

# Heritage Hunt Little Theater Play Time

## Senior Theater at its best

September 2025

HHLittletheater.org



Tom Taggart

### President's Message by Tom Taggart

Wow! It is September already. Where did the summer go? But take heart, there are still plenty of HHLT activities to fill your calendar.

This month we have the annual picnic/talent show which will replace our regular general meeting. Note the date and location change. The picnic is at **3:30 at Marsh Mansion on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**.

We have the mansion from 2:30 to 7, so come early and help set up.

HHLT will furnish the hot dogs, buns, and condiments as well as drinks (soda, ice tea, water — sorry no bar this time). We need folks to bring side dishes, preferably finger food items. If you have a talent you wish to highlight, contact Sally Peterson. This is a great event to cap off the summer. Hope to see y'all there.

In November we will have our election of the 2026 board. We will have at least two vacancies so here is an opportunity to support the business of HHLT. Please consider running for a position on the 2026 board. Contact Billy Clay if you would be willing to serve.

We also need to plan for our spring 2026 production. We are looking for a viable script and a director to take the helm. I know there are folks out there who would make a good director. Are you one of them?

Tom

### RADIO DAZE — HHLT Fall Play

Get ready to return to those thrilling days of yesteryear with classic old radio programs like *Gunsmoke*, *The Bickersons*, *The Thin Man*, *Our Miss Brooks*, and *Dragnet*.

Rehearsals are underway for *Radio Daze*, and we are looking forward to delivering a great performance October 7 -9. Registration forms are available at the front desk. Any questions, please contact Gene Schmiel, Director, at [geneofva@gmail.com](mailto:geneofva@gmail.com), or Walt Meyer, Producer, at [waltmeyer@aol.com](mailto:waltmeyer@aol.com).



**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!**

### Dates to Remember:

**General Membership Meetings** — Wed. Sept. 17 at 3:30 pm, potluck picnic and talent show at Marsh Mansion, and Tue. Oct. 20 at 4 pm in the Mountain View Room

**Board Meeting** — Tue. October 14, 6 pm at Maryann's house

**HHLT Fall Play, Radio Daze** — October 7-9

**HHLT Variety Show** — December 10

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# The Heritage Hunt Little Theater

## Radio Daze

Gunsmoke \* The Bickersons \* The Thin Man  
Our Miss Brooks \* Dragnet

Director: Gene Schmiel    Producer: Walt Meyer



**October 7-9, 2025**

**Tuesday and Thursday Evenings \* 7:00 p.m.**

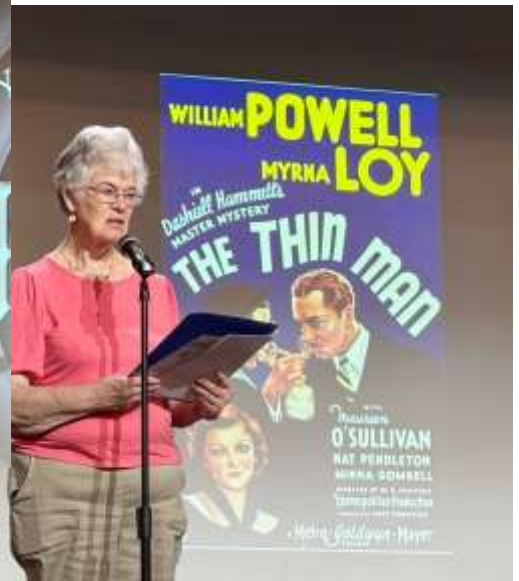
**Wednesday Matinee \* 2:00 p.m.**

**Great Oak Ballroom \* Theater Seating \* \$10/PP**

**Use the ORANGE HHLT reservation form**



## Radio Daze Rehearsals



## HHLT Board Meeting Minutes—September 2, 2025

**Members present:** Tom Taggart, Sandy Grillo, Helen Gillikin, Billy Clay, Mariann Lesnick, Sally Peterson, Gene Schmiel

**Excused:** Alec Winfrey, Andy Mays

**Motion** by Gene, seconded by Sally: to approve minutes of July 3, 2025. NO MEETING IN AUGUST.

**Pres. Report:** No report

**V Pres. Report:** 1. Need people to run for Board in November. Discussed possibilities, several new members to consider. Can be nominated or self-nominated.

2. Need play and director for spring production. Cannot get dates until charter is passed in October. Will try to get dates the last week of March 2026. A new rule – bar not needed to secure ballroom for dates of plays, flat \$200 if have bar in room. If event is in Marsh Mansion, \$250.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance \$8,865.16.

**Activities:** Picnic and Talent Show at Sept. meeting. Hot dogs, buns, ice and condiments will be provided. Will need finger foods and desserts. No bar this time. Will have rooms in Marsh Mansion from 2:30. Don McMillan will bring his karaoke machine. It is self-contained. People wanting to perform need to tell Sally so she can create a program, very few have so far.

**Membership:** 7 new members joined in August.

**Communications:** Working on newsletter. Passed on news that Mary Gorodnick is very ill. All of our prayers are with Mary, a beloved, longtime member of HHLT.

**At Large:** Still working with Andy Mays on letters for scholarships. If not completed by end of term and Gene chooses not to run again, will be completed by next At Large member.

**Old Business:** 1. Alec sent word that the Talent Show planning was coming along. Several questions came up as to the process. Next month, it will be discussed further.

2. Fall play practice going well. Have 10 rehearsals left. Mostly working on timing now. The actors in the production will be ready.

**New Business:** LSTV has a large wish list. At top, is a follow spotlight – cost is \$25,000, way above our budget. Will request a list of things along with cost that they want. We have made donations to LSTV yearly to thank them for all of their help. Several possibilities were discussed, among them more body microphones.

### HHLT Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month and are open to any member who wishes 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 Board Meeting Minutes*, cont'd from p. 4.

The next meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, October 14 – note date change. It will be held at Maryann Lesnick's home, 13372 Fieldstone Way at 6 p.m.

The **next General Meeting** will be a picnic 3:30 p.m. in Marsh Mansion on Wed. Sept. 17. Bring your favorite finger food, come and enjoy!

**Motion** by Billy Clay, seconded by Gene Schmiel: to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Grillo, Secretary



## HHLT General Meeting Minutes

There was no general meeting in August.



## Upcoming General Membership Meetings

The September general meeting will be held at Marsh Mansion on **Wednesday, September 17** at 3:30 pm (set-up at 3:00), so please make note of the change in both **date and location**.

This will be our annual picnic and in-house talent show. If you'd like to perform, please contact Sally Peterson at [scp211@aol.com](mailto:scp211@aol.com) to reserve your spot. Our main course will be hotdogs with all the trimmings and we invite everyone to bring a side dish or dessert - preferably finger foods. Soft drinks and water will also be supplied.

This is an opportunity for some fun as we invite you all to entertain us with whatever you like - it is your time to shine. Read or recite a poem or monologue; play an instrument; sing a song or two (and get us to join in); charm a snake; tell a story - a short story!!; tell a joke; This is our version of America's Got Talent so step up and do your thing.

Please email Sally Peterson at: [scp211@aol.com](mailto:scp211@aol.com) to say what you would like to do so she can put a program together.

## 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 Spring Performance, 2026!

**We are seeking suggestions for our Spring Play, including a Director!**

The *Play Proposal Process* and *Proposal Form* are available at:

<https://hhlittletheater.org/about/misc/>



## Variety Show Update

Alec Winfrey, Director of the Heritage Hunt Little Theater Variety Show, reports that the Variety Show coming together. Admission will be free, but we will ask for monetary donations to Haymarket Food Bank and UVA Cancer Center.

If you would like to be in the show, contact Alec Winfrey at 202-430-9572 or [aw333@msn.com](mailto:aw333@msn.com) as soon as possible.

## Please Consider running for the Board in 2026!

Three board positions end in December—please consider nominating yourself (or convince a friend) as a candidate! Contact Billy Clay at [bclay1976@gmail.com](mailto:bclay1976@gmail.com) or 703-577-8884 for more information or to make a nomination. Below are relevant excerpts from the HHLT Bylaws.

### Section 5: Board of Directors

1. The Board shall consist of seven (7) members, elected by the general membership at the meeting in November and one (1) non-voting member appointed annually by the president of the board.
2. The voting Board members shall be the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Chair, Activities/Program Chair, and Member At-Large. Individuals to fill these positions are selected by the elected Board after each annual election, at a combined board meeting that is held in December. The non-voting member appointed by the President shall be the Communications/Publicity Chair.
3. The term of office for each elected Board member shall be two years, with four (4) members elected in one year and (3) in the following year. No elected member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
4. At the meeting in November, the membership shall elect the Board by a majority vote of the members present.
5. If the office of President becomes vacant, for any reason during the elected term, the Vice-President shall become Interim President. Vacancies in any other elected office shall be filled by a simple majority vote at a regularly scheduled general meeting. After such an election, the newly constituted Board shall have the right to reorganize the positions other than President.

### Section 9: Election Procedures

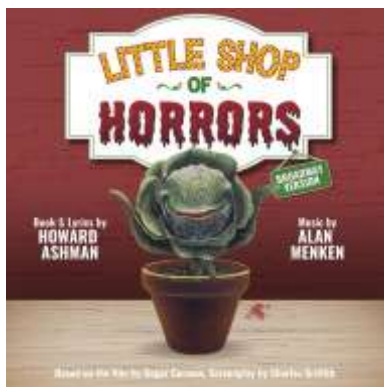
- ...
2. Only members of HHLT whose dues are current may be nominated or vote in the election. A simple majority of the votes of those present at the November general meeting and the absentee ballots will elect new board members. If there are more nominees than board positions to be filled, the election will be by paper ballots.
- ...

Join us on Facebook  
and visit our website!

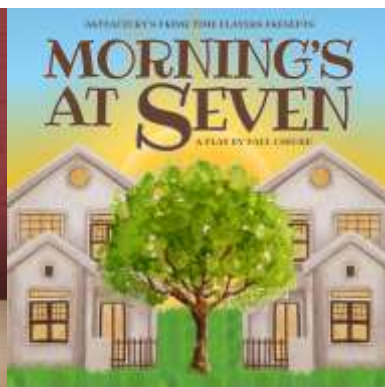


**HHLT**

## Current and upcoming local theater options



Sept 19-28 at Hylton  
Performing Arts Center



Sept 19, 20, & 21 at the  
ARTfactory, Battle St.,  
Manassas



Oct. 3-4 at the  
ARTfactory, Battle St.,  
Manassas

### NOTE:

HHLT members

**Carolyn Cameron**  
and  
**Tina Mullins**

are cast members in

**Mornings at Seven**

showing this month  
at the ARTFactory!

**ARSENIC & OLD LACE**

By Joseph Kesselring  
September 6-21, 2025  
Produced by Katie Pond  
Directed by Kat Brais

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Visit LOUDOUN  
DC's Wine Country

**STAGE COACH**  
THEATRE COMPANY  
20937 Ashburn Road, Suites 115 and 120  
Ashburn, VA 20147  
571-477-9444  
www.StageCoachTC.com

VIRGINIA IS FOR THEATRE LOVERS

**Dracula**

Adapted by William McNulty  
Produced by April Bridgeman  
Directed by Tony Marshak  
October 2025

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

Visit LOUDOUN  
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THEATRE COMPANY

StageCoach Theatre Company, LLC  
20937 Ashburn Road, Suites 115 and 120  
Ashburn, VA 20147



## More local theater options



### Fauquier Community Theatre 48th Anniversary Season 2025 - 2026

#### Bright Star

Sept. 12 - 28, 2025

#### White Christmas\*

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

#### 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)

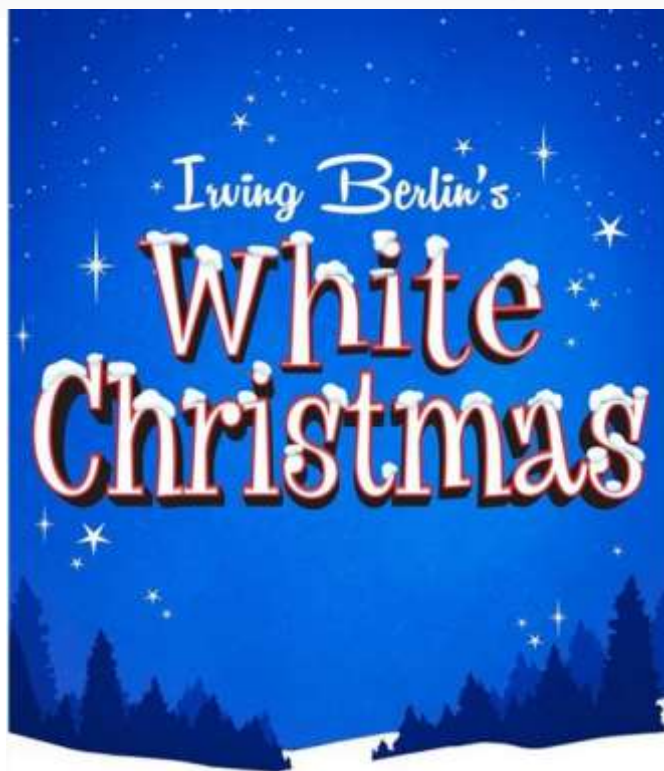
Phone: 540.349.8760

Email: [Info@FCTstage.org](mailto:Info@FCTstage.org)



#### Bright Star

Sep 12, 2025 - Sep 28, 2025



#### White Christmas

Dec 5, 2025 - Dec 14, 2025



## More local theater options

**Vienna Theatre Company**  
in  
'25 - '26

**MY FAIR LADY**  
Spring 2026  
Lyrics and Book - Allen Jay Lerner  
Music by - Frederick Loewe  
Adapted from George Bernard Shaw's PLAY and  
Gabriel Pascal's MOTION PICTURE  
Pygmalion

**The Sunshine Boys**  
by Neil Simon  
Winter 2025

**Becky Nurse of Salem**  
by Sarah Ruhl  
Fall 2025

**THE WOMAN IN BLACK**  
October 2025

**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE**  
A LIVE RADIO PLAY  
DECEMBER 2025

Prince William Little Theatre  
Performances at  
Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA

**DREAM HOUSE**  
Sep 11-Oct 5, 2025  
**NextStop**  
theatre company  
269 Sunset Park Drive  
Herndon, Virginia 20170

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

**Our 59th Season**  
October 2025 January 2026

**RICHARD O'BRIEN'S  
THE ROCKY  
HORROR  
SHOW**

**SHE KILLS  
MONSTERS**  
By Qui Nguyen

**March 2026 April/May 2026**

**WHAT THE  
CONSTITUTION  
MEANS TO ME**  
BY HEIDI SCHRECK

**FUNNY  
THINGS  
HAPPENED  
ON THE  
WAY  
TO THE  
FORUM**  
BOOK BY  
BURT SHEVELOVE  
AND LARRY GELBART  
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY  
STEPHEN SONDHEIM  
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY  
HAROLD E. PRINCE

## Monthly Trivia Quiz

### August Answers (Original Actors from Radio Programs):

- |                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Our Miss Brooks | A. Francis Langford and Don Ameche |
| 2. The Bickersons  | B. Jack Webb                       |
| 3. Gunsmoke        | C. Eve Arden                       |
| 4. The Thin Man    | D. William Conrad                  |
| 5. Dragnet         | E. Les Damon                       |

Just 4 Fun ...



Why do they say “break a leg” in the theater?  
*Because they want to see you in a cast.*

DESTINATION	HOW TO GET THERE
Georgia	Midnight Train
Clarksville	Last Train
Heaven	Stairway
Hell	Highway
Hotel California	Dark Desert Highway
Kansas City	Train, Plane, or Walk
Scotland	High Road or Low Road
Carolina	In Your Mind
Paradise	With Two Tickets
The Sea	Fly Like An Eagle
Central Station	High on Cocaine
Gulf of Mexico	Straight Down the Mississippi River
Over the Line	One Toke
Home Tonight	10 Forward Gears and a Georgia Overdrive
Sea of Green	Yellow Submarine
Round the Mountain	Six White Horses
Honalee	A Boat With Billowed Sail

I asked my dog what's  
two minus two?

She said nothing.



“Vaping”  
back in  
my day.





**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

**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.



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

**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.

Visit HHLT's  
Facebook group and  
our Website!



**HHLT**