

HERITAGE HUNT LITTLE THEATER PLAY TIME

June 2017

www.hhlittletheater.org

Thursday, June 15—HHLT General Meeting and Program, 7:00-8:00 pm, Mountain View Room

“A Personal Walk down Broadway”

Our program for the June meeting promises to be exciting, interesting, and especially relevant as HHLT members Marian and Jeff Posdamer share their personal reminiscences of over fifty years of attendance at hundreds of Broadway shows. Their love of theater and Broadway will thrill you as they focus on Tony winning plays and display their personal collection of programs and souvenirs. Come and hear Jeff and Marian’s experiences and share your own as we visit the Great White Way!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Thursday, July 20—HHLT General Meeting followed by TTT’s Patriotic Show, 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 7—Annual Picnic at Georgiana and Nick Ide’s

October 17, 18, 19—Fall production



OUR PREZ SEZ



Congratulations to our new members who have jumped right in and gotten involved in so many ways. Our goal is to continue to create more and more avenues for members to get active. Please check out the signup sheets at our next meeting to volunteer to participate in the many opportunities available. And please consider running for the Board for 2018.

Contents

Our Prez Sez

Dates to Remember

Fall Production

TTT News

News of Local theaters

Playwright of the Month

Board Elections

May Minutes



Fall Production Announced

Love Letters by A. R. Gurney has been selected as the next HHLT production scheduled for October 17, 18, and 19. The production will be directed by Gene Schmiel and produced by Kathryn Schmiel. The play involves the ongoing relationship of two characters (Andy and Melissa) whose life events, both joyous and tragic, are described with honesty through their correspondence. Three different couples will perform the play, one each night, and the characters, one man and one woman, will try to understand each other and interpret their emotions and motivations throughout their lives. *Love Letters* has been produced on Broadway and elsewhere with actors such as Julie Harris, Kathleen Turner, Marsha Mason, and Colleen Dewhurst playing Melissa, and Jason Robards, Robert Vaughn, and Cliff Robertson playing Andy.



Traveling Theatrical Troupe

TTT, Traveling Theatrical Troupe, has been busy providing entertainment and stimulation to residents of healthcare and assisted living facilities in our area. Most recently they have been at Tribute on May 23 and will be appearing at Birmingham Green on June 13. They will also be entertaining HHLT with their patriotic program at our July meeting. Please contact Ina Mayer (1906) if you would like to participate.



Fauquier Community Theater held its annual meeting and election recently. It was also the occasion for awarding the Community Theater's annual Lofty Award, given for acting, directing, costume, set design, musical attainments and many more categories. Though he didn't win, Gene Schmiel was honored to be nominated for leading actor in a drama for his performance in ***Twelve Angry Men***. FCT's next productions are the musical ***1776*** in October, ***Greater Tuna*** in November, and ***Fruitcakes*** in December.

Prince William Little Theater will be performing ***Oklahoma*** July 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 with matinees on July 16, 23, and 30 and ***The Diary of Anne Frank*** in October.

Playwright of the Month

Appropriately our featured playwright this month is A. R. Gurney Jr., the author of *Love Letters*, HHLT's next production. Gurney was born Albert



Ramsdell Gurney on November 1, 1930 in Buffalo, New York, to Alfred Ramsell Gurney and Marion Spaulding. Gurney was the middle child of three children in the well off Buffalo family. He attended St.

Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, and Williams College from which he graduated in 1952. After college Gurney joined the Navy where he served aboard a carrier. It was there that he realized his love for drama. For the purpose of entertaining the sailors, he produced musicals, writing lyrics for well known Broadway tunes which the ship's band played, and writing stories to go with the songs. The musicals were performed on the platform that raised the planes from the hangar deck to the runway deck of the carrier. He credits the talent of the band and the sailors for the success of his creations. After his service in the Navy was completed, he enrolled at Yale School of Drama from which he received a M.F.A. in 1958. His original musical *Love in Buffalo* was the first musical ever performed at Yale.

After Yale Gurney taught at Belmont Hill School for a year and then at M.I.T. as a Professor of Humanities and Literature. Throughout his years at M.I.T. Gurney pursued play writing. Most of his plays provide satiric, poignant, and "penetratingly witty" (Wall Street Journal) looks at the lives of upper class WASPs of the northeast, much based on his own upbringing in Buffalo.

After his first play (which closed after one night with devastating reviews), Gurney achieved success

in 1982 with *The Dining Room*. He has written over 40 plays including *Ancestral Voices*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Buffalo Gal*, *Sylvia*, and *What I Did Last Summer*. He has also written four novels and two screenplays. He has been nominated twice for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and three times for the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play.



Scene from *Sylvia*



Scene from *The Dining Room*



Scene from *Love Letters*

Famous People Born in June

Monthly Brain Teaser: Do you know who's the oldest on this list (living or dead)? Email Kathryn with your answer (geneofva@gmail.com)



June 1—Marilyn Monroe
 June 4—Angelina Jolie
 June 7—Dean Martin
 June 8—Joan Rivers
 June 9—Michael J. Fox
 June 10—Judy Garland
 June 11—Gene Wilder
 June 12—George H. W. Bush
 June 17—Barry Manilow
 June 18—Paul McCartney
 June 20—Nicole Kidman
 June 22—Meryl Streep
 June 25—June Lockhart
 June 27—Ross Perot
 June 28—Mel Brooks



is it FUNNY HA-HA OR FUNNY PECULIAR ?

HHLT Board Elections

Though it is only June, it is not too soon to begin to think about our annual elections. Bob Bowman, Vice President, and the nominating committee will be looking for willing candidates for the three positions which will be coming open for the 2018-2019 term. Please consider answering their call! It is important to have a board and NOT difficult to serve!



* * * * *



Happy
Holidays!

Holiday Shows

Dave Anderson, HH neighbor, has been putting together holiday shows for the past few years. He takes these shows to local senior centers for the pleasure and entertainment of the folks who attend. In the past he has taken a contingent of singers and dancers from Heritage Hunt, and this year he has invited HHLT to participate. The dates for the performances are Dec. 4, 5, and 7. Please contact Ina Mayer (1906) if you'd like to be a part of this great program.

In Need of Cheering Up?

Do you know of any HHLT member (especially those who are not able to get out very much) who is ill or in hospital or just needs a cheerful note? We want them to know we are thinking of them. Please let Joan Turner (actoncoop@gmail.com), Secretary, know so she can send a card and note.

Heritage Hunt Little Theater

General Meeting May 18, 2017

President Bill Harrison called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM. 18 members were present.

Vice-President's Report: Bob Bowman congratulated everyone involved with the Spring Production "Dixie Swim Club" He announced that Tom Taggart had withdrawn his application as Director of the Fall play due to the recent passing of his wife.. Bob said that the board voted to accept the application from Gene Schmiel to direct "Love Letters" as the Fall 2017 production. Bob also asked members to consider taking a position on the Little Theater Board for 2018. If interested, please get in touch with Bob and become more involved.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 20, 2017 General Meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy reported an Income \$60 for April and Expenses of \$525.62. The Balance as of May 1, 2017 is \$ 9,642.38. (Continued next page)

Membership Report: Bill reported for Gene who was absent that questionnaires will be sent to new members to find out their interests and help them to get involved.

At-Large Report: Ina Mayer reported that the TTT presented a program on May 3 and will present one on May 23. If you are interested in being a member of this group, please contact Ina.

Activities Report: Val Bowman stated that the One Act Play meeting has been delayed until Nov. June's meeting is still in the planning process. July's meeting will be a presentation by the TTT. She also read two thank you notes, one about our donation to Manassas Baptist Church food pantry in Chuck Breder's name and one from Chuck's wife thanking us for the memorial program.

Communications Report: there was no Communication Report.

Old Business: There was no Old Business.

New Business: There was no New Business.

Bill adjourned the business meeting at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Turner, Secretary



illustrations of.com #12372

***WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND
ENJOYABLE SUMMER!
HHLT BOARD***

