

BIRTHDAYS:

Best birthday wishes go to the following Spotlighters having birthdays in April: **Sheila Jacobs, Lynn Hannath, Bill Hoover and Jere Uncapher.**

A GOOD TREED OFF

Next time you arrive at the theatre, notice how you can see the building more clearly now. We have recently contracted with Affordable Tree Service to cut down and remove 5 trees from the Houston side of the theatre. Gone are the large pine tree that was once a Christmas tree that was in the lobby of the theatre, three trees along the retaining wall of the side courtyard, which now makes the magnolia tree show up better, plus a tree that was next to the big tree at the driveway. They also hauled off a tree that **Kevin Radford** had recently cut down in the back lot. Any of you who need tree work would be well off to call this tree service. They were very cheap and quick and cleaned up after themselves very nicely. They were the ones who came in and cut up the sycamore tree that came down after the micro burst blew it over a year or so ago. The owner's name is Fernando Leos. If interested, call the theatre and we'll give you their phone number.

CONDOLENCES

Got a phone call from **Gene Fitch** with news of the passing of **Karen Lehmer Chipman**. She was the oldest daughter of **Bob & Lee Lehmer**, who were very active at the theatre in the 60's - 80's. The whole family, **Bob, Lee, Steve, Karen & Jan**, were in the cast of 'The Drunkard' for many years and worked behind the scenes. **Karen** painted the flats we used for our traveling shows

back in the 60's & 70's. **Karen** died from a heart attack while getting dialysis for a bad kidney in Austin, Texas. Our hearts go out to the family and to **Jan Jewell**, the last of the original Lehmer's, who is living in the Oklahoma City area.

We have also learned that **Carol Jolly's** sister has recently passed away. Our heartfelt condolences to **Carol** and family.

CAST NOTES

We are seeing the debuts of several new people into the cast of 'The Drunkard.' Recently debuting were **Caleb Christie** as Frank Slade and **Victoria Hannath** as Mary Morgan. About to debut are **Bill Rowland** as Romaine, **Mike McCarthy** as Harvey Green, **Delores Duke** as Fanny Morgan, as well as the return of **Dale Montgomery** as Harvey Green. We are also having several new people in training and are getting calls from people wanting to audition for the play, thanks to our notices on the web-site, from the radio ads and various other venues. Be looking for many new faces to debut in the coming months.

NOTE: IMPORTANT!

The schedules are put together around the middle of each month, so if you haven't been to the theatre to sign up for the next month, **PLEASE** call Jere at the theatre and he will see that your name gets put on the Can/Can't Play/Perform sheets. This will save having to make changes so often and will be most appreciated by John Barker and Mark Roberts

CHILDREN'S THEATRE REPORT

We have just finished a very successful run of 'Tom

Sawyer' and are now in rehearsals for 'Peter Pan,' opening on April 24th and running through May 3rd. It is being directed by the **Barker's, John, Joshua & Mindy**. Things are really shaping up and it is looking like it will be another great show. Don't miss your chance to see it. Beginning with this show, the ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and \$8 for children.

QUARTERLY MEETING

The next Quarterly membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 19th at 2 PM. This meeting will be different from the others, in that there is an Improv show by **Billie Sue Thompson's** students, scheduled for 6:30 PM, so the meeting will be a little abbreviated, so we can be ready for the show. It will be set like a children's theatre performance. There were a lot of scheduling problems, working around Easter, Peter Pan and other conflicts.

CD RELEASE PARTY SET

The Pendleton Family Fiddlers invite you and your friends to a CD release party and show at 7:30 pm on May 8 at the Spotlight Theatre. The CD is called "In the Spotlight" to celebrate the fact that the Olio gave the Pendleton Family Fiddlers their start five years ago! Tickets for the party and show are \$10. Autographed CDs are \$10. The Pendletons hope the event will publicize how the Spotlight helps young performers get started. Seating is limited, so call Jere at 587-5030 for tickets.

DOWN FRONT NEWS

Servers are desperately needed. If any cast members have family members or friends that would like to serve once a month when that cast member is playing, I can schedule that. Also, if

anyone in the cast would like to serve once a month, that would be great!

OLIO-VATIONS

A few of the new Olio acts debuted in March with three more debuting in April. Already debuted are **Haley Monforton** on banjo, **Constance Harp** on harp and **Tina Michael** aka "Bubbles" Dubois. Making their debuts in April are **Too Much Sass**, a quartet from the Sweet Adelines, **Hanna Chaboya**, belly dancer and **Rhonda Carlile**, a singer. Welcome to the Olio!

IMPROV SHOW

As mentioned earlier, there will be a performance by **Billie Sue Thompson's** improv troupe on April 19th. Please see the notice on the back of the Down front schedule.

FINALLY!!!

Anyone who's been to the theatre recently might have seen our Vice President grinning like the proverbial cheshire cat. **Richard Robertson**, after over a year searching, calling, writing and visiting, has finally succeeded in locating an off-site storage building where we have now emptied out our old storage unit and are in the process of cleaning out the areas on the 2nd and 3rd floor of Children's Theatre props, costumes, set pieces etc. Then we can turn the rooms into something useable. Gee, what a novel idea! To be able to use it for something. What will they think of next?

This would give us a room to rehearse new cast members while the regular rehearsal is going on. It has been mentioned that we can have acting classes there. There are an number of uses for the rooms.