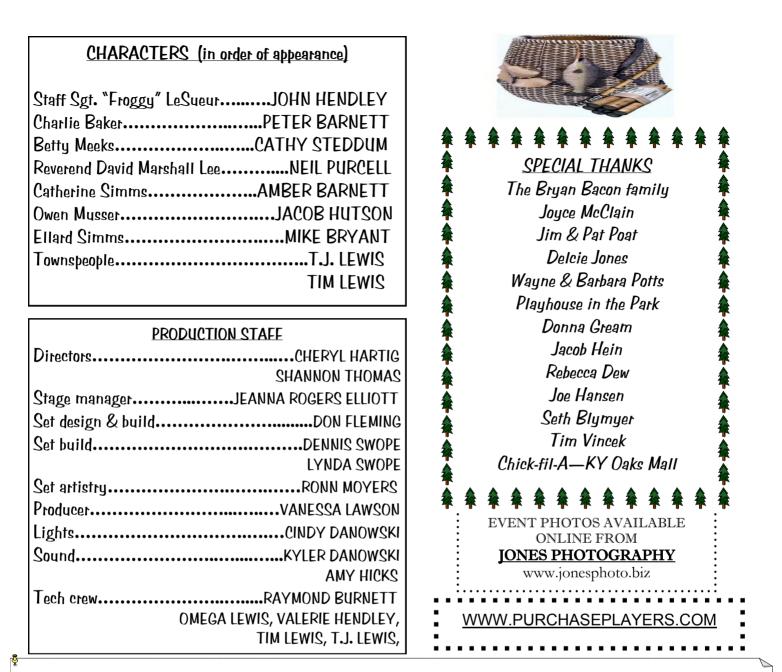


Originally produced by the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Wisconsin

COMMUNITY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER- MAYFIELD KY 9TH & WATER ST Sep 24 & 25 @ 7:00 pm & Sep 26 @ 2:00 p.m. Oct 1 & 2 @ 7:00 p.m. & Oct 3 @ 2:00 p.m.

270-251-9035



DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

Larry Shue's *The Foreigner* has been one of the most produced comedies in regional theater since it was first performed in 1983, and it's easy to see why. The characters that romp through this farce will stay with you, as we ride the emotional rollercoaster from bemusement to belly laughter, from boos for the "bad guys" to cheers as the "good guys" emerge triumphant! As our hero Charlie comes on the scene, we have no idea (nor does he) who he really is. But as we watch him get involved in other people's lives in a good & loving way, we see him discover what kind of man he can be. Nice message there—forget about your own self and help others instead! On the flip side, there is also a potent racial message in the show, which is unfortunately mirrored in our country and communities still today. But Shue approaches this message from the lighter side, so we end up laughing at and viewing the bad guys as woefully ignorant and sad—which is as it should be. Bottom line here is that nice guys finish first, and kindness wins out as we laugh the bad guys off the stage.

This has been such FUN to direct – if we had out-take reels from rehearsal nights there would be a whole other play to produce... And what a joy it has been to have new faces added to our theatre family—new actors, set builders and tech crew- oh my! That is the mantra and backbone of community theatre—and the reason Purchase Players is still in existence after 31 years—continued involvement and support from the local community. Thanks to a great cast—for all your hard-work & patience, and for not groaning (too loudly) at our oft repeated requests of "one more time"....Special thanks to my talented co-director Shannon Thomas, a veteran of Purchase Players, who blessed us with her lovely presence, her genius for characterization and her deep love of the theatre (and lots of Diet Sundrop) to make this show a reality. Thanks to our "stage-manager-extraordinaire", Jeanna, - who can and does work miracles backstage. Thanks to Don, Dennis, Lynda and Ronn for providing us with an unparalleled set upon which to play, and to Omega, Tim & T.J. for the many props we get to play with. Thanks to Cindy, Kyler, Amy, Valerie & Raymond for being such a great tech crew—and to our producer, Vanessa Lawson—we love you!

Cheryl Hartig

MEET THE CAST OF THE FOREIGNER



JOHN HENDLEY (*Staff Sgt. "Froggy" LeSueur*) - John is 47 years old and has just moved back to the USA after living in England for 10 years. This is his 2nd play, but first with a major role. He is a Marine Corps veteran which is fitting for his character of "Froggy" in this production. He has been married to his beautiful wife Valerie for 25 years and has 2 children, Amber (23) and Sean (20). Amber is playing Catherine in the play. John enjoys reading, travelling, running, football and learning country dance. He is presently seeking employment, and will act or model for food!

PETER BARNETT (*Charlie Baker*) -This is the acting debut for Peter, apart from a brief showing as the "Dodo" in *Alice in Wonderland* at age 7. He was hoping that wasn't a prophetic past for his acting career—so lets see!





CATHY STEDDUM (*Betty Meeks*) - Cathy is a 25-year veteran with Purchase Players. Her passion is the theatre. She loves that the volunteers at the theatre give it their all and always pull off remarkable shows. In the words of her character "Betty" -when she is at the theatre "Ain't dis nice".

NEIL PURCELL (*Rev. David Marshall Lee*) -A Graves County High School senior this year, Neil is involved in many extra-curricular activities at school as well as with community theatre. His Purchase Players debut was as the voice of "Audrey II" (Feed Me, Seymour!) in *Little Shop of Horrors*. This season he portrayed "Maurice", father of Belle, in the Purchase Players production of *Disney's Beauty and The Beast*.





AMBER BARNETT (*Catherine Simms*) - Amber has moved from America to England, and back to America—again –missing her education of growing up as a Southern Belle in Alabama. You can take the girl out of the South, but you can never take the South out of the girl!

JACOB HUTSON (*Owen Musser*) - A recent Graves County High School graduate, Jacob is another veteran of the Purchase Players stage. Involved in school and community theatre since his elementary school days, Jacob most recently portrayed "Jafar" in Purchase Players' production of *Disney's Aladdin, Jr.*, and the wicked Hun "Shan-Yu" in *Disney's Mulan, Jr*.





MIKE BRYANT (*Ellard Simms*) - Mike Bryant has lived here for the past two years. He and his family moved from North Carolina. He is 37 years old, husband to Diana, and dad to Jared (11), Hannah (5), and Hailey (4). He is the pastor of Restoration House IPHC in Paducah and works as an assistant manager at the Chick-fil-A in Kentucky Oaks Mall. Although this is the first community play he has been involved in, he has written and acted in several church plays and cantatas over the last ten years. "Ellard' was hard to get to know at first but once I got inside his world, it was almost like coming home again. I think we all have a little 'Ellard' deep inside - we just don't let people see him too often."

T.J. LEWIS (*Townsperson*) T.J. is 16 years old and a junior at Graves County High School. He has been in 8 productions at school and community theatre, including *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Disney'sBeauty and the Beast*. This is his third production with Purchase Players.



TIM LEWIS (*Townsperson*) 44, served in the US Marines & Kentucky National Guard (retired). Married for 20 years, with 2 great kids. "I've been around the world twice, but always came home to Wingo. I'm going blind, but that's just another hurdle in life. I'm still "upright and mobile" and that is the main thing."