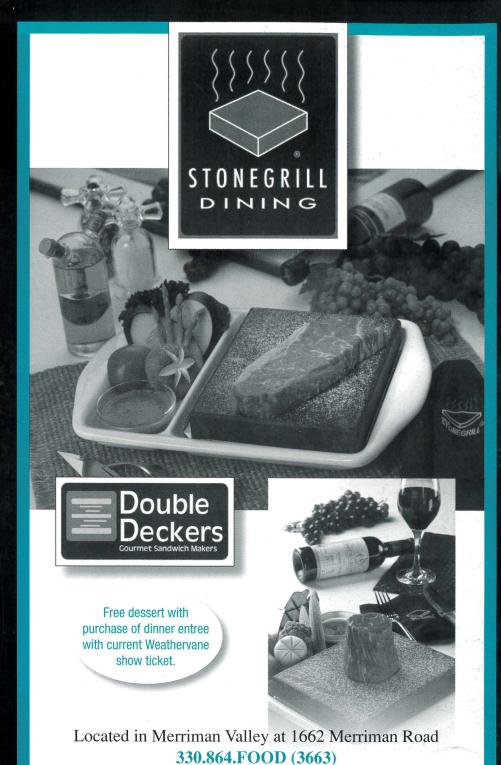


Bringing Us Together

2009-2010 Season

The Last Night of Ballyhoo Mainstage 2009-2010 #541 October 8 – 25, 2009

1301 Weathervane Lane • Akron, OH 44313-5186 www.weathervaneplayhouse.com



Mainstage

Putting It Together September 10 - 27, 2009

The Last Night of Ballyhoo October 8 - 25, 2009

Rabbit Hole February 4 - 21, 2010

The Great White Hope April 1 - 18, 2010

Italian American Reconciliation

April 29 - May 16, 2010

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June 3 - 27, 2010

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The Goat or, Who Is Sylvia? October 29 - November 14, 2009

The Sum of Us January 14 - 30, 2010

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A Brief History of Weathervane Playhouse

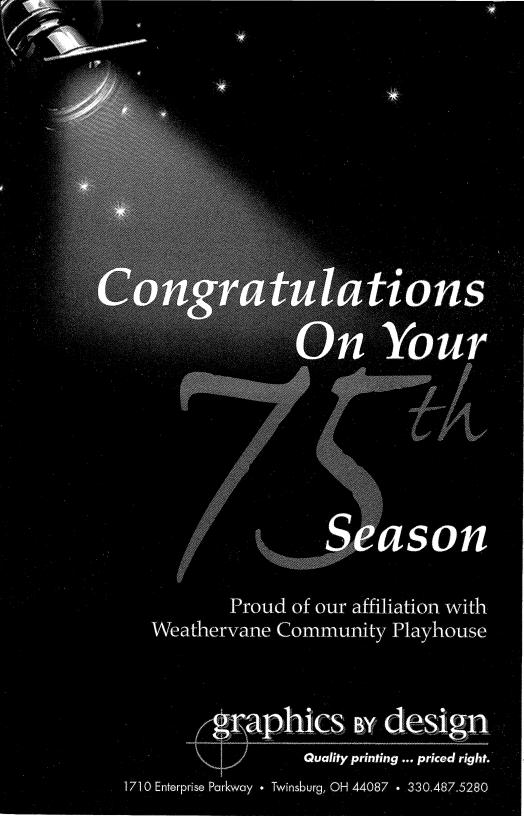
From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley...

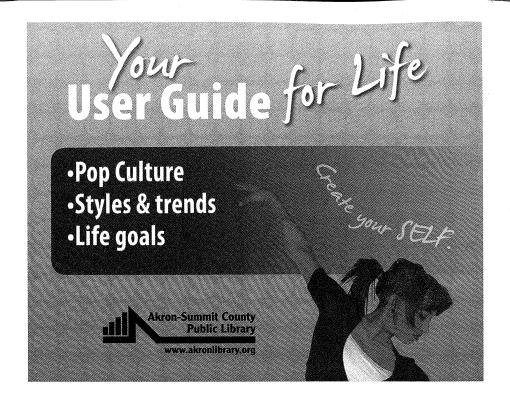
Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members -- Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch -- and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal was to present a wide spectrum of plays: classics, dramas, comedies, new works -- even opera -- with casting open to anyone who fit a part.

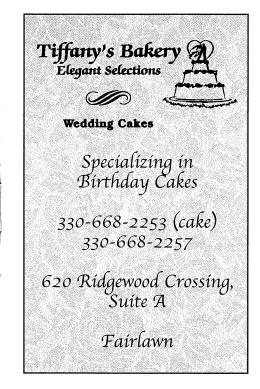
The women chose a carnival as their fundraiser to start paying the rent. Despite a drenching downpour, they raised \$60. They named their space "Weathervane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weathervane opened its first season. During that summer of 1935 the group presented seven fully costumed and staged plays. In 1936, Muriel MacLachlan with the other founders offered classes to children and adults, beginning a tradition that has become today's Education Department. In 1938 a Women's Board was formed to offer volunteer financial assistance. It, too, continues to this day.

The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1471 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse was handled by the Operating Board, which reported to the Board of Trustees. Because directors were becoming scarce, the Board hired Bob Belfance as full-time Manager/Director. He held the position from 1961-69 and from 1974-92. During the Copley Road days, plays were presented six days a week. Because of their popularity, not everyone who wanted to see a show could be accommodated. A new home was planned. During the 1960s the membership's plans came together in June 1970 with the opening of Dark of the Moon here on Weathervane Lane. Longtime friend and founder Grace Hower Crawford died in 1971, remembering the Playhouse in her will. Her money enabled the Board to pare down the mortgage and set up an Endowment Fund. The last mortgage payment was made in 1974 through a contribution of the Women's Board. Three major additions followed; these included first-floor restrooms, classrooms, a costume shop, fly gallery and elevator. The former scene shop became the John L. Dietz Theater/Classroom in 2005 and the lobby project was just completed for the opening of the 75th season.











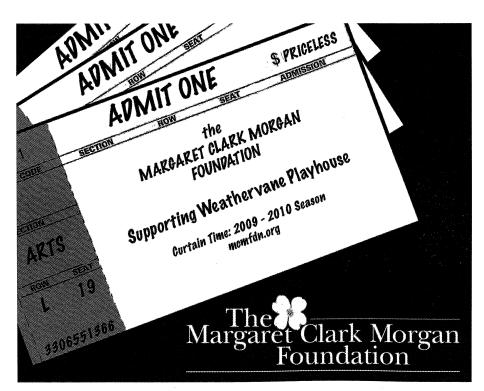


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Saturday, October 17, 2009

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Friday, December 18, 2009

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Saturday, January 16, 2010

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Saturday, January 30, 2010

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Spring Concert Sunday, March 14, 2010

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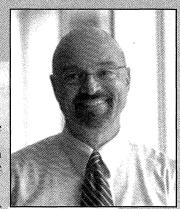


From Our Executive Director

"The New" Weathervane Playhouse!

Perhaps you've noticed in our printed material and newspaper ads that we are touting this venerable 74-year-old institution as "The New" Weathervane Playhouse. Well, you might ask, what's so new about it? I thought I would take a moment to outline our reasoning behind the assertion.

First, the most obvious manifestation of "new" at Weathervane is our newly refurbished public spaces, the centerpiece of which is our stunning new lobby. This attractive and expansive space is a tremendous addition to our playhouse and we are hopeful that your experience at Weathervane will be significantly enhanced because of it. In addition, we have created a new box office, gift shop, restrooms, coatroom and administrative office



area, as well as the appointments we've given our auditorium – newly renamed The Founders Theater – which include new theater seats! It is our hope that these physical improvements to Weathervane will provide a source of enrichment and enjoyment for you, our valued patrons, for many years to come.

While change on the outside is the most visible, there is newness at Weathervane that is perhaps not so readily apparent. This includes a new artistic energy with the advent of our growing collaborations with both major universities as well as several other arts organizations both here in Akron and in Cleveland. We have reached out to dynamic new directors to lead our actors and inspire us and we have enhanced both our artistry and our production capabilities with our new Costume Shop Manager and Resident Costume Designer, Jasen Smith. In addition, we have exciting new leadership on our Board of Trustees with Chas Schreckenberger, of Braun & Steidl Architects, taking the reigns as President. Chas was very involved in our recently-completed construction project and brings a wealth of community leadership experience with him to this assignment.

Lastly, Weathervane has adopted a new attitude that I would characterize simply as more positive and celebratory. We have redoubled our commitment to our core values of excellence, respect, accountability, responsibility and openness and understand that whatever makes Weathervane great has first and foremost to do with the people who make it so. To them, and to all of you, thank you for continuing with us on the journey!

Sincerely,

John Hedges Executive Director

Jhedges@weathervaneplayhouse.com



Weathervane

— PLAYHOUSE —

75th Season -- 2009 - 2010 -- Production #541 October 8 - 25, 2009

Last Night Ballyhoo

By Alfred Uhry

Directed by Nancy Cates (SDC)

Stage Manager

JERRY A. MIRMAN, JR.

Costume Co-Designers

CONNIE VELOTTA
JASEN J. SMITH

Sound Designer
MICHELLE CONNER

Scenic Designer
ALAN SCOTT FERRALL

Lighting Designer

RYAN DURFEE

Properties Designer
M.J. COULSON

Assistant Stage Manager **MIKE EMERSON**

The Last Night of Ballyhoo is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.



Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by Ohio Arts Council

Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186 Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 • Fax: 330-873-2150 • weathervaneplayhouse.com

About Our Director

Nancy Cates (SDC) has directed a dozen shows for Weathervane, spanning genres from comedy (Over the River and Through the Woods, Blithe Spirit, Communicating Doors) to drama (A Man for All Seasons, All My Sons), from musical (Gypsy) to classic (The Two Gentlemen of Verona), farce (Lend Me A Tenor, Moon Over Buffalo) to thriller (Bloody Murder). She is most pleased to return to direct this production of The Last Night of Ballyhoo, Alfred Uhry's (almost) prequel to Driving Miss Daisy. Nancy has directed Daisy twice, most recently at Coach House Theatre, and as an expatriated Southerner herself, is delighted for this chance to take another trip to Atlanta. Nancy is one of the two Artistic Directors of both Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Coach House Theatre, and a professional director of thirty years. She has directed more than 150 plays in LORT, regional, university, community and dinner theatres in five states, and won 17 newspaper, in-house, and critics' awards for her shows, including a Best Production Chanticleer for Lend Me A Tenor here at Weathervane. She is an honors graduate of the University of Virginia, a devotee of the plays of Noel Coward, and, coincidentally to this evening, a huge fan of that 1939 movie masterpiece, Gone with the Wind.

About the Play and Playwright

Playwright Alfred Uhry dissects the notion of an American identity – and the powerful confluence of ethnicity, religion and geography – in his comic drama, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Uhry's central characters, the Freitag and Levy families of Atlanta, are both Jewish and Southern. In spite of their "outsider" status, they nonetheless embody the archetypal American story of immigrant strivers who have journeyed to America to seek a better life; after gaining success in business, these families then seek assimilation into the larger society.

"If you're a Southerner, you're a Southerner for the rest of your life, whether or not you're living in the South anymore," Uhry told *Backstage* magazine in 1998. "In fact, southern Jews define themselves as Southern first, American second, and Jewish third. "Yet to be a true Southerner, to be part of the 'in' group," he added, "You have to be Christian." This dichotomy between religious identity and the larger society sits at the center of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*.

The Last Night of Ballyhoo premiered during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, which Atlanta hosted. The play was commissioned by the Olympic Arts Festival and was presented by the Alliance Theatre Company. It opened on Feb. 27, 1997, at the Helen Hayes Theatre in New York, where it played for 556 performances before closing on June 28, 1998. It won the 1997 Tony Award for Best Play and was also a nominee for that year's Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Alfred Uhry holds the unique distinction of being the first playwright to win three of the most coveted awards a writer can seek: the Tony, the Oscar and the Pulitzer Prize.

Uhry was born in 1936 in Atlanta, Georgia. After his graduation in 1954 from Druid Hills High School (whose auditorium now bears his name), he sought higher education from Brown University. After graduation, he moved to New York City, where he found work writing lyrics and librettos for musicals. One of his early employers was *Guys and Dolls* composer Frank Loesser, from whom Uhry would gain additional experience and much encouragement.

Uhry's early efforts were unsuccessful. He wrote lyrics for composer Robert Waldman's music for an original musical called *Here's Where I Belong*, which closed after one performance in 1968 and, in 1982, he wrote a new book for a revival of George M. Cohan's *Little Johnny Jones*. Starring Donny Osmand, the show closed after one performance.

Uhry next turned his attention to the smaller stages of the off-Broadway scene. On April 15, 1987, Playwrights Horizons presented his new play named *Driving Miss Daisy* at the intimate 286-seat John Houseman Theatre – where it would enjoy a wildly successful three-year run with 1,195 performances before closing on June 3, 1990. *Driving Miss Daisy* won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Play. For the 1989 movie version of his play, Uhry won the Oscar for his screenplay adaptation.

Driving Miss Daisy was the first play in Uhry's "Atlanta Trilogy." The Last Night of Ballyhoo forms the second part and the final part of his trilogy, Parade, is a musical depiction of the 1913 lynching of Leo Frank, a Jewish pencil-factory manager wrongly accused of the murder of a young girl. His libretto for the musical won the 1999 Tony Award for Best Book/Musical.



The Last Night of Ballyhoo -- Cast (In order of appearance)

Lala Levy	<i>t</i>	Amanda Davis
Reba Freitag		Marci Paolucci
Boo Levy		Jo McGarvev
Adolph Freitag	******************	Ian Haberman
Joe Farkas		Scott Shriner
Sunny Freitag		Tess Burgler
Peachy Weil		Jeremy Jenkins

The Time ~ December 1939
The Place ~ Atlanta, Georgia

The Setting ~ The action takes place in Adolph Freitag's house, at the Standard Club and aboard the Crescent Limited.

Act I

Scene 1: The Freitag house, early evening

Scene 2: The Freitag house, an hour later

Scene 3: Aboard the Crescent Limited

Scene 4: The Freitag house, 8 a.m. the following morning

Scene 5: The Freitag house, 11 p.m. that same night

Act II

Scene 1: The Freitag house, the next morning

Scene 2: The Freitag house, that same night

Scene 3: The Freitag house, 11 a.m. Christmas Day

Scene 4: The Freitag house, the next night

Scene 5: At the Standard Club

Scene 6: The Freitag house, several hours later

Scene 7: Aboard the Crescent Limited

Scene 8: The Freitag house

There will be one 15-minute intermission between the Acts.

For Your Safety...

- We request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.
- The use of cameras, recording equipment and laser pointers is forbidden during this performance.
- As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones and pagers are turned off during the performance.
- Please do not bring refreshments into the auditorium. Please remove wrappers before the performance begins.
- NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.



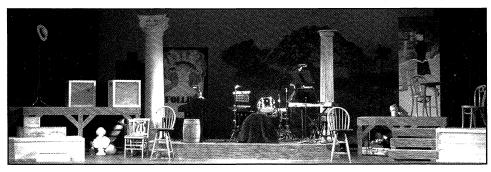
In the Harris Family Gallery

It is a delight to welcome back Lisa Merrick and her beautiful botanical designs. It has been several years since her work was last seen in the Gallery. *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* takes place in 1939 and I feel that Lisa's art evokes a feeling for that period in history.

Lisa is a Norton resident who has spent more than 35 years working with pressed botanicals. She raises all of her own flowers and plants and also gathers material from the woods near her family home, where she has lived over forty years. Lisa has a two-year degree in Natural Science from Wayne General and Technical College. Starting at the age of 14, she learned to make her own wooden flower presses and to work with hand-cut papers, mats, and unusual frames. Lisa is also an award-winning photographer with a line of note cards and her work with botanicals won her First Prize in the 2001 Ohio Mart and an honorable mention at Yankee Peddler in 2003 when she also won the Yankee Peddler peer award. "I enjoy recreating historic pieces of work similar to museum specimens that have been kept for hundreds of years," she says.

Lisa Merrick can also be commissioned to create personal pieces for special occasions. To purchase any of Lisa's works in this exhibit, please inquire at the Gift Shop. The artist has generously offered to donate 20% of the proceeds of sales to Weathervane Playhouse.

Marci Paolucci, Gallery Director



The set for *Putting it Together* was to be a "little condominium," but director Terry Burgler and designer Alan Scott Ferrall used reminders of the productions featured in the revue instead.

How many did you guess correctly?

From Stage Right to Stage Left:

- 1. The yellow fedora with the black band is similar to the one Warren Beatty wore in the movie *Dick Tracey*.
- 2. The cityscape was to remind people that *Company* took place in New York City.
- 3. A wine bottle, bust of Shakespeare and beach ball. In the musical *The Frogs*, Dionysus (god of wine) brings G.B. Shaw back from the dead to compete with Shakespeare for the title of best playwright. The original production took place in the Yale University swimming pool.
- 4. The barber pole represented Sweeney Todd, the demon barber of Fleet Street.
- 5. Follies poster (expertly painted by Kathy Kohl).
- 6. The tall white column was a bit of a trick. Scenic designer/director John Thomas used it in the Weathervane production of *A Little Night Music* (1991).
- 7. The forest was Into the Woods, of course.
- 8. The short Grecian column represents A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.
- 8. The camera and sheet music represented Franklin Hart, a song-writer-turned-Hollywood mogul in *Merrily We Roll Along*. This was also the place where our barely visible Chanticleer logo was placed on the set. We try to do this every show.
- 9. Man and woman walking poster. This is the original logo for the show *Sunday in the Park with George*. The musical is divided into two time periods. The first explores the world of painter George Seurat; the second explores his (fictional) grandson.
- 10. The nurse's cap and cookie jar are homage to *Anyone Can Whistle*. A leading character is Fay Apple, a nurse in an insane asylum referred to as "the cookie jar."



Cast Biographies

AMANDA DAVIS (Lala), a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Kent State University, was last seen at Weathervane in *Putting It Together*. Last season she played Hippolyta and Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and, earlier last season, she played Eve/Mama Noah in *Children of Eden*, for which she won a Best Lead Actress Chanticleer and Marquee Award. Over her decade-long involvement at WCP, she was seen in *Ragtime*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), *The Lion in Winter*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Wiz*, *Stuart Little*, *The Musical* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

MARCI PAOLUCCI (Reba) is thrilled to be in a mainstage production at Weathervane after an absence of 11 years and to work with Nancy Cates. She's delighted to be onstage again with Jo McGarvey. They were together in Lost in Yonkers in 1995 (Chanticleer Award for Best Production, directed by Libby Jacobs). Her favorite role is Eleanor in The Lion in Winter, for which she won Best Production and Best Actress awards for the 2001-2002 season at Coach House Theatre. Other venues for Marci include Magical Theatre, Actors' Summit, Cesear's Forum and Queen Bee Productions. Love to her family, especially to husband, Roland.

JO MCGARVEY (Boo) is thrilled to return to Weathervane and Nancy Cates' direction following a three-year hiatus from the Playhouse, last appearing here in All My Sons. In past seasons, Weathervane has honored her with Chanticleers for Best Actress in Noises Off, Wit, The Odd Couple (Female Version) and Lost in Yonkers. Coach House Theatre gave her Best Actress Awards for Later Life, Collected Stories, A Delicate Balance and Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? She also enjoys baffling those who attend Mysteries by Moushey. In her private life, she is a special education teacher for Cuyahoga Falls Public Schools. Jo and husband Patrick have three handsome sons, Conor, Ryan and Kevin.

IAN HABERMAN (Adolph) was last seen at Weathervane as Sancho in *Man of La Mancha*, for which he won a Chanticleer Award. His other Playhouse credits include Teddy in *And the Winner Is*, Merv Kant in *The Sisters Rosensweig*, Dr. Scott in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Dr. Kelekian in *Wit* and Senex in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He also collected Chanticleer Awards for his performances as Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop*

of Horrors, Zaretsky in Conversations with My Father and Lenny in Doubles. He has also served as a Playhouse trustee and President of its board in addition to serving as Interim Artistic Director. He has twice received the Trustees Award for his service to the Playhouse. Ian lives in Sharon Center and practices law in Medina.

SCOTT SHRINER (Joe) was seen last month in Weathervane's *Putting it Together*. He has won Chanticleer awards for Weathervane's recent productions of *Lend Me a Tenor, Three Days of Rain, Moon Over Buffalo,* and *All My Sons.* His favorite role here is Nick Cristano in *Over the River and Through the Woods* in 2005, which was his first of many happy collaborations with director Nancy Cates (*Ballyhoo* is the 11th). You may also have seen him at Actors' Summit, The Bang and the Clatter, Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Coach House Theatre.

TESS BURGLER (Sunny) is so pleased to return to Weathervane for *Ballyhoo*, having most recently performed on this stage as Emma in *Bloody Murder* and Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Last May she graduated from the College of Wooster, Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in theater. Other credits include Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Celia in *As You Like It* and Diedre in *I Hate Hamlet* all with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival; Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* and Janie McMichael in *Not Now, Darling!* at Coach House Theatre. "Enjoy the show!"

JEREMY JENKINS (Peachy) is settling in to Northeast Ohio after relocating from Nashville one year ago. He is thrilled to make his debut at Weathervane Playhouse after performing all summer with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival in As You Like It and as Paris in Romeo & Juliet. His other Ohio credits include Matt (the Boy) in The Fantasticks at Stow Players and Androcles in Androcles & the Lion with the Illusion Factory. A graduate of Cumberland University (BA degree in Theatre & English) in Lebanon, TN, his favorite university roles include the Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz. Lysander in A Midsummer Night's Dream, Doc Porter in Crimes of the Heart, and Oedipus in Oedipus Rex. "Many thanks to Linley for patience and support, Nancy for this great opportunity, and everyone I have worked with thus far for all the knowledge I have received."

Creative Team Biographies

JERRY A. MIRMAN, JR. (Stage Manager) During Jerry's 30-year involvement at Weathervane, he has Stage Managed in excess of 20 shows and has been involved in every aspect of production with the theater. He has designed lights and props for many shows and was the sound designer for Crowns. Over the years he has been seen on stage, most recently in *The Sound of Music*. Jerry also serves as Props Co-Chairman for our Production Board. For the last three seasons, he has been proud to be a member of the Ohio Shakespeare Festival at Stan Hywet, where he has stage-managed, designed props or been on stage. He is a Police, Fire, EMS and 911 communication specialist with Copley Township.

MIKE EMERSON (Assistant Stage Manager) is pleased to be working on his first production at Weathervane. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Kaplan University in Business Administration. In his spare time he enjoys reading and spending time with his family and friends. He would like to thank his wife Amanda and two lovely daughters for their support in allowing him to pursue this interest. He is a Communication Specialist with Copley Township.

CONNIE VELOTTA (Costume Co-Designer) was invited to join the Women's Board while she was taking a class in 1988. Having been involved in home sewing, she gravitated to the costume committee under the tutelage of John Thomas. "It has been a learning experience ever since," says Connie. The learning continues in her co-costume design with Jasen Smith. Connie is married to Bob, "Mr. Wonderful," who has served on the Board of Trustees and is the proud mother of two daughters and the extremely proud grandmother of Diana, Tony and Jacob. She has earned three Chanticleers for her costume designs. Her favorite designs are for Sweeney Todd, Man of La Mancha and The Full Monty.

JASEN J. SMITH (Costume Co-Designer) joined the Weathervane staff in August 2008. Since joining the staff he has designed Putting It Together, Children of Eden, Joseph and Bloody Murder, and co-designed Man of La Mancha, for which he won a Chanticleer. Jasen also won the 2009 YACTA Marquee award for Best Costume Design for Children of Eden. Other regional designs: Porthouse Theatre: The Odd Couple; Case Western Reserve University: The Philadelphia Story, How I Learned to Drive, Much Ado about Nothing, Stage Door; Ohio

Light Opera: *Pirates of Penzance, The Mikado, Robin Hood* and *The Merry Widow*. Jasen is also an adjunct Professor of Costume Design at Case Western Reserve University.

MICHELLE CONNER (Sound Designer) was sound designer for *Perfect Wedding* last season and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* several seasons ago. She worked on the sound crew for *A Doll's House* and *Blithe Spirit*. She is a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron, where she was a stage manager for several productions. She is also a graduate of The University of Akron and is employed by the Alcon Tool Company in Akron.

RYAN DURFEE (Lighting Designer) is a recent graduate of Kent State University, where he was assistant lighting designer for A New Brain and Jane Eyre. His past Weathervane lighting designs include A Doll's House last season and, previously, Romeo & Juliet and The Emperor's New Clothes. He co-designed lights for As Bees in Honey Drown, Crowns and Our Town. Ryan plans to pursue a career as a freelance lighting designer.

M.J. COULSON (Properties Designer) last designed props for Man of La Mancha. An active Weathervane volunteer for the past 17 years, her other props-design credits include our productions of And the Winner Is, Moon Over Buffalo and The Full Monty. Retired as a registered nurse with Summa Health System, M.J. enjoys working with the many young people who come to volunteer their time and talents with the Playhouse - and she cherishes the opportunity to chair the Erin Dillon Youth Award presentation at our annual Chanticleer Awards ceremony. In her spare time, M.J. enjoys traveling all corners of the globe as well as spending time in Florida, where her two sons and two grandsons reside.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer) began his association with Weathervane as a backstage volunteer under the tutelage of the late John R. Thomas. Scott has earned six Chanticleer Awards – one as stage manager for Fences, and the others for his lighting designs for The Laramie Project and A Lesson Before Dying and his co-lighting designs for both A Man for All Seasons, The Full Monty and Man of La Mancha. Scott also takes great pleasure in writing the end-of-the-season revue for the Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players, who appear at Weathervane's annual Chanticleer Awards banquet. He lives in Cuvahoga Falls.

Production Team

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson Tom Marshall Kevin Ford Erin Katz Ford Len Cheslock David Ruggles Todd Dieringer

PROPERTIES

Karen Burridge Pam Costa Tom Abdoo Sylvia Collier Jen Draher Donna Philips J.J. McAdams Mike Groom

SOUND

Lois Bennett Carolyn Politano Cheryl Stadler David Ruggles

LIGHTS

Eric Fawcett
Assistant
David Ruggles
Kristi Hagenbush

COSTUMES

John S. Catlos Susanne Abernathy Judi Snyder Randie O. Sass Diantha Seibert Margaret Williams Susie Stech Janet Heilmeier Dorothy Kies Melissa Owens

WARDROBE CREW

John S. Catlos Jasen J. Smith

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Evie Kidder -- Chicks & Hens Antiques Caroline Klein

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Linda Heath
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Chuck Kelades
Evie Kidder
Carol Krueger
Bunny Lacey
Leslie Lund
Nancy Mahoney

Diane McCort Mitzi Mild Sheila Motter Lois Murray Pat Obenour Barbara O'Connor John O'Neill Marci Paolucci Irmina Porro Bess Raines Ruth Richardson Nancy Schafer Carol Seiberling Diantha Seibert

Pearl Sentelik Dorothy Shaffer Lois Simmons Sue Smith Barbie Trotter Helen Vari Connie Velotta Bonnie Victor Michelle Williams Marta Williger Mary Wolfman Gen Woods

JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

Mr. Hedges has an extensive background in theatre as both an actor and a producer. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the acting company at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, where he performed in over sixty shows. Other acting credits include performances at Town Hall in New York and the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles. Regionally he has worked at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville and the American Stage Festival, where he appeared opposite Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis in The Cherry Orchard. John has been Managing Director of First Stage Milwaukee, Associate Producer of North Shore Music Theatre, Business Director of Gloucester Stage Company and General Manager of New York's award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. Mr. Hedges is a member of Actors' Equity Association, served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource and chaired its Strategic Planning Committee, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education and written for American Theatre magazine. He studied at Indiana State University and the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds an honorary MFA in theatre from Stafford University. A 2009 graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV), John lives in Akron with his wife, Melissa Owens, and their daughters Rachel and Mary.

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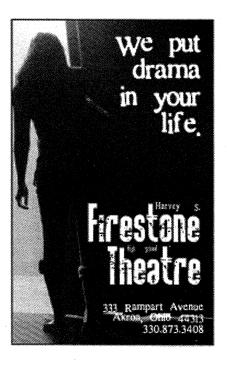
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75th Anniversary Quips & Quotes

To celebrate our 75th Anniversary, we sent questionnaires to our volunteers asking for favorite memories. This form will be available online soon at www.weathervaneplayhouse.com. Add your name and story to the growing list and we just might publish your story here!

GEN WOODS -

Volunteer since 1964

Gen Woods came to us during the 1963 production of *All the Way Home*. In the first act of the play, a father dies. The actor started up a bridge game to take up time until the end of the play. A neighbor of Gen's involved in the production asked her to be the fourth player with actor John Descutner. She was hooked!

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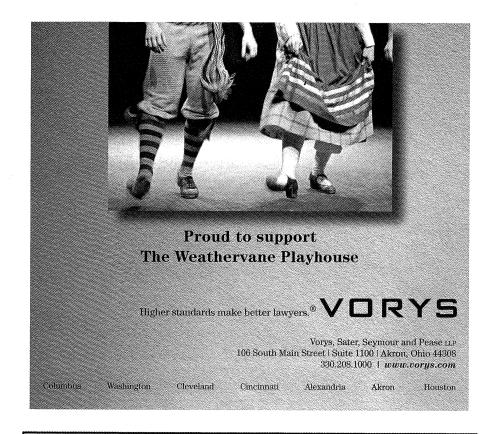
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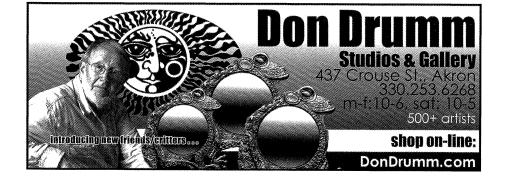
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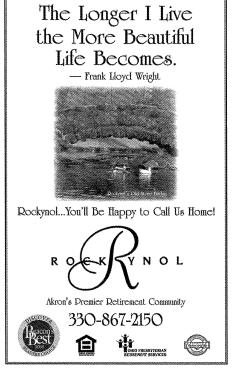
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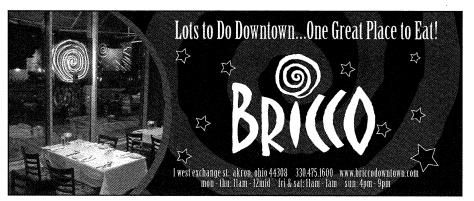
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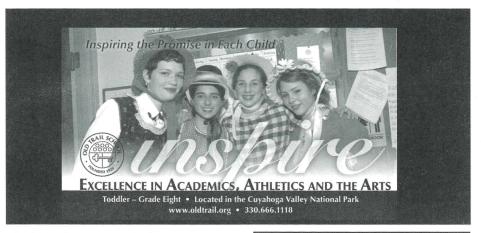
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