

— The Production Team —

Director Gene Schmiel
Producer Mary Glascock
Stage Manager Jane Becker
Set Design & Construction Ted Day, Kathryn Schmiel & Don Jewell
Costumes Kathryn Schmiel
Sound & Lighting Bill Whyte, John Bisaga & Nancy Mahevich
Make-Up Sandy Iasiello, Joey Wagner & Margaret Gorzka
Poster, Program, Flyers, Ads Bets Knepley
Photographer Ed Knepley
Publicist Joyce Mancini
Understudies Valerie & Bob Bowman
Ticket Coordinators Helen Esposito & Natalie June
Greeters Joe Ganey, Goldie Grandy, Ina Mayer, Emily Russel, M.J. Brickach, Denny Cumber, Lois Potter, Faye Greene, Jan Rathbun & Treva Whyte

Notes from the Director...

As I began preparing for my solo directorial debut, I looked for a play which would speak to both the minds and the hearts of our Heritage Hunt audience. *Ancestral Voices* is a wonderful theatrical work which encompasses the ups and downs and transitions of a family, a city, a nation, and the world from 1938 to 1942. The words spoken by the actors; the images of the era, from Fred and Ginger to a world at war; and the music of the era will together create a nostalgic, yet realistic reminder of a very important time. It will also remind us of the memory of our good friend Jack Merelman, to whom we have dedicated this production. On behalf of the hard-working cast and crew, Mary Glascock and I want to thank you for coming out tonight to participate in this experience. We are sure you will enjoy it.

Heritage Hunt Little Theater
presents

Ancestral Voices

by A. R. Gurney



Directed by
Gene Schmiel

Produced by
Mary Glascock

October 15, 16 & 17, 2013
Great Oak Ballroom

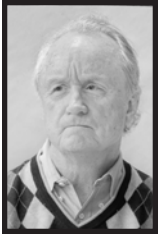
***This production is dedicated to the memory of
Jack Merelman***

Produced through special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc. The script to this play maybe purchased from B.P.P.I. at BroadwayPlayPubl.com. The first production of *Ancestral Voices* was at the Lincoln Center Theater on October 18, 1999.

— Setting —

In Buffalo, New York between 1938 and 1942 with a brief coda from the 1960s

— CAST —



Rick Sullivan as Eddie After work demands interfered with acting for several years, I'm excited to now rejoin HHLT. I have been lucky enough to appear in over eleven plays starting as a cast member in *Charleston* in 2004. This was followed by what some called an uncanny portrayal of Fred Mertz in the *I Love Lucy* satire *Trouble at the Tropicabana*; a nervous newlywed in *Afraid of the Dark*; a thief in *When in Rome*; and my most challenging role as the hold-out juror in *Twelve Angry Men*. When I found out that *Ancestral Voices* was written by the same author as *Love Letters*, which we did in 2008, I knew that it would be good choice our HH audience. I hope you enjoy it as much as we do.



Ed Prendergast as the Grandfather I am the Grandfather--a complex soul who suffers a devastating blow in his twilight years. He deals with this event somewhat stoically with the help of his personally designed medical plan employing liberal doses of alcohol and tobacco. The most valuable support system for him is truly the deep love and compassion of his daughter and favorite grandson. Beneath it all, however, is the question: Does he live in hope and die in despair?



Dot Schuetze as the Grandmother This play is the 14th time I have performed with HHLT. I played in our last Readers Theater production of *Love Letters* by A.R. Gurney and now enjoy the role of Grandmother in this one. Plus, this past year, I had the privilege to debut in *Arsenic and Old Lace* with the Vpstart Crow Theater at the Hilton Center. You see, growing old isn't so bad! Hope you enjoy the show.



Ginny McCardle as the Jane This is my second play with HHLT. It is very different from the my first, *Murder at the Orient Express*. (No Salvation Army dress, yeah!) I really love the story of *Ancestral Voices* and I think it will speak to most of us. Gene and Mary have added some very interesting pieces to the play and I hope everyone enjoys it.



Walt Meyer as Harvey This is my fifth HHLT acting venture, having previously appeared in *Larceny and Old Lace* as Officer McNealy & Dr. Pretorius; in *A Hatful of Humor* as Matt, on the "Dr. Phil Show;" in *A Few Good Years* as Don; and in *Old Hams* as Gus. I also co-directed *Murder at the Orient Express*. I'm still waiting for a call from Broadway or Hollywood, but I'm not holding my breath.



Sil Zinicola as Roger I have been a member of HHLT since 2005 and I have enjoyed all the plays I have been in. I am very excited about playing a bounder in *Ancestral Voices*. I want to thank all the members involved in putting on this production, since this is a joint effort of a large number of people. I want to give a special thanks to Gene, Mary, and Jane for taking on this huge responsibility. Thanks for the opportunity to be part of the HHLT organization,



Betty Hitchcock as Fanny Since joining HHLT, I have acted in several productions, co-directed one (which I never thought I would do) and now am in this production which is a Readers Theater venue. There are many things one can do in HHLT, from acting, directing, helping behind the scenes, etc. all of which end up being a lot of fun with a group of talented, creative and fun people. Doing all these things truly is a dream come true for me. Thanks, Gene, for offering me this role.

— There will be no Intermission —