



**South Valley Civic Theatre *presents***

# *Nonsense*



***A Musical Comedy by Dan Goggin***

*Produced for SVCT by* **Becky Kaiser and Larry Tom**

*Directed by* **Mary Ann Brueggmann**

*Vocal Direction by* **Carol Harris**

*Music Direction by* **Marilyn Guerin**

**ON STAGE AT THE MORGAN HILL PLAYHOUSE  
MAY 16 THROUGH JUNE 14**

***SVCT is the resident theater company of the Morgan Hill Playhouse.***

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## Message from the President

Welcome to Mount St. Helen's School. Tonight the Little Sisters of Hoboken will entertain you as they present this satirical comedy loosely based on an unfortunate culinary incident. Nunsense is the final show of our season, and we invite you to consider joining us on stage, behind the scenes or again as an audience member as we begin our 40<sup>th</sup> season.

SVCT is a non-profit, all volunteer organization made up of community members of all ages and from all walks of life with a passion for the theater and committed to our vision of bringing quality theater to South County and beyond. Each season we produce five shows. Open auditions are held for all shows.

Our new season will open in August with our young children's production of *Disney's Jungle Book*, followed by the often requested holiday show, *It's a Wonderful Life*, in November. In January our teens will entertain you with *Bye, Bye Birdie*, and in March we will present *Noises Off*, a hysterically funny show within a show. Our final production of the 2008 - 2009 season will be a May opening of *Annie Get Your Gun*, the rip-roaring tale of romance between Annie Oakley and Frank Butler, sharpshooters in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

We are depending on your support as we enter this new season. Ticket sales, memberships, concession sales, and donations enable us to continue bringing you quality shows featuring talented local actors and musicians. Tickets to our shows make unique gifts for family and friends. Check our website: [www.svct.org](http://www.svct.org) or pick up a brochure in the lobby for more information on show dates and how to order tickets.

I would like to extend a thank you to everyone who has supported us in past seasons. If you have not done so already, please consider becoming a member of SVCT. Stop by the membership table in the lobby during intermission for more information. Membership, in addition to helping SVCT financially, brings additional benefits including discounted tickets and voting privileges at our annual "Members Choice" awards.

Be sure to add your name to our mailing list to guarantee receiving audition, performance and season ticket notices. We thank you for your patronage as an audience member and welcome and encourage you to become involved onstage as well as behind the scenes.

Now, sit back and pay attention. There is going to be a quiz!

Carol F. Harris  
President, SVCT Board of Directors

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**TIME: The Present**

**PLACE: Mt. Saint Helen's School Auditorium**

**MUSICAL NUMBERS AND SCENES**

***ACT ONE***

Prologue.....	Sister Robert Anne
Welcome.....	Sister Mary Regina
"Nunsense is Habit-Forming".....	Company
"A Difficult Transition".....	Company
The Quiz.....	Sister Mary Amnesia
"Benedicite".....	Sister Mary Leo
"The Biggest Ain't the Best".....	Sisters Hubert and Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle".....	Sister Robert Anne
"So You Want To Be a Nun".....	Sister Mary Amnesia
"One Last Hope".....	Company
A Word from Reverend Mother.....	Sister Mary Regina
"Turn Up the Spotlight".....	Sister Mary Regina
"Lilacs Bring Back Memories".....	Sisters Regina, Hubert, Leo and Amnesia
"Tackle That Temptation With a Time Step".....	Sister Hubert and Company

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"Nunsense" is presented through special arrangement  
with Samuel French, Inc.

45 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10010 (212) 206-8990

## **ACT TWO**

Robert to The Rescue.....Sister Robert Anne  
"Growing Up Catholic".....Sister Robert Anne with  
Hubert, Leo and Amnesia  
"We've Got To Clean Out the Freezer".....Company  
"Just a Coupl'a Sisters".....Sisters Regina and Hubert  
"Soup's On (The Dying Nun Ballet)".....Sister Mary Leo & Robert Anne  
Baking with the BVM.....Sisters Regina, Hubert and Amnesia  
"I Just Want To Be a Star".....Sister Robert Anne  
"The Drive In".....Sisters Robert Anne, Amnesia and Leo  
The Home Movie.....Company  
"I Could've Gone to Nashville".....Sister Mary Amnesia  
"Gloria in Excelsis Deo".....Sister Mary Regina and Company  
"Holier Than Thou".....Sister Mary Hubert and Company  
"Nonsense Is Habit-Forming" (Reprise).....Company

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### **The South Valley Civic Theatre**

**2008-2009**

### **Board of Directors**

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Trudy Parks  
Stephen Porter  
Kathy Tom  
Nikki Tom  
Christy Wright

# **Nungense**

## **Cast**

Sister Mary Regina.....	Carol Harris
Sister Mary Hubert.....	Sandi Lewandowski
Sister Mary Robert Anne.....	Betsy Andrade
Sister Mary Amnesia.....	Rosalind Farotte
Sister Mary Leo.....	Allyson Finn
Sister Mary Upright.....	Marilyn Guerin

## **Staff**

Co-Producers.....	Larry Tom and Becky Kaiser
Director.....	Mary Ann Brugemann
Vocal Director.....	Carol Harris
Music Director.....	Marilyn Guerin
Choreographer.....	Ensemble
Lighting Design.....	Walter von Tagen III
Sound Design.....	Steve Porter
Lighting Technician.....	Walter von Tagen III
Sound Technician.....	Nikki Tom
Spotlight Technician.....	Ray Trimble
Set Design.....	Larry Tom
Master Carpenter.....	Rich Kaiser
Props/Lobby.....	Becky Kaiser
Rehearsal Pianists.....	Marilyn Guerin, Tamara Hopwood
House Manager/Concessions.....	Terri Miles
Lobby Photos.....	Kathy Tom
Program.....	Nikki Tom

Set Construction Crew.....Beth Dewey, Roz Farotte,  
Robin Harris, Becky Kaiser, Rich Kaiser, Sandi  
Lewandowski, Stephen Porter, & Larry Tom

## Biographies

SISTER MARY REGINA, the beloved Mother Superior of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, is originally from a little suburb outside of Buffalo, New York. After retiring from a rewarding teaching career she headed the pioneering group of religious who established the leper colony in the Mediterranean and later returned to Hoboken as Superior General of the Order. After *Nunsense*, Mother hopes to raise money for the Order by joining Cirque du Soleil and reprising her high-wire act. Although dedicated to her vows, Sister Mary Regina, the former Carol Harris, has been known to sneak away from the convent to perform on the stage and direct shows. Just this past year she played "Abbey Brewster" in SVCT's *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and directed *Pinocchio*, a charming children's show. Although the Bishop isn't aware, Carol is also the president of SVCT, the past president of the Gilroy Arts Alliance, an Arts and Cultural Commissioner for the City of Gilroy, a music minister at St. Mary Parish, and pianist for the Gilroy High School Choirs. She also finds time between convent duties and evening vespers to teach piano and voice to young musicians.

SISTER MARY HUBERT entered the Little Sisters of Hoboken upon graduation from Precious Blood Elementary School. Sister currently serves the Order as Mistress of Novices, training new recruits. Her position is not unlike a drill sergeant, however, she is the first to point out that her approach is more gentle - but firm. Sister is a

*The cast and crew of Nunsense would like to thank*

*Gary & Christy Lafaille,*

*April Ouellette,*

*and*

*On The Road Again*

*for their support*

little "off-the-wall" at times but this has been attributed to the fact that she was trampled by a camel that went berserk during the annual nativity pageant held in the leper colony. (She was portraying one of the three wise men.) Sister Mary Hubert is the former Sandi Lewandowski who has starred in numerous SVCT productions including *Narnia*, *Honk!*, and *My Fair Lady*. She also co-produced both *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Treasure Island* for SVCT. Her work as a teacher at Mount St. Helen's is inspired by her ten years as a teacher for the Morgan Hill Unified School District.

SISTER MARY ROBERT ANNE was a child of a disadvantaged Brooklyn family. After dropping out of Verna's Cashier School, Reverend Mother took pity on poor little Betsy Andrade and accepted her into the Little Sisters of Hoboken, where she became Sister Mary Robert Anne. Today she is one of the most popular sisters with New Jersey kids because she speaks their language. Reverend Mother regrets the fact that a lot of this language is unprintable. Sister Robert Anne had a very checkered career prior to entering the convent, including time in the theater. Betsy has performed and directed many musical productions in both Santa Clara and Monterey Counties. Some of her favorite roles have been "Maria" in *The Sound of Music*, "Reno Sweeney" in *Anything Goes*, "The Wicked Witch of the West" in *The Wizard of Oz*, and the "Cat-In-The-Hat" in *Seussical the Musical*. Betsy is a member of the Screen Actor's Guild and has done T.V. and film work. At one time she had her own Drama School. Betsy is presently a Marriage and Family Therapist and is working in Monterey County.

SISTER MARY AMNESIA is truly a lost soul. She arrived at the convent of the Little Sisters of Hoboken in her habit without a clue as to her identity, recalling only that a crucifix fell on her head. It has been said that she resembles Rosalind Farotte who studied ventriloquism when she entered the convent. She vaguely remembers majoring in theater at Santa Clara University and San Jose State. Sister has appeared in many SVCT productions, including *Blithe Spirit*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, and *Inspecting Carol* and has also performed with Center Stage, Pintello Comedy Theater and Gavilan College. This is Sister's fourth appearance in *Nunsense*. However, because she has no recollection of past productions, it is a new experience each time. Sister considers it a blessing to work with such a talented and accomplished cast and production team ... even if she doesn't remember their names and faces. Bless you ... and enjoy the show.

# South Valley Internet

[www.garlic.com](http://www.garlic.com)

P.O. Box 1246

San Martin, California 95046-1246

Phone: (408) 683-4533

**SISTER MARY LEO** came to the order from a small town in Arizona. She entered the convent to dedicate her life to God through the dance. Many people think that she took her name from the famous "leotard," but that is not true. She is named after her Uncle Leo, a notorious Chicago gangster. Sister thought that that by taking his name, the Lord would go easy on him. She is a novice and has much to learn. Before joining the Order, Sister was known as Allyson Finn, who tested her dancing and theatrical abilities by appearing in various SVCT shows, including *Guys & Dolls*, *The Fantasticks*, *Once Upon a Mattress* & *Moon Over Buffalo*. Recently, she was seen in *The Murder Room* with Pintello Comedy Theatre. Prior to taking her vow of poverty, Sister supported herself by working as a Spa Activities Supervisor at CordeValle in San Martin, supported by her wonderful family and her 2nd romance Bobby Lewis.

**SISTER MARY GUIDANCE** (Director) was assigned by the Mother House to keep an eye on Rev. Mother and her uniquely dysfunctional assortment of nuns due to the recent catastrophic events occurring in Hoboken. Trying to keep local health inspectors pacified while the benefit was arranged has taken a dramatic toll on her nerves. She has decided that at the conclusion of the performance she will enter a cloistered order. Prior to taking her vows she was Mary Ann Bruegmann who, after several years of theatre work in San Jose helped establish South Valley Civic Theatre. She has produced, directed or starred in many SVCT productions over the years. Among her favorites are: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *An Evening with Rogers and*



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*Hart and A Lion In Winter.* She was a Gilroy Unified School Board member for 22 years and is now happily retired enjoying her grandchildren and quilting.

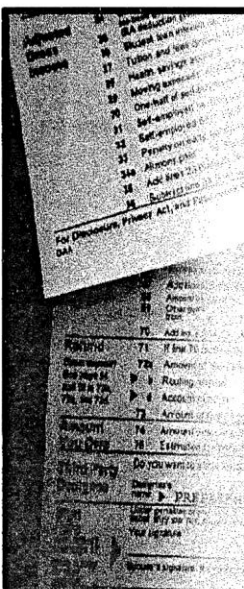
**SISTER MARY UPRIGHT** (Musical Director) is our convent musician. She was part of the original contingent who established the leper colony served by the Order. Sister Upright has helped the Order tremendously by taking her talent outside the convent walls, where as Marilyn Guerin she lives in Gilroy, California with her husband Greg. She has three grown children and has enjoyed being a pianist for theatre groups for the last 40 years. In her spare time she works in financial services and enjoys spending time with family, especially her grandchildren.

**BROTHER MYOPIA** (lighting technician) was known as Walter von Tagen III before entering the priesthood. Walter has worked as a stage technician for the Great America Amusement Park, worked for Stage Lighting Concepts, and in both production and broadcast engineering for San Jose PBS television station KTEH. He co-founded the non-profit Media Access Coalition of Central California which operates Morgan Hill's public access television station MHAT, for which he has been producer, director, camera operator, sound technician, actor and writer. His involvement with this production of *Nonsense* is an act of contrition.

**SISTER MARY DEWEY DECIMAL** (Producer) is the Head Librarian at Mt. Saint Helen's School. She loves sharing her love of books with all the students. To lend a hand to the Little Sisters of Hoboken's Benefit, she opted to use her past experience as producer of other

productions for SVCT - such as *My Fair Lady*, *Dracula*, *Follow That Rabbit* and *Pirates of Penzance*. In her real life as Becky Kaiser, she is the wife of the Master Carpenter Rich Kaiser, Past President of SVCT and a proud member of "DPOSS" (don't perform on stage society). She also helps the performance group at Antonio Del Buono School who is currently in production of *Midsummer's Night Dream*.

FATHER SAL VATION (Producer) is the assistant pastor of Mt. Saint Helen's. He was originally a monk in the Cistercian Abbey of Our Lady Dallas, but was asked to leave after shouting "Places, please!" during Grand Silence. Father Sal Vation was given the job of producing *Nunsense* as a penance for past sins committed as producer of other SVCT musicals such as *Annie* and *Run For Your Wife*. Other past sins, committed while he was known as Larry Tom, include attempting to perform on stage in over 20 shows including *The Music Man*, *Scrooge*, *1776*, and *Guys & Dolls*. Larry's transgressions are not limited to SVCT as he has also been on stage with Lyric Theatre, San Benito Stage Company, and Mission City and West Bay Opera Companies.



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# **SVCT Members**

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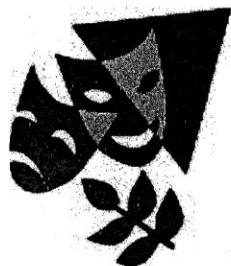
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# THE TRADITION OF THE GYPSY ROBE

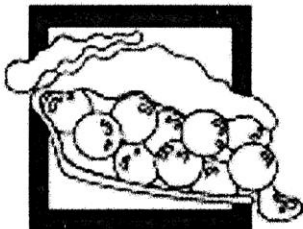
Each South Valley Civic Theatre production awards the right to wear the "Gypsy Robe" for the run of the show to a cast member who has made special contributions of time and energy toward the good of the production.

The robe is presented to the selected recipient on opening night, and the individual then puts on the robe and blesses the stage before the performance. It is the duty of the winner cast member to affix to the robe a patch that signifies the show.

The Gypsy Robe is then returned for closing night, to perform its duty for another show, and carry on the tradition.

The producers and director of *Nunsense* are pleased to present the Gypsy Robe to:

**Rosalind Farotte**



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