

Think Christmas--Make Your Own Decor

Observerland-women are invited to attend the fall series of workshops sponsored by the Detroit Garden Center, 133 E. Grand River, Detroit.

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The first class will be Oct. 1 at 10 a.m. and will run until 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members. Participants are to bring their own lunch. Coffee and tea will be supplied.

The workshop schedule is as follows:

Oct. 1 - "Cone Wreaths and Fruit" - Mrs. Frederick Mueller.

Oct. 8 - "Pictures for All Occasions with Dried Flowers-Gifts from Your Garden" (bring manure scissors and glue) - Mrs. E.E. Schneider.

Oct. 15 - "Cone and Nut Wreaths" - There will be a substitute for Mrs. Pauline Koroly.

Oct. 22 - Dark - Lecture by

Faber Birren at Fries Auditorium Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Tickets \$2 available at the Detroit Garden Center, 90 workshop.

Oct. 29 - "Christmas Decorations for the Home and Trees," also "Decorated Ornaments" - Instructor to be announced.

Nov. 5 - "Angels and Wise Men" (Must have reservations) - Mrs. Leo A. Hough, Mrs. Howard Lightbill.

Nov. 12 - "Covering of Shoes with Fabric for Your Holiday Costume" (Must have reservations) - Mrs. Guy Doherty.

Monday, Nov. 17 - 1 p.m. "Holiday Preview and Tea" \$1 donation. Public invited. - Mrs. Richard Gerathy.

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Timely Reminders For Fall Opening Playbill Features Disparate Comic Styles

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Christopher Frey is an English dramatist noted for the poetry of his language in his work. Frey is often called a "modern day Shakespeare" and his plays are pure poetry.

Jim Wotring, on the other hand, has made his reputation as a political cartoonist and social satirist. His often biting, but always funny cartoons have lampooned a variety of topics.

Unlikely combination? On the surface it seems to be the most unusual pairing in a long time.

HOWEVER, works of these two men will be presented back-to-back when the Livonia Redford Theatre Guild opens its new season Oct. 17 with a playbill of two one acts.

The plays are Christopher Frey's classic "A Phoenix Too Frequent" and the Jules Pfeiffer work "Crawling Arnold."

Both plays are comedies and both might be called satires, but they are very different in approach.

The Pfeiffer play is set in contemporary times, while Frey chose ancient Greece for the time and place.

Pfeiffer caricatures a family in today's suburbia, while Frey writes about a young Greek widow keeping a death watch in her husband's tomb.

What's behind such an unusual playbill?

How the plays came to be chosen is a mixture of foresight and chance.

THE BASIC idea behind opening the season with a bill of one acts to the guild's playhouse was to add an additional offering to the season schedule while keeping down the overhead.

(There is no rental charge for the guild to use its own playhouse, while the high school auditoriums carry a rental charge and thus cut into the profits.)

Originally the board thought that the Pfeiffer play could be presented along with a one-act, "The Tiger," which the guild staged last year at the Community Theatre Association of Michigan's Convention.

Jerry Bovenschen directed "The Tiger" and he agreed to direct "Crawling Arnold." Then came the word that the group couldn't re-create the original

production of "The Tiger." Bovenschen was somewhat reluctant to direct two one acts, opening at the same time, from scratch, so the guild began a search for another director and another one act.

Jim Wotring has directed past guild productions and had already agreed to direct this year's production of "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running."

When Wotring was approached about filling in as a director for the one acts he agreed on the condition that the particular one act be "A Phoenix Too Frequent."

Wotring had directed and acted in the play when he was in college and had always wanted to put it on a community theatre stage.

The guild agreed and had the bill.

JUDY PIERSON, guild president, frankly admits that the entire bill and the playhouse setting are an experiment. The guild plans to turn the playhouse on Beech Daly just south of Five Mile into a cabaret which will accommodate an audience of 60 for each performance.

"I don't think either of these plays would be effective in a high school auditorium setting," she says. Both plays are very different from what is usually seen on community theater stages, and maybe the more intimate setting will make the dramatic content more available to the suburban audience.

The answer will have to wait until the financial and critical

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Junior art will be offered by Madonna College in special Saturday classes for artistically gifted and interested students aged 11 to 15.

Emphasis will be on drawing in several media, specifically pencil, charcoal and pastels. The eight-week session will begin Saturday, Oct. 4, and continue every Saturday through Nov. 22. Classes will run from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Tuition fee is \$10 including materials, payable at registration. Those interested in registration forms are asked to call the Madonna College Art Department.

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