

TCT Presents



March 11-13, 2010
7:30 p.m.
 &
March 13, 2010
2:00 p.m.

Sponsored By



strategicwealth
"Your Financial Advocate"

This production contains language used by "good ole fishin' buddies" and may be offensive to some patrons

Remember when you were a kid, there was always a place where you went, and your friends went. It might have been a baseball field. Or it might have been a place in the woods, a tree house, or a corner of the basement that belonged to you and your buddies alone. And now, when you've gotten – a bit more mature, shall we say – you still remember, the place, the time of day, how it felt and what it meant to go there.

For three used-to-be boys – and used-to-be best friends, the old fishing pier out on the end of Cypress Lake has just fallen under the magic of another Catfish Moon. You know a Catfish Moon, don't you? When the rich and full moon hangs just above the far bank and paints the smooth, calm canvas of the water in liquid fire, only now and then disturbed by fish browsing the surface for the next meal. For three best friends, Curley, Gordon, and Frog, the old pier used to be their favorite hang-out when they were kids.

Audience favorite and versatile TCT veteran Judd Wilson takes the role of Curley. Another familiar face on the Lyric Stage, Tim Hester, becomes the unforgettable Gordon. TCT is proud to have a newcomer to our stage, Rocky Miskelly, playing Frog.

The bitterness of life and unfulfilled dreams and the problems that inevitably come with middle age have eroded the friendship between Frog and Gordon. The final strain on the friendship

comes when Frog discovers that Gordon is dating Frog's ex-wife Betty, played by veteran actress Stacy Smith. Betty is Curley's little sister and encourages Curley to come up with something to recapture the bond that used to exist between the three.

So, to recapture old times and old friendships Curley convinces Frog and Gordon to go on an overnight fishing trip to the old fishing hole under the Catfish Moon. On the pier the guys soon discover that their friendship was never really lost. What ensues is one of the most hilarious fishing scenes that has ever been staged at TCT. The poignant resolution of the play ultimately brings Gordon and Frog to the realization that life is too precious and too short to let true friendship get away.

The production is ably directed by long time veteran Jennifer Cummings. Assistant Director is Reed Robison. Production Manager is Craig Helmuth. Lighting Design is by David Collins with Sound by Bronwyn Teague and Reed Robison. Stage Manager is Jon Cummings.

This rip-roaring comedy is not to be missed. The production takes the stage on March 11, 12, and 13, at 7:30 pm., with a 2:00 matinee on Saturday, in the historic Lyric Theatre, celebrating almost a century of entertainment on Tupelo's own Broadway! Call the TCT office today at 662-844-1935 to reserve your seat.



Notes from the President

Punxsutawney Phil popped out to view his shadow on February 2, 2010 and we seem to be in for a few more weeks of winter. However, the many volunteers at TCT are finding no rest during these cold winter days. Jennifer Cummings is leading a talented cast and crew to bring Mississippi native Laddy Sartin's *Catfish Moon* to the Lyric Stage in a few short weeks. And they're not the only ones who have been busy at TCT during the winter months. Many TCT volunteers offered their time and talent during the recent Mississippi Theatre Association (MTA) Festival, held here in Tupelo in January and hosted by TCT and Tupelo High School. We had even more volunteers during our recent production from West of Shakerag

Improv and an Evening of Entertainment. Thanks to all who attended and participated.

I'd also like to thank our season sponsor, BancorpSouth, for helping us offer all the programming that we bring to the community. Without their generous support, and the support of our other sponsors and TCT patrons, the quality productions and the restoration and maintenance of the Lyric would not be possible. We are so fortunate to have the support of our community at TCT. Our recent education event which featured *Voices of the South* from Memphis is just one more example of what we can do because of that support. (See article about it on page 3.)

So to all who support TCT, thank you for being a part of the

TCT family. It would not be possible without you!

As the sun begins to warm us and the buds begin to appear, I hope you will join us at TCT for a fun time of entertainment and fellowship. We're holding auditions and starting rehearsals for the Gumtree musical *All Shook Up*, our last show of the current season. It's sure to be a crowd pleaser with all Elvis music!

Whether you are participating in a production or in a theatre seat, there is something for everyone. Come join us, bring a friend and be a part of it all!

See you at the Lyric,

-Suzye Sheffield,
President



Catfish Dinner with Catfish Moon

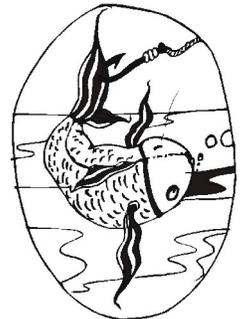


Tupelo Luncheon Civitan Club is partnering with TCT to host a catfish dinner with all the "fixin's" on opening night of *Catfish Moon*. Dinner activities will take place at Goodlett Manor next door to the Lyric. Tickets for dinner are \$12 each and a cash

bar will be available. Please make your reservations by Tuesday, March 9 so that we can be prepared to

serve you.

Come early and stay late to enjoy some southern hospitality and support TCT and the Civitans. If you wish to swap your tickets from another night and come for dinner and the show or to purchase tickets, call Lisa Hall at the TCT box office at 844-1935. Join us for the fun and great food!



Scholarship Application Deadline

TCT awards scholarships every year to three worthy students - the Ruth Liveakos Memorial Scholarship, the Martha Geddie Memorial Scholarship and the B.J. Huddleston Memorial Scholarship. These scholarships honor the memory of beloved volunteers at TCT who championed both the dramatic arts and education. All three of the scholarships are \$500 each and are offered to help students further their education in the dramatic arts and related fields.

Deadline for applications is April 15, 2010. Please visit the TCT website at <http://www.tct.ms> for an application or for more information.



Welcome New Office Staff



Lisa Hall

Tupelo Community Theatre is pleased to introduce two new faces at the Lyric. Lisa Hall has been selected to be TCT's new Box Office Manager. Lisa recently retired from the federal government after 30 years of service. She moved to Tupelo in 1992 from Louisiana. She has two children, Shelley, 22 and Cameron, 14 and

she's married to Dennis Hall. Please welcome her the next time you order tickets or have questions. Feel free to call her Monday through Friday from noon until 4 p.m. Her e-mail address is

tctboxoffice@bellsouth.net.

We also welcome our intern, Clara Seitz. This is the second semester Clara has been with us. She graduated from Tupelo High School in the spring of 2008. At THS, Clara was very active in the theatre department. She has also helped with our annual TCT theatre camp for the last three years.



Clara Seitz

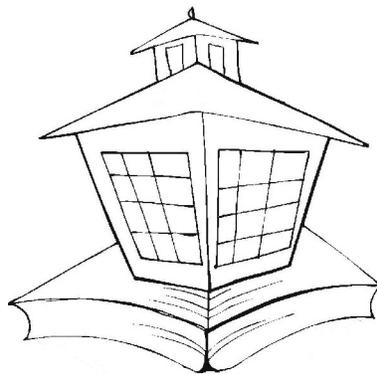
Clara currently attends Itawamba Community College and is pursuing a degree in technical theatre.

Welcome Lisa and Clara. We're glad to have you in the TCT family!

Education Event is Big Success

One of Tupelo Community Theatre's missions is to educate and stimulate interest in the arts. Our mission was at work last week when 2000 students from Tupelo schools enjoyed TCT's annual education events February 12 and 13.

Alice Berry, company actor from *Voices of the South* in Memphis, presented a theatrical adaptation of Eudora Welty's *The Shoe Bird* to first and second graders from Joyner and Thomas Street Elementary Schools. *The Shoe Bird* is a fantastical story about some feathered friends who made a fateful switch from flying to wearing shoes, little knowing that



they would soon become the prey of Freddy the Cat. This whimsical tale teaches two very valuable lessons: appreciating one's natural gifts and not repeating everything you hear!

Berry also presented a theatrical adaptation of *The House on*

Mango Street by Mexican-American writer Sandra Cisneros to students at Milam Elementary School and Tupelo Middle School. It is a coming-of-age novel that deals with a young Latina girl, Esperanza Cordero, growing up in a Chicago ghetto. Both the book and Berry's presentations eloquently and poignantly express Esperanza's determination to "say goodbye" to her impoverished Latino neighborhood.

TCT is grateful to the sponsors who helped make this event possible: B&B Concrete, Inc., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi, Mississippi Arts Commission, and the Lyric Krewe.

TCT PERSONNEL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TCT
 200 North Broadway
 P.O. Box 1094
 Tupelo, MS 38802

 662-844-1935
 e-mail address:
 1tct@bellsouth.net or
 tctboxoffice@bellsouth.net

Renee Baldwin
 Fred Cannon
 Tracie Maxey-Conwill
 Liz Dawson
 Jay Dey
 Jauna Ellis
 Beth Stone Frick
 Tommy Green
 Craig Helmuth
 Rosemary Jarrell

Judd Wilson

Josh Mabus
 Steve McAlilly
 Danny McKenzie
 Lynn Nelson
 Suzanne Oakley
 Rob Rice
 Debra Robison
 Suzye Sheffield
 Michelle Waits
 Wayne Williams

EMERITUS

Jess Mark (1982-2008)
 Gene Murphey
 Ruth Liveakos (1969-2008)
 Edith Thomas

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tom Booth



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Tupelo, MS 38802
PERMIT No. 272

Address Service Requested



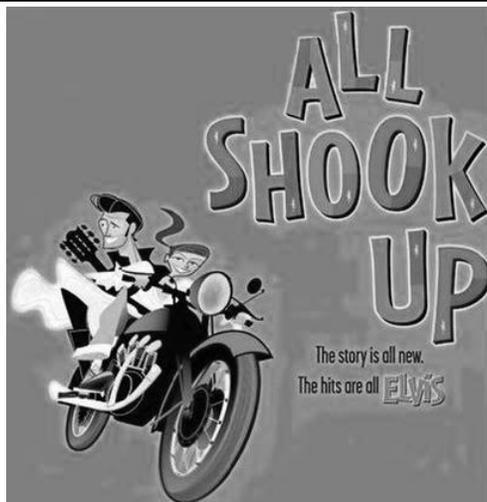
Season Sponsor: **BancorpSouth**

This project funded
in part by a grant
from the Mississippi
Arts Commission



Auditions for All Shook Up

Auditions will be held for the Gumtree musical *All Shook Up* on Monday, February 22 and Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. With a plot loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, the show is inspired by and features the songs of Elvis Presley. It's set in Smalltown, USA circa 1955. Just as in Shakespeare's light-hearted comedies, everyone falls under love's spell, but with the "wrong" person. When a rolling roustabout with a song in his soul and an eye for the ladies rambles into town on his motorcycle with his guitar slung over



the leather jacket on his back, everyone eventually responds with new attitudes and welcome results. Add to all that the changing cultural climate of 1950s America and you get "the best retro rock show since *Grease*" (NBC).

No advanced preparation is needed but each person auditioning will be expected to sing. Auditions are open for high school age and older. This is a multi-racial cast. Production dates for the show are May 6, 7, & 8 and June 3 & 6. For more information, contact director

Tom Booth at 844-1935 or 315-4771.