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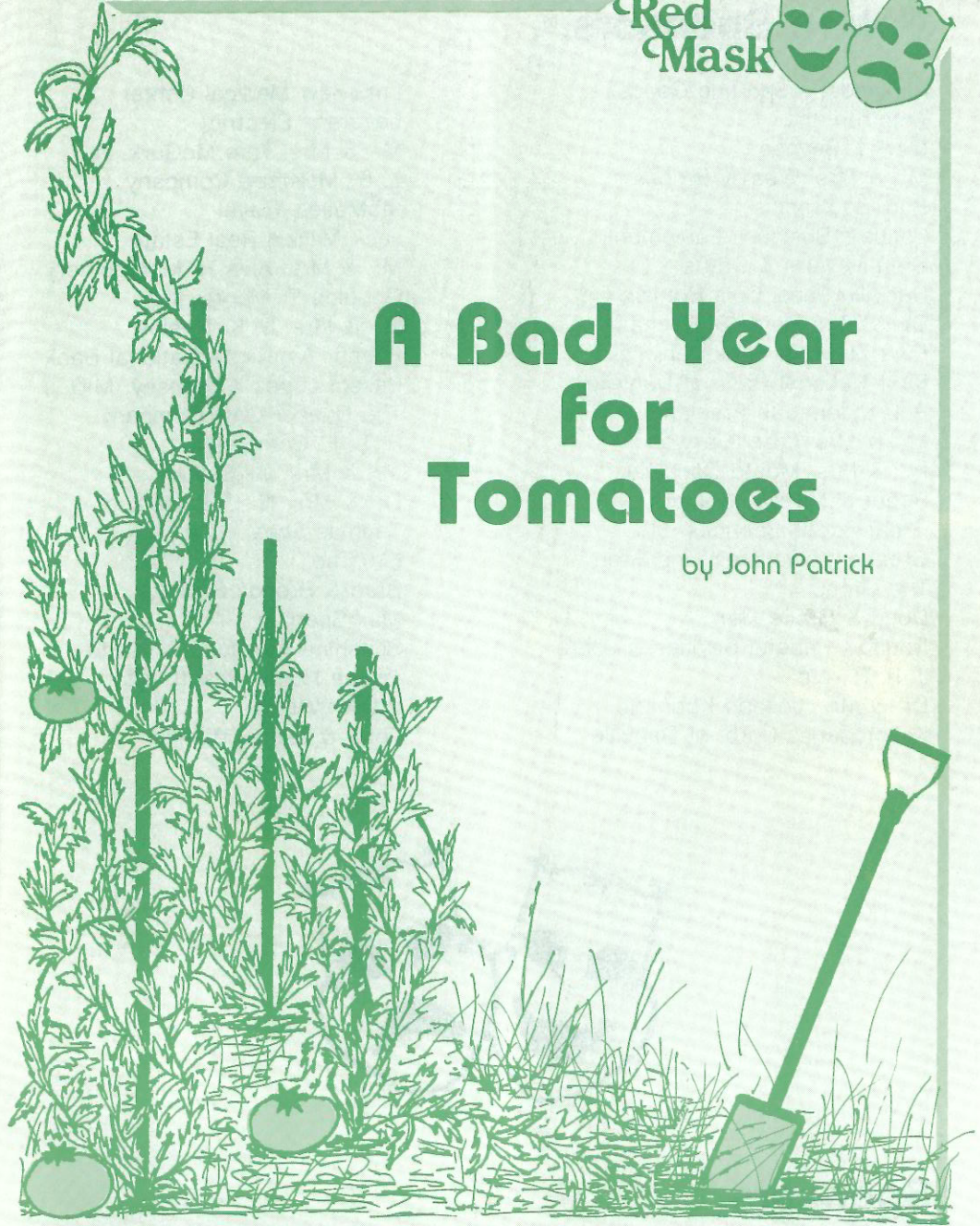
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A Bad Year for Tomatoes

by John Patrick



KATHRYN RANDOLPH THEATRE

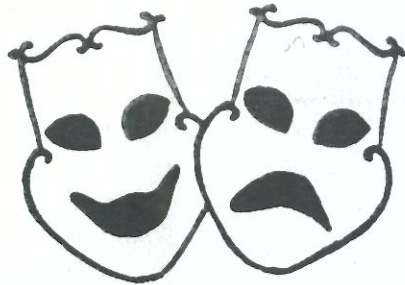
March 21, 22, 23, 28, 29; April 3, 4, 5, 1986

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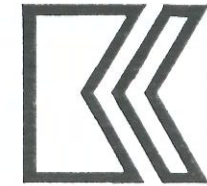
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From the President.

Here we are, ready for the final play of 1985-1986 season. This past year has flown by and, I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to say thank you to my officers and assistance. I'm looking forward to working with all of you next year.

Red Mask Players is hosting the Illinois Community Theatre Festival here at Kathryn Randolph Theatre on May 16, 17 and 18. We hope to have several community theatres represented from around the state, and invite you to help us in welcoming these people to Danville and Red Mask. Watch the newspaper for further details!

We will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in January, 1987, and plans are under way to bring you an exciting season which all of you will remember for some time. Get your membership early - so you won't miss any of the fun!

Be sure and cast your ballot for our new directors to be elected for next year! This is one of the priveleges granted you as members and I hope you will take a moment to assist us in this important task.

And now it's time for the "lights to dim" - so sit back, relax and come to a small New England town where you will find out why it was "A Bad Year For Tomatoes".

Jim Stuart
President

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Director's Notes.

Oh, what tangled webs we weave when first we practice to deceive...Luke... The Bible according to Myra Marlowe Hollywood actress. Myra thinks that upon her arrival to Beaver Haven she is going to receive the solitude she needs to write her autobiography and grow tomatoes. Her solitude lasts about 3 minutes when she is bombarded by 2 nosey neighbors, a fortune teller and a manure salesman all at different times. Myra creates her own web of deceit by inventing an addlepatated twin sister whom she hopes will scare these people away and by doing so she manages to get herself tangled up in her own web.

You the audience, will enjoy watching our actors as they interpret their individual character for you and they will receive their thanks by your applause. Let's take a moment to reflect on those behind the scenes. Many thanks to Donna Sant, my Stage Manager, who is my right hand and is running the show backstage during the productions, to Producer, Hank Unck, and all of the committees he aquired. Without the help of these fine hard-working people it would be impossible to present *A Bad Year For Tomatoes*. We hope you enjoy our presentation as much as we enjoy presenting it.

Pamela Shaw Heath

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Director. Pamela Shaw Heath

Although Pam is new as a director for Red Mask, she is no stranger to the stage. She has appeared in eighteen musicals with Danville Light Opera, Sunshine II, Christian Arts Productions, and has appeared in Red Mask's *No Sex Please, We're British*. Some of her favorite roles have been Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Anna, *The King and I* and Babe, *The Pajama Game*. She has also enjoyed *Cabaret* and *Hello Dolly!*.

By profession Pam is a secretary and hair stylist. She spends her free time helping direct high school plays, singing in the church choir, trying to be a wife to husband Jim and supporting her son Kyle (the next Neal Pert) in his musical endeavors.

Stage Manager. Donna Sant

Donna is finishing up her fourth season with Red Mask. Stage managing is one of her most recurring roles; along with props, producing, lights, etc. "They've even let me on stage once or twice!" (Last being seen as Grace in *Bus Stop*). Her talented husband, Ed has been set designer for numerous shows, as well as having appeared as Jimmy in *The Gingerbread Lady*. Donna and Ed both feel lucky to be part of the Red Mask "Family".



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Amalgamated Unicorn.

New members are welcome to join Amalgamated Unicorn at any time. The only requirement is that members be college-age or above members of Red Mask. The group meets every other Monday at 7:00 P.M. at the Kathryn Randolph Theatre. Readers Theatre style programs are prepared for presentation to civic and social groups.

Producer.....

Hank Unck

This is Hank's first time as producer, although he's no stranger to Red Mask since 1983 when he and his family moved to Danville from Portland, Oregon. Usually he can be found backstage in some technical capacity, but last year he decided to step into the lights and played greedy Lawyer Craven in *Sly Fox*. Hank's wife, Holly, a U of I Law student, and daughter Desiree have been active in Red Mask Children's Theatre. His son, Rob, has been involved with both children's and adult plays, and is doing lights for this production. Hank's "day job" is manager of Marketing Training at Hyster Company.



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Synopsis of Scenes.

Place: The small New England village of Beaver Haven
 Time: The Present

ACT I

Scene 1: The living room of Myra's rented house
 Scene 2: The same, a few hours later
 Scene 3: The same, a couple of months later

ACT II

Scene 1: The same, next day
 Scene 2: The same, half hour later

There will be one 15-minute intermission between Acts I and Acts II. At this time restrooms and refreshments are available at the lower level of the theatre. We request that there be **NO SMOKING IN ANY AREA OF THE BUILDING.**

If you have not yet done so, please turn in your ballots at this time.
 Thank you

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and by the National Endowment for the Arts.



Cast of Characters.

(In Order of Appearance)

Myra Marlowe.....	Gaye Bergschneider
Tom Lamont	John Bryant
Cora Gump	Gail West
Reba Harper	Carla Prentice
Piney.....	Tim Black
Willa Mae Wilcox	Marly Howrey
Sheriff	David Garner

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On Stage.

John Bryant (Tom): Although this is John's first appearance with Red Mask, he is no novice to performing. He most recently appeared as Bert Healy in the DLO musical "Annie." For more than five years John was the lead singer for the very popular Decatur based band "Tobias." Although officially retired, "Tobias" is still called on five or six times per year to perform at fund raisers and concerts. A local business person, John and his wife Ruth own Illiana Carpet, Furniture and Drapery Cleaners. He is also a salesman for Green's Country Side Chevrolet in Chrisman. The Bryant family, including children John, Jr. and Brandy have been involved in several local productions. Ruth is currently directing DLO's "Where's Charlie."

Gail West (Cora): Gail — alias Cora ("you can say that again") Gump — makes her first appearance on the stage in six years, although she has been extremely busy as stage manager for the past two shows. A devoted Red Maskee, she has done numerous backstage duties over the years and also serves as treasurer and board member of Red Mask. When not at the theatre, she is principal of St. Paul's School.

Gaye Bergschneider (Myra/Sadie): Gaye has been involved with Red Mask since the fall of 1983 when she played Katy in *Finishing Touches*. Since then she has worked both on stage and backstage in six other shows, including directing and stage managing. Gaye came to Danville in 1983 as an assistant public defender, where she remains as a criminal trial lawyer. "Acting and jury trials are similar in that they require a lot of hard work and give a real feeling of exhilaration when well done. . . ." And Gaye enjoys both. Her family is in Edwardsville, Illinois, and friends are here — thanks, in part, to Red Mask.

Tim Black (Piney): Tim arrived in Danville in 1985 by way of Kankakee and Bloomington, Illinois. While attending high school in Kankakee, he played Dohore in *A Company of Wayward Saints* and Joe Benjamin in *God's Favorite*, in 1978 and 1979 respectively. Then, while attending Illinois Wesleyan University, he appeared in Kankakee Valley Theatre pro-

ductions — in 1980 as Henry in *South Pacific* and playing various parts in *Annie* in 1985. Following his graduation he joined the faculty of St. Paul's School as social studies teacher and Athletic Director. He recently organized a boys' cheerleading team — the first in the area — to support the St. Paul's girls' basketball team. Tim is also Assistant Girls' Volleyball Coach for Schlarman High School.

Carla Prentice (Reba): This is Carla's first production for Red Mask and she hopes the first of many. She is no stranger to the stage, however, making her debut appearance in DLO's 1975 production of *South Pacific*. Her most notable characters were as Alma Hix in *The Music Man* and as the queen in *Once Upon A Mattress*. People have always kept tabs on the Prentice family according to which DLO show they were in. Carla met her husband Duane during *The Music Man*, was married during *Carousel*, and had their son, Christopher, during *The King And I*. It's hard to tell what the next notable event might be!

Marty Howrey (Willa Mae): Marty has been active both on stage and behind the scenes at Red Mask for five years. She hopes you won't recognize her as the same person who just played Evy in *The Gingerbread Lady!!* Marty's energy and dedication are an inspiration to those around her. Other recent credits include Claire in *Whose Life Is It, Anyway?*, producer for *Bus Stop* and producer/stage manager for last season's *Sly Fox*. Marty and husband Dave have two teenagers, John and Meg, both of whom have appeared on the Red Mask stage. Marty is secretary for the Red Mask board, a volunteer in the Lakeview Hospice Program and enjoys tennis and bridge in her spare (?) time.

David Garner (Sheriff): Dave seems to have the "authority figure" syndrome. He appeared as a policeman in *Sly Fox*, a detective in *Night Watch* and now as a sheriff. Besides on-stage roles, he's also taken an active part off stage, especially at the cast parties. A native of Danville, Dave has been active in local baseball and softball for many years.



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shows Alice that marriage is out of the question. While the relationship seems to go downhill, this comedy climbs to great heights. Delightful entertainment for all.

Night of January 16th Comedy Drama by Ayn Rand
Jan. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30,31

Dealing tersely with a famous murder trial, the play follows American court procedure accurately and realistically, making it highly educational as well as very entertaining.

Cactus Flower Comedy by Abe Burrows
March 27, 28, 29, April 3, 4, 5, 10, 11

A bachelor dentist has a sure gimmick to keep himself single: he simply tells his many girl friends that he is married and has three children. But it backfires when he falls in love with one particular woman and asks her to marry him, for she is otherwise highly moral and demands to see his wife and children whose home she has been wrecking. He, therefore, has to produce a "wife," and then to assuage the girlfriend's conscience, a lover for the wife. He turns to his nurse for the role, and it is she who blossoms like a cactus flower the moment she steps out of her starched uniform.

Spring Children's Play To be announced

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Coming Attractions.

Where's Charlie Danville Light Opera
Performance Dates April 25 and 26

Tom Sawyer's Secret Treasure Red Mask Children's Play
May 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 (Afternoon performances for school groups; one evening performance on May 9).

Community Theatre Festival sponsored by Illinois Theatre Association and hosted by Red Mask Players. May 16, 17, 18.

Katy Awards: To be announced, watch for it in the newspaper.

VOTE FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS. . .

All season ticket holders are encouraged to vote for the people who will be helping determine Red Mask policy over the next three years. You should have received your ballot when you entered tonight. Please take a few moments to fill it out and hand it in before you leave.

Red Mask Officers.

President	Jim Stuart
First Vice President	Phil Coffing
Second Vice President	Fred Legg
Secretary	Marty Howrey
Treasurer	Gail West
Assistant Treasurer	Barbara Cavanaugh
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Gail West

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