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WEATHERVANE
COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE

2001-2002 SEASON

Sixty-Seventh Season
production no. 490

The Sunshine Boys

By Neil Simon



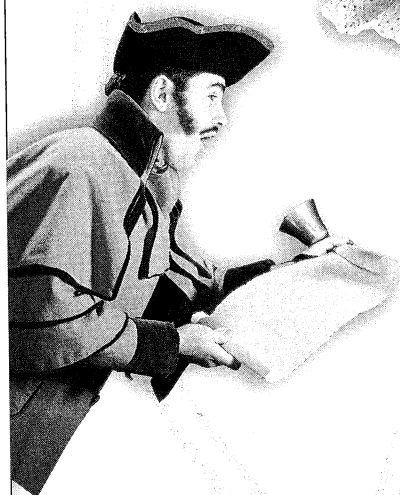
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on the web at www.weathervaneplayhouse.com

2001-2002 MAINSTAGE SEASON PRODUCTIONS

#490 - #496

September 12 - 30, 2001

The Sunshine Boys

Comedy by Neil Simon

October 17 - November 3, 2001

Dracula

Classic play by John Balderston &
Hamilton Deane

January 16 - February 10, 2002

The Fantasticks

Musical by
Harvey Schmidt & Tom Jones

February 27 - March 17, 2002

Seven Guitars

Drama by August Wilson

April 10 - 28, 2002

As Bees in Honey Drown

Comedy by Douglas Carter Beane

May 15 - June 2, 2002

Wit

Drama by Margaret Edson

June 19 - July 14, 2002

Fiddler on the Roof

Musical by Jerry Bock, Sheldon
Harnick & Joseph Stein

Program subject to change

YOUTH/FAMILY PRODUCTIONS

July 28 - August 12, 2001

Charlotte's Web

by E.B. White & Joseph Robinette

November 24 - December 22, 2001

Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber

April 13 - 28, 2002

Our Town

by Thornton Wilder

SPECIAL EVENTS

Very Special Arts, Summit County
10th Anniversary Celebration
presents

The Land of White Pearls

Performed by Firestone High School
Thespians

October 6, 2001 at 1:00 p.m.

WEATHERVANE WOMEN'S BOARD

presents

The Reluctant Dragon

Performed by the Piper Puppets
May 4, 2002



Patron Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

★ **Curtain time** - Every effort is made to begin shows promptly at 8 p.m. for evening

performances and at 2:30 p.m. for Sunday matinees. We appreciate audience courtesy in arriving on time.

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

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

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

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

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

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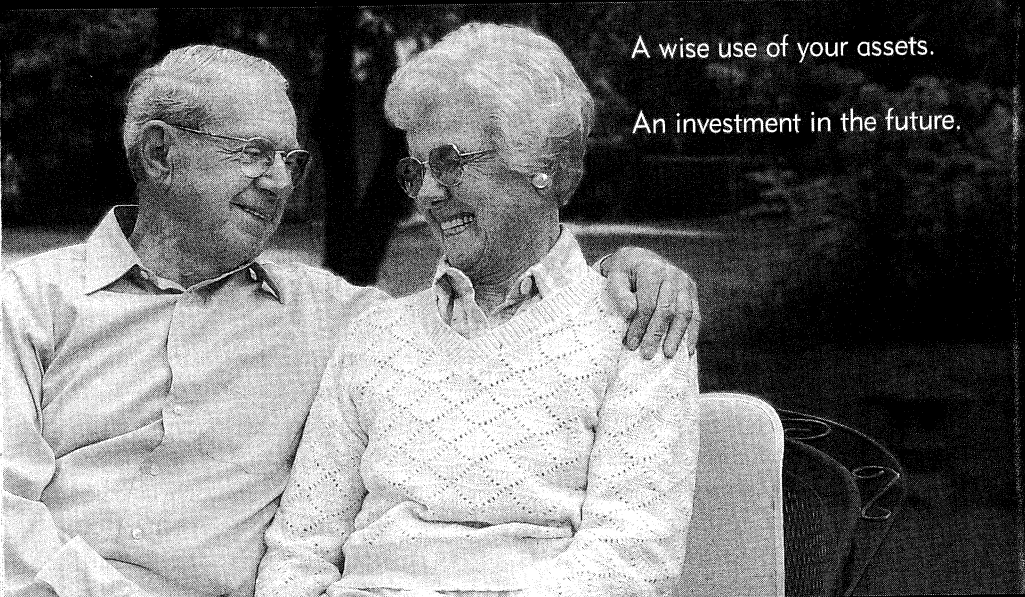
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From the Barn to the Valley A Brief Weathervane History



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-1960s, 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.



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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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.

2001-2002 Women's Board Officers

Pat Obenour	President
Jean Questel	First Vice President
Susan Speers	Second Vice President
Alberta Carlin	Corresponding Secretary
Jill Forster	Treasurer
Nancy Zeigler	Assistant Treasurer

2001-2002 Women's Board Committee Chairs

Marci Paolucci	Art Gallery
Mary Wolfman & Patrice Bechtol	Boutique
Barbara O'Connor	Boutique Treasurer
Dorothy Kies & Henrietta Cook	Costumes
Lois Murray	Hostesses
Alberta Carlin & Pat Weill	Newsletter
Randie O. Sass & Jill Forster	Cast Suppers
Marilyn Heagerty	Office Volunteer Scheduler
Lois Simmons & Younghee Miller	Hospitality
Betty Williams & Leslie Lund	Puppet Show
Marta Williger & B.J. Zeigler	Membership

The Women's Board welcomes new members.



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.



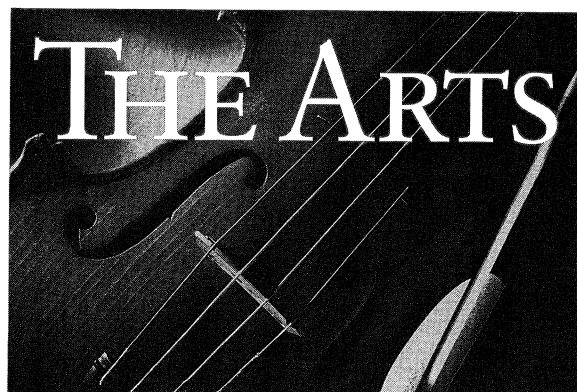
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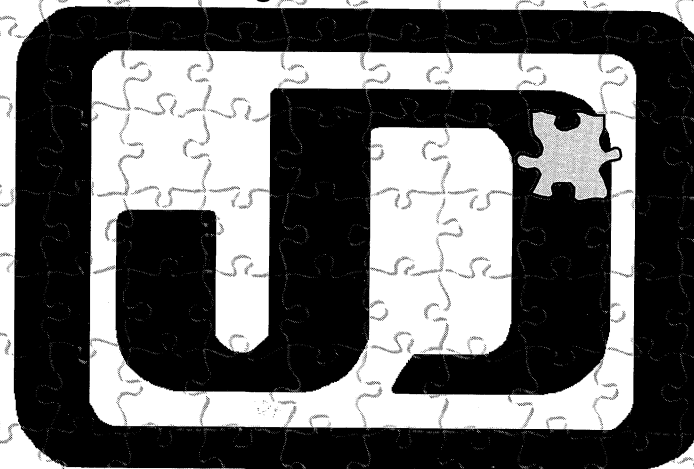
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Theater Education at Weathervane



Youth Education

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 2001-2002 season, we offer professionally taught classes in acting, stagecraft, musical theatre 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/Family 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 three productions each season. This season,

Dracula, *Seven Guitars* and *Our Town* will be featured in the **Project STAGE** events. Tickets are only \$7.

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, Directing, Improvisation and Classical Drama. 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 330-836-2323 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 2001-2002 SEASON

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

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

Footloose - 5 shows

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Colors of Christmas starring Peabo Bryson,

Michael McDonald, Oleta Adams & Sheena Easton, Thu., Nov. 29, 8 p.m.

Les Misérables - 8 shows

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

An Evening with Bob Newhart & Special Guest to be announced
Sat., Mar. 9, 8 p.m.

Rent - 8 shows

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cabaret - 5 shows

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

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

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

Performances, dates and times subject to change.

Tickets available at the Thomas Hall Ticket Office,
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Discounts to specific shows are available for seniors, children, UA
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news





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Weathervane Community Playhouse [a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation] is operated by a board of volunteer trustees representative of the general community.

Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are open.

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GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

WEATHERVANE COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE

Capital Campaign



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

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

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

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

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!

Weathervane Community Playhouse Capital Project Scope

Stage One

Work complete

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

Stage Two

Work and funding in-progress

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



Capital Campaign

Funding Status

Up to \$1,000

Lauri Agins	Jan & Ray Harcar	Carolyn & William Rogovy
Air Enterprises Incorp.	Jack Herman	Alan Rosenwasser
AkroChem	Hitchcock Fleming and Associates	Ruhlin Company
Beth & Ham Amer	Gary L. Hummel	Dr. & Mrs. Douglas Sanders
Annaco	Kathryn Hunter	Bertha & Milton Sass
Mary Jane & Seymour Baron	Frances & William James	John Scanlon
Janine Barzyk	John Jeandrevin	Lawrence Scanlon
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Susan Biasella	Calvin C. Kennedy	Mildred & Ludwig Stern
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Karen & Patrick Burrigde	Kleidon and Associates	Dr. & Mrs. Robert Stone
Canal Place Limited	Mary Ann Kovach	Stu's Discount Office Furniture
Mary Beth & Charlie Carroll	Susan & Paul Kruder	Summit Testing and Inspection
Ruth Castle	Mary Ann & John Kyle	Tradco
Dorothy & Richard Chenoweth	Manohar & Constance Lal	Leila & Anthony Vespoli
Chez-Del Interiors	Jacqi Loewy	Susan & Douglas Wagner
Mary Kate Clancy	Liberth/Anderson Co.	Dr. & Mrs. John Wegryn
Maryanne & John Cotter	Frances McGovern	West Point Market
Marcia & Warren Deist	Main St. Gourmet	Shari & Bob Whitfield
Eivor Devitofranceschi	Martinat Wine Company	Libby & Jeff Wilson
Jane & John DeYoung	John O'Neill	Linda Wyler
Richard E. Dobbins	Annie-Lee G. Peterson	Dr. & Mrs. Zouhair Yassine
Fred E. Eastman	Revocable Trust	Jeffrey W. Yatsu MD
James Eckelberry	Betty & Bill Plant	A. William Zavarello
Ruth & Paul Eizenzimmer	Terri Priest	Mark A. Zimmerman
Mary Beth & Richard Ellison	Julie & Skip Radwany	
Dr. Stephan Farkas	Nikki Rafferty	\$1,000 - \$4,999
Bryan Fetty	Dr. Joseph & Thelma Rapotec	Mary Adams
Anna Gerlinger	Orville L. Reed III	Kitty Brown
Dr. Lowell & Francine Gerson	Reserve Group	Jerry Camp
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John D. Frisby	Scott E. Robishaw	Cedarwood Development, Inc.
Richard Hall	Gloria Rookard	Cohen & Company

Capital Campaign

As of August 31, 2001

Funding Status

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



Women's Board Individual Challenge

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

Up to \$1,000

Lauri Agins
Linda & Karl Avers
Sally Brown
Ruth Castle
Janet & Donne Clark
Henrietta Cook
Bea Dagilis
Julia & Stephen Dubetz
Sandra & Antony Harding
Marilyn Heagerty
Janet & Jim Heilmeier
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Ethel Soudry
Patricia & Leo Weill
Betty & Glen Williams
Marta Williger
Karen Wood

\$1,000 - \$4,999
Patrice Bechtol
Jaunita Carlson
Helen & Cue Fleming

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Charlotte Horvath
Charlotte Kaplan
Sheila Motter
Barb O'Connor
Pat Obenour
Susan Speers
Connie & Robert Velotta
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\$5,000 - \$14,999
Margaret Dietz

Youth Theatre Parents

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

Up to \$1,000

Lisa & Chuck Ayers
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Our Generous 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 is updated throughout the season.

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

Akron Community Foundation	OMNOVA Solutions Foundation
City of Akron	Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
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Ohio Arts Council	

PLATINUM MEMBERS (Gifts of \$1,000+)

INDIVIDUALS

Fred & Francia Albrecht	Jo Ann Oelschlager
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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 us.

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

INDIVIDUALS

Eileen & Peter Burg	Richard & Leslie Lund	Mona L. Wolfman
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Bud Graske
Linda Graske

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Marissa Montigney
Regina Reynolds

Gabe Riazzi

Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges **Ameritech, KeyBank, and Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company** for contributions made through their matching gifts programs.

Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges **The Sisler McFawn Foundation, Akron Community Foundation and Lloyd L. & Louise K. Smith Memorial Foundation** for contributions for Project STAGE presentations and Youth Outreach Programs.



Welcome!

As we enter our 67th Season, (my fifth), I have been thinking a lot about who we are in the greater scheme of things. Weathervane, as returning patrons know, is a bit of an anomaly. It is a community theater that functions along the professional regional theater model. As such, there are very high expectations for the product, the process and the resulting entertainment. But I want to take a moment to reflect on who we truly are.

Weathervane is a community theater. As such, to quote the founders of this playhouse, "we welcome all who can contribute." We welcome our subscribers, who willingly give us unconditional support. By subscribing, giving their dollars for the entire season, these patrons commit to the whole roller-coaster ride we take each season. We welcome our onstage volunteers, who, as first-time performers or seasoned stage actors, put their passion, time and talent into telling the story we have chosen to tell our audience. We welcome our backstage volunteers, whose blood, sweat and tears go into the creation of the illusion which is live theater. We welcome you, the audience, for in choosing to attend this play you complete the final piece of the puzzle for this performance. Finally, we ask much of our Trustees, Production and Women's Boards who, along with our small professional staff, must mentor, guide, collaborate, find and manage the resources which bring ten plays to the boards each and every year.



Plays at Weathervane are chosen for a myriad of reasons. We must choose plays that our community actors find challenging and interesting enough to give up 60 to 100 hours of their time in a four to eight-week period. We must choose plays that we believe we are capable of producing and capable of doing them justice. We must choose plays that are affordable, because we want to keep the live theatre experience within reach of the greatest part of our community. And last, but certainly not least, we must choose plays that you, the audience, will find interesting – dare I say, entertaining?

I am very proud to be associated with Weathervane. It is a community treasure. It is up to all of us to be ambassadors for this very important entity that we call our theatrical, cultural home and bring others with us so that we can share our passion – this very special phenomenon that is live theater.

Thanks for reading... enjoy the show!

Ellynnie Kagle



Weathervane Community Playhouse
67th Season – 2001-2002 – Production #490
September 12 - 20, 2001

The Sunshine Boys



by Neil Simon

Sponsored by

SUMNER
on Ridgewood

Directed by Donald A. Squires

Scenic Designer/Technical Director
Alan Scott Ferrall

Production Stage Manager
Jack Herman

Assistant Stage Manager
Nikki Rafferty

Properties Designer
M.J. Coulson

Lighting Co-Designers
Colin J. Cook
Erin Katz

Sound Co-Designers
Lois Bennett
Donna Philips

Assistant Technical Director
Colin James Cook

Volunteer & Production Coordinator
Maryanne Arcuri Cotter

The Sunshine Boys is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.,
45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

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 – Email: wcpakron@aol.com



**“George and I
love to entertain—
we’d like a formal dining room.”**

We heard you!

We listened to hundreds of suggestions like this from local seniors. Requests for a swimming pool, fishing pond, gourmet chef and dozens more. They’re all taking shape right now at Sumner on Ridgewood.

So, when you’re sitting down to dinner after *The Sunshine Boys*, think about sitting down to dinner with us. It’ll be almost as much fun as watching those old vaudevillians, Lewis & Clark, and a whole lot friendlier!

SUMNER
on Ridgewood

Building on the Sumner tradition



The Sunshine Boys – Cast

Willie Clark	Mark Wilt
Ben Silverman	Jon Valentine
Al Lewis	Dale M. Franks
Vaudeville Nurse	Stacy Blosser
Patient & Vaudeville Director Voice	David S. Ramsey
Registered Nurse	Amy Beck
Eddie the Stage Manager	Brian Smith

The play opens in a two-room apartment in an old hotel on upper Broadway.

The time is the mid 1960s

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 food or drink in the auditorium.

Thank you.



Our Guest Director

Donald A. Squires captured a Weathervane Chanticleer Award as Best Actor in a Musical when he appeared here as Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* in 1999. He returned as director for *Gross Indecency*, *The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* last season, and we're delighted to have him back on the director's desk. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, he directed over 35 productions in the New York area including plays for Joe Papp's Public Theatre, Queen's Family Theatre and N.Y.T.T. He now teaches acting technique at the Beck Center Fine Arts Association, having also directed *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Macbeth* for the Lakewood group. He has also directed for Greenbrier and BST, but never strays far from performing opportunities, having been on stage for Beck Center productions as well as Karamu House where he appeared as Iago in *Othello*. He also directed the Karamu production of *You Shouldn't Have Told*.

Next On Our Stage



by John Balderston and Hamilton Deane
October 17 through November 3, 2001
Directed by Dr. Penelope Frese

Welcome to the crisp season when dusk comes early and night brings chilly breezes to ripple the curtains. Suddenly fallen leaves seem to scramble and scratch across the porch and the moon spills a silvery light into hidden corners you once found friendly. What better time to revisit the legends of Transylvania and to consider the possibility that some beings can shift from one form to another or that they subsist on human blood?

We'll usher you into the castle of Count Dracula and invite you to discover what lurks there. Consider the fact that the legends of Dracula grew from the doings of Vlad the Impaler four or five centuries ago. Consider the fact that the actual castle still exists. And, if you've been into soap operas over the summer, you've seen some of the actors equipped with nasty fangs and a lust for Type O positive.

This play landed on Broadway in 1927, then came back (what else would you expect from the supernatural?) with huge success in 1977.

We think you'll be surprised, startled and, perhaps, amused by the doings on stage. Possibly you'll find a tingle or two across your shoulders and wish to grasp a friendly hand during this play. At least we hope it will be friendly.

We're proud that **Buckingham, Doolittle and Burroughs** is sponsoring this production with a special performance and reception on Halloween night. Come share the shivers with *Dracula* by calling our ticket office at 330-836-2626.



About the Playwright and Play

The Play.

Vaudeville days are long past. The days of big theaters, big bands and comics who delighted audiences without using bleeped language but still garnered laughs with slapstick, outlandish costumes, generously endowed girls for every show and a drummer's rim shots to punctuate every joke. Some of you may recall those days. For others, this play may prove an introduction to another kind of theater and performers of a period not really so very long ago.

Neil Simon chose to remember that period and those unique characters in this play, allowing two old-time vaudeville performers to meet again after a long time apart. As Simon imagined them, they were Lewis and Clark on the vaudeville circuit. When nephew Ben wants them to perform their best remembered doctor and patient "bit" for television, they're suddenly faced with memories of what they were and who they now are.

The play was written in 1972 when Neil Simon was at the peak of his popularity, turning out one Broadway hit after another. Weathervane presented *The Sunshine Boys* during the 1976-1977 season and we're delighted to bring it back to open our 2001-2002 season with laughter and just a touch of sentimentality.

The Playwright

Neil Simon was born in New York in 1927 and began writing comic material when he was only 15, working with his older brother, Danny. The two of them managed to get into the CBS writers training program and were soon writing for many of the high powered TV and movie talents. Danny decided his future would be in California, but Neil stayed in New York, working for Sid Caesar's *Show of Shows*.

His first play, *Come Blow Your Horn* in 1961, launched Simon's virtually non-stop comedic talent on the theater. His output exceeded Shakespeare's and, in 1967, four of his plays were simultaneously performing on Broadway stages. He has crafted over 34 plays, plus film scripts.

In 2000, *Hotel Suite* opened Off-Broadway and *The Dinner Party* is now playing on Broadway after its premiere at the Kennedy Center and a long run at the Mark Taper Forum.

It's not surprising that many of Simon's well-written comedies have made their way to community theater across the country where audiences are eager to be amused and enjoy the crackling dialogue and characterizations of his plays.

Not too long ago, Simon set play writing aside to write a memoir of his life. Titled *Rewrites*, it was published in 1996 and his follow-up memoir *The Play Goes On* has been announced for publication next year.



Callboard – Cast Biographies

MARK WILT (Willie Clark) most recently appeared as Branch Rickey in *Mr. Rickey Calls a Meeting* when the play moved to Karamu House as part of our collaboration with the Cleveland theater. Mark was seen last season as Uncle Willie in our production of *The Philadelphia Story* and the season before as Thomas Edison in *Camping With Henry and Tom*. He'd taken a few years away from the theater since his earlier appearances in *Largo Desolato* and *Glengarry Glen Ross*. There was an even greater hiatus since his Chanticleer-winning role in *That Championship Season*. We presume that much of his time away has been spent with wife Barbara watching two daughters grow up and working as a software engineer at Aircraft Braking Systems.

JON VALENTINE (Ben Silverman) is a native of Cuyahoga Falls and is making his Weathervane debut in this production. Jon has enjoyed performing in light operas such as *The Gondoliers*, *The Mikado* and *Pirates of Penzance*. He has also worked with Cleveland Opera in *Cavaleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacchi*. He hopes to add many more roles to his resume in the future. He is grateful to friends, family and the community for their support.

DALE M. FRANKS (Al Lewis) has received applause from Weathervane audiences as Tito in *Lend Me a Tenor* and as Sheridan Whiteside in *The Man who Came to Dinner*, but he has also developed his talents in many other locations. A native of Detroit, he is a veteran of more than 75 productions. He's played John Adams in 1776 on three different occasions and performed in *Visit to a Small Planet* on a tour that took him to St. Alban's in England. In Michigan, he was Managing Director for the Southfield Civic Center and, since moving to Ohio, he has discovered Chagrin

Valley Little Theatre and Karamu House in addition to Weathervane and other theaters. He was seen at Cleveland Play House in *Night of the Iguana* and at Porthouse Summer Theater in *A Flea in Her Ear*. Most recently, he played the Sheriff in The Players Guild production of *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. He also enjoys directing and has directed both *The Bad Seed* and *All My Sons* for Stow Players.

STACY BLOSSER (Vaudeville Nurse) is a Weathervane newcomer who has earned her associate degree at Kent State University and is studying acting there. She has spent the last four years in and out of L.A. working as an extra in movies. She has also done some commercials. She hails from Uniontown and we're glad to greet her in this production.

DAVID S. RAMSEY (Patient/Vaudeville Director Voice) has spent much time in Los Angeles where he's been cast as an extra on TV's *Boston Public* as the wrestling coach in three episodes and on promos for MTV. In fact, we're catching him just in time for this role at Weathervane since he plans to head back to L.A. after this show closes. Born in Canton, he studied acting at the Beck Center and at Act Now in Burbank, California. He's been a self-employed auto painter who is now ready for bigger things on TV or in the movies. Our best wishes go with him.

AMY BECK (Registered Nurse) is also making her debut in this cast. She lives in Stow and graduated from Coventry High School for the Performing Arts just a few years ago. She has performed in *Oklahoma*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Torchbearers* and as Emily in *Our Town*. She's also been learning the technical side of television production as camera person and technical director.



Callboard Continued – Cast Biographies

BRIAN SMITH (Eddie, the Stage Manager) made his first Weathervane appearance as Christopher in *The Mousetrap* just a couple of seasons ago and we are pleased to see him back on the

"boards" again at Weathervane. He also performed in productions at Stow/Munroe Falls High School where he went to school. Brian works for Cisco Systems, Inc. and attended The University of Akron.

Backstage Callboard – Designer Biographies

JACK L. HERMAN (Production Stage Manager) performed here last season in *Gross Indecency...* and has been a participant in our Sundays at Seven Salon Series. With over 20 years of theatrical experience, he has extensive training behind the scenes as producer, director and technical advisor for professional and community theaters in the area. He is the founder and current director of Tree City Players, Kent's community theater, and he makes his home in that nearby town. His wife Kara, sons Justin and Michael and daughter Rachel applaud his theatrical work.

NIKKI RAFFERTY (Assistant Stage Manager) was happy to take home the Chanticleer Award for Best Production of the 2000-2001 season, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (best Production Chanticleers are always presented to the stage manager). *The Sunshine Boys* is one of the many shows for which she's served as assistant stage manager and she's been a backstage regular handling other responsibilities such as sound, lighting and properties. She previously directed youth productions at St. Thomas Orthodox Church in Fairlawn.

DOROTHY KIES and **HENRIETTA COOK** (Costume Co-Designers) have been happy to work in the new costume shop and help sort out many of the pieces-parts of previous costumes as they made their way into a more organized setting. The list of shows that have benefitted from

their talents is a long one, including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *All Night Strut* and probably dozens more. It's hard to keep track of the hours spent by volunteers such as these two. They've been equally helpful in creating costumes for Weathervane's Youth productions and deserve a round of applause for their diligence and creative efforts so important to the audience's enjoyment of our productions.

LOIS BENNETT (Sound Co-Design) has earned two Chanticleers for sound design for the productions of *Camping With Henry and Tom* and *King of the Kosher Grocers*. She also enjoys performing and was seen as Granny Northrup in *On Borrowed Time*. Mystery fans may also occasionally identify her in Mysteries by Moushey. Lois lives in Akron with Miller, her Welsh Corgi and Tigger, a gray tabby.

DONNA PHILIPS (Sound Co-Design) has a constantly growing record as a Weathervane volunteer. She not only works as a backstage crew member on sound, properties and other crews, but she's chaired Chanticleer Awards events and enjoys seeing the many other Weathervane "techies" receive their awards and applause at those prestigious parties. One of the rare times we missed her around Weathervane was when she took a cruise to Mexico last season.



Backstage Callboard Continued – Designer Biographies

M.J. COULSON (Properties Design) has at least two Chanticleer Awards on her shelves acknowledging her determination to find the items that help complete the stage sets. *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Harvey* both won awards for her and she's been involved in more than one show every season over recent years, including *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Cabaret*, *The Mousetrap* and *Annie*. A retired Registered Nurse, she also helps Weathervane as Auditions chairman. In fact, with all the hours she spends at Weathervane, it's hard to believe she has time for other pastimes, but she also enjoys hiking and watching a couple of grandchildren grow.

COLIN J. COOK (Lighting Co-Design) worked on lights for *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Philadelphia Story* and *Gross Indecency*... last season. He was also a member of the cast for both *The Philadelphia Story* and *Gross Indecency*.... He's one of the many crew heads who enjoys working in our now-enclosed production booth.

ERIN KATZ (Lighting Co-Design) began her interest in technical theater while at Copley High School. She was co-lighting designer for our production of *Charlotte's Web* and worked on *Stuart Little* and *Joseph*... last season. Erin received the Youth Recognition Award at Chanticleer and is beginning studies at Ohio State.

In Our Lobby Gallery

Photographs by Irving and Ruth Olson provide a virtual world tour of sights and people only a few of us will ever see. Irving was bitten by the travel and photography bug when he was only 17, though his time as an Akron businessman kept his desire in check for a while. Ruth got hooked on photography while attending an international symposium in Canada. Together, cameras in hand, they set out to see the most unusual spots on the globe. India became a favorite place to visit along with travels to inner Mongolia, Poland and an atlas full of locations in other countries as well as the United States. Where language was a problem, they found hand signals helpful and Ruth spoke enough of several languages to get by. She says, "We are very careful to remember that we are guests in their country, to observe their customs and to blend in with the people we visit."

The Olsons have donated over 159 of their photographs to Akron City and St. Thomas Hospital where patients and visitors can be reminded of other places and other worlds. Weathervane is proud to have many of the Olsons' photographs in this September display.

The technology available through computers and digital cameras opened up a new horizon for Irving who taught himself the programs and techniques to manipulate new as well as old photographs and to create different and unusual effects to enhance the subject matter. "I'm often asked why we do what we do," says Irving Olson. "I vowed that I never wanted to die dumb. I want to know as much as I can."

For further information about the photographs by Ruth and Irving Olson, please inquire at the Weathervane Boutique. Profits from the sale of the photographs in this lobby display will be donated to Weathervane Community Playhouse by the artists.

Thanks to the Denis Conley Gallery for additional framing materials.



Production Team Members & Crews

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson	Sidney Mains
Colin Cook	Pat Neary
Tom Marshall	Erin Katz
Alex Marshall	Kathy Kohl
Lauri Agins	Danielle Harris
Scott Hudson	Wendi Hirt
Mark Chapman	Ryan Durfee
Stephanie Pleli	

SOUND

Dr. Roger Zema	Tom Barnes
Stephen Moushey	Mary Kate Clancey
Joe Cali	

COSTUMES

Connie Velotta	Betty Watterson
Betty Williams	Chris Scheuneman

LIGHTS

Erin Dillon	Rebecca Carter
Jen Maxson	Justin Herman
Whitney Turner	Simon Siegel
Rachel Dubin	Jess Maxson

PROPERTIES

Seve Lawson	Nancy Zeigler
Rob Meyer	Tom Abdoo
John Cotter	John O'Neill
Diane Herman	Danielle Rosen
Rob Pyett	Curt Brown
Barbara Trotter	Sally Brown
Dan Cotter	Pat Neary
Lauri Agins	

Acknowledgments

Tom Stephan	Mr. Fun's Costumes	Martha Kaltenbach
Joe Cali	Borders Books and Music	New Leaf Design
Samuel French, Inc.	Staircase Florist	

A Memorial Contribution was made to the Weathervane Endowment Fund in honor of **R.H. Harris, Jr.** by Chisna & Helen Fleming
Kitty G. Brown

A Memorial Contribution was made to the Weathervane Endowment Fund in honor of **Andrew J. Peterson** by
Kitty G. Brown

Thanks to Our Volunteers

The following are the vivacious volunteers who assisted you by hosting, house managing and staffing the boutique or office during *A Funny Thing Happened... Forum* or *Charlotte's Web*.

Nora Barner	Jill Forster	Claudena Miller	Ethel Soudry
Carmen Beasley	Joyce & Tim Fortin	Younghee Miller	Susan Speers
Patrice Bechtol	Marilyn Heagerty	Mary Morehart	Kim Sprowls
Kitty Brown	Linda Heath	Marisue Murphy	Evelyn Stiggers
Karen Burrige	Janet Heilmeier	Lois Murray	Helen Tschantz
Alberta Carlin	Dave Heltebran	Pat Obenour	Connie Velotta
Juanita Carlson	Terri Herman	Barbara O'Connor	Linda Waite
Janet Clark	Kim Jameyson	Linda Patrick	Betty Watterson
Henrietta Cook	Lindsay Jameyson	Jean Questel	Pat Weill
John Cotter	Dorothy Kies	Joanne Reed	Betty Williams
M.J. Coulson	Barb Kistler	Ruth Richardson	Marta Williger
Margaret Dietz	Jane Kremmer	Ken & Karen Rocco	Mary Wolfman
Becky Duhon	Trish Kwartler	Alan Rosenwasser	Marie Woodall
Ruth & Paul Eisenzimmer	Mary Leeson	Debra Sharp	Gen Woods
LaVerne Ferguson	Joanne Lowe	Linda Shearl	B.J. Zeigler
Cue & Helen Fleming	Leslie & Richard Lund	Lois Simmons	Marge Ziegler
Carol Foote	Annette & Jack MacEwen	Suzanne Smith	

Future Events

*Salon Readings...

Sept. 23 *Lonely Planet* by Steven Dietz,
Directed by Miranda Marks with Sean
McConaha and Mark A. Zimmerman

Oct. 21 *Rachel's Song* by William Van
Nostran, Directed by Alex Nine
OR

Nov. 11 *Lebenstraum* by Israel Horovitz,
Director TBA

Martin Luther King Celebration Series

Jan. 27 *Voir Dire* by Joe Sutton

Feb. 3 *For Colored Girls...* by Ntozake
Shange, Directed by Ian Haberman

Feb. 10 *Mahogany Millionaire*

*Sundays at Seven: Salon Play Readings
are held in the Weatherlane lobby at 7 p.m.
(on selected Sundays) with light refresh-
ments and discussions following presenta-
tions. The events are free of charge. All
are welcome.

Oct. 17 - Nov. 3 *Dracula* by John
Balderston & Hamilton Deane

Nov. 24 - Dec. 22

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor
Dreamcoat* by Tim Rice and Andrew
Lloyd Webber

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- JAN 19** DAWN UPSHAW, *soprano*
GILBERT KALISH, *piano*
Saturday, 8 pm
- FEB 19** RED STAR RED ARMY
CHORUS & DANCE ENSEMBLE
Tuesday, 8 pm
- MAR 3** THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA
Sunday, 3 pm
Steven Smith, conductor
Garrick Ohlsson, piano
- APR 9** EVELYN GLENNIE,
percussion
Tuesday, 8 pm
- APR 30** VADIM GLUZMAN, *violin*
ANGELA YOFFE, *piano*
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A unique educational package for junior and senior high school students that includes reduced ticket prices!

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

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

Students, teachers and chaperones can see the play at the **special Project STAGE ticket price of \$7**. After the performance, the actors and audience may participate in a talkback session.

Dracula, October 17 - November 3,
Seven Guitars, February 27 - March 17 and
Our Town, April 13 - 28 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.

Call our Education Department at 330-836-2323 ext. 17.

Missing Painting

Merron and Elizabeth Latta, who volunteered actively at Weathervane's first "barn" theater, painted portraits of the original Marshall Avenue structure. The painting done by Mrs. Latta hangs in our Ticket Office. A similar watercolor, done by her husband, has eluded us.

Can you help us find the painting? If you've seen a painting similar to the one in the Ticket Office, please let us know. We'd love to reunite the paintings!



Coach House Theatre

2001-2002 Season

BETRAYAL

by Harold Pinter
September 13 - 29, 2001

A Shot In The Dark

by Harry Kurnita & Marcel Achard
November 8 - 25, 2001

the last of the red hot lovers

by Neil Simon
February 14 - March 2, 2002

THE LION IN WINTER

by James Goldman
May 23 - June 8, 2002

Coach House Theatre offers a season of passion, mystery, romance and comedy as we present our 74th season of great theatre! And since theatre doesn't exist without an audience, we need you to make it complete. Join us!

Jim Fippin
Resident Director



October 12 - 21, 2001



CHRISTMAS
CAROL

November 30 -
December 16, 2001



February 1 - 3, 2002



May 10 - 19, 2002

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Weathervane Playhouse Staff

Elynmarie Kazle
Executive Director

Keith D. Campbell
Front-of-House Coordinator

Alan Scott Ferrall
Scenic Designer/Technical Director

Janis L. Harcar
Director of Marketing & Development

Sean McConaha
Dir. of Education/Producer Youth Prod.

Maryanne A. Cotter
Volunteer & Production Coordinator

Colin J. Cook
Assistant Technical Director

John A. Cotter
Business & Public Relations Assistant

Pat Biddle
Bookkeeper

Justin Akers
Summer Intern



Weathervane Professional Staff

ELYNMARIE KAZLE (Executive Director) is entering her fifth WCP season. Formerly Resident Producer at Santa Monica Playhouse and Associate Managing Director for Actors Alley, she 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. where she was a theatrical producer and publicist for over ten years. Other credits include Great Lakes "Shakespeare Festival," San Diego's Old Globe Theater, NY's Brooklyn Academy of Music and Los Angeles Classical Ballet. She is pleased to be living in Akron (with husband Mark and son Banno) where she worked with Tom Skelton at Ohio Ballet. Elynmarie holds an MFA from Ohio University and is 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 and has been a Weathervane staff member since 1993. She serves as the Artistic Director of the Ravenna Community Choir and Director of St. Paul Lutheran Church Choir also in Ravenna. Jan occasionally serves as Musical Director for local productions.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weathervane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. Learning the skills necessary to work full-time in the theater, Scott was hired at Cuyahoga Falls High School as auditorium manager, where he spent the next six years. During that time, he was awarded a Design Excellence citation from USITT for *Carousel*, and a place in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He has also designed

for many local high schools as well as for The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has earned two Chanticleer Awards, one as stage manager for *Fences*, the other as lighting co-designer for *A Man for All Seasons*. Scott also takes great pleasure in writing the end-of-the-season revue for the Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at our annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.

SEAN MCCONAHA (Director of Education and Producer of Youth/Family Productions) 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 the 1999-2000 season's Chanticleer winner for Best Production, *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. He is also the Drama Director for Archbishop Hoban High School. 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 and 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 his sixth season at WCP.

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 season 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 on stage in our production of *Daughters* and in the Women's Board production of *Cinderella*. Maryanne has professionally stage managed at the Halle Theater in Mayfield Heights. From 1989-1991 she was the Co-Director of Marketing and Development 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 design and construction, 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.

JOHN COTTER (Business and Public Relations Assistant) is one of Weathervane's newest parttime employees. His duties consist of helping Jan and Keith in the Marketing and Box Office areas. He also serves on Weathervane's Production Board as Chair of House Managers. John is a retiree of 36 years with Ohio Edison. He has been a long-time volunteer of the Playhouse and has served on the Production Board as it's President and as Co-Chair of Properties. He has also worked backstage for many productions and has won Chanticleers for Properties Design for four productions — his most recent being last season's co-design of *The Philadelphia Story*. He is, however, most proud of his two grandchildren, Dana and Nicholas.

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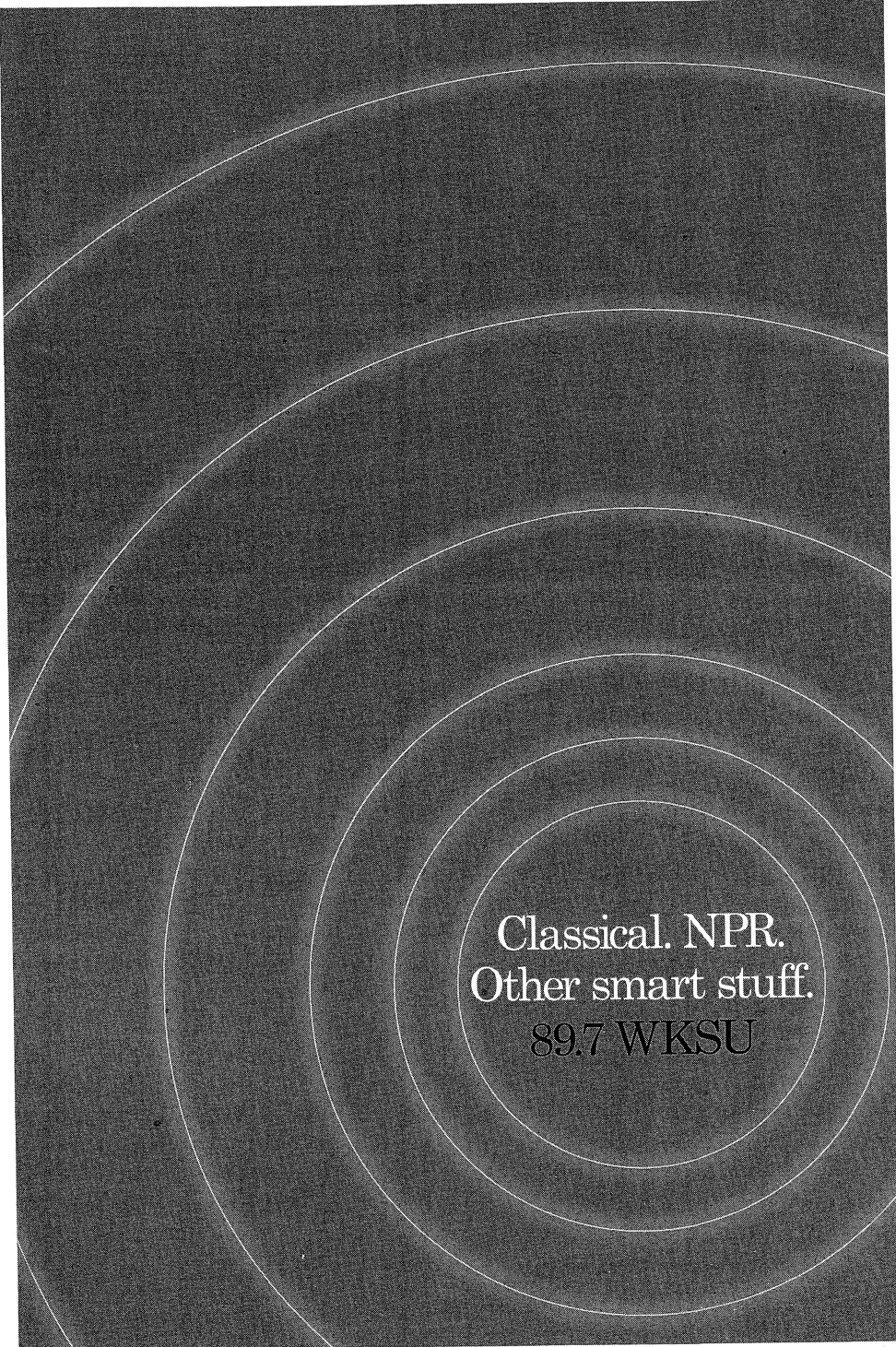


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Weathervane Hours

Weathervane Business Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. To place ticket orders call the **Ticket Office** at **330-836-2626**. The ticket office hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 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

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

- 1) foster communication and coordination among area cultural groups
- 2) generate greater awareness and participation in the arts and humanities in all segments of the community
- 3) promote the value of the arts and humanities to local governments and advocate its financial investment in the community's cultural activities."

Season Coupons

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

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

Mission Statement Weathervane Community Playhouse

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



Before You Throw It Out, Ask Us

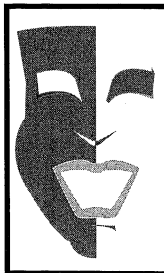
Weathervane can often make good use of used furniture and household items so please think of us when you're redecorating, cleaning or moving. Small rugs, carpet remnants, draperies or curtains are also appreciated.

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

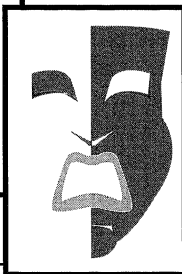
Please call before bringing donations to the

theater so we can tell you what may be needed most by our property or wardrobe department.

If we can't make use of your much-appreciated gifts, they may be passed on to another charity. We also, every so often, hold a rummage sale to clear our storage areas of items that we find we haven't been able to use. Your donations are appreciated and you may even see a favorite piece on stage some day.



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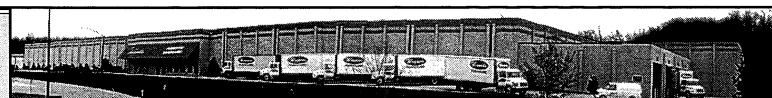
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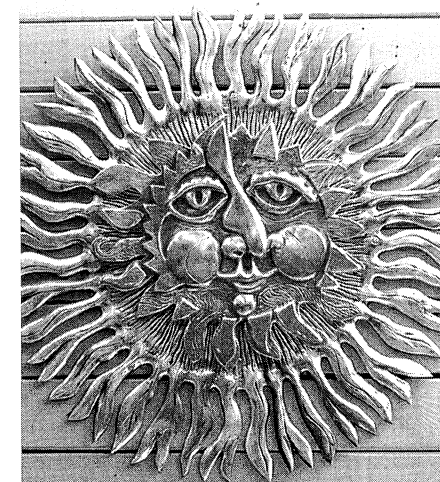
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We're Proud Of Weathervane Volunteers

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.



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.

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

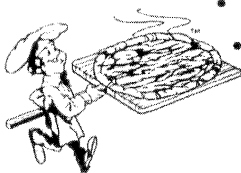
Whatever the occasion, a Weathervane Gift Certificate will fit! Please friends or family members with a night (or nights) of live theater. Weathervane Gift Certificates may be issued in any amount you choose. All the recipient needs to do is to call for reservations to the preferred perform-

ance. 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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Frederick C. Friseseke, *Through the Vines*, around 1908, oil on canvas



Weathervane Traditions

Meet the cast. It's a Weathervane tradition that, after most shows, many of the cast members may spend a few minutes in the lobby area to meet and greet friends from the audience. It's your chance to thank them for their performance.

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.

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 330 836-2626 if you will not make your ticketed performance. Thanks.

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Where Theater Comes Alive!

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 are 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.



Who Gets On Stage at Weathervane?

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

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

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

To find out how you can get on stage, check the newspaper for audition dates and times or call Weathervane at 330 836-2626 if you are interested in auditioning for a role in one of our upcoming productions or in a Youth

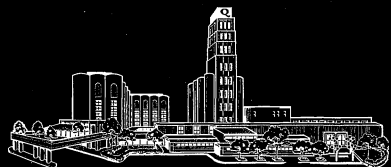
Theater production. We'll tell you about requirements.

Weathervane shows are never "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!





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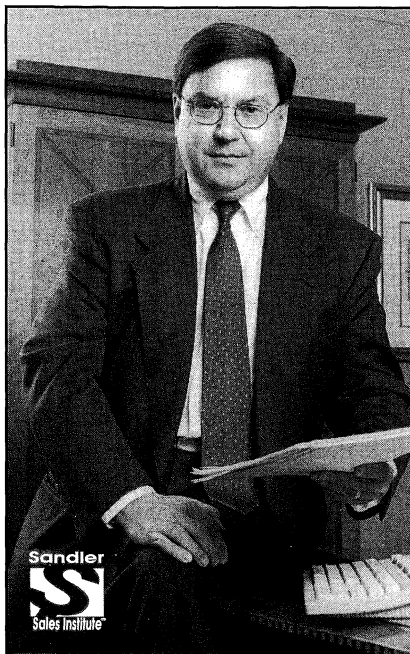
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I Want to Know More About Opportunities for Involvement at Weathervane

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 _____

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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.



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.

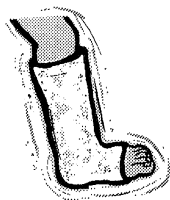
★ **Properties** - All the items that help "dress" a set and all those used by actors in rehearsal and performance (from tea sandwiches to "deadly" weapons and "shattering" windowpanes) must be borrowed, built or cooked. We need many volunteers to work on each performance. If you are clever at building 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 theater-goers 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.



We hope you keep breaking your legs for many years to come. That's what we're supposed to say, right?

We're proud to support Weathervane Playhouse, and we wish you many great performances in the future.



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