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1954




ANN ARBOR

 *Civic theatre*

OCTOBER, 1954

"STALAG 17"

ANN ARBOR

 *Civic theatre*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Members and Friends of the Ann Arbor Civic Theater:

You are about to have the pleasure of witnessing the first of the six major performances of the 1954-1955 season. For you, in front of the curtain, the thrill is ahead. For you, behind the same curtain, the thrill has been going on for some time. Tonight is merely the apex.

The Ann Arbor Civic Theater belongs to Ann Arbor. It is your theater, designed by you, conceived by you, for you. The increased number of plays this season makes it possible for a greater number of you to take a more active part. In addition to the six full-length plays, there are scheduled for public presentation a number of one-act plays. At the close of the football season, there will be a Saturday Radio show, and in the near future, television is included in the activities.

That you are interested in the Little Theater Movement is evidenced by the fact that you are here tonight. Your interest may be purely casual, that of an observer. Perhaps you have a hidden talent which is seeking expression, if not before the footlights, then maybe behind the footlights. Regardless of the part you wish to play, there is a spot in your Civic Theater awaiting your pleasure. How do you get in? You join by becoming a member. Unlike the tale of the Purple Cow, the Ann Arbor Civic Theater member finds that it is more fun to be one than to see one.

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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR — TED HEUSEL

The Civic Theatre of Ann Arbor is celebrating its twenty-fifth Anniversary by hiring Ann Arbor's most prominent theatre personality to direct its first season of six productions. Mr. Heusel holds an A.B. Degree from Michigan State Normal College and a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan. He has worked professionally in both radio and TV, and the University of Michigan Drama Season. Last summer Mr. Heusel was the Director of The Saline Mill Theatre which is one of the country's most successful professional summer theatres. Mr. Heusel's final production of Michigan's premiere showing of "The Lady's Not For Burning" won critical acclaim in newspapers from Ann Arbor, Detroit, Toledo, and Windsor. It is because of his distinctive success in commercial theatre that the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre has chosen Mr. Heusel to direct them to what is proving to be their biggest year. The expansion of the Civic Theatre program under professional guidance is to give all its interested citizens a chance to participate in an active theatre program on an amateur basis. The Civic Theatre feels that Ann Arbor is very fortunate in having the University of Michigan Drama Season, Concert Series, Lecture Series, and Art Exhibitions in its yearly calendar of professional performers. Out of this, The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre for the first time in its twenty-five years of self-supporting theatre has hired a Director that can give Ann Arbor not only the best in amateur performances, but the very much needed and demanded outlet for the entire community to participate in a project for Ann Arbor people, with Ann Arbor people, and by Ann Arbor people. No contributions are asked—only your time and your love of the theater.

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NOTES ABOUT THE CAST

- ★ MARK LUEDI. "S.S. Guard" first appeared with Civic Theatre in "The Thirteenth Chair" about ten years ago. His most recent work has been in "The Ten Little Indians." He has also been active in a Methodist Church drama group. Ann Arbor High School, the University of Michigan, and the Air Corps claim him as an alumnus. He is an engineering technician, now living in Dexter.
- ★ EUGENE DUKE. "Stosh" is an Ann Arbor resident who will always be remembered as the "echo" to Alex Azary in "The Spider." He was most recently seen in the dramatic role as General MacKenzie in "Ten Little Indians." He is currently employed with the Wolverine Roofing Co.
- ★ DON HAWLEY. "Price" makes his second appearance on Civic Theater stage tonight. We last saw Don as Desmonde in "Happy Time." He played in "Hayfever" while with the University of Hawaii. During a stay in Hollywood, he was active with the Cabaret Concert. Don has been working with U. of M. Play Production, InterArts Union, Student Players and has gained experience in "Volpone," "Philadelphia Story," "Light Up the Sky," and many others.

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★ ROBERT LOGAN. "Harry Shapiro." "Stalag 17" marks Bob's fifth appearance on the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre stage. He has appeared in "Holiday," "Ten Little Indians," "Mister Roberts" and most recently "Born Yesterday." His role of Ensign Pulver, in "Mister Roberts" earned Bob the 'Best Supporting Actor' award for the 1952-53 season. His appearance in "Born Yesterday" was a last-minute decision, when he was called upon to fill in for a man who had become ill and was forced to drop out. Last spring Bob appeared in the Student Players production "Detective Story" and also in the University Drama Season's "Trip to Bountiful," which starred Lillian Gish. Bob is a member of the Civic Theatre board of directors and heads the publicity committee. He is employed at the Veterans Administration Hospital where he is in charge of the photographic department.

★ PATRICK SMITH. "Herb" is a newcomer to Civic Theater stage. While a resident of Redford, Michigan, he was active with the Detroit Civic Players. He appeared with the Player's Ring Theater in Hollywood in a juvenile lead and as such made television appearances. Attending the University as a drama major, he played in the U. of M. Summer Theater in "The Critic," and "The Marriage of Figaro."

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- ★ **BILL TAYLOR.** "Hoffy" is making his first appearance with us tonight although it is far from his first on stage. While in attendance at the University, Bill was active in more than two dozen productions. He played leads in "Streets of New York," "Knickerbocker Holiday," and "Country Girl." In the 1954 Drama Season he played Rocky in "Grammercy Ghost." For Student Players, he can well be remembered as Mr. Pritchard in "The Detective Story." Bill is now on the faculty of Ann Arbor High School teaching a newly instituted course in dramatics that is one of the finest throughout midwestern high schools.
- ★ **AL DOUGLASS.** "Sefton" is making his second appearance with Civic Theater tonight. He can be remembered in the dramatic role of Danny Dorgan in "Laura" in January, 1951. Al is a student of the University of Michigan, where he is majoring in history.

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- ★ ALEX AZARY. "Duke" is not a newcomer to our stage. He has recently appeared in "Mr. Roberts," although he will be best remembered for his comic part in "The Spider," which won him an Oscar at the end of the 1951-52 season. His dramatic experience consists of comedy parts and variety shows while in high school at Dayton, Ohio.
- ★ L. G. BOATNER. "Horny" is a newcomer to Ann Arbor Civic Theater and is making his debut on stage tonight in a silent role. He comes to us from Louisiana where he played with the New Orleans Little Theater. While waiting for his appointment to the Michigan Department of Conservation, he makes Ann Arbor his home.

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- ★ BOB ESCHELMAN. "Marko is making his second appearance on stage with Civic Theater tonight. He was last seen in last year's hit "Born Yesterday." Bob in his own quiet way, is one of our best back stage workers, having built sets for "Mr. Roberts," "Three Men on a Horse," and others. He is presently employed at King-Seeley as an engineer.

- ★ WARREN DIETER. "S.S. Guard" is a newcomer to Civic Theater, although he is not a neophyte on stage. His most recent experience was in the musical "Knickerbocker Holiday" while active with the Pit and Balcony Players in Saginaw, Michigan. He is presently employed at the Veterans Hospital.

- ★ BOB PARKER. "Dunbar" makes his first appearance with Civic Theater tonight. He was introduced into the group by his wife Peg Wood Parker. Bob is an Ann Arbor resident and we hope to see more of him. He is presently employed at Argus, Inc.

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- ★ **RUSSELL AIUTO.** "Reed," a newcomer to our group, has been a resident of Ann Arbor for the past four years. Russ has been very active with the University Speech Department productions during the past two. Majoring in speech and zoology, he plans to start graduate work in technical theater and scene design at the Chicago Art Institute upon graduation in June.

- ★ **ARNO SCHNIEWIND.** "S.S. Captain" makes his first appearance with Civic Theater tonight and also a debut with the proscenium type stage. Arno arrived from Germany in December 1949 and has since received a B.S. from the University in 1953. He is presently working on his Ph.D. in Wood Technology. Previous acting experience has been with the Jatoma Players in theater in the round. His specialty is technical direction and has worked with Student Players, Interarts Union, Ann Arbor Children's Theater and the Arbor Players.

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- ★ JOHN O'CONNOR. "Red Dog" makes his debut on stage tonight with our group. John is a graduate of the University of Michigan and has just recently returned after a four years' absence. He is with the sales department of the Michigan Seamless Tube Company of South Lyons, Michigan.
- ★ A. B. CRANDELL. "Geneva Man" is a veteran character actor with Civic Theater and has appeared in many major productions. Some of his accomplishments are "My Sister Eileen," "Kiss and Tell," "Male Animal," "Silver Whistle," "Torchbearers," "Life with Mother," "The Spider," "The Happy Time" and "Three Men on a Horse." He is a former member of the Board of Directors and an Oscar Award winner. A.B., an old stantion of the group who is remembered for his many character dialects, can always be found somewheres back stage with a deck of cards in his hand.

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PRESENTS

"STALAN"

by DONALD BEVAN and ELLIOTT CLAWSON

Directed by TED COOPER

THE CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

S. S. GUARD.....
STOSH.....
HARRY SHAPIRO.....
PRICE.....
HERB GORDON.....
HOFFMAN.....
SEFTON.....
DUKE.....
HORNEY.....
MARKO.....
CORPORAL SCHULTZ.....
DUNBAR.....
REED.....
RED DOG.....
GERMAN CAPTAIN.....
GENEVA MAN.....

SYNOPSIS OF

ACT I

Scene 1..... De
Scene 2.....

ACT II

Scene 1.....
Scene 2.....

ACT III

Scene 1.....
Scene 2.....

*The entire action takes place in
somewhere in Germany during*

BOOKHOLDER.....

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A special offer is being made to all those persons that purchase tickets for the evening's performance. If you have purchased this evening's ticket at the balance of our playbill of five plays, you may still purchase your ticket stub and \$3.50 to P.O. Box 87 and you will receive a special offer. This special offer makes your average cost per show only 75¢. Remember a ticket stub must accompany your money

First Production

or Civic Theater

PRESENTS

STALAG 17''

by EDWARD YOUNG and EDMUND TRZCINSKI

Directed by TED HEUSEL

THE CAST

(BY NAME OF APPEARANCE)

.....	MARK LUEDI
.....	GENE DUKE
.....	BOB LOGAN
.....	DON HAWLEY
.....	PATRICK SMITH
.....	BILL TAYLOR
.....	AL DOUGLASS
.....	ALEX AZARY
.....	L. G. BOATNER
.....	BOB ESCHELMAN
.....	WARREN DIETER
.....	BOB PARKER
.....	RUSSELL AIUTO
.....	JOHN O'CONNOR
.....	ARNO SCHNIEWIND
.....	A. B. CRANDELL

SUMMARY OF SCENES

ACT I

..... December 23, 1944—Early morning

..... Later that evening

ACT II

..... Afternoon the next day

..... Later that night

ACT III

..... Christmas 1944, Afternoon

..... That night

..... *Stalag 17*, set in a Barrack of Stalag 17,

..... *Stalag 17*, set in a Barrack of Stalag 17, many during World War II.

..... JAN APPLETON

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Persons that are enjoying "Stalag 17" and are not season subscribers at the box office price of \$1.50 and now would like to see the play should still purchase a season ticket at a special reduced price. Mail orders will receive seat reservations for the balance of the season. Seats are \$1.00 show only 70¢ each; a considerable saving over the box office price for your money.

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PRODUCTION CAST

PRODUCTION MANAGER.....Robert Maitland
 ASST. PRODUCTION MGR.....Richard D. Cutting
 SET DESIGN.....Gerard Scofield
 TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....Richard Wiley
 SET PAINTING.....Robert Maitland, Ann Thuma
 STAGE CREW.....Robert Maitland, Bob Schultz, Gerard Scofield, Jackie
 Hall, Loine Meinel, Clan Crawford, Barbara O'Dell,
 Bill O'Dell.
 LIGHTING.....Richard Wiley, Paul Christmann
 PROPERTIES.....Jackie Hall
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 Barbara Lee, Marcella Dygert, Margaret Duris, Barb-
 ara Morrison, Wendy Dobson, Carol Chapman, Eileen
 Scofield, Kay Carpenter, Janet Thompson, Cheri Til-
 ford, Loretta Tatro, Susie Huntley.
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PUBLICITY.....	Robert P. Logan

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PROGRAM.....	Charles Fossati, <i>Sales Manager</i> Ben Kessel, <i>Committee</i> ; Sam Benjamin, <i>Committee</i> ; Gerard Scofield, <i>Layout</i> ; Sara Howard, Dick Cutting, Louise Kempf, L. G. Boatner, Mary Kessel, A. B. Crandell, Gene Conover, Sandra Kessel, Robert Logan, Carolyn Gatward, Alex Azary.
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.....	Sue Huntley
SOCIAL COMMITTEE.....	Mary Duke, Ann MacDonald Sally Howard
WORKSHOP ACTING GROUP.....	Sue Huntley, Robin Hall
WORKSHOP PLAYREADING GROUP.....	Howard Fox

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BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS.....	Zelda Benowitz
BEST PLAY.....	<i>Home of the Brave</i> , directed by Bill Mehegan
SET DESIGN.....	Charles W. Moss
LADY WORKER.....	Margaret Fox
MAN WORKER.....	Robert Barber
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OSCAR AWARDS OF FORMER YEARS

ACTRESSES.....Phyllis Wright, Marjorie Stewart, Nancy McGee, Ruth Livingston (twice)
ACTORS.....Todd Jones, Kenneth MacDonald (3 times), Ted Heusel
SUPPORTING ACTORS.....G. Davis Sellards, Alex Azary, Robert Logan
SUPPORTING ACTRESSES.....Nancy McGee, Bette Ellis, Evelyn Gregory, Raydell Smith
DIRECTORS.....Marie Miller, Lloyd Kaiser, Ted Heusel, Jim Briley, Bill Mehegan
PLAYS.....The Silver Whistle, Holiday, Mr. Roberts, Home of the Brave
SET DESIGNERS.....Barbara Cartwright, Ethel Kudrna, Charles Moss
LADY WORKERS.....Frances Benjamin, Mabel Jones, Louise Kempf, Barbara O'Dell
MEN WORKERS.....Ralph Beckwith, A. B. Crandell, Gerard Scofield, Richard Cutting

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1947	November.....	<i>THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET</i>
1948	March.....	<i>NIGHT MUST FALL</i>
1948	May.....	<i>KISS AND TELL.</i>
1948	October.....	<i>THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE</i>
1949	March.....	<i>ALL MY SONS</i>
1949	October.....	<i>AN INSPECTOR CALLS</i>
1950	January.....	<i>THE TORCH BEARERS</i>
1950	April.....	<i>MALE ANIMAL</i>
1950	October.....	<i>THE SILVER WHISTLE</i>
1951	January.....	<i>LAURA</i>
1951	April.....	<i>STRANGE BEDFELLOWS</i>
1951	October.....	<i>LIFE WITH MOTHER</i>
1952	January.....	<i>THE SPIDER</i>
1952	April.....	<i>HOLIDAY</i>
1952	October.....	<i>THE HAPPY TIME</i>
1953	January.....	<i>TEN LITTLE INDIANS</i>
1953	April.....	<i>MR. ROBERTS</i>
1953	October.....	<i>THREE MEN ON A HORSE</i>
1954	January.....	<i>HOME OF THE BRAVE</i>
1954	April.....	<i>BORN YESTERDAY</i>

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1954-55 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Season Ticket Kickoff
- 7 Tryouts for "Stalag 17"
- 8 Tryouts for "Stalag 17"
- 9 Tryouts for "Stalag 17"
- 12 Playreading Group
- 14 Board Meeting
- 23 General Membership Meeting
- 27 Tryouts for "Summer & Smoke"
- 28 Tryouts for "Summer & Smoke"
- 29 Tryouts for "Summer & Smoke"
- 30 Workshop Group

OCTOBER

- 10 Playreading Group
- 12 Board Meeting
- 14 Major Production "Stalag 17"
- 15 Major Production "Stalag 17"
- 16 Major Production "Stalag 17"
- 18 Tryouts for "Curious Savage"
- 19 Tryouts for "Curious Savage"
- 20 Tryouts for "Curious Savage"
- 21 General Meeting
- 28 Workshop Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 9 Board Meeting
- 10 One-act Group to Flint, Mich.
- 11 Major Prod. "Summer & Smoke"
- 12 Major Prod. "Summer & Smoke"
- 13 Major Prod. "Summer & Smoke"
- 14 Playreading Group
- 18 General Meeting
- 23 Workshop Meeting

DECEMBER

- 2 Major Production "Curious Savage"
- 3 Major Production "Curious Savage"
- 4 Major Production "Curious Savage"
- 6 Tryouts for "Giocunda Smile"
- 7 Tryouts for "Giocunda Smile"
- 8 Tryouts for "Giocunda Smile"
- 12 Playreading Group
- 14 Board Meeting
- 16 General Meeting
- 23 Workshop Meeting

JANUARY

- 3 Tryouts for "The Chase"
- 4 Tryouts for "The Chase"
- 5 Tryouts for "The Chase"
- 9 Playreading Group
- 11 Board Meeting
- 13 Workshop Meeting
- 20 Major Production "Giocunda Smile"
- 21 Major Production "Giocunda Smile"
- 22 Major Production "Giocunda Smile"
- 24 Tryouts for the sixth play
- 25 Tryouts for the sixth play
- 26 Tryouts for the sixth play
- 27 General Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 8 Board Meeting
- 10 Workshop Meeting
- 13 Playreading Group
- 17 Major Production "The Chase"
- 18 Major Production "The Chase"
- 19 Major Production "The Chase"
- 24 General Meeting

MARCH

- 3 One-Act for W.S.W.C.
- 8 Board Meeting
- 10 Major Production
- 11 Major Production
- 12 Major Production
- 13 Playreading Group
- 17 General Meeting
- 24 Workshop Meeting

APRIL, MAY and JUNE

will be published later

The above dates will be supplemented from time to time by many group meetings. Do not hesitate to write P. O. Box 87 or phone NO 3-2901 or NO 2-4696 for details.

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In behalf of the City of Ann Arbor, I wish to thank the members of the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Your efforts make it possible for the citizens of Ann Arbor to enjoy fine entertainment, while at the same time this activity is a great part of our civic development. Best wishes for a successful 1954-55 season.

WILLIAM E. BROWN, Jr., Mayor

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