

THE



# PRESS

Your Ticket to Pittsville Area Community Theater News

Spring 2009

## 2009 Summer Production

*PACT to perform the comedy, "Laughing Stock"*



The hilarious comedy, "Laughing Stock," will be presented by the Pittsville Area Community Theater August 6-9. "Laughing Stock," by Charles Morey, won an award for best original play in 2004. This delightful comedy takes an affectionate look at the magic that holds theater companies together.

When a rustic summer playhouse schedules a repertory season of "Dracula," "Hamlet," and "Charlie's Aunt," comic mayhem ensues. Follow this well-intentioned, but over-matched theater company from the outrageous auditions, to ego driven rehearsals, though opening nights gone awry. "Laughing Stock" is abundant with humor and guaranteed to send the audiences home laughing. The 14 member cast will bring non-stop chaos to the stage. Special effects, ridiculous circumstances, slapstick humor and much more will delight the audience to the point that they will want to return for a second performance.

Gail Possley will be directing this summer's production. This is the third summer production that Gail has directed for PACT. The assistant director for "Laughing Stock" will be Brittany Conner. Brittany was the stage manager for "Love Is Contagious" and this spring's production of the musical, "Grease," performed by Marshfield Children's Miracle Theatre.

**In addition to actors, volunteers are also needed for backstage roles, including: set construction, lighting, sound, properties, costumes, house management, and hospitality - just to name a few!**

### AUDITION INFORMATION AND SCHEDULES:

**Roles are available for nine men and five women, ranging in age from the late teens to 70 years old.**

#### AUDITIONS

**Tues. - Thurs., May 26, 27, and 28**

3:30-7:30 pm • Pittsville School Auditorium

Those auditioning will be asked to read dialog scenes from audition materials. Roles are available for nine men and five women.

#### REHEARSALS

**Begin Tuesday, June 2**

Depending on the size of the role, actors will be expected to rehearse several evenings a week.

#### PLAY PERFORMANCES

**Thursday - Saturday, Aug. 6-8**

7:30 pm

**Sunday, August 9**

2:00 pm (matinee)

## Cast of Characters

**Gordon Paige-** (40s) The theatre director who willingly takes on the challenging roles of both Hamlet and Dracula. His heart and soul are the center of the dysfunctional family created anew each summer. He's a nice guy who finesses his way around the pitfalls of low-budget show business with a glimmering love of the old barn which has become his home.

**Mary Pierre-** (20s) ditzzy (exaggerated naive), rising, new-age and young (ingénue) actress, who is trying to show more emotion in her work.

**Tyler Taylor -** (30s) the self-obsessed, egotistical. swaggering peacock (jaded & inflated professional).

**Vernon Volker-** (50s) bitter, middle-aged.

**Richfield Hawksley (70s) and Daisy Coates** (60's - they're a couple) - The ancient, experienced, forgetful veterans of theatre. They have a bit of trouble remembering their lines.

**Jack Morris-** (20s) the leading man who is about to give up on the profession altogether and become a lawyer.

**Susannah Huntsmen-** (30s) the free-thinking, but eccentric, guest/co-director. A pretentious director whose efforts complicate the summer stock's production. She's just out of graduate school, and has pretentious ideas of creativity that stretch the actors' limits.

**Craig Conlin-** (40s) the nerdy office-worker. He pleads with the cast to save all pencil stubs to stay on their very tight budget.

**Henry Mills-** (30s) the flamboyant artistic director who's "too-good-for summer stock." A beleaguered and overworked designer, he has to create three sets and complicated special effects in a matter of weeks with no money.

**Sarah McKay-** (40s) the stage manager for the playhouse, witty and cynical; she's a recovering alcoholic and former lover of Paige, who seems to understand his love of the theatre in a way that even he doesn't. She tries desperately to keep things going and resorts to drink to cope.

**Braun, Ian and Karma -** (late teens, early 20s) Exhausted interns.



CLIP HERE



Save the dates for these upcoming PACT events!

• AUDITIONS FOR LAUGHING STOCK  
Tuesday-Thursday, May 26, 27 and 28  
3:30-7:30 pm • Pittsville Schools Auditorium

• PERFORMANCES OF LAUGHING STOCK  
Thursday - Saturday, Aug. 6-8 7:30 pm  
Sunday, August 9 2:00 pm (matinee)

### PACT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

**1. Volunteer -** To be a part of upcoming productions email PACT at [info@pittsvillact.org](mailto:info@pittsvillact.org).

**2. Donate -** A donation of ANY amount will be greatly appreciated. Your gift is tax deductible. Just make out a check to PACT and mail it to PACT, P.O. Box 222, Pittsville, WI 54466. Funding for future performances depends on support from people like you.

**YOUR NAME COULD BE IN OUR "SPOTLIGHT" AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTION LEVELS:**

*Yes, I would like to support PACT at the following level:*

_____	Stage Hand	Up to \$15.00
_____	Extra	\$16.00 to \$49.00
_____	Director	\$50.00 to \$99.00
_____	Star	\$100.00 to \$199.00
_____	Super Star	\$200.00 or more

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Enclosed is my check made payable to PACT, P.O. Box 222, Pittsville, WI 54466*

[www.pittsvillact.org](http://www.pittsvillact.org)

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Community Theater News



**PRESS**



Look inside to see  
what's new with PACT!

PITTSVILLE AREA COMMUNITY THEATER  
P.O. Box 222  
Pittsville, WI 54466



[www.pittsvilleact.org](http://www.pittsvilleact.org)

## From the Director's Chair

**Meet Gail Possley,  
PACT's 2009  
Summer Director!**



I am honored to be able to direct my third comedy for the Pittsville Area Community Theater, "Laughing Stock," by Charles Morey. Last summer I directed the comedy, "Love Is Contagious" and in 2004, I directed, "Arsenic And Old Lace." I am very excited about directing again and am looking forward to working with area actors, volunteers and the PACT Board of Directors in producing this madcap comedy of nonstop chaos and ridiculous circumstances.

For the past two years, I have co-directed the High School plays, "Good Morning, Miss Dove" and "Occupation Murder." In 2001, I acted in the Pittsville High School production of "Little Women." I have been involved with all aspects of community theater for 30 years in Manitowoc, Wisconsin Rapids and Pittsville. I have taught Creative Dramatics summer classes and I have portrayed Mother Goose for the Pittsville Kindergarten classes

for over 20 years. I have also served as assistant director of Masquer's Reader's Theatre and on the Masquer's Board of Directors. I instructed "Show Biz Kids" (UW-Manitowoc Extension); performed in The Nutcracker Ballet for five years; served as Assistant Director for "Odd Couple" and I portrayed "Ethel Barrymore" for Reader's Theatre. I had acting roles in "Curious Savage," "The Good Doctor," "Guys And Dolls," and "Born Yesterday." I had the leading roles of "Sylvia" in "The Women," "Linda" in "Play It Again Sam" and "Amanda" in "Private Lives."

My husband of 16 years is Tom Possley. We both retired from teaching in the Pittsville School District in June, 2008. In December, we were blessed us with our first grandchild, Gavin Henry Johnson. During our retirement we have enjoyed traveling to Hawaii, Massachusetts, and Florida.

To our audience ~ sit back, relax, forget your worries and cares and enjoy the performance. Our cast and crew have worked very hard. Your job as the audience is to imagine that you are sitting on metal folding chairs watching an old summer stock barn theatre in which the box and business offices are in the wood shed and the dressing rooms are in old cow stalls. It is a warm summer evening and the mosquitoes are buzzing ....



Thursday - Saturday August 6-8 at 7:30 p.m. • Sunday August 9 at 2:00 p.m. mdfnee  
Pittsville Schools Auditorium

**2009 PACT Board of Directors**

*PACT is guided by and comprised of individuals who are committed to promoting the arts, thereby enriching the quality of life in the Pittsville area.*

<b>Sheryl Hiles</b> - President	<b>Sarah Freedlund</b>
<b>Gail Possley</b> - Vice President	<b>Tom Hiles</b>
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	<b>Brittany Conner</b>

**SPECIAL THANKS to the School District of Pittsville and Heinzen Printing, Marshfield, for their help and continued support of PACT!**

**Learn more about PACT at: [www.pittsvilleact.org](http://www.pittsvilleact.org) or email: [info@pittsvilleact.org](mailto:info@pittsvilleact.org).**