



KIRKWOOD THEATRE GUILD CALLBOARD

December, 2011

Notes from the President

One show down, another one begins, and a Holiday Party!

Well, we have completed our first production of the new season! I am happy to report that *Noises Off* was a complete success and this is due to so many KTG family members who worked on this production. If you weren't able to see this production, I hate to say it, but you missed a big hit. The turning of the set received a standing ovation on every production. I am happy to hear that we didn't have to send Steve Peirick to the hospital, although I think he must be black and blue from falling down the stairs so many times. If you see any of the cast members, crew members, or production team members, please be sure to thank them for all of their hard work. Let me just say AWESOME JOB to everyone involved in the show.

We had the auditions for *Doubt* and it was a great success. Sean, Director, and Carrie, Assistant Director, did a fabulous job in casting this production. I am pleased to see some returning faces to our stage, Jan Meyer and Steve Peirick, and some new faces, Tarrah Wiley and Emily Bolt. This is going to be a great production, so be sure to put it on your calendar to see.

We have started the holiday season, and I hope you and your family had a great Thanksgiving holiday. I would like to share some great news that affects all of our KTG family. Tom Day, Vice President/Treasurer, and Terry Sibbitts, Executive Director, has been working with a law firm representing KTG to St. Louis County to see if we could receive a reprieve from paying real estate and personal property taxes. The law firm was doing this as a pro-bono for KTG, through an organization called VLAA. I am so happy to report that we just received notification and that we will not have to pay any taxes this year or in the future for our real estate property or personal property. This is approximately a \$6,800 savings to us each year. If you see Tom or Terry, please be sure to thank them for all of their hard work in getting this accomplished.

I was happy to see so many of you at the KTG holiday party on December 2nd. I sure had a great time and I hope all of you did also. The food and drinks were just fabulous. I hope that you and your family have a great holiday season this year. My toast for this Call Board: "May the New Year bring you and your family much joy, happiness, and love."

Danny R. Austin

T'WAS FIVE MINUTES TO "PLACES"

by Robert Doyle

- T'was five minutes to "Places," and all through the house,
- Patrons read through the programs--Well, just a quick browse.
- They chatted and waited, and looked high and low,
- And waived to some friends sitting three rows below.
- The ushers, when needed, matched ticket to seat,
- Seeing the show for free just can't be beat.
- Thoughts of intermission, though, made them wince;
- Visions of so many hands clamoring for mints.
- The set was well-built; beautifully dressed, too.
- Like anyone's living room, but slightly askew.
- If you could remove each paint layer, right down to the last,
- You'd end up on a trip through productions past.
- The stage crew made sure set pieces were in place.
- They adjusted couch pillows and put back a vase.
- From last night's untidy Act II, full of chaotic fun,
- They reset the show to a tidy Act I.
- The director sat in her chair, with assistant nearby.
- The show was a comedy, but she was prepared to cry.
- With everyone's hard work, there'll be no need for tears,
- When the laughter of hundreds dance in her ears.
- Backstage, the actors made final makeup touches;
- Set down their brow pencils and dusty rouge brushes.
- They checked that their props were in the right place.
- They checked them twice, just to be safe.
- They studied their scripts and line-bashed a scene;
- For a lapse in memory can throw off the team.
- While only moments to the audience's ear,
- Onstage, the silence can seem like a year.
- In the booth, on high, sat the tech crew.
- The stage manager, on headset, to announce each cue.
- It's always important to get the cues right
- Or wallswitches may ring and doorbells create light.
- T'was the start of the show, the house lights were cut,
- The audience quieted and the doors were shut.
- Danny and Judy came down front and center
- While a few more patrons continued to enter.
- They made their announcements, in most pleasant tones,
- "Please, no taking pictures and turn off cell phones!
- We're sure you'll love this show, it's quite a dandy.
- Now is the time to unwrap any candy."
- You've been a wonderful audience, but this is enough.
- Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, break a leg, all that stuff!

~AUDITIONS~

NANA'S NAUGHTY KNICKERS By Katherine DiSavino

Sunday, January 22nd 6 pm, Robert G. Reim Theatre

Production Dates: March 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18

Director: Landon Shaw

Synopsis: The setting is what seemingly looks like a typical New York City rent controlled apartment where our sweet Nana, Sylvia Charles, has resided for a long time. She is about to spend the summer with her granddaughter, Bridget who will be attending law school in the fall. Bridget soon catches the eye of the new beat cop, Tom Grady. Sylvia's best friend is the hearing impaired Vera, whom she keeps an eye on daily. The "villain" is landlord, Gil Schmidt who is looking for any reason he can to evict our sweet Sylvia so he can make more money on his apartment. The comedic hitch is our sweet Sylvia's new (not so legitimate) business that could lose her everything, from her granddaughter's respect, to her long time home. *Nana's Naughty Knickers* is a new farce by Katherine DiSavino that at its core has a clever plot with multilayered characters and all of the elements a successful farce needs. The plot twists, the laughs are plenty and in the end, you may never look at your Grandma the same way again! Everyone will enjoy the antics of Sylvia and fall in love with *Nana's Naughty Knickers*...well, maybe not her knickers, but definitely the production as a whole!

Roles in Nana's Naughty Knickers

Sylvia Charles (Nana)-Age range late 60's-early 80's. Incredibly eccentric and charismatic, think "Auntie Mame" meets "Mama Rose", with a good dose of Lucille Ball added in. Looking for an actor with great comedic timing, physical comedy, ability to command the stage, but also be able to pull back as well. Looking for someone that can portray all of this in an honest and believable way while still coming across as innocent, sweet and genuine. Lead role

Vera Walters-Sylvia's good friend and accomplice. Age range early 70's-early 80's. Needs two hearing aids and a walker to even move and relies heavily on Sylvia. Willing to do just about anything she can for her friend. Because of her hearing loss and being somewhat "needy" she often seems lost or confused and genuinely is. Looking for an actor that has strong physical comedy skills, great timing and ability to find many levels in a character that can be construed as somewhat "stereotypical" based on her physical limitations. Loyal. Bold. Naive. However, she can be a bit of a curmudgeon and a tough cookie when necessary. Supporting Lead Role

Bridget Charles-Sylvia's granddaughter. Age range early to mid 20's. Strong, independent. Looking for someone that has a lot of range and can bring a lot of levels to a character that is written as kind of the "straight" character. Must be able to play innocent, but has a bit of a bite and a little devilish side to her. Lead Role

Tom O'Grady-The rookie cop who takes his job seriously. Age range mid to late 20's. Has a heart and genuinely loves his job and people. Somewhat naive. Good looking, great personality and charming. Finds himself becoming involved in Sylvia's "situation" and has to wrestle a bit with his job vs. his heart. Supporting Lead Role

Gil Schmidt-The landlord of Sylvia's apartment. Age range early 60's-early 70's. Very strong and dominating. Always seems angry and VERY eager to do all that he can to evict Sylvia so he can finally make more money. Large presence and little patience. Likes to believe he is in control and is with everyone...except his wife. Supporting Role

Heather Van Pree-Employee of "Saucy Lips". Age range mid 20's-early 30's. Sexy and not the brightest crayon in the box. Not a ditz, just someone who has perhaps not made the best choices and is more naive than she would like to admit. Looking for more in life and although she is strong, she also has a heart and is just looking for options. There is more than meets the eyes with her, but first impression is that one could easily mistake her for "a lady of the night" or someone who is involved in that line of work. Supporting Role

Clair-Sylvia's biggest and most loyal client. Age range late 50's-late 60's. Strong, sexy, classy and truly "In Charge". Think Joan Collins or Sophia Loren. Supporting Role

UPS Man-Typical UPS delivery person. Age range late 20's-mid 30's. Cute and definitely lonely. A bit awkward and somewhat socially inept. Minor Role

UPS Man # 2-Small role that will probably be doubled by someone else in the cast. In only one scene.

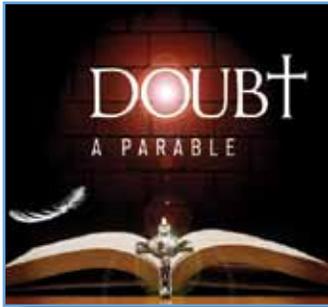
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Auditions consist of readings from the script.

Rehearsals will be every Monday, Wednesday & Thursday from 7-10 pm

at the Kirkwood Community Center beginning January 23rd. Tech week begins March 4th.

Please be prepared to list all conflicts at the audition. Please do not audition if you are unable to attend ALL tech week rehearsals and ALL performances.



DOUBT

by John Patrick Shanley
Director Sean Ruprecht-Belt
Opens January 20th

KTG's 81st Season Continues!

Set-Build for Doubt

Saturday, January 7, 2012

For those who can tote & carry

Move-in starts at 9 am~meet at theater

Build starts at about 10 am

Painting and detail work to start late am.

Work continues Sunday January 8th 10 am

KTG DRAMA STUDIO

New classes begin January 21st

12-90 minute sessions only \$150

Classes are at KTG office in Kirkwood

12:14 to 1:45pm

Instructor-Tom Murray

For questions or to register contact

tsibbitts@KTG-onstage.org

or call 314-821-9956

Questions? Please contact-

Production Manager Frank Lewis 314-821-3720

Ushers needed for upcoming show

Please contact Membership Manager,

Cherol Thibaut to schedule a date!

314-606-2295 or cherol.thibaut@yahoo.com

❖ **KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP ACTIVE** ❖

~New Members always welcome~

INVITE A FRIEND



Bert Wunderlich ~ Take A Bow



Albert Henry Wunderlich III is a St. Louis native, growing up in North St. Louis in the Baden neighborhood. Bert is the middle child of three, with an older brother and younger sister. Bert's father was a business owner, running the family's cooperage, a barrel making business. As the need for barrels waned, the firm began making corrugated boxes. Known today as Wunderlich Fibre Box Manufacturing Company, the firm recently celebrated its 150th anniversary. While attending John Burroughs high school, Bert worked for his father in the summers. Bert attended Princeton University, where he earned a degree in Economics. At the University he was part of Princeton University's Triangle Club, the oldest collegiate musical-comedy troupe in the nation. After graduation, Bert enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. Before he was scheduled to report for Officer Training School, the Triangle Club was hired for the summer by the Army as a USO show to entertain troops in Germany. Bert remembers it fondly as an amazing opportunity to perform and travel. After his 90 days at OTS in San Antonio, Bert drove back to St. Louis and then to New Jersey to marry a Rutgers girl a fraternity brother had introduced to him. Bert was assigned to Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California as a supply officer,

where Bert and Bobbe's oldest, a daughter, was born. They spent two years there before orders for a new assignment to Alaska were issued. Just before he was to report, an earthquake destroyed the base. He was then sent to the Prestwick Air Base in Scotland. While overseas, the Wunderlichs had their first son. A fringe benefit of Bert's position as Supply Officer was golfing with visiting personnel. He grew to love the game and still plays regularly.

Coming back to St. Louis, Bert worked for a year in the family business and then took a position with A.G. Edwards. Three years later, he joined Merrill Lynch as an investment broker. Bert and Bobbe had a second son and today have eight grandchildren. Bert continued with Merrill Lynch for 33 years, retiring in 2004. His sons now continue the business he built. Today, he enjoys his golf game, traveling with Bobbe, and spending time with his family.

Bert started acting in elementary school. He remembers performing in a clown suit for a PTA show. He also dabbled in performing magic and learned early that it was fun to have an audience. In college, he worked for the school's radio station as well as a regional station in Trenton. He even performed for a local theatre group in Scotland when they needed an American for Good Night Mrs. Puffin. In 1977, a high school acquaintance, Sara Lee Wheeler, contacted Bert on behalf of KTG. She wanted to know if he could "step in" immediately to replace someone who had dropped from a show that was already in rehearsal. He thought it might be fun "just once". He was in the next two KTG shows and has since been in 26 shows. He has played a few roles multiple times. He was Moonface in *Anything Goes* once in college, twice for KTG and he was the manager in *Damn Yankees* for both KTG productions 25 years apart! Bert is KTG's version of a Renaissance man, working at most set builds, acting on stage, and serving on the KTG Board. Bert estimates that he has been on the Board about half of the time he has been associated with the Guild. Bert was awarded Lifetime Member status in 2009 by then President, Cherol Thibaut. He has been an instrumental leader for KTG involved in some of the most major decisions over the years. He certainly deserves a round of applause for all his contributions!

81st Season Opens with Noises Off



Michelle Beczkala



Gary Sibbitts, Doug Chapis



Robert Doyle



Bob Shilts, Bert Wunderlich



Rebecca Davidson



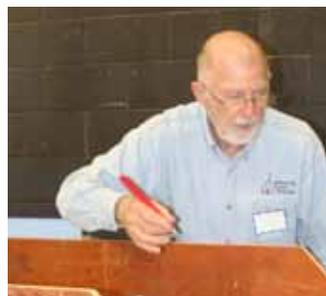
Chad Mott



Jeff Kargus, Nancy Nigh, Stephen Peirick, Richard Hunsaker, Janet Robey Schwartz, Kate Weber, Jason Meyers, Ann Hier



Really, Susan? That is dedication!



Bob Hotze



Russ Wertz



Anna & Bob Thibaut

THE CAST OF NOISES OFF



Tony Anselmo



Danny Austin, Ken Clark



Linda Menard, Lee Meyer

OUR AMAZING CAST & CREW



FRONT: Larry Harr, Terry Sibbitts, Ann Hier, Cherol Thibaut, Janet Robey Schwartz, Linda Menard, Robert Thibaut, Susan Wolff, John Davidson MIDDLE: Michelle Beczkala, Laura Ogilvie, TC Smith, Russ Wertz, Kate Weber, Nancy Nigh, Jeff Kargus, Richard Hunsakersaker, David Bornholdt BACK: Harold Feltmann, Steve Peirick, Jason Meyers, Chad Mott, Frank Lewis, Judy Lewis, Doug Chapis, JT Taylor, Lee Meyer, Ken Clark, Tony Anselmo

2011 HOLIDAY PARTY



Stephanie Merritt, Kent Coffel



Annie Bayer, Troy Turnipseed



Nancy Nigh, Steve Peirick



Linda Menard



Gloria Bender, Deb & Roger Dennert



Marilyn Lyons, Joan Gentry, Diane Hendrickson



Nancy Leahy, John Reidy



Danny Austin



JD Wade, Frank Lewis, Amanda Jackson



Russ & Sandy Wert, Bobbe Wunderlich



Brad Schwartz, Nancy Nigh, Jeff Kargus, Jennifer & Larry Harr, Janet Robey Schwartz, Sally Lister, Jason Sinclair



Jon Hey, Lauren Kistner



Amy Herbert, Tom Murray, Cherol Thibaut



Nancy Nigh, Judy Lewis-Birthday Girls



Paauline Smith, Martha Jane Mohler



Terri Wingert, Joan Thomas, Tim Wingert



Mary Hanson



Robert Doyle



Jan Seitz Wheatley, Matt Houck



Jan Bruns Mantovani, Mike & Chris Normile, Tom Day



Tom & Carolyn Yager, Richard LaViolette,
Jeff Kargus, Gary Bortosky



Molly Grun, Jeff Wright



Dan Guignon, Ren Binder

Kirkwood Theatre Guild
PO Box 220554
St. Louis, MO 63122

**KTG'S 81ST SEASON
BE A PART OF IT!**

For information regarding VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, AUDITIONS or TICKETS call 314-821-9956 or check at www.ktg-onstage.org. Don't forget to help KTG keep our contact information up to date~let us know when your address or email changes.

KTG BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2011-2012

President~ Danny Austin

VP & Treasurer~ Tom Day

Secretary~ Judy Lewis

Production Manager~ Frank Lewis

Artistic Manger~ Kent Coffel

Publicity Manager~Robert Doyle

Membership Manger~ Cherol Thibaut

2011-2012 SEASON

Doubt: a Parable

Performances~January 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28,29

Nana's Naughty Knickers

Auditions, 6 PM~January 22, 2012

Performances~March 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18,

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Auditions, 2 PM~February 26, 2012

Performances~May 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13

Check the KTG website~www.ktg-onstage.org for more information.