

GREEN ROOM GAZETTE

Next Auditions

Auditions for
Calendar Girls,
directed by Wendy Koepl,
will be
Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2pm &
Monday, Dec. 14 at 7pm
in the theater Green Room.

Needed: 2 men (ages 20-40), 2 men (ages 50-60);
1 woman (age 20s),
9 women (ages 30-70)

***Every Christmas
Story Ever Told***
runs
Nov 27- Dec 12

Theater Organization

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Lynne Beautrow

Greetings and welcome to the Green Room Gazette. I'm your host, BLT's John Myers.

November - the beginning of the Holiday Season. As I write this, the temperature has dropped 25 degrees and it rained for 5 days straight last weekend. Of course, this is Idaho so next week it will probably be 75 and sunny.

Kitchen Witches just closed and if you missed it, you missed a great show. First-time director at BLT Anastasia Van Allen and her cast and crew put on a "witchy" good time for everyone.

Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and Then Some) has moved into the theater, and the cast and crew are getting ready to bring you the Cutest, Silliest Family Friendly Show BLT is doing this year, complete with a 10-minute Nutcracker Suite, Christmas Inflatables, and Gustav, the Green-Nosed Reingot.

The Servant of Two Masters has auditions on November 7th and 8th in the Green Room and auditions for **Calendar Girls** will be on December 13th and 14th, so there is still plenty of Theater before the end of the year.

Just a reminder that if you haven't renewed your BLT membership you only have until the January 2016 membership meeting date (1/18/16) to renew.

Also, if you are looking for a Christmas present idea, might I suggest season tickets or Flex passes, which are available at the Box Office.

This will be the last Green Room Gazette until next year, so from all of us on the Board and Staff at Boise Little Theater, We hope you have a Safe and Happy Holidays with plenty of Friends and Family; and as a reminder, if you need a distraction for said Friends and Family, come see **Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and Then Some)**.

'til next time

J



**Membership Meeting:
Monday, November 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

Editor's Note: We all know the term "the Greatest Generation." Well, this month, we start a periodic series of interviews with some of our own greatest generation of theater members!



Interviews with BLT's Own Greatest Generation: Nancy Richards

by Helene Myers

If you've performed on Boise Little Theater's stage, there's a good chance that you know longtime BLT member and season ticket holder, Nancy Richards. Or at least, she probably knows you. For almost six decades, Nancy has been attending plays at BLT and at other theaters in Boise. Most people know her as the devoted theater supporter who doesn't forget a face. What many people don't know is how many hours Nancy spent at Boise Little Theater in its early years, performing onstage, working backstage, and taking on numerous other functions to keep the organization going.

"I got into theater accidentally. I never acted in high school or anything. I was a secretary at the Lewiston Health Department, and the lab assistant there had read in the paper that a new theater group was started. The first play was cast and the theater needed people to try out for crowd scenes. My friend thought it would be fun, and did I think so too? I had a car and she didn't. We went and she got cast as a member of the crowd. I got the secondary female lead." Even though the show was cast, the director was so impressed with Nancy's audition that he recast the role for her. Then Nancy was cast as the lead in the next play, which was ***Bell, Book and Candle***. A few days into rehearsals, Nancy's husband, Monte, told her he was being transferred to Boise. They moved from Lewiston to Boise before the production opened.

Soon after arriving in Boise, Nancy became friends with a woman who had season tickets to Boise Little Theater, which was putting on its shows at Gowen Field. The friend invited Nancy to a play called ***The Fifth Season***, on its opening night, May 16, 1956. Those familiar with BLT's history know that was the fateful night that the theater burned down, claiming the lives of two BLT members. Nancy recalls it well. "Partway through the show, I saw flames. The director said to the audience, we have a little fire, stay calm, stay seated. I said to my friend, no, we're quietly leaving. We walked out and the door exploded behind us."

That September, Nancy became a member of Boise Little Theater. She was cast in the first three plays of the 1956-57 season: ***Sabrina Fair***, ***The Heiress***, and ***The Teahouse of the August Moon***. In ***Sabrina Fair***, she played a cameo role and was Sabrina's understudy, and she was also the props chair. She enjoyed working with Scott Church and Earl Bowen on the show. Bowen then went on to Hollywood and was a successful character actor in movies and television. In ***The Heiress***, Nancy played the title character, Catherine Sloper. Her portrayal earned her the lead actress Beulah that season. In ***The Teahouse of the August Moon***, she played one of the Okinawan characters. "All our lines were in Okinawan. We had an Okinawan coach who had us learn our lines phonetically."

All together she worked on 29 stage productions at BLT, in various capacities. She ran props on a number of shows. She assistant directed and helped with lights, sound, make-up, and set construction. Nancy was a hostess, house manager, and usher, and she also worked in the box office. She was a board member and also the theater's historian for a few years, as well as scholarships chair. She said about those years, "I spent nearly every evening at BLT."

Nancy also enjoyed doing play readings. Her favorite staged reading was ***The Chalk Garden*** with David Six, Helen Burnell, and Pat Numbers.

Her last show at BLT was a one act play called ***Out of Our Father's House***, in which she played the astronomer Maria Mitchell. She had just a few days to learn the part, which was full of scientific jargon, but luckily she was a fast learner and pulled it off.

Her theater experiences haven't been limited to BLT. She and Janice Levy played hatchet-wielding women in a melodrama up at Idaho City. She and B. J. Jefferson worked backstage on Boise Music Week, as well as on the first opera production at Opera Idaho. Nancy did Stage Coach Theatre's first production at the Basque Center, ***The Seagull***. "The wall was thin between the bar and the theater space. It was so noisy that the actors had to shout."

Nancy continues to serve on our scholarship committee, chaired by Nancy Shankweiler, and she really enjoys that. Over the past few years, she hasn't been able to get to as many shows as she would like. The times that she does manage to get to them are just that much more special, and we are always so thrilled to see her. Next time you see Nancy, make sure to stop and say hello, and thank her for being one of our most dedicated supporters.

**Save the Date
for the Annual
Christmas Party!**

It takes the place of
the regular
membership meeting
for December.



When: December 21, 2015 at 7:00pm

Where: Boise Little Theater lobby

What to bring: Yourself and a friend!

RSVP no later than December 14.

Invitations will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Countdown to Pay Membership Dues:

2 months

According to the by-laws, you must pay the \$5 membership dues by the January membership meeting—by January 18, 2016—in order to be eligible to vote in the March election.



Every Christmas Story Ever Told
Cast and Crew

Cast

John Myers
Bradley Campbell
Paul Archibeque

Crew

Director: Cheryl Blauer
AD: Wendy Koepl
Stage Manager: Jay Parker
Choreography: Kay Mack
Music Director: Erika Gray
Props: Gary Miller
Sound Design: Jim Steele
Light Design: Monae Curtis

Recycling Reminder: Keepin' it Green

Please remember that we have bins in the Green Room for aluminum, paper, plastic, and cardboard. We get money at Western Recycling for our aluminum and cardboard. It's not much, but every penny helps—and over time, it adds up.

Thanks for helping us keep the theater green in the Green Room and giving us some green!



Please *DON'T* Donate *Paint*...

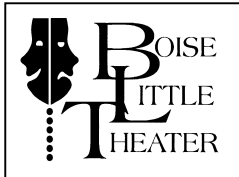
We thank you for your paint donations in the past, but we would appreciate no further donations of paint. There are only certain kinds that can be used on a set. Thank you.

Boise Little Theater

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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 bltboise48@aol.com.



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Return Service Requested

2015-2016 Season at BLT

Every Christmas Story Ever Told and Then Some directed by Cheryl Blauer. Nov. 27-Dec. 12, 2015.

The Servant of Two Masters directed by Jonathan Perry. Jan. 8-23, 2016.

Calendar Girls directed by Wendy Koepl. Feb. 26-March 12, 2016.

The Crucible directed by Frank White. April 8-23, 2016.

Flaming Idiots directed by Brad Wm. Ooley. May 20-June 4, 2016.

**Membership
Meeting:**

**Monday,
November 16
at 7:00 p.m.**