



Stage Whispers

V E R O B E A C H T H E A T R E G U I L D

“Barefoot In The Park” Completes 2007-2008 Anniversary Season



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“It’s always fun to go to a Neil Simon Show” said Dee Hayward-Ridenour, director of the Vero Beach Theatre Guild’s final show of the 2007-2008 season.

The comedy “Barefoot in the Park” will run May 8-18 and will bring to a close the theatre’s 50th anniversary celebration season.

“Simon never dwells on the dark side of life,” said Ridenour, “but creates his humor dealing with the every-day situations and the silliness of some of our foibles.”

“The audience can sit there and say, ‘Yeah! She’s just like my Aunt Tillie’ or exclaim, ‘Wow, that happened to me once!’”

In this production of “Barefoot” the director has used the youthful energy of the cast to add physical dimension to some of the situations with a little music and dance, she has spiced up this 40-year-old-



yet still current-play.

It’s a cold February in the early 1960’s and the young newlyweds Paul (Stephen Cembrinski) and Corie Bratter (Dana Rogers) have set up housekeeping in a highly inadequate New York City tenement apartment five flights above the ground.

With no elevator, complications to this hilarious saga are added by visits from the bride’s mother, Mrs. Banks (Jo Giesecke); an overly-friendly odd-ball neighbor, Victor Velasco (Bob Niemyer); and a “atired” telephone repairman (Derek Giesin).

As the newlyweds personalities begin to emerge, one wonders if Paul will accept Corie’s obstinate challenge

to “walk barefoot in the park” on a cold wintry day.

Off-stage assistance is provided by Denise Lee, production manager; Jo-Ann Mattison, producer; Ann McCabe, set designer; and Caitie Meadors, stage manager.

Managing back-stage duties are Ann McCabe, costumes; Anne Talbot, props; Madelyn Rogers, hair/makeup; Ed Des-sureau, sound; Denise Lee, lights.

Sponsoring this hit comedy is the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

Nine performances are scheduled. See page four of this newsletter for dates and times. Early reservations are advised.

Tickets, at \$20 (A Section) and \$18 (B Section), are available at the Box Office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday—Friday and two hours prior to the performance, Call 562-8300.

See you at the Theatre!





Presidents Corner



We've had such a great response to this previously published request that we felt it warranted another notice in this edition of *The Whispers*.

With a worldwide acknowledgement that we should all be attempting to go "Green" I thought it might be a good time to talk about going "Green" at the Guild. Our goal is to go "Green" by saving our theatre some "Greenbacks" specifically by the way of reducing the amount of paper used, volunteer time and energy spent as well as the increased cost of mailings. How about helping us out with this project by providing the Guild with your e-mail address so that future issues of our "*Stage Whispers*" can be distributed efficiently via the internet. Simply request to receive your own electronic copy of "*Stage Whispers*" by filling out the form on page three of this issue and send it back to the Guild or drop it off at the Box Office. Additionally you will also soon be able to visit our Vero Beach Theatre Guild Website and simply download your own copy of the latest "*Whisper*" as needed. And as always for

your added convenience we will keep plenty of "*Whisper*" copies on hand for you here at the Guild's Box Office. Stay tuned for more information and thanks again for your help and consideration in our "*Greenbacks*" project.

The Board Of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of the Directors for our 2008-2009 Season: George Carabin—*The Cemetery Club*—Sept. 18—28; Mark Wygonik—*Broadway Showstoppers*—Nov. 13—23; Clara McCarthy—*The Perfect Wedding*—Jan. 15—25; Tony Della Rocca—*My Fair Lady*—Mar. 12—29 and Gary Sayles—*Opel is a Diamond*—May 14—24.

A special thank you is extended to all those who took the time and effort to send a letter of interest requesting a consideration to be selected as a director at the Guild this next season. It was, for the most part, a very difficult decision for the Board of Directors this year to narrow down a very experienced list of interested director applicants to the final five to cover the five scheduled main stage productions for this next season. The Guild is truly fortunate to have so many

talented folks who are interested in offering their time, energy and talents for the good of the Guild Family year after year.

Don't miss out on our 50th Genie Awards Banquet scheduled for Saturday, June 21st at the Elks Lodge of Vero Beach. You should soon be receiving your invitation for the banquet which will be only \$20 this year. So please return your RSVP as soon as possible and please notify the box office if you have not received your invitation by the end of May.

If you haven't noticed your 2008-2009 season brochures lists our new starting times at 7:00 p.m. for those shows other than Friday and Saturday 8:00 p.m. evening performances and those matinees scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the regular 2:00 p.m. show time. Please let us know how this earlier curtain time goes, your feedback is important.

Last but certainly not least, please mark your calendars for the Guild's Annual Members Meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 26th at 7:00 p.m. Please plan on attending and help us make a difference.

Hope to see you there.



Greenback Project

Yes, Count Me In, I Want to Help Go Green

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

- 1. Please mail to: P.O. Box 1502, Vero Beach, Florida 32961-1502 or**
- 2. Drop this form off at the box office 10am to 2pm Mon—Fri, or better yet**
- 3. E-mail your address to edwarddessoreau@comcast.net, please mark the subject as: I Want To Go Green**

Heart of the Guild

Oh what a “Night and Day” it was!

If one could ask for a show to be extended Mark Phillip Wygonik’s production of “Night and Day” would be on the top of the list. The show was a fitting tribute to our 50th Anniversary Season bringing together performers from the Guild’s past and present.

Marks choice of the “Circle of Life” for the finale brought home that feeling of the unity of all those involved in theatre and the tribute given in the Green Room prior to the performance of “we have been, we are now and we always will be family” is one that should ring true in the hearts of all thespians.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mark Phillip Wygonik, Director; David Blackburn, Musical Director/Pianist; Chris Foster, Choreographer; Carole Strauss, Pro-

ducer; Laura Cooney, Stage Manager; Denise Lee, Production Manager; David Lewis, Sound; Jan Meyers, Lighting; Gerry King. Jo-Ann Mattison, Anne Talbot and Larry Thompson, Backstage Tech; Chris Sexton, Serendipity Dancers; Sam Rohlfling Baita and Joyce Levi, History Notes. Performers, Susan Baxter-Gibson, David Blackburn, Ruth Cooney, Jim Docter, Ben Earman, John Earnhardt, Chris Foster, Belinda Johnson, Meghan Colleen Moroney, Edmund Nalzarro, Tania Ortega-Cowan and Dana Rogers. The Serendipity Dancers, Amanda Jordan, Michaela Lockwood, Jocelyn Callaghan Sample and Amber Shawl. Readers, Peter Peck, Sarah Morley, Joyce Levi, Carolyn Toohey, John Toohey and Mark Philip Wygonik. Our thanks also goes out to the Actors Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild

for permitting the Artists to appear in the production.

As this season comes to an end with our last show the Guild will still be a busy place over the summer. Our air conditioners will be moved from the roof and set on new pads and our roof leaks will hopefully be over. New main stage curtains will be installed and our sound system will have some updates done to enhance next years productions.

There will be one more Whispers for this season after the Genie Awards and the Election of Officers at the Annual Members Meeting.

The Whispers will be on line for next season at the Guild’s web site, verobeachtheatreguild.com and the e-mail Whispers will also be up and running.



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 saradess@comcast.net

If you're moving
Call the Box Office with your new address



Guild at a Glance



Board Meetings to be held on the first Thursday of the month at 7 P.M.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

May	Barefoot in the Park	May 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 at 8 p.m. May 14 at 7 p.m. May 1, 17, 18 at 2 p.m.
June	Genie Awards Annual Meeting	June 2, 2008 at the Elks Lodge of Vero Beach June 26, 2008 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium