

ED FLETCHER'S EARLY BIRD DINNER THEATRE

727-446-5898

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Special Interest:

- Early Bird Review
- Producer Spotlight
- 2011 Season

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200 South McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, FL 33759
www.EarlyBirdDinnerTheatre.com

Early Bird Ranks High on Gulf Coast Dinner Theatre Circuit

Brett Wilson, who owns a touring company in Florida, wrote an article entitled "Best Dinner Theatres on Florida's Gulf Coast: Top Three Dinner Theatres."

Mr. Wilson writes that "the most popular motor coach day trips" his company makes are to dinner theatres. He goes on to state, "These trips are a favorite of the senior market due to the value and quality of the dinner theatres we patronize."

The author rated dinner theatres on three factors: performances, service and food quality.

The very first theatre on his list was the Early Bird Dinner Theatre!



Buses lined up in the Early Bird Parking Lot

Mr. Wilson was quick to note our reasonable price for dinner and a show, adding that the buffet is one of his favorites and the cast members are very talented.

He also commended our pre-show entertainer, Mark Atcher, as a very talented guitarist.

We're very grateful to Mr. Wilson for such a lovely article, and for bringing his patrons to our dinner theatre.

So, if you haven't dropped by in a while, do come and visit us. You won't be disappointed!

Don't forget: *The Dixie Swim Club* runs until February 27, 2011.

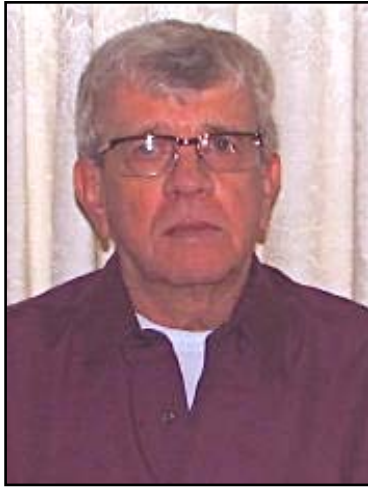
Call now for to make a reservation. This is one show you won't want to miss!



**For Reservations
Call
727-446-5898**

Patrons enjoy an excellent buffet meal before the show

Producer's Spotlight: Ed Fletcher



Producer, Ed Fletcher

In our very first issue of the Early Bird Newsletter, we wrote about the origins of our theatre and how Founder and Producer, Ed Fletcher, has been at the helm all along.

Now that we have had so many new patrons coming to the theatre, we thought that the story was worth repeating!

Ed Fletcher retired at the early age of forty. However, as a natural born entrepreneur, he did not go quietly into the world of retirement. Fletcher opened a successful Art Gallery business in the Tampa Bay area that flourished for years.

In the mid-1980's, he sold the Art Galleries and decided to write and produce his own screenplay. It was during that production that he began to discover how many talented actors there were in the Clearwater area.

After the film was produced, Ed decided that these actors needed a theatre, and another career was born. He began his search and found a man who owned three restaurants. Fletcher jumped in and opened three dinner theatres in Seminole, Dunedin and New Port Richey. Now, local actors had three venues in which to work!

When the restaurant owner retired in 1990, Ed quickly found a new venue at a banquet hall on Fort Harrison Street in downtown Clearwater. He built a stage and the theatre opened that same year. In fact, the very first production was the ever-successful show *Social Security*.

The concept behind Early Bird Dinner Theatre is a simple one that meets the needs of the patrons. Ed knew that there were a lot of people who loved getting out for dinner and seeing a show, but still wanted to get home at an early hour.

Thus, Early Bird Dinner Theatre was born.

The formula behind this simple yet very effective idea was a smash hit, and

the theatre remained at the Fort Harrison location for sixteen successful years.

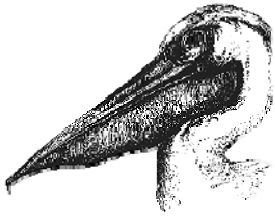
When the owner of that banquet hall retired, the theatre moved to its current location on McMullen Booth Road at the Italian American Club. Once again, Ed set to work to expand the stage and make improvements that would enhance productions.

Early Bird is now in its fifth successful season in our new venue.

“There’s no doubt about it,” says Mr. Fletcher, “if you’re looking for excellent dining and exciting professional entertainment, the Early Bird Dinner Theatre is the best in the area.”

After almost twenty-five years of successful productions that bring great pleasure to both patrons and local actors, Ed Fletcher should know!

Those of us who love theatre are very grateful to Ed for all his effort to keep theatre alive and well in Tampa Bay.



Early Bird Dinner Theatre

200 South McMullen Booth Rd.
Clearwater, FL 33759

Phone:
(727) 446-5898

E-Mail:
Newsletter@EarlyBirdDinnerTheatre.com



Make sure you check our website often for upcoming news.

Earlybirddinnertheatre.com

Up Next: "Sex Please, We're Sixty!"

Get ready for ***Sex Please, We're Sixty***, another hilarious American farce by Michael and Susan Parker. To be honest, the actors are going to enjoy this show as much as the patrons! We've been having a lot of fun with our rehearsals.

The farce takes place at a Bed and Breakfast where a mix-up occurs between the men and women with a libido boosting pharmaceutical. A retired chemist invents a little blue pill that's designed to enhance amorous desires in menopausal women. Imagine what would happen if the men mistakenly take the pills? We'll only tell you that you'll laugh yourself silly watching their hot flashes, tears and hysterical reactions. This delightful storyline is sure to entertain and enlighten everyone's thinking about the sexual prowess of all the sixty-plus folks. Expect plenty of twists and turns and enjoy non-stop laughter while being reminded that sixty-plus is indeed sexy!

Artistic Director Robin New has assembled a great cast that includes: Toby Manion; Barbara Anthony; Tracy Borgatti; Brent Ballard; Midge Mamatas and Jennifer Sloane.

Sex Please, We're Sixty
opens March 3rd
and runs until April 24th, 2011

Get Your Ducks in a Row for Our 2011 Season

Now Playing: *The Dixie Swim Club*: Runs until February 27, 2011

Next up: *Sex Please, We're Sixty*: March 3 - April 24, 2011

Don't Dress for Dinner: April 28 - June 19, 2011

Last of the Red Hot Lovers: July 14 - September 2, 2011

Leading Ladies: September 8 – October 30, 2011

The Sensuous Senator: November 3 – December 23, 2011

For more information and details of upcoming shows, please visit our website:

Earlybirddinnertheatre.com

Patron Corner: We Love Hearing from You!

Thank you for writing to us and telling us how much you enjoy our shows! Keep those letters and emails coming. We welcome hearing about the special experiences you've had at the theatre. You can email us at the address listed below.

newsletter@earlybirddinnertheatre.com

We look forward to hearing from you!!!

Jennifer Sloane

Editor, Early Bird Newsletter