



Canyon Theatre Spotlight



November – December 2010

The Mission of the Canyon Theatre Guild is to make the world a better place by entertaining, educating, enlightening, and enriching our community through quality live theater.

Issue No. 3 2010-2011 Season

WILLY WONKA'S WORLD IS PURE IMAGINATION

Roald Dahl's story of *Willy Wonka*, the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir, comes to life in the Canyon Theatre Guild's production of "*Willy Wonka*" which features songs from the original movie, "*Willy Wonka and The Chocolate Factory*" which starred Gene Wilder. This production is under the direction of Patti Finley with Cheri Bradford serving as Assistant Director, Allison Fox as choreographer and Greg Finley as Co-Vocal Director.

Tim McGowan plays Willy Wonka, the famous, eccentric, whimsical and occasionally sinister candy wizard, who welcomes us into his world of amazing sweets. He announces to his Oompa-Loompa servants that he is planning to retire. His search for an heir to run the chocolate factory begins with a contest. Five candy bars will contain Golden Tickets and the five lucky winners will be treated to a once in a lifetime offer: a tour of the chocolate factory!

Of course, children all over the world are in a frenzy to find those Golden Tickets! Poor Charlie Bucket (**Dylan Harris**), who lives with his impoverished parents (**Jim Crawford and Carla Bambo**) and grandparents (**Jim McGowan, Keri Pierson, Marla Khayat**), doesn't have the money to buy candy bars, so he resigns himself to never seeing the inside of the magical chocolate factory. However, Charlie keeps a positive attitude and eventually does find a ticket and has his chance to tour the factory, bringing Grandpa Joe (**Randy Aronson**) along as his chaperone. Charlie and the other winners are treated to sights they never dreamed of, but Willy Wonka warns his "guests" that they must not touch anything. As might be expected, the children each fail this test. Augustus Gloop (**Eric Osovsky**) is a glutton, and he can't resist the lure of fresh chocolate, which brings his tour to an abrupt end.



Tim McGowan and Dylan Harris

Violet Beauregarde (**Emma Howard**) just can't resist chewing gum, so her tour is also terminated. Veruca Salt (**Fiona Perry**) is a spoiled child who wants what she wants when she wants it, and Mike Teavee (**Sebastian Tripp**) is an obnoxious boy who can't resist the lure of television and video games. They, too receive some Wonka-style discipline. It's all in good fun and everyone is reunited by the end of the day. Others in the cast include **John Morris** as the Candyman (he's also co-vocal director), **Patrick McKenna** as Phineous Trout, **Jean Paletz** is Mrs. Gloop, **Ggreg Snyder** is Mr. Salt, **Lydia Saxton** is Mrs. Teavee, and **Janice Wald** is Mrs. Beauregard. The Oompa-Loompas are played by **Lydia Botello, Emma Cook, Savannah Schultz, Luke Crawford, Matthew Villar and Brennah Reyes**. Other cast members include **Marcum Reyes, Tyler Allen, Daniel Hart, Taylor Lane, Caroline O'Brien Cambria Jenkins, Dylan Perry and Katie Jurkowski** (who also understudies Veruca/Violet). The costumes are being designed by **Janet McAnany** and the set is being designed by **John Alexopoulos, Billy Davis, Doug Holiday and Jeff Hyde**.

(see *Wonka*, Page 3)



Artistic Impressions

Tim Ben Boydston

**Executive Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director of the CTG**

The Holidays are upon us, and, thanks to the team of decorators who made our lobby so festive and beautiful, not only does our lobby look festive, but audiences have been treated to live carolers before every performance of "A Christmas Carol." Thanks to my wife Ingrid for coordinating this treat. All of our combined efforts have certainly done the job of getting people into the spirit of the season.

Congratulations to director **Greg Finley**, his artistic team, cast and crew, on the very popular and well-received production of "A Christmas Carol - The True Meaning of Christmas." I would like to thank Greg for the opportunity to write the adaptation for this show. I would also like to thank him for drafting me to play the part of "Scrooge" after the actor who was slated had to drop out for a family emergency. I am having a great time after being away from the stage for 8 years.

A special thank you to co-chairmen **Duane Harte** and **John Morris** and their hard-working committee for the elegant, entertaining, enjoyable, and successful 40th Anniversary Gala held last month at the Odyssey. It was great fun to recollect the beginning days of the CTG and to see how much we have done over the years. Thanks also to all who attended and to the local dignitaries who made several special presentations to the CTG. Thanks also to Mayor Pro Tem **Marsha McLean** for her kind words and support.

Kudos also to Holipalooza! chair **Leslie Berra** and her team of "elves" for yet another wonderful youth fundraiser. It was a great evening and a joy to see all of those talented young people "strutting their stuff" to help raise money for the CTG's youth programs.

If you have not yet contacted the City and City Council members to ask them to lease the parking lot across from the theatre (as they had done for many years) there's no time like the present to do so. Sample letters are available at the box office, so if you don't have the time to write your own, please drop by and sign one, and we'll send it for you. Many thanks to OTNA (the Old Town Newhall Association) and the NRC (Newhall Redevelopment Committee) for their support in asking the City to re-open the parking lot.

I leave you with my sincere wish for a safe and happy holiday season. May you and yours enjoy a wonderful year in 2011. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and I'll see you at the theatre in January!

TimBen Boydston
Executive Director

Demand for Seats is High

Due to the increased popularity of our shows, PLEASE call ☎ and cancel if you are unable to use your reservations so we can release your tickets to others who'd like to see the show!

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!



Youth Workshop Updates

Patti Finley

**Assistant Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director of the Family Season
Director of Daytime Programs**

I know it's the middle of winter, but our spring semesters are ready to begin, so get your calendars out and get ready to schedule some fun, creative, wholesome time for your child by enrolling in our youth workshops! We have two terrific programs planned, and you won't want to miss out!

Our **ACT III After School Workshop** will begin on Tuesday, January 11, 2011. The class will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00 - 6:00 PM, with the final class and the evening performance scheduled for Thursday, March 17. The spring production will be a delightful musical production, "**Once Upon A Leprechaun**" Filled with the music and spirit of the Emerald Isle, the play centers around three hilarious, action-packed Irish folk tales. A trio of wild and crazy leprechauns tries to help a tongue-tied shepherd learn to tell a story to win the hand of his one true love. The songs, dancing and action will delight both student and audience, so call now to reserve a spot for your child. Tuition is still only \$200 for the ten weeks, that's only \$5 an hour for your child to learn acting, singing, dancing, responsibility and team work, as well as memories that will last a lifetime. Call now: (661) 799-2702.

(see **Youth Workshops** on page 3)



2011-2012 SEASON IS ANNOUNCED

The board of directors has approved the following shows for the 2011-2012 Season. All titles are subject to the availability of performance rights.

Canyon Theatre Guild Playhouse Season:

July/August - Always, Patsy Cline (musical)

October - Dracula

November/December - A Christmas Story

January/February - Thoroughly Modern Millie (musical)

March/April - Barefoot in the Park

May/June - Gypsy (musical)

FAMILY SEASON: October - The

Little Princess January/February

- Little Prince

March/April - Anne of Green Gables (musical)

We are still waiting to hear from the publishing companies on some of these titles, so they are subject to change..

Youth Workshops *from page 2*

Adventures in Theatre workshop for home schooled children is filling up quickly. Since class size is limited, you should call now to schedule an audition appointment for this popular program. Auditions will be held on January 11, by appointment only, so call the theatre (661-799-2702) or email Patti Finley (pattictg@gmail.com) for your audition time. The spring production will be "*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*." This class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – that's over 80 hours of instruction for \$225. We are approved vendors for *Golden Valley, Gorman, SCVi and Sky Mountain Charter* Schools.

We offer a tuition discount of 20% for the second child from the same family. You can also arrange payment plans. Contact Patti Finley for details on either of these programs. The *CTG* is also pleased to be able to offer a limited number of tuition scholarships through the *Boys and Girls Club*.

Wonka *from page 1*

Tim Christianson is handling lighting design and **Will Davies** is designing the sound. **Claudia Alexopoulos** is set decorator.

For a fanciful musical adventure that's just right for the whole family, you won't want to miss "*Willy Wonka*" at the Canyon Theatre Guild. The music is delightful and the story is based on one of **Roald Dahl's** most loved books. Performances are Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM on January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:00 on January 30, February 6, 13, 19, 20, 26, and 27. There will be one Friday evening performance on February 25 at 8:00 PM. Ticket prices are \$15-\$17 for adults and \$12-\$15 for Juniors/Seniors (under 18/over 62). The Canyon Theatre Guild is located at 24242 Main Street, Old Town Newhall. Call the box office for reservations at (661-) 799-2702. Tickets go on sale for season subscribers only on January 4, and for the general public on January 11.

PARKING WOES?

When you come to the Canyon Theatre Guild, do you have a difficult time finding a parking space? Do you miss the lot on the corner of Main St. and Sixth? If you're like most of our patrons and volunteers, you have to allow extra time to find a place to park before a show or event. Hundreds of our theatre patrons have signed letters asking the City of Santa Clarita to reconsider their decision not to rent that parking lot any longer. If you think the lack of parking is hurting not only the CTG but also the other small businesses in Old Town Newhall, you can do something to help. Send a letter to our City Council asking them to once again lease that parking lot for the customers in our area. Don't have time to write a letter? Come on in to our box office and we have letters you can sign - we'll even mail it for you!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeff Johnson
President
CTG Board of Directors

As we approach another change of the calendar and head towards making a list of the things we look to accomplish in the New Year, I would like to put in a plug for a spot for the CTG on your list of resolutions. Maybe you've enjoyed being an audience member and marveled at what takes place on stage thinking, "I could never do that." I assure you, you can. Many of us have sat where you have and said the same thing, many of us who now regularly participate in the productions in a wide range of ways. There are so many ways to become a more intimate part of the process at the CTG, all you have to do is raise your hand and ask to jump into the fray. I hope that 2011 marks the year that you do! Have you ever sewn or built a birdhouse in wood shop even? Can you work a paintbrush a hammer or even a broom? Were you maybe in your elementary school production as the 3rd elephant from the left or perhaps did some theater in high school or college? What is it that keeps you from you joining in on the fun? Is it fear perhaps, or self doubt? Those are understandable but I like what Mr. Shakespeare had to say about fear and doubt, "Our doubts are traitors, and make us lose the good we oft might win, by fearing to attempt." Maybe you have no desire to jump into productions but want to help the CTG, tell your friends about us, buy your friends a season membership as a gift, or if those things require too much work then drop us a check and a letter telling us your thoughts on what we do.

Another thought comes to mind for those of you who have already taken the plunge and been in and around productions, what next? Do you have ideas; strengths that you think would help the CTG thrive? Do you see things

and want to know how you can better help in the long-term growth of the theatre? If you answered yes I hope you will consider running for the Board of Directors. The Board is made up of people just like you and we are always looking for new contributors. Our next Board election is in June but now is a good time to start thinking about running. Come to a board meeting; see what it's like. We meet the second Monday of every month in the White building at 7pm. We have time at both the beginning of the meeting and the end for participation and comments from the membership. You don't have to be interested in running for the board to attend a board meeting either, all of our board meetings are open to the general membership and we would love to see you there.

If you've ever had the desire to do more around the CTG I hope that 2011 will be the year that you decide to do so!

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson – President of the CTG Board of Directors

| 2010-2011 CTG Board of Directors | |
|---|---------------------|
| <i>President</i> | Jeff Johnson |
| <i>1st Vice President</i> | Leslie Berra |
| <i>2nd Vice President</i> | Frank Rock |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Wade Bradford |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | John Morris |
| <i>Members-At-Large</i> | Tim Christianson |
| | Claudia Alexopoulos |
| | Marla Khayat |
| | Michael Keane |
| | Andy Fried |
| | Duane Harte |
| Other People You Should Know | |
| <i>Executive Director &</i> | |
| <i>Artistic Director of the Playhouse</i> | |
| <i>Season</i> | TimBen Boydston |
| <i>Assistant Director &</i> | |
| <i>Artistic Director</i> | |
| <i>of the Family Season</i> | Patti Finley |

40th Anniversary Gala – A Beautiful Event

After months of planning and preparation, gallons of blood, sweat and tears, and a constant ray of hope that all would be well, the Canyon Theatre Guild's 40th Anniversary Gala came to a wonderful conclusion.

The guests all looked elegant, the venue was terrific, the decorations were beautiful and the entertainment was superb. The food, in my humble opinion, was better than usual, even for the Odyssey. As co-chair of the event I couldn't have been happier that evening. To top it all off we actually made some money for the Theatre which is always a blessing. If you were one of the 100+ people in attendance that night I hope you enjoyed the night as much as I did.

I would like to thank my wonderful committee members for all the effort they put into the Gala. Without volunteers like these folks it would have been an impossible task. Thanks to the event co-chair, **John Morris, Patti Finley, Pat and Jim Robinson, Andy Fried, Carol Rock** (and all her wonderful audio/visual assistants), **Claudia Alexopoulos, Marsha McLean, Marla Khayat and Christine Sexton**. What a wonderful group of people to work with.

Thanks also to our fantastic table sponsors who really came through for us, including **Iron Mountain Film and Sound, Remo Drums, IHOP, the Robinsons, and Andy Fried**. We had so items for the live and silent auction that were donated by so many wonderful people that I couldn't begin to list them all, but my heartfelt thanks goes out to each and every one.

As someone once said, "I love it when a plan comes together!" Here's to another 40 years for the CTG! Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays everyone!

Duane Harte – Co-Chair

CTG 40th Anniversary Gala Committee

VOLUNTEERS: YOU ARE the CTG!

From September through December, an amazing number of Volunteers donated a fantastic number of hours to help the CTG. **THANK YOU!** We have participated in Community events including The Street Festival in Newhall, Business Expo, Kids' Expo, HMNMH Home Tour and Tree Lighting. Most of our Volunteers work inside our facility. They sell tickets, cook and serve food at special events, collect & package baskets to be sold at fundraisers, decorate our Lobby according to season, mail and/or distribute CTG brochures and Workshop information, service the Snack Bar, direct, act on stage, create sound and lights, work backstage, construct sets, stage decor and costumes. The list goes on and on. The CTG could not survive without Volunteers! Thank you so much! Remember, we appreciate your help, and look forward to welcoming new recruits.

A Volunteer Newsletter is sent about every three months. It details the needs, dates and times when Volunteers can help. If you wish to be included in the Email, please contact Marla <marlak8@yahoo.com>, or call 250-3664. If your interest is only in Snack Bar work, contact Claudia directly: 296-1774 or 305-7085. Happy Holidays Volunteers, and thank you!

The Arts in Santa Clarita

If you would like more information on what's going on in the world of the Arts in Santa Clarita, put your name on the City's eNotify list. Just go to

www.santa-clarita.com/enotify
and click on Arts & Events

SPOTLIGHT ON DUANE HARTE

D. H. Those initials could stand for “Diligent” and “Honorable,” but they could just as meaningfully stand for **Duane Harte**, a member of the Canyon Theatre Guild’s Board of Directors and Santa Clarita’s “2003 Man of the Year.”

Other than the CTG, Duane is also on the board of the Santa Clarita Historical Society; the board of the Man and Woman of the Year Committee; he is Chair of the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission; he is Vice-Chair of the Newhall Redevelopment committee. He “is the last known docent for Mentryville.” His dedication to the community began with his involvement with the Friends of Mentryville. . He fell in love with the history of Santa Clarita – and everything else blossomed from there.

In between all of his community endeavors, Duane has been running a successful direct mail advertising company, Academy Addressing & Mailing, for nearly forty years. (And he has been helping the CTG advertise for over a decade.) When he has a bit of spare time, he enjoys riding up the coast with his wife. But even his enthusiasm for motorcycles has become a means of serving his community. Duane is also a member of the Patriot Guard Riders, a group dedicated to honoring fallen soldiers. Recently, Duane escorted a young soldier’s body from the Palmdale Airport to the mortuary. He humbly explained the group’s importance: “As a proud member of the Patriot Guard Riders I attempt to attend as many missions like this one as I possibly can. Not only do I consider it an honor to be there when requested, I feel it my duty to give these young service men and woman the respect they are due.”

In some ways, Duane is surprised by how much he admires the Canyon Theatre Guild. “I am not an artsy person,” he announced, matter-of-factly. “Usually I hate musicals, but at the Canyon Theatre Guild I have loved every one.”



Duane and Pauline on their Harley

He began watching plays and musicals at the Canyon Theatre Guild nearly thirty years ago when he and his wife began taking his daughters to see all of the shows. Some of his early favorites have included “The Wizard of Oz” and “Annie.” He also pointed out that recent shows such as “The Producers” are “extremely entertaining.”

Duane believes that the Canyon Theatre Guild is an essential part of the community. He explained, “The CTG is our anchor in Newhall right now. Old Town Newhall is being developed as an Arts District, and Canyon Theatre Guild just fits right into that. Canyon Theatre led into that.” Duane hopes to see the theatre continue to progress and create plays that people want to see.

With Duane’s help, the Canyon Theatre Guild is certain to not only continue, it will thrive.



Upcoming Events

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Dec. 24 | Theatre Closes for Holidays |
| Jan. 4 | Theatre Reopens Reservations begin for <i>Willy Wonka</i> and <i>Chicago</i> |
| Jan. 8 | Set building for <i>Willy Wonka</i> |
| Jan. 10 | Board Meeting @ 7 pm |
| Jan. 11 | Workshops Begin |
| Jan. 23-34 | Auditions for <i>Little Women</i> |
| Jan. 24 & 25 | Auditions for <i>Social Security</i> |
| Jan. 29 | <i>Willy Wonka</i> opens |
| Feb. 14 | Board Meeting @ 7 pm |

AUDITION NOTICES

“Little Women”

Director Randy Aronson will be holding auditions for “Little Women” by Peter Clapham on Saturday and Sunday, January 22 & 23 from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The play calls for 5 men and 7 women, including the March girls, Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy, and Laurie, the boy next door. Auditions will be cold reading from the script. Be familiar with the story and characters. No advance scripts will be available.

Auditions will consist of cold reading to be held in the CTG Studio next door to the theatre. Performances will run March 26 – April 23, 2011.

“Social Security”

Director Ingrid Boydston is looking for 3 men and 3 women for this comedy. Auditions will be Monday and Tuesday, January 24 & 25 from 7:30 – 9:30 PM. Roles are:

- Barbara & David – a chic, middle-aged, New York couple who run an upscale art gallery. (age range 30 – 50)
- Martin & Trudy – an extremely uptight, middle-aged couple; classic nerds. Trudy is Barbara’s sister but they are like night and day. (age range 30 – 50)
- Sophie – Barbara & Trudy’s mother, in her 80s. Begins the play hobbling around on a walker, feeling cranky & old and ends up in love, with a new lease on life.
- Maurice – A famous artist and good friend of Barbara & David’s who is swept off his walker by Sophie. Age 80-90.

DIRECTOR APPLICATIONS

If you are interested in applying to direct one of the shows for the 2011-2012 season, you may pick up an application in the box office. The MINIMUM requirements are:

- Must be AT LEAST 18 years old
- Must have been a paid member of the CTG for AT LEAST one year
- Must have served as a Stage Manager on a CTG show AND
- Must have served as Assistant Director on a CTG show

In the application, you will have an opportunity to list your training, experience, and to indicate which show you would like to be considered for.

Director applications must be returned to the box office by January 14th. You may also request an electronic copy of the application by sending an email to pattictg@gmail.com.