

SPOTLIGHT

July 2016

Spotlight on Pat Durako



BLT has a new lighting designer, Pat Durako. She arrived here three months ago from Alexandria, VA. Pat is happily retired from two different careers. She was a Navy engineer for 22 years and a middle school teacher for 15 years. She had visited her Etowah friends, Al and Maureen Edick, over the years, and with their encouragement she decided to make Hendersonville her retirement home.

Pat took some college theater classes, but did not get serious about theater until the early 80's. She joined her local community theater to reduce the stress of her day job by hammering nails in the sets. Over the past 35 years she has worked in *every* tech area but has no interest in being on the stage. She

says, "There is more fun and less stress off the stage." Pat has done the lighting design for 50-60 shows and has stage-managed 30-40 shows in 10 different community theaters. Her home base was always The Little Theatre of Alexandria in the past, and she plans to make Brevard Little Theatre her home base here.

Even though she has been here only a short time, Pat has completed an extensive survey of our existing lighting components and presented her recommendations to the Board of Directors. The most important ones were related to safety cables that have been installed.



Pat Durako adjusts the light prior to production. Those with acrophobia need not apply!

When she is not climbing ladders to focus lights, Pat enjoys making jewelry and watching movies. She has a huge collection of DVD's.

Pat would love to share her knowledge and experience with anyone who is interested in learning to operate the light board or spotlight, hang lights, focus lights and/or work with cables and wiring.

Marylou Morrison Honored



On June 18th, Marylou Morrison was honored for her volunteer work at BLT and The Children's Center.

More than forty people from both organizations attended the farewell event at the theatre. Food was plentiful and a special farewell cake was shared by all. A large card was signed with special personal remarks by everyone.

Marylou was presented with a plaque for the President's Award for Exceptional Service of 25 years to BLT. During those years she has located props, helped with makeup and sewed costumes. As a producer of many shows, she recruited folks to help her build, paint and strike many sets.

Marylou and her husband are leaving Brevard. She will be greatly missed!

Kids Enjoy Tot Hollywood



Every afternoon at BLT during the last week of June, childish laughter could be heard emanating from sixteen tots, ages 4-7. This is the third year that Brevard Little Theatre has conducted the Tot Hollywood Camp from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM at the theater.

Each day had a theme: pirates and mermaids, the rainforest, superheroes, space, and *The Lion King*. The campers dressed up

according to the daily theme and participated in puppetry, storytelling, movement, singing, snacks and crafts...all related to that theme. On Friday, proud families and friends attended a thirty-minute presentation that showcased what the campers had learned.

The camp director and instructor was Chris Martin, a certified kindergarten teacher from Asheville. He holds a theatre arts licensure and master's degree in theatre education from UNC-Greensboro.

Chris was assisted by two volunteers, Sarah Margaret Porter and Eva Wren Lambert. Sarah is a sophomore at York Preparatory Academy in Rock Hill, SC. She recently played a talking door in *Alice in Wonderland* at her school. Eva is a special education major at Appalachian State University. She is also a former theater student of Chris's, having studied with him from kindergarten through 5th grade at Jones Elementary in Asheville.

Godspell is Coming

July 28-31 & Aug 4-7, 2016



Music by Steven Schwartz Book by John-Michael Tebelak Director: Heather Denton Ass't Director: Mark Thompson

Producers: Mark and Sandi Thompson

This contemporary musical is based on the Gospel according to Matthew. The show features a comedic troupe of eccentric players who team up with Jesus to teach his lessons in a new age through parables, games, and tomfoolery. Even after the haunting crucifixion, Jesus' message of kindness, tolerance and love lives vibrantly on.

<u>Cast:</u> Jesus - Andy Erwin Thompson; John the Baptist/Judas - Colby Coren; Lauren - Lauren Howell; Mark - Mark Thompson; Robert - Robert Pompeo; Karen - Karen Covington-Yow; Lamar - Brandon A. Gash; Elly - Elly Leidner; Christine - Christine Johnson; Beth — Beth Norris

The Seat Cushion Project

Here is a simple way to support BLT as well as your derriere. Our original red seat cushions mysteriously disappeared from the theatre. We know our chairs are not the most comfortable ones, and seat cushions add to our audience's comfort. So we are asking you to purchase a chair cushion, sit on it for a performance, and then leave it at the theatre. Any chair cushion in any color will do. (Wal-Mart does have some for \$5.00). Hopefully, we will soon have all our chairs comfortably outfitted with softness.



A Message from the President

We are now half-way through BLT's 2016 theatrical season, and I am happy to tell you that we did well with our first three shows. In each case, the productions were well attended, and our audiences were pleased. Perhaps that's because our play readers and artistic directors were following the wishes of those who filled out our surveys asking what types of shows they would like to see on our stage.

The rest of our current season will be just as good, starting with the hugely popular musical *Godspell*, followed by another fine comedy and an excellent Christmas show. To add to the fun, we have brought back our opening night



celebrations, with food and drinks catered by the culinary staff of the Schenck Job Corp Center. Please join us in our lobby after shows on opening nights to share complimentary delights with the cast and crew.

In the near future, we'll be sending out the brochures for our 2017 season. I'm confident you will like what you see on our new schedule. We look forward to seeing you here at BLT.



The Kitchen Witches (February)

Angel Street (April)

The Odd Couple: Female Version (June)

BLT Reservations and Information Line

828-884-BLTR [2587]

Brevard Little Theatre is the Official Community Theatre of Transylvania County & Brevard

<u>brevardlittletheatre.com</u> brevardlittletheatre.net

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You never know who will show up for an audition. Rafiki Snipes, the parrot, tried out for Delval Divas!

Remainder of 2016 SCHEDULE

Godspell July 28 - August 7

Delval Divas September 16 - October 2

A Christmas Carol December 1 - 4

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