

# Paul Green Foundation

## NEWS – September 2011



### Paul Green's Symphonic Outdoor Dramas and other plays of note by Foundation Trustees



In 2012, *The Lost Colony* will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> year since that 1937 first season, and has been in continuous production with the exception of four years during WWII to slow down the sinking of American ships by German subs. That first year, WPA funds were used for salaries as part of a Theatre Works initiative to assist out-of-work Broadway actors from New York City. These talented performers were hired to fill the major roles along with the Playmakers from UNC-Chapel Hill, Roanoke Islanders, and even CCC members who acted in the drama on the large set they had constructed!



Mark Sumner with Pathway cast

*Pathway to Freedom*, an outdoor drama performed each summer at Snow Camp, NC was written by Mark Sumner (music by Ann Hunt Smith). The historical drama is based on actual events and depicts North Carolina's view on slavery and its role in helping slaves escape via the Underground Railroad. As many as 50,000 residents left North Carolina during the years preceding the Civil War in protest to slavery.



Congratulations to Margaret Bonamico, General Manager of *Trumpet in the Land*. She is celebrating **40 years** with the drama. She started as a ticket taker in 1972 and became General Manager in 1987. As that ticket taker, one night, during a production, she heard a gentleman standing in the back rattling his keys in his pocket – she went right up to him and told him firmly that he had to stop doing it, that it was too loud. She learned later, to her chagrin that she'd just asked the playwright to quit disturbing the audience! Now that's spunk!

**Texas** plays each summer in



Palo Duro Canyon near  
Amarillo, Texas.

Marsha Warren,  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 2624, Chapel Hill, NC  
27515 (919) 942-6434

**The Stephen Foster Story**

Kentucky's Official Outdoor  
Musical Celebrates  
53 Years!



By Samm-Art Williams

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BD5Gk7H1t4&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BD5Gk7H1t4&feature=player_embedded)