



APRIL - MAY, 2016

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As we expected, the Annual Meeting went off without a hitch. We have a new board with Ron Bupp at the helm. I wish to thank the Board for appointing me as Executive Director. I will do my very best to carry on in the best tradition of LBP.

I have purchased a crash bar for the front door and will put it on when I have the time in the near future. We have noticed several leaks in the roof, one over the lobby, one in one of the bathrooms and a new leak in the roof in the Green Room. I met with a local, reputable roofer and was told that we have to replace the entire roof as it is over 15 years old and is now out of code. We will make that a priority for the coming weeks. In addition, our parking lot is looking poor and we have asked for bids on resurfacing. it

I am maintaining my Board position on the Charlotte County Hospitality Association and continue to attend meetings and help plan business enhancing opportunities for Englewood. I am also a part of the Tourism Assembly in Englewood and will promote LBP at any events planned in the area.

"On Golden Pond" has been doing well with excellent ticket sales. It looks like we will have another banner season. I have noticed many newcomers to the playhouse in the receiving line, and they are very enthusiastic about our productions. Let's hope we can keep that up through the remainder of the season.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob La Salle, Executive Director

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT READERS THEATER

BY KATHY AMELIA

At the time of this writing, our "Seventh Annual Shorts Aloud Festival" was successfully completed with sold out performances. This year's production returned to the traditional readers theater format - stools and stands, white and black wardrobe, no scenery. The only "characters" were Gracie Allen and George Burns (Kathy Amelia and Jack Rabito) as the intermittent entertainment! Our audience was very receptive to the return of this format and positive feedback guarantees the same format for our Eighth Shorts Aloud. I feel the

actors concentrated on their scripts and roles rather than entrances, exits, costumes and props making it our best ever! Thanks to our directors, Richard Blanchard, Paul Bravo and Sally Johnson for a job well done. What can I say about the cast other than you make Readers Theater and Lemon Bay Playhouse very proud and our audiences very entertained! As we wind down our RT season, we will continue our monthly sessions through May this year and resume in October. Our outreach continues through May and some dates for the summer/fall. I want to personally thank Ric Goodwin, Artistic/Production Manager of LBP, for all his work and cooperation in regard to Readers Theater. This was his first year at this position and, as we know, he had big shoes to fill, which he did admirably. For those who are returning North and all points homeward, we wish you a wonderful summer and hope to see you in the fall/winter. Perhaps during your summer reading, you will find something that RT would be interested in doing on our stage. Keep us in mind while you relax away the idle months of summer.

See you on the aisle.

*Become Part of the
Lemon Bay Playhouse Family
Make a donation of \$25 or more and become a member,
and supporter of the arts, at Lemon Bay Playhouse.
- Experience the Benefits -
Pick up a brochure at the playhouse or go to
www.lemonbayplayhouse.com/membership.html
for more details*

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

**BOARD MEETINGS - NEW TIME
ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PLAYHOUSE
UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED!**

April 18, 2016 at 6:00pm

May 16, 2016 at 6:00pm

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

IT'S AUDITION TIME!

BY PAUL HYATT

MAKING GOD LAUGH

By Sean Grennan

Directed by Ron Bupp

Auditions on April 10 and 11, 2016



The Lemon Bay Playhouse will hold open auditions for *Making God Laugh* on Sunday, April 10, and Monday, April 11, at 7:00pm at the Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn St., Englewood. The play was written by Sean Grennan and is being directed by Ron Bupp.

This delightfully tender and funny comedy takes you smoothly through several years of holidays with a typical American family. The mother, father and three grown children all have hopes and dreams. As time passes, the family discovers that, despite what we may have in mind, we often arrive at unexpected destinations. As Woody Allen once said, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." The script calls for three men and two women, and the production will run from June 8 through June 26, 2016. For more details visit our web site at www.lemonbayplayhouse.com. Scripts are available for perusal at the Box Office between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays. For information call (941) 475-6756.

2016-2017 SEASON TICKETS ON SALE



This season, LBP is again providing you with seven great plays for your enjoyment. The 2016-2017 season brochure is now available. If you did not receive a brochure for our 30th season plays, Showcase Productions, and Shorts Aloud Festival, be sure to pick one up in the lobby or download it from our website. Both the ticket

order form and the season brochure are also available from our website at www.lemonbayplayhouse.com/season_ticket.html.

Are you here for the whole season? If you are not already a season subscriber, here is a chance to purchase reduced price tickets and have the same seat for each show. Purchase a season ticket and get seven shows for the price of six at a cost of \$108 per person. One free ticket!

Not here for the whole season and still want to purchase reduced price tickets? Then our Flex Subscription (Four Pack) Pass is perfect for you. The cost for four shows is \$68 per person. That is a savings of \$1 per ticket. Each Flex Subscription Pass is valid for one ticket to a performance of your choice to any four of our plays you choose.

Season and Flex Pass Subscription tickets may be purchased by completing the season ticket form and mailing it to or dropping it off at the Box Office. All renewals of season tickets must be purchased by May 31 to keep the same seat assignment. New season tickets seats will be assigned after May 31, and all season ticket sales will end on July 31, 2016. Flex Pass Subscription sales will continue as long as four productions are available.

On August 1, 2016, individual tickets for all performances and events may be purchased by phone, online, or at the box office. Purchase your tickets for this exciting season as soon as possible for the best available seats. - JPS

VOLUNTEER CURTAIN CALL

BY RON BUPP



Our featured Volunteer for this edition of Spotlight lived in many of our mid-western states before discovering Englewood in 2011 while visiting here with her father, (who incidentally was a Pearl Harbor survivor). When Marilyn Barton moved here in 2012, she brought a wealth of theater experience that she has contributed to our continued success. As a child in Illinois, she was a neighborhood celebrity—writing and performing plays for all her young friends and their parents. Her

family moved to Topeka, KS where she was active in all the theater endeavors at her junior and senior high schools and went on to major in Theater Arts at Washburn University. Moving to Louisville, KY in 1981, she was employed as a travel agent for American Express with the job of making travel plans for all the actors at Louisville's famous Actors Theater. Obviously, she also became active as a volunteer backstage worker for that theater as well as The Kentucky Center For The Arts and the Iroquois Summer Musicals.

Her first job at LBP was as a backstage worker for our production of *Barefoot in the Park*, and she has contributed her efforts working back stage on every subsequent show we have produced.

Marilyn is also an accomplished actress, having appeared in our productions of *Ladies In Retirement* and *Something To Hide*. She is also a valued performer with our Readers Theater and Outreach programs and the Englewood Historical Society's Green Street productions. Marilyn's backstage co-workers say she performs her jobs with admirable energy, grace, and gusto. They love to work with her because her infectious charm is so natural and vibrant. Thank you Marilyn and all of our wonderful volunteers who are absolutely essential to our continued success.

TIDBITS FROM THE GREEN ROOM

Volunteer Night Performances – The volunteer night performance for “On Golden Pond” was “oversold” and about 20 volunteers had to be turned away. Just as a reminder, the Lemon Bay Playhouse Policies (C. Theater: 2. Passes for Dress and Review Nights) state that “When deemed necessary by the Board, passes for Dress night and Preview night will be printed and issued by the Artistic/Production Manager at the rate of four per person for cast and crew. The passes will be honored on either night. In addition, all volunteers not cast or crew will have to wear their name tags and will be permitted only one additional person.”

Volunteer Statistics - In 2015, we had 115 volunteers giving almost 17,000 hours of their time to LBP. Of those, 22 gave 250 hours or more during the year. Please record your volunteer hours on the cards supplied so that we can add your hours to the total each year.

Get involved with your theater - Volunteer. See the opportunities available by going to our website at www.lemonbayplayhouse/volunteers.html

Summer is for Kids - Lemondrops Children's Summer Theatre Camp starts July 11 - watch for announcements.

Not receiving emails from LBP? - Call the box office and ask them to check that you have requested to receive emails. Don't miss out on the electronic news sent from LBP, which includes things such as the Spotlight, notifications about special events like the Volunteer Party, Annual Meeting, Board meeting changes, and “spur of the moment” happenings. Please call the box office to confirm your selection for communications.

- See TIDBITS on Page 3

OUR “JUST CLOSED” PRODUCTION

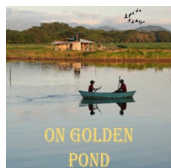
BY PAUL HYATT

ON GOLDEN POND

By Ernest Thompson

Directed by Ric Goodwin

March 9 - April 3, 2016



Lemon Bay Playhouse just completed a very successful run of *On Golden Pond*. This production, directed by Ric Goodwin, was our fifth play for this season. The show ran from March 9 through April 3, 2016.

This was a love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-fourth year. They were visited by their divorced daughter, her fiancé and his son (daughter). It was a touching, funny and warmly perceptive study of a spirited and loveable elderly couple facing their twilight years. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this show a huge success.



The well-chosen cast for the show, *On Golden Pond*, takes a short break from rehearsals to pose for a photo. Seated (from left to right) are Colin Zachariasen (Billy Ray), Maureen Moran (Chelsea Thayer Wayne), Maureen Young (Ethyl Thayer). Standing (left to right) are Jack Rabito (Norman Thayer, Jr.), Ric Goodwin (Director), Bob La Salle (Charlie Martin), Cheryl Hastings (Stage Manager), and Jerry Zezas (Bill Ray).

OUR CURRENT PRODUCTION

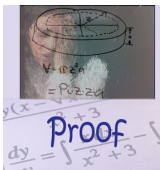
BY PAUL HYATT

PROOF

By David Auburn

Directed by Murray Hudson

April 27 - May 15, 2016



This is an intriguing drama that tells about Catherine, a troubled young woman who spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father. With the arrival of her estranged sister and her father's former student she discovers more difficult problems. The mystery and surprise of this play provides for an enjoyable theatrical evening. The show runs

from April 27 through May 15, 2016.

Visit www.lemonbayplayhouse.com or stop by or call the Box Office at 941-475-6756 between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays and one hour prior to curtain time for more information and tickets. Reserved seat tickets are \$18. Student tickets are available at \$12 each.



The actors, director, and stage manager selected for the show “Proof” take a breather from rehearsals to pose for a photo. Seated, from left to right, are Wendi Scianna (Claire), Donna Hadley (Stage Manager), and Mariah Hilton (Catherine). Standing, from left to right, are Ric Goodwin (Robert), Mike Hilton (Hal), and Murray Hudson (Director).

ON A CELEBRATORY NOTE - LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE IS NOW DEBT FREE



Through fundraisers, the Annex Fund contained \$42,243.74 prior to this writing. That money, and some of the money the Playhouse received from BP settlement, was used to pay off the balance of the Annex mortgage.

The balance was \$65,977.51 and was paid on Friday, February 19, 2016. In addition to saving over \$7,000 in interest, LBP now owns all of its buildings free and clear. - JPS

TIBITS - Continued from page 2

Volunteer News – One of our volunteers, “Mama Mia” Schneider, completed a book, “My Life with Papa”, to share a love story that was hers and Papa's for 30 years. Written in his memory, she would like to recognize his life through this book. The paperback may be purchased at www.amazon.com - OR buy an autographed copy from the author, by contacting mamaspapas@juno.com, and receive a FREE LUNCH at a local restaurant.

TripAdvisor Reviews – The playhouse has been getting great reviews on TripAdvisor and Yelp in the recent months. Help publicize your theater by writing a review for those shows that you have attended.

Confirm Performance Date On Your Ticket - Prior to attending a performance, please confirm the date on your ticket. Recently, we have had an increased number of patrons attending a show on the wrong performance date. With sold-out performances this becomes a problem. - JPS



RENEW YOUR SEASON TICKETS NOW TO GUARANTEE THE SAME SEAT SELECTION



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223

Celebrating our 29th Season! **2015-2016**

<i>A BENCH IN THE SUN</i> by Ron Clark	September 2 - September 20, 2015
<i>MURDER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON'S</i> by Ron Clark & Sam Bobrick	October 21 - November 8, 2015
<i>SOCIAL SECURITY</i> by Andrew Bergman	December 2 - December 20, 2015
<i>PLAZA SUITE</i> by Neil Simon	January 20 - February 14, 2016
<i>ON GOLDEN POND</i> by Ernest Thompson	March 9 - April 3, 2016
<i>PROOF</i> by David Auburn	April 27 - May 15, 2016
<i>MAKING GOD LAUGH</i> by Sean Grennan	June 8 - June 26, 2016

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LBP Box Office is open Monday-Friday, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Phone 941-475-6756

Visit our website at: www.lemonbayplayhouse.com (or scan the QR code)



"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."