



THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

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February 2017

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Syndi Zook

Aluminum girders going up, slabs drilled for new plumbing and wiring and did I just see new bathroom fixtures going by??? Yes! We are in full swing here at 7 Green Tree, in renovations mode and right on target. I will never complain about the sound of the table saws building sets again after these two months of drills and hammering on our actual walls. Lyric volunteers are helping with moving, shelving, carpeting, and painting in the new space while over 100 OTHER volunteers are working to put on our next show. When we picked *9 to 5 The Musical* we had no idea that would be the theme for the entire organization this spring! What an amazing community effort. In addition to fixing up a building and putting on a show, Lyric also managed to perform at the 50+ Senior and Baby Boomer Expo on January 28th. Thank you to Erin Evarts, Megan Beaucage and Craig Hilliard for leading the Lyric Winter Cabaret Singers in a glorious tribute to Broadway. Also at the event Lyric's Savvy Seniors group entertained, performing skits to help us all combat identity theft and telemarketing fraud. The skits are written by Ken Wolvington and are very funny and informative. Savvy Seniors performances are another great way Lyric gives back to the community who support us! So.....if you have any time to volunteer for Lyric in the next three months, we have 99 jobs that need to get done! Please call the office or go to the Lyric website for more information.

THANKS TO EXPO VOLUNTEERS

By Pat Boera

Lyric's Winter Cabaret cast reprised their First Night performance at the Vermont 50-Plus and Boomer Expo on Saturday, January 28th. An appreciative audience enjoyed the diverse selection of songs from productions ranging from *The Pirates of Penzance* to *Hamilton*. Special thanks to the artistic team and the 16-member cast.

Simultaneously, Sarah Joslin, Mary Lou Lord, Rita Myers, Shari Bergstein, Pam Carter, Stephanie Miner, and Bill Suiter joined me in staffing Lyric's booth at the Expo, sharing information about our spring production of *9 to 5 The Musical*. We had several hundred visitors to the booth and all were invited to submit an entry to win tickets to the show's opening night on April 6th. Jean Isham of Hinesburg was the lucky winner!

A CLASSIC SHOW COMING SOON TO THE BIG SCREEN

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* comes to the big screen in March with Emma Watson as Belle, Dan Stevens as the Beast/Prince Adam, and Luke Evans as Gaston. Watch for news about a Lyric fundraiser tied to the movie's release.

IF YOU HAVE BUT TWO DAYS TO GIVE TO YOUR THEATRE COMPANY!

By Syndi Zook

My fellow Lyric members, the dates have been set and the battle plan is being laid, to land on the beaches of our new facility.....with all our stuff! Mark your calendar now for May 13th and 14th as we will be moving all of our assets from 55 Leroy Road to 7 Green Tree Drive. We need as many people as we can muster. Pick-ups and vans will be a great help too. Your reward? Food, music and the bragging rights of being able to say you were there the day Lyric moved in to our long-awaited Creative Facility. As Leroy Road is no longer ours, we must move EVERYTHING out. More later on this big event.

SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT

By Pat Boera

The Membership and PR/Development Committees held a joint meeting in January and unanimously voted to give a Spotlight Shout-out to Chris Brown in this issue. In recent months Chris has stepped up his engagement with Lyric. Currently, Chris is a member of the Lyric Board; Chair of the Membership Committee; Assistant Choreographer for *9 to 5 The Musical*; and the creative force behind Lyric's YouTube channel. Thanks for all you do, Chris!

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON DRESS FOR SUCCESS

By Pat Boera

During each show, Lyric likes to shine the spotlight on another area nonprofit. For *9 to 5 The Musical*, our nonprofit community partner is Dress for Success Burlington. The mission of this organization is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. During the April 6th through 9th run of *9 to 5 The Musical*, representatives from the local chapter of Dress for Success will be tabling in the lobby of the Flynn to raise awareness about their programs. Please stop by and visit with them when you're at the show.

RESTAURANT RAFFLE DURING 9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL

By Pat Boera

Gift certificates to some of Burlington's most popular eateries could be yours if you are the lucky winner of our raffle during *9 to 5 The Musical*. Tickets (\$10 each or three for \$20) will be on sale in advance as well as during the run of the show. Restaurants include American Flatbread, A Single Pebble, The Gryphon, Leunig's, Pizzeria Verità, and The Scuffer Tap & Table.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH
9 TO 5, THE MUSICAL**

For every person on stage in a Lyric Theatre production, there are at least three others who contribute their behind-the-scenes talents to bring the show to life. We need YOU to make *9 to 5 The Musical* a success! Join us.

Costumes

Crew Work Times: Wednesday and Friday, 5:30-8:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Contact: Lyn Feinson, l.feindesign@gmail.com or 802-363-0548; Debby "Dot" Decker, debbyd@gardeners.com

Hair and Make-up

Contact: Sarah Crowley, finishingtouchvt@gmail.com or 802-324-3651

House/Show Staffing

Contact: Pam Carter, pamela.carter@uvm.edu or 802-734-5657; Shirley Sweet, Shirley.sweet@uvmhealth.org or 802-363-9843

Lighting

Contact: Andy Pearson, apearsn@sbschools.net or 802-318-5832

Mardi Gras Parade

Note: The Mardi Gras Parade date is Saturday, March 11th, 2017.

Contact: Michael Tutt, Michael.tutt@comcast.net or 802-324-4219; Stephen Porter, sporter.blam@gmail.com

Parties – Opening Night Party & Production Party

Contact: Open position

Properties

Crew Work Times: Work times will be determined based on schedules of those who sign up for this crew

Contact: Mary McCann, zoomzee65@gmail.com or 802-999-2155

Safety & Security

Crew Work Times (at the Flynn): 5:00-11:00 p.m. weeknights; 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and 5:00-11:00 p.m. on weekends

Contact: George Henry, geojen58@comcast.net or 802-922-2233

Set Construction

Crew Work Times: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Contact: Tim Henderson, zeyde88@gmail.com or 802-242-0140; Charlie Church, ccchurchjr@comcast.net or 802-338-0864

Set Decoration

Crew Work Times: Monday and Thursday, 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Contact: Cathie Covey, 802-309-5061 or cath_717@yahoo.com

Sound Crew

Contact: Justin Brault, Justin21b@yahoo.com

If you have an interest, skill, or talent that doesn't seem to fit into any of the above, or have any other questions, contact Producers Rosalind Saunders, rzsanders@yahoo.com or 802-355-6641, or Mary Ellen Daniels, mp.daniels@comcast.net or 802-734-7633. They will be happy to talk with you about how you can become a part of Lyric Theatre Company's production of *9 to 5 The Musical*. Information is also available on our website: www.lyrictheatrevt.org



CARPENTERS TRIBUTE CONCERT

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

By Sally Olson

Starring Sally Olson and her all-star band, Carpenters Tribute Concert is the definitive show celebrating the music and history of the famed brother-sister duo. You will enjoy the signature hits "We've Only Just Begun," "(They Long To Be) Close To You," "Rainy Days And Mondays," "Superstar" and many more. Sally also offers commentary on the history behind the Carpenters' music, as well as Karen Carpenter's rise to fame and her sudden and tragic death at the age of thirty-two. Sally's stunning vocals combined with state of the art video projection, vintage costumes, historical commentary, lovely arrangements and a live band led by music director Bill Reed and featuring bassist Arthur DeQuasie and drummer Chanon Bernstein, will take you on an incredible journey into the world of the Carpenters. www.carpentertributeconcert.com

"Absolutely Delightful!" – Dennis Delaney, VPR

"An uncanny resemblance." – Lane Gibson Recording & Mastering

Upcoming Performances

Spotlight Vermont

50 San Remo Drive, South Burlington, VT

Saturday, February 18th, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: www.eventbrite.com

Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center

122 Hourglass Drive, Stowe, VT

Saturday, February 25th, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: www.sprucepeakarts.org

ArtsRiot

400 Pine Street, Burlington, VT

Wednesday, March 15th, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: www.artsriot.com

ANNOUNCING OUR FALL 2017 PRODUCTION

By Kelly Kendall

A Christmas Story: The Musical is coming to Lyric Theatre Company! We are very happy to be teaming up with some of Lyric's finest to bring this delightful production to life for our fall 2017 production. Our Kendall & Kendall production team includes Music Direction by Martin Hain; Choreography by Kate Whalen and Doris O'Brien; Stage Manager, Pam Carter; Set Designer, Cheri Forsythe; Lighting Design, Andy Pearson; and Technical Director, Tom Dunn. Three Cheers for these and other soon-to-be-named, hard-working Lyric members!

Many people are familiar with the movie, shown 'round the clock at Christmas-time and based on the semi-autobiographical writings of author and humorist, Jean Shepherd—it's become almost a cult classic. The family-friendly stage musical takes a softer, nostalgic, but no less humorous view of Ralphie and his quest for the ultimate Christmas present.

The stage show relies on Jean, the narrator to bring us back to 1940's Indiana, and introduce us to the story. ("It All Comes Down to Christmas") Nine-year-old Ralphie has one wish for Christmas: a Red Ryder Carbine Action 200 shot air rifle. ("Red Ryder Carbine Action BB Gun") Despite his mother's, his teacher's and even Santa's warning that he'll shoot his eye out, Ralphie dreams and schemes. Meanwhile, his younger brother Randy won't eat, his Old Man fights the neighbors dogs and dreams of a prize-winning crossword puzzle entry, ("The Genius on Cleveland Street") and Mother keeps everything running, if not smoothly, then forward toward Christmas. ("What a Mother Does")

Christmas approaches, and Ralphie's schemes to convince his parents that he needs an air rifle fail one by one. ("Ralphie to the Rescue") The Old Man actually wins an award--and it's a Major Award--in the shape of a leg: A Leg Lamp! Mother is horrified! ("A Major Award") Back at the schoolyard, ("A Sticky Situation") Ralphie decides his last chance for the air rifle is an "A+" grade on his theme. ("You'll Shoot Your Eye Out") When even that goes wrong, Ralphie unexpectedly snaps and turns his fury on the dreaded schoolyard bully, Scut Farkus. With Randy in tow, Mother brings Ralphie home and comforts him, telling him that ("Just Like That") things will be better.

That evening, after a trip to see Santa, ("Up on Santa's Lap") Mother accidentally breaks the Leg Lamp. She and the Old Man quarrel, and the boys wonder what they can do to make their parents feel better. ("Before the Old Man Comes Home") They reconcile sweetly, but it's Christmas Eve, and the boys need to get in bed so Santa can come! ("Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana") Finally, it is Christmas morning. When all the presents are open, the Old Man points to one more present for Ralphie to open. Wonder of wonders: the Red Ryder Carbine Action 200 shot air rifle! ("Ralphie to the Rescue, Reprise")

While the smell of Christmas turkey wafts through the air, Ralphie heads to the back yard, armed and ready, and immediately shoots his eye out. Actually, he shoots at a tin can and the rebound knocks his glasses off, smashing them to bits. Thinking quickly, Ralphie runs to Mother and

manufactures a story about the amazing bouncing shot, and to his amazement, she buys it! Feeling very pleased with himself, Ralphie joins his family. To their horror, the dogs next door have snuck into the kitchen and have stolen and eaten their Christmas turkey. After a moment of silence, the Old Man declares that the family will be having Chinese food for Christmas, and they all pile into the car to head to the only open restaurant in town.

Christmas ends with the boys tucked into bed, Ralphie clutching his beloved air rifle. Mother and the Old Man are under the tree; laughing softly, and happy that nobody "died or cried" on Christmas Day, ("A Christmas Story") Jean, the storyteller and narrator who has been our guide through the story, wishes us a Merry Christmas.

ON OTHER STAGES

★New York Stage Originals in collaboration with VTMTA presents *The Process*, a musical theatre program offering aspiring performers the opportunity to participate in a workshop of a new musical. Spotlight Vermont is hosting auditions on Saturday, February 11th, 1:00-5:00 p.m. For info and to set up an audition: info@spotlightvermont.com

★Very Merry Theatre presents *Bullets Over Broadway*, March 10th, 11th, and 12th. Info: www.verymerrytheatre.org

★Lost Nation Theater's season continues with *Judevine*, April 20th-May 7th, and *Into the Woods*, June 1st-18th at Montpelier's City Hall. Tickets/info: www.lostnationtheater.org

★UVM Theatre's season concludes with *Spring Awakening*, February 23rd-March 5th. Tickets/info: www.uvmtheatre.org

★Vermont Stage Company's season continues with *Native Gardens*, January 25th-February 12th; *Blackberry Winter*, March 8th-26th; *The Call*, April 19th-May 7th; and *The Bake Off*. Tickets/info: www.flynnntix.org

★ Middlebury Community Players present *Working*, from the book by Studs Terkel, April 27th-May 7th. Tickets/info: www.middleburycommunityplayers.org/tickets/

★ Essex Community Players proudly present *Stage Kiss*, February 23rd-March 5th; and *Pygmalion*, May 4th-14th. Tickets/info: www.essexplayers.com

★ The Flynn's Broadway Series includes *42nd Street*, March 27th; *Annie*, April 25th; and *Pippin*, May 10th. Tickets/info: www.flynncenter.org

★ Coming to Shelburne Town Center in April 2017, watch for Shelburne Players' productions of *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard and *Black Comedy* by Peter Shaffer. Tickets/info: www.shelburneplayers.com

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT FOR 9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL

Celebrate sisterhood by gathering your closest gal pals and planning an outing to *9 to 5 The Musical* during our five-performance run at the Flynn April 6th through 9th. Grab lunch and head to a matinee on Saturday or Sunday or opt for dinner and a show on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Round up enough friends and you could be eligible for a group discount. Call the Lyric Office at 802-658-1484 to learn more.



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



*Tickets—great gifts for date night
or a girls' night out!*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES
Board (Chair: Stephen Kendall): 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Facilities (Chair: Doug Viehmann): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies
PR/Development (Chair: Geri Ann Higgins): 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Education (Chair: Andrea Cronan): Meeting details TBA
Finance (Chair: Brian Meyer): 2nd Monday of the month, 12:00 noon, People's United Bank, 2 Bank St., Burlington
Membership (Chair: Christopher Brown): 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., home of the O'Connell's, Burlington
Show Selection (Chair: Margaret Welch): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies

PROUDLY SUPPORT LYRIC WITH A VALUE-PRICED PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

By Syndi Zook

Over 7,000 people will see Lyric's spring show which means those audience members can see you are a supporter of local arts and culture. Please consider a sponsorship in our show program. Contact Syndi Zook for sponsorship size and price options! Email director@lyrictheatrevt.org or call 802-658-1484. Sponsorships come in black and white or color.



**April 6th-9th, 2017
Flynn Center MainStage**

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