

Stage Whispers



May

2015

Vero Beach
Theatre Guild

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Our Show-Stopping Season Finale!

In 1936, the writing team of George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart gave America the perfect prescription for a country coming out of The Depression—the laughter generated by their hit comedy, **You Can't Take It With You**. It won a Pulitzer Prize, an Oscar and recently played on Broadway, nearly eighty years later.



Director Dee Ridenour, who also directed *The Odd Couple*, has delightful surprises in store for this great way to finish what has been a highly successful season for the Guild. Her Stage Manager is Jami Dolan and Producer, Carole Strauss. As the story goes, Tony

Kirby (Ben Earman), son of the wealthy "Wall Street Kirbys" (Don Croteau and Debbie Chastain), has fallen in love with Alice Sycamore (Lorina Beniamino), a secretary at his father's office. Whereas Alice is seemingly normal, there is

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Thank you!

The VBTG received a generous donation for the purchase of a defibrillator, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Phyllis Klaben. As an all-volunteer community theatre, we are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors who answer the call to give again and again. To make a donation, please contact the VBTG Box Office at 772-562-8300, or visit us at 2020 San Juan



Dee Ridenour, Director
YCTIWW

When asked how long she has been in theatre, Dee Ridenour answers, **"Since before God."** That's a long time by my count. She has spent many years in "show biz" as an actress, dancer, choreographer and director with 3 theater groups in Detroit, Pompano Beach, and now with the VBTG. She graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in English and Florida Atlantic University with Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting/directing. In 1983, she opened "Center Stage D", an exercise and dance studio, in Vero Beach. In 1995 she directed her first show for the VBTG – *A Couple of White Chicks Sitting Around Talking* and she has directed 15 shows for the VBTG since then.

Dee has a large extended family that includes her daughters and son, 2 granddaughters and 8 great grandsons. Dee also is an adjunct at the IRSC and in her spare time enjoys the beach, painting and basket weaving, and, obviously, directing theatre productions at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild.



Mark Wygonik

Mark has been involved with the Guild since 1985, and has served as character actor/singer, set designer, choreographer, stage manager, and finally director. He is a recent recipient of the Richard A. Stark Cultural Leadership Award.

A Letter From Our President

We're coming up to the end of another Theatre Year...it hardly seems possible...but our 57th Season closes this month. Preparations are underway for the annual celebration of our efforts: THE GENIE AWARDS, with new ideas and surprises in store. The Guild has held the GENIES all over town...from the Museum of Art to Quail Valley Club, from the Heritage Center to the old Dodger Pines Country Club, from the Elks Club to both Riverside and Theatre Guild stages. **This year we'll be back at the Guild, getting a glimpse of the East Wing Expansion Project going up as we Tread the Red (carpet)! This was a year of powerhouse performances and barrels of belly laughs. I don't envy the GENIE Judges a bit...they have their work cut out for them.**

My three-year term on the Board of Directors ends in June, but volunteering my time to the Guild will continue on: Fundraising, and working with the Play-Reading and Grant-Writing Committees. **I'll be Directing a musical review this summer (no Gilbert & Sullivan this year), and finalizing that will be fun. And watching the three-story addition go from slab to fab will definitely be satisfying.**

A great FRIEND of the Guild's will be leaving us for an opportunity to go back to school, but promises that even though he won't be our paid Tech Director anymore, he will volunteer his time with Lighting Design! (Shawn...we owe you a big debt of gratitude, and we're glad you're still going to come around.)

If you're leaving to go back North...have a safe Summer, and see you in the Fall. If you're in Vero for the next 4 - 5 months...we'll be here providing year-round entertainment just for you.



"BROADWAY TO HOLLYWOOD/HOLLYWOOD TO BROADWAY" Directed by Mark Wygonik

Coming in July - a musical review *Broadway to Hollywood/Hollywood to Broadway...*stage shows that were made into movies and vice-versa. (*CHICAGO, TOMMY, SWEENEY TODD, MAMMA MIA, THE WIZ, YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN,* etc.). Auditions will be May 17th 18th, 24th, 7:00 p.m. at the Vero Beach Theater Guild. If you can sing and/or dance, you are welcome to audition. Rehearsals will be June and July. More information will be on our website www.verobeachtheatreguild.com, or call the Box Office at 772-563-8300 for more information. Keep an eye on your e-mail and mailbox for more specifics.

Casting Our Future CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

This essential East Wing Expansion Project will provide almost 5,000 square feet of space in a three-story building attached to the existing theatre. With your generous support, the Vero Beach Theatre Guild will enhance the facilities by providing:

- ◆ A state-of-the-art rehearsal hall and on-site storage for VBTG's valuable collection of costumes and props
- ◆ First-rate dressing rooms that will help to retain our talented actors and attract new volunteers

There are many ways to give and create a lasting legacy for your family through: Naming Opportunities, Recognition Plaques or Cash Donations.

For more information on how you can Be a Star in Casting Our Expansion's Future, call us at 772-562-8300, or DONATE ONLINE at www.verobeachtheatreguild.com.



Volunteer Spotlight on...YOU!



The 58th year of the Vero Beach Theatre Guild is right around the corner. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers in all areas of our theatre community. If you like to act, you are invited to attend our auditions. Audition notices are posted on our website at www.verobeachtheatreguild.com, in the Treasure Coast Palm newspaper, or you can call the VBTG Box Office at (772)562-8300 for more information. If acting is not for you, we have other volunteer opportunities **available in ...concessions...ushering...50/50 ticket sales...set construction... painting...lighting...sound...props...hair & make-up...box office...set dressing...stage manager...director...advertising...marketing...just let us know** what you would like to do.

This past year, our volunteers contributed over 40,000 hours to make the Vero Beach Community Theatre the best all community theatre along the Treasure Coast. If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer, please send an email to vbtgvolunteers@gmail.com and Laurretta will get back in contact with you. To all of our past & present volunteers: only with your dedication and commitment have we been able to put on the best productions of community theatre. THANK YOU to all the volunteers for your continued time and many talents.

(YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU — Continued from page 1)



nothing normal about her grandfather's household, where she resides. When Tony brings his stuffy parents to dine with Alice's family, things go very wrong for Mr. and Mrs. Kirby. Among other things, their visit results in wrestling with a larger than life Russian ballet instructor (Michael Fiore), a close encounter with inebriated actress, Miss Chardenay (Gregory Steenburgh), and a government raid.

The patriarch of Alice's family is Grandpa Vanderhof (Larry Strauss), who keeps snakes, goes to commencements and owes twenty-three years back income tax. Things heat up when IRS Agent Henderson (Carl Middleton) comes calling. Alice's mother, Penny (Susan Grandpierre), is a painter who writes melodramas while her father, Paul (James Daly), spends most of his time in the basement with his fireworks, assisted by Mr. Di Pinna (Steve Pagano), who also poses for Penny in a Roman toga. Alice's sister Essie (Kelli Adams) is a ballerina in constant motion whose husband, Ed (Walter Wells IV), prints subversive material, plays the xylophone and thinks he's being followed. Rounding out the cast are Grandpa's maid, Rheba (Alexis Riley), who practically flies through the set with pickled pigs feet and other culinary delights, Phillis Rock as a Russian Grand Duchess, and Brian Lacerda as a G-man. ☹

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Vero Beach Theatre Guild will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 2020 San Juan Avenue. The meeting will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to anyone who wants to attend, but only members of the Vero Beach Theatre Guild can nominate and vote. If you are a season ticket subscriber, you are automatically a member. Everyone must sign in at the door before they are admitted. There are four positions to be filled on the Board of Directors of the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. Nominations* will be accepted from the floor. (*Only members can nominate and vote.)

Membership

Are you a volunteer for the Vero Beach Theatre Guild, but haven't become a member? The Annual Meeting and election for Board of Directors is coming up in June, and to vote for your favorite Board Members, you must be a member of the VBTG. Membership is only \$35 and must be paid by May 11, 2015. If you are wanting to run for a Board position, your membership must be current. Don't delay...stop at the Box Office and pay by check, cash or credit card (American Express not accepted). Season Ticket subscribers are automatically members.

Vero Beach Theatre Guild

P. O. Box 1502
2020 San Juan Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32960



VISIT US AT:
verobeachtheatreguild.com

TICKET HOTLINE:
772-562-8300 or
verobeachtheatreguild.com

President: Mark P. Wygonik
Vice President:
Treasurer: Carole Strauss
Secretary: James Schorner
Directors:
Debbie Chastain
Don Croteau
Marlys Kauten
Bill Lembeck
Roberta Rose



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CURRENT OCCUPANT OR

TEAR OFF AND SAVE THIS SECTION FOR QUICK REFERENCE

Dates To Remember

- ◆ May 10 **Mother's Day**
- ◆ May 11 Membership deadline: to vote @ annual meeting
- ◆ May 14-24 **You Can't Take It With You**
- ◆ June 20 Genie Awards
- ◆ June 25 Annual Meeting/Election of Board of Directors
- ◆ **June 21 Father's Day**

2015/2016 Season

SEP 10-20

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE written by Ray Cooney



A Musical Comedy

NOV 5-22

HAIRSPRAY music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Scott Wittman, book by Mark O'Donnell/Thomas Meehan

JAN 7-17

SOCIAL SECURITY written by Andrew Bergman



MAR 3-20

THE KING AND I music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics and book by Oscar Hammerstein II

MAY 12-22

THE NERD written by Larry Shaw



TICKET HOTLINE:

772-562-8300 or

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE:
verobeachtheatreguild.com



Box Office Hours: 10-2 Mon-Fri
and 1 hour prior to curtain time
Hearing Assist Devices Available
Inquire at Box Office

Sorry, no refunds. Reservations by phone or online: VISA, Master Card or Discover.