

# Newsy Letter

August 2015



Florentine Players

## Letter From The President

By Molly Anderson

Summer time! I sincerely hope this letter finds you all happy, healthy, and enjoying the dog days of summer. I'm not sure how it happened, but we are already looking at the end of this hot and sticky season.

I have to take this space to brag about the cast and crew who are working on Engaged, our Summer production. This script is complicated to say the very least. The blocking can be difficult. Their director can be difficult (I've been known to be somewhat picky). But throughout, I cannot describe the amount of dedication and hard work they display at every single rehearsal. At the writing of this letter, we're two weeks away from opening. Anyone who has done theater knows that this is the time panic typically sets in. I'm not going to say we don't still have a good 2 weeks of hard work ahead of us, but I am not waking up at night wondering how it will come together! I'd especially like to thank Eric Green for taking on the roles of linguistics coach and assistant director, in addition to his leading role. Also Faith White and Pete Pedersen for putting in countless hours outside of rehearsal time to spearhead the building of the set. Myrta Hauger for her wonderful painting skills on the backdrop. Guillermo Rosas for staying on top of our Producer's grid with the veracity of a honey badger.

I can hardly wait to see you in the audience for this show. Your laughter will make all of their hard work worth every single second.

One last thing - I have heard such amazing things coming from Derek Kowal and Tracie Mauk about the show coming up in October. Look for audition notices soon, and really do your best to be involved in that production. It will be so much fun on stage, off stage, back stage, and beyond. See you soon!

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# The Florentine

**Players Presents:**

# Engaged



**Based on the play by  
W.S. Gilbert**

A Farcical Comedy in Three Acts

This is a high spirited and fast moving romp, with many unexpected twists and turns ...

A rich man, who is engaged to one woman, becomes betrothed to a second, and possibly even wed to a third.



**Aug 13, 14, 15 , 2015—**

**7:00 PM**

**Doors Open 6:00 PM**

**Florence City Hall**

**29th and State**

**Reservations, call**

**402-455-6341**



# CONFESSIONS

By Guillermo Rosas

A few months ago, I volunteered to produce this summer's production of W.S. Gilbert's classic romcom, "Engaged." I don't have a theater background (I've worked in IT for almost 16 years now); however, I thought producing Engaged would be a good challenge and an excellent opportunity to learn something new.

So I volunteered.

Then I realized I didn't know what a producer does.

Thankfully there's Wikipedia.

Overall, the experience has been good. At the end of the day, producing is about coordinating – making sure all the important pieces come together at the right time. But it's also about filling in the gaps – Engaged is made up of a small cast performing a show with tough dialog. Many of the cast are already filling double and triple roles building and managing the stage, etc. Consequently, I've taken on the additional role of outfitting the show, working to coordinate costumes for the show. I've also taken on side tasks as they come up, to make sure things get done - I'm not certain that's quite a producer's role, but it doesn't matter – we have a show to produce.

I'd recommend everyone produce at least one play. Producing – even for the first time – provides a lot of insight into the inner workings of the Florentine Players.

## August 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Engaged - 7P	14 Engaged - 7P	15 Engaged - 7P
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Auditions – Errorplane - 7P	24 Auditions – Errorplane - 7P	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# EXTRA \* EXTRA \* EXTRA

Red and "Itchy" Ruffensore are MISSING!!

A Special Report by the Florence Flogger's  
Chief of Crime Reporter Sam Sleuth

"It has been a while since we've run into something like this," said Florence Chief of the Crime Taskforce. "This is really kicking our posteriors. "I believe Mr. Ruffensore suffers from a craziness that can only be found by living in a van by the river. There are things in that van that you shouldn't breathe, eat or roll in."

The Chief was referring to Mr. Red Ruffensore, writer for the Florence Flogger and reviewer for the Florentine Players News letter.

"Mr. Ruffensore had a really bad experience after the Melodrama in late May of this year," said Hairy Rump normally known as H. Rump; also known as The Plumber Puncher, Pipe Slicker and Rama Rama Rumpster. He is a large, spirited man that is never happier than having his head stuck in a drainage pipe.

"Mr. Ruffensore isn't well liked by many people in Florence and I'm sure he'd leave town if he could afford it. I've never known a man who owed so much money to so many people. He also managed to upset a large number of powerful people by his reviews. I never thought he was that bad but he was weirder than weird."

The crowd at the City Hall closed in tighter trying to hear Every word that was being said. Sam Sleuth, Chief of Crime Reporter for the Florence Flogger, a predigested newspaper that reaches across the entire country. Or at least it was noted as such. Sleuth spoke further, "It appears that Mr. Rump was headed for the van to drop off some grease and pipe shavings. Only the Lord knows why he'd want that smelly bile of gushy, waste but he just loved it (odd sobbing sound) and now, he'll never get his load again." A loud cry came from men sobbing, women laughing and children picked their noses. When the Rump arrived he found no trace of Red Ruffensore. Has he gone on an unscheduled vacation? Did he wander off to hunt local giant raccoons as he likes to do or was he...could he be...flying with the flying carp in the Missouri?

Here are the facts as we have made them up to be:

Red was a lonely man who loves pounding his pinkies on his Royal typewriter.

Red isn't here anymore.

Red be gone.

Things don't look well for Red. Plus no one has seen his cousin "Itchy" for a long time. This is big time mysterious. We're going to need a bigger boat.

This is Sam Sleuth, Chief of Crime Reporter for the Florence Flogger noting one more tidbit. "I'm really developing a rough and red rash."

## ERRORPLANE:

An Adaptation of the Famous Disaster Movie Spoof From  
the Eighties About An Airplane, That May or May Not Have Starred Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

By Tracie Mauk

Attention passengers, this is your Production Board Committee Chair speaking. If you will look to your right you will see auditions coming up for our next exciting and hysterical production. The people who, just last year, brought you the hit adaptation of 'Oscar' are reaching ever higher (around 39,000 feet, cruising altitude) for their latest and most exciting stage adaptation yet. The Florentine Players invite you to carefully board 'ERRORPLANE: An Adaptation of the Famous Disaster Movie Spoof From the Eighties About An Airplane, That May or May Not Have Starred Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.'

Now, I know what you're thinking: "An adaptation of the famous disaster movie spoof from the Eighties about an airplane, that may or may not have starred Kareem Abdul-Jabbar? Surely, you can't be serious." Well, I am serious and don't call to question me about my motives.

It's correct, that the cult classic comedy is coming to our crashpad. (that's an airline term, look it up!) We need a brave and hearty (and hilarious) crew of actors and stagehands to take to the skies with us and bring ERRORPLANE to a safe landing/roaringly successful performance.

We've got a large cast, young and old, male and female, and if you've got a quick wit, great timing, musical talent, love of the source material, or just passion for the stage, we want you report to the Florence City Hall, Sunday, August 23rd at 6pm and Tuesday, August 24th at 7pm to audition. With a laugh-a-minute script, classic characters, and direction by the inestimable Derek Kowal, the white zone is for loading and unloading of talented and dedicated performers like you!



The Florentine Players  
P O BOX 12061  
Omaha, NE 68112



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Mailing Address Goes Here

Membership Form

Valid May 2013 thru May 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer

Specify area: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories:

Headliners: \$1,000 and Up

Producers: \$500

Directors: \$100

Patron: \$25

Stars: \$15 family 3 + more

Players: \$5

Florenteenies free (participants only, not the family)

Gift/Donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Donate this portion of my Gift to the

"Florence Capital Improvement Fund" \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Mail to:**

**Florentine Players**

**Membership**

**Director: "Itchy" Ruffnsore**

**PO Box 12061**

**Omaha, NE 68112**