


# HHLT PLAY TIME

May  2015

Next General Meeting—Thursday, May 21  
7 pm in the Craft Room  
Come learn about the fall production!

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## *A Tribute to Bets Knepley*

Long time HHLT members remember a cold winter evening in 2003 when 41 Heritage Hunt residents gathered at the invitation of Bets Knepley to discuss the possibility of forming a little theater. That meeting under the leadership of Bets resulted in 28 residents joining together to form a vibrant, dynamic organization which has contributed invaluable to the Heritage Hunt community. It is impossible to measure

Bets' contribution to HHLT. She was the first president and served several terms. She was director of numerous early productions, including musicals "Don't Say No to the USO" (2003), "Westward Whoa" (June 2004), "Charleston" (November 2004), "When in Rome" (Spring 2006), and "Cemetery Club" (Spring 2007), "Love Letters" (February 2008), and "Old Time Radio" (May 2008). Besides directing, Bets was coordinator of acting and directing workshops, and served as newsletter editor and website publisher. In recent years she and her very talented photographer husband Ed have created the beautiful programs and publicity posters that have graced our productions. Now as they plan their move to Pennsylvania it is impossible to say how much their time and talents will be missed. We want to express to them our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude and send our best wishes as they raise the curtain on "another opening, another show!"

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## *The Pres Sez*

No question but the Ballroom rocked with laughter the last three evenings in April. Kudos to the cast and crew of "A Bad Year for Tomatoes" and certainly to Dot Schuetze, for a fine directing debut. Last seen, Myra was back at the tape recorder, missing Sis Sadie but still hiding out from busy-body Reba and 'tipsy' Cora. God only knows what Willa Mae is brewing and Tom and the sheriff have become buds. Mr. Piney is ambling along, still 'pining' for Sadie.

Please plan to come to our General Meeting Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, in the Craft Room. After the usual agenda, we will have a read-through of our new fall play, "Social Security," a rousing Broadway comedy. Just a little time before we start work on our next production.

HELP – HELP – HELP. We are still looking for someone to be our web master. I understand from talking with Bets that it's not nuclear fission and she will provide a tutorial. Please consider this – can we talk?

Enjoy summer.

Denny

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## The Last Word on Tomatoes

By Dot Schuetze

"All's well that ends well" as the saying goes. According to all the talk, "A Bad Year for Tomatoes" was a huge success. Thanks to the cast, the crew, and all the others who helped to make this Director's dream come true. I can't thank you all enough and I can't wait to see what's coming up next!!

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## HLT Fall Play: "Social Security"

By Gene and Kathryn Schmiel

It is our pleasure to announce that we will be co-directing "Social Security" as the fall 2015 HHLT production on October 6, 7, and 8. This 1986 comedy was directed by Mike Nichols and starred Marlo Thomas, Olympia Dukakis, Joanna Gleason, and Ron Silver, and ran on Broadway for a year. The New York Post wrote, "Just when you were beginning to think you were never going to laugh on Broadway again, along comes Social Security. . . The play is a hoot, and better yet, a sophisticated, civilized hoot." We know you will agree.

We will be doing a read-through of parts of the play after the Thursday, May 21 HHLT meeting, at which time we will have copies of the script for potential actors to review and audition application forms.

There are six characters in the play, three male and three female. Ages range from mid 40s to a 98 year old male. Auditions are scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, from 7 to 9 pm, and Saturday, June 13, from 9 to 11 am. They will take place in the Craft Room. Please let us know if you plan to audition (1305 or geneofva@gmail.com).

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## Shakespeare and Wine Anyone?

Are you interested in the Bard? Do you enjoy a comedy with mistaken identities, unrequited love, conflict and the examination of human flaws? Would you like to join other

members of HHLT for an afternoon of Shakespeare, wine and fun? In June (weekends of June 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21), Fauquier Community Theater is producing one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, Twelfth Night, in which Gene Schmiel is playing the role of Antonio. Make your reservation for the June 14 matinee at 2 pm and plan to join HHLT members at the home of *Georgiana and Nick Ide after the play for wine, snacks and talk*. Learn how Shakespeare used a shipwreck washed up on the island of Illyria to ridicule priggishness, haughtiness, and superiority and to examine the agony of unrequited love. More information will be given at the general meeting on May 21.

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### *Brain Teaser*

Last month's Brain Teaser (in which you were asked to name the source of the quote "He was liked, but not well-liked") was won by M.J. Brichach who was the first to correctly identify the play "Death of a Salesman." Congratulations! This month's quote takes you back in time to another era. Identify the play (we'll all know the playwright), be the first to email the answer to Kathryn ([geneofva@gmail.com](mailto:geneofva@gmail.com)), and win \$10 Starbucks gift card.

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness,  
and some have greatness thrust upon 'em."

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### *Mark your calendar*

The show of interest meeting for the October HHWO Talent Show will be held on June 17 at 7 pm in the Mountain View Room.

HHLT Annual Picnic will be on Saturday, October 17 at Georgiana and Nick Ide's. Rain date will be Sunday, October 18.

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## **Heritage Hunt Little Theater**

### **General Meeting April 16, 2015**

The meeting was called to order in the Craft Room at 7:00 PM by President Denny Cumber.

Thirty members were present, including all Board members as well as the Director of Communications.

Secretary's Report: Jim Burwell read aloud the minutes of the March General Meeting. In a minor correction of the At-Large Report, "HHLT Grounds Committee" was changed to "HH Grounds Committee". The minutes were then approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Helen Esposito noted Income of \$20 and Expenses of \$325.55 during this reporting period. The balance as of April 7, 2015 is \$8,823.65. The Report was accepted.

Vice-President's Report: Sandy Thompson reported that a Director is being sought for the Fall Play. Provisional production dates are October 6th, 7th, and 8th.

President's Report: Denny announced that a meeting regarding "Show of Interest" for the October Variety Show (being sponsored by the HH Women's Organization) will be held in the Mountain View Room on June 17th at 7 PM.

Activities Report: Georgiana Ide encouraged members to send expressions of appreciation to Bets Knepley before her departure this Summer. The Annual Picnic will take place the afternoon of October 17th at Georgiana's home on Culverhouse Court. (Rain date, October 18th.) Suggestions and help with planning would be appreciated. Discussion was held regarding other possible group activities. Members meeting for Dinner followed by attendance at a Theater performance was mentioned. Also suggested was a road trip, possibly to Staunton, Virginia, home of the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse.

Membership Report: Ginny McCardle reported that members who are delinquent in paying their dues are being contacted. The Brochure regarding HHLT Membership has been updated and will be distributed at performances of the Spring Play.

At-Large Report: Kathy Carrico has received approval for a new Memorial Bench at the same location, possibly to be placed on a "paved grid". An update of the plan and possible alternatives will be submitted at a later date.

Communications Report: Kathryn Schmiel reported that Joyce Mancini has volunteered to assist her in some of the duties of the Communications Director. She is seeking to recruit at least one other HHLT member, possibly to manage our Web site. M.J. Brickach received congratulations and a Starbuck's gift card as winner of the April Brainteaser. She was the first to correctly identify a quote from "Death of a Salesman".

Old Business: Denny reported that the new Donations Policy Guidelines should be ready for presentation next month. Bylaws review will be completed in the near future.

Open Questions/Comments: Denny invited remarks from the floor. Ted Day asked for volunteers to assist in erecting and dressing the set for the Spring Play, starting at 7:30 AM on

April 26th in the Ballroom. Denny encouraged members to invite friends and neighbors to the Play.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Burwell Secretary