



**AUGUST- SEPTEMBER, 2016**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

I have just recently returned from a much needed vacation to see my kids and grandkids in New England. While I was there, I attended a performance of Agatha Christie's play, "The Unexpected Guest", at a small theater in the very small town of Bar Mills, Maine on the banks of the Saco River. The theater is housed in a 119 year old former chapel and has 150 seats, all folding chairs. The stage was almost twice the size of ours but had no curtain. The set was excellent and the actors were superb. I was astonished to find out that it is an Actor's Equity Association Small Professional Theater! It never ceases to amaze me the number of small theaters I find in my travels that are all doing well. Theater is alive and well in this country, including here in Englewood.

I was pleased to find that The Lemondrops Children's Camp is doing very well, with a full complement of kids who are all very much involved in theatre. It's important that we continue to teach theatre to our young people, for who knows, maybe one day several of those kids will be running LBP. I hope so.

I'm in process of making some changes in the theater, chief of which is turning the doors to the booth around so that they don't open out into the people in the hallway. I don't know how many times I've opened the door into a crowd and have had to apologize. Not anymore!

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob La Salle, Executive Director

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT READERS THEATER**

BY KATHY AMELIA

Ah, summer! A time to relax and look out over the ocean, read a book, take an afternoon nap listening to seagulls or screaming your head off at a ballgame in the Bronx (oops that's me)!!

Anyway, I hope you are all set to be creative when Readers Theater begins Monday, October 3, 2016 at the Playhouse. Bring a new face while we welcome the veteran participants back. Outreach will

also start soon after, as the snowbirds head south waiting to be entertained. Enjoy the rest of your rejuvenation and see you in the fall!

From the aisle,

Kathy

## **VOLUNTEER CURTAIN CALL**

BY MICHELLE NEITZEL



Patty Tuff is a shining example of a dedicated volunteer. Patient, kind, generous of spirit and always willing to lend a hand as much as her very busy schedule allows. Currently in her 4<sup>th</sup> year assisting with the Lemondrops Summer Camp, Patty comes to Lemon Bay Playhouse with years of experience as the Preschool Director at the Englewood United Methodist Church where she currently works. Her skills in working with children have been invaluable as she provides balance

and positive feedback allowing our young thespians to grow in a nurturing environment.

Patty and her husband moved to Englewood 8 years ago from Rochester NY, where Patty was involved in both high school and Community Theatre. She found LPB to be very welcoming and decided to begin acting again. Her first Director, mentor, and number one supporter of the children's theatre camp, Rita Corn, encouraged Patty to continue her involvement. When Patty is not attending to her responsibilities at work or spending time with her family, she works with sick dolphins at Mote Aquarian.

Thank you, Patty. As you have been inspired by your mentor, you continue to inspire everyone who is fortunate enough to know you and to have had the opportunity to 'play' with you.

## **IMPORTANT EVENTS**

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

**August 15, 2016 at 6:00pm  
September 19, 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.**

## EDUCATION FOR FUTURE THESPIANS CONTINUES IN 2016

BY JIM SCIARELLO

For the fourth year in a row, Lemon Bay Playhouse has held the Lemondrops Summer Theatre Camp for children. Again, the camp was taught by Cheryl Hastings and Patty Tuff, two of our volunteers dedicated to teaching children the methods of acting. This year, there were 20 campers, ranging in age from seven to thirteen. Many were repeat students, including a few that attended all four camps. This year, there were fourteen returning actors. This is a real tribute to the teachers and aides involved in the program. This popularity of the summer theatre education opportunity demonstrates the need for this children's education and exposure to the theatre arts.



Eleven of the campers received full or partial scholarships. Seven of the scholarships were provided by LBP and four scholarships were provided by the Royal Palm Players of Boca Grande. Lemon Bay Playhouse thanks the Royal Palm Players for supporting our mission and efforts in providing education and training in the performing arts.

The classes ran Monday through Friday from 9:00am to noon. The classes started July 11<sup>th</sup> and ran for three weeks. The camp included snacks for each of the future thespians. In addition, the campers received an acting workbook, a water bottle, and a camp shirt.

The students were instructed by Cheryl and Patty. They were assisted by five volunteer camp helpers: Matthew Black, Nathan Black, Kayla Gebert, Dori Mann, and Myranda Villacis. The campers learned improvisation, characterization, blocking, puppetry, stage direction, and many more acting related activities. All of these techniques were then used in performances provided to parents and family at the end of the class. The performances were of two shows written by playwright Cheryl Hastings. The plays were *The Pin Head Brigade* and *The Nut Family Reunion*. Patty and Cheryl each directed one of the single act plays. Preview rehearsal for the summer camp students was performed for LBP volunteers on Friday, July 29 at 10am. Performances for the family and friends of campers were held on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. A "make your own sundae" cast party immediately followed the last performance. The families and friends of the campers were invited to the cast party.

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## HELP LBP RAISE THE ROOF BY PARTICIPATING IN THE 2016 GIVING CHALLENGE

BY CHARLIE TYLER



The yearly 24 Hour Giving Challenge represents an opportunity to make your donations to Lemon Bay Playhouse go further than ever. Last year, the money we raised, more than \$7,000, was used to help pay off the mortgage on the Annex, which the Playhouse now owns free and clear.

As you may already know, the Playhouse is replacing its leaky and outdated roof this summer. This project represents a major capital improvement to the theater and will cost in excess of \$40,000. To help defray the cost of the new roof, LBP will use its entire balance raised in the 2016 Giving Challenge to help underwrite this project.

If you do not know about the Giving Challenge and how it works, here is some information.

The Giving Challenge is an exciting 24-hour giving event supporting more than 450 nonprofits serving Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and DeSoto counties. Since 2012, donors from throughout our region have shown their love for local nonprofit organizations by providing more than \$15 million in unrestricted funding to support their missions. Last year's event set a new standard for generosity in our community, when more than \$7 million was raised in just 24 hours to benefit 449 nonprofits listed on The Giving Partner.

The date and time period for this year's challenge are September 20 and 21 from noon to noon. During this period, people who care about causes in our community can go online and make a secure donation, helping their favorite organizations receive special matching dollars and grant incentives. The website is [www.thegivingpartner.org](http://www.thegivingpartner.org) and will only be open for giving during the time period specified.

This year, the Patterson Foundation will provide a 2:1 match for contributions from **new** donors – for donations up to \$100 per new donor, per organization. Additionally, it will provide a 1:1 match for contributions from **returning** donors – for donations up to \$100 per donor, per organization. In other words, if you are a new donor and give \$50.00, the Patterson Foundation will match it with \$100. Your \$50.00 donation is actually worth \$150.00. If you are a returning donor and give \$50.00, the Foundation will match it with \$50.00, making that donation worth \$100. Moreover, anonymous donors having provided \$5,000 in matching funds for all donations. Just think how meaningful your donation to LBP will be this year.

More information about this event will be coming soon. Check the LBP Facebook page and the LBP website for the latest information.

The 2016 Giving Challenge is presented by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County with giving strengthened by The Patterson Foundation, as well as support from Manatee Community Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, William G. and Marie Selby Foundation, and the Herald-Tribune Media Group.



# MANY THANKS TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEER ACTORS

BY JIM SCIARELLO (on behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of Lemon Bay Playhouse)



We had seven fantastic shows, with a total of 130 performances, making our 29th season one that surpassed any previous year. The extra performance this year was a fundraiser for Englewood Helping Hands. This success is all attributed to our incredibly talented and dedicated volunteer actors. Because of them, the Directors and all of the volunteers "behind the scenes" who supported the plays performed on our stage, we were able to accomplish this. Our thanks go out to everyone who helped achieve this feat. Great job, people!



Harold and Burt, longtime friends, live in a retirement home and spend their days on a bench in the garden bickering. A once-famous actress has just moved in, giving them something new to argue over. Appearing in the show are (l to r) Joyce Cleary (Adrienne), Charlie Tyler (Burt), and Robin Mazey (Harold). Missing from the picture are Michele Strauss (Director) and Ann Hanushek (Stage Manager).



The cast of "Murder at the Howard Johnson's" meet at a Howard Johnson room to take a moment for a photo opportunity. Present (l to r) are Kim Fox (Arlene Miller), Jim Walsh (Mitchell Lovell), and Mike Levasseur (Paul Miller). Missing from the picture are Bob La Salle (Director) and Cheryl Hastings (Stage Manager).



The very capable cast of "Social Security", a tongue-in-cheek comedy of the sexually absurd, take a short break to pose for a picture. Seated (left to right) are Paul Bravo (Maurice Koenig) and Kathy Amelia (Sophie Greengrass). Standing (left to right) are Brad Jenkins (Martin Heyman), Judy Tilley (Trudy Heyman), Ralph Barnes (Director), Marion Barnes (Director), Dottie Warner (Stage Manager), Jessie Choate (Barbara Kahn) and Jim Manns (David Kahn).



The entire cast of "Plaza Suite" take a short break from rehearsals for a photo op. Seated (from left to right) are Stephanie Pressman (Jean McCormack), Ann Hanushek (Karen Nash), Margo Drewis (Muriel Tate), Michele Strauss (Norma Hubley), and Kim Tomchinsky (Mimsey Hubley). Standing (from left to right) are Sherry O'Connell (Bellhop), Donna Hadley (Stage Manager), Carol Rose (Bellhop), Michael LeVasseur (Sam Nash), Diane Mahoney (Bellhop), John Durkin (Jesse Kiplinger), George Mahoney (Bellhop), Charlie Tyler (Roy Hubley), and Nathaniel Haines (Borden Eisler), Linda Hateley (Bellhop), Barbara Moitoza (Bellhop), Charmon Buchanan (Bellhop) and Jane Deutsch (Bellhop). Missing from the picture is Ric Goodwin (Director).



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), and 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).



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



The cast of "Making God Laugh" took you through 30 years in the history of the life of a middle class American family are (left to right) Bob La Salle (Bill), Ruth Shaulis (Maddie), Kim Fox (Ruthie), James Manns (Richard), and Ian Bisset (Thomas). Missing from the picture are Ron Bupp (Director) and Dottie Warner (Stage Manager).



## INTENSIVE SUMMER ADULT ACTING WORKSHOP UNDERWAY

BY LOUISE GOODWIN

This summer's Adult Acting Intensive Workshop attracted fifteen beginning and intermediate participants from ages 15 to 82.

The Intensive class included units on dealing with tension and anxiety, auditioning, moment-to-moment monologue work, character analysis, physicalization of emotion, and beginning scene work. "Having a blended workshop of both beginning and intermediate students has been incredible", notes instructor Ric Goodwin. "The beginning students are learning from watching and interacting with the more advanced students, and with this wide age range and varied life experiences the observations have been valuable to all involved." The final class on August 6<sup>th</sup> featured process performances of individual character monologues by the students.

This Intensive class has already generated excitement about future acting classes at Lemon Bay Playhouse. The next Adult Acting Class will be held in January. Watch for information on all upcoming classes and programs in The Spotlight, on our website, and our Facebook page.



### 2016—2017 Showcase Productions

#### MARK TWAIN PERFORMS

"Mark Twain Turns 70, Words and Songs"

*Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016; 7:30 pm*

#### MARCY DOWNEY

"Swinging Through the 40's"

*Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017; 7:30 pm*

#### JOHN TUFF AND FRIENDS

"No 'Cryin' In Your Beer Old-time Country Music"

*Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017; 7:30 pm*

#### JIMMY MAZZ

"Las Vegas Legends"

*Saturday, April 15, 2017; 7:30 pm*

### 2017 Readers Theater

#### READERS THEATER 8th ANNUAL SHORTS ALOUD FESTIVAL

*Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 7:30 pm and*

*Sunday, February 19 at 2:00 and 7:30 pm*

### 2016-2017 FLEX SUBSCRIPTION (FOUR PACK) PASS AVAILABLE



Not here for the whole season? Want to purchase reduced price tickets? Try our Flex Subscription (Four Pack) Pass at a cost of \$68 per person. That is a savings of \$1 per ticket.

Each Flex Pass is valid for one ticket to a performance of your choice to any four of our plays you choose. Seats are not assigned for the Flex Pass. Purchasers will receive a code to be used when buying tickets to the four plays they wish to see. You choose the show, date and seat that best fits your needs.

The code may be used to select the shows and seats desired by calling (941) 475-6756, visiting the box office, or by going online at [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com).

Purchase your Flex Subscription by stopping by or calling the box office or by going to our website. We now accept all major credit cards as well as PayPal. We make your ticket purchases easy and without a service or processing fee. Free parking is always included.

As of 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

## IT'S AUDITION TIME!

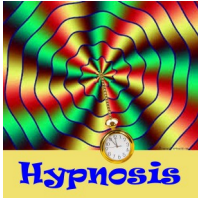
BY PAUL HYATT

### ***HYPNOSIS***

By David Tristram

Directed by Bob La Salle

Auditions on August 28 and 29, 2016



The Lemon Bay Playhouse will hold open Auditions for "Hypnosis" on Sunday, August 28 and Monday, August 29 at 7:00pm at the Playhouse Annex, 80 W. Dearborn St., Englewood.

The play, by David Tristram, will be directed by Bob LaSalle. The script calls for one female and two male actors.

This comedy thriller tells audiences about the Great Gordo, an alcoholic stage hypnotist in the twilight of his career, who randomly chooses Alan Briggs, a mild-mannered cop, as his next "victim." Though everything seems to go fine, someone out there has other ideas, and the mind games begin. A hilarious mixture between thriller and farce, this play will keep you guessing and in stitches throughout. The show runs from October 19 through November 6, 2016.

For more details visit [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://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.

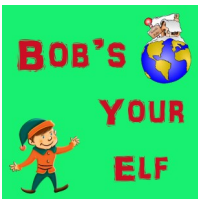
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### ***BOB'S YOUR ELF***

By Norman Foster

Directed by Tim Fitzgerald

Auditions on October 3 and 4, 2016



The Lemon Bay Playhouse will hold open auditions for "Bob's Your Elf" on Monday, October 3 and Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00pm at the Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn St., Englewood. Please note the change in the day of the week for the auditions.

This play, by Norman Foster, will be directed by Tim Fitzgerald and calls for a cast of two female and four male actors.

In this rare comedy, an ornery elf named Bob gets banished from the North Pole to learn a lesson about co-operation. Santa sends him to a small town to help out with their Christmas Pageant. There, Bob is faced with a group of bumbling amateur actors who are struggling to put on the best darn Christmas show their town has ever seen.

The show will run from November 30 through December 18, 2016. For more details visit [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://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.

## OUR CURRENT PRODUCTION

BY PAUL HYATT

### ***EXIT LAUGHING***

By Paul Elliott

Directed by Peter Ivanov

September 7 - September 25, 2016



For the opening production of its 30th Season (Yes, 30th!), the Lemon Bay Playhouse will present "Exit Laughing" by Paul Elliott. Directed by Peter Ivanov. The show opens on September 7 and runs through September 25, 2016.

This crowd pleasing comedy tells a story about four women. For 30 years their lives revolved around their weekly "girls" bridge night. But when one of the foursome inconveniently dies, Millie decides to "borrow" the ashes from the funeral home for one last card game. Thus begins one of the most zany and unforgettable nights of their lives! (and yours!)

Visit [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://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 superb cast, director and stage manager assembled for "Exit Laughing" take a short break from rehearsals to pose for a group photo. Standing (from left to right) are Peter Ivanov (Director), Susie Lowe (Leona), Maureen Young (Connie), Ruth Shaulis (Millie), and Dottie Warner (Stage Manager). Seated (from left to right) are Dawn Kalish (Rachel) and Ray Magsby (Bobby).

## IN MEMORIAM

Please join us in remembering Joy Kyper, who passed away on June 19. Joy was a dedicated volunteer at Lemon Bay Playhouse for many years. Along with her husband, Russ, she was actively involved as a house manager. Additionally, Joy was always willing to help with any playhouse activities when needed. Her community involvement was not limited to the playhouse. Joy and her husband co-founded the Buchan Aviation Day fly-in breakfast in 2007, the Spirit of Englewood solar ferry project in 2014, and became active in the Chamber of Commerce, SHORE, and Sunshine Girl in Park Forest. In her spare time throughout her life, she wrote several hundred poems. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her husband and family. She will be missed by her family, friends, and the community.





96 W. Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34223

## ***Celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> Season!*** **2016-2017**

<i><b>EXIT LAUGHING</b></i> by Paul Elliott	September 7 – September 25, 2016
<i><b>HYPNOSIS</b></i> by David Tristram	October 19 – November 6, 2016
<i><b>BOB'S YOUR ELF</b></i> by Norm Foster	November 30 - December 18, 2016
<i><b>OFFICE HOURS</b></i> by Norm Foster	January 18 - February 12, 2017
<i><b>TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE</b></i> by Mitch Albom	March 8 - April 2, 2017
<i><b>I OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES</b></i> by Neil Simon	April 26 - May 14, 2017
<i><b>SENIOR FOLLIES</b></i> by Billy St. John	June 7 - June 25, 2017

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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](http://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."