



NEWSLETTER



Opens Thursday May 16

Advance reserved tickets are on sale at the OLT office weekdays from 10 to 2. Sales are brisk. So, get your tickets early before all tickets are gone. Show dates are: Thursday, May 16 at 7:30, Friday, May 17 at 7:30, Saturday May 18 at 2:30. Friday, May 24 at 7:30, Saturday, May 25 at 7:30 and Sunday, May 26 at 2:30. There is no show May 19 because of MHS graduation.



Anna



Tiffany



We have two young ladies playing the role of Annie on different nights. Anna Burt will be Annie May 16, 18, and 25. Tiffany Cavelli will be on May 17, 24, and 26

Annie; an OLT Family Affair?

By Julie Ulmer



Ouachita Little Theatre has a grand history of presenting Spring Musicals featuring large casts, live orchestras, imaginative choreography, beautiful costumes, and fine acting. The next such production is the popular 1977 Broadway musical "Annie." It is based on the Harold Gray comic strip of Little Orphan Annie, featuring unforgettable characters like Daddy Warbucks, Mean Miss Hannigan, and Annie's canine companion, Sandy. This award-winning musical features music and lyrics by Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin with memorable songs like "Tomorrow" and "Hard Knock Life."

Annual Membership Meeting

May 8 at 5:30 pm



The yearly business meeting to elect officers & board members, update OLT patrons on theatre progress, and give the community opportunity to participate, is scheduled for May 8 at 5:30 PM at the OLT. It will be followed by a classic Buster Keaton silent film at 6:30 PM with concessions from our beautiful newly remodeled concession stand and lobby. There is no admission charge.



GET YOUR BALLOTS IN!!!

Ballots for for the selection of 2017-2018 Benson Awards have been mailed and e-mailed. The deadline for returning them is fast approaching. As an OLT member you get to vote for your favorite shows and actors. Let's get those ballots in. The awards ceremony will be held June 1 in the Ouachita Center on the campus of the University of Arkansas Rich Mountain. Tickets will be \$10 and can be purchased in advance at the OLT office weekdays from 10 to 2.



2019 Benson Awards Gala

By Julie Ulmer

BENSONS! The biennial Benson Awards will be held June 1 at the UARM Ouachita Center. The purpose of the Benson awards is to recognize amateur performers, directors, and technical personnel who work tirelessly to bring live entertainment to Polk County residents. The award ceremony is patterned after the Broadway “Tony” awards. Nominees are voted on by the members of Ouachita Little Theatre. As a non-profit organization, no one gets paid for what they do, so this is a fun way to honor and thank those who have donated their time and talent to OLT over the last two seasons. Tickets for the public are on sale now at the OLT office as noted above for \$10.00. This will pay for a catered meal beginning at 6:00 PM and the entertainment at 6:30 PM. There is no admission charge for nominees. OLT is looking for sponsors to buy tables for the event or provide silent auction and door prize items. Please contact OLT through Facebook, the website, or the office on Mena Street for more information.



Second Wednesday Movie May 8

Ouachita Little Theatre
presents

**2nd Wednesday
at the Lyric Party with a
Free Movie**

**WEDNESDAY,
May 8** **Membership Meeting 5:30**

MOVIE STARTS AT 6:30pm

Concessions will be available
and
Donations are always welcome



New Business Located at the OLT: Sweet Emporium

Improvements are progressing and soon the shop will open with commercial, homemade, and imported candies and chocolates. Gift items will also be available.

Monthly “Open Jam Sessions” to be held at OLT May 4

Mike Smith, in conjunction with folks like Don Buttermilk, David Lindy, and Ron Beckel, will be holding monthly Jam Sessions on the first Saturday of the month from noon until 5 pm. All are invited to come and participate. One of the goals of the project is to raise money for the theatre. The musicians will make voluntary donations to the theatre. The public will be admitted for free, but donations will be appreciated. On days when other regularly scheduled OLT events conflict with the planned date, the schedule will be adjusted. Come join the fun!

“Always Patsy Cline” on OLT Schedule



Lana Gail Coogan has agreed to perform as Patsy Cline in **Always Patsy Cline**. It is more than a tribute to the legendary country singer who died tragically in a plane crash in 1963. The **show** is based on a true story about **Cline's** friendship with Houston fan Louise Seger who befriended the star in 1961, and continued a correspondence with **Cline** until her death. The show will open August 2 of 2019 and run two weekends.

This is a big undertaking for OLT. This show has the highest royalties of any show we have done (almost \$3000). Part of that is due to the fact that there are over 26 all-time country hits from Hank Williams, Bob Wills, Willie Nelson, and many more which will be performed as part of this show. Don't miss this wonderful show coming up in August.

Still on the Hill (Kelly and Donna Mulhollan) Return to OLT July 21



“Kelly and Donna Mulhollan are Still on the Hill, a folk duo who in recent times have been turning their talents toward reviving the history of their beloved Arkansas Ozarks. Their latest project is titled after the historic town of Cane Hill, Arkansas. Cane Hill could have been any small town with its own history, people and events and when tied together the songs tell a story that deserves to be remembered.

Still on the Hill's Cane Hill is not to be passed up. Anyone interested in true honest to goodness folk songs should make a permanent location for this recording in their collection. It should be part of the curriculum for vocal music classes and porch pickers everywhere. If you're a folk singer, folk music lover, a history buff or maybe you or your ancestors have a connection to one of the small communities in the Ozarks or maybe the Appalachians, this music will pull at your heart strings – Enjoy the journey back in time, courtesy of Still on the Hill.”

— Rex Flottman, Walnut Valley Association



RETURNING TO THE OLT STAGE

**Marty Haggard-Tribute to My Dad, Merle
Haggard**

Thursday, JULY 11

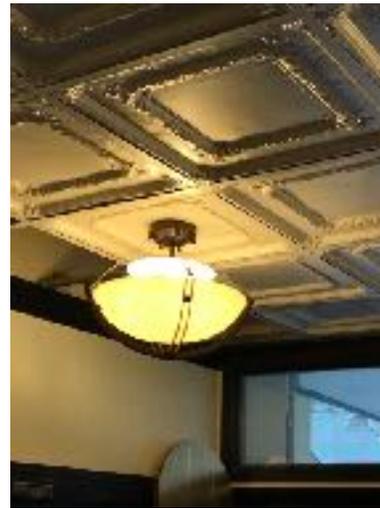
Work Continues on the Lobby



New tile flooring has been purchased. In order to accommodate its placement, the floor had to be made completely flat. In the process of performing that operation, other problems arose. One would expect that with a 96 year old building, but it is never a pleasant surprise. The board has hired MSBI to fix the floor properly and they are doing a fantastic job. New cabinetry has been installed for the concession stand, Sam Heath has come up with a great design which includes an ice maker in the counter.



Antique metal ceiling tiles have been donated by MSBI and will give the lobby the Art Deco looking the committee is looking for. Aleshire Electric has been doing a great job getting the new lighting installed. The project should be complete before our musical, Annie.



4 One Acts by Anton Chekhov for October



Anton Pavlovich Chekhov was a Russian playwright and short-story writer, who is considered to be among the greatest writers of short fiction in history. His career as a playwright produced four classics, and his best short stories are held in high esteem by writers and critics. (from [Wikipedia](#))

Many, when they hear the name Chekhov, think of dark and dreary stories. These 4 One Acts to be performed by OLT are comedies. They are The Bear, The Anniversary, The Proposal, and The Harmful Effects of Tobacco. The director, John Puddington directed these 4 plays with great success in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Auditions for the show will be held late August early September.

Local play writer, Logan Sweeten, author of new JOLT production

The JOLT summer play will be performed June 28-30, July 5-7. It was written by Logan Sweeten, and will be directed by Makayla Kenyan-Ortiz. Logan, a JOLT alumnus, had a successful play performed here a few years ago, "As You Wish It". The evening will also include a one act short play for younger kids (3rd-8th graders) performed before intermission and then the teen play.

OLT Working to Bring Remnants of Rock to Mena



The Remnants (of Rock) is the musical legacy of The St. James Group. The new band is made up from the original members that started out together in 1968, with the addition of new keyboard player.

The band's goal is to recreate the music of the 1960s as authentically as possible. Imagine walking into the student union for the homecoming dance on any college campus during the years 1965-1969 and hearing the best dance band you've ever heard! Close your eyes and think back, because this is the performance The Remnants will deliver. The band plays only the top hits from 1959-1969 – which is often called the sweet spot of the era.

Show Scheduled for November 2
Advance tickets will be available for \$20

Let Us Save Your Memories by Putting them on DVD

| INPUT | PRICE FOR DVD/CD |
|-------------------------|---|
| VIDEOTAPES 1-2 HOURS | 1 - \$20 2-10 — \$15 each over 10 - \$10 each |
| MOVIE FILM | up to 100 ft 0.20/ft over 100 ft 0.15/ft |
| AUDIO CASSETTES | 1 up to 90 min \$15 2 to 5 \$12 each over 5 \$10 each |
| DVD | 1 - \$10 each 2-10 — \$8 each over 10 - \$5 each |

Proceeds go to help with OLT programs

Membership

Our theatre is an all volunteer organization. We depend on donations, memberships, and season ticket sales to keep us going. A show like Annie costs us \$2500 just for royalties. On top of that we have all our other show expenses. Our memberships are for a year and require renewal each year. We have been sending out email reminders that memberships are expiring. Some folks have replied and rejoined. Thank you. A substantial number have not. Please check your emails for renewal notices. You can pay online, by mail, or in person at our office. Help OLT to continue and grow. Join or renew. Membership categories are online at oltmena.com, and in our show programs. While online you can join by following the screen prompts.