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# newsletter

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA THEATRE CONFERENCE, INC. — JUNE, 1981

# GTC TO HOLD TWO CON- VEN- TIONS IN ONE YEAR. EGAD!

GOOD GRIEF!!! We just had a convention: Well yes, but now we're going to have another one. We all voted last January, remember, to move the Convention to November.

Planning is already under way. The Executive board held it's May meet- at the Convention Hotel. That hotel, by the way,

is the DeSoto Hilton in Savannah. And we are getting absolutely fabulous assistance and planning from the Hilton sales department. (There's no Ellen Leech here, Jim.) The hotel is great, the meeting rooms fantastic, and the restaurant is something you don't usually find in hotels! Ah, what food!

Hyperbole? Not at all. You don't really expect anything second-rate in Savannah, do you?

And to get things started off right, we're offering early arrivers a tour of Historic Savannah. Plan to get here on Wednesday and for \$7.50 you can board a special tour bus at 2:20 PM and have a conducted tour of the city. (Reservations must be made on your registration form. If you don't pre-register you'll have to make your own arrangements.)

The dates have finally been set. Early stuff starts Wednesday, November 11. (Leading off with the tour in the afternoon with an Early-Bird party that night.) The real business commences on Thursday and runs thru Saturday. The Community and Secondary Play Festivals will both be held at the Convention this year. One on Friday, the other on Saturday. (We don't know which will be when yet.) The Auditions will be on Saturday and these are a must if you plan to audition at SETC (unless you're exempted by virtue of being a professional).

Of course, you'll get much more detailed information as the time gets closer. But now is the time to mark your calendar and start saving your money.

NOVEMBER 11 — 15, 1981

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## Beating the Bushes



The Speech and Drama Department of LaGrange College begins its 16th year as the resident summer stock company at Callaway Gardens.

The summer season runs from June 10 to August 25. Twenty student actors will present 4 plays.

Directors will be Max Estes and Tom Divan. The plays, to be presented Monday thru Thursday are: VANITIES, THE GLASS MENAGERIE, STORY THEATRE, AND HARVEY.

Elsewhere around the lower 48, the Utah Theatre Association is soliciting scripts by Utah playwrights for its own anthology of plays suitable for contests in high schools and colleges.

Thirty minutes is the maximum running time they want.

Did you notice the word "contest" right along with "high schools"? The next page of the UTA Newsletter reveals the results of a High School Drama Meet. They actually had winners!

Isn't it wonderful that our Georgia High School Association protects our delicate children from the ravages of competition?!!

Closer to home, the Rome Little Theatre celebrated their 25th Anniversary in high style on June 6th. RLT, unfortunately, is still without a home, and to further add to their woes, they're losing their storage facilities.

But any group that's made it for 25 years isn't about to give up. Someone once told me that problems equals growth. Now if we can just hold on to that thought...

The Dunwoody Stage Door Players 81-82 season will be SUMMER AND SMOKE, IMAGINARY INVALID, and GUYS AND DOLLS.

Sherry Cawley will be directing ANGEL STREET for her Neighborhood Playhouse.

The show will open July 9 and run 3 weekends.

Next season: THE LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION, WIND IN THE WILLOWS, CALL ME MADAM, MY THREE ANGELS, and SAME TIME NEXT YEAR.

The Georgia Council for the Arts' FY'82 appropriation has been increased by \$250,000 to bring the total available for grants to \$1,392,806, or a little over 29¢ per capita.

If yours is a non-profit organization and you want some of that money, the deadline is July 1st. Hurry.

WELL SHUT MY MOUTH! Jim Sligh, our good ole Membership VP, received an interesting reply from one of our former members. Jim had sent out a letter to those who didn't show up in Atlanta in January asking them to renew their memberships. So back comes this letter from one of Atlanta's professional theatres saying, to the effect: I really can't think why ----- Theatre should be a member of GTC. If you can, please let me know.

Just as fair a question would be why should I go to your theatre? I can be just as entertained at the movies. I can get as much culture, if not more, on PBS. I can see good theatre (if only "legitimate theatre" will suffice) almost anywhere in the state.

But these, nevertheless, are good questions to ask. I hope you will consider, even as we will, the answers.

*Auditionees  
Beware!*



THE AUDITION MATERIAL  
YOU CHOOSE MAY BE THE  
KISS OF DEATH!!!

Producers and Directors do get tired of hearing the same thing over and over, you know. Maybe they won't reject you just because they're tired of your selection, but every favorable impression you can make is just one more thing in your favor.

SETC recently took a poll of producers and directors and came up with the following suggestions:

1. Choose material that is suitable for your type and age range.
2. Avoid choosing material for shock value or cuteness rather than dramatic value.
3. Do not use material that requires a stage accent.
4. The material should show good, but limited stage movement and allow for good diction and projection.

**PRODUCERS/DIRECTORS DO NOT WANT TO HEAR:**

Anything from the well-known works of Williams, O'Neill, or Simon, and speeches from The Fantasticks, Equus, The House of Blue Leaves, Bus Stop, The Bell Jar, Kennedy's Children, Why Hanna's Skirt Won't Stay Down, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Our Town, The Rainmaker, Vanities, Of Mice and Men, Company.

Suggestions concerning musical auditions are equally strong:

1. If you can't sing, please don't.
2. Choose a song that shows full range of the voice.  
(There's more of this on the next page)



### HOW TO LOOSE OUT AT AUDITIONS or The Case of the Tone-Deaf Soprano

3. Sing NOTHING from The Fantasticks, Pippin, Godspell, A Chorus Line, or, indeed, current Broadway Productions.

A list of selections which the producers/directors prefer NOT to hear again:  
"Summertime," "Being Alive," "Mama Look Sharp,"  
"Mama a Rainbow," "Cabaret," "Send in the Clowns,"  
"Comedy Tonight," "Johnny One-Note," "All I Need  
is the Girl," "I'm In Love With a Wonderful Guy,"  
"The Joker is Me," "Joey," "Luck, Be a Lady,"  
"Maria," "They Call the Wind Maria," "I Cain't  
Say No," "On the Street Where You Live," "Maybe  
This Time," or ANY country/western songs or hymns.

I TOLD YOU  
NOT TO SING  
'CORNER OF  
THE SKY!'



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Anyone needing an excuse for not getting any call-backs can just choose from the above list. The GTC Newsletter is here to serve everyone, failure-oriented types included.



## PLUGGING THE CREDIBILITY GAP!

VARIOUS DATES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED FOR THE GTC FALL CONVENTION, LEADING TO SOME UNDERSTANDABLE CONFUSION. (THIS CAME ABOUT, PROBABLY, BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH MAKING HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE.)

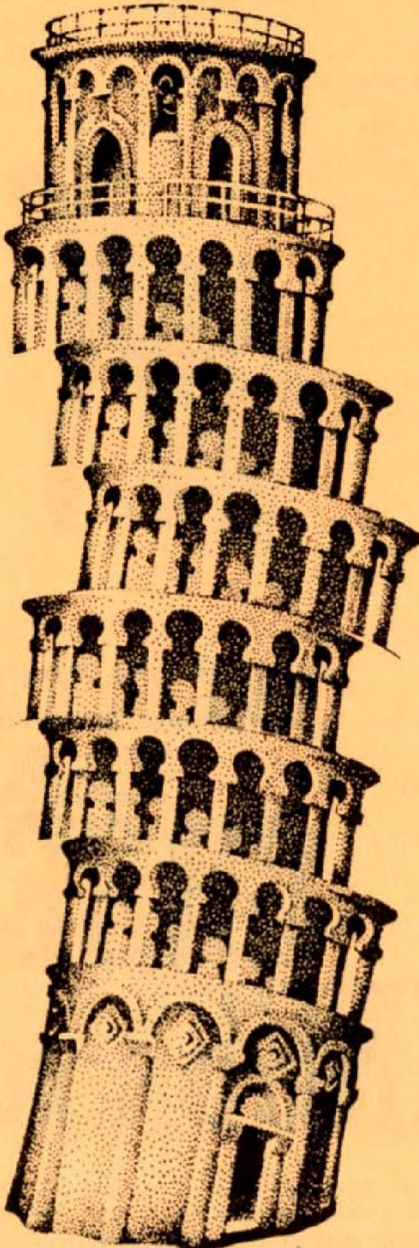
PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECT DATES —  
NOVEMBER 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 IS EARLY-BIRD DAY. THE HISTORIC TOUR OF SAVANNAH IS SET FOR THAT AFTERNOON AND A DRINKING BOUT FOR THE EVENING HOURS. THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY WILL BE THE CONVENTION PROPER, AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 WILL BE FOR THE CRITIQUE AND THE MEETING OF THE OLD AND NEW EXECUTIVE BOARDS.

# BIRTH DAY GREET INGS<sup>to</sup> NORA!

-o-  
Patti Key has resigned as Community Division Chairman. President Lunceford has appointed Mary Hatfield to the position to serve until the Convention.





## SAVANNAH GROUP ACQUIRES HISTORIC BUILDING

### REMODELING PLANS UNDERWAY



THE LITTLE THEATRE OF SAVANNAH, homeless since March of 1979, has purchased the Savannah Theatre, the oldest continuously operating theatre in the United States.

The Savannah LT has been performing in rented spaces since fire destroyed its former home.

The sale was closed June first. Remodeling will begin almost immediately. The summer musical, SWEET CHARITY, will be staged at the Shriners' Alee Temple Arena, site of the Little Theatre's productions for the last year. Though much work needs to be done to ready the Savannah for LT's use, the season opener, THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER, is scheduled for presentation at the Savannah beginning October 2.

The rest of the LT's season is:  
ANGEL STREET in November (performance available for the GTC Convention)  
APPLAUSE in February, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE in April, and ON GOLDEN POND in May.

Eric DuBois, who just completed BEDROOM FARCE to close the 80-81 season, has been signed to guest-direct next year's opener.

The Little Theatre is continuing to use guest directors until a permanent director can be signed.

Others already inked for the guest spots are Bob R. Patterson, Leslie Gordon, and John Brogna.

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# newsletter



In the first round of funding for Artist(s) Initiated projects, approved at the Council's February 4th meeting in Atlanta, two composers, six painters, one photographer, one playwright, two theater performers (a joint project), two filmmakers (a joint project), one film-video artist, and one craftsman will receive grants, through sponsoring organizations, totaling \$42,500.

LIFTED FROM THE GEORGIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS NEWSLETTER

## PROFILES

by

Carol Tveit

Hail to Neighborhood Playhouse's chief. It is only fitting that the subject of the CALL BOARD's first profile should be it's founder and administrator, Sherry Cawley.

Sherry left the halls of academia for the world of business to realize a dream. Her dream was Neighborhood Playhouse, and it has only just begun. Although Sherry selects the plays and the directors and pays the bills, she is quick to point out that it is only through the efforts of all of us who have become the NP family that this theatre has grown. Our continued efforts will ensure its growth.

The two things Sherry sees as necessary for the expansion of Neighborhood Playhouse are: 1. To mount a large scale subscription campaign for the 1981-82 theatre season and 2. The support of DeKalb County's business community. The cultural life of a community is one of its selling points - it attracts individuals and industries.

One can't sum up Sherry Cawley, like Neighborhood Playhouse she is still growing. Sherry, we're delighted to be able to share in NP's efforts and in your dream.

- Carol Tveit

BLATANTLY SWIPED FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYHOUSE CALL BOARD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS PLAN FOR NEXT SEASON

*At the February meeting of The Augusta Players' Board of Directors, Vice-President Jim Grier advanced to the office of President due to the resignation of Lynne Jones.*

*Preliminary plans were discussed for the 1981-82 season and it was decided to drop the annual summer musical in order to produce two dinner theatres at the Augusta Hilton - one in July and one in August.*

*The regular season will include 3 major Players productions, 2 Youth Theatre plays and 2 Children's Wing presentations.*

EXACTO-KNIFED FROM THE AUGUSTA PLAYERS CURTAIN CALL

SETC NEWS UNKNOWINGLY CONTRIBUTED THIS ITEM

## FALL AUDITIONS

Fall Auditions will be held in Atlanta, GA at the Atlanta Biltmore on Sunday, September 12 and Monday, September 13, 1981. All companies or actors interested, please write to the SETC Central Office for information and applications after July 1, 1981.

DEADLINE FOR AUDITIONING COMPANIES AND ACTORS IS AUGUST 21, 1981.