


August 25, 1997

Ms. Melinda J. Marson  
Manager  
Northern States Power Company  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1927



*P.S.  
This is a sample copy  
Mrs. Ambrus gave us...  
She sent the same letter  
to ALL of our sponsors.  
Pat*

Dear Ms. Marson:

Thank You! I am writing in gratitude to you for your generous support of the Duck Soup Players. My 11-year-old daughter, Mariah, performed in their latest production, *Truth, Justice and the American Way*. It was a very rewarding, inter-generational experience for her. She was able to share her love of performing with many senior citizens. After each performance, she received many hugs, compliments, and even one marriage proposal! Mariah especially enjoyed their performance at the Shriner's Children's Hospital. The children were a very receptive audience and many giggled from the beginning to the end.

I was able to gain a "behind the scenes" perspective of the Duck Soup Players because I stayed and watched all the rehearsals. (The magical way in which a play comes together always intrigues me.) As a parent, one of my prime goals is to find activities which help my children feel good about themselves. Mariah's involvement with the Duck Soup Players far surpassed my expectations.

From the beginning, I knew we had linked with an extraordinary and caring group of individuals. Each cast member was extremely giving of their time and talent. I admired each of them for their total dedication and there was a genuine respect for each other. I couldn't have asked for more positive role models for my daughter! Mariah repeatedly told me that Pat Bettendorf was the nicest director that she had ever had. His patience, sincerity, attention to detail and overall kindness were evident night after night. Mariah's self-esteem sky-rocketed from the first rehearsal to the final performance!

At the shows, I passed out programs and mingled with the audience members. I was able to hear first-hand many of their positive comments. The sparkle in Mariah's eyes reminded many of them of their own children, once upon a time,