

Amarillo Little Theatre
2019 Civic Circle
Amarillo, TX 79109

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CURTAIN CALL

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December, 2010

Amarillo Little Theatre
proudly presents

On Golden Pond

by Ernest Thompson

“...a rare and memorable theatrical experience...”

Amarillo Little Theatre very proudly presents **On Golden Pond** as the third production of the Mainstage Season. This poignant and very funny play has enjoyed at least two critically acclaimed Broadway runs as well as being a very popular major motion picture featuring Henry Fonda and Katherine Hepburn.

This is the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-eighth year. He is a retired professor, nearing eighty, with heart palpitations and a failing memory - but still as tart-tongued, observant and eager for life as ever. Ethel, the perfect foil for Norman, delights in all the small things that have enriched and continue to enrich their long life together. They are visited by their divorced, middle aged daughter and her fiancé, who then go off to Europe, leaving his teenage son behind for the summer. The boy quickly becomes the “grandchild” the elderly couple has longed for, and as Norman revels in taking his ward fishing and thrusting good books at him, he also learns some lessons about modern teenage awareness - and slang. In the end, as the summer wanes, so does their brief idyll. In the final,

deeply moving moments of the play, Norman and Ethel seem closer than ever. This heart-warming show is a work of rare simplicity and beauty that is certain to appeal to all ALT audiences.

ALT has selected a stellar cast of performers for this production including **Don Washburn** and **Pattilou Dawkins** starring together as Norman and Ethel Thayer. Also included are **Melanie Sanders** as Chelsea, **John May** as Bill Ray, **Jeffrey Pickens** as Charlie the mailman, and **Harrison Stringer** as Billy Ray. **Allen Shankles** is Artistic Director and **Kim Shreffler** is Assistant to the Director.

On Golden Pond promises to be one of the most popular productions of the ALT season. We encourage you to make your reservations today!

Production Funding by
Daryl and Maureen Roberts
John and Sally Skaggs
Edward Jones Investments
Xcel Energy

Sponsored by
Dr. Robert M. and Mrs. Ann Ball
Shelley and Mike Cunningham
Bob Huddleston
Mr. and Mrs. Orland Lacer
Saralyn Moore
Jerry and Sue Norman

FACTS AT A GLANCE

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|--|--------------|--|-------------------|
| Performance Dates | Times | Location – ALT Mainstage | 2019 Civic Circle |
| January 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 | 8:00 pm | Box Office Phone – 806-355-9991 | |
| January 23 | 2:30 pm | Rated – PG | |
| Box Office Opens to Members – Monday, December 27 | 10:00 am | Order Online by e-mail – jeff@amarillolittletheatre.org | |
| Box Office Opens to Public – Monday, January 3 | 10:00 am | | |

CHECK OUT ALT’S WEB SITE AT WWW.AMARILLOLITTLETHEATRE.ORG

Director's Notes



Allen Shankles

This issue of Curtain Call announces the opening of our third Mainstage production of the season - ***On Golden Pond***. This beautiful show is one of my favorites and I am excited to be presenting it again at ALT. Yes, I have done this show once before at ALT. In fact, it was the second show that I ever produced and directed here way back in 1984. That's one of the reasons it holds a special place in my heart.

Many things have changed at ALT since that first production. In fact the stars from that 1984 production, the incomparable **Jane Lipscomb** and **Frank Gregg**, are no longer living. At the time, they were two stalwarts of ALT and very talented actors. They were lots of fun to work with. That was a fairly successful production and I know that it helped to get the theatre back onto more level footing after having gone through some very tough times.

I am very excited to announce that long-time Amarillo resident **Pattilou Dawkins** will be starring opposite **Don Washburn** in this new production. It has been over forty years since Pattilou has appeared on the stage at ALT, but based on her audition, she hasn't lost her touch. I know that she is going to do a great job as a part of this talented cast.

As you read this, we will be just days away from the start of 2011. Hard to believe. We will also be just about halfway through our season. The first half of the season featured some great productions including *A Feminine Ending*, *South Pacific*, *Eurydice* and *Is He Dead?* I am very proud of the success of each of these shows and I congratulate everyone who helped to make one or more successful. Despite the high artistic quality of these shows, our box office numbers are down some from this same time last year. That's the nature of the business. Some shows catch the attention of our audience and other shows don't as much. Certainly, the better known a title is the better it usually sells, although that's not always the case. Last year at this time, we had recorded sold out runs for *Moonlight and Magnolias* and *The Woman in Black* as well as big numbers for *Best Little Whorehouse....* and *You Can't Take it With You*.

The remainder of our season features a good mix of old and new titles. There truly should be something in the lineup that will appeal to everyone. My hope is that our audiences will embrace each of these shows warmly and help us to finish the season on a very high note.

I hope everyone has a safe and very Happy New Year's celebration and

I look forward to seeing you at the theatre(s) in 2011.

Academy Spotlight

The Fall semester is officially over for the Academy and we are in full swing to gear up for the Spring! We are currently in rehearsals for *The Little Match Girl*. I am very excited to be able to bring this touching story to life and combine the true elements of ballet with such an emotional story. The cast features some new faces who are making their Academy debut with this production! We are always so blessed to have such talent in our program. The Academy is certainly getting larger and larger every semester and it is exciting to see the talent of our students growing as well!

I want to remind everyone that registration is currently underway for the Spring semester. Classes begin the week of January 3rd and we are very excited to offer even more classes this Spring. We welcome past ALT Academy graduate and current WT student **Megg Dunlap** to our teaching staff! Megg has practically grown up at ALT and many of you will know her from her help as our Camp Director for all three camps this past summer. Megg is bringing some exciting new classes to our Academy and I encourage everyone to take a look at the Academy Spring

schedule online to see if there are one or two classes that you may want to look into.

Also in January, the Academy will be holding auditions for the beloved musical *Bye Bye Birdie*. There is already a buzz in the community about this show and we plan on holding nothing back to make this yet another big musical for the Academy! Look in this issue of the Curtain Call for audition information!

Looking back at 2010, I can not help but smile! We had a blast unpacking adjectives in *School House Rock Live!*, learned it was okay being different in *Honk!*, had seven weeks of fun with summer camps, found an easy way to paint a fence in *Tom Sawyer* and were able to expand our teaching staff to accommodate our growing numbers of students in our Academy. I am so proud of our 2010 and look forward to 2011 and what it has in store for us!

Happy New Year!!!

Jason Crespin
Academy Director

AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS!

Amarillo Little Theatre is pleased to announce auditions for its fourth Mainstage production of the season.

THE MOUSETRAP

by Agatha Christie

Audition Dates

Monday and Tuesday, January 17 & 18, 2011 @ 7:30 pm
ALT Mainstage Auditorium

Production Dates

March 3-13, 2011

Directed by

Bobby Schaffer

Roles are available for
5 adult men (age 20 and up)
and **3 adult women** (age 20 and up)

Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Perusal scripts for the show are available at the ALT offices with a \$10.00 refundable deposit. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the ALT offices at 355-9991 or info@amarillolittletheatre.org

ALT Academy announces auditions for

BYE BYE BIRDIE

A Musical Comedy

Production Dates

March 25-27th, 2011

ALT Mainstage

Audition Date

Saturday, January 29th @ 1pm
ALT Mainstage

Directed and Choreographed by

Jason Crespin

Music Direction by

Brandon Bellar

Roles are available for roughly
25 Academy Students plus
a large singing and dancing ensemble!

Auditions are open to all Academy students 3rd grade and older.

Auditions will consist of a prepared vocal selection not to exceed 60 seconds and a dance combination taught during auditions.

Vocal audition piece should be from a musical.
A CD player will be available.

ALLEN SHANKLES SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

November 1-December 15, 2010

Mark & Gina Domme Mrs. John Patterson
Alan & Lynne McCright In honor of Jayne Brainard
Lesley Metz In honor of Don Shipman
Timothy Weinheimer
In honor of Laura Weinheimer

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

November 1-December 15, 2010

Joyce Attebury
In honor of Shirley Fancher
Patricia & Crews Bell
Phyllis Curtis
Shirley Daniel
James Doores
Mildred Everett
Tony & Diane Freeman
Judy Fugate
Maedean Geoffroy
William & Janice Hamilton
Susan & Jeff Hellberg
Richard & Mary Ann Kohnle
William A. & Elinor F. McCarty
Dick & Nena McSpadden
Jerry & Sue Norman
Robert D. O'Neal
Stan & Linda Prothero
Bobbie Radtke
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Russell
Bob & Mary Jane Sloan
John & Sally Skaggs
Larry Spears
Harlow & Jerre Sprouse
Betsy Taylor
Bill Tietgens
In memory of his wife of 56 years, Carol
Mary J. Vincent
John & Sara Walsh
Margaret Willis

ALT ACADEMY REGISTRATION

ALT Academy Registration began
Monday, December 13, 2010 for second
semester classes which will start
January 3, 2011. Schedules are available
at the ALT Box Office or on our website
www.amarillolittletheatre.org

Amarillo Little Theatre Academy

is proud to present

The Little Match Girl

By Hans Christian Anderson • Adapted by John Donahue

January 7th and 8th @ 7:30 pm

January 8th and 9th @ 2:30 pm

A beloved poem turned play comes to the stage as the ALT Academy presents the holiday treat *The Little Match Girl*.

This Hans Christian Anderson tale is about a poor little girl who is trying to sell matches on the coldest day of the year. Ill-clad and shivering, she's afraid to return home empty-handed for fear she'll be beaten by her father. The holiday merry makers are too engrossed in their own worlds to pay attention to the ragged child as she slowly freezes to death. In an attempt to get warm, the girl lights her matches. With each one, she makes a wish and sees visions of worlds known to her only from her dead grandmother's stories. Her visions include a street carnival, a toy shop, a holiday feast, a skating party, a grand ball and a warm, green meadow. In her final moments, she gets a vision of her grandmother who takes her away to heaven.

ALT Academy has assembled a stellar cast of Academy students that include **Makenna Madsourivong** as The Little Match Girl, **Evan Domme** as her father, **Mary Collie** as the Grandmother, **Madeleine Nelson** as the Eldest Daughter, **Cassidy Pekrul** as the Rich Lady, **Georgia Finchum** as Match Girl's Mother, **Kristin Huseman**, **Alexis Jergenson**, and **Amy Whelchel** as

the Narrators, **Ryce Garren** as the Shop Keeper, **Hana Herrington** as the Queen, **Noah Lang** as the Street Vendor, **Ashely Willis** as the Cook, **Lexi Hazelwood** as the Maid and featuring **Megan Hawthorne** as the Lead Gypsy, **Caitlin Izard** as the Ballerina Doll, **Keslie Pharis** as the Polka Doll and **Carly** and **Chloe Stockard** as the Dutch Dolls.

The ensemble includes **Victoria Bell**, **Jacquelyn Blalock**, **Hannah Blankenship**, **Molly Boyce**, **Albert Buckhaults**, **Calynne Cordes**, **Halli Eagle**, **Hunter Finley**, **Mattie Freeze**, **Megan Gilliland**, **Jasper Gonzales**, **Taylor Haynes**, **Kaycee Humphrey**, **Wendy Lambert**, **Regan Mashburn**, **Taitlyn McCright**, **Titus Melius**, **Cami Parks**, **Hannah Peters**, **Nick Rocha**, **Kristin Rodin**, **Paris Rodriguez**, **Gabi Roller**, **Glori Roller**, **Presley Ruland**, **Maggie Sather**, and **Samantha White**.

The Little Match Girl is being directed by **Jason Crespin** and choreographed by **Lugene Cole** with scenic design done by **Karen Walsh**. **Ryce Garren** serves as Assistant Director and **Mikayla Tipps** as Assistant Choreographer.

You certainly won't want to miss this holiday treat as it is the perfect combination of ballet and theatre and reminds us of how love and memories of a loved one can warm your soul and fill your heart with the joy you may need on the roughest of days.

Staged at ALT's Adventure Space, seats are limited so make plans to see this show today! This show is for the entire family! Tickets go on sale December 27th! Reserve tickets by calling our Box Office at 355-9991 or email to jeff@amarillolittletheatre.org

Production funded by:

**Edward Jones, Amarillo Pediatric Dentistry,
and The Deborah Nation Estate.**

Notes from the Guild

Greetings:

And Happy Holidays! Thank you to the 24 restaurants who generously contributed gift certificates for our fall fundraiser, *Wining and Dining: Tour of Amarillo*. Thank you as well to those who purchased opportunities to win in support of the ALT Guild. This event was an amazing success for the Guild and will greatly enhance our end of season contribution to the theatre. Congratulations to our lucky winners - **Anne and Jack Lankford**. As the season moves ahead, we have some exciting plans in store for the Guild. We are establishing a committee to plan our next fundraising event, the Valentine's Dinner, in coordination with the ALT Board of Directors. If you would like to assist with this event, just email the Guild at amarillolittletheatreguild@yahoo.com. Also, look for opportunities to assist with ushering and concessions during the run of *On Golden Pond*. See you next year.

ALT Guild