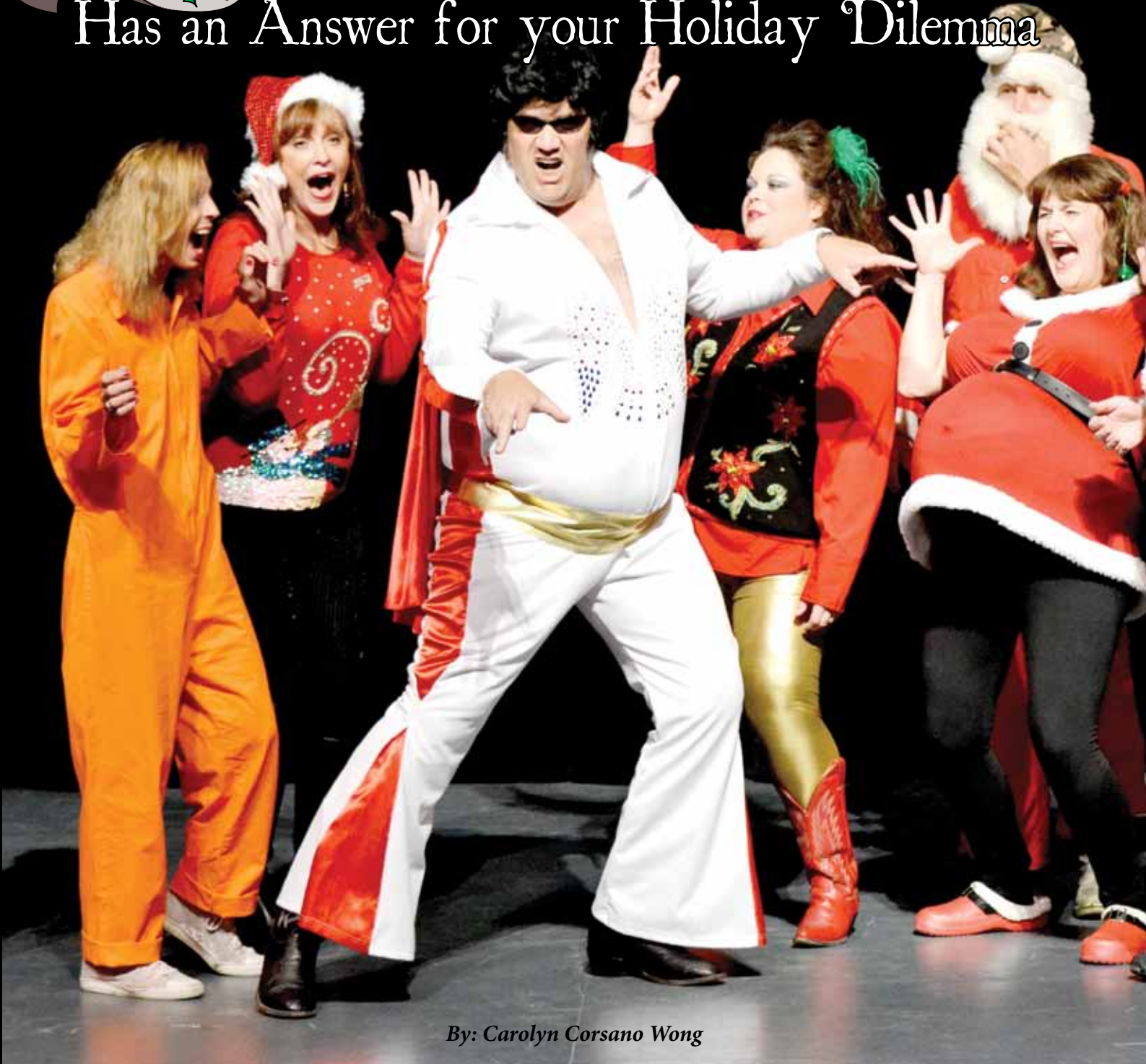




STAGE RIGHT

Has an Answer for your Holiday Dilemma



By: Carolyn Corsano Wong

The king is in the house - that's not the right King though!

Is your family coming to town for the holidays?

Have you found that spending time with family during the holidays is about like baptizing a cat; your heart may be in the right place but you wonder if all the scratching and fighting is worth it?

If so, we'd like to offer some ideas on what to do with your kin when they come to

call. Staying busy is one of the best ways to avoid a case of familial holiday havoc. With so much going on at the Crighton Theatre in December; you'll have lots to choose from to keep those relatives entertained.

If you'd like to see how a dysfunctional Texas family handles their holiday woes (and perhaps remind you a bit of your own) as they prepare for a church Christmas pro-

gram; head to the Crighton Dec. 3-19 to catch our return production of Jones, Hope and Wooten's CHRISTMAS BELLES. We formed STAGE RIGHT back in 2008 to keep the Crighton Theatre from standing dark at Christmas time. We picked the hilarious misadventures of the Futrelles of Fayro Texas for our very first show. It was so well received that folks hollered for us to bring it back and



so we have with most of the original cast returning. Hot-flash suffering Honey-Ray Futrelle will again be played by STAGE RIGHT regular and founder of Bravo Company (our theatre education wing) Amy Sowers. Dalin Woolery-Kennard returns as Honey-Ray's wide-eyed niece Gina Jo Dubberly. We're so happy to have Dalin re-

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Dalin Kennard and Patrick Slagle as Gina Jo and Justin

turn for this role as she fell ill during the production in 2008 and split the role with another actress. We're glad she's returned healthy and happily newly-married! Returning as Gina Jo's mom Frankie Futrelle Dubberly, who is weeks overdue with her second set of twins, will be Maria Sirgo. Frankie's kidney stone suffering husband Dub will be played by Katt Gilcrease. STAGE RIGHT audiences may remember Katt as having recently performed the role of Will Stockdale in our pro-

duction of NO TIME FOR SERGEANTS. The director of NO TIME, Carolyn Wong, will be returning to the boards as Geneva Musgrave the feisty owner of Boo Koo Bo Kay (Fayro's premiere and only floral shop and Greyhound Bus depot). Described as a 'walkin' talkin' happy pill' Rhonda-Lynn Lampley, owner of Fayro's Dairy Dog café, will again be played by Melody Montez. Tom Lockhart returns as Raynerd Chisum the town simpleton who quite possibly is the only one in Fayro who

knows what Christmas is all about. Will Elvis be making an appearance in Fayro's church Christmas pageant? Come see as Michael Raabe reprises his role of the hip-swiveling deputy sheriff John Curtis Buntner. Elvis wouldn't be making an appearance if Fayro's Patsy Price had her way. The snooty Patsy will once again be played by Cindy Tippens.

We have two new faces in our cast, both with a connection to our recent production of ANNIE. The middle Futrelle sister, Twink (who is serving time for inadvertently burning down half the town when in a jealous rage she lit her ex-boyfriend's NASCAR collectibles on fire), will be played by Cathy Reagan. Cathy recently moved to Texas from south Florida to help her sister run K9 Heeler. This was the dog training company that took Ginger the dog from the Montgomery County Animal Shelter for a week to train her prior to her appearance on stage as 'Sandy' in our production of ANNIE. And no, K9 Heeler didn't train Ginger to scratch herself when 'Annie' started singing Tomorrow. We think she found it got laughs and kept doing it! Another character that got many laughs in ANNIE was that of Drake, the unflappable butler in Daddy Warbuck's mansion. Drake was played by talented singer and actor Patrick Slagle. Patrick also appeared in the first installment of the Fayro trilogy DEARLY BELOVED as the heavily sedated Wiley Hicks. In CHRISTMAS BELLES, Patrick appears as Justin Waverly the interim pastor of the Tabernacle of the Lamb Church where Honey Raye is turning a traditional church Christmas pageant into a "Bethlehem-a-palooza!" Will Patrick's character be able to put the true meaning of Christmas into the pageant, and will he also get to ask Gina Jo Dubberly to be his bride? Come find out! Come to Fayro for a laugh-out-loud Christmas show and also remember, as the folks of Fayro do, what Christmas is all about. Tickets are only \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors and groups and \$12 for youth and groups of 20 or more. Season tickets for the remaining shows of our season (CHRISTMAS BELLES, ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE, HARVEY and THE MUSIC MAN) are only \$60 and include one free ticket to give as a gift to any show. Season tickets would make a great Christmas gift and can be purchased by calling the Crighton box office at 936-441-SHOW (7469). Information and show tickets can also be purchased online at www.stage-right.org.

If after seeing CHRISTMAS BELLES your relatives get a hankerin' for some down-home country music you'll want to bring them back to the Crighton on Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 8 pm for A Country Christmas with Ray Price. Sharity Productions will present Country Music Legend, Hall of Fame Member and Grammy Award Winner, Ray Price and his



Cherokee Cowboys Band with special performance by members of the Conroe Symphony Orchestra. Sponsorships from this event will benefit the Boy Scouts of America - Sam Houston Area Council, who are celebrating their 100th Birthday/Anniversary (100 Years of Scouting).

Famous for such songs as "Heart-aches by the Numbers", "Make the World Go Away", and "For the Good Times," singer, guitarist and arranger Ray Price has been bringing his lush baritone vocals to audiences for over 50 years and he's still 'got it'. If you weren't lucky enough to catch his sold out performance at the Crighton 3 years ago, don't miss this opportunity to see a Texas music legend. The careers of many country music superstars, such as Willie Nelson, Roger Miller, Johnny Paycheck, Darrell McCall, Buddy Emmons, and Johnny Bush, began with Ray Price and the Cherokee Cowboys. You will have 'heart-aches by the numbers' if you miss this!

One of the opening acts for Ray Price is K. R. WOOD AND THE CAMP COOKIE TRIO in a "Camp Cookie Christmas." Native Texan K.R. Wood has combined his love of Texas history and country music and developed a performance that takes the audience on a journey through the history of the Lone Star state with music and narration. K.R. brings history to life through his performances and his authentic Chuck Wagon in Texas schools.

Country Christian music artist Tom Lanza will also be performing prior to Ray Price. Lanza is the Pastor of the Harvest Family Church International Outreach in Conroe, Texas. He has recorded some top country Christian songs, one of which reached number 24 on the Nashville Pop 100 Chart for the genre.

Actor and folklorist Guich Koock will be Master of Ceremonies. Guich is famous for having perfected the 'good-ole boy' persona. His acting credits include TV appearances on "Carter Country" with Victor French, "Lewis and Clark" with Gabe

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Katt Gilcrease and Maria Sirgo as Dub & Frankie-just waiting



Cathy Reagan in Twink's 'jail-house jump suit' with the Futrelles and Rhonda-Lynn

Kaplan and "She's the Sheriff" with Suzanne Somers. He also appeared in some twenty movies such as "Sugarland Express", "North Dallas Forty", "Square Dance", "Murder in Texas" and "American Ninja".

Tickets for A Country Christmas with Ray Price are \$59 and can be purchased at (936) 441-7469 or online at www.crightontheatre.org, or at the Crighton box office weekday afternoons from 3-6 pm.

However you spend your holidays, we wish you a joyous and peaceful season. And in the words of Tiny Tim: "God help us every one." Of course we do know it's really "God Bless us every one" but when we're talking about family we need all the help we can get! ♦



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