



NEWSLETTER

The Phoenix of the Lyric Players Readers Theatre Revived



The collaboration between OLT and the Just4Fun Players was an attempt to see if live theatre is possible in light of the pandemic. Rehearsals were done with masks and social distancing. The finished project was successful so Scotty Jenkins, the director, has released the following announcement:

The Ouachita Little Theater has revived the Reader's Theater program with Scotty Jenkins taking the lead. He plans to take OLT Reader's Theater where no readers have gone before. With Janelle Baldwin in charge, Reader's Theater has been a part of the OLT for many years, featuring Lum & Abner and other classic radio shows.

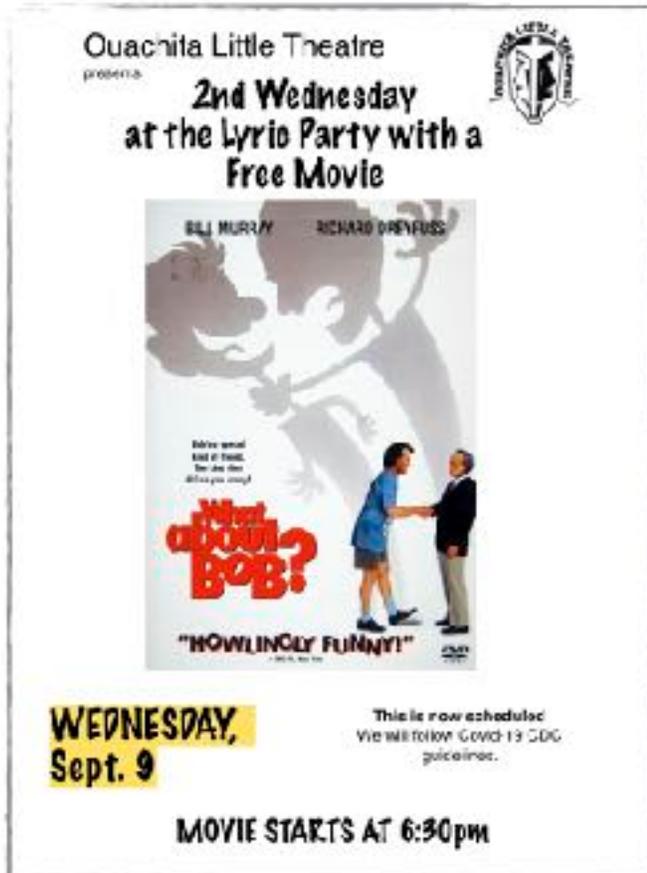
The Reader's Theater recently presented "12 Angry Jurors," which was well received by the audiences. From this solid foundation, discussion has brought up other possible venues that would help to keep the OLT in the public's eyes and ears, including podcasts and streaming shows online.

The OLT is expanding the scope of the Reader's Theater, welcoming in all ages and anyone who wants to participate. The emphasis will be on character development without the stress of having to memorize lines; voice and dialects will be studied for well-rounded presentations. The OLT looks forward to presenting these shows with the same level of dedication as its more traditional plays.

There will be an informational meeting for all at the OLT on Saturday, Sept 5th at noon to discuss ideas and plans for this exciting new chapter of the OLT's story. The first show, "Return to Radioland," is looking for a late October presentation.

We will follow the CDC and Governor's mandate for masks and social distancing.

What About Bob - September Movie



From Empireonline

Bob Wylie (Murray) has some problems. In fact, Bob has so many problems he has difficulty leaving his New York apartment for fear of what might happen to him, and has to chant “I feel good. I feel great. I feel wonderful” out loud to keep himself calm as he walks to an appointment with the latest in a string of psychiatrists — the rich and successful (and bestselling author) Dr. Leo Marvin (Dreyfuss). All goes well at their initial consultation — but when Dr. Marvin announces he’s going on vacation, Bob decides to go too, pursuing Marvin and his family to the coast and inviting himself into their holiday home. Not only does he invade the family home, but Bill also proves more

fun to be around for the two kids Anna (Erbe) and Siggy (Korsmo — “The Kid” from Dick Tracy) and Marvin’s long-suffering wife Fay (Hagerty) than Marvin, who is gearing himself up for an interview on breakfast TV.

From here on in the film bears a marked resemblance to Down And Out In Beverly Hills, with Dreyfuss reprising his role as a straight-laced guy gradually driven crazy by an unwelcome guest, resorting to drastic and hilarious methods to get rid of him. Murray is wisecracking and funny as usual, clearly having a good time as the phobia-laden guy who cites the reason for his divorce as : “There are some people in the world who like Neil Diamond, and there are some who don’t.”

But what makes the film work is the double act between the two actors, and some great one-liners that pepper the script and cover up the fact there isn’t a great deal of originality in the plot.

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

Even though our office is closed until further notice, work is continuing on orders placed prior to the closing of the office. If you have an order in progress you will be contacted when it is finished.



Help OLT pay its bills. Income is hampered by Covid-19

Help OLT by paying one of our monthly water bills \$100

You will be connected to Wild Apricot, our data base company. Follow the simple directions. And use your credit card.

If you can help go online to OLT.wildapricot.org You can use your credit card. You can also mail your donation to OLT, 610 Mena St., Mena, AR 71953

Other News

LET THERE BE LIGHT



The folks working our concessions have been disadvantaged due to poor lighting over the counter. At the last board meeting, Bill Hays, chairman of the concession committee, requested that more light be made available.

After finishing 12 Angry Jurors, Scotty Jenkins replaced the two light fixtures making easier for the concessionaires to work

OLT APPROVED FO GRANT

The Arkansas Arts Council has awarded a grant for Covid 19 relief. We have received notification that we are in line for a grant of approximately \$2700. The details are yet to be worked out but this would be a big help to our theatre.

GOING BATTY



Those who have been patrons of the theatre for a long enough time may recall that at one time we had the occasional bat visit us in the theatre. The problem was solved by closing their openings and providing the bats with homes, bat houses, mounted near the top of the theatre. Over time these have disintegrated. In order to prevent future bats visiting us Rudi and Lorraine are building new bat houses to be put up on the theatre again. They want to remind you that bats are beneficial and great for eliminating flying insects.

SIX MONTHS FREE MEMBERSHIP

As a special thank you for your support the board has voted to extend everyone's memberships by 6 months at no additional cost. We felt that since we are not able to provide you with programming during the Covid -19 pandemic we should not be charging you. This is the way it will work.

1. If your membership has lapsed in the last 3 months we will reinstate you at your previous level and make your new expiration date 6 months later than your original expiration date. You will get regular renewal notices as your new expiration date approaches.
2. All those with current memberships will have those memberships automatically extended 6 months when the notification of your membership expiration is sent. When the new expiration date approaches regular new renewal notices will be sent.

It should be noted that this extension also applies to your season tickets and complementary passes. They will be valid for the additional 6 months added to the expiration date on the tickets.

Those with extended memberships are now starting to coming due. Please consider renewing when you receive your expiration notices.

THEATRE ARTS CLASSES PLANNED AT OLT

Judy Kropp is heading up a committee to create some classes in the theatre arts to be taught at the theatre. Topics will include, costume design and sewing, stage design, set building, and others. These classes will be taught by volunteers familiar with the skills involved. These classes will last a matter of weeks and those attending will be asked to pay a small fee. Classes will be small, likely not exceeding 5 students in order to maintain social distancing. If you are interested in participating in a class or volunteering to be a mentor, give Judy a call. This sounds like a great idea for students interested in theatre arts with limited access to instruction during the Covid



Theatre Attendance Procedures

By Julie Ulmer

OLT takes your health protection very seriously. Therefore, there will be some pandemic safeguards in place following the Governor’s guidelines for theaters. Patrons must wear a mask at all times during the presentation, although children under 10 will not be required to wear masks. Masks may be removed temporarily to eat and drink purchases from the concession stand. Popcorn, drinks, and candy bars are approved refreshments. Servers will wear masks and gloves while dispensing them. Hand sanitizers will be available in key areas. The theater will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use. Social distancing lines will be marked on the floor in the lobby. Certain seating areas will be sectioned off as unusable, but families are welcome to sit together in a group and will need to space at least six feet from any other patrons. No more than 50 people will be allowed in the building at the showing.



Seats Marked for Social Distancing

Of course, anyone not feeling well or know they have been exposed to the virus should stay at home. Those over age 65, or those with underlying health conditions might choose to refrain until restrictions are no longer necessary. But if you can come, we’d love to see your faces again! Under a mask of course.

UPCOMING EVENTS



The classic 1987 motion picture fantasy bursts onto the stage in the unforgettable theatrical experience. Josh Baskin is sick of being an awkward kid. At a carnival, he makes a wish to the Zoltar machine to become "big." Complete with Zoltar, a giant floor piano and stand-out roles for adults and children, *Big* is a great choice for theatres that are looking for a family-friendly smash-hit that is full of high-energy singing

and dancing.



Louisa May Alcott's beloved story of the adventures of the four March sisters is brought to vivid musical life in **Little Women**. **Little Women** reminds us that "sometimes when you dream, your dreams come true." The show will be directed by Alexa Night



THE **LAST LIFEBOAT** is destined to become a theatre classic! " THE **LAST LIFEBOAT** is the untold story of J. Bruce Ismay, the owner of the White Star shipping Line when The Titanic sank, whose decision to save himself rather than go down with the ship made him the scapegoat for one of the greatest disasters of all time. The show will be directed by Chase Night



In this hilarious, fast-paced comedy, the inhabitants of one of the smallest trailer parks in **Texas**—four **doublewides** and a shed—are thrown for a loop when they realize the nearby town of Tugaloo is determined to annex them. And it's not as if they don't already have enough to deal with. The show will be directed by Scotty Jenkins



We are planning on a JOLT production. Shows by Justin Richmond and Logan Sweeten have been approved for production but, as with everything else, the dates for these shows are still up in the air.

Hello friends of OLT

Thank you for your support of OLT. Our community theatre is struggling right along with you during these difficult times.

Listed on this page are the shows we hope to be presenting for you. We have no idea when these shows will happen. Until it is completely safe to open we will only be operating with audiences limited to 50% of capacity. We hope that our readers theatre and shows with only one or two actors will keep our patrons happy until we can open on a regular basis.

Rudi Timmerman
OLT President

Why Not Consider a Membership and Season Ticket?

ONLY \$50 (season ticket only is \$40)

Join online at OLTMENA.com