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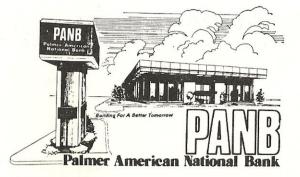
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directed by Bob Canetta

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### THE BEST MAN

#### (Synopis of Scenes)

*Place:* A presidential Convention in New York *Time:* Summer, July, 1976

#### ACT ONE

- Scene 1: An American hotel suite.
- Scene 2: Senator Joseph Cantwell's suite. The same evening.
- Scene 3: William Russell's suite. The next afternoon.

#### ACT TWO

- Scene 1: Cantwell suite. A few minutes later.
- Scene 2: Russell suite. A few minutes later.
- Scene 3: Cantwell suite. A few minutes later.
- Scene 4: Russell suite. The next afternoon.

\* \* \*

There will be a 15-minute intermission following ACT I. At this time restrooms and refreshments are provided at the lower level of the theatre. We request that refreshments be confined to the lower level and that there be *NO SMOKING* IN ANY AREA OF THE BUILDING. Thank you.



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### Our Director . . .

### **BOB CANETTA**

This is Bob's third time at directing plays, the first was Red Mask's production, *Last of The Red Hot Lovers*, and second in Danville Light Opera's, *Take Me Along*. Bob has had many Red Mask roles, a few to mention are in *A Thousand Clowns*, *The Curious Savage*, *Everybody Loves Opal*, and *Wait Until Dark*. He has also appeared in major roles in *Seascape*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Gingerbread Lady* at Urbana's Station Theatre. Bob figures he has acted in about fifty plays in the past, he has a degree in Theatre from Colorado State College. Bob is Chief of Audiology and in the Speech Pathology Service at Veterans Hospital.

### Our Stage Manager . . .

#### ALFREDA KLINGENSMITH

Alfreda is working as our Stage Manager for the second time this season, Janus, the first, and now The Best Man. Last season, Alfreda had three roles in three of four productions — the nurse in The Sunshine Boys, the intellectual girl in Play It Again, Sam, and Nanny in The Effect of Gamma Rays On Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds. She also worked back stage on last year's play, Ten Little Indians and this summer she was the Stage Manager for Sunshine's II Ltd.'s, Come Blow Your Horn. Alfreda has lived in Danville the past seven years and works in the Danville District 118 schools as a general music teacher.

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### Cast of Characters

(In Order of Appearance)

Dick Jenson
First Reporter
William Russell George Mahan
Second Reporter Deb Kotcher
Third Reporter Bob Tolliver
Alice Russell Sara Jo Ward
Mrs. Gamadge Anita Winstead
Arthur Hockstader Max Sperling
Mabel Cantwell Socedia (Deesha) Davis
Bill Blades Bob Knapp
Joseph Cantwell Jim Wingo
Senator Carlin David Van Soest
Dr. Artinian Charles Beadles
Sheldon Marcus B. J. Smith



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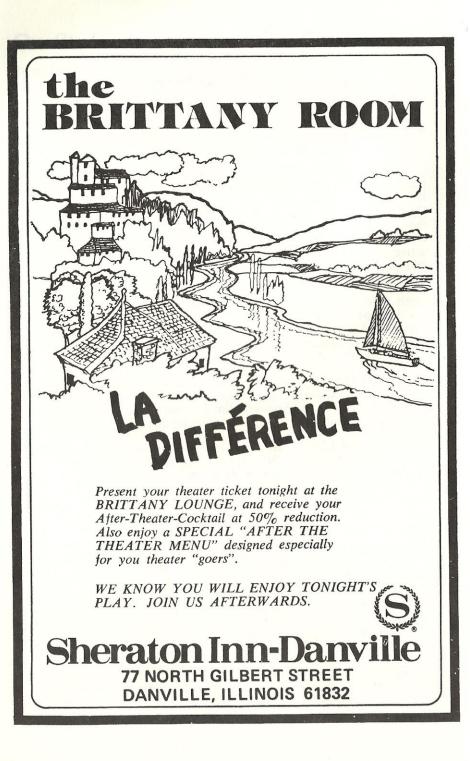
DANVILLE

### On Stage Tonight . . .

- BILL EVERTS (Dick Jenson) Back once again from his most recent appearance as Denny in the fall production of *Janus*, Bill portrays a very different character in this vehicle. He has been long associated with Red Mask and Light Opera. Bill works for a local newspaper. Bill and his wife, Mollie, have a daughter and are momentarily expecting another child.
- KEVIN J. McDOUGAL (First Reporter) This is Kevin's third appearance in a Red Mask play. Last season he was in *Ten Little Indians*, after making his debut the previous season in *Reserve Two for Murder*. Kevin is a member of the Thespian Society. Employed in Danville, Kevin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bolden.
- GEORGE MAHAN (William Russell) George appeared last season as Roger, the butler in *Ten Little Indians* and has worked on the stage crew in other Red Mask plays. He has had roles at Danville Light Opera, one being in their production of *My Fair Lady*. Living in Danville since 1974, George works as a Project Analyst in Data Processing.
- DEB KOTCHER (Second Reporter) A native of Westville, Debbie is a sophomore at Danville Junior College, hoping in the near future to be a gym teacher. This is Deb's second appearance at Red Mask, her first as the gym teacher in *The Impossible Years*. She has proven to be a dependable stage crew member in other plays at Red Mask.
- BOB TOLLIVER (Third Reporter) Bob appeared most recently in *The Impossible Years*, for which he won a Katy Award. Being active in Red Mask for several years, he is now serving as Vice President. Bob lives in Danville with his wife, Debbie, and two sons, Craig and Marc, all of whom are active in Red Mask, Danville Light Opera and school productions.
- SARA JO WARD (Alice Russell) After graduating from the University of Illinois and receiving a degree in Musical Theatre, Sara is back in Danville working for the Metric Education Program. Sara Jo has had several roles in children's plays at Red Mask, one, *Come Back Little Sheeba*. One summer in California, at Rolland's Theatre Festival she had a role in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. While in college she toured with the performing Young Illini in Florida and was active in Urbana's Station Theatre, last seen there in *Showboat*, among others.
- ANITA WINSTEAD (Mrs. Gamadge) Beginning in Schlarman High with a role in *Guys and Dolls*, Anita added with roles in *Applause* and *Gypsy* in Danville Light Opera. Anita has been with Red Mask before when it was Theatre 601. She has attended Danville Junior College in computer programming and in the near future plans to study clowning at Ringling Brothers Clown College, Clearwater, Florida.

### On Stage Tonight . . .

- MAX SPERLING (Arthur Hockstader) Max, a Danville native, graduated from Danville High School and University of Illinois. He has two sons and for twenty-one years operated his own business but is now associated with Mervis Industries. Max's credits are roles in *Last* of the Red Hot Lovers, and Sunshine Boys and last being Come Blow Your Horn. He has served on the board and is now a second Vice-President and Membership Chairman.
- SODECIA (Deesha) DAVIS (Mabel Cantwell) Deesha has previously been in the Red Mask productions, *Curious Savage*, and *Reserve Two* for Murder. Deesha received her AB degree from Columbia College, Columbia, South Carolina. She is involved in many organizations in the area, some include, Director of the Illinois Council with Learning Disabilities, secretary for Danville's A.A.U.W., Girl Scout leader, active in church and school activities. Deesha soon will be in a real estate agency.
- ROBERT KNAPP (Bill Blades) Since moving to Danville a year ago, Bob's first Red Mask credit was last season's *Ten Little Indians*. Bob has had past acting experience in Wisconsin in a comedy, *Natalie Needs A Nighty*. Bob, his wife Lois, and two daughters, Pam and Elizabeth, are residents of Danville with Bob employed as a pharmacist at Veterans Hospital.
- JIM WINGO (Joseph Cantwell) Jim's first appearance was in Red Mask's production of *Mary*, *Mary*, then *Forty Carats* and third, *Curious Savage*, as the Senator. Jim is currently a Systems Analyst in Danville. Jim and wife, Lois, have two children — Kristi and Ronnie.
- DAVID VAN SOEST (Senator Carlin) Becoming a veteran of Red Mask, this in Dave's fourth role; his other three in order were — The Impossible Years, The Sunshine Boys, and Play It Again, Sam. David won the Katy Award for the latter play in his role as Allan Felix. Originally from New Jersey, Dave graduated from Indiana State and presently teaches Spanish and French at East Park Junior High. Congratulations are in order for Dave and his bride, Nancy.
- CHARLES BEADLES (Dr. Artinian) Chuck is comparatively new to Danville, being here a year and one-half. He is a dentist at Veterans Hospital and he and his wife, Anne, have five children. Chuck has been mobile in the past but that hasn't stopped his participating in local theatres. He has been involved in stage crews and as stage manager for several plays in Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Since moving to Danville, Chuck has been stage manager in Danville Light Opera's productions.
- B. J. SMITH (Sheldon Marcus) Since 1944, B. J. has been a dedicated Red Mask veteran. He has won a Katy Award and two merit awards in the past. His last appearances were in *Wait Until Dark*, and *Come Back Little Sheeba*.



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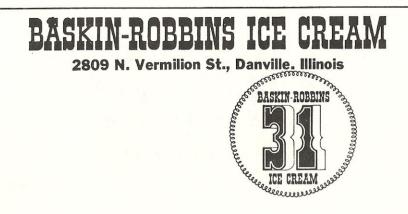
### Coming Attractions . . . Red Mask

DON'T DRINK THE WATER ..... a comedy by Woody Allen April 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 1978

This Woody Allen hit takes place inside an American embassy behind the Iron Curtain. An American tourist, caterer by trade, and his family of wife and daughter rush into the embassy two steps ahead of the police who suspect them of spying and picture-taking. But it's not much of a refuge, for the ambassador is absent and his son, now in charge has been expelled from a dozen countries and the whole continent of Africa. Nevertheless, they carefully and frantically plot their escape, and the ambassador's son and the caterer's daughter even have time to fall in love.

There are sixteen parts in *Don't Drink The Water*, four women's parts and twelve men's parts, varying in sizes and ages. Try-outs will be held at the Theatre, Sunday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m. Director will be Liz Miller.

DANVILLE LIGHT OPERA will present *CAROUSEL* by Rodgers and Hammerstein at the Masonic Temple on May 12, 13 and 14, 1978. For tickets call 446-5664.







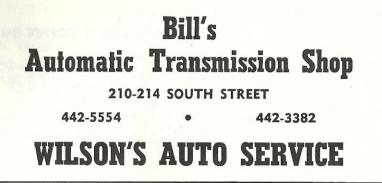
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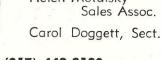
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