



DECEMBER, 2011 - JANUARY, 2012

2011 IN REVIEW

Now that we begin closing the curtains on 2011, it might be a good time to look back on this year in review. Our membership is strong and growing. We want to welcome all our new members and encourage them to become active in our theater. Our finances are healthy due to good audience participation and strong management involvement. Your Board of Trustees has successfully transitioned into a "working" Board and continues with the traditions of past Boards.

Along with the wonderful stage productions, which have enjoyed grand reviews, our Readers Theater has provided entertainment to several local groups, both of which gave us great exposure in our community. We have launched an open house which provided an opportunity for the community to visit our theater and experience firsthand the wonders of our little playhouse. We garnered several new volunteers from this successful operation. Many thanks to all those involved with this excellent venture!

We are under contract to add wing space to the north of our stage. While this is a relatively small addition, it will provide much needed space for props and scene changing capabilities. We are in debt to the volunteer builders who erected and then removed the temporary addition needed to allow one of our productions to proceed. This proved the value of this addition before we committed to the expense of making it permanent.

The playhouse has granted Sarasota County a temporary easement for the long awaited drainage project they are undertaking. This project should alleviate the storm water problems for not only our piece of real estate but also the surrounding properties. This may allow future expansion of our facilities.

All in, all this has been a rewarding year, so it is with fond memories that we bid farewell to 2011 and begin looking forward to 2012. The New Year promises to be even more exciting and rewarding. Plans are well under way for our coming season and there are ample opportunities for your latent talents, all of which are very valuable to Lemon Bay Playhouse. We encourage YOU to..... **COME PLAY WITH US!**

OPEN HOUSE, BIG SUCCESS!

LBP opened its doors on a sunny Saturday afternoon to welcome prospective volunteers! Experienced volunteers acted as tour guides to show off our theater, explaining just what it takes for 'the show to go on!' Armed with 'maps', dozens of visitors stopped at various stations to learn about the Box Office, House Managers (Hosts and Hostesses), Sound & Lights, Stage Managing, Backstage Crew, Props, Set Construction, Costumes and Readers Theater. Guests and volunteers mingled over refreshments provided by Mary Lou Ardrey in the Green Room. Soon there will be fresh new faces around the theater, thanks to the newly enlisted volunteers.

Chairing the Committee were Doreen Barnett and Rosie Tremo. They were assisted by Kent Neilson, Darlene Benson, Ann Hanushek and Paul Hyatt. Special thanks go out to all the greeters, guides, and station volunteers who made the Open House such a success!



Rosie Tremo, Doreen Barnett, and Darlene Benson are ready to greet guests at LBP's open house on November 12th.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

BOARD MEETING

December 19, 2011 at 4:00 pm

January 16, 2012 at 4:00 pm

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PLAYHOUSE UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED!

Changes in meeting dates/times will be posted on the website and sent by email to members, who have an active email address with the playhouse.

2011-2012

Showcase Productions

December 9 & 10, 2011 - Uptown Express

DooWop, Rhythm and Blues, Motown! It's all on the LBP stage when Uptown Express arrives! Uptown Express is a 10-piece self-contained show featuring 5 vocalists up front to provide the heavenly harmonies of the fabulous fifties and the best of Motown styled R&B that you danced to in the 60's. Combine these vocals with a powerhouse 5-piece band of multi-instrumentalists that authentically recreate the driving dance rhythms that made the music of the era so memorable and dear to our hearts. You won't be able to stay in your seat for long. Last year's LBP performance had audience members dancing in the aisles.

February 3, 4 & 5, 2012 - Brent Burns, Gulf Shores, Alabama

You'll be wearing a 'Margarita Smile' when legendary Gulf Coast singer, songwriter and humorist Brent Burns takes the LBP stage. He was the 2008 Trop Rock Music "Entertainer of the Year." Brent also picked up awards for "CD of the Year" for his "Ragtops and Flip Flops" CD and a special WAVE award for his charitable work. 2009 had Brent recording a duet with two-time Grammy Award winner, Ray Stevens, on Brent's song, "Retired." *PS: Snowbirds are welcome to attend all performances*

February 17 & 18, 2012 - Bud Leeds Jazz Ensemble featuring Jonathan "Jazz" Russell - Bronx, NY

Violin prodigy Jonathan Russell is an exciting 16-year-old jazz violinist who bridges generational and cultural gaps with improvised jazz. He has performed in Europe and throughout the United States at clubs and jazz festivals such as the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and the Bohém Jazz Festival in Hungary. The New York Times has written "When he solos, he embraces his instrument and enters a private cocoon, where he conjures sophisticated improvisations on the melodies of jazz standards".

March 30 & 31, 2012 - The Storytellers

The Storytellers bring the music of the late '50s and early '60s to life with stories about these songs, anecdotes about those who wrote the music and lyrics, and the place of their songs in our lives. The timeless story of Rock and Roll is told through music that has their audiences clapping to the beat, singing along, and joyfully dancing in the aisles. Matt Baker, Joe Hendricks, Janine Elise Scott, John Howard (Founder) and Johnny LaLa make each performance a wonderful memory.

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION



Ken Ludwig's

Sponsored by:

La Stanza Ristorante

January 4-29, 2012

If you like mysteries, you're sure to enjoy LBP's next play, Ken Ludwig's *Postmortem*, directed by Dale Moore. In a rather macabre action, William Gillette, best known for portraying Sherlock Holmes on Broadway, has invited his cast to his Connecticut castle for the first anniversary of the death of his fiancé. Did Maude commit suicide or was she murdered? Gillette suspects murder, and the game is afoot. A medium has been invited to hold a séance, in hopes of contacting Maude and learning the truth. Further complicating matters, an attempt is made on Gillette's life. Gillette takes on his role of Sherlock Holmes in real life to solve the year-old mystery and save his life.

Dale Moore has chosen some talented, seasoned LBP actors to bring this mystery to life. The cast of players includes Steve Horowitz as Gillette, Monica McIntire as May (the new ingénue in his play), Lee Lawler as his Aunt Lilly, Maureen Young as his sister Marion, Richard Blanchard as Leo (Marion's husband) and John Wyczlinski as Bobby (young playboy and hopeful suitor of May). Lisa Pindara makes her LBP debut as Louise, Maude's former roommate --turned medium.

For an evening or matinee of enjoyment, don't miss this one!

Ken Ludwig's *Postmortem* opens January 4 and runs through January 29. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, 475-6756, or online at www.lemonbay-playhouse.com.



Director, Dale Moore (standing, far right) joins the cast of POSTMORTEM, for a short break during rehearsals. The cast includes (seated) Steve Horowitz, Lee Lawler, Lisa Pindara. (Standing); Maureen Young, John Wyczlinski, and Monica McIntire. Also in the cast is Richard Blanchard (not shown).

ON WITH THE SHOW

By Paul Hyatt

Ethel Merman was right - "There's No Business Like Show Business". What more proof do we need than the exciting story of our own Lemon Bay Playhouse!

From a courageous but shaky first season through a restructuring and rescue in season two, to a bright pattern of continuous growth, we can now celebrate our twenty-fifth season with justifiable pride.

That big moment in season two, when the young playhouse opened its doors and said, "Welcome, new volunteer workers!" was, indeed, a turning point.

An enthusiastic "can-do" spirit of problem solving quickly developed and gave dear little LBP the morale boost it needed to persevere. Daring to select widely known but challenging plays, and then doing them well was an uplifting experience. The collaborative nature of theatre productions drew all of our devoted participants closer and transformed us into a strong, harmonious unit, a family.

As the seasons went by, our reputation spread. More actors from an expanding area began showing up for auditions. More people offered to work backstage, help with publicity, or just pitch in with whatever needed doing.

Volunteers with business backgrounds introduced marketing techniques to help swell attendance (a critical need), and these techniques worked. Others put us on a sound regimen of fiscal management. By the middle of our third season our bottom line turned from red to black!

By season five, we had to add more seats to the auditorium. By season six, we added even more - this time up to the limit allowed by the Fire Marshall. Soon, full houses became routine.

As season seven approached, there was no longer any doubt - the Lemon Bay Playhouse was a vibrant, successful theatrical enterprise. Our terrific gang of dedicated "show people" could confidently look to the future and sing out, "Let's go on with the show!"

2012-2013 SEASON PLAYS ANNOUNCED

LBP's Play Selection Committee has just announced the schedule for next Season. You'll recognize some wonderful, classic comedies in LBP's line up.

- Sept. *Squabbles* by Marshall Karp
- Oct. *Arsenic and Old Lace* by Joseph Kesselring
- Dec. *My Three Angels* by Samuel & Bella Spewack
- Jan. *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley
- Mar. *Born Yesterday* by Garson Kanin
- May *Harvey* by Mary Chase
- June *Don't Cry for Me, Margaret Mitchell*
by V. Cate & D. Ernsberger

For the first time, LBP is expanding its next season to offer these SEVEN great plays on its stage from September, 2012 through June, 2013. Watch for our new brochure early next year for more details.

READERS THEATER OUTREACH PROGRAM

*Reaches into the community for a free,
one hour long performance.*

LBP's Readers Theater Outreach Program had the exciting opportunity to perform at the Tringali Center on Nov. 17th. The show was sponsored by The Friends of the Englewood/Charlotte Library, who also provided cookies and punch for the crowd. Eighty-two folks attended the free performance -- yes, almost a full house!! The three short skits performed were: *One Tennis Shoe* by Shel Silverstein, *For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls* by Christopher Durang, and *Lust 'N Digestion* by William Doody.

Kathy Amelia and Ann Shaughnessy, co-chairs of the Outreach Program, would like to thank all who attended for their support. They would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the other actors who performed that afternoon: Richard Blanchard, Charlotte Dobney, Herb Lewis, Carol Louisgnan and Jay Torrance. It was a great afternoon of laughter!

We would like to invite everyone to come to our free first Monday of the month event at 9:30 AM at the Playhouse where we invite the audience to volunteer and participate in the reading of selected skits. Hope to see you there!



Charlotte Dobney and Herb Levin perform in a skit at the Tringali Center on November 17. All are welcome to attend the first Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Lemon Bay Playhouse to participate or just be entertained.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK AUDITIONS



Come one! Come all to the auditions for *Barefoot in the Park*! Auditions will be held at Lemon Bay Playhouse at 7:00 p.m. on December 18 and 19, 2011. This funny play was written by Neil Simon and will be directed by Marion Barnes. The cast for this play includes 4 males and 2 females. The play will be performed from February 29 to March 25, 2012.

This delightful comedy about newlyweds starting life in the sixth floor apartment of a New York brownstone ran on Broadway for 1530 performances, making it Neil Simon's longest-running Broadway hit. It was immediately made into a hit movie, starring Jane Fonda and Robert Redford. Mildred Natwick was nominated for an academy award for her role as Jane's mother.



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
MANASOTA FL
PERMIT #765



IT 342



Celebrating our 25th Season!

2011-2012

LUV by Murray Schisgal
ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR by Alan Ayckbourn
Ken Ludwig's POSTMORTEM
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK by Neil Simon
THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Tennessee Williams
STEEL MAGNOLIAS by Robert Harling

August 31– September 18, 2011
October 26 - November 13, 2011
January 4-29, 2012
February 29 - March 25, 2012
May 2-20 2012
June 27-July 15, 2012

Layout/Photography: Rob Davis **Proofreader:** Ann Hanushek
Contributors: Steve Stump, Paul Hyatt, Rosie Tremo, Ann Shaughnessy, Rita Corn, Ann Hanushek
Printing and mailing service provided by The Olde Englewood Mailing Co.

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 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."