



## FEBRUARY-MARCH 2010

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Jim Hanushek

This issue of the newsletter focuses on two issues: specific volunteer opportunities and upcoming Showcase performances.

Yes, it's true that we have a couple part-time employees to add consistency to our program and operations, but it's really the volunteers who make the whole thing work. Volunteering at Lemon Bay Playhouse does two things: it enriches your life, giving you a feeling of personal satisfaction, and it enriches the lives of others as you help bring performance art to our

community. We can use volunteers in a wide variety of areas, but we have specific needs at the present time. Those are highlighted in this issue.

One of our part-time employees, Bob La Salle, has decided to take it a little easier for a while. Bob, though part-time, was pretty much working full-time on behalf of our theater. He's been invaluable in the development of high quality programs at Lemon Bay Playhouse. Fortunately, he has promised to continue to help us as a volunteer, especially with our sound and lighting as well as on- and back-stage. I want to take this opportunity to thank Bob officially for all he has done on behalf of the Playhouse. It's going to take two people now to replace him! I'm sure you'll meet our new Production Manager, Maggie Deitsch, and her husband, Randy, as they work in and around the theater.

We have some incredible Showcase performances scheduled for the next 5 weeks before our next play, *The Mousetrap*, opens. There's lots of music, tending toward the popular swing and jazz, both instrumental and vocal. Some really nice music! For those of you who saw and enjoyed the performances of Rita Corn and Ron Bupp, I hope you have your tickets to *Love Letters*, a special play reading just in time for Valentine's Day. Check out the descriptions in this newsletter, and get your tickets soon, either at the box office or on our website, [lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://lemonbayplayhouse.com).

Do you have a Facebook account on the internet? If so, you can become a fan of Lemon Bay Playhouse. I post information on that site with some frequency. You'll be able to keep up with the latest information about performances and other pertinent info about the Playhouse. Just search for Lemon Bay Playhouse, and click "Become a Fan"!

See you at the theater (or on the internet!)  
Jim Hanushek



### Attention All Volunteers!

Please attend the volunteer appreciation dinner/party, scheduled for Saturday, February 6, starting at 4:00 PM at the Tringali Recreation Center.

RSVP at the Box Office  
(941) 475-6756

### WINE WALK TO BENEFIT LBP



On Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010, Vino Loco Wine and Tapas Bar, in conjunction with the CRA, will celebrate the Fourth Annual Wine Walk to benefit Lemon Bay Playhouse. The event will take place at the corner of Elm and Dearborn Streets from 3:00 PM until dusk. Check-in begins at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$25.00 each and entitle the holder to sample over 60 wines and many premium beers as well as enjoy food prepared by a dozen local restaurants. There will also be music and artists displaying their creations to enhance the event. Tickets are limited to 300 and may be purchased at Vino Loco Wine and Tapas Bar at 420 West Dearborn Street, at the Lemon Bay Playhouse box office, or online at [lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://lemonbayplayhouse.com).

### IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thursday, January 28, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PLAYHOUSE  
UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED!

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VOLUNTEERS



What a dynamic couple! They make everyone feel right at home. That fantastic duo is **Joy and Russ Kyper**. Married for 58 years, the Kypers have spent 20 of those years in Englewood. Although Joy grew up in Webster, NY, and Russ was from Huntingdon County, PA, they managed to meet in Largo, FL, in 1951.

When they first met, Joy had her leg in a cast as a result of a skiing accident. Russ was intrigued and followed her home. They started dating in February, got engaged in June, and married the following year. They raised 3 children and now have 7 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren.

Russ built machines for Samuel R. Parry Machine Co., and then worked for Alliance Tool. If you've ever seen his meticulous printing, his draftsman training is evident. Joy was a homemaker and a lifelong volunteer in their various communities. For fun, they belonged to a yacht club and enjoyed sailing the Great Lakes on their 29-foot sloop. Russ was also an avid deer hunter.

When retirement approached, the Kypers were drawn to Florida because their parents lived here. They also had friends who talked enthusiastically about living in Englewood. Joy and Russ were looking for a small town atmosphere, and Englewood seemed ideal.

When they attended their first play at Lemon Bay Playhouse, Barbara Rodvik, who was the Board president, gave the pre-play speech and encouraged audience members to become volunteers. She sought the Kypers out at intermission, and Russ was soon selling ads for the playbills, a task he continued with until last year. Joy and Russ have been house managers for 11 years and have trained many new house managers over the years. Joy also does a great job as our volunteer coordinator.

After seeing our cramped backstage area and hearing the box office volunteers turning away patrons because of our small seating capacity, Russ began working with others, who dreamed of one day having a new, bigger playhouse. Last year, Russ was elected to the LBP Board of Trustees.

Asked about their goals, Joy and Russ said that they hope to be around to attend the opening night performance in a new Lemon Bay Playhouse.

Thanks, Joy and Russ, for all of your hard work and dedication!

## DON'T MISS OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

*THE MOUSETRAP* by Agatha Christie

March 3-21, 2010

*The Mousetrap* has been quoted as "The cleverest murder mystery of the British theater."



Cast and crew of *The Mousetrap* are: seated l-r: Stage Manager, Maggie Deitsch, Tom Athens, Director, Richard Blanchard, Amanda Gworek, Paul Mullen. Standing, l-r: Lee Hakeem, Joyce Cleary, Robert Jeffs, Wanda Molloy, Frank Falchetta.

Tickets are going fast for *The Mousetrap*, so make your plans early. Tickets can be purchased on-line or at the box office. *The Mousetrap* has been on the London stage since 1952. Get your tickets now.

## GUITAR MASTER TIM ALLEN APPEARING AT LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE



**Tim Allan** will step off a cruise ship directly into Lemon Bay Playhouse! He was originally scheduled to perform with his guitar, banjo, and mandolin for Saturday, January 30, at 7:30 PM. Well, tickets sold so fast that we had to schedule additional performances for Friday, January 29, at 7:30 PM, and Sunday, January 31, at 2:00 PM.

Following a recent performance by Hall of Famer, Tim Allan, a New York music critic, well known for his less than kind critiques, turned the tables and flatly stated: "I know of no musician today who possesses a broader repertoire or who uses his musical knowledge to better advantage. From classics to country, Tim Allan's work is extraordinary."

With a natural proficiency on guitar, banjo and mandolin, along with his smooth baritone vocals in a seemingly inexhaustible supply of popular standards, Tim has enjoyed engagements on television, cruise ships, at top hotels, and in concert venues around the world.

We have links to samples of his music on our website, [lemonbay-playhouse.com](http://lemonbay-playhouse.com). Be careful though – once you see one of those videos, you'll be so amazed that you are going to want tickets for his show. Your best chance for seats is the Friday performance.

## SWING WITH LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE



Scott Blum

The Swing Merchants will be appearing at Lemon Bay Playhouse in Englewood on Sunday, February 7. Show time is 2:00 PM and will feature members of The Swing Merchants jazz ensemble with John Lamb on bass, Dick Reynolds on piano, Scott Blum on drums, and Bill Carmichael on sax, clarinet, and flute.

John Lamb played bass with the legendary Duke Ellington. He currently resides in the Tampa Bay area and has taught music in Pinellas County. He has performed at Jazz festivals around the nation, including our own Sarasota and Clearwater Jazz Festivals.

Dick Reynolds is one of Chicago's best known musicians, and he has played with all the greats that have passed through town, from Mel Torme to Nancy Wilson. Dick is also known as "The Fishin' Musician."

Scott Blum, a recognized percussionist on the drum set and congas, bongos, and timbales and ethnic instruments, has performed theatre productions, festivals, operas, radio, television, and studio recordings. He has received numerous awards and grants for his work in percussion and education.

Bill Carmichael has performed with the Boston Pops, Rhode Island Philharmonic, and the Portland Symphony. In addition he has played for performers including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Sammy Davis Jr., Ray Charles, Steve and Eddie, Johnny Mathis, Johnny Carson, Bob Hope and many others.

Order your tickets now, and be sure to wear your toe-tappin' shoes for this musical treat.

## JAZZ BANJO CONCERT AT LBP



As part of its effort to bring a variety of performances to Englewood and the surrounding community, Lemon Bay Playhouse has scheduled a unique jazz concert by **Cynthia Sayer** for Saturday, February 20, at 7:30 PM. This is Cynthia's second visit to Lemon Bay Playhouse, returning by popular demand.

Cynthia Sayer is internationally acclaimed as one of the leading jazz banjoists, and is also known for her vocal, entertaining and multi-instrumental talents. She tours regularly and is featured in concert and at festivals worldwide.

She was the banjoist with the New York Philharmonic performances of *Rhapsody In Blue*. Cynthia performed for two USA Presidents, in concerts at Carnegie Hall, with the New York Philharmonic, and at the Metropolitan Opera House, performing in a Twyla Tharp production for the American Ballet Theater. On the lighter side, she is the subject of a Trivial Pursuit game question (90's Edition), plus was the official banjoist for The New York Yankees.

## THEATER FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

by Ron Bupp, Artistic Manager



*Youngsters dream of becoming stars some day.*

Part of my mission as Artistic Manager at Lemon Bay Playhouse is to develop a program to provide theater for young audiences. In other words "shows for kids and their families". Most of the successful professional and community theaters around the country have a Theater for Young Audiences program and we at the playhouse have a golden opportunity to serve the children and the families of our

two counties and school systems. We can delight audiences with award-winning and popular dramatic literature that entertains as well as exposes them to various cultures, historical periods, and pertinent social issues. A few months ago we participated with the Elsie Quirk library by providing our auditorium for a magic show for kids whose ages ranged from 4 to 12. The theater was packed, and I wish everyone could have seen the joy and response exhibited by the young audience.

We have an excellent talent pool of adult actors who would be delighted to perform in Theater for Young Audiences. What we need are several adults to take charge of this program and help to get it started. There is a wealth of material and appropriate scripts available for production. If you would like to make a significant contribution to your community and have a lot of fun doing it, contact me at (941) 697-4165 or leave a message at the box office, and I'll contact you.

## COSTUME HELP

by Ron Bupp, Artistic Manager

Our faithful and hard working costume chairperson, Pat Saracco, needs your help. Costumes are an important part of every show. The problems of costuming each show are compounded by our lack of space and limited costume inventory. In addition to finding the right costume for our actors, the members of the costume department must also coordinate costume colors with the set designer and decorators for each show, make sure that costume changes, (especially quick changes) are coordinated with the director and actor, see to the repair of all costumes, coordinate dressers to help actors change and generally maintain the costume department. You can make a significant contribution to the continuing success of LBP by getting involved in this exciting effort. Whether you are an "old theater hand" or just want to become involved in the theater, this is a golden opportunity. Just call our box office at 475-6756 and leave us a message, and we will contact you.

## VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL



*Ron Bupp and Rita Corn*

Lemon Bay Playhouse has a special Valentine treat on its calendar for Saturday, February 13, at 7:30 PM and Sunday, February 14, at 2:00 PM. *Love Letters*, a two act, two person play by A.R. Gurney, Sr. is comprised of letters exchanged over a lifetime between two people who grew up together, went their separate ways, but continued to share confidences. As the two actors read their letters aloud, what is created is an evocative, touching, frequently funny, but always telling pair of character studies in which what is implied is as revealing and meaningful as what is actually written.

The play stars two of Lemon Bay Playhouse's most popular actors. Rita Corn has appeared in dozens of Playhouse productions as well as having graced the stages in New York State. Ron Bupp has been a professional actor and singer for over 50 years and has performed in theatres all over America. The two have appeared together on the Playhouse stage in numerous productions, including our most recent production, *Southern Comforts*.

You won't want to miss this charming Valentine, so book your tickets now, either at the box office or online.

## READERS THEATER NEEDS YOU

by Linda MacCluggage



Readers Theater has been entertaining groups in and around the Englewood area with short presentations of plays by Anton Chekhov and Mary Louise Wilson among others. Kathy Amelia coordinates the Outreach Program and can be reached at kame-lia0951@comcast.net or 941 697-7137 to request a booking. There is no charge although a donation to the playhouse is appreciated.

After three years of leading the group, Reid and Linda MacCluggage will retire as co-chairs of Readers Theater at the March 1 monthly meeting. The MacCluggages launched the Monday morning play readings in March of 2007. Larry McGee will continue as a co-chairman.

Readers Theater will present *Shorts Aloud*, an evening of selected short plays, on Saturday, April 3 at 7:30 PM at the theater. Jack Rabito is producing the program and the plays will be directed by Ron DelBello, Larry McGee, and Linda MacCluggage.

**AUDITIONS for the show will be held at the Playhouse on Sunday, February 28, at 7 PM and Monday, March 1, at 11:30 AM, following the Readers Theater regular monthly meeting. There are numerous parts available. Because these are readings and not full productions, rehearsal requirements will be minimal. For further information call Jack Rabito at 815-713-0905.**



96 W. Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34223



*Celebrating our 23rd Season!*  
**2009-2010 SEASON**



**MURDER BY MISADVENTURE** by Edward Taylor  
**CHEATING CHEATERS** by John Patrick  
**SOUTHERN COMFORTS** by Kathleen Clark  
**THE MOUSETRAP** by Agatha Christie  
**ENCHANTED APRIL** by Mathew Barber  
**PAINTING CHURCHES** by Tina Howe

September 2-20, 2009  
October 28 - November 15, 2009  
January 6-24, 2010  
March 3-21, 2010  
April 28 - May 16, 2010  
June 23-July 11, 2010

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LBP Box Office is open Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Phone 941-475-6756

**Visit our website at: [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com)**

"It is the mission of Lemon Bay Playhouse to enrich Englewood and surrounding communities through theatrical productions, volunteer opportunities, education and training in the performing arts, and to provide a venue for other cultural activities."