

A Profile of Ms Ethelynd Baxley
{from the GLT program for "The Lion in Winter"}

A community theater for Gulfport was Mrs. Baxley's ambition during the years of the Great Depression. In 1946, when the effects of the depression receded, the Gulfport Little Theatre was founded by Mrs. Baxley and Lee & Betty Zollman.

Following its organization, Ethelynd Baxley has seen plays produced by Gulfport Little Theatre in the Gulfport Recreational Center, The Gulfport High School, the Markham Hotel and the temporary home on Second Street. During the Chairmanship of Tommy Meek, Tommy, his wife Bobby, and Mrs. Baxley cut the ribbon which opened the theater's first permanent home, named Zollman Playhouse, for Lee. Mrs. B. produced the first play presented there, *The Best Man*. The last performance to be given in that home was also directed by Mrs. B. The *Wizard of Oz* was presented on Saturday, August 16, 1969 and on Sunday, Hurricane Camille hit and carried the theater away. Mrs. B. kept a lively interest in the building of the new home, and tonight she is presenting her first play in it.

Mrs. Baxley has directed twenty-six major plays for Gulfport Little Theatre. The list includes comedies, dramas, mysteries, fantasies and children's stories. You name it, she has done it!

"Miz B" says that the years have been rewarding in association, in accomplishment, in exercise and in growth of stature of the Gulfport Little Theatre. She is dedicated to the continuation of its standards and ideals.

PLAYS DIRECTED FOR GLT BY MRS. BAXLEY ARE:

OUTWARD BOUND
SABRINA FAIR
THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER
THE PLEASURE OF HIS COMPANY
THE MOUSETRAP
THE WIZARD OF OZ
PLAZA SUITE

THE GOOSE HANGS HIGH
BUS STOP
MALE ANIMAL
THE GREAT SEBASTIANS
STAR SPANGLED GIRL
DOUBLE DOOR
THE LION IN WINTER

TWO BLIND MICE
DESPERATE HOUR
THE HEIRESS
THE PIED PIPER
PAPA IS ALL
THE GAZEBO

THE BEST MAN
CRITIC'S CHOICE
NINE GIRLS
THE LAST WARNING
THE PRESCOTT PROPOSALS
LAURA