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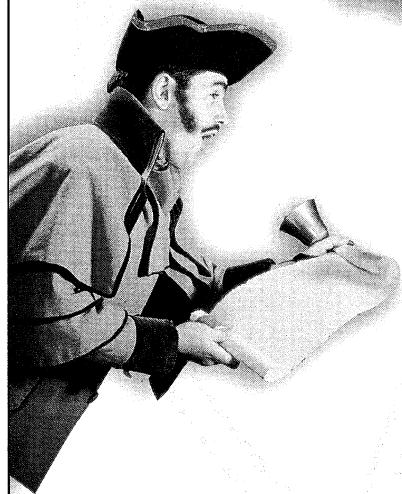
# Mr. Rickey Calls A Meeting

*By Ed Schmidt*

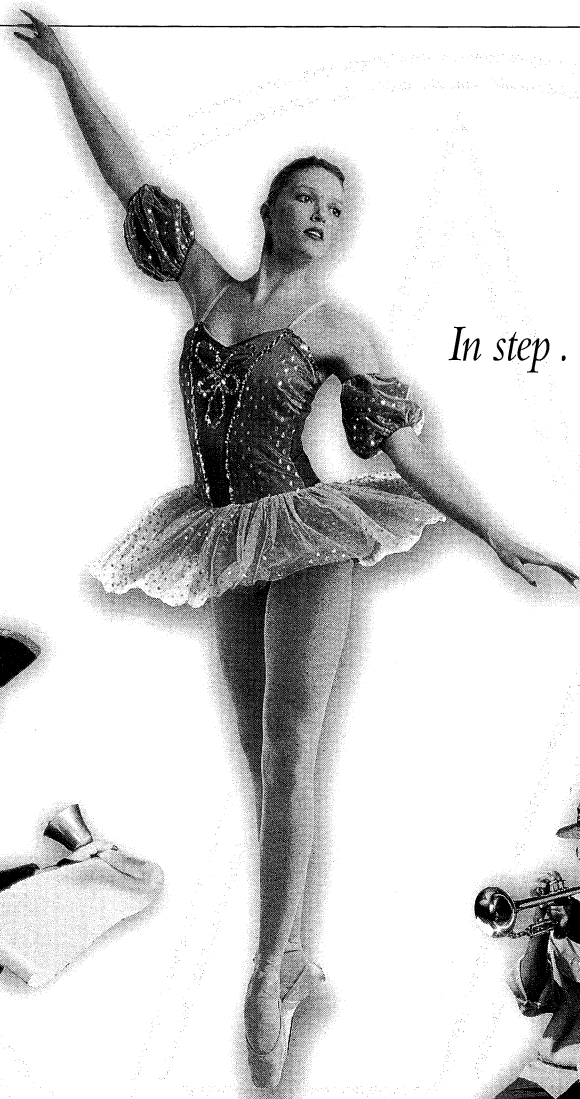
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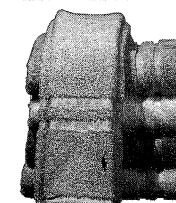
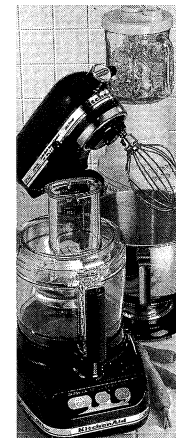
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★ **Emergency Exits** are located at the left front of the auditorium and the left side of the lobby. Front door and main lobby side exits will also be used in case of emergency.

★ **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.*



## Murton Theatrical Management

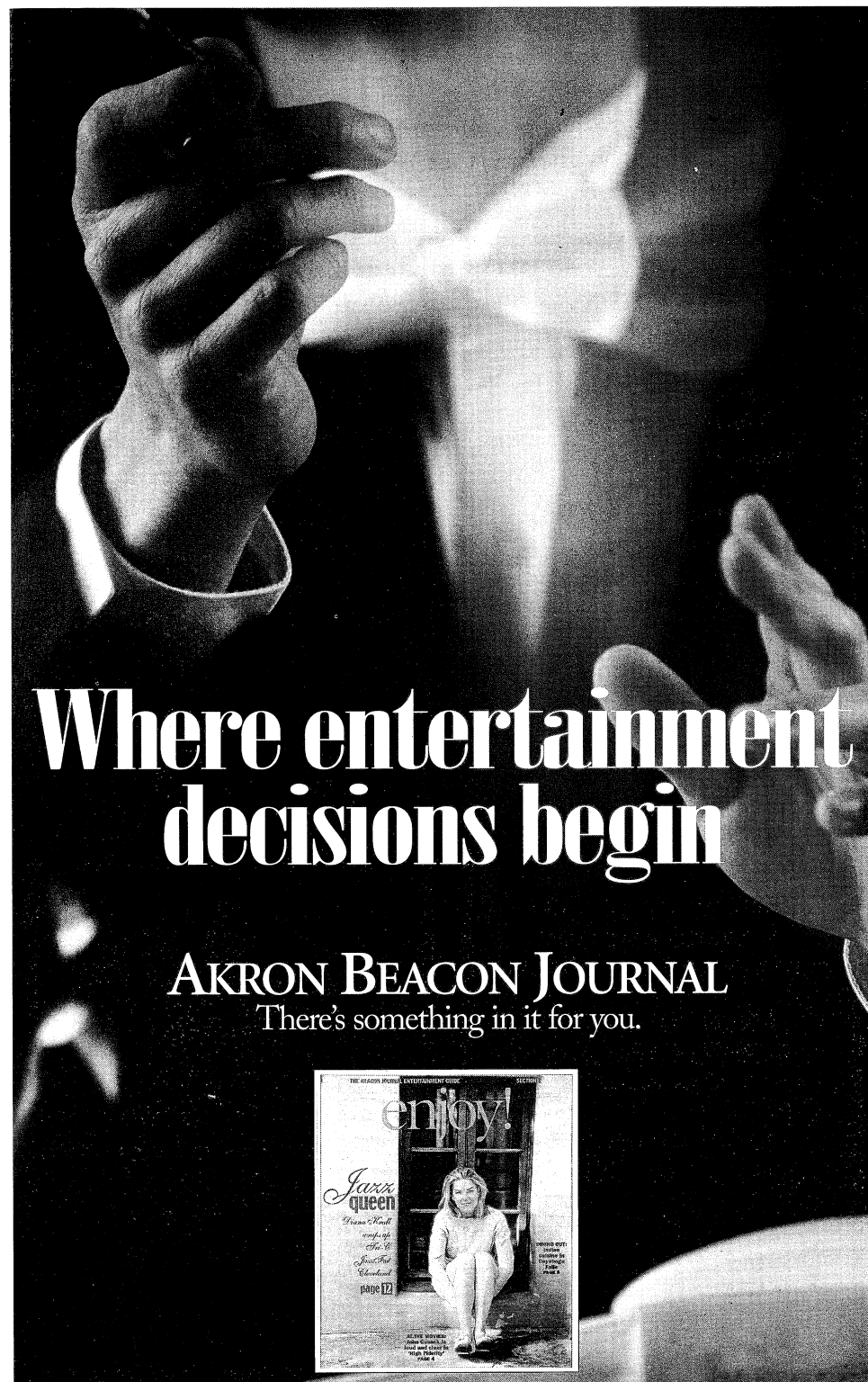
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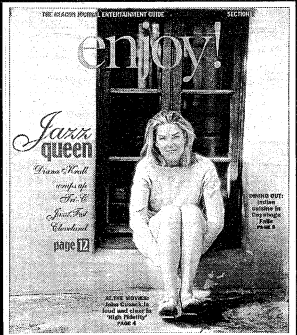
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### 2000-2001 MAINSTAGE SEASON PRODUCTIONS

#483 - #489

October 12 - 29, 2000

*The Glass Menagerie*

Drama by Tennessee Williams

November 2 - 19, 2000

*Gross Indecency*

*The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*

A new play by Moises Kaufman

January 18 - February 11, 2001

*The Philadelphia Story*

A magical story by Philip Barry

March 1 - 18, 2001

*Of Mice and Men*

Drama by John Steinbeck

April 26 - May 13, 2001

*Communicating Doors*

Comic mystery by Alan Ayckbourn

May 24 - June 10, 2001

*Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting*

by Ed Schmidt

June 21 - July 15, 2001

*A Funny Thing Happened  
on the Way to the Forum*

Book by Burt Shevelove and  
Larry Gelbart

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Program subject to change.

### YOUTH/FAMILY THEATRE SEASON

July 29 - August 13, 2000

*Stuart Little*

Dramatized by Joseph Robinette

Music by Ronna Frank

Lyrics by Joseph Robinette

& Ronna Frank

based on the book by E.B. White

November 25 - December 23, 2000

*Joseph and the  
Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

Musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber

March 7 - 24, 2001

*Anne of Green Gables*

by Alice Chadwicke

Program subject to change.



### WEATHERVANE WOMEN'S BOARD

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*Peter and the Wolf*

Performed by The Piper Puppets

May 5, 2001



## 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 charged to a Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit card. Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weatherwane 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 cannot use your subscription seats, please call us at least 24 hours in advance to release them. We will recognize this as a donation to Weatherwane.*

★ **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 Weatherwane 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 the 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.



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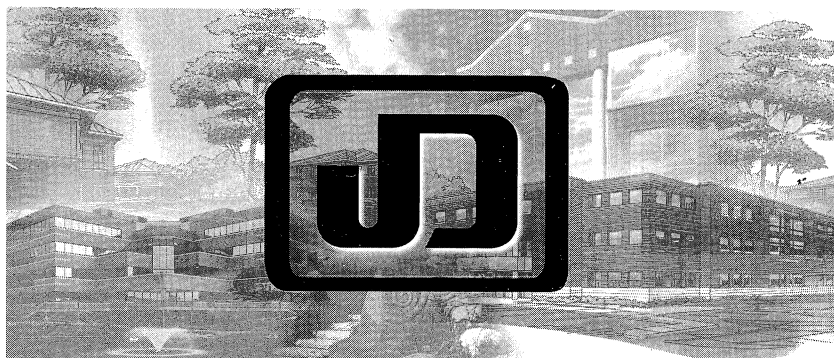
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## From the Barn to the Valley A Brief Weathervane History



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 Hower 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.

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

Except in 1948 when located at the Pythian Temple, the Barn was home to Weathervane until 1951. Then the organization renovated a building on Copley Road and became a more accommodating 100-seat facility. In 1960, Weathervane hired its first professional director, Bob Belfance, who served until 1992. Along with long-time custodian/ticket office manager, Nora Scott, the two-person staff relied 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. Volunteers still 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 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 nearly seven decades, Weathervane has constructed, torn down, recycled, painted and refitted stage settings for more than 500 productions (when Stage Two 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 talents of well over a thousand amateur performers, who take their performance curtain calls to the applause of more than a hundred thousand theater goers. This 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. Share the link to Weathervane's past by joining in the applause for today's performance.

*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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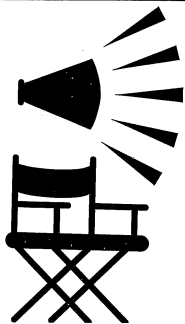
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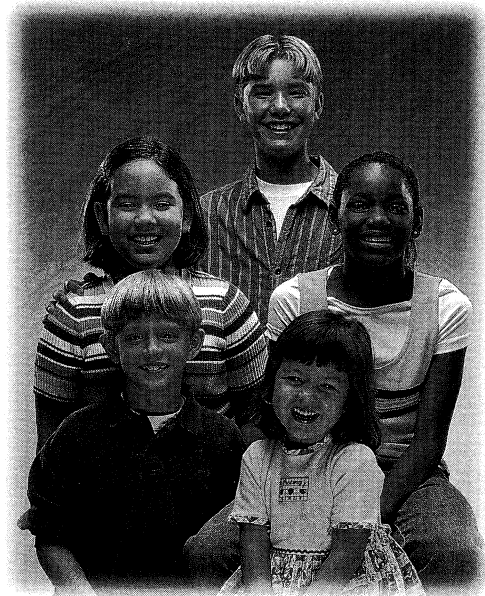
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## Women's Board

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 an annual puppet presentation 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.

### 2000-2001 Women's Board Officers

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Karen Burridge</b>  | .....President               |
| <b>Sally Brown</b>     | .....First Vice President    |
| <b>Bunny Lacey</b>     | .....Second Vice President   |
| <b>Marta Williger</b>  | .....Corresponding Secretary |
| <b>Betty Watterson</b> | .....Recording Secretary     |
| <b>Jill Forster</b>    | .....Treasurer               |
| <b>Nancy Zeigler</b>   | .....Assistant Treasurer     |

### 2000-2001 Women's Board Committee Chairs

|                                          |                                 |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Marci Paolucci</b>                    | .....Art Gallery                |
| <b>Mary Wolfman</b>                      | .....Boutique Co-Chair          |
| <b>Mary Morehart</b>                     | .....Boutique Co-Chair          |
| <b>Barbara O'Connor</b>                  | .....Boutique Treasurer         |
| <b>Dorothy Kies &amp; Henrietta Cook</b> | .....Costumes Co-Chairs         |
| <b>Janet Clark &amp; Younghee Miller</b> | .....Hostess Co-Chairs          |
| <b>Betty J. Zeigler</b>                  | .....Nominating                 |
| <b>Marta Williger &amp; Pat Weill</b>    | .....Newsletter Co-Chairs       |
| <b>Karen Burridge</b>                    | .....Cast Suppers               |
| <b>Marilyn Heagerty</b>                  | .....Office Volunteer Scheduler |

*Hospitality, Production for Children and Membership committee chairs had not been secured at the time of this printing.*

**The Women's Board welcomes new members.**

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## 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. You'll receive 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 recognize and celebrate important dates or current achievements of relatives, friends or associates.

### ★ 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, please contact our Executive Director for more information.

### ★ Check For Matching Gifts.

Many national and local corporations will

match your donations to Weathervane, increasing your generosity to the theater. Please check 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 in this community.

### ★ Sponsor or Underwrite a Production.

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

### ★ Capital Project.

The new construction segment of the Capital Project includes a scene shop with basement storage, a 2nd-floor classroom, a 2nd-floor rehearsal hall, soundproof corral with construction of a production booth and office, elevator and fly gallery pocket above the stage. Donations for Stage Two of the project will purchase classroom furnishings, update the lighting system, purchase and install the rigging system for the fly gallery, renovate the lobby and replenish the Capital Fund for maintenance and repairs through 2010.



## Membership Helps Us Grow

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 Weather-vane 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.

Your support and commitment are welcome and appreciated any time and 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 Weather-vane stage and we can honestly say that the show couldn't go on without you.

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## We're Proud Of Weather-vane Volunteers

Weather-vane 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, keep our office running and 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 Weather-vane, 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.

## Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Shortly after the final production of each season, Weather-vane 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 Design, plus 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 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.





## 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 2000-2001 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 Weathervane. In addition, two-week workshops for children are planned throughout the summer months. The cost is minimal with a limited number of scholarships available for motivated students and discounted fees for Weathervane members.

Children from throughout the community may also audition for roles in Youth Theater productions. Casting is not 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 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, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Of Mice and*



**Men** 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 Scenic Design, Stage Lighting, Careers in Theater and Acting for the Camera. 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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2001-2002 Season

**Tap Dogs**, Fri. & Sat., Oct. 12 & 13, 8 p.m.

**E. J. Dionne Jr.**, *University of Akron Forum Lecture*, Wed., Oct. 17, 8 p.m.

**Footloose - 5 shows**

Fri., Oct. 26, 8 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 27, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 28, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**Jim Lovell**, *University of Akron Forum Lecture*, Tue., Oct. 30, 8 p.m.

**Hal Holbrook & Dixie Carter in Love Letters**, Sat., Nov. 3, 8 p.m.

**Steve Forbes**, *University of Akron Forum Lecture*, Wed., Nov. 14, 8 p.m.

**The Colors of Christmas starring Peabo Bryson, Michael McDonald, Oleta Adams & Sheena Easton**, Thu., Nov. 29, 8 p.m.

**Les Misérables - 8 shows**

Tue., Dec. 4, 8 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 5, 8 p.m.

Thu., Dec. 6, 8 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 7, 8 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 8, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 9, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**In Concert Larnelle Harris & Wintley Phipps**, Fri., Jan. 18, 8 p.m.

**The Merry Widow by The London City Opera**, Fri., Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

**Jim Brickman & Anne Cochran**, Sat., Feb. 23, 8 p.m.

**The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra & The Four Lads**, Sun., Feb. 24, 2 p.m.

**Shaolin Warriors**, Wed., Feb. 27, 8 p.m.

**University of Akron Steel Drum Band**, Fri., Mar. 1, 8 p.m.

**University of Akron Dance Company**, Wed., Mar. 6 & Fri., Mar. 8, 8 p.m.

**The Chieftains**, Thu., Mar. 7, 8 p.m.

**An Evening with Bob Newhart & Don Rickles**, Sat., Mar. 9, 8 p.m.

**Rent - 8 shows**

Tue., Mar. 19, 8 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 20, 8 p.m.

Thu., Mar. 21, 8 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 22, 8 p.m.

Sat., Mar. 23, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sun., Mar. 24, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**The John S. Knight Lecture presents An Evening with Garrison Keillor**, Mon., Apr. 8, 8 p.m., *free with ticket*

**Elie Wiesel**, *University of Akron Forum Lecture*, Mon., Apr. 15, 8 p.m.

**Spirit of the Dance presents one world**, Fri., Apr. 19, 8 p.m.

**Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg & The Assads**, Sat., Apr. 20, 8 p.m.

**Judy Shepard**, *University of Akron Forum Lecture*, Tue., Apr. 23, 8 p.m.

**Cabaret - 5 shows**

Fri., Apr. 26, 8 p.m.

Sat., Apr. 27, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sun., Apr. 28, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

*Performances, dates and times subject to change.*

For a complete 2001-2002 season brochure call the Thomas Hall Ticket Office at 330/972-7570 or log on to our website at [www.ejthomashall.com](http://www.ejthomashall.com)





## Weathervane Board Of Trustees

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.

### Officers

|                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Tom Trotter</b> .....         | President                |
| <b>Barry Friedman</b> .....      | First Vice President     |
| <b>Janine Barzyk</b> .....       | Second Vice President    |
| <b>Jim Horvath</b> .....         | Treasurer                |
| <b>Clarence F. Carlson</b> ..... | Secretary                |
| <b>Margaret J. Dietz</b> .....   | Historian                |
| <b>Eileen Moushey</b> .....      | Immediate Past President |

### 2000-2001 Board Members

|                   |                       |                        |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Amanda Backus     | Louis G. Farris, Jr.  | Theresa Proenza        |
| Mark Blaser       | Jerilynn Ferguson     | Steven P. Schmidt, PhD |
| Eileen Burg       | Ian Haberman          | Doris M. Shaw          |
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| Mary Kate Clancy  | T. Anthony Jones, Jr. | F. Helena Sturkey      |
| Frank C. Comunale | Laura A. Kerchner     | Linda Waite            |
| Paul Daum PhD     | Leslie Lund           | Mary K. Whitmer        |
|                   | Sheilia Motter        |                        |

*Membership on Board committees is not restricted to Trustees.*

*If you would like to volunteer, please call the Weathervane office - 836-2626.*

### Weathervane Production Board

*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.*

#### Chairman - Mary Kate Clancy

|                                                 |                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Auditions .....                                 | <b>M.J. Coulson and Donna Philips</b>             |
| <b>WOMEN'S BOARD</b> Costume Shop .....         | <b>Betty Williams</b>                             |
| House Management .....                          | <b>John Cotter</b>                                |
| Sound .....                                     | <b>Vaughn G. Austin</b>                           |
| <b>FIRST ENERGY</b> Lighting Dept. ....         | <b>Mark A. Zimmerman</b><br>and <b>Colin Cook</b> |
| Properties .....                                | <b>Clyde Shaw</b>                                 |
| Stage Management .....                          | <b>Nikki Rafferty and Barry Friedman</b>          |
| Play Selection .....                            | <b>Ian Haberman</b>                               |
| Women's Board .....                             | <b>Sally Brown</b>                                |
| Volunteer & Production Coordinator .....        | <b>Maryanne Arcuri Cotter</b>                     |
| Youth Theatre Producer .....                    | <b>Sean McConaha</b>                              |
| Sundays at Seven-Salon Series Coordinator ..... | <b>Dr. Susan Speers</b>                           |
| Technical Director .....                        | <b>Alan Scott Ferrall</b>                         |
| Executive Director .....                        | <b>Elynmarie Kazle</b>                            |



## GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WEATHERVANE COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE Capital Campaign

It's an exciting time at Weathervane Community Playhouse! Take a good look around and you'll see lots of changes. Most of the "big" stuff is behind the stage — a new scene shop, new classrooms and rehearsal hall. And the rest is up above you — a new enclosed production booth, new costume shop and the fly gallery.

We're grateful to the many, many people who helped us. Thanks to all our generous donors, campaign volunteers and project workers.

But we're not done yet. Much more is planned in Stage Two to make Weathervane the community playhouse our patrons deserve.

**Join our growing cast of donors. Pick up a pledge card today!**

### Weathervane Community Playhouse Capital Project Scope

#### Stage One

*Work complete*

- Scenery workshop
- Three classrooms
- Rehearsal hall
- Basement storage
- "Fly" gallery
- Elevator
- Soundproof production booth
- Costume shop
- Lighting system



#### Stage Two

*Work and funding in-progress*

- Library
- Reception/meeting area
- Lobby renovation
- "Fly" system
- Classroom furnishings/equipment
- Offices
- Building exterior repair and seal
- Capital fund - for maintenance & renovations through 2010

Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to: Capital Campaign, Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, Ohio 44313. Or ask for a pledge card at the Box Office!

# Capital Campaign

## Funding Status

### Up to \$1,000

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Lauri Agins                  | Jack Herman                      |
| Air Enterprises Incorp.      | Hitchcock Fleming and Associates |
| AkroChem                     | Gary L. Hummel                   |
| Beth & Ham Amer              | Kathryn Hunter                   |
| Annaco                       | Frances & William James          |
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| Janine Barzyk                | Bonnie & Vincent Johnson, Jr.    |
| Mr. & Mrs. L. C. Bergstrom   | Eric Jones                       |
| Robert C. Berk               | Calvin C. Kennedy                |
| Susan Biasella               | Dede Klein                       |
| Karen & Patrick Burrige      | Kleidon and Associates           |
| Canal Place Limited          | Mary Ann Kovach                  |
| Mary Beth & Charlie Carroll  | Susan & Paul Kruder              |
| Ruth Castle                  | Mary Ann & John Kyle             |
| Dorothy & Richard Chenoweth  | Manohar & Constance Lal          |
| Chez-Del Interiors           | Jacqi Loewy                      |
| Mary Kate Clancy             | Liberth/Anderson Co.             |
| Maryanne & John Cotter       | Frances McGovern                 |
| Marcia & Warren Deist        | Main St. Gourmet                 |
| Eivor Devitofranceschi       | Martinat Wine Company            |
| Jane & John DeYoung          | John O'Neill                     |
| Richard E. Dobbins           | Annie-Lee G. Peterson            |
| Fred E. Eastman              | Revocable Trust                  |
| James Eckelberry             | Betty & Bill Plant               |
| Ruth & Paul Eizenzimmer      | Terri Priest                     |
| Mary Beth & Richard Ellison  | Julie & Skip Radwany             |
| Dr. Stephan Farkas           | Nikki Rafferty                   |
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| Chic Carlson                    |
| Mark Carlson                    |
| Cedarwood Development, Inc.     |
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| Frank C. Comunale               |

# Capital Campaign

As of April 16, 2001

## Funding Status

|                                              |                                                             |                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lawrence Cook                                | Ken Wilhelm                                                 | FirstMerit Bank, N.A.                                           |
| Paul Daum                                    | Mary Whitmer & Stanley Brandt                               | The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company                              |
| Sandra & Scott Emerick                       | <b>\$5,000 - \$14,999</b>                                   | <i>(names The Goodyear Tire &amp; Rubber Company Classroom)</i> |
| Lou Farris, Jr.                              | Akron Golf Charities                                        | Omnova Solutions Foundation                                     |
| Jerilynn Ferguson                            | Albrecht Family Foundation                                  | <i>(names Youth Theatre Office and Production Booth)</i>        |
| Judith L. Fowler                             | Bank One                                                    | Dr. Jack & Libby Jacobs                                         |
| Barry Friedman                               | <i>(names the Bank One Visual Arts Gallery)</i>             | <i>(names the Jacobs Library)</i>                               |
| Ian S. Haberman                              | Eileen & Pete Burg                                          | Sisler McFawn Charitable Fund                                   |
| Margaret Harris                              | Mary Demetros                                               | <i>(names the Sisler McFawn Classroom)</i>                      |
| Tatiana & Richard Harris                     | Alice Ann & John Davies                                     | Lloyd L. & Louise K. Smith Foundation                           |
| Ellen & Karl Hay                             | The Forster Family                                          | Women's Board of Weathervane Community Playhouse                |
| Christine Hinman                             | <i>(names the Orchestra Pit for Jan Michael)</i>            | <i>(names the Women's Board Costume Department)</i>             |
| Frank Horn                                   | Family of Charlotte Kaplan                                  |                                                                 |
| Jim Horvath                                  | <i>(names the Stage Door in memory of Charlotte Kaplan)</i> |                                                                 |
| Dr. Tom & Mary Ann Jackson                   | KeyBank                                                     |                                                                 |
| Shirley Jordan                               | <i>(names the KeyBank Men's Dressing Room)</i>              |                                                                 |
| Martha Kaltenbach                            | Lehner Family Foundation                                    | <b>\$50,000 &amp; up</b>                                        |
| Elynmarie Kazle                              | Leslie & Dick Lund                                          | County of Summit                                                |
| Dr. C. William & Ardith Keck                 | National City Bank                                          | GAR Foundation                                                  |
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| Dr. Edward & Barbara Koosed                  | Judy & Roger Read                                           | State of Ohio                                                   |
| Judy & Richard Kotick                        | Thomas R. Trotter                                           | Weathervane Board Of Trustees                                   |
| C. Blake and Beatrice K. McDowell Foundation | Mona Wolfman                                                |                                                                 |
| Lynn & Ed Metzger                            | Women's Board Individual Challenge                          | <b>Match Gifts</b>                                              |
| Mirapaul Foundation                          |                                                             | The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company                              |
| Tina & John Mogen                            | <b>\$15,000 - \$49,999</b>                                  | Merrill Lynch                                                   |
| The Moushey Family                           | Brennan Family Foundation                                   | Nuclear Electric Insurance Corporation                          |
| North Akron Savings Bank                     | Corbin Foundation                                           | Ohio Edison                                                     |
| Theresa & Luis Proenza                       | Margaret Dietz                                              | Prudential Foundation                                           |
| Roetzel & Andress                            | <i>(names John L. Dietz Memorial Classroom)</i>             | Tasty Pure Foods                                                |
| Steve Schmidt                                | FirstEnergy Foundation                                      |                                                                 |
| Margo Snider                                 | <i>(names FirstEnergy Lighting Department)</i>              |                                                                 |
| Thomas Stephan                               |                                                             |                                                                 |
| Linda & Peter Waite                          |                                                             |                                                                 |

Weathervane Board of Trustees



## JOIN THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CAST! SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION NOW!



### Women's Board Individual Challenge

Send your contribution marked "Women's Board Indy Challenge" and join our winning team!

#### Up to \$1,000

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#### \$5,000 - \$14,999

Margaret Dietz

### Youth Theatre Parents

Send your contribution marked "Youth Theatre" and help our Youth theatre grow!

#### Up to \$1,000

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## A Weathervane Salute To Our Donors

Weathervane Playhouse gratefully acknowledges the financial support of our corporate, foundation and individual members. Their Membership helps keep admission prices low and helps us to maintain the high standards of production you've come to associate with Weathervane. This list will be updated throughout the season.

### FOUNDER'S CIRCLE (Gifts of \$5,000+)

The Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie  
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**◎ TARGET**

### The Noble S. Elderkin Trust

This special trust established at National City Bank provides sponsorship for one classic play (at least 50 years old) in the Weathervane repertory each season. This trust was set up for a period of 25 years and will fund this type of activity through the year 2002.

If you would like to provide this type of support for Weathervane, please contact Janis Harcar, Director of Marketing & Development.

### GOLD MEMBERS (Gifts of \$500 - \$999)

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Pete & Eileen Burg❖ Mel & Mary Wolfman  
Chic & Juanita Carlson❖ Mona Wolfman -  
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Richard & Leslie Lund❖ for *A Funny Thing Happened...*  
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## Membership Continued

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| Judith L. Fowler              | Dr. & Mrs. George Nankervis                    |                              |
| Dr. Lowell & Francine Gerson  | The Weathervane Community Playhouse Staff Gift |                              |

#### CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

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| Cohen & Company*               | Holland Oil Company*            | The Ruhlin Company*               |
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### SUSTAINING MEMBERS (Gifts of \$100 - \$149)

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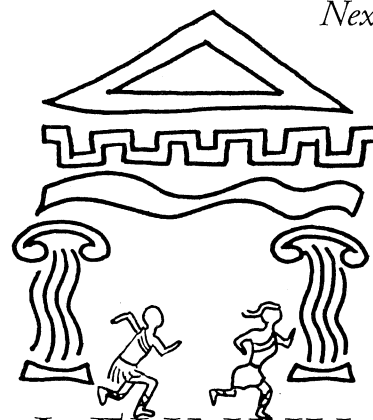
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## Next On Our Stage



## A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Musical by  
Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart  
with Music & Lyrics by  
Stephen Sondheim

Here comes the show that put comedy back into musical comedy and you'll love it all over again. Yes, Weathervane has produced *Forum* before, both here and as one of our University Club productions, but it's one of the most delicious musicals ever written, from the opening song *Comedy Tonight* to the final curtain. It's a racy romp through what might have been Rome, complete with courtesans, gladiatorial warriors, and marital hi-jinks as slave Pseudolus seeks to win his freedom. Of course, there's the very tender love story, too, an escape plot and the dutiful rounds of the seven hills of Rome in order to break a sorcerer's spell.

So come enjoy our toga-clad cast co-directed by **Eileen Moushey** and **Ken Wilhelm**. **Margaret Knepper** is Musical Director and **Amy DeCesare** is the Choreographer. You'll see familiar figures on stage as well as newcomers and oh, what music you'll whistle away with! There's *Everyone Should Have a Maid*, *Lovely*, *Dirty Old Man of Mine* and more.

It's delicious entertainment for you, your family and visiting friends and a call to our ticket office at 330-836-2626 will help you make early reservations.

## Future Events

### AUDITIONS:

*Charlotte's Web*--June 11 & 12,  
4 - 7 p.m. by appointment

### \*Salon Readings...

TBA-- *The Winter's Tale* by Shakespeare  
June 3 -- *Lettice and Lovage* by Peter Shaffer, directed by Timothy H. Champion  
TBA -- *Split* (second reading) by Mayo Simon, directed by Bill Bushnell

**June 21 - July 13--A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**

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

### 2001-2002 Subscriptions Now on Sale

**Thursday, June 14** -- Annual Weathervane Gala; mark your calendar now!

**July 28 - August 12** *Charlotte's Web*, a Youth Production

**August 16 & 17** Summer Stock Workshop  
Performance of David Ives' *All in the Timing*

**Saturday, August 18** -- Chanticleer Awards at the Martin Center





Welcome to Weathervane and a very special collaboration!



About a year ago, Weathervane Trustee Mary Whitmer approached the Weathervane Playhouse Board of Trustees about becoming involved in some way with an organization located in Cleveland – Karamu Performing Arts Theatre. So the two boards visited each other's theaters, attended each other's performances and decided that we did indeed want to collaborate on a project in the coming year!

It was in this spirit of cooperation and good will that the co-production of *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* was born. On the face of it, it seems a large undertaking. For starters, our theaters are very different, one urban Cleveland, one suburban Akron. WCP is a community theater and Karamu a professional theatre and of course, delightful cultural differences abound. But with the enthusiastic support of our Boards; the staffs and production teams of each theatre began meeting to plan something very special for Northeast Ohio — a two-city production of a play about a seminal moment in American History. And, we thought, featuring baseball in sports-crazy Northeastern Ohio wouldn't hurt either.

We hope you enjoy this play as much as we have enjoyed the experience of putting it together for you. I want to thank the staffs of both Karamu and Weathervane, the Trustees of both organizations and Mary Whitmer for having the inspiration to begin this collaboration. Kudos to the cast and crew and volunteers of Weathervane Playhouse and the GAR Foundation for their support. And finally, special thanks to Bob Zimmer, baseball historian and Gerry McClamy, my counterpart at Karamu with whom I have very much enjoyed planning and producing this collaborative effort.

Thank you for coming tonight! Hope to see you again, soon!

*Edmundie Kyle*



*Weathervane Community Playhouse*  
66th Season - 2000-2001 - Production #488  
May 24 - June 10, 2001  
at Karamu House June 28 - July 29, 2001



**Sponsored by the  
GAR Foundation**

## **Mr. Rickey Calls A Meeting**

by Ed Schmidt

*Directed by Tony Sias*

Production Stage Manager  
**Richard H. Morris, Jr.**

Scenic Designer  
**Richard H. Morris, Jr.**

Head of Production-Karamu  
**Douglas M. Warnke**

Technical Director  
**Alan Scott Ferrall**

Lighting Designer  
**Colin J. Cook**

Costume Designer  
**Sandra Harding**

Properties Co-Designers  
**Susan Speers**  
**Sean Speers**

Sound Co-Designers  
**Vaughn G. Austin**  
**Sean McConaha**

Assistant Technical Director  
**Colin James Cook**

Volunteer & Production Coordinator  
**Maryanne Arcuri Cotter**

*Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* is produced by special arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc., 45 West 25th Street, New York, NY 10010.

Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by  **Ohio Arts Council**

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

#### *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting by Ed Schmidt*

Although probably fictitious, the play reveals the struggles that emerged on all sides of the situation – should African-Americans be allowed to play America's game alongside white players? This play is filled with poignancy that alternates from tears of sorrow to tears of joy. Brooklyn Dodgers General Manager Branch Rickey calls a "ten-or fifteen-minute meeting" which becomes a confrontation of issues, beliefs and ideals that still shape black/white relations today. Great American icons Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, heavyweight champ Joe Louis and singer/actor/activist Paul Robeson, are brought together to build support for Jackie Robinson on the very day he will break baseball's color barrier.

This is not, however, just another version of the Robinson success story. Many assume that the integration drew universal applause from blacks. Not so, says playwright Ed Schmidt. The Brooklyn Dodgers' signing of Robinson quickly led to other signings and to the demise of the Negro Leagues, putting hundreds of black ballplayers out of jobs.

Also, since resistance continued among many American and National League teams, few blacks got contracts, leading to charges of tokenism. Schmidt dramatizes this turmoil in the meeting mentioned above.

### About Our Director -- Tony Sias

*Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* is directed by **Tony Sias** of Cleveland, a well-known area actor, director, educator and arts administrator. He most recently starred in *Paul Robeson* as the title role at Ensemble Theatre. His directing credits include the world premiere of *On the Hill of Black America* at Cleveland Public Theatre, *Knock 'Em Dead* at Karamu House, *Porches: A Communal Memoir* and *Tod, the Boy Tod* and *Race* at Tri-C Metro. Tony is on the theatre faculty at Cuyahoga Community College, Metro Campus and is the new Administrator of Dance, Theatre and Drama for the Cleveland Municipal School District. He holds a B.S. degree in Dramatic Art from Jackson State University and an M.F.A. degree in acting from Ohio University.

### Director's Notes

*Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* is a quasi-complex glimpse inside the eve of Jackie Robinson's debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers and the end of segregation in baseball. The mentally sluggish transition of black baseball players in the major leagues, coupled with racial clichés of that era, summoned a need for unity and resilience in the black community. The playwright has created a vivid picture of the power of unity by bringing three of the most important African-American men of that period together to collectively decide on the fate of Jackie Robinson and baseball integration. That need is as imperative today as it was more than fifty years ago, especially in a league where African-Americans and other minorities constitute more than eighty percent of the talent on the field and, yet, there are no minority owners.

African-Americans, along with most Americans, embrace the accomplishments of Jackie Robinson. Brooklyn Dodgers' outfielder Carl Furillo asked in the late 1980s, "Where the hell would the big leagues be without Jackie Robinson?" A question that may never be answered could be, "Where in the hell would *America* be without Jackie Robinson?"



### *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting -- Cast*

|                                          |                          |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Branch Rickey .....                      | <b>Dan Camburn</b>       |
| Branch Rickey (1st week at Karamu) ..... | <b>Mark Wilt</b>         |
| Jackie Robinson .....                    | <b>Reginald A. Woods</b> |
| Bill "Bojangles" Robinson .....          | <b>Neal Hodges</b>       |
| Bill "Bojangles" Robinson .....          | <b>Desmond Jones</b>     |
| Joe Louis .....                          | <b>Robert Alexander</b>  |
| Paul Robeson .....                       | <b>Jonathan D. Wray</b>  |
| Clancy Hope .....                        | <b>Kareem M. Barrett</b> |

Place: A suite in the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City

Time: Spring 1947

*The play is performed without an intermission.*

- \*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, recording equipment and laser pointers 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.*

## Weatherwane Community Playhouse

is a proud member of



**Ohio  
Community  
Theatre  
Association**



## In Our Gallery

### *Beisbol Behind the Veil: Latin Americans in the Negro Leagues*

On display are framed photographs featuring Negro League Baseball teams and players, several jerseys, vintage baseball bats, vintage baseball gloves, vintage baseball catchers' masks, autographed baseballs and several vintage programs and letters related to the leagues. The core of the installation is "Beisbol Behind the Veil: Latin Americans in the Negro Leagues."

The exhibit comes from Robert Zimmer, president of A. Sisser Jewelers and founder of Negro League Baseball Legends of Fame, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed in 1999. His goal is to preserve the history of baseball in Ohio and the Great Lakes Region by creating the Ohio Baseball History Museum at 2044 East Fourth Street in downtown Cleveland. The six-story Fourth Street building location, in downtown Cleveland's Historic Gateway Neighborhood District, currently houses Zimmer's jewelry shop on its first floor, where part of Zimmer's baseball memorabilia collection is on display.

The museum will focus on the Negro Leagues, the Industrial leagues and Latin baseball players, and preserve the history of both the teams and their players by making that history accessible to the public.

The Ohio Baseball History Museum has grown out of the personal interest and concerted effort of Zimmer, who has been collecting baseball memorabilia over several years and has acquired a significant collection. Both Zimmer and his collection have become well known in the field of baseball history, and he is recognized as an expert on the Negro Leagues. The collection has reached a "critical mass" where it tells a complete and compelling story about the Negro Leagues and Latin players through artifacts.

Zimmer's interest and passion for collecting are matched only by his concern that the stories of members of the Negro Leagues and Latin players, who often played in obscurity for decades, be appropriately told.

### *Weathervane Playhouse Staff*

**Elynmarie Kazle**

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## Callboard -- The Cast

**DAN CAMBURN** (Branch Rickey) was seen earlier this season in *Gross Indecency*, *The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*. For Weathervane he was also seen in productions of *Pygmalion*, *Tartuffe* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* and has been seen at other theaters including Hudson and Stow Players, Porthouse Theatre, Carousel Dinner Theater and Coach House Theatre. At Coach House, he played Sir Wilfred in *Witness for the Prosecution* and Tobias in *A Delicate Balance*, winning Best Actor awards for his performances two seasons in a row. Dan is employed as a drama, speech and English teacher at North High School here in Akron.

**MARK WILT** (Branch Rickey) was seen earlier this season in *The Philadelphia Story* as Uncle Willie. Previously, he had played Mike Conner in *The Philadelphia Story* at Coach House Theatre. Mark received a Weathervane Best Actor Chanticleer for his performance in *That Championship Season* in 1976 and played the role of Thomas Edison in *Camping With Henry and Tom* in 1999. He is a software engineer for Aircraft Braking Systems.

**REGINALD A. WOODS** (Jackie Robinson) has acted in productions of *Possum Gulch*, *The Last Apostles* and *The Resurrection*. This is his first performance for Weathervane Playhouse as well as for Karamu House. "I'd like to thank Reverend Dailey for giving me a chance way back when, which built me up to seek out this role. I thank Tony and Richard for giving me this chance now. Above all, I give glory to God and honor to my parents, Marshall and Eolyn Woods."

**NEAL HODGES** (Bill "Bojangles" Robinson) An actor, writer and model, Neal is a Cleveland native. He is a graduate of John Adams High School and Cleveland State University with a degree in communications, and is currently a contributing writer to *Cleveland Life Magazine* and *The Plain Dealer*. He appeared in *Soul Sounds* at the Rock and Roll

Hall of Fame and Museum and will be introducing *The Black Cinema Café*, a new monthly screening of African-American films, to Cleveland in the fall. This is Neal's Weathervane and Karamu debut.

**DESMOND JONES** (Bill "Bojangles" Robinson) is a five-time winner of Amateur Night at *It's Show Time at the Apollo!* Desmond says he's performed at Karamu before, but this is the first time he has lines! This is also his first appearance on the Weathervane stage. A best-selling author, artist and actor, when he's not acting or writing, he's tuning up his website - OneStopPoetry.com -- and working on his latest book *P.O.D. Product of My Decisions*.

**ROBERT ALEXANDER** (Joe Louis) is a comic by nature and by trade. He started acting a few years ago and has been blessed with this second appearance after performing in *Knock 'Em Dead*. He is also a touring cast member for the Illusion Factory in Akron. He has toured independently as a comic on the East Coast. Robert truly enjoys acting and he hopes that our audiences enjoy his performance as much as he enjoys performing this role. "I'm so happy."

**JONATHAN D. WRAY** (Paul Robeson) For more than a decade, Jonathan has worked as an actor, model and performer. Recent stage performances include *Oedipus Rex*, *Fences*, *A Dream Play* and *On the Hills of Black America*. He wishes to thank the cast and crew of *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* for expanding his creative horizons. Special thanks to the Spirit, Miles and Ella Mae for sharing the stage with him.

**KAREEM M. BARRETT** (Clancy Hope) is seen at Weathervane and Karamu for the first time. He has performed at the Center for Families and the Children's RAPP ART Center. His most recent appearance was in *Third Parallel* directed by R.A. Washington. He performs in GI Joes, a Cleveland-based "Hip-Hop" group.



## Backstage Callboard

**RICHARD H. MORRIS, JR.** (Production Stage Manager, Scenic Designer) Having worked in numerous professional and community theaters since the early 1980s, Mr. Morris holds a B.A. degree in scenic and lighting design from Kent State University. He worked professionally with Woodie King Jr., Ensemble Theatre, Cleveland Play House and numerous other theatres throughout the Cleveland area. He returned to Karamu in 1997 and, since then, he has designed scenery and lighting for *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Coming of the Hurricane*, *One mo' Time*, *Just Passin' Through*, *Five Guys Named Mo*, *Four Queens*, *No Trump*, August Wilson's *Jitney* and *Seven Guitars*, Duke Ellington's *Sophisticated Ladies* and *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*. Other productions include *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Indahomey*, *The Tap Dance Kid*, *The Colored Museum* and *The Bacchae* at Cleveland Public Theatre. As Technical Director for Ensemble Theatre he designed scenery for *The Rabbit Foot*, *Later Life* and *Meetings on the Porch*. Mr. Morris has also been production designer for a number of independent film productions such as a Richard Brooks Production of *Tinted Windows* and *The Mad Magician*.

**DOUG WARNKE** (Head of Production-Karamu) has been full-time Head of Production for two seasons. Prior to working at Karamu, Doug worked at several West Cleveland theatres as an actor and stage manager. He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and St. Ignatius High School. He lives in Avon Lake with his wife, Fiona, and their four children.

**SANDRA HARDING** (Costume Designer) has been active on the Weathervane costume crew for several seasons. She designed costumes for *Babes In Toyland* and took on many of the costume designs for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor*

*Dreamcoat*. She was awarded much-deserved accolades by the Ohio Community Theater Association for her costume designs for last season's Youth Production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

**COLIN J. COOK** (Lighting Designer) has been a frequent backstage volunteer and designed lighting for *Gross Indecency*, *The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* earlier this season (in addition to performing in the production). He previously worked on lighting for *The Glass Menagerie*, *Holiday Memories* and *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Colin is also Assistant Technical Director for Weathervane.

**VAUGHN G. AUSTIN** (Sound Co-Designer) has stage managed 16 shows in the past 20 years – most recently *Of Mice and Men* – and has designed sound or lights for almost as many. He has taken home three Best Production Chanticleers and another three for sound design. He chairs Weathervane's Sound Department on our Production Board. Vaughn is a member of the Medina Corvette Club and keeps his classic Corvette at his home in Brunswick. **SEAN MCCONAHA** (Sound Co-Designer) is pleased to be making his Weathervane debut as a technical designer. He was awarded a meritorious award in sound design from the American College Theatre Festival. Sean drew from the time period and his love of jazz and baseball to assemble this musical collage for you.

**DR. SUSAN SPEERS** (Properties Co-Designer) is happy to be sharing properties responsibilities with her son, Sean. You'll usually see Susan at the Playhouse during our Sundays at Seven: Salon Reading Series because she serves as coordinator of the events. She is currently directing *Twelfth Night* at Stan Hywet and performing in *Wit* at Actors' Summit.



## Backstage Callboard Continued

**SEAN SPEERS** (Properties Co-Design) has served as stage manager for *Stuart Little – The Musical* and properties master for *Romeo and Juliet*. Earlier this season, he

played the roles of Naphthali and Ishmaelite in our production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

### Weathervane's Newly-Formed Advisory Board

#### Janine Barzyk — Chair

|                   |                    |                    |                 |
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| Mary Adams        | Helen Fleming      | Libby Jacobs       | Bob Velotta     |
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## WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

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**Dracula** by John Balderston and Hamilton Dean Oct. 17 - Nov. 3 Pure escape!  
**The Fantasticks** Music by Harvey Schmidt, Book & Lyrics by Tom Jones Jan. 16 - Feb. 10  
*A musical tale of young lovers.*  
**Seven Guitars** by August Wilson Feb. 27 - March 17  
*Friends gather to mourn for a blues guitarist and singer.*  
**As Bees in Honey Drown** by Douglas Carter Beane April 10 - 28  
*Alexa, self-styled diva, wants a screenplay of her life.*  
**Wit** by Margaret Edson May 15 - June 2  
*A scholar with a serious illness fights back with words, wisdom and wit.*  
**Fiddler on the Roof** June 19 - July 14 Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick,  
*Book by Joseph Stein L'Chaim!*

## YOUTH/FAMILY THEATRE

- Charlotte's Web** July 28 - Aug. 12 Book by E.B. White,  
*Dramatized by Joseph Robinette Mysterious spider befriends bashful pig!*  
**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Musical**  
*by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber* Nov. 24 - Dec. 22  
**Our Town** April 13 - 28 by Thornton Wilder Pastiche of American life.

program and/or dates subject to change





### Production Team Members & Crews

#### SET CONSTRUCTION

Terry Bailey     John Konopka  
Ruth Richardson     Crystal Kelley  
Colin Cook     Tom Marshall  
Erin Katz     Justin Herman  
Lauri Agins     Jerry Schaber  
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#### LIGHTS

Kathy Kohl     Mike Sferro  
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#### SOUND

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#### PROPERTIES

Erin Katz     John Cotter  
Jordan Lampley     Christine Davis

#### Acknowledgements

Tony Jones and the Fairfield Inn -- Montrose  
For *Communicating Doors*:  
Thanks to Belden Village Lighting Center for the use of the bidet.

A Memorial Contribution was made to  
the Weathervane Endowment Fund  
in honor of **Berneice Robinson** by  
Jim & Janet Heilmeier

A Memorial Contribution was made to  
the Weathervane Endowment Fund  
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Jim & Janet Heilmeier

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The following are the vivacious volunteers who assisted you by hostessing, house managing, and staffing the boutique or office during *Communicating Doors* and *Peter and the Wolf*.

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Just one of the "seven" exciting shows on  
Weathervane's 67th Season...



## SEVEN GUITARS

By August Wilson

One of August Wilson's cycle of plays celebrating the African-American experience. *Seven Guitars* opens with a funeral and a mystery -- who killed Floyd "Schoolboy" Barton just when his musical career was taking off? In flashback, the seven characters play out the previous day's events in a jazzy mix of humor touched by sadness.

**February 27 - March 17, 2002**

Thursdays - Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

*Seven Guitars* is a Project STAGE production.

Professionally-written student and teacher study guides will be available and we offer special ticket prices for student groups.

A 10:00 a.m. performance on Tuesdays, March 5 and 12, are available for field trip bookings.

Auditions are *tentatively* set for  
Monday & Tuesday, December 17 & 18, 2001

A ticket to *Seven Guitars* is included in each  
Weathervane 2001-2002 season subscription.  
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Subscriptions start at just \$60 for all seven productions.



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**The Hollow**

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November 16 - December 2, 2000

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**Romantic Comedy**

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## Weatherwane Professional Staff

**ELYNMARIE KAZLE** (Executive Director) is entering her fourth WCP season. She spent 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 has produced Ohio Playwright Nancy Kiefer's *The Illustrated Woman* and Sweden's Darling Desperados' *Whatever Happened To Baby Jane* to critical acclaim in L.A. Professional credits include Great Lakes "Shakespeare Festival", NY's Brooklyn Academy of Music, Opera Columbus and Pasadena Playhouse. She began her professional career as apprentice to Tom Skelton at the Ohio Ballet. Elynmarie holds an MFA in Dance, Theatre & Opera from Ohio University and currently serves as Interim Vice-President-Membership and Development for the U.S. Institute for Theater Technology.

**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 Weatherwane Playhouse since 1993. She serves as accompanist for the Ravenna Community Choir and is 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) has attended The Ohio State University and Tisch School of the Arts but currently remains without a degree to call his own. Scott began at Weatherwane as a volunteer under the guidance of John R. Thomas. Meanwhile, he was Auditorium Manager at Cuyahoga Falls High School, earning a Design Excellence Award from U.S.I.T.T. and a place in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He has built or designed shows for Stow, Medina, Kenmore, Walsh Jesuit and Archbishop Hoban High

Schools. Professionally, he has designed for The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has two Chanticleer Awards to his name, one as Stage Manager for *Fences*, the other as co-designer of lights for *A Man for All Seasons*. Scott also writes the end-of-the-season revue featuring the Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at the annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.

**SEAN McCONAHA** (Director of Education) holds a dual major in Theater Performance and Pre-Law from West Virginia Wesleyan College and an M.A. 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 directed the OCTA award-winning production of *Romeo and Juliet* as well as last season's Chanticleer winner for Best Show, *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. He is also the Drama Director for Archbishop Hoban High School here in Akron. He and wife, Beth, and daughters, Leda and Delaney, live in Canton.

**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 done post-baccalaureate studies in Arts Administration at The University of Akron. This is Keith's fifth season at Weatherwane.

**MARYANNE ARCURI COTTER** (Volunteer & Production Coordinator) has been a volunteer at Weatherwane since 1984. She worked on every set from 1984-1989 as well as on props, lights or sound crew for every show. She also stage-managed at least one show per year for that period and has won Chanticleers for *Master Harold...and the boys* and *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. She has been a member of the Production Board as head of Stage Managers and has appeared



## Weatherwane Professional Staff -- Continued

on stage in the production *Daughters* and in the Women's Board production of *Cinderella*. She has professionally stage managed at the Halle Theater in Mayfield Hts. From 1989-1991 she was Co-Marketing and Development Director here at the playhouse. Maryanne and husband, John, live in Akron and have three grown children and two beautiful grandchildren!

**COLIN COOK** (Assistant Technical Director) began volunteering at Weatherwane in 1994 mentored by former Executive Director, Neil Thackaberry. Since then, he has learned the trades of the theater including lighting, set construction and design, sound and properties. He has joined our Production Board as Lighting Co-Chair and remains very active in the Akron and Cleveland area both in performance and technical theater.

**MELANIE Y.C. PEPE** (Development Assistant) holds a BFA in Theatrical Arts from Kent State University. Her studies included dramaturgy, directing, acting, stage combat, make-up design and theatre management. These varied interests led her to participating in more than twenty productions during

her studies there. Melanie also worked as a fight choreographer and stage manager at Schoenbrunn Amphitheater and Cleveland Public Theatre, and co-directed two plays for the Immo Theatre Company. After graduating, she left the theatre scene for a while in order to sing with the rock band, "Imaginary People." Melanie returned to theatre work as the resident make-up designer at Firestone's Performing Arts Campus and is thrilled to join the staff at Weatherwane.

**JOHN COTTER** (Business and Public Relations Assistant) is one of Weatherwane's newest part-time employees. His duties consist of helping Jan and Keith in the Marketing and Box Office areas. He also serves Weatherwane's Production Board as chair of house managers. John recently retired from Business Interiors & Equipment, after retiring from Ohio Edison with 36 years of service. His last position at Ohio Edison was as the chief Payroll Accountant and, for BIE, he was the Benefits Coordinator. John is looking forward to spending more time with his grand-daughter, Dana, and her new sibling, Nicholas.

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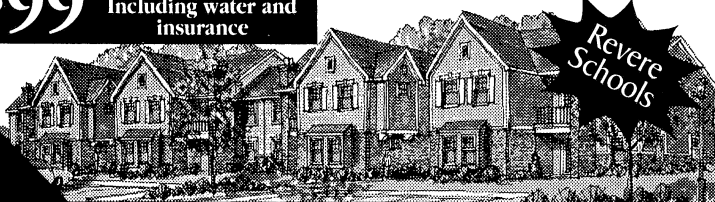
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Teachers and students receive study guides that contain material about the play and playwright to prepare the students before coming to the theater. Pre-performance, in-class discussions are conducted free of charge by Weathervane staff and volunteers.

Students, teachers and chaperones 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.

*The Glass Menagerie*, October 12 - 29 and *Of Mice and Men*, March 1 - 18 are the **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 arrangements.

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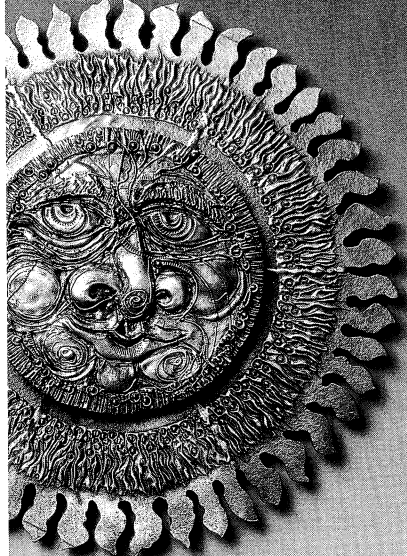
Hosting literary costume balls, founding cultural organizations, and taking a lead in Akron's industrial history, the Seiberling family was very supportive of the community and the arts. Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens is committed to following their lead.

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## Weatherwane Traditions



**Meet the cast.** It's a Weatherwane 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.

**Intermission Tea** is served with our compliments by our volunteer hosts and hostesses. Please enjoy a cup with us. Soft drinks are available at a nominal cost.

**Opening Night Receptions** welcome our audiences on the first Friday night of each production. We'll provide light snacks and refreshments after the show so you can share that "first-nighter" feeling.

**For your sweet tooth,** snacks are available for purchase before the show and during intermission. Refreshments are not permitted in the auditorium.

## Super Coupon Books

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## Who Gets On Stage at Weatherwane?

The performers you see on the Weatherwane 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 Weatherwane 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 Weatherwane at (330)836-2626 if you are interested in auditioning for a role in one of our up-

coming productions or in a Youth Theater production. We'll tell you about requirements.

Weatherwane shows are never "pre-cast." 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!





## 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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Have you ever seen empty seats at a sold out Indians game? Weathervane has the same problem. Single-ticket buyers and subscribers who may have exchanged from another performance wonder why they weren't given those prime empty seats for the evening.

When you buy a subscription, you are promising to come to the theater for that ticketed performance and we hold your seat(s). These subscription seats are held until intermission. This, additionally, makes it impossible to tell if a performance is ever really sold out and annoys ticket buyers who see that they could have been seated in a better spot.

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





## *I Want to Know More About Opportunities for Involvement at Weathervane*

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____    |                                       |                                                 |

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About the current season \_\_\_\_\_

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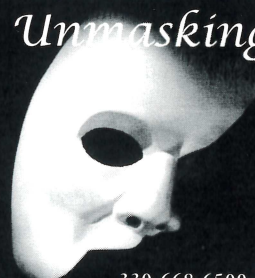
Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of Weathervane Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission to find exciting jewelry, watches, bibelots, music boxes, and other unique items and objects for yourself or for gifts. Every purchase helps make good things happen at

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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

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Churches, schools, individuals and other theater groups may find rentable costumes or theater properties and stage dressing for their own productions in the Weathervane wardrobe and set storage areas. Please call (330)836-2626 to arrange for a consultation on your special production needs.



## Weatherlane Hours

Weatherlane 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 re-opens 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.

## Akron Area Arts Alliance

Weatherlane 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."

## Season Coupons

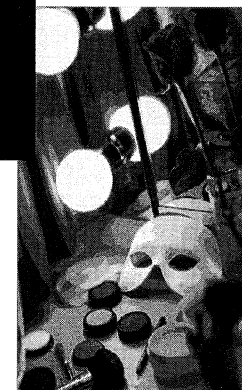
Seats for Weatherlane's most popular shows, especially those late in the season, often sell out fast. Saturday night seating is frequently difficult to obtain, so it's smart to call for reservations early. *Please remember that coupons don't guarantee your seats. You must call for reservations.* Check 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 Weatherlane show. Books of eight coupons provide a modest savings over regular admission prices.

## Mission Statement

### Weatherlane Community Playhouse

The mission of the Weatherlane Community Playhouse is to entertain, inform and educate, thereby enriching the cultural life of the Greater Akron area. Weatherlane 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. Weatherlane shall provide education in the theater arts to adults and children. In meeting these goals, Weatherlane shall be mindful of the standards of its audiences and shall maintain fiscally sound management.



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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, wom-

en'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. Your donations are appreciated and you may even see a favorite piece on stage some day.

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## 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 Production and Volunteer Coordinator, Maryanne Cotter, at (330) 836-2323. 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 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 eager volunteers to 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 during office hours and on show nights to assist in taking money and answering the phone to take reservations.

★ **Ushering** - 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 theatergoers to ushers for seating. You'll work with the stage manager to coordinate the timing of intermissions and remain in the 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.



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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.

A painting done by Mrs. Latta hangs in our Box Office. But a similar watercolor, done by her husband, has eluded us. We suspect that some Weathervane fan may have purchased the Merron Latta painting.

Can you help us find the painting? 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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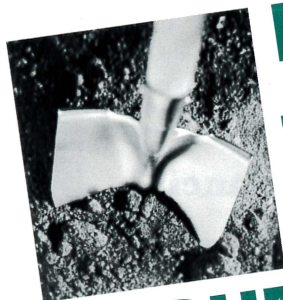
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this!**

**GROUNDBREAKING  
IS A GREAT SUCCESS!**

On May 30, 2000, over 100 well-wishers and volunteers joined U.S. Congressman Tom Sawyer, the Board of Trustees, and the staff of Weathervane Community Playhouse to break ground on its \$1-million expansion and renovation to the 30-year-old Merriman Valley facility.



*Architect Frank Horn, Treasurer Jim Horvath, Campaign Committee Chair Eileen Moushey, Congressman Tom Sawyer, Executive Director Elynmarie Kazle, and Board President Tom Trotter (l-r) dig in for Weathervane's \$1-million expansion project.*

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