

HERITAGE HUNT LITTLE THEATER MAY 2021 PLAY TIME

Dates to Remember

Thursday, May 20—General Meeting at 7 pm on Zoom followed by Drama After Dark presentation of Episode 1 of *The Golden Girls* TV sitcom entitled “The Engagement”

Thursday, June 17---General Meeting at 6:30 at Schmiels’ (6940 Sunday Silence Ct.) backyard (weather permitting) followed by charades. See article inside for details.



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Message from Val



Dear HHLT Members,

We are now in the 5th month of revitalizing our theater club following a long, isolating Pandemic. The **month of May** has to do with growth, being productive and the readiness to be inventive.

In case you've missed it, our Board has been hard at work developing Monthly General Meetings and Activities; Drama After Dark series; Discovery Theater and a Fall Play.

We hope attendance at our meetings and activities will continue to increase. ***I ask all of you to encourage and remind your friends and fellow HHLT members to ZOOM in on the 3rd Thursday of every month for a fun and joyful time.***

Also, please contact me or another Board member with any ideas you have for our HHLT Club. It's a great time of year to be inventive and productive 😊

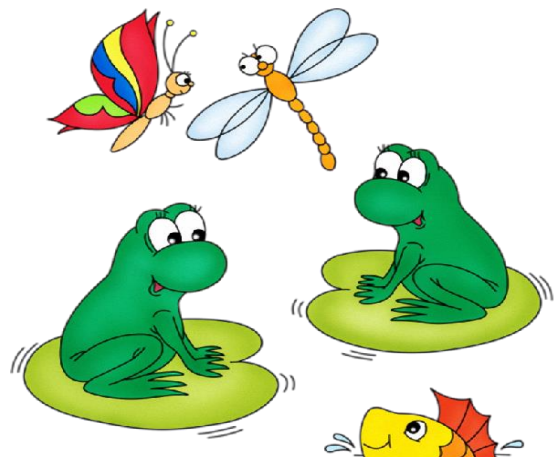
Happy Spring 🌸🌻🌼

Sincerely,

Val

Scavenger Hunt Wrap Up

HHLT's first Scavenger Hunt wound up on April 30 with members and residents participating. Driving around our lovely community in the beautiful days of Spring 2021 was a great way to break out of the doldrums of 2020 and the pandemic. We extend our heartiest thanks to Sally Peterson and her committee members Andy Mays and Mary Jane Fink for all the hours they put into making this event a success. There were three winners of the prize, a pair of tickets to HHLT's next production. The winners were Marlene Griffenhagen, Elaine Romanias, and Lois Dickey and her grandsons Cole and Lincoln. Congratulations to all the winners.





Discovery Theater

HHLT members gathered at Our Discovery Theater Zoom discussion on April 29 after we had all watched a YouTube video of a high school production of *You Can't Take it With You* by Moss

Hart and George S. Kaufman.



Originally the production ran on Broadway for 838 performances in 1936-7. We also discussed the Academy Award winning 1938 movie starring Lionel Barrymore and Jimmy Stewart and directed by Frank Capra (“It’s a

Wonderful Life”) who won an Academy Award as Director for his work. The Depression and growing turbulence in the world provided a relevant backdrop for both the play and the movie which celebrated the happy and unconventional life of a family that lived life on their own terms and loved each other.

We discussed the Barrymore family and how they were related to each other and also about Lionel’s crippling arthritis and pain he suffered for the rest of his life. This movie was the first time he appeared either seated or in a wheelchair in the entire production. His upcoming 14 movies always had him sitting.

The high school production that we individually watched on YouTube was excellent and many aspects of the production was discussed. We all enjoyed the comedic zany plot and the contrast between a carefree independent family and an elite snobby family. The high school video was

performed by Valley Christian Arts from Sun Valley, California.

Please join us for our next HHLT Discovery Theater experience!

The link below shows a 2 minute video of Lionel Barrymore acting from his chair in *You Can't Take it with You*. The scene depicts Grandpa’s argument with the Internal Revenue official, reinforcing the play’s theme of free will and happiness. According to Wikipedia Barrymore “had extreme problems with his income taxes, and during the last 15 years of his life routinely turned over all of his paycheck to the Internal Revenue Service except for a small sum to maintain his living expenses. The IRS also took the proceeds from a sale of his artwork after his death.”

Andy Mays

https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=A2KLfSEMp5FgWiEAYb9XNyoA;_ylu=Y29sbwNiZjEEcG9zAzIEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?p=You+Can%27t+Take+It+With+You+movie+images&fr=yymy-t-s#id=9&vid=2b37bca7787366df146ec02d3b69f82f&action=view



Jason Robards playing Grandpa in 1984.



HHLT General Meeting
Thursday, May 20
7 pm
ZOOM
The Golden Girls

This month's activity after our May General Meeting will be another of the Drama-After-Dark series of plays read by our members. The play for the May 20th meeting will be a script from the popular TV sit-com ***The Golden Girls***. In this episode entitled "The Engagement" Blanche becomes engaged after a whirlwind courtship much to the dismay of Dorothy and Rose. Be sure to watch for Bob Bowman's email on Wednesday, May 19, for the link to the Zoom meeting.

A Little Background on
The Golden Girls

The Golden Girls created by Susan Harris originally aired on NBC from September 14, 1985, to May 9, 1992. The show stars Beatrice Arthur, Betty White, Rue McClanahan, and Estelle Getty as four older women who share friendship and a home in Miami, Florida.

The Golden Girls received critical acclaim throughout most of its run and won several awards including the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Comedy Series twice. It also won three Golden Globe Awards for Best Television Series – Musical or Comedy.^[2] Each of the four stars received an Emmy Award, making it one of only four sitcoms in the award's history to achieve this.

The four actors who starred in the weekly episodes of ***The Golden Girls*** were regarded as one of the finest ensemble casts ever assembled.

Individually each had a successful career on stage and screen and received accolades for their work.



Bea Arthur (1922-2009) who played Dorothy was born in Brooklyn NY. During WWII she enlisted in the Marines becoming a truck driver and

dispatcher at Camp LeJeune. She was briefly married to fellow Marine Robert Aurthur. After the war she became a medical technologist. Acting was her real love and she attended the Dramatic Workshop of the New School in New York. She appeared in *Three Penny Opera* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Moving to TV Arthur made a guest appearance on *All in the Family* in 1971. The popularity of her character induced producers to write a show called *Maude* which featured Arthur as a sardonic woman living with her fourth husband and divorced daughter. Arthur played Dorothy on ***The Golden Girls*** from 1985 until she quit in 1992.

Betty White Ludden (b. 1922) was one of the pioneers in the television industry. She started her entertainment career just after her graduation from Beverly Hills High School in 1939. Her first job was as a singer on an experimental TV station in 1939. After WWII began she went to work for the war effort and put



aside her TV hopes. Looking for work after the war she was told she was not photogenic enough and turned to radio. She met Al Jarvis who asked her cohost his local live TV Show in 1949. From then on White was steadily employed in television appearing on numerous game shows in the 50s and 60s. She also appeared on late night TV and variety shows like *The Carol Burnett Show*. In 1973 White became a regular cast member on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* playing cooking expert Sue Ann Nivens. In 1985 she was cast as Rose Nylund on ***The Golden Girls***. (all information from Wikipedia)



June Meeting and Charades

Thursday, June 17th

6:30 pm

6940 Sunday Silence Ct.

Our June meeting will mark the first time that HHLT will meet in person since March 2020. The meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17th at the home of Gene and Kathryn Schmiel in their backyard. A short meeting will be followed by a game of charades. Please bring a chair. We will stretch out in the backyard and enjoy seeing each other in person!!



Old Time Radio Back in the Fall

Old-Time Radio will be on stage in Heritage Hunt in October -- maybe. We are hoping that we will be able to put on this production in the fall, if the clubhouse is open. In the meantime, I have been in touch with the cast and crew to ensure that when and if we get the green light, we can move ahead with rehearsals and other preparations. We still need two people to volunteer to fill roles in the cast, and we would like two more to act as readers/promoters/substitutes when we are rehearsing. If you are interested, please contact Gene Schmiel at geneofva@gmail.com. In the meantime, continue to hope and pray that we will once again be on the stage soon. Gene

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THE MINT THEATER FREE STREAMING OF CLASSIC PLAYS

Wall Street Journal's drama critic Terry Teachout has reviewed the Mint Theater's currently streaming play *A Picture of Autumn*. Seeking to bring back well-regarded plays that have fallen into obscurity, the Mint Theater has been streaming plays from its vault of productions. Currently *A Picture of Autumn* by N. C. Hunter is being offered for free until June 13th. It is (according to Teachout) "a sad comedy, a tale of diminishing possibilities, in which laughter and melancholy are tightly entwined." Set in post-WWII England it is the story of three cash poor aristocrats who live in a house beyond their means. Their son wants them to move to a more sensible apartment where they could live within their means. They resist his suggestions for all the ageless reasons. Below is the URL:

<https://minttheater.org/streaming-series/?tab=apictureofautumn>

One of the extra benefits of watching a Mint Theater production is the wonderful series of Enrichment videos that may be viewed. Below are the URLs for two of these discussions. They provide a stimulating and broadening understanding of the playwright, the themes, and the characters of the play.

<https://minttheater.org/enrichmint-archives/keri-walsh-a-picture-of-autumn/>

<https://minttheater.org/enrichmint-archives/dr-barbara-z-perman-a-picture-of-autumn/>

Heritage Hunt Little Theater

Zoom General Meeting

April 15, 2021

7pm

President's Comments: Val welcomed members to the meeting.

Vice President's report: Andy reminded everyone of the Discovery Theater Meeting to take place on April 29 at 7 pm on Zoom. The play "You Can't Take it with You," a HS production, will be discussed. An email will be sent out with information for viewing this production.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the March 18, 2021 meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy reported that we had \$4596.93 in the bank as of end of March 31, 2021.

Membership: No report

Activities: The Scavenger Hunt in and around Heritage Hunt is in progress. A prize is to be awarded for the best answers. Drama After Dark will be the May meeting activity. It is the first episode of Golden Girls.

Communications: Kathryn reported that she will send out the PlayTime newsletter. She will have an article in the May Horn.

At Large: No report

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Val then turned the meeting over to Kathryn Schmiel for our April program of Jeopardy questions.

Respectfully submitted: Joan Turner, Secretary

Man in a movie theater

An man lay awkwardly sprawled across three entire seats in the movie theatre

When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the man,

"Sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The man didn't budge.

The usher became more impatient.

"Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager."

Once again, the man just muttered and did nothing.

The usher marched briskly back up the aisle, and in a moment returned with the manager.

Together the two of them tried repeatedly to get the disheveled man to respond, but with no success.

Finally they summoned the police.

The officer surveyed the situation briefly, then asked, "All right, buddy, what's your name?"

"Fred," the man moaned.

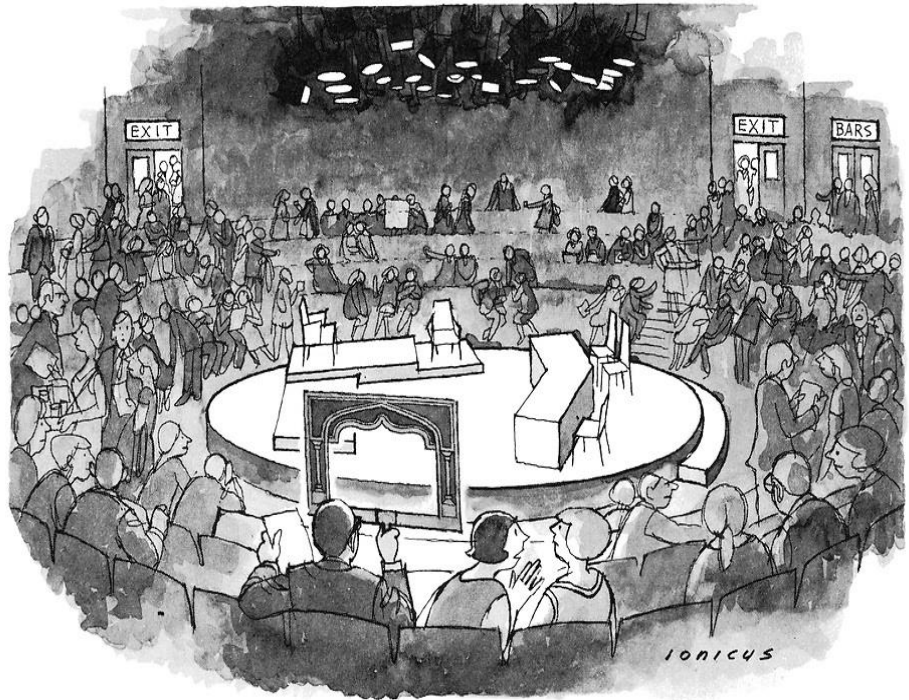
"Where you from, Fred?" asked the police officer.

With a terrible strain in his voice, and without moving, Fred replied;

"The balcony"



"Have you ever thought of putting them on in the park?"



"He doesn't like theatre-in-the-round."