

Set your goals high and
don't stop till you get there.
Bo Jackson

Newsletter of the Heritage Hunt Little Theater



Play Time

JUNE 2008

Twelve Angry Men

by M.J. Brickach, Director

Three perspective new members came in over the weekend and picked up a script to prepare for auditions. They are all very interested in trying out and I am very excited to see what they can do. I will also invite them to the regular monthly meeting in June.

Some of our regular members also picked up a script but more are needed to make the "audition weekend" at the end of the month a total success. I will be glad to deliver a script to your home. All it takes is a phone call! We have the Billiards Room to ourselves at the following times: Saturday, June 28, 12pm-3pm and Sunday, June 29, 4pm-7pm.

Come both days if you wish and stay as long as you wish. You'll get all the time you want. IT'S GOING TO BE FUN! Give me a call at X 1614.



From the President

by Denny Cumber

Old Time Radio was a smashing success. The actor's characterizations awakened nostalgia as they traveled through long ago memories. They hummed along with the jingles—"Cream of Wheat is so good to eat..." But the crowning glory was listening to and watching the hijinx of the sound effects crew—crack, thud, slam and clippety-clop! We really knocked their socks off! Such fun!

After our three days of spring, summer has arrived with a vengeance. Don't forget to mark your calendar for the annual summer picnic on July 13th at 3pm at Nanette Ross' home.

Auditions for our fall production, *Twelve Angry Men*, are scheduled for June 28 and 29. Guys, you really don't have to be too angry—just bring your talents and help us bring forth a good rendition of a classic play. For more information, call MJ Brickach at x1614. See y'all at our June general meeting in the Craft Room on June 26th.

Old Time Radio—A Review

by Mary Winsky

A friend just told me to turn on my cell phone and leave it on so she could reach me. I never do. My grandmother told me to turn on the radio and sit beside her. I always did. The Heritage Hunt Little Theater invited us to turn off our cell phones for three nostalgic nights of *Old Time Radio*. What a blast from the past!

Thanks to the ever-expanding repertoire of our creative Bets Knepley and the ever-steady energy of our efficient Elena Portoles, we turned our entertainment dials to Station WHHC and five popular programs of yesteryear.

Some of us had tingled to *The Shadow's* eerie laugh and brilliant untangling of mysteries too difficult for mere law-enforcers. Eleven Heritage Hunters brought us back to our dark side's satisfaction with evil and our light side's

Continued on page 3



Highlights from the May Minutes

by Jane Becker, Acting Secretary

☑ Activities—

Joey Wagner reminded members that the next movie night on June 7th will be *Casablanca*. Joey is still scouting a place for the July picnic.

☑ **Membership**—Lucy Modrak will be spotlighted in the next HHLT newsletter.

☑ **Theater Workshop**—Bets reminded members about the August 9th workshop

☑ **May Production**—Bets announced that the cast of *Old Time Radio* is moving into final rehearsals and are anxious for the show to start next week.

☑ **TTT**—HHLT traveling troop is on hold for now.

Goldstar Website

by Joey Wagner

Check out Goldstar (www.goldstar.com). Their site offers half-price tickets to events near you, like theatre, comedy, sports, live music and spas. It's free to sign up.

For about the price of a movie, have a great night out with Goldstar.

2008 General Meeting Dates

All of our General Meeting Dates will not fall on the 4th Thursday of the month. Please record these now, so you can attend all meetings. Thank you.

Thursday, June 26

Tuesday, July 22

Thursday, August 28

Thursday, September 25

Thursday, October 23

Thursday, Nov 20

Save the Date

by Joey Wagner

Get ready for food and fun with your HHLT friends. Our annual picnic will be held on Saturday, July 13, starting at 3pm. The event will be held *inside* the home of Nanette and Mel Ross at 6771 Derby Run Way.

A sign up sheet will be distributed at the general meeting on Thursday, June 26 at 7pm. Be thinking about what menu item you would like to bring.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, call Joey Wagner @1043 to RSVP and plan your menu item.

We are planning some great theater games for all to enjoy.

The Workshop

by Bets Knepley, Workshop Coordinator

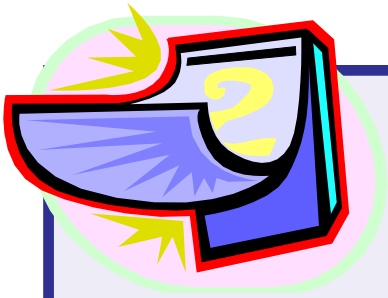
At the July 12 Workshop, we'll be reading Michele Lowe's diabolical comedy *The Smell of the Kill*. It is a good feminist black comedy about how three wives take pleasure in evil retribution for their boring, deceitful and supremacist husbands.

The Smell of the Kill is a fast-paced 80 minute play in which the three characters get a physical work out—they shout, scream, shove and even wrestle on to the floor.

For the September Workshop, *Cagebirds* by David Campton and *Overtures* by Alice Gerstenberg are two of the plays being considered for a read-thru as well as *Three Viewings* by Jeffrey Hatcher.

Remember to reserve 9am to Noon on Saturday, August 9. Professor Lisa Nanni-Messegee will discuss Directing in the Card Room.





Put these Dates on Your Calendar

June General Meeting

Thursday, June 26 at 7pm-Craft Room

Twelve Angry Men Auditions

June 28 & 29

See Front Page Article for more info

July General Meeting

CHANGE OF DATE to TUESDAY, July 22

Workshop

Saturday, July 12 at 10am—Craft Room
Reading of all woman cast play
The Smell of the Kill by Michele Lowe
Call Bets (X1360) for more info

July Picnic

Sunday, July 13 at 3pm
Nanette Ross's Home
6771 Derby Run Way (X5141)

Directing Workshop

Sat, Aug 9 at 9am-Card Room
9-9:30am—Socialize & Light Refreshments
9:30am-Noon—Directing Workshop
by Professor Lisa Nanni-Messegee

November Production

Twelve Angry Men
Nov 1-8 in Billiards Room

ate pack rats in the title, we felt attached to them all.

Some of us had puffed up about how smart we were in contrast to the ditsy characters in *It Pays to Be Ignorant*. Add six more of our people to its success. We groaned at its puns and knee-slapping corn—and felt great.

Others may have clutched at their heartstrings as the *Romance of Helen Trent* filled our youth with soap operatic expectations of dramatic love affairs that swung swiftly between tragedy and romance. Ah! Six more neighbors made us ring our hankies.

And even if we didn't recall any of those first four, who didn't know *The Lone Ranger*? He rode again with his hearty "Hi Ho Silver, Away!"—Tonto hoof beating beside him with fabulous sound effects. It took ten more of our kemo sables to ride this range back to life.

And all these remembered lives were sponsored by products we could still sing the jingles to, like Johnson Wax, Pepsi Cola (hits the spot), Luster Cream Shampoo and Cream of Wheat. With the lovely voices of three peppy singers and the cue cards for laughter and applause of the two red and white polka-dotted, white-gloved prompters, we were carried smoothly along through reminiscence.

It would be impossible to properly credit all the talented participants specifically in the complexity and mix of separate programs and multiple roles. And the list gets even longer when we add the members of the production staff. A thank you list will have to do. So thank you: JoAnn Baker, Jane Becker, Chuck Breder, Denny Cumber, Ted Day, Pat Dews, Helen Esposito, Goldie Grandy, Faye Green, Nan Hepp, Betty Hitchcock, Sandy Iasiello, Bets and Ed Knepley, Helen Kriegel, Joyce Mancini, Alan Mager, Ina Mayer, Sandy Mills, Elena Portoles, Nanette Ross, Gene Schmiel, Murray Schooner, Dot and Bill Schuetze, Phyllis Shrader, Yvonne Stathis, Rick Sullivan, Sully Sullivan, Tom Taggart, Joey Wagner, Treva and Bill Whyte, Paul Young and Jan and Sil Zinicola. Your many talents, authentic costumes, fine performances, and hard work tuned us in to what we loved long ago and treasure today. Stay tuned to HHLT!

Continued from page 1

triumph in overcoming it. Once its door creaked open, we were brought into our pasts.

Some of us had belly-laughed at *Fiber McGee and Molly's* clutter and chuckled at its marital banter. This program piled up eight more of our resident thespians on our shelves of enjoyment. And like the affection-



The Spotlight is on Lucy Modrak

by Pat Boggs

Lucy has been a resident of Heritage Hunt since December, 2004, after having residing in Springfield, VA for 23 years. She and her husband, Joe, have been married for 34 years and have nine children and eleven grandchildren, and their 17-year old dog, Willow. Her husband Joe loves to play golf while Lucy spends her time knitting, crosswords puzzles, traveling and reading. She visits our library frequently and reads four to five books weekly.

Lucy resides in the condominiums with a beautiful view of the golf course and is very happy in Heritage Hunt.

She is a member of the Women's Organization and before joining as a member of the Little Theater, she volunteered her time doing makeup for the play *When in Rome* and has painted scenery for *Hound of the Clackervilles* and *The Cemetery Club*. Now she is a member of Little Theater and looks forward to working behind the scenes of future plays.

Among the things she like about Little Theater is the excitement of all the plays she has been involved with and those to come, and the friendships of all the people. She recalled one experience in high school while doing the makeup for the play. She suggested that all the actors be made up in pastels instead of white and because of this was recommended to go to Cape Cod and work at the Starlite Theatre but unfortunately her mother decided she was too young. She also directed a senior play and the assistant director was Louise Fletcher who later won an academy award for *One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest*.

To quote Lucy, "I have always found people, who are interested in little theater, to be colorful, fun and very dedicated."

So we say, welcome to the Heritage Hunt Little Theater, Lucy Modrak.

The Art of Acting

from ABWAGWebsite

In order to engage the audience, you must first learn to master yourself.

When you think that you've been very good in a scene and you come off stage and you're not sure exactly where you were—**that is when you were good**. When you come off and say, "Oh, I was terrible," **you weren't in the scene**. If you come off and you say, "Boy, was I great," **you weren't in the scene either**.

If you can step off into space and not know where you are for a moment—that is what acting really feels like. It's like taking a trip. It's being somewhere else and being someone else. As long as you stay you, it is never going to happen. That is the trick you try to achieve.

Do you agree? Has this ever happened to you?

Play Reviews

by Bets Knepley

Like many of you, I saw FCT's *The Sound of Music*. I thought the actors/singers were great. The scenery was interesting. Most little theaters do not have a "live orchestra," and in that respect FCT is unique. But why is it—that for every performance I have seen there that uses their orchestra—the music usually drowns out the singers? Someone has suggested that the orchestra (which is in the back of the theater) must be loud so that the singers on stage can hear it. What do you think?

I also saw *Red Herring* by Michael Hollinger at the Winchester Little Theatre. It is a "fable about marriage" with leapfrogging scenes that follow two couples until they all converge at the end. Actors engaged the audience's interest and the numerous scenery changes were made quickly.