

# *The Sojourns of*

# *SEAN PRATT*

**A Quarterly Schmooze-Letter / Fall 2007**

**[www.seanprattpresents.com](http://www.seanprattpresents.com)**

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## **SEAN PRATT PRESENTS – Fall Calendar of Events**

- October 12<sup>th</sup>** - *WORK – When to take it, when to turn it down, and how to know the difference!* Hosted by the AFTRA/SAG Conservatory, Washington, D.C.
- October 21<sup>st</sup>** - *Marketing for the Actor.* Guest panelist at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Actors' Expo, Crystal City, VA.
- October 27<sup>th</sup>** - *The Audition – How working to get the part, works!* Hosted by the Fellowship of Christian Filmmakers, McLean, VA.
- November 10<sup>th</sup>** - *The Audition – How working to get the part, works!* Hosted by Betsy Royall Casting, Baltimore, MD.
- November 16<sup>th</sup>** - *WORK – When to take it, when to turn it down, and how to know the difference!* Hosted by the AFTRA/SAG Conservatory, Washington, D.C.
- December 15<sup>th</sup>** - *Marketing – The Image is Reality.* Hosted by Betsy Royall Casting, Baltimore, MD.

## Our Lady of Victory

I journeyed up to Malvern, PA for a few days to work on the sports movie, *Our Lady of Victory*. Set in 1972, the film tells the inspiring true story of Cathy Rush (played by Carla Gugino) who becomes the head basketball coach at tiny Immaculata College, an all-girls Catholic school in Pennsylvania. With help from the nuns, she finds the courage and faith to lead her team along the improbable journey of winning the first national championship in women's basketball.

Tim Chambers directed this female version of *Hoosiers* and I had a "ball" playing the charismatic Jimmy Sullivan, a good friend of the basketball coach and her husband, Ed. My scenes take place when they come to a party at my house. The Art Department really outdid themselves in recreating an early 1970's bungalow. My pad had a terrarium, macramé flowerpot holders, walls painted avocado green and loads of really strange looking liquor glasses and fondue pots. Not to mention the fact that I was sporting blue corduroys, a green sweater, a black and white tartan jacket and wingtips...YIKES! Thank God I was only seven years old then and not some dude on the make!



Check out how the turtleneck highlights my groovy fake sideburns...red, of course.

## SEAN PRATT PRESENTS

Man, what a summer! After spending the first half of 2007 getting, *Sean Pratt Presents*, up and running, it finally seems to be gaining some momentum. There have been a ton of things to do and create; the website, the PowerPoint presentations, developing the workbooks that go with each topic, whipping up the flyers and posters and even buying a snappy new wardrobe. Shannon said that wearing my overalls to a class would NOT lend me credibility.

I kicked off June by doing two successful seminars in Crystal City, VA. Surprisingly, I got through both of them without tripping over any power cords or knocking over my projector screen...so that was a plus. In July, I held a workshop with the Fellowship of Christian Filmmakers out in McLean, VA. It went very well, but I had to be extra careful not to tell some of my more "spicy" anecdotes.

August found me doing my first teleclass, hosted by Betsy Royall Casting. I fielded the actor's questions on marketing and advertising. Betsy acted as the moderator and I tried my best to sound intelligent and focused, even though I spilled hot coffee in my lap just as we started...OUCH! The following week, I taught a free workshop at the Actors' Center in Arlington, VA. It was my way of saying, "Thank You!" to all the ladies who run the AC. They've been nothing but helpful to me while I've been getting *Sean Pratt Presents* started.

Speaking of the Actors' Center, I'll be a guest panelist on "Marketing for the Actor" at their *2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Actors' Expo*. Their premier event, it's a day of networking, workshops, and discussions designed to enhance the working lives of DC area actors. The workshops will include: Monologue coaching, Puppetry, Alexander Technique, Voice Over, On Camera Technique, Make-up, Film Making, Stage Combat, Yoga, Pilates, **Marketing for the Actor** (that one's mine)

and Producing Your Own Work. The Expo was a huge hit last year and promises to be even bigger this time around! Be there or be square!



## On the Road with the BIZ

If you took a gander at my Calendar of Events, you'd see that this fall looks to be a busy one for me. I'm having more and more people and groups contact me about bringing my ***Business of the BIZ*** seminars to their neck o' the woods. Not to mention the fact that the efforts at launching my Career Coaching sessions have been well received.

I'm very excited to announce that I'll be teaching my seminars at Betsy Royall Casting in Baltimore, MD! Starting off with, *Your Career – The Fundamentals* on September 29<sup>th</sup>, I'll be following it up on November 10<sup>th</sup> with, *The Audition – How working to get the part, works!* Then winding up the year with premiering my new seminar, *Marketing – The Image is Reality*. My special thanks to Betsy for including me in her growing roster of classes and coaching sessions.

I'll also be returning to the AFTRA/SAG Conservatory in Washington D.C. on an ongoing basis! For the present I'll be doing free lectures on new topics that I'm developing into future seminars. The Conservatory provides union members with a curriculum of continuing education in a variety of topics on the BIZ. A big shout-out to Jane Love, Assistant Executive Director of the Washington/Baltimore Local of

AFTRA/SAG, for getting the ball rolling on this, and to Anne Hall, head coordinator of the Conservatory.

## Parks Plus!

Fortune has smiled on me of late; I've been hired as the new co-host for the TV show ***Parks Plus!***, a locally produced and aired cable program that focuses on recreational opportunities within Fairfax County, Virginia. My co-host is Karen Carbone, a funny, energetic and very talented actress/stunt woman/foot model...and no, I'm not making that last one up. We shot two, half hour episodes focusing on, among other things, how the Park Authority can help your child become a "Fit Kid;" and discovering the opportunities for biking, hiking, and horseback riding on the Cross County Trail.

In our "roles" as hosts of the show, Karen is the one who always knows how to effortlessly sink a putt, steer a canoe or climb a rock. I, on the other hand, play a doofus who can barely put insect repellent on...let's just say I'm "Recreationally Challenged." Karen's great to work with and we have a really wonderful rapport. This looks to be an ongoing thing, so tune into channel 16 in Virginia, or go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) and type in ***Parks Plus!*** to see some past episodes!



The producers and I picked Sean over "Bobo, the Dancing Monkey." Now, we're beginning to have second thoughts.

The fabulous Karen Carbone

## WORK, WORK, WORK!

I journeyed down to Richmond, Virginia for a week to play the lead role in a big industrial video, shot by Edge Training Systems, Inc. I played a middle manager leading his team through a difficult change in their work procedures. Tim Armstrong came out from L.A. to direct, "Managing Change" and he was great to work with. Liz Ernest, along with a really good cast of Richmond area actors, turned in a fantastic performance. The finished DVD looked great, too! Many thanks to Liz Marks for calling me in on this one.



I did my part to promote better Parent/Teacher dialogue in Maryland schools by working on a TV spot, *Notes*, sponsored by the Maryland Teacher's Union. The spot featured actress Shelia Cutchlow as a elementary school teacher lecturing a room full of adults about the progress Maryland schools have been making. She catches me passing a note and...well, why don't you watch the spot for yourself! You can find it on the web at, <http://greatschoolsmaryland.org>.

Dagmar and all the ladies who work at Central Casting are responsible for getting me this one. Thanks!



Finally, in the commercial modeling world, I played a young dad with a cranky baby, a Real-estate salesman who can't seem to sell a house to save his life, a businessman who takes multi-tasking to new heights...or lows, depending on how you look at it, and a policeman handing out traffic tickets like they're going out of style. I did turn down a shoot that would have had me playing an overgrown Leprechaun who's had too much to drink, but hey... at least now I have an idea for my Halloween Party outfit!

I wish I could say that the family and I spent long leisurely weekends this summer on the beach at Assateague Island, doing nothing more than baking in the sun and being chased by the wild horses that live there, but it was not to be. My wife Shannon Parks was again busy directing the Youth Theatre Camp at The Church Hill Theatre, Olivia performed in one of the plays and was also 'Mommy's Little Stage Manager' and Noah was only home long enough to eat, sleep and shower before heading back out to be with his buddies...Ah, to be 16 again!

Well, the kids are back in school now, Shannon is doing some narration work, teaching acting classes and developing a cabaret act. We're all hoping for a free weekend to sneak off and enjoy the surf. Take care; I'll talk at you 'round Christmastime.

