

## THE GREEN ROOM GAZETTE

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. *New Board in May*
2. *Barbara Beautrow*
3. *Our Town is a hit*
4. *Bleacher Bums next*

### Next Auditions

Director Allison Remley will have auditions for the summer student production of *Annie, Jr.* for youths 10-18 on May 16, noon-6pm and May 17, 2-6pm at Fort Boise Community Center, 700 Robbins Rd, Boise. Parts for about 40 youngsters are available.

### Theater Organization

#### President

*Wendy Koepl*

#### Business Manager

*Patrick Ryan*

#### Editor

*Ruth Stemper*

#### Writer

*Pat Ryan*

#### Board of Directors

*Connie Behee*

*Barbara Beautrow*

*Autumn Kersey*

*Jim Koepl*

*John Myers*

### Message From The President

I don't know about you, but I'm just about fed up with the rain. The farmers, gardeners, boaters and river rafters are as happy as can be. Oh, I know we need it, but couldn't it just rain at night when it can lull us to sleep and be sunny and dry during the day? Okay, I guess it will pass and summer will soon be here and we'll all be glad it rained!

Congratulations to all of the citizens of *Our Town!* Our auditorium was nearly full most nights. Nancy Shankweiler and her cast and crew did a great job!

Next up - a trip to Chicago's Wrigley Field for a visit with the *Bleacher Bums*. Janelle Walters Priest and her cast of characters are finishing up the set and polishing their lines, so come on down to the ball park for the first inning on Friday, May 22. Play ball!

I hope you have a wonderful spring. Go out and enjoy the sunny moments. Smell the flowers and new-mown grass. Be happy.

Wendy



### New Board Will Meet At Close Of May Meeting

As per the by-laws, the new board will meet at the close of the May business meeting to select the president and business manager for 2009-2010. Jay Parker is the only new member to the board and he joins continuing members: Connie Behee, Autumn Kersey, Jim Koepl, and John Myers.

Barbara Beautrow, retiring board member, has served for two two-year terms and is a two term past president and 90s board member as well. A pat on the back goes to her for her continuing support of Boise Little Theater.

Board members serve two year terms beginning at the close of the May business meeting, while officers serve from June 1 to May 31. If a member of the board is selected for either of these positions at this time, the candidate having the next highest vote total in the March board elections will assume a board position.

### SEEKING AUCTION ITEMS!

This July marks the 10th annual Boise Parks & Recreation and Boise Little Theater Youth Summer Musical. To commemorate this momentous occasion, we will have a Gala Fundraising on July 23 at the theater. We are seeking unique items for the silent auction. All proceeds will benefit the Posluszny Scholarship Fund. As many already know, Joe Posluszny was instrumental in initiating the Youth Summer Musical program in 2000. If you have items you would like to donate, please contact Autumn Kersey at [au-tumn.kersey@gmail.com](mailto:autumn.kersey@gmail.com) or 283-5699. Details about the Gala will be provided soon - but save the date because you're invited!

Membership Meeting May 18, at 8 PM



Barbara Beautrow first appeared in BLT's *Towards Zero*, directed by Don Mummert, in 1987.

### Board Member Beautrow Completes Her Term

Barbara Beautrow finishes her latest service to Boise Little Theater, a four year stint on the board of directors. Barbara also served a term in the 90s and was president for two years, 1995-97.

Along with her acting, directing seven shows, and helping on others, Barbara has toiled long for BLT. She works hosting on opening nights and has been the impetus for honoring long time patrons of the theater.

She holds a B.A. in Theater from the University of Denver and is currently teaching English (and sometimes German) at Borah High School.

Like most of us, Barbara remembers the funny things that happen when producing live theater. During her first directorial endeavor, *I'll Leave It To You*, the power went out on act three. "When the lights went out, crew members decorated the set with 100 candles and Don Mummert and Diane Benedict played along with the breakfast scene, as the audience listened on the edge of their seats, and the stage manager stayed alert with a fire extinguisher off stage."

She also remembers fondly her last acting gig when she played the Jewish mother in *Come Blow Your Horn*. The show was one of her favorites even though it had its somewhat familiar problems. A key cast member had to be replaced after rehearsals were well underway and on closing night, the apartment door got stuck, leaving actors looking for another way onto the set.

Barbara is one of those who knows the importance of melding the different factions at BLT. We hope to see her around for a long, long time.

### You've Only Got 100 Years!

Please make a note on your calendar. **Sue Howe** will become **100 years old** on August 10! A birthday celebration will take place on Saturday, August 8, at Boise Little Theater. Time and details will be available later. Mark it down.

### Employment Opportunity

#### Box Office Position Available

Ruth Stemper will step down from box office work (other than possible fill in times) at the start of our fiscal year, July 1, 2009. Therefore we have a part time position available for someone to work three months of the year. Naturally, the job requires a good attitude for meeting the public, service to Boise Little Theater, and day and evening hours.

The new person will work January, April, and one other month of her/his choosing, about 110 hours a month for a salary of \$1000.00 per month. The possibility exists to work other individual days as needed.

According to the by-laws, the business manager, with approval of the board of directors, supervises the box office. Generally, the box office personnel are retained yearly, but they are subject to the wishes of a possible new business manager each year.

Please contact the box office to fill out a brief application if you have interest in working part time.

**Knock 'Em Dead** presents  
*The Importance Of Being Earnest* May 15—June 13, 333 S. 9th. [www.kedproductions.org](http://www.kedproductions.org).

**Stage Coach Theatre** presents  
*Leading Ladies* May 22—June 13, in The Hillcrest Shopping Center, Overland & Orchard. 342-2000

**Prairie Dog Productions** presents *My School Musical*, May 29—June 20, 336-PETE (7393) The Alano, 3820 Cassia..

**Gift Certificates Awarded At Membership Meetings** Members who attend the monthly meeting are eligible to receive some excellent door prizes rounded up by Jo-Ann Jones. Last month certificates for dining were given to Shirley Lake, Jody Mummert, and Ruth Stemper.

## ***Our Town* Well Received**

As *Our Town* unfolds, the stage manager (Jeff Chapman) addresses the audience directly in a straight-forward folksy manner, telling the way it was in the early 1900s. Slowly, we realize that he is also relating the poignancy of our own lives and deaths. It isn't long into the play when he jumps a few years ahead to tell us that Doc Gibbs (Andy Neill) died in 1930 and the new wing of the hospital is named after him or that Julia Gibbs (Debra Southworth) died much earlier on a trip to visit her daughter Rebecca (Leah March).

The story has barely started when we recognize the brevity of life. Then mundane, every day life is portrayed and we become aware of our own daily routines. Professor (Bruce Bellamy) tells all about the scientific facts of our town and newspaper editor Charles Webb (Tom Poremba) the social aspects. Even in the editor's apparently pointless speech we see truth: "We are all looking for a way in which the diligent and hard working rise to the top while the lazy and quarrelsome sink to the bottom, but it ain't easy to find."

The young lovers Emily (Geneva Stevahn) and George (Josh Cormier) bring back memories of our own first romances—the innocent way we stumble through a different relationship. Mother Myrtle Webb (Amber Ellis) gets exasperated with Emily's questions, "Am I pretty?" and then later cries to think of her young daughter going into a marriage.

Oh, and there is trouble in our town. Simon Stimson (Cary White) is drunk again because he has seen so much sorrow in his life—we don't know what it is, though. All-in-all, *Our Town* is a study of life, love, and death in America.

A big undertaking (don't say "undertaking") like *Our Town* needs experienced direction and it was provided by director Nancy Shankweiler with plenty of backup by assistant director Autumn Kersey. Stage manager Cricket Langworthy kept all the pieces running and working together for a wonderful show.



The *Our Town* cast is one of those large productions that illustrate "there are no small roles" in the theater. Each person was essential as each person had a distinct personality and job to do. Elizabeth Greeley did a wonderful job with these costumes!

## **Membership Discussion Continues, Despite Lack of Attendance**

The April meeting was sparsely attended, which was unfortunate (and a bit embarrassing) for the actors from "Our Town" who made a special point of presenting a scene from the play. Additionally, Jo-Ann Jones awarded four gift certificates to lucky members who made time for the meeting. I start off this brief report with this information because it is an example as to why we are having the "Working Member" conversation. I have heard from several members that they want the monthly meeting to be more "meaningful." Several suggested that we reintroduce scene work from the play in progress. We included the door prizes as an extra incentive. And we have intentionally added the Membership conversation to the meeting agenda because it should be a meaningful discussion.

Having said that, the members at the April meeting did delve further into the issue of Membership. The discussion steered away from the question of "Who is a Working Member," to "Who should have voting rights. A few of the members present felt that voting on theater business should be the responsibility of the individuals who consistently attend to the business of the theater, including attending meetings, work parties, and volunteer assignments. Some members felt strongly that there should be a minimum meeting requirement for all those who wish to participate in voting - especially the March meeting in which we elect new board members.

The goal of this process is to strengthen the commitment and the benefits for all BLT volunteers. As always, if you have thoughts you would like to share before the May meeting, please email [autumn.kersey@gmail.com](mailto:autumn.kersey@gmail.com).

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The *Green Room Gazette* is published eight times annually during the season. Please direct your comments, questions, and constructive criticism to Ruth Stemper, Editor, 344-0354. Visit our website at [www.boiselittletheater.org](http://www.boiselittletheater.org).

*The news from BLT*



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★ Membership Meeting ★  
★ May 18, 2009 at 8 PM ★  
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### 2009-2010 Season at BLT

#### *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*

Directed by Wendy Koepl

September 4 through September 19, 2009

#### *The Mousetrap* directed by Cricket Langworthy

October 16 through 31, 2009

#### *A Christmas Story* directed by John Myers

November 27 through December 19, 2009.

#### *Fools* directed by Kevin Kimsey

January 15 through January 30, 2010

#### *Almost, Maine* directed by Larry Dennis

February 26 through March 13, 2010

#### *Twelve Angry Men* directed by David Priest

April 9 through April 24, 2010

#### *Chapter Two* directed by Patrick Ryan

May 21 through June 5, 2010

### ***Bleacher Bums Get Ready To Cheer***

The final production of BLT's 2008-2009 season is about to hit the boards—in this case, the boards of the bleachers in Wrigley Field.

Go Cubs go—the boys of summer are here. BLT Presents The Chicago Cubs' own *Bleacher Bums*. Join us as Director Janelle Walters Priest leads her band of Chicago land cutups onto the BLT stage. This good time bunch of die hard Cubs' fans takes the field May 22nd through June 6th.

The hand picked team features, Scott Beets, David M. Priest, Ben Hamill, Darrell Boatwright, Ben Ulmen, Katie Preston, Terry Baldwin, Willie Allen and Dylan Cole. Plan on enjoying nine innings of nonstop laughs. We'll lay you 3 to 1 odds you'll love it.

Ben Day is the stage manager, Jim Anderson designed the set and John Myers and Jim Koepl helped with construction. David Priest is designing the lights while Rich Baldwin will be the light operator. Joyce Vandereyken is handling the props.

Tickets are \$11, \$9 for seniors and students and for everyone on Wednesday, June 3, when the show begins at 7:30 PM. Other show times are 8:00 PM for May 22-23, 28-30, June 4-6, and a Sunday Matinee May 31, at 2:00 PM. Call 342-5104 or visit [www.boiselittletheater.org](http://www.boiselittletheater.org) for information and reservations.