THE MostLies

DEFIANTLY Present
a
Musical - Comedy - Parody Revue

Parody Tonight!

UP, UP AND ASTRAY

"We Did it for the Show!"

June 24, 25, 26 and 27, 2010
7:00 PM

Griffin Concert Hall

1400 Remington Street
(old Fort Collins High School building)
Fort Collins, CO

Colorado State University
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

www.mostlies.org

A Short (but Illustrious) History

The Fort Collins parody group now known as **"The Mostlies"** was conceived in 1992 during a cast party for the wonderfully whimsical musical "Tom Foolery." While that was the final offering of the Foothills Civic Theatre, it was the beginning of a new form of Fort Collins theatre.

Originally called **"The Mostly Not Ready for OpenStage Players."** The troupe's debut appearance was in the historic Northern Hotel on College Ave, in the appropriately tagged "Bar Bazaar." They shared the tiny stage with an inoperative swamp cooler and a pole at the front of the stage. They also had an occasional inebriate who wandered off-course on the way to the restrooms. It wasn't an ideal venue, but the originators were encouraged by the warm reception of the first audiences and decided to continue their parody-revue format for another year, but in a different establishment!

Dawn and Company, at the Sunset Jazz Club, hosted the gang for seven years in a smoke- and swamp cooler-free environment, though like the Bar Bazaar, the Sunset's stage also had a pole in the exact center, a visual challenge and also a prop of sorts. Each year audiences increased as word of **The Mostlies'** brand of humor spread around the city. Set to familiar tunes, the lyrics - all original - were spicy, sometimes naughty, and always timely. No one was spared! From the White House to a local house of ill-repute, road construction, DIA, City Council, and college riots, all were touted with the same genuine lack of respect!

It was during the Sunset years that a problem arose with the group's name. While the cast understood that being Mostly Not Ready for OpenStage etc. meant they weren't affiliated with that stellar organization, other folks didn't grasp the concept, including some reporters at our city's local newspaper, the Coloradoan! So, to make it easier for people to write checks for their tickets, the Players voted to reduce their name to simply **"The Mostlies."** That way, they could be Mostly Not Ready for the Millennium, or the Election, or another "Harry Potter" Sequel!

Though the name changed, the quality of the material has remained high. In the summer of 2001, **The Mostlies** moved into the Fort Collins Lincoln Center's Mini Theater and Loveland's Rialto Theater. While not the same as their previous "Cabaret" setting (drinking always helps) these two venues provide a more comfortable setting for the audience and more technical control for the gang. Then in 2005 we were able to get two weeks at the Lincoln Center, so social commentary has found a home wherever **The Mostlies** perform! With all that's happening in the world, they will probably be around for another ten years -- let's hope so.

In 1996 **The Mostlies** decided an election show would be appropriate, so that November our Election Eve Tradition began. That year the show was named "Election 96: Sex, Drugs, and Ross Perot!". In the fall of 2000 it was "If God Had Wanted Us To Vote, He Would Have Given Us Candidates!" In 2004, with the success of our past summer show "Who Let the Boobs Out?" and with the choices we had in that election cycle, of course it was "If God Had Wanted Us To Vote, He Would Have Given Us Better Boobs!" "Bigger" was discussed, but "Better" was better. Then for the truly historic election of 2008, “Obama Mia! and the McCain Mutiny” the Mostlies made an (also historic) appearance in the Fort Collins Lincoln Center’s Performance Hall, one night only, Sunday, November 2nd to a sold out crowd.

“The Stimulus Plan”
From “Shovel Ready”, 2009

THE Mostlies

DEFIANTLY Present

Musical – Comedy – Parody Revue

UP, UP AND ASTRAY

"We Did it for the Show!"

Lyrics by
Betsy Kellogg, Mary and Jim McCauley, Barbara Sherrod
Patty Bell, Brad Handley, Shelley Johnson, Shane Miller
Directed by: Betsy Davis-Noland, Betsy Kellogg, and The Mostlies

THE MOSTLIES PLAYERS

Patty Bell
Bill Pool
Shane Curtiss Miller
Jim McCauley
Dorothy Christian (Accompanist)

Penny Blain-Nelson
Shara Handley Pool
Brad Handley

Craig Shuler
Robert Walsh
Betsy Davis-Noland
Lorraine Shuler
Akiko Harada (Accompanist)

Sound Operator .....Jay Benedict Brown
Light Board..... UCA Staff
Lighting Design..... UCA Staff
Program Design.....Jerry and Steve Noland
Mostlies Logo Design.....Dave Rorabeck

Set, Props & Costume Design.....Mary McCauley
Crew .....Victoria & Liz McCauley and Samantha Noland
Choreography ..... Bill Pool
Production Coordinator ..... Steve Noland
Balloon Consultant..... Dr. Charlie Hatchette

Director's Notes

It may be a different venue, but the issues haven't changed! The economy is still tanking, City Council spent hours on garbage – literally, and our town gained notoriety thanks to a six-year old boy and a hot air balloon! Speaking of 'hot air' – Sarah Palin, John Edwards, Dick Cheney, and Mr. Whosie Toyota make major contributions to that aspect of global warming! In a nation where vampires are hailed and the truth – not so much, why are we surprised that loaded guns are more welcome in our national parks than litter and loud music! After all, when White House security can be breached by a couple in formal attire and when males by the thousands prefer skulking in 'man caves' to occupying corner offices in the corporate hierarchy, we're obviously in a downward spiral, and we might as well look for the pony since we're already knee-deep in it anyway! That's where The Mostlies come in. This talented group of satirists and songsters manage to look on the humorous side of life, setting our wildly original lyrics to familiar tunes for an evening of restorative laughter! The Mostlies have a pre-existing condition – one that makes it impossible to feel overwhelmed by headlines, hotheads, heads of industry, or politicians who bury their heads! Mostlies' parody has been delighting local audiences for nearly two decades and will continue to do so long after accelerators stop sticking, air travel becomes enjoyable again, and Republicans stop saying 'no'! Alright, the last one's a long shot, but The Mostlies' brand of on-target humor is a welcome relief while we wait.

Betsy²

Marjorie Marie Moran-Walsh

March 24, 1933 – March 1, 2010

The Mostlies would like to dedicate this season's production of "Parody Tonight" in loving memory of Marj Walsh, our friend and the mother of performer, Bob. Marj joined us in 2001 as a page turner and assistant for our accompanist, but we soon learned that her talents went far beyond that task! Her ability to organize helped us expand our mailing list and Marj often greeted our audiences as they entered the theater. She knew so many of our community's leaders as well as the local issues being discussed and the Mostlies welcomed her input as we discussed material we wanted to include in our performances.

Who would have guessed that someone with a Masters Degree in public relations would be so drawn to the theater? Or who, after raising a family of four children would have had the energy and enthusiasm to participate in not one, but two theatrical groups? Marj was also an integral member of the S.O.A.P. Troupe at the Fort Collins Senior Center, acting onstage in a number of productions as well as tap dancing in even more!

In addition to her devotion to her wonderful family and to the arts, Marj served as the Executive Director of Care-A-Van, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteers), and SAINT – all of which provided transportation services to local seniors. She also administrated the Transfort Bus System and helped to secure grants for the maintenance facility on Trilby Road. These endeavors and her membership in the Rotary Club gave Marj many lasting friendships here in Fort Collins.

Most recently, Marj's interest turned to supporting the school connected to The Sacred Heart Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, served by her older son, Father Tom Walsh. Since this project was dear to Marj, the Mostlies will be donating a portion of the proceeds of this show to The Sacred Heart School Expansion Fund in memory of the many hours of volunteer work she so willingly gave to our non-profit theatrical organization. While the Mostlies miss her presence, we're confident she's watching from the wings with that wonderful smile she always wore. This one's for you, Marj!

Individual contribution can be sent to:
The Sacred Heart School Expansion Fund
540 N. 31st Street
Lincoln, NE 69503

Act I

Up, Up, and Astray ..... The 5th Suspensions
Parody Tonight ..... The Mostlies
59th Camp Site Grudge Song ..... Simon and Gee Gee
We'll Fire Our Guns ..... The Rabid Campers
Can't Find ? ..... Our Strolling Minstrels
Breakin' Up's Not Hard to Do ..... Al and Tipper
Wanna Work at DIA ..... Little Amelia and Little Sally
Great Offender ..... Fool-of-the-Loom
Not So Marvelous Noise ..... The Noise Abatements
Man Cave ..... The Cavemen
Put Your Plan on Your Hand ..... The Palmers
Going Rogue ..... Sarah Paylip
Hey Big Spender ..... Grabby and Gimmy Moore
Bailout Stomp ..... Mutch Moore
Little Red Toyota ..... The Highway Man
Mr. Toyoda's Lament ..... Akiko in Disquise
Pants on the Ground ..... The Judges
I'm In Love with a Big Blue Girl ..... Jake
Camera Help ..... The Shudders
Seventy-six Great Apps ..... Eleven Great Singers

Act II

Airport Arias ..... Airport Airheads
Can't Find ?.... ..... Our Strolling Minstrels
Biden Be Wise ..... The F-Stops
1-2-3 What are they Fighting For? ..... Tea Party and the By Standers
The Right Side and the Left Side ..... The Downsiders
I Go to Places ..... Hillary
Health Care ..... The Buffaloed Bills
Pre-existing Condition ..... The Asthma-Tones
You Pick Up My Trash ..... A RAM Wasterel
Snuggie Song ..... Em-Bare-Assed
Bronco's Cheerleader ..... Buffy, Marci, Kim, Suzi, Ali and Nina
Poppaw ..... Nelson and Davis
Kagen, Kagen, Kagen ..... Navis and Delson
This Land's Not Your Land ..... Arizona's Best
Ballad of the GOM ..... Slick
Afghanistan ..... The American-cans

Act III

Falcon Heenie ..... The Hot Airs
Thanks, Temple Grandin ..... Elsie
Rally Caps Group Song ..... Rockies' Fans
Rhyme for Hickenlooper ..... Poets Laureate
Councilmen from Fort Collins ..... Dusty and Lefty
Sonny Won't You Please Leave Home ..... Ozzie and Harried
Blues of the Right ..... Hortense Hooey
You Did It ..... Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi
Just You Wait ..... The GOP
Can't Find? ..... Our Strolling Minstrels
The Good Old Fashion ..... Old Wives
Celibate Guys ..... Hot Under the Collar
Fergie ..... The Duchess of Yuck
The Thinnest City ..... Slim Pickens
Puff ..... Peter, Paul and Mary Jane
God Bless Our MMDs ..... The Tokers
You! ..... The Mostlies
Yo, Fort Collins ..... The Mostlies

Biographies

Patty Bell, *Player / Lyricist:* Patty has strayed with The Mostlies for 18 years. She walks the straight and narrow part-time as a math coach for Poudre School District. Her disclaimer for the evening is that she does not own a snuggie, she is a daughter of a cougar, but she does like to travel. Thanks to Paul for helping out whenever needed.

Penny Blain-Nelson, *Player / Lyricist:* Penny is a perspiring…er, aspiring research technologist in cardiology at the U of C Health Sciences Center in Denver by day. By night she sings first soprano with the Longmont Chorale and the Chorale Singers. Being able to carry a tune in a bucket, she has been with the Mostlies since 1995 and willing to commute from Commerce City. John claims her as a wife (for which she is grateful). She is the stepmother of three and step grandmother of four. A dog and two cats call her "Mom". She is grateful to John for putting up with all the rehearsals.

Dorothy Christian, *Accompanist:* Dorothy has been an accompanist for the Moslties since 1999. Her focus on music is evident in her living room, which includes both a well-used piano and keyboard, plus stacks of new and used music. When the Mostlies rehearse in this room (before they move to Patty's basement) they fill the room to capacity, but they never complain. They are too busy trying out their humor on each other… Only one of the many reasons Dorothy enjoys being an accompanist for the Mostlies.

Betsy Davis-Noland, *Player / Director:* Betsy is a founding member of The Mostlies and is amazed and delighted with our popularity and endurance. A Database Administrator and Applications Programmer by day, she recently joined the Foothills Pops Band playing clarinet and enjoys singing with her church Praise Team. She also thoroughly enjoys her new role of Grandma to grandsons Rhonan and Sylas.

Shara Handley Pool, ***Player:*** Shara has been involved in the Fort Collins theatre scene since 1977, and has performed and worked back stage with Fort Collins Children's Theatre (FCCT), Foothills Civic Theatre, and OpenStage Theatre. She portrayed Costanza in the OpenStage production of "Enchanted April" in 2007 for which she won an Opus award for best supporting actress. She joined the Mostlies in 1995.

Bradney W. Handley, *Player / Lyricist:* Brad's roots in parody go back to his days of Jr. High School, where he was inspired by the rich melodic songs emanating from the back of the school bus. Brad has taken these lost classics and added a little sophistication. Very little! The result is a ribald repertoire guaranteed to force your face in the toilet and give you a cerebral swirly. Brad joined the troupe in 1999.

Akiko Harada, *Accompanist / Special Guest Player)*: Akiko joined the Mostlies in 2007. The Mostlies have made her madly in love with America due to its highly intelligent, highly talented, suspiciously classified genius members, due to their charming audience, and due to the opportunities (also called frightening experiences) and encouragements they give her. Are they safe?

Scott Johnson, *Techie:* A lifelong techie, Scott is an engineer by training, a pointy haired manager by trade, and a theater "whatever they can find for me to do guy" by choice. Scott has brainstormed lighting plans for University of Illinois' Krannert Center, in the not *too* distant past (no, really!). He's been working with the Mostlies in a techie role since 2008, and has been dabbling as a lyricist (mostly by whispering ideas in Shelley's ear while she's flirting).

Shelley Johnson, *Lyricist:* Joining the Mostlies writing team in 2008, Shelley spends her days teaching science and math to preschoolers clamoring for her attention on a regular basis. Shelley's career highlight has been her appearance on stage at Comedy Works in Denver as one of the local finalists for the 'Funniest Mom in America' contest by Nickelodeon. In her free time she writes limericks and flirts with Scott the techie.

Betsy Kellogg, *Lyricist / Director:* Betsy has now officially spent two-thirds of her life in Colorado, which may not make her a native, but it does make her very happy! She has been involved in some form of theater since childhood; including summer stock, melodramas, and the SOAP Troupe at the local senior center, and was one of the founding members of the Steamboat Springs Community Players. A former teacher, Betsy tutors kids, wants to write a novel, and intends to live in a lighthouse in her golden years. Betsy is a founding member of the Mostlies.

Mary McCauley, *Costumes / Props / Lyricist:* Mary is the Mostlies' Prop Whisperer, a writer, and backstage nag. Although she makes many of the props and costumes for the Mostlies, Mary wants to go on record as having nothing to do with the men's choice of women's fashions. When not writing parodies with difficult-to-sing lyrics, Mary is a fiber artist, Jim's wife, and mom to Liz and Victoria (being a Mostlie is what passes for family quality time with the McCauleys).

Jim McCauley, *Player / Lyricist:* Jim brings to the Mostlies'madness his modest talents on voice and guitar, and he co-writes with wife Mary, the troupe's costumer and prop wrangler. He is also the proud father of backstage ninjas Liz and Victoria. His other local stage experience had been with Loveland Community Theater and Bas Bleu Readers' Theatre.

Liz McCauley, *Stage Hand:* This is Liz's 4th season as a bench dropper, Canada goose wrangler, prop flinger, and cow dresser, A.K.A. stage hand for the Mostlies. Liz has previous stage experience as a runway model, selected Anime characters, and Peter Pan in...Peter Pan. Currently a junior at the University of Hawaii, she escapes studying real art in paradise to return to Colorado for the geese and the Mostlies.

Victoria McCauley, *Stage Hand:* This is Victoria's first season as a Mostlie. Previously new to theater until last fall when she was a back stage hand for the Children's Theater's Babes In Toy Land, Victoria is the youngest apprentice to the Mostlies. She is currently looking forward to the hushed craziness of the underground hidden world of the Mostlie Stage Hands in Black.

Shane Curtiss Miller, *Player / Lyricist:* Shane joined the Mostlies in 2003 to precipitate in his mid-life crisis. Recent shows prove that he has, including a current stint in: "Native" at the Nonesuch Theater, and his refusal to stop cross dressing for the Mostlies. Credits: "Anything Goes", "Titanic", "Oklahoma", "Brigadoon": Front Range Theatre Guild, "Wind in the Willows" "Wizard of Oz" :Fort Collins Children's Theatre, the "Fantastics" "West Side Story" "Sound of Music" :Carousel Dinner Theatre , "Pump Boys and Dinettes" "Always Patsy Cline": Nonesuch Theater, "The Little Prince":Bas Bleu Theatre, "Man of La Mancha" "Rasputin" Open Stage Etc. La De Da's "A Christmas Carol". And will be performing again with Bas Bleu as "Jim" in "Hostage Song" in 2011. Shane is a entrepreneur and Streetmosphere performer in Fort Collins, with lovely friends and family. A special thank you to Karen & Elyse for humoring his humor, and all the Mostlies for theirs!

Samantha Noland, *Stage Hand:* Sam has been involved in theater for most of her life and loves it. She is fine with being a techy but would rather be on stage. Outside of theater she loves to read and write her own poems and stories. She will be starting her freshman year in Elementary Education at FRCC this fall. She has just finished working as a volunteer assistant for the Peanut Butter and Jam Revue Players performance of "Hansel and Gretel".

Bill Pool, *Lyricist / Player:* While not one of the original Mostlies, Bill has been with the group since 1994. As a performer, sometime writer and occasional choreographer, he enjoys the process of putting a show together (except for the memorization part). He has been seen and heard on stage with the Loveland Music Guild (now Front Range Music Theatre), Loveland Community Theatre, Storm Mountain Folk Dancers, Fort Collins Children's Theatre, and OpenStage Theatre and Company.

Barbara Sherrod, *Lyricist:* A Mostlie for over a decade, Barbara is married to retired geologist Neil Sherrod and has lived in Fort Collins for thirty nine years. Having at long last finished her contemporary novel, she now collects rejection slips. Barbara enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Craig Shuler, *Lyricist / Player:* Doctors say that laughter produces End-Orphans that promote good health. (I know, I know, they are endorphins; but it's more fun to visualize cute, little End-Orphans scurrying around tickling our insides!) Anyhow, thanks for spending an evening with us. I hope you leave with a medicine cabinet full of End-Orphans to help you treat whatever you encounter in the weeks and months ahead. And the best part--- you are fully covered with no premiums or deductibles!

Lorraine Shuler, *Lyricist / Player:* Lorraine is a retired reading tutor from PSD. Lorraine began singing and acting on stage at age 11 and has continued off and on ever since in churches, CSU, Foothills Theater, and professionally in the Central City Opera. She also currently sings with the Senior Center Soaptones. She feels, however, that she has finally reached the high point of her career by portraying the Mostlies Cow.

Robert (Bob) Walsh, *Player:* Robert first took to the stage to discuss "ISSUES" when he was a junior at Rocky Mountain High School. Despite his late and slow start, he was chosen Debater of the Year his senior year and attended CSU on a debate scholarship. Bob joined the Mostlies in 2000 so that he could sing about the "ISSUES" in the Mostlies' unique way. He is an aficionado of all things musical and/or theatrical and the electronic miracles that present them.

Front Row, Left to Right: Betsy Kellogg, Lorraine Shuler, Betsy David-Noland, Akiko Harada, Dorothy Christian, Patty Bell, Shara Handley Pool, Liz McCauley, Samantha Noland
Back Row Left to Right: Steve Noland, Marj Walsh, Shane Miller, Penney Nelson, Bill Pool, Barb Sherrod, Bob Walsh, Craig Shuler,, Jay Benedict Brown, Brad Handley, Mary McCauley, Jim McCauley

Yo Fort Collins

(Lyrics by Patty Bell)

Yo Fort Collins
Where the geese go honking through the sky
We're a town that's fit
And a big hit
Still some businesses have said bye-bye

Yo Fort Collins
Dotty, Haeley, Falcon call it home
Two for real, one hoax
The butt of jokes
Caused the media to make us known

There's reason enough to rejoice
For we know that our city is choice
And when the sun sets
We've only just begun
Let's be having lots of fun in the fort
In Fort Collins, in Fort Collins, Fort Fun

Yo Fort Collins
CSU says bring your guns from home
And bring lots of dough
Because you know
It's a crime how high tuition goes

Yo Fort Collins
We've enjoyed our time at Griffin Hall
Whether here or there
We love to share
Our Mostlies humor with you all

There's reason enough to rejoice
For we know that our city is choice
And when the sun sets
We've only just begun
Let's be having lots of fun in the fort
In Fort Collins, in Fort Collins,
F-O-R-T-F-U-N that's Fort Fun???

"My GPS" from
"Shovel Ready" Summer 2009

We Did It for the Show!!!

Last October the Balloon Boy news event went global, and all of Fort Collins watched with nerves on edge. Once we knew the little boy was safe, things shifted dramatically. I knew then (admit it, so did you) that this had become prime Mostlies' material. As a lyricist and the Mostlies Prop Whisperer, I started on a parody and plans for our own publicity balloon, "How hard could that be?" Well the story took many twists, and in typical Mostlies' style, so did our parody. It took several of our writers to get to the final lyrics (that is, as of this printing, who knows what might happen by show time!) The balloon took the expert wizardry of our local Balloon Consultant, Dr. Charlie Hatchette, probably the only (other) person in Larimer county, maybe the world, who actually had both a roll of Mylar film and a helium tank just sitting around in his "laboratory." Several drawings, some fancy mathematics, and one prototype balloon later, we determined that, 1) yes, it was indeed possible to make one that would fit through Griffin Hall's doors, 2) yes, the helium would last through rehearsals AND all performances, and 3) no, there was not enough lift to carry Brad Handley dressed as a little boy out over the audience. We thought 2 out of 3 was a good result -- mostly. Then we thought about how to guide and control the balloon, after all we didn't want Sheriff Alderden, the Coloradoan, and the gang at CNN to go through any more troubles, and restitution payments would make us have to raise the ticket price. So we rigged up a fishing reel from last year's parody about the Poudre River and attached some fishing line to the balloon (don't try this at home). From Charlie's lab to my garage, to a minivan, to Griffin Hall we practiced and still aren't ready for "Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade" certification. With the usual "what could go wrong with that?" attitude we launched into our performances. By the time you read this we may or may not know, but it promises to be memorable.
Mary McCauley, Mostlies Prop Whisperer

Left to Right: The Balloon, Mary McCauley and Charlie Hatchette

Visit our website at, www.mostlies.org