



*The Single Guy*  
set for April premiere.  
*Rockin' at the Sock Hop!*  
page 1

Hometown Theatre strives for a solid financial future.  
page 2

Hometown Theatre takes *War of the Worlds* to the Minnesota Fringe Festival  
July 31- August 10, 2008

# The Hometown News

## Eiden Writes New Show: *The Single Guy*



Hometown Theatre will stage Greg Eiden's newest show, *The Single Guy: A Relationship Musical* at the Mounds Theatre in Saint Paul, Minnesota this coming April. The idea for *The Single Guy* began last year when Eiden, Hometown Theatre's founder and artistic director, pursued an opportunity to tour with the nationally acclaimed *Church Basement Ladies* for the summer and

early fall of 2007. Hometown Theatre had already scheduled a show for October. Which meant rehearsal time would be cut short—making it nearly impossible to stage a new show. So an idea Eiden had been playing with, to write a new one-man show, emerged. This limited cast production would allow for a rehearsal schedule on the road. Then Hometown Theatre's

performances could take place as scheduled in Minnesota. To everyone's surprise, the tour ended early and Eiden found himself back in Minnesota with time to rehearse a full cast show. The Hometown Theatre Board of Directors decided to move up the revival of *Rockin' At The Sock Hop* and produce *The Single Guy* later in the season. With an April 2008 theatre rental fast

approaching, Eiden is busy finishing songs and completing the script for the new show. "Writing is just part of the work. There's also rehearsal, staging, set making and finding props," he said, "Not to mention marketing materials, mailings and tickets that need to be sold between now and opening night." This is the first time Eiden is trying his hand at writing a one-man

(continued on page 2...)

## A Rockin' Revival!

A fun cast and hip band proved to be the winning combination for Hometown Theatre's revival of *Rockin' at the Sock Hop!* Young and old alike were caught up in the fifties nostalgia. Last fall Hometown Theatre sponsored a ticket give away to thank audience members for their support over the past ten years. The winner of the drawing was Mike Fradette of Becker, Minnesota. Mr. Fradette will receive four free tickets to *The Single Guy: A Relationship Musical*

this April. As theatre supporters said goodbye to Greg Eiden as Sivle Yelserp, Hometown Theatre hosted its largest audience to date. Three shows were even sold out. This production marked a new height for the young company, proving the timeless nature of Eiden's original shows. Special thanks to everyone who attended this tenth anniversary revival of *Rockin' at the Sock Hop!*



The cast of *Rockin' at the Sock Hop!* (left to right) Beau Hays, Jim McDoniel, Erika Sjogren, Greg Eiden, Daniel Ray Olson, Elizabeth Ghandour, and Jane Samsal



### BOARD MEMBERS

- Greg Eiden.....Founder/Artistic Director
- Jon Kopka.....Treasurer
- Joe Langfeld.....Trustee
- Linda Twiss.....Trustee
- Raquel Swanson.....Trustee

### ABOUT HOMETOWN THEATRE

Hometown Theatre is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization. It is our mission "To encourage health and growth in our world by providing a place to laugh out loud mostly, and shed a tear sometimes, at the sharing of human stories."



# THE SINGLE GUY



## A Relationship Musical

Premiering April 11-27, 2008 at the Mounds Theatre in Saint Paul, Minnesota ([www.moundstheatre.org](http://www.moundstheatre.org)).

Performances are Friday (7:30 PM), Saturday (8:00 PM), and Sunday (2:00 PM).

\$20 for adults (\$18 for seniors and students)  
\$10 for children (12 and under)  
\$15 group rate (8 or more)

To order tickets call (763) 767-0444 and leave a message. Your call will be returned to confirm your order.

For more information visit [www.hometowntheatre.org](http://www.hometowntheatre.org).

## ...Eiden Writes New Show

(...continued from page 1)

show. He finds excitement in the new challenge, but has also encountered some interesting obstacles.

"How do you justify someone talking and singing to themselves for an hour and a half without making them look like a crazy person?" Eiden asked. You can almost feel the excitement in his voice. Then without missing a beat, he answers his own question. "How about having them in a one-room apartment talking on the phone to an old friend about the entire plot of the latest musical he is writing? Will that approach make him look less crazy?"

Eiden is hoping this type of eccentricity in a character will be part of the fun for his new show.

"The problem for The Single Guy is that rehearsal for his new show starts in two days and he still doesn't have the closing number finished or even conceived," Eiden says.

"He calls and old friend to talk it through, hoping that will inspire—something."

"The Single Guy assures his friend he is not writing about himself, 'it's just a fun little show based on the traditional comedy formula—you know, boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl back.'"

In the end, after pulling an all-nighter, The Single Guy completes the final number, which might, or might not, actually fulfill the traditional formula or be entirely final.

"There's still much to do to make this show come together, but there's a lot of excitement. There always is around a brand new show," Eiden says.

Whatever the final song, we know the play will be witty, fun and entertaining.

Opening weekend is April 11-13, 2008. Show times and dates are listed on the Hometown Theatre website ([www.hometowntheatre.org](http://www.hometowntheatre.org)).

## Hometown Theatre Financial Update

Developing a professional theatre company is hard work. Stresses mount almost overnight.

Will the next show be written on time? Is it funny? Who are the cast members? Will it give the audience "a place to laugh out loud mostly, and shed a tear sometimes, at the sharing of human stories?"

Hometown Theatre hopes so. That's its mission.

The most difficult component of building a non-profit theatre company is raising the funds to help it take root and grow.

Right now Hometown Theatre has raised \$3,941 of the \$6,822 needed to produce *The Single Guy*.

In these years of expansion and growth it is important for the company to establish itself by paying expenses on time, at a level that allows a professional company to attract

top-rate talent.

Public support through financial donations helps reach these goals.

To help Hometown Theatre reach the goal of \$6,822, please make a tax-deductible donation soon. You may do so by returning the enclosed envelope or visit the theatre's website at [www.hometowntheatre.org](http://www.hometowntheatre.org).

Thank you for supporting the arts in our community.