

Bringing Us Together

2009-2010 Season

Putting It Together
Mainstage 2009-2010 #540
September 10 – 27, 2009

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



Mainstage

Putting It Together September 10 - 27, 2009

The Last Night of Ballyhoo October 8 - 25, 2009

Rabbit Hole February 4 - 21, 2010

The Great White Hope April 1 - 18, 2010

Italian American Reconciliation April 29 - May 16, 2010

The Wedding Singer
June 3 - 27, 2010

Dietz Theater

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

The Sum of Us January 14 - 30, 2010

Young Actor

Madeline and the Gypsies
July 24 - August 9, 2009

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat November 23 - December 20, 2009

Pride and Prejudice March 4 - 14, 2010

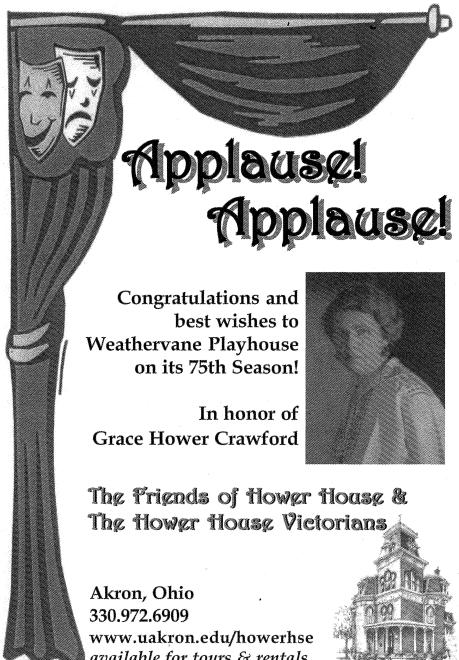
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Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge December 3 - 19, 2009

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A Brief History of Weathervane Playhouse

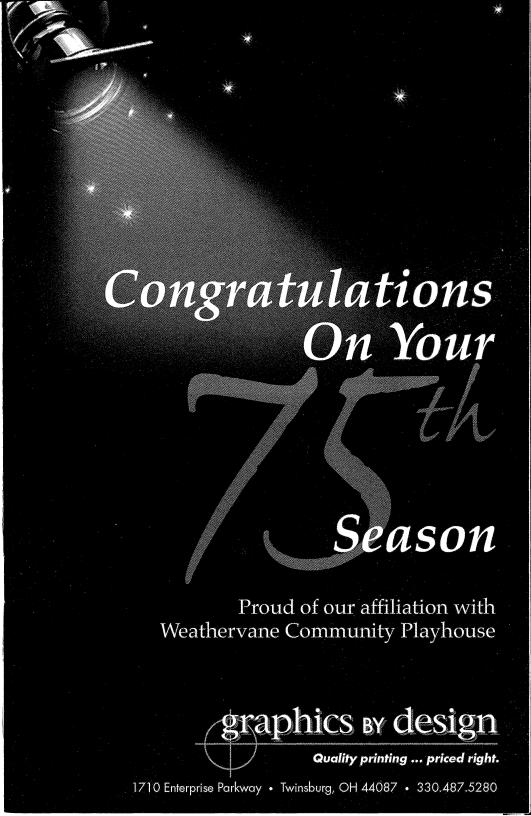
From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley...

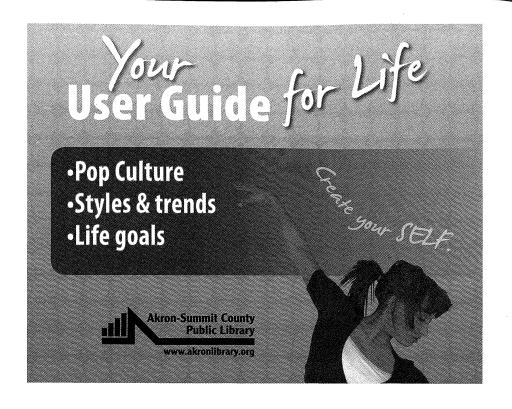
Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members -- Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch -- and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal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

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

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













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John Hedges

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Opening Night
Sunday, September 13, 2009

The Passion of John Brown / Eroica

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Wizards, Vampires and Jedi Knights:

Film Music Fantasies
Sunday, October 25, 2009

Verdi e Puccini

Great Moments from Italian Opera Saturday, November 14, 2009

Holiday Pops

Friday, December 18, 2009

All Mozart

Saturday, January 16, 2010

Gospel Meets Symphony

Saturday, January 30, 2010

Schubert and Steel

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Akron Symphony Chorus

Spring Concert Sunday, March 14, 2010

Mahler & Zander

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Classic Albums Live Presenting:

Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band

with the Akron Symphony Orchestra Saturday, March 27, 2010

Carmina Burana

Saturday, May 1, 2010

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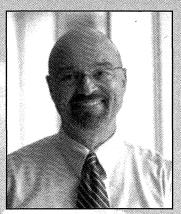


From Our Executive Director

Bringing Us Together

On behalf of our volunteers, Board of Trustees and staff I welcome you to Weathervane's 75th Anniversary Season!

We look forward to seeing you often throughout this diamond anniversary year as the shows we've chosen speak to a wide range of human experience that reflect our community in a powerful and compelling way. It is designed to bring us together to (in the words of theater guru Ben Cameron) "view one another with generosity and curiosity." It is a season that truly promises something for everyone with each show being brand new to the Weathervane stage. We think this is not only a fitting way to cap off 75 years of accomplishment,



but it also appropriately kicks off the next 75 years of dynamic growth and service to the Akron community with fresh, new energy.

Additionally, for those of you so inclined, I invite you to get involved with Weathervane beyond your attendance here today. Weathervane's mission is to be both professionally directed and, at the same time, volunteer based. As such, our doors are wide open for you to become involved with us in virtually every aspect of theater production. Whether it's performing in a show, working backstage or helping plan a special event, Weathervane offers unique volunteer opportunities that are both fun and rewarding. With our professional staff working with you every step of the way, your experience at Weathervane could prove to be among the most memorable of your life.

Lastly, I hope you enjoy the amenities of our newly expanded and remodeled facility. This remarkable facelift to our public spaces is the result of years of work and generosity on the part of many people from our community who have dedicated their time and their resources to ensuring that the playhouse continues to thrive. This outpouring of support has further established Weathervane as one of the preeminent performing arts organizations in all of Northeast Ohio and a major contributor to Akron's outstanding quality of life. To them, and to all of you, I thank you for your truly humbling vote of confidence.

Chlin

John Hedges Executive Director Jhedges@weathervaneplayhouse.com



Weathervane

— PLAYHOUSE -

75th Season -- 2009 - 2010 -- Production #540 September 10 - 27, 2009

Rutting Together

Directed by **Terry Burgler John Ebner** -- Musical Director

Stage Manager
BARBARA TROTTER

Costume Co-Designers
ADAM THATCHER
JASEN J. SMITH

Sound Designer
ROBYN COOPER

Scenic Designer

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL

Lighting Designer
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MIKE GROOM

Putting It Together is produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International, 421 W. 25th Street, New York, NY 10019.



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

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

About Our Directors



Terry Burgler (Director) is a professional director, actor, writer and educator with a notable record of achievement over the past 30 years, He has performed on the Globe Theatre stage in London and acted and directed at numerous regional theatres across the country including McCarter Theatre, the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Stage/West and Theatre Virginia, where he served for 13 seasons and ranks as the most successful Artistic Director in that theater's 50-year history. For four yeas, he was Artistic Director at Porthouse Theatre here in Northeast Ohio, presiding over record-breaking seasons that garnered significant critical praise as well. He resigned his position there to be able to pursue his passion for Shakespeare as one of the two founding Artistic Directors of the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. Mr. Burgler holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with Honors from Princeton University and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Virginia. He is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) and Actors' Equity Association (AEA). Mr. Burgler's next project is playing Sidney Brulh in the mystery-thriller *Deathtrap* at Coach House Theatre opening October 2.

John Ebner (Music Director, Conductor, Keyboards) is glad to be back at the Weathervane Playhouse. His last appearance was as Musical Director for *Ragtime*, for which he was awarded both a Chanticleer and a Marquee Award. He has also worked extensively as a keyboardist, rehearsal pianist and musical director for the Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Coach House, Carousel Dinner Theatre, the Players Guild of Canton and Kent State University. John has been a music teacher for over 30 years, teaching in the Plain Local Schools for the last 22 years. He has performed with Arthur Fiedler of the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Academy Award-winning Paul Williams. John has a bachelor's and master's degree in music from The University of Akron, with further study at Ashland University and Kent State University.

About Stephen Sondheim

Born in New York City in 1930, composer and lyricist **Stephen Sondhiem** studied piano from a very young age. His parents divorced when he was 10 years old, and he and his mother moved to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where a close neighbor was the playwright, lyricist and theater producer Oscar Hammerstein II, who had a son Stephen's age.

Here, the older Hammerstein served as a role model for the budding young composer; he tutored Sondheim in writing for the theater all the way through his student years at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. After graduation, he studied with the avant-garde composer Milton Babbit while attempting to secure a job in the theater. He did find jobs writing for television and was soon introduced to two playwrights – Burt Shevelove and Arthur Laurents – who would play large roles in his developing career.

At the age of 25, he secured the job of writing lyrics to go with Leonard Bernstein's music for what would become a landmark Broadway musical, *West Side Story*, which featured a script by Laurents and stage direction by Jerome Robbins. Fresh from the success of this show, Sondheim next wrote the lyrics for composer Jule Styne's songs for *Gypsy*, another hit show with a book by Laurents and stage direction by Robbins.

Sondheim's first show as both composer and lyricist was the 1962 musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, which won the 1963 Tony Award for Best Musical and enjoyed a two-year run on Broadway. Sondheim's 1971 musical *Company* – a biting, realistic look at love and marriage in modern New York City – represented a sort of historic breakthrough for Sondheim as an artist. The show broke away from Broadway's past and initiated Sondheim as one of the most innovative and adventurous composers in musical theater.

Over the next 30 years, Sondheim continued to create, innovate and re-invent the Broadway musical. Practically peerless in his accolades and accomplishments, Sondheim has won seven Tony Awards, a Pulitzer Prize, two Grammy Awards and an Oscar. In 2008, Sondheim received a special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement from the American Theatre Wing. Meanwhile, on Broadway at the time, two of his shows – *Gypsy* and *Sunday in the Park with George* – were enjoying successful, critically praised revivals.



Putting It Together -- The Company

THE COMPANY in alphabetical order

Tim Anderson Amanda Davis Greg Emanuelson Alan Scott Ferrall Rachel Fichter Stephanie Newport Melissa Owens Scott Shriner

Setting:

Putting It Together takes place at a cocktail party where a couple is celebrating the purchase of "this little condominium." However, Mr. Burgler's vision was to populate the set with clues to Stephen Sondheim's various shows. Scott Ferrall took that idea and designed "Stephen Sondheim's attic." Can you spot each show and its set piece? We'll publish the answers in the next playbill.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

ORCHESTRA

John Ebner – Keyboard, Conductor Jen Korecki – Keyboard Frank McGill – Bass Scott Thomas -- Percussion

Director's Notes:

In the early 1990s, Stephen Sondheim and Cameron Macintosh developed a new revue to complement *Side by Side by Sondheim*, in part because many new Sondheim creations had made their way to Broadway since the first revue. It premiered in London with Diana Rigg as the headliner. Later, in no small coup, Sondheim and Macintosh lured Julie Andrews into the lead for the American production at the Manhattan Theatre Club in 1993. With a limited run and a limited seating capacity, the production became one of the hottest tickets in town. While still a revue, the production incorporated a story line based on the concept of a high-end party at the new (and magnificent) condo of a successful married couple.

Over a decade later, Carol Burnett and George Hearn joined other stage and screen icons to open a headliners' version on Broadway, which diluted the story line a bit but brought real star power to the revue. At Weathervane, we offer you a version we hope offers you the best of both worlds – a highly talented cast which makes you a part of the party and tells you a story while offering you a wonderful smorgasbord of delectable music and lyrics by America's leading musical theater creator, Mr. Stephen Sondheim.

Thank you for your RSVP! We hope you enjoy the celebration.

For Your Safety...

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



In the Harris Family Gallery

I'm pleased to have **Hal Scroggy** in the Harris Family Gallery. He is an award-winning watercolorist here in the United States, where he has exhibited extensively across the nation. Hal is also critically acclaimed in the U.K. His work has been included three times in "Splash," North Light Publications, a prestigious annual publication featuring the best paintings of internationally acclaimed watercolorists.

Hal Scroggy was discovered by artist Roy Wilhelm when Hal was in grade school. He studied several years with Wilhelm, a local commercial artist, who founded the Akron Society of Artists, and was part of the "new movement" in watercolor. Wilhelm was helpful in getting

Hal accepted at The Cleveland Institute of Art.

Hal also served in World War II (Infantry Cannons). After the war, he worked in fashion illustration, motion pictures, TV and as Art Director of Publications for BF Goodrich for twenty years. When Hal retired, he began serious impressionistic watercolor painting. His philosophy is, "I paint adjectives rather than nouns." He was founding member of the Ohio Watercolor Society and a signature member of the American Watercolor Society. The Transparent Watercolor Society and the Whiskey Painters of America also claim Hal as an important member. Hal's work, which features people and places from around the globe, seemed a perfect complement to Sondheim's *Putting It Together*, a musical revue touching on many different aspects of the human condition.

Marci Paolucci, Gallery Director

Acts and Musical Numbers

Act I	
Invocation and Instructions to the Audience (<i>The Frogs</i>)	The Company
Putting It Together (Sunday in the Park with George)	The Company
Rich and Happy (Merrily We Roll Along)	The Company
Have I Got a Girl for You (Company)	Tim, Scott S., Greg
Merrily We Roll Along (Merrily We roll Along)	Instrumental
Lovely (Forum)	Rachel
Lovely (Forum)	The Men
Hello, Little Girl (Into the Woods)	Tim, Greg, Mandy
My Husband the Pig (A Little Night Music)	Stephanie
Every Day a Little Death (A Little Night Music)	Melissa, Stephanie
Pretty Women (Sweeny Todd)	Greg, Tim
Sooner or Later (Dick Tracy)	The Women
Merrily We Roll Along (Reprise)	Scott S.
Country House (Follies)	Stephanie, Greg
Agony (Into the Woods)	Tim and Scott S.
Could I Leave You? (Follies)	Stephanie
Rich and Happy (Reprise)	The Company
Act II	
Back in Business (Dick Tracy)	The Company
It's Hot Up Here (Sunday in the Park with George)	The Company
The Ladies Who Lunch (Company)	Melissa
The Road You Didn't Take (Follies)	Greg
Buddy's Blues (Follies)	Scott S.
Buddy's Blues (Follies) Live Alone and Like It (Dick Tracy)	Tim
More (Dick Tracy)	Mandy
There's Always a Woman (Anyone Can Whistle)	Melissa, Stephanie
Marry Me a Little (Company)	Ŝcott S.
Not Getting Married Today (Company)	felissa, The Company
Being Alive (Company)	The Company
I'm Still Here (Follies)	Stephanie
Old Friends (Merrily We Roll Along)	The Company



Cast Biographies

TIM ANDERSON is making his Weathervane debut in this very special production of *Putting* It Together. A middle school teacher of gifted students by day, Tim also serves as the Education Director for the Broadview Heights Spotlights Theater, where he was seen on stage last September as Geoffrey in Something's Afoot. Since then, he has directed Children of Eden and Into the Woods and recently completed a week-long theater camp consisting of 75 six- to-twelve-year-olds performing Willy Wonka Kids! At the Beck Center, Tim has performed in the ensembles of My Favorite Year and Beauty and the Beast. Other favorite roles include Albert Peterson in Bye, Bye Birdie at the Youngstown Playhouse and the title role in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. He is thrilled to be back on stage, performing the brilliant works of Sondheim.

AMANDA DAVIS, a summa cum laude graduate of Kent State University, was last seen at Weathervane as Hippolyta and Titania in A Midsummer Night's Dream last spring. Earlier last season she played Eve/Mama Noah in Children of Eden, for which she won a Best Lead Actress Chanticleer and Marquee Award. Over her decade-long involvement at WCP, she was seen in Ragtime, The Importance of Being Earnest, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Lion in Winter, Lend Me a Tenor, Much Ado About Nothing, The Wiz, Stuart Little and Romeo and Juliet.

GREG EMANUELSON is excited to be back at Weathervane for *Putting It Together* having last been seen as the Latvian immigrant Tateh in *Ragtime* in 2008 (YACTA Award - Best Supporting Actor in a Musical) and the pantsdropping Freddie/Phillip in *Noises Off* in 2004. Over the past 15 years Greg has been performing in Canton-area productions of *Doubt; I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change; Assassins; Jesus Christ Superstar; Glengarry Glenn Ross* and *ART*. Greg would like to thank his family, friends and co-workers who provide support not only during the hectic rehearsal process, but all year long!

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Performer/Scenic Designer) began volunteering at Weathervane under former technical director John R. Thomas, who was known to step in front of the footlights from time to time. Scott has designed over 100 productions for the theater, and performed once before -- playing a cop in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. He also writes the end-of-the-season revue for The Not-Readyfor-Mainstage Players at the annual

Chanticleer Awards. How he will work himself into next year's show is anyone's guess.

RACHEL FICHTER is thrilled to be back at Weathervane after last appearing as Evelyn Nesbitt in the 2008 production of *Ragtime*. Recent favorite roles include Liza in Peter Pan (Beck Center). The Kid in *The Emperor's Groovy* New Clothes (Cleveland Play House), and Eileen in Moon Over Buffalo (Weathervane). She has also spent two wonderful seasons working with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. This fall she is pursuing her Master's Degree in Library Science at Kent State University. Her favorite undergraduate roles at the College of Wooster include Cordelia in King Lear, Asaka in Once On This Island and Constance in Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Iuliet).

STEPHANIE NEWPORT is delighted to once again take part in a Weathervane production. Having been seen as Mother in our 2008 production of *Ragtime*, Stephanie has also been busy on other stages in Northeast Ohio. Some of her favorite roles have been Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Vivian Bearing in *Wit*, Maria in *The Sound of Music*, Mary Jane in *Big River* and, by far, Mother to five amazing individuals.

MELISSA OWENS (Performer) Born in Columbus, Ohio, and raised in Syracuse, New York, Melissa is enjoying living back home in Ohio. She has performed for 25 years in over 75 productions throughout the country, most recently at the Porthouse Theatre in Forum. Favorite roles include Marguerite in Scarlet Pimpernel, Scrooge in Marley's Christmas Carol, Lina in Singin' in the Rain, Eleanor in The Lion in Winter and Anna in The King and I. Her favorite role is with her dear family: husband John, daughters Mary and Rachel, and the other half of our parenting team, Derek and Karen. And a special hello goes out to her new family at work – the residents and employees of Sumner on Ridgewood!

SCOTT SHRINER returns to Weathervane. He last appeared as Charles Pomeroy in *Bloody Murder* last season. He has won Chanticleer awards for Weathervane's recent productions of *Lend Me a Tenor, Three Days of Rain, Moon over Buffalo* and *All My Sons.* His favorite role here is Nick Cristano in *Over the River and through the Woods* in 2005. You may also have seen him at Actors' Summit, The Bang and the Clatter, Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Coach House Theatre.



Creative Team Biographies

BARBARA TROTTER (Stage Manager) last stage managed the spring 2009 Dietz theater production of Intimate Apparel and the December 2008 production of Amahl and the Night Visitors. She began volunteering with Weathervane Community Playhouse in 2000, working backstage on props crews. She designed costumes for the productions of Arsenic and Old Lace and Proof, both in 2003. She served as the costume coordinator for Weathervane's May 2006 production of Angels in America: Perestroika and was lighting designer of the May 2007 production of String of Pearls. Barbie is on the Weathervane staff as Coordinator of Volunteers and also teaches speech communication courses at The **University** of Akron.

MIKE GROOM (Assistant Stage Manager) was seen as Captain of the Inquisition in our summer production of *Man of La Mancha* and was nominated for a Marquee Award for his work. This was his second go-round with *Man of La Mancha* because he appeared as a guard last year in a production with the Canal Fulton Players, where he also appeared in productions of *On Golden Pond* and *Christmas Gifts*. Off the stage, Mike works as an engineer in radiation therapy for Summa Health System.

TODD DIERINGER (Properties Designer) is making his debut as a properties designer at Weathervane. You may recall his work as scenic designer the past three seasons: The Sisters Rosensweig, Children of a Lesser God and last season's phenomenal hit, Man of La Mancha. He has helped build sets for most of the Playhouse's shows since 2005. No stranger to the backstage, he has served on props crews for numerous productions including The Rocky Horror Show and The Full Monty. Todd has a bachelor's degree in public relations from The University of Akron, where he also studied theater. He currently serves as the systems administrator in the admissions office at UA.

MICHAEL A. SFERRO (Lighting Designer) has been working in theatre for 14 years, in high school, college community and professional productions. He is the resident lighting designer at the Medina Performing Arts Center and The Chapel in Akron and Green. Michael teaches lighting design at Medina High School and has developed a technical theatre program that is recognized as one of the best in the region. He has

designed lighting for and/or stage managed over 200 shows, some favorites being Anything Goes, Man of La Mancha, Beauty and the Beast, West Side Story, Thoroughly Modern Millie and Oliver! Presently, Michael is the chairman of the board of CAMEO, producer of the annual Medina summer musical. By day, Michael is a Key Center manager for KeyBank.

ROBYN COOPER (Sound Designer) designed sound for our most recent production of *Joseph*. Other Young Actor Series credits include *Go, Dog. Go!* and *Disney's AristoCats KIDS* and 2007's *The Frog Prince*. Other Weathervane credits include Assistant Stage Manager for *Man of La Mancha*, Stage Manager for *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, codesigner of both props and costumes for *String of Pearls*, and she has also worked on the lighting, sound and properties crews for such shows as *The Full Monty, Smokey Joe's Café* and *Joseph*. She is the mother of two sons, Randy and Kristiansan.

ADAM THATCHER (Costume Designer) is excited to work again with Weathervane Playhouse. He recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from SUNY Fredonia with a BFA degree in Musical Theatre. Mr. Thatcher's recent credits include The Fantasticks, The Wizard of Oz. The Elephant Man. Doctor Faustus. Side Show and A Little Night Music. He has choreographed for many Orchesis dance concerts, worked for the Carousel Dinner Theatre, trained with such Broadway stars as Iodie Langel, Mike Cannon and Victoria Clark, and has recently performed for RWS and Associates in New York. Adam also performed in various musical theatre workshops in Aichi, Japan.

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



Production Team

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

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson Tom Marshall Erin Katz Ford Kevin Ford Todd Dieringer Len Cheslock Judy Willemsen Scott Custer

COSTUMES

Diantha Seibert Susie Stech Susanne Abernathy John Catlos

SOUND

David Ruggles

LIGHTS

Leslie Johnson Judy Willemsen Sue Stout Davis Erin Katz Ford Dan Levan Mike Groom

PROPERTIES

Jen Draher Marie Smith M.J. Couldon

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dan Jankura for installation of lobby speakers

Judy Willemsen for staining/painting the new sound booth

Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

The following are the dedicated volunteers who have assisted us recently.

Patrice Bechtol
Mary Blazewicz
Connie Bowen
June Bretzin
Gail & Leonard Cheslock
Wendy Cooley
Thelma Coss
Margaret Dietz
Helen Fleming
Erin Katz Ford
Jill Forster

Janis Gallagher Chuck Hass Marilyn Heagerty Linda Heath Janet Heilmeier Elynmarie Kazle Chuck Kelades Carol Krueger Leslie Lund Nancy Mahoney Mitzi Mild

Lois Murray
Pat Obenour
Barbara O'Connor
John O'Neill
Bess Raines
Ruth Richardson
Marilyn & Bob Runkle
Pearl Sentelik
Lois Simmons
Sue Smith
Ethel Soudry

Diane Thomas Barbie Trotter Vera Vander Kovi Helen Vari Connie Velotta Michelle Williams Marta Williger Mary Wolfman Gen Woods

IOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

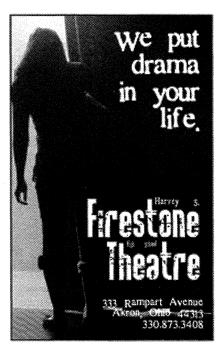
Mr. Hedges has an extensive background in theatre as both an actor and a producer. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the acting company at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, where he performed in over sixty shows. Other acting credits include performances at Town Hall in New York and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



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75th Anniversary Quips & Quotes

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

RALPH COOLEY -

Volunteer since 1970

"During Dracula (1980) Van Helsing (Dennis Murphy) had to walk behind the sofa during a scene. There was a counter-balanced trap door behind the sofa in which Dracula would appear in a puff of smoke sometime during the play. Stagehands forgot to put the locking pin in the trap one night. Van Helsing walked behind the sofa, stepped on the platform and ended up in the basement!"

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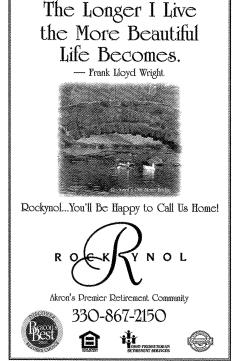
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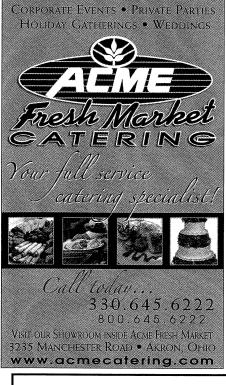
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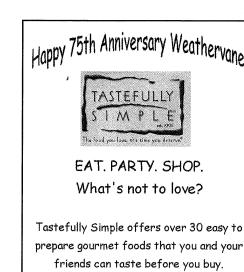
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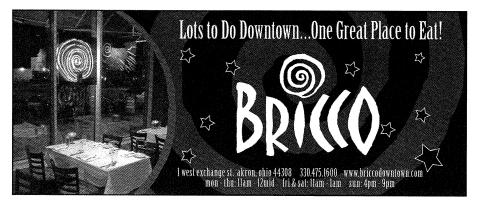
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Comments? Suggestions? John Hedges

jhedges@weathervaneplayhouse.com







