



CALLS & CUES

Waterville Playshop, PO Box 75, Waterville OH 43566

April 2017

A MOMENT WITH MATT

Matt Zwyer, Chair

"A fiddler on the roof. Sounds crazy, no?" The first and immortal lines of the beloved musical we present this month are also true for our humble theatrical group. "In our little village of [Waterville], you might say every one of us is like a fiddler on the roof, trying to scratch out a pleasant, simple tune without breaking his neck. It isn't easy." And like Anatevka, here at Waterville Playshop, we have our traditions for everything...how to act, how to dance, how to stand in a Playshop line!

But in all sincerity, our best moments have occurred when we tried to scratch out that simple tune working in unison and singing in harmony. And this season has been an example of just that! This year of celebrating traditions for young and old continues with both *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Maumee Indoor and celebrating a new building in Waterville. In case you haven't heard, Playshop finally has a physical home! While not specifically a theatre, our new building is a place for production, rehearsals, meetings, and other community and community-theatre related business; and it is none other than the former Waterville fire station. A huge thank you goes out to the current and former boards that have all helped to achieve this.

Sixty-five years strong, and over 200 shows in, Playshop has seen its share of ups and downs. We have been forced to move performances

throughout a handful of theater buildings, we have visited all the local churches for rehearsal space, and we have had our passionate artistic battles in the boardroom and on stage. However, one truth remains: we members have all cared and continue to care about the craft and each other. And I hope that continues for the next sixty-five years and beyond. As I get ready to hand over the gavel to incoming Chair, Inge Klopping, I wish the best to the casts of *Fiddler*, *Lion King*, and next year's board and productions! It has been an honor to be one of Playshop's representatives working with both *High School Musical* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Let's continue to shine and grow in our artistic Circle of Life, as I shamelessly plug June's youth show with that silly pun...still, with heartfelt honesty, I offer this aspiration to Playshop: to life; L'chaim!

2017-18 SEASON

Fairytale, Farce & Fantasy

Once Upon a Mattress

November 17-19, 2017

Spamalot

April 13-15, 2018

Alice in Wonderland Jr.

June 22-24, 2018

ON THE INSIDE

Fiddler Cast	Page 2
From The Archives	Page 3
HSM Review.....	Page 4
Children's Workshop.....	Page 5
Photos.....	Page 6

DIRECTORS NOTE: FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Michael Barlos, Director

Community theater is an amazing circle to be a part of. I think it's very similar to having neighborhood friends when you're a kid. Everyone shows up and plays a game. It doesn't necessarily matter who is playing or what the game is. You're all there to have fun and enjoy the company of your friends. Of course, we are one small circle surrounded by many other bigger circles but in our own nucleus, everyone is welcome and everyone works to welcome others, old and new. That certainly bodes well for me, as *Fiddler* is only my second encounter with Waterville Playshop and my first in the director's chair.

Since 2014, I have been directing high schoolers and young adults. I have grown quite accustomed to being the veteran theater mind that cast members can look up to. I'm so happy and so humbled to have a cast that not only pushes me to explore new ideas but actively removes me further and further from my comfort zone with each rehearsal. At 25, I never imagined that a room full of people, ages ranging from eight into the fifties, would all sit and listen to what I have to say. That makes the process so much less daunting and in turn, inspires me to work even harder to make the show succeed.

(cont'd on p. 2, column 2)

Meet the Cast of Fiddler...

Mark Taylor - Tevye
 Marsha Cochran - Golde
 Katie Trumbull - Tzeitel
 Adelle Blauser - Hodel
 Elizabeth Stuart - Chava
 Madelyn Snyder - Schprintze
 Evie Van Vorhis - Bielke
 Kim Baranek - Yente
 Ron Matanick - Lazar Wolf
 Quintin Bouillon - Motel
 Tom Maddigan - Perchick
 Trevor Gill-Snow - Fyedka
 Alan Frishman - The Rabbi
 Andrew Austin - Mendel,
 Perchick's Understudy
 Drew Fulton - Avram
 Mara Connor - Mordcha,
 Tzeitel's Understudy
 Denny Corathers - The Constable
 Cayla Kale - Fruma Sarah
 Cyndy Brookover - Grandma Tzeitel,
 Golde's Understudy
 Noah Taylor - Sasha
 Anna Irwin - Shaindel
 Katie Taylor - Yussel
 Andrew Varney - Nachum
 Skylar Frishman - Hodel's Understudy
 Bobbi Baranek - Chava's Understudy
 Shannon Ruhe - Yente's Understudy
 Tyler Strayer - Motel's Understudy
 Matt Badyna - Lazar Wolf's Understudy
 Tyler Cowdrey - Fyedka's Understudy
 Alex Kuhn - Mendel's Understudy
 Dennis Kale - Mordcha's Understudy
 Ensemble - Jodi Birkemeier, Keith
 Colyer, Nathan Cowdrey, Brooke
 Dove, Anna Eby, Fiona Ellison, Jack
 Ellison, Lars Ellison, Lisa Ellison,
 Vista Ellison, Abby Fitch, Courtney
 Gilliland, Ryleigh Hasenhour, Rylan
 Howard, Jillian Kelley, Ashlee
 Kluczynski, Ellie Landis, Ally
 LaPlante, Carly Meeker, Julie
 Meeker, Gary Miller, Denise Navarre,
 Liz Overberg, Mia Rettig, Lauren
 Smith, Kailey Snyder, &
 Dawn Trumbull

(cont'd from p. 1, column 3)

Now, a few weeks away from opening night, I have spent just over a month with the cast. I've seen them interact. Now we're starting to discover what the story means to the cast outside of the context of the plot line. The story of Tevye, a poor milkman, and his family has tugged at the heartstrings of audience members for years. Tevye's struggle to keep his balance between letting his daughters find love and keeping with an age old tradition is such a beautiful picture. The incorporation of family and tradition draws almost an exact parallel to our lives outside of Fiddler on the Roof. We have ten sets of relatives that will take the stage together, sharing the love of theater as a family. To name a few, Skylar Frishman, a senior in high school, auditioned with her father Alan, who hasn't been on stage in over twenty years; Mark Taylor, who is playing Tevye for the fifth time, auditioned with his Daughter, Katie, and son, Noah; Julie Meeker and Marsha Cochran, two staples in the Waterville community, auditioned with their daughters, Carlie and Shannon respectively; We even have a newly engaged couple! Adelle Blauser and Quintin Bouillon portray Hodel and Motel the Tailor.

This cast is full of vibrance and life and it's certain that they will bring that life to the stage at the end of April. I can't wait to share this wonderful story with the Toledo area!

LION KING JR.

AUDITIONS 4/22

Auditions are being held at the NEW Waterville Playshop Building, 808 Michigan Ave, Waterville, OH—next to the library. The audition times are 9:00am-1:00pm. Ages 6-18 are welcome to come and audition. Any questions can be directed to Shauna, at 419-708-1742. The show dates are June 23-25, 2017

Playshop Board of Trustees

Chair – Matt Zwyer
 mzwyer@gmail.com 419-276-0032
Vice Chair – Inge Klopping
 ikloppi@bgsu.edu 419-353-7052
Tickets—Ian Hayward
 Oianhay@gmail.com 419-343-5478
Publicity—Angie Peinert Weber
 angelapweber@gmail.com 419-704-7000
Business— Marsha Cochran
 mar756@aol.com 419-376-5513
Play Reading – Bart Soeder
 drbart13@yahoo.com 419-345-7134
Production—Tammy Fitch
 dfitch@bex.net 419-878-3883
Secretary – Kris Goodell
 kgoodell14@yahoo.com 419-866-6159
Treasurer – Gary Waugh
 gwaugh@accesstoledo.com 419-350-5479
OCTA Rep – Joe Barton
 jbarton22@msn.com 419-708-2190
Historian Sam Macera
 smacera859@aol.com 419-878-6826
Social— Hayley Babcock
 me@bradbabcock.net 419-533-3437

Newsletter Editors: Angie Peinert Weber
 & Publicity Committee

Box Office

Waterville Playshop tickets can be purchased through any cast member, online at watervilleplayshop.org, by calling the box office at 419-823-7364 or at the door, pending availability.



Waterville Elementary: Our First Home by Sam Macera

When the founders of Waterville Playshop decided to organize, the first order of business was to find a location for the productions. In the Village of Waterville, there weren't that many choices but there was only one obvious place: the Waterville Elementary School on River Road.



The current school was built in 1923 as an addition to the original 1886 building. In 1930 the 1886 section was torn down and a new addition attached to the 1923 building. Many Watervillians attended the school, including a number of Playshop members, and many wonderful memories of those times are often shared.

The school itself was not ideal for theatre. The stage was small with very little space in the wings for set storage. In addition, there were no seats. For each performance, folding chairs had to be brought in and set up and then taken down at the end of the usual two day run. But, it was a

stage and the creative members made it work, selecting shows that were always single set.

Our first production in the school was *George and Margaret* and presented there October 24, 25, 1952. In the meantime, Anthony Wayne High School was being built and the hope of the organization was that it would be completed in time for our second show, *Double Door*, scheduled for February 27 and 28, 1953 but delayed until March 6 and 7. Unfortunately, the school was not completed and our second production, *Double Door*, was also presented at Waterville Elementary School. Our third production, *Happiest Days of Your Life*, was presented in the new Anthony Wayne auditorium on June 13, 1953.

For the next 55 seasons, the AWHHS auditorium was our "home."

Unfortunately, time and population growth signaled the end of the school as an educational facility when the new Waterville Primary (née Elementary) opened on January 6, 1996. Over time the old school served as a location for various businesses. Playshop presented *The Adventures of a Bear Named Paddington* there in 1992 and the theatre group at the Methodist Church, Theatre for the World, presented the hilarious *Fools*. For a time a martial arts



company was there but long-time tenants were not forthcoming and for most of the time it remained empty.

Its ultimate demise came when the need for a new bridge became a reality and a location was needed to store construction equipment.

The school is gone but those wonderful memories live on.

(Incidentally, there is an excellent article on the school in the April 2017 issue of "Bend of the River" by John Roe, an archivist at the Waterville Historic Society.)



The cast on stage for *Double Door* (1953) at the old Waterville Elementary School. Note the foot-lights and the creative way the small stage was made to look larger.



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL REVIEW:

*By Christi King,
Spotlight Studio-Director*

Disney and high school are a staple of most children's lives making it a perfect paring for the theatrical stage. When entering the lobby of the Maumee Indoor Theatre the audience was transported back in time to the buzzing and vibrant halls of high school. Class pictures hung on the walls, the lines for concession were reminiscent of the school cafeteria and the crowds of people rushing around talking about who's who set the atmosphere for The Waterville Playshop's rendition of 'High School Musical.'

This story is a classic bubblegum version of boy meets girls. Pretty Brainiac Gabriella, played by Erin Ripley, meets basketball jock Troy Bolton, played by Jonathan Crawford, and they fall for each other against all social odds. Having met over the summer they find they have a mutual love for singing that bonds them tightly together and in the end their cliques together. Erin Ripley had a beautiful and sweet singing voice that lent itself to the authenticity of her character and Jonathan Crawford played the part of the basketball jock to cool and confident perfection. The innocence of young high school love was awkward and believable. The hysterical paring of siblings Sharpay Evans, played by Elizabeth Stuart, and Ryan Evans, played by Trevor Gill-Snow, carried the magical campy feeling of

The two story set design was amazing and built depth to an otherwise very shallow stage. Using the stage buildout around the orchestra pit and the theatre isles made for a truly interactive audience experience. The costuming was simple and cute as if it was taken right out of the hallways of any high school. The strong cast carried the peppy music through the audience despite some sporadic microphone issues from the lead characters.

What a great community performance from Waterville Playshop.

BOARD POSITION INFO



In May board positions will be open. Those include Vice-Chair, Ticket Trustee & Publicity Trustee. Have you always wanted to get involved but never have?? It might be your time!! Contact any board member for info and to get your name on the ballot. We will vote on positions at the Annual Meeting.

**Vice Chair (Serves one year
then second year as Chair)**

Ticket Trustee (2 year term)

**Publicity Trustee(2 year
term)**

SCHOLARSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE!!

Waterville Playshop awards scholarships each year to recognize students who have been active for at least 2 years, who exhibit a supportive attitude toward community theater, and are a positive role model in the performing arts.

More information and an application are available at our website www.watervilleplayshop.org

OCTA CALL BOARD

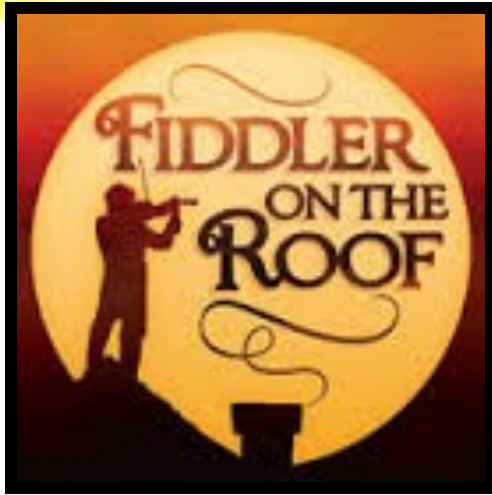
04/20-04/29 Boeing Boeing, Ft Finday Playhouse
04/21-04/29 Forever Plaid, Oregon CT
04/22-05/06 Farce of Nature, Off-Stage Productions
04/27-04/30 Oliver, Ft Defiance Players
04/28-05/07 Dixie Swim Club, Black swamp Players
04/28-05/07 Gameshow, Genoa Civic Theatre
05/04-05/14 Last Round-Up of the Guacamole Queens, VWCT
05/12-05/21 Scotland Road, Ritz Players
05/19-05/22 Sister Act, 3B Productions
06/22-06/25 Our Town, Ft Defiance Players
06/23-06/25 Lion King Jr., Waterville Playshop
07/28-07/31 The Wiz, Teen Production, 3B Productions



**ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION
SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday, May 13, 2017
More info to come!!

COMING UP!



Directed by: Michael Barlos

April 27-30th 2017



Directed by: Shawna Newbold

June 23-25 2017

@MAUMEE INDOOR THEATRE



Get your tickets online at www.watervilleplayshop.org, from any cast member, or call the box office at 419-823-7364 to leave a message.

****Group Rates are available for groups of 20 or more!!**

2017 Spirit Award Nominations

It's time to submit your recommendations for the current season's Spirit Award nominee. There is more information and a nomination form on our website, www.watervilleplayshop.org

THANK YOU—THANK YOU!!

Well.....we moved into our new location! Now we have a building for production building, holding auditions, rehearsals, and board meetings!!!

This move in comes with many thank you's.....and they go out to Mark Pike, Dave Fitch, Deb Snow, Jenny Gil, Hayley Babcock, Abby Fitch and Trevor Gil-Snow. We all worked very hard cleaning, hauling, and sorting the prop room. Thanks again to all of you!!!!

Tammy Fitch, production trustee

**Check out our
NEW & Improved
WEBSITE!**

