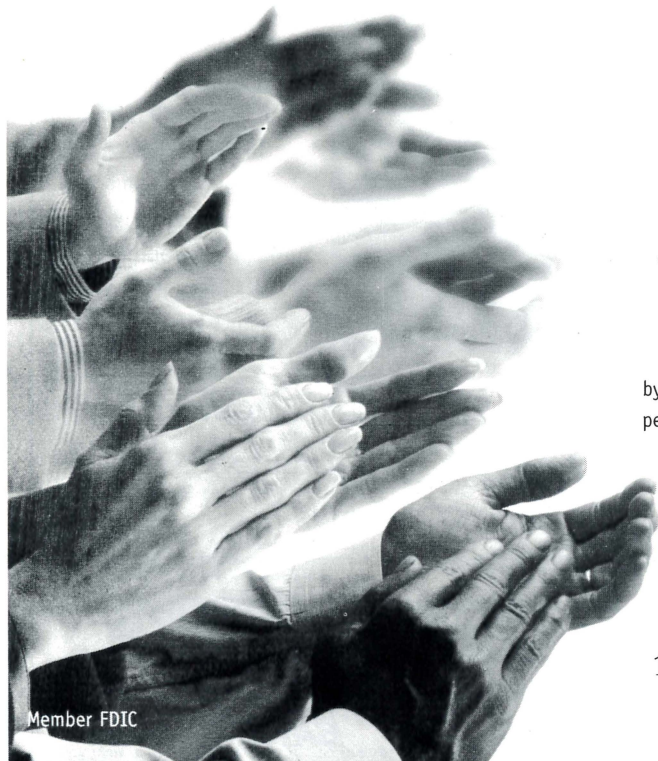


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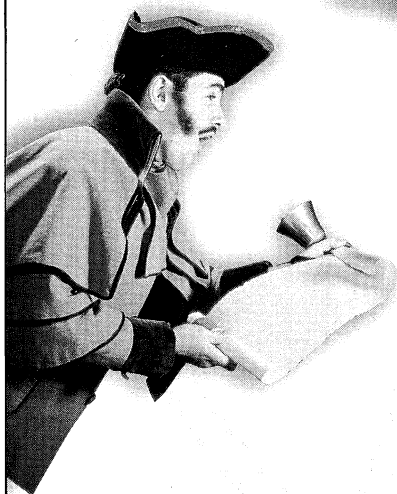
The Philadelphia Story

By Philip Barry

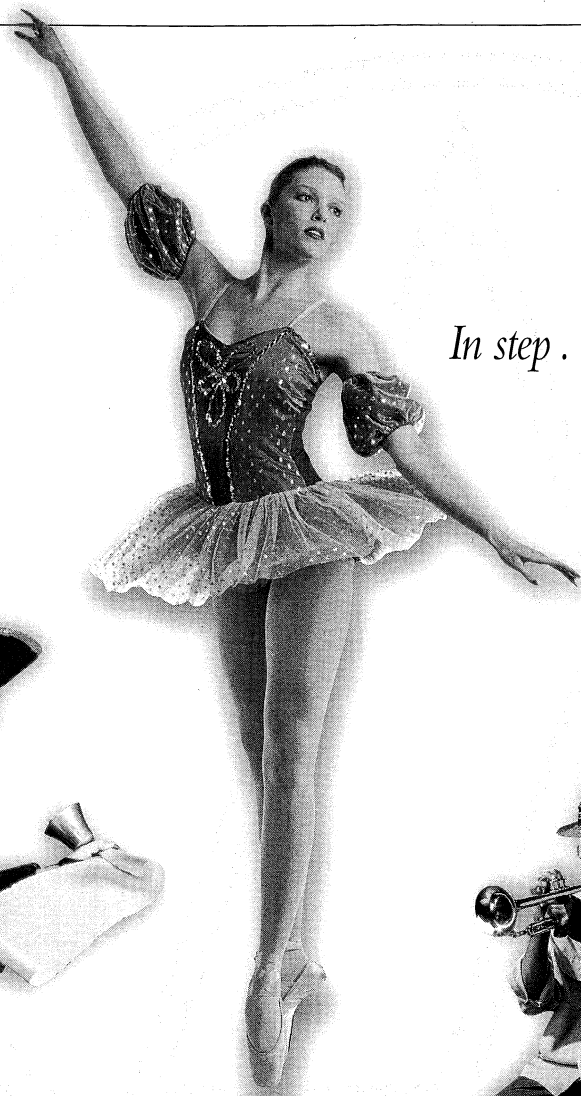
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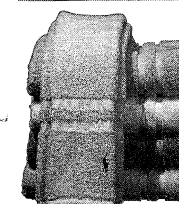
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★ **Emergency Exits** are located at the left front of the auditorium and the left side of the lobby. Front door and main lobby side exits will also be used in case of emergency.

★ **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

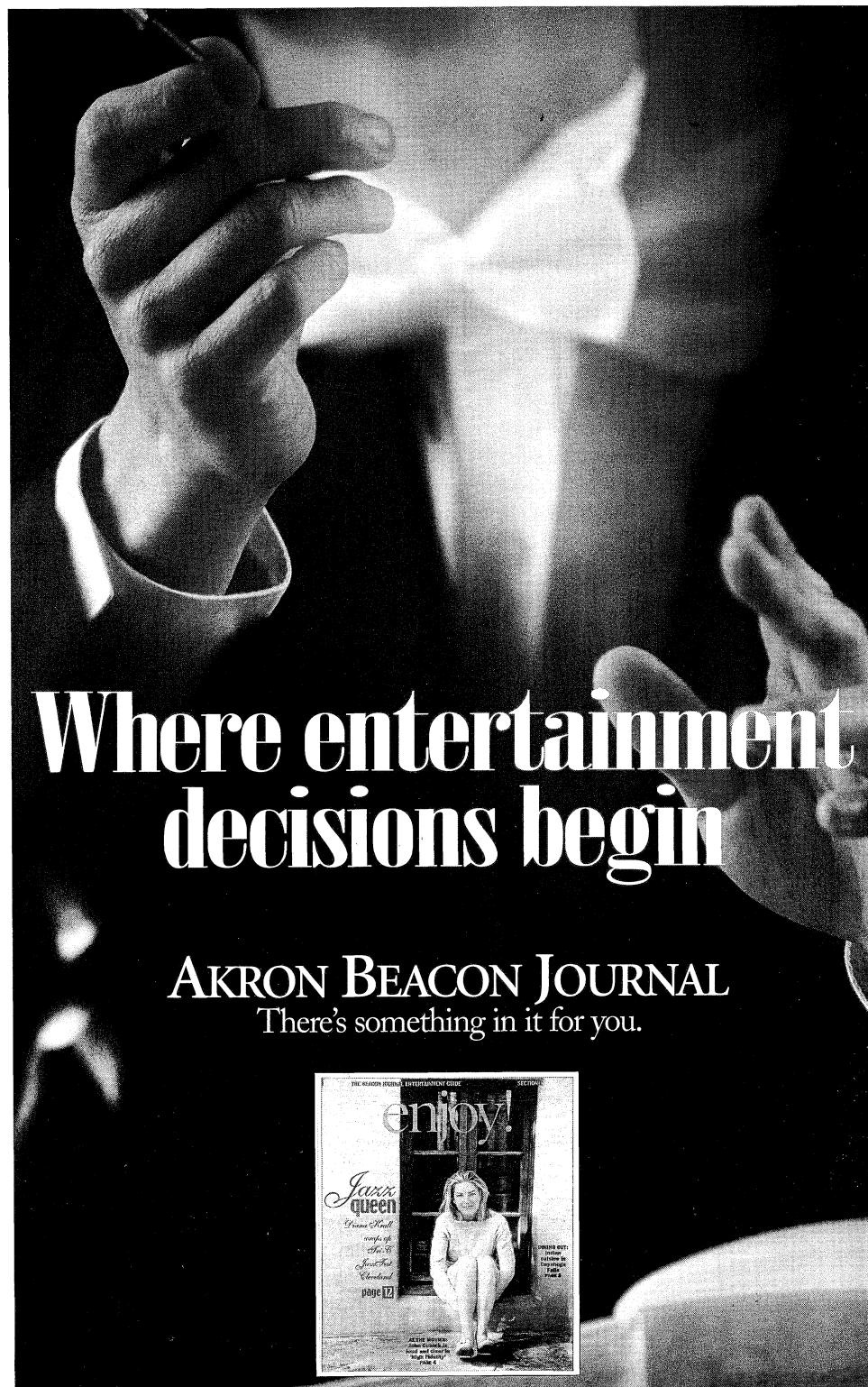
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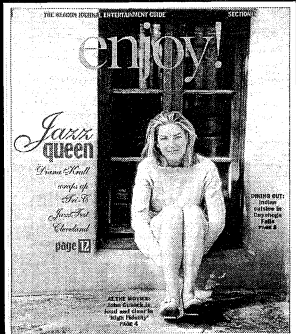
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2000-2001 MAINSTAGE SEASON PRODUCTIONS

#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 Weathervane Super Coupon book, complimentary tickets or coupons offered from any other cooperating arts organization. Please arrive at the Ticket Office at least 20 minutes before curtain time to pick up your tickets. Any unclaimed tickets will be released for sale to waiting ticket buyers five minutes prior to curtain at the discretion of the Ticket Office Manager and volunteers.

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

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

★ **Season Subscriber Exchange** - Please call the Ticket Office at (330) 836-2626 if you wish to exchange your subscription seat for another performance of the same show. Exchanges must be phoned in at least 24 hours prior to your originally

scheduled performance. We can't always guarantee the same seats but we'll give you the closest available replacements. An upgrade fee will be charged when changing subscription seats from the Preview Series to any other performance. *If you 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 Weathervane.*

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

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

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

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

★ **Recycle your playbills** - Anyone who doesn't wish to keep 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.

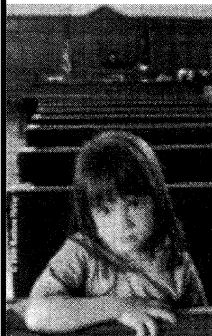
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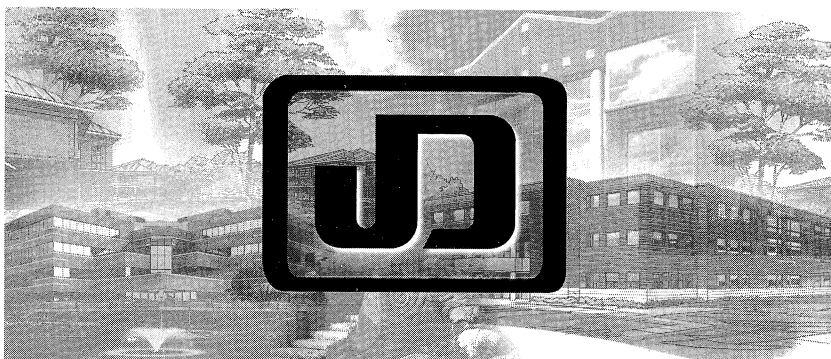
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From the Barn to the Valley A Brief Weathervane History



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 theatergoers. 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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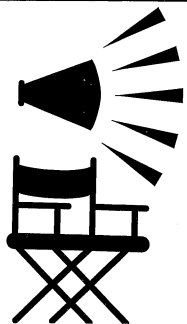
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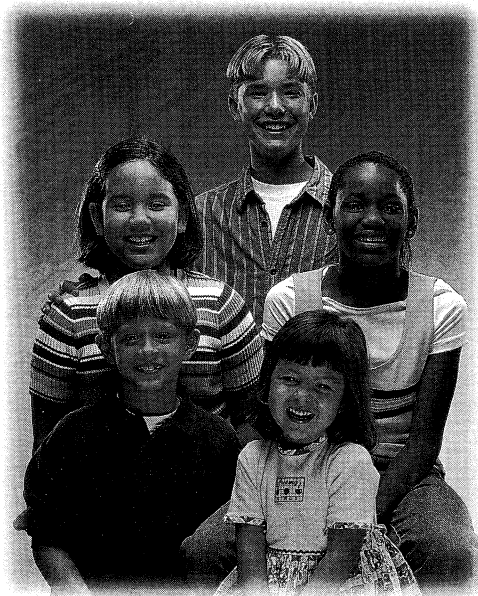
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Women's Board

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

Karen Burridge	President
Sally Brown	First Vice President
Bunny Lacey	Second Vice President
Marta Williger	Corresponding Secretary
Betty Watterson	Recording Secretary
Jill Forster	Treasurer
Nancy Zeigler	Assistant Treasurer

2000-2001 Women's Board Committee Chairs

Marci Paolucci	Art Gallery
Mary Wolfman	Boutique Co-Chair
Mary Morehart	Boutique Co-Chair
Barbara O'Connor	Boutique Treasurer
Dorothy Kies & Henrietta Cook	Costumes Co-Chairs
Janet Clark & Younghee Miller	Hostess Co-Chairs
Betty J. Zeigler	Nominating
Marta Williger & Pat Weill	Newsletter Co-Chairs
Karen Burridge	Cast Suppers
Marilyn Heagerty	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 Weathervane Community Playhouse. For those whose names are listed in the program, there are many benefits, not the least of which is the pride you can share in supporting the mission of live theater's education and entertainment values.

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 Weathervane stage and we can honestly say that the show couldn't go on without you.

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We're Proud Of Weathervane Volunteers

Weathervane began as a volunteer organization and continues its growth thanks to the time and talent members of our community continue to invest in it. Our on-stage performers have worked long and hard to earn your applause. But their work is supported by many other unseen men and women who've helped build and paint sets, run the lights and sound, make sure that properties and set dressing items are in their proper places and do other backstage labor from stage managing to costuming and make-up. Supporting those who are actively involved in putting on each show are still more volunteers who usher, house manage, sell tickets, 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 Weathervane, we hope you'll take a moment to thank them for their help and their support of the cultural enrichment of our community. Better yet, join them! Call us and we'll help you win your own share of the applause for a "jolly good show," an experience that offers unique challenges with every performance.

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

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

If you'd like to take an additional part in Chanticleer night and serve as a juror to vote for the award winners, all that is required is your affidavit that you have seen all seven shows during the season, and your choices for outstanding lead performances by a male or female in a

drama or comedy, outstanding support performances, and outstanding lead and support in a musical as well as choices in technical achievement. Chanticleers are also awarded for Properties, Lights, Costumes and Sound 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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E. J. Thomas Hall - The University of Akron Events from January 2001 - March 2001

Shirely Caesar in Concert, "The First Lady of Gospel"
Saturday, January 20, 8 p.m., \$20

Peter Pan, Sunday, February 4, 4 p.m., \$35, \$30

Stomp, sponsored by *FirstMerit, Akron and Brouse & McDowell*

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 6 & 7, 8 p.m.,
\$35, \$30, \$20

Carmen presented by The London City Opera,
Friday, February 23, 8 p.m., \$35, \$30

Cab Calloway's Legacy of Swing,
sponsored by *Fifth Third Bank*,

Saturday, February 24, 8 p.m., \$30, \$25

Beck Weathers: Surviving Death on Mt. Everest
University of Akron Forum Lecture, sponsored by University Program Board,

Monday, February 26, 8 p.m., \$8

Elektra at Sandefur Theatre, Guzzetta Hall,
Saturday, March 3, 8 p.m., \$8

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

The Akron performance is sponsored by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Wednesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., \$55, \$45, \$15

Thursday, March 8, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$55, \$45, \$15

Friday, March 9, 8 p.m., \$60, \$50, \$25

Saturday, March 10, 2 & 8 p.m., \$60, \$50, \$25

Sunday, March 11, 1 p.m., \$60, \$50, \$25 &
6:30 p.m., \$55, \$45, \$15

Tim Conway and Harvey Korman, Together Again,
Friday, March 23, 6 p.m. & 9 p.m., \$45, \$40, \$30

Tickets available at the Thomas Hall Ticket Office, all Ticketmaster Centers or Charge-By-Phone at 330/945-9400 (Akron), 216/241-5555 (Cleveland).

Discounts to specific shows are available for seniors, children, UA students and groups of 20 or more. For event information, discounts and disability ticketing call Thomas Hall, 330/972-7570. Visit our website at www.ejthomashall.com.



Broadway &...



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.

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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	M.J. Coulson and Donna Philips
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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, classrooms, 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 in progress

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



Stage Two

Funding in progress

- Lighting system
- Reception/meeting area
- Lobby renovation
- "Fly" system
- Classroom furnishings/equipment
- 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!

Funding Status

Up to \$1,000

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Capital Campaign

As of January 9, 2001

Funding Status

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

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Send your contribution marked "Youth Theatre" and help us raise \$30,000 to name a classroom!

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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.

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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.

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Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges
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for contributions made through their matching gifts programs.

Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges
The Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation,
The Sisler McFawn Foundation and TARGET
for contributions made for Project STAGE presentations.



Welcome to the Playhouse!

If you are an old friend, welcome back! If you are new to our theatre you are in for a special treat. In over twenty years that I have been producing, promoting and involved in theatre communities all around the world, I have never experienced what I have found at Weather-vane. Nowhere else have I found so many individuals committed to our community oriented artistic vision ... Weather-vane so very successfully includes such a large number of volunteers in the playmaking process. This inclusion benefits us all.

With our strong volunteer base, professional staff and spacious theatre facility we are ideally suited to provide first-rate, intimate theatrical experiences for adults, families and youth. We are committed not only to presenting published works but taking risks in the development of new plays and emerging artists. With our diverse outreach, we are ideally situated for developing the local cultural base for live theatre. We are constantly working to keep our programming, educational efforts and collaborations with other arts organizations progressive, far-reaching and exciting.

In the past four years we have expanded our professional staff to support the growing need for artistic programming. We have implemented evaluation strategies in all areas, particularly in education and production, to better serve you, our public. We've taken a hard look at our facility and evaluated the needs for this decade and beyond, and determined what we will need to improve to accommodate our growing programs. We've added two shows to our season specifically designed for young audiences and expanded internship opportunities and partnerships with local arts organizations.

Our guest artist program has raised the artistic bar, not only in the area of stage direction but in play selection, design and technical areas. Last season we hosted three playwrights who came to Akron participate in the playmaking process and to teach theatre workshops. This is a big step forward for our theatre in terms of the impact we have not only locally, but also regionally and nationally.

Major challenges that face us this year include raising money for our fly system and lobby renovation and completing Phase One of construction. At the same time, we must continue to provide challenges for our Ohio-based professional artists and volunteers, continue to make a strong and informed stand to revitalize our diversity efforts and finally, to stabilize our financial base as we complete our capital campaign. That is where you can help. The potential is limitless. If you have not yet joined us as a member of the theatre, take a look at the form included with tonight's playbill. You and your company can make a difference.



Emmeline Kyle



Weather-vane Community Playhouse
66th Season - 2000-2001 - Production #485
January 18 - February 11, 2001



The **Philadelphia Story**

by Philip Barry

Directed by
Mark A. Zimmerman

Production Stage Manager
Mary Kate Clancy

Scenic Designer/Technical Director
Alan Scott Ferrall

Stage Managers
Amy L. Ayers and Stephanie Kohl

Lighting Design by
Alan Scott Ferrall

Costume Design by
Janet Heilmeier

Co-Properties Design by
Kathy Kohl and John A. Cotter

Sound Design by
Ian S. Haberman

Assistant Technical Director
Colin James Cook

Volunteer & Production Coordinator
Maryanne Arcuri Cotter

The Philadelphia Story is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French,
45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010-2751.

Weather-vane productions are sponsored in part by  **Ohio Arts Council**

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



About the Play & Playwright *The Philadelphia Story* by Philip Barry

In 1938, motion picture exhibitors labeled Oscar-winning actress Katherine Hepburn "box-office poison" after she starred in three flop films. Hepburn bought out her contract and fled Hollywood for her family enclave in Hartford, Connecticut. Her career in pictures seemed at an end.

To her rescue came an old friend, playwright Philip Barry. Barry's forte was the comedy of manners and the privileged classes "enjoying their privileges." Barry was in a slump of his own. After having six hits on Broadway from 1927 to 1932, his reputation quickly sank in a series of failures. Then came *The Philadelphia Story*. Barry wrote two acts of the play with Hepburn in mind as the haughty Tracy Lord, then went to Connecticut to recruit her involvement. Hepburn quickly agreed to star.

The Theatre Guild soon entered the picture. Always on the brink of financial ruin, the Guild struggled to raise the cash to produce the play. Neither Barry nor Hepburn knew of the Guild's troubles. The Guild didn't know of Hepburn's faded stardom and neither of them knew that Barry had no idea how to finish his play.

All worry was for naught, though. The play opened in 1939 to rave reviews for both playwright and star. *The Philadelphia Story* also featured actors later to make their mark in the movies as well: Van Heflin, Joseph Cotton and Shirley Booth. It played 417 performances before being sold to the movies. Being a savvy businesswoman, Hepburn persuaded friend Howard Hughes to buy the movie rights for the play, who turned around and sold them to her. Hepburn approached MGM with the rights, and asked that Spencer Tracy be assigned to the picture. Instead, she got Cary Grant. Grant chose the part of ex-husband, C.K. Dexter Haven, with the part of reporter Macaulay Connor going to Jimmy Stewart. The 1940 movie was a smash and reestablished Hepburn's second career in Hollywood. It earned Oscar nominations for Jimmy Stewart and Donald Ogden Stewart, who adapted the play for the film. Both nominees won, and Cary Grant was denied his only Oscar bid.

The Philadelphia Story was later remade into a successful movie musical, *High Society*, starring Grace Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby. Cole Porter assembled a hit-laden soundtrack that included *True Love* and *Well Did You Evah?*. In 1999, a less successful musical appeared on Broadway with other Porter songs rounding out the score.

Katherine Hepburn starred in two other movie versions of Philip Barry plays — *Holiday*, starring with Grant, and *Without Love*, appearing with Spencer Tracy. She also holds the record for Oscar-winning performances for *Morning Glory*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* and *On Golden Pond*.

***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.



The Philadelphia Story -- Cast

Tracy Lord	Shannon McKinney
Dinah Lord	Leah R. Vogelsang
Margaret Lord	Donna Curfman
Alexander (Sandy) Lord	Colin James Cook
Thomas	David J. White
William (Uncle Willie) Tracy	Mark Wilt
Elizabeth (Liz) Imbrie	Brett DeHaven
Macaulay (Mike) Connor	Charles A. Leonard
George Kittredge	Sean Donovan
C.K. Dexter Haven	Timothy H. Champion
Seth Lord	Robert Baab
Elsie	Olivia Edwards
Mac	(Jan. 18 - 21 & Feb. 8 - 11) Chisna (Cue) Fleming
May	(Jan. 18 -21, and Feb. 1, 2, & 4) Sue Antal
	(Jan. 25 - 28) June Zeno
	(Feb. 8 - 11) Ardith M. Keck

Edward (the Parson) "Famous Faces"

Dr. Mark Auburn, Dean of the College of Dance, Music and Theatre at
The University of Akron

Dan Dahl, Executive Director, E.J. Thomas Hall and Akron Civic Theatre

Dan Horrigan, Ward One Akron City Councilman/Teacher at Stow-
Munroe Falls High School

Dr. Mitchell Kahan, Director of the Akron Art Museum

Doug Kohl, CEO of Akron YMCA

Sean D. McConaha, Director of Education and Producer of Youth
Productions for Weathervane Playhouse

Russ Musarra, Retired Akron Beacon Journal Reporter

John P. O'Neill, Magistrate of Portage County Municipal Court

Roy Ray, Ohio Senator R-Bath

John Riazi, Director of Development at Hygenic Corporation and Trustee,
Riverwalk Playhouse

Tom Sawyer, Congressman D-Akron

Stephen P. Schmidt, PhD, Director of the Falor Division of Surgical
Research, Surgery Dept. Summa Health System

Jeff Sperry, Executive Director of the Akron Symphony Orchestra

Thomas M. Stephan, English Teacher at Stow Munroe Falls High School
and member of Weathervane Playhouse Board of Trustees

Thomas R. Trotter, President of Weathervane Board of Trustees



About Our Director -- Mark A. Zimmerman

Mark A. Zimmerman is a working theatre director with over 30 plays to his credit, including plays at Weathervane Playhouse in Akron (*The Philadelphia Story*, *Oliver!*, *Dear Gabby: the Confessions of an Over-Achiever*, *How I Learned to Drive*), Cleveland Public Theatre (Eve Ensler's *Lemonade*, *Humankindness*, *The Fable of the Cloister of Cemeteries*, *Progress*), Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens (*King John*), The University of Akron (*Into the Woods*, *Picnic on a Battlefield*, *Talk Radio*), the Firehouse Theatre in Alliance (*The Nerd*) and Sandstone Summer Theatre in Amherst (*Fiddler on the Roof*). Zimmerman has appeared as an actor in a number of successful productions including turns as Speed in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at Weathervane Playhouse, as Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens as well as Inspector Hearne in *Witness for the Prosecution* at Coach House Theatre in Akron.

Zimmerman is the co-founder of the Second Stage Theatre in Wooster where he also served as president of the Wayne County Performing Arts Council and as drama director at Wooster High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University and a Master of Arts degree in Theatre from The University of Akron.

Zimmerman is the theatre director at Firestone High School. Under his guidance, the Firestone program has developed into one that presents a full season of plays and musicals. He was recently named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Director's Notes

If longevity is a true test of comedy, *The Philadelphia Story* is as true as they come. Even though it was written more than six decades ago, the comedy in Philip Barry's play is as honest and charming as it ever has been. I have no reason to doubt that it will remain so for many decades to come. Our ancestors might have to put their copy of *The Philadelphia Story* on the same shelf with other classic comedies – right there beside *The Imaginary Invalid*, *The Inspector General*, *Twelfth Night* and *You Can't Take it with You*.

Mark A. Zimmerman

In Our Gallery

Botanical Prints with Dried Flowers

By Lisa A. Merrick

Lisa A. Merrick, a native of Norton, makes botanical prints and cards using dried flowers she has grown and pressed herself. She also is an award-winning floral photographer. She began learning her art in seventh grade when her aunt gave her a pressed flower bookmark. After mastering bookmarks, she studied other pressing techniques. She presses them in books but also builds her own flower presses. Twenty-four years of experience and a two-year Natural Science degree have contributed significantly to Lisa's unique artistic design, matting, framing, selection and use of plant material.

Most of the paper products she uses are hand cut – bookmarks, background papers and mats as well as glass. Although it's time-consuming, she tries to keep with the "hand-made" tradition and avoid the commercial process in every aspect of her work. The most unique aspect of her framed work is the variety of material used. Newly made, used and antique frames are all incorporated into her collection, providing decoration for most any taste and décor.



Callboard -- The Cast

SHANNON MCKINNEY (Tracy Lord) is making her Weathervane debut and we welcome her to our stage. She is a graduate of Kent State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in costume design. This past March she was seen in the role of Anne for the Stow Players production of *All My Sons*. Shannon and five-year-old daughter Madeleine live in Akron.

LEAH R. VOGELSANG (Dinah Lord) is a freshman at Firestone High School and has been active in theater for several years including performances at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts. Her credits include *The Lion*, *the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Dr. Doolittle*, *In White America* and *Italie Comedy Review*. She is a member of the cast of *Dear Gabby...* at Firestone. She received a First Place Duet Acting Award at the Junior Thespian Conference for her role in *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

DONNA CUREFMAN (Margaret Lord) has been seen in productions for The Players Guild, Goodyear Community Theatre and Western Reserve Theater but this is her first appearance on the Weathervane stage. Her credits include roles in *Our Town*, *Talk Radio*, *Steel Magnolias* and *Hello, Dolly!* among others. Donna received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in Speech and French from The Ohio State University and her certification in Japanese from John Carroll University. She teaches Japanese and French for Akron Public Schools.

COLIN JAMES COOK (Alexander "Sandy" Lord) was last seen as Lord Alfred Douglas in our production of *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* in November. He has built some of his theatrical experience with Dobama in *The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek* and with Actors' Summit in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Cotton Patch Gospel*.

DAVID J. WHITE (Thomas) was very busy at Weathervane last spring when he appeared in both *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Romeo and Juliet*. He has also shared his talents with Tree City Players in *Heaven Can Wait* and Prodigal Theatre Group in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It* and *Merry Wives of Windsor* at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens. David graduated from The University of Akron with a Bachelor of Arts degree in the classics and holds a Master of Arts degree in Classical Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. He also received a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Kent State University.

MARK WILT (William "Uncle Willie" Tracy) received a Weathervane Best Actor Chanticleer for his performance in *That Championship Season* in 1976 and was more recently seen in our production of *Camping With Henry and Tom* as Thomas Edison in 1999. This is Mark's second appearance in a production of *The Philadelphia Story* — he played the role of Mike Conner for Coach House Theatre. Mark is a software engineer for Aircraft Braking Systems.

BRETT DeHAVEN (Elizabeth (Liz) Imbrie) is a student at Kent State University working toward a degree in English and theater. She is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta honors society and is on the Dean's List. Brett was seen in *Rumors* and *Dracula* for Tree City Players recently and participated in two Weathervane Salon Series Readings last season — *How I Learned to Drive* and *King John*.

CHARLES A. LEONARD (Macaulay (Mike) Connor) is studying computer science at Southern Ohio College. This is his first role at Weathervane but was seen at Tree City Players as Officer Blair in *'Tis the Season*, as Percy Shelley/Vicktor in *Sparks* and as Max Levene in *Heaven Can Wait*. Charles enjoys doing stand-up comedy.



Callboard Continued

SEAN DONOVAN (George Kittredge) is another new face on the Weathervane stage. He has appeared in *Godspell* and *Lend Me a Tenor* at North Canton Playhouse, *Merry Wives of Windsor* at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens, *Dracula* and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* for Tree City Players and *Lunch Hour* at Coach House Theatre. "All my love to my fiancé, family and friends."

TIMOTHY H. CHAMPION (C.K. Dexter Haven) was seen in *A Man for All Seasons* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* last season at Weathervane. His performance as Thomas More in *A Man For All Seasons* earned him a Best Actor Chanticleer, one of the six he has collected during his 16-year association with Weathervane. Porthouse Theatre audiences have appreciated his work in *King Henry IV Part One, 1776, Much Ado about Nothing, A Thousand Clowns, Man of La Mancha* and *Twelfth Night*. He lists performances in over 70 productions in this area. Tim practices Estate Planning Law and Probate Law with the firm, Aberth & Champion.

ROBERT BAAB (Seth Lord) is welcomed back to the Weathervane stage. He was last seen as Herr Schultz in our production of *Cabaret* and also played Otto Frank in our production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Bob has shared his acting talents with The Players Guild in *Talk Radio, Our Town, Plain and Fancy, Death of a Salesman* and *A Shayna Maidel*. He lives in Wooster where he is an anesthesiologist for the Wooster Clinic.

OLIVIA EDWARDS (Elsie) served as Assistant Stage Manager during *A Man for All Seasons*. She enjoyed her role as a law officer in *Watch Us Die.Com*, an independent film shot on location in Pennsylvania last year. Welcome to the Weathervane stage.

CHISNA (CUE) FLEMING (Mac) currently volunteers as the Weathervane Archivist, serves as House Manager for many per-

formances and is a member of our Building and Grounds Committee. The first time he was seen on the Weathervane stage was in *The Farce of the Worthy Master Pierre Patelin* in 1956. He was also in *Bus Stop* in 1960 and played the Tin Woodsman three of the four times that Weathervane mounted *The Wizard of Oz*. Between 1958 and 1974, Cue was in nearly all of the Women's Board Productions for Children. He is a Past President of the Weathervane Board of Trustees (three times).

SUE ANTAL (May) served as Stage Manager for our recent production of *Gross Indecency, The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* but is usually seen on stage. At Weathervane she was seen as Grandma in *Lost in Yonkers*, as Hannah in *Conversations With My Father*, as Veta Louise in *Harvey* and as Phoebe Reece in *The Farndale Avenue...A Christmas Carol*.

ARDITH M. KECK (May) is a "professional volunteer." She is currently President of the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area and is Past President of Rockynol, River Run Arts Camp and Weathervane Playhouse Boards of Trustees. She is a member of Weathervane's Capital Campaign committee, and, when she is not volunteering she enjoys bicycling, playing tennis and cross county skiing.

JUNE ZENO (May) is welcomed back to the Weathervane stage. Her last appearance was as Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, a role for which she earned a Best Supporting Actress Chanticleer. That statuette joined two other Best Supporting Actress Chanticleers that she earned for her roles in *Sherlock Holmes* and *The Royal Family*. June received a commendation from the Ohio House of Representatives in 1985 for her collected work in theater.



Backstage Callboard

MARY KATE CLANCY (Production Stage Manager) is Chairman of the Weathervane Production Board, a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees and a member of the Women's Board. Last season she served as Stage Manager for *A Man for All Seasons* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and held the same position for *Blithe Spirit, To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* in recent seasons. She teaches second grade for Brecksville-Broadview Heights Schools.

AMY L. AYERS (Stage Manager) is a freshman at Firestone High school. She has been active at Weathervane for six years in many Youth productions including *Puckish Pranks, Annie, The Velveteen Rabbit, Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party, The Jungle Book, Babes in Toyland, Into the Woods, Jr., Romeo and Juliet* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Amy received our Outstanding Youth Award this year.

STEPHANIE KOHL (Stage Manager) is a vocal major in Firestone High School's Visual and Performing Arts Program where she is a member of the Madrigal Singers and the Symphonic Choir. She designed sound for their production of *Amen Corner*, was a running crew member for *Noises Off* and served as lighting crew chief for *She Loves Me*. At Weathervane she was on light crew for *The Glass Menagerie* and Assistant Lighting Designer for *Oliver!*

JANET HEILMEIER (Costume Design) is a professionally trained dancer and choreographer. She has been a costume designer for Weathervane for nine years costuming productions including *Annie, On Borrowed Time, Harvey, The Mousetrap* and *The Odd Couple, female version*. She appeared on stage in *Kiss Me, Kate* and *Annie*. She's directed and choreographed Firestone's productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Sound of Music*. She also enjoys gardening, cooking unique recipes and traveling.

IAN S. HABERMAN (Sound Design) appeared last season as Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, a role for which he won a Chanticleer. He's also been a backstage volunteer creating sound design for such shows as *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. He is a member of Weathervane's Board of Trustees and chairs the theater's Play Selection Committee. Ian is a trustee of the Medina County District Library, a commissioner of the Medina County Park District and a Trustee of the Community AIDS Network.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Lighting Design) served as Stage Manager for the highly successful Weathervane production of *Fences* (for which he accepted the Best Production Chanticleer) and assisted John R. Thomas with the building of many sets for our productions. Last season, Scott received a Chanticleer for his co-design of lights for *A Man for All Seasons*.

KATHY KOHL (Co-Properties Design) began volunteering at Weathervane last season when she served on the lighting crews for *The Glass Menagerie* and *Oliver!*. She has gotten involved in theater here at Weathervane and at Firestone High School where her daughter, Stephanie, is a student. At Firestone she volunteers as Master Carpenter and accompanied the Show Choir from Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts on their trip to Paris, Luxembourg and Germany last spring.

JOHN A. COTTER (Co-Properties Design) was Co-Properties Designer for *Gross Indecency, The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* earlier this season. Last season he served as Co-Designer for props for *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. He has taken home Chanticleer statues for *Sherlock's Last Case, Translations* and *My Three Angels*. John is Weathervane's Business and Public Relations Assistant.



Production Team Members & Crews

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson Jerry Schraber
Tom Marshall Terry Bailey
Lauri Agins Charles Korecki
Colin Cook Daisy Spangler
Kathy Kohl John Hujar

SOUND

Lois Bennett
Eddie Puskarich
Martha Kaltenbach
Donna Philips

PROPERTIES

Dave Heltebran Jeff Bigler
Barbara Langhorne Nikki Rafferty
Jo McGarvey Jamie Chancey
Suzanne Smith

COSTUMES

Betty Williams Pat Obenour
Dorothy Kies Sandra Harding
Henrietta Cook

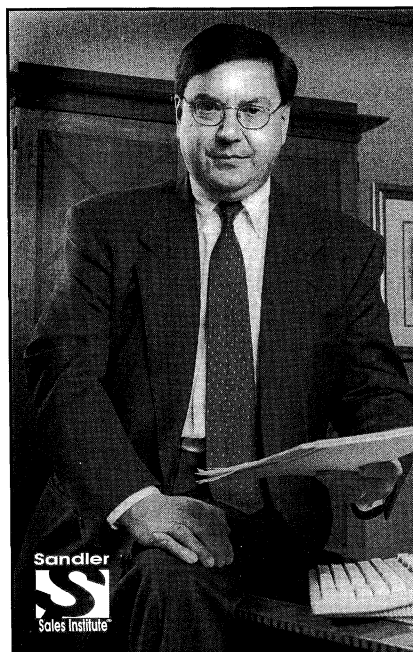
LIGHTS

Barbara Trotter James Lemieux
Tom Trotter Janice Snell

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Alan Scott Ferrall
Keith D. Campbell
Ohio Tuxedo

Special Thanks to the Youth Choruses from Price Elementary School and St. Hilary School and their directors, Lee Ann Stofsick and LuAnn Toth, for the youthful enthusiasm they brought to our production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.



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of mice and men

by John Steinbeck

March 3 - 18, 2001

Directed by Dr. Penelope A. Frese

Set in the Great Depression, *Of Mice and Men* tells the tale of two drifters, Lennie and George, itinerant farm workers who move from job to job in Northern California, scraping out a meager living from hard work for little pay. Lennie is a huge, simple man who does not know his own strength. His best friend is George, a rough and tough protector who helps Lennie navigate through a hostile world. The men are physical and emotional opposites. Together, they dream of one day owning a farm, where both will live in peace and Lennie will be allowed to tend the rabbits.

Of Mice and Men is a Project STAGE presentation. We will host area students for two weekday matinee performances that include a post-performance "talk-back" session with the actors and director. Study guides for teachers and students are prepared especially for this production. Just call Weathervane's Director of Education, Sean McConaha, if you would like further information regarding our educational-outreach program for this production. Project STAGE performances are made possible through the support of the Sisler-McFawn Foundation and Target.

Steinbeck - who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1938 for *The Grapes of Wrath* - remains one of our country's most accomplished writers thanks in large part to the devoted study of his novels in almost every American classroom. In his own adaptation of his best-selling 1937 novel, the stage version of *Of Mice and Men* enlarges the deep drama and challenging themes of this hallmark of American literature. We encourage early reservations for this production, so be sure to call ahead to order your tickets. Call 330/836-2626 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Future Events

AUDITIONS:

Communicating Doors--Feb. 12 & 13
by appointment beginning at 7 p.m.

Sundays at Seven: Salon Reading Series*

Feb. 3 -- *Popcorn* by Ben Elton, Directed by Sean McConaha

March -- no reading

April 1 -- *Amy's View*, Directed by Dr.

Susan Speers

May -- *The Winter's Tale* by Shakespeare

May 6 -- *Vieux Carre*, Directed by JT Buck

June 3 -- *No Exit* by Jean Paul Sartre

March 1 - 18--*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

March 7 - 24--*Anne of Green Gables* by Alice Chadwicke (Youth Production)

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

Saturday, August 18 -- Chanticleer Awards

*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.

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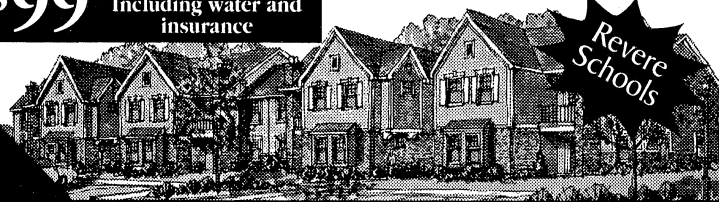
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■ ITZHAK PERLMAN, violin

Thursday / November 9 / 2000 / 8pm

Rohan DeSilva, piano

■ CHANTICLEER

Tuesday / November 28 / 2000 / 8pm

all-male vocal ensemble

■ MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN, piano

Tuesday / January 16 / 2001 / 8pm

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Weathervane 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 Weathervane 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 Weathervane 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 Weathervane.

MARYANNE ARCURI COTTER (Volunteer & Production Coordinator) has been a volunteer at Weathervane 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



Weathervane 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 Weathervane 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 Weathervane.

JOHN COTTER (Business and Public Relations Assistant) is one of Weathervane's newest part-time employees. His duties consist of helping Jan and Keith in the Marketing and Box Office areas. He also serves Weathervane'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.

Memorial Contributions were made to the Weathervane Endowment Fund in honor of **Marjorie Brye** by Bridgestone/Firestone

Memorial Contributions were made to the Weathervane Endowment Fund in honor of **Sally Wachter** by Janet Heilmeier Betty & Glen Williams

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

Teachers and students receive study guides that contain material about the play and playwright to prepare the students before coming to the theater. Pre-performance, in-class discussions are conducted free of charge by Weatherwane 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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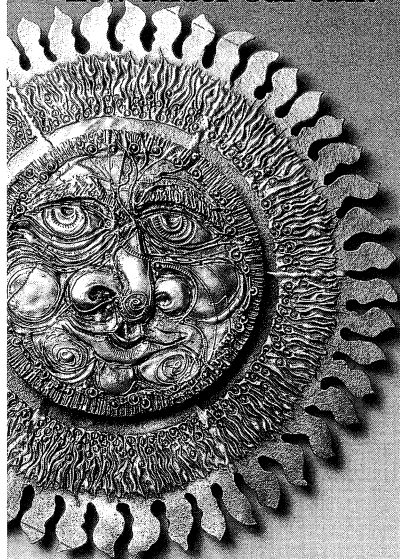
Hosting literary costume balls, founding cultural organizations, and taking a lead in Akron's industrial history, the Seiberling family was very supportive of the community and the arts. Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens is committed to following their lead.

*Photo: F.A. Seiberling
and Mrs. Huber, 1916*

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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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Money-saving super coupon books are available all season. Booklets contain eight coupons and serve as pre-paid admissions for mainstage series productions. Use them one-at-a-time or all at once!



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March 17 - May 27, 2001

**Weegee's World: Life,
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www.akronareaarts.org**

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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Beware of the Dreaded No-Show ☹

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

Complete and detach this form and return it to the Ticket Office or mail to:
Volunteer Opportunities, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

I am interested in the following areas: (Check as many as you wish)

☐ Acting ☐ Costuming ☐ Box Office
☐ Set Building ☐ Orchestra ☐ House Managing
☐ Painting ☐ Sound ☐ Play Reading/Selection
☐ Usher ☐ Lighting ☐ Board Membership
☐ Backstage Crew ☐ Classes
☐ Fund Raising
☐ Other _____

Best time to reach me at the above phone number _____

☐ I am a subscriber. ☐ I am a donor.

I HAVE AN OPINION...

About tonight's play _____

About the current season _____

About future seasons _____

I have a fund-raising idea. _____

We appreciate, and often respond to, opinions offered about our work. Be sure to fill in your name and address above if you wish a response or would like to be contacted.



Boutique Treasures

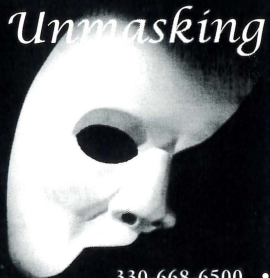
Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of Weathervane Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission to find exciting jewelry, watches, bibelots, music boxes, and other unique items and objects for yourself or for gifts. Every purchase helps make good things happen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

Weathervane. Prices are extremely reasonable and the items on sale include a delightful variety from clowns and animal figures to pens, pins and earrings. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on gallery art works which are for sale.

Gift Certificates — Always Available

Whatever the occasion, a Weathervane Gift Certificate will fit! Please friends or family members with a night (or nights) of live theater. Weathervane Gift Certificates may be issued in any amount you choose. All the recipient needs to do is to call for reservations to the preferred

performance. We'll do the rest with a memorable production during our season. Just ask for a Gift Certificate at the Ticket Office. You may pay with check or charge card to give a Weathervane gift you know your friends or family will applaud.



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Dress Up With Weathervane

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."

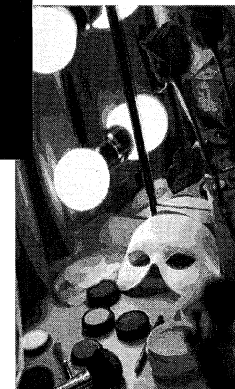
Season Coupons

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.



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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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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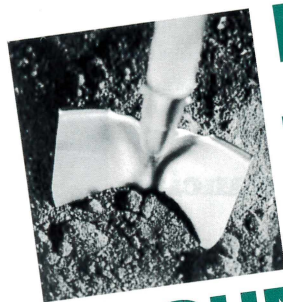
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**GROUNDBREAKING
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On May 30, 2000, over 100 well-wishers and volunteers joined U.S. Congressman Tom Sawyer, the Board of Trustees, and the staff of Weathervane Community Playhouse to break ground 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 Mousbey, Congressman Tom Sawyer, Executive Director Elynmarie Kazle, and Board President Tom Trotter (l-r) dig in for Weathervane's \$1-million expansion project.

STEINWAY

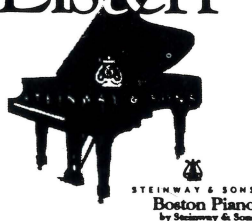
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