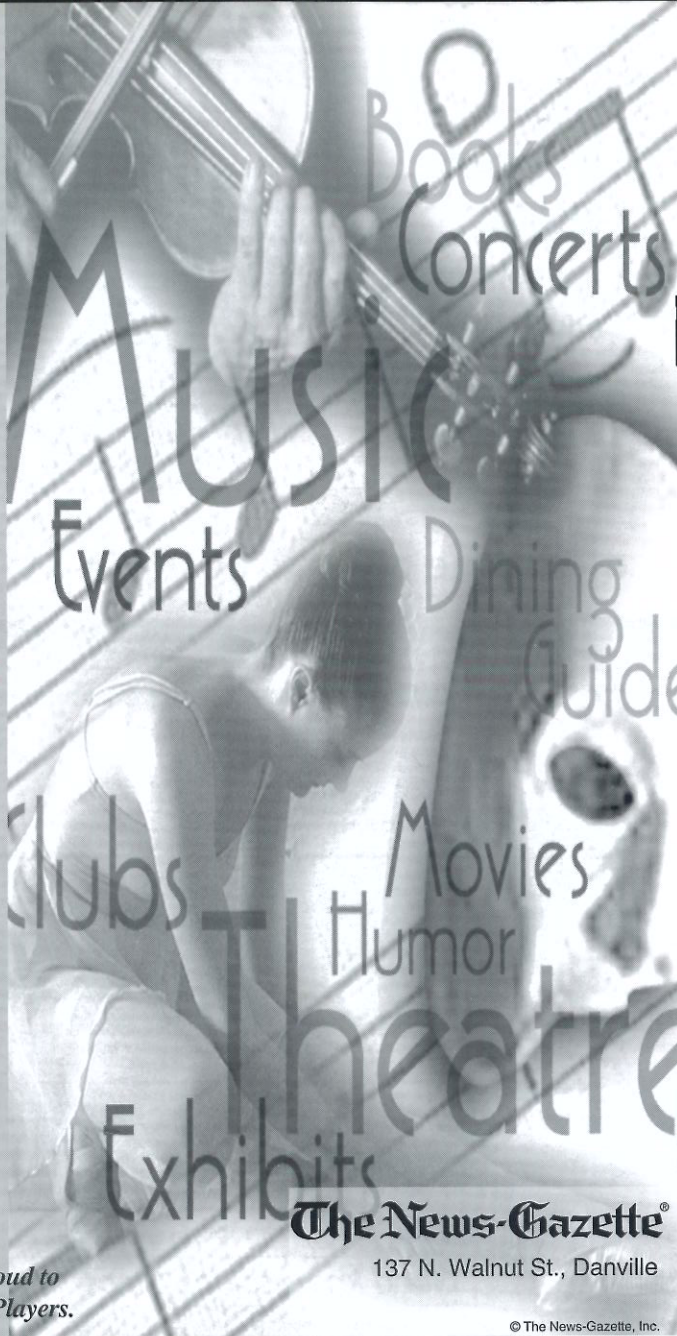


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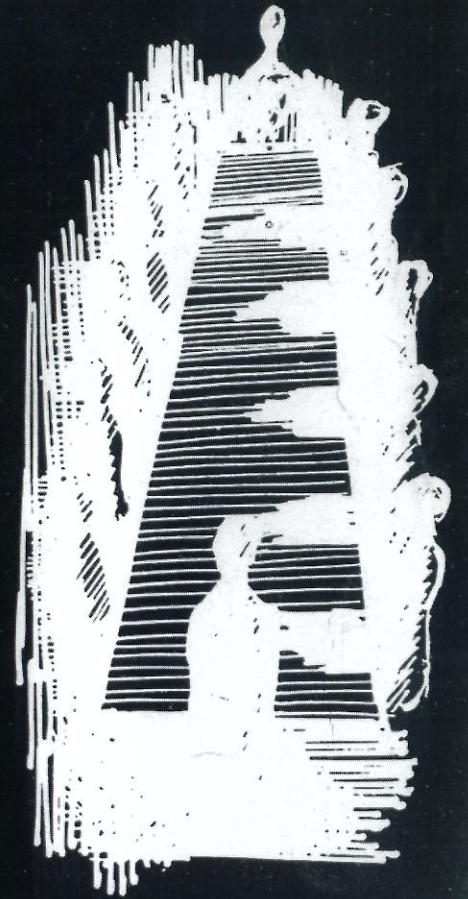
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# TWELVE ANGRY MEN

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS  
BY SHERMAN L. SERGEL,  
ADAPTED FROM THE  
TELEVISION SHOW  
BY REGINALD ROSE



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# TWELVE ANGRY MEN

A Play in Three Acts by  
**Sheman L. Sergel**

Adapted From the Television Show by  
**Reginald Rose**

Produced by special arrangement with  
**THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING CO. of Woodstock, Illinois**

**Place: A Jury Room**

**Time: Summer**

*There will be a fifteen-minute intermission between acts. 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.*



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Several years ago I sat on a jury at the Vermilion County Courthouse. We deliberated on our case into the night and eventually we could not reach a verdict. Three jurors – including myself – couldn't be convinced to view the evidence as the other nine saw it. The other holdouts and I were very determined about our evaluation of the case. Eventually, a hung jury was declared and the case was dismissed. It was disappointing, but I think we did the right thing. Perhaps justice wasn't done, but as one of the holdouts, I feel we refused to let an injustice be committed.

Many times that night I thought of the 1957 film version of Twelve Angry Men that starred, among others, Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb, Jack Klugman, and E.G. Marshall. I remembered the heated arguments that took place in that small room played out on the starkness of my parents' black-and-white TV. My fellow jurors and I weren't as dynamic as the jurors you'll see on stage in Red Mask's production of Twelve Angry Men, but we all embodied some of the same reasoning skills, attitudes, and prejudices that you'll witness in this play.

Courtroom dramas have been pretty standard fare for stage, film, and television. Confrontational attorneys, emotional witnesses, authoritative judges – there have been hundreds of great roles for actors to portray in a courtroom setting. The inventiveness of Twelve Angry Men is its decision to take an audience to a different setting; the jury room, where the genuine human drama of our judicial system is played out. These jurors are nameless strangers selected to perform a common duty. They approach the evidence in this case by way of the personal baggage they bring into this small room. Though these characters are identified by number only, it doesn't take long to realize their unique personalities.

We all can't be lawyers and judges, but any of us could be a juror faced with a difficult decision. Believe me, I've been there. Enjoy the tension of our jury room – a real law and order drama portrayed by an excellent cast, nurtured by the creative team of Donna Sant, Kenny Harden, and Ted Sant.

*Jim Knoblauch*

President, Red Mask Board

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

A new theater season begins once again. What excitement...for the actors, the crew, the audience, and especially for this director. The entire process is an incredible thing. Once the play is chosen, a director is picked. The director asks talented, hardworking, loyal people to be her backstage support. The script itself is read over and over again. Audition pieces are selected. Then, it's audition night. The director hopes none of her friends show up to try out; she doesn't want to tell any of them "Sorry." But she also hopes they all audition so she can have a familiar comfort zone to work in. Then she hopes that enough men audition to fill 13 parts. Then you begin. You choose, watch, listen, choose some more... and are in awe of the talent you see and hear on stage, reading aloud the words you have seen on the pages for all this time. You do it once, then come back the next night and do it again. But the time comes when we have to do, as Mr. Harden put it, the hardest thing he has ever done at Red Mask – cast the show. We hold our breath, say a little prayer, and boldly announce the cast.

Now the truly hard work begins. You, the play goer, have the fortune to see the result of weeks of hard work from these 13 actors, who bring this wonderful play to life. There you have it – from start to finish. What would make a perfect ending would be for the cast and crew to meet and greet their audience. We urge you to come backstage after the show, and meet *TWELVE ANGRY MEN PLUS ONE*.

*D.*

P.S. On a more personal note. I love you B.J & E.S., and thank you Sister J. for loaning me your husband for all those nights.



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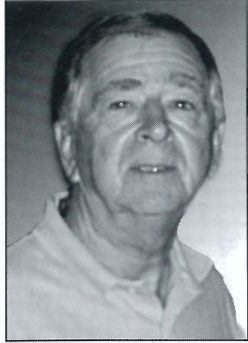
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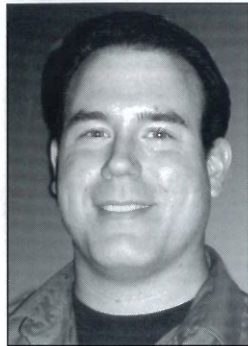
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ON STAGE

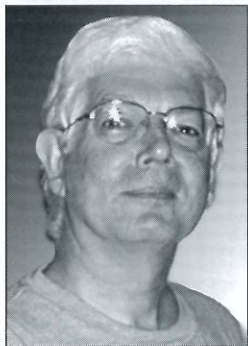


**Foreman – Leonard “Sonny” Downing** – Sonny returns to the Red Mask stage on the heels of his portrayal of “Mr. Kimber” in *George Washington Slept Here*. “Red Mask just feels like home,” he says, “and Red Mask audiences always provide the energy and enthusiasm which an actor needs to do his or her best.” He thanks God for his talent, and family and friends for their encouragement and support. A special thanks goes to Sandy for her patience and tolerance. “Enjoy the show!”

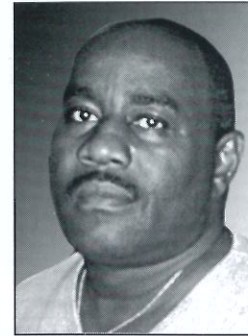


**Juror #2 – Chad Myler** – A five year veteran of the Danville theater scene and a known underground alternative rocker, Chad is proud to be performing his second show with the Red Mask Players, *Twelve Angry Men*. He has been addicted to the stage since he co-formed two area underground bands, *The Vice Dolls* and *Later Stood Up*. Although hard music is no longer a passion, his presence is still felt. His yearning for the stage carried over to Danville Light Opera’s 1999 production of *Damn Yankees* and later for their 1940’s *Radio Hour* and *Pippin*. He was most recently seen on the Red

Mask stage in *George Washington Slept Here*. He’s currently a stylist at Hair Cuttery and is proud to be performing for you this evening.

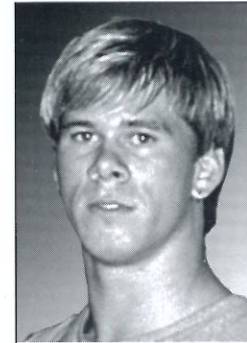


**Juror #3 - Robert McIntire** – Bob has appeared for DLO, The Station Theater and the Beef House Dinner Theater. His last Red Mask appearance was as Gaston in last summer’s *Picasso at the Lapine Agile*. Other favorite roles include Dickinson in *1776* and MacMillan in DLO’s *Big*. In real life Bob is the Vermilion County Public Defender. He lives in Danville with his wife, Cheryl.



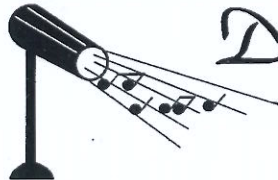
**Juror #4 – Anthony Smith** – This is Anthony’s first venture with the Red Mask Players. Anthony’s previous stage experience involved plays performed in high school. “It’s been a long time since those days in Drama Club,” he says “and it’s been very exciting to experience those feelings again.” Born in Michigan, Anthony first visited Danville in 1993 as a salesperson with McLane Midwest. It was at that time he met Nancy, who would be his future wife and was also an employee of McLane. Anthony’s current position at McLane is that of a supervisor. In prior years he has also

been a Sales Manager. This position afforded them an opportunity to live in both the Chicago and St. Louis area. “I am truly appreciative for the opportunity to be involved with Red Mask.”





**Juror #5 – Steve Drollinger** – Steve graduated from Oakwood High School and is currently a fulltime student at Danville Area Community College. He is 21 years old and works at the Danville Health Club. “I wanted to be in this play to meet new people and possibly open some doors for opportunity.”

*Best Wishes On a Successful Season*



## Danville Light Opera

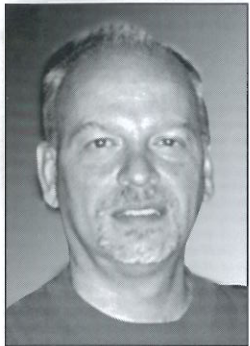
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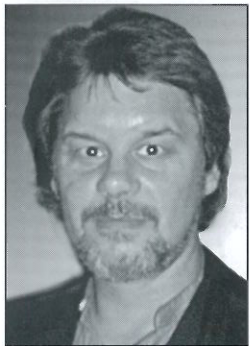
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**Juror #6 – Lamar Hull** – This is Lamar’s first production with Red Mask on stage. He has served in various capacities backstage including Sound for last year’s *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* and *Cemetery Club*. He has also been involved in numerous Red Mask Children’s Theater shows for the last eight years, having had 4 children appear on the Red Mask stage. He has also been involved in musical drama at the First Church of the Nazarene for 10 years, but this year wanted to see what it was like on Red Mask’s stage. “Thanks to Donna Sant and Kenny Harden for having faith in a rookie and casting me in *Twelve Angry Men*. Also, special thanks to the love of my life, my wife, Melody, for all your support and love over the years, even though sometimes she thinks I am the original Angry Man!”



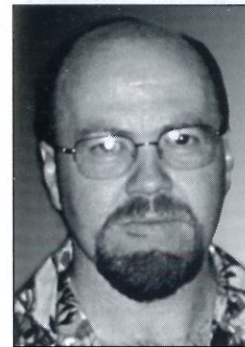
**Juror #7 – Jim Wolfe** – This is Jim’s second Red Mask performance, having won a Katy Award for his portrayal of Scanlon in last year’s production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. Other involvements at Red Mask include past board member, as well as directing *The Mousetrap* and *Steel Magnolias*. He is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Catlin Grade School and resides in Oakwood with his wonderful wife, Toni.



**Juror #8 – David E. Laker** – Last seen in the 1998 Red Mask production of *The Odd Couple*, David has spent his offstage time being a member and president of the Red Mask Board along with directing *Belles*, *It’s Never Too Late* and *Wait Until Dark*. Dave has also appeared on stage for other local theater groups including DLO’s *Sugar* and *1776* for the Beef House Dinner Theater. Dave is currently a counselor at the Danville Correction Center. Dave lives in the mythical town of Fithian with his wife, MaryAnn, and cranky cat, Omaha. Dave would like to thank his cohorts in the Merlot over-appreciation society as well as the cast and crew of this production for their support, encouragement and the occasional kick in the butt when needed (though I’m not that needy!)



**Juror #9 – Matt Hester** – This is Matt’s fourth production with Red Mask Players. He previously portrayed Andrew Rally in *I Hate Hamlet*, Clayton Evans in *George Washington Slept Here*, as well as directing last year’s production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. Matt has been active in theater for 13 years and has a B.F.A in Theater Performance and Direction from the University of Evansville.



**Juror #10 – Rick Prentice** – This is Rick’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Red Mask Players appearance. He was Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* and Newton in *George Washington Slept Here*. Rick is stunned by the great performances by these Angry Men, “They are damned good.” As always, Rick thanks his great family of actors, Torch, Gloria, Duane, Carla and Evan, and his sweetheart, Debbie.

**Before the Show!**

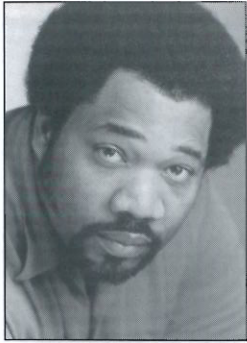
**After the Show!**

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**Juror #11 – Jerrold Trice** – Jerrold is a native of Rock Island, IL and is now living in Champaign. He works as a commercial producer for WICD, News Channel 15, and has a BFA from Illinois State University. Jerrold has been acting since he was old enough to carry a full time job and each show or program that he is involved with is a new adventure – a learning process. “There is nothing I like better” Jerrold’s been involved in projects such as *A Raisin In The Sun*, *Flyin West* by Pearl Cleage, *Dutchman* by Amiri Baraka and *Ubu Roi*. Jerrold spent a season with the St. Louis Black Repertory’s touring show and has done a re-enactment for the national television show “America’s Most Wanted.” This is Jerrold’s first show with Red Mask. “*Twelve Angry Men* is a fantastic show with a great message, and I could not pass up an opportunity to be involved. Much love to Red Mask for taking on such a brilliant project. Now that you know me, when I see you out in the community, holler at me! See you at the show.”



**Juror #12 – Joe Sermersheim** – Joe has been involved with Red Mask for over 6 years and finally feels like a veteran! Joe is excited about being cast in *Twelve Angry Men*, it’s one of his favorites! He would like to thank the cast and crew for the opportunity to work with such great people and would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support.



**Guard – John Michael Williams** – John is proud to be making his acting debut on Red Mask’s stage, hopefully to follow in the footsteps of his idol, Jerry VanDyke. John graduated from Danville High School in 1984 and in 1986 joined the U.S. Navy, where he received an Honorable Discharge in 1990. John is inspired by his mother, Patricia A. Moore R.N. (Ret.).



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**Director – Donna Sant** – This is Donna’s first experience directing adult theater at Red Mask, having previously directed numerous children’s theater productions as well as a stint for the Danville Boat Club’s *The Odd Couple*. Donna has been seen on the Red Mask stage numerous times (usually in the role of the spinster sister with a deformed ovary) and has provided Red Mask with tireless efforts in her roles as stage manager, producer, board member and president. Donna is thrilled to be able to bring to you, the audience, this treasured piece of American theater and hopes all the efforts that she and the cast have put into it will be as enjoyable to you as it has been to them.

**Stage Manager – Kenny Harden** – Kenny has been involved in Red Mask for about 10 years, mostly doing set construction and going to cast parties. When Donna asked him to be her stage manager he was a little hesitant until his wife, who has done it several times, assured him it would be fun. She was right, so thanks to Donna for asking and for the cast and crew for being so good that his job is too easy. A special thanks to his lovely wife, Sue, for letting him learn how much fun it is.

**Producer – Edward S. Sant** – This is Ed’s first go around as a producer. Having acted and directed many a Red Mask production he always eluded being a stage manager or a producer. After his wife, Donna, expressed an interest in directing *Twelve Angry Men* but then sat on the fence about whether to actually do it, he threw his hat in the ring. Kenny Harden and he reckoned that if she could direct Children’s Theater then she could do adult theater as well, after all what are actors but big children? Ed is very proud of all the talent he has seen during the production work on this show, from the commitment of the smallest parts to the largest; this is truly an ensemble of the finest order. A great big round of applause to his wife, Donna, for showing him that she has what it takes to keep 12 men acting angry.

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## JEAN LEWIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Red Mask Board of Directors has announced plans to present its annual Jean Lewis Scholarship in the amount of \$500 to a student planning a career in theater, performing arts or a directly related area such as speech or radio/television. Area high school seniors as well as university or community college students are eligible to apply. Details and applications are available from guidance counselors at area high schools and from the DACC Communications Department. Deadline for applications has been extended to **February 15, 2004**, with auditions and interviews to be arranged at a later date.

The date posted in the fall edition of the *Asides* was incorrect—the correct deadline is **February 15, 2004**


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## COMING ATTRACTIONS


Auditions for *Meet My Husbands* will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday & Monday Nov. 16 and 17 at the Kathryn Randolph Theater.

Danville Light Opera will hold auditions for *Blood Brothers* Sunday, November 30th and Monday, December 1st at Center Stage, Village Mall.

The Sweet Adelines will hold a Christmas Luncheon at the Motsett Center on December 6, 2003 and will present its Cabaret Show on May 1, 2004 at the Beef House.

Danville Barber Shop Chorus will present its Annual Spring Show, *50 Years of Harmony*, Sunday, March 28, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. at DACC Bremer Conference Center.

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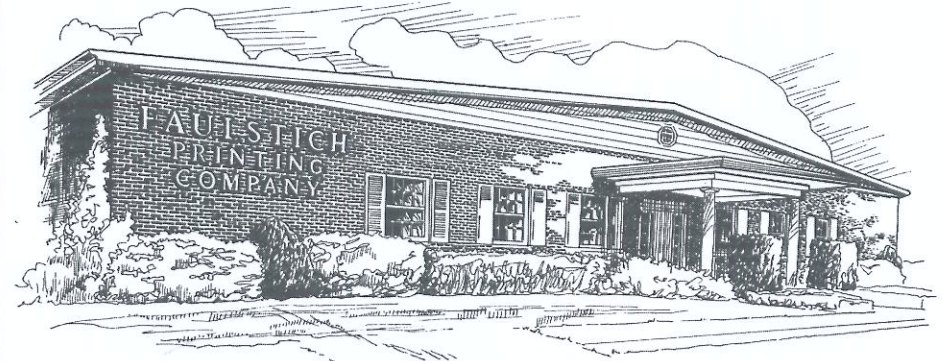
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