

FREMONT CIVIC THEATRE
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FCT SPOTLIGHT NOVEMBER 2007

WWW.FREMONTCIVICTHEATRE.ORG

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COMING SOON:

One Weekend Only: December 7, 8 & 9

An Old Time Radio Holiday Extravaganza

in conjunction with KRLN News Radio AM 1400

December 7 & 8 at 7:00 PM

December 9 at 3:00 PM

At The Royal Gorge Academy Theater
615 Pike Ave. Canon City

Please park along the school side of the street.
Admission is **FREE** with a canned food
donation to benefit Loaves & Fishes

Dear Theatre Friends!

Greetings! The crisp cool mornings and magnificent fall colors serve as a reminder of how quickly the year is passing – and what a year it's been for Fremont Civic Theatre! We have a lot of which to be proud, including some great main stage shows, a new holiday variety show, the return of Children's Theatre and, of course, the long awaited major musical production, *The Sound of Music*. Perhaps the best part of all these ventures is the opportunity to welcome back old friends and make the acquaintance of new friends in the community theatre field!

We are always mindful of the wonderful support we receive from our community, and we look to share more with you as we move through the rest of 2007 and start another new year. There are many exciting plans in the making! It truly is a season of celebration as we recognize the many achievements and contributions made during FCT's 60 year history. If you have been a part of our theatre family, THANK YOU! If not, we invite you to join us in any number of capacities. Let's keep the party going!

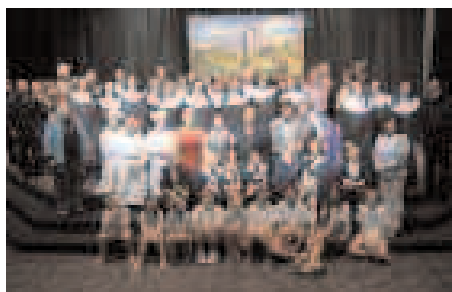
Kathy Herrin, President
FCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Sound of Music breaks FCT attendance record



On Saturday October 20, an FCT record was broken with a one time performance attendance of 401. *The Sound of*

Music (SOM) was a resounding success. With seven performances, three weekends, both Fremont County High School theater locations and 7 standing ovations, SOM touched the hearts of many. Fremont Civic Theatre has not performed a major musical in over 10 years.



We have pledged that it will not be another ten years before the next one! Never before has FCT received such tremendous accolades by way of letters to the editor,

newspaper reviews, email comments and snail mail letters.



SOM was a perfect example of “it takes a village...” With a production staff of ten, stage crew of 7, actors numbering over 60, 5 seamstresses, three set constructors, three set

artists, technical crew of 10, three performance sponsors, over a dozen advertisers, the list of contributors seems endless. Because of the large cast, we can not comment on all individual performances, but a few can not go unmentioned. Ashley Hirt played Maria. A music major at CSUP, she delivered a spectacular performance. She hopes to end up on Broadway in a few years. Steven Minich, who has been seen in many recent FCT productions stepped in at the last minute as the Captain and doubled as the Music Director. Heather Martinez, Cindy Graham, Cathy Bergin and



Karen Brown were the 4 lead nuns. While delivering professional performances on stage, no one really knew what to expect out of them off stage. Cindy mentioned that she had forgotten how fun acting was.



Brendan Pardue and Kelley Johnson added a special dimension to their parts. We will see more of them in the future. Charlie Fratt and Cindy Nordell were both great as the household staff for the Von Trapps. The Nun’s chorus really set the stage for the entire production. Last but not least, the



children really stole the show. As the seven siblings were double-cast, 14 new budding actors now have the

acting “bug”. Prior to the performances they (as many of us veterans) weren’t sure it was all worth it. After that first standing ovation, the stories changed and they were asking, “What is the next production?” A special thanks goes to the accompanist, Charles Rann who added so much to the overall success of the show.

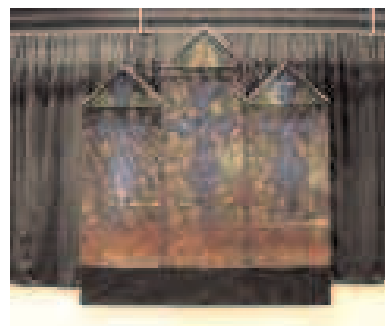
I would like to thank everyone involved, including the spectacular audiences. Until you experience it, most people are not aware what a difference a receptive and responsive audience makes.

Thanks and see you next year!

Nancy Fenyves, Director



Heather Martinez, Cindy Graham, Cathy Bergin and



07-08 FCT Workshop Series:

STRETCHING YOUR CAST (ACTING EXERCISES FOR DIRECTORS & ACTORS)

Fremont Civic Theatre is pleased to present the second in a series of workshops to assist directors, producers, actors and anyone else interested in "the craft." STRETCHING YOUR CAST will discuss why some directors



opt to use acting exercises during rehearsals and offer examples of simple, yet effective techniques that can benefit your cast and your production. The workshop is FREE and should be a lot of fun! Please plan on joining us:

WHEN:

Saturday, November 17th from 1 to 3 pm

WHERE:

Fremont Center for the Arts, 5th & Macon
Basement meeting room (entrance from 5th Street side)

WHO:

Kathy Herrin, Tanya Gatlin & YOU!

WHAT ELSE:

Wear loose clothing so you can move around

Coming in January:

Script Analysis for Directors & Actors

City Market Cares

Raise Money Automatically for FCT when you shop

Sign up online for this unique fundraising program: (www.fremontcivictheatre.org) and raise money automatically for Fremont Civic Theatre when you shop at City Market, Loaf & Jug, King Soopers, Kroger & more!



FCT

Member News

by Cathy Bergin

Fremont Civic Theatre members number 73 right now. What a fine group they are, these friends of community theatre. Members, be sure to renew your membership when your time is up. Your generosity and support allow FCT to exist, bringing joy to the whole community.

We have over 500 people on our mailing list, and I will soon be soliciting them to join the members in committing themselves to the mission of FCT. We also have a beautiful and professional membership brochure which is currently displayed in many businesses throughout the county. We hope to increase the visibility of FCT, and encourage more people to join in the fun of community theatre.

The success of *The Sound of Music* has created a lot of interest in FCT, so let's keep that excitement alive. Invite your friends to join FCT – the membership fees are nominal, and membership offers great benefits, including the opportunity to participate in wonderful shows.

We thank you for your support.

For membership information, visit us online at www.FremontCivicTheatre.org.

FCT is Celebrating 60 Years of Community Theatre History

FROM THE ARCHIVES . . .

This has been an amazing year. After receiving the 'boxes of stuff' from Tony Schenk, I discovered that, over the years, several people had undertaken to organize the archives. Of course there was the precious scrapbook from 1947. If any of you are old enough to remember the 'old' scrapbooks, you must know that it was not in the best of shape. I took it to the History Museum at 6th and Royal Gorge. They were very helpful and instructed me on how to protect it from further deterioration and repair a couple of damaged items.

During the 1980's there were two scrapbooks created in the magnetic scrapbooks that were popular at that time. I did take these apart and put the pictures, articles, programs, etc. into more modern scrapbooks.

Scripts were collected and catalogued, as well as catalogs, books, and tapes.

I recently received boxes of goodies from Walter Shepp and Ed Norden. Ed had two wonderfully organized scrapbooks from the early 90's. I plan to leave them as they are for the time being. And Walter had some great annual reports and flyers.



^ From the first page of our scrapbooks: The First meeting of the "Little Theatre", 1947. The Little Theatre was later to become the Fremont Civic Theatre, as we now know it.



^ From the first performance: The Cast of *You Can't Take it With You* which opened at the Canon City High School (now the Canon City Middle School) on December 22, 1947.

The performance scrapbooks through 2006 are with Jenny, Board Secretary and webmaster. She has been exhibiting them at fundraisers and other events. Currently I am working on the 2007 performance scrapbook. My goal is to complete a scrapbook of FCT events (parades, annual meetings, fund raisers, etc.) by the end of December so it will be available at the Dinner Theatre on December 31.

In addition to the scrapbooks of performances and scripts, there are many flyers for various events, articles on the workings of the theatre, and pictures of all types (some are a mystery as to who and what it is).

My only regret is that the 50's, 60's, and part of the 70's are black holes. We have no information from those years to complete our archives. If you have anything from those years, please let us know. We would like to fill in the gaps.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any items you would like to donate to the archives (tapes, articles, pictures, etc.), or even just your memories of some of the 'lost' years.

Patricia Manchego
Historian
719-371-4612

“THE FAMILY SECRET”, written and directed by Kathy Herrin was reprised on October 25th in conjunction with Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The show was sponsored by the Fremont County Victim Advocates in cooperation with the Fremont Civic Theatre. The original cast from the show’s premiere last summer performed a free show at Washington school, followed by a panel discussion with local experts and officials. This public service was intended to raise awareness of the issues and patterns associated with domestic violence, and to offer information regarding resources and support available for victims and families in our community.

Farmer’s Market Fun

by Jenny Barnes-Gatzke

There is nothing like a summer’s morning in Veteran’s Park when friends and neighbor gather to shop for fresh local produce, while keeping a keen eye out for original crafts, and a good non-profit organization to get involved with! Our message was this: Fremont Civic Theatre has been putting on quality shows for 60 years, and we are still going strong towards the next sixty, following our mission statement: “To promote involvement in live theatre.”

I was able to put the FCT scrapbooks on display to the public, thanks to the hard work of Historian Pat Manchego. It was fun being able to share some of our history with curious passerby’s, as well as old members who stopped to reminisce and look for “that one show” they wanted to remember.

I especially want to thank members Sherry Carpenter and Pat Manchego for assisting me in manning our table on several occasions, which allowed me to mingle about the market each week, as became my routine, to socialize and select my market wares. Then it was back to the FCT “booth” to get more folks signed up on our mailing list, letting them know about FCT’s upcoming productions and auditions, and getting them excited about a chance to win a Santa Fe Getaway. >> see>>

Overall, I felt that just letting people know we are “out there” accepting new members and participants was our most valuable reward. We made new friends and recruited new members, our e-mail list has grown to 150% of its original size in the past year. Plans are already being made to participate again next year; Please send an e-mail to my ATTN: (Jenny) info@fremontcivictheatre.org if you are a member who is interested in joining us in promoting FCT at the Canon City Farmer’s Market on Wednesday mornings June through September 2008.

VACATION GETAWAY RAFFLE

Santa Fe at a glance



by Marty Fenyves

Fremont Civic Theatre is holding a raffle to raise money for their home fund as well as for the CCTC state acting competition. The winner of “Santa Fe at a Glance” will receive three nights at a Bed & Breakfast in Santa Fe, NM as well as \$50.00 gas/spending money. Raffle tickets are currently available for \$5.00 each or \$25.00 for 6. The drawing will be at the 2007 New Year’s Eve Dinner Theatre. Tickets will be available at the Fremont Center for The Arts and at the rest of our shows for the year, up until the drawing on Dec 31st. Members are encouraged to help with ticket sales, so e-mail or call FCT if you’d like a packet. You need not be present to win. Good Luck!

FCT'S CHILDREN'S THEATER

We would first like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children who participated in *The Sound of Music* production. You did an excellent job and we know how much work those 5 months of rehearsals were



for everyone. We hope that you will have good memories of your experience and will join us again in the future. In fact, we would like to invite all of you and any other interested children, regardless of age or experience level, to audition for a role in the upcoming Children's Theater production. Mrs. Jarvis will direct this play and expects to start auditions in mid January and for the play to show in March. She will soon present to the board her play selection and production information. She said that this would be a wonderful opportunity for children to have something productive to do during the winter months. Come out and have fun with your peers. We hope to see you in Mid January.

Valerie Harlow

This year "*The Sound Of Music*" was such a wonderful choice for the Fremont Civic Theatre to produce. It enabled us to introduce 18 young thespians to the world of incredible musicals. These very talented young actors sang, danced and acted like seasoned performers under the guidance of Nancy Fenyves [Director], Marcy Delcastillo [Assistant Director] Joy Freda [Children's Director] Liz Babilot [Producer] Warren Babilot [Drama Coach] Kate Colby [Choreographer] and Steven Minich and Heather Martinez [Musical Directors].

These talented young actors received 7 standing ovations along with the rest of the cast. When they went out as the Von Trapp children, and the goat herders, for their final bows, the audiences exploded. The audiences consisted of people from Florence, Canon City, Penrose,



Colorado Springs, Pueblo and relatives from all over the United States. How wonderful it was to see how these young people worked so hard (5+ months of rehearsals) and then gave the quality performances that hard work demanded. Their dedication to this show was truly amazing. We are all so proud of them and see a future for these talented young people in many more productions.

Our hats off to: Morgan Patrick, Erica Redmond, True Baldwin, Jack Nordell, Katie Garcia, Angela Kettle, Fox McAllister, Mason McClougherty, Brianna Freda, Kyrstin Minich, Carissa Harlow, Janna Long, Emma Baldwin, Emily Long, Sophia Nordell, Kate Baldwin, Lily Nordell and Morgan McClougherty!!!



As the Children's Director, I have experienced one of the greatest times of my life working with such wonderful, dedicated children, their equally dedicated parents and the amazing group of people who gave so much of themselves to put forth such a spectacular production.

Thank you all.
Joy Freda



CONFESSIONS FROM THE GREEN ROOM

“The Order of the Twisted Sisters”



By Heather Martinez
(recently seen as Mother
Abbess in *The Sound of
Music*)

Cindy, Karen, Cathy and I, while probably the most unlikely candidates for nuns that have ever been cast, had some very serious conversations backstage. We made decisions regarding our newfound positions consisting of what to call our order, what we make at our Abbey, and most important, what nuns wear under their habits.

The first order of business was our function. We decided our Abbey would make cheese. Not just any cheese...goat cheese. This was chosen because I'm afraid of most livestock and sheep stink too much. Also because we didn't want to have to weave or dig in the dirt or do anything that was too much trouble. Goats are relatively safe.



We decided that in our spare time we could have theme nights. We decided on “Bling Night” when we would all wear huge rhinestone pendants and grills on our teeth. We had “Can't Touch This Night” where we all would sing and dance like MC Hammer. There was also Biker Night, Karaoke Night, and Everyone Speaks Hebrew Night. Cathy was our best dancer.

We also had to think of a name. We toyed with some other stage oriented



monikers, but decided on “The Order of the Twisted Sisters”. If you have any questions about the title, call Brendan Pardue or refer to the goat cheese and MC Hammer paragraphs above.

I almost forgot. What do nuns wear under their habits? Nunderwear, of course. And you thought we were bad!

New Year's Eve Silent Auction

(donations needed please)

FCT's Silent Auction is again scheduled to be held New Year's Eve at the Abbey, in conjunction with our Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. If you have items you would like to donate, please call 275-8989 and an FCT representative will stop by to pick it up! OR - IF YOU ARE A MEMBER and can help solicit donations from local businesses, please e-mail Jenny at info@fremontcivictheatre.org

An Old Time Radio Holiday Extravaganza

This special FCT presentation is being held in conjunction with KRLN News Radio AM 1400, in celebration of 60 years of operations for both Fremont Civic Theatre and our local radio station, KRLN. Directed by a mother-son team of FCT members, Jayson Carpenter and Sherry Carpenter have gathered together a talented group of local performers, with acts ranging from a variety of musical numbers, short skits, dancing, poetry and more, and will be adding some very special touches to bring this "Old Time Radio" Holiday showcase to the "Extravaganza" level--don't miss out! This free show serves as a benefit for

Fremont County's local homeless shelter Loaves & Fishes, so please bring a non-perishable food item in lieu of admission. The event is being held at the Royal Gorge Academy Theater, 615 Pike Ave. in Canon City. The Academy asks that you please park along the school side of the street. Mark your calendars and join us: December 7 & 8 at 7:00 pm and December 9 at 3:00 pm.



MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER

Auditions for the New Year's Eve murder-mystery "Reunion at Hippie High" will be held November 9 and 10 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Fremont Center for the Arts. Parts are available for 4 men and 4 women of various ages. Also needed are lighting and sound operators and an assistant director.

It's a time to reminisce about the good old days of free love, protests, and the Age of Aquarius. Even hippies go to their class reunion, and class president, Leo "Bondo" Templeton, will host the class reunion at the Holy Cross Abbey on New Year's Eve.

This will be Fremont Civic Theatre's ninth annual New Year's Eve audience-participation murder-mystery and will include a delicious dinner catered by the very capable Abbey staff.

"REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH"

Reunion at Hippie High by Eileen Moushey is presented by special arrangement with Mysteries by Moushey, Inc. and will be directed by Tony Schenk.

In addition to Bondo, other class members who will be attending are "Boonie," "Rainy," "Sky," "Che," and several others. The class members do not get along as well as they did back in the days of peace and understanding, and one of them will be dispatched most unpleasantly during the course of the evening. The audience will be invited to solve the murder, with prizes being awarded in several categories. Hippie attire is strongly recommended for the evening, and more prizes will be awarded for the best costumes.

For more information please visit FCT's website or call 275-8989.

Keep up-to-date with Fremont Civic Theatre auditions, show announcements, workshop opportunities and more! Simply sign up for our FREE e-mail list, and you will receive announcements and our e-newsletter directly to your e-mail box. E-mail: info@fremontcivictheatre.org Subject: JOIN mailing list!