

# ED FLETCHER'S EARLY BIRD DINNER THEATRE

## 727-446-5898

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### Special Interest:

- *Lovers and Other Strangers*
- Actor Spotlight
- 2010/2011 Season

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200 South McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater, FL 33759  
[www.EarlyBirdDinnerTheatre.com](http://www.EarlyBirdDinnerTheatre.com)

## LOVERS AND OTHER STRANGERS: Now Playing

Ed Fletcher's production of *Lovers and Other Strangers*, by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna is bound to make you laugh out loud.

This popular comedy was a Broadway hit several years before it became an Oscar winning film in 1971.

This show is delightful series of vignettes about the ever-perplexing relationships between men and women, and has four talented actors playing all twelve characters in the show.

In the first scene, Jerry tries desperately to bed Brenda, who coyly avoids his advances with her quick moves (on roller skates!) and her vast knowledge of feminism and relationships.

In the second scene, Hal and Cathy meet secretly during a party to finally come to terms over their five-year affair ... with hilarious results.

In scene three, we meet another couple when Mike bursts into his fiancée Susan's apartment at 4:00



Cast: (Left to Right) Charles W. Wilcox, Barbara Anthony Tracy Borgatti, and Toby Manion

a.m. with the worst case of pre-marital jitters you've ever seen. Susan's unwavering calmness saves the day.

When Act Two begins, we are introduced to Johnny and Wilma, a married couple embroiled in a very funny argument about whose turn it is to commence lovemaking.

All four cast members appear on stage together for the final scene. Frank and Bea, who have fought for over 30 years, try to save their son and daughter-in-law's marriage (Richie and Joan) by confessing their own failings ... in their own uniquely funny and memorable way.

Artistic Director, Robin New, has created a great cast that includes: Barbara Anthony, Tracy Borgatti, Toby Manion, and newcomer Charles W. Wilcox.

***Lovers and Other Strangers* runs until October 31, 2010.**

Call now for reservations. You don't want to miss this one.

See you at the show!

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

## ACTOR SPOTLIGHT: Charles W. Wilcox



Charles W. Wilcox

Charles Wilcox is currently appearing in multiple roles in the Early Bird Dinner Theatre's production of *Lovers and Other Strangers*.

While he's new to us at Early Bird, Chuck has been acting for a long time, and that's evident in the expert way he presents his talent, playing three very distinct and funny characters in the current show.

Chuck is an all around nice person with great wit and intelligence. He has found that while he's not a number's kind of guy, when it comes to the arts he perks up and will happily talk for hours about his passion for theatre.

Chuck was born and raised in Ritchie County, a small and very rural town in West Virginia. He discovered his love of entertaining at an early age. His first performance was as a young boy in grade school where he played a cow in *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Chuck laughed and said, "I still remember my two lines, 'Moo and Moo!'"

Acting in High School was problematic, as the gymnasium and the theatre were the same room and sports events usually won out over theatre. But when Chuck got into West Virginia University in Parkersburg, he got another chance to follow his dream. His first play there was *You Can't Take it With You*. He wasn't sure whether or not to audition when a gorgeous girl walked in. He immediately changed his mind, attended the audition and got the part of Boris Kolenkhov. Chuck adds that he didn't get the girl, but a career was born instead!

Chuck got his degree in Journalism along with the equivalent of a minor in Theatre. He joined the Actor's Guild of Parkersburg and began doing shows with them. He got the lead in the second show he did, and in the third show he won best performer from the Southeast Theatre Conference for his portrayal of Barry Kemper in *The Boys Next Door*.

While in Parkersburg, Chuck also worked for the local radio station continuing his interest in journalism by doing the news reports.

In 2000, Chuck came down to Florida with some friends and ended up moving here permanently in 2004. His first professional acting job in Florida was at Jobsite Theatre in *The Pillow Man*. He then went on to perform in many shows at both Gorilla and Hat Trick Theatres, including Eugene Ionesco's absurdist play *The Bald Soprano*.

Over the years, Chuck has worked at various jobs to support his love of theatre.

While Chuck wouldn't refuse a job in journalism, he finds they are hard to come by in Florida. He currently runs his own successful home-based business.

When we asked Chuck what it was about acting that kept him coming back for more, he said, "The stage is the one place I really feel at home. Attention seeking never appealed to me," he added. "It's entertaining people that makes me happy."

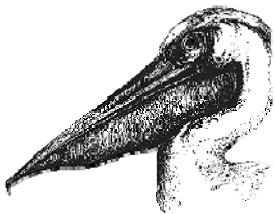
After his initial first performance in College, fear doesn't factor into the equation. Chuck said he read an article a few years ago that people's greatest fear was public speaking, but he's never had that fear. Lucky for us!

When asked about some of his favorite past roles, Chuck said that two of them were thrillers: Tony Wendes in *Dial M for Murder* and Harry Rhode, Jr. in *Wait until Dark*. Another favorite was Arnold Epstein in *Biloxi Blues*.

"I've found that comedies and thrillers are not as far apart as people might think," Chuck explained, and then added, "My dream is to play Victor in *Frankenstein* one day."

Currently Chuck is thoroughly enjoying Early Bird's production of *Lovers and Other Strangers*, playing the roles of Mike, Johnny, and Richie.

He wants to thank Robin New and Ed Fletcher for the opportunity to work at the theatre, and he said, "I also want to thank the cast for being ... incredible!" We're sure the feeling is mutual.



### Early Bird Dinner Theatre

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Make sure you check our website often for upcoming news.

[Earlybirddinnertheatre.com](http://Earlybirddinnertheatre.com)

*Producer*  
**Ed Fletcher**

*Artistic Director*  
**Robin New**

## NEXT UP: HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES

*How The Other Half Loves* will be opening on November 4, 2010.

British playwright Alan Ayckbourn, who penned over 73 full-length plays, wrote this popular hysterical farce.

*How the Other Half Loves* pulls us into the lives of three couples, in which all three husbands work for the same company. One of the younger men is having an affair with the wife of the oldest man. When each of them returns home suspiciously late one night, they decide to invent a story about having to spend time smoothing over some domestic matters in the home of the third couple.

Of course, the third couple shows up and that complication only adds more hilarity to this fabulous sidesplitting farce.

Artistic Director, Robin New, will be announcing her cast soon, and rehearsals will begin shortly.

Call early and make your reservations soon!

*How the Other Half Loves*  
opens on  
November 4, 2010

## Get Your Ducks in a Row for Our 2010/2011 Season

***NOW PLAYING:*** *Lovers and Other Strangers* from September 9 to October 31, 2010.

*How the Other Half Loves* from November 4 to December 26, 2010.

*The Dixie Swim Club* from January 6 to February 27, 2011

*Sex Please, We're Sixty* from March 3 to April 24, 2011

*Don't Dress for Dinner* from April 28 to June 19, 2011

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

[Earlybirddinnertheatre.com](http://Earlybirddinnertheatre.com)

## Patron Corner: Let's Hear from You!

Tell us about some special memories you've had at the theatre or tell us about one of your favorite shows, just send us an email at

[newsletter@earlybirddinnertheatre.com](mailto:newsletter@earlybirddinnertheatre.com)

We look forward to hearing from you!!!

*Jennifer Sloane*  
Editor, Early Bird Newsletter