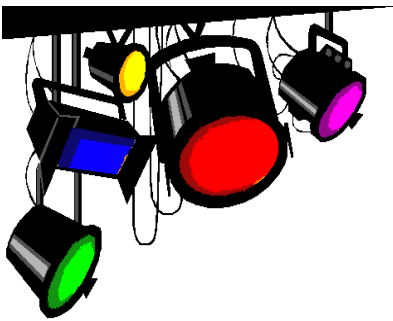




JULY-AUGUST, 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



These are interesting and harrowing times we are living in. Not since 1918 has the world had to face such a dangerous pandemic as COVID-19. I hope you are all staying safe at home, social distancing and wearing a mask when you go out. Please keep it safe for yourself, your neighbors and your loved ones.

Because of the pandemic, we have had to make some hard decisions here at Lemon Bay Playhouse. Back in March we decided to cancel the rest of the season to keep our patrons and volunteers safe. It seemed to be the only rational thing to do in the face of what was happening. Then, as the number of cases in Florida rose, we decided to cancel our kid's summer camp as well.

We took a look at our play list for the next season, and made changes that would reduce the number of people on stage in order to minimize the chance of passing the disease among them. We also canceled the first play of the season, *Fox on the Fairway*, because it had such a large cast. We adopted a strict set of guidelines that would be necessary to open the theatre which would be applicable to our patrons, volunteers and actors. In addition, maintaining social distancing in our theatre means that we can only seat 41 people per performance. A large cut in our attendance, but necessary.

Now, because of the huge spike after the ill-conceived reopening and the predictions by the scientific community of a second wave in the fall, we are contemplating not reopening until January as many of the theatres in the state are doing. Even Broadway is shut down until then. The Board of Trustees will be making that decision shortly. Stay tuned.

Fortunately, because we have been very frugal and built up a nice nest of eggs in hopes of buying or building a new theater, we are not yet hurting financially and expect we will come out of this sound and doing well.

Please stay safe. I want to see you all here at the theatre when the reopening comes.

Respectfully,

Bob La Salle

LBP WILL POSTPONE OPENING UNTIL JANUARY 2021

After long deliberation and in light of the best advice from all avenues of information, the Board of Trustees has decided it is in the best interest of our patrons, staff and volunteers to delay our opening until January 2021. Hopefully the pandemic will have declined to a tolerable level with good treatments and possibly a vaccine available.



LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

BY BOB LA SALLE



Here is a recipe that comes down from my Grandmother. It is what is termed a “peasant dish” as it uses simple, available ingredients. It is my favorite cake and my youngest son insisted on it for his birthday every year. Enjoy!

YUM YUM CAKE

In a sauce pan:

- 1 ½ cups water
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup raisins
- ½ cup shortening (Crisco, or the like)
- 2 squares chocolate or ½ cup cocoa (I prefer the cocoa)
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon cloves
- Pinch of salt
- Simmer above ingredients slowly for 5 minutes then cool to room temperature.

Add and mix well:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- You may also add walnuts if you like.
- Pour into a well greased 9x9 or 6x10 pan.
- Bake for 30 minutes at 350 degrees or until done.
- You may frost it or not depending on your taste. I like it frosted.

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT READER’S THEATRE?

BY KATHY AMELIA

Well, this has been anything but a normal summer! Before our season ended, we had two outreach bookings cancel due to COVID-19 with the hopes of rescheduling them during the winter months. As we continue to adjust back to the "new normal," we will resume Readers Theatre first Monday session in January 2021. At this time, I do not know what the procedure will be ahead of us, i.e. masks, social distancing, etc. but I am sure this pandemic will continue through the fall. Let's all be safe and listen to the science regarding this pandemic. I had two cases in my family in New York, but they had mild symptoms and have recovered.

See you on the aisle!

LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

2020 THOUGHTS

BY DEB POLING AND LPB VOLUNTEERS

We asked our outstanding volunteers about their thoughts on 2020. Here are their one of a kind thoughts!

No news is good news !!!!!

COVID has changed how we relate to each other. A friend didn't feel very good. I told her, "Gee, I hope it is allergies, a bad cold, or food poisoning." She actually thanked me!

Before COVID, I only watched Netflix on weekends. Now, I don't know what day it is!

Personally, I don't agree with the CDC's COVID advice for young people. This "have safe sex with yourself" stuff is crushing my dreams for grandkids.

Isolation during quarantine has been a creative time for me. I invented a new cocktail. Bourbon, Water, and Miralax. I call it the "Whisky a Go-Go."

Watching even a professional Broadway production on TV with just the dogs for company isn't as satisfying as live theatre. Although they do put out wine and cookies at intermission and make me wait in line for the bathroom.

My doctor offered me a telemedicine appointment during the COVID crisis. I'm supposed to have a pap smear. How does that work?

To be honest, the worst part of this all is missing people. When the run of *Lend Me a Tenor* was cut short, I was suddenly left with nothing to do in the evenings and no one to see. So, I was trying to find things to do. My laundry is all clean, the furniture dusted and the garage perfectly organized. I hope all of you are safe and being smart, only way to be until this blows over.

My hair can now be in a ponytail, plus I have a tan, elastic waist shorts, sleeveless shirts, mostly its casual night clothes all day.

We are experiencing the strangest, scariest, most confusing time of our lives. We will always remember these days as before, during, and after coronavirus.

After the lockdown, I did all the activities that most people were doing. First, cleaning the house which all my friends, men and women were doing. I love cooking so that was fun for a while. Okay, cleaning, cooking, streaming, reading, meditating, walking, and playing with the dogs and my husband. Now what? Just in time an actor friend invited me to join a group of like-minded theatre folks to participate in Zoom Play Readings. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and set off to learn all about ZOOM. I found that my love of technology and theatre have kept me interested and busy for the good part of year 2020.

Alas, as we all know, there is nothing that takes the place of live theatre. I can't wait until we get back to it and do what we love doing.

I have now learned to use and love Amazon Prime!

One of the things I miss most at this time of social distancing is a hug. I will be so happy when we can hug again.

I learned how to cut my own hair. Boy, do I appreciate my hair stylist now!

Washing my hands throughout the day sure does dry them out. Thank goodness I have lots of lotion.

Lots of time at home to think: Why in the world don't toasters have a window so you can see how toasted your bread is? Why do I push harder on the remote buttons when the batteries are dead?

If the past couple months has taught us anything, it's that stupidity spreads faster than any virus!

BOX OFFICE UPDATE

BY DEB POLING

The Lemon Bay Playhouse Box Office will open on **Monday, November 30 at 10:00 am**. Flex passes and individual ticket sales will be available for purchase as we prepare for the opening of *Art of Murder* on January 20, 2021. Our first Showcase Production will be *Paisley Craze* on Saturday, January 9, 2021. Get your tickets early as they typically sell out fast! See you in 2021!





96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223

Celebrating our 34th Season! 2020-2021

<i>ART OF MURDER</i> by Joe Dipietro	January 20 – February 14, 2021
<i>ALMOST, MAINE</i> by John Cariani	March 10 – April 4, 2021
<i>NOW AND THEN</i> by Sean Grennan	April 28 - May 16, 2021
<i>BAGGAGE</i> by Sam Bobrick	June 9 - June 27, 2021

Editor/Publisher: Crystal Coluzzi **Photography:** John Bass **Proofreader:** Debbie Park
Printing and Mailing: The Olde Englewood Mailing Co.

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 (or scan the QR code)



Mission Statement

“We strive to improve diversity and enrich the greater Englewood community through live theater, volunteerism, education in the performing arts, and to provide a venue for other cultural activities.”