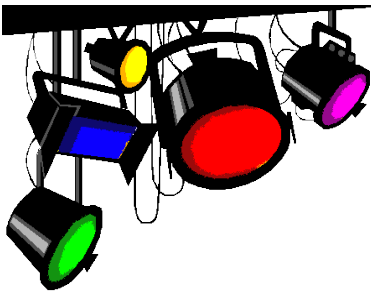




APRIL - MAY, 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



First, let me say that I am gratified to have been elected to the Board of Trustees once again and to have also been elected, by my peers, as President. I promise to work diligently for the improvement and the con-

tinued excellence of LBP. Thank you to all who voted for me.

I have started work on a new budget. This will take some time, and I expect to have it ready for the next board meeting. Looking back at our previous fiscal year, we are in fine financial shape, largely due to our diligence in keeping expenses down.

I have been talking with our new Set Designer/ Supervisor, Bob Parker, and I am very pleased with his actions and plans for us for the future. We were very fortunate to have found him. A big thank you to Ric Goodwin for his efforts in that endeavor. In anticipation of the added cost, the Board has voted to raise ticket prices for next season by a modest amount. However, our tickets are still a bargain, especially when compared to the other theaters in the immediate area.

The Board has inaugurated a new Strategic Plan for the coming years here at LBP. The plans are ambitious, but if we all pull together and apply ourselves to these projects, we can accomplish what we set out to do. The full plan can be seen on our website so please look it up and read it. Maybe there is something there you can help us with. Remember, we are a volunteer organization and we depend on you all to carry us through.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob La Salle, President

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT READERS THEATER

BY KATHY AMELIA

After another successful run of our eighth "Shorts Aloud Festival", Readers Theater is winding down its season. Our sold out three performances prove that this unique form of live theater is continuing its popularity in our area. Our monthly RT attendance has increased and many of our participants have gone on to roles in main-stage productions at Lemon Bay Playhouse and surrounding community theaters. One of the areas I will be working on in the off months will be to increase our outreach performances throughout the community, bringing RT entertainment to women's groups, social clubs, assisted living facilities, etc. If you are involved in an organization or know of a particular group that might like to have RT entertainment for their meetings or fundraisers, please take a Readers Theater brochure from the theater and pass it along.

Hopefully, with a mass mailing to past, present and new contacts, our outreach numbers for 2017-2018 will increase. Our last monthly RT gathering is May 1, and we will resume in October. To all of you, have a wonderful summer and always be on the lookout for some new material for Readers Theater.

Hope to see you on the aisle.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

BOARD MEETINGS

In the Green Room

April 17, 2017 at 6:00pm

May 15, 2017 at 6:00pm

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME FOR BOARD MEETINGS

Changes in meeting dates or times will be posted on the website and sent by email

VOLUNTEER CURTAIN CALL

BY JIM MANNS



Joyce Cleary's foray into the arts began when she was seven years of age. Starting with tap dance and eventually classical ballet, Joyce says "my mother thought it would help make me graceful". Back in the 1950s, she was with what they called at the time "Semi Professional". She appeared at a playhouse with mostly amateur singers, dancers and actors, along with professional directors and choreographers. "I got paid \$10 a week for the

first performance and a \$2 dollar a week raise for each subsequent show". There were three shows a year, each running for 4 weeks every day but Sunday. This lasted for 3 years. After that, Joyce became a professional with the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. She joined the Equity Chorus ensemble and signed her first contract. Joyce continued to study her craft with further professional instructions in both Chicago and New York. Joyce later went on to teach the next generation of ballerinas.

After that, our Joyce got bitten by the love bug and got married (for nearly 51 years) and raised two successful children - a son with a dental practice in Ohio, and a daughter who teaches at a college here in Bradenton. It would be many years before Joyce would venture back into the theatre because "My husband hated the theatre".

In 2008, after her husband passed on, Joyce decided it was time to get back into the theatre. After searching the internet she called up

a local theatre (who will remain nameless) and got an answering machine - "I hate those things". Her next call was to LBP where the phone was answered. There is something to be said about the personal touch, isn't there? At that time, she was told about Readers Theater, which she promptly joined.

Her first experience backstage at LBP was during the production of "Dixie Swim Club" where she shadowed Ann Hanushek as an assistant stage manager. "Do you know that Ann actually shared her check with me? That's how gracious that woman is". All those out there who are surprised by that statement raise your hand.... Nobody, huh? I thought so. Joyce's first role at LBP was in "The Mousetrap", directed by Richard Blanchard, where she played Mrs. Boyle and was unceremoniously strangled to death.... Theatre can be so cruel. Over the years, she has supported our theatre by taking many acting classes, her first with Ron Del Bello.

One of her most moving experiences was during the making of "A Bench in the Sun", directed by Michelle Strauss - "I so loved working with that woman". Joyce has recently rejoined the Readers Theater and volunteers her time with the Outreach Program. One of the ways our volunteers can support our Jewel on Dearborn is by attending our monthly meeting, and her face is one you can expect to find on a regular basis. Thank You, Joyce Cleary.

Author's note: I first met Joyce a couple years ago when she played the title role in "Nana's Naughty Knickers", I've loved her ever since.

2017-2018 SEASON TICKETS ON SALE



This season, LBP is again providing you with seven great plays for your enjoyment. The 2017-2018 season brochure is now available. If you did not receive a brochure for our 31st 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

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 \$120 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 \$76 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, 2017. Flex Pass Subscription sales will continue as long as four productions are available.

On August 1, 2017, 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.

WINTER 2017 ADULT ACTING CLASS CURTAIN CALL

BY RIC GOODWIN

The winter 2017 Acting Class was a nice blend of newcomers and returnees. The class started on January 17th with 14 actors attending. The final showcase performance featured six monologues and two scene performances. The beginner actors performed short monologues, while the "veterans" performed the scenes. Throughout the eight week session, we worked primarily on in-class analysis and moment-to-moment work in the performance pieces. Shorter units included "nonsense" scenes, comedy, and farce techniques. On Saturday, March 11th, we shared the stage with the Shakespeare Class for our showcase followed by an "afterglow" reception for the actors and their guests. A good time was had by all!

2016-2017 Showcase Productions

JIMMY MAZZ

"Las Vegas Legends"

Saturday, April 15, 2017; 7:30 pm

IT'S AUDITION TIME!

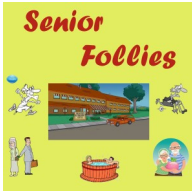
BY PAUL HYATT

SENIOR FOLLIES

By Billy St. John

Directed by Ric Goodwin

Auditions on April 9 and 10, 2017



The Lemon Bay Playhouse will hold open auditions for "Senior Follies" on Sunday, April 9 and Monday, April 10 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm at the playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn St., Englewood.

The play, a comedy, written by Billy St. John and directed by Ric Goodwin, calls for a cast of five

female and four male actors. The show will run from June 7 through June 25, 2017.

Who says being old can't be fun? The rocking is not done in chairs at the Pleasant Valley Retirement Home, especially since Howard discovered Viagra! The feisty divorcee and lovely widow who are constantly scurrying out of his reach and refuse to play strip poker or skinny dip in the hot tub breathe a sigh of relief when a new resident actually seems to enjoy Howard's advances. Other roles for senior actors include a less than energetic wife and her husband, a gardening fanatic. Don't miss the hilarity in this wonderful comedy for a mature cast by the author of "The Abduction", "The Reunion", and other plays.

For more details visit our website at www.lemonbayplayhouse.com. Scripts and sides are available for perusal on our website (sides only) or at the Box Office between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays. For information call (941) 475-6756.

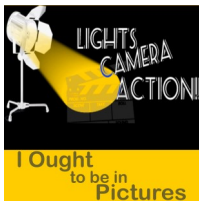
UPCOMING PRODUCTION

BY PAUL HYATT

I OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES

By Neil Simon

Directed by Ron Bupp



The Lemon Bay Playhouse announces its upcoming show, "I Ought to be in Pictures". The play, the sixth production of the season, was written by Neil Simon and will be directed by Ron Bupp. The show will run from April 26 through May 14, 2017.

This play tells a touching story about Herb, a Hollywood screenwriter currently between "gigs" and suffering from writer's block, who is surprised when his past reappears in the form of Libby, his estranged young daughter from Brooklyn. She has made the trek cross country with dreams of movie stardom. With encouragement from Steffy, his once-a-week girlfriend at his side, Herb decides to take another stab at fatherhood and hopefully this time, get it right. Be sure to get a good seat by booking early to see this show.

Information and tickets are available online at www.lemonbayplayhouse.com or by visiting or calling the Box Office at (941) 475-6756 between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays and one hour prior to curtain time. Reserved seat tickets are \$18. Student tickets are available at \$12 each.

JUST COMPLETED PRODUCTION

BY PAUL HYATT

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

By Mitch Albom

Directed by Ric Goodwin

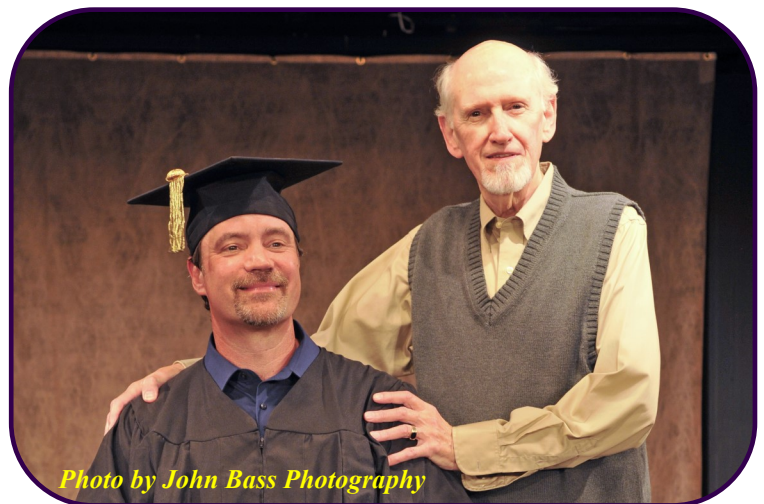
March 8 - April 2, 2017



For the fifth production of its 30th Season, the Lemon Bay Playhouse presented *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom and directed by Ric Goodwin. The performances ran from March 8 through April 2, 2017.

This strong and touching drama tells the autobiographical story of Mitch Albom, an accomplished journalist driven solely by his career, and Morrie Schwartz, his former college professor. After a 16 year separation, their rekindled relationship turned into one final 'class': lessons in how to live. The pair journey down a path in which the older man passes lessons of life to the younger man, who will always remember his Tuesdays with Morrie - an inspiring and unforgettable evening of theatre.

Ric Goodwin says "This production proved to be one of LBP's most critically acclaimed shows in recent years. Audience members commented on the unique staging and the chemistry between the two actors and how they were brought to both laughter and tears by this powerful production."



The actors, appearing in "Tuesdays with Morrie", take time out from rehearsals for a photo. They are (l to r) Jim Griesmeyer (Mitch Albom) and Murray Hudson (Morrie Schwartz).

LEMONDROPS CHILDREN'S SUMMER THEATRE CAMP RETURNS



Keep an eye out for the dates and times



PURCHASE YOUR SEASON TICKETS NOW TO GUARANTEE THE BEST SEAT SELECTION



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223

Celebrating our 30th Season! **2016-2017**

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