



www.tredavonplayers.org

# The Player

VOL. 18, NO 7



www.tredavonplayers.org



SUMMER 2010

Ken Ludwig's

## “Leading Ladies”

A Hilarious insight into love, back stage humor and desperation

“**Leading Ladies**” centers around two English Shakespearean actors, who can't seem to catch a break and are performing “Scenes from Shakespeare” on the Moose Lodge circuit in the Amish country. A chance meeting perpetuates the humor as these resourceful actors learn that an old lady in York, PA is about to die and leave her fortune to her two English nephews. Deciding to pass themselves off as the beloved long lost relatives for cash creates all new challenges and dilemmas for these two would-be heroes. This rollicking backstage farce gets even more intensely funny as misidentification takes on an entirely different twist. Romantic entanglements have never been so comical.

Directed by Pat Murphy Sheehy, an experienced Washington DC theater professional and a lifelong actress, director, and producer. Sheehy has pulled

together an amazing cast to ensure the comedic and heartwarming story is filled with laughter and talent. Bruce Grove will be portraying the dashing Leo and his alter ego, Maxine. Zack Schlag will play the parts of Jack and Stephanie. Jessica Newell returns to the stage in the role of sweet and good-natured Audrey. Holly Baldwin takes on the role of vivacious Meg and Bob Dietz is the likable curmudgeon, Doc. Richard Dorbin will portray Duncan, the fussy, local minister. Familiar faces from this TAP season, John Whitesell will play the earnest and sincere Butch, and Maggie Garey is Florence the rich, wily, old ailing aunt.

“**Leading Ladies**” is set in Ludwig's hometown of York, Pennsylvania, part of the Amish country with its' picturesque hills and farms. Ludwig has mentioned in interviews that he loved growing up in York, as “it's typically middle-American, with good values and great people; a deep and richly traditional place. I loved the idea of the play being a part of all that.”

“**Leading Ladies**” is an amusing tale of romantic nonsense and multiple portrayals of the two lead characters, which promises to have you in stitches. The merriment begins August 13 at 8 pm, with TAP's customary complimentary opening-night champagne reception. Other performances are Friday and Saturday evenings, August 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 at 8 pm, and Sunday matinees on August 15, 22, & 29 at 2pm. Thrifty Thursday returns on August 26 at 7pm. All performances are at the Oxford Community Center.



Bruce Grove, Holly Baldwin, Richard Dorbin, Zack Schlag

(All photos by Lisa Roth)

**A start-up Readers Theatre will begin in September. Anyone interested in reading plays aloud is invited to join. Call 410-226-0061, leave your name and phone number on line 5.**

## Get out of the Summer Heat and into the Cool Comedy of **Leading Ladies**

If you prefer an early evening of family entertainment and a bargain as a bonus for the evening; Thrifty Thursday on August 26 at 7pm offers **two-for-one** adult tickets, \$10 for singles, and students (through college with ID) are free. Opening night for **Leading Ladies** on August 13 features complimentary champagne starting at 7:00 pm before the 8:00 pm curtain. \$15 supplies a lively evening of bubbly, light snacks, and merriment. Plus, three Sunday matinees at 2pm, for the early bird lovers ensures those who prefer an afternoon of entertainment have more opportunities to indulge. Whether you favor an early or later evening, or an early afternoon, TAP has a show time to satisfy everyone, all in an air-conditioned facility..



### **Season Ticket Holders**

Remember to call 410-226-0061 to reserve your seats in the front section and arrive 15 minutes prior to curtain time to ensure that your seats will be reserved. You don't want to give up your guaranteed front row seats to hilarious comedy because you didn't reserve your seating prior to performance night. Please call to secure your place in the front rows for optimum laughter.

### **Credit Cards Welcome at TAP's Box Office**

Your Visa, Mastercard or Discover Card is now welcome at TAP's box office. Of course, cash and checks are always acceptable.



*"Isn't Audrey (played by Jessica Newell) amazing on skates?"*



*Richard Dorbin (Duncan), Holly Baldwin (Meg), Bruce Grove (Maxine), & Zack Schlag (Stephanie)*

## **More About Leading Ladies**

**"Leading Ladies"** is produced by Lisa Roth with Laura Ochsman as stage manager. Set Design by Susan Wasilewski and construction by John Swann, Pam Hamilton, Steve Pugh, Jesse Capps, Bill Roth, and Andrew Roth. Props and set dressing crew includes Jesse Capps, Lynn Sanchez, Barbara Rybacki, Mariana Leshner, Pam Hamilton, Katie Cox, and Teresa Russell. Light design by Skipper Marquess and light operator John Swann. Sound design by Joe Davis and operator is Kate Whitesell. Costumes by Genny Milutinovich and Marie U'ren. Backstage crew is Molly Wilson and Olivia Garahan. Lisa Roth, Publicity.

### **Volunteers are so important and we thank those from *Who Am I This Time?***

TAP is so appreciative of their diligent volunteers: taking tickets, serving refreshments and making the show go on for *Who Am I This Time?*. Welcome to returning and new volunteers! Ellen & Gil Anderson, Linda Clark, Carla & Pete Howell, Robyn Mendelsohn, Cynthia Paalborg, Betty Dorbin, Irene Pentimall, Nancy Wilson, Herb & Marilyn Ziegler, Bill & Lynda Wilson, Anna Kusinitz, Sheila Wainwright, Berry & George Passano, Barbara Hartshorn, Susan Stewart, Lisa Roth, Janet Pfeffer, Liz & Bernie Witter, Sue Ellen Thompson, Jane & Steve Selden, Ginny Allen, Betty Harris, Barb Seese, Peggy & Van Lotte, Barbara & Tom Mann, Lesley & Dick Nolker, Peter Dunbar, and John Swann. Anyone interested in volunteering to work during a performance enjoys the show free of charge.

For reservations and information, call 410-226-0061 or visit [www.tredavonplayers.org](http://www.tredavonplayers.org)

# Coming Next for TAP...

## “Lives★Interrupted”

*A World War II Musical Revue*

*Directed by Alex Handy*

*Written by a TAP Collaboration*

Created and Produced by Robyn Mendelsohn & Steve Clyburn

Musical Direction by Marcia Gilliam

Choreography by Debbie Beasley

A Musical extravaganza! Love Story! The Saga of Historic American Courage! The heart and soul of an American family during WWII.

This original script will feature the beauty of this era and the struggle of the American people to understand the war. The entire family will enjoy this heartwarming story enhanced by over 30 songs written between 1941 and 1945, the golden age of 20th century American music. A cast of over 30 familiar performers and newcomers to TAP will bring this extraordinary account to life.

### **Performances**

Friday and Saturday October 22, 23, 29, 30 November 5 & 6 at 8 pm; Sunday October 24, 31 & November 7 at 2 pm; Thrifty Thursday November 4 at 7 pm.



## “Little Women, the Musical”

Book by Allen Knee, music by Jason Howland and lyrics by Mindi Dickstein

Directed by Ed Langrell

Musical Direction by Ellen Barry Grunden

Tred Avon Players and the Prince Theatre Foundation combine their talent to bring to stage the beloved classic by Louisa May Alcott, retold as a musical which follows the saga of the March sisters; Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy, as they grow up in Civil War America.

### **Auditions**

July 19 at 7 pm at the Oxford Community Center in Oxford

July 20 at 7 pm at the Prince Theatre in Chestertown

### **Performances**

Two consecutive weekends in December 2010.

Prince Theatre will present the show Thursday through Sunday, December 2-5.

“Little Women” comes to the Oxford Community Center,

Thursday –Sunday, December 9-12.



TAP is funded in part by a General Operating Grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, with funds provided by the State of Maryland and by the National Endowment for the Arts, and by a similar grant from the Talbot County Arts Council, agencies which believe that a great nation deserves great art, and that promotion of the arts is good for our families, our businesses and our communities.



TRED AVON PLAYERS  
Post Office Box 444  
Oxford, MD 21654

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EASTON, MD  
PERMIT No. 3



*Richard Dorbin, Holly Baldwin, Bruce Grove, Jessica Newell, Bob Dietz, John Whitesell, Maggie Garey, and Zack Schlag emote to Pat Murphy Sheehy's direction during rehearsal of **Leading Ladies**.*