

Community Players Presents

STEEL

Magnolias

by Robert Harting



**Performed at
Grace United Methodist Church
300 E. Gartner Rd, Naperville**

**Friday, November 13, 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 14, 7:30 pm
Friday, November 20, 7:30 pm
Saturday, November 21, 2:00 pm**

Steel Magnolias

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Originally produced by the W.P.A. Theatre, New York City, 1987.
(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

Director's Note

In producing this play, Community Players celebrates the strength, resilience, and compassion of the characters from fictitious Chinquapin Parish. Their stories are our stories. No one holds immunity to life's realities, and through this script we are able to explore options in our response to the challenges of our days. In Truvy's shop we find a sanctum, a space where hearts and minds are equally valued and supported.

Throughout the rehearsal period, I was continually struck by the power of these friendships. No event or reaction is sufficient to lessen or fragment the bonds that these women have developed throughout their years of association. In an age when we seem more and more willing to live life in isolation, these characters remind us of the potency of personal relationships.

So, in that spirit, I would like to thank Susan Biggs for sharing the responsibility of bringing this brilliant script to our stage. Susan's commitment and counsel were so valuable to me. I would also like to offer a special thank you to Joanna Viverito, a new friend who also holds the distinction of being a major benefactor for this play. Joanna provided all of the salon items being used on stage, a generous offer without which we would have had much more work. I would also like to thank my wife and kids, with whom I will be reacquainting myself soon.

Thank you for coming to the show. I hope you enjoy tonight's performance of Robert Harling's Steel Magnolias!

- David Hollander

Production Crew

Producer	David Hollander
Director	David Hollander
Assistant Director	Susan Biggs
Set Designer	Ken Cox
Lighting Designer	Graham Wills
Sound Designer	Ed Green
Logo Designer	Beth Buffington
Photographer	Toni Reiss
Properties Mistress	Kay Lawson
Properties Team	Jill Morrow, Garth Lawson, James Morrow
Costumes Mistress	Irene Servose
Costumes Team	Irene Servose, Pam Smith
Hair Care	Maren Morrow
Lights	Suzanne Wills
Sound	Ed Green
House Manager	Oliver Taylor
Stage Manager	Mary Wu
Tickets	Ken Cox
Program Designer	Toni Reiss
Set Construction Lead	Ken Cox
Set Construction Team	Susan Biggs, Beth Buffington, Nate Burke, Jim Barton, Dean Craig, Justin Craig, Bill Denwood, David Hollander, Ed Green, Lori Klose, Shelby Klose, Hannah Klose, Garth Lawson, Jean Morris, Irene Servose

Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Truvy Jones	Irene Servose
Annelle DuPuy	Lori Klose
Clairee Belcher	Sharon Cuneo
Shelby Eatenton Latcherie	Jessica Stotz
M'Lynn Eatenton	Beth Buffington
Ouiser Boudreaux	Jean Morris

Synopsis

Place: Chinquapin, Louisiana

Act I:

- Scene 1: April
Scene 2: December

Intermission: Cookies and bottled water will be available.

Act II:

- Scene 1: June, eighteen months later
Scene 2: November

Please note that there will be the sound of gunshots and explosions during the show.

Biographies

Directors



David Hollander (*Director*) *Steel Magnolias* marks Dave's second spin in the director's chair, following *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK*, produced by Community Players in 2007. Dave enjoys the stagework as well, remembering fondly his turn as Matthew Brady in *INHERIT THE WIND*. Dave loves his wife Amy, and his kids, Sarah and Nathan, and promises to be home soon....



Susan Biggs (*Assistant Director*) is delighted to be assisting a great director and supporting a talented cast and crew for this show. This is Susan's second show with Community Players having appeared last spring in *SOUND OF MUSIC*. She sends her love and thanks to Rob, Ripley and Jordan who support and share her love of theater.

Cast

in alphabetical order



Beth Buffington (*M'Lynn*) has been supported with good humor and popcorn by husband, Tom. Her favorite stage memories have been Dorothy in *THE AMATEURS*, and the ensemble casts of *QUILTERS* and *GODSPELL*. By day Beth is an illustrator/designer, and weekend cyclist (weather permitting). She sends smiles to her daughters who came home for the show.



Sharon Cuneo (*Clairee*) Since 1991 Sharon has appeared in over 40 theatre productions. Her lead roles include Kate in *BROADWAY BOUND*, and Bess in *BREAKFAST WITH LES & BESS*. She also enjoyed performing in *JAKE'S WOMEN*, *EQUUS*, *LOST IN YONKERS*, *LAURA* and many others. An NIU graduate, Sharon has also worked in television production (on "Paul Harvey Comments" and "MacNeil-Lehrer News"), and for Hanna-Barbera animation studios. She thanks Community Players and husband Peter for his enduring support.



Lori Klose (Annelle) Lori is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University. She has appeared most recently in Community Players production of THE SOUND OF MUSIC. She has also appeared in FOOTLOOSE, BARNUM, and JEKYLL & HYDE after a long hiatus. Much love to Dave, my Shelby, Caroline, and Hannah.



Jean Morris (Ouiser) is thrilled to be Ouiser in STEEL MAGNOLIAS, a role she always hoped to play. Her Community Players experience began in 1982, and she has enjoyed every show along the way as a cast member, backstage helper, or audience member. Thanks to Bob for his patience and encouragement and to the cast "family" for love and fun. Special thanks to Dave for vision, patience, and laughter.



Irene Servose (Truvy Jones and Costume Design) Irene is tickled pink to make her debut with Community Players. She has done a variety of film, movie extra and stage as well as production work. She has studied acting at and is a proud board member of The Artistic Home in Chicago (www.TheArtisticHome.org) and occasionally is part of the production design team there as well. Much love to Dave, the lovely, talented ladies in the cast and the rest of the crew for a wonderfully fun and rewarding experience. Hugs to my two sons and ALL my awesome girlfriends.



Jessica Stotz (Shelby) is a senior Theater Performance major at North Central College from Monroe, MI. She has been acting since she was very young and could be most recently seen at NCC in DANCING AT LUGHNASA (Rose) and OUR TOWN (Mrs. Soames). Thanks to her family, cast/crew and above all God!

Salon items and equipment used on stage were generously provided by:




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Special Thanks

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Phyllis Pepiot, Office Manager, Grace U.M.C.

Joe and Don, Custodial Staff, Grace U.M.C.

Matt Boresi - Theatrical Makeup Professor, North Central College

Jill Morrow and Maren Morrow



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About Community Players

Community Players is celebrating its 29th year of quality community theater with its 43rd production, STEEL MAGNOLIAS.

Our Shows

1981 The Fantasticks **1982** You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
1983 Arsenic and Old Lace **1984** Two-by-Two **1985** The Mousetrap
1986 The Music Man **1987** A Majority of One **1988** Snoopy **1989**
Spoon River Anthology **1990** You Can't Take It With You **1991** South
Pacific **1992** Life With Father **1993** Brigadoon **1994** Showstoppers
Review **1995** The Dining Room • The Lion In Winter **1996** Kiss Me,
Kate • Community Cabaret **1997** Ten Little Indians • Godspell **1998**
Oklahoma • The Importance of Being Earnest **1999** The Crucible •
Schoolhouse Rock, Live! **2000** The Secret Garden • Room Service
2001 Macbeth • The Best Christmas Pageant Ever **2002** The Mystery
of Edwin Drood • Bedroom Farce **2003** Dogsbreath Devereaux,
the Dastardly Doctor or...Nurses Foiled Again! • Quilters **2004**
HMS Pinafore • Let's Murder Marsha **2005** Alice's Adventures in
Wonderland **2006** Bye, Bye, Birdie! • A Murder is Announced **2007**
Inherit the Wind • The Diary of Anne Frank **2008** Arsenic and Old
Lace • Amateurs **2009** The Sound of Music • Steel Magnolias

The Community Players Present

On behalf of the entire troupe at Community Players, we would like to thank you sincerely for your patronage and encourage you to join us again very soon. If you should have an interest in working with this group, in any capacity, please fill out the information requested at the bottom of this page and give it to one of the ushers before you leave the theater.

Name: _____

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