

ED FLETCHER'S EARLY BIRD DINNER THEATRE

727-446-5898

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Special Interest:

- *The Kitchen Witches Review*
- Actor Spotlight
- 2010/2011 Season

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200 South McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, FL 33759
www.EarlyBirdDinnerTheatre.com

THE KITCHEN WITCHES Are Still Cooking Up a Storm!

If you haven't seen *The Kitchen Witches* yet, time is running out! This lively and funny show was the winner of the 2005 Samuel French Canadian Play Contest.

According to reviewer Lee Zumpe of TBN, "*The Kitchen Witches* serves up plenty of laughter and fun."

Isobel Lomax and Dolly Biddle are two rival cooking show hostesses, who have hated each other for over 25 years, ever since Larry Biddle dated one and married the other.

After a hilarious confrontation puts these two lively rivals together in front of a live TV audience, the network decides to give them their own cooking show ... together!

"On the set of their joint cable show, dissention simmers as the two battle over relationships and recipes," writes Lee Zumpe in his review. He also adds, "The side dishes include uproarious insults, innuendo and insolence."



Cast: (Left to Right) Jennifer Sloane, Ian McCallum
Midge Mamatas and Barbara Anthony

Dolly's long-suffering TV-producer son, Stephen, tries to keep them on track, but as long as Isobel's dressing room is one inch closer to the set than Dolly's, it's a losing battle.

Then, there's Dawn, the TV camerawoman whose hysterically silent antics encourage even more laughter.

Throw in an outrageous food fight, a cooking contest where a designated member of the studio audience is the judge, and you are set for terrific entertainment. Even a secret from the "witches" past is revealed!

Artistic Director, Robin New, has put together a great cast that includes: Midge Mamatas, Jennifer Sloane, Ian McCallum and Barbara Anthony. The cast is having a ball with this show!

***The Kitchen Witches* runs until September 5th, 2010.**

You don't want to miss this one. Call now for reservations, and we'll see you at the show!

**For Reservations
Call
727-446-5898**

ACTOR SPOTLIGHT: Rick Kistner



Rick Kistner

Rick Kistner has a name that's familiar to lots of folks in the Tampa Bay Theatre Community. He chalks that up to simple longevity. Rick has appeared in well over a hundred stage roles, as well as quite a few TV Commercials and occasional film roles. In fact, his voice has been heard by millions around the world, reading the works of Charles Dickens, Edgar Allen Poe, Shakespeare and many others for the Lit2Go web site.

Rick is now entering his 47th year of performing. In 1964 he was hanging around a Pittsburgh, PA Boy's Club when a producer for a Civic Light Opera production of "West Side Story" came in looking for some local "toughs" to support the regular cast of actors in walk-on roles.

"On a dare from my buddies," says Kistner, "I accepted the challenge and after I was given the opportunity to read lines for the Director and was actually cast as one of the Jets, it began a lifelong love affair with the performing arts and particularly musical theatre."

A couple of years later, Rick joined the Air Force and performed in military shows as well as local productions at communities where he was stationed. It was also in the military that he started college, at Wright State University near Dayton, Ohio, performing in college theater when he could. Rick graduated from Wright State with a Degree in Urban Studies and went on to earn a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Dayton. Rick got a job as a police officer in the area and continued to perform, but hid the fact from fellow cops, who equated actors with "sissies".

Rick's performing took a hiatus in 1974 when he married his sweetheart, Karen, whom he met on the job. They started a family and had three children in rapid succession and Rick recalls throwing away all his old scripts and scrapbooks, figuring that providing for a family would leave no time for the stage. However, while serving as Chief of Police in Liberal, Kansas a few years later, he was convinced by a local theatre group to play Pellinore in the musical "Camelot."

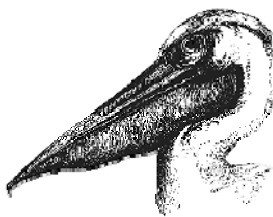
Before long he was President of that group and once again producing and performing in 4 and 5 shows a year. A new job in Connecticut in the 1980's led to the start of a professional performing career, working with the River Rep, a Manhattan based Repertory Company. He also attended the famed Eugene O'Neill Theater Center where he studied acting and was coached in Shakespearean Performance by renowned British Director Richard Digby Day.

During this time period, both NPR and CBS This Morning profiled Rick's dual actor/police officer life.

Fast forward to 2010 and Rick shows no signs of slowing down. He started the year in "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" at the Show Palace in Hudson, and then came to the Early Bird Dinner Theatre to play Vic Johnson in our production of "Funny Money." Regular Early Bird attendees will remember Rick from last year's turn as the Big Boss in "Natalie Needs A Nightie" where he crooned a different lullaby to a stage infant at every performance, keeping his fellow performers in suspense as to what they were going to hear next. This September he will play the role of Andrew Carnes in "Oklahoma" and then will immediately go into "How to Succeed in Business..." as Company President J.B. Biggley, and the role that reintroduced Rudy Vallee to Broadway and movie audiences. That will take Rick to March 2011.

A lot of audience members at the Early Bird Dinner Theatre recognize Rick as a lecturer for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Road Scholar programs at Eckerd College where he has taught classes over the last few years on film, theatre and American History topics.

Rick and Karen celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary this month. They live in Largo and are currently awaiting their second grandchild. "I'll retire from the stage," Rick concludes, "When I can no longer remember lines or can no longer walk – whichever comes first!"



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Make sure you check our
website often for
upcoming news.

Earlybirddinnertheatre.com

Producer
Ed Fletcher

Artistic Director
Robin New

NEXT UP: LOVERS AND OTHER STRANGERS

Lovers and Other Strangers, a very popular comedy written by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna, is opening on September 9, 2010.

Artistic Director, Robin New, has put together a terrific cast that includes: Barbara Anthony, Tracy Borgatti, Toby Manion and Charles Wilcox.

This show features a series of vignettes that will keep you smiling and laughing all the way through.

The first introduces a young man, who begins to seduce a young woman, only to have the tables turned on him. The second involves a married couple, who can't figure out whose turn it is to initiate lovemaking. The third opens in a young woman's apartment when her fiancé tells her he's too nervous to go through with their wedding. She gently leads him back to their plans. The final vignette brings us a couple that have fought for over thirty years, and now try to save their son's marriage by confessing their own failings.

Call early and make your reservations soon!

Lovers and Other Strangers
opens on
September 9, 2010

Get Your Ducks in a Row for Our 2010/2011 Season

Kitchen Witches from July 15 to September 5, 2010.

Lovers and Other Strangers from September 9 to October 31, 2010.

How the Other Half Loves from November 4 to December 26, 2010.

The Dixie Swim Club from January 6 to February 27, 2011

Sex Please, We're Sixty from March 3 to April 24, 2011

Don't Dress for Dinner from April 28 to June 19, 2011

For more information and details of upcoming shows, please visit our website:

Earlybirddinnertheatre.com

Patron Corner:

If you'd like to tell us about some special memories you've had at the theatre or want to tell us about one of your favorite shows, just send us an email at

newsletter@earlybirddinnertheatre.com

We look forward to hearing from you!!!

Jennifer Sloane
Editor, Early Bird Newsletter

Some Kitchen Witches Quickie Shots!

