

Curtain Call

Francisco Center for the Performing Arts ~ Home of the Spanish Peaks Players
127 Francisco Street La Veta, CO 81055

Editor Beverly Jensen

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Changes I've Seen

The year 2000; the year of the millennium brought changes for everyone, including the theatre. During the years from 1997 thru 2000, we were discussing a new board. People were encouraged by changes and really started to become enthusiastic about a new direction. The new board was formed in 2000 with the idea of an ongoing center for the performing arts. This board included: Tracy Webb, Debbie Channel, Pam Munroe, Sher Clouse, Linda Sumner and Pat Walters.

These board members founded the by-laws and articles of incorporation, YEAH! We were theatre. In 2000 FCPA contacted TSJC in hopes of using their talent as well as ours. BINGO. Hollie Harsh was a student director and looking for a theatre. She wanted to direct 'Harvey'. It all fell together for us and we had our first BIG production and a Pulitzer Prize winning play. With Hollie as the director, Susan Hubner as technical director and Garrett Sheldon playing the lead role, the FCPA was on the way to a great start in March of 2001. We were held over for one weekend!

Back then we were still in folding chairs, using tin-can lights and extension cords; but we were determined. That determination brought us a long way! So as you have seen, your enthusiasm and dedication to this community theatre has brought us a long way and will continue to take us further into the future.

Until next time..... Support your local thespian,
Sher Clouse

This is Part II of an ongoing series where Sher Clouse describes changes, growth and her experiences with the Francisco Center for the Performing Arts and the folks who work, play and visit there.



Check the Signature Newspaper

...for current schedules, last minute updates, ticket prices and casting calls!

Upcoming Events

May 6th 7:00 PM

School for Nerds written by R. Eugene Jackson and presented by Brandy Menegatti with the La Veta High School Senior Class.

The play takes us to Brawny Preparatory High School, home of the fighting Hippopotami and national winner of every sports award known to man, which is about to be closed because it has failed to graduate a single student in its entire history!

The school Nerds come to the rescue. Five very bright, but unwelcome, nerds, send the school mascot, Harry the Hippo, after the jocks who have been tormenting them to hang a jock upside-down from the school flagpole. But after the Accreditation Committee condemns the school, the jocks and the nerds learn they must work together to save their school. After a series of hilarious scenes very, body wins!

July 3rd 7:00 PM

A musical presentation by Hack Andrews, guitarist.

See Events Page 2

Nunsense!

The Little Sisters of Hoboken, residents of Mt. St. Helens Convent and teachers at the school, have a problem. It seems Sister Julia (Child of God) has accidentally killed off 52 sisters with an accidental, botulism-laced vichyssoise. But even worse, the remaining nuns only had enough cash to bury 48 of the dearly departed sisters; the other four are in the freezer! Nunsense is a benefit concert staged by the Little Sisters to raise money for a proper burial before the health inspector shows up.

Mother Superior and her order of eccentric and endearing nuns show the lighter side of being Catholic. With riotous dance numbers, show-stopping songs and side-splitting wit, you'll swear *Nunsense* was heaven-sent!

The play by Dan Goggin, will be co-directed by Peggy Arnold-Hoobler and Betty Brown. The five starring roles will feature Peggy Arnold-Hoobler, Jill Hake, Deb Lathrop, Elizabeth Mason and Santina Vietti; music performed by Karen Vietti.



Performance Dates:

Friday and Saturday:

April 17, 18 and 24, 25
at 7:00 PM,

Sunday:

April 19 and 26
at 2:00 PM.

Show Tickets are \$15.



Upcoming Events...

July 18th 6:00 PM

Al Clymer - Art Show and Reading. Subject matter is the Massacre at Wounded Knee. Al is an internationally acclaimed artist living in the La Veta area. This will be the first local showing of his work.

July 24, 25 and 26th

The annual Francisco Fort Day Melodrama will be directed by Matt Dobbs. A second weekend will be announced, soon.

Dinner Theater is coming this fall. You won't want to miss *Death by Dessert*, which will be co-directed by Coral Anderson and Debbie Blouin. Watch for more information!

Support Your Theater

...please! Your help is needed. We need volunteers for all kinds for jobs at the theatre; clean up, poster distribution, costumes, prop and set construction, trash hauling, playbill and poster design, ticket makers and takers, greeters, lighting and sound and much more. You can name your own job.

In school? Keep in mind that college resumes look best with community service that is volunteered, not mandated.

If you can help even just a little, Call us! 719-742-3035

Charlie's Grocery & Ice Cream

*supports the FCPA
Thank You!*

212 S Main Street La Veta
719.742.3651

FCPA Welcomes Tax Exempt Status

After three years of diligence, hard work, and organizing skills, (all of which I lack), the FCPA has received it's very own 501(c) (3) tax exempt status. Now, what does that mean for you-the member.

Until now, all we had was the satisfaction of knowing that we were helping our community theatre. So let's take a look at the Substantiation Rules on page 27 of the Compliance guide For 501(c)(3) Public Charities; Publication #4221-PC:

"A donor cannot claim a tax deduction for any single contribution of \$250 or more unless the donor obtains a contemporaneous acknowledgement of the contribution from the recipient public charity."

Those are ten dollar words, so let me put it in today's economy words. The way I is that you won't need a receipt for memberships, but if you want to give us \$250 we'll sure provide you with one.

As for the million dollar question...No, performance tickets are not tax deductible!

With benefits come responsibility. As always, our financial records are available. Also, we are "absolutely prohibited" to participate in any political campaign. (Dang, the bad luck.)

Now you might ask yourself, "Why would I want to donate \$250?" Well... soon you will be hearing about a building fundraiser, so keep your ears open!

Shane Clouse, President FCPA



It's Membership Time

Members for The Francisco Center for the Performing Arts are always needed and always welcome; we need your support. Please consider joining! If you would like to become a new member contact our membership coordinator: Coral Anderson.

Current members will be mailed out renewal letters. Please join us for another exciting new season. Support the Arts in La Veta. Mail checks to:

FCPA
P.O. Box 663
La Veta, CO 81055

Membership Levels:

- Corporate Gold.....\$500
- Corporate Silver.....200
- Corporate Bronze.....100
- Individual Gold.....100
- Individual Silver.....50
- Individual Bronze.....25

Blue Rooster Saloon Bar & Grill

supports Live Theater!

923 Oak Street, La Veta CO 719-742-3093

Join Our Friends at the Fort...

June 6th 4:00pm - 10:00

Old West Saloon Nite. Come buy a shot of whiskey over Bob Ford's historic bar in the museum saloon. Live music, bed races, good food and chicken bingo round out the festivities. Saloon Dress is appreciated but not required. This is a museum fund-raiser. Contact Coral Anderson at 742-3042 for



more information about their Old West Saloon Nite.

July 25th Francisco Fort Day Pancake breakfast, free museum tours and entertainment on the museum grounds. Call 710-742-5501 for more information.

Thank you

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1010 Cherry Street
719.742.3626

FCPA History

This historic building which currently is being used for live theater and other community projects was originally the Presbyterian Church built in 1892. The land, on Francisco Street, was donated by Colonel John Francisco and Mrs. P.Q. McComb V. The Church, a stately white wooden building, was built by William H. Adamson at a cost of \$1,200. It contained two rooms initially, an audience room 38 by 40 feet and a second room of 16 by 22.

In 1893, the membership had grown to 35. The Presbyterians signed over the structure to the town of La Veta in the early 1970's for use by the Francisco Fort Museum. It is now under the management of the Francisco Center for the Performing Arts. Over the years, many talented groups have called this stage home such as the Spoon River Players, the Fort Francisco Players and currently the Spanish Peaks Players.

From: *La Veta - The First 40 Years*,
by Nancy Christofferson

Coming Attractions

Nunsense.....See Page 2

Fridays and Saturdays
April 17, 18, 24, and 25th at 7:00 PM
Sunday, April 19 and 26th at 2:00 PM
Show tickets are \$15.

School for Nerds.....See Page 1

Wednesday, May 6th at 7:00 PM

Hack Andrews.....See Page 1

Friday, July 3rd at 7:00 PM

Al Clymer.....See Page 2

Saturday, July 18th at 6:00 PM

Summer Melodrama....See Page 2

July 24, 25, 26th at 7:00 PM



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Performing Arts**

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La Veta, CO 81055