



You Can't Take It With You

In the 1930's, Americans needed to laugh. The United States was suffering through the harsh economic times of the Great Depression, and people went to theaters and movies to forget their troubles. So it is not surprising that in 1936 *You Can't Take It With You* was a commercial success. Written by **George S. Kaufman** and **Moss Hart**, this screwball farce filled the stage with eccentric characters who did funny things and made silly remarks while fireworks literally went off in the background. Both frantic and funny, this comedy gave audiences just the sort of escapist entertainment they wanted and won the Pulitzer Prize that year.



When the curtain goes up you will be introduced to the wacky Sycamore household. At first, the Sycamores seem mad, but it is not long before you realize that if they are mad, then the rest of the world is madder. In contrast to these delightful people are the unhappy Kirbys. Tony, the attractive young son of the Kirbys (played by **Kelly Roberts**), falls in love with Alice Sycamore (**Joy Norton**) and brings his parents to dine



at the Sycamore house on the wrong evening. The shock sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Kirby (**Frank Norton** and **Sandie Allaway**) shows Alice that marriage with Tony is out of the question. But Tony knows the Sycamores live the right way with love and care for each other, while his own family is the one that's crazy.

This show not only pleased Depression-era theater-goers, it went on in the decades which followed to become a classic American comedy. When **Frank Capra** filmed it in 1938, it

received the Academy Award for Best Picture of the year.

Barbara Huntington is directing the zany all star cast including **Barry Agin** as DePinna, **Randy Aronson** as Grandpa Sycamore, **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs** as Olga, **Marla Khayat** as Gay, **Kathy Lively** as Penny, **Tom Lund** as Ed, **Kamber Moen** as Essie, **Robert Monteone** as Kolenkhov, **Frank Rock** as Paul, **Regina Thomas** as Rheba, and **Michael Keane** as the G-Man. **Caroline Morgan** is the assistant director and **Loren Burghout** is the stage manager/lighting designer. **Lynn McQuown** and **Pat Robinson** signed on to create period costumes and set decorations. **Nanook** is in charge of the sound design, and **Jeff Vincent** is the musical director.

You Can't Take It With You will open on June 1 and play Friday and Saturday evenings at 8PM and Sundays at 1PM. Join in the Fun and make your Reservations early by calling 661.779.2702.

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Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Lords and Ladies, Robin Hood is Back!

Have you ever wondered what would happen if Monty Python met up with Mel Brooks to tell their version of Robin Hood? Well, poor Sherwood Forest would never be the same again. *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, written by **Mary Lynn Dobson** and under the direction of **Joseph P. Miele**, will keep the laughter rolling from start to finish. You'll see Heroes and Villains, Good versus Evil, and a place where the men are merry and the women fawn.

It's hard to be humble when you're a swashbuckling, egocentric super-hero. But our gallant guy in green (**Jeremy**



Wind) does his best as he swaggers through this frantically funny retelling of the classic. This time around the legendary legend, in his never-ending quest to aid the needy, encounters a lovely damsel in distress, Lady Marian

(**Danielle Love**), who is oddly obsessed with skin conditions; an ever-scheming Sheriff of Nottingham (**Marc Steinfeld**), who would rather bowl a strike (See *Robin Hood*, page 2)



Greetings from the President

I just loved *Bye Bye Birdie*. A great job by cast, crew, and artistic team. I'm SINCERE about that.

I'm pleased with the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors. Each candidate brings a little different type of skill and experience to the table. Some are CTG regulars and some are relative newcomers, each and every one would make a good Board member.

The makeup of the Board is important because these are the policy makers of the organization. The executive officers and employees implement the policies that the Board enacts.

Through the leadership of the Board and the executive officers, we have built a parking lot and patio, we have produced two wonderful shows at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center and have another in the works. Most importantly, we have policies in place that require acceptable conduct from those involved in our shows, especially around children.

(...Robin Hood, from page 1)

than hit a bulls-eye; a gold-hoarding, bad-guy monarch wannabe, Prince John (**George D. Cummings**); and a good-natured Town's Guy (**Randy Aronson**), who manages to make his way into every scene, whether he belongs there or not. Combine these characters with a band of spoon-wielding merry men whose collective IQs equal six, and this madcap company presents an irreverent jaunt through Sherwood Forest you won't soon forget!

The cast also includes **Tim Christianson** as Friar Tuck, **Brian Watts** as Alan Adale, **Michael Keane** as Little John, **Allee Monheim** as the Lady in Waiting, and **Emily Krogh**, **Vicki Lightner**, **Carla Lombardo Bambo**, and **Kristen May** as Fawning Ladies. Join them for a fun adventure to Sherwood Forest!

Keep these things in mind for this upcoming election. Get to know the candidates' opinions on the future of our Guild, and then vote accordingly.

Our children continue to keep Dana and I busy. Kayla is working for the University of Alaska in event planning and was recently sent to a seminar in Nashville, Tennessee to learn about event planning and recruiting. Kayla will be a senior next year. (How time flies...) Last month we went to Fiji with Courtney and the Arizona State University Women's Rugby Team. Fiji is the world's capital of rugby where children start to play when they are five years old. The Arizona State girls were treated like royalty everywhere they went, except on the playing field.

I know I'm starting to sound like a broken record, BUT, there are many ways you can help your Guild. To mention just a few, we always need people to help set build, we always need people to help with costumes, and we always, always, always need more people to usher and work the snack bar. It is a lot of fun doing these jobs. It ends up being a social time with your best CTG pals. We will see you there!

Ed Hill, President

Sharon Cummings is serving as Assistant Director, set design is by **Billy Davis** and **Jeff Hyde**, **Janet McAnany** and **Jill McGlynn** are designing the costumes, and **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs** is the stage manager, with **Hayley Aronson** serving as her assistant. Lighting design is by **Tim Christianson**. Sound design is by **Vicki Lightner**.

This is the final Family Production for this season. Please join us and enjoy one of the craziest journeys in Medieval Times! *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood* opens June 2 and will have performances every Saturday afternoon at 1PM through June 30. There will be Sunday evening performances at 6:30PM on June 3 – June 24, with a 1PM Sunday matinee on Sunday, June 24. Ticket prices are \$9–\$11–\$14.



Artistic Impressions

Tim Ben Boydston
Executive Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director

Hello to all of you wonderful theatre patrons and artists. As is the case for most times of the year, the CTG is humming with activity. Mornings find our Adventures in Theatre production of the literary classic, *Charlotte's Web*, entertaining and educating hundreds of local elementary school children. Early afternoons are buzzing with our After School Workshops. Congrats to **Patti Finley** our Director of Daytime Programs and her instructors, **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs**, **Mike Davies**, **Laura Lanoil**, and **Matt Lawrence**, for their fine work with our youth.

The late afternoons bring us the sounds of seventy children, under the direction of **Leslie Berra** and her crew, preparing what is sure to be an incredible fundraiser for our youth programs, the Junior Cabaret. We know you won't want to miss this exciting event on May 18. Come and support our talented young people.

Evenings are filled with rehearsals for *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, directed by **Joe Miele**, and *You Can't Take It With You*, directed by **Barbara Huntington**. Also, slotted into the cracks, you'll find the cast of *Fahrenheit 451* rehearsing for their staged reading on May 12.

On weekends, the incredibly talented cast of *Bye Bye Birdie* ripped it up with five shows a weekend. Congratulations to my wonderful wife, **Ingrid**, who directed this fabulous romp, working with choreographer **Musette Caing**, and vocal directors **Leslie Berra** and **John Morris**. Now you know why sometimes Patti and I have that glazed look.

In addition to CTG projects, we collaborated with the City of Santa Clarita for the Cowboy Couture fashion show for the Cowboy Festival, the local Li-

braries for The Big Read, and the Santa Clarita Artists' Association for the incredible art exhibit, Chasing Open Spaces II.

The CTG's mission is to make the world a better place, and to that end, it is wonderful to see the impact that we are having on the surrounding community. Our very own Facilities Director, **Brian Watts**, was the recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation for heading up the Canyon Theatre Guild's Graffiti Abatement Program. **Brian** and his crew have eradicated thousands of tags, gotten rid of hundreds of bandit signs, and picked up trash to keep our neighborhood looking good.

It is very exciting to be getting ready for the casting of two incredible shows for this summer. Here at the Old Town Newhall Playhouse, we will be presenting the fabulous *Forever Plaid*. At the same time, our Regional Theatre production of *Disney's® Beauty and the Beast*, will be presented at the Performing Arts Center at COC. Tickets are already on sale, so secure the best seats, call now. For those of you who are lovers of a good party and great theatre, we will be having our Inaugural "First Nighters" Party at the beautiful Presidio home of **Bill and Cathy Kennedy** in the gated Woodlands community across from the Performing Arts Center. Dinner, drinks and a Broadway show for only \$100 per person. I will look forward to seeing you there.

Let's have a great summer!

Don't Be Late!

**All of our matinees begin at 1PM
NOT 2PM - don't be late!"**

Great Gift Idea!

**SEASON TICKETS
ENTIRE YEAR OF THEATRE ~9 SHOWS**

AS LOW AS

**\$49 Senior (over 62) and Junior (under 18)
\$69 for Adults.**

**Call now: 661.799.2702
www.canyontheatre.org**



Patti Finley
Assistant Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director of the Family Season

Youth Workshop Updates

The Spring workshops have just had their final performances. Thanks to all of the children who participated, to their parents for their support and to our wonderful teaching staff!

The Adventures in Theatre Daytime workshop for home schooled children presented two weeks of daytime performances of *Charlotte's Web*, directed by **Patti Finley** with **Laura Lanoil** as Assistant Director. This was the most successful AIT session so far! Thanks to **Michael Davies** for the set, **Kris Doyle** for the costumes, and **Noel Ruffner** for the props. Thanks also to the adult actors who got up early every day to perform: **Jeff Hyde**, **Jill McGlynn**, **Greg Leighton**, and **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs**. Two former workshop students worked as "techs" for this production: **Karly Ryan** on sound and **Clare Thompkins-Cook** on lights.

ACT III After School Workshop presented the musical *Mother Goose, Inc.* directed by **Michael Davies**, with assistance from **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs**, choreography by **Matthew Lawrence**, and costumes by **Keri Mowry**.

Act IV After School Teen Workshop presented *Sleeping Beauty* directed by **Patti Finley**. Once again, workshop students took over the "tech" positions, with **Breana Johnson** serving as stage manager, **Bethany Sweaney** on sound, and **Nina Doyle** on lights. **Kris Doyle** provided the props and **Jill McGlynn** designed the costumes.

Thanks to everyone for their help and participation. Our Workshops are growing in popularity with both children and parents and we couldn't do all we do without the dedication and talent of our instructors.

Reservations are now being taken for our very popular Summer Youth

Workshops and spaces are filling up quickly. Call the box office to reserve a space for your child now. **Michael Davies** will once again be teaching the CTG KIDS classes (6 - 10 years old); **Ingrid Boydston** will teach the CTG JUNIORS (10 - 12 years old); and **Tamarah Ashton-Coombs** will be directing the STARS (13 - 17 years old) who will be producing *Disney's® High School Musical*. Assistant instructors, choreographers, etc. are still being finalized.

Our youth programs are growing and improving each year and we thank you all for your continued support.

The "Buck" Stopped Here



Congressman "Buck" McKeon visited the Canyon Theatre Guild last month and took a tour of our facility, including our newly completed patio and Phase II construction. Our Executive Director, **TimBen Boydston**, outlined our programs and the growth we've experienced since moving to our Old Town Newhall location. He and **Patti Finley**, Assistant Director of the Guild and Director of Daytime Programs, told him about our workshops and other programs for young people.

After the tour, the Congressman said, "I am very impressed with the Canyon Theatre Guild and its great programs, especially the educational outreach activities. The theater is truly a jewel in our valley, and it brings such enjoyment to the community. It's good to know there is such quality entertainment to be found right in our own neighborhood."

Spotlight on Jill McGlynn



Just about anyone who has performed on the CTG stage over the last four years has done so as a result of the work of this member in the spotlight: **Jill McGlynn**.

During that period she has helped sew costumes for shows. For several, she has served as a costume designer. In the past two years Jill has won CTG Goldie awards for costume design: **Oklahoma!** (with **Janet McAnany**) and **Guys and Dolls** (with **Lynn McQuown**).

A resident of the SCV for over 20 years, Jill resides in Saugus with her husband **Marvin** and sons **Jeff** and **Kevin**. She first worked on costumes for **The Little Princess**, and is one of the few people very familiar with CTG's costume stock. When asked about her most challenging assignment working costumes, Jill quickly answered, "definitely the Beast in 2006's **The World of Beauty and the Beast**. That was the most difficult costume I've worked on here." Her favorite costumes were for the trolls in **The Hobbit** in 2003.

Four years ago, Jill worked as costumer for CTG's Children's Workshop performance of **Charlotte's Web**. She was again involved with the show this April, but in a much different role: Jill played Edith Zuckerman in the show which was seen by over 2,500 school children from all over the Santa Clarita valley. "It was terrific to work with such a great group of kids – and worry about my lines instead of the costumes."

The CTG family owes a great deal of thanks to **Jill McGlynn** for all of her work behind the scenes!

Spotlight on Loren Burghout



Also in the spotlight is **Loren Burghout**, a three time winner of the lighting design Goldie award: (**Frankenstein**, 1995; **Dracula**, 2001; **Music**

Man, 2002), and in 2001 was the recipient of the CTG's **Irving G. Wallpaper Award** for outstanding work behind the scenes at the theatre.

In 1994, his friend **Eric Clark** introduced him to the theatre when it was on Sierra Highway during a run of **Destry Rides Again**. "I enjoyed that show so much, I knew I wanted to remain involved," Loren said. "Shortly after **Destry**, I was stage manager for **Rick Huntington** in **My Three Angels**, and he asked me to play a small part as well. That first role on stage remains my most memorable moment at the CTG." This year, May and June will find Loren serving as stage manager and playing the role of a "G-Man" in **You Can't Take it With You** for director **Barbara Huntington**.

The next couple of months will also be busy for Loren beyond the theatre. From June 3-9, he will participate in **AIDS / LifeCycle**, a 545 mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles to raise funds for services and support of those living with HIV. "I lost a dear friend to AIDS a few years ago, and I'm riding to help others with this disease." While in training and during the ride, Loren's progress can be watched on line at www.aidslifecycle.org/2263.

Best wishes to Loren in this endeavor, and many thanks for his stage work, making the CTG a great theatre!

Art Display in June

Alexa Joy has been developing her unique style of abstract art since childhood. She first had her artwork displayed in The Los Angeles City Hall **Bridge Gallery** at age 12. Alexa's paintings, sculptures, and paper craft creations have won over 50 awards, including a 1st place award at the **AFL-CIO Union Artist Exhibit**, a 2nd **Best Professional Hand Crafter 2005 & 2006**, and a **SCAA Art Classic** silver medal.

Alexa was commissioned by the City of Santa Clarita for the **Art in Public Places** program. In 2006 her piece was installed across from the Canyon Theatre Guild. Locally, she has won the **Humanitarian Character Counts Award** and has co-coordinated Benefit Art Events. Alexa also hosts and designs all the projects for her DVD series "**Quick & Easy Crafting with Alexa Joy**" based on her popular classes she has taught for over 10 years. She is currently filming a second DVD series for T2G Productions. Alexa is a member of The Santa Clarita Artist Association and The Hollywood Arts Council. This year she has been included in **Who's Who in America 2007**. For more information visit www.alexajoy.com.

The Arts in Santa Clarita

If you would like more information on what's going on in the world of the Arts in Santa Clarita, put your name on the City's eNotify list. Just go to

www.santa-clarita.com/enotify

and click on Arts & Events

Membership Reminders

Just a reminder that your membership **must be current** in order for you to vote in our upcoming Board of Directors elections (see the elections article on page 2). If you cannot find your membership card, or aren't sure when your membership expires, or you've lost your renewal form, or just have a question about your membership, please phone the box office at 661.799.2702 or email Sharon at grandmomsdc@gmail.com, and they can answer your questions.

In addition, you must have a valid membership in order to vote for the theatre's annual Goldie awards. This is an optional benefit to being a CTG member. However, if you'd rather not receive a ballot (which will save the theatre mailing & printing costs), please contact the box office or Sharon and let them know. You may opt-in or opt-out at any time. If you've already opted-out, you do not need to tell us again.

And a final reminder, your membership is valid for a full calendar year and you WILL get a letter reminding you when it is time to renew. Thanks to all of you who have renewed this past year! It is always a good sign when someone comes back for seconds!

Volunteer for Disney's® Beauty and the Beast

Are you, or any member of your family, interested in helping with our production of Disney's® Beauty and the Beast, to be held at the College of the Canyons?

If yes, please be advised that Ushers and Snack Bar Volunteers are required to attend a Training Session sponsored by the COC. The next training will be held on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:30PM at the COC's Performing Arts Center.

Questions? Call Marla at 661.250.3664

FAHRENHEIT 451 at the CTG

The Canyon Theatre Guild is proud to be participating in an event called "The Big Read," an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. This is a national reading program designed to revitalize the role of reading in American public culture. NEA Chairman **Dana Gioia** said, "The Big Read aims to revive literary reading in America. We want people of all ages across the country to enjoy the social aspects of reading and the enthusiasm that's generated by discussing a good book... I'd wager those who join the Big Read will be hooked on the joys of great literature." There are events scheduled in the SCV through May 24. Check out www.thebigread-scv.org for further information.

The CTG performed excerpts from Ray Bradbury's play *Fahrenheit 451* on April 21 at the Newhall Community Center. The theme of censorship is as relevant today as it was when the book was published in 1953, so we decided to perform the play in its entirety, as a staged reading, here at our theatre. Be sure to come on Saturday, May 12. Curtain time is 8PM and admission is \$5 per person.

To quote Mr. Bradbury, "You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them."

Volunteer to Work at the Snack Bar

Want to become more involved in the CTG?

Want to make lots of new friends?

Training sessions, incentives and reward programs are planned. With new changes, this job should be exciting and fun.

Questions? Call Marla at 661.250.3664

Save these Dates!

- May 12 *Fahrenheit 451* at 8PM
- May 18 *Junior Cabaret "Seize the Day"* Friday. Doors open at 5:30PM
- May 19 Absentee Balloting at the CTG from 10AM - 4PM
- June 1 *You Can't Take It With You* Opens Friday at 8PM
- June 2 *The Somewhat True Tales of Robin Hood* Opens Saturday at 1PM
- June 4 General Election Meeting at 7PM
- June 30 *The Somewhat True Tales of Robin Hood* Closes Saturday at 1PM
- June 30 *You Can't Take It With You* Closes Saturday at 8PM
- June 11 Board Meeting at 7PM

Membership Questions?

Contact Sharon Cummings at grandmomsdc@gmail.com or call the box office.

2006-2007 CTG Board of Directors

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Contact Us

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“Seize the Day” **6th Annual Junior Cabaret on May 18TH**

Featuring a cast of over 70 of the Santa Clarita Valley’s most talented youth! Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the CTG’s ongoing educational and youth workshop programs.

Doors open at 5:30PM for food, drink, and bidding on fabulous silent auction items along with other wonderful opportunities to donate your money!

Show starts at 7PM, followed by the Kids Post-Show Party with DJ MonkeyBob Productions.

\$25 Adults - Preferred Seating

\$20 Adults - Regular Seating

\$20 Juniors (under 18)/Seniors (62 and over) - Preferred Seating

\$15 Juniors/Seniors - Regular Seating

Seating is also available onstage:

NO DAY BUT 2-DAY! Table for two, includes wine and waiter service. \$125.

BRAND NEW DAY! Table for four, includes wine and waiter service. \$250.

SEIZE THE DAY! Table for four, includes preferred placement on stage, wine, and waiter service. \$500.

Call our box office for reservations: 661.799.2702