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# THE BACKSTAGE PASS

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Season 40 Letter 6

November 11, 2002

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## The Newsletter of the Zanesville Community Theatre

### Note from the President

A certain aroma is in the air, the smell of leaves as they turn colors and fall to the ground. Things are slipping into a dormant stage as if the world is reflecting on what its done this summer. So when it starts it all over again - next spring it'll get it just right. I think we can learn a lot from the world around us. Don't push too hard, take it as it comes, and do what you need to do to get it done.

As you may know, I tend to have strong ties to Christmas, a certain affinity to the holiday season, if you will. While know I can't change mass marketing, I wish we could enjoy Halloween and Thanksgiving first. For that matter Labor Day. One of the very special things about Christmas is anticipation. Ornaments, lights and trees in August don't really get it. When I was little, we would push Mom to put our tree up the day after Thanksgiving. It didn't happen, but we tried every year.

I guess, for me, I'll smell the leaves before the pine trees and try to do a little reflecting as Indian Summer affords us a chance to be melancholy and introspective. But the day after Thanksgiving watch out because there's still a six year old inside who's saying lets put up the tree today, can we? Huh?

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Yours truly,  
Richard Tolliver

### The Event Not to Miss

Mark your calendars now for Valentine's Day Saturday. I know, I know - I'm way early. Let me explain. The Board of Zanesville Community Theatre is planning *The Event* of the new season. Not only is it the event not to miss, but all proceeds go directly to fund the ZCT HVAC and Building Renovation Fund. (If you had the opportunity to see Cuckoo's Nest - you realize the need for air conditioning.)

What is happening?

On Saturday, February 15 Zanesville Community Theatre will present "Chuck Spires, An Evening with Family and Friends". This event will be held at Secrest Auditorium - show begins at 8:00. (We are finalizing the ticket prices at the moment - we are working on keeping them near ZCT prices) Chuck Spires is gathering world class musicians from across the nation- including his son David who is ranked among the top 5 Steel Guitar Players nationwide and Don Hanes from the Don Hane's Trio - just to drop a few names.

Chuck Spires is a gifted music instructor who's resume includes performing for The Smoky Mountain Steel Guitar Jamboree, Porter Wagoner, and The Platters - to name few. He won first place for THREE straight years at The American Guild of Music. He was also the President of the International Music Association for 15 years. He's been conducting private lessons for 45 years here locally.

Keep your calendars open and keep watching the newsletter for updates and information. The plan is for Secrest to handle the tickets and reservations. We are looking for sponsors, too. The benefits of being a sponsor? Besides being involved - your name and/or business will be featured in the Event's program - and - depending on sponsorship level, you and your business will be included in our season program for our 41st Season. For more information feel free to contact Rich Tolliver at 754-2914 or any of ZCT's Board Members!

## The Crew of Winnie the Pooh

This crew has been working their “tales” off!

TY DIAMOND plays the lead, Winnie the Pooh. He is 13 years old and likes to be in front of people and entertain them. He has quite an impressive resume as far as stage appearances. It includes Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Grease, Wizard of Oz, Christ’s Birth, the Christmas Story, and Peter Pan just to begin the list. He enjoys history, skateboarding and paintball.

PHOENIX PALMER is new to the stage and she plays an Animal. She writes that her favorite of being on stage is talking. She “LOVES” basketball, cheerleading and dancing.

KATIE PEIFER is a gal who performs to please an audience. She is 10 years old and plays the part of the Rabbit. Her stage experience includes last season’s finali of Ramona Quimby and our upcoming Angel Tree. She likes to hang out with friends, dance, sing, and act. She attends St. Nicholas.

TONY PALMER (the brother of Phoenix) is eight. He enjoys reading, karate and cheering. He also likes airplanes. His start on stage has been working in Christmas Plays. He plays a woodland critter.

SARAH STEPP is one of our familiar faces from the Angel Tree. She’s been part of our Christmas Crew for six years. This 12 year old uses her favorite subject, English, to write stories. She also likes listening to music as well as being in the band. Her favorite part of being on stage is interacting with the others. She is our Owl.

SAMANTHA STEPP is our mysterious Voice for the show. She and her sister Sarah, have been in our Angel Tree Benefits for many years now. When asked “What is your favorite part of being on stage?” she writes “...is you have the lights beaming down on you, and the audience is starring at you, ready to know what you have to say”. She likes swimming, basketball, and writing. Which is good because her favorite subject is spelling.

IAN MILHIEM plays Christopher Robin. His stage experience isn’t limited to acting. He’s been a stage manager, set assistant, tribute creator and, of course acting. His favorite part of being on stage? “The freedom it gives you, really. I mean, what other medium can you walk around with a teddy bear as a 15 year old?” His hobbies? Acting and working on a film that he is creating.

MALEEHA LATIF graces us a Eeyore, which is her first show in this building (ZCT). As for her favorite part of being

on stage...”its the people looking and we speaking”. Her favorite subject at school is recess. She enjoys biking.

OLIVIA EARICH plays “Sparkely” Skunk. This 9 ½ year old has recently been in Fiddler on the Roof. She writes that her favorite part of being on stage is “People seeing my shining face”. Favorite Subject - Reading. Hobby - Acting. For Fun - Singing and Dancing.

PAIGE DALEY returns to our stage from her title role as Ramona Quimby to become our Piglet. She hangs out with her friend, Amber M. Her hobby is acting and she really likes math. Her favorite part of being on stage? “People watching me and just doing what I like.”

HANNAH DALEY is our 7 year old Roo! Her stage appearances include Ramona Quimby and Toyland. She enjoys the audience too. She likes spelling and hanging out with her friends.

MICHELLE DALEY is Kanga! This energetic mom of four, including Paige and Hannah, enjoys playing characters other than herself. She works with children all day as a second grade teacher. She loves sewing and reading.

JESSICA MEDAUGH is Animal #3. This is her second show, her first being A Christmas Carol. This cat lover is fond of math and rates watching TV as her main hobby. This 15 year old’s favorite part of being on stage is the “bow to the people”.

FORREST CAMMA plays the part of Animal #. This 8 year old football player returns to ZCT - His first show was Ramona Quimby where he played the lovable best friend of Ramona, Howie. He views being on stage as being fun.

SADIE MC CARTHY is four and a half. This busy gal is learning her letters and how to write them. She tap-danced last year and is in gymnastics this year. She enjoys being a Bunny for this show. Her former stage experience includes two Angel Tree Benefits.

MADDY MC CARTHY, sister of Sadie, is seven. She has one more year of Angel Tree Benefits than her sister. Her favorite part of being on stage is talking. She also enjoys Science, basketball and soccer. Look for her as an Animal in the show.

CHYNA CAMMA plays a rabbit. Her stage experience include Ramona Quimby and A Mid Summer’s Night Dream. She writes that her favorite part of being on stage is “showing our community what we can do”. She enjoys reading and cheering for MCA Panthers Competitions. Not too bad for an eleven year old!

## Trick or Treat at ZCT

On a cold Wednesday night in October the gang from the Wizard of Oz appeared to pass out candy at the theatre. It was a crazy and fun thing to do. We had ourselves a time. The cast, you ask? Dave Hammer was the Scarecrow, Amy Ritchey was our Lion, (although she wasn't all that cowardly) Ian Milheim played our Tin Man, Georgia Wilcox was our Good Witch Glinda, her husband, Jason was our esteemed Wizard, Chris Hammer was our Auntie Em in costume, and I played Dorothy. We even had a melted Wicked Witch on the steps! Even the neighbor across the street lent me her cute poodle to play Toto! (Thanks Gretchen)

We made quite the team! If you did see us, be sure to check the ticket that was attached to the treat...some of them are winners for a Free Child's Admission to see Winnie the Pooh (with a paid adult) The winning tickets have the Winnie the Pooh theater logo on them - a tree with a hive. Check out your tickets and come see a show!!!

Oh, if you hear something about "Trash Mouth Dorothy" its complete Halloween Bunk!!!.....

## ZCT on Display

During the month of December look for our display at the Colony Square Mall! Karen Young noticed a number to call to see if there was space available. At the last Board Meeting, it just so happens that Angel Palmer knows the contact person and she did the leg work. Guess What? We are in!!!

December 1st will be the day I'll be there. So as you drift through the mall this shopping season, swing by the customer service center and take a look! And if you see Karen or Angel - thank them for the heads up. Anything that offers us a chance to let others get to know us, is an opportunity to welcome people to our craft. For being around 40 years, many folks of Zanesville STILL don't know we are here! Let's keep working on changing that.

## Our Secretary had Surgery

Recently Jan Kiikka had surgery on her foot. I am happy to report that she is on the mend and doing fine! Hope you "heel" up soon!



## Angel Tree Raffle Donations Needed

Our Angel Tree is off and running. We have an excited assortment of folks this year and they are ALL fired up on becoming the characters of Cold Water Springs. Soooo, while we are doing our jobs on creating a show - we need your help on building our raffle.

For many of our recent Angel Tree Benefits, we've held a raffle. It brings in about 1/3 of our donation money. We sell the tickets for \$1 each or six for \$5. Our raffles have included over the years, gold jewelry from L. T.'s Jewelers, Gift Certificates, giant stuffed animals, a drill, baskets, dolls, jewelry boxes - and the list goes on. All of our raffle prizes are donations.

On the Sunday of our show, we draw names and hand out prizes to the people who are there. Its a frenzy of excitement. Last years buzz was for a cordless drill. Who would have guessed that? And it wasn't just guys in the frenzy. The ladies wanted it just as bad!

Would you, or a friend of yours consider donating something to our raffle? If so, please let us know. ZCT is a non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible. All monies collected go directly towards the Angel Tree Benefit. *ZCT doesn't keep a dime!* Every thing we collect goes towards helping the needy families of Zanesville and neighboring communities.

If you would like more information or to make a donation, feel free to call me at home - Shelley or Rich at 754-2914 or ZCT at 455-6487. We appreciate it very much!

## Looking for Play Submissions

We've begun our 40th Season and already we are on the hunt for our 41st! Are you or one of your friends interested in Directing? Why not give it a whirl? If you are curious, call the theatre and ask for a submission packet. Now don't panic - we can sit with you and go through it. It looks more intimidating than it really is. Think of a show that your really like and a time frame that you can work with. Showtime space at ZCT is nearly 3 months.

For information call ZCT at 455-6487 or leave a message here at the house - 754-2914. There is no better time than the present to try something you've been thinking about for a while.

## Meet a Member

**A**ngel Palmer is our Board Member of November. She also serves as the Assistant Director for Winnie the Pooh. Don't forget - show time is the weekends of November 8th and 15th.

*What year did you first become involved with ZCT?*

I first became involved in February of 2002 with Big River.

*What brought you in?*

I have always wanted to be a part of the theatre. I enjoyed working backstage in high school, and have been active with the Zaney Follies for a number of years and Big River was the catalyst that brought me in.

*Tell us a little about yourself...family, work, hobbies etc*

I have a hard time defining myself without bringing in my family. I am very happily married to Phil and have been for the last decade. We have a beautiful daughter named Phoenix and a spirited son named Tony. I keep busy with home schooling the two of them, teaching a home school Spanish class, working at Orthopaedic Associates in the Radiology Department, finishing two Bachelors Degrees, and, in my spare time, helping my husband with his youth ministry. I enjoy singing, dancing, torturing my family with my pitiful attempts at piano playing, and performing on stage.

*What is your favorite part of theater?*

Having directed youth programs for the past three years in my church, I can honestly say I prefer to be on the stage performing!

*What is your favorite show?*

Big River. I was so impressed that such a small stage was able to encompass that large show!

*What are your goals as a member?*

To help make the community aware of the positive attributes of this theatre. Many a shy child was able to find a niche by being able to have such a positive outlet as the theatre.

## We Extend Our Condolences

**B**oard Member Darren Brown had to make arrangements to leave the country to help his Mom with a loved one's funeral arrangements. Our hearts go out to him and his family.

## Done to Death?

**N**o, ZCT isn't doing this show - but a member's daughter is. Jillian Von Gunten graces the stage of Rosecrans as Mildred Z. Maxwell. I asked her to write me an article to pass on the theatrical word.

Who: Bishop Rosecrans Drama Club - Directed by Alice Mauk

What: 5 Once famous mystery writers; a couple who only write the most sophisticated of murders, a young author of the James Bond school, a retired writer of the hard hitting method, and an aging Queen of the logical murder, involve the audience as they explore their own methods of investigation on a series of murders. The story alternates between reality and imagination as the 5 authors struggle with writing a television mystery series. All around them murders occur and each writer takes a turn at solving them in their own style.

When: Nov. 15 @ 8:00

Nov. 16 @ 8:00

Nov. 17 @ 2:30

Call 453-3717 for ticket info. Adults \$5, Students \$3

Cast List?

Rodney Duckton - Tom La Plante, Mildred Z. Maxwell - Jillian Von Gunten, Whitney Olive - Michael Davy, Jessica Olive - Jill Rogovin, Brad Benedict - Matt Moorehead, Jane - Qathii Feerick, Gregory - Dan Ofofino, Martha - Emily Lolopajlo, Secretary - Michelle Taylor, Stagehand - Azeem Kaka.

## “Tanks” A Lot

**R**ecently we had a small problem with the backstage toilet.

Building Committee Chair Rick Milheim to the Rescue!!!! If you've ever watched children and the bathroom malfunctions..... you get the drift. Thanks for fixing it!



## Music in the Air

**D**ee McCarthy is a woman with many talents. Not only is she the upcoming Music Director for Godspell, a mother of three, a wife and a therapist - but she is also the woman behind Kindermusik.

I asked Dee to squeeze me in a article. The concept caught my attention. With all of the budgetary cuts in education, children are missing some of the wonders of the world. She writes:

Kindermusik is music and movement activities for children 7 and younger. Parents or care givers learn about their child's development, and why the music activities further their child's development, while they are having fun in group. I started with the toddler group called Our Time for ages 18 months to 3 years. We meet on Tuesdays at 10 AM and 6 PM (soon to be changing to 7 PM in February for session #2). Next year I hope to add groups for the 3 to 5 year olds called Imagine That! We sing songs, play instruments like egg shakers, rhythm sticks, sand blocks and jingle bells. They also explore other instruments like the recorder, glockenspiel, resonator bells, and various drums. We dance, do vocal and finger explorations, have story time, and rock. I can be contacted to ask questions, attend one session, or register for classes at 607-2630 or at dmccarth@columbus.rr.com.

If you are interested - I think its a great way to fire up a young mind.

## Special Days

**I** missed the birthday list last month. OOPS! Here's belated birthday wishes to Dick Tolliver and Olivia Earich - who share special days, and Susan Davis.

Birthdays for this month include Martha Staley, Ann Taylor, Chris Hammer and Me.

There is an Anniversary in November too. Dick and Dru Tolliver enjoy their 44th anniversary on the 22nd of this month. Congrats!

## Lobby Thanks

**T**he Lobby at ZCT changes with each show this year. Todd King has donated some of his collection of Winnie articles for the run of the show. Angel Palmer also contributed items from her children's collection. Be sure to take a look. Thanks Todd. Thanks Angel.

## Audience Choice

**Z**CT started a new fund raiser this season. Its called the Audience Choice Awards. It gives our audience a chance to vote on their favorite characters. Our Actor or Actress with the most total dollars collected by the end of their show's run is honored with a certificate. That Certificate will be hung in the lobby for the duration of the season.

How can we participate? Welllllll

- 1) Watch the show, go to the lobby and get a ticket
- 2) Write the name of your favorite character on the ticket
- 3) Jot down your name and phone number
- 4) Grab an envelope
- 5) Place your nomination AND donation in the envelope
- 6) Place nomination in gold box marked "Audience Choice"

Then what? After the first weekend, we hold a drawing for the show. All valid entries are placed in the box and a winner is chosen after the Sunday show. Then, after the last show, a second show drawing is held. The Show Prize is in a theme with the show. Winners are notified by telephone.

The Audience Choice is determined after the final show. All nomination & donations are tallied. He or she with the highest dollar tally wins our Choice Award.

What happens to the donations? All monies collected will go towards the HVAC and Building Renovation Fund.

## Trivia

**O**ur question last issue was "In what state is Coldwater Springs located?"

The answer - NORTH DAKOTA

Our new Trivia Question is - What year did we do "The Cowboy" at ZCT?



## Mark Your Calendars

**G**rab a Marker - this is a busy month!

WINNIE THE POOH!!

When? The weekends of November 8th and 15th

Where? ZCT

Times? Fridays and Saturdays @ 8:00

Sundays @ 2:30

AUDITIONS FOR GODSPELL!

When? Sunday, November 24th

Monday, November 25th

Where? ZCT

Times? 7:00 pm

THANKSGIVING!!!

When? Thursday, November 28th

Where? Everywhere!

Times? ALL DAY!

Enjoy your day!!!