

# Heritage Hunt Little Theater Play Time

## Senior Theater at its best

May 2025

HHLittletheater.org



Tom Taggart

### President's Message by Tom Taggart

The spring play is behind us and it is time to move forward to new and better things. But before we do, I want to again congratulate the cast, crew and everyone who had a hand in making our spring production a success. The play was well received by the HH community but of course, the question I am most asked by friends and neighbors is, "What is HHLT going to do next?"

We have many projects in the works, not the least of which is a new variety show. You may have heard that HHLT is stepping into the role of producing a variety show in December as well as our traditional fall production. We are going to need a lot of help with these productions. I am asking all our members for support as we work to bring enjoyment and entertainment to our community.

Speaking of support, I realized the other day that we have over eighty dues paying members in HHLT. However, our general meetings are poorly attended averaging only around twenty members. Now I realize that in a typical organization 10% of the people do 90% of the work, but that is sad. We have a great organization that provides quality entertainment for our community, but we offer so much more to our members. The business portion of our general meetings is minimal. A major part of the meeting is the theatre-related activities organized by our Activities Chair. Kudos to Sally Peterson for these great programs. So, if you have not been attending the general meetings you miss most of the fun of belonging to HHLT.

So come on out and support your club. The next general meeting is Monday, May 19th at 4:00 p.m. in the Mountain View room of the clubhouse. I hope to see ALL of you then.

**Bonus movie quote:** "Are you not entertained?" Who can name the movie, character, and actor?

- Tom

### Become a Patron!

Consider becoming a *Heritage Hunt Little Theater Patron* for \$20.  
To support the club in this way, see Billy Clay.

### Dates to Remember:

**Board Meeting** —  
Tuesday, June 3,  
6:00 p.m. at TBD

**General Membership Meetings** —  
May 19, 4:00 pm,  
Mountain View Room

June 16, 4:00 pm,  
Mountain View Room

**HHLT Variety Show**— December 10

**HHLT Fall Play,**  
TBD — October 7-9

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## HHLT General Meeting Minutes—April 21, 2025

The meeting opened at 4 p.m. Pres. Tom Taggart was delayed so meeting was moderated by VP Billy Clay.

A **motion** was made by Sally Peterson to accept the minutes of 3-17-25, motion passed.

**V. Pres. Report:** We have the dates for fall play – Oct. 7-9. Need people to seriously start thinking about a play and volunteering to direct it. It has to be approved by the board before official. Several have said they have an idea but need it to be more definite. Sally Peterson suggested auditions be held in July since will be presented in early October.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance a bit over \$6300

**Membership:** Several new members and can still become a patron. Contact to Billy Clay.

**At Large:** Gene Schmiel has been working with Culinary Arts concerning having a bar at performances to ensure we don't get bumped by a paying client. Several groups at HH effected. An agreement has almost been reached. Should not need to pay for a bar in future. Main bar will be open.

Alec Winfrey is coordinating the Variety Show on Dec. 10. He is trying to plan it so those who do not sing or dance can still be an active part of the show. May have small auditions.

**Activities:** Sally has been going to Karaoke Nights at our clubhouse every other Saturday night. She has heard several good prospects for HHLT so stay tuned! The next karaoke night is May 3 from 5 – 8 p.m. Maybe a musical will be in our future!

The next general meeting of HHLT will be May 19 at 4 p.m. in Mountain View Room

The next board meeting will be May 5 at 6 p.m. at Sandy Grillo's, 13891 Chelmsford Dr. A302

**Motion** to adjourn made by Helen Gillikin at 4:30 p.m. Meeting turned over to Sally to lead fun and games.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Grillo  
Secretary

### HHLT General Membership Meetings

HHLT holds a General Membership Meeting on the third Monday of each month (except for August and September) at 4:00 p.m. in the clubhouse Mountain View Room.

Mark your calendars so you don't miss out—we always have a fun program or activity!

## HHLT Board Meeting Minutes—May 6, 2025

**Members present:** Tom Taggart, Billy Clay, Helen Gillikin. Sandy Grillo, Alec Winfrey, Sally Peterson, Gene Schmiel, Maryann Lesnick, Andy Mays

**Motion** by Sally: To accept the minutes of the 4.8.25 meeting. Motion passed

**Pres. Report:** Last play went well and was well received.

**V. Pres. Report:** Choral concert last week was great, our own Helen was in it – very well done.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance \$9580.92.

**Activities:** Working on May meeting, have several activities planned.

**Membership:** No new members this month. Will not be here for May meeting, needs someone to do badges. Sandy volunteered.

**Communications:** Has drafted Playtime and article for The Horn but needs more information. Also needs bios from Helen, Billy and Gene. Gene has a photo of him giving a scholarship 6 years ago to a student and another with same student now starring in Jersey Boys at Fauquier Theater, taken recently. Will put both in Playtime and The Horn. Discussed scholarships to students, it is difficult to get students to apply.

After discussion, it was decided to put the minutes from Board meetings in Playtime so available to everyone, not just Board.

**At Large:** Has been going in circles trying to get on paper that HHLT will not have to pay for a bar to guarantee use of ballroom on play dates. Andy is going to next HH Board of Directors meeting on May 22. She attended the last Food and Beverage Committee meeting to back the passing of PR – 18, which says a bar is not needed to secure dates for use of ballroom. Stay tuned!

**Old Business:** Alec is working on the Variety Show for December. Dates are set. Alec will not be at May General Meeting but in June will bring a storyboard type setup to show where we are in planning, who is set to be in show and the variety of acts included. Many have said interested in participating. May have auditions in June, looking for a variety of talent.

**New Business:** Play proposals for fall. Gene emailed Board info on “Radio Daze”. It is a series of 6 old radio shows including Fibber Magee and Molly, Gunsmoke, The Thin Man and Brooks. Each is short - some funny, some dramatic, none have been presented at HH before. Since read, as were the original shows, people that do not want to memorize can participate. All dress in costume. Sent proposal via email.

### HHLT Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month and are open to any members who wish to attend. Unless a certain matter is placed on the meeting agenda, attendance is for observation, not participation. Since board meetings may not take place at the same time and place every month, please alert the Secretary at least one week in advance if you wish to attend (to get current venue/time information).

HHLT, BoD mtg, May 6, 2025, cont'd from p. 3

Sally found a couple of plays but not ready to be presented. One is “Oh Momma, Oh!” about an old lady who moves to NY to live with her kids and causes havoc. It has 9 parts. A second one is “Buckingham’s Palace”. It’s about an older man that people keep moving in on and staying. It is about an hour long but can be tweaked to be longer. A third idea, with all the new singing talent joining

HHLT, is to have a showcase type event in the order of “An Evening with Andrew Lloyd Webber”. Will be ready to present by next meeting and will vote then.

The **next meeting of the Board** will be Tuesday, June 3, 6 p.m. at Andy Mays’ home – 13485 Victory Gallop Way.

The **next General Meeting** will be on Monday, May 19, 4 p.m. in Mountain View Room.

**Motion** by Billy: To adjourn meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Grillo  
Secretary

### Upcoming General Membership Meetings

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 4 p.m. in the Mountain View Room of the Clubhouse.

Future meeting dates are June 16th and July 21st. All meetings are held in the Mountain View Room of the Clubhouse unless otherwise notified.

### PR-18: Working with HOA and Food and Beverage Committee

Gene Schmiel and Andy Mays have been trying to get on paper that HHLT will not have to pay for a bar to guarantee use of the ballroom on play dates. Andy attended the last Food and Beverage Committee meeting to back the passing of PR-18, which says a bar is not needed to secure dates for use of ballroom. Under the proposed PR-18, groups, like HHLT can schedule and have an event without being moved due to a paid event. Specifically, the language is: “A resident event may not be relocated Sunday through Thursday for an outside contracted event. In the case of a significant event, an appeal will be discussed with the chair of the Food and Beverage Committee in collaboration with the Board of Directors.” This is an important decision that will benefit many chartered Heritage Hunt groups.

Stay tuned!

## Local Talent!

Proceeds from our programs help fund scholarships for children and youth who have a passion for theater. One inspiring recipient is Nick Villacorte, who was awarded an HHLT Scholarship in June 2019. Nick graduated from Colgan High School for the Performing Arts, earned his B.A. in Theater from Shenandoah University in 2023, and now teaches Theater and Drama at Reagan Middle School.

Recently, Kathryn and Gene Schmiel attended a production of *Jersey Boys* at the Fauquier Community Theater. Nick delivered an amazing performance as Tommy DeVito, showcasing his talents in acting, singing, and dancing.

The photos below capture Nick with HHLT's Gene Schmiel—one taken just after receiving the scholarship in 2019, and one at the *Jersey Boys* performance.



*Thank you,  
Kathryn  
Schmiel, for  
providing  
content for  
this article.*

## Variety Show

Speaking of local talent — Heritage Hunt Little Theater is proud to announce that it will be producing a Variety Show on December 10. What's old is now new, and this show is an update of what was previously called the Holiday Show, hosted by Dave Anderson.

The variety show will include a number of participants from the past, but will now also highlight contributions from not only HHLT but also welcomes additional artists/talent from across the Heritage Hunt community. But don't worry – there will still be some Christmas carols! More details to come!

# HHLT Member Spotlight



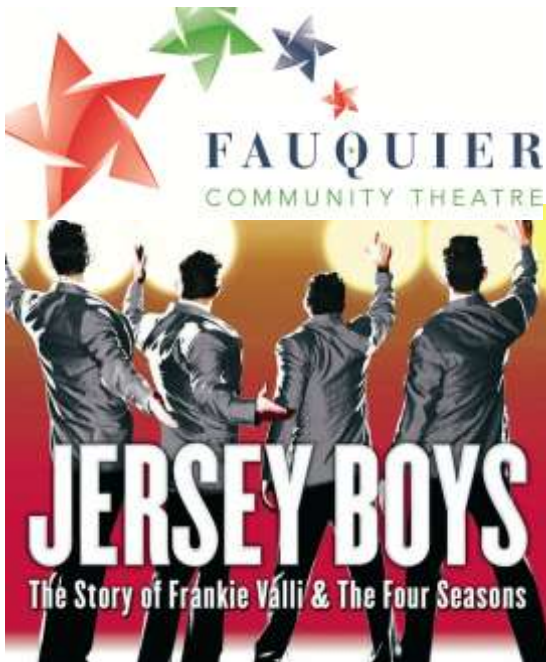
## Maryann Lesnick, HHLT Communications Chair

Where were you born and raised?	I was born in Plainfield, NJ and grew up in Piscataway (Exit 10), which is in Central Jersey on the Raritan River. I followed my high school sweetheart to the University of Maryland, where I got my BS in Math and Computer Science (1975). I later (2003) got an MS degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Maryland University College. After college, I got married and moved to Manassas, Virginia. Jim Lesnick and I divorced in 2000, but we have two sons who are married and live in Manassas.
What was/is your occupation (s)?	I worked for many years as a computer programmer (software developer in today's language), for PEPCO, the US Postal Service, and various "Beltway Bandits" doing government contracting. As I managed more and more of these contracts, a big part of my job was preparing proposals for the next award and for other business the company was pursuing. Eventually, I made Proposal Management my full-time occupation. The rest of my career involved business development, capture, writing, editing, and preparing proposals. I still teach a class twice a year on <b><i>Proposal Management for Government Contractors</i></b> through Lohfeld Consulting Group.
A little known fact about you?	I own a condo on the Jersey Shore, in Stone Harbor, NJ where I spend my summers now that I am retired!
What motto do you live by?	No one can hurt me without my permission (Mahatma Gandhi)

LSTV at work...



## Current and upcoming local theater options



May 2, 2025 - May 18, 2025



### Bright Star

Sept. 12 - 28, 2025

### White Christmas\*

Dec. 5 - 14, 2025 (\*New!  
Saturday matinees added!)

## Fauquier Community Theatre

48th Anniversary Season 2025 - 2026

### Dirty Work at the Crossroads

Jan 23 - Feb. 8, 2026

### Calendar Girls

March 6 - 22, 2026

### Tales of the Artisan

May 1 - 17, 2026

Fri. and Sat. 7:30 pm, Sun. 2 pm  
4225 Aiken Drive, Warrenton, VA  
All tickets are for reserved seating  
Summer Camps: June-July 2026

Purchase Tickets in Advance:  
Online: [www.FCTstage.org](http://www.FCTstage.org)  
Phone: 540.349.8760  
Email: [Info@FCTstage.org](mailto:Info@FCTstage.org)

**Our 59th Season**

**October 2025**      **January 2026**




**March 2026**      **April/May 2026**




# HADESTOWN

## TEEN EDITION

Performances: June 12-15

Art © by SpotCo


**StageCoach Theatre Company, LLC**  
 20937 Ashburn Road, Suites 115 and 120  
 Ashburn, VA 20147  
 571.477.9444  
[info@stagecoachtc.com](mailto:info@stagecoachtc.com)

**Reston Community Players**  
 Sunset Business Park  
 266 Sunset Park Dr.  
 Herndon, VA, United States, 20170  
[www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org)

Presented by  
**THE WOMAN IN BLACK**  
 October 2025  
 Hylton Performing Arts Center  
 Manassas, VA

**NextStop**  
 theatre company

MAY 8-JUNE 8



**FOOTLOOSE**  
 THE MUSICAL

269 Sunset Park Drive  
 Herndon, Virginia 20170

Little Theater of  
 Alexandria



Performances June 7-28.

## Monthly Trivia Quiz

### *Singers and their Signature Songs: (answers next month)*

- |                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Louis Armstrong | A. Dream a Little Dream of Me |
| 2. Frank Sinatra   | B. Love Me Tender             |
| 3. Ella Fitzgerald | C. Sweet Caroline             |
| 4. Elvis Presley   | D. What a Wonderful World     |
| 5. Neil Diamond    | E. Jolene                     |
| 6. Dolly Parton    | F. Strangers in the Night     |



### *April Answers (Renowned Songs From Broadway):*

- |                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 42nd Street          | A. Master of the House            |
| 2. Chicago              | B. I Believe                      |
| 3. Les Misérables       | C. Masquerade                     |
| 4. Phantom of the Opera | D. Lullaby of Broadway            |
| 5. Lion King            | E. Razzle Dazzle                  |
| 6. The Book of Mormon   | F. Can You Feel the Love Tonight? |

### *Senior Citizen Text Codes*

BFF—Best Friend Fell  
 LOL—Little Old Lady  
 BTW—Bring The Wheelchair  
 TTYL—Talk To You Louder  
 BYOT—Bring Your Own Teeth  
 LMDO—Laughing My Dentures Out  
 WAITT—Who Am I Talking To?  
 OMSG—Oh My! Sorry Gas  
 GGPBL—Gotta Go Pacemaker Battery Low  
 ROFLACGU—Rolling On Floor And Can't Get Up

### **Stage Manager's Prayer:**

Lord grant me the  
**Serenity** to accept  
 the things that I  
 cannot change,  
 the **Courage** to  
 change the things  
 I can, and the  
**Wisdom** to hide  
 the bodies of  
 those actors I had  
 to kill because  
 they **pissed me**  
**off.**

### 2025 HHLT Board of Directors

President	Tom Taggart	703-743-1435	leatherstocking46@comcast.net
Vice President	Billy Clay	703-577-8884	bclay1976@gmail.com
Secretary	Sandy Grillo	571-248-2925	sandyg0105@live.com
Treasurer	Helen Gillikin	703-743-5823	helengillikin1@outlook.com
Activities	Sally Peterson	703-369-3492	scp211@aol.com
Membership	Alec Winfrey	202-430-9572	aw333@msn.com
Member-at-large	Gene Schmiel	703-743-1305	geneofva@gmail.com



**HHLT 2025 Board of Directors** (Left to Right): Alec Winfrey, Sandy Grillo, Tom Taggart, Sally Peterson, Billy Clay, Helen Gillikin, and Gene Schmiel

### Our Mission

The mission of the Heritage Hunt Little Theater is to present live theater productions for the cultural education, entertainment and inspiration of the community; to foster and develop, through theatrical workshops and other appropriate means, the artistic talents and skills of its members and other interested persons; to engage in and subsidize social activities designed to foster the forgoing purposes of the organization as limited by federal and/or state laws.

### HHLT Committees for 2025

Communications/ Publicity Committee	Maryann Lesnick	703-479-0673	mlesnick@mlesnick.com
	Andy Mays	703-608-2403	amays53@aol.com
	Kathy Carrico	703-336-3876	kcarrico327@gmail.com

The Communications Committee provides general publicity, publishes the HHLT newsletter, coordinates with the website manager to maintain the HHLT website and social media, writes a monthly Horn article, and keeps members up to date on meetings, times, locations, special notices, and other matters. The chair is a non-voting member of the Board and attends monthly Board meetings.

Visit HHLT's  
Facebook  
group and  
Website!



**HHLT**



**HHLT 2025 Communications Committee:**  
Maryann Lesnick, Andy Mays, and Kathy Carrico (not pictured)