

Lemon Bay PLAYHOUSE

Englewood, Florida

SPOTLIGHT



FEBRUARY 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Jim Hanushek

The mission statement that hangs on the wall of our lobby reads: "It is the Mission of Lemon Bay Playhouse to enrich the Greater Englewood community through theatrical productions, other cultural activities, challenging volunteer opportunities, and education and training in the performing arts."

I want to share with you some steps the Board of Trustees has taken and some policies they've adopted in order to fulfill that mission:

You can probably tell from the last newsletter and this one, that the offerings of LBP have expanded beyond just our six plays per year. This newsletter gives you a preview of the variety of our upcoming performances between plays. Our goal is to have no dark weekends at Lemon Bay Playhouse. Watch our website for scheduling.

We've asked Paul Hyatt to help coordinate volunteers and to facilitate communication among volunteers. He arranged a great Open House and you can see from this photo that we had quite a crowd!



Lemon Bay Playhouse has conducted its first adult acting classes, and is now into the second round. Students who graduate will have an opportunity to try their skills in an interim performance reserved just for them.

To allow the Board to work on the future of Lemon Bay Playhouse, we have reorganized the committee structure into several major categories, all under the Production Manager. Members have already received ballots with 5 candidates for the Board, all dedicated to the future of LBP.

This is an exciting time for Lemon Bay Playhouse, and we appreciate your support!

See you at the theatre,
Jim Hanushek

WINE WALK

The 2008 Wine Walk will be held on February 23 from 2:00 until dusk. Sign up will start at 1:00 p.m. at McCall and Dearborn at Kelly's Tavern. There will be only 500 tickets sold at \$45.00 each. There will be over a dozen wine representatives and probably close to 50 wines being poured. There will also be at least two beer stations. The food is being provided by local restaurants, including Food Is Love, Palmetto Grill, The Village Diner, Barbarino's and Fishbone Grill. There will also be 5 music performers and lots of great art work provided the Englewood Arts Alliance. All proceeds benefit the Lemon Bay Playhouse. Tickets are available for sale at Vino Loco Wine and Tapas Bar and the Lemon Bay Playhouse box office.



LBP ONE-ACT FESTIVAL



Lemon Bay Playhouse has announced a new one-act play competition for writers who live on Florida's Gulf Coast. The playhouse is seeking original one-act plays, unpublished and unproduced, for a festival in August.

Winning plays will be given staged readings, and judges will award cash prizes to the first, second and third-place winners. Deadline for submitting entries is May 1. Winners will be announced by June 15.

Entry applications, rules and guidelines are on the playhouse website, www.lemonbayplayhouse.com. They also can be obtained by writing to: Play Competition, Lemon Bay Playhouse, 96 W. Dearborn St., Englewood, FL 34223.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, February 18, 2008
6:00 p.m.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & ELECTION
Monday, February 25, 2008
7:00 p.m.

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

NEXT UP - NIGHT WATCH

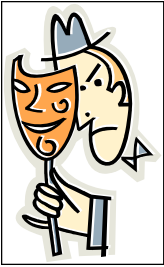


Our next offering is *Night Watch* by Lucille Fletcher, directed by Ralph Barnes.

In this very suspenseful mystery, Elaine Wheeler, played by Lee Lawler, a newcomer to our stage, believes she sees a dead body... then another, in the window across the way. Her husband, John,

played by Vince Delgado, who was last seen in *Sin, Sex, and the CIA*, wants to commit her to a sanitarium for treatment. Her best friend, Blanche, played by Judy Phelan, also a newcomer to LBP, is always at hand to give her advice - and medication. Add to the mix a nosy maid, Helga, played by our own Ann Hanushek, a fopish and curious neighbor Curtis Applebee, played by Bob La Salle, who keeps making sly suggestions as to what is going on, two skeptical cops, played by Jack Rabito and Donna Hadley, and an irate deli man played by Larry McGee, and you have the recipe for a thrilling evening of entertainment. This one is not to be missed.

INTERMISSION SERIES DOES COMEDY



On February 22 and 23 at 7:30 PM and February 24 at 2:00 PM, Lemon Bay Playhouse presents its **Intermission Series**. This is designed to give new actors an opportunity to try their skills as well as to provide a way for experienced actors to expand their repertoire, so you'll see some actors new to our stage as well as some veterans. It's open seating with no admission charge, but donations are gratefully accepted.

Loyalty, by John Patrick: Chris is settling in for a night's sleep, when suddenly he is awakened by his friend Milo, who has had a fight with his wife and wants to stay the night. With only one bed, they manage to get comfortable and try to sleep, only to be interrupted by Myrtle, Milo's, wife who comes looking for him. Milo hides in the bathroom while Myrtle explains to Chris that she has locked herself out and wants to stay with him. Chaos begins and there is no sleep for anyone.

Tangled Web, by Fredrick Stoppel: In a Coffee Shop, a single New York woman waits to meet her internet date. Complications ensue when a younger, more attractive woman shows up with the same name and dress to meet the same date. They soon discover they have even more in common than could be imagined.

Case of Belonging, by Jan Allred: The Devil and an Angel battle over ownership of a man recently expired. As they battle over the lost soul they use their cosmic powers, tricks, and the maneuvers of "one-upmanship". However they are interrupted by a "rep" from Limbo and are surprised to find that neither heaven nor hell can win this battle. The real owner of the soul is the surprise. Funny tongue-in-cheek humor!

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY



Readers Theater's presented their first annual Christmas reading with Doreen Barnett, Larry McGee, Barbara Harrington, Jack Rabito, Lynn Means, and Bernie Broyles. Also in the cast were Linda MacCluggage and Ann Hanushek.

In addition to its informal gatherings the first Monday of every month, Readers Theater of Lemon Bay Playhouse is now offering programs to community groups and organizations in the region.

Readers Theater is a form of theater which can be presented in a variety of locations. Performances are lively but simply staged and can run from about 20 minutes to an hour, depending on the needs of the organization.

These programs are available free of charge, but a donation to our not-for-profit community theater is appreciated. "Lemon Bay Playhouse's Readers Theater has performed for a wide variety of audiences in the Englewood/Venice/North Port area," said director Linda MacCluggage, the new co-chair of the group. Local libraries, church groups, country clubs, homeowners associations, assisted living facilities, and various service clubs and societies have entertained their members with these performances in the past.

MacCluggage and fellow directors Richard Blanchard, Reid MacCluggage and Larry McGee coordinate the community outreach programs as well as the monthly gatherings.

Readers Theater meets the first Monday of every month at 9:30 AM at the Playhouse. Readers Theater is open to anyone interested in either performing or listening to plays. It's fun and no experience is necessary.

Email: boxoffice@lemonbayplayhouse.com to book your group or function, or call the Playhouse at 941 475-6756.

SPOTLIGHTING OUR VOLUNTEERS

"She can climb like a monkey," is Bill Hanson's usual reply when folks comment on seeing his wife Dottie wielding a paintbrush or hammer while perched atop a ladder. When it comes to volunteering for Lemon Bay Playhouse, Dottie and Bill have done it all.



Dottie and Bill Hanson

In 1988, they left chilly Maine, where over the years, they had operated their own businesses—run a garage; sold used cars; owned a one-stop store; retailed motorcycles, lawnmowers, and snowmobiles; dealt in real estate; and even built a mobile home park after retiring!

Settling in Englewood, they became regular patrons of the tiny 40-seat LBP.

While attending an Open House in 1995, they volunteered to help with the renovation of the "new" Playhouse at 96 W. Dearborn St. Because of their experience, they were "snapped up" and were soon, spending every day at the Playhouse.

(See Hanson page 3)

COMEDY MAGIC AND ILLUSIONS



Comedy magician and illusionist John Robert will present an evening of laughter and thrills at the Lemon Bay Playhouse on Friday April 4 and Saturday April 5 at 7:30 PM, and a special matinee show on Sunday April 6 at 2:00 PM.

The one hour shows will feature John's attempt to "Saw Someone in Half..." even though he's never done it before! His performance features other illusions that are sure to please all. The comedy in all three shows is rated "G", and children are encouraged to attend the Sunday matinee show.

Tickets are available at the box office for \$15 each.

CHARLES LINDBERGH LANDS AT THE LBP



Demand for this performance was so great that Lemon Bay Playhouse is bringing back Steve Carroll's original one-man play, *The Lone Eagle*, on March 28 and 29 at 7:30 PM and March 30 at 2:00 PM. The Lone Eagle was just one of many nicknames given to Charles Lindbergh by the press after he became the first pilot to fly nonstop from New York to Paris in May of 1927. Steve Carroll, who wrote and performs *Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle*, feels it was an apt description of the man.

"Almost everything Lindbergh did, he did alone," Carroll said. "Whether it was flying the Atlantic, heading his son's kidnapping investigation, or making a stand against World War II, he always seemed to be taking on the world all by himself."

Reeve Lindbergh, president of the Lindbergh Foundation, wrote Carroll to express her thanks after a command performance of his play at the 75th anniversary of her father's famous Paris flight.

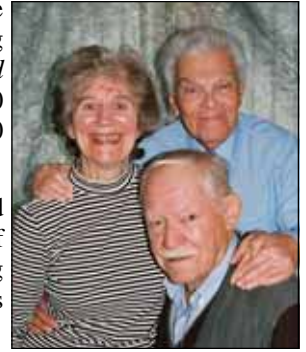
"I was indeed impressed by your performance, which I found moving and very thoughtful, with a fresh perspective on my father that contained much truth," Lindbergh wrote. "You did get something of my father that was very real, and it meant a lot to me ... It makes people think. Thank you!"

Carroll has toured his show around the country, from New York and New Jersey to Wisconsin, Missouri and Florida. According to one local reviewer, "The audience was mesmerized ... Carroll makes Lindbergh accessible at all levels, first as playwright of *Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle* and second as the one and only actor on stage."

Tickets for *The Lone Eagle*, at \$15 each, are available at the box office.

VAUDEVILLE HITS THE BOARDS AT LBP

Vaudeville is coming to Englewood! We Three Productions will be presenting *Here's Vaudeville: Music, Melody and Mirth!* at Lemon Bay Playhouse at 7:30 PM on Saturday, February 16, and 2:00 PM on Sunday, February 17.



During its heyday, Vaudeville, translated from the French term meaning "voice of the city," became just that - enjoying wide popularity in city after city across America.

Made up of a number of short performances of singing, dancing, and comedy sketches, as well as magic and aerobatics, it was in essence a variety show that gave its audiences what they wanted in entertainment, music, and laughter.

It's in this spirit that Barbara and Alan Younghanse and Bennett Gross, the principals of We Three Productions, bring back the style of vaudeville that they remember from the Palace Theatre in New York as well smaller houses around the country, the vaudeville that America loved before the movies and television took center stage.

In the presentation of *Here's Vaudeville: Music, Melody and Mirth!* there are no magicians, but there is magic in the musical numbers featuring medleys of Broadway and popular songs by talented performers as well as dancers that tap their way into the hearts of the audience.

Most of all there are laughs that climb up the comedy scale from rib ticklers and groaners to the mad stuff that makes audiences "go nuts." Laughs varying from quick blackouts to comedy sketches tickle the funny bone from start to finish.

Having had rave reviews from local audiences, the performers in *Here's Vaudeville* look forward to doing what they do best - entertaining you.

Tickets, at \$15 for each reserved seat, are available at the LBP box office.

(Hanson continued from page 2)

In addition to construction, painting, and costume work, Dottie started the house manager group with friends from her neighborhood and members of the construction crew families. Soon ginger ale and little cookies were being served at intermission time. Dottie loves clowning, and she assisted with the clown school and taught the Jr. Joey classes. Working with children was so rewarding that she ran the Children's Theater program for 5 years.

Bill has been in charge of the LBP building since 1995. He's done building repairs, set construction, painting, operating the tech booth for sound and lighting, performance videotaping, audition supervision, and he still managed to be an officer and member of the LBP Board of Trustees.

LBP owes its present success to the labor of love donated by Dottie and Bill and our other early volunteers. Thanks to all of you!

"It is the Mission of Lemon Bay Playhouse to enrich the Greater Englewood community through theatrical productions, other cultural activities, challenging volunteer opportunities, and education and training in the performing arts."



96 W. Dearborn Street
Englewood, FL 34223



Celebrating our 21st Season!

2007-2008 SEASON



CLIFFHANGER by James Yaffe
CROSSING DELANCEY by Susan Sandler
THE LONG WEEKEND by Norm Foster
NIGHT WATCH by Lucille Fletcher
ALL MY SONS by Arthur Miller
TAKING LEAVE by Nagle Jackson

September 5-23, 2007
October 31 - November 18, 2007
January 9-27, 2008
March 5-23, 2008
April 30 - May 18, 2008
June 25-July 13, 2008

Layout/Photography: Rob Davis **Proofreaders:** Marion Barnes, Ralph Barnes
Contributors: Jim Hanushek, Linda MacCluggage, Bob La Salle, Ann Hanushek

LBP Box Office is opened Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Phone 941-475-6756

Visit our website at: www.lemonbayplayhouse.com