



Twin Lakes Playhouse

Twin Lakes Playhouse, 600 W. Sixth Street, Mountain Home, Arkansas 72654 870-424-0444

[www.twinlakesplayhouse.org](http://www.twinlakesplayhouse.org)

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## THEATRE LOGIC

In is down, down is front,  
out is up, up is back,  
off is out, on is in,  
and of course -  
right is left, and left is right.

A drop shouldn't and a  
block and fall does neither.  
A prop doesn't and  
a cove has no water.

Tripping is O.K.  
A running crew rarely gets anywhere.  
A purchase line will buy you nothing.  
A trap will not catch anything.  
A gridiron has nothing to do with  
football.

A Strike is work  
(in fact a lot of work).  
And a green room, thank God, usually  
isn't.  
Now that you are fully versed in  
theatrical terms,  
Break a leg...  
but not really!



## Letter from Your Chairman

*By Lloyd Lowery*

In the April issue of the newsletter, I tried to list the projects which had been suggested by the members for improvements to the building and grounds. That list came out a bit garbled and repetitive so I take this opportunity to try to clean it up a bit. These are the projects we have discussed to some degree up to this point. They are presented in no particular order of priority or importance or cost. A committee consisting of John and Carol Eberhard, W.W. McElrath, Anne Johnson-Loftis, and Janet Lacefield was established to prioritize the projects and establish some cost parameters for each one.

Hopefully the committee will accomplish these tasks in a timely manner so that work can begin on the projects.

1. Paint the white outside railings.
2. Finish painting the gutters.
3. Paint touchup in lobby and concession area.
4. Outside lights and letter TLP on front of building.
5. Cleanup stage floor.
6. Gravel driveway and parking lot.
7. Build new flats (regarding this project, it has been suggested that we merely build flats as we go as needed for each show).
8. Smooth and refinish the lobby floor and the rough area by the entry to concessions.
9. Lights in lobby and spotlight on the bulletin board.
10. Remove cable above the stage (buttress walls).

11. Some form of lighting on the portable sign (or a new sign).

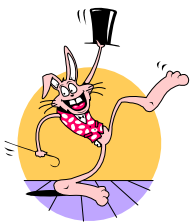
12. Awning or canopy above front entryway.
13. Cleanup and rearrange top of stairs between costume areas.
14. Paint the auditorium.
15. Modify the driveway from 6<sup>th</sup> street to allow straight access to the parking lot.

Some discussion has occurred regarding holding funds in reserve to allow replacing the heating and AC units and the roof whenever it becomes necessary. We have received some information from a roofer that our current roof is in good shape and may not need repair or replacement for several years under normal weather conditions. No information has been sought from anyone regarding the heating and AC units to the best of my knowledge. The possibility of remodeling the building on the backstage and to install some form of bathroom(s) for the actors has also been mentioned. However, this is not on our current list of projects since it has been previously explored and found to be extremely costly, requiring major construction for water and sewer lines.

If we will all work together and apply our collective skills and knowledge we should be able to accomplish all of these projects within the next few months. How about it?

## Setting the Stage

By John Eberhard



### Selecting a Slate of Shows

Some years, the Playhouse finds itself begging for enough directors to put on a full slate of plays. Other years, there are a plethora of directors and shows available, and

we are forced to pare it down to only four. What criteria should we use?

There are a huge number of factors to consider, and what makes it even harder is that the importance of various factors increases and decreases from year to year depending on circumstances. For instance, sometimes making money by putting butts in the seats is a crucial priority; at other times our financial cushion is in good shape and making money drops way down on the list of priorities. Herewith are some of the factors to be considered:

- **A varied slate.** As part of the obligation to educate the community, a variety of genres is necessary. Drama, comedy, melodrama, farce, musicals, children's theatre, period pieces such as Shakespeare, seasonal shows, theatre of the absurd.....provide something for everyone. Most people love the Three Stooges, but we need to throw some crumbs to those who enjoy Masterpiece Theater. Different genres provide the opportunity for everyone to stretch as an artist.
- **Directorial experience.** A head start on a successful season--for quality and financially--can be had by selecting directors/plays that are proven winners. However, this must be balanced

by inculcating inexperienced directors...for they will become the experienced directors of tomorrow. Occasionally, we need to do an evening of one-acts to give beginning directors a chance to get their feet wet without taking on an intimidating full length major production.

- **Financial needs.** If an influx of money is crucial, we should lean heavily toward comedy, farce, musicals, and melodramas. If money is a low priority, including some dramas, experimental, new, costume shows, and children's theater are great things for the Playhouse to do.
- **Other considerations are** quality of script, limitations of our facility, what is controversial/offensive to our primary audience, technical requirements, expense to put on a show (musicals and period costume shows tend to cost more), size of cast, as well as, the make up of it--where would we ever get the men for SOUTH PACIFIC?

To sum up, it becomes a process of balancing artistic and financial goals with community education and involvement while considering human, facility, and technological limitations.

I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.

Oscar Wilde



## CURTAIN CALLS

*The curtain's calling us... to the theatre... to express ourselves and how we can develop dreams into a craft and an art.*

*By Marjorie Rock*

One of the most exciting things for me is to see young people on stage. The excitement is there for me because no one in my family knew how to encourage me in my love of dancing, music and acting and when I was young I didn't know how or where to start. I was somewhat of a "strange" child in my family; also I was a child who lived in a rich fantasy world. In there I read books and listened to the radio - making up pictures in my mind of the stories that I was hearing and reading. When I had the opportunity to see a live play I was mesmerized and imagined myself up there on that stage.

However, as I grew, I became taller and taller and I soon developed such self-consciousness that I started to scare myself about speaking on stage or even just in front of people in class. I played saxophone in high school but was afraid to play solos in front of people and so when we went to the State Competition, though I played very well, I would sabotage myself by leaving part of my sax at home and then have to borrow someone else's saxophone - OR - I would make an arbitrary decision to play the music differently from the way I rehearsed it - like without musicality or a vibrato! I did that three years in a row. However, I danced in Talent shows and one time, I was so "in the moment" (it was the first time I danced on stage), I ran off after doing my number in tears, because I thought no one was applauding!!!! The people backstage said, "Are you kidding? Listen to that!!!" And all of a sudden the silence in my head stopped and I heard the thunderous applause that wasn't stopping! I had found my home and my home knew me. However, the fear of speaking in public was still there and that didn't leave till I was about thirty-five years old. Since then theatre activities have saved my life many a time and in time it became my life.

My purpose in stating all this is to note that there is a young girl who is appearing in Lloyd's show, **Let Him Sleep Till It's Time for His Funeral**. Her name is Annie Sykes. I was so surprised when she came out on stage and with such presence - she spoke up and out, clearly, and with confidence. Annie was also in **A Christmas Carol** in 2006 on our stage here at the playhouse. I couldn't help but think "she's doing what I wanted to do at that age." Many, many kudos to you, Annie, and keep up the good work!

I also saw Olivia Wolf onstage again with the OCS and I couldn't take my eyes off her while she did a marvelous number from **Gypsy** with another young gal. I was watching a performance that was darned near professional. She sang on our stage for one of this year's membership meetings and it would be well worth it to build a show around her and her singing and dancing gifts.

AND so, I was reminded of our Mandie Pizano, JoEllen Miller, Ryan Kelley, Dillion Mincey, Raleigh Jones, all the other young people from **Godspell**, and Tracy Connelly who did a magnificent job as Rhoda in **The Bad Seed** for our 35th Anniversary Show and also **A Christmas Carol**. (I hear she has a sister named Kelly who is going to take the Youth Acting Conservatory this summer) - so many young people with so much talent and, there are many, many more I haven't mentioned. It's been seven and a half years since I began my involvement with the Twin Lakes Playhouse and while I have enjoyed the many opportunities I have had here; probably the thing that has thrilled me more than anything has been the young people who have been supported by their families and the playhouse. They all may or may not continue in theatre; however, the lessons learned on stage will last a lifetime.

My contribution has been to bring musicals to the Twin Lakes Playhouse and a great gift to me, was for you to allow me to direct a drama last year - **WIT**. I want to bless and thank each and every one of you for the grace of your presence in my life. I have learned a lot. Has the Curtain been calling you?



**And so it goes....**

*It is requested and required that each member fill out a new application form when paying this year's membership dues. If you have not done so already, please update your membership. If you cannot attend a meeting, you can download a membership form off the website, fill it in, and submit it and your \$5.00 check to:*

**Twin Lakes Playhouse, P.O. Box 482, Mountain Home, AR 72654**

## Education/Outreach

We are now accepting pre-registration forms for the YOUTH ACTING CONSERVATORY to be held on June 20 and 21, 2009 at the playhouse. Applications can be downloaded from our website or picked up in the playhouse lobby and sent directly to Deb Smith. Information about this workshop is also on the website. We will have to limit the participants to 20-25 so it's important that students wishing to participate pre-register and also prepare a 1-3 minute monologue.

Also, we have always encouraged students to attend our plays but sometimes the \$10.00 ticket price is difficult for them to pay. That's why we invite students to attend our family/membership night, held the Wednesday before the opening of each production, for only \$5.00. Please pass on this information and suggest they visit our website for dates and information about our auditions and productions.



### MEETINGS

MONDAY, MAY 11, BOARD MEETING AT 6:00 P.M.

MONDAY, MAY 18, MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.

MONDAY, JUNE 8, BOARD MEETING AT 6:00 P.M.

MONDAY, JUINE 15, MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.

## Soliloquy

By Deb Smith

What better way to spend a rainy Sunday afternoon than with friends and good theatre? That's what I got to do this last weekend with the Eberhards, Eddie Dry, and Monna Floyd. We all drove over to Rogers Little Theater to see our own Kathy Krantz (For those who miss her, she's doing well and is happy in Rogers). Kathy was in **RUMORS**, a delightful Neil Simon comedy/farce, about four couples who meet to celebrate the tenth anniversary of a deputy New York City mayor and his wife. The party never begins because the host has shot himself in the head (only a flesh wound) and his wife is missing. His lawyer's cover up gets progressively more difficult to sustain as each couple arrives and nobody can remember who has been told what about whom. Doors slam and hilarity abounds as the couples get more and more crazed.

First off, Kathy was terrific (as usual). She played Cookie Cusack, the hostess of a TV cooking show who has back spasms that sometimes leave her crawling on the floor. She, and the entire show, was a hoot! The blocking and timing were impeccable, the cast

extremely talented, and we enjoyed every minute of it.

And the theatre- The Victory Theater was built in 1927 as the first motion picture theatre in Northwest Arkansas. It was a technical wonder for its time and served as a place for great entertainment and a source of pride for the community. Unfortunately it closed in 1970 and stood vacant until 1996 when the Rogers Little Theater embarked on a journey to renovate the old theatre. They restored its charm, removed seats on the floor and replaced them with tables and chairs to create a dinner theatre, leaving regular seating available in the balcony.

Every year, John Eberhard includes a listing of some of the playhouses in the area. It would be so nice if some of us would take the opportunity to visit these playhouses and see more live theatre. It's not just enough that we enjoy our own playhouse but we should expand our horizons, experience other venues, and support other theatres. I, for one, will be hitting the road again because I was so pleased with the day!



## That's Entertainment!

What happens when four little girls have a sleep over and one of them decides to educate the others about...shhh... sex? You guessed it- hilarity!

That's what took place when Carol Eberhard, Monna Floyd, Karen Robinson and Deb Smith decided to share a skit from a 1980's Saturday Night Live performance at the April Membership Meeting.

Originally, this skit was performed by Madeline Kahn (Carol), Gilda Radner (Monna), Lorraine Newman (Karen), and Jane Curtain (Deb).

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### Twin Lakes Playhouse Members Meeting April 20, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Lloyd Lowery

No new members or guests.

Minutes from previous meeting were approved as published in newsletter and on website.

Treasurer's report was given. Barnaby cleared \$5,000. Report was approved

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Play Reading Committee

no report

Membership Committee

Bill Simpson- currently 68 members

Patronage Committee	Cindy Young for Shirley Spitzer- \$250 received in March
Maintenance Committee	no report
Publicity Committee	Jim Smith will do commercials. W.W. McElrath will do PSA's.
Benefits Committee	no new report
Nominating Committee	Lloyd Lowry- No Chairperson for committee yet.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Projects to be done. Cable removal. One bid so far \$3,800. Board suggested more bids be sought. John Eberhard will obtain another.

Mortgage Burning Party discussion- Tracy Mints will chair a Party Committee  
 Bill McElrath Bill sent Board his resignation from TLP but rescinded his Resignation. He asked the membership to vote on whether to do his scheduled play or to do On Golden Pond. Vote was 14-2 in favor of Dial M for Murder.

Pep talk from Lloyd Let's all work together for the good of the Playhouse.  
 Tracy Mints Free Shows for those who are out of work. Discussion followed.  
 Lloyd Paving the parking lot. Motion to spend \$6500 to pave part of lot did not pass. Issue is tabled until later date.

Jim suggested a Bathroom be put in greenroom area for actors. Discussion  
 A Committee to organize and prioritize projects will be formed and made up of the following. John E., Bill S., Ann L., Janet L. and Carol E.  
 Lisa Hammett has sign up for Parking crews and Concession workers for the next play.

Adjournment at 7:50 p.m. followed by "The Slumber Party" Minutes taken by MWB

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**WE STILL COLLECT BEST CHOICE LABELS**  
**Please return them to Patty Kotlicky.**

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**Did you know we are selling gift certificates to our performances? If you are interested in purchasing some as gifts for your friends, please contact Shirley Spitzer to make the arrangements.**

**NOTES FROM THE EDITOR:** We've been very busy getting ready for the Youth Acting Conservatory this summer. Cindi Young will be doing promotion, while our staff of team leaders includes: John and Carol Eberhard, Debby Stanuch, Sue Howe, Karen Robinson, Crissy Carney, Shirley Spitzer, and myself. Bill Simpson will be taking pictures and doing the video. It takes a lot of energy and time to put on a good workshop- hopefully this one will be a sort of blueprint for those in the future years. If we present it right, we could adjust it for adults, too. I know several members have inquired about an adult acting workshop. Several years ago Darcy Sherrod did one and it was very well received. Perhaps we can bring something similar again to our stage in the near future. Let me know if you're interested and we'll see what can be done.

Deb Smith

*If anyone has any announcements, articles of interest, would like to contribute an editorial or submit a picture, please let me know. This is the membership's newsletter, after all, and it is up to all of us to make it successful. Therefore, please contact me by phone at 870-421-6099 (cell), 870-467-5608 (home), or by e-mail at [ozarktootsie@centurytel.net](mailto:ozarktootsie@centurytel.net).*

\*\*\*\*\* **Deadline for June 2009 Newsletter is June 1st** \*\*\*\*\*

Board of Directors 2009: Lloyd Lowery, Chairman; Bill Simpson, Vice-Chairman; Mike Baker/Denise Jones, Recording Secretaries; Cindi Young, Treasurer; Yvonne Gehrke; Janet Lacefield; and John Eberhard.

Editor: Deb Smith (421-6099 or 467-5608 for suggestions or submissions); Copy Editor: Sally Mollenkopf; Consulting Editor: Carol Eberhard; Contributing Editors: John Eberhard and Marjorie Rock; Website-Webmaster: Bill Simpson.