

## SUMMER 2016



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we wrap up our 2015-2016 season, all the members of Playcrafters should take great pride in the success of an ambitious season: *Twelve Angry Jurors* in Readers Theatre, *Don't Dress For Dinner* in autumn,

*Moon Over The Brewery* in winter, and *Wait Until Dark* in spring. Mounting three main-stage productions tested the resources of our group, but the directors, casts, and crews responded with grace and skill, and provided our audiences with exemplary theatre. Moreover, the Producers, so often unsung, brought in a financially successful season as well. The work of planning our 2016-2017 season has been underway for over six months, and the Board has devoted two meetings to resolving the surprising challenges we have encountered. Our new season is detailed elsewhere in this newsletter, but I must express our gratitude to everyone involved: the potential directors responded generously with suggestions of plays for the season, the Play Reading Committee labored heroically to review well more than a dozen plays, the Board for their commitment to planning an interesting season, and our hosts and collaborators at the Boys & Girls Club for their patience and cooperation in planning a schedule for our productions, even in the face of our changing requests as we dealt with our scheduling challenges. I have great confidence that we will provide another season of fine theatre for our members and audiences.

*Joe Skelly*

### OUR SPRING SHOW – WAIT UNTIL DARK



Our patrons went home and made sure their doors were locked, after seeing our spring production of *“Wait Until Dark”*.

Congratulations to the cast and crew for an evening of suspense and intrigue. With the exception of the director, Chris Fretto, who had to step in after the show was cast, the production introduced all

new faces to our stage! *“Wait Until Dark”* featured a multi-leveled set depicting a Greenwich Village basement apartment, expertly designed, built and decorated by our first-rate production team. Thank you to everyone involved with this show for all your hard work and loyalty

*Pictured above:* Julia A. Pulick & Amber Walkowiak

### 2016 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

We want to thank all of our generous members and patrons whose donations have gone to support our Scholarship Fund. It is with much disappointment that Playcrafters was not able to award a Margaret W. Smith Scholarship this year; unfortunately, none of the applicants were able to meet all of the Scholarship Committee's requirements. Each year the Margaret W. Smith Scholarship is available to one or more graduating seniors at Bellport high school who demonstrate a passion for the performing arts both on and off stage. Please help us in our endeavor to support the talented youth of our community by spreading the word about this great opportunity! We generally notify the high school in February with a submission deadline some time in April. Specific details will be submitted to the high school's administrative office in early 2017. Let's start networking now so we can continue awarding our talented youth in the future. Thank you,

*Vince Rasulo*, Scholarship Chairman

### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Unfortunately, due to rainy weather, Bellport's Memorial Day Parade had to be cancelled. We were unable to march and show our support for our fallen heroes, but they were and always will be, in our thoughts, prayers, and hearts. Thank you to the many volunteers who were prepared to join us. Come out and march with us next year to be part of our **2017** photo!



2015 Memorial Day Photo

### BELLPORT DAY BELL BROTHERS

Playcrafters will once again contribute towards the success of the annual Bellport Day Festival to be held on Saturday, **July 30<sup>th</sup>** from 11 am to 4 pm. In Bellport tradition, Joseph

Skelly, Vincent Rasulo and Jay Curran will transform themselves into Bellport's Bell Brothers - and show trolley riders our town like they've never seen it – exposing the history and interesting facts that make our quaint village such an amazing place. Please join us and the Bellport Chamber of Commerce down in the village for a great day of fun and entertainment!



Jay Curran, Joe Skelly & Vincent Rasulo - 2015 Bell Brothers

## READERS THEATRE

We will be moving our Readers Theatre presentation to the fall and have selected "You Can't Take it With You" by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart. The story centers around a man from a family of rich snobs who becomes engaged to a woman from a good-natured but decidedly eccentric family. "You Can't Take it With You" will be directed by long time Playcrafters member, Matt Palace, who will be making his directorial debut. Look for our audition notice in August.

### Show date and times:

Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM

Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM

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

## FLAMINGO ROAD'S 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Des Burke, Glenn Mohr, Rich Chiraz & Frank McDonald

On June 4, Des Burke and his fellow Flamingo Road band members celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their musical birth at the YMCA Boulton Center in Bay Shore. Friends, family and Playcrafter members in attendance were treated to Flamingo Road's unique sound of original music with a nostalgic nod to the melodic rock single that portray a variety of styles to communicate both humor and storytelling.

Congratulations Des.

### Mobile Tablet donation needed:

Playcrafters has made another improvement in its box office operations! You will remember when we implemented **B**rown **P**aper **T**ickets to allow for the advance purchase of tickets over the internet? Well we have now automated our box office so we can easily transact and track our ticket sales. But in order to do so, we need a **TABLET!** - either an iPad or an Android that you may not be using anymore. It can be a first generation device as this software can still run on it.

As a 501(c)(3) corporation, all donations are tax deductible. If you have such a device and you can donate it to Playcrafters, please contact Lisette Ruch at [lissetteruch@gmail.com](mailto:lissetteruch@gmail.com)

## BELLPORT.COM RADIO SHOW

Playcrafters' latest production, *The Adventures of Mack Steele -- The Dead Duck Caper*, will soon debut on Bellport.com's South Country Radio! Tune in to hear your fellow Playcrafters members recreate a classic private



detective radio play; we hope this will be the first in a series of radio show style productions featuring our talented members. Keep your eyes and ears open for more clues as this mystery unfolds...!

*Pictured:*

Judy Perfido, Manny Buckvar, Ted Fleissgarten, Peter Morrison

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## OUR 2016-2017 PRODUCTION SEASON

The Play Reading Committee and the Board were faced with several challenges in putting together our 2016-2017 season. Beyond the generous slate of works from which to choose, and the desire to craft a season that offered a balanced selection of drama, comedy and human interest, we found ourselves confronted with multiple scheduling problems. The most difficult of these was the belated discovery of a restriction on amateur performances of our first choice for a drama. With other constraints also curtailing our options, we finally have been obliged to delay the selection of the drama and move it into the spring slot, and move our Readers Theatre production into the autumn slot. Our plans include two possibilities for the spring drama, depending on availability of performance rights. We have scheduled a Neil Simon comedy for the winter slot.

Without further ado, Playcrafters' 2016-2017 season is as follows:

**Fall: Readers Theatre:** *You Can't Take It With You*, written by George Kaufmann and Moss Hart, directed by Matt Palace

Saturday, November 12, 8:00 PM

Sunday, November 13 – 3:00 Matinee

**Winter:** Main Stage Production: *Rumors*, written by Neil Simon, directed by Catherine Clyne

February 10, 11, 17, 18 - 8:00 PM

February 12, 19 – 3:00 Sunday Matinee

**Spring:** Main Stage Production: drama to be selected

May 12, 13, 19, 20 – 8:00 PM

May 14, 21 – 3:00 Sunday Matinee

*Joe Skelly, President*

**IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER AND ARE NOT YET A MEMBER AND WANT TO BECOME ONE, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IT TO US - ATT: MEMBERSHIP**

**\*Please make checks payable to PLAYCRAFTERS and mail to: *Support your favorite theatre group and become a member, or renew today!***

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