



Twin Lakes Playhouse

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

www.twinlakesplayhouse.org

STUDENTS ROCK!

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To encourage students in our community to get involved with the playhouse, the Education/Outreach Program has some upcoming events scheduled for the 2009 season. The first is an acting workshop on June 27 and 28. The acting workshop will follow the curriculum used in the workshop we presented at Baxter County Library for the last two years. This workshop has been extremely successful and some of the students who participated are anxious to do more at the playhouse. So...we will also be offering a young person's play, *Big Bad*, by Alec Strum. Rehearsals for the play will start on June 29 and run until matinee performances on July 17 and 18. Students from the workshop will be cast in the roles. If we have enough students, we will also offer those not cast in the play the opportunity to work backstage, on set design, costumes, ushering, or any other business for the show.

Not only are we encouraging participation on this project, but we've been in contact with Sandi Melton, Instructor of Composition, Communication, and Literature at ASUMH. When looking for someone to fill one of the roles in *Butterflies Are Free*, Shirley Spitzer contacted Sandi to ask if one of her students might be interested. Sandi graciously responded with a name and email address and Bill McElrath immediately contacted Brandon Myers and cast him in the play! Shirley invited Sandi's students to attend the current play's performance on membership/family night. She received another email from Sandi:

"I have so many students interested in doing some acting. No one is teaching acting at present. I am teaching 3 sections of Theatre Survey...so that is 60 students. I am going to encourage all of them to come and see the play. I would also like you to keep me up to date on auditions and business meetings. I am going to encourage all of my students to try to do something with the playhouse. One of my assignments is to visit the TLP web site and write a paper about what needs the playhouse meets for this community. They have all been very interesting."



Acting Workshop at Baxter County Library, June 2008

I invite anyone who is interested, in any capacity, to bring theatre arts to these students and all the hundreds more in our area to contact me. The Education/Outreach Program is looking for committee members who want to share their time and/or expertise in the performing arts. It is a great way to make a difference in a child's /young adult's life. Community Theatre is for the community- no matter what age.



Director's Notes

By W.W. McElrath



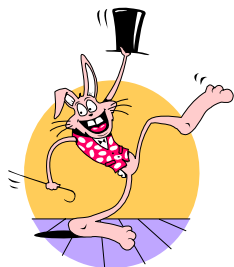
When the theater set the schedule for 2008 they put "Butterflies Are Free" on the bill. Unfortunately, they did not have a director for it at that time. At the membership meeting they asked if anyone would like to direct it. Since I did a set design and a lighting design for it at The Reno Little Theater in Reno, NV, I was not hesitant in volunteering to do it. As with so many plays at our theater I had a hard time filling the cast. As with most of the plays I have directed here I was able to cast the show by pulling in new members from the street. I have a good cast of people who have worked very hard to produce a show that I feel will be entertaining. Ryan Kelley is playing Don Baker, Rose Mary Sullivan is his mother (Mrs. Florence Baker), Rose Chism is Jill Tanner, and newcomer Brandon Myers is Ralph Austin. I hope everyone that sees the show will appreciate the hard work of all the cast and crew.

I also need to mention the hard work by the others involved in the show. Bill Simpson has done an outstanding job as my Assistant Director; Barbara Vosecek has done a great job as prompter, curtain puller and stage manager. Newcomer Deidre Harris is working lights and sound and newcomer Nicole Filkins is assisting backstage. Lloyd Lowery has been an exceptional help as my Producer and also with set construction. Shirley Spitzer, as always, has been invaluable in gathering props and doing the program. I would also like to thank everyone who came out to help with the dutchmaning and painting of the set.

Setting the Stage

By John Eberhard

What is next?



One of the first steps in achieving success is formulating goals. What are the goals for TLP?

I think that in formulating goals, we need to look at where we are and where we came from. The group has

been in existence for 35 years. It has gone from having no facility, rehearsing in members' homes, and performing at such exciting venues as the high school auditorium and Ramada Inn, to a very nice little theatre of our very own in quite a good location. We have gone from one or two shows a year to a regular slate of 4 or 5 shows per year. We have lights, costumes, props, microphones, sound equipment, etc.

We have recently upgraded our facility in utility and appearance.

In short, we have made huge strides in equipment, personal property, real property, and "brick and mortar" upgrades. So, where do we go from here? What's next?

It may be time to adjust our focus into more "human" avenues. Perhaps we should be finding ways to increase our active membership. This could be our next stage of growth. It is up to the membership to inform the board what direction for growth we should take. Let your representatives know your thoughts.

If you agree expanding the participatory membership should be the next step, share any ideas you may have with a Board member.....as well as what you are willing to do to breathe life into those ideas.

WE STILL COLLECT BEST CHOICE LABELS
Please return them to Patty Brown or a BOARD MEMBER...



Soliloquy

DIRECTING THEATRE

From an article by Debra Bruch

Continued from October Newsletter

Directors tend to follow an established process during rehearsals. Initially, the director usually has the actors read through the script. The read-through allows the director to discuss his or her vision, character motivation, and interpretation which will help the actors begin to see their characters in terms of a unified understanding. The director then blocks the actors. Blocking are an actor's basic broad movements which serve as the physical foundation of the actor's performance. The director indicated movement such as entrances and exits and positions actors onstage. Often, this step takes preplanning. During this stage, interpretation begins to be worked out, for blocking is linked to a character's motivation to move or position.

The next step would be to work on detail, which helps an actor discover his or her character. Detail includes working out stage business, which is an actor's small-scale movement. For instance, making coffee, answering a phone, putting on shoes, or adjusting a tie are pieces of stage business. Hopefully, the actor will originate much of his or her own stage business.

Motivation and detail continue while time is spent devoted to lines. Interpretation of dialogue must be connected to motivation and detail. During this time, the director is also concerned with pace and seeks a variation of tempo. If the overall pace is too fast, then the audience will not be able to understand what is going on, for they are being hit with too much information to process.

Also, eventually, the actors will need to be off script. Once off script and the lines are memorized will enough that the actor is not thinking "What is my next line?" then the rehearsals enter into a very rewarding stage of development. For actors cease to read their part and truly make it living. They also discover new avenues of interpretation once off script.

Late in the rehearsal process, the director often has the actors run through the production. A run-through gives the actors a sense of continuity from one scene to the next. At this stage, the director usually does not stop the actors but takes notes to give after the scene is finished.

Nearly all elements of the production- actors, scenery, lights, sound- come together at the technical rehearsal. The stage manager, prop crew, running crew, light and sound board operators all rehearse their various parts to play. Hopefully, light and sound cues will be set before the first technical rehearsal begins. A dress rehearsal is a technical rehearsal with costumes and makeup. At this time, the director must give over the production to the actors and technicians. The final dress rehearsal should be the same as a performance.

Nobody is more useless on opening night performance than the director. The director's job is over at this time and is often lost and feeling alone. The best the director can do is to wish people well, sit, watch the performance, know every flaw during that performance, and sweat it out.

That's Entertainment



We had such a treat at the October Membership Meeting. Two young singers graced our stage, Olivia Wolfe and Hannah Gregg.

Olivia Wolfe has been on the TLP stage before in *Musings from the Heartland* in 2006. She attended the Education/Outreach Teen Acting Workshop held at the Baxter County Library this last summer and the 2008 Director's Workshop at the playhouse. Olivia sang "Um Giorno Per Noi", a composition from the 1965 film of *Romeo and Juliet* by Nino Rota. The lyrics were translated into Italian for Josh Groban. She will be singing this song at the Arkansas Home School Talent Competition in Searcy in November.

Hannah Gregg is a student at ASU. She took first place in the Arkansas Home School Talent Competition last year. She sang "For Always," a song from the movie *Artificial Intelligence* made popular by Josh Groban.

Both Olivia and Hannah also sang "Pie Jesu" by Andrew Lloyd Webber. I know I can speak for the other members who attended this performance. We were in awe of such remarkable talent from our young people and wish them the best in all they do in the future. We also hope they return for other performances at the playhouse.

MEETINGS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, BOARD MEETING AT 6:00 P.M.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.

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

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

Twin Lakes Playhouse Members' Meeting October 20, 2008

Came to order @ 1900

- Welcome to Guests and New Members
- Minutes accepted as printed in Newsletter
- Treasurer's Report Accepted Subject to Audit
- Concrete Slab in front of Playhouse to be finished next year- Lloyd Lowery
- Next Benefit will be for the Food Basket-Shirley Spitzer
- Election will be next meeting and we have 6 nominees

NEW BUSINESS

- The plays for 2009 and the dates of performance

Barnaby	2/27-3/15/09
Let Him Sleep	5/1 -5/17/09
Dial "M"	9/4 -9/20/09
Steel Mag.	11/6-11/22/09
- Big Bad will be the Summer Kids Play for two days in July
- Butterflies cast is introduced and will be staged 11/7-11/23/09
- Adjourned @1917

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

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR: We're finally winding down the 2008 year. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the current board members for their time and effort this year. I know how difficult it can be to serve the membership- we all have opinions and ideas and sometimes they aren't the right fit for the playhouse's growth or in the best interest of the membership. Having said that, I think it is a privilege to serve and our board did an outstanding job of it this year. They encouraged participation, creativity, and helped guide us through some rough spots here and there. I know next year's board will follow suit. We will be voting for our new board members at our November meeting on the 17th so if you possibly can, please try to make the meeting and cast your vote. It counts!

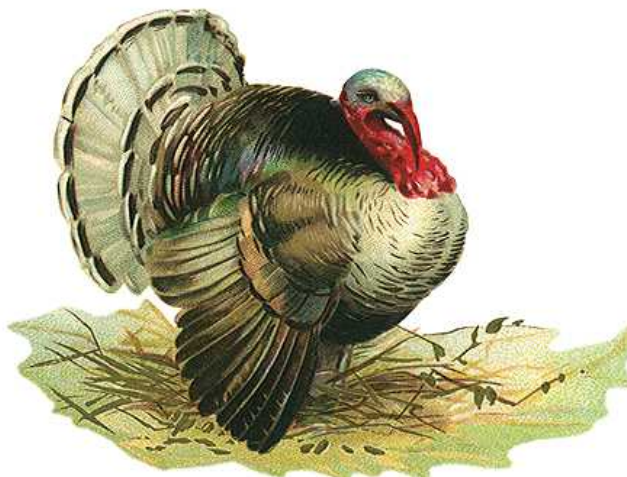
Deb Smith

If you would like to contribute an editorial or submit a picture, please let me know. Please contact me by phone at 870-421-6099 (cell), 870-467-5608 (home), or by e-mail at ozarktootsie@centurytel.net.

***** **Deadline for December 2008 Newsletter is December 1st** *****

Board of Directors 2008: Anne Johnson-Loftis, Chairman; Shirley Spitzer, Vice-Chairman; Jim Smith, Recording Secretary; Lloyd Lowery, Treasurer; Donna Griffiths; Larry Gehrke; Denise Jones and Bill Simpson.

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



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**