



presents

**NEIL SIMON'S**  
**Brighton**  
**Beach**  
**Memoirs**

**January 24 & 25,**  
**1992**





presents

**NEIL SIMON'S**

# **Brighton Beach Memoirs**

DIRECTOR  
**AMY WALKER**

ASSISTANT  
**JEAN ELLISON**

January 24 and 25, 1992  
Lawrenceburg High School

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

● As a courtesy to the casts and guests of Rivertown Players, no flash photography is allowed during the production.

● Anyone arriving late will be seated at the convenience of the House and its guests.

## **Cast**

Eugene..... Erik Noble  
Blanche..... Ellen O'Day  
Kate..... Beth Griffin  
Laurie..... Michelle Cooper  
Nora..... Becky McGill  
Stanley..... Lucas Hart  
Jack..... Wayne Kirsch

## **Synopsis of Scenes**

### **ACT I**

Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, New York  
September Evening, 1937

● Intermission ●

### **ACT II**

Wednesday, a week later.  
About 6:45 in the evening.



## **Special Thanks**

Rivertown Players and staff thank Copper Lantern Antiques, Dearborn Highlands Arts Council, Hamline Chapel United Methodist Church, Cindy Holland, Lawrenceburg Community Schools, Bobbi Owens, and Pfalzgraf's Antiques for helping make tonight's production possible. We also thank our families for being understanding and supporting in what we love to do.

## **Rivertown Chorus**

The Rivertown Players Chorus has begun rehearsing for another "cabaret style" show for spring. If you have an interest in singing, won't you join us? We meet on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at Hamline Chapel United Methodist Church in Lawrenceburg. An announcement of this event will be made through Register Publications.



# The Players



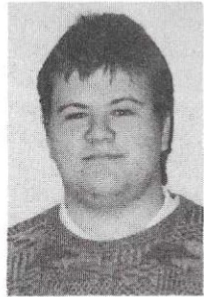
## **MICHELLE COOPER (Laurie)**

Michelle, a junior at East Central High School, credits teacher, Bob Branigan, for helping develop the self-confidence one needs to get out there and try if the dream of acting is to be fulfilled. While in his class she and other students were given many opportunities to improvise and develop characters he suggested. In her first stage role, Michelle plans to portray Laurie as a pampered, over-protected, spoiled brat. She says Laurie is a real fun character to play. Away from the stage, most of Michelle's time is spent with school work, reading, and babysitting.



## **BETH GRIFFIN (Kate)**

A veteran of community theater, Mrs. Griffin divides her time between her husband, Patrick (who she says is very understanding), her daughter Kierstin, her job as a medical transcriptionist, and her passion for the theater. Beth anticipates portraying Kate as having a "tough" exterior while being a caring individual who is both affectionate and loving. Though appearing in many productions, her favorite roles have been as Duchess Olga in RTP's "You Can't Take It With You", and Kate in "It's Never Too Late". Beth enjoys being a character actress and, also, the comic relief in a play.



## **LUCAS HART (Stanley)**

Having the firm support from his family in his zest for acting, Lucas is planning to pursue acting and music in college next year following his graduation from East Central High School. Along with singing and playing the guitar, the acting bug bit in the seventh grade when he competed in a State composition contest and brought home a second place prize. Lucas was on stage as a bystander in RTP's "My Fair Lady", and as Constable Crow for his high school production of "Clockwork". In this play, he believes many people will learn something from Stanley as the character portrays a good sense of morals and values.



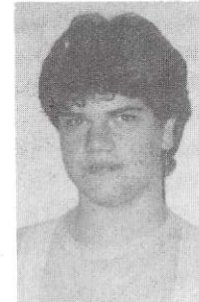
## **WAYNE KIRSCH (Jack Jerome)**

Wayne comes as no stranger to our stage. As a theater major at Ball State, and talented performer, he has brought so much to RTP productions, and other theater companies where he has performed. To date, Wayne's favorite plays have been "My Fair Lady" as Henry Higgins, and "Inherit the Wind" as Matthew Brady. In this play, he sees Jack Jerome as a hard working, caring man who is not in the best of health. Personal experiences help in bringing the character of Jack to life, but Wayne feels he needs the input of others to understand to job of raising teenagers, although 15 years as a math teacher in an East Central High School classroom helps a little.



## **BECKY MCGILL (Nora)**

One might meet Becky at the "mall" where she satisfies her love for shopping, but she states her real interests are in theater and the unlikely combination of a career in law enforcement. Over this past summer Becky participated in the Indiana State University Summer Honors Theater program after having served as student director for Lawrenceburg High School's production of "Peter Pan". On stage Becky enjoys portraying characters with humor because she likes to make people laugh. However, in this production Becky is cast as Nora, a self-centered young woman who has no regard for her family.



## **ERIK PAUL NOBLE (Eugene)**

Erik, the oldest of five boys in his family, loves being the center of attention and so we should assume, he says, that acting comes naturally. While new to the Rivertown stage he has portrayed Ethan in the play "Eden", and Leon Dunwoody in "Clockwork". Eugene, the character Erik portrays in this production, is full of questions, enjoys fantasizing, and even enjoys "girl watching". If Erik looks familiar, he may have delivered your pizza from Angilos in the Bright area where he lives. A student at East Central High School, Erik is president of the French Club as well as playing tenor sax in the ECHS band.



## **ELLEN O'DAY (Blanche)**

Ellen assumes her first stage role ever as she transforms herself into Blanche. Her prior work with a theater group in Carbondale, Illinois, gave her experience behind the scenes working as assistant stage manager, and with scenery, make-up, props, and sound effects. Off stage Ms. O'Day works as administrative assistant for flight crew training with DHL Airways. Ellen finds her character, Blanche, likes to stay in the background, leaning on those around her, comfortably existing with Kate's family. But when that existence is threatened, Blanche finally shows her strength.



## Future Production

Rivertown Players is happy to announce that the summer production, "1776" will be directed by GMS music teacher, Mr. Joe Budd. Set in Colonial America, the play calls for a large cast of men and roles for two adult women. Production dates are set for July 10 and 11. In preparation for this event, auditions will be held at Greendale Middle School on Monday February 3 and Tuesday, February 4, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Men, dust off your white wigs and become a part of 1776.



# Production Staff

## COSTUMES

Beth Griffin, Erik Noble, Ellen O'Day, Amy Walker

## HOUSE

\*Donna Kirsch, \*Jack Hall, Judy Hall

## LIGHTS/TECHNICAL CREW

\*Wayne Kirsch, Bob Branigan, Ron Heinneman

## LOBBY DISPLAY

\*David Hall, Ginny Hizer, Jan Hizer

## MAKE-UP

\*Chris Hall, Karen Beggs, Jan Hizer, Claudia Ridgeway

## PRODUCER

Jan Hizer

## PROGRAMS

\*Jean Ellison, Ann Lambert, Carol Stenger, Mark Stenger

## PROPS

\*Angee McCormack, Barbara Myers, Erik Noble, Bev Toon, Amy Walker

## PUBLICITY

\*Jan Hizer, Cast Members

## SET PRODUCTION

\*Jeff McCormack, Marvin Dine, Jean Ellison, Lucas Hart, Jan Hizer, Beth Griffin, Wayne Kirsch, Barbara Myers, Brad Noble, Erik Noble, Pat Noble, Ellen O'Day, Les Renner, Andy Rogers, Bev Toon, Dan Toon, Amy Walker, Brian Noble, Rich Collins

## STAGE CREW

Karen Beggs, Jan Hizer

## TICKETS

\*Jack Hall, Shirley Drury, Nancy Jones, Donna Kirsch, Ginny McCarthy, Mary Renner, Mary Weber

## USHERS

\*Donna Kirsch, Eileen Dugle, Linda Gondosch, Evelyn Siegel, Jean Witte, Judy Hall, Becky Harmeyer, Larry Harmeyer, Mary McElfresh

\* Denotes Chairperson



# Sustainers

Bob Aikins Lines, Inc.

# Benefactors

Dr. and Mrs. Lynn Eiler  
Joseph E. Seagram and Sons

# Patrons

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baylor  
Perpetual Federal Savings &  
Loan Association

Register Publications  
Maggie Seitz

# Organizations

Beta Sigma Phi  
Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Pi Chapter, Lawrenceburg

# Sponsors

American State Bank  
Aurora Lumber Company  
William Barrott III  
Dr. and Mrs. Clay Dunton  
Elvin and Jean Ellison  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hahn  
Phil and Roz Henschen  
Home Furniture

Kentucky Fried Chicken  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kuebler  
Tom Schafer  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Schuster  
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon (Chick)  
Schwing  
Seitz Insurance Agency  
Mary Weber



To be added to our mailing list or to become a member of RTP, please contact Rivertown Players, Inc., 234 Locust Street, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

# Rivertown Players Board of Directors

Jean Ellison, President  
Chris Hall  
David Hall, Secretary

Jan Hizer, Treasurer  
Jeff McCormack, Vice President  
Dan Toon



## Director's Notes

As with so many Neil Simon plays, the main purpose of "Brighton Beach Memoirs" is to entertain.

There are no hidden messages or morals. "Brighton Beach Memoirs" is merely a glimpse at a family whose minor crises are overcome by faith, as well as a liberal dose of biting wit.

The cast and crew of this production have worked diligently to bring to you what we hope is a touching, humorous tribute to a simpler time.

For their dedication to this production, I wish to thank Erik, Ellen, Beth, Michelle, Becky, Lucas, and Wayne.

To the crew, as always, my appreciation for a great job.

To Jean, thank you for EVERYTHING!

Now that the lines have been memorized, costumes fitted, sets built, and tickets sold, it's time for your job. . . . Sit back and enjoy!

Amy Walker





Rivertown Players  
gratefully thanks Hank  
Schmarr, owner of Schmarr's  
Super Market, Lawrenceburg,  
for donating the food for  
the 'Jerome's meal' this  
evening. The support given  
to our group is greatly  
appreciated.