



STAGE WHISPERS

A newsletter for members and friends of Brunswick ACT

Great Cast Selected for ACT's Production of *The Nerd*

Hilarious Contemporary Comedy Opens on December 2

Auditions were held for our December production of *The Nerd*, and a cast of seven talented performers has been selected. When director **Bob Kenders** reported on the result of auditions, he said, "If I sound excited, it's because I am. This is a terrific cast." Bob felt the turnout for auditions was excellent, and he hated leaving many fine performers out of the cast of just seven.

The show is one of the two most popular of the hilarious comedies written by Larry Shue, whose untimely death in an airplane accident cut short what promised to be an outstanding career

in playwriting. The plot of *The Nerd* centers around a young man who was miraculously rescued during the Vietnam War and the man who saved him and unexpectedly shows up in later years in order to meet the man he saved.

Cast members who have previously performed in ACT shows are **Jeff Laird**, who will play Willum Cubbert; **Dan Sekanic**, who will be seen as Axel; and **Pam Matthews**, who will play Clelia. Newcomers to our stage (who are all experienced actors) include **Sara Menefee**, who will play Tansy; **Kevin Becker**, who will play

Rick Steadman; and **John Thobaben**, who will be Waldgrave. Young **Sean McClain**, who took acting classes at the Rec Center last year, will play Thor. **Kathleen Schmidt** will be Stage Manager.

Rehearsals are now underway on the Concord Little Theatre stage at Brunswick High School where the show will be performed. Curtain time is 8 pm on Friday and Saturday, December 2, 3, 9 and 10. See the ticket order form in this newsletter to find out how to reserve your tickets. You don't want to miss this show!

Spotlight Showcase: A Night of Music and Song

The Medina County Arts Council is sponsoring The First Annual *Medina County Spotlight Showcase*, a major fundraiser to benefit various local arts organizations and arts activities on Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19 at the County Administration Building at 144 N. Broadway in Medina. Curtain time is 8 pm.

Several Brunswick folks we know will be appearing in or working on the show. **Syl Balash** will be one of the soloists accompanied by **Pat Senkar**; **Jeff Wolfe** will perform a spectacular percussion solo; and **Shawn Skeabeck** will be Stage Manager. Almost 20 talented performers from all over the

county will donate their talents for the cause.

Tickets will be sold at Brunswick Tax Service on route 303 in Brunswick and at Buehler's stores in Wadsworth and Medina. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Ticket order forms are available at libraries and other locations around the county. Call 330-723-3884 for additional information.

Let's all support this worthwhile effort by the Medina County Arts Council whose grants have provided major operating support for ACT, the Brunswick Rec Center and Brunswick ART WORKS.

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Get your Nerd tickets:

Ticket order form enclosed

President's Letter

As incoming President of Brunswick Alumni Community Theatre, I'd like to welcome you to our new season.

As I look back upon last year, I'm certain that it was Brunswick Alumni Community Theatre's most ambitious season to date.

Our productions ranged from *Readers Theatre* to the full stage musical, *OLIVER!* and from audience-participation murder mystery dinner theatre to the classic American comedy, *You Can't Take it With You*. And this year, we've got a another terrific year waiting in the wings.

First off, I welcome my fellow officers to their new terms, and I extend a special welcome to our new trustees, who are such an important part of running our troupe.

There's a great deal of time and effort that goes into each production, and I look forward to working with each of you to make this year's shows enjoyable for everyone.

But most of all, I welcome you, our patrons and participants, to our new slate of shows. From our loyal audience to our hard-working backstage crews, everyone has a role to play in making our season a successful one.

Our next show is *The Nerd* by Larry Shue. After that, we have an evening of one acts called *Coffee House Theatre* and *The World Goes Round*, a musical revue.

Our summer show will be a mainstage production, *A Slight Case of Murder*. Set in the Prohibition era, this mystery-comedy has a large cast and a load of laughs. It promises to be a fun show for everyone.

And don't forget the Arts Council's upcoming fundraiser, *Spotlight Showcase* which happens this November in Medina.

If you'd care to put yourself in the spotlight, I hope you'll visit our website at www.brunswickact.org for information on auditions for our upcoming productions.

Whether you can sing a song or swing a hammer, our community theatre is a place where you can contribute your talents toward a magical night of entertainment.

On the other hand, if you enjoy watching the story unfold, then I encourage you to become a sponsoring patron of our theatre and to reserve your tickets for our upcoming production using the ticket order form in this newsletter.

Whatever your role, Brunswick ACT welcomes your participation and support of live theatre in our community.

There's a wonderful year of theatre ahead for us AND for you! I'm looking forward to it, and I hope you'll join us as we embark on our 18th season on the stage.

Cordially,
Shawn Skeabeck
President, Brunswick ACT

New Board Elected

The ACT Board of Trustees held its annual meeting in September and elected the following to new terms: **Denise Daugherty**, **Stayce Nabors**, **Bob Kenderes**, **Carl Fern**, **Bryan Lewis**, and **Gary Bewley**. Bryan and Gary, both Brunswick High grads, are new to the Board. Gary helped us with technical work on *A Grand Night for Singing*. Bryan has played violin in our orchestras for *1776* and *Oliver!*

Officers elected for the 2005-2006 season were **Shawn Skeabeck**, President; **Bob Kenderes**, Vice-president; **Nancy Sprowls**, Secretary; and **Ken Chamers**, Treasurer. **Tom Arnold** will continue to work with finances over the next few months until records can be transferred to Ken.

Chatterbox

Who's Doing What And Where?

Our sympathy goes out to **Shawn Skeabeck** on the recent death of his mother.

Art Fenton, **Ron Linek**, **Evie Clarke**, **Jim Clarke**, and **Rob Dougherty**, veterans of our *1776*, have roles in the Medina Show Biz production of *The 1940's Radio Hour*.



New trustee **Bryan Lewis** and his wife are headed for a visit with friends in South Africa in December.

Jeff League, Jr. (The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*) was BHS's Homecoming King.

Katie League (Bet in *Oliver!*) is doing her student teaching at North Royalton High School.

Spirits Come to Life at Heritage Farm

The weather was beautiful, the actors were wonderful and the audience seemed genuinely pleased with Brunswick's Third Annual *Walk with Spirits of the Past*. The "stage was set" at Heritage Farm, the home of the Brunswick Historical Society, on Laurel Road during the weekend of September 30-October 2.

Bob Kenderes took charge of the production and selected the characters, chose the cast and served as director. Commenting on the audience turnout, Bob said that attendance increased over last year's event.

Historical characters portrayed from Brunswick's past included Letha House, played by **Pam Matthews**; Bert Keller, played by **Luke Scattergood**; Farnum H. Gibbs, played by **Vince DelCalzo**; and Henry Bogue, played by **Jeff Laird**. **Sandra Robson** portrayed Maude Edwards, who was

once her high school teacher and principal. **Mamie Waite** was played by **Kate League** on Friday and by **Melissa Sawmiller** on Saturday and Sunday.



Melissa Sawmiller

Brunswick ACT, The Brunswick Historical Society and The Medina County Arts Council sponsored the project in cooperation with the City of Brunswick.

Debra and Joe Destro from the Arts Council managed the business side of the project, and **Mamie Grunau** served on the committee representing the Historical Society.

New scripts were written by **Walter Hay** and **Nancy Sprowls**. The Letha House script was on loan from the Medina Spirit Walk Committee.

Actors and community members had a good time and have already volunteered to help again next year. If you'd like to volunteer for next year's "Walk with Spirits of the Past," please email ACT at brunswickact@zoominternet.net. Guides, actors, and others are needed for each of the three performances.



Reserve Tickets Today!

The Nerd

Written by Larry Shue
Directed by Bob Kenderes

Presented by BRUNSWICK ACT
Friday and Saturday, December 2-3 and 9-10
Curtain time: 8 p.m.
Concord Little Theatre stage
3581 Center Rd., Brunswick

Reserved seating: Adults \$10, Seniors \$9

Advance tickets:
May be purchased at Allstate Insurance,
3511 Center Rd., Brunswick.

Call 330-558-0376 for more ticket information.

Make your check payable to:
Brunswick Alumni Community Theatre

Mail to:
P.O. Box 600 Brunswick, OH 44212
Deadline for mail-in reservations: November 23

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			

Brunswick ACT 2005-2006 Season

December 2-3 and 9-10
The Nerd

Contemporary comedy
by Larry Shue
Bob Kenderes, Director
Concord Little Theatre
Brunswick High School

April 28-29 and May 5-6
The World Goes Round

Musical revue by Kander and Ebb
Nancy Sprowls, Producer/Director
Paula Donoian, Music Director
Brunswick Community Recreation
Center Stage

March 17-18
One weekend only
Coffeehouse Theatre

An evening of one acts
Nancy Sprowls, Producer
Brunswick Community Recreation
Center Stage

July 21-22 and 28-29
A Slight Case of Murder

A mystery-comedy
by Damon Runyon
and Howard Lindsay
Brunswick High
Performing Arts Center

Visit Us... Online!

Be sure to check our website
from time to time to keep up with
what's new at ACT.

Go to: www.brunswickact.org

Or contact us by e-mail at:
brunswickact@zoominternet.net

Thanks to all who
contributed to this ACT
newsletter:

Nancy Sprowls
Shawn Skeabeck
Bob Kenderes

Newsletter by
BANA Creative Services
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