



*MADogram* Editor: Cathy Barth, [cathy.barth@comcast.net](mailto:cathy.barth@comcast.net), 301-446-6300

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## *MADogram* May, 2010

### Fall Show Auditions

As reported in the last MADogram, this year's Fall Musical will be a very well known Rodgers and Hammerstein Musical about the von Trapp Family Singers. Because of a production in this area earlier in the Fall, we are not allowed to use the name of the show (initials S O M) until September. Tentative audition dates have been set as Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 12, 13, and 14 in the Building 3 Auditorium. Audition scenes are being selected and will be posted to the MAD website soon. A list and description of the characters in this show is given below. Watch the MAD email, MADogram, and MAD website, or contact director Eliot Malumuth ([eliotmal@comcast.net](mailto:eliotmal@comcast.net)) for more information.

Cast Descriptions (note ages and age ranges are character ages, the ages of the actors playing those parts may vary more or less depending on the part):

**Maria Rainer:** Maria is a young woman (age young 20s) who is a Postulant in the Nonnberg Abbey. She is naïve, especially about the ways of love, flighty, intelligent, and caring.

**Captain Georg von Trapp:** A former navy commander (age: Late 40s–50s) in the Austrian Navy with 7 children (ages 5– 16). He runs his house as he ran his ship, especially since the death of his wife, which brings no joy into the household, which he is often absent from. He is fiercely patriotic to Austria, and very, very anti-NAZI.

**Baroness Elsa Schraeder:** A beautiful and rich widow (age Late 30s – 40s) who is in love with Captain von Trapp. Although she is a patriotic Austrian she is pragmatic as to the chance of the NAZI takeover of Austria. She feels that it will not effect her so whatever happens she will live with it.

**Max Detweiler:** The ultimate entrepreneur impresario (age 40s–60s). Max is a friend of Baroness Schraeder and Captain von Trapp. While he has very little money himself he likes to live as if he were rich (by living off of his rich friends). He has no political convictions and will go along with whatever comes. He has a certain amount of charm and a great nose for musical talent.

**Liesl von Trapp:** (age 16). Liesl is the first born child (daughter) of Captain von Trapp. At 16 going on 17, Liesl is nearly grown up (at least she thinks so), is in love with the boy who brings the telegrams, Rolf, (at least she thinks so) and definitely doesn't need a governess (at least she thinks so). Liesl has a song and dance number with Rolf.

**Friedrich von Trapp:** (age 14). Friedrich is the second von Trapp child and oldest boy. "Friedrich's afraid to be himself – he's shy and aloof." He needs to learn confidence from his often-absent father.

**Louisa von Trapp:** (age 13). Louisa is the happy von Trapp child who just wants to have a good time.

**Kurt von Trapp:** (age 10). Kurt is the sensitive von Trapp child who is easily hurt especially by being ignored by his father.

**Brigitta von Trapp:** (age 9). Brigitta is very smart and observant, she notices everything and is very honest about it (she always tells the truth – especially when you don't want to hear it).

**Marta von Trapp:** (age 7). Marta is the second youngest von Trapp child. As such she doesn't get the attention that the youngest child gets but is still very little. She is therefore quite and hard to get to know.

**Gretl von Trapp:** (age 5). Gretl is the youngest von Trapp child. As such, she just wants to be loved.

**The Mother Abbess:** (age ~40 and up). The kindly but firm leader of the Nonnberg Abbey, who nevertheless has a grasp of worldly matters.

**Rolf Gruber:** (age 17). Rolf is a friend of Liesl's. Rolf and Liesl are at the beginning of a fledgling romance. As the telegram delivery boy, he arranges to deliver telegrams to the von Trapp house at night so he can meet with Liesl. He gets caught up with the NAZI jingoistic propaganda and drops Liesl for "more important" matters. He has a song and dance number with Liesl.

**Sister Berthe:** (30's and up). Sister Berthe is the Mistress of Novices. She is stern and does not understand Maria at all. She sees Maria as a problem to be solved by getting rid of her. She is a major singer in the song "Maria."

**Sister Margareta:** (30's and up). Sister Margareta is the Mistress of Postulants. She is kinder and more understanding than Sister Berthe, especially when it comes to the loveable, but flighty Maria. She is a major singer in the song "Maria."

**Sister Sophia:** (20's and up). Sister Sophia is the Mother Abbess' assistant. She is more kindly disposed to Maria than Sister Berthe but doesn't think that Maria belongs in the Abby. She is a major singer in the song "Maria."

**Franz:** (40's and up). Franz is Captain von Trapp's butler.

**Frau Schmidt:** (40's and up). Frau Schmidt is Captain von Trapp's housekeeper.

**Herr Zeller:** (40's and up). Herr Zeller is a local man who is a NAZI collaborator and becomes an important NAZI.

**Admiral von Schreiber:** (50's – 60's). A German Navy Admiral.

#### Bit parts (one or two spoken lines)

**Ursula:** (20's–30's). A servant of Capt. von Trapp.

**Baron Elberfeld:** (40's and up). A friend and neighbor of Capt. von Trapp, also an Austrian patriot.

**Baroness Elberfeld:** (40's and up). The Baron's wife.

**A New Postulant:** (young teen). A young girl entering the Nonnberg Abbey.

#### Other Characters

##### **Neighbors of Captain von Trapp**

**Nuns, Novices, Postulants** (girls and women 13 and up)

**The Nuns** (including the Novices and Postulants are the chorus singing parts in this show)

##### **Contestants at the Festival Concert**

**Nazi Guards and Soldiers**

## Spring Show Update

The Spring Show is just around the corner, but you haven't missed your opportunity to be part of it. Come sing with the chorus now being led by Randy Barth. We rehearse on Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 in Building 3 Auditorium. Just let Jan Bloom or Randy know, if you want to be part of it and need a badge. Soloists and small groups can still audition. Contact Rita Flaherty, the artistic director, for that.

All of the positions of the production council have now been staffed, except for sound design. If you have experience working sound and would like to take this position, let Steve Hull or Jan Bloom know. We would welcome you with open, grateful arms.

Be sure to look for sales flyers soon, so that you can purchase tickets. Let your friends and families know about our production...June 12, 13, 19, and 20. Hope to see you in the audience.

### **MAD ByLaws Committee Needs Two Members**

Any civil servant/badged contractor interested in serving on a bylaws committee to review and revise the MAD Bylaws, Rules and Guidelines between now and September should contact Kevin Buter at [volleypop1@verizon.net](mailto:volleypop1@verizon.net) as soon as possible. Two such members are needed for the Committee. The bylaws committee will focus primarily on incorporating revisions to the fall show selection process and to the audition and/or casting rules to encourage a wider variety of directors, especially for our large fall shows. The targeted changes are intended to formally document the probationary practices that have been in use for recent fall shows.

### **NVM (Non-Voting Member) Applications Now Being Accepted**

The MAD Executive Committee is now accepting applications for 2010 Non-Voting Members (NVMs) **who did not apply last November**. If you applied then, you're good for the whole year and don't need to reapply until this coming November. You can apply to be an NVM if you are (1) a guest who had significant involvement in a winter, spring, or fall show during BOTH 2008 and 2009, or significant involvement in a winter, spring or fall show for 2009 AND the winter 2010 or spring 2010; or (2) a current NVM who wants to renew his or her status or an individual who lost membership qualification (for example, by leaving Goddard) during 2009 (renewal requires involvement in a winter, spring, or fall show during either 2009 or 2010). Please apply online at the MAD website as instructed below, or complete the form below and submit it to Randy Barth, Code 610.2, NASA/GSFC, Greenbelt, MD 20771. All applications must be received online or via mail by May 31, 2010. Approval of all applications will be determined by the MAD Executive Committee at the June meeting and will be published in the June or July MADogram.

Online instructions: Click on (or paste) <http://www.madtheater.org/mem/NVM.htm> or go to MAD's home page and click on "Member Services" button. Enter current or previous year user id and password (if unknown, call Randy Barth at 301-614-5472). Click on NVM Application. Click on "Blank Form" if no previous record, otherwise search for your previous record.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Status:  NVM  Guest

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List MAD shows you were involved with and briefly describe your 2008 participation.

List MAD shows you were involved with and briefly describe your 2009 participation.

Briefly describe your participation with Winter 2010 show or for Spring 2010:

## MAD About Town

**Jill Goodrich** will be appearing as Sarah in Laurel Mill Playhouse's production of Company. The show runs weekends from May 21 through June 13 with Friday and Saturday performances at 8 pm and Sunday performances at 2 pm. Tickets are \$13 for general admission. For reservations, call 301-617-9906 and press 2. For further information, visit the website at [laurelmillplayhouse.org](http://laurelmillplayhouse.org).

**Stephen Yednock** will be appearing as "Mr. Bumble" in St. Mark's Players' production of Oliver!. Performances are at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 301 A Street SE, Washington, DC (corner of 3rd and A Streets, SE). The show runs weekends from May 7th through 22nd with Friday and Saturday performances at 8 pm and Sunday performances at 4 pm. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$18 for students and seniors 65+ and \$15 for children 12 and under/groups of 10 or more. For tickets and further information, visit [www.stmarksplayers.org](http://www.stmarksplayers.org) or call 202-546-9670.

**Meg (formerly Yednock) and Michael Nemeth** will be appearing in Greenbelt Arts Center's production of Moon Over Buffalo running May 7 thru May 29. Performances are at the Greenbelt Arts Center, 123 Centerway Greenbelt MD. Friday and Saturday performances start at 8pm. Sun. May 16th at 2pm and Sun. May 23rd at 3pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. For tickets call 301-441-8770. Visit [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org) for more information.

There is one more weekend, May 14 and 15, for PGLT's production of "Bye, Bye, Birdie" at the Bowie Playhouse in White Marsh Park, featuring **Rosalie and Natalie Daelemans** onstage and **Chris Wells** in the pit. For reservations, call 301-937-7458.

The Friday Morning Music Club Chorale, directed by **Webster Rogers** with **Chris Wells**, assistant conductor, will be presenting their spring concert on Sunday, June 13 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church at 16th and O Sts., N.W. The program includes two original works by composer-in-residence Wang An-Ming, plus Bruckner's *Te Deum* and Michael Haydn's *St. Francis Mass of the Seraphici*. MAD member **Charlaine Reese** has become one of the mainstays of the alto section following her turn as one of the lovely Boylan sisters in "Annie." The concert is free, no tickets required.

**Catherine Asaro** is performing at the East Columbia Library on Tuesday, May 18, 7–9 pm, with the Wolcott Quartet: Donald Wolcott on keys, Mike Montgomery on Bass, El Torro Gamble on drums, and Dominck Turchi on sax. Catherine will read selections from her book, *Diamond Star*, about a rock star in the future. The ensemble and Catherine will perform selections from the *Diamond Star* soundtrack as well as jazz standards. They will take questions from the audience after the show about the *Diamond Star* Project, combining writing and music, and anything else the audience would like to ask. Refreshments will be provided. Come join Catherine and Donald for an evening of exciting fiction and smooth music.

## MAD Update

**Jen and Casey Retterer** welcomed their son, Felix Myers Retterer, into the world on April 23rd at 11:26 am. He weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz. and was 19 and a quarter inches long. Everyone is doing well and trying to get some sleep.

**Abby Wallisch** was awarded a four year Performing Arts/Musical Theater Scholarship to attend the Academy of the Holy Cross High School in Kensington, MD. She enters 9th Grade in the Fall 2010. She auditioned for this scholarship by singing "Part of Your World" from *Little Mermaid* and performing a monologue from *My Fair Lady*.

Dia Michels, mother of new Madster **Mira Michels-Gualtieri**, runs *Science, Naturally!*. She has just published her first math books for kids (for ages 10–14). *One Minute Mysteries: 65 Short Mysteries You Solve with Math!* is authored by the same father-daughter team that brought us the award-winning, NSTA Recommended *One Minute Mysteries: 65 Short Mysteries You Solve with Science!* Readers learn and have fun as they use their logic and their mathematical know-how to solve these brainteasers. *101 Things Everyone Should Know About Math!* uses an accessible question-and-answer approach to explore key concepts in math while making connections to everyday life: sports, hobbies, food, music, travel, etc. It follows the award-winning first book in its series, *101 Things Everyone Should Know About Science* (NSTA Recommends). These books retail for \$9.95 each. Dia is excited to share them with MAD folks and is making them available for just \$5.00 each. Order at [www.ScienceNaturally.com](http://www.ScienceNaturally.com) and use the coupon code AB5. Or zap Dia an email at [Dia@ScienceNaturally.com](mailto:Dia@ScienceNaturally.com) and she'll send them to rehearsal and you can save the shipping charges!