

FALL 2016



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Perspective on Theatre in Bellport

Bellport was founded in the 1830's, and since the village incorporation in 1905, theatre has played a role in the community's culture. During WWI, Irving Berlin entertained in the Comet Theatre on Main Street in the building

that later housed Wallens Market (today, Copper Beech). In the 40's and later, the stage at the Bellport Community Center was a regular stop for touring professional shows, and a remnant of a box office is still visible in the lobby. Gateway Playhouse began in 1950, and Playcrafters began presenting quality community theatre in 1960. But it still startles me to hear long time residents say they were unaware that Bellport had a community theatre group.

Live theatre was once the only entertainment option in many communities, but in the 20th century that unique position was progressively eroded by new technologies – cinema, radio, television, cable, DVD, video games, personal computers and the internet. Our modern culture offers a surfeit of entertainment, and community theatre is challenged to maintain traction in the common cultural consciousness. That's why it is so important that Playcrafters has worked to integrate itself into the Bellport community. Our most important collaboration is with the Boys & Girls Club of Bellport, where we have presented performances since 2012. But we also cooperate with the Bellport Chamber of Commerce to provide the Bell Brothers casts for the trolley tours on Bellport Day. And we have a new initiative, working with Bellport.com to create radio plays available online. Moreover, Gateway and Playcrafters have begun to advertise in each other's programs. Look for us! We hope you'll see us all over Bellport during our 2016-17 season.

Joe Skelly

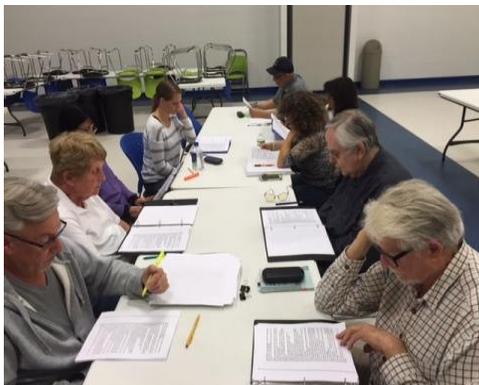
READERS THEATRE

Come see our Fall Readers Theatre presentation, "You Can't Take it With You" by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart directed by Matt Palace. The story centers around the patriarch of an eccentric family whose members do not care for money, but for having fun and making friends, and his granddaughter who is in love with a man from a family of rich snobs.

We are pleased to see many of our talented veteran Playcrafters members join this production, as well as welcome some new members to this eclectic cast of characters, (and we do mean characters). Our cast includes: Jean Rico, George Loizides, Claire Parella-Curran, Guy Palace, Ted Fleissgarten, Lisette Ruch, Peter Morrison, John Hannon, Marcel Paul, Dan Love, Megan Sullivan, Manny Buckvar, Jane Love, Amelia Chiaramonte, Des Burke and Michael Mullaney

Show date and times:

Saturday, November 12th at 8:00 PM & Sunday, November 13th at 3:00 PM



Admission to Readers Theatre is **free** to our members and \$10 to non-members.

For your convenience, we have included an invitation/ticket reminder at the bottom of this newsletter.

Pictured: L-R –John Hannon, Jane Love, Claire Parella-Curran, Meg Sullivan, Des Burke, Amelia Chiaramonte, Jean Rico, Ted Fleissgarten, Peter Morrison

SOUTH COUNTRY RADIO

With memories of mystery and intrigue from radio shows of yesteryear, we are very happy to partner with Bellport.com in the launch of their first in a series of Old Time Radio programs. Our premier selection, in the detective genre, is "The Dead Duck Caper". It featured Ted Fleissgarten, as the lead gumshoe detective who takes us through a narrative introducing a cast of questionable characters along the way. Supporting cast included: Meg Sullivan, Judy Perfido, Amelia Chiaramonte, Manny Buckvar, Peter Morrison, Annette Maillard, John Hannon, Matt Palace, and Vincent Rasulo.

Produced and Directed by Vincent Rasulo, assisted by Lisette Ruch, Asst. director, Amelia Chiaramonte, Recording by Larry Sribnick, Music by Des Burke, and Foley by Vincent Rasulo. We hope you will enjoy this little treat. Log onto Bellport.com and follow the link to South Country Radio.



Matt Palace photo bombing the cast: L-R -Judy Perfido, Vince Rasulo, Manny Buckvar, Ted Fleissgarten, Peter Morrison, Meg Sullivan

*Feel free to give us your feedback on our Facebook page.

AUDITIONS - WINTER PRODUCTION

RUMORS

Auditions for Neil Simon's hilarious hit, Rumors, Directed by Catherine Clyne, will be held on:

Monday, Nov 21st & Tuesday, Nov 22nd.

7:30 – 9:30 PM in our Theatre Space at The Boys & Girls Club of Bellport, 471 Atlantic Ave. Bellport

I am thrilled to be directing for Playcrafters for the first time. While we all love the comfortable and familiar style of Neil Simon, Rumors is a definite deviation from his usual writing and that is what attracted me to it. It seems that February is a fitting month to introduce some humor into the dark, cold winter months with this outrageously funny farce. Rumors made its Broadway debut at the Broadhurst Theater in 1988, and I was fortunate enough to see the original cast consisting of Christine Baranski (who won the Tony for Best Actress), Ken Howard, Jessica Walter, Ron Leibman and Joyce Van Patten. In the style of Moliere, the play is set during an elegant cocktail party, complete with formal attire and is completely different from any Neil Simon play you have ever seen. Please come out of the cold and laugh with us.

Catherine Clyne

Performance dates:

**February 10,11, & 17,18th 8:00 PM
February 12,19 Matinee 3:00 PM**

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Playcrafters Theatre Company has added a new feature to our Newsletter, highlighting past Margaret W. Smith Scholarship recipients, with an update on what they are up to today.

We would love to make this a continuing feature in our newsletters. If any of our membership can enlighten us on past scholarship winners we will include them in one of our future newsletters. Please send the information to: Playcrafters Theatre Company, P. O. Box 452, Bellport, NY, 11713, Att: Scholarship Chairman

Thomas Love- Bellport High, Class of '84

Tom lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio with his wife and two sons. He completed his undergraduate work at Columbia University and received his Ph.D in statistics from University of PA.. He works as a Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics at Case Western Reserve U. and it's Center for Health Care Research and Policy, and directs the data center for Better Health Partnership. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, and was added to the Bellport High School's Wall of Fame in 2010.

Following the example of his parents and brother (all long-time Playcrafters stalwarts), Tom has performed in more than 100 roles over the past 40 years, with community theatre groups in NY, PA and Northeast Ohio, including a couple of brief returns to Playcrafters. In 2014, he had the opportunity of playing his all-time dream role, Sweeney Todd, with the Aurora Community Theater. Currently, he is playing Harry in Sondheim's **Company**, in concert with the Chagrin Valley Studio Orchestra

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A reminder. Now that the new school year has commenced we want to continue to support the talented youth of our community. If you know of any young people entering their senior year at Bellport High School, deserving of this award, please, spread the word so they can take advantage of this opportunity. We generally notify the high school's administrative office in early January or February, with a submission deadline in April.

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THEATER FOLK

Several of our members are involved in productions throughout the island this fall. Please come out to support and cheer them on, knowing you are also supporting live theatre on Long Island.

Steвер's Reader's – Join Ed Steвер, Peter Morrison, Claire Parella-Curran, Amelia Chiaramonte, and Matt Pernice – in a performance their dramatic reading of:

Over The River and Through the Woods
Hauppauge Library, Sunday December 4th 2:00 PM

Flo Fedderman – **Calendar Girls**, Township Theatre Group at their theatre space at: Temple Beth El, Huntington **October 22, 23, 30, Nov. 5, 6**

Bob Kaplan - **Starcatcher** at the Smithtown Center for the Performing Arts, Smithtown, NY
Jan. 14, 2017 – Feb. 25

James Carey – **Christmas Carol** - a Musical" at the BACCA Arts Center, 149 N. Wellwood Ave., Lindenhurst.
www.stagelightent.com
December 9-18

Kathy Ljungqvist – **The Spirituality of Broadway Musicals**, written & directed by Dwight Lee Walker at Congregational Church of Patchogue
October 23, 7:00 PM.

Kevin & Catherine Clyne, & John Tighe **Something Intangible** – directed by Debbie Starker, Oceanside Library, Oceanside, NY
October 21, 7:00 PM

Check individual performance websites for phone, address and further information

CALLING ALL DIRECTORS!

Our Play Reading Committee will soon be accepting submissions from any Director who would like to direct a show during the 2017-2018 season which runs from August 2017-June 2018. Our main stage performances usually run in the fall, winter and/or spring. You can submit up to 3 plays that you would either want to direct or would be good for us to produce. If you submitted something last year, you will need to resubmit it. Each year starts a new list. Please start thinking about your choices!!

Playcrafters Theatre Company's invitation/ticket information

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

BY George Kaufmann and Moss Hart
directed by Matt Palace

Saturday, November 12 – 8:00 PM

Sunday, November 13, Matinee 3:00

TICKET INFORMATION:

Playcrafters Theatre Company members.....**NO CHARGE**

General Admission.....**\$10.00**

Playcrafters Theatre Company, Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713

www.bellport-playcrafters.com 631-748-7863