



# The Call Board

Vol.24.2 Winter 2011

Official Newsletter of the Oregon Community Theatre

## The Presidential Dispatch

As we enter the winter months, we hope you will all treat yourselves to live theatre with us. Our upcoming production "Of Mice & Men" promises to bring this John Steinbeck classic to a gripping and powerful stage performance. Cheryl Cuprys, producer, is busy assembling many people to do everything except act. That is under the able direction of Devin Bader. He has put together a mix of familiar and new faces for OCT with acting that will deliver outstanding performances from all. Check our website at oregoncommunitytheatre.org for more details or call us at 691-1398.

Winter came early in Oregon with our "White Christmas" production directed by Kevin Wietrzykowski. Again Kevin put together an awesome cast and crew with a show that over 2000 people attended and enjoyed. We have heard nothing but positive comments with the "live snow" adding that special magic to this beautiful production. It was well received and one of our many successful shows. Thanks to all who attended or helped in any way. We knew it was a big undertaking, but once again our group rose to the challenge.

Also thanks to Reed Steel and cast for the unique live radio rendering of "War of the Worlds" in October. The Challenger Center in Oregon in cooperation with Lucas County Educational Service Center made this setting so perfect for this production. Hats off to all those involved.

Remember our Fundraiser this year is the handmade Quilt by Sandra Harmon. It will be on display at each of our shows with tickets available for the raffle. The winner will be drawn in May at our final production of the season, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee". Be sure to buy tickets at each show to increase your chances of winning this treasured piece. The quilt can also be viewed on our website.

We give a special thanks to Tom & Eileen Cousino for their continued support over the years and more recently allowing us the use of their Courtyard at the Navy Bistro for our Wine Tasting/Fundraiser event. As their business at the Docks have closed, we will miss its presence as will most of Toledo. We invite everyone to continue to support the Cousino's Steak House on Woodville Road.

See you at the show!  
Ron Davis  
President OCT  
(419) 855-3482

### Interested In Directing?

If you are interested in directing one of our shows for next season keep a lookout on our web page for instructions on how to put your name in to be considered.

**Scenery:** Term used to describe everything on stage (except props) used to represent the place at which action is occurring.

**Properties (Props):** All physical items on stage with the exception of the scenery. This would include lamps, chairs, pens, paper, books and all manner of such things. Heavier items such as sofas, desks, etc., are really more a part of the scenery.

**Gaffer:** Chief electrician in charge of lighting.

**Downstage:** Stage direction: the front of the stage, or that portion of the stage closest to the audience.

### 2011 OCT Scholarships

OCT will be awarding scholarships to the two applicants who best meet or exceed the following requirements.

- The applicant must be a high school senior with a GPA of 2.5 or better.
- He/she must be attending an accredited college in the Fall of 2011 with a major or Minor in a field related to theatrical performing arts (ex: Theater, Music, Dance, Theater production).
- The applicant must have theater experience (on stage or back stage) and must have been involved in at least one Oregon Community Theatre production (regular season or children's summer theatre).

Completed applications must be mailed to Oregon Community Theatre, P.O. Box 167547, Oregon, OH 43616.

Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 28th.

Awards will be announced by April 1st and presented at our spring show.

### A Little About "Of Mice and Men"

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Of Mice and Men is a novella written by Nobel Prize-winning author John Steinbeck. Published in 1937, it tells the tragic story of George Milton and Lennie Small, two displaced migrant ranch workers during the Great Depression in California.

Based on Steinbeck's own experiences as a bindle stiff in the 1920s (before the arrival of the Okies he would vividly describe in *The Grapes of Wrath*), the title is taken from Robert Burns's poem "To a Mouse", which read: "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men / Gang aft agley." (The best laid schemes of mice and men / Go oft awry.)

Required reading in many high schools, *Of Mice and Men* has been a frequent target of censors for vulgarity and what some consider offensive language; consequently, it appears on the American Library Association's list of the Most Challenged Books of 21st Century.

*Of Mice and Men* was adapted to film several times, the first in 1939, two years after the publication of the novel. It was nominated for four Oscars. In 1981 it was made into a TV movie.

The most recent film version of *Of Mice and Men* (1992) was directed by Gary Sinise (who also played the part of George), who was nominated for the Palme d'Or at Cannes. The role of George's opposite, Lennie, was played by John Malkovich. For this adaptation, both men reprised their roles from a 1980 Steppenwolf Theatre Company production.

Stage adaptations have also been produced. The first production opened on November 23, 1937, in the Music Box Theatre on Broadway. Running for 207 performances. The role of Crooks was performed by Leigh Whipper, the first African-American member of the Actors' Equity Association. It was chosen as Best Play in 1938 by the New York Drama Critics' Circle. In 1939 the production was moved to Los Angeles.

The play was revived in a 1974 Broadway production in the Brooks Atkinson Theatre starring Kevin Conway as George and James Earl Jones as Lennie.

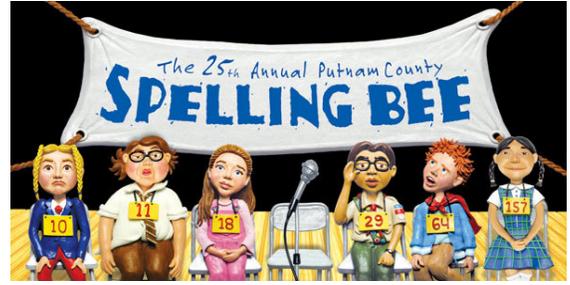
In 1970 Carlisle Floyd wrote an opera based on this novel. One departure between Steinbeck's book and Floyd's opera is that the opera features *The Ballad Singer*, a character not found in the book.



**Upcoming Events:**

- Feb 18, 19, 8:00 pm – “Of Mice and Men”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- Feb 20, 3:00 pm – “Of Mice and Men”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- Feb 25, 26, 8:00 pm – “Of Mice and Men”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- Mar 2, 3, 6:00 pm – “Spelling Bee” Auditions  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- Mar 13, 6:06 pm – “Board Meeting”  
Bay Park Hospital
- Apr 10, 6:06 pm – “Board Meeting”  
Bay Park Hospital
- Apr 29, 30 8:00 pm – “Spelling Bee”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- May 1, 3:00 pm – “Spelling Bee”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio
- May 6, 7, 8:00 pm – “Spelling Bee”  
Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon, Ohio

**Upcoming Auditions**



March 2, 3, 2011  
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

We are looking for men and women aged 18 and above.  
Be prepared to sing a song from the show.

**Fassett Auditorium**  
3025 Starr Avenue  
Oregon, Ohio 43616



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OREGON, OHIO 43616-7547  
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**Our Mission Statement**

The Oregon Community Theatre is dedicated to the development of the performing arts within Oregon and its surrounding communities.

This mission shall be accomplished by encouraging appreciation of and participation in all aspects of live theater, as well as conducting related educational programs for adults and children.

Visit our website:  
[www.oregoncommunitytheatre.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytheatre.org)

**Oregon Community Theatre**  
*presents*

*John Steinbeck's*



*Devin Bader*  
Director

*Cheryl Cuprys*  
Producer

**Tickets**  
\$10 Adults  
\$8 Seniors  
& Students

Fassett Auditorium  
3025 Starr Ave., Oregon

Available at the door  
or in advance  
by calling  
**419.691.1398**

*Presented through special  
arrangement with Dramatists Play Service*

**This show contains Adult Content**

*To receive this newsletter via e-mail, please send a request to  
[oct.newsletter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oct.newsletter@sbcglobal.net)*