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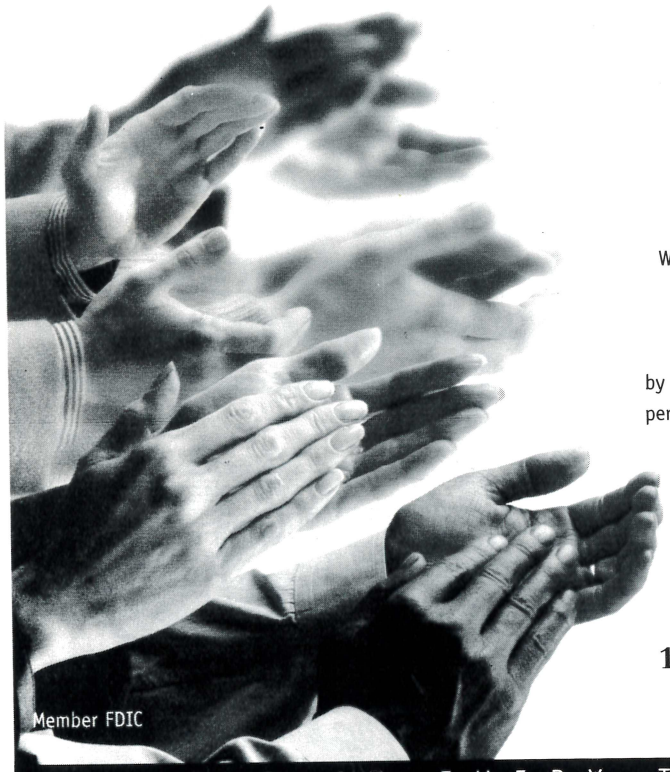

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64TH SEASON
1935-1999

474TH PRODUCTION BY
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May 13 - 30, 1999

Tartuffe

By Molière
(Richard Wilbur translation)

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Patron Information

Emergency Exits are located at the left front of the auditorium and the left side of the lobby. Front door and main lobby side exits will also be used in case of emergency.

Restrooms are found just off the entrance lobby ramp at the rear of the auditorium. Both men's and women's restrooms are wheelchair accessible.

Handicapped Services include seating for a limited number of wheelchairs. Please notify in advance if needed. Exterior and interior ramps make access easy for wheelchairs.

Assistive Listening Devices are available at the Box Office for the hearing impaired. This service is available thanks to the generosity of Virginia and J. Robert Wilson. In addition, some performances at Weathervane may feature American Sign Language or audio-description translations.

Patrons who are expecting calls should leave name and seat number with the House Manager. We request that electronic pagers and cellular phones be left at the Ticket Office and that alarm wristwatches be turned off during a performance.

Beverages and Food may not be taken into the auditorium during performances.

Use of Cameras, Tape Recorders, TV cameras is prohibited during performances.

Curtain time. Every effort is made to begin shows promptly at 8 p.m. for evening performances and at 2:30 p.m. for Sunday matinees. We appreciate audience courtesy in arriving on time.

Latecomers will be quietly seated at the rear of the auditorium during a suitable break in the play if space is available and may take their reserved seats after intermission.

Exiting the Theater. For safety and as a courtesy to other patrons and the performers, please remain seated until the auditorium lights are on at intermission or after the show. Auditorium doors will not be opened until the house lights are on. Parking lot illumination assures that getting to your car will be easy and secure.

Smoking. Weathervane Playhouse is a smoke-free facility. Smoking is permitted outside the building.

Lost and Found items will be held at the Ticket Office until claimed. Please inquire about them during business hours.

Comments from audience members are always welcomed with interest. Please feel free to write to Weathervane or call us to express your views and opinions about our productions, play selection or other matters. We appreciate hearing from you and will respond. Please send your comments to: *Executive Director, Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186.*

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1998-1999 SEASON
PRODUCTIONS
#469 - #475

September 10 - 27, 1998
Working
Music by Stephen Schwartz & Nina Faso
Based on the book by Studs Terkel

October 22 - November 8, 1998
Blithe Spirit
Wacky British wit by Noel Coward

January 14 - 31, 1999
The Mousetrap
Mystery by Agatha Christie

February 25 - March 14, 1999
A Soldier's Play
Pulitzer Prize Winner by Charles Fuller

April 8 - 25, 1999
Camping With Henry & Tom
Portraits in Power by Mark St. Germain

May 13 - 30, 1999
Tartuffe
Classic Comedy by Moliere
(Richard Wilbur translation)

June 24 - July 18, 1999
Cabaret
Musical by John Kander and Fred Ebb
Book by Joe Masteroff

Program subject to change.

YOUTH THEATRE SEASON
August 8 - 16, 1998
Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party
Musical by Evelyn Rudie and
Chris De Carlo

November 28 - December 20, 1998
Cinderella
Musical by Richard Rodgers and
Oscar Hammerstein II

April 17 - May 2, 1999
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
Spooky classic by Washington Irving

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Ticket Information

Tickets may be purchased by telephone when you call (330) 836-2626 Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You may also purchase tickets in person during these hours. On performance Saturdays only, the Ticket Office is open from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Ticket Office is also open one hour prior to all performances and remains open through the first intermission.

Telephone reservations must be guaranteed with Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit cards. Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weathervane Super Coupon book, complimentary tickets or coupons offered from any other cooperating arts organization. Please arrive at the Ticket Office at least 20 minutes before curtain time to pick up your tickets. Any unclaimed tickets will be released for sale to waiting ticket buyers five minutes prior to curtain at the discretion of the Ticket Office Manager and volunteers.

Special seating. Please inform us if you have seating preferences, or require special attention due to visual, auditory or other physical needs. We'll do our best to accommodate you, but please remember orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with season subscribers and advanced group sales taking first priority.

Super Coupon holders are reminded that coupons do *not* ensure seats for a specific performance. Please call the box office early to reserve seats with these pre-paid coupons.

Season Subscriber Exchange. Please call the Ticket Office at (330) 836-2626 if you wish to exchange your subscription seat for another performance of the same show. Exchanges must be phoned in at least 24 hours prior to your originally scheduled performance. We can't always guarantee the same seats but we'll give you the closest available replacements. An upgrade fee will be charged when changing subscription seats from the Preview Series to any other performance. *If you are unable to use your subscription seats, please call us at least 24 hours in advance to release them. We will recognize this as a donation to Weathervane.*

Student Rush Tickets go on sale 30 minutes before curtain time allowing students with valid ID to purchase remaining tickets for half price on the night of performance, pending ticket availability. These tickets cannot be reserved in advance.

Complimentary Tickets for cast members and production volunteers require reservations and may be used only on designated performances. Complimentary tickets distributed to special donors also require reservations but may not be restricted to specific performances. Please let us know you wish to use a complimentary ticket when you telephone for a reservation.

Discounted Group Reservations are available for groups of 15 or more. Call Weathervane at (330) 836-2626 to learn how you can entertain friends, associates, or clients with a night at the theater or to plan a fund-raising event for larger groups.

Gift Certificates are available through the Ticket Office at any time in any amount you choose.

Recycle your playbills. Anyone who doesn't wish to keep their playbill as a souvenir may drop it in our recycling box near the main entrance. We request that you do not bend, fold or deface the playbills as we will use them again for subsequent performances. Thank you.

before and after the show...

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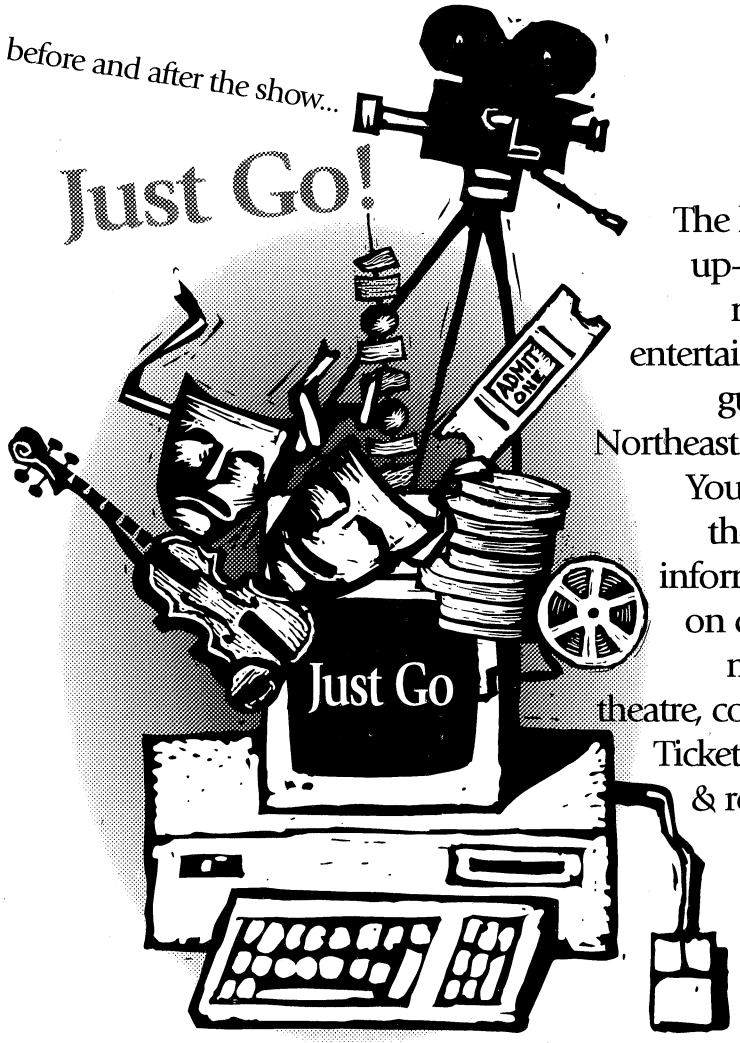

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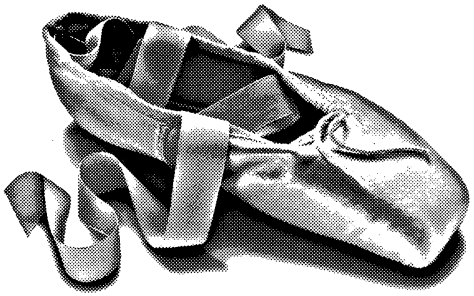

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Weathervane Women's Board

The Women's Board was formed in 1938 to "offer voluntary service and financial assistance to the Playhouse" and has been a vital part of Weathervane functions ever since. Women's Board has energized the youth education program, sponsored productions, spearheaded fund raisers, and paid for many of the amenities audiences and production volunteers continue to appreciate in the Green Room and kitchen. Members of this active group are invaluable as hostesses, office helpers and hard workers on backstage projects. The Women's Board sponsors puppet presentations and an annual production for children and also operates the Gift Boutique and art gallery as on-going fund sources.

Weathervane Women's Board welcomes new members who serve an apprenticeship allowing them to explore the full spectrum of Weathervane activities in which they may wish to participate. Membership is open to all. If you are interested in becoming part of this vibrant organization, please let us know. Leave your name at the Ticket Office or write: Weathervane Women's Board, c/o Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186.

1998-1999 Women's Board Officers

Betty Williams	President
Marta Williger	First Vice President
Alberta Carlin	Second Vice President
Randie Sass	Corresponding Secretary
Lois Murray	Recording Secretary
Jill Forster	Treasurer
Betty J. Zeigler	Assistant Treasurer

1998-1999 Women's Board Committee Chairs

Marci Paolucci	Art
Mary Wolfman	Boutique Co-Chair
Mary Morehart	Boutique Co-Chair
Barbara O'Connor	Boutique Treasurer
Randie Sass	Costumes
Karen Burridge	Cast Suppers Co-Chair
Juanita Carlson	Cast Suppers Co-Chair
Dorothy Kies	Hospitality Co-Chair
Henrietta Cook	Hospitality Co-Chair
Pat Obenour	Hostess
Dreajean Washington-Brown	Office Volunteer Scheduler
Lois Simmons	Membership
Helen Fleming	Production for Children Co-Chair
Leslie Lund	Production for Children Co-Chair
Janet Clark	Nominating
Amy DeCesare	Newsletter

Patron Generosity

Weathervane appreciates the continuing strong support of individuals, corporations, foundations and other donors who help finance the theater's operations, capital improvements and endowment program. Weathervane is classified as a 501(C)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. Following are some of the many ways in which you can take pride in your support of the art of theater in our community.

Become a Weathervane Member. Your annual support makes you a voting member of Weathervane Community Playhouse and rewards you with discounts on educational programs and other benefits, based on the membership level you choose. Members are invited to Weathervane's annual meeting and to other special events such as the Chanticleer Awards Banquet. Memberships are renewable annually, beginning at $50 (Contributing), and continuing at Sustaining, Patron, Silver, Gold and Platinum Levels. Membership is actively solicited in the fall but is accepted at any time. Members are recognized in the Playbill.

Give a Special Gift To Say You Care. Special donations may be made at any time to memorialize a friend or relative whose interest in Weathervane was significant to his or her life. You may also wish to recognize and celebrate important dates or current achievements of relatives, friends or associates whose theater activities and interests have earned your special admiration.

Remember Weathervane in Your Heart and in Your Will. What better way to carry on your tradition of support to Weathervane than by a planned gift. By taking advantage of the tax laws which encourage charitable giving, the U.S. Government will share in the cost of your gift to Weathervane. Your gift can fulfill a specific purpose or project while providing your estate with tax savings. To help ensure that Weathervane will continue now and forever, please contact our Executive Director for more information.

Check For Matching Gifts. Many national and local corporations will match the donations you give to Weathervane, thus doubling your generosity to the theater. Please check to see whether or not your company participates in such a program.

Designate Gifts To Local Foundations. Several of this area's larger foundations accept memorial and tribute gifts in the name of specific organizations such as Weathervane Community Playhouse. Such gifts help assure continuing grants to the theater's operations and special projects. We are enormously grateful for the impressive history of foundation support demonstrated in this community.

Sponsor or Underwrite a Production. Our productions may be underwritten by local corporations or foundations. Co-Producership is also possible. Benefits can include private "command performances" and special receptions for employees and friends when your business chooses this important method to support Weathervane. Please call (330) 836-2626. We'd like to discuss this kind of opportunity with your executive officers.

Adopt a Floor. In honor of Trustee Chic and Women's Board member, Juanita Carlson's 50th Wedding Anniversary, $1,000 has been donated toward an elevator fund. Their son Mark and his family celebrate the Carlson's lifelong commitment to each other by recognizing that support of their community and the arts is also part of their credo. Anyone wishing to adopt one of the other "79 floors" toward our goal of $80,000 may do so by calling Janis at 836-2323 Ext. 16.

Keep Weathervane Growing

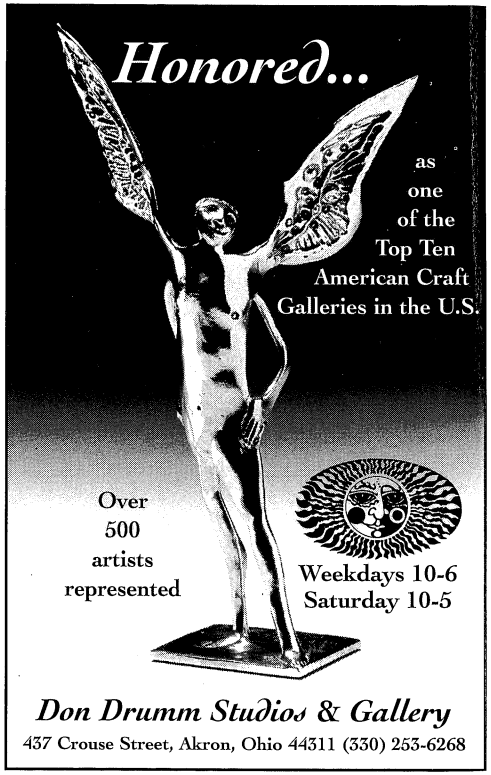
Become a Member

Individuals and businesses who believe strongly in the value of community theater to enrich the area are always welcomed as new or renewing members of Weathervane Community Playhouse. For those whose names are listed in the program, there are many benefits, not the least of which is the pride you can share in supporting the mission of live theater's education and entertainment values.

Please don't wait for a formal invitation to join our membership list. Your support and commitment are welcome and appreciated any time. Your support is needed now more than ever. For those who are already members, we suggest that an increase in your membership may be an idea whose time has come in the face of dwindling government resources.

If you truly enjoy live theater, you'll be playing a vital part every time the lights go up for each show on the Weathervane stage and we can honestly say that the show couldn't go on without you. For information about Membership/Patron benefits, please call us at (330) 836-2323.

Akron Area Arts Alliance



We're Proud Of Weathervane Volunteers

Weathervane began as a volunteer organization and continues its growth thanks to the time and talent members of our community continue to invest in it. Our on-stage performers have worked long and hard to earn your applause. But their work is supported by many other unseen men and women who've helped build and paint sets, run the lights and sound, make sure that properties and set dressing items are in their proper places and do other backstage labor from stage managing to costuming and make-up. Supporting those who are actively involved in putting on each show are still more volunteers who usher, house manage, sell tickets and those who keep our office running, serve on our Board of Trustees, Board committees and Women's Board.

Their spirit is the backbone of our continuing operations, a valued support on which our professional staff relies.

Each month, we acknowledge the outstanding Volunteers of the Month in our lobby, but those volunteers represent all who commit their time and interest to create a great theater experience for everyone who's come to see this show.

If you have friends or relatives who volunteer generously at Weathervane, we hope you'll take a moment to thank them for their help and their support of the cultural enrichment of our community. Better yet, join them! Call us and we'll help you win your own share of the applause for a "jolly good show," an experience that offers unique challenges with every performance.

The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

THE FILM AND ARTS Bravo NETWORK

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Shortly after the final production of each season, Weathervane volunteers and friends share an exciting party to acknowledge outstanding performances by performers and technical volunteers. The top performers are awarded rooster statuettes - Chanticleers - in recognition of their work, as voted by Chanticleer "judges" who have seen all productions during the season. It's a great night to get together, share hopes, fun and festivities and is open to all.

If you'd like to take an additional part in Chanticleer night and serve as a juror to vote for the award winners, all that is required is your affidavit that you have seen all seven shows during the season, and your choices for outstanding lead performances by a male or female in a drama or comedy, outstanding support performances, and outstanding lead and support in a musical as well as choices in technical achievement. Chanticleers are also awarded for properties, lights, costumes and sound and for Best Production of the season. In addition to performance and production awards, the event also recognizes outstanding volunteers of the year.

Chanticleer ballots are available during the run of the season's final show in late July or August each year. We welcome regular theater-goers who'd like to take part in the jurying and join us for the biggest nail-biting party of the year. For information, please call our office.

From the Barn to the Valley

A Brief Weathervane History

From 1935 until 1951, Weathervane was housed in a modest carriage house barn on Marshall Avenue in Akron. The "barn," as it was known, has long since been destroyed but there are still a few people who recall its cramped quarters and especially the energy and devotion of the four ladies, Grace Crawford, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch and Muriel MacLachlan, who believed that Akron deserved the best in theater and that volunteers could make it all happen. The plaque in our lobby lists the names of the other founders who shared their commitment and who joined their ambitious mission, producing everything from light comedy to Shakespeare and opera in those early years.

Though the Barn is now only a memory, its rooftop weathervane gave the theater its name and logotype character, the Chanticleer Rooster.

Except for one year (1948) at the downtown Pythian Temple, the Barn was home to Weathervane until 1951 when the organization renovated a building on Copley Road to become a more accommodating 100-seat facility. In 1960, Weathervane hired its first professional director, Bob Belfance, who served in that capacity until 1992. Along with long-time custodian/ticket office manager, Nora Scott, the staff remained at two for many years relying on volunteer support. Paid guest directors and children's theater instructors served in part-time positions and Weathervane existed on a lean budget. Ticket office receipts, along with donations and community support, helped Weathervane meet expenses and created a modest endowment fund. It is still volunteers who help nourish all of Weathervane's activities.

In the mid-1960's, a fund-raising drive resulted in construction of the present 263-seat facility which opened in 1970, one of the first enterprises at the head of the corridor into the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. Thanks to Grace Crawford's legacy, the mortgage on the present building has since been paid off. Growing audience demand for live entertainment and theater education continues to underscore Weathervane's needs for increased community support.

In its six and a half decades, Weathervane has constructed, torn down, recycled, painted and refitted stage settings for more than 500 productions (when Stage II and Youth Theater productions are included). We've stitched up hundreds of costumes, created lighting magic by the multi-watt, crafted reality out of scores of stage properties and, most of all, shared the gifts of talent displayed by well over a thousand amateur performers, taking their performance curtain calls to the applause of probably more than a hundred thousand theater goers over the years. This kind of effort is the result of volunteer dedication based on the founders' original philosophy that "all who can contribute are welcome."

Our volunteer archivist, Cue Fleming, has compiled the impressive list of productions back to 1935, a record of the dedication of those who have given their time to present each show to please the audiences who seek entertainment excellence each time the lights go up. We hope you will enjoy sharing the link to Weathervane's past by joining in the applause for the performance you see here today.

NOTE: Weathervane always appreciates donations of past programs, photographs or other theater memorabilia which can be added to our archives kept at the University of Akron. Thank you.

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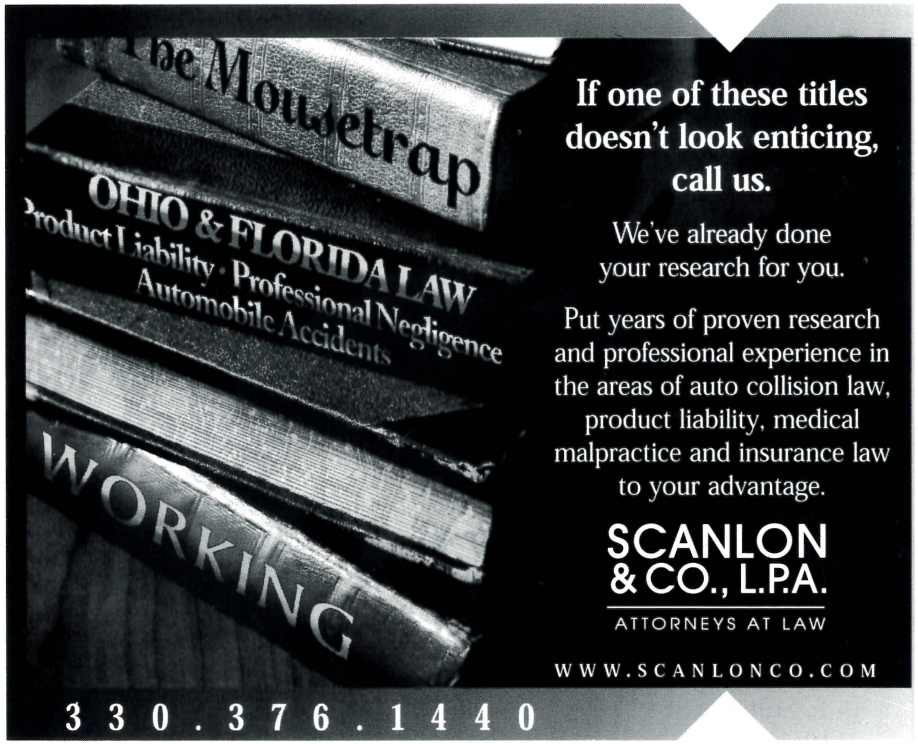

Theater Education at Weathervane

Youth Theater

Weathervane's mission to provide children's theatrical education began with Junior Weathervane classes in 1937. The education program has continued to grow since then with workshops and classes, plus production opportunities for children. In the 1998-1999 season, we offer professionally taught classes in acting, stagecraft and improvisation for children up to age 18. Fall and spring classes are held on Saturdays at Old Trail School. In addition, two-week workshops for children are planned throughout the summer months on Weathervane's premises. The cost is minimal with a limited number of scholarships available for motivated students and discounted fees for Weathervane members.

In addition to classes, children from throughout the community may audition for roles in Youth Theater productions. Roles in Youth Theater productions are not necessarily dependent upon class enrollment. Participation is an extension of valuable training in every facet of production from the audition process to technical and performance experience. Family members may also have learning opportunities by generously participating in such productions.

Weathervane works with area schools by providing outreach information and study guides in our Project Stage program, which brings public and private school students to see as many as two productions each season. This season, ***A Soldier's Play*** and ***Tartuffe*** will be featured in the Project Stage events.

For information about classes or audition schedules for Youth Theater productions, please call our Education Coordinator at (330) 836-2323.

Adult Classes and Theater Training

Professionally taught fall and spring Adult Theatre Education classes include Classical Acting, Improvisation and A Multi-Cultural Non-traditional Approach to Acting. These classes help both new and experienced actors to expand their own performance and public speaking skills. Classes are held at the theater and costs are affordable. Call 836-2323 Ext. 17 for details.

Learning On the Job

Every volunteer participant in a production actually becomes part of Weathervane's continuing education process. You'll learn from more experienced actors and technical helpers who share the creation of production and performance. If you don't have time for structured classes, sign on to become a crew member or performer. We'll help you expand your knowledge of backstage and onstage responsibilities along with your own talents and imagination. Please call us at (330) 836-2626 and let us show you how to give new wings to your talent and new meaning to your time.

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Project Stage

A unique educational package for junior and senior high school students that includes reduced ticket prices!

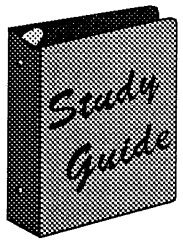
Project Stage is a program developed by Weathervane Playhouse to bring to young audiences the excitement of live theater. Each season, selected plays that have exceptionally high literary values, are made available to junior and senior high school students.

Teachers and students receive study guides that contain material about the play and playwright to prepare the students before coming to the theater. Pre-performance, in-class discussions and demonstrations are conducted free of charge by Weathervane staff and volunteers.

Students, teachers and all who accompany their group can see the play at the special Project Stage ticket price of $6. After the performance, the actors and audience may participate in a talkback session.

A Soldier's Play, February 25 - March 14, and *Tartuffe,* May 13 - 30, are the two Project Stage offerings this season. It is not too early to start making plans to bring your students. We will be glad to help you start the necessary arrangements.

Call our Education Department at 836-2323.



Bravo!

to the cast and crew of

Weathervane Theatre

For a wonderful season of fine performances!

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Weathervane Community Playhouse (a non-profit 501(C)(3) corporation) is operated by a board of volunteer trustees representative of the general community. Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are open.

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Production Board chairs are appointed by the Board of Trustees and are responsible for all aspects of technical production and staging. Chairs appoint and supervise volunteer heads to handle responsibilities for each production during the season and provide assistance in volunteer training.

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ELYNMARIE KAZLE (Executive Director) spent just over ten years in Los Angeles as a theatrical producer, manager and theatrical publicist. Formerly Resident Producer at Santa Monica Playhouse and Assoc. Managing Dir. for Actors Alley, she produced Ohio Playwright Nancy Kiefer's *The Illustrated Woman*, Paul Linke's *Time Flies...* and Sweden's Darling Desperados *Whatever Happened To Baby Jane* (among others) to critical acclaim in LA. Professional stage credits include Great Lakes Shakespeare, NY's Brooklyn Academy of Music, Opera Columbus & LA Classical Ballet. She is happy to return to Ohio where she began part of her professional career as apprentice to Tom Skelton at the Ohio Ballet. Elynmarie holds an MFA from Ohio University, Athens.

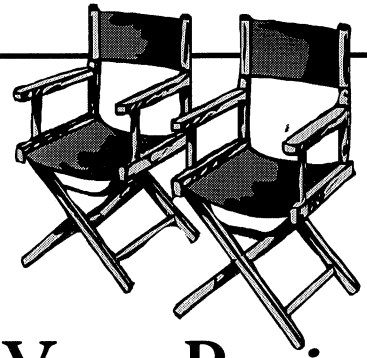
JANIS L. HARCAR (Director of Marketing & Development) holds an M.A. in Arts Administration from The University of Akron and a B.S. in Music Education from Kent State University. She has been Director of Marketing & Development for Weathervane Playhouse since 1993. She is Artistic Director of the Ravenna Community Choir and Director of Ravenna's St. Paul Lutheran Church Choir. Jan occasionally serves as Musical Director for local productions.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) served as Auditorium Manager for Cuyahoga Falls High School for 6 years, creating sets for the school's many music and dramatic productions. In 1995, he was awarded a Design Excellence Award from U.S.I.T.T. for his design of *Carousel.* He has also created sets for Stow, Medina and Kenmore High Schools, as well as for The Players Guild, Channels 45/49 and Weathervane. Scott credits John Thomas for his inspiration. Scott welcomes the opportunity to train new volunteers. Call him.

KEITH D. CAMPBELL (Front of House Coordinator) holds a B.A. in English from The University of Akron, where he served as editor of *The Buchtelite* and sang with The Akron Symphony Chorus. During the summers of 1995 & 1996, he interned in the box office at Porthouse Theatre Company. Keith has completed most of his course work toward a Master's Degree in Arts Administration at The University of Akron.

SEAN McCONAHA (Director of Education) holds a dual major in Theater Performance and Pre Law from West Virginia Wesleyan College and an MA in theater from The University of Akron. He is co-founder of the Prodigal Theatre Company and is a free-lance actor and director throughout Northeastern Ohio. Sean taught the highly successful Theatre Classics class for WCP and is the Drama Director for Archbishop Hoban High School here in Akron. He and wife, Beth, and daughter, Leda, live in Canton.

KEVIN L. FORD (Production Coordinator) was a member of the Cuyahoga Falls High School auditorium crew from 1992-1996, constructing stage sets and operating sound equipment. Additional projects include work for the pledge drive set for Channels 45/49, the Canton Civic Opera and Woodridge High School. He also designed and constructed a set for Walsh Jesuit High School. He encourages everyone to come and volunteer backstage at Weathervane.



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Change is a good thing in which ***everybody*** plays a part.

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Our Youth Theater provides theater opportunities to more than 10,000 school-aged children each year. Weathervane youth presentations include larger casts and longer play runs. Weathervane serves over 30,000 patrons each year with seven mainstage and three Youth Theater productions.

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We're going in the right direction and everybody plays a part!

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Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:
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Welcome To Weathervane

Dear Patrons,

Exciting, ambitious stage productions. That is what we have in store for you as we enter the new millennium. With the announcement of the new season, you now know that we have some extraordinary journeys planned for you as we enter the new century. New plays and old. Shakespeare played by young and old on a recreation of The Globe stage, wonderful story telling from the eyes and hearts of the Delany sisters. I look forward to sharing those adventures with you.

Our Building Renovation and Expansion Campaign has gotten off to a rousing start. With dollars so generously donated by foundations, corporations and individuals such as yourself, we will be able to add magic (and safety) to our production capabilities. With these improvements we will make our lighting more magical, our scenery effects more effortless - adding to the illusion. The increased shop, rehearsal, community meeting and classroom space will offer even more to our region in the way of hands-on experience in the playmaking arena.

Artistically and economically, we remain one of the best cultural institutions serving our region. Weathervane, its artists, and many dedicated volunteers and staff continue to produce ten quality productions with a spirit of community partnership unmatched in our area. Our actors, directors, technicians and participants of all ages continue to be a source of pride, collaborating on productions that make Weathervane essential to life in greater Akron. I want to give special thanks to Michael Haney and Amy Warner who have come to Akron as guest artists in April to share their directing and performance talents with us. We have enjoyed Michael's artistic talents as he directed Camping with Henry and Tom and Amy's performance in As the Wind Rocks the Wagon.

Our educational and hands-on stage programs reach nearly 8,000 young people each year. These programs stimulate the creative imaginations of generations of future Akron leaders. With expanded classrooms a part of the near future, we will be able to provide even more opportunities for young people to experience the excitement of live theatre.

Next season we will be undertaking a Shakespeare Repertory. This will combine a subscription production of Shakespeare's lovely comedic turn Twelfth Night with a youth theatre production of Romeo and Juliet in repertory on a traditional Elizabethan stage. From the ranks of our Youth Theatre program we will be able to cast Romeo and Juliet's lead actors with two age-appropriate teenagers. In a show of multi-generational harmony, our strong core of adult actors will round out the cast in what we anticipate will be one of the area's most exciting productions.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, the staff, and over 400 volunteers — we salute YOU, our audience, for making Weathervane the place to be this year, and every year. As we move into the new century with a theatre that continues to grow, we pledge to continue to bring you the best, most challenging, live stage entertainment right in your own backyard!

Elynmarie Kazle, Executive Director

Subscribers Make the Difference

After 64 seasons of operation, it's safe to say that Weathervane Community Playhouse has offered a wide variety of theater experiences in which a broad spectrum of our community has participated. As we prepare to open our 1999-2000 season, it is important to underscore the vital nature of your participation as a subscriber.

Subscribers form the essential core of our audience. By purchasing a series or coupons, subscribers demonstrate a belief in the value and quality of their theatergoing experience. In order to produce the kind of season our audiences have come to expect, Weathervane must invest substantial capital. The cost to produce a play like the one you are seeing can be substantially more (up to 50% more) than sales of single tickets can provide. Through your subscription or coupon book purchase you not only save money but you become our partner in the production process, providing the means through which we bring the show to you!!

Each season reinforces how important our subscribers are to the Playhouse season. Our volunteer Play Selection Committee has put together a theatrical itinerary that takes you to places both known and unknown. Subscribers may enjoy the journey all the more because they know the best part of the trip may well be the discovery of a special moment they had not expected.

Just as Weathervane benefits from their support, subscribers enjoy a variety of advantages. Discounted pricing, the best seats, exchange privileges and ticket replacement are some of the features of a Playhouse subscription. We would like to see at least 50% of the capacity for each production taken by subscribers. Only YOU can make that happen with your subscription.

I hope you will join me in supporting our Weathervane Playhouse by subscribing to the 1999-2000 season. And tell your friends. Going to the theater is even more fun when you do it with friends.

Thank you for your support.

Eileen Moushey, President Board of Trustees

WEATHERVANE COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE

64th Season - 1998-1999 - Production #474
May 13 - 30, 1999

TARTUFFE

by Molière

translation by Richard Wilbur

Directed by
Dr. Penelope A. Frese

Production Stage Manager
Timothy M. Paul

Assistant Stage Manager
Eli Everhard

Lighting Design by
Vaughn G. Austin

Production Coordinator
Kevin Ford

Scenic Designer/Technical Director
Alan Scott Ferrall

Costume Design by
Nancy Jane Miesle

Co-Sound Design by
Tom C. Barnes
David Stith

Assistant Director
Zoya Falkov

Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by Ohio Arts Council

Tartuffe - the English language version - is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.

Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, Ohio 44313-5186
Ticket Office - (330) 836-2626 — Business Office - (330) 836-2323 — Fax - (330) 873-2150

About The Play & Playwright

Written in the early 1660's, this satiric comedy by Molière was first performed for the court of Louis XIV, but was kept from further production until 1669 as an affront to religion. But Molière (real name: Jean-Baptiste Poquelin) contended that it was simply a satire on religious hypocrisy. Orgon, Mme. Pernelle and Tartuffe express an obviously warped religious attitude that is corrected by the reasonable orthodoxy of Cleante, the wholesomeness of Dorine, and, finally, the opportune intervention of the royal court. But before the timely denouement, we get to see the title character at his unholy best because Tartuffe is, indeed, a versatile confidence man and to pose as a holy man is his modus operandi.

Molière himself played the title role when the play was finally presented to the public at the *Comedie Francaise*. Various translations have been done through the 300 years of this satiric comedy's history, but the one you are seeing here is by Richard Wilbur, the one first seen at the Repertory Theater of Lincoln Center in 1965. In 1968, *Tartuffe* was added to the repertory of the Stratford Festival in Stratford, Ontario, Canada's major drama festival.

In the course of just 15 years, Molière poured out 27 plays, acted in them, directed and choreographed them until he died from overwork in 1673 following his performance in *The Imaginary Invalid.* His best known plays hold up to ridicule the affectations of courtly ladies, religious pretensions, and other social attitudes of the French upper classes. These plays include *School For Husbands, School For Wives, The Learned Ladies, The Would-be Gentleman, Tartuffe, The Miser*, and *The Imaginary Invalid.*

Molière's wit and humor have led to a number of adaptations of his plays. *Sly Fox*, adapted from *The Imaginary Invalid,* is one of them and was presented in Weathervane's 1979-1980 season.

In 1987, Richard Wilbur became America's second Poet Laureate after the position was established in 1985. His first dramatic translation was Molière's *The Misanthrope.* Educated at Harvard University, he also wrote lyrics for Leonard Bernstein's *Candide,* which were augmented in the show's book by Stephen Sondheim. He has written six books of poetry and taught at Wesleyan University and at Smith College. He was a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1956.

Our Guest Director - Dr. Penelope A. Frese

We are happy to welcome back Penny Frese for her third directing stint at Weathervane. She is a free-lance director whose production of *Conversations With My Father* won Weathervane's Best Production Chanticleer in 1996. She also directed *The Diary of Anne Frank* here two seasons ago. She has also enjoyed directing shows at Coach House Theatre (most recently, *Sunday In New York*) and at Kent State and Hiram College. She is the artistic director of Silver Sneakers Theatre Company, a now-and-then children's production company and is past director of ACTOR, a junior high touring company located in Hudson.

As a performer, Penny has appeared in productions at Stan Hywet, Cleveland Public Theatre and Weathervane Community Playhouse and, in a CBS pilot, *True Detective.*

In her "other life," Penny manages her husband's lecture schedule and often joins him, speaking both nationally and internationally on behalf of persons and families with serious mental illness. She is the producer of the award-winning video on childhood depression, *Claire's Story*. Penny and her husband Fred have four children and live in Hudson.

Tartuffe

CAST
in speaking order

Madame Pernelle, Orgon's mother	**Susan Speers**
Elmire, Orgon's wife	**Dede Klein**
Dorine, Mariane's maid	**Roslyn Sears**
Damis, Orgon's son	**Mike Roache**
Mariane, Orgon's daughter	**Emily Likens**
Cleante, Elmire's brother	**Cliff Bailey**
Orgon, Tartuffe's benefactor	**Dan Camburn**
Valere, in love with Mariane	**Jason M. Sklarek**
Tartuffe, a hypocrite	**James R. Hixson**
Monsieur Loyal, a bailiff	**Barry Friedman**
A Police Officer	**Eli Everhard**
Flipote, Mme. Pernelle's maid	**Zoya Falkov**

The scene throughout: Orgon's house in Paris
There will be one ten-minute intermission between acts.

For your safety, we request that you remain seated until the house lights come up at intermission and after final curtain calls.

The use of cameras or recording equipment is forbidden during this production.
As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones or pagers are turned off during the performance.
Please do not bring food and drinks into the auditorium.
Thank you.

Director's Notes

It is a privilege to direct classical works. *Tartuffe* allows us to reestablish continuity with the most vital theatrical traditions and historical events of the past, and it stretches us, performers and audience alike. Our actors had to discover the universal truth in their characters and, using the theatrical currency of three hundred and fifty years ago, make that truth accessible to today's audience. Our audiences, accustomed to the visual language of much of today's media, must work to really *listen* to the wisdom of an age that was much more verbal than our own. Moliére wrote for the court of Louis XIV, the Sun King. That audience, and perhaps the king himself, were still smarting from the bitter memories of Cardinal Richelieu who had virtually taken control of the French government from Louis XIII, plunging the country into wars, breaking the power of the aristocracy and crushing the general populace under heavy taxes while enriching his own coffers. In the thinly veiled allegory of *Tartuffe,* it is not difficult to see that Orgon's household represents France. In this allegory both the country and the household's happiness depend entirely upon the wise or foolish judgments of its absolute head.

Yet *Tartuffe* has outlived its political circumstances. It has become a cautionary tale told again and again throughout the succeeding centuries. No matter how we looked, we could not find redeeming qualities in the character of Tartuffe. He is the symbol of all those who use our most revered aspirations — faith, loyalty and compassion – and turn them into their own selfish purposes.

The true poignancy in the play is not that one can be foolishly manipulated by such charlatans, but that their evil can bring out the best in those most hurt by their depravity. Even though the day is saved by a wise and benign King who brings reprieve for both foolish and grave offenses, the real salvation comes from Orgon's family and friends who rally round him at his lowest point.

Unfortunately, benign and wise kings who save us from the consequences of our foolishness are the stuff of fiction. Offstage we must pay for our apathy and ignorance as the events in Littleton so tragically attest. Still, such tragedies call forth from those who suffer most a response both generous and humble reaffirming a commitment to listen more carefully, act more wisely, and readjust priorities. And, oh! Did I mention that Molière gives us all this in the form of a farce? The endurance of classical pieces affirms their ability to strike resonant chords generation after generation. Are they worth the additional effort? Those of us who have been working with the material for the past few weeks think so. We hope you do too.

Penny Frese

Callboard - The Cast

SUSAN SPEERS (Madame Pernelle), professor in the School of Dance, Theatre and Arts Administration at The University of Akron, has directed more than 100 productions including the five most recent summer productions of Shakespeare at Stan Hywet. This summer's play will be *As You Like It*. But, fortunately, she loves performing and has found opportunities to do it at Weathervane and other area theaters. Her versatility was evident here as the Stepmother in the Youth Theatre production of *Cinderella*, as Demetria in *On Borrowed Time*, and as Miss Hannigan in *Annie*. At The Players Guild, she played Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Fiona in *How The Other Half Loves*. She has a doctorate in Theatre from the University of California and she and her son, Sean, walked part of the Great Wall of China last year.

DEDE KLEIN (Elmire) is pleased to rejoin James Hixson, a fellow cast member from last fall's Weathervane production of *Blithe Spirit*. Other previous productions here have included *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and *The Little Foxes* for which she earned a Chanticleer as Birdie. Last year she played Charlotte Hay in *Moon Over Buffalo* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and Aunt Belle in *Lost in Yonkers*. With Aurora, she played M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias* and was happy when an excerpt from that production was awarded best ensemble honors at last year's regional OCTA awards. When she's not immersing herself in her first love — theater — this Hudson resident is a flight attendant for American Airlines. She also enjoys tennis, bridge and being with "McDuff" and "Mr. H."

ROSLYN SEARS (Dorine) is appearing at Weathervane for the first time, having been an active performer and backstage helper at Coach House Theater since the early 1980s where she won a Best Supporting Actress award as Janie in *Alone Together*. Recently, she played the Woman in 4A in *Six Rms Riv Vu* and, earlier this season, she appeared as seven different characters in *Sunday in New York*. Other shows have included *God's Favorite, The Good Doctor* and *The Seven Year Itch*. She recently obtained her degree in Culinary Arts from The University of Akron and is a Dietary Aide at Laurel Lake Retirement Community. She and husband Don live in Akron, and she spends some of her spare time working on ideas for new plays and screenplays.

MIKE ROACHE (Damis) is commuting from Broadview Heights to make his first appearance at Weathervane. Born in Edison, New Jersey, he has studied with the Circle in the Square Theater School and Wright State University. While a student at Brecksville High School, he appeared as Christopher Wren in *The Mousetrap*, as Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Deacon Ball in *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* and also in *Godspell*. He performed in *Camelot* at Brecksville Little Theatre. He's happy to be acting again after almost a year of involuntary abstinence. He thanks his friends, family and the cast for their unending love and support. "With my past and my future precisely divided, am I at that moment? I haven't decided."

EMILY LIKENS (Mariane) is a student at Firestone High School and she's been active with Weathervane Youth Theatre for the past few years. We're happy to see her tackling a Main Stage production for the first time. She appeared in *Beanie and the Bamboozling Book Machine, Hansel and Gretel*, and as Pooh in *Winnie the Pooh*. At Firestone, she appeared in two musicals — *Carousel* and *Guys and Dolls* — and also performed in Chekov's *The Sea Gull*. She also joined the cast of the Miller South School production of *Sherlock Holmes*.

CLIFF BAILEY (Cleante) returns to our stage for only the second time. He first appeared here as Charlie in *Conversations With My Father*. Most recently he appeared as Oliver in *The Waiting Room* at Dobama Theatre and Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Porthouse Theatre. Among favorite roles, Cliff lists Tchebutykin in *Three Sisters,* Charlie in *Seascape* and, of course, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. An avid music enthusiast, his motto is "Life's short; rock hard!"

DAN CAMBURN (Orgon) returns to Weathervane for his third performance on our stage, having first appeared here as Professor Henry Higgins in *Pygmalion* and returning as Walter Cunningham in *To Kill a Mockingbird* in which his daughter Heather played Scout. But this Philadelphia-born actor has been busy at many other area theaters - as Greg in *Sylvia* for Stow Players, as Tobias in *Delicate Balance* at Coach House, where he also performed in *Dangerous Corner, The Unexpected Guest* and *Ghosts*. He holds an MA from Purdue University and a Theatre degree from Penn State. He's a job placement specialist for the Adult Vocational Services of the Akron Public Schools and is extremely grateful to be married to an understanding wife (Nancy) whom he deeply loves along with their son and two daughters.

JASON M. SKLAREK (Valere) has let a few years lapse since appearing at Weathervane in *Finian's Rainbow* and *Julius Caesar* in 1994 and in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Cinderella* a couple of years later. In the meantime, he was appearing in productions at St. Vincent/St. Mary High School, taking on roles such as Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls* and Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*. An Akron resident, he's also been busy studying at Kent State University where he was singled out as best new talent at the University's television station. He likes to camp, fish and backpack and to talk to customers about all the species at Two Turtles Pet Store.

JAMES R. HIXSON (Tartuffe) enjoyed his first outing at Weathervane earlier this season in *Blithe Spirit*. We are happy that he has returned for this production. Jim is a licensed massage therapist living in Uniontown. Much of his past theatrical experience came with roles at Otterbein College, including performing as Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* and as the White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*. He also holds down a daytime post as a dispatcher for Central Transport and is proud to have recently published a children's book.

BARRY FRIEDMAN (Monsieur Loyal) is a very active Weathervaner and a member of our Board of Trustees. Having debuted here in *Crossing Delancey*, he won a Chanticleer as one of the gangsters in *Kiss Me, Kate*, played in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Prelude to a Kiss*, and was seen in January in the often snow-covered production of *The Mousetrap* as Major Metcalf. At Coach House, he appeared in *The Constant Wife, You Ought To Be in Pictures* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*. No stranger to backstage responsibilities, he served as Assistant Stage Manager for our recent production of *Blithe Spirit*. "Figuvez-vous."

ELI EVERHARD (Officer and Assistant Stage Manager) was in the cast of *Conversations With My Father* as Josh about three years ago and also served on our Youth Theatre tech crew for *Wolf Tales*. A freshman at Kent State University, he was a frequent performer while at Woodridge High School, appearing in *The Butler Did It, Guys and Dolls* and *Godspell*.

ZOYA FALKOV (Flipote and Assistant Director) brings an international experience to Weathervane. Born in the Ukraine, she is

a graduate of the Institute of Culture in St. Petersburg, Russia, and was a director and teacher of theater speech before coming to the U.S.A. in 1994. She is now a graduate assistant in theater at The University of Akron. She recently played in *The Widows* and was Assistant Director for *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the University. She now makes her home in Lodi and has a son who is a computer programmer. We're delighted to welcome her to Weathervane for her two-fold responsibility in this production.

Backstage Callboard

TIMOTHY M. PAUL (Stage Manager) hails from Kent, where he recently received his BA in Theatre and was voted Stage Manager of the Year. Among the productions which he has either stage managed or assistant stage managed are *Talk Radio, The Dumb Waiter, Forbidden Fruit, The Darker Face of the Earth* and *Bent* and events include both the Student Play Festival and Student Dance Festival. We're very pleased to welcome him to our Stage Manager's console for the first time, since he also keeps busy at Kent as Alumni Advisor for Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity.

NANCY JANE MIESLE (Costume Design) graduated cum laude in Fashion Design and Merchandising at Kent State University in 1996. She worked as a pattern maker in Cleveland and also worked as a doll costume designer, and currently creates one-of-a-kind dolls for special occasions and events. She lives in Stow and plans to continue her career in designing clothing, including equestrian clothing. She also wants to continue designing for the theater. She loves to collect antique and vintage wearables and Weathervane is happy to welcome this new face in our costume workshop.

TOM C. BARNES (Sound Design) appeared on stage in *The Piano Lesson* last year and returned this season to play James Hewlett in *The African Company Presents Richard III*. He's been a backstage volunteer for the past four or five seasons, having worked as sound designer for *Sylvia* and assistant stage manager for *Born Yesterday*. He studied mass communications at The University of Akron and worked with St. Vincent/St. Mary High School on both sound and publicity for several productions. Originally from Cleveland, he now lives in Akron and works as a structural estimator for State Farm Insurance.

VAUGHN G. AUSTIN (Lighting Design) served as stage manager for *Camping With Henry & Tom* and now he's back to add to his growing list of productions he's worked with over the past two decades at Weathervane. He volunteers his talent for at least one show every season, either at the stage manager's console or designing lights or sound. He currently chairs the sound department of our Production Board. He even appeared on stage several seasons ago in *Our Town*. A graduate of Penn State University in chemical engineering, he is an Alltel Information Services operating systems programmer. The Corvette he owns makes him a proud member of the Corvette Club.

Production Team Members & Crews

SET CONSTRUCTION
Tom Marshall
Ruth Richardson
Ralph Cooley
Kevin Ford
Lauri Agins
Jennifer Moss

PROPERTIES
Eli Everhard
Zoya Falkov

SOUND
Stephen Moushey
Dave Stith

COSTUMES
Betty Williams
Dorothy Kies
Randie Sass
Henrietta Cook
Connie Velotta
Charlotte Horvath
Ethel Soudry
Sally Brown

LIGHTS
Ian Haberman
Rory Moushey
J.T.Buck
Chris Faulkner, Jr.
Linda Seiler

Weathervane Gratefully Acknowledges

Cuyahoga Valley Antiques - J.J. Marshall
JoAnn Fabric
Susan Stout-Davis
Elizabeth Mimna
Mark Zimmerman

A belated special thank you to Amber Inc. and The Courtyard for their generous lending of plants and foliage which graced our stage during Camping With Henry & Tom and The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

Thanks To Our Volunteers

The following are the vivacious volunteers who assisted you by hostessing, house managing, staffing the boutique or office during *CAMPING WITH HENRY & TOM....*

Marilyn Aberth
Claire Allen
George Armbruster
Linda Avers
Patrice Bechtol
Betty Borom
Dreajean Brown
Kitty Brown
Sally Brown
Karen Burridge
Joseph Cannavino
Alberta Carlin
Juanita Carlson
Janet Clark
Henrietta Cook
M.J. Coulson
Harriet DeVeto
Margaret Dietz
Sally Duddy
LaVerne Ferguson
Helen & Cue Fleming
Marilyn Heagerty
Linda Heath
Dave Heltebran
Charlotte Horvath
Norman Kendall
Dorothy Kies
Kathy Kirby
Barbara Kistler
Bernie Kunos
Bunny Lacy
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Claudina Miller
Younghee Miller
Amanda Montigney
Mary Morehart
Eileen Moushey
Betty Oberdorfer
Virginia O'Brien
Barbara O'Connor
Donna Philips
Jean Questel
Ruth Richardson
Maryanne Roebuck
Steve Schmidt
Diantha Seibert
Debra Sharp
Lois Simmons
Sue Smith
Melissa Stultz
Erica Stux
Sally Wachter
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Betty Williams
Mary Wolfman
Marie Woodall
Gen Woods
B.J. Zeigler
Marge Ziegler
June Zeno

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June 24 through July 18, 1999

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Cabaret Dinner Theater
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In Our Gallery
Denis Conley

Founded in 1975 by the artist, the Denis Conley Gallery represents ten national and international artists including the paintings, watercolors and sculpture of Italian artist Gianni Celati. The gallery also has original Art Nouveau and Art Deco prints and books and does custom picture framing as well. Denis feels that many of the pieces he has chosen for this exhibit have a distinct French feeling and flair that will enhance the current production of *Tartuffe*.

The gallery is located at 1936 W. Market Street. Please drop in during business hours, Monday through Friday from 10 to 6 and Saturdays from 12 to 4.

Future Events

May 13-30	Performances of *Tartuffe*
May 16	*Salon Play Reading of *A View From the Bridge*
June 14 - July 23	Hands On Theater Summer Workshops for children
June 18	Annual Gala Fundraiser at Fairlawn Country Club
June 24 - July 18	Performances *Cabaret*
June 27	*Salon Play Reading of *Denial*
August 28	Chanticleer Awards Banquet
July 31 - Aug. 8	Performances of *The Jungle Book*

*Salon Play Readings are held in the Weathervane lobby at 7 p.m. with light refreshments and discussions following the presentations. The events are free of charge. All are welcome.

H.O.T. Summer Workshops

For Weathervane's Youth Theatre

Weathervane's summer workshops are **H**ands **O**n **T**heatre and fun! This summer there will be 3 sessions of **H**ands **O**n **T**heater for young people. As a comprehensive theater training program, students will learn all about acting, improvisation, stage directions, auditioning, costumes & make-up and technical design.

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm M - F (Bring a brown bag lunch) **Fee: $250**

H.O.T. Session I	**8 - 10 year olds**	**June 14- June 25**
H.O.T. Session II	**10 - 12 year olds**	**June 28 - July 9 (no class 7/5)**
H.O.T. Session III	**12 - 14 year olds**	**July 12- July 23**

Mini Workshops in Creative Dramatics

Two mini sessions for 4- to 7-year-olds. Children will discover the joys of creating a theatrical experience through games, storytelling, puppetry and creative drama.

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm M - Th **Fee: $125**

Pre-school Playhouse	**4 & 5 year olds**	**June 14 - 17 & June 21 - 24**
Creative Imagining	**6 & 7 year olds**	**June 28 - July 1 & July 6 - 9** (Tues -Fri)

Additional Youth Workshops

Audition Workshop- This workshop is designed for students **12+ years of age**. Each student will put together their own "audition package" including movement and voice.

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm M - F **Aug. 2- 6** **Fee: $100**

Musical Theatre - This workshop is custom-designed to meet the individual needs of **students 9 - 13**. Theatre training in voice, dance and sightreading allows students to advance at their own pace.

Time: 12:15 - 3:15 pm M - F **Aug. 2 - 6** **Fee: $125**

Something NEW and EXCITING...

Summer Stock for Teens

This workshop is designed for **students ages 13+** who have already had some theatrical experience. This workshop is a Musical Theatre performance lab. Teens accepted into this program would be forming their own production company under the supervision of a director/teacher for the purpose of producing and presenting their own independent musical production. There will be a special performance on August 20 .

Time: 10:00 - 3:30 pm M - F ***Aug. 9- 20 (bring brown bag lunch) Fee: $300*

*** A $50 Deposit is due by June 15.**

***** Pre-production meetings with students/mentors and work sessions will be scheduled the week prior to camp. Schedule T.B.A.**

Minimum # of students per class = 6

Maximum # of students per class = 16 (except Summer Stock)

All *summer* classes will be held at Weathervane Community Playhouse

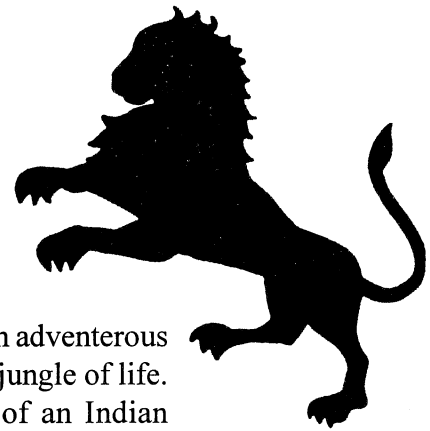
1999-2000
Weathervane Youth Theatre

presents

Rudyard Kipling's

The Jungle Book

Adapted by Joseph Robinette



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1998

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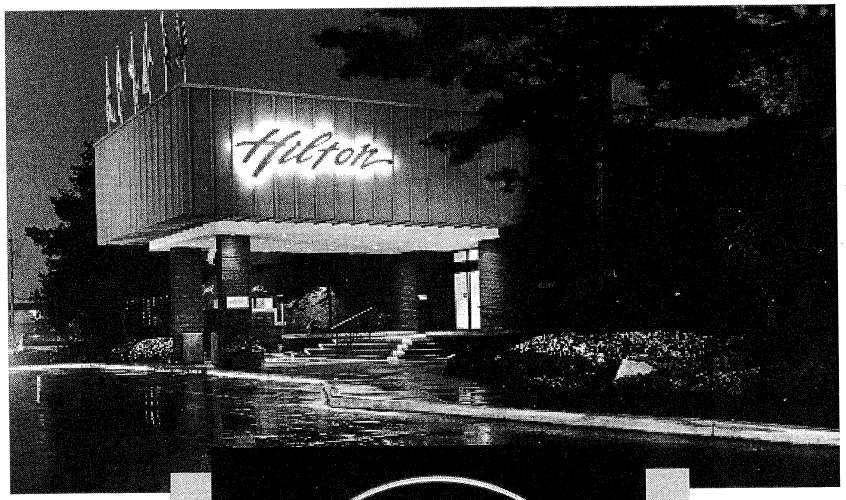

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Who Gets On Stage at Weathervane?

The performers you see on the Weathervane stage come from throughout the greater Akron and surrounding areas. They're volunteers, just like the many men and women who supply backstage talent to make sure the show goes on performance after performance. They've committed themselves to four to six weeks of rehearsals plus performances, and their greatest reward is your applause.

Many performers come to our shows with substantial theatrical experience. Others may be new to the stage. Frequently we find that talented newcomers to our area find that Weathervane is a great way to make new friends especially if they've been involved with community productions in their former home town.

Auditions are open to all and our non-traditional casting policy opens the way for performance opportunities for ethnic minority actors and others who may be physically or mentally challenged. Except in cases where race, gender, age or disability is essential to the play, all roles are cast on the basis of talent and sincerity of purpose.

To find out how you can get on stage, check the newspaper for audition dates and times or call Weathervane at (330)836-2626 if you are interested in auditioning for a role in one of our upcoming productions or in a Youth Theater production. We'll tell you about requirements.

Weathervane shows are never "precast." When you've been in a show or auditioned, your name will be included in our file so we can send you future audition notices. Some guest directors prefer to set appointments for audition times and may ask that you come prepared with a brief monologue, improvisational subject or musical number. Copies of plays scheduled or audition scenes are often available for a nominal deposit.

When you arrive at the theater on audition nights, you'll learn about the rehearsal and performance schedule ahead. You may also register as a production volunteer if you're interested in learning about the technical opportunities in the show.

You may be asked to return for callbacks and will be notified of the director's cast selection as soon as possible. Please note that if you don't win the role you've wanted so badly, it may not necessarily reflect on your talent. The director's choice of cast members must take many factors into account to develop the proper "relationships," style and reality of the ensemble. Don't be discouraged. Come try again. The next show may suit you even better!

Weathervane Traditions

Meet the cast. It's a Weathervane tradition that, after most shows, many of the cast members may spend a few minutes in the lobby area to meet and greet friends from the audience. It's your chance to thank them for their performance.	**Opening Night Receptions** welcome our audiences on the first Friday night of each production during the season. We'll provide light snacks and refreshments after the show so you can share that "first-nighter" feeling.
Intermission Tea is served with our compliments by our volunteer hosts and hostesses. Please enjoy a cup with us. Soft drinks are also available at a nominal cost.	**For your sweet tooth,** snacks are available for honor system purchase before the show and during intermission. Refreshments are not permitted in the auditorium.

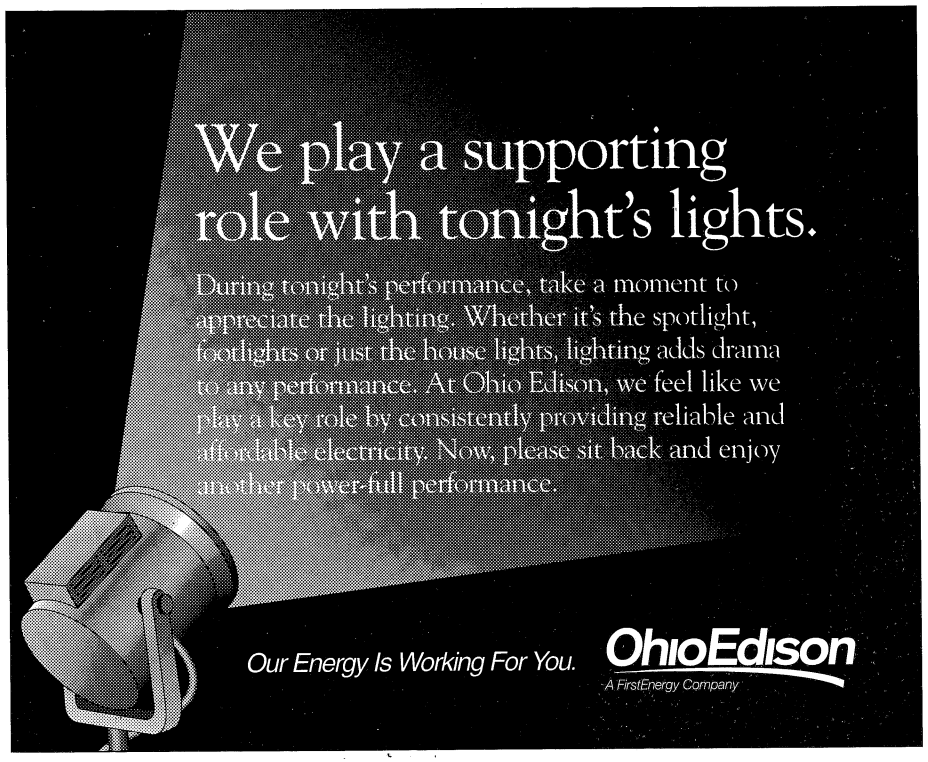
Put On Your Own Show

Let our space be your space for company sales meetings or seminars. Club or organization meetings, even weddings, can often be conveniently staged at Weathervane! Tell us what you may require and we'll help you with arrangements at reasonable rental rates when productions or construction are not going on at the theater. Our kitchen facilities and technical equipment may help you set up a very important gathering. For information, call (330)836-2323.

Organization Benefit Opportunities

A benefit night or matinee at Weathervane can add funds to your club or organization treasury and could be an exciting annual event. Check the schedule of this season's productions. Perhaps one of the shows will dovetail with the aims and purpose of your group.

Discounted tickets for groups of 15 or more may be sold at a profit or passed along to your members. To create a dramatic fund-raiser or special celebration, you may also plan for catered refreshments. Your fund-raising chairman can get further details on a benefit night at Weathervane by calling Front of House Coordinator, Keith Campbell.



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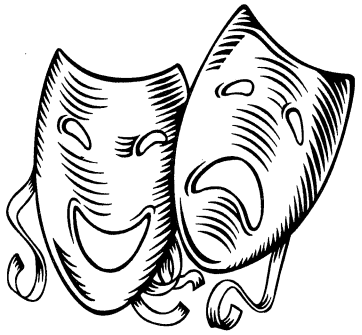

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Subscribers: Please call the Ticket Office at 836-2626 if you will not make your ticketed performance. Thanks.

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Complete and detach this form and return it to the Ticket Office or mail to:
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_____Usher	_____Lighting	_____Play Reading/Selection
_____Backstage Crew	_____Classes	_____Board Membership

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Weathervane Hours

Weathervane Business Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at (330) 836-2323. To place ticket orders, the **Ticket Office** at **(330) 836-2626** is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and reopens one hour before performances. During performances, the Ticket Office opens one hour before each performance and remains open through the first intermission only. On performance Saturdays only, the Ticket Office is open from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Ticket hours on performance Sundays begin at 1:30 p.m. Reservations may be made in person or by telephone with a credit card number.

Of course, rehearsals, set construction, classes and performance times often mean that staff and volunteers are likely to be available at other times than the hours noted during the week. For information, please call **(330) 836-2626**. You may leave a voice mail message for a staff member, but we do not accept recorded ticket reservations. For any Ticket Office-related business, please call during Ticket Office hours.

Season Coupons

Seats for Weathervane's most popular shows, especially those late in the season, often sell out fast. Saturday night seating is frequently difficult to obtain, so it's smart to call for reservations early. *Please remember that coupons don't guarantee your seats. You must call for reservations.* Check the production schedule in your Super Coupon book and plan to use as many coupons as you wish for the shows you plan to see. We hope you'll use your convenient coupons frequently and won't find yourself missing out on sold-out shows or ending the season with unused coupons. Performances and schedules are subject to change so, for the most up-to-date information, call our ticket office at (330) 836-2626.

Remember, you can always buy a new Super Coupon book at the Ticket Office any time you want to treat yourself and several friends to a Weathervane show. Books of eight coupons provide a modest savings over regular admission prices.

Mission Statement
Weathervane Community Playhouse

The mission of the Weathervane Community Playhouse is to entertain, inform and educate, thereby enriching the cultural life of the Greater Akron area. Weathervane shall provide area residents the opportunities both to attend and to participate in quality presentations of a cross-section of the finest theatrical works available. Weathervane shall provide education in the theater arts to adults and children. In meeting these goals, Weathervane shall be mindful of the standards of its audiences and shall maintain fiscally sound management.

Akron Area Arts Alliance

Weathervane Community Playhouse is a member of the **Akron Area Arts Alliance**. Its mission statement is "to utilize its collective resources to

1) foster communication and coordination among area cultural groups

2) generate greater awareness and participation in the arts and humanities in all segments of the community

3) promote the value of the arts and humanities to local governments and advocate its financial investment in the community's cultural activities."

Dress Up With Weathervane

Churches, schools and other theater groups may find rentable costumes for their own productions in the Weathervane wardrobe. Special arrangements may sometimes also be made for individual rentals. Outside groups may also arrange rentals of theater properties and stage dressing. Please call (330)836-2626 to arrange for a consultation on your special production needs.

Boutique Treasures

Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of Weathervane Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission to find exciting jewelry, watches, bibelots, music boxes, and other unique items and objects for yourself or for gifts. Every purchase helps make good things happen at Weathervane. Prices are extremely reasonable and the items on sale include a delightful variety from clowns and animal figures to pens, pins and earrings. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on gallery art works which are for sale.

Gift Certificates - Always Available

Whatever the occasion, a Weathervane Gift Certificate will fit! Please friends or family members with a night (or nights) of live theater. Weathervane Gift Certificates may be issued in any amount you choose. All the recipient needs to do is to call for reservations to the preferred performance. We'll do the rest with a memorable production during our season. Just ask for a Gift Certificate at the Ticket Office. You may pay with check or charge card to give a Weathervane gift you know your friends or family will applaud.

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Before You Throw It Out, Ask Us

Weathervane can often make good use of your used furniture and household items such as lamps, picture frames, kitchenware and decorative pieces in reasonably good condition so please think of Weathervane when you're redecorating, cleaning or moving. Small rugs, carpet remnants, draperies or curtains are also appreciated. We're always hunting for items you may think are out of style or "period" pieces from turn of the century to the present.

Our wardrobe department also appreciates donations of clothing, shoes, women's purses, hats and jewelry, as well as usable patterns and lengths of fabric.

Please call before bringing donations to the theater so we can tell you what may be needed most by our property or wardrobe department.

If we can't make use of your much-appreciated gifts, they may be passed on to another charity. We also, every so often, hold a rummage sale to clear our storage areas of items that we find we haven't been able to use. We'll provide recognition of the value of usable donations, along with our thanks.

What Can You Do as a Weathervane Volunteer

Here's a quick introduction to the responsibilities volunteers undertake to make our shows work night after night. If you'd like to try your hand at any of these jobs, please call our Coordinator of Volunteers, Dreajean Washington-Brown, at (330) 836-2323 after 3 p.m. Volunteers with 100 hours or more of service are eligible for a special Weathervane membership!

- **Stage Management** - Duties include assisting the director throughout the rehearsal period, calling cues, keeping backstage safe and orderly, and coordinating the technical needs of the show with the actors. A fulfilling responsibility for those who enjoy planning, communicating and taking charge. Once the director's work is done, it's the Stage Manager who runs each performance.
- **Set Construction** - Use your building skills, carpentry or painting techniques to help make illusion come to life. We appreciate all the help we can find to design and build sets, move them and (face the facts) tear them down after a show to make new ones.
- **Costumes** - Designers and workers are vital. We need skilled and even unskilled seamstresses to make or alter costumes, create patterns, care for costumes during a show and keep our wardrobe department organized. Add your design ideas or learn from other hard-working volunteers.
- **Lighting** - Experience is a plus, but you can learn by assisting others who know computers and electrical requirements. We'll train those eager to learn so that you, too, can help hang, focus, and add color to lighting instruments. We'll also teach you how to run the light board and follow spots. You'll take pride in knowing that nobody can see the show without you.
- **Sound** - Create the music and sound effects tapes that enrich the aural environment for each show or add "live" backstage sound. Run the sound system for technical rehearsals and productions. We'll help you learn.
- **Properties** - All the items that help "dress" a set and all those used by actors in rehearsal and performance (from tea sandwiches to "deadly" weapons and "shattering" windowpanes) must be borrowed, built or cooked. We need many volunteers to work on each performance. If you are clever at building things or have friends with "neat stuff" they'll loan, volunteer here.
- **Box Office** - If you enjoy dealing with the public, we can use your help on show nights to assist in taking money and answering the phone to take reservations.
- **Ushering** - Help welcome audience members with your smile, showing them to their seats, passing out programs, and serving refreshments at intermission. Your help is always welcome.
- **House Manager** - The theater's unofficial representative greets the audience, tears tickets and guides theater-goers to ushers for seating. He or she works with the stage manager to oversee timing of intermissions and remains in the theater lobby throughout the show to handle any emergency.
- **Office Volunteer** - Put a few morning or afternoon hours to good use answering phones, taking reservations, helping with mailings, working with staff, and greeting customers and visitors. Many friendly people are needed to help. You may choose your preferred day or hours.

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Where's the Other View of the Barn?

Many years ago, Merron and Elizabeth Latta, who volunteered actively at Weathervane's first "barn" theater, painted portraits of the original Marshall Avenue structure. Mr. Latta was one of the Board presidents in Weathervane's formative years and Mrs. Latta loved helping to paint sets for our first tiny stage. They were both devoted "Sunday painters."

One of their paintings is still here. It hangs in our Box Office to help rekindle memories of Weathervane in the 1930's and 1940's and was done by Mrs. Latta. But a similar watercolor, done by her husband, has eluded us. We suspect that some Weathervane fan may have purchased the Merron Latta painting. We know it exists for it was observed at a local house sale within the last five years. But who bought it or where it may now be remains a mystery.

Can you help solve the mystery? If you've seen a painting somewhat similar to our Ticket Office watercolor, please let us know. It would be wonderful to reunite the husband-wife team with both paintings of the theater they both loved so much.

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