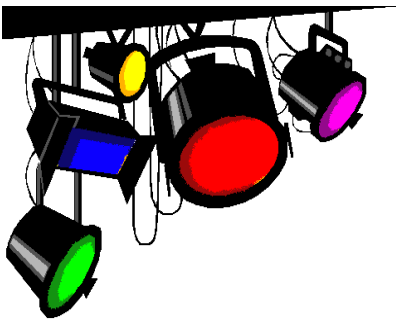




SUMMER 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's been a long haul since we were forced to close our doors in March 2020. During that time, even though we were not producing any plays, we used the down time to make improvements to our theatre with a new paint job, improved lighting, and other touches here and there. But now the wait is over! The COVID-19 vaccinations has changed everything and plans are underway to open up fully in September with *Separate Beds*, a comedy that takes place on a cruise ship. We have planned a full season of great plays and are looking forward to full houses as we welcome everyone back. Check our website for our complete season schedule including the wonderful Showcase specialties we have planned.

At the end of June we said goodbye to our Artistic/Production Manager, Jeff Dillon, who has moved on to other adventures in theatre. Jeff did a wonderful job for us, especially during this trying time, and we hope he will pop in occasionally and help out here and there. We welcomed Lori Sigrist to our theatre family as the new Artistic Production Manager. Lori has a wonderful theatre background and comes to us from Fort Myers via New York. We are so very pleased to have her here to take over the reins. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the theatre come September.

Respectfully,

Bob La Salle



LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

BY DEB PARK



Dang Good Chicken Dip!

Ingredients:

- 1 can (8-10 oz.) Whole Chicken Breast (drained)
- 3/4 cup to 1 cup of hot sauce
- 2 bricks of Philadelphia cream cheese
- 1/2 cup of ranch dressing
- Shredded mild cheddar cheese
- Tortilla chips

Directions:

- In sauce pan, combine chicken and hot sauce on medium heat
- Sauté until well mixed
- Add cream cheese and stir constantly until melted
- Turn off heat
- Stir in ranch dressing
- Mix well
- Pour mixture into a pie plate
- Top with shredded cheese
- Bake at 325° for 25 minutes
- Serve warm with tortilla chips



We want your recipes! Submit your own recipe to be shared in future articles by emailing them to boxoffice@lemonbayplayhouse.com

AUDITIONS!

BY CRYSTAL AVELLA

We will be doubling-up auditions for six of the shows in our upcoming season. This is sometimes referred to as cluster auditions (auditioning multiple shows on the same date). Actors will have the option of auditioning for one or both shows but because the shows run back-to-back, actors who are cast can only do one of the two shows.

Please Note: Due to the COVID-19 virus the audition plans are subject to change.

These are the shows that will share audition dates:

Fox on the Fairway and *A Child's Christmas In Wales* – August 29 & 30, 2021

Old Ringers and *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* – November 21 & 22, 2021

The Psychic and *The Savannah Shpping Society* – February 20 & 21, 2022



Auditions

As in the past, all auditions will start at 7:00 pm. Actors will have the option of auditioning for one or both shows but because the shows run back-to-back, actors who are cast can only do one of the two shows. Scripts and sides will be available for perusal on our website (sides only) or at the Box Office between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm weekdays.



Auditions

LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

BOX OFFICE UPDATE

BY DEB POLING

Hooray! The 2021-2022 Season is scheduled to open this September. The new season is filled with seven great plays, along with several musical and comedy showcases. If you did not receive a brochure, you can view it on our website at: www.lemonbayplayhouse.com.

Are you here for the whole season? If you are not already a season subscriber, this provides an opportunity 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 \$138 per person. One free ticket! Season subscription renewals are being processed now as we receive them. Deadline for renewal is June 30. New subscriptions will be processed in July after current subscriptions are complete.

If you are not here for the whole season, you can still purchase reduced tickets by getting a Flex Pass. The Flex Pass is good for four different plays and purchased for \$82. Each Flex Pass is valid for one ticket to a performance of your choice to any four of our plays you choose. Please note, the Flex Pass is only good for our plays, not the Showcase Productions. Flex Pass subscription sales will continue as long as there are four productions available.

Season and Flex Pass Subscription tickets may be purchased by completing the season ticket form on our website and mailing it to the Playhouse at 96 W Dearborn, Englewood, FL 34223. Flex Passes can also be purchased online by clicking "Buy Tickets." Individual ticket sales for all plays and showcase productions may be purchased starting Monday, August 2 on the website, at the box office or by phoning the Box Office at (941) 475-6756. The Box Office will reopen for business at 10:00 am on August 2. All individual ticket prices are the same as previous years at \$23. Purchase your tickets early to get the best available seats for the upcoming exciting season.

LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS

BY RIC GOODWIN

Lemon Bay Playhouse, demonstrating a commitment to education and local Lemon Bay High School students in their pursuit of higher education, is proud to announce this year's scholarship recipients. Three students will receive \$3000 each. They are Justin Rotolo, Sarah Sutcliffe, and Lauren Wickerson. All three scholars are pursuing theatre degrees and were very active in their local Thespian Troupe. Academically all three students attained a 3.5 GPA or higher and averaged over 300 hours of community service. Lemon Bay Playhouse congratulates Justin, Sarah, and Lauren and wishes them all the best in their college careers!



Justin Rotolo



Lauren Wickerson



Sarah Sutcliffe

LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

GOODBYE!

BY JEFF DILLON

As I start my final Board report, I want to thank the Board of Directors and Bob La Salle for the support of employment during the pandemic and the year 2020. While many of my theatre brothers and sisters were unemployed and essentially disenfranchised throughout most of 2020, Lemon Bay Playhouse chose to keep me employed.

This time allowed me to do needed things to the physical plant, upgrade the rehearsal work light, rebuild damaged prop shelves, replace exit doors and several other things that needed done. This also allowed me to plan the 2021-2022 season, build the master calendar, book show-case performers, hire directors and lock down stage managers for the productions.

After 53 years in the theatre, it is time for a change. As many of you know, I am a musician and play the drums for bands I have created. I play in praise team bands and with various artists locally. I also have other interests I want to pursue, do some traveling and back away from the constant schedule of the theatre which I have been doing all my life.

I have enjoyed my time at Lemon Bay Playhouse. I found the Artistic Production Manager job rewarding and at times challenging, with play and director changes, casting issues and injury to key personnel. Fortunately, with the skills I have taken a life time to learn, I was able to help in these situations and help Lemon Bay Playhouse prevail and put on successful productions. I greatly value the interaction of the team. Deb, Jim, Crystal, Bob and myself, we all worked well together, in sometimes very challenging circumstances.

I hope I helped move Lemon Bay Playhouse forward and raise the production and artistic value of the plays. It always been my goal to leave a place better than I found it. Moving forward, I will be helping and advising the new Artistic Production Manager as she becomes more comfortable in that position. Her success is my success.

Thank you all. I wish you safety, health and prosperity moving forward. I am available to direct and design, so please consider me for future projects. I am now and will always be a friend to Lemon Bay Playhouse. My last day was June 30. If I can help anyone, please let me know. Thank you again for the opportunity to have worked at Lemon Bay Playhouse. I greatly appreciate it.

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WELCOME LORI!

BY LOUISE GOODWIN



Lori Jean Sigrist is from Toms River, New Jersey and first developed an interest in live theatre when she was cast in a school play at the age of six. Lori's love of theatre continued throughout her childhood and teen years. After relocating to New York City in her early 20s she took dance and voice classes and worked as Stage Manager and Prop Mistress for several off-off-Broadway productions. During this time she also was also employed in the Development Department at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts for nine years.

After returning to her home state of New Jersey in 1992 to raise her three children, she became a Program Director at OCEAN, Inc., a private not-for-profit social services agency and held that position for over 25 years.

After a long hiatus from theatre raising her children and working as a social worker, Lori returned to theatre in 2011 and began a lengthy, continuous run of involvement in all aspects of theatre (stage managing, acting, directing, set design and providing tech) throughout New York and New Jersey. Her full length play, *A Rainbow Holiday* (co-written with her life partner Joe Simonelli) was successfully produced on Staten Island, NY in 2016.

In November 2019, Lori and Joe relocated to Southwest Florida after spending many vacations in the area over the years and attending productions of Joe's plays at theatres along the coast, including a highly successful run of *Men Are Dogs* at Lemon Bay Playhouse in early 2019. Lori is excited to join the team at Lemon Bay Playhouse and is looking forward to continuing their rich tradition of exceptional community theatre.



LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

TV ADVENTURES DURING THE PANDEMIC

BY BOB LA SALLE

I watched some great TV programs while forced to stay home during the pandemic. Here are some memorable ones I think you might enjoy.

On Amazon Prime:

First, is *Bosch*, which is a police detective series adapted from Michael Connelly's series of books and featuring Titus Welliver as the intrepid detective Harry Bosch. It is well produced and very enjoyable.

Second, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* is an American period comedy-drama created by Amy Sherman-Palladino who also created *Gilmore Girls*. Taking place in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the series stars Rachel Brosnahan as Miriam Maisel, a New York housewife who discovers she has a knack for stand-up comedy and pursues a career in it. Very funny and well-acted and produced.

Third, an English Detective series, *New Tricks*. This is a well done detective/comedy series produced by the BBC. The Metropolitan Police decide to create the Unsolved Crime and Open Case Squad to tackle some of the unsolved cases in its archives. They appoint a female Chief Detective Inspector to head up the squad but bring back three retired detectives to do the investigating. This leads to some very funny and poignant moments. It is well acted, written and I liked it very much.

On Netflix:

First, a series that appeared on ABC called *Private Practice* a spin off from *Grey's Anatomy*. It chronicles the life of Dr. Addison Montgomery, played by Kate Walsh, as she leaves Seattle Grace Hospital in order to join a private practice, located in Los Angeles. *Private Practice* especially revolves around Addison's co-workers at Seaside Wellness Center, and how they deal with patients and the practice while still finding time to live their everyday lives. This is one of my favorite shows and I was sad to see it end.

Second, for those of you that liked the series *Mad About You* starring Helen Hunt and Paul Reiser, Netflix is airing *Mad About You* reboot using the same cast but moved 20 years from the date that the former show ended. It is interesting to see them all aged 20 years, but the same good comedy is used. If you like the first show, you will like this as well.



COMING SOON

BY CRYSTAL AVELLA



Come kick off a fantastic season with Director, Bob La Salle, and see *Separate Beds*, a comedy by M.J. Cruise.

The show runs from September 8, 2021 to September 26, 2021.

Ernie and Twink are in the autumn of their lives. In celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary, the couple's children send them on a Caribbean cruise. Free of chores and children, Ernie and Twink are wine, dine and introduced to exciting people. When they meet the rich, seductive Blake and Beth, who still seem to have a perfect life together after ten years of marriage, Twink becomes infatuated with the glamour of the other couple's lives and seeks to reignite the spark in her own marriage.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.lemonplayhouse.com or by calling the Box Office on August 2!

COMING SOON



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223



Celebrating our 35th Season! 2020-2021



SEPARATE BEDS by M.J. Cruise
September 8 - September 26, 2021

FOX ON THE FAIRWAY by Ken Ludwig
October 20 - November 7, 2021

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES by Dylan Thomas adopted by Polly Hogan
December 1 - December 19, 2021

OLD RINGERS by Joe Simonelli
January 19 - February 13, 2022

THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE by Neil Simon
March 9 - April 3, 2022

THE PSYCHIC by Sam Bobrick
April 27 - May 15, 2022

THE SAVANNAH SIPPING SOCIETY by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten
June 8 - June 26, 2022

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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 (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."