



# STAGE LINES

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*The Official Newsletter of Stage Coach Theatre*

## 'Jekyll & Hyde' is built to thrill

"Jekyll and Hyde" is like nothing you've ever seen on the Stage Coach stage.

Director Rick Hoover has assembled a cast of 20 actors/singers, three-quarters of whom are new to Stage Coach., to present this thrilling musical by Frank Wildhorn and Leslie Briscus.

The musical, which was a hit in London and on Broadway, is based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story about a brilliant doctor whose experiments with human personality create a murderous counterpart. Convinced the cure for his father's mental illness lies in the separation of Man's evil nature from his good, Dr. Henry Jekyll unwittingly unleashes his own dark side, wreaking havoc in the streets of late 19th century London as the savage, maniacal Edward Hyde.

The show is reminiscent of "Les Miz" and Andrew Lloyd Weber's musicals and is filled with lovely, melodic songs.

The songs are beautifully sung by the entire cast, particularly Angela Simitzes and Kelliey Chavez, the women in Jekyll's life. And, as Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde, Gregg Irwin is a revelation. Irwin's strong voice fills the theater, and his transformation from the kind, refined Jekyll into the evil, beastly Hyde is absolutely chilling.

Audiences will also enjoy the colorful costumes constructed by Debbie Hoover and her crew, and the special effects, not the least of which is



Edward Hyde (Gregg Irwin) threatens Lord Savage (Doug Brinkman) in the musical "Jekyll and Hyde," opening Friday, Oct. 8, at Stage Coach Theatre.

how director Rick Hoover manages to fit 20 actors on the Stage Coach stage! You can learn more about the show on the "J& H" website at <http://myweb.cableone.net/rickhoover1950>

You won't want to miss "Jekyll and Hyde." It's a truly impressive demonstration of the caliber of talent that the Treasure Valley has to offer.

**"Jekyll and Hyde" opens Friday, October 8, and runs through October 30 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8:15 Fridays and Saturdays and 2:00 on the THREE Sunday matinees on October 10, 17 and 21. Tickets are \$12 Fridays/Saturdays, \$10 Thursdays/Sundays. Call the box office at 342-2000 for reservations and information.**

### Callboard

The place to look for upcoming auditions:

**"When Did You Last See Your Trousers?"** presented by Stage Coach Theatre and directed by Larry Dennis. Show dates are Jan. 7-8, 13-16, 20-23, 27-29. Needed are six men and three women ages 20-60 who can do a believable British accent. Auditions are at 2 p.m. Nov. 6-7 in the lobby of Stage Coach Theatre. For more info, call Larry Dennis at 322-3408.

## New board member likes to 'dream big'

**Name:** Rick Hoover

**Where are you from?:** I was born in Los Angeles, CA. I grew up in sunny Orange County, California, in Tustin. I have lived in Opelika, Alabama; Wilson, North Carolina; Sandy, Utah; Shelby, North Carolina; Washington, North Carolina; Columbus, Ohio; and finally Boise, Idaho.

**What is your first memory of live theatre? What made you get involved in theatre?** I really don't remember except that in elementary school I was in a couple of school plays. My grandfather was in numerous "B" movies in Hollywood during the '30s and '40s and then did radio and some television in the '50s. When he passed away, we went to collect his things and I got all of his scripts from Samuel French and Dramatist.

**Give a brief synopsis of your past theatre history.** I graduated with a major in theatre and math from Foothill High School in Tustin. I received my degree from Saddleback College in theatre. I also attended USC for a course in television directing/production. I was a member of Open End Rep Company in Newport Beach and later a member of South Coast Rep (also in Newport Beach). I became a member of Lee County Community Theatre and East Alabama Rep while in Alabama. When I moved to North Carolina, I became active with the Greater Shelby Community Theatre, the Wilson Arts Council and the Washington Community Theatre. During my stay in Ohio I worked with Curtain Players and Emerald City Players. I have either directed or performed in 40 productions over the years (16 directing, 24 performing).

**When and why did you get involved with Stage Coach Theatre?** On a lark I came out to Stage Coach for auditions of "Laughter On The 23rd Floor." I didn't think I would get cast but ended up playing "Val." Rick Hunt saw my resume and asked if I would like to direct "Born Yesterday," to which I happily agreed. From then on it became my home. SCT has allowed me to do the shows I wanted to bring to the audiences here in Boise.

**What are your goals for the Stage Coach board during your term?** I have been involved with many different groups over my career in community theatre and have seen what has worked and what has not. I hope to bring my

past experience to the table.

**What is your most embarrassing theatre moment?** We were doing "Picnic" in college. The last scene was suppose to be this wedding scene. The couple getting married had to walk off stage with me behind them. On final dress we used rice for the first time. The stage was very small so we were in very close proximity to the rice throwers. Rice hurts when it's thrown at you. Then I had to come back on stage for a fight scene. Rice is also cylindrical. I felt like I was on an ice rink. Here I was, trying to do our staged fight with both us of slipping and sliding, the two elderly women in the scene watching, laughing, and our director YELLING "STAY IN CHARACTER!" We somehow finished the fight and I ended up where I was supposed to be, on the steps. The two women still giggling, the director still yelling "STAY IN CHARACTER!" and I'm on the steps trying to regain my composure and trying not to bust out laughing myself. I then had my big tear-jerking exit. Except instead on stepping cleanly off, my right foot rolled off and my left foot held its ground until I almost fell on my butt. This broke up the ladies even more until one of them had to excuse herself because she had wet herself from laughing so much.

**What is your dream role to play onstage (or your dream show to direct)?** I would love to be Don Quixote in "Man of La Mancha" (one of my all time favorites) or Jean Val Jean in "Les Miserables"...only one small hitch...I have absolutely no singing ability whatsoever. I actually can't think of any specific role, but I would like to show that I can do more than just comedy although I've been told that I have good comic timing. From the directing standpoint, I am already doing one of my dream shows, "Jekyll and Hyde." I enjoy directing all sorts of shows. I loved directing "Into The Woods" but had more fun working the second act which is much darker than Act 1. I think that there may be a few people who come to see "Jekyll and Hyde" and see a different style of direction than say "Bullshot Crummond" and "Dearly Departed." I would like to have people walk away from "Jekyll and Hyde" and see that there is more depth to me than comedy. If I had my choice, I would love to direct "Les Miserables." My dream is to have the chance to have Frank Wildhorn call me and have him ask me to direct his latest show before anyone else is asked. Hey, I can dream big!

### Meet the Board

Have you ever wondered about the people who give their time to keep Stage Coach Theatre running? Since we're an entirely volunteer-run theatre, the many people who work at Stage Coach do it for love, not money.

In this continuing Q&A feature, you will meet the various members of the Stage Coach Theatre Board of Directors.

First up is Rick Hoover, who currently is very busy bringing musicals back to Stage Coach by directing "Jekyll and Hyde."

# Backstage Chatter

*News and notes from the Stage Coach Theatre "family"*

I hope everyone got to see Boise Weekly's "Best of Boise" issue, where **Jerry Snodgrass** was voted Best Local Artist. Anyone who has seen the sets Jerry has designed at Stage Coach and at BLT knows that Jerry definitely deserves the honor.

Readers of our other local paper, the Idaho Statesman, will have seen the new display ad for live theatres in the Treasure Valley. Pat Ryan at BLT spearheaded this project, which allows local community theatres to pool our advertising dollars to get more bang for our buck. The ad runs every Friday in "Scene" magazine and also in the Statesman's weekly tabloid, "Thrive." The goal is to make this weekly advertisement the first place theatre-lovers look to see what live shows are playing around town. Stage Coach started participating in the ads for the run of "London Suite," and so far our attendance numbers are very encouraging!

You can also see our theatre advertised on TV in October. A commercial with live footage of "Jekyll and Hyde" will air on channel 2 at various times during the month, during shows such as "The Early Show" and "Late Show With David Letterman."

Another way we can spread the word about our shows is to post photos on the Stage Coach web site at [www.stagecoachtheatre.com](http://www.stagecoachtheatre.com). Our webmistress, **Joan Gordon**, has added a gallery page to the website — now we just have to get some photos posted there. Joan is happy to upload photos to that gallery. She prefers them in digital format, burned to a CD or saved on disk. For more information, email Joan at [joan@webbuiddesign.com](mailto:joan@webbuiddesign.com). If anyone has traditional prints they would like scanned and burned so that they can be posted to the web site, **Kim Labrum** has offered to help people out with that. Just email Kim at [klabrum@boisestate.edu](mailto:klabrum@boisestate.edu).

If you've noticed fewer tilting seats and broken "stuff" at the theatre lately, it's because of our wonderful new Facilities Manager, **Paul Budge**. Paul has done a terrific job of figuring out what needs to be fixed at our

theatre, and then going ahead and taking care of it. Please give him your thanks when you see him at the theatre. He's doing a fabulous job, and we really appreciate him!

Kim Labrum has alerted me to an interesting trend among our little Stage Coach family. Everyone is going back to school. Among our studious members are **Mike Mullens, Perry Decker, Jeremiah Walker, Nancy Crowson, Jennifer Bertino, Anthony Polidori**, and **Kim Labrum** herself. Not only do we have some of the most talented folks in our theatre, but we may also have the best-educated! Good luck to all of our hard-working students. Compared to going back to college, I'll bet learning pages and pages of lines for plays is a piece of cake!

I'd like to pass along some get-well wishes to **Anthony Polidori**, who is recently had emergency gallbladder surgery. Anthony is on the mend, though, and will back on our stage in November in "The Harry and Sam Dialogues."

Milestones to celebrate in October/November:

#### BIRTHDAYS:

Oct. 16: **Brandon Kimsey**

Oct. 25: **Janelle Walters**

Oct. 27: **John Myers**

Nov. 15: **Robert Hunt**

Nov. 19: **Julie Miller**

Nov. 25: **Angela Simitzes**

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

Oct. 11: **Chris and Mickey Salkeld**, 1 year

Oct. 13: **Ben Ulmen and Christy Neu**, their two-month "monthiversary"

Nov. 9: **John and Helene Myers**, 8 years

Nov. 19: **Rick and Sherry Hunt**, 28 years

Nov. 23: **Doug and Julie Miller**, 13 years

And finally, our thoughts and prayers go out to **Larry Dennis** and his family. Eric L. Allton, the Idaho soldier who was recently killed in a mortar explosion in Iraq, was married to Larry's niece, Christina.



## Join the Stage Coach family

Stage Coach Theatre is a nonprofit organization, run entirely by volunteers and supported by the community. We believe Stage Coach Theatre is the friendliest theatre in town, and we love to greet newcomers to our theatre, both out in the audience and up on the stage.

If you'd like to join our "family," be sure to put your name and address in the guest book on the refreshment bar in the theatre lobby. You can also join our email listserv by following the instructions at the bottom of this page.

You don't have to live in Boise to join our family. Recently, we added **Margo Sanders** of Vancouver, WA, to our mailing list. Margo got a good airfare on Southwest, decided to fly to Boise, and found Stage Coach Theatre's web site and decided to see "London Suite." She enjoyed the show so much, she asked to be added to our mailing list. Welcome, Margo! We hope to see you again soon!

**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-MAIL LIST.** Get updates, opening night reminders, and Stage Lines on line (with color pictures!). To subscribe, send an e-mail to: [StageCoachTheatre-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:StageCoachTheatre-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF STAGE COACH THEATRE

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## **Out in the Lobby**

Director Erin Van Engelen has found her cast and is in rehearsals for "The Harry and Sam Dialogues." This down-to-earth comedy will star Kevin Labrum and Anthony Polidori as two blue-collar, regular joes who share their particular philosophies and views about life, love, and the minutiae of everyday existence.

"The Harry and Sam Dialogues" will open Nov. 26 and run through Dec. 11.

## **Acting workshops set Stage Coach apart**

About twenty people have taken part so far in the free acting workshops offered at Stage Coach Theatre. Stage Coach is the only local community theatre to offer free acting workshops to help beginning actors learn the ropes and to give acting veterans a place to hone their craft.

The workshops are facilitated by Mike Cronen, and they are open to everyone, not just to Stage Coach members. Because of their collaborative format, the workshops are designed to appeal to actors of all ages and experience levels.

"If you missed the first two workshops, don't worry about falling behind – there is no such thing," Cronen said. "The way the workshops are run makes it possible for you to jump in any time and work at your own pace. After we warm up with exercises, it pretty much comes down to 'who wants to work on a scene?'"

Even if you don't have a scene to work on, you can still attend and give constructive feedback to the actors who are working on scenes. All participants will come away having learned something about the art of acting.

Dates for upcoming workshops are:

Saturday, October 30: 4-6 p.m.

Sunday, November 14: 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, November 21: 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, December 12: 2-4 p.m.

Dates and times are subject to change, but participants will be notified of upcoming workshops via email.

To be added to the email notification list or to get more information, email Mike Cronen at [mykspeed@rmci.net](mailto:mykspeed@rmci.net) or call Mike at 323-7720. Everyone is welcome!