

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

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CALLS & CUES



The Waterville Playshop, P.O. Box 75, Waterville OH 43566

November 2008

COMING UP!

'Twas With A Twist
and
The Greatest
Christmas Pageant
Ever

December 5, 6, 7
at Gateway
Middle School



Make your holidays more jolly by celebrating the Waterville Playshop way!



Treat the whole family to
The Best Christmas
Pageant Ever

and

'Twas With A Twist



Friday & Saturday,
December 5 & 6, 2008 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, December 7, 2008 at 2 p.m.

Gateway Middle School, Gibbs Street, Maumee, Ohio
Director Tom Wagner Music Director Damian Stout

FAREWELL TO AN OLD FRIEND

by Sam Macera

For the first time since 1953, Waterville Playshop will not present a production in the Anthony Wayne High School auditorium. The cavernous 850-seat auditorium just became too big and too expensive for us to continue there.

Actually, from the time the new auditorium was built in 1997, our days there were numbered. Due to its size and cost, we could no longer perform non-musicals in that venue and in order for the musicals to pay, we had to present big production value shows and hoped we attracted a large enough audience to pay for them. Often we did not.

However, it was the old auditorium that holds a special place in the hearts of the "old time Playshoppers."

Its capacity was 650 seats, but only about 500 were useable. And they were hard seats - no padding - and they got harder as the show went on. In the winter it was cold and in

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AUDITIONS ANNOUNCED FOR FORUM

Auditions for *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way To the Forum* will be held at Zion Lutheran Church in Waterville on Friday, December 5 from 7 to 9 PM and again on Sunday, December 7 from 2 to 4 PM. Any one auditioning should be prepared to sing, read from a script and perform basic dance steps.

The cast calls for 14 singing/speaking roles - eight male and six female - and a chorus.

Rehearsals will be at Zion Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 PM and on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 7 to 9 PM

Show dates are February 13, 14 and 14, 2009.

The story of *Forum* takes place in Rome 200 years before the Christian era and revolves around the attempts of a slave, Pseudolus, to gain his freedom and will do anything to get it; his master, Hero, who is deeply in love with Philia, a virgin, who lives in the house of Lycus, a buyer and seller of courtesans; an old man, Erronius,

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HOLIDAY SHOWS OPEN DECEMBER 5

by Tom Wagner

With a cast of 60 performers under the direction of Tom Wagner, *'Twas With A Twist* and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* began rehearsal on October 19 for the show's opening on Friday, December 5 at Gateway Middle School in Maumee.

Featured performers include Lois Dietzer, Jack Ellison, Valerie Adamski, Kaleigh Buckley, Derek Kastner, Laurie Buckley, Stephen Gullette and Mary Ann Buckley.

Both shows are loaded with song, dance, laughter and Christmas cheer. A visit by Santa caps off each performance.

Mary Wagner is assistant director and choreographer and Damian Stout is musical director.

Performance dates are Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6 with curtain at 8 PM and a Sunday matinee on December 7 with curtain at 2 PM.



ON THE INSIDE

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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, November 25, December 16. 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 | ldietzer@bex.net |
| Business – Tom Wagner 419-893-3021 | wagsprc@msn.com |
| Play Reading – Kate Hoover 419-270-1204 | grooviehoovie6@aol.com |
| Publicity - Jennifer Reynolds | jenreynolds@bex.net |
| 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 |

BUSINESS TRUSTEE REPORT

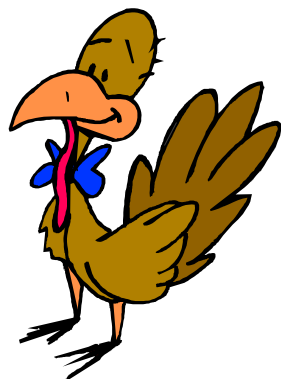
by Tom Wagner

If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming a Waterville Playshop Patron. For as little as \$25, you can be a big part of our continued success. Support levels are as follows: APPLAUSE: \$25 to \$49; BRAVO: \$50 to \$99; ENCORE: \$100 to \$299; ANGELS: \$300 and up.

The names of all Patrons are listed in the the play program and projected on a large screen before each performance.

Simply mail your contribution to Waterville Playshop, P.O. 75, Waterville OH 43566.

Your support is greatly appreciated.



Playshop booth at Roche de Boeuf with (behind table) Kate Hoover, Jan Macera, Pat Dickey, Molly Durst

CALL BOARD

Northwest Community Theatres

Blithe Spirit

November 7 - 16
Black Swamp Players
Bowling Green

Seussical, the Musical

November 7 - 23
Playmakers Civic Theatre
Port Clinton

The Crucible

November 7 - 23
Toledo Rep, Toledo

Sin, Sex & the C.I.A.

November 13 - 21
Van Wert Civic Theatre
Van Wert

Fruitcakes

November 14 - 23
Genoa Civic Theatre - Genoa

Little Shop of Horrors

Amil Tellers of Dramatics
Lima

It's A Wonderful Life

Fremont Community Theatre
Fremont

A Christmas Carol: A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts

December 4 - 13
Ft. Findlay Playhouse - Findlay

FORUM AUDITIONS (Cont'd)

who is constantly going on trips in an effort to find his lost children; another old man, Senex, father of Hero, and his domineering wife, Domina; the warrior Miles Gloriosus, who has been promised the hand of Philia. How Pseudolus gets his freedom, Hero gets Philia and in a surprise ending how Erronius finds his children makes for an evening of high bawdy comedy and music.

Toe-tapping songs include "Comedy Tonight," "Everybody Ought To Have A Maid," "Lovely" and many others.

Pam Martin will be accompanist and musical director, Deborah Tell will be choreographer and Sam Macera will direct.

For more information call Sam at 419-878-6826 or email him at smacera859@aol.com.

FOREVER PLAID HAS 'EM CHEERING

by Roy Williamson

The Waterville Playshop opened the 2008-09 season with a delightful production of *Forever Plaid* by Stuart Ross and James Raitt. Opening in the Gateway Middle School Theatre in Maumee, the Playshop introduced its new venue for productions. The nostalgic show elicited great response from the opening night audience, receiving a standing ovation at its conclusion.

Under the direction of Bill Quinlan, music director Pam Martin and Choreographers Kate Hoover and Kathy Lankey, the show moved along briskly and never faltered. The opening narration was very muddy and somewhat difficult to follow and a few staging glitches detracted from the production from time to time. Bringing down a disrupting screen when the Plaids received the new coats detracted from what should have been an exciting and satisfying moment.

Drew Ochoa as Francis, Nick Gordon as Sparky, Matt Zwyer as Jinx and Tim Bruno as Smudge were the ideal Plaids. They each displayed sparkling voices, a true penchant for four-part harmony and captured the moves of many of the great musical quartets of the past.

With Pam Martin as the accompanist who came with the room and Tom Montgomery as Uncle Chester on the drums, the six musicians whirled through crowd pleasers such as "Three Coins in the Fountain," "Crazy 'Bout Ya Baby," "Sixteen Tons," "Catch A Falling Star" and "Lady of Spain," which took the group through a three and one-half minute reproduction of the Ed Sullivan Show. Replete with a performing seal, an escapee from a Wagner Opera, Mr. Wences with his talking box, whirling plates on sticks and other Sullivan delights, the group had the audience in stitches.

Gary Buerk was producer of the show and created a minimalist set that glittered with excellent lighting and a shimmering background of silver and gold. Too bad the "Forever Plaid" sign at the rear of the set was not lighted in the end *a la Cabaret*.

Despite having a cast of just four actors and singers, the young men held the audience in the palms of their hands or 90 minutes and had them on their feet cheering at the end. Hearing such comments as "delightful," "fun," "great singing and great music" from the audience made for a successful blast-off for the Playshop season. Those who did not see the show missed a great evening of incomparable nostalgia.



The Plaids from left, Matt Zwyer, Tim Bruno, Drew Ochoa and Nick Gordon provided a nostalgic romp through many songs from the 50's and 60's to a cheering audience.