

CURTAIN CALL

2010-11 Season, Winter Issue

Editors: Bill Cook, Heidi Ackerson

ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE SETS NEW LT RECORDS

Photo courtesy of SandiCarroll.net



Left to Right: Patti Earl as Louise Seger and Laretta Lawrence as Patsy Cline

If you didn't find something memorable to do during the Thanksgiving Holiday this year, then it's not the fault of anyone at the Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach. Patsy Cline and her biggest fan belted out the hits to absolutely sold-out crowds. Every show saw all the seats occupied — every one! And this was particularly amazing because the *Always... Patsy Cline* performances ran over the Thanksgiving Holiday when everyone was supposed to be busy buying turkey, fixing turkey and eating turkey. Instead patrons were skipping meals to watch and listen to this musical tribute to the "most popular and prolific songstress ever."

Laretta Lawrence and **Patti Earl** really became Patsy and Louise. The fun and frolic never ended as they gave their audiences two full hours filled with 26 of Patsy Cline's hits. Nobody ever "Had Leavin' On Their Mind" as these two talented performers drove everyone "Crazy" making "Just A Closer Walk" so real and entertaining. And, as if that wasn't enough, Musical Director **Rick Martorano** (or as his parchment reads "Dr. Richard Martorano, Phd) appeared on stage with them as their accompanist and band leader.

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CURTAIN CALL is mailed to Members of the Theatre and Season Ticket Holders.

I want to take a moment to wish the Theatre members and patrons a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Looking back on the first half of our fiscal year, we've had several exciting things that have occurred. The children who attended our WonderLand Summer Camp and our Fall After-school Children's Program had a ball; our summer show was a huge success and we initiated a new Director; our September season opener broke all box office records for that time of year; our October show ended with one very happy winner of a bottle of wine and two passes to a future show for this season - Mr. Brown Avery was the person that was selected (at random) for guessing the correct character in our "whodunit" show; and, people still have those Patsy Cline tunes going on in their heads after seeing our Holiday show. Along with all that, we were actively involved with some community events including Christmas on Canal Street and the New Smyrna Beach Christmas Parade. I certainly hope you didn't miss any of the action.

There will be a lot happening at the Little Theatre in the second half of our fiscal year as well. We are gearing up again for our WonderLand After-school Children's Program which will begin on January 12, 2011, and then our Spring Break Camp for the kids will be held in March. We still have four plays to finish out our season: *Funny Money* opening January 14, 2011; and a musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* following that; then two wonderful shows to finish the year, *Foxfire* in April and *Blithe Spirit* will be closing our season in May. So there is plenty to look forward to.

So, what are your plans for the beginning of the year 2011? There are many areas where we could always use a few more people to volunteer their time. If you aren't sure what you could do, I suggest you attend a General Membership meeting which is held the first Tuesday of every month thru May. Our volunteers are a vital part of our organization and we have a wonderful core group of people who do so much for the Theatre, but we could still use your help. By working together, there is no limit to what we can achieve! We look forward to seeing you!

'PATSY' - Continued from page one

If you've spent any time around here, you know that Rick is a well-known performer in Central Florida, vocally as well as instrumentally on the piano. He is the leader of the Royal Palm Jazz Band, the founding director of the Rick Martorano Singers and Concert Jazz Band, and has worked with some big names in the entertainment industry like the Lettermen, George Gobel, Donald O'Connor, the June Taylor Dancers, Anita Bryant, Cab Calloway and Kay Ballard, just to mention a few. He's not ancient, but he goes back far enough to have worked with Mickey Rooney and Jim Backus (Mr. Magoo) as a soloist and accompanist.

Director Ted Pack was instrumental in bringing the Cline show to the Little Theatre and in getting Dr. Martorano as the Musical Director for the show. Ted, as we all know, is a native Kentuckian, and has been a fan of Patsy Cline and her music since way back when.

Ted also gives credit to his Stage Manager, **Diane Parent**, who kept everyone on their toes and true to their blocking, and to the rest of his crew: Ass't Stage Manager **Shelly Wawrzonek**, Set Construction **Noël Bickford**, **Ed Winokur**, Costumes **Beverly Zaumeyer**, Props **Agnes Briggs**, Light Operator **Noël Bickford** and Sound Operator **Gary Earl**. Ted also designed the set and the lights for the show.

A great time was had by all: cast, crew and audiences. It was a high water mark of success of a show that will be remembered for a long time.

ABOUT 2010-2011 MEMBERS OF RECORD

What follows is a list of members in good standing for the 2010-11 Season as of the date of the printing of this newsletter. According to Little Theatre By-Laws, persons who are members in good standing by the start of business at the January Membership Meeting are eligible to vote in the annual election of new board members which will occur in our annual meeting in May. If your name is not on this list and you want to be eligible to vote in the annual meeting, please contact our Membership Chair, Wynne Cook, either by calling the Box Office or by contacting her directly by e-mail at WynneCook@BillCook.net. Membership dues are \$10.00 per year. You must become a member prior to the start of the Membership Meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2011. Meetings start promptly at 7 p.m.

Here is our list of members: Eric Abramowitz, Rebecca Abramowitz, Heidi Ackerson, Ida Anderson, Bob Armbrust, Karen Beiersdorf, Irm Belles, Georgia Benjamin, Noel Bickford, Justine Blanchette, Dan Blazi, Kendra Blazi, Gary Bolinsky, Sharon Borgerson, Charlotte Brewer, Agnes Briggs, Tina Brown, Donald Campbell, Anna Mae Cardone, Steve Choma, Carol Choma, Nancy Clementz, Carol Cole, Bill Cook, Wynne Cook, Kylie Coolbeth, Tylyn Coolbeth, Connie Cox, Terry Cox, Kathy Cridland, Pat Curry, Greg Curry, Mike Czeczot, Simon Davies, Jennifer Davies, Irene DeDomenico, Susan DeMarco, Camille Dickinson, Rose Dingas, Kathy Doherty, Gary Earl, Patti Earl, John East, Joan Eldon, Deborah Fontaine, Peggy Foran, Mike Funaro, Robin Gill, Danielle Grau, Toni Griffin, Ken Guilbeault, Lois Reed Hagemaiier, Janie Hale, Priscilla Hall, John Hardebeck, Mary Jo Hardebeck, Robert Hart, Veronica Hart, Trudy Havu, Kenneth Hollenbeck, Peggy Hollenbeck, Dottie Hughes, Rose Iovino, Merlene Jacobs, Denise Jameson, David Jenkins, Karin Jenkins, Dee Jones, Alisha Joseph, Jeff Jowers, Pat Justin, Marjory Keenan, Dolores Kemp, Robert Kemp, Pete Ketterer, Estie Keyes, Margie Kluttz, Marguerite Kowalski, Helen Kramer, Donna Kyrzcz, Tom Kyrzcz, Ursula Lang, Laurie Lawrence, Marc Levy, Louise Lilly, Robert Lilly, Dr. Dale Lilyfors, Hal Linn, Nancy Linn, John M. Long, Ed Love, David Lowe, Leigh Anne Manter, Paul Manter, Sara Marsh, Jacqueline Mayberry, Nancy McCormick, Malissa McDonald, Linda McGrath, Jack McGrath, Patricia McVey, Arlene Mendenhall, Nancy Monaco, Jean Morano, Nancy Murphy, Patricia Pack, Ted Pack, Carol Paden, Nancy Palmer, Diane Parent, Jane Patterson, Carlton Peters, Rick Peterson, Angelina Petrozza, Will Pierce, Mark Plinska, Karen Poulsen, Keith Poulsen, Agnes Quinn, Patrick Quinn, Mary Rapp, Bill Roehrborn, Carolena Saccone, Rita Saglibene, Mary Salgado, Diane Santo, Sarah Savich, Beatrice Scalise, Lori Stamatis, Ruth Stammen, John Stenko, Norman Stockwell, Pauline Stockwell, Ron Stuckey, Susan Stuckey, Bernice Sturak, Melanie Swadner, Jim Taylor, Jane Taylor, Melinda Tedeschi, Christine Thompson, Larrie Tiffany, Diane Tomaski, Lois Troxell, Ober Tyus, Shelly Wawrzonek, Susi Wilde, Harriet Winokur, Ed Winokur, Bev Zaumeyer and Debbi Zill.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our patrons in the community and posterity, we take this opportunity to thank each and everyone on our list of active volunteer members for their hard work and dedication, which, many have said, many times, makes us one of the most successful community theatres in Central Florida. We wish everyone the best during the holidays and the coming New Year.

— coming soon —

'FUNNY MONEY'

2011 Show dates are Jan. 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, & 23

A BRITISH FARCE BY RAY COONEY

Directed by John Stenko

tickets are \$14 adults, \$13 seniors and \$7 students under 18 years of age

WonderLand Theatre

Our after school programs consist of one-hour classes on six consecutive Wednesdays. Classes for young children build on their already active imaginations while guiding them toward an understanding of what it takes to act in a play. This process has three steps: the use of body, voice and imagination; the development of characters; and the understanding of how stories go together.

Above all, WonderLand classes are fun! So sign up your young aspiring actor today! Scholarships are available for students seeking financial assistance. Contact the Little Theatre office at 386-423-1246 for applications and additional information on all our WonderLand Theatre programs. At www.WonderLandTheatre.org, there's an application which you can print, fill out and mail or bring it into the Little Theatre with your tuition payment.

Tuition for all after school classes this year is \$65 per student. All supplies and costume material are included. Classes are conducted at the Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach located across from Publix on the Beachside.

PRIMARY PLAYERS

(Ages 4-6)

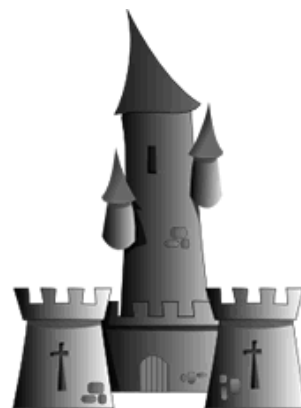
Winter 2011 Session - Wednesdays Only - for 6 weeks

January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, & , 16 — 2:30 p. m. - 3:30 p.m.

Tuition: \$65

Once Upon A Time

Exploring stories that begin with Once Upon A Time, the content of this drama class will be tailored to accommodate the youngest drama student. Using movement, exercises and fun activities, they will act out stories to create a non-scripted performance for friends and family on the last day.



BEGINNING ACTING

(Ages 7-9)

Winter 2011 Session - Wednesdays Only - for 6 weeks

January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, & , 16 — 3:45 p. m. - 4:45 p.m.

Tuition: \$65

Fractured Fairy Tales

Students will explore scenes and monologues with a fairy tale theme, including tales with a changed or "twisted" ending. The final class will be an open showcase for parents to share our fractured fairy tales!

INTERMEDIATE ACTING

(Ages 10-12)

Winter 2011 Session - Wednesdays Only - for 6 weeks

January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, & , 16 — 5 - 6 p.m.

Tuition: \$65

Scenes from Classic Tales

Students in this class will work on scenes from classic children's theater plays like:

Alice in Wonderland, Wizard of Oz, Charlotte's Web, Little Women, James & the Giant Peach, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and Stuart Little.



CASTING CALLS FOR A MUSICAL AND A DRAMA

'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum'

Based on a Book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Genre: Musical

Auditions: Jan. 16 & 17

Performances: Feb. 25, 26, 27 and March 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 & 13

Director: John Stenko

Roles: 18 (singing parts)

Synopsis: Based on the plays of Plautus "Tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight!" Broadway's greatest farce is light, fast-paced, witty, irreverent and one of the funniest musicals ever written, the perfect escape from life's troubles. "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum" takes comedy back to its roots, combining situations from time-tested, 2000 year-old comedies of Roman playwright Plautus with the infectious energy of classic vaudeville. The result is a non-stop laugh fest in which a crafty slave (Pseudolus) struggles to win the hand of a beautiful but slow-witted courtesan (Philia) for his young master (Hero), in exchange for freedom. Songs include "Comedy Tonight," "Lovely," and many more! A Tony award winner!

'Foxfire'

By Susan Cooper and Hume Cronyn

Music by Jonathan Holtzman, Lyrics by Susan Cooper and Hume Cronyn

Genre: Drama with music

Auditions: March 6 & 7

Performances: April 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 & 17

Director: Ted Pack

Setting: The mountain cabin of Annie Nations, Rabun County, Georgia

Synopsis: Annie Nations, an indomitable Appalachian widow of 79, lives on her mountain farm with the acerbic ghost of her husband, Hector. Her tranquility is threatened by a brash real estate developer who wants to turn her land into a vacation resort and by concern over her son, Dillard, a country singer who has come home with two stranded children because his wife has run away. Annie's battle to decide her future takes her through some funny, touching and magical flashbacks to her life with Hector. Dillard, still singing the music which used to infuriate his father, has an exuberant scene in which the audience becomes his public at a fairground concert. Can Dillard woo his mother away from the recalcitrant ghost? Will development swallow up the family farm? Only Annie can decide. Played on Broadway by Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy, this play offers a staunchly affirmative tribute to mountain folk.

Roles: 4 Men, 2 Women (Ages 30's - 70's)

Annie Nations: An elderly mountain woman

Hector Nations: The ghost of her deceased husband, a mountain farmer

Prince Carpenter: Amiable, successful, hard working real estate an with a sense of humor

Holly Burrell: Young, attractive and slightly off beat, a mixture of eagerness and vulnerability

Dillard Nations: Annie's son, gentle, troubled man, a performer

Doctor: Elderly, a weary, kindly man, confident, professional, unflappable

Auditions at the Little Theatre are open to the public, and stage experience is not necessary. Readings will be from the script and a copy is available at the reference desk at the New Smyrna Beach library. For additional information, contact the LT office at 386-423-1246 or e-mail info@NsbPlayers.org.

Estie Keyes caught doing 90 on Hwy A1A

There were as many in attendance at the party as she has years on the planet. Amid the balloons and live musical entertainment, Estie Keyes never ran out of dancing partners or friends who wanted to take the microphone to say something nice about her.

On her 90th birthday, Friday December 10, friends and family honored Estie with a surprise party catered by *Pauline* at the New Smyrna Beach Garden Club. Hors d'oeuvres



Photo by Mark Chase

Left to right: Bill, Estie and Sis

and a buffet dinner accompanied by some favorites in the liquid refreshment department started off at 6 p.m. The party was still going strong three hours later. Nobody seemed to want it to end.

Bill Cook presented Estie with a Little Theatre memento from the 20 LT members in attendance (and some who couldn't make it). She was obviously moved as she opened the little jewelry box wrapped in birthday ribbons and paper. It wasn't jewelry, though. It was one of those shiny metal LT Seat Sponsorship plates, engraved with the words *Friends of Estie Keyes*. Bill spoke about the dedication and commitment that

Estie has given to her volunteer members at the LT.

"... Above all, Estie is a *nurturer*. It's probably the trait that her friends most admire in her. All the synonyms apply here. She *cares for*. She *fosters*. She *cultivates*. She *develops*. She *looks after*. And all of this comes at us in a dynamo of happiness that sets an example, and gives anyone who knows her, all of us who call ourselves Estie's friends, big bundles of happiness to look forward to in each of our own daily routines."

Estie is a resident of The Pelican, a condo complex on A1A in New Smyrna Beach. Estie will tell you that The Pelican is "where it's happening." Key to the success of the surprise party was Estie's good friend and Pelican neighbor, Sis Strade. Sis and her Pelican committee coordinated all aspects of the party including the catering, the entertainment, the hiring of the hall and the invitations to friends and family. What a bash!

LITTLE THEATRE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

- Not going to be naughty — going to be nice.
- Remember to get tickets to *Funny Money* — show opens on January 14, 2011.
- Enroll nieces, nephews, grandsons, granddaughters in WonderLand afterschool classes.
- Going to attend January Membership Meeting — Tuesday, January 4, 2011.
- Going to volunteer again in the Box Office or usher or crew for a show.
- Will read the *Curtain Call* from cover to cover again — two or three times

Let's Be Friends!

The Little Theatre is now on FACEBOOK at Little Theatre-NSB.

Buttons, Buttons, She's Got The Buttons

by BILL COOK

originally published in Life Style Magazine, October 1, 2010

You can look it up. Buttons go all the way back to the Bronze Age. That's roughly 3,000 years ago. But there's a Button right here in Volusia County that traces her origin back to the late 1930s. Her name is Beverly Zaumeyer - she is a button collector and she's an actress and an LT Volunteer.

Bev was born Beverly Button. She changed her name at the altar many years ago when she married Rodger Zaumeyer, but that didn't stop her from being a Button or from speaking on behalf of them.

Button started collecting when she was ten years old. It was an activity that she, as an only daughter, shared with her mother. Today she's a button expert and you'll see her on the lecture circuit giving talks about this wonderful little device and its many variations that have survived over the centuries. It has endured through civilizations at war, changing customs and styles and, of late, challenges by that most persistent of gadgets, the common zipper.

She has a very large and unique collection that has topped over 1,800 during the years since she and her mom began building their assortment. Some are made of China and they are exquisite. Buttons that she calls "smoked pearl" are made from a shell found in the South Pacific. There's a collection of military buttons that she proudly displays. Buttons from the U.S. Army from World War I and II, include one from the Women's Army Corps (WAC).

She recently added a Pearly shirt to her collection that she received as a gift after one of her lectures. It is covered with hundreds of buttons of different sizes and shapes sewn in designs and patterns that are characteristic of a group in London called the Pearlies. Bev's excitement comes through as she tells the story about the how the Pearly influence started in the mid 1800s with button decorations on clothing of that period.

Bev is a member of the Central Florida Button Collectors. Club members develop an expertise on particular button topics. They meet regularly in DeLand. Each January she attends a three-day button show in Daytona Beach where collectors compete after submitting entries according to competition guidelines.

As collectibles, Bev says that buttons can be valuable. They are traded just like baseball cards and coins. What causes one button to be worth \$75 and another \$1,000 is the intricacy of the design? Some have detail that makes them more desirable to collectors. One of her brass buttons, for example, has a highly detailed illustration of two children playing with a doll. The buying, selling and trading at shows and regular club meetings always makes for some great excitement for button collectors.

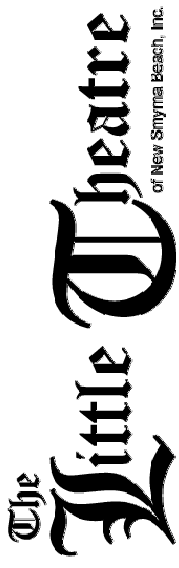
Her advice to someone wanting to get started in collecting is to pick a particular area that interests them - maybe a period in history, or perhaps a segment of society that wears uniforms. The collection will grow and eventually branch into other areas over years of collecting. Bev makes herself available to schools and organizations on topics that include tips on starting a collection. You can contact her at BevieButton@cfl.rr.com.

Bev Zaumeyer was born and lived in Des Plaines, Illinois until she married Rodger. They have moved around a lot since, including living aboard a sailboat in and around the Bahamas. But always her button collection has remained intact, either with her or somewhere safe in storage. She says she has recently and finally gotten Rodger to stop rolling his eyes whenever she brings out her buttons. "I just told him, Rodger, you've got to respect my buttons - this is a part of me. After all, you did marry me."

Smyrnans can usually find Bill Cook wandering about town looking for an interesting story. Maybe yours will be his next tale. You can write to him at PO Box 1029, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170 or send e-mail to BillCook@BillCook.net.



**For Ticket Information, please call the Little Theatre Box Office
386-423-1246 or visit online at www.NsbPlayers.org**



P.O. Box 114
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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