

Kentwood Players

presents

Picnic

by

William
Inge



Directed by

Gail Bernardi

July 9 – August 14, 2004

Westchester Playhouse
8301 Hindry Avenue
Westchester, California 90045-3205
Reservations: (310) 645-5156

Picnic

by William Inge

Director
Gail Bernardi

Producers
Calia Mintzer & Margie Bates

Set Design
Max Heldring Stormes

Light Design
Tom Brophey

Costume Design
Phil Massi

Sound Design
Kathi Thompson

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Helen Potts	Marlene Grinde
Hal Carter	Shawn Savage
Millie Owens	Gemma Levine
Bomber	James Fiske
Madge Owens	Christine Torreele
Flo Owens	Margie Bates
Rosemary Sydney	Susan Gordon
Alan Seymour	John Strickland
Irma Kronkite	Cynthia Rothschild
Christine Schoenwalder	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Howard Bevens.....	Joseph Buttler

The action of the play takes place during the early 1950's in a small Kansas town in the yard shared by Flo Owens and Helen Potts.

Act I Scene 1 Early morning, Labor Day.

 Scene 2 Late the same afternoon.

Act II Scene 1 Very early the following morning.

 Scene 2 A few hours later.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.
Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players
Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

About the Director

Gail Bernardi – Gail is thrilled to be directing *Picnic* with a talented and delightful cast. Gail's last Kentwood play was *The Man Who Came to Dinner* in 2002, and she feels lucky to have cast several returning actors from that show. Breathing life into William Inge's words is a privilege indeed. She hopes the audience will enjoy!

About the Producers

Calia Mintzer – After joining Kentwood Players in 1955 Calia was cast as Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*. Her all-time favorite roles: FrumaSarah in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Mrs. Stanley in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, Barbara Allan in *Dark of the Moon*. Winner of 5 Marcom Masque Awards, she has developed new skills as a producer, which she finds very exciting and rewarding.

Margie Bates – Margie previously produced Kentwood productions of *Dames at Sea*, *Rumors* and *Dial M for Murder*. Co-producing *Picnic* with a dynamo like Calia Mintzer, a gifted director like Gail Bernardi, and a talented cast and crew is a piece of cake. Cake is always good at a picnic.

About the Cast

Margie Bates (Flo) – Margie appeared as Miss Preen in the 2002 Kentwood production of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. She played Mama in *I Remember Mama* in 2001. Other memorable roles include Addie Mae in *The Cover of Life* and Lavinia in *The Heiress*. Margie is enjoying this marvelous *Picnic*.

Joseph Buttler (Howard) – Since moving to Los Angeles two years ago, Joseph has performed with several local theaters, including Grove Theatre Center and Conejo Players. Portland theaters include: Tygres Heart Shakespeare (company member), Stark Raving Theatre and Toad City Improv. Joseph also sang in a rockabilly band and puppeteered a giant stomach at pharmaceutical trade shows.

James Fiske (Bomber) – James, having just completed high school, is more than grateful to have an amateur debut with such a supportive group of people. Thank you all!

Susan Gordon (Rosemary) – Susan was last seen at Kentwood as Lily/Kate in *Kiss Me Kate*. Other roles on this stage include Lorraine Sheldon in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, Mrs. Kendal in *The Elephant Man*, Catherine in *The Heiress*, and Kate in *Cover Of Life*. She is happy to be back at Kentwood.

Marlene Grinde (Mrs. Potts) – Marlene has been performing in the South Bay for many years. Some of her favorite roles were Kate in Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound*, Fleur Stein in *And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little*, Wanda Sluska/Sister Mary Agnes in *Catholic School Girls* and multiple roles in A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room*. As a new member of Kentwood Players she is pleased to be part of this production.

Gemma Levine (Millie) – Gemma's credits include Cobweb in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Kentwood Players) and Agnes in *The Apollo of Bellac* and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (both Upper Story Theatre). She composes music, has been a soloist with the Santa Monica College Chamber Choir and is a 11th grade homeschooler.

Lori A. Marple-Pereslete (Christine) – This is Lori's second role at KP. She debuted as Moth in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* after a twenty year absence from the stage. Lori would like to thank her husband, Tony, and her dad, Russel.

Cynthia Rothschild (Irma) – This is Cynthia's Kentwood Players debut. She was recently seen as Phyllis in Palos Verdes Players *Twilight of the Golds*, appeared as Bunny in the *House of Blue Leaves* and M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*. She is a soloist with The Concert Singers. Cynthia warmly thanks her family and friends for their love and support.

Shawn Savage (Hal) – Shawn sees his character as a complete opposite of Burt Jefferson in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, whom he portrayed previously at Kentwood. He thanks his family for their support and love. He also hopes when the show ends in August the Red Sox will still be in first place.

John Strickland (Alan) – John is a 2003 graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Prior to attending the American Academy, he earned a B.A. from Rice University and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He has recently appeared in L.A. stage productions of *All I Want for Christmas*, *Michelangelo's Models*, and *Wit*.

Christine Torreele (Madge) – Originally from Fairfax, Virginia, Christine has a B.A. in Theatre and is an alumna of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Hollywood. Pursuing her career in film and television, she has performed in a countless number of theater shows. Thanks to Gail and Shawn for this great opportunity. Love those Fig Newton's!

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and the cast and crew of *Picnic*

Special Thanks

Frank Olivadoti, Julia Maggs, Michael Cohen, Bill and Pauline Harred

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

Kentwood Players is a Member of the
WESTCHESTER/LAX-MARINA DEL REY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members after the performance in the Green Room. Please use the outside stairway at the rear of the theater.

For up to the minute info on goings-on at Kentwood
Players visit our website

www.kentwoodplayers.org

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

Agatha Christie's
Murder on the Nile
September 10 – October 16, 2004
Director: Sheridan Cole

The 1940's Radio Hour
A Musical by
Walton Jones
November 5 – December 18, 2004
Director: Ben Lupejkis

Neil Simon's
The Sunshine Boys
January 14 – February 19, 2005
Director: Sheldon Metz

Heaven Can Wait
A Comedy by
Harry Segall
March 11 – April 16, 2005
Director: Ed Cotter

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Calia Mintzer at (310) 837-3609

Reservations are Necessary

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