

OUR DIRECTORS

JAMES D. BEEBE (Director) holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois Wesleyan University, with a minor in dramatics and a Master of Music Education degree from the University of Illinois.

Jim is in his second year as Band and Chorus Director at Ridge Farm High School. He has taught at Danville Junior College and Danville High School. His wife, Joy, is Vocal Coordinator for District 118 Elementary Schools.

Prior to their assignments in Danville, the Beebes' taught in Mazon and Gilman, where they co-directed four high school musicals; "Oklahoma", "South Pacific", "Amahl and the Night Visitors" and "Music Man". Jim was the organizer and director of the Iroquois Players in Watseka.

In Wesleyan's summer stock he was musical director and appeared in "Brides of March", "The Wayward Way" and "Plain and Fancy". While working as assistant technical director at Boulder Hill Playhouse in Aurora, he appeared in "Pajama Game" and "Sunrise at Campobello". Jim directed two shows for Kankakee Little Theatre. Since moving to Danville he appeared on stage in the Red Mask productions of "Come Blow Your Horn" and "Plaza Suite" and directed DLO's "Hello Dolly". He has directed two shows at Stage One and "Fiddler on the Roof" in Williamsport, Ind. He is choir director and organist at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church where he also is a youth group leader and member of the Church Board. He is a member of Musicians Union Local #90 and has played in the Danville Municipal Band. Jim is a member of the Valley of Danville Consistory and accompanist for the Scottish Rite Chorus and member of the Scottish Rite Band. The Beebes' have two children: Danielle and Stephen.

JOAN FOYER (Assistant Director) is married to Ramon Foyer and they have four children: Beth, Debbie, RC, and Michele. Joan appeared as Yum Yum in "The Mikado" at Schlarman High School and while attending Duquoin on a scholarship from Danville Womens Club she played Magnolia in "Showboat". She attended St. Xavier College in Chicago for two years and was soloist with the glee club. Attending Illinois State Univeristy she sang female lead in summer production of "Prima Donna".

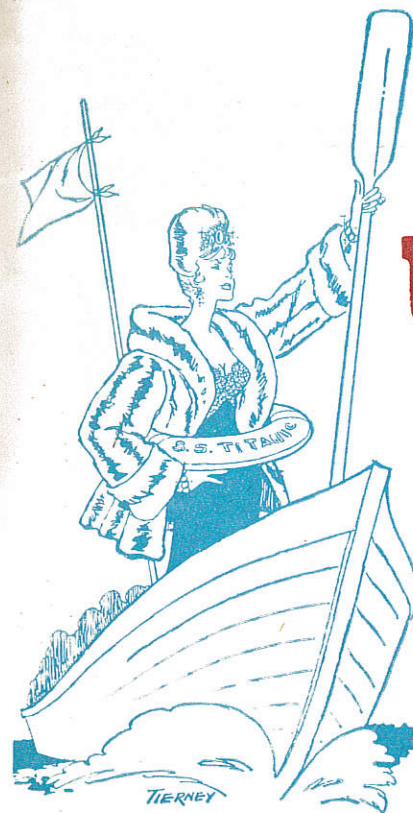
One of DLO's hard workers, Joan has appeared in six DLO productions, "Carousel", "Sound of Music", "Showboat", "Kismet", "Hello Dolly" and "Fiddler on the Roof". She also directed two DLO's summer shows, one at Purdue and one at Covington.

Last spring she directed Schlarman's "Kiss Me Kate". She is also a DLO board member having served two years as secretary, she also served as costume chairman, publicity chairman and on the show selection committee. Joan sings in and directs St. Mary's (Westville) Church Choir and leads the Carol Sing in Westville yearly.

LYNDA GARD (Choreographer) has been in the chorus and danced in DLO's "Kiss Me Kate", "On A Clear Day" and "Bells are Ringing". She started her dance training at the Cromwell School of Dance, and has danced and choreographed in several DHS music programs. Lynda attended a dance workshop at the Utah State University after high school graduation. There she was introduced to modern, ethnic and pre-classic dance which were taught by professionals such as Matteo and Gertrude Shurr. She also majored in dance at Illinois State University. At the present she is teaching dancing at the Danville Recreation Department.

STEVE BLAZAITIS (Choreographer) has been in the last three DLO productions and at Stage One last summer. Before graduation last spring from Westville High he studied for 15 years with Warren Clock and Larry O'Neil of the Academy of Dance in Georgetown. During this time he danced with Debbie Carter all over Illinois and parts of Indiana and participated in Danville Park Shows. Steve helped Joan Foyer with DLO's "Kiss Me Kate" and "Mame" in which his little brother Todd had the role of Young Patrick. He is now attending Danville Junior College and plans to go into choreography and the theatre.

Danville Light Opera presents



THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN

Music & Lyrics by **MEREDITH WILLSON**
Book by **RICHARD MORRIS**

MASONIC TEMPLE
109 W. North
DEC. 7-8-9 8:00 P.M.

The Real Molly Brown

The real-life Mrs. Brown around whom "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" spins its tuneful, romantic story, differed only in a few details from the portrait limned by librettist Richard Morris is this major Broadway musical hit. She was indeed a raga-muffin who rose out of a hillybilly's shanty in Hannibal, Mo., by way of a Colorado mining camp's saloon, into wealth and social position, after marrying the famous Leadville Johnny Brown, who made a silver-mine strike of nearly the same value as the Comstock Lode.

The only liberties with her real story that librettist Morris took were in regard to dates. Actually the Molly Tobin who became Mrs. Brown was born in Hannibal, Mo., around 1860, met and married Johnny Brown in Leadville, Colo., in the early eighties, fought and scrabbled for social recognition in Denver on the basis of her husband's wealth in the late eighties and nineties, and was a widow in her mid-fifties when, in 1912, she was shipwrecked in the disastrous sinking of the Titanic, and by sheer determination kept her lifeboat afloat to earn an international sobriquet as "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

In "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" Molly and her husband meet and marry and besiege Denver society all in the few years preceding that terrible night of April 15, 1912, when the Titanic sank in the north Atlantic. The audience sees her as a young woman still under thirty keeping her lifeboat afloat by outrowing the men in it and forcing them at gunpoint to keep rowing -- this on a voyage home from Europe to rejoin her husband for a "They-live-happily-ever-afterward" ending of the musical.

Until that fateful collision of the Titanic with the iceberg, the real Molly Brown has been strictly a Denver phenomenon -- a woman snubbed by established matrons of society despite her fabulous wealth, because she was "impossible." The town's established families continually buzzed with tales of her pushiness and vulgarity, and with the unanimous decision of social leaders to exclude her from their homes and their lives -- despite her having bought her way into aristocratic (and parasitic) circles of Europe.

But Mrs. Brown stopped being merely a local gossip-item in Denver and became a famous international figure through having been aboard the Titanic on its ill-fated voyage, and through her dogged refusal to sink with it.

The widely reported stories about that shipwreck that startled the quiet pre-war world, all featured the tale of how one of the lifeboats was kept afloat through the gritty determination of one of its occupants. Mrs. Brown, in an evening dress and a fur coat, took authoritarian charge of the boat tossing on the dank, cold, dark Atlantic, and by sheer bluster and habit of command made the men in the boat keep rowing no matter how their hands blistered and bled, until they were picked up by a rescuing ship.

She thereby saved the lives of 39 other persons in addition to her own. The newspaper reports flashing round the world, celebrating her heroism, all called her "The Unsinkable Molly Brown." Denver society people, who tried to sink her for 25 years, and knew of her dauntless determination, were agreed that the sobriquet was just.

Her legend has continued in Denver to this day. Gene Fowler brought it back to vivid national attention in his recollections of his newspapering days in Denver, "Timberline." Two memorials to the fabulously-fortuned Browns remain in Denver today -- the Brown Palace Hotel, built by Leadville Johnny Brown and still the city's Number One Hotel, and the Hugh Brown mansion on Pennsylvania Avenue, become now -- as have so many great mansions of the past in all American cities -- a run-down boarding house.

The Molly Brown legend is still so much alive in Denver that when "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" was sent on tour, following its long-run success in New York, it was booked for a whole week in Denver, which ordinarily is a three-night or four-night stand for shows touring to or from the Pacific Coast. This was clearly not enough, as the whole city excitedly tried to get in to see the show about its fabled Mrs. Brown. After the show played its engagements in California, it was booked to play two more full weeks in Denver on its way back east.

During those two weeks, the show, playing in a big auditorium, sold every available seat. There hadn't been so much excitement in Denver since Molly herself gave her sumptuous parties that everybody of consequence took pains not to attend. Grandchildren of the families who had ignored Molly during her battling lifetime called on her at last.



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Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Erlich
Mrs. S. Halpern
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Mr. & Mrs. Rector
M. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Harold French

DANVILLE LIGHT OPERA PRESENTS

THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN

AN AMERICAN LEGEND

Book by
Richard Morris

Music & Lyrics by
Meredith Willson

Produced on the New York stage by the Theatre Guild & Dore Schary.
Presented at the Wintergarden Theatre, New York, N.Y. November 3, 1960.

Kutch FLORIST

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"The Unsinkable Molly Brown" is produced by arrangement with, and the music dialogue material furnished by Music Theatre International (a division of Frank Music, Corp.) 119 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.



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"THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN"

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance)

Molly Tobin	Jamie Briggs
Michael Tobin	Mike McCollum
Aloysius Tobin } Brothers	Todd Greenburg
Patrick Tobin }	Rick Lenover
Father Flynn	Corky Rennick
Shamus Tobin	Vance Kercheval
Brawling Miners	Ron Demlow, Steve Lenover, Dann Miller, Steve Blazaitis, Mike Starkey.
Charlie	Bob Dickinson
Christmas Morgan	Dave Smith
Burt	Dick Lenover
Banjo	Earle Roberts
Prostitutes	Beth Bowers, Julie Mann, Cindy Jones, Julie Hankins, Alinda Dickinson, Jane Fairchild.
Johnny "Leadville" Brown	Joe Grant
Two Ladies	Alinda Dickinson & Jane Fairchild
Denver Police	Steve Blazaitis, Todd Greenburg, Mike Starkey, Dann Miller.
Mrs. McGlone	Mary Lou Spain
Monsignor Ryan	Mike Pritchard
Roberts	James Norman
Professor Gardella	Mark Ferrell
Germaine	Sara Jo Ward
Princess DeLong	Becky Grant
Prince DeLong	Dale Ferrell



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(continued)

Countess Ethanoutous	Marilu McCollum
Jenab Ashros	Brad Schofield
The Grand Duchess Marie Nicholaïouna	Karen Kreiling
Count Feranti	George Mabis
Duchess of Burlingame	Sheryl Goodner
Duke of Burlingame	Mark Ferrell
The Baroness of Auld	Linda Cook
The Baron of Auld	Terry Koebrich
Malcolm Broderick	Robert J. Westwater
Mrs. Wadlington	Jennie Bowers
Mr. Wadlington	Corky Rennick
Waiter	Mike Starkey
Maitre D'	Brad Schofield
Male Passenger	Ron dela Vega
Mother	Bunny Lenover
Wounded Sailor	Todd Greenburg
Denver People	Janice Mann, Cleo Spading, Joan Kaellner, Mary Weil, Rick Lenover, Bunny Lenover, Fred Majors, George Mabis, Craig Bott.
Maids	Cindy Jones, Beth Bowers, Julie Mann, Julie Hankins.

Director	Assistant Director	Show Coordinator
James Beebe	Joan Foyer	Louise McCollum

Choreographers: Lynda Gard & Steve Blazaitis

Orchestral Accompaniment: (Members of Local No. 90)

Pianist: Bev Anders Organist: Louise McCollum Drums: Watcha McCollum

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SCENES AND MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

ACT I

- OVERTUREOrchestra
- Scene 1: Exterior of the Tobin Shack, Hannibal, Missouri. Early 1900's.
"I Ain't Down Yet"Molly & Brothers
- Scene 2: Exterior Saddle Rock Saloon, Leadville, Colorado.
"Colorado, My Home" Johnny
- Scene 3: The Saddle Rock Saloon, Leadville, Colorado. Weeks later.
"Belly Up to the Bar, Boys" Molly, Christmas
and the miners
- Scene 4: A street in front of the Saddle Rock, Sunday night, Three weeks later.
"I've A'Ready Started In" Johnny
- Scene 5: Johnny's Cabin, A month later.
"I'll Never Say No" Johnny
"My Own Brass Bed" Molly
- Scene 6: On the road to Johnny's cabin. Three weeks later.
- Scene 7: Johnny's cabin. Immediately following.
- Scene 8: Pennsylvania Avenue, Denver. An evening six months later.
"The Denver Police" 3 Denver Policemen
- Scene 9: The terrace of Mrs. McGlone's Denver Mansion. Immediately following.
"Beautiful People of Denver" Molly
"Are You Sure" Molly, Monsignor, and Guests
- Scene 10: Pennsylvania Avenue. Immediately following.
- Scene 11: The Red Parlor of the Brown's Denver mansion.
The evening of their housewarming.
"I Ain't Down Yet" (Reprise) Molly & Johnny

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ACT II

- Scene 1: The Brown's Paris Salon. A spring afternoon, years later.
"Happy Birthday, Mrs. J. J. Brown"Princess DeLong,
Prince DeLong and International set
"Bon Jour" Molly, Prince DeLong
and International set
"If I Knew"Johnny
 - Scene 2: Upper hallway of the Brown's Denver mansion.
An evening a month later.
"Chick-a-pen" Molly & Johnny
 - Scene 3: The Red Parlor. 8 P.M. that evening.
 - Scene 4: Pennsylvania Avenue. Immediately following.
 - Scene 5: The Red Parlor. The next morning.
 - Scene 6: The street in front of Saddle Rock. Months later.
"Keep A' Hoppin'"Johnny and Leadville Friends
"Johnny's Soliloque'" Johnny
 - Scene 7: A club off the Casino at Monte Carlo. Early spring 1912.
"Dolce Far Niente" Prince DeLong
 - Scene 8: Outside the club. A moment later.
"Dolce Far Niente" (Reprise) Prince DeLong
 - Scene 9: The Mid-Atlantic shortly after 2:30 a.m., April 15, 1912.
 - Scene 10: Upper hallway of the Brown's Denver mansion.
 - Scene 11: A pine grove in the Rockies.
 - Scene 12: The Rockies
- FI NALE

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"Merry Widow" (Spring 1956)	"Calamity Jane" (Spring 1964)
"No, No Nanette" (Fall 1956)	"The Sound of Music" (Fall 1964)
"Connecticut Yankee" (Spring 1957)	"The Pajama Game" (Spring 1965)
"Brigadoon" (Fall 1957)	"The King and I" (Fall 1965)
"New Moon" (Spring 1958)	"The Student Prince" (Spring 1966)
"Show Boat" (Fall 1958)	"Camelot" (Fall 1966)
"Naughty Marietta" (Spring 1959)	"Guys and Dolls" (Spring 1967)
"Oklahoma" (Fall 1959)	"Li'l Abner" (Fall 1967)
"Of Thee I Sing" (Spring 1960)	"Show Boat" (Spring 1968)
"South Pacific" (Fall 1960)	"Bye Bye Birdie" (Fall 1968)
"Red Mill" (Spring 1961)	"Kiss Me, Kate" (Spring 1969)
"Annie Get You Gun" (Fall 1961)	"On A Clear Day" (Fall 1969)
"Desert Song" (Spring 1962)	"Bells Are Ringing" (Spring 1970)
"Carousel" (Fall 1962)	"Hello, Dolly" (Spring 1971)
"Music Man" (Spring 1963)	"Fiddler on the Roof" (Fall 1971)
"Kismet" (Fall 1963)	"Mame" (Spring 1972)

Red Mask Players

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TRYOUTS:
 DEC. 10 & 11
 7:30 p.m.

SHOW DATES:
 FEB. 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24
 8:15 P.M.

— Katherine Randolph Theatre —

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 Hand Properties..... Joy Hiten
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 Makeup..... Joy Beebe
 Memberships..... Vance Kercheval
 Rehearsal Pianist..... Bev Anders
 Set Design..... Jim Beebe
 Set Construction..... Duke Lawley
 Stage Manager..... Sam Page
 Stage Crew..... The Cast
 Stage Properties..... Honore Ronan

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