

# "Lil Abner

AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL COMEDY BY NORMAN PANAMA and MELVIN FRANK

Based on characters created by AL CAPP

Lyrics & Music by
JOHNNY MERCER & GENE DE PAUL

"LI'L ABNER" is produced by arrangement with, and the music and dialogue material furnished by Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017.



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EARTHQUAKE McGOON Leonard Von Berg	
DAISY MAE Barbara Shotts	
PAPPY YOKUM	
MAMMY YOKUM Elaine France	
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- DANCERS Patti Balchuk, Page Clingan, Debbie Doan, Marty Dryer, Peggy Lenover, Jim Pearson, Debbie Wilder, John Williams, Dave Hilleger.

#### MUSICAL DIRECTOR Bob Kukla

#### CHOREOGRAPHER Roland Hartley

Special Assistant to Choreographer - Sharon Linder

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#### **MUSICAL SYNOPSIS**

#### ACT ONE

"It's a Typical Day in Dogpatch U.S.A Dogpatchers			
"If I Had My Druthers" Li'l Abner and Cronies			
Reprise: "If I Had My Druthers"			
"Jubilation T. Cornpone" Marryin' Sam & Dogpatchers			
"Rag Offen the Bush"			
"Namely You"			
"Unnecessary Town" Li'l Abner, Daisy and Dogpatchers			
"What's Good for General Bullmoose" Secretaries			
"The Country's in the Very Best of Hands" Li'l Abner and Marryin' Sam			
"Sadie Hawkins Day" (Chase) Dogpatchers			
ACT TWO			
ACT TWO  "Oh, Happy Day" Drs. Finsdale, Smithborn,			
"Oh, Happy Day" Drs. Finsdale, Smithborn,  Krogmeyer and Schleifitz			
"Oh, Happy Day"			
"Oh, Happy Day"			
"Oh, Happy Day"			
"Oh, Happy Day".  Krogmeyer and Schleifitz "I'm Past My Prime".  Daisy and Marryin' Sam "Progress Is The Root of All Evil".  General Bullmoose "Put 'Em Back".  Wives Reprise: "Namely You".  Daisy			
"Oh, Happy Day"			



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#### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

#### ACT ONE

- Scene 1. Yokum Cabin in Dogpatch
- Scene 2. The Fishing Hole
- Scene 3. Compone Square
- Scene 4. General Bullmoose's Office
- Scene 5. Dogpatch

#### ACT TWO

- Scene 1. Government Testing Laboratory in Washington
- Scene 2. The Yokum Cabin
- Scene 3. Corridor in General Bullmoose's Mansion
- Scene 4. General Bullmoose's Office
- Scene 5. The Government Testing Laboratory
- Scene 6. Cornpone Square



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MembershipRon McDaniel,
Set Design Daryl Wagner
Set Construction
Set Painting Daryl Wagner, Al Linne, Roland Hartley.
Stage Crew Rex Hansen, Mgr.; Pete Caudill, Ron Peterson, Wendell Walker, Rolland Hartley, Jack Wilkerson, Vance Walker, Tom Viskniski, John Sheehan.
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#### **OUR DIRECTORS**







ROBERT KUKLA

ROLAND HARTLEY

JOHN SANDERS, Dramatic Coach, is at present Chairman of the English Department, Dramatics coach and advisor at D.H.S. He has attended Indiana University, where he participated in the Jordan River Review; Indiana State University where he received his Master's in English, and was a member of the Sycamore Players, participated in the Hoosier Schoolmaster of the Air Show, "Pop Weezle", Aristophanes' "The Frogs", "Medea", and one-act festivals.

He did graduate study at Purdue and DePauw, where he was a Hayes Fellow in American Studies.

He has three sons, Kevin, Kerry and John D.

ROBERT KUKLA, Music Director, was in charge of the baton for two previous Light Opera Shows, "The Sound of Music" and "Student Prince". Bob has been director of the St. James Methodist Church's Youth Choir for thirteen years. He has written and directed two musical-variety shows for General Electric, where he is employed. He has also composed religious music. He is at present working on a three-act musical comedy which he has promised to Danville Light Opera sometime in the next two years or so. Bob is a member of Local No. 90 Musicians Union.

ROLAND HARTLEY, Choreographer, a native of Danville, graduated from Purdue University with a major in English. At Purdue he was featured in the University's production of "Guys and Dolls", "Kiss Me, Kate", and was featured dancer in "Annie Get Your Gun", and "The Boy Friends". He appeared as the Tin Man in the "Wizard of Oz", and as Enrique in "School for Wives". He won Purdue's Creative Award for four years' work. While at Purdue he worked with Mildred Dunnock, Marc Connelly and Frances Farmer, among many other celebrities. He also worked with the LaFayette Little Theatre Group while in school.

He now teaches English and American Literature at Georgetown High School and is sponsor of the Drama Club. He directs all school productions and in addition, writes and directs a children's play for spring presentation.

Last spring he appeared as Brannigan in the Light Opera production, "Guys and Dolls", and doubled as one of the rhumba dancers. He has also worked with set design and construction on both "Guys and Dolls" and "Li'l Abner".



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#### "LI'L ABNER"

Al Capp's world famous characters have been placed in a gay, colorful musical extravaganza. The plot is a satisfying mixture of hill-billy nonsense and sharp, critical humor. Word has been sent down from Washington that the citizens of Dogpatch must all evacuate their mountain homes. Dogpatch has been selected as the most unnecessary town in the country, and therefore the perfect site for nuclear tests. It appears that something useful is found when Mammy Yokum produces her secret formula of Yokumberry tonic which makes muscle men of weaklings. However, General Bullmoose, a sly conniving politician, sets a sultry siren and Evil Eye Fleagle with his double whammy to work on Li'l Abner, hoping to wheedle Mammy's secret formula from him. The citizens of Dogpatch, after a trip to Washington, foil his plan, and everybody settles down for a special life of rustic simplicity in Dogpatch, U.S.A. . . .

The wonderful tunes include Abner and Daisy's gentle duet, "Namely You," a dreamy ballad "If I Had My Druthers", the hilarious show-stopper "Jubilation T. Cornpone", General Bullmoose's "Progress Is The Root Of All Evil" and the political satire "The Country's In The Very Best Of Hands". The Sadie Hawkins Day Chase and fine choral work contribute to making "Li'l Abner" one of the classics of American musicals.





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Our show boat, the "Cotton Blossom", is owned by Captain Andy Hawks. He and his wife, Parthy Hawks, a domineering woman, and their beautiful daughter, Magnolia, share their lives with a variegated assortment of river show folks. As the "Cotton Blossom" wends it way upriver we share the laughter and tears of these people.

Magnolia meets a debonair gambler, Gaylord Ravenal, and they fall in love. Others' paths do not run so smoothly.

Joe tells us all that when all is said and done "Ole Man River" will still be the same, no matter what happens to us.

As the first act draws to a close the romance of Magnolia and Ravenal culminates in a gay levee wedding.

The second act opens a few years later on the gay Midway of the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. We pick up the scattered threads of our characters' lives. We find many things changed and feel there is much more to unfold.

As we near the end of our story we find ourselves in yet another colorful era, the '20's, where we complete the chain and close the curtains on the Show Boat.



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#### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Danville Light Opera Company would like you to know about its scholarships given each spring to graduating seniors within the county.

This season will mark the seventh year the scholarship program has been in existence. Auditions will be held in early spring. The size of the awards given last year was \$100 each.

Winners are selected on the basis of scholarship, desire to further musical education, musical ability and achievement, attitude, integrity, citizenship and personality. In addition, they will undergo competitive auditions and individual interviews.

Both instrumental and vocal knowledge are represented in the choice of the audition judges.

Our scholarships are known as the Charles R. Suycott-Velma Dupree Memorial Musical Awards in memory of two Danville residents who contributed much to the growth and success of the Danville Light Opera Company.

The Scholarship Committee consists of: Dale Everts, Chairman; Richard Hall, Barbara Bowles, Harold French, Dr. Jack Baldwin and Dr. R. J. Westwater. These are all past presidents.

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#### **OUR LEADS**

JERRY ROSS (Li'1 Abner) was last seen as Lancelot in the Danville Light Opera production, "Camelot", where he stopped the show with his electrifying second act opener, "If Ever I Would Leave You". A romantic baritone, Jerry also was cast as Lt. Cable in "South Pacific". He has been a member of Light Opera for ten years and has made innumerable solo appearances for organizations, publicity, weddings, television and radio. Jerry is now studying voice with LeRoy Hamp, retired Professor of Music at the University of Illinois.

He and his wife, Marilyn, and two daughters live in Catlin. Jerry works at R&S in Danville.

BARBARA SHOTTS (Daisy Mae) was last seen as Lis1 in the 1964 Light Opera production of "The Sound of Music". She has worked in two summer shows for the company. She is now a senior at D.H.S. where she sings in the a capella choir. She has also participated in two Red Mask children's shows.

ELAINE FRANCE (Mammy Yokum) has appeared in eleven previous Light Opera Shows and two summer shows. She was one of the singing nuns in "The Sound of Music", one of the King's wives in "The King and I", and appeared as Poopsie in "Pajama Game". She and her husband, Eldon, and their eight-year-old daughter live in Covington, Indiana, where Elaine sings in the choir at the West Liberty Church of Christ. She leads a young people's choir there, also.

JOHN WELCH (Marryin' Sam) began stage work at the age of six when he played the role of Peter John Marshall in "A Man Called Peter". He began speech work in the fifth grade in Kankakee and since then has racked up a long, beautiful record of first place ribbons and medals in district, sectional and state speech contests. He has also won first place in numerous talent shows. A senior at D.H.S., he is presently involved in tryouts for the European Tour with the Illinois Allstate Choirs. He loves all types of music and in addition to singing, plays the drums, Bb clarinet, bass clarinet, violin and harmonica. He is planning a career in Special Education.

BARRY BLOUGH (Pappy Yokum) is a newcomer to Danville Light Opera shows. He is a graduate of D.H.S., class of '63, where he was a member of the a capella choir, the band, and a member of a combo, The Temptations.

He and his wife, Jo Anna, have a daughter, Carolyn, sixteen months old. Barry is employed at G.E. in the Plant Layout Department.

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