

11 | 2001

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Carl McCauley:** He has been active at the FSLT since 1969 - acting, directing, and helping back stage. He prefers acting because it is very satisfying to create a character for the stage.

**Katy Boulden:** Her weight and age are her business, but she is certainly old enough to identify with Ethel. She has been active at FSLT since the 1970's on stage, back stage, and as a Board member. As a director, she loves to see a show "come together." As a producer, she likes to see a show make money. As an actor, she wants to remember her lines.

**Robert Ledbetter:** This is Rob's third time on the FSLT stage in two years. He has played a man who lost the girl (*Proposals*), a man who got the girl (*Any Wednesday*) and in *On Golden Pond* he is just a good old boy with a boat. Off stage Rob is a husband to a beautiful blonde wife and father to a young son who loves to play football and a younger daughter who has promise in the vamp department. He just started his own business, MidSouth Sales, earlier this year. If you notice a car around town with a bumper sticker that reads "Support Your Local Actor and Entrepreneur" honk and wave, it's Rob.

**Grayce DeWitt:** She trips the light fantastic with panache and also teaches others to do so. She is a mentor to many young people with terpsichorean talent. She is the owner of Grayce DeWitt Dance Studio. Her talents don't stop there. Grayce has been active in numerous FSLT productions in whatever capacity she is needed. Her first lead performance at FSLT was in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Her last appearance on our stage was in *Proposals*. She also has the annoying habit of knowing her lines before the rest of the cast. She has been forgiven that because this recipient of a Civic Center Award is so dependable and pretty too.

**Joshua Reinman:** Josh is in the ninth grade at Ramsey Jr. High, where he enjoys playing baritone in the band. He loves football, plays soccer, and, like all teenagers, enjoys talking on the phone and "the mall." He loves to cook and wants to follow in his father's footsteps and become a chef trained in Europe. This is Josh's first experience in the theatre.

**Judd Reinman:** He is a native Bostonian, who was transplanted to California. He served four years in the Army, where he fought as a light middleweight for the 82nd Airborne Boxing Team, followed by a Golden Glove Championship. After Army life, he attended culinary school in California. He has served as an accomplished chef in many premiere seaside restaurants in the San Francisco Bay area. He has owned his own restaurant, is the former Executive Chef of Folie A Deux, and is currently the manager of the local TGI Fridays. He has show biz roots, his father is a classical jazz musician on Broadway and his mother was a Vaudeville dancer and acrobat who traveled with the USO, singing and dancing with Judy Garland, the Andrews Sisters, and Bella LaGose. This is his first appearance at FSLT, but hopefully not his last.

# ON GOLDEN POND

A Play By Ernest Thompson  
Directed by Jim Moody

*Produced by special arrangement with  
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.*

## CHARACTERS

Norman Thayer, Jr. ....	Carl McCauley
Ethel Thayer .....	Katy Boulden
Charlie Martin .....	Robert Ledbetter
Chelsea Thayer Wayne .....	Grayce DeWitt
Billy Ray .....	Joshua Reinman
Bill Ray .....	Judd Reinman

**Place:** The Thayer's summer home, Golden Pond, Maine

### Act I

- Scene 1 - middle of May, early afternoon
- Scene 2 - middle of June, mid-afternoon
- Scene 3 - middle of July, early afternoon

### Act II

- Scene 1 - middle of August, early morning
- Scene 2 - middle of September, late morning

## CREW

Director .....	Jim Moody
Producer .....	Fran Milam
Prompter .....	Martha Gooden
Set Design .....	Gary Tipton
Set Dressing .....	Grayce DeWitt, Debbie Carney
Set Construction .....	Gary Tipton, Scott Ketten, Rick Henning
Costumes .....	Jane Ann Short, Hazel Ann Oliver
Props .....	Laura LaRue, Martha Gooden, Cassie Champion
Stage Manager .....	John Gallagher
Light Design .....	Bob Stevenson
Lights .....	Matt Burris

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Special Thank You to the Following:

Debbie Carney, Bruce Birkhead, Cindy Farrell, Jim Perry, Lynn Smith,  
Stephen Holmes, Tressa Johnson, Lily Rogers, Melissa Webb

## STORY

This is the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-fourth year. He is a retired professor, nearing eighty, with heart palpitations and a failing memory - but still as tart-tongued, observant and eager for life as ever. Ethel, ten years younger, and the perfect foil for Norman, delights in all the small things which have enriched, and continue to enrich their long life together. They are visited by their divorced, middle-aged daughter and her dentist fiancé, who then go off to Europe, leaving his teenage son behind for the summer. The boy quickly becomes the "grand-child" the elderly couple has longed for, and as Norman revels in taking his ward fishing and thrusting good books at him, he also learns some lessons about modern teenage awareness - and slang - in return. In the end, as the summer wanes, so does their brief idyll, and in the final, deeply moving moments of the play, Norman and Ethel are brought even closer together by the incidence of a mild heart attack. Time, they know, is now against them, but the years have been good and, perhaps, another summer on Golden Pond still awaits.

### From the Director:

You sit here waiting for the play to begin. You look at the set trying to see if it looks like the one in the movie. You wonder if Carl and Katy can compete with Hank and Kate. You think about what's been happening in our world lately and you wish the play were a little funnier and not quite so serious. What you don't know is your memory lies. *On Golden Pond* isn't a strum and dang drama. Ernest Thompson wrote a life-affirming look at life in its closing years and he wrote a play laced with humor - sometimes subtle and sometimes not so subtle; but, it is definitely humorous. For me *On Golden Pond* summons up the kind of summers we all wish we could return to from our youth or the kind we hope we have waiting in our own "golding" years. Summers filled with doing only what we want to do, with people we want to be with us. Those truly golden summers of memories or dreams. One important theme in the play is about making choices that affirm life. Norman, who has always dwelt on death, finds a new lease on life and embraces it. Chelsea, who has let herself be trapped by the past, says a difficult farewell and finds a much more rewarding life awaiting her. Ethel, who has always been the optimist and has tried to keep her husband and daughter focused on life, finally has to face death and finds it is not such a frightening thing. The amazing thing is that with themes as heavy as these, the play is filled with laughter. As rehearsals continued I found myself going from smiles of recognition to real peals of laughter as this talented cast mined the dialogue for both the truth and the humor. The sincere hope of this production group, both backstage and onstage, is that when you leave the theatre tonight, that you leave with a sense of seeing life anew and that you realize that somewhere Golden Pond and those wonderful summers wait for you. Our hope is not that it's just in your memory but also in your dreams. **Choose life!**

**Jim Moody**