

# VIENNA UNION HALL NEWS

November 2012

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## *Hamlet* a Success

The seven member cast of Hamlet from the Theater at Monmouth performed in the Vienna Union Hall on October 27th to a full house. Tickets were sold out several days before the performance. The traveling troupe was able to come to the hall at 6:00, assemble their sets, change into costume, practice some sword fighting on stage and be ready and waiting to perform the play by 7:00. They were a truly professional and personable group of actors from all over the country.

Fast paced and intense, the director condensed the action of the four hour play into 90 minutes. The audience was attentive and vibrant taking an active part in the Q/A discussion after the play. (The players did remark that the outhouse was worthy of a photograph!)

With generous donations, the event raised approximately \$500.00 for the Hall. This is not only a boost to the coffers but also a step towards our goal of bringing the arts to Vienna. We hope to continue the tradition next year.

### **PLANNING AHEAD**

On Thursday evening, before the Monmouth players came to Vienna, Pat Onion led a provocative discussion on Shakespeare and his play, Hamlet. Approximately 25 people attended the talk keeping up a lively conversation. The evening not only helped with appreciation of the play which was to be performed in modern dress and set in the 60's but also helped the group to

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Welcome to Hamlet at the Union Hall - October 2012

Visit our website @

<https://sites.google.com/site/viennaunionhall2012/>

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Max Waszak as Hamlet and Will Harrell as Claudius



Jay Shepherd as Horatio and Max Waszak

photographs by Anderberg

prepare for the changes in character that were evident in the casting of Horatio and Polonius as women instead of as the traditional male characters. Thank you Pat, for donating your time and expertise! Also, thank you to Jim Anderberg for photographing the events both evenings.

**WHAT'S NEXT?**

Future plans for the hall are uncertain at this printing. A spring "Coffee House" is in the works and perhaps a fund raising dinner later in the winter to be held at the Vienna Community Center. A winter Revels is also being considered as well as musical events and dances. The biggest obstacle to offering winter events at the hall is heating and plowing on our very small budget. We hope to improve this situation by fundraising for insulation, storm windows and more efficient heaters. We are looking for help from community members to work on new programming for the hall. It is a space that begs to be used! Join us at our next meeting or email if you are busy at that time.

**RENOVATION CONTINUES**

The first phase of painting the interior of the Union Hall is complete at this time. Over 300 volunteer hours were donated to finish the job! Thanks to all the painters and carpenters involved.

The next phase of work on the interior will focus on the benches and the stage area. The stage floor needs to be refinished and trim along the back wall painted. Benches need clean up and cushions. New volunteers are always welcome.

**NEXT MEETING**

Monday, November 5 - 7:00 PM at the Vienna Community Center. Everyone welcome.

**EMAIL LIST**

Send us your email address if you wish to be added to our emailings, or let us know if you want to be deleted from the mailing list.

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