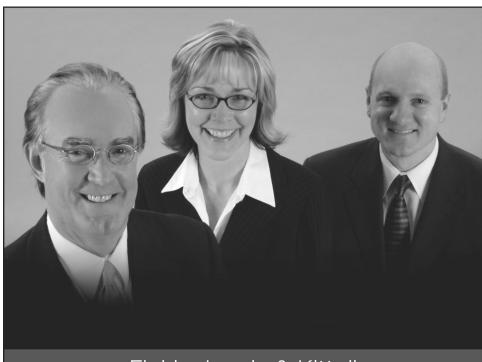
## Red Mask Players Present

# Bell Book and Candle



# by John Van Druten

November 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 2006 Kathryn Randolph Theater



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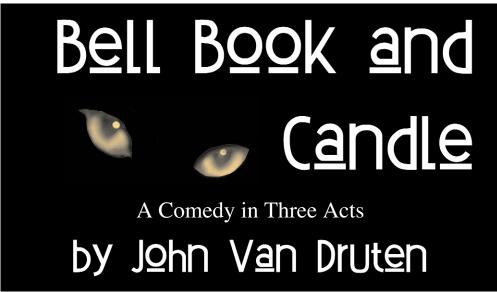
#### RED MASK OFFICERS

President	Sue Harden
1st Vice President	Julia Sullivan
2nd Vice President	Jennifer Dixson
Secretary	Gretchen Elliott
Treasurer	

#### RED MASK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leslie Boedicker Debbie Prentice Dave Downing Edward S. Sant Lamar Hull Amy Wharton





#### Produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc.

#### Place

The action passes throughout in Gillian Holroyd's first floor apartment of a converted brownstone house in the Murray Hill district of New York City.

#### Act I

Christmas Eve

#### Act II

Two Weeks Later

#### Act III

Four Hours Later

There will be a fifteen-minute Intermission between Act I and Act II. At this time restrooms and refreshments are available at the lower level of the theater. We request that there be **NO SMOKING** in any area of the building.



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

70 years of quality theater! That's right, we have been around for 70 years. And I would personally like to thank you, our patrons, for being one of the main reasons we have been around for as long as we have

We are starting off our season with an old classic, *Bell, Book and Candle*, a bewitching comedy/love story about a modern day witch living in New York.

Under the direction of Dave Downing, stage manager, Gretchen Elliott, and producer, John Lashbrook, you will be spellbound as the cast shows you that there are unforeseen consequences when casting a spell and how it works out in the end. You will see newer faces and old familiars that have come back after a long absence.

Sit back and enjoy for I know you will be bewitched into coming back for more!

Sue Harden
President









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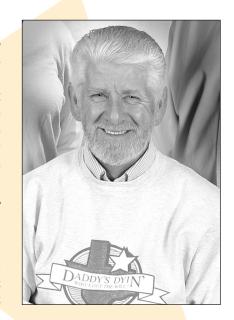
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#### A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The start of the Red Mask season is always "magical," but this year it has been even more so with this wonderful old classic. Any production is only as strong as the actors presenting it, and this cast has been exceptional. They all bring something special to this show: Lisa, with her sultry, cat-like beauty, and Randy with his dry, Jimmy Stewart-like humor; Sue, with her Nannette Fabre flamboyancy and naughty giggle; Ted Sant's funny takes that he brings to the part of Nicky; and Sonny's wonderful portrayal of the self-appointed expert on witchcraft, Redlitch.

This production has been a joy from our first readthrough to opening night. In a word, it has been "magical." So sit back, tighten your belts and get prepared for a night of bewitching humor as we cast a spell of great theater over you.



Dave Downing
Director









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#### ON STAGE (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)





#### Randy Offner (Shepherd Henderson)

Randy is excited to be back on the Red Mask stage after playing Mr. Manningham in last season's production of Angel Street. In Bell, Book and Candle, he has the role that James Stewart had in the movie. "Jimmy Stewart is my idol. To act in any of his roles is as humbling as it is exciting." Randy would like to thank Dave, Gretchen, John and every member of the crew for doing the difficult, behind-the-scenes things without which there would be no play to put on. "Thanks also to Ed for the levity when I really needed it, to Sue and Sonny for being so easy to respect both onstage and offstage, and to Lisa for letting me share the stage with such a talented and beautiful person."



#### Lisa Richter (Gillian Holroyd)

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Lisa's love for both Red Mask and theater began over twenty years ago, when Red Mask first presented Bell, Book and Candle. A twelve-year-old Lisa, sat in the audience during rehearsals, watched her father portray Shep, and realized that she wanted to be onstage someday herself. Shortly after that, Lisa performed in her first Red Mask show ever, the children's theater's production of *Tom Sawyer*. The spell was cast and has yet to be broken. It has been a long climb from "cat wrangler" in that first production to Gillian in this one. Throughout that time, Lisa has been involved with many productions throughout the Danville area, and was seen last season as Portia, the dumb step-sister, in DLO's production of Cinderella and in one of her favorite roles as Sissy in Red Mask's Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean. Lisa would like to thank her fellow cast and crew members for their hard work, and dedication. She would also like to thank Mike, Steph, her parents, and her biggest fans, her children, Demi and Drew, for all their love, support and help throughout the production.



#### Sue Harden (Miss Holroyd — Aunt Queenie)

Sue is thrilled to be back on stage again after last being seen as Maggie Christopher in Meet My Husbands. Her other credits include Rumors, Bleacher Bums and Here Lies Jeremy Troy. She is glad to be on stage performing with an old "familiar," Ted Sant, as well as Lisa, Sonny and Randy. Besides acting and working backstage, she is current President of Red Mask and a legal secretary for Chris Meyer of Dukes, Ryan, Meyer, Fahey, Freed & Goodwin, Ltd. She would like to thank Dave, Gretchen and Julia for casting her in this wonderful production. Also a big thank you to her husband and Augie.



#### Ed Sant (Nicky Holroyd)

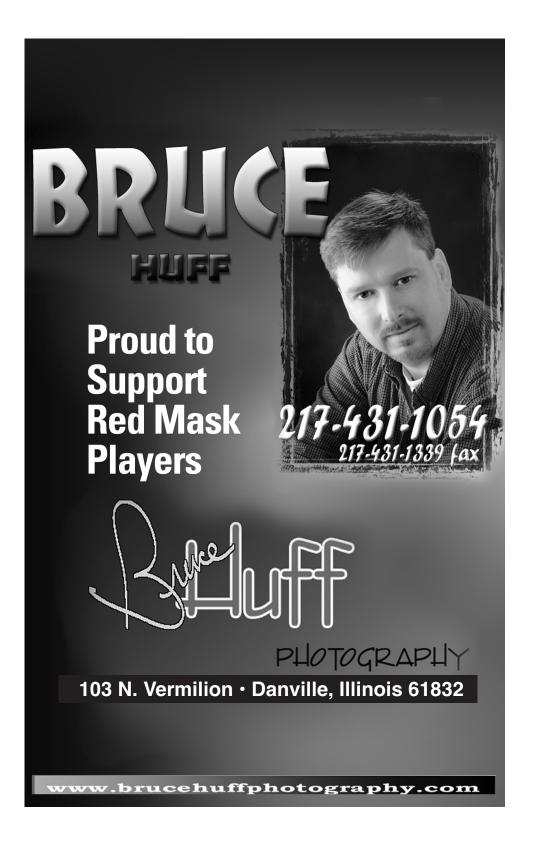
This is Ed's umpteenth production for Red Mask. He was first on the Red Mask stage in 1986 as Jimmy in The Gingerbread Lady, along with then 16-year old Lisa Gilmour Richter, and was last seen as Terrance in 2002's Breaking Legs. Ed has also directed numerous productions for Red Mask and DLO alike. Ed is thrilled to be on stage again (thank you Kenny & Donna for your approval) and working with such a talented cast and crew. Many thanks to Dave/Oscar for the break, and to my wife Donna for the support.



#### Sonny Downing (Sidney Redlitch)

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Sonny has been active in community theater since the early 80's. He has appeared in productions with Sunshine II, DLO, Red Mask, Beef House Players as well as many other community presentations. He is excited about being under the tutelage of his younger brother once again and gives credit to God for all his accomplishments and talent.





#### Wyatt Dixson (Pyewacket)



Wyatt was born a poor black child...but where and when he will not say. In the summer of 2005, he had the occasion to encounter the Dixson residence. Always suckers for a fuzzy face, the Dixsons scooped him up, named him, and introduced him to regular grooming and veterinary care that helped him blossom into the big guy you see today. At approximately three years of age, this is Wyatt's first theatrical performance outside of his home where he can often be found creating performance art by knocking items off tables. Wyatt's interests include racing outdoors to munch grass and chasing string. He's also fond of intimidating other furry members of his household by invading their personal space. He encourages you to come backstage after the performance to meet the cast – provided you bring treats!

# We Salute Red Mask on Another Great Year.



Vermilion County Division 322 N. Gilbert Street P.O. Box 1130 Danville, IL 61834-1130

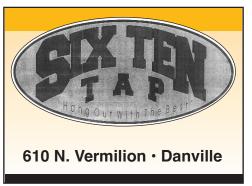
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#### PRODUCTION TEAM









#### Dave Downing (Director)

Bell, Book and Candle marks Dave's sixth directorship for Red Mask. He has previously directed Of Mice And Men, Rumors, The Odd Couple, Ravenscroft and most recently George Washington Slept Here. Dave has appeared in and worked backstage on numerous productions for Red Mask, as well as DLO and Sunshine II Productions. Having recently retired after 38 years with Illinois Bell/SBC/Ameritech, Dave finds more time for his favorite hobby, Red Mask Theater. He wants to thank his "Girl Friday," Gretchen, for stage managing, his old buddy John Lashbrook for producing and B.J. Harvey for set work. Thanks also to his wonderful cast and crew for all their hard work, but most of all thanks to his lovely bride Marty for allowing him this madness that is Red Mask.

#### **Gretchen Elliott (Stage Manager)**

Gretchen has been full force with Red Mask since walking in the doors in the fall of 2005. That was her first Red Mask experience, playing the part of Sadel Meyer, in *The Desk Set*. From there she was Juanita in *Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Gretchen then did props and helped with set decorating and costumes in <i>Angel Street*. That would normally be enough for a season, but not for Gretchen. She then went on to direct the children's show, *Monster in the Closet*, and also became one of our new board members. There was a short break from that point until fall children's show, *Blather, Blarney & Balderdash*, came around. That was the turning point in her Red Mask experiences, because that is when she put on her Stage Manager hat. She was the Stage Manager for a cast of 57! Now she is Stage Manager for *Bell, Book and Candle* and will also be Stage Manager for *Flaming Idiots*, the second show of the Red Mask season. What will she do next? Stay tuned by purchasing a season membership if you have not already done so. Thank you and enjoy the show!

#### John Lashbrook (Producer)

John has enjoyed an association with Red Mask Theater dating back to his own childhood participation, his children's involvement, and has assisted in numerous backstage capacities as well as a stint on the R.M. board. He has performed onstage in two minor roles, appearing as Frankie in *Breaking Legs* and Schmendiman in *Picasso At the Lapin Agile*. John's lovely wife Beth, is producing the upcoming production of *Flaming Idiots*. ....yes, this stuff is highly contagious if you're not careful, and chronic if you ignore proper treatment and therapy.











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### JEAN LEWIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Red Mask Board of Directors has announced plans to present its annual Jean Lewis Scholarship to a student planning a career in theater or performing arts or a directly related area such as speech, oral interpretation or radio/television. Area high school seniors, as well as university or community college students are eligible to apply. Please watch upcoming publications for more information or contact Lamar Hull, Scholarship Chairman, c/o Red Mask Players, P. O. Box 814, Danville, IL 61834. The scholarship is named for Jean Lewis, who directed 37 of the Children's Theater productions from 1962 through 1986.

#### SPECIAL THANKS

Bruce Huff

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#### **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

#### **RED MASK**

All events for Red Mask take place at the Kathryn Randolph Theater

- Nov 12 &13, 2006 Auditions for Flaming Idiots, 7pm
- January 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 2006 Flaming Idiots
- January 28 & 29, 2007 Auditions for Brighton Beach Memoirs, 7pm
- March 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, April 1, 6, 7, 2007 Brighton Beach Memoirs
- Spring 2007 Children's Theater *Puss in Boots* March 26 & 27, 2007 - Auditions May 14-19, 2007 - Performances

#### DANVILLE LIGHT OPERA

- Dec 10 & 11, 2006 Auditions for *Nunsense*, Center Stage at Village Mall
- Feb 16-18, 2007 Nunsense, St. James Church
- April 28, 29 2007 Into the Woods, Danville High School Auditorium

#### DANVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

- December 10, 2006 The Nutcracker, 3:30pm, Danville High School Auditorium
- March 10, 2007 featuring Rachel Barton Pine world class violinist, 7:30pm, Danville High School Auditorium

#### SWEET ADELINES

- December 2, 2006 Christmas Luncheon, Motsett Center
- May 5, 2007 Cabaret, Beef House



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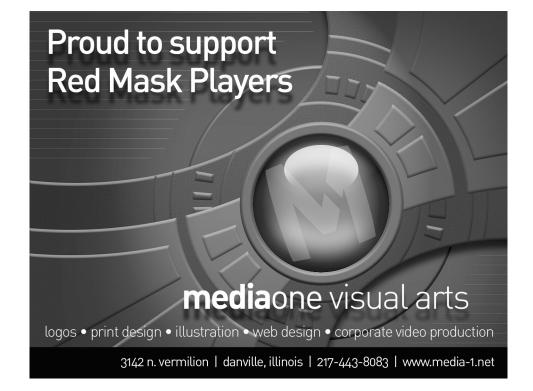


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#### BEHIND THE SCENES

Director	. Dave Downing
Stage Manager	Gretchen Elliott
Producer	John Lashbrook
Set Design	. Dave Downing
Set Construction	. Dave Downing, Kenny Harden, Larry Nitzke,
	John Lashbrook
Set Dressing	Edward S. Sant
Set Painting	. Edward S. Sant, Cast and Crew
Lighting Design	. Leslie Boedicker
Lights	. Amanda Coutant
Sound	. Heather Bray
Props	. Suzie Harmon, Janet Miller
Hair Design	. Cast & Crew
Make-Up	Diane Rew, Chris Jacobs, Cast & Crew
Costumes	Cast
House Manager	. Judie Barrett
Box Office	. Debbie Prentice
Casting	. Dave Downing, Julia Megan Sullivan,
	Gretchen Elliott
Photography	. Bruce Huff
Program Cover Design	. Edward S. Sant
Program Layout	. Media One Visual Arts
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