

Welcome Yuletide

A MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 11, 12 & 13, 1992

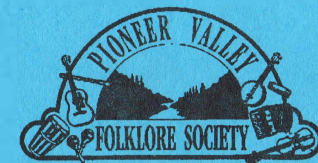


Presented at

❁ THE SHEA THEATRE ❁

Turners Falls, Massachusetts

Co-sponsored by



PERFORMERS

CHORUS

Big Bart Bales	Cindy Moss
Mary Decker	Pamela Owen
Marissa DiPaola	Michael Pattavina
Jim Ellis	Geoffrey Rogers
Shanna Gerrard	Eileen Semon-Almeida
Kevin John Hollister	Rose Sheehan
Elysse Link	Carolyn Smith
Jinny Mason	Andrea Tarr
Joe Mawson	Casey Mason Temple
Alan McArdle	Heather Truelove
Fred Momaney	Stephanie Vignone
Steve Morgan	Dawn Zabek

CHILDREN

Loranna Almeida	Ryan Johnson
Lucas Almeida	Devon McArdle
Owen Baines	Naomi Oberski
Evlin Rose de la Barre	Rowan Oberski
Caitlin Flynn	Anna Brady Smith
Alden Johnson	Emily Smith
Ember Johnson	Julia Watson
Evan Johnson	Tarah Watson

THE MUSICIANS

Cindy Moss – Flute
Michael Pattavina – Guitar, Banjo, Bass
Geoffrey Rogers – Guitar
Rose Sheehan – Melodeon
Philip Watson – Fiddle

CLOGGER

Patricia Brinster Watson

HORN DANCERS

Big Bart Bales	Alan McArdle
Marge Bruchac	Devon McArdle
Mary Decker	Geoffrey Rogers
Steve Howe	Andrea Tarr
	John Wilson

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director – Rose Sheehan

Stage Director – Jim Ellis

Chorus Director – Bill Venman

Stage Manager – Diana Venman

Business Managers – Jinny Mason, Alan McArdle

Lighting Design – William M. Davis

Rehearsal Accompanist – Cindy Moss

Costumes – Jean Closson

Children's Coach – Leslie Smith

Scene Design – Mary Decker, William M. Davis

Light Control Operator – Joseph E. Krusas III

Set & Lighting Technicians – William M. Davis,
Mary Decker, Joseph E. Krusas III, Paul Lanni

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Valley Light Opera
Smith College Campus School
Country Players
That Long Tall Sword
Windsor Castle Border Ballet & Fire Brigade



PART ONE



THE PRAISE OF CHRISTMAS – Bart, Eileen, Fred & Geoff

DECK THE HALLS – The Children

(Words included. Turn the page!)

GREEN GROW' TH THE HOLLY – Shanna, Cindy, Eileen, Pamela, Carolyn, Kevin, Michael

MALPAS WASSAIL – Steve, Rose, Joe

"Wassail" is a salutation to "be whole". The custom involves house to house visiting with the partaking of food and drink to bring good luck to both visitors and visited.

THE SHORTEST DAY – Carolyn

Written by Susan Cooper; used with permission of Revels, Inc.

YULE LOG PROCESSION – Chorus, The Children

A combination of the Furry Carol, a spring processional, with some verses by Robert Herrick (Touch the Yule Log with a holly leaf and make a wish for the New Year!)

THE WREN SONG – The Children

Wrenning, an Irish tradition, is a remnant of rituals involving the sacrifice of a King, the wren being King of the birds.

THE WREN BOYS – Geoff, All

(Words included. Turn the page!)

THE OLD GRAY MARE – Philip, Michael, Geoff, Patricia

American Southern fiddle tune and clog dance.

THE MITTEN – Steve

An adaptation of a Ukranian folk tale.

COME & I WILL SING YOU – Rose

(Words included. Turn the page!)

MUMMER'S PLAY – Fool-Steve, Old Bet-Alan, Hob-Jim, St. George-Bart, Dragon-Jinny, Doctor-Andrea,

Mumming is part of a body of British mid-winter customs in which the performing troupe disguises themselves and visits, often unannounced, house to house bringing good cheer. Other "guising" customs include sword dance plays and Border Morris dancing a thoroughly raucus affair in which dancers yell, hoot and clash sticks.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE WASSAIL – Chorus

In this Wassail we toast a succession of horses & cows.

INTERMISSION



PART TWO



OLD ROGER – The Children

INTERLUDE – Cindy, Michael, Geoff

PERSONENT HODIE – Chorus

FELLSWAY – Chorus

Written by David Gay

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER – Chorus

Lyrics by Christina Rosetti, music by Gustav Holst

THE SNOW CHILD – Rose

A Russian folk tale.

THIS LONGEST NIGHT – Shanna, Chorus

Written by Lorraine Lee

ABBOTS BROMLEY HORN DANCE – Horn Dancers

A dance from an English village where dancers use horns carbon dated to the 12th century.

GREAT BIG STAR – The Children

STAR IN THE EAST – Chorus

From the American sacred heart singing tradition

THE LORD OF THE DANCE – Bart, All

Traditional Shaker tune, lyrics by Sydney Carter.
(Words included. Turn the page!)

GOWER WASSAIL – All

(Words included. Turn the page!)

END

SONGS

DECK THE HALLS

Deck the Halls with boughs of holly
'Tis the season to be jolly
Don we now our gay apparel
Troll the ancient Yule-tide carol

See the blazing yule before us
Strike the harp and join the chorus
Follow me in merry measure
While I tell of Yule-tide treasure

Fast away the old year passes
Hail the new ye lads and lasses
Sing we joyous all together
Heedless of the wind and weather

THE WREN BOYS

Chorus: Hurrah, me boys, hurrah!
Hurrah, me boys, hurrah!
Knock at the knocker and ring at the bell.
What will you give us for singing so well?
Singing so well, singing so well.
Give us a copper for singing so well.

COME AND I WILL SING YOU

Come and I will sing you
What shall I sing you?
I will sing you one alone.
What shall be the one alone?

One is one and one alone.
Come to me dilly, come dally, come dilly, alone
And ever shall remain so.

Two are the Chrissymas babes in green.

Three are the three that's in Bethlea.

Four the carollers at the door.

Five are the oxen standing by.

Six the six that never did mix.

Seven the shiners up in the sky.

Eight of them are the filly-shine white.

Nine of them's Aunt Mary Anne.

Ten are the ten command-i-ments.

'Leven eleven all gone to heaven.

Twelve the followers all in a row.

LORD OF THE DANCE

Dance, dance wherever you may be
For I am the Lord of the Dance said he
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be
I will lead you all in the dance said he.

GOWER WASSAIL

Verse 1

A Wassail, a wassail throughout all this town,
Our cup it is white and our ale it is brown.
Our wassail is made of the good ale and true,
some nutmeg and ginger it's the best we can brew.

Chorus

Fol the dol, fol the dol-de-dol, Fol the dol-de-dol,
fol the dol-de-dee, fol the der-o, fol the dad-dy,
Sing tu-re-lye do!

Verse 2:

We hope that your apple trees prosper and bear
So we may have cider when we call next year
And where you have one barrel we hope you'll have ten,
So we may have cider when we call again.

Verse 3:

We know by the moon that we are not too soon
And we know by the sky that we are not too high
We know by the stars that we are not too far,
And we know by the ground that we are within sound.

Verse 4:

Our wassail is made of the elderberry bough
And so, my good neighbor, we'll drink unto thou;
And if we're alive for another new year
Perhaps we may call and see who do live here.





Welcome You!

Those of us who live in these northern climes enjoy a clear cycle of seasons. And, just as each season follows in its predictable order, so do the observances of special holidays and celebrations.

Our celebrations at the mid-winter do more than mark time. They serve as a point from which we can look back and let go, a point at which to wholly accept and enjoy the present and a point to re-affirm faith and hope as we turn ahead.

As Welcome Yule, returns for an eighth year, we are pleased to have established ourselves as a special celebration of the mid-winter with our community.

Thank you for joining us, for singing and dancing with us, for making this celebration complete.

And as this year's celebration comes to a close we leave with the promise to return "as the cold winds blow".

WASSAIL!

Please sign our guest book in the lobby.
We would like to start a newsletter/mailling

