



PLAYBILL

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 5

MAY 2013

TWIN LAKES PLAYHOUSE

Cast Set For "The Brute and Other Farces"



B: Nate Morgan, David Lewis, Robert Manning, Zach Watson, Deb Smith. F: Olivia Wolfe, Aubriana Chambers, Angie Cotter

After one audition and many phone calls, the cast has been set for the three Chekhov one-act plays opening June 7 and running through June 23.

Director Olivia Wolfe, (*The Brute*), cast Karen McKaig as Mrs. Popov, TLP newcomer Nate Morgan as Grigory Smirnov, David Lewis as Luka, and Paula Hill, Barbara Dugger, and herself as the Gardener, Coachman, and Hired Man.

Director Barbara Dugger, (*A Marriage Proposal*), cast Deb Smith as Stephan Stepanovitch, Dylan Gamble as Ivan Vassilevitch, and Olivia Wolfe as Natalia Stepanovna.

Director Paula Hill, (*The Celebration*), cast Karen McKaig as Kuzma Niko-

layevitch, TLP newcomer Zach Watson as Andrey Andreyevitch Shipuchin, Aubriana Chambers as Tatiana Alexeyevna, Angie Cotter as Natasia Fiodorovna, Robert Manning as Board Member One, and Barbara Dugger and herself as the other two board members.

Lizzie Rambocek is Stage Manager, Craig Perry is on lights and sound, with Shirley Spitzer and Lisa

Hammett again sharing as House Managers, and Paula Hill and Shirley Spitzer on tickets.

Carol Eberhard held a mini-director's workshop for our three new directors, mainly as a review of the points they learned when attending the full workshop. Deb Smith is the resident director on this project.

Twin Lakes Playhouse has been teaching directing techniques and encouraging new directors to get involved with their New Directors Program for the last 30 years.

Headed by resident director, Carol Eberhard, who holds a BA in Theatre Arts, the intensive workshop is held over one

weekend each year. Carol includes many areas in her curriculum, including play selection, casting, blocking, set design, and effective communication, among other things. She always includes "hands-on" exercises that allow the students to actually block and direct a scene on the last day of the workshop.

This year we have three new directors who have taken on the directing challenge by participating in these classic farces from one of Russia's most beloved authors and playwrights, Anton Chekhov. They are utilizing all the information and tips given in the workshop. They are learning to oversee and orchestrate their individual production to ensure quality and completeness of their artistic vision. As a director, they collaborate with others in areas such as stagecraft, costume design, props, lighting design, acting, set design, and sound design for their production.

The director is the primary visionary, making decisions on the artistic concept and interpretation of their play and its staging. Directors utilize a wide variety of techniques, philosophies, and levels of collaboration, most times having a creative team to work with and oversee.

We at TLP applaud our directors, new and experienced, as it is not an easy undertaking; however, the rewards are great.

Members' Night performance is June 5. Benefit Night is for Audubon Society. Please support your directors and cast.

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Board of Directors:

| | |
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MEETING TIMES

BOARD MEETING, JUNE 10, 2013, 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS' MEETING, JUNE 17, 2013, 7:00 P.M.

ACTING WORKSHOPS

Registration forms are now available. If you know someone who is interested in attending, please have them contact me at ozarktootsie10@yahoo.com and I will be happy to email one to them. Space is lim-

ited. We like to work with no more than 20 youths per workshop so we can devote our time and energy wisely and the kids get to participate as much as possible. The dates again are:

Acting I- (ages 8-12) 6/1

Acting II- (ages 8-12) 6/8

Acting I- (ages 13-18) 6/15

Acting II- (ages 13-18) 6/22

The workshops run from 9:00 am—4:00 pm.

Each youth should bring 2 snacks and a sack lunch. They should dress comfortably and wear closed in shoes.

Setting the Stage *by John Eberhard*



Member interview with
Carol Eberhard.



Q. When did you join TLP and how did that come about?

A. I joined TLP in 1977. Johnny Harris, one of TLP's original members, was my husband's mail carrier. John and I had just moved back to Mountain Home after college and John's parents were talking to Mr. Harris about it. The playhouse did not have a director for their next show and Harris asked if I would be willing. So I said "sure". I was only 27 at the time. It

was one of those times when the playhouse's membership was low. It was rather a difficult experience. I needed five men for the show and five auditioned. I cast every one of them. Help was almost non-existent. The cast and I managed to get the show on.

Q. As I remember, it was a low membership time and then they had you locked in to direct the show. A lot of the members were needing a break and they just plain old disappeared. And you were brand new to the group. Tough, huh?

A. That is exactly what happened. I had just moved back and didn't know anyone. There were bright spots, for sure. But, it was very challenging.

Q. Puts me in mind of Paula's recent post in facebook TLP. Amazing how little things have changed, isn't it?

A. Membership ebbs and flows. Lots of folks come in because it is something on their "bucket list"...to be in a show. They do it and move on. Or they throw themselves in head first, do several shows in a row and get burned out. I have seen this happen many times in the last 35 years. This was happening at a time when we only did 2 or 3 shows a year, too.

Q. Steve Phillippe, a past Chairman of TLP, once ex-

pressed that we always have two problems: money and manpower. Comments?

A. I feel Steve was spot on. Now we have money in our coffers, but manpower will always be an issue. For the reasons I have mentioned and also, just the nature of it. We usually have a certain number of young folks or retirees. The people in between are busy making a living and raising children. They may come in from time to time to do a show, but they cannot dedicate very much time. They simply do not have it. I feel managing our finances and learning to pace ourselves are two problems we face. Right now I think the playhouse needs to take a "breather", so to speak. We need to concentrate on doing four shows a year and doing them well. That should be our main focus. We seem to have this urge to throw too many irons into the fire at one time. People are getting burned out. This is my opinion, of course.

Q. Having suffered under the burden of not having any extra monies for so many years and all of the problems that come with that, I would certainly agree with you and implore the group to be very fiscally responsible. It goes out so easily and is recouped so slowly and with such difficulty. What are some of the shows you have been involved in over the years?

A. Oh, my, that is quite a question. LOL Directing credits, "The Odd Couple", "Wait Until Dark", "The Rainmaker", "Wizard of Oz", "Once Upon a Clothesline"...those go way back. I was the "spirit" in "Blythe Spirit" many years ago, too. I've done a lot over the years, onstage, behind the scenes. I've been guilty of taking breaks from time to time myself. Some times I need a break to pursue other aspects of my life. Then I can come back with a fresh attitude.

Q. Do you have a certain type of show that you prefer to do? What was your favorite (or two)? Why?

A. I like to do shows that strike a chord in me. It doesn't have to be a "big name show". I want something that makes me laugh or something that is "theatrical", that is a bit different. "But Why Bump Off Barnaby" was like that. Nothing anyone had ever heard of, but I liked the theatricality of it. "The Rainmaker" was a classic I fell in love with during my college days, as was "Wait Until Dark". I used to think farces were "beneath" me, but now that I've done a few, I have found I really like them. Fun for the cast, fun for the audience. "Love, Sex and the I.R.S." and "The Nerd" helped me fall in love with farces.

Q. Weren't you on the Board of Directors a time or two?

A. Yep. Like I said, I've been around. LOL. I have never worked the sound booth or as a stage manager. I think those are the only two things I haven't done. I have a lot of respect for anyone who is willing to serve on the board. It is a tough job and, for the most part, a thankless one.

Q. I was so impressed when you were head of the committee to rake our seating. What all did you do in your planning for that?

A. Well, I sincerely felt like that was a community effort! I remember constructing fake audience members out of poster board and propping them up in the seats to get an

idea of just how high we could raise things and still have good visibility from the sound booth. Someone had an idea to raise the seats themselves. We finally came up with a way to combine the two ideas, rake the floor and raise the rows of seats themselves. I feel we took our time and really looked at the situation and the result was the most that could possibly be done with what we had. The key was planning and doing test runs on every part we possibly could.

Q. I remember measuring to make sure we had head room for people going around and down the aisles. Lloyd Lowery was the head builder on that project, and he did a bang up good job. I remember sitting in the seats and looking at people you had

on stage so we would be certain the sight lines would work.

What do you think about the newsletter? Is it important? What should it contain, and what would you like to see in it?

A. I think the newsletter is wonderful! I think it is a valuable media tool, for members and patrons. I would like to see more people contribute to it. I would like to see more info on what other groups are doing. What shows are available for our membership to go see. I think it is so important for people who do theatre, to go see theatre. You learn so much. Perhaps some reviews from people who have gone to see other shows.

Q. Anything else you

might want to mention?

A. I would just like to say that everyone in this organization is a volunteer. Every minute someone gives is worth something, no matter how big, or how small. Some folks may not give as much of their time as others, and that is o.k. Membership ebbs and flows and so do people's energies and their time reserves. All effort should be appreciated.

Q. Your experience and knowledge is a real TLP asset. Thanks for consenting to the interview.



Community Outreach *by Deb Smith*



Zach Watson, David Lewis, Rowan Laidler, Elizabeth Lewis

The Twin Lakes Playhouse Education/Outreach Program participated in a skit for El Chico Restaurant's Cinco De Mayo Celebration held on May 4. The skit was an improvisational piece that also utilized pantomime and characterization in a simple scenario: Julia Child makes El Chico's famous Top Shelf Guacamole, claiming it as her own recipe. The characters included Julia, played by David Lewis and Rowan Laidler, and Julia's two assistants, Elizabeth Lewis and Zack Watson. The participants are from the playhouse's Youth Acting Workshops held every summer.



Scholarship Awarded *by Barbara Dugger*



Barbara Dugger, Committee Chairman, Makenzie Watterson

TLP presented \$1,000 to our 2013 Performing Arts Scholarship recipient, Makenzie Watterson, from Ava High School. The presentation took place on Friday, May 10th at their Awards Assembly. Makenzie Watterson, Suzanne Sanders and Makenzie's grandmother have been invited by our scholarship committee to attend TLP's July members' meeting. The Ava students earned over \$244,000 in scholarships. The 5 young men who have dedicated themselves to serve in our military were awarded approximately \$500,000. Ava High School's Katrina Matney, Guidance Counselor, took great effort to see that all 52 graduating seniors received at least a \$250 scholarship.

Bringing LIVE theatre to the Twin Lakes Area

TWIN LAKES PLAYHOUSE

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We're on the Web
twinlakesplayhouse.org

Twin Lakes Playhouse is an ever-evolving community theatre, adding new and innovative ideas to our Season, with musicals, children's theatre, youth, teen and adult acting workshops, director, and improvisation workshops. We are always looking for interested members to participate in all aspects of producing plays. Community theatre is a great outlet for both children and adults, a safe place to create and wrangle your imagination. We also award a scholarship each year to a qualified student who wishes to continue their education in some aspect of the performing arts. And we have an active Benefit Program for local organizations.

Member Focus— Carol Eberhard



As Mrs. Charles Dickens



A Christmas Carol—2006



As Ida (with husband, John)



As Mrs. Hood in
Doo Wop Wed Widing
Hood—2012



The Cemetery Club—2010



As Sheree



The Dixie Swim Club—2012

Thanks, Carol, for your years of commitment and you sharing your knowledge and creativity with us. We appreciate all that you do!

Members of TLP