

# 'Kapers TV — Then and Now'

## Nov 6 & 7 2015

Story and photos courtesy of Meriden Record-Journal



### FRONT PORCH NEWS



Kiwansis Kapers cast.

### 'Kapers TV — Then and Now'

The 2015 Kiwanis Kapers, a delightful variety show produced each year by the Kiwanis Club of Meriden, was performed on Friday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 7, at Lincoln Middle School in Meriden. Dedicated to Arthur "Chief" Bradley, Jackson R. Lytle and Jane Vandal, this 60th production titled "Kapers TV — Then & Now," chaired by Corinne Balchier and Bob Meister, not only provided entertainment to the audience and Kiwanis members alike, but also raised funds for the many charities supported by the Meriden Kiwanians.

Directed by the effervescent Carolyn Daniels, dozens of Kiwanians sporting an array of colorful outfits appeared on stage in this year's entertaining production, performing skills (some serious, some comical) based on familiar television shows from the past to the present. They were supported by other club members who handled tickets, posters, publicity, program book, stage crew, props, make up, costumes, Midway games (Maloney Key Club), box office and raffle sales, rehearsal refreshments and phone solicitations. And this year, the Kapers were energized by the talented and lively kids of the Meriden Dance Academy performing Junior Hip Hop, Advanced Jazz and Advanced Hip Hop routines. A great team from Lincoln provided the lighting and sound support.

After the Lincoln Middle School Little Magers performed an elegant rendition of the National Anthem, the opening showpiece number "This Is What We Call Our Kapers Show," performed by the entire cast, set the tone for this year's TV theme. This followed a series of artistic songs, comedy songs, comedy skills, magic acts and dance routines, drawn from TV shows from previous decades (especially familiar to



Chorus number.



Punsters.

senior in the audience) as well as from current TV productions. And there was more: two catastrophic characters who kept ridiculing the acts from their balcony box, the unforgettable Puntsters who kept the groans going between acts, and some saucy but seriously under dressed



Tip-toeing through the tulips.

lifesavers practicing life-saving techniques (but having to carry one member off on a backboard).

The whole cast performed an energetic costumed dance number to open the second act. Other new acts included "Oh My Darling Clementine" performed with vocals and ukuleles by three Kiwanis members of the Humble Bess (a local musical group) along with their "Bon-crys." And a guest appearance by the long-haired Tiny Tim, a classic spoof pitting Tracy against Ethel, and a misguided attempt to prepare Coq au Vin (with most of the wine ending up inside the cock).

The cherished Priscilla Lippitt appeared onstage for her 60th consecutive Kapers appearance and the irrepressible George Harnish for his 60th.

The show concluded each evening with the entire cast performing "Kiwanis Builds a Better World," written by long-time Kapers director Carl Wharton. What a wonderful performance. Our thanks to our sponsors, our program advertisers, to all Meriden Kiwanians and to all who attended.



Lifesavers in action.

### Congratulations, Petty Officer Gilhuly

Petty Officer Brian Gilhuly is currently assigned to NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center, Norfolk. His upcoming orders are to the USS Wasp (LHD-1). Brian has also been named as Fleet Logistic Center Norfolk's Sailor of the Year for fiscal year 2015. Brian has currently served eight years in the U.S. Navy, and intends to stay in until able to retire. Previous duty stations include USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-76) and USS Cole (DDG-57).

Petty Officer Gilhuly and his wife, Jaime, and their daughter, Clara, reside in Portsmouth, Va. Extended family in-



cludes parents, Patrick and the late Tara Gilhuly, brother, Patrick, and sister, Jessica. He is the grandson of Mary and the late George Gilhuly, Sr.

### Garrison serves aboard USS Porter

Damage Controlman 2nd Class Stephanie Garrison, from Wallingford, inspects the hull aboard USS Porter, DDG 78, during a replenishment at sea with the Military Sea Lift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Leroy Grumman, TAD 39, Tuesday, Oct. 27.

Porter, an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, forward-deployed to Rota, Spain, is on routine patrol conducting normal operations in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations in support of U.S. national security interests in Europe.



### Meriden Humane Society Corner



Miss Miranda



## **‘Kapers TV — Then and Now’**

The 2015 Kiwanis Kapers, a delightful variety show produced each year by the Kiwanis Club of Meriden, was performed on Friday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 7, at Lincoln Middle School in Meriden. Dedicated to Arthur “Cliff ” Bradley, Jackson R. Lytle and June Vandal, this 64th production titled “Kapers TV – Then & Now,” chaired by Corinne Balcher and Bob Meister, not only provided entertainment to the audience and Kiwanis members alike, but also raised funds for the many charities supported by the Meriden Kiwanians.

Directed by the effervescent Carolyn Daniels, dozens of Kiwanians sporting an array of colorful outfits appeared on stage in this year’s entertaining production, performing skits (some serious, some comical) based on familiar television shows from the past to the present. They were supported by other club members who handled tickets, posters, publicity, program book, stage crew, props, make up, costumes, Midway games (Maloney Key Club), box office and raffle sales, rehearsal refreshments and phone solicitations. And this year, the Kapers were energized by the talented and lively kids of the Meriden Dance Academy performing Junior Hip Hop, Advanced Jazz and Advanced Hip Hop routines. A great team from Lincoln provided the lighting and sound support.

After the Lincoln Middle School Elite Singers performed an elegant rendition of the National Anthem, the opening showpiece number “This Is What We Call Our Kapers Show”, performed by the entire cast, set the tone for this year’s TV theme. Then followed a series of serious songs, comedy songs, comedy skits, magic acts and dance routines, drawn from TV shows from previous decades (especially familiar to seniors in the audience) as well as from current TV productions. And there was more: two cantankerous characters who kept ridiculing the acts from their balcony box, the unforgettable Punsfers who kept the groans going between acts, and some snappy but seriously under dressed lifeguards practicing life saving techniques (but having to carry one member off on a backboard).

The whole cast performed an energetic costumed dance number to open the second act. Other new acts included “Oh My Darling Clementine” performed with vocals and ukuleles by three Kiwanian members of the Humble Bees (a local musical group) along with their “Honeys”. And a guest appearance by the long-haired Tiny Tim, a classic spoof pitting Lucy against Ethel, and a misguided attempt to prepare Coq au Vin (with most of the wine ending up inside the cook).

The cherished Priscilla Lippitt appeared onstage for her 64th consecutive Kapers appearance and the irrepressible George Hamrah for his 63rd.

The show concluded each evening with the entire cast performing “Kiwanis Builds a Better World”, written by long-time Kapers director Carl Wheaton. What a wonderful performance. Our thanks to our sponsors, our program advertisers, to all Meriden Kiwanians and to all who attended.



Chorus number.



Lifeguards in action.



Punsters.



Tiptoeing through the tulips.