

THE GREEN ROOM GAZETTE

All the news that's fit to print!

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Next Auditions

The Trial Of Ebenezer Scrooge—Director Cricket Langworthy will hold tryouts on October 4 & 5 in the Green Room at 2 PM each day. She needs eight men and 5 women for this tale of Scrooge gone bad again and suing those spirits who tormented him.

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Message From The President

Welcome to the start of our 61st season! I hope you all had a great summer and were able to enjoy the company of family and friends! Though I appreciate the cooler temperatures, I am always a bit sad in the fall. It's not as easy as it sounds to send the kids off to school. The house is suddenly quieter, the kitchen stays clean longer, and the washing machine gets a break. I think that's why someone invented football--so we'd have the comfort of dirty dishes in the sink and husbands screaming at the TV while the kids are away! Hmm. I think I'll go to the theater instead!

During the summer BLT was attacked by pirates (horrors!) who were surrounded by policemen (tarantara!) who were hired by (the very model of) a modern Major General who was protecting his many, many daughters (8 or 9 or 10!) A grand time was had by all during the Boise Parks Dept. & BLT production of *Pirates of Penzance*, directed by Cheryl Blauer, with music direction by Linda Berg. Congratulations one and all!

We open our regular season with Neil Simon's *Plaza Suite*, directed by Pat Ryan. What a nice way to start the season. You can't beat a Neil Simon comedy for chasing the empty nest blues away! Pat and his cast and crew have worked hard through the summer and look forward to seeing you in the audience. (These days we have wonderful inventions like a VCR or DVR so you can tape the football game while you take your wife to a play. Who knows, she may even watch the game with you and join you in yelling and screaming "Go Big Blue!" or "Go Vandals!")

There will be some nice changes happening throughout the season as we continue to upgrade our building for the comfort and enjoyment of our patrons, members, and guests. I won't tell you when, you'll just have to be surprised!

Wendy



Improvements Finished This Summer

The stage floor has been replaced by R & R Hardwood. The fifty-year floor had seen better days; so we have new oak flooring to carry us for the next many years. We did have a little surprise in that the sub floor of stacked 2 X 6s covered only the first eighteen feet of the stage. The floor from the trap door to the cyclorama was rough poured concrete with 2 X 2s cemented in.

Therefore, plywood had to be placed over that area and the new tongue and groove was placed over the old flooring and the new plywood, leaving a lip on the side stages which was transitioned with steel plates.

The exterior wood was refurbished with stain. The doors are painted, but soon new doors will grace the front entrance.

Membership Meeting Sept. 15, at 8 PM

The Jeker Family Supports BLT

We are grateful to the Julius C. Jeker (yay-ger) Foundation and the Jeker Family Trust for three significant improvements during this past year. They have financed our new second dressing room, the stage lighting upgrade, and the new stage floor. We would not have these enhancements without their help.

The Jeker Family Trust has committed to helping us further with significant upgrading during the next several months as we seek to make BLT better. They are matching us dollar for dollar on a list of improvements that we have established for this year.

We are replacing the front doors, getting new furniture for the lobby, painting, acquiring a sign to be placed along Fort Street, and adding heating and air conditioning to the lobby and, hopefully, the rehearsal hall. We have some obstacles to overcome, but believe that all these will work out.

The new furniture is on order, with a target to be in before *Drood* hits the stage. The new doors are being constructed and should be installed in about five weeks. The sign has been approved by the Parks and Recreation board and now will have to go to the city for sign ordinance approval. Heating and air conditioning will require more study to get the correct system to do the job.

Our theater is the oldest in the valley and now has many competitors appealing to audiences. It is important that BLT continue to upgrade as patrons are accustomed to comfort and aesthetics when they attend arts venues.



Finishing Off The New Stage Floor

Wendy Koepl touches up the primer on the new stage floor in the picture on the left. Jim Koepl, John Myers, Jim Anderson, Mike Mullens, and others installed the steel plates which transition the concrete to the new surface. Wendy and Pat Ryan did the priming and painting.

News From Mary Steelsmith

Former BLT member Mary Steelsmith announced that her "little play, *True Blue* will be part of The Summer Sizzle One Act Play Festival in fabulous North Hollywood this September. This will mark its first production in the Los Angeles area!"

True Blue stars Sean Edwards and Sean Faye; Directed by T L Kolman in The Chandler Studio Theatre, 12443 Chandler Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91607.

Tickets: 310-869-7546, <http://www.theprodco.com>

Eight plays will be presented over two different evenings with each audience voting for their favorite one. *TRUE BLUE* is part of Series "A". Performance dates: Friday, September 5, 8:00 p.m., Sunday, September 7, 3:00 p.m., Saturday, September 13, 8:00 p.m. and Friday, September 19, 8:00 p.m.

This little play is a fable of two soldiers guarding a neutral zone as a savage war swirls around them. In their cabin, set squarely on the border, Fred, from the earthy Green army and his friendly opposite, Blue Blood Jeffrey, have created their own little peaceful society of sorts. All will change with Jeffrey's tour of duty ending today. Jeffrey's relief at the prospect of going home and to his self-centered life of leisure is short-lived, when Fred turns the tables, forcing him to understand the world from a different point of view and learning the unpredictable power of prayer.

Curtain Call
Live Theater in the Valley

Stage Coach Theatre presents
Kitchen Witches August 29– September 13 in The Hillcrest Shopping Center, Overland & Orchard. 342-2000.

Starlight Mountain Theatre presents summer season: *Let's Murder Marsha* August 29—September 13 at Garden Valley Boise 83709. 462-5523 or www.starlightmt.org.

Prairie Dog Productions presents *Indiana Stones and the Quest for the Holy Oil* Sept. 26—Nov. 1, 336-PETE (7393) The Alano, 3820 Cassia.

Knock 'Em Dead presents *Ragtime* October 3—November 8, 333 S. 9th. www.kedproductions.org.

Contact Nancy Suiter with information about any associates who are ailing, joining the big cast in the sky, or due for recognition of achievement. 939-0430.

The 60th Branson Awards Picnic Recognized 2007-2008 Achievements

On July 10, 2008, BLT faithful gathered in Julia Davis Park to honor those who participated in the past season. President Wendy Koepl and her helpers organized the event, Jim Koepl and John Myers barbequed hamburgers and brats, Don Cederstrom provided the sound, Jim Anderson erected the stand and posters, and Joe Posluszny emceed.

A special national award, the American Association of Community Theatre Spotlight Award, was given to Don Mummert for his 50+ years of service in every aspect of community theatre. It is difficult to think of another person who has meant more to BLT, even though we have had many wonderful volunteers, some who have been around as long as Don. His loyalty and hard work are the best example of what keeps an all-volunteer community theater thriving. Without such people, the theater would not exist.

Enchanted April was recognized as the best show of the year while John Myers received best director for his work in *Steel Magnolias*. Lead actress went to Nicole Walton as Lottie in *Enchanted April* and lead actor went to Andy Neil as Hubert in *It Runs In The Family*.

The supporting actress Beulah went to Cynthia Tank as Mrs. Graves in *Enchanted April* and the supporting actor Beulah was given to Randall Webster as Bill in *It Runs In The Family*. The cameo actress was Lily Yasuda for her work as Helen in *A Christmas Story* and the cameo actor was Iver J. Longeteig for his work in *The Desperate Hours*.

Jim Anderson got the nod for his set design of *Enchanted April* and a tie gave two women the award for set dressing, Cricket Langworthy for *The Desperate Hours* and Joyce Van der Eyken for *Enchanted April*. Delynn Coleman was noted for Props in *The Sunshine Boys*.

The best lighting design went to Rich Baldwin for *The Desperate Hours* (even though he fell off a ladder!) and Ben Ulmen was awarded the sound design award for *A Christmas Story*. Elizabeth Greeley won the costume design plaque for dressing the *Enchanted April* cast.

Jo-Ann Jones and Aaron Hansen received Gold Key awards for their long time contributions to BLT, for work performed in many areas of the theater over the years.

\$4500.00 in BLT scholarships this year went to Jenny Sternling, BSU, Shea Hall, C of I, Jake Koepl, U. of Utah, Ben Verschoor, C of I, Ryan Adolfson, BSU, and Travis Gamble, BSU.



Don Mummert receives his AACT Spotlight award from Pat Ryan

2008 Branson Awards Picnic



Supervising house managers Judi and Jerry Radek welcome all volunteers who want to help usher during productions! Please e mail them at jerryandjudi@cablone.net to volunteer.

