



PLAY ON
A Comedy by Rick Abbot

Director: Dora Greven (cadence153@gmail.com or 989-2923)
Producer: Mary Longey (mary.longey@gmail.com or 388-7432)
Stage Manager: Kate Tilton (hopefull@sover.net or 398-2098)

AUDITIONS at Town Hall Theater:
Wednesday & Thursday, December 5 & 6 at 7 PM
Callbacks Saturday, December 8

Perusal scripts available at the Town Hall Theater Box Office
open noon to 5pm, Monday-Saturday (802-382-9222)

Showdates: Feb. 14-17, 2013

Synopsis: This is the hilarious story of a theater group trying desperately to put on a play in spite of maddening interference from a haughty authoress who keeps revising the script. Act I is a rehearsal of the dreadful show, Act II is the near disastrous dress rehearsal, and the final act is the actual performance in which anything that can go wrong does. When the authoress decides to give a speech on the state of the modern theatre during the curtain calls, the audience is treated to a madcap climax to a thoroughly hilarious romp. Even the sound effects reap their share of laughter.

General Vision: The show calls for 3 men and 7 women, but there is some flexibility with several of the characters, and there could be 5 men & 5 women. Most of the actors are actually playing two roles - one in *Play On* and one in the "internal play" *Murder Most Foul*. There are 4 characters don't do "double duty" - the stage manager, the director, the techie & the playwright. Ages can be flexible for several of the characters, and stage ages range from 17 to mid-60s (or older).

The entire show is set in a theater with a single room set and the setting is contemporary and can be set in any small town (hmmm, like Middlebury...). *Play On* is about a small community group of actors staging a new play, *Murder Most Foul*, for the first time. The director is valiantly attempting to get the production ready for opening night. However, with opening night a mere four days away, the author decides to re-write the play, changing the actors' lines and, worse still, adding a new character.

The cast of *Murder Most Foul* are having problems enough learning the original script, let alone learning any new lines and suddenly having to incorporate a new character. Even with the help of the stage manager/prompter and the sound and lighting technician, it seems as though the production is doomed! Anyone who has been involved in rehearsing a play will identify very strongly with the maxim "If anything can go wrong – it will." Those who know little about the theatre will be enlightened and amused.

Characters:

Aggie Manville – Stage manager & prompter (can be changed to Algernon "Algie")

Geraldine 'Gerry' Dunbar – Community theater director (can be changed to Jerome "Jerry")

Louise Peary – Sound, lighting, scenic technician (can be changed to Louie)

Phyllis Montague – Novice playwright in the community

Henry Benish ("Lord Dudley") – Character actor; level headed, married to Polly – Mid 50s

Polly Benish ("Lady Margaret") – Character actor; most "proper" of group, married to Henry – Mid 50s

Marla 'Smitty' Smith ("Doris the maid") – Supporting player; pretty but awkward girl – Late teens

Saul Watson ("Doctor Rex Forbes") – Villain; wise cracking, sarcastic - Mid 40s

Billy Carewe ("Stephen Sellers") – Character actor; young man of spirit – Mid 20s

Violet Imbry ("Diana Lassiter") – Ingénue; "Pretty face behind which medical science may someday discover a pretty brain" – Early 20s