

# THE BACKSTAGE PASS

Season 41 Letter 2

August 17th, 2003

## *The Newsletter of the Zanesville Community Theatre*

### **A Note from the President**

A new season - there's much to do. I look back on last year and there is many positives. Zanesville Community Theatre is alive and well (well - being subjective) We need your continued help and support. One way you can help without much perspiration is by promoting ads for our season programs or telling people about our Patron Packages. Word of mouth is still our best selling tool.

Its not a bother - people want to know. How often have you heard "If I'd only know about it"? So here's your chance. Sell one ad or one patron package. Breathe a little life in to our group. The local arts are wonderful, our shows are excellent - something to be proud of! Now, lets help our bottom line by getting the word out and putting butts in the seats!

-Richard Tolliver

### **Kudos to our Helpers**

There is always something to be done at ZCT and, as always - extra hands make the tasks easier. Rich and his Dad, Dick, along with Rick Milheim, Maury and Carl worked to remove the lift. We are working on having it repaired as you read this! The other side of the building wields some changes too! Its framed in - soon to be concreted over to form a platform over the basement steps! The work wasn't limited to the outside...Jan Kikka had some handy helpers sorting out the costume area.

Karen Young, Brianna and Pam Smith, and Melanie Von Gunten sorted, folded or trashed material. Its amazing how much accumulates here and there!

Jillian Von Gunten was in the morning garb of choice! In pjs, she helped to clean the lobby and sort some of the miscellaneous papers from the box office. Ian was on safari for lobby decorations. We had a wonderful laugh when he brought "vines" for a Little Shop of Horrors decor thought....a hand full of plastic fruit from the 60's that was the size of half dollars. We concluded that it really wasn't the right motif for what we had in mind.

Jan Smith, Roger Touvell, Carl Underwood, and Dee McCarthy held a pre audition meeting too.

So many details and the time is now! A HUGE thanks for all who jumped in to help out. For those who missed this one - Come on down to the next one. There is always something to do and we appreciate your time!

THANKS EVERYONE  
FOR HELPING OUT!

*Thank  
You!*

## Ten Little Indians...

Our first show is underway - who are the suspects of this Agatha Christie intrigue? Who is the murderer? Ten Little Indians....your time is now.

**Tom Rogers - Joe Marks**

**Ethel Rogers - Conni Matz-Tolliver**

**Fred Narracott - Darren Brown**

**Vera Claythorne - Kristin Kenily**

**Philip Lombard - Daniel Shuey**

**Anthony Marston - Ian Milheim**

**General MacKenzie - Maury Kenily**

**William Blore - Robert Leland-Taylor**

**Emily Brent - Alice Mauk**

**Dr. Armstrong - Dr. Joe Porter**

**Sir Lawrence Wargrave - Sam Wilmoth**

It was a dark and stormy night...well, no it wasn't.

In August 1944, ten strangers receive various invitations to come to Indian Island off the coast of Devon, England from U. N. Owen. After their arrival, a mysterious voice accuses each of them of having committed murder. Just as the poem above the mantle suggests, and as figurines of ten little Indians disappear, the guests are being murdered one by one. Will anyone survive the maniac, or will the play conclude as the poem does "...and then there were none"?

Look to our upcoming newsletter for more a window into the real life people who make up this murderous ensemble.

The Poem over the mantle reads...

### Ten Little Indians

Ten little Indian boys going out to dine;  
one choked his little self and then there were nine.

Nine little Indian boys sat up very late;  
one overslept himself and then there were eight.

Eight little Indian boys traveling in Devon;  
one got left behind and then there were seven.

Seven little Indian boys chopping up sticks;  
One chopped himself in half and then there were six.

Six little Indian boys playing with a hive;  
A bumble bee stung one and then there were five.

Five little Indian boys going for law;  
One got in Chancery and then there were four.

Four little Indian boys going out to sea;  
A Red Herring swallowed one and then there were three.

Three little Indian boys walking in the zoo;  
A big bear hugged one and then there were two.

Two little Indian boys sitting in the sun;  
One got frizzled up and then there was one.

One little Indian boy left all alone;  
He went and hanged himself and then there were none.

Ten  
Little  
Indians



...And then  
there were none.

## Importance of Record Keeping

Our opening show has been a roller coaster of records or lack there of. Since June, and probably before, there has been a glitch in receiving the scripts for Ten Little Indians. There was a goof somewhere in the system from a show from last year - and not on the part of ZCT. We had the records showing we paid - including faxing a copy of the cancelled check (several times), faxing bank copies of the records, numerous phone calls and a good bit of tenacity. Finally, we proved to the company's satisfaction that we had indeed paid the bill (*about a YEAR ago*).

The moral of the story - Keep good records, and even if you have all the records - that doesn't mean the other party will instantly admit their mistake and fix it. So be firm, be tenacious and keep things handy! And Good Luck!

## Through the Eyes of the Elk

The art show in the mall was pretty neat! Artistic skill from all levels was on display at the mall throughout July. Although we missed the live musicians we thoroughly enjoyed the visual and recorded artistry of local craftsmen and women.

We listened to the striking music of Charles Savage as we wandered the gallery of paintings, drawings and photography. Rich and I also watched the video of sights in and around our area. We were surprised to see several houses that were right down the road from our house. (Rats, almost famous!)

Mr. Charlie Kerns served as our information chauffeur. It is always interesting to meet new people and learn new things. I hope you took the opportunity to support the arts and enjoy a sampling of local art and history. Who knows, maybe next time something of mine might hang on the wall...



## A Board Member Heads West

Mary Jo Dondlinger is donning a cowboy hat and heading for the wide open ranges of Texas! TEXAS? How did THAT happen?

Well, her husband Russ was offered the opportunity not only to head west, but also work for a boss he really liked and receive a bit of a pay raise. He took the trip, interviewed and liked what he saw. He accepted the new position. Mary Jo's prospects were good, too. Teachers in Texas are at an appreciated premium. Her salary would rise too.

The drawback is leaving. Packing, house hunting, transferring schools for the kids, moving...and saying good bye to those who are left behind. With our hopes for the promised land of happiness - Best of Luck to you and your family. It won't be easy replacing your part on the board - you will be missed here in Ohio.

## Trivia

Who played the part of the Dentist on the first movie of Little Shop of Horrors?

## Returned to Sender

I tried to write you but your letter kept coming back....

I've been cleaning out my e-mail box and the address of several folks keep bouncing back to me. If you know someone who has signed up to be on the mailing list but hasn't received any mail from ZCT, please let me know and I'll correct the glitch on my list. Thanks a bunch!

## Congrats!

We wish proud congratulation to Todd King's son Jordan who graduated from Boot Camp this weekend! Congrats Dude!

## Audience Choice Certificates

Our 40<sup>th</sup> Season welcomed many changes to ZCT, a higher standard of show quality, a greater effort to welcome the community to the workings of ZCT and a goal to have more fun in everything that we do. A move in that direction was the addition to the Audience Choice Awards. Audience members were asked to vote for their favorite actor by placing a monetary donation with their vote. He or she with the most money collected won the Audience Choice for that show.

This season we will dedicate part of our Lobby to our actors of excellence by hanging certificates in their honor. Who was our audience's favorite for our 40<sup>th</sup> Season?

Mollie Earich was our very first award winner for her portrayal as Nurse Ratched in *ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST*.

Paige Daily won the hearts of voters for her work in *WINNIE THE POOH*.

*GODSPELL* - well, audiences created a 3-way tie! What a surprise for us! The winners are Megan Francis, Libbi Short and Patti Kenney.

Believe it or not, *THE TAMING OF THE SHREW* brought us another tie! This time it was Ansel Burch and Ian Milheim who took the honors.

The cast of *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK* did not host the audience choice awards, instead focusing on the heart of the story. The show's fund raiser was thanks to a generous ZCT Member, Mollie Earich, who donated six wonderful books - one to raffle each night of the performance.

This year the Audience Choice will continue but in a newer, easier way. Jars will be placed in the lobby with the character's name and picture. Voting will be again with donations - and again, the actor or actress with the most total dollars collected will be our Audience Choice Winner.

We are also working with the crew behind each show to promote a raffle for each weekend of

the show. The prize might range from anything from sound tracks, books, movies or paraphernalia. Feel free to participate and know that your donations - either for the raffle or for voting on your favorite actor (or actress) goes towards the improvement of our facility.

A HUGE thanks to all those who have helped make the tough decisions to honor our best and make our theatre a better place to be!!

## Mark your Calendars!

We have a **Board Meeting!!**

WHEN? Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

WHERE? ZCT

TIME? 5:00



**SHOWTIME!!!**

### *TEN LITTLE INDIANS*

WHEN? - The weekends of September 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>

TIMES? - Fridays & Saturdays at 8:00

Sunday Matinees at 2:30

WHERE? - ZCT

Call Zanesville Community Theatre at 455-6487 to make reservations.