

# CURTAIN CALL

2009-10 Season, Spring Issue

Editor: Bill Cook



**Left to right: David Lowe, Aaron Collins, Keith Poulsen  
in a scene from *KISS ME KATE***

It was the show of shows for the 2009-10 season with music by Cole Porter and featuring all the very, very best voices that Artistic Director **John Stenko** and Musical Director **Lizzie Kriger** could cast in the production. Featured in the lineup as principal actors were **Brian Fitzgibbons, Paige Elizabeth Shouse, Pattie Earl, Aaron Collins, Ken Guilbeault, Rob Hebel, David Lowe, Keith Poulsen, Robert John Roam, Meta Scholan, Larrie Tiffany,** and **Bill Walker**. Voices in the chorus included **Ida Anderson, Sondra Avant, Liz Davis, Danielle Amelia Farmer, Karra Mango, Rick Peterson, Amanda Ryals** and **Sarah Snyder**. Stage Manager for *Kate* was **Dr. Dale Lilyfors**; Choreographer **Nadine Soldivieri**; Ass't Stage Managers, **Agnes Briggs** and **Carol Choma**; Set Construction was by **John Stenko** and **Larrie Tiffany**; Tech Direction by **John Stenko**; Lights and Sound Booth by **Noel Bickford**; Set painting by **Agnes Briggs, Bev Zaumeyer, Chris Saunders, Trudy Havu** and **Heidi Ackerson**; Set Decoration by **Agnes Briggs, Bev Zaumeyer,**

— continued KATE page 3 —

**T**his is the last newsletter of the 2009-2010 season and I want you to know that I thoroughly enjoyed serving as your President this year and look forward to the 2010-2011 season. The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach is one of the most outstanding community theatres in this area due to volunteers and members like you who strive to be successful and who don't hesitate to donate your valuable time. I couldn't be more proud to be associated with a "bunch" like you.

Although our season is officially over, and there are no membership meetings during the summer, the Theatre does not go "dark". We still have many opportunities for you at the Theatre. Wonderland Children's Theatre begins in June and we could always use volunteers to help a few hours during the day (June 14 thru July 2), or in the evening during their performance (Thursday, June 24). In addition, we have a summer show, *Cash on Delivery*, (July 30 - Aug. 8) and that means ticket sales, flyer distribution, mailings, set building and set painting, ushers, props and costumes as well as actors and back stage help. Also, the box office is open Monday thru Friday 1 PM to 4 PM and this is the perfect time for you to learn what goes on at the "heart" of the Theatre. Just stop by and let us know what you would like to do and we will be sure to accommodate your wishes.

Lastly, I'd like to send a message to the 2009-2010 Board of Directors. Thank you! The job of President is a BIG one and it couldn't have been done without your help. Shelly, as Vice President you always had my back and would fill in whenever called upon; Hal, as Treasurer you were right on top of every penny we earned and paid out and made sure our books were always balanced; Karen, as Secretary you kept our minutes meticulously bringing us into the "modern age" by using the computer as your assistant ; Agnes, as Business Service chairperson, you were a major part at the focal point of the Theatre; Bill, as head of Publicity, you certainly kept our name out there for all to see; and, Ted, as House and Grounds chair, you were there whenever there was a need to keep our building in shape.

So, have a wonderful summer and don't be a stranger - stop by and say 'hi!' Better yet, keep volunteering at the Theatre so we can remain the best in the "business."

## **ANNUAL MEETING MARKS END OF SEASON 2009-10**

The May Annual Meeting took place on schedule at the Little Theatre with a record gathering of volunteers to elect a new Board of Directors for the coming season. Our by-laws specify that officers for the Board of Directors are actually elected by the board members themselves in a special meeting. That meeting was held by the newly elected board shortly after the membership meeting adjourned. Reelected to President was **Harriet Winokur**; to Vice-President was **Shelly Wawrzonek** and to Treasurer was **Hal Linn**. **Bill Cook** was elected Secretary and Members-At-Large will be **Karen Poulsen**, **Ted Pack** and **Bill Roehrborn** who is returning to the board after having spent a number of years off the board as a hard working volunteer. Roehrborn is a former LT President and a Life Member of the Little Theatre. Welcome back, Bill.

The Little Theatre's membership does not meet in the summer, and so the next meeting for LT Members will be the Tuesday after Labor Day, September 7 at 7 p.m. A schedule of Membership Meetings is on the website and also inside the glass showcase at the entrance to the theatre building.

While the membership does not meet during the summer, this is not true for the Board. Regular monthly Board Meetings will occur as usual on the last Tuesday of the month. The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 29 at 2 p.m. in the rehearsal hall. Board meetings are open to the public.

— KATE continued from Page One —

**Chris Saunders** and **John Stenko**; Costumes by **Rose Dingas** and **Ruth Stammen**; Props by **Peggy Foran**, Lobby Flowers **Tina Brown**. The show was well attended and sold out several of its performances, holding audiences spellbound with the glitz and glamour that is musical comedy at its best.

## "INCORRUPTIBLE" - A LAUGH-EVERY-MINUTE FARCE

It was to be the final funny show of the season — a stealth, season-ending, side splitter. And it lived up to everyone's high expectations — a cast of accomplished thespians and comedians who delivered their lines with punch and enthusiasm as playwright **Michael Hollinger** had intended. First came the monks, played by **John Stenko**, **Brian Fitzgibbons**, **Aaron Collins**, **David Lowe** and convert **Keith Poulsen**. These gentlemen have played together in productions on our stage before — the timing, delivery and shtick they performed was made even more entertaining by supporting veterans **Shelly Wawrzonek**, **Violet Stoll** and **Jonette DeMarsico** — an experienced actor but new to our stage.



As the story goes, we take a farcical romp to **Priseaux, France** about 1250 A.D. Who would ever think that something back then could be this funny. But, again, it was a stealth side splitter. It snuck up on you. The river flooded again last week. The chandler's shop has just burned to the ground. Nobody's heard of the wheelbarrow yet. And **Sainte Foy**, the patron of the local monastery, hasn't worked a miracle in 13 years. In other words, the Dark Ages still look pretty dark.

All eyes turn to the Pope, whose promised visit will surely encourage other pilgrims to make the trek and restore the abbey to its former glory. That is, until a rival church claims to possess the relics of **Sainte Foy** - and their bones are working miracles. All seems lost until the destitute monks take a lesson from a larcenous one-eyed minstrel who teaches them an outrageous new way to pay old debts.

The technical crew included Director **Jenny Sejansky**; Director's Assistant **Karen Poulsen**; Stage Manager **Hal Linn**; Ass't Stage Manager **Carol Choma**; Tech Director **John Stenko**; Set Construction by **Steven Smith**, **Larrie Tiffany**, **John Stenko**; set painting by

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# WONDERLAND SUMMER CAMPS

WHERE YOUNG THESPIANS LEARN TO PERFORM  
IN A LIVE STAGE PRODUCTION OF THEIR OWN

## Summer Camp I:

For ages 7 - 12 yrs. old — Tuition: \$235.00;

Class Schedule: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., M-F, June 14-25

Special Note: Students need to bring their own lunch

*'Gooney Bird Greene and Her True Life Adventures'* is a comedy by Kent R. Brown based on the book *Gooney Bird Greene* by Lois Lowry. The summer has come to a crashing halt in the little town of Watertower. The kids don't want to be back in school; they are listless and bored. Suddenly, the classroom door bursts open and there, wearing pajamas and cowboy boots, stands red-headed *Gooney Bird Greene!*

"Hi! My name is *Gooney Bird Greene* - that's like the color with a silent 'e' on the end and I like to be smack in the middle of everything!"

The class is never the same again. *Gooney Bird* speaks with confidence and dresses in outrageous outfits including Capri pants, blue knee socks, high-topped basketball sneakers, and elbow-length black gloves. But most wondrous of all, she casts herself as the hero in the most improbable, outlandish stories: how she arrived from China on a flying carpet, how she got a lovely pair of diamond earrings at the local palace, how she directed a symphony orchestra while driving through the center of town, and how her beloved cat, *Catman*, was consumed by a cow!

Are these stories really true? Of course they are because, as *Gooney Bird* proudly proclaims, she only tells "absolutely true stories!" In blending funny and memorable characters with colorful details and her distinctive flair for suspense, *Gooney Bird* awakens the students' dormant imaginations. They come to realize their lives are as unique as *Gooney Bird's* and that they, too, can cast themselves as the heroes in their own true tales of discovery and adventure. A showcase performance for family and friends will be presented.



## Summer Camp II:

For ages 4 - 6 yrs. old — Tuition: \$80.00

Class Schedule: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM; M-F - June 28 - July 2

Special Note: Snack will be provided

*'Bears and More Bears, or Bears and Teddy Bears'*



Through the use of books and stories about bears, these young students will explore drama through creative games, role playing, movement, songs and poetry. At the end of the camp, a short "show and tell" program will be presented to parents and friends.

## INCORRUPTIBLE—continued from Page 3

**John Stenko, Heidi Ackerson, Bev Zaumeyer;** Set Decoration **John Stenko;** Costumes by **Rose Dingas** and **Ruth Stammen;** props by **Steven Smith, Carol Choma;** Lights & Sound **Ted Pack.** The Lobby flower arrangement was furnished by *The Pink Flamingo Florists* under the able assistance of **Tina Brown.**

*Incorruptible* is a tough act to follow, but the 2010-11 Season line-up promises to be able and ready to do exactly that, and with flair to spare. Our new season of shows is included in the new season brochure that is being mailed this month. If you haven't yet received yours, please contact the Box Office at 386-423-1246 and ask for one.

### CASTING CALL: Auditions June 20 & 21, 2010

**Genre:** A Farce by Michael Cooney

**Auditions:** June 20 & 21

**Performances:** July 30, 31 & August 1, 6, 7, & 8

**Director:** Patti Earl

**Setting:** The action takes place in the living room of Eric and Linda Swan, 344 Chilton Road, just off the Mile End Road in East London

This fast paced farce concerns a con artist (Eric) who lost his job two years ago, is afraid to tell his wife, and has been defrauding the welfare authorities with every possible trick and collecting thousands in welfare payments. One day Jenkins (a government employee) comes by to check up on how all these benefits can be paid to the same address. Then other government employees show up. Eric creates stories for his wife, the government workers and enlists help from his upstairs lodger, Norman, and his Uncle George to participate in his deceptions. There is cross dressing, a dead body, and mistaken identities. Nabbed in the end, Eric confesses and instead of jail time gets an offer from the government to work for them because he knows all the tricks!

#### **Characters (6M, 4W - ages 20's - 60's)**

*Eric Swan:* Unemployed con artist, defrauding the welfare system

*Linda Swan:* Eric's unsuspecting wife, thinks he works for Electricity Company

*Norman McDonald:* Eric's upstairs lodger and friend, shoe salesman, marrying Brenda in three days

*Mr. George Jenkins:* Social Security Dept. employee, not as intelligent as he thinks

*Uncle George:* Eric's uncle and co-conspirator in welfare scam, works as a hospital porter

*Sally Chessington:* A welfare worker

*Doctor Chapman:* Inexperienced marriage guidance counselor

*Mr. Forbright:* Undertaker

*Ms. Cowper:* Chief Inspector, Department of Social Security, Jenkins' boss

*Brenda Dixon:* Norman's fiancé, girl next door type

### Live Theatre Wisdom

"I believe that in a great city, or even in a small city or a village, a great theater is the outward and visible sign of an inward and probable culture."

— Sir Laurence Olivier —

## LT's Dixie Chicks Make It Down Home With Audiences

This is a show about the camaraderie of five women, all of whom grew up in the south, and their unending devotion to each other through thick and through thin - through all the years from competing on the swim team together in their early years to becoming mature adults. Eventually the wrinkles on the faces show up somewhere in Act II, but the friendships and the commitment to each other never wavers. The Director of *Dixie Swim Club*, **Jane Taylor**, brought this show to the stage, focusing her talent on creating an ensemble of veteran actors. **Karen Poulsen, Ida Anderson, Laurie Lawrence, Joey Reader** and **Patti Earl** worked the lines and kept the audience in stitches with their realistic portrayal of these five female stalwarts of life in the South.

*Dixie Swim Club* was one of those shows that was a hit with audiences right from the beginning and word of mouth spread quickly in the neighborhoods and towns from which patrons came to see the show. As evidence of this, nearly 35 % of the show's tickets sold after opening night. There were a lot of walk-ins and seats sold quickly,



Cast photo, Left to right on the couch in the photo: Karen Poulsen, Lauretta Lawrence, Ida Anderson and Joey Reader. Seated in front, Patti Earl.

Jane assembled a hardworking staff to make this show happen. Among the technical heavyweights backstage were Stage Manager **Hal Linn**; Technical Director **John Stenko**; Set Construction **John Stenko** and **Larrie Tiffany**; Set Painting **John Stenko, Nancy Randolph, Bev Zaumeyer**, and **Agnes Briggs**. Costumes were by **Rose Dingas**. Props were handled by **Bob Armbrust** and **Peggy Foran**. The crew working on the set was **Anna Mae Cardone, Peggy Hollenbeck, Sara Marsh, Jane Peterson**, and **Bev Zaumeyer**. Lights and Sound were by **Debbi Zill** and **Ted Pack**. A lobby floral arrangement was provided by **New Smyrna Beach Florists** under the capable assistance of **Tina Brown**.

Another Little Theatre success! Our thanks to everyone in the cast and crew and the volunteers behind the scenes. Bravo!

# the Little Theatre's NEW Season

Note: The plays included in the season package are numbered shows 1 through 6.

## Summer 2010:

*Cash on Delivery!*, farce by Michael Cooney (6M, 4W)

Auditions: June 20 & 21

Performances: July 30, 31 & August 1, 6, 7, & 8 (6 performances)

Director: Patti Earl

## Show# 1: Season Opener:

*Sex Please, We're Sixty*, farce by Michael & Susan Parker (2M, 4W)

Auditions: August 1 & 2

Performances: Sept. 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18 & 19 (7 performances)

Director: Harriet Winokur

## Show #2:

*I Bet Your Life*, (mystery/comedy by Fred Carmichael (4M, 5W)

Auditions: Sept. 12 & 13

Performances: Oct. 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30 & Oct. 31 (7 performances)

Director: Aaron Collins

## Holiday Classic: (Musical)

*Always, Patsy Cline*, Musical (2W)

Auditions: TBA

Performances: Nov. 19, 20, 26, 27, & 28 (6 performances)

Musical Director: Lizzie Brahm-Kruger

Artistic Director: Ted Pack

## Show #3:

*Funny Money* comedy by Ray Cooney (6M, 2W)

Auditions: Nov. 28 & 29

Performances: Jan. 14, 15 & 16, 20, 21, 22 & 23 (7 performances)

Director: John Stenko

## Show #4: (Musical)

*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (18 in cast)

Auditions: Jan. 16 & 17

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

Musical Director: Lizzie Brahm-Kruger

Artistic Director: John Stenko

## Show #5:

*Foxfire*, drama with songs about mountain folk, by Susan Cooper and Hume Cronyn (4M, 2W)

Auditions: March 6 & 7

Performances: April 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16 & 17 (7 performances)

Director: Ted Pack

## Show #6:

*Blithe Spirit*, comedy by Noel Coward (2M, 5W)

Auditions: April 10 & 11

Performances: May 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 & 29 (7 performances)

Director: Shelly Wawrzonek

Please contact the Box Office at 386-423-1246 to order tickets for individual shows or for season tickets. Orders for Season Tickets are now being taken.



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

## **2009-10 Season**

### **Board of Directors**

President Harriet Winokur  
Vice-President Shelly Wawrzonek  
Secretary Karen Poulsen  
Treasurer Hal Linn  
At Large Agnes Briggs  
At Large Ted Pack  
At Large Bill Cook

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