

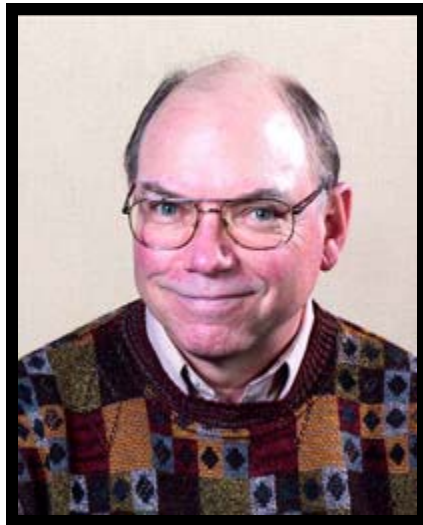


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***MADogram***  
**January, 2008**



Gene Smith  
1940-2007

*On December 16, 2007 we lost a founding member of MAD. He made great contributions to the club over the years, particularly in the Spring Drama Shows and Winter Shows. He will certainly be missed by all. In accordance with his wishes, a celebration of his life is being planned in lieu of a funeral. Watch the MAD web site (<http://madtheater.org>) for further information. Charitable contributions in his name are suggested for Signature Theatre or Hospice Caring of Montgomery County. You can email his wife Linda at [genea.smith2@verizon.net](mailto:genea.smith2@verizon.net).*

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**The Fantasticks**

With the cast selected and hard at work, opening night of "The Fantasticks" will be here before you know it. The production staff is hard at work making decisions such as the house table layout, and when tickets will go on sale, but several other key decisions have already been made.

Performance dates: February 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29 and March 1  
Ticket price: \$21 /per ticket.  
Times (Fri & Sat): Doors open at 6:30 with an 8:00 PM curtain  
Times (Sun): Doors open at 4:30 with a 6:00 PM curtain

Ticket sales will begin with an on-site sale (Date, time and location TBD) near the end of January. Watch the MAD web site (<http://madtheater.org>) your MAD email and your mail (for a sales flyer) for more information.

The cast in alphabetical order is:

Mark Faber.....	Mortimer	Jen Larsen.....	Lusia
Laura Ann Fisher .....	The Mute	Linda Pattison .....	Bellomy
Jesse Holt.....	El Gallo	David Solomon .....	Henry
Jerry Khatcheressian.....	Hucklebee	Stephen P. Yednock .....	Matt

## 2008 Spring Show News

This May we will again present a combined music, dance and drama showcase for our chorus, dance and drama workshops.

### **Call for Spring Show Director**

Anyone interested in directing the Spring show should submit their name to Mark Faber at [mfaber@hst.nasa.gov](mailto:mfaber@hst.nasa.gov) by February 1. Drama, chorus, and dance workshop pieces will be directed by directors from the workshops. The artistic director for the show provides a vision for the overall show, directs any additional solo/small group numbers, and “puts it all together.” We need your vision if we are going to continue to have Spring shows!

### **Drama Organizational Meeting**

If you are interested in performing in or directing a drama piece in the Spring show, or would like to participate in drama activities without performing in the show, please plan to attend the organizational meeting, **Wednesday Jan. 23 at 6:30 in Building 1, Room 103**. Please bring your ideas and potential scripts. If you need an escort, please contact Barbara Ying in advance to make arrangements.

If you cannot attend this meeting, please email your participation interest in the Spring drama activities to Barbara Ying at [Barbara.Ying@verizon.net](mailto:Barbara.Ying@verizon.net) or call 301 490-3154. We will tailor the drama activities to those people who express an interest in developing or practicing their drama skills.

## 2008 Fall Show News

It's only January, but we are starting to work on the 2008 Fall show already. Over the last several years, we've been making incremental changes towards a better process

for selecting our Fall show and director. This year, we are repeating the step we took last year. Instead of choosing a director and then choosing a show, we will be selecting a director, artistic team, and show package together, much like we do for our Winter show. So look for the call for director/show package submissions in this MADogram. Also look for the requests for volunteers to produce the Fall show and to serve as at-large selection committee members. It's time to get started!

The full description of the selection process that we'll use again this year is available from Gerry Daelemans at [gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov](mailto:gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov).

### **Your Input Counts! What Show Would You Like Next Fall?**

We are going to ask for your input on the Fall show twice this year. First, tell us the top three shows you'd like to do. We'll publish the compiled list of shows so that director candidates can consider your desires in choosing shows to submit. Send your three shows by January 22 to Gerry Daelemans at [gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov](mailto:gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov).

After directors have submitted the shows they are interested in directing, we'll have a meeting in March to get your input on this short list before the selection committee makes their decision.

### **Call for At-Large Show Selection Committee Members for the 2008 MAD Fall Dinner Theater**

Each year, three MAD members are selected at random from those interested to participate in the Fall show selection committee. Selecting the Fall show and director is one of the most important activities of the year, and you can be a part of it! You should be willing to commit to read the scripts of all submitted shows, review soundtracks, and attend approximately three meetings beginning in March and ending in April. Two members will be chosen as voting members of the committee and one will be selected as an alternate. The alternate participates in all discussions, but only votes on the show selection if one of the voting at-large members is absent. (Note: So that the opportunity can be spread around, if you served as an at-large committee member last year, you are not eligible this year.)

At-large committee members will be selected at the February 6 Executive Council meeting by drawing names "from the hat." If you are interested, please submit your name to Gerry Daelemans at [gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov](mailto:gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov) or call Gerry at 301-464-8554 (evenings).

### **Call for Director and Show Submissions for the 2008 MAD Fall Dinner Theater**

If you have an interest in directing the MAD Fall dinner theater musical, now is the time to think about which show(s) you'd like to direct, your vision for doing the show(s) at MAD, and the staff you will bring to this rewarding project. This year, a director candidate can submit any number of shows, with a suggested maximum of five shows. Each show submission will be treated as a separate submission, so each show package may include a different proposed artistic/production staff, if desired. Please remember that the Fall dinner theater is designed to be a large cast musical with a variety of opportunities in acting, music, and dance for as large a variety of MAD members as possible while providing primarily family entertainment. Also, we're especially interested in shows that will be popular with members and audiences this year.

Your submission should include **for each show**:

1. The show name, and any specifics about which version you would like to direct, if more than one exists.
2. The director's name and resume.
3. Any proposed staff for the show, including producer, choreographer, music and/or vocal director, technical director, and any other identified staff. **NOTE: Director candidates are highly encouraged to include a producer candidate in their package submissions.**
4. A brief description of your vision for the show. This description should run about 2–4 paragraphs and describe how you would make this show work for the MAD membership and audience. Examples of things to include are: a brief synopsis, show demographics, types of dance, flexibility in casting, general ideas on set or technical issues, dealing with dated material, or other approaches which you think may be important to the show selection process. This description will be used by the show selection committee and will be posted to the Members Only area of the MAD web site during the show selection process.

Please submit your packages to Gerry Daelemans by February 18, 2007 at [gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov](mailto:gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov) or call Gerry at 301–464–8554 (evenings) to make alternative arrangements.

### **Call for Producer for the 2008 MAD Fall Dinner Theater**

If you'd like to be involved with making the Fall show a real success and being part of the people who make the decisions, then this is your opportunity! Potential director candidates for the MAD Fall Dinner Theater need a producer to make it all work. Without a producer, we can't have a fall show! If you are interested in producing, contact Gerry Daelemans at [gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov](mailto:gerard.j.daelemans@nasa.gov) or call Gerry at 301–464–8554 (evenings). Want to know what you have to do to produce? Call Gerry, peruse the MAD Rules and Guidelines on the MAD web site, or talk to one of our recent producers. Even if you are willing to help, but not sure you want to be in charge, give me a call and we'll talk about how you can participate.

### **MAD 2008 Master Schedule**

The MAD 2008 Master Schedule is available on the MAD member's website at <http://www.madtheater.org/mem>. If you want to know what is going to happen when, check out the master schedule. If you'd like a more detailed version, contact MAD President Ted Ying at [tedying@yahoo.com](mailto:tedying@yahoo.com) or 301–490–3154.

### **MAD About Town**

**John Degnan** is playing John Curtis Buntner, an overzealous Texas highway patrolman, in the comedy "Dearly Beloved," produced by Bowie Community Theater. The play, which is about a redneck wedding in a small Texas town that has gone terribly wrong, runs January 18 through February 2 at the Bowie Playhouse in White Marsh Park. Friday and Saturday evening

performances are at 8 pm; Sunday matinee performances begin at 2pm. Tickets are \$15 and \$10 for seniors and students. For tickets or more information, visit [www.BCTheatre.com](http://www.BCTheatre.com) or call (301)-805-0219.

**Steel Magnolias:** A hilarious and touching glimpse into the lives of six southern ladies in a small-town beauty parlor. Written by Robert Harling, directed by **Ron Wilder**, February 26 & 28, 2008, at 7:30 pm. Cold readings from the script. For more information call Ron Wilder @301-345-4615. Location: All auditions are held at: The New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton, MD 20784.

**Jerry Khatchereessian** will be performing in the One Act play "Not One Single Thing" at the Maryland Community Theater Festival on January 19, in La Plata. The play is the showcase piece produced by the Laurel Mill Playhouse. For more information go to [www.mctfa.org](http://www.mctfa.org).

Auditions for *Born Yesterday* will be held January 14 and 15 at 7:30 pm at Greenbelt Arts Center. Garson Kanin's screwball comedy will be directed by **Randy Barth** and produced by **Andy Negri**. Auditions will be readings from the script. The major scenes that will be used can be viewed at <http://home.comcast.net/~randy.barth/BYAuditionScenes.pdf>.

The Friday Morning Music Club Chorale, directed by **Webster A. Rogers, Jr.** (former MAD vocal director), will be presenting a concert on Sunday, January 27, at 4 p.m. at the Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church. The program, performed by the adult choir, guest children's choir directed by **Chris Wells**, Chorale orchestra, soloists, and the small *a cappella* Collegium Musicum, will feature music by Ralph Vaughan Williams: *Fantasias on Greensleeves* and on a theme by Thomas Tallis, both performed by string orchestra, and, for the main event, the Christmas Cantata *Hodie*. The Collegium Musicum will also sing three contrasting selections. The concert is free, no tickets required. Bradley Hills is located at 6601 Bradley Blvd. in Bethesda, and there is plenty of on-site parking. Come enjoy an hour and a half of beautiful music to brighten your winter's day!

## MAD Update

A new grandchild was born to **Marie and Alan Centa**! Nathaniel Alexander Bowles arrived on December 19, 2007.