



# SPOTLIGHT

JUNE 2008

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Jim Hanushek

The good news is that Jeff and Isabelle Michaels are going to be working with the youth again this summer! In this newsletter is an article about GodSpell Junior, the musical program that they will be producing. If you know any young people who might be interested, visit our website or call the box office! It should be lots of fun!

There's one more play remaining in this season, and it's a good one! Currently in rehearsal, *Taking Leave*, by Nagle Jackson,

touches with humor and sympathy on a subject we hear about frequently: Alzheimer's disease. Read more about it inside!

Those \$1, \$5, and \$10 worth of raffle tickets that you buy to participate in the 50/50 paid for the scholarship that Lemon Bay Playhouse just conferred on a local high school student. Thanks to Arlene Knight for helping with the whole process and the presentation. (Photo inside)

And now for the results of the ballot that our members received in the mail in April: There were 72 "Yes" votes and 47 "No" votes, so although 60% of the votes received were in favor of the change, the revision to our bylaws did not pass since a majority of ALL of our membership is required to amend our bylaws. With 187 members on that date, it required 94 positive votes to pass. In effect, every abstention and unreturned ballot counted as a "No" vote. This was definitely a case of "Not to decide is to decide." We may have to modify at least the way we can amend the bylaws, but that will be at another time. Incidentally, there were only a half-dozen members, in addition to the Board members, at the general meeting.

We are currently planning our calendar for the "in between" times during our upcoming season. If you have a suggestion for a week-end entertainment or performance, please let us know.

This newsletter is mailed to all members, volunteers, and season ticket holders. Thank you all for your support of Lemon Bay Playhouse!

See you at the theater,  
Jim Hanushek



## SUMMER THEATER CAMP



Lemon Bay Playhouse is presenting *Godspell Junior* as its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Kids Summer Theater Camp, called "KIDS AS THESPIANS", under the very capable direction of Jeff Michaels, assisted by Isabelle Michaels. Students ages 8 and up are eligible. Sessions will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from July 14 to August 15, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, with a performance scheduled for August 16.

*Godspell Junior*, this summer's production, is written by three-time Academy Award-winner Stephen Schwartz. Drawing from various theatrical traditions, such as clowning, pantomime, charades, acrobatics and vaudeville, this best loved musical is a groundbreaking and unique reflection on the life of Jesus, with a message of kindness, tolerance and love, featuring the international hit "Day By Day."

Vocal warm up and technical instruction such as blocking, stage direction, technical terms begins at 9:00AM followed by rehearsal. The first day will begin set up in audition style. Students will learn how to audition, and roles in the show will be determined. EVERYONE will have a part in the show whether it is a leading role or in the chorus. Campers will also learn how backstage support is managed.

*Godspell Junior* is originally adapted and produced for the New York stage by Edgar Lansbury, Stuart Duncan, and Joseph Beruh; originally conceived and directed by John-Michael Tebelak; music and new lyrics by Stephen Schwartz.

Enrollment is limited. Cost is \$80 per child. To enter your child in this popular summer workshop, please use the registration form available on our website, [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com), or from the box office, 96 W Dearborn Street, 475-6756.

## LBP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO SAMANTHA BANTING



Senior Samantha Banting received a \$1,000 scholarship from Lemon Bay Playhouse at the Lemon Bay High School Awards Night. The award was presented by Arlene Knight, chair of the Scholarship Committee.

Sammi, as her friends call her, moved to Englewood from New York when she was 10 years old. She attended Vineland Elementary School and L.A. Ainger, becoming Band Captain in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. In her four years at LBHS, Sammi was involved in every major production. She performed in *Seussical: The Musical* as Bird Girl. In *Les Miserables* she was an Ensemble Soloist and in *Aladdin*, she was Razoul. During *Oklahoma* and *Annie*, she was Stage Manager and for *The Music Man*, she was the Assistant Stage Manager. During the productions of *Cats* and *Swing*, Sammi was a Vocal Ensemble, Dancer Understudy, and Conductor. In her final performance for LBHS during *Grease*, she played the part of Jan. For the past four years Sammi has also been on the lighting crew, working with Technical Director Bill Booth from the Manatee Players.

In addition to her active theatre career, as a Junior, Sammi was the Treasurer of the Thespian Society troupe 0257 and this year became President. She was involved as a Teen Trendsetter Reading Mentor in her sophomore and junior years and an active member of the Web Club, acting as Historian this year. Sammi has had the honor of being in the National Honor Society for the past two years.

Sammi plans on attending the University of Central Florida, majoring in Event Management with a minor in Technical Theatre. She hopes to one day be a cruise director, and when she is done "traveling the high seas," she hopes to have a job doing lighting or stage managing for Walt Disney World.

### IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, June 16, 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!**

## TAKING LEAVE IS NEXT UP

Eliot Pryne, played by Paul Hyatt, is a professor of English Literature - specialty, Shakespeare. In the middle of the night, he is packing what he thinks is a suitcase and leaving what he thinks is a hotel. In the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, he is "taking leave" of the real world and imagining a new one, but the transition is painful. His alter-ego, played by Ed Sealy and seen only by the audience, charts this final voyage speaking as Eliot once did when he was the leading authority on Shakespeare's *King Lear*. His housekeeper, Mrs. Fleming, played by Laura Resignato, tries to keep his world intact.

The visitation of Eliot's three daughters, Alma - Maureen Young, Liz - Judy Phelan, and Cordelia - Katie Malloy, forms the central event of this oddly comic, yet fully sympathetic play. The decision - whether or not to have Father put in a home - provides the central conflict among the three very different sisters: the public school counselor, Alma; the TV actress, Liz; and the ne'er-do-well vagabond, Cordelia, who arrives in her black leather motorcycle outfit fresh from a year in Paris and a history of drug abuse.

As in Shakespeare's play, there is a question of who should assume responsibility for the father. We are left with a feeling of satisfaction, tempered by the bittersweet realization that, while all will not be well, Eliot's taking leave will be a gentle one. Filled with the often farcical behavior that goes along with this disease, and decorated with *good talk* from the literate professor and his daughters, this play will have our audiences laughing, weeping, and finally standing and cheering. As the alarming number of Alzheimer's victims keeps growing, this play's relevance increases daily. (*adapted from play-database.com*)

*Taking Leave* is being directed by Richard Blanchard, and performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. - June 25<sup>th</sup> through July 13<sup>th</sup>. Call the box office to reserve your tickets now.



The cast of *Taking Leave* by Nagle Jackson rehearse for the June 25<sup>th</sup> opening night. L-R: Ed Sealy, Judy Phelan, Paul Hyatt, Maureen Young, Katie Malloy and Lora Resignato.

"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."

## SPOTLIGHTING OUR VOLUNTEERS



Doreen Barnett

“Doreen Barnett has the best British accent in the entire cast,” is one accolade that always brings laughter as one of Lemon Bay Playhouse’s favorite stage personalities reminisces. (She was the only Brit in the cast!)

How does a Londoner wind up in Englewood? After working for many years as a secretary and administrative assistant in a television studio and doing community theater on her own time, Doreen emigrated to Connecticut,

where she made many new friends and continued her community theater experience. Her dear friends, Marlana and Al Chumbook, moved to Englewood and encouraged Doreen to head for the sunny shores of Florida.

Friendship drew Doreen to Englewood, and her list of Florida friends has mushroomed since her arrival in October of 1996. One week after her arrival, Doreen’s first visit to the Playhouse resulted in a call asking her to be stage manager for *The Odd Couple - Female Version*. Doreen was soon a familiar face around LBP, doing stage managing, working backstage, and finally taking her rightful place behind the footlights, in *Any Wednesday*.

Though Doreen has performed in many plays at LBP, her recurring role as Opal Cronkie in *Everybody Loves Opal*, *Opal Is a Diamond*, and *Opal’s Husband* is one that many theatergoers immediately associate with her name. Some even refer to her as Opal, when they meet her outside the theater. But Doreen is not defined by that one character. In one season, 2006-2007, she played three distinctly different roles—the medium, Madame Arcati, in *Blythe Spirit*, a hillbilly innkeeper, Betty Meeks, in *The Foreigner*, and the hard-of-hearing mother, Ethel, in *Moon Over Buffalo*.

Behind the scenes, Doreen has continued stage managing, helped paint sets, done props, been a house manager, served as a board member and officer, been production manager, helped with Children’s Theater, served as volunteer chairman, helped get a grant, worked on the scholarship committee, and has been a valuable member of the play reading committee. In addition to all of her other accomplishments, Doreen has also directed two plays at LBP—*Run for Your Wife* and *Affections of May*. Wow!

When asked what she likes best about LBP, Doreen says that she loves the intimacy of the theater itself and the community feeling here.

**WANTED: We need a bust of William Shakespeare as a prop for the upcoming play, *Taking Leave*. Can you help?**

## GOODSEARCH AND GOODSHOP

What if Lemon Bay Playhouse earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy’s, and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you’ll be supporting your favorite cause.

Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and be sure to enter Lemon Bay Playhouse as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

Of course, you are always welcome to send a check to Lemon Bay Playhouse to express your appreciation and support, but if you’d like to contribute without putting a dent in your checkbook, GoodSearch and GoodShop are the ways to do it.



## COSTUME CHAIRPERSON SOUGHT



Janet Landi, our costume chairperson for the past several years, has reluctantly resigned because of a move to Sarasota. We appreciate all of Janet’s hard work and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

This leaves us in need of a costume chairperson. The duties include costuming the cast for each of our six productions, care and feeding of the costume room, and anything else you would like to add to the responsibilities. Of course, you won’t have to do this alone. You are encouraged to pick other members of your committee, as many as you wish, from the list of volunteers that have expressed a desire to work in the costuming area.

One of the major projects of the committee will be to organize and manage the costume room. I’m actually frightened to open the door to it as I’m never sure what might jump out at me. Janet left some plans for building racks and shelves to contain what we have. A good weeding out of the contents is definitely in order.

If you are interested, please contact Bob La Salle at 941-408-6541 or email me at [rlasalle390@yahoo.com](mailto:rlasalle390@yahoo.com).



96 W. Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34223



*Celebrating our 21st Season!*  
2007-2008 SEASON



**CLIFFHANGER** by James Yaffe  
**CROSSING DELANCEY** by Susan Sandler  
**THE LONG WEEKEND** by Norm Foster  
**NIGHT WATCH** by Lucille Fletcher  
**ALL MY SONS** by Arthur Miller  
**TAKING LEAVE** by Nagle Jackson

**September 5-23, 2007**  
**October 31 - November 18, 2007**  
**January 9-27, 2008**  
**March 5-23, 2008**  
**April 30 - May 18, 2008**  
**June 25-July 13, 2008**

**Layout/Photography:** Rob Davis      **Proofreader:** Ann Hanushek  
**Contributors:** Jim Hanushek, Bob La Salle, Phyllis Rollo, Ann Hanushek  
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LBP Box Office is opened 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)**