



Carson Valley Community Theatre April - June 2011 Newsletter

REMEMBERING SUE SMITH

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Sue Smith. But it is with happiness that we celebrate her vibrant life and her many contributions to theater in Carson Valley. The following remembrance of Sue contributed by Carolyn Lancaster describes it well:

Sue Smith joined the board of Carson Valley Community Theatre (CVCT) in February of 2005 as a Director at Large. John Smith soon joined the board as Treasurer. Board meetings were often held in their home. I believe that they were at the first organizational meeting to get interest in starting another community theater, but I didn't know them then. Sue's experience with other theater groups through the years brought some needed knowledge to CVCT in its infancy. Sue served as Wardrobe Mistress through the years for CVCT, and acted in the production of the female version of *The Odd Couple*.

In our memories, we see Sue and John always together. Sue might be acting or performing some other duty for CVCT, and John would be not far away, working the lights for a production. Sue always believed in speaking up for the direction things should go, yet compromised as well. There's a wonderful photo from *The Odd Couple* of the "ladies" playing monopoly. The smile on her face reminds me of the pure joy and delight that the stage brought to her through the years. This statement from Sue recorded in board minutes at a time when she felt we needed to do more productions and add more actors to the board, sums up Sue's passion about theater:

"The whole thing about theater is being on stage. To keep the group going and excited, there should be actors on the board."

Carson Valley Community Theatre cannot replace our friend, Sue Smith.

LOVING WISHES FROM CVCT

Jean and Jay Tomlinson supported CVCT from early on in its history. We extend our sympathy to Jean and the family upon the recent loss of Jay. We look forward to Jean's continued support of CVCT in the future, and offer to her our loving wishes. May her fond memories of Jay bring her comfort in the coming days.

TEXAS ACCENT COMES IN HANDY FOR "COME BACK TO THE 5 & DIME, JIMMY DEAN, JIMMY DEAN" **

by Carolyn Lancaster

Texas is so bigggg...that you can find lots of Texas dialects and accents. Fortunately for me, my Texas accent seems to be working for the needs of "Come Back to the 5 & Dime's" director, Margaret Edson.

The play takes place in the Kressmont 5 & Dime in McCarthy, Texas, a few miles from the real Texas town of Marfa, where "Giant" was filmed. What characters gather together in the 5 & Dime, from teenage characters who worshipped Jimmy Dean, to their adult counterparts – some of whom never got past their worship of Jimmy Dean!

My character, Juanita, manager of the 5 & Dime after the death of her husband, practically raised the teenagers who worked there. Juanita and the teenagers learn the hard way that life is never quite what it seems. The interweaving of the lives of each character draws you into the funny and poignant plot of the 5 & Dime of 1955 and twenty years later, in 1975.

** "Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" is a Comedy-Drama by Ed Graczyk, and contains adult content. Performance rights are by Samuel French, Inc.

Performances are May 13, 14, 20, and 21 at 7:30 pm, and May 15 and 22 at 2:00 pm. Opening Night Champagne/Dessert Reception is May 13. Dinner/Show Packages with Minden Food Company (formerly Barone and Reed) are available May 14, 20, 21.

Tickets will be available starting April 18 at the Carson Valley Arts Council/Copeland Cultural Center, 1572 Hwy. 395, downtown Minden, Mon-Fri 1:00 to 5:30 and Saturdays 10:00 to 1:00. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.ShowTix4U.com. Prices are as follows: May 13 Opening Night Gala...\$20...all others are \$15 regular and \$12 seniors and students. The Dinner/Show Package is \$48. Tickets will also be available at the Business Showcase on April 21 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds.

Ya'll 'gonna luv' it!

"RADIO MEMORIES" HITS THE ROAD

CVCT's winter production, "Radio Memories," which recreates a day in 1940's radio, will be presented at the Mark Twain Cultural Center in Incline Village on July 14-16. We are pleased to associate with the Cultural Center for this production. It will give CVCT an opportunity to appear in a new venue and share our production with a new audience.

We are fortunate that the entire original cast and crew are available and will make the trek to Incline Village. We hope this will be the beginning of expanding our artistic efforts throughout the area.

Please contact Rebecca Layne at ghostoftwain@gmail.com for ticket information.

CARSON VALLEY DAYS PARADE

This year's theme for Carson Valley Days is "Back to the 80's." We are looking for a team of volunteers to decorate and ride on our float. Please contact Lucille Rao at 775-843-3493 or LucilleRao@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering to be part of the decade of Neon Colors and Big Hair!

CVCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITIONS OPEN

Are you bored? Would you like to get involved? Come **get** on board with CVCT. We have 3 positions opening up on our board of directors. If you have a skill or experience from your career or hobby such as marketing, accounting, construction, art, music, computers, etc., and are interested in applying please send your letter of interest by August 1, 2011, to our board

President. Theatre experience is not a requirement; a willingness to get involved, be proactive, and volunteer is all that is required. Consider donating your time to benefit the arts in our community. Please send all inquiries and letters of interest to: LucilleRao@gmail.com or P.O. Box 654 Minden, NV 89423.

CVCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETREAT

The CVCT Board of Directors is confronted with several matters that require more attention than is practical during the monthly Board meetings. To this end, the Board will hold an all-day meeting on **June 4th** to discuss these and other matters of interest. While attendance by Board members is mandatory, any CVCT member is welcome to attend as well. If you have an interest in any of the matters listed below, would like to present other ideas to the Board for consideration, are considering becoming a future Board member, or would just like to keep informed of what your Board is doing, please feel welcome to attend.

The tentative agenda is as follows:

- 1) CVCT organization structure. CVCT needs to create a standard organization structure, especially for staff positions and standing committees that carry over from year to year. Two new staff positions will be considered: Marketing and Publicity Director and Information Technology Director. This work would then lead to the formalizing of job descriptions that would be helpful when trying to fill those positions as well as those for play productions so that people will know what is expected of them.
- 2) Strategic plan. CVCT needs to create a mid-to-long-range plan to guide each new Board of Directors in executing its responsibilities to ensure continuity of progress and direction. A strategic plan should cover such things as: What are our goals, objectives, and long-range plans? Should we plan for a production "season" and sell season tickets? Should we seek a permanent home that is more suitable for live theatre productions? and others.
- 3) Mission/Vision statement. Prompted by the need for a more comprehensive mission/vision statement for grant applications than what is contained in the CVCT bylaws, a document has been drafted for this purpose. We will review/revise/finalize this document based on the decisions regarding the strategic plan.
- 4) Bylaws revision. It is common practice to revisit the bylaws periodically to consider potential changes based on past experiences and practices. The CVCT bylaws will be reviewed to determine if any revisions are necessary. Any such changes recommended by the Board will be presented to the general membership for approval at our annual meeting in September.
- 5) Policies and Procedures. To provide continuity from year to year and to help people understand what is expected of them, the practices and workings of CVCT should be governed by a set of standardized policies and procedures. The objective of this item on the agenda is to determine what policies and procedures we need, but not to try to write them during this meeting. That responsibility will be assigned by the President to others for subsequent presentation to the Board for approval.
- 6) Review of "lessons learned". Directors and Producers of CVCT productions are required to submit a report to the Board following the close of the show. In addition to a final financial accounting, the report typically contains some "lessons learned" regarding what worked and what didn't. The Board should review these reports collectively to determine if any of the recommendations should be adopted as standard practice.

The meeting will be at the Aspen Park clubhouse from 9:00 to 5:00. **Please advise CVCT's Secretary Pat Cardinal at rpscardinal@clearwire.net or 775-265-4241 if you are planning to attend** in order that we may ensure adequate space and refreshments.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GENOA COWBOY POETRY AND MUSIC FESTIVAL Positions Available for All Festival Dates

The Town of Genoa and the Carson Valley Arts Council are looking for volunteers to assist with the **2011 Genoa Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival**, taking place across the Town of Genoa beginning Thursday, May 5, through Sunday, May 8. A variety of positions are available for volunteers to work at the Cowboy Festival. The event will feature nationally known Cowboy poets and musicians, workshops, western art, cowboy food, trail ride, and a Mother's Day brunch. Entertainers include David John and the Comstock Cowboys, Dennis Golden, Tom Weatherby, Sourdough Slim, Dave Stamey, Belinda Gail, Doris Dailey, Wylie & The Wild West, Paul Zarzyski, Richard Elloyan, Cody & Kaye, the Old West Trio, All Hat No Cattle, and the Saddle Cats.

Those interested in applying must submit a volunteer form, available at the Town of Genoa, the Carson Valley Arts Council, or at the Festival website www.cowboypoetrygenoa.com. Town offices are located at 2289 Main Street in Genoa, and the Carson Valley Arts Council is at 1572 Hwy 395 in Minden. Completed forms can be submitted via mail to "Town of Genoa Cowboy Festival – P. O. Box 14, Genoa, Nevada 89411" or faxed to 775-782-2779.

For more information on the festival and to purchase tickets online visit the Genoa Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival website at www.cowboypoetrygenoa.com. Information and tickets are also available by contacting the Town of Genoa offices at 775-782-8696 or Carson Valley Arts Council at 775-782-8207.

NEWSLETTER INPUTS

If you have inputs for this newsletter, comments, or anything you would like to see covered, please e-mail Dave Thomas, CVCT newsletter editor, at dave@antennadave.com.

HOW TO CONTACT US

You may contact CVCT by mail at:

Carson Valley Community Theatre
P.O. Box 654
Minden, NV 89423

You can also send your comments and recommendations through our website at www.carsonvalleycommunitytheatre.org.