
South Valley Civic Theatre

Resident Company of the
Morgan Hill Community Playhouse
Presents



By Walton Jones

By special arrangement with Samuel French

The play is based on an idea by Walton Jones and Carole Lees, as originally presented by the Ensemble Company and Yale Repertory Theatre, and further developed by the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. The Broadway production was presented by Jujamcyn Productions, Joseph P. Harris, Ira Bernstein, and Roger Berlind.

Welcome to The 1940's Radio Hour

You are in the WOV Broadcast Studios located in the Algonquin Room of the Hotel Astor in New York City. As you wait for the show to start you will see the doorman, Pops; stage manager, Lou; technician, Stanley and WOV manager, Clifton Feddington working quietly. You are stepping back in time and will be the live, studio audience for the December 21, 1942, holiday broadcast of a radio variety show in New York.

When the "Applause" sign lights please fill the house with applause. Comedy routines and advertising jingles vie for time with lively renditions of such songs as "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" and "I'll Be Seeing You".

The show has a variety of three dimensional characters, a myriad of subplots that are directly linked to the songs that the singers croon -- a balanced mix of comedy, romance, intrigue and drama. There is a war going on and the show salutes our men and women in uniform.

The 1940's Radio Hour opened on Broadway, at the original St. James Theatre, October 7, 1979, and ran until January 6, 1980. Since that time, the show has been a continual favorite throughout the United States.

President's Message

As I sit here writing this, with an old Big Band recording playing in the background, I remember back to the Good Old Days when the family would gather 'round the radio in the evening and listen to a live broadcast coming from New York City. It was a time when few homes had television, when swing music was the tops, and when the country was beginning to feel good about emerging from the shadow of the Great Depression. These radio broadcasts were a way to wind down after a hard week, to enjoy the company of family, and to forget about the news of war from overseas.

All right, perhaps I'm not old enough (not quite, anyway) to remember the era when this show takes place. But whether you were there or, like me, you grew up only hearing about the Forties, you are bound to love and appreciate SVCT's presentation of *The 1940's Radio Hour*. As the studio audience for a "live" broadcast variety show in December 1942, you will experience first hand the workings and the worries of putting a show on the air.

The 1940s Radio Hour is part of our terrific 2003-2004 season. Opening in January will be *Peter Pan*, followed by the exciting *Footloose*, and then *Guys & Dolls*. I hope that you will come out to see all of these great productions, and if you feel the urge, to join us onstage or behind the scenes!

SVCT is a non-profit organization and all of our performers and stage crew are volunteers. We exist through the support from you, the audience. In addition to attending this performance, you can further support us by purchasing a season ticket or by becoming a member of SVCT. Membership is inexpensive and brings additional benefits, including discounted tickets and the chance to vote in our annual "Members Choice" awards.

And now, as preparations are being made for a live broadcast of The Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade from the studios of radio station WOV, I invite you to join me as we settle down to take a musical sentimental journey to a bygone era. Enjoy!

Larry Tom
President, South Valley Civic Theatre



Cast

Pops Bailey	Dick DeBolt
Clifton Feddington	Eric Hilding
Wally Fergusson	Scott Glasspool
Geneva Lee Browne	Vernell C. Guillory
Ginger Brooks	Sandi Lewandowski
Neal Tilden	Peter Mandel
B.J. Gibson	Lane Grover
Stanley	Frank Harper
Johnny Cantone	Tom Hepner
Connie Miller	Katherine Paolini
Lou Cohn	Rod Pintello
Biff Baker	Dustin VanGundy
Ann Collier	Christine Varela
Zoot Doubleman	Tommy Brozene

1940's Radio Hour Production Staff and Cast
would like to thank the following businesses
for supporting this production:

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provided the funds for our new follow spot.

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community program that supports
other nonprofit community
programs such as ours



1940's Radio Hour Production Staff

Director	Carol Harris
Producers	Beth Dewey, Jon Reed
Choreographer	Mitzie Imagawa
Choreography Assistance	Loren Lewandowski
Vocal Director	Carol Harris
Vocal Assistance	Lori Paolini
Rehearsal Pianist	Marilyn Guerin
Rehearsal Secretary	Joy Reynolds
Orchestra Rehearsal Director	Mike Rubino
Costume Coordinator	Becky Kaiser
Set Design	Carol Harris
Lighting Design	Danny Higgins Dunn
Lighting Board Operator	Brandon Morales
Lighting Installation	Peter Mandel
	Dustin Van Gundy
Sound	Vada Dean
Backstage	Wayne Dewey, Mgr.
	Cara Kaiser
Program Design	Zana Vartanian
Props	Christine McElroy
	Janet Espinosa
Makeup	Cara Kaiser
Master Carpenters	Jon Reed, Rich Kaiser
	Frank Harper
Publicity	April Ouellette
Theatre Marquee & Poster Design	Peter Mandel
Stage Manager	Wayne Dewey
House Manager	Laura Glasspool
Reception	Stephanie Hamik
SVCT Website	Bruce Rideout
Box Office	Diane Webb Stephens

1940's Radio Hour Production Staff

Set & Painting Crew:

Rod Pintello, Lane Grover, Frank Harper, Larry Tom, Jon Reed, Rich Kaiser, Eric Hilding, Peter Mandel, Alexandra Mandel, Sandi Lewandowski, Beth Dewey, Wayne Dewey, Tom Hepner, Ann Hepner, Steve Spencer, Dick DeBolt, Katherine Paolini

Orchestra

Trumpet	Stan Soroken
Trombone	Tommy Brozene
Flute	Lisa Glasspool
Clarinet	Matt Haluza
Clarinet/Saxophone	Brandy Rubino
Piano	Marilyn Guerin
Bass	Justin Rogers
Drums	Ira Marshall



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Cast Biographies

Dick DeBolt (Pops Bailey)

Being a true aficionado of old time radio with a modest collection of recordings, a substantial collection of literature on the subject and a member of a major OTR interactive Internet site, Dick is ecstatic about participating in this wonderful show with SVCT's fine actors, producers and director.

Eric Hilding (Clifton Feddington)

Eric is a real estate agent with Alain Pinel Realtors. A member of the Screen Actors Guild, he has worked in more than 20 feature films, TV pilots and 40 episodes of the Nash Bridges TV show. Eric is a musician, songwriter, ventriloquist, ham radio operator (K6VVA) and a former professional radio announcer.

Scott Glasspool (Wally Fergusson)

Scott has been wandering around "SVCT World" for about 5 years now both on and off stage. He's worked behind the scenes for *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Wiz*; has been in various shows like *Wash Your Troubles Away*, *Grease* and many others. He was assistant director for *Snow White*. Scott would like to thank everyone who has supported him over the years and hopes you enjoy the show.

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Cast Biographies

Vernell C. Guillory (Geneva Lee Browne)

"Born to sing," a quote from Vernell herself. She has been singing since the age of 4. Throughout her school years and on into college her love of music has continued to grow. Vernell's favorites are gospel, jazz and classical music. This is her fourth time working with SVCT but her first time out front. She says, "I truly am happy to have this opportunity to work with such talented people."

Sandi Lewandowski (Ginger Brooks)

Sandi happily returns to SVCT after truly enjoying her role as Eliza Doolittle in the 2002 production of *My Fair Lady*. Her various theatrical roles include playing: Sister Leo, in *Nunsense*; Jenna, in *Angry Housewives*, and Maria, in *Sound of Music* to name a few. Sandi would like to thank her teaching partner, Tirina, for providing her excellent support with their class of first graders at Nordstrom School. She would especially like to thank her husband, Loren, and daughters, Laura and Franki, for their love and understanding for missing their nightly bedtime routine at home. She wishes to say to the cast and crew, "It's a pleasure to work with such talented, and friendly people!"

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Cast Biographies

Peter Mandel (Neal Tilden)

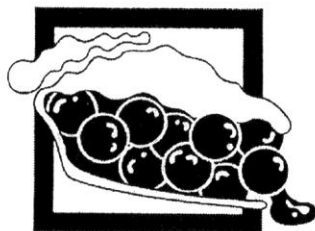
Peter is delighted to once again appear in an SVCT production. His most recent SVCT appearances include, *Gypsy* (Herbie), *How to Succeed in business without Really Trying* (J.P. Finch) and *OKLAHOMA!* (Ali Hakim). He has also performed with Tabard Theater Company in Neil Simon's *Fools* (Mishkin) and with the Saratoga Drama Group's production of *The Goodbye Girl* (Mark). He thanks his family for their support and patience.

Lane Grover (B.J. Gibson)

This is Lane's debut performance in a SVCT production. Past shows include *Guys and Dolls* and *Grimm's Fairy Tales*. Since high school, he took a dramatic break while attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to obtain a degree in mechanical engineering. Lane is excited to be back into acting again.

Frank Harper (Stanley)

Frank most recently appeared as a "Dancing Clam" performing at parades and mall events. He's happy to say he is no longer donning the 50 lb. mollusk suit! Frank hasn't been in a SVCT production since he performed as a swashbuckling pirate in *Pirates of Penzance*. The 1940's *Radio Hour* reminds Frank how grateful he is for his dad to have survived being wounded during WWII – otherwise, "I wouldn't be here." Hopefully our troops in Iraq will come home soon.



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Cast Biographies

Tom Hepner (Johnny Cantone)

Tom has been working with SVCT since it was Gilroy Community Theater in 1984. He has also performed at Center Stage San Jose Civic Light Opera and most recently, The Pintello Comedy Theater. "Johnny Cantone" is Tom's favorite role as this show is also his favorite show.

Katherine Paolini (Connie Miller)

Katherine came to the Bay area from Tucson, Ariz., 6 years ago and recently moved to Morgan Hill. She is a newcomer to SVCT, but has been singing, dancing and acting on stage since she was 4-years-old. Katherine has performed in school, church, and community venues and also made use of her musical talents on a mission trip to Northern Ireland. In the past few years, Katherine has successfully tried her hand at teaching, directing and choreography, and aspires to continue with a professional career. She wishes to thank her mom for always believing in her.

Rod Pintello (Lou Cohn)

Rod is reprising the role of Lou Cohn for the third time because this is one of his all time favorite musical comedies. Rod has over twenty years with SVCT, performing and producing a wide variety of plays, from *Annie* to *Oliver*. This past year Rod and his wife, Marion, ventured out on their own and opened their own company, The Pintello Comedy Theater.

Dustin Van Gundy (Biff Baker)

Dustin is 16 years old and has been attending Monte Vista in Watsonville for three years, where he is now a junior. He plays football and soccer for his school. Along with sports he likes to be with his friends and be in plays. Dustin has been in many plays with SVCT and has loved every one of them. This show is not an exception as he is thrilled to be a part of his first adult cast. He would like to thank Carol for encouraging him to push his limits. He also hopes you all enjoy the show.

Cast Biographies

Christine Varela (Ann Collier)

This marks Christine's 9th show with SVCT. She is thrilled to be reunited on stage with so many old friends and some new. Some of you may remember her in her dream role as "Mama Rose" in the production *Gypsy* – just one of many wonderful experiences. Other performances include *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Godspell*, *Working*, *Some Enchanted Evening*, and most recently in *Right Bed, Wrong Husband* with the Pintello Comedy Theatre. She wishes to thank her family and friends for their never-ending support as she continues to live out her dream...entertaining audiences like you. Happy Holidays!

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Staff Biographies

Beth Dewey, Co-Producer

This is Beth's first time working as a producer. She is usually working behind the scenes with set construction and painting, assisting with props, backstage managing, being a rehearsal secretary, working concessions and ushering. Beth would like to thank her co-producer, Jon, for all of his support. She would also like to thank her husband, Wayne, for doing his best to keep her fed and reminding her to take time for herself between teaching second graders at Glen View School and evening rehearsals and the myriad of details associated with producing.

Jon Reed, Co-Producer

This is the fourth show that Jon has co-produced for SVCT and the second with Carol directing, which is a joy in itself. "She and Beth are such hard working and conscientious people" says he, "and they make the whole experience more enjoyable. Getting better acquainted with old friends and making new ones is why I do this. Sitting back and listening to them sing, ain't too shabby either!" Applause, applause!!!

Carol Harris, Director

Having recently appeared as Madam Arcati in SVCT's recent production of *Blithe Spirit*, Carol is happy to be behind the scenes again working with this group of exceptionally talented actors. Her directing credits include *Some Enchanted Evening*; *the Odd Couple*, *Women's Version*; *Pump Boys and Dinettes*; *A Day in Hollywood*, *A Night in the Ukraine*; *Something's Afoot*; *The Boyfriend*; *The Pajama Game*; *Babes in Arms*; *Narnia*; and numerous childrens' productions.

Mitzie Imagawa, Choreographer

Mitzie has enjoyed working with this cast of *1940s Radio Hour*. She is so impressed with the talent that this cast has! Before this show, Mitzie choreographed *Sugar*. Choreography is only one of Mitzie's favorite hobbies; she also likes writing plays, and she hopes someday to make that perfect cheesecake! She is a third grade teacher at Luigi Aprea School. Mitzie says, "Enjoy the show!"

The Tradition of the Gypsy Robe

Each South Valley Civic theatre production awards to a chorus, or supporting cast member the right to wear the "Gypsy Robe" for the run of the show. This award is given to a cast member who has made special contributions of time and energy towards the good of the production. The robe is presented to the winner on opening night and the individual will put on the robe and bless the stage before the performance. It is the duty of the winning cast member to affix a patch to the robe, which signifies the show. The robe is then returned on closing night, to once again perform its duty and continue on with the tradition.

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The 1940s Radio Hour
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