

Cast Biography *(in order of appearance)*

DeLanna Studie (*Corrie Bratter*). . . We can't say DeLanna is new to our stage anymore. Too young to be called veteran and too talented to be called neophyte, in this her fourth FSLT production, she has gone from bit parts to leading roles in one year. We are happy she finds the time for us, which isn't easy since she attends Northeastern University at Tahlequah and is gainfully employed at the Bingo Palace across the river.

Clark Risley (*Telephone Man*). . . "Yet another chance to let it all hang out on stage. Thank goodness for suspenders. Few have understood the integral part the telephone man plays in this production. Perhaps some scholar will one day do his dissertation on how this humble, blue-collar worker influences us all."

Ron Watson (*Delivery Man*). . . Ron is a Fort Smith native, FSLT veteran actor and set designer – who in his spare time designs furniture, collects frequent flyer miles, and sings but not in this play. Instead, he wheezes. One line and wheezing is a snap part to learn. Watch him steal the show or just the first act.

Dwayne Walden (*Paul Bratter*). . . This is Dwayne's first appearance at FSLT. He is a fine musician and singer of opera, jazz, musical comedy and church music. Now you will see him as an accomplished actor who doesn't sing a note in this play – well, maybe two or three. Welcome to the FSLT boards, Dwayne.

Nancy Blochberger (*Ethel Banks*). . . "I think Ethel could be a role model for us all. Beneath her sarcastic humor and periodic bouts of hysteria, lies a caring, concerned individual. I've enjoyed making new friends and the chance to be on stage with some old ones (no pun intended, Jim)."

Jim Moody (*Victor Velasco*). . . "I always wanted to be in this play. I thought I would get to play Robert Redford in his wonder years, instead I'm playing Charles Boyer in his golden years – ah, as time goes by!"



The Fort Smith Little Theatre presents

Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park



**Directed by
Michael Newcity**

Produced by arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Cast (in order of appearance)

Corrie Bratter. DeLanna Studie
Telephone Man. Clark Risley
Delivery Man. Ron Watson
Paul Bratter. Dwayne Walden
Ethel Banks. Nancy Blochberger
Victor Velasco. Jim Moody

Crew

Director. Michael Newcity
Producer. Katy Boulden
Stage Manager. Wendy Quick
Set Design. Ron Watson
Set Artwork. Brand Whitlock
Set Construction. Marshall Newcity
Cast & Crew
Props. Laura LaRue
Phanita Williams
Jason Wilson
Costumes. Kay Birkhead
Make-up. Heather Newcity
Lights & Sound. John Gallagher
John-Mark Scales
Douglas Barr
Photography. Gale Beckman

Director's Notes

Neil Simon's *Barefoot in the Park* was first presented in New York's Biltmore Theater on October 23, 1963. It featured Elizabeth Ashley, Robert Redford, Mildred Natwick, and Kurt Kasner. In 1964, Mike Nichols received a Tony Award for his direction of the play. One of Simon's most recognized and beloved works, the show enjoyed a long Broadway run, and is a classic American movie.

This wonderful comedy first appeared on the FSLT stage 30 years ago in 1967; however, the humor and situations found in *Barefoot* are timeless. A great cast and able crew have diligently worked to breathe life once again into this inspiring production. Late-night set construction and weekend rehearsals were common.

Special thanks are in order to Katy Boulden for the time, effort, and guidance she has given in helping a new director learn to manage his time wisely, put forth the effort needed to complete the task, and to guide a project with a vision in mind.

Many thanks to the cast and crew for giving freely of your ample skills and limited time. And thanks to the FSLT patrons for your continued support of community theatre.

Shama Shama,
Michael Newcity