



SPOTLIGHT

AUGUST 2008

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Jim Hanushek

Some of our recent play selections have really made me examine how I viewed the purpose of theatre in America and, in particular, the role of Lemon Bay Playhouse in Englewood.

Comedies like *The Long Weekend* that we produced last January, are done for their pure entertainment value, giving the audience a chance to forget about their stresses and just enjoy themselves. And truly, entertainment is one of the purposes of theatre.

The one-man shows that we have presented with Mark Twain and Charles Lindbergh (both of whom will be appearing later this year at LBP!) offer education and insight into the lives of real people. And truly, education is one of the purposes of theatre.

Our productions of *Driving Miss Daisy* and *All My Sons* explored the change in both personal and social relationships over a period of time. And truly, exploring social issues is one of the purposes of theatre.

The greatest reaction that we have ever had from audiences, though, came during and after our production of *Taking Leave*, the story of a man beset by Alzheimer's. Some told us that it was too sensitive a subject for our audiences. Others, though, who had had close, personal experience with Alzheimer's were touched by the portrayal they saw on our stage. Some felt validated for the time and effort they had spent as care-givers to an Alzheimer's patient. Everyone left the theater with thoughts of one kind or another running through their minds. And truly, prompting us to explore our own thoughts is a purpose of theatre.

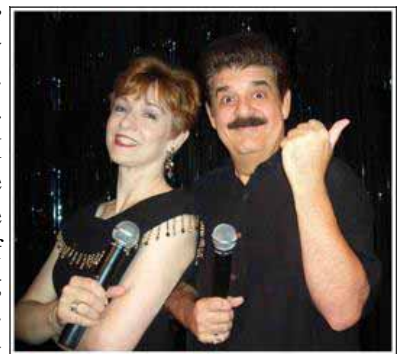
Theatre has played many roles throughout history. Lemon Bay Playhouse is now taking its turn, hopefully for the betterment of the Englewood Community!

See you at the theater,
Jim Hanushek



DIVA AND THE ITALIAN GUY AT LBP

You can see *Diva and the Italian Guy*, with Marcy Downey and Buddy Sebastian, at the Lemon Bay Playhouse on Aug. 22 at 7:30 PM and Aug. 24 at 2:00 PM. The show is presented in the spontaneous and fun style of a Vegas lounge act. Swing tunes, oldies, Broadway favorites, country, and comedy songs are all part of the act. They'll even take your requests.



Marcy's incredible singing voice has been hailed from coast to coast, and Buddy's Italian-American background is an endless source of hilarious stories and fractured versions of songs.

Marcy and Buddy sing the blockbuster song hits of the great divas and famous male entertainers: Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, Judy Garland, Louis Prima-Keely Smith, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin and more. But that's just the beginning - the comedic chemistry between these two professionals on stage is irresistible, and the laughs just keep on coming. Not since Sonny and Cher, has a duo produced so much entertainment value.

This critically acclaimed duo has been performing together for over 30 years, on stages from Lake Tahoe, to Los Angeles, Boston, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Florida. Their show business experience includes stage, radio, TV, and movies, and they have appeared with such celebrities as Rodney Dangerfield, Fabian, Jack Carter, Pat Cooper, and others. During their two years as a featured act at Harrah's, Lake Tahoe, Buddy also hosted his own morning comedy radio show. Marcy's voice has been heard singing commercial jingles on radio stations throughout the country.

Because of their off-the-cuff style, and the interaction with the audience, the show is never exactly the same twice. They and the audience have FUN! It's a guaranteed good time!

SUPPORT LBP WITH MEMBERSHIP

In order to encourage membership in Lemon Bay Playhouse, we have created several levels of support and added concrete benefits to each level.

A benefit available to all levels of membership is participation in our discount program. A number of local businesses have agreed to offer a discount of one kind or another to our members. All you have to do is to present a valid membership card to the merchant. All you have to do to have a valid membership card is to join, either at the box office or on our website.

We will send occasional notices to our members of additional discounts as they become available.



MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

☆ Stage Crew \$25

Membership card with discount to area merchants
Invitation to Annual Meeting
Discounts on LBP Performing Arts Classes

☆ Theater Buff \$100

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Name listed in playbill
Advanced ticketing for interim productions

☆ Leading Role \$250* (\$20.83/mo)

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Invitation to attend an all-year cast celebration and awards presentation

☆ Director \$500* (\$41.66/mo)

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Recognition on plaque in lobby
Private tasting event of specially selected wines

Producers Club

☆ Executive Producer \$1000* (\$83.33/mo)

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Invitations for up to four people to events such as the season kick-off/sponsor reception and selected guest artist receptions throughout the year

☆ Master Producer \$2500* (\$208.33/mo)

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Invitation to exclusive opening night reception with cast and crew after the performance
Two season tickets to opening night

☆ Angel Producer \$5000* (\$416.66/mo)

All of the benefits listed above, plus:
Underwriting credit on the title page of the playbill and all publicity

* Memberships available as one-time payment or 12 equal monthly installments with a credit card.

MEMBERS DISCOUNT PARTNERS

Antiques on W Dearborn, 446 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 475-6737. 10% discount on every purchase

Bedbugs, 475 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 474-9054. 10% discount on every purchase

Bobarino's Pizzeria, 20 Magnolia Ave, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 473-0000. 10% off any pizza one time

Daylilies Tropical Decor, 485 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 473-1840. 10% discount on each purchase

Dearborn Street Jewelry & Repair, 480 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 460-1750. 10% discount on each purchase

Earthy Goodz, 409 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 475-4663. 10% discount on each purchase

Elizabeth Bryant Gallery & Studio, 200 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 475-0785. 10% discount on non-sale items

Fabulous Flowers, 1951 S McCall Rd, Ste 650, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 475-3358. 10% discount on all purchases except monthly flower club cards.

Flo's Hair Design, 401 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 475-4890. \$2.00 off each visit

Grande Designer Floorcovering, 5855 Placida Rd, Suite 306, Englewood, FL, (941) 697-7676. 10% discount up to \$100 with any purchase

Hitchingham Enterprises, 441 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 468-3238. 20% discount on an invoice

Kinetico Quality Water of SWFL, 2307 Tamiami Trl N, Nokomis, FL, 34275, (800) 795-8500. 15% discount on purchase of new equipment, not to be used with other offers

Mango Bistro / Zigamazoo, 301 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 681-3500. 10% discount on bill

Mystic See, 441 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 473-3816. 10% discount on each retail purchase

Olde Village Barbershop, 460 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34224, (941) 473-8696., \$1 off one haircut

Russell Screen Repair Service, Box 5240, Englewood, FL, 34224, (941) 473-8951., 10% any job: pool cage, entry ways, door repairs, power washing

Sandy Beach, 403 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 460-9228., 10% discount on each purchase

Village Gifts & Gallery, LLC, 425 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 473-2300. 10% discount on each purchase

Zolyssa & Co., 405 W Dearborn St, Englewood, FL, 34223, (941) 474-9072. 10% discount on each purchase

Other offers will be added as they enroll.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VOLUNTEERS



Mary Jane Handlin

She's been a witch for years! **Mary Jane Handlin** never fails to show up on Halloween to distribute treats at Lemon Bay Playhouse during the Dearborn Street Safe Walk. During the rest of the year, she casts aside her pointed hat and can be seen encouraging theatergoers to buy 50/50 raffle tickets or serving punch and cookies during intermission.

Originally from Normal, Illinois, Mary Jane retired as the business manager in the College of Education at Illinois State University in 2001. She decided to leave the ice and snow behind and spend her winters in Florida. After trying St. Petersburg her first year, she discovered Englewood. She had heard of LBP, but because she was here during high season, she could never get tickets.

While living at Heron Cove, she met Marcia Cochie, one of our actors. Not getting to see Marcia in *Divorce Southern Style* convinced Mary Jane that it was time to get involved, become a member, and get season tickets. She attended a meeting and heard Joan Harms tell about the need for more House Managers to collect tickets, distribute programs, and serve cookies and punch. This sounded like fun. She'd get to meet lots of nice people. That was four years ago, and hers has become a familiar face to theatergoers. This year, she expanded her volunteer time to include the 50/50 raffle, and she's looking forward to trying her hand at the box office next.

Mary Jane is a devoted volunteer and helps out with a number of other organizations besides LBP. She's been at the reception desk at the Englewood-Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce since 2004. She loves to travel, so her experiences help her advise folks looking for things to see and do in this area. Mary Jane also volunteers on the advisory board for the H2U (formerly the Senior Friends) program at Englewood Community Hospital, is active in the American Business Women's Association in Punta Gorda, and was secretary of the Southwest Florida ABWA in Fort Myers last year.

Mary Jane likes to keep active and learn new things. She visits Curves daily and swims 50 pool lengths at her condo. She goes on trips with Classroom on Wheels to visit new places and learn how things are made.

Does she ever relax? Yes. Mary Jane's hobby is doing counted cross stitch. She especially likes creating pictures and pillows. She belongs to 2 cross stitch groups and won 3rd prize in a national contest for a sampler she stitched!

The next time you attend a play, maybe you'll be lucky enough to meet Mary Jane!

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, August 18, 2008
6:00 p.m.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Monday, August 25, 2008
7:00 p.m.

**ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PLAYHOUSE
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED!**

WAIT UNTIL DARK

Lemon Bay Playhouse's 22nd season gets off to a thrilling start with *Wait Until Dark* by Frederick Knott. Director Michele Strauss was chosen to bring this challenging play to life on our stage. The action revolves around a mysterious doll that Sam Hendrix (Jim Walsh) was persuaded to bring from Canada to a young child in a hospital in New York. The woman, who gave him the doll, is found murdered outside his apartment.

Sam's blind wife Susy (Lilian Moore) encounters a sinister con man Roat (Gary Blomberg) and two ex-convicts, Mike (Charlie Tyler) and Carlino (Ted DeVirgilis), who convince her that the police have implicated her husband Sam in the murder of the woman. She must find the doll, which will prove his innocence. Her young neighbor Gloria (Flana Levando) helps her uncover the fact that she is the victim of a clever deception.

Susy must then outwit the criminals and fight for her life against a pathological killer. The only way that she can win is to wait until dark, disable the lights, and make her blindness an advantage in this chilling game of cat and mouse. The last spine-tingling scene (in total darkness) is sure to have audience members on the edge of their seats.

Other cast members include Bernard Broyles and John Wyczlinski as the policemen.

LBP is proud to have returning actors Jim Walsh (last seen in *The Long Weekend*), Gary Blomberg (*Moon Over the Brewery*), Charlie Tyler (*Cliffhanger*), Bernard Broyles (*Driving Miss Daisy*), and John Wyczlinski (*All My Sons*) back on our stage. We also welcome a talented group of actors new to our stage: Lilian Moore, Flana Levando, and Ted DeVirgilis.

Don't miss this great play! Be sure to tell your neighbors and friends so they can see it, too.

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS !!



Lemon Bay Playhouse couldn't operate without the help of its many volunteers. They play roles as important as the volunteer actors that we have on stage.

As some of those volunteers leave, we need others to take their places. If you have a love

for theater and want to help, consider the following tasks:

House Managers: More than just ushers, our wonderful house managers prepare the theater for its visitors, distribute programs, orient newcomers to the theater, and prepare and serve refreshments at intermission. They are some of the first faces that people see when they visit LBP, and so, play a very important role in setting the atmosphere in our theater. Want to join our great group of gregarious greeters? They'll cheerfully share their knowledge and experience with you.

Costumes: We are still looking for someone to coordinate our costume department. We have people who will help, but need someone to take charge of our giant clothes closet! Do you sew at all? Interested?

If you'd like to help in these or any of our volunteer tasks, please call Ann at 474-9610 or email boxoffice@lemonbayplayhouse.com.



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223



Celebrating our 22nd Season!
2008-2009 SEASON



WAIT UNTIL DARK by Frederick Knott	September 3-21, 2008
THE PLAY'S THE THING by Ferenc Molnar (Adapted by P.G. Wodehouse)	October 29 - November 16, 2008
TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL by Horton Foote	January 7-25, 2009
ANGEL STREET (Gas Light) by Patrick Hamilton	March 4-22, 2009
NORMAN, IS THAT YOU? by Ron Clark & Sam Bobrick	April 29 - May 17, 2009
BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE by Leonard Gershe	June 24-July 12, 2009

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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

"It is the Mission of Lemon Bay Playhouse to enrich the Greater Englewood community through theatrical productions, other cultural activities, challenging volunteer opportunities, and education and training in the performing arts."