

# Inside Saratoga: Stepping out in style for a good cause during annual fundraiser

Published: Wednesday, July 21, 2010

By JEANNETTE JORDAN  
Inside Saratoga

The third annual fashion show of Mary A. Carter Temple No. 362, I.B.P.O.E. of W, which took place July 11, was deemed a wonderful success by organizers. Beekman Street, where the lodge is located, turned into a catwalk with models parading summer fashions from some of Saratoga Springs' finest stores and boutiques.

Tables lined the sidewalks decorated with purple tablecloths and vases of gorgeous roses. Two unique arrangements designed by Rena's Fine Flowers of Beekman Street graced the top of the runway.

Natalie Sillery of Saratoga Trunk was once again the gracious emcee. Sillery's Trunkets and models from Spoken, The Shoppe and The Clothes Line showed off their fashions in grand style. Rene Dye from Loyal Temple No. 148 of Albany, Carol Ann Dixon, Gina Spencer, Karen Clark, Nancy Witschel, and Shanon Fontes also strutted fashions from the Clothes Horse, Violets of Saratoga, Rockabella, Frivolous, Treasures and several others.

Attendees enjoyed champagne punch, finger foods donated by Hattie's, Panza's and Longfellows and various desserts. Raffles included gift certificates donated by Sperry's and Circus Café and a golf outing for four donated by Saratoga National Golf Club.

Each year the temple has the fundraiser to sponsor a child through "Adopt a child for Christmas," and also supports the refurbishing of Frederick Allen Lodge No. 609.

The fashion show committee headed by Daughters of Mary A. Carter Temple No. 362 included Julie Johnson (the mayor's wife), Saratoga Springs Supervisor Joanne Yepsen, Karen Klotz and Seena Wirth (wife of Public Safety Commissioner Richard Wirth).

Some of the faces spotted in the crowd included Mayor Scott T. Johnson and his mom, Jane Johnson; Commissioner Wirth and his deputy, Frank Dudla; former Mayor Kenneth Klotz (Karen's husband); Nellie Agosta; Charlene Gilbert; Audrey Christenson; Rachael Gilbert; Grand District Deputy Rosina Walker-Thomas, Gladys Smith, Hortense Artist and Delois Middleton, all from Loyal Temple No. 148; Audrey Bowman, the Daughter Ruler from Fannie Rose Temple No. 1198 of Gloversville, who celebrated her 80th birthday at the event with Geraldine Beekman and other members of the temple; Nanette Miranda, whose paper hats were modeled, and her daughter, Amy, and granddaughter, Lucy; and Irene Palma and her daughter, Jonna.

## SSHS and St. Peter's mark 60th reunion

Classmates from Saratoga Springs High School and St. Peter's Academy celebrated their 60th reunion June 11 and 12.

The first evening, they gathered for a buffet at Principessa Elena on Oak Street, where they had fun trying to connect the classmates' faces with the names.

The next day, a more formal affair was held at the Wishing Well. Additional classmates, friends and spouses enjoyed a

cocktail hour before sitting for dinner. Before the dinner, David Claydon gave an invocation. Deceased members from both schools were remembered.

SSHS Class President Fred Kuenzel welcomed everyone, while Jim Morrissey and St. Peter's Robert Quinn took everyone down the 1950s memory lane, recalling places that so many frequented.

Classmates came from as far away as Florida, Georgia, California and Virginia.

SSHS classmates in attendance included Richard Jones, Helen Carr Bryant, Ann Carusone Landry, Elaine Cogan Charbonneau, Ernest Duval, Fil Fina, Sondra Goldman Silverhart, Matt Johnson, Betty Jones Hall, Eleanor Koptula Henning, Mary Lewis Ward, Ronnie Lundgren, Anthony McCarthy, Edward McMahan, Ron Millis, Mary Perks Zabala, Ann Robinson Cornell, Jean Rowley, Jonathan Wagman, Maurice O'Connell, William Butler, Shirley Hinman Fonda, Charles "Tim" Allen, Millie Jackson Dart and Barbara White Smaldone.

Coming from the much smaller school, St. Peter's, in addition to Robert Quinn, were Mary Ann Zwijacz, Connie Foley Burns, Pat Sullivan Mangona and an early St. Peter's attendee, Joan Dwyer Pehl.

Hyde Collection luncheon

The Hyde Collection of Glens Falls had its annual luncheon July 12 at the Inn At Erlowest in conjunction with its present exhibit "Andrew Wyeth ... An American Legend."

The luncheon date was the actual birthday of artist Andrew Wyeth.

His granddaughter, Victoria Wyeth, was the honored guest speaker. The afternoon ended with the singing of "Happy Birthday" for Andrew Wyeth, who would have been 92.

Among the local attendees were Claudia Pesino, Janet Westcott, Mary Ann Bell, Beverley Mastrianni, Ronnie Serlin, Norma Quinn, Katie Richman and Anne Palamoutian.

### **Ballet dancers make a splash at Riggi barbecue**

Michele Riggi rolled out the red carpet for New York City Ballet dancers at her annual barbecue July 12 at her North Broadway home.

Dressed in an orange and fuchsia Bulmerine sun dress accompanied by Alexis Bitar jewelry and gold Gucci sandals, Riggi flitted about like a beautiful butterfly greeting everyone.

As attendees arrived, they were given flutes of champagne and directed past the swimming pool into the flower-laden grounds, where tables took on a tropical theme dressed in fuchsia satin with overlays in vibrant orange covered with fuchsia satin flowers. Fine Affairs created the eye-appealing décor.

Before feasting on an extravagant selection of barbecue foods, including sushi catered by Angelo Mazzone and Kevin Sikes of Hall of Springs Catering, the dancers donned their bikinis and swimming trunks and frolicked in the pool.

In addition to the young dancers, who admitted that this barbecue topped off their successful season at Saratoga Performing Arts Center that ended Saturday, were ballet stars Darci Kistler, her husband, Peter Martins, and their daughter, Talicia; principal dancer Charles Askegard; Clotilde Otranto, conductor of the NYCB Orchestra, and her husband, Armando, who also spend time sailing at their Naples, Fla., home; Sal and Jo Ambrosio, facility rental manager at the National Museum of Dance; and Ron and Michele Riggi's son, Christopher.

Chris, as he likes to be called, is an actor, who recently had a small appearance on “Gossip Girl,” but will star as Jacob White in the comedy movie “Vampire Suck,” which will open in movie theaters worldwide on Aug. 18. He will also be filmed in “The Locals” this fall. He is well on his way to being a household name.

### **Local native finishes 2nd in music competition**

Earl S. Gailor, son of Joan Gailor, who once had a band here known as Kidd Havoc, has continued his guitar playing while managing a large music store in West Palm Beach, Fla.

His latest accomplishment is playing at Sunrise Musical Theatre (similar to SPAC), where he placed second in a competition. A Florida newspaper wrote: “Scot Marcs (Earl’s stage name) has received many critical write-ups in the national music magazines from previous touring with his band, Kidd Havoc, along the East Coast, and was once a guitarmageddon regional runner-up. Scot’s playing is a delicate balance between raw feeling and modern technique. Live shows are simply a showcase for his talent.”

### **LGOpera enjoys picnic**

The annual all cast-cast picnic of the Lake George Opera was held July 6 at the Victory Mills Rod and Gun Club. More than 100 attendees included cast members as well as friends.

The event, sponsored by Friends of Lake George Opera, was chaired by Virginia McMorris. It was a welcome break from the rigors of rehearsals of the two operas, “Viva La Momma” and “Carmen,” performed this year.

It was one of the few times that singers, members of the orchestra, directors and members of the stage crew were able to come together in a relaxed setting. Strange as it may seem, there was no singing.

Artistic Director Curt Tucker, who is conducting the orchestra for the two operas, demonstrated his baseball prowess along with other cast members.

The attendees came from around the country. Among them were LGOpera Board Chairman Ted Newlin; former Chairman Bob Miller; Friends President Bob DeSio and his wife, Pat; Anne Palamountain; Bruce McMorris; Ned Spain; Ralph and Claire Cafaro; Joe and Marie Erkes; Kathy Tucker, Curt’s wife; director of production David Yergen; stage director Nelson Sheeley; featured dancer Johnny Martinez; baritone Darren Stokes; and soprano Elizabeth Roberts.