



## DECEMBER, 2013 - JANUARY, 2014

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a bang up start to the season we have had! *Sinners* was a huge success bringing in record attendance for a September play, and *The Good Doctor* was also very well received. The Christmas play, only the second since we converted to a seven production season, is looking to do very well also.

At our next board meeting, which will take place on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM, we will be discussing the new curtain; what color it should be as well as the type and weight of the fabric. In addition, we have gotten two very comprehensive proposals for a new sound and video system for the theater and that will be discussed also.

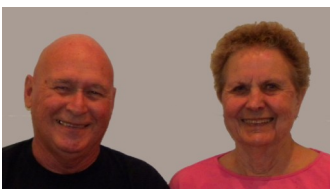
As to the new marquee signage, Rosanne Nietupski, a very loyal patron, saw the reference to it in the last Spotlight and sent us a check for \$500.00, in memory of her parents, Stan and Sarah Nietupski, to pay for it. It is this kind of loyalty and generosity that gives us at LBP the desire to work harder to bring quality entertainment to our community. The sign is now installed and looks great.

We wish to welcome Michelle Neitzel to our board. Over the years, Michelle has appeared on our stage many times and is always willing to work hard for the success of our theater. She brings with her not only her acting skills, but business skills as well, and a true love for LBP. I know she will be a great addition to our board.

Bob La Salle, President

### VOLUNTEER CURTAIN CALL

BY RON BUPP



Neal and Eunice Schattauer moved to Englewood in 1995 and immediately became regular attendees at Lemon Bay Playhouse. They were so impressed with our intimate theater that they volunteered to work backstage. The first show they worked on was

*Norman, Is That You?* in 2009. Since that time, they have

been involved with all but two productions. When not working backstage, they are active as reliable House Managers.

This charming and hard working couple met on a blind date while living in Iowa. Neal was employed by ATT Phone Co. for 33 years and Eunice was a registered nurse. They have been married 58 years. When Neal is not volunteering at LBP he is busy as an active member of the Lemon Bay Chord Company. They both volunteer at Faith Lutheran Church. They perform all of their volunteer efforts with admirable energy and infectious charm and they continue to be amazed at the warmth and friendship of our Lemon Bay Playhouse.

They recommend becoming a volunteer to anyone with even the slightest interest in theater. LBP stage managers refer to the Schattauer's as Mr. & Mrs. Reliable. Thank you, Neal and Eunice, for all you do for us.

### A FOND FAREWELL AND A CALL FOR HELP

BY BOB LA SALLE

We wish to say a fond farewell to Bev and Jim Berkshire. Jim has been designing and building our sets for the past few years and Bev has been decorating them. They are both very innovative and artistic, and they have produced some of the most beautiful sets that have ever graced our stage. We will miss them dearly.

And now the call for help: With the departure of Bev and Jim, we will be needing people to assume their responsibilities. A person, or persons, who would be willing to help design the sets and supervise the construction of same, will be sorely needed. You would not have to work alone as there are many willing hands available to help in the construction, etc.

Also, Michelle Neitzel is willing to pitch in to help with set décor, but we are looking for others who would like to share the duties; picking colors, furniture, wall decorations, curtains, etc. All the things that are necessary to round out the set. If you are interested in helping us, please call the box office a 941-475-6756 or stop by and give us your name.

## ANNEX MORTGAGE FUNDRAISER

BY JIM SCIARELLO

### *The Gin Game* - A Tragi-Comedy

Written by D.L. Coburn

Saturday, January 18 at 7:30pm

Sunday, January 19 at 2:00pm



Veteran actors Rita Corn and Jack Rabito have generously volunteered to produce and perform *The Gin Game* at Lemon Bay Playhouse. The proceeds from this two-performance run will be used to reduce the mortgage on the Annex, which was purchased by LBP earlier this year.

Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Gin Game* is a dramatic comedy. Fonsia and Weller, two residents in a nursing home, develop a friendship while playing gin. Fonsia is a newcomer to the game and Weller an expert. Fonsia's beginner's luck drives Weller to exasperation. Their mutual need for comfort is momentarily satisfied, until Weller's frustration, and Fonsia's subtle needling, builds to a terrible confrontation. Much is revealed about their respective regret-filled lives. During the continual shuffling and playing of cards, they slowly come to grips with what is left of their lives in their old age.

**Note: Mature language is part of the script.**

Tickets are \$18.00 each and are available by visiting or calling the box office at (941) 475-6756 or by going online at [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com).

## CALLING ALL ACTORS

BY RITA CORN

### *A TOUCH OF DANGER*



Open auditions for *A Touch of Danger*, by Francis Durbridge, and directed by Matt McCord, will be held Sunday, Jan. 12 and Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, at 7:00pm, at the Playhouse.

Novelist Max Telligan returns to his London apartment from Munich to find his evening newspaper reporting his violent death. He is greeted by a parade of mysterious visitors. Max, it seems, has unwittingly become embroiled in an international terrorist group! The Director is looking for 5 male and 4 female actors. The show will run from March 12 to April 6, 2014. Perusal scripts and sides will be available at the Box Office. For further information call 941-475-6756 on weekdays, from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

## NOW IN REHEARSALS

### *THE LAST ROMANCE*

by Joe DiPietro

Directed by Dan Higgs

January 22 through February 16, 2014

A crush can make anyone feel young again—even an elderly widower. A chance meeting leads Ralph to woo the elegant but distant, Carol. Defying Carol's reticence—and his lonely sister's jealousy—Ralph regains a happiness that seemed all but lost. You will not want to miss this show!

## OUR CURRENT PRODUCTION

BY JIM SCIARELLO

### *A CHRISTMAS CACTUS*

By Eliot Byerrum

Directed by Bob La Salle

December 4 through 22, 2014

Lemon Bay Playhouse has selected *A Christmas Cactus*, a holiday mystery comedy, written by Eliot Byerrum for our next production. This holiday season show, directed by Bob La Salle, turns Christmas into a Dickens of a holiday for private investigator Cactus O'Riley as she solves mysteries, delivers small miracles, and takes a second chance on love.

Cactus is attempting to lure her secretary, Fred, away from his overly-protective mother; dodging the attentions of Deputy D.A. Windsor; and considering closing her business for good. She doesn't need the added aggravation of two fugitives who burst into her office looking for justice and a dead detective named Jake Marley. Cactus also doesn't need Fred's mother, who arrives to take Fred home but decides to stay because she thinks this is the Christmas murder mystery party she has always dreamed of attending. This show is a charming contemporary Christmas tale where goodwill and justice triumph.

Information and tickets for this show are now available online at [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com) or by visiting or calling the box office at 941- 475-6756 between 10am and 2pm weekdays and one hour prior to curtain time.



A very talented cast was chosen by the Director. The players include (l to r) Bill Fisackerly as Deputy D.A. Stuart Windsor, Kim Fisackerly as private investigator Cactus O'Riley, Rick Moore as Cactus' secretary, Fred Booker, Lee Lawler as Fred's mother Adelaide Booker, Nick Nichols as convicted embezzler Neville Smedley and Bob La Salle as illegal alien Ramon Ramirez.

## NEXT SEASON'S PRODUCTIONS

The Play Selection Committee, consisting of Rosie Tremo (Chairperson), Doreen Barnett, Ron Bupp, Rita Corn, Paul Hyatt, Bob LaSalle, Dale Moore and Dottie Ziots, has chosen seven great plays for our 28th season. The 2014 - 2015 season looks like this:

**Don't Talk To The Actors** - Sept. 3 - Sept. 21, 2014 - Comedy by Tom Dudzick

**Ladies In Retirement** - Oct. 22 - Nov. 9, 2014 - Mystery/Drama by Edward Percy & Reginald Denham

**Greetings!** - Dec. 3 - Dec. 21, 2014 - Comedy by Tom Dudzick

**Lettice and Lovage** - Jan. 21 thru Feb.15, 2015 - Comedy by Peter Shaffer

**Don't Dress For Dinner** - Mar. 11 thru April 5, 2015 - Comedy by Marc Camoletti adapted by Robin Hawdon

**Oh Mama! No, Papa!** - April 29 thru May 17, 2015 - Comedy by Reginald Denham

**Something To Hide** - June 10 thru June 28, 2015 - Thriller by Leslie Sands



## SHOWCASE PRESENTATIONS

BY JIM SCIARELLO

Our first Showcase performer, Kardenni, was sold out. But we still have two very exciting and entertaining Showcase Presentations left this season (Sorry - Barbara Van Eycken is already sold out). These talented professionals will delight you with the variety and quality of their performances. Reserved tickets are \$18.00 each and are available online or from the box office (941-4756756). Tickets are selling quickly, so choose the entertainers you want to see and purchase your tickets now to get the best seat selection available.



### CYNTHIA SAYER

**Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014; 7:30 pm**  
**"Strummin and Toe Tapping"**

Cynthia Sayer is regarded as one of the top 4-string banjoists in the world today. A member of Woody Allen's jazz band for over 10 years, Cynthia's solo career has taken her well beyond these New Orleans roots to become an acclaimed band leader and guest artist.



### BARBARA VAN EYCKEN

**Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014; 7:30 pm**

**"Country To Pop, A Tribute To Patsy Cline"**

Ms. Van Eycken discovered Patsy Cline's music and story in 2000, and the next year, after winning first place for "Best Female Tribute Artist" in a major competition, this native New Yorker knew she was on to something big.

### CAROL AND JOHNNIE

**Saturday, April 12, 2014; 7:30 pm**  
**"Music and Mayhem"**



Carol and Johnnie perform songs, comedy, ventriloquism, and impersonations with a dash of audience participation. Nostalgic medleys include songs from the Golden Oldies, Pop Standards, Old Time Rock and Roll, and Classic Country.

## GREETINGS FROM READERS THEATER

BY KATHY AMELIA

The Holiday Season is upon us and as a result, the Readers Theater Outreach Program has five bookings in the community for the month of December! Spreading the word about Lemon Bay Playhouse is our main goal and audiences are very receptive to our unique form of theater. We are looking forward to the New Year, both at the Playhouse for our monthly RT sessions, and in the surrounding communities through our Outreach troupe. As we start 2014, we wish all our members a blessed and healthy New Year. Please mark your calendar. Auditions for the "Fifth Annual Shorts Aloud Festival" are on January 19 and 20, 2014, at 7 pm, in the Annex and are open to all Readers Theater participants. This is an opportunity to show our format on the main stage to a ticketed audience. As it is our fifth year, it will be truly special, so be a part of it and audition!



## ACTING CLASSES

BY RITA CORN



Seven students graduated from the Intermediate Acting Class taught by Ron DelBello. Ron is pictured here reviewing class materials with (left to right) Rosie Tremo, Joanna Ballis, Benny Watson, John Borges, Ann Foster, Victoria Caruso, and Jane Pietrucki.

If you missed the classes last year, here is your opportunity to join in. LBP will offer two more classes in the new year. The classes and details follow:

**Adult Beginning Acting**, instructed by Ron DelBello, will begin Tuesday, Jan. 14, from 10:00AM to noon at the Annex and will run thru Mar. 4, with a performance on Saturday, Mar. 8. The cost for this class will be \$50.

**Shakespeare Workshop**, instructed by Charlie Tyler, will begin Thursday Jan. 16 from 10:00AM to noon at the Annex and will run thru Mar. 6, with a performance also on Saturday, Mar. 8. The cost for this class is \$50.

These classes are a great value for the money and were very popular last year. We encourage you to sign up early to guarantee a spot in the class.

We also plan to repeat the **Lemondrops Summer Theater Camp for Children** again in 2014. The camp was very successful and fantastic positive comments were received from parents and students.

## A FEW SHORT OF A COVEN

BY JIM SCIARELLO



On Halloween five lovely witches appeared at Lemon Bay Playhouse to greet the Halloween trick or treaters that stopped by the theater looking for goodies. Our coven of witches included (from left to right) Mary Raybold, Becky Koranchan, Ann Hanushek, Mary Jane Handlin, and Marilyn Barton.

## IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

### BOARD MEETINGS

**December 16, 2013 at 7:00 pm**

**January 20, 2014 at 7:00 pm**

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

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.



96 W. Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34223

## *Celebrating our 27<sup>th</sup> Season!*

### **2013-2014**

*SINNERS* by Norm Foster  
*THE GOOD DOCTOR* by Neil Simon  
*A CHRISTMAS CACTUS* by Eliot Byerrum  
*THE LAST ROMANCE* by Joe DiPietro  
*A TOUCH OF DANGER* by Francis Durbridge  
*THE FOURPOSTER* by Jan de Hartog  
*THE HEIRESS* by Ruth Goetz and Augustus Goetz

September 4 - September 22, 2013  
October 23 - November 10, 2013  
December 4 - December 22, 2013  
January 22 - February 16, 2014  
March 12 - April 6, 2014  
April 30 - May 18, 2014  
June 11 - June 29, 2014

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LBP Box Office is open Monday-Friday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. 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."