

*It's communication—
that's what theatre is all about.
Chita Rivera*

Newsletter of the Heritage Hunt Little Theater



Play Time

MAY 2008

From the President

by Denny Cumber, President

Attention! WHHC is almost ready to present its premier broadcast! The rehearsals have been fun for all and I know these first broadcasts will tug at many a sentimental chord in our audience as they relive the 'old days.' And for us in the Little Theater, it's a blast stretching our wings and doing something new. Break a lip!

Summer's coming and with it, the Senior Theater USA Performance Festival in Baltimore, Md., June 10-15, 2008. John Astin who played Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family* for so many years will be the keynote speaker on Tuesday night, June 10th. Now would be a good time to make arrangements to attend some or all of the festival so please either call me or email me for copies of the brochure. There will be an opportunity to join one of the performances scheduled for Saturday evening, June 14th. Any takers?

Another update on theater goings in our area: construction has begun on the new Hylton Performing Arts Center in Prince William County scheduled to open in spring, 2010 and operated by George Mason University. There will be several venues available from the large Merchant Hall with 1,166 seats to smaller theater spaces than can house smaller theatrical performances. Good news for all of us who love the theater.

Don't forget to mark July 13th on your calendar for our annual summer picnic, place and time TBD.

See you at the radio station!

Going, Going, Gone!

by Bets Knepley, Director



Soon *Old Time Radio* will join the list of plays that HHLT has produced. But it will remain as a special memory for all who participated in it.

I believe that everyone who participated had fun and hope that all who watched (or listened) enjoyed it. We had not one show, but six! We had not only Actors, but Sound Effect Artists! We had live music! We really spread our wings and flew high!

A million thanks to all!

Coming Soon

by M.J. Brickach

Gentlemen, save the dates! As previously announced, scripts for *Twelve Angry Men* will be available the first weekend in June, Saturday, the 7th and Sunday, the 8th, for you to pick up in the Clubhouse Board Room. The time is 1pm until 4pm. Both days, other info will also be there to help you read and visualize the play as well as to decide what part(s) you would like to audition for.

Auditions will be held the last weekend in June, Saturday, the 28th and Sunday, the 29th. Saturday 12pm to 3pm. Sunday evening 4pm til 7pm (or later) in the Billiards Room. Yes, even on a weekend, I had trouble getting the Billiards Room, but I want to hear how all your voices sound in there without microphones.

I've already spent ten months planning this production (Nov 1-8), so please don't let me down. Sincerely, M.J. Brickach, Director (703-743-1614)



Highlights from the April Minutes

by Jane Becker, Acting Secretary

☑ Activities—

Joyce Mancini said the May classic movie night was cancelled. The next movie night will be June 7th and the movie will be *Casablanca*.

Joey Wagner said the picnic still does not have a location but the membership voted to have the gathering July 13th. Joey will continue to work on finding a location.

☑ **Membership**—The Board opened discussion about offering free HHLT membership to LSTV crew members who are involved with Little Theater productions. The feeling is that several LSTV crew members devote a lot of time and energy helping with productions and we would like to acknowledge our appreciation. Offering free membership would require a change in our bylaws so the membership voted to extend invitations to parties and gatherings as a way of saying thank you.

The Board decided that we should submit articles for our newsletter column, Spotlight, highlighting current members of Little Theater. Pat Boggs will be the lead on this project and she will do the first one. The goal will be to interview and provide an article every other month.

☑ **Theater Workshop**—Bets Knepley reported that the next workshop will be held in the card room on August 9th and will start at 9:30am. It will be for anyone interested in learning about directing. Lisa Nanni-Messegee from Northern Virginia Community College will be the Workshop Leader. The membership agreed that the workshop should be open to all residents of Heritage Hunt and to invite members of other senior theater groups in the area.

☑ **May Production**—Bets Knepley, director of the May production, *Old Time Radio*, announced that ticket sales are going well. Friday night is oversold but there are remaining seats for Wednesday & Thursday. They are still looking for some props.

2008 General Meeting Dates

For several reasons, all of our General Meeting Dates will not fall on the 4th Thursday of the month. Below are all the meeting dates for 2008. Please record these now, so you can attend all meetings. Thank you.

Tuesday, May 13

Thursday, June 26

Thursday, July 24

Thursday, August 28

Thursday, September 25

Thursday, October 23

Thursday, November 20



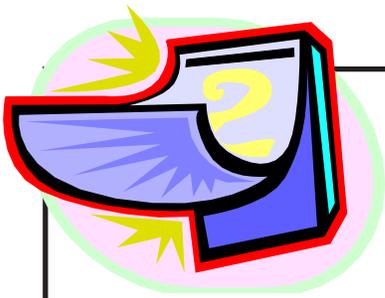
Classic Movie Night

by Joey Wagner

Plan to join your friends on Saturday, June 7 at Joyce Mancini's home 13278 Fieldstone Drive at 7pm.

This 1942 American romance film, set in Casablanca during World War II, stars Humphrey Bogart as Rick Blaine and Ingrid Bergman as Ilsa Lund. It focuses on Rick's conflict between love and virtue: he must choose between his love for Ilsa and doing the right thing—helping her and her Resistance leader husband escape from Casablanca to continue his fight against the Nazis.

Although it was an A-list movie, with established stars and first-rate writers, no one involved with its production expected *Casablanca* to be anything out of the ordinary. It was just one of the dozens of pictures being churned out by Hollywood every year. With Bogart playing his first romantic lead, *Casablanca* won three Academy Award in 1943. The characters, quotations and music have become iconic and *Casablanca* has grown in popularity as time has gone by. It now consistently ranks near the top of lists of the greatest films of all time.



Put these Dates on Your Calendar

May General Meeting
TUESDAY, May 13 at 7pm-Craft Room

May 2008 Production Dates
Old Time Radio directed by Bets Knepley
May 21-23 in the Ball Room

Workshop
None in June
Saturday, July 12th at 10am—Craft Room
Reading of all woman cast play
The Smell of the Kill by Michele Lowe

Senior Theatre USA 2008 Fest
June 5-10 in Baltimore, MD

July Picnic
Sunday, July 13
Time & Location TBD
Guaranteed good food, fun & games!

Directing Workshop
Sat, Aug 9 at 9am-Card Room
9 ti 9:30am—Light Refreshments
9:30am to Noon—Directing Workshop
by Professor Lisa Nani-Messegee

November Production
Twelve Angry Men directed by M.J. Brickach
Production Dates: Nov 1-8 in Billiards Room
Pick up Scripts: June 7 & 8
Auditions: June 28 & 29
See Front Page Article for details

Save the Date

by Joey Wagner

The HHLT Annual Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 13th. Time and location TBD. Guaranteed good food, fun and games!

OOPS!

by Bill Harrison, VP

Bill Harrison has misplaced the first sign-up sheet for the 2008 Play Reading Committee. If you were at the April meeting and signed up you are OK. If you asked to be on the PRC earlier this year you will need to contact Bill again. His phone number is x1644 or you can e-mail him at wiharrison@comcast.net.

Bill apologized profusely at the meeting.



The Workshop

by Bets Knepley, Workshop
Coordinator

No Workshop will
be held in June.

While our guys
are working hard
on *Twelve Angry Men*, HHLT gals will
have an opportunity to read several
all women plays during July, September
and October.

For July, we'll read *The Smell of the Kill*. I've seen it twice, once in Florida and again at Wayside. It has been described as "a devilish, wicked, ultimately touching black comedy" and as "nice, mean fun...a deft little anti-love story...light-hearted, coldhearted." Sound intriguing, gals? Come to the July Workshop and decide for yourself!

Our August Workshop will be led by Professor Lisa Nanni-Messegee, from NOVA Manassas Campus. It will concentrate on directing—specifically, how to find a concept and shape it in a collaborative environment.

Plays under consideration for reading in September and October are: *Five Tellers Dancing in the Rain*; *The Dixie Swim Club*; *Nunsense*; *Steel Magnolias*; *The Ladies at the Alamo* and *Before Breakfast*.

Can you recommend any all women cast plays?

OLD TIME RADIO REHEARSAL PHOTOS by Ed Knepley

