



BINGO!

Mark your free spots every one!, I mean your calendars, **BINGO, THE WINNING NEW MUSICAL** is getting ready to make its area debut at FCT **Sept. 17, 18, 19, 24,25 and 26.** Director Mitchell Antesky has assembled a great cast of FCT alumni and some newer faces to bring this fast paced, fun, zany and down right whacky show to life on the FCT stage, or should I say the Hammerin County VFW Bingo Hall? During the run of the show, our lucky **audience will actually play a few games of bingo** (cash prizes!!) along with the cast on stage and even more surprises await when this unique new musical opens

FCT's 55th season. There are rivalry's, rituals and romance, flashbacks, fantasies and FUN!

No bingo hall is complete without troll dolls and lucky charms, and this musical wouldn't be complete without catchy

tunes, fun choreography, a slew of special effects and more fun and excitement than you can shake your bingo dauber at! Make those reservations early, you don't want to miss this one, you **DON'T!** (Reservations: 419-332-0695)



A Christmas Story tryouts...

Tryouts for the much beloved story about a boy's quest for his Red-Rider BB gun will be held on October 3-4 at 7pm. Production dates are

December 3-5 and 10-12.

The cast calls for a cast of 2 Men, 2 Women, 5 boys, and 2 girls.

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Bingo cast and crew:

- Vern** - Linda Rich
- Honey** - Hilary Frater
- Minnie** - Jen Abdo
- Sam/Frank** - Ethan Mandeville
- Patsy** - Mandy Burris
- Bernice** - Cyndi Hineline
- Allison** - Kendra Keegan
- Vocal direction** - Mandy Burris
- Musical sequencer** - Bob Bell
- Rehearsal pianist** - Linda Bell

Spotlight on...Randy Brown



For the past twenty-seven years, the Fremont Community Theatre has truly been more than a stage in my life and will continue to be until the final curtain falls.

THE OVERTURE

Growing up in Sugarcreek (in the heart of Ohio's Amish country), I was not exposed to a lot of theatre. I did, however, participate in my senior class play *MASH**, but spent more of my time stocking shelves at a local grocery store. Later in college, I also took part in a couple of shows, always chorus, but I did enjoy the experiences. After graduating from Heidelberg College in 1979, I landed a job teaching fifth grade at Washington Elementary in Lindsey. It was there that several teachers friends told me about the Fremont Community Theatre and encouraged me to try out for a show. I had seen ads in the newspaper advertising some of the productions, so I finally decided to attend their 1982 production of *THE WIZARD OF OZ*. The following year I worked up enough guts to audition for their musical, *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR*. Again I landed in the chorus, but no problem, it was only my first show. Later I was promoted to Peter and had to sing a duet with Mary Magdalene. I was terrified...I am not a good singer. Little did I know at the time that the vocal director, Miss Darla Czako, would

eventually become my wife. Good things do happen at the most unexpected times.

ACT I

Throughout the next several years, I became more and more involved. I served as an officer and board member for many a year and helped, along with many other members such as the McColgins, to get the theatre back on its feet. Then in 1985, I directed my first show, a comedy called *FOOLS* at the theatre. The following year Joe Bibler and I took the reins of the teen theatre and directed its summer show for the next ten years. Together we directed shows such as *WEST SIDE STORY*, *INTO THE WOODS*, and most recently, last summer's production of *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*. Each year I have discovered that this area really does have a lot of talented teens of which to be proud.

I think I like directing better than acting. I'm not getting any younger, and I am finding harder and harder to remember all those lines. I enjoy visualizing the whole picture and then breaking it down into smaller frames for all to see. I have been so blessed over the past years with great friends from the FCT family who have supported my directing efforts and helped to bring some truly great entertainment to the community. Some of my favorites have been *WORKING*, *FOREVER PLAID*, *MY FAIR LADY*, *ANNIE*, and just recently, *THE WIZARD OF OZ*.

ACT II

This part has to include all the great

friends and people that I have had the pleasure of meeting throughout my time at FCT. Although I have remained a constant over the years, many faces have come and gone, being replaced by new ones. I still have fond memories of earlier days and working with Randy and Nancy Allison, Jerry and Tara McColgin, Tom and Patty Hill, and Steve and Becky Koenig. Darla and I still keep in contact with these families, but the days of the Summer Bash and playing "murder" at the theatre are now just moments in my mental scrapbook. Now friends like PJ and Mary Jo Foes, Bill Burkett, Hank and Bobbe Povolny, and many others are continuing to add pages to that book. I am forever grateful to everyone, including the many patrons who continue to support FCT and our efforts to bring the best entertainment to the area.

Finally, an integral part of FCT has been my own family. FCT has provided many opportunities and a nurturing atmosphere for my family. It has been a real joy to watch my own children, Amanda, Aaron, and Allyson, step onto the stage and enter their own spotlights. It's also been great to have my wife by my side and working with the vocals as I am directing the show. Come to think of it... I probably I get to see more of my family when we do a show together.

In closing, I would like to encourage others to make FCT more than a stage in their lives. Let it become a part of your family as it has become a part of mine.

Thanks and see you at the theatre.

FCT Youth Camp

FCT has begun a new chapter in its 'more than a stage in your life' campaign. The newly formed youth program kicked off this summer with a two-week summer camp attended by 19 area youth (K-8).

The 10 day camp included all aspects of theatre production from tryouts to set painting.

Daily activities helped strengthen partici-

part's abilities in stage direction, voice, and character.

The group performed a series of Aesop's fables including *The Wolf and the Lamb*, *The Lion and the Mouse*, *The Ants and the Grasshopper*, *The Heifer and the Ox*, and *The Tortoise and the Hare*.

See more pictures on our Facebook page: Fremont Community Youth Theatre



Notes from 'da Prez'

At a recent meeting of the board, we talked about developing a 5-year plan for FCT. Randy Brown is chairing the committee for this task, so if you have any ideas for improving or maintaining our facility or programs (not the paper kind), contact Randy so we can include you in a brain-storming session that he is planning to host.

Speaking of programs, the initial FCT Youth Theatre program was, by all accounts, a success! We had average attendance at performances of over 100 people. This is an important program for FCT and Fremont because with the Youth Theatre, we are planting the seeds for the future of live theatre in Sandusky county. As word of this program spreads, I would expect to have significantly higher participation next summer, although the 19 youth-campers we had this time was a good

number to "get our feet wet". I'm looking forward to next year with great expectations!

Back to the board meeting -- we also talked about being a responsible member. You can do this, even if you aren't yet a dues-paying member! You don't have to be "on the list" to help out at FCT -- all you need is a willingness to help and a few skills, or the ability to learn. While we depend on financial contributions from the community, it takes more than money to run a theatre. Fortunately, we're a volunteer organization, so we get by on a reduced budget, but we need people like you to get all that volunteer work done. Your first opportunity is coming up soon with the pre-show cleaning of the theatre to get ready for "Bingo", our 55th season opener. Clean-the-Theatre is scheduled for Saturday, Sept 11 at

noon. If you'd prefer to learn the ropes of working back stage, contact director Mitch Antesky for any open positions on the crew. Back stage work begins long before opening night. We're here most Saturdays (when there's no performance that night) between 10 am and 2 pm, and some times later, working on set construction and decoration. Our Costume Queen, Sue Stotz, can always use your sewing skills for an up-coming show. Call us at 419-332-0775 and offer to help. We'll let you know when to come by. You can always become a member later, when you're ready, but we could sure use your help now. You might even find a new friend or two!

See you at the theatre!

—*Tim Bolton*, da prez

FCT Summer Bash

FCT held its annual summer membership meeting and BBQ. This year it was hosted by Mary Jo and Michael PJ Foos.

To get into the spirit of the upcoming season, Mary Jo created a bingo game using the faces of members as squares on the cards.



OCTA (Jr.) News

One of OCTA's newest responders (AKA judges, adjudicators, etc.) is our very own Chairman of the Board, Mitch Antesky. His first assignment for "responding" was recently at OCTA JR. Fest, held in Columbus Aug. 7. Seven theatres were represented with kids from ages 5-18. Shows including Disney's 101 Dalmatians for Kids, Canterville Ghost, Five Pound Sack, Check Please 1,2,3 and the Best Christmas Pageant Ever were in competition, just like OCTAFest for adults. Basically the same rules apply for the JR.

version and the 2 winners chosen will perform in showcase Friday night at the Labor Day weekend State OCTA conference in Perrysburg. The winners selected this year were Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat, from Mansfield and Bang Bang you're Dead by 3B Productions. Mitch reported that this was a very exciting day of theatre and would love to encourage our own FC Teen Theatre to consider participating next summer. Mitch said "The excitement as awards were handed out was amazing and the

way every group supported each other was simply inspiring, maybe a trend adults could even pickup on?" Mitch was selected to respond to the OCTA JR. because of his encouragement of youth theatre at FCT, and his ongoing quest to make theatre More than a stage in your life! Way to go CBG!



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Find us on-line at www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org and our Facebook page...Fremont Community Theatre: More Than A Stage in Your Life



September 14.....*BINGO* press dress
September 17-19, 24-26.....*BINGO*
September 19.....future of FCT planning (see article)
September 21.....board meeting, 7pm
October 3,4.....auditions for *A Christmas Story*, 7pm
October 12.....playreading committee, 7pm
October 19.....board meeting, 7pm
October 22.....membership meeting/Halloween party
November 9.....playreading committee, 7pm
November 16.....board meeting, 7pm

See your artistic creativity on this newsletter. Send your comedy and tragedy mask design to shavice23@gmail.com or PO Box 24, Fremont (attn: S.Havice).

Be creative...all media formats welcome (ex. photography, pen and ink, watercolors, pasta...)

This month's submission comes from Michael PJ Foos.

Spotlight On... produced and edited by Scott Havice