



The Lost Colony, 1409 National Park Drive, Manteo, NC 27954 www.thelostcolony.org

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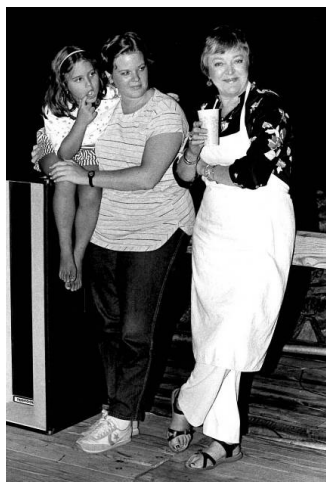


Photo: Three generation of Fearings: (from left to right) Courtney, Grizelle, and Mollie Fearing preparing to volunteer at the closing night reception backstage at *The Lost Colony* in 198?. Generations of the Fearing family have been closely associated with the drama since it began in 1937.

FEARING FAMILY CONTINUES TRADITION OF SUPPORT FOR *THE LOST COLONY*

– \$5,000 corporate sponsorship to benefit overall improvements –

(Manteo, N.C., April 10, 2007) – Continuing a tradition of support for *The Lost Colony*, Mollie A. Fearing & Associates has given a \$5,000 corporate sponsorship gift to offset overall costs of the production.

“When you’re in our family, you are in service to *The Lost Colony*,” said Grizelle Fearing, president of the Manteo insurance company.

Fearing’s family ties to *The Lost Colony* date to 1937 when her Great Uncle, the late D. Bradford Fearing, and others persuaded Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paul Green to write a play about Roanoke Island’s famed “lost colony.” The elder Fearing, a local merchant and politician, oversaw the production its inaugural year and served as producer and general manager for many years until his death.

Grizelle Fearing’s mother, the late Mollie A. Fearing, was one of the production’s greatest champions. A gifted hostess, “Miss Mollie” organized *The Lost Colony*’s

opening night receptions, board dinners and other social events for years, in addition to serving as a long-time officer and board member.

Fearing's husband, Tom McDonald (grandson of the late Irene Smart Rains, the show's former costumer) has long lent a helping hand, whether serving on the alumni committee or gathering material and setting up exhibits for *You Will Be Remembered: A Lost Colony Retrospective*, an exhibition of photographs, costumes, stories and memorabilia now on display at the Outer Banks History Center. He performed in the show in his youth.

When their daughter, Courtney Anderson Schultz, was growing up, she caught the acting bug as well and played a colonist child for several years.

"Tom and I are trying to keep the dream alive," said Fearing. "We feel Dare County, the way it is now, is partly because of *The Lost Colony*. It helped to attract the visitors that made the Outer Banks a destination. I feel it's my legacy to support that."

Fearing says she would like to see more local businesses acknowledge *The Lost Colony's* contribution to tourism by showing their support as well.

"If every business just joined as a member or made a small donation, it would go such a long way," she said.

About The Lost Colony

First staged in 1937, *The Lost Colony* tells the real-life story of America's "lost colony" of men, women and children who sailed from Plymouth, England, in 1587 to establish an English colony on Roanoke Island (N.C.). Predating Jamestown by 22 years and Plymouth by 35 years, the settlement disappeared with hardly a trace, leaving historians and archaeologists with a mystery that has never been solved.

Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paul Green, *The Lost Colony's* 70th anniversary season opens June 1 and plays nightly except Sunday through Aug. 20, 2007 at Manteo's Waterside Theatre, on North Carolina's Outer Banks. It is the nation's premier and longest-running symphonic drama. During the summer, *The Lost Colony* produces other shows and special events as well. This year's lineup includes *Cinderella*, *South Pacific*, Shakespeare Under the Stars, Tea with the Queen, Backstage Tours and more.

For tickets and information, go to www.thelostcolony.org or call (252) 473-2127 or (252) 473-3414 (May through August).

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