



CALLS & CUES



The Waterville Playshop, PO Box 75, Waterville OH 43566

August 2008

A NOTE FROM JOE



Greetings Playshoppers! For those of you who do not know me, my name is Joe Barton and I am the new Chair of Waterville Playshop. I have been an active Board Member for many years, serving as Production, Play Reading, Business, Vice-Chair and Chair. As well, I have been active both on stage and behind-the-scenes for many, many years. My first role was Linus in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* at the "old" theatre at AWHs. Many years and many shows have passed since then, but one thing has remained constant: Waterville Playshop continues to bring quality theatre at a fair price to our community.

We have several changes this year, but the most important is our venue. We have moved to Gateway Middle School in Maumee for ALL our productions this coming season. In the past, a few were at AWHs, a few at Maumee Indoor and a few at Maumee Valley's Millennium Theatre. But with a special deal, we have found one venue for the entire season. This will enable

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LIFETIME MEMBERS AND SEASON TICKET HOLDERS TO BE "PAMPERED"

by Lois Dietzer

What are the benefits of becoming a Lifetime Member or buying Season Tickets? Certainly saving money is a great advantage. This season, however, Playshop is going to be offering a few **new** things to "pamper" our special supporters.

First, all Lifetime Members and Season Ticket holders will be able to get **in** the "Comfort Zone." How nice for a change!

The Comfort Zone is a designated area of the auditorium comprising the best seats in the house. While these are NOT reserved seats in the strict sense, this area will be available first to "Lifers" and Season Ticket holders.

Season Ticket holders will be mailed a special "pass" with their tickets that will admit them into the Comfort Zone. Lifetime Members, simply show your membership card to the usher. Can't find your card? Don't worry, we have a list of all members and can confirm your spot.

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AN EXCITING SEASON COMING UP

For those of you who were not at the Annual Meeting (you missed a lot), the 2008-09 season was announced and it is an exciting one.

First, all of our shows this year will be performed at the Gateway Middle School auditorium in Maumee. No more trying to figure out where the play is.

Here are the shows and the dates (be sure to mark your calendars):

Forever Plaid

October 3, 4, 5, 2008

Director: Bill Quinlan

Return with us now to the nostalgic days of the 1950's when guy groups (and women, too) were popular.

You'll tap your feet and hum to those 1950's standards: "Heart and Soul," "Love Is A Many-Splendored Thing," "Perfidia," "Moments to Remember," "Lady of Spain," and many, many more.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever and 'Twas With A Twist

December 5, 6, 7, 2008

Director: Tom Wagner

An early Christmas present: two for the price of one. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is the story of Grace Bradley who dedicates herself to making this year's Christmas pageant the best ever. But, she must first deal with a reluctant husband and the six rowdy Herdmans.

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All Playshop Board Meetings are held at the Zion Lutheran Church in Waterville on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Our next meetings are August 19, September 16, October 21. You are welcome to come and see your Board in action.

Board Members

Chair – Joe Barton 419-360-5639	jbarton22@msn.com
Vice-Chair – Matt Zwyer 419-276-0032	mzwyer@gmail.com
Production – Gary Buerk 419-865-5533	gary@kostumesinc.com
Membership – Lois Dietzer 734-856-7107	ldietzere@bex.net
Business – Tom Wagner 419-893-3021	wagsprc@msn.com
Play Reading – Kate Hoover 419-270-1204	grooviehoovie6@aol.com
Publicity	
Secretary – Deb Harley 419-865-9592	ldharley@roadrunner.com
Treasurer – Sam Macera 419-878-6826	smacera859@aol.com
OCTA Rep. – Matt Zwyer 419-276-0032	mzwyer@gmail.com
Historian – Sam Macera 419-878-6826	smacera859@aol.com

BUSINESS TRUSTEE REPORT

by Tom Wagner

As our new season approaches, we are all excited about our new home at Gateway Middle School in Maumee. From a business standpoint, it is of great benefit to hold all our productions in one facility. Moving to Maumee also gives us the opportunity to expand our membership, season tickets and advertising while continuing to serve our faithful Waterville patrons.

We will be mounting an aggressive drive for patrons and advertisers in the weeks ahead. To be successful, we need your help. If you could provide us with the names of people who might be interested in being a Patron or an advertiser, our drive could be financially successful.

Contact me at
wagsprc@msn.com.

OCTA UPDATE

by Joe Barton

The Northwest OCTAFest was held at the Encore Theatre in Lima June 13 & 14. Many Playshoppers were able to attend: Gary and Colette Buerk, Corey and Gwen Eckel, Matt Zwyer, Lois Dietzer, Joy Lemke, Kate Hoover, just to name a few.

Playshop excerpted *Messiah on the Frigidaire*. The audience seemed to really enjoy the show and roared with laughter, especially when Tim Robinson was on stage. Tim received a Merit in Acting. Congratulations, Tim!

At the meeting of delegates, Joe Barton resigned as Regional Rep for the Northwest in order to run for the state board. His replacement will be Matt Zwyer. He will rep the following six theatres: Playshop, Black Swamp Players, Archbold Community Theatre, Fountain City Festival, Williams Co. Community Theatre and 3B Productions.

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CALL BOARD

Northwest Community Theatres

The Queen of Bingo

July 31-August 9
Fort Findlay Playhouse
www.oregoncommunitytheatre.org

High School Musical

July 31, August 1, 2, 3
3BProductions
Maumee Indoor Theater

Fame

August 1 - 10
Sock & Busking Community Theatre
www.sockbuskin.org

Marry Me A Little

August 15 - 16
Grand Lake Theatix
www.grandlaketheatix.com

The Nerd

September 5 - 14
Williams Co. Community Theatre
www.williamscountyplayhouse.com

Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks

September 5 - 20
The Village Players
www.thevillageplayers.org

Crimes of the Heart

September 12 - 21
Amil Tellers (Lima)
www.amiltellers.org

Next year the Northwest OCTAFest will be held at Tiffin Ritz Theatre or Fort Jennings High School.

Regional invitees to the State Conference were *Little Women*, 3B Productions, *Witness For the Prosecution*, Black Swamp Players and *A Piece of My Heart*, Harlequins (Sandusky).

The OCTA State Conference – “How Sweet It Is” – will be held in Columbus on August 29, 30, 31, September 1.

For more information regarding the State Conference, please email Joe at
jbarton22@msn.com.

ANNUAL MEETING: AN EVENING OF FUN

by Sam Macera

With the Maumee River shimmering in the evening sun, Waterville Playshop held its Annual Meeting at Nazareth Hall in Grand Rapids on Saturday, May 31. It was a night in which a new season was announced and new members elected to the Board; performers from the past season were honored with statuettes and two individuals with long and dedicated service were honored; the new and exciting season was announced and two new winners of Playshop's scholarship were introduced. It was an evening of unforgettable pride and humor.

Chair Gary Buerk, resplendent in his red cummerbund and tie and red sequined jacket surrounding black pants and shirt, made Joseph's coat of many colors pale in comparison. Gary welcomed the guests and brought the meal on. The choice of chicken or roast beef was served with dispatch and devoured with equal dispatch.

The business portion of the meeting was short and to the point. Deb Harley read the minutes from last year and they were quickly accepted. Sam Macera's treasurer's report could be summed up in two words: "we're solvent." Matt Zwyer introduced the plays for the 2008-09 season and their directors (that information is elsewhere in the newsletter). Lois Dietzer laid out the great advantage of buying season tickets (also elsewhere in this newsletter) and it is truly a bargain. Alice Momenee introduced the scholarship winners for 2008: Alexandria Myers and Erin Dietzer. Each received \$150. Elected to the Board for two year terms were Matt Zwyer

(Vice-Chair), Gary Buerk (Production) and Tom Wagner (Business)

Two veteran Playshoppers were honored for their service and contributions to Playshop: Pat Dickey presented John Nicholson with the Spirit Award and recounted his contributions over the years. Gary Buerk presented Sam Macera with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his numerous activities within Playshop and elsewhere. Both received standing ovations.

Outgoing Chair Gary Buerk turned the gavel over to incoming Chair, Joe Barton. Joe conducted the remainder of the activities.

Joe Barton, Tom Wagner and Sam Macera led a humorous award program in which practically everyone in the hall received a certificate. Too numerous to mention here.

The Mad Tony awards were given for three years, 1994, 1995 and 1996. This year the Annual Meeting Committee decided to revive them, but with fewer categories. The big winners – in fact the only winners – were "Beauty and the Beast" and "Chicago."

"Beauty and the Beast" won seven star statues for director (Joe Barton), actress (Lindsay Denham), choreography (Jen DeVane), supporting actress

(Lois Dietzer), stage manager (Hillary Gibson), Best Ensemble and Best Show. "Chicago" garnered three awards: musical director (Pam Martin), best actor (Brian Carlucci) and supporting actor (Joe Barton). The awards were well deserved and the attendees showed their appreciation.

If you weren't there, you missed an outstanding evening of humor, genuine appreciation, delightful camaraderie and even a tear or two. There was a good feeling in the air and a fresh enthusiasm for the coming season. We urge you to get involved, make this season a success.

Incidentally, after performing in the Anthony Wayne High School auditorium every year since 1953, we have had to move our "home" to Maumee's Gateway Middle School auditorium. We could no longer meet the cost of doing our musicals at AWHHS. It is a sad time, for many of us who are long-time members. We have wonderful memories of those hard seats and often cold or hot auditorium, but no need for microphones. We called it "home" and we came to love it.

Congratulations to the Annual Meeting committee. It could not have been better.



At left, some of the winners at the Annual Meeting were Sam Macera, Life Time Achievement, Lois Dietzer, supporting actress (Beauty & Beast), Brian Carlucci, best actor (Chicago), John Nicholson, Spirit Award and Joe Barton director (Beauty & Beast and supporting actor (Chicago)



JOIN THE PLAY READING COMMITTEE OR SUGGEST PLAYS FOR 2009-2010

by Kate Hoover

The Waterville Playshop 2008-2009 Play Reading Committee invites Playshop members to join the committee to help choose the 2009-2010 season of shows.

The committee will begin meeting in August and will meet several times a month to read and examine plays and musical selections throughout the fall.

The committee would also like members to submit the names of their favorite plays and musicals for the group to consider.

Please submit any inquiries about joining the 2009-2010 selection committee, as well as sending any play or musical suggestions to Kate Hoover by email at grooviehoovie6@aol.com or calling 419-270-1204

TAKE A BOW MRS. BRANDEBERRY!

by Kate Hoover and Matt Zwyer

As Waterville Playshop says goodbye to Anthony Wayne, we also bid kudos and a fond farewell to a great ally in the world of theatre. In June, Rita Brandeberry retired from AWHs after 35 years of service to her community. As one of the English teachers at the high school, Rita was also extremely involved in the extracurricular aspects of students' lives. She has participated in a variety of roles that include everything from junior class advisor to newspaper advisor to cheerleader advisor – even boys' golf coach. However, she is most recognized for her tenure as Director of Drama Activities and her contribution to Anthony Wayne area theatre.

Rita has introduced the gift of performing art to over a thousand students in her twenty plus years of directing both the Fall play and Spring musicals, and that number includes several Playshoppers who have benefited from theatrical experience under her direction. With a résumé that includes 47 productions at the high school alone, she had definitely left a benchmark for future directors to meet. Thanks to Rita's encouragement to explore every theatrical opportunity students could find, Playshop has welcomed many new participants and members over the last two decades.

Rita continued to grow in her art over the years, and that increased proficiency reflected her feeling that each show seemed to be a little better than the one before. Of course, she had her favorites and many remember her productions of *Oklahoma!*, *Crazy for You*, *Anything Goes* and *Godspell*. According to Rita, "The most amazing thing about teaching and directing is watching the light bulb go on and seeing students actually enjoy what they do."

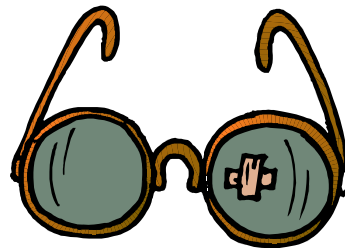
As the lights dim and the curtain falls on your stellar career at Anthony Wayne Rita, Waterville Playshop gives you a standing ovation.

And remember, if you ever need a little theatre in your life, you know where to go. Thank you for your contributions to Playshop and community theatre at its finest.



REMINDER

PLEASE UPDATE CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, TELEPHONE AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN KEEP OUR RECORDS UP-TO-DATE. THE POST OFFICE WILL NOT FORWARD BULK RATE MATERIALS.
THANKS



LOOKING

for persons who would enjoy *WORKING* theatre from the **BACKSIDE**.

With the new venue this season and the different style of shows, there will be more challenges and fun for you . . . *producers, stage managers, painters, builders and more*. For those that are interested, contact **Gary Buerk** on our web site www.watervilleplayshop.org.



Alice Momenee presents the Scholarship awards to Alexandria Meyer (left) and Erin Dietzer.

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A Note From Joe (cont'd)

our audiences to locate us better and lead to more consistency. Again, all of our productions will be at Gateway Middle School Theatre in Maumee.

As has happened a few times these past few years, we are short a Board Member. We are currently looking for someone to become our new Publicity Chair. This person is responsible for getting Playshop's name recognized throughout the community, publicizing our upcoming productions and auditions, writing the Newsletter and maintaining our web site. The person should be somewhat computer savvy and love to write! If you are interested, please give any Board Member a phone call or an email and we would be happy to discuss this further with you. Don't be shy, we need your help!

I know I speak for the entire Board of Trustees when I say thank you for your continued support of Waterville Playshop and we hope you enjoy our upcoming 2008-09 Season!

See you at the show!

Membership Info (cont'd)

Shortly before the curtain rises and as any announcements are being made, the roping will be removed and the remaining seats in the Comfort Zone can be filled by anyone with a general admission ticket.

Please note: sit anywhere you please. The Comfort Zone is merely an option. If the back row is where you are happy, be happy!

Secondly, a **Welcome Gala** will be held preceding the opening night performance of the first show of the season. This *hors d'oeuvre*/dessert buffet will be held approximately one hour before the curtain to pamper **only** our Season Ticket holders and Lifetime Members. **It's free of charge;** it's just our way of saying, "thanks for supporting Playshop."

Third, at the Annual Dinner Meeting, held at the end of each season, the names of all Season Ticket holders and Lifetime Members will be entered into a drawing. Two free tickets will be awarded to two lucky winners to see the show of their choice in the upcoming new season.

Finally, Playshop will be selling reasonably priced logo items and theatre-themed articles: mugs, magnets, bumper stickers with "theatrical" slogans and various other articles at this year's shows. Lifetime Members and Season Ticket holders will received a 10% discount.

So, when one asks, "What do I get for becoming a Lifetime Member? Why buy season tickets? **Besides saving money,** we plan to offer you some "extras." We think you're worth it.

Check the Season Ticket and Membership form on the bottom of the mailer. Send it in today!

2008-09 Season (cont'd)

'Twas With A Twist concerns the Inniscap family as they prepare for Christmas, but sadly, Santa is delayed in Timbuktu. So Papa is recruited to be Santa but before he can act the part, the real Santa comes down the chimney.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

February 13, 14, 15, 2009

Director: Sam Macera

Forum is the bawdy story of a slave named Pseudolius and his attempts to win his freedom by helping his master, Hero, woo and win the girl next door. Some wonderful music. Songs include "Comedy Tonight," "Everybody Ought To Have A Maid," "Lovely," "Pretty Little Picture" and many others.

Don't Hug Me

April 3, 4, 5, 2009

Director: Molly Durst

It is spring but we'll take you to Bunyan Bay, Minnesota on the coldest day of the year. Gunnar Johnson, owner of a bar, wants to sell it and move to Florida. His wife, Clara, a former Winter Carnival Bunyan Queen, wants to stay. . Into their lives comes Aarvid Gisselsen, a fast-talking salesman with a karaoke machine. Featured songs include "I'm A Walleye Woman in a Crappie Town" and "My Smorgasbord of Love."

All I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

June 5, 6, 7, 2009

Director: Dr. F. Scott Regan

Robert Fulghum describes beautifully how that what we need to know are learned in the early years of our life. The formative years in a child's life are very vital to mold their personality.

Short vignettes bring out the things we should learn. These are vignettes that will make you laugh and tug at your heart strings.

The Waterville Playshop
P.O. Box 75
Waterville OH 43566-0075
Editors: Pat Dickey & Sam Macera

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AUDITIONS

Fo'ever Plaid

**ZION LUTHERAN
 CHURCH IN
 WATERVILLE**

August 3: 2 to 5 PM

August 4: 7 to 9 PM

August 5: Call Backs

Be prepared to sing 16 -24 bars. Accompanist will be provided.

For more information, Call
**Director Bill Quinlin at
 419-902-0608**

Season Ticket and Membership Form

(If more than one individual, please list both)

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____ email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City/State/Zip _____

Membership: Annual \$10 x _____ = \$ _____
 Lifetime \$75 x _____ = \$ _____

Season Tickets Adult (18+) \$45 x _____ = \$ _____
 Student/Senior \$35x _____ = \$ _____

Lifetime Member

Regular \$40 x _____ = \$ _____
 Senior/Student \$30 x _____ = \$ _____

New Renewal

Complete this form and return it with your check
 (payable to Waterville Playshop) to: **Waterville Playshop, P.O. Box 75**
Waterville OH 43566-0075

Questions: Call Lois Dietzer 734-856-7107
 Get additional forms and more information at
www.watervilleplayshop.org

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

