

Newsletter Editor
Deb Smith

Beyond the Stage Door



TWIN LAKES PLAYHOUSE CONTINUES TO SHINE

We are a resilient group—even though we have never had to live through such a long pandemic until this last year, our theatre has had other challenges throughout its history. But, we have always persevered.

We met and unified because of our shared interests and ideals. Our members are creative beings who want to share their talents with others. We saw a great opportunity in Mountain Home, AR to start a theatre that would bring art and entertainment to the Twin Lakes area. So, we started an acting troupe, now known as “The Twin Lakes Playhouse”.

Our history is full of skillful ingenuity, such as constructing impressive sets on small stages,

designing rooms and outdoor areas; designing and sewing costumes; making props out of wood or foam, dowels, and paint; spending endless hours visiting garage sales and secondhand stores to find just the right hat, glass, or teapot for our current play; setting the mood through dramatic lighting and sound; and using every ounce and many hours of rehearsal, to reach a great production. We live to hear the laughter or see the tears of our audience members, basking in their gratitude and, hopefully, jubilation as they appreciate our gifts through hearty applause.

2021 has been difficult because we had to close our stage. But, as you know, we have been busy with small fund-

raisers, community service, and workshops. Now that there is light at the end of the tunnel, we can work on our future.

We want a strong opening for the stage. We also have support from our friends at KTLO and MTN. HOME TALK RADIO to help us raise funds for our new season.

Now we can make plans to honor our Patrons with a PATRON APPRECIATION EVENT, and Members by celebrating our 50th Year Anniversary in business.

Patience and endurance—key words for any business during a pandemic. And, a sense of humor doesn't hurt. It's been hard, but we're more committed than ever before to entertain you!

2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **April 12 at 6PM**
APRIL BOARD MTG.
- ◆ **April 19 @ 6PM**
APRIL MEMBERS MTG.
- ◆ **June 6 and 13 at 4PM** SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK, @ Hickory Park. Adapted by Olivia Wolfe from “Romeo & Juliet” by William Shakespeare, this is hopefully the beginning of sharing more classic works of art with our audiences.
- ◆ **July 24 @ 4PM** PATRON APPRECIATION EVENT @ TLP Stage.
- ◆ **August 21 at 6PM** IMPROV FUND-RAISER “Who's Line Is It Anyway?” starring KTLO's **Tim Tibbs**, MTN. TALK RADIO host, **Scott Ramos**, and KTLO'S Talk of The Town host, **Kim Szecsi**, @ TLP Stage.
- ◆ **Sept. 10, 7PM** TLP 50th Anniversary Party, @ TLP Stage, celebrating 50 years of entertainment.
- ◆ **Nov. 5-21, 7PM** Christmas production “Dashing Through The Snow” by Jones Hope Wooten



TWIN LAKES PLAYHOUSE

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twinlakesplayhouse@gmail.com

Mission and Vision

Our mission: to entertain, enrich, and educate through community involvement

Our vision: to be recognized as a premier provider of quality entertainment and culture

PATRON HIGHLIGHT



Meet Dr. Otis Warr and Dr. Shelley Warr

By *Debby Stanuch*

While Dr. Otis Warr was stationed in San Antonio, Texas where he was serving in the United States Army, he and his wife Shelley subscribed to a series of Broadway productions by a local theater. When the couple moved to Mountain Home, they began attending live performances in Memphis, but found balancing their busy schedules and making the trip on a regular basis had become difficult.

Dr. Otis Warr, a cardiologist with Cardiovascular Associates and Dr. Shelley Warr, a doctor of internal medicine with Lincoln Paden Medical Group, were both treating the same patient, Marge Rock, who told them they could enjoy live theater, including the musicals they enjoyed, here in Mountain Home.

At the time Marge was directing GODSPELL in 2006 at Twin Lakes Playhouse and invited her doctors to a performance. GODSPELL drew them in, according to Shelley. “We were surprised at how much talent there is in this area,” said Shelley.

The couple continued to attend shows at TLP and soon became patrons and sponsors. “We like to support local organizations and have found people really appreciated our patronage and sponsorship. And it is so nice to know people in the show.”

The couple said they love big Broadway productions and often go to the theatre while on vacation, but it’s nice to see people they know in local productions and know their support is appreciated.

The Drs. Warr have sponsored TREASURE ISLAND, WIND IN THE WILLOWS, and ALWAYS PATSY CLINE, one of their favorite shows, twice. They say one of their favorite performances is Karen McKaig as Mr. Toad in WIND IN THE WILLOWS.

“The talent in this area is so good and there is so much for a community this size,” said Shelley. “We are really looking forward to the theater’s re-opening.”

2020-2021 PATRONS

Dr. Ed & Lucretia Coulter

Drs. Otis & Shelley Warr

Mary Suzanne Griscom

Annie Wager

**Good Impressions
Printing**

KTLO

Thomas Fuess

Peter and Jan Peitz

C.B. Hannon

**Garry & Celine
Kingsland**

**Clark & Madeleine
Middleton**

No. Ark. Electric Coop

Barbara Weatherby

**John, Prince, & Puddles
Pyskaty**

Donald & Mary Ann Cox

David & Judy Doshier

Carter’s Jewel Chest

**Marcia Phil man &
Mari-Ellen Fry**

Larry & Jonelle Luman

The Back Forty

George Fosberg

Alan & Barbara Amman

George & Joyce Hove

John & Carol Badsky

Town & Country Foods



Side Bar:

MARGE ROCK was a longtime member of Twin Lakes Playhouse who acted, directed and wrote original shows. She directed QUILTERS, the first musical production at TLP. Among other TLP shows directed by Marge include GODSPELL, WIT, and GRACE AND GLORIE. Marge passed away in



CHAIRWOMAN'S LETTER

By Kimberly Beasley

525,600. It's a number that is familiar to any Broadway fan. It's the number of minutes in a year. I have the honor of having been chosen as the chairwoman of the playhouse for those 525,600 minutes, as we are beginning what will probably be one of the toughest years in our 50 years of existence. We started this year dark, for who knows how long. When my sisters and I took our final bow for **The Wild Women of Winedale**, we knew we would be the last feet to tread on those boards for a long time. And, for me at least, it was emotional for many reasons.

All of us have found a home on that stage, or behind it, in the front of the house, designing, drawing, building, or sewing. We are family. We help each other through good times and bad. We have watched children grow up on our stage, and celebrated when they left our safe nest for big wild adventures. And welcomed them warmly when they came back home. Some have been constant, steadfast supporters, and some have drifted in and out as their life's stream ebbs and flows. But every person who has been a part of this playhouse has been special, and will always be family.

And like the song, it's time now to sing out,

though the story never ends. We should be ramping up for our 50th year!! For community theatre, that is an incredible milestone! Something that deserves a big, awesome party to celebrate. And I sincerely hope we get to have that party. But first, we have to get through the next few months. The board and I are determined to not only get through this, but to come back refreshed and ready to make this year not a struggle to survive, but a triumph of our persistence, endurance, and tenacity.

The next few months, we need to remind Mountain Home that the playhouse is a proud part of this small town. And ask them to help us now, so that we can entertain them again soon. We need every member of this family to step up and spread the word. We're here, we're fighting, and we could use their help!

I'll end with another lyric from one of my favorite Disney movies turned musical... **Newsies**

"But all I know is nothing happens if you just give in / It can't be any worse than how it's been / And it just so happens that we just might win / So whatever happens, Let's begin!"



Board of Directors

CHAIR:
Kimberly Beasley

Joanne Helms
Mike Horberg
Rhonda Hardcastle
Craig Perry

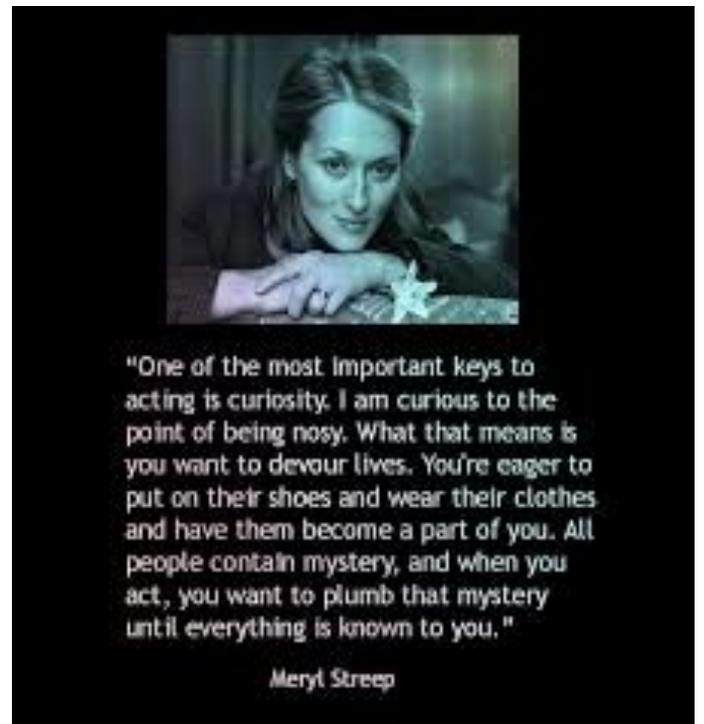
VICE CHAIR:
Deb Smith

SECRETARY:
Dianne Pankau

Facebook Editor
Mike Horberg

TREASURER:
Anne Johnson

Website Editor
Dylan Gamble



MEMBER FOCUS

Meet Dianne Pankau

Hello! I have been with the Twin Lakes Playhouse for almost 2 years now!

Our family got interested in community theater in the early 90's when our oldest son was cast as **Rumpelstiltskin** at Playhouse 1960 in Houston, Texas. All three of our children took turns on stage and my husband Rick and I helped as well. Between us we have filled virtually all positions backstage; set building, lights and sound, directing, stage managing and even some acting.

When we left Houston for Hermann, Missouri, we were without a community theater, but managed to keep "in the business". We owned and operated a Bed and Breakfast where we specialized in murder mystery dinners and weekends. I wrote and directed the mysteries. I can't tell you how many times I killed my husband, but he was a good sport about it and has some great stories to tell about trying to pretend to be dead.

We moved several times in the early 2000's and were never able to get back to community theater. I was so delighted when we retired here and renewed our friendship with Rick's cousin, Deb Smith. In one of our first conversations, it began with "I understand you worked with a community theater. Would you like to help me with **The Wind in the Willows**"?

It has been a great experience. Everyone here has been so welcoming. I did help with **The Wind in the Willows**. I was able to direct **The Foreigner**, a show I had directed in Houston and one of my personal favorites. This season I was cast as Emily Brent in **And Then There Were None** and most recently, I was two of the interviewees in **The Wild Women of Winedale**.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the Twin Lakes Playhouse members. They are fun, hardworking, and eager to get to know newcomers. There is always excitement in the air when someone comes to audition that has never been here before. What a group.

I am anxiously awaiting the time when we can begin working on productions again and hope to direct a show next season, make new friends and bring some laughter and fun to our audiences. And, as of January 1, 2021, I am now serving as secretary on the Twin Lakes Playhouse Board of Directors.



These are crazy times! Agreed? Every time you turn around, there is a new precedent for this or for that! People are confused, depressed, lonely, stressed-out, financially-strapped, fearful, anxious, and even suicidal!

We are all dealing with more stress in these uncertain times than we have had in our entire lifetimes! We are looking for relief and an escape...and there is none! Movie theatres have just now begun opening, with limited seating.

Live Theatre is even more sorely needed than watching a movie, which is a one-sided stress reliever. With Live Theatre, both the performers **and** the audience interact with one another to bring about laughter, sadness, epiphanies, and yes, even catharsis! It is an interactive, cooperative and reciprocal type of entertainment that we have all missed during this past year of Covid Quarantine and isolation! It is time to get together again in a live theatre setting! The actors miss it, but I believe that the audience members miss it even more!

The performers and the audience feed off of each other! Oh, how we need that human connection and interaction! That is what we have needed and what has been missing these past many months. It's not only about entertainment, although that is important, too. It is more about being in community together! Humans were made to connect and be together. This forced isolation had paid a toll on our health: mental, spiritual, physical and emotional!

We need Live Theatre now more than ever!

By Beverly Dennison

TLP MEMBERS

2020/2021

Adkins, Cameron
 Beasley, Kimberly
 Baker, Jennifer
 Butler, Patti
 Buzain, Dianne
 Calhoun, Brendon
 Eberhard, Carol
 Eberhard, John
 Ellington, Andi
 Fisher, Lori
 Gehrke, Larry
 Gehrke, Yvonne
 Howe, Sue
 Hammett, Lisa
 Hardcastle, Rhonda
 Helms, Joanne
 Horberg, Jenny
 Horberg, Mike
 Johnson, Anne
 Kotlicky, Patty
 Kelley, David
 Lateures, Margie
 Leach, Angie
 McKaig, Karen
 Middleton, Clark
 Mook, Karen
 Mollenkopf, Sally
 Nichols, Carol
 Pankau, Dianne
 Perry, Craig
 Reich, Michael
 Reich, Joy
 Rogers, Loweta
 Schlote, Nikki
 Schlote, Jeff
 Simpson, Bill
 Smith, Deb
 Stanuch, Debby
 Tiffin, Laurel
 Tiffin, Stacy
 Westgate-Fulco, Amy
 Wilson, Patty
 Wolfe, Olivia
 Young, Cindy

Giving Them Wings and a Voice *The Power of Living Theatre* By Lorraine Thompson

As theatre educators, we understand the multiple benefits of the theatre. Not only does it expose our students to a rich world of literary work, but also it provides them with opportunities for great personal growth. Audiences also grow and benefit from the stage. They are entertained, touched and, at times, changed by what they see. There is power in theatre — the power to give voice to the speechless and wings to the grounded — that is available to any who desire to wield it.

I witnessed this power first hand when my student, Anne, returned from a service trip to Haiti. She spoke about the profound impact the experiences of that trip had on her. While the trip was rewarding, Anne wanted to do more for the Haitian people. So, while others were enjoying a nice, comfortable Christmas break with family and friends, she made her second trip to Haiti. This trip only fueled the flame. She wanted to do more.

As her drama teacher, I wanted to help her. Knowing the power of theatre, I thought the perfect solution could be a project that would take advantage of her wide range of artistic strengths (Anne was a painter and photographer as well as an actor) and would aid her in educating others about the plight of people in Haiti. I approached her with the idea of mounting a one-woman performance piece using her experiences, her journal entries, her visual art and her desire to serve. She loved the idea (and we were even able to get her independent study credit for this)!

While the details of this project with Anne are very

unique, I share them here as an example. Ultimately, I hope to stimulate your own ideas regarding projects that take advantage of the power of theatre to effect a change of behavior or attitude in both the cast and the audience.

Project Basics

The goals of Anne’s project were:

- To write and stage a 15-30 minute performance piece about Haiti that would educate others about their need for assistance.
- To create a set consisting of panels hung with enlarged pieces of Anne’s own art and photography featuring images from Haiti.

Initially this seemed quite a daunting task, and I met once a week with Anne to help her. First, she had to decide what the main point or focus of the piece would be. What did she want to accomplish with this work? How would she use it? She was challenged to narrow all of her thoughts, emotions, stories and experiences into a concise, thoughtful and effective piece. By creating an outline, the challenge became manageable.

I then suggested Anne choose three broad themes or topics from her trips to serve as a starting place. We worked by brainstorming ideas, making jot lists and writing out possible outlines of what each act would focus on. In the end, she chose to focus on her work at the elementary school, her work at the clinic and her time in the community. She titled her piece *One Person*, showcasing the theme that One Person can make a difference.

We wanted each act to also be able to be performed as part of a whole or as an independent unit. So Anne’s next task was to decide what information she wanted the audience to learn from each section and what experiences she could share to support the section’s goal. We now had what we thought was a good starting outline for the show. It was now time for her to begin writing.

Anne soon discovered that writing for performance is very different from writing an essay. She needed to write as she talked, so sentence structure, sentence length and rhythm of speech were all things she had to take into consideration. Recording herself and then editing the transcript proved a successful method in overcoming this challenge. Once she completed the writing of one act, Anne started memorizing it, and we began blocking the section. We repeated the same process for the other acts as well.

The Set, Props and Costumes

We had a goal to keep the set, props and costumes simple and easy to pack since the show would be performed in a variety of spaces. The set consisted of three standing 4’x8’ panels of Anne’s art work, with the first act performed in front of the stage left panel, the second in front of the center panel and the final act in front of the stage right panel.

Taking the Stage

Anne debuted the first act of *One Person* to resounding success in a community high school performance showcase. This performance was followed by a staging of the piece in its entirety for our campus community. Subsequent variations of *One Person*

entirety.

Theatre has power. The power in Anne’s *One Person* was twofold: in its creation itself and in its life onstage. *One Person* not only helped Anne to grow as an artist and as an activist, but ultimately it raised awareness and funds to aid the Haitian people. Anne’s project is a perfect example of the theatre using its voice to give us wings, in return for which we help others fly!

- TLP = PASSION
EDUCATION
CREATIVITY
SKILLS
CULTURE
FRIENDSHIPS
RESPECT
OPPORTUNITY**

From Deb Smith

So, here’s a challenge to all those creative writers, artists, actors, and musicians out there...

Choose something you are passionate about. Research, experiment, and gather as much information as you can.

You can make a difference – not only in your life, but someone else’s.

And isn’t that what it’s all about– creating a connection to others? Use your empathy (the ability to identify with and understand somebody else’s feelings or difficulties), attribution (the ability to transfer somebody’s own feelings/emotions to an object such as a painting), and create a bridge to another person or people that will enhance the world and humankind. Connect by linking your association with people, things, and events.

You will not regret your actions.



ACTING WORKSHOPS ACTING WORKSHOPS



Acting, Improvisation, Pantomime,
Monologues, Scenework
ages 8-18

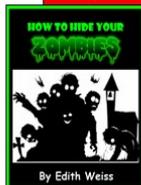
EDUCATION/OUTREACH PROGRAM



Workshops



Plays



Community Service



Cinco de Mayo at El Cinco



Career Days 2014 at ASUMH



2021 Member Dues \$15 PLEASE INCLUDE FORM

To remain an active member of Twin Lakes Playhouse, membership dues are payable at the beginning of each year. This allows members to vote on all changes, expenditures, and plays, etc. It also allows members to participate in theatre activities and stage activities. Our stage may be temporarily closed, but payment of dues is still required for our 2021 year. There are monthly bills and repairs to be made. Our facility needs to remain in tip-top shape for our re-opening.

So, please submit your dues to help out. We are looking forward to seeing you again!

Thank you

WAYS TO SUPPORT TLP!

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Attend Fundraisers and Events

Volunteer

Visit our website for more information

twinlakesplayhouse.org