

STAGE WHISPERS

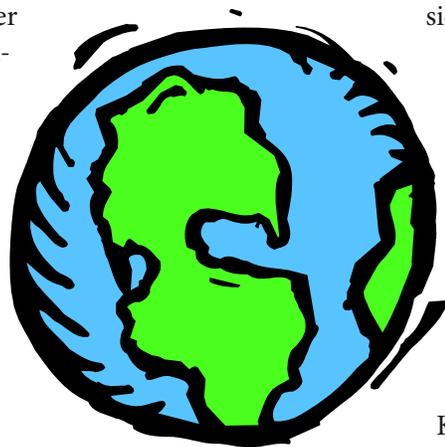
A newsletter for members and friends of Brunswick ACT

Vocalists and Instrumentalists Featured in *The World Goes 'Round*

Musical talent was the highlight of the evening when a cast of five vocalists and a jazz combo of seven instrumentalists headlined our ACT production of *The World Goes 'Round* at the Brunswick Recreation Center stage on Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29, and May 5 and 6.

The delightful musical revue featuring the Broadway and movie music of John Kander and Fred Ebb included soloists Linda Ingram, Mary Kukich, Patti Ann Vojvodich, James Kovach, and Rob Daugherty. Vocal Director was Paula Donoian.

The jazz combo was directed by sax player Tony Rump and keyboard accompanist for the show was Carey Knox. Percussionist was Bill Becker, Robert Clarke played bass, Carolyn Orban played flute, and Mike Roach played trombone. Our two trumpet players, Scott Rue (April 28 and 29) and Glenn Baughman (May 5 and 6) each played one weekend of the show. Bruce Walker served as musical assistant and rehearsal pianist. Donna Kronander also served as a rehearsal assistant.



Our Technical crew, headed by Technical Director Shawn Skeabeck, included Jim Carrick, Stage Manager; Ken Chamers, sound control; and Colleen Carrick who ran the light board.

The production featured cabaret seating at tables, and light refreshments and desserts provided in part by Heimitland on Center Road in Brunswick, were served at intermission with help from Julie Zabkar, Colleen Skeabeck, Londa Lebanick, Bob Kenderes, Barbara McGreer, and Nancy Sprowls.

Workers at the ticket desk included Tom and Jill Arnold, Bob Kenderes, Amanda Chamers, and Denise Daugherty.

Many thanks to all who contributed their time and talents to make *The World Goes 'Round* a success. ACT is pleased to have such an outstanding group of performers and backstage crew members involved in our productions. To read more about the musical and theatrical backgrounds of some of our cast and crew from *The World Goes 'Round*, please see the article on page 2.

Summer Show Opens July 21 *A Slight Case of Murder*

The final show of our ACT 2005-2006 season, *A Slight Case of Murder*, is a comedy from the 1930s written by Damon Runyon and Howard Lindsay. The plot revolves around Remy Marko, forced to become a legitimate brewery owner businessman when the end of prohibition also ends his career as a bootlegger. In his attempt to be "legit," he hires many of his former "thugs" who also happen to be his friends from "the good old days" of black market booze. Settling in Saratoga for the summer racing season turns out to be very different as his old partners and gangster enemies mix with his new business and government "friends." A few mysterious dead bodies complicate life for Remy, his wife Nora, his daughter Mary (educated in Europe), her wealthy boyfriend, and assorted bookies and gamblers.

A Slight Case of Murder is the only theatre show written by Damon Runyon and Howard Lindsay. Lindsay wrote other theatre pieces, but Runyon did not. Although most theatergoers associate Runyon with the musical hit *Guys and Dolls*, that show was based on a story he wrote and characters he created, but the book for it was written by Jo Swerling and Abe

Top-Notch Talent at ACT

We consider ourselves very fortunate to have truly creative and talented people at ACT. Contrary to the notion that community theatre performers and crew are all “amateurs,” many of our people have professional experience and solid training in the performing arts.

In case you missed *The World Goes Round*, here’s an excerpt from the program notes which will show you the level of talent at ACT.

Linda Ingram (Woman One)

A former president of Medina County Show Biz, Linda has performed many roles at various theatres, including Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly*. She will appear next in *You Can’t Take It With You* at Cassidy Theatre.

Mary Kukich (Woman Two) A member of the Tom and Susana Evert Dance Theatre, Mary has a B.A. in dance and psychology. She has performed at the Ohio Theatre in Playhouse Square, on Off-Off Broadway, and in a cabaret act in Soho, NY.

Patti Ann Vojvodich (Woman Three) As a young adult, this graduate of the Juilliard School of Music in New York was chosen to tour Europe as a featured soloist with “The Sound of America.”

James Kovach (Man One) James hit the local theater scene in 2004 in *Li'l Abner*, and took off from there, appearing in *The Music Man*, *Man of La Mancha*, and ACT’s *A Grand Night for Singing*.

Rob Daugherty (Man Two) Rob studied theatre in New York and has won awards for excellence in acting at two Ohio Community Theatre Alliance contests for his performance in *Red, Hot and Cole* with the Galaxy Players.

Paula Donoian (Music Director) Paula has a Master of Music degree in voice performance and has been a music director for the past eleven years. Her directing experience includes orchestra chorus prep for the Akron, Canton, and Wooster Symphonies.

Nancy Sprowls (Staging and Production) Nancy is Executive Director of The Medina County Arts Council. She was formerly the head of the Speech and Theatre Dept at Brunswick High



Patti Ann Vojvodich, Linda Ingram, Mary Kukich

and served as State Thespian Director for Ohio. She has directed or worked on many ACT shows since the company was founded 18 years ago.

Glenn Baughman (Trumpet) Glenn has been playing trumpet in Medina County for over 30 years. A member of The Medina Community Band, he has most recently played in *Man of La Mancha* and *The 1940’s Radio Hour* with Medina Show Biz.

Bill Becker (Percussion) Bill used to make his living playing professional gigs in New York City and elsewhere, and he traveled with well-known bands such as the Tommy Dorsey Band, Sammy Kaye, and Les and Larry Elgart.

Robert Clarke (Bass) Robert is a classical guitarist and has a Masters in Music Theory. He studied in Brazil, Spain, San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and New York. He has made two recordings with flutist Carl Adams and has played in Carnegie Recital Hall in NYC.

Carey Knox (Piano) Carey is the vocal music teacher at Claggett Middle School, where she received the Golden Apple Award and the Excellence in Teaching Award. Carey has directed and acted in many shows such as *Carmen*, *Li'l Abner*, *Annie*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Carolyn Orban (Flute) Carolyn has studied flute and currently teaches private flute lessons out of her home. She enjoys playing with the Medina Symphony Orchestra and is a former member of the Columbus Women’s Chamber Orchestra.

Mike Roach (Trombone) A versatile player, Mike has performed with the Medina County Symphony, the Medina Community Band, a big band dance band, and with his own trio on Medina Square.

Tony Rump (Reeds and Combo Leader) Tony attended the University Of Cincinnati College Conservatory Of Music. A jazz saxophonist, Tony performs on Saturday evenings at Raffine’s fine dining restaurant in Medina, as well as at other private events.

Scott Rue (Trumpet) Scott began playing trumpet in fifth grade. He has played with bands in the Pittsburgh and Cleveland areas, and he has studied with former Maynard Ferguson lead, Stan Mark and Count Basie lead, Dennis Reynolds.

Chatterbox

Who's Doing What And Where?



Denise Daugherty sang as a guest vocalist with the Medina County Orchestra on May 19th at the Brunswick Recreation Center.

Mike Yonkura appeared in *The Nerd* at Broadview Heights Spotlight Theatre.

Bob Kenderes and Linda Ingram are both playing roles in *You Can't Take It With You* at the Cassidy Theatre.

David Grant, who played one of the orphans in *Oliver!* last summer, will be appearing in *The King and I* in Medina this coming summer.

Dan Polk and Dave Parsons will be performing classic rock again on Wednesday, July 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gazebo on Public Square in Medina in one of the Arts Week mini-concerts spon-

sored by The Medina County Arts Council. Gary Bewley and his band "Heartbeats" will perform for the first time in the same venue on Monday, July 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Conrad Hornung, who visited our table at "Bring on Brunswick," let us know that he has started up a German band again. Sounds like fun!

Walter Hay is out and about again and recuperating from surgery after the Coffeehouse Theatre production.

A new resident of Brunswick, Jocelyn (Josie) Grace Malone, was born Wednesday, May 10th at 1:29pm. Congratulations to her parents, Ali and Shane Malone. Ali was our choreographer and one of the singers in *A Grand Night for Singing*, and Shane was our Stage Manager.

Summer from pg. 1

Burrows and the music was composed by Frank Loesser. The characters in *A Slight Case of Murder* are just what you would expect if you know *Guys and Dolls* - comic gangsters with both "innocence and ruthlessness" in the words of one critic.

Auditions and casting were in progress as we went to press with this newsletter, so watch the papers and our web site for the cast list. Bob Kenderes is directing the show, Nancy Sprowls is helping design the set, and Shawn Skeabeck will be technical director. Call Bob at 330-225-0552 if you would like to work on this show.

The show is set for July 21, 22, 28, and 29 on the Brunswick PAC stage. A convenient ticket order form is included below. For more information, check out www.brunswickact.org.

Newsletter Contributor:
Nancy Sprowls
Newsletter by
BANA Creative Services
330-721-7386



Reserve Tickets Today!

Brunswick ACT's Summer Mystery-Comedy

A Slight Case of Murder

by Damon Runyon and Howard Lindsay

Presented by BRUNSWICK ACT

Friday and Saturday

July 21, 22, 28, and 29

Curtain time: 8 p.m.

Brunswick High Performing Arts Center
3581 Center Road, Brunswick, OH 44212

AdvanceTickets: Allstate Insurance, 3511 Center Rd.
or at door if available. Call 330-558-0376 for more information.

Make your check payable to:
Brunswick Alumni Community Theatre

Mail to:
P.O. Box 600 Brunswick, OH 44212
Deadline for mail-in reservations: July 14

Please fill out the form below and mail it with your check.

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone (very important):		

Date:	Price	Qty.	Amount
Adults	\$10		
Seniors	\$9		
Total amount enclosed			

Talent from pg. 2

Shawn Skeabeck (Technical Director) Our current ACT president has been Lighting/Sound/Tech Director for many of our shows. Shawn took over directing duties for last summer's *Oliver!* He has performed with Berea Summer Theatre and has directed shows at Midpark High School.

Bruce Walker (Rehearsal Musical Asst. and Accompanist) Bruce studied as a classical pianist in college. In his free time he plays light pop, ragtime, and musical theatre. He also plays with the Medina Symphony Orchestra.

Donna Kronander (Rehearsal Accompanist) Donna worked on *1776*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, and *Oliver!* She was accompanist for Medina Show Biz Company for *Into the Woods* and *My Fair Lady* presented by the Medina Collaborative.

Barbara McGreer (Asst Producer) As a member of our Board of Trustees,

Barb helps set up our rehearsal schedules at the Rec Center, where she is in charge of Cultural and Performing Arts Programming.

Skyview Lodge Holds Meetings and Rehearsals

Those of you who are not ACT Board members, or have not been involved in the last two productions, may not be aware of our use of Skyview Lodge for ACT meetings, auditions, and rehearsals. New ACT Trustee Gary Bewley has arranged for us the use of the Lodge, located on Pearl Road north of Center Road, on many occasions this past winter and spring. For this we are deeply grateful. Scheduling conflicts with classes at the Rec Center forced us to relocate many activities this season.

Update on Fund for Sound Equipment

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, the generosity of a local resident and ACT supporter has helped us start a special fund for purchasing needed sound equipment that we can use as we move from facility to facility for our productions. The importance of this was obvious during rehearsals for our last show, *The World Goes 'Round*, when we moved from the Rec Center, to Skyview Lodge, to people's homes, to the Rec Center, to Skyview, etc. for six weeks of rehearsal time.

We are indebted to Shawn Skeabeck, Tony Rump, and Linda Ingram for the use of their own personal equipment. We need some ideas from our community members and supporters about how to raise these funds above and beyond covering expenses for shows. Mail your ideas to: Brunswick ACT, P.O. Box 600, Brunswick, OH 44212.



Brunswick Alumni
Community Theatre
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