN, Sultan of the stock market, King of Commodities...an entrepreneur. He owns the world's most popular discount air carrier, Pennies in Heaven. Baritone/tenor.

MISS SCARLET, an actress, well a singer, no more like a performer. She does it *all!* Or so that's what her men friends tell her. Wide vocal range with belt.

COLONEL MUSTARD, stormed bunkers and triumphed in war...not with might, but imagination. He has a rare ailment: Non-identifys-itis. Baritone.

PROFESSOR PLUM, author by trade, intellect by birth, American by choice. He was born in London, raised in New York, attended Oxford and works at a DC think tank. Baritone.

MRS. WHITE, works seven, long hard days a week with no rest for her weary bones, muscles, hands, feet, eyes, nose, hair... (May be played by man in drag.) Wide vocal range.

THE DETECTIVE, hard-nosed lady who is hard-pressed to find the hard truth. She turns over suspects, turns over stones...and turns over when she sleeps. Mezzo-Soprano.

(Note: Mrs. Peacock, Professor Plum, Miss Scarlet, Colonel Mustard, Mrs. White and Mr. Green are collectively referred to as the SUSPECTS.)



Performances
October 16, 17, 18,
22, 23, 24, 25
Shen HSE
Little Theatre

!!!Auditions!!!

June 14th 1-4 pm
June 15th 7-10:00 pm
Shenendehowa
Senior Center
Vischer Ferry Road
At the Clifton Common

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

PLEASE PREPARE 16 BARS
FROM A BROADWAY SHOW

PREPARE TO READ FROM THE
SCRIPT

ALL ROLES FOR ADULTS (18 +)

Rehearsals start August 2nd.



Tasty Theatre at The Spitfire Grill!

Something was cookin'... and boy, was it spectacular! It was the **NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS'** fall 2008 production, *The Spitfire Grill* – a resounding success that left its customers happy and very satisfied.

Produced by Sally Burke and directed by Don Counterline (who also designed the set), with musical direction by Vince Bonafede, *The Spitfire Grill* drew standing room only audiences night after night. This dynamic trio was supported by an excellent production team: assistant producer Pat O'Donnell, assistant to the director Marlene Counterline, lighting designer John Burke, costume designer Karen Boynton, sound designer Jeff Patnode, stage manager Michael Silvia, props team Joe and Mary Ann Conra, makeup designer Marcia Lenehan and stage crew Jeremy Noble. The set was constructed by Richard Lenehan, Frank Hegener, John Burke and Diane Ferreira, and painted by Mary Kozlowski, Stacy LaCombe-Kraft and Meagan Dye. Pam O'Connor handled the program and flyers.

The perfectly matched ensemble cast carried the production to wonderful heights of humor and feeling. NSCP newcomer Alana Sangiacomo joined veterans Barb Mahlmann, Laura Tortorici, Matt Streifert, Debbie May, Dennis Chmura and Bill Depew. Each actor contributed a multi-faceted portrait of a small town character with his or her own deep secrets and hopeful dreams.

NSCP is proud to announce that *The Spitfire Grill* was honored with four Roving Adjudicator Merit Awards from TANYS (the Theatre Association of New York State):

- Excellence in Acting to Alana Sangiacomo for her portrayal of Percy Talbott
- Excellence in Acting to Debbie May for her portrayal of Effy Krayneck
- Meritorious Achievement in Acting to Matt Streifert for his portrayal of Joe Sutter
- Meritorious Achievement in Properties to Joe and Mary Ann Conra

Congratulations to the entire cast and crew of *The Spitfire Grill* for a high-quality, heartwarming production!



The Magic of Theatre...Look How We've Grown! ...cont'd from page 1

The NSCP board has been meeting with Town officials to work out the details of our evolution. The Town of Clifton Park will still financially support NSCP, for which we are very grateful – and as an independent non-profit entity NSCP will be able to more easily conduct operations that are unique to a community theatre group. It will be a win-win situation for all, and we are very excited to enter this new phase of our growth.

Speaking of how we've grown... next year, NSCP is looking to celebrate our 10th anniversary by producing a retrospective show, highlighting the best of our work from the last decade! If you have a favorite show – or a favorite song from one of our shows – that you'd love to see and hear in this anniversary retrospective, call, write or e-mail to let us know! If you've performed in a past NSCP show and would like to be involved in the anniversary show, please contact us. We'd love to have as many original performers involved as possible.

Join us to celebrate these past ten years together... as we look forward to many more successful years as Clifton Park's own theatre group!

NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS
thanks the
Clifton Park Town Board
for funding
Musical Theater.
in Clifton Park,
and for its support of the
Arts.

As NSCP looks ahead to 2010,
we hope the community will
join us as we celebrate 10
years and continue to grow in
the hearts of all the residents
of the Town of Clifton Park.

—A great place to live, work
and play—

COSTUMES? HIDDEN AWAY?

We've all heard the saying, "One person's trash is another person's treasure". We need your help! Costumes for theater shows can be challenging. We are looking for clothing donations for our upcoming seasons- 1970's and before. Whether it be a "Joan Cleaver" style dress, hostess apron, colonial costume that your child once wore, outdated tux, that once ever fabulous leisure suit or a "I'll never be caught in this again" bridesmaid dress; we would love to add it to our costume wardrobe. Accessories- hats, ties, gloves, purses, jewelry etc. would also be greatly appreciated. If you have something stored in your closet that you think we could use we would love it. In the future you could see it on stage!

Please contact:
Karen Boynton at 371-0920 for collection.
Thank You!!!



Arts & Culture Commission

The Town of Clifton Park's Arts & Culture Commission has been hard at work to promote and grow the Arts in the town. Last year's activities included:

- Creating a Mission Statement for the Arts and Culture Commission;
- Establishing a set of bylaws to guide the Commission;
- Developing a comprehensive list of arts organizations in Clifton Park;
- Dispensing a grant to the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library;
- Updating the Town web site to include Arts & Culture Commission /Arts Organizations in the town;
- Conducting a Town Hall Meeting at Grooms Road Tavern on May 20, 2008, open to the general public.

On February 9th, Councilman Sandy Roth, with the support of the Arts & Culture Commission, submitted a proposal to the Clifton Park Town Board to consider securing property or rehabilitating an existing space for a community arts center that would benefit the entire community and bring local artists and arts organizations under one roof. It is hoped that the Town Board will respond in a positive manner.

Future activities of the Commission include a Fall photography exhibit, expanding grants available for artists and arts organizations, and supporting the Town's Quadracentennial activities. Clifton Park is indeed "a great place to work, live and play"! Visit the town's website (www.cliftonpark.org) and click on the Arts and Culture Commission link to discover all the arts Clifton Park has to offer.

If you are an artist, dancer, musician, or performer in the Town of Clifton Park—we want to know about you!
If you are an arts organization in Clifton Park—we want to hear about you!

2009-2010 BOARD MEMBERS NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS

Karen Boynton
Jennifer Bullington
John Burke
Sally Burke
Marlene Counterline
Dian Dippold
Linda Mizeur
Jeremy Noble
Cindy Nagle
Pat O'Donnell
Michael Silvia

CALL FOR DIRECTORS 2010

NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS (NSCP), calls for directors, musical directors and production staff for the 2010 season. The productions, sponsored by the Town of Clifton Park, are **free** musical theatre. Performances are April/May, July (on the Clifton Common), and October/November. Submissions accepted through April 15th 2009. Mail submissions to:
Not So Common Players, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, NY 12065, Attention: Pat O'Donnell.
Fax: 383-5088;
email: patodonnell@cliftonpark.org.

NOT SO COMMON PLAYERS
TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK
ONE TOWN HALL PLAZA
CLIFTON PARK, NY 12065



APRIL 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26—
SHEN HS EAST LITTLE THEATER
DIRECTED BY
MIKE MENSCHING



JULY 10, 11, 12 16, 17, 18, 19—
ON THE CLIFTON COMMON
DIRECTED BY
SEAN CARTER



OCTOBER 16, 17, 18,
22, 23, 24, 25—
SHEN HS EAST LITTLE THEATER
DIRECTED BY
LAURA W. ANDRUSKI



Not So
COMMON PLAYERS



Editor:
Sally Burke
Contributor:
Cindy Nagle
Laura Andruski