



From The President

Dear Theater Lover!

I'm so glad you are taking the time to look through our newsletter this month. Our next show, *Baby*, is going to sweep you off your feet. For a number of reasons, we will only be producing this over one weekend, but if you can manage to rearrange your schedule to be able to see it, you'll be glad you did. The music is beautiful, the lyrics, funny and profound, and the talent, outstanding. Director Inge Klopping, and Music Director Janine Baughman have recruited six outstanding leads who play three couples who have very different expectations and reactions to having a baby. Coming February 24, 25, and 26!

Also coming up is our final set of auditions for the year. *Dixie Swim Club* is a hilarious show featuring the former members of a college swim team who get together once a year to renew life-time friendships. The kinds of people you remain friends with even though in real life you probably wouldn't even have met them. The play shows these friends in the same location at different points in their lives, sharing the ups and downs. Auditions on Feb. 27 and 28. Sorry guys, women only!

Preparations for our golden anniversary are coming along and the board is getting ready. We have taken the unusual step of announcing our first production early so as to be able to be the regional premiere of *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* by Ken Ludwig...wait, isn't that the guy who wrote *Leading Ladies*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, and *Fox and the Fairway*? Indeed, you are right! Young Ben Forman who has made something of a specialty of the Ludwig body of work will make his directorial debut in bringing Conan Doyle's Holmes classic with a Ludwig twist to life.

I would like to close by extending a thank you. In spite of my long time involvement with BSP, my theater home, I had no idea, until this year, how much work goes into staging a production of a show, never mind a whole season of shows. When you sit and watch a production like *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* in the Clazel or *Sylvia* in FUMC, you only get to see the tip of the iceberg. The hours upon hours of effort are truly humbling. Our volunteers are why we exist. Thank you.

See you at the show!

Lane

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BABY: The Musical

Black Swamp Players is proud to present **BABY**. There is nothing more exciting, frightening and utterly transformational than impending parenthood. In *Baby*, three couples work their way towards parenthood under three very different sets of circumstances.

The three couples on a university campus deal with the painful, rewarding and agonizingly funny consequences of the universal experience of pregnancy and upcoming parenthood. There are the college students, Lizzie Fields (Courtney Gilliland) and Danny Hooper (Andrew Zon Austin), barely at the beginning of their adult lives; the thirty-somethings, Pam (Nicole Navarre) and Nick Sakarian (Chris Stack) who are having trouble conceiving but determined to try; and the middle-aged parents, Alan (Ward Ensign) and Arlene McNally (Mara Connor) looking forward to seeing their last child graduate from college...when a night of unexpected passion lands them back where they started.

The musical, full of heart and joy, examines how parents-to-be experience the emotional stresses and triumphs, as well as the desperate lows and the comic highs that accompany the anticipation and arrival of a baby.

Baby is the 1984 Tony-nominated Best Musical that has an original book by Sybille Pearson, music by David Shire and lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr. directed by Inge Kloppe with music director Janine Baughman. Performances are February 24 and 25 at 8 pm and February 26 at 2 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 1526 E Wooster St, Bowling Green, OH 43402. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students.

**Our Golden Anniversary**

Black Swamp Players will celebrate our first fifty years with an exhibition at the Four Corners Center gallery in downtown Bowling Green, Ohio, August 28-September 29.

This golden anniversary will present BSP's history in a composite of significant highlights that will spotlight various aspects of our amazing history as a self-supporting community theater which has provided a theatrical outlet for all of BG's citizens. There will be photos of actors and performances, outstanding sets and publicity (programs and posters). People who have made significant contributions will be featured.

While the committee has tracked down much important material, there is still time to submit other items for considerations. Please contact Willard Misfeldt at wmisfe@yahoo.com. At the moment, funding or lack thereof is a problem. We could use a sponsor or two for the costs of the exhibit.

Officers and Trustees 2016 - 2017

President – Lane Hakel
 Vice-President – Deb Shaffer
 Treasurer – Tom Milbrodt
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Bob Marzola	Fran Weith
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Horizon Youth Theatre News

Horizon Youth Theatre One-Act Auditions are coming up soon.
 The 5 student-written plays chosen for this year are:

Home? by Alexandra Roberts-Zibbel and Rose Walters

With Friends Like These (Who Needs Enemies?) by Sophi Hachtel, Narnia Rieske, and Anne Weaver

The Somewhat Unlucky Consequences of a Short Bus Ride by Libby Barnett, Amalia Cloeter, and Paige Suelzer

The Secret Alliance for Lonely Kids by Terra Sloane

Greenhouse by Bindi Hoskay

Each will be performed twice during the weekend of March 31st, April 1st and 2nd at Otsego Elementary (just 7 miles outside of BG)

Many students are needed to complete 5 casts and this is a great place for new students to get a taste of performing on stage.

Auditions are set for 6-7:30 on Sunday Feb. 26th and Mon. 27th at St. Mark's Church.

Horizon Youth Theatre still offers monthly Drama Club for ages 6-18 and a new monthly Shakespeare Club for students 6th-12th grade. Both are just \$5 per student.

Please check our website and facebook page for dates and details. horizonyouththeatre.org

Keep watching for details for our early summer musical when we present Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella!

The Pemberville Opera House

February 4, Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic

March 4, Dodworth Saxhorn Band

April 1, Christine Lavin

May 6, Wild Carrot

Tickets \$12.00 each or

Entire Series of 9 Shows \$90.00 available at
 Beeker's General Store or

Call Carol 419-287-4848 Ticket order forms will
 be available at our next show.

Dixie Swim Club Auditions

Auditions will be held on Monday and Tuesday, February 27 and 28, with callbacks (if needed) on Wednesday, March 1. Auditions will start at 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church BG, 1526 E. Wooster, Bowling Green, Ohio.



The cast for *The Dixie Swim Club* includes a total of 5 women in the late 40's-early 50's. The director sees the characters at the specific ages of 44, 49, 54 and then they age to 77 for the final scene.

The play features five Southern women: Sheree, the spunky team captain, desperately tries to maintain her organized and "perfect" life, and continues to be the group's leader. Dinah, the wisecracking overachiever, is a career dynamo. But her victories in the courtroom are in stark contrast to the frustrations of her personal life. Lexie, pampered and outspoken, is determined to hold on to her looks and youth as long as possible. She enjoys being married—over and over and over again. The self-deprecating and acerbic Vernadette, acutely aware of the dark cloud that hovers over her life, has decided to just give in and embrace the chaos. And sweet, eager-to-please Jeri Neal experiences a late entry into motherhood that takes them all by surprise.

The performance dates are April 28-30 and May 5-7 at the church. More information is available at blackswampplayers.org.

We're on the Web!

www.blackswampplayers.org

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