

Christmas Carol





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Notes from the Director

What can be funnier than five nuns singing and dancing? Five women who are incredible in their respective roles as the nuns singing and dancing - that's what. I am so very proud to work with the women you are going to see on stage tonight. They all create full, hilarious characters that take author Don Goggin's material and bring it to life. I love this show; it is light, fun, and incredibly funny. It's a show that Catholics and non-Catholics can have fun with and it's a great night of "forget your troubles" theatre. Tonight you will see a close knit cast who truly enjoy themselves on stage, and I hope you will enjoy our production of *Nunsense* - "it's habit forming!"

Director

A long time ago, a young boy in Milwaukee left his paper routes behind to enter Bay View H.S. so that he might enter the city's Performing Arts Program. Though the following years brought many new experiences - college, Navy, world travel, graduate school, marriage, children and career - his heart still drew him to the arts. He saw plays and went to concerts and increased his knowledge of composers, playwrights, directors, and all things musical. Finally in 1982 he auditioned at SCP for South Pacific and was cast as Captain Brackett. Who would have foreseen how much that one adventure back to being on the stage would affect the rest of his life! Among his favorites are Take Me Along, Mornings at Seven, You Can't Take It With You. and Odd Couple as Murray the cop. Prior to directing Nunsense he has directed Social Security, On Golden Pond, Harvey, Death by Chocolate, The Foreigner, and Visiting Mr. Green for which he won the People's Choice Director of the Year in Spencer, Iowa in 2001. He was honored as Stagecoacher of the Year 1996.

Once the door was opened and the experiences multiplied the man knew he would always be involved in community theater. Fifty-five plays later and countless performances at local, regional, national, and international theaters, he still finds local theater challenging and rewarding. This week is no different. Directing *Nunsense* has meant calling on all those years and experiences, giving from the heart, rethinking, appreciating, learning, listening, and encouraging. What a wonderful transition he has seen in these talented, hard working actors! They have become the Little Sisters of Hoboken who he shares with you. All the years, all the rehearsals, all the dreams are fulfilled in this delightful play! Enjoy it along with Orv!

Assistant to the Director

Life changing experiences appear from out of nowhere it Stage Coach Players is a place where reality is suspended. Actors come seeking to explore or develop their sense of self and find new passions, new inner strengths and new beginnings. Having experienced all three over twenty four years ago, Assistant to the Director, Linda Kersten still marvels at how used people to expand horizons and nurture underdeveloped gifts. Voice and confidence found expression in SCP productions of Take Me Along, Some Like It Cole, Pajama Game, and Man of LaMancha and went with her to graduate school, seminary and the parishes she served in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. In retirement Linda still preaches occasionally. She has taught adult education enrichment classes and enjoyed traveling with Orv to Elderhostel theater programs in Canada. She estimates they see one play or musical every month and attends Milwaukee Symphony concerts several times a year. The best her life offers is found in spending time with Orv and cheering on their twelve grandchildren. And now a new experience to be Assistant to the Director. SCP has brought love, friendship and fascinating exposure to people!







A Bit of Background Information

Time	The Present
Place Mt.	Saint Helen's School Auditorium



Nunsense Musical Numbers

ACT I

"Nunsense Is Habit Forming"	Cast
"A Difficult Transition"	Cast
"Benedicite"	Sr. Mary Leo
"The Biggest Ain't the Best"	Srs. Hubert and Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle"	Sr. Robert Anne
"So You Want To Be a Nun"	Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Turn Up the Spotlight"	Sr. Mary Regina
"Lilacs Bring Back Memories"	Srs. Regina, Hubert, Leo and Amnesia
"Tackle That Temptation with a Time Step"	Sr. Mary Hubert and Cast

ACT II

"Growing Up Catholic" Sr. Robert Anne and Cast
"We've Got to Clean Out the Freezer" Cast
"Just a Coupl'a Sisters" Srs. Regina and Hubert
"Soup's On" (The Dying Nun Ballet) Sr. Mary Leo
"I Just Want to Be a Star" Sr. Robert Anne
"The Drive In" Srs. Robert Anne, Amnesia and Leo
"I Could've Gone to Nashville" Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Holier Than Thou" Sr. Mary Hubert and Cast
"Nunsense is Habit Forming" (Reprise) Cast

Production Staff

Director	Orv Kersten
	Linda Kersten
	Denny Vaupel
	Janet Berkes
	Jayne Ball-Saret
Stage Manager	Linda Johnson
	Bob Cain
	Orv Kersten
Sound Design	Tom Grady
Power Point Design	Diana Johnson
Special Set Painting	Roberta Maxfield
Master Carpenter	Dave Pearson
Set Construction and Painting	Janet Berkes, Bob Cain,
<u> </u>	Diana Johnson, Orv Kersten,
	Lana Marten, Roberta Maxfield,
	Sarah Navratil, Bill O'Hagan,
В	ernie Schuneman, Cason Snow,
	Jennifer Snow, Sally Thomson,
	Denny Vaupel

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Drums and Percussion Joe Pasteris

Prior to Entering the Convent:

Sister Mary Regina was Diana Johnson Sister Mary Hubert was Jennifer Snow Sister Mary Robert Anne was Sally Thomson Sister Mary Leo was Sarah Navratil Sister Mary Amnesia was Roberta Maxfield Sister Mary Cordelia (stage manager) was Linda Johnson

Stage Coach Players will again offer its annual Pumpkin Fest Children's Costume Contest. Children up through the age of 13 are welcome to participate.

The contest date is Sunday, October 25th and will be held near the parade route starting point on Becker Street and

Park Place in the Ideal Industries lot in Sycamore. The costume contest starts at noon, with trophies given to the best costumes.

In addition, all children who enter the contest are invited to ride in a Clydesdale-driven wagon provided by George and Barb Alexander.

For more information, visit the Stage Coach website, www.stagecoachers.com

Sister Mary Regina



SISTER MARY REGINA, the beloved Mother Superior of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, is originally from a small county in Ireland called Kilquirky. She headed the pioneering group of religious who established the leper colony in the Mediterranean and later returned to Hoboken as Superior



General of the Order. After Nunsense, Mother Superior says she has no desire to continue in the theater. But rumor has it that she would consider doing national commercials or a television series to raise money for the Order. Prior to taking her vows, Sister Mary Regina directed numerous children's and school productions under the stage name Diana Peffer Johnson. Other shows she has enjoyed performing are *Annie*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, the opera *Aida*, and as Peppermint Pattie in *Snoopy*. Sister is no stranger to the backstage either as she has assisted with many other shows from her former home in Michigan.

Sister Mary Hubert



SISTER MARY HUBERT entered the Little Sisters of Hoboken upon graduation from Precious Blood Elementary School. Sister currently serves the Order as Mistress of the Novices, training new recruits. Her position is not unlike a drill sergeant; however, she is the first to point out



that her approach is 'more gentle' but firm! Sister Hubert is a little "off the wall" at times but this attributed to the fact that she was trampled by a camel that went berserk during the annual nativity pageant in the leper colony. (She was portraying one of the three wise men.) Sister Mary Hubert, known formerly as Jennifer Snow, has appeared in the SCP productions of *The King and I, All My Sons, Seussical the Musical, Damn Yankees.* She has also appeared in *Romeo and Juliet, Working* (A Musical Review), *The Boyfriend, Eleemosynary & Brighton Beach Memoirs.* She has also directed *Communicating Doors, A Midsummer Night's Dream* (assistant), and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* (co-directed), as well as stage managed *The Nerd, Postmortem, High School Musical* and *Hello Dolly.* She

has lots of experience with props, running crew, lights, and sound. Sister Mary Hubert is excited to be stage managing *A Christmas Carol* this winter (auditions October 19 & 20). She hopes you all enjoy the show.

Sister Mary Robert Anne



SISTER MARY ROBERT ANNE was a child of a disadvantaged Brooklyn family. After dropping out of Verna's Cashier School, Reverend Mother took pity on the poor Sally Thomson and accepted her into the Little Sisters of Hoboken, where she became Sister Mary Robert Anne. Today she is one of



the most popular sisters with the New Jersey kids because she speaks their language. Reverend Mother regrets the fact that a lot of this language is unprintable. Sister Mary Robert Anne had a very checkered career prior to entering the convent, which has included over 25 community theater productions since 1979. Sister was last seen as Rhetta Cupp in *Pump Bous and Dinettes* for Stagecrafter Theater in Crystal Lake. She even played the role of Sister Hubert in Nunsense II, the Second Coming for Woodstock Musical Theater Company in Woodstock, Illinois. Two favorite roles include the time she played Cinderella in Into the Woods for Town Square Players in Woodstock with her husband Jim as director. She met Jim while she played Marian the Librarian in *Music Man* for Cornstock Theatre in Peoria. She has had lead roles in The King and I, And the Theory of Relativity, Paint Your Wagon, Pirates of Penzance, The Student Prince, Carousel, Promises, Promises, all for Cornstock Theatre.

Sister has used her talents as director, costume designer, light designer, and sound techie in addition to many ensemble roles. She has worked behind the curtain on set crews for a dozen

shows and served three years on the Board of Directors for Corn Stock Theatre. When not on stage or driving the convent car, Sally teaches gifted education in St. Charles and works as a private educational consultant. She recently received her doctorate from Aurora University and is eager to be using her newly-acquired free time back in the theater.



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Sister Mary Leo



SISTER MARY LEO came to the order from an Illinois farm. She entered the convent to dedicate her life to God through dance, and to fulfill her life's dream in becoming the first "nun ballerina." Many people think that she took her name from the famous "leotard," but that is not true. She is



named after her Uncle Leo, a notorious Chicago gangster. Sister thought that by taking his name, the Lord would go easy on him. She is a novice and has much to learn. Before joining the order Sister was known as Sarah Navratil was no stranger to the stage, starting when she was eight in a production of *Les Miserables* at Stillwater H.S. in Minnesota. She developed a love for the stage and continued in school productions including *Anne of Green Gables* and *Bye Bye Birdie* throughout elementary and middle school. She had roles in The Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, Wisconsin including *Wind in the Willow* and *Narnia*. In her senior year she moved to Pecatonica where she was cast as Mrs. Norris in *Swing Fever* at Pec Playhouse. Most recently she has pursued her degree in psychology at NIU. She is thrilled to return to the stage as one of the Little Sisters of Hoboken.

Auditions!

Keep Christmas in your heart all the year through! Audition for a Stage Coach Players tradition, Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday, October 19 and 20, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at 126 S. Fifth St., DeKalb (the Stage Coach Theatre).

Auditions for our Spring Musical, *Music Man*, will be November 21 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and November 22 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Sycamore United Methodist Church, 160 Johnson Avenue, Sycamore.

Music Man will be performed March 4 - 7 & 11 - 15.

Go to www.stagecoachers.com for more information.

Sister Mary Amnesia



SISTER MARY AMNESIA is truly a lost soul. She arrived at the convent in her habit without a clue to her identity... recalling only that a crucifix fell on her head. It has been said that she resembles Roberta Maxfield who learned ventriloquism when she became a Little Sister of the Hoboken



and previously seen in many SCP productions. Some of her favorite roles were Lady Thiang in *The King and I*, Katie Keller in *All My Sons*, Mrs. Fezziwig and Mrs. Crow in *A Christmas Carol*, Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees*, Mazeppa in *Gypsy*, and The Widow Douglas in *Big River*. Sister fondly remembers her roles as Mom in *True West*, Her Grace, Lowbutt, Dot, and Bewick in *Honk*, and the ensemble of *Jekyll and Hyde* at the Steel Beam Theater in St. Charles. Sister also played Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Sister Berthe in *The Sound of Music*, and the ensemble of *Cinderella*, all with Indian Valley Theater in Sandwich.





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Happy 200th Birthday Felix Mendelssohn! Featuring Mathias Tacke, violin Saturday, October 3, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Halloween Concert

Friday, October 30, 2009, 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. - Free Admission

Winter Wonderland - Holiday Pops Concert

Saturday, December 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

The Arthur D. Montzka Young Artists Concerto Competition Concert

Sunday, February 28, 2010, 3:00 p.m.
Supported in part by the Mary E. Stevens Concert Trust.

The Romance of Spring

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Supported in part by the Ideal Industries Foundation with a generous gift by Jean Juday.

All performances are held at

Boutell Memorial Concert Hall in the Northern Illinois University Music Building.

For additional information please visit our web site at www.kishorchestra.org E-mail contact@kishorchestra.org or call 815.756.3728

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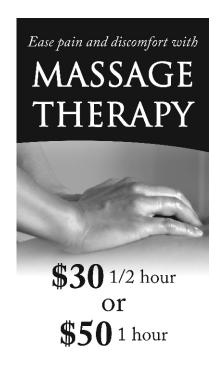


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Sister Mary Cordelia

SISTER MARY CORDELIA (stage manager) is a cloistered nun at the Convent of the Sisters in Black. She has been asked to leave after shouting "Places, please!" at the mass last Sunday. Sister Mary Cordelia was given the job of supervising *Nunsense* as a penance for past sins committed as stage manager for *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Before becoming a nun, she was just plain Linda Johnson who loves working with SCP both on stage and behind the scenes. Linda has been a costumer many times and has enjoyed working with props for several shows. On stage credits include: *Damn Yankees*, *Sound of Music*, *Social Security*, and *A Christmas Carol*. In addition, she has been involved in more than thirty productions with Indian Valley Theater in Sandwich.

Music Director

The stage name Mason Hamlin was seen for many years on pianos in saloons and "ladies rooming house" throughout the Midwest. One evening while he was on his way to the Chicken Ranch to play a Bar-Mitzvah for drinks and tips he found himself hungry and penniless in an ill-fitting tuxedo, staring at a street sign that alternately said "walk" and "don't walk." Unable to make a decision he sat on the curb and wept until he was rescued by a group of passing Lutherans on their way to a potluck dinner. This life-changing event was the start of a love affair with ham loaf and scalloped potatoes and the chance to be a substitute organist in churches all over the area. An incident involving soup gave him a steady gig at Mount Saint Helens. The sisters were excited to have him stay on permanently when they found out he was really Denny Vaupel whose experience with over fifty musicals at SCP was a perfect fit for their variety show. He has been Charlie Brown, Don Quixote, and a Pump Boy. He has been on the 1940s Radio Hour and In the Woods. He has been in the South Pacific with the sailors and dames and rafted down the Big River with Huck and Jim. And he really has played at a whorehouse — The Best in Texas. He most recently directed the music for Forever Plaid and The King and I. His services have been used by Indian Valley Theater in Sandwich and several area high schools. Away from the theater he is Band Director for the St. Mary DeKalb Elementary School and piano player for the Black Tie Jazz Trio. When not making music somewhere he can often be found fishing with Dave.

Choreographer

Janet Berkes has choreographed many Stage Coach Players productions including *Forever Plaid*, *Gypsy*, *Clue the Musical*, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, and *The Sound of Music*. She was blessed by a cast that was in touch with their Inner Hoofer and she is very proud of her Sisters!

How The Order Was Established

The Order of the Little Sisters of Hoboken was founded in the seventh century by Saint Wilfred, a bishop of England. He established the first convent and school known as the Wilfred Academy. His motto was "We don't teach beauty--we radiate it." Many years later a group of pioneering sisters set out for America to establish a motherhouse in Cleveland. But they got off the plane in Newark by mistake. The order was found by the Newark Airport Police and the new motherhouse was established in Hoboken, New Jersy. It was at that time that the Order of St. Wilfred elected to change the name to the Little Sisters of Hoboken and they have been affectionately known as the "Little Hobos" ever since. It was from this convent that Sister Mary Regina, Sister Mary Hubert and Sister Robert Anne, set sail for the Mediterranean to establish their leper colony. Today the order has both nuns and brothers as members - all doing various good works in the Diocese of Newark. They also operate Mount Saint Helen's School in Hoboken.



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Members of Stage Coach Players will present vignettes based on the tales and poetry of American author Edgar Allan Poe, as part of DeKalb Public Library's Big Read.

Written by G. Scott Morris, and codirected by Morris and Jan Kuntz, the production will be performed from Wednesday, October 28 through Friday, October 30 at Stage Coach Theatre.

The productions begin at 7:30 and are free.





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