

KENTWOOD PLAYERS presents

A World Premiere Musical!

# WITCHES GREEN



Logo illustration by Justin "Squigs" Robertson

A hilarious Halloween treat for the whole family!

Written and Directed by

**SCOTT MARTIN**

Produced by

**CALIA MINTZER and  
LARRY COSGROVE**

Choreographed by

**ALISON MATTIZA**

**SEPTEMBER 12 - OCTOBER 18, 2008**

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.

\$20 General Admission

\$2 discount for seniors, students and servicemen

Westchester Playhouse

8301 Hindry Avenue, Westchester

[www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)

## Director's Note

Welcome to the world premiere production of *Little Green Men*. This is the first time in almost 60 years that the Kentwood Players have presented a full-length original musical comedy, and I hope it will be the first of more to come in the future. I wrote this musical because I've always been a fan of the Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds" broadcast and I wanted to create a family show that could be done at Halloween.

However, writing a good show and getting it onto paper – or flash drive – is merely half the battle for an ambitious playwright and composer. Informal readings for friends and colleagues only provide limited feedback and critique. A play or musical written for the stage isn't fully realized until it's presented in front of a live audience of curious theatre-goers who have chosen to invest their time and money to experience something brand new to their eyes and ears – as all of you have chosen to do right now. The enthusiastic response of a live audience – or lack thereof – is the best indication to an author as to whether all the hard work and agony has been worth it.

Every single piece ever written for the theatre, be it beloved hit or instant flop, began somewhere, sometime, as a "world premiere." And the Kentwood Players have chosen *Little Green Men* to be your first experience of an original work at the Westchester Playhouse. I am grateful beyond words to the Kentwood Board and Play Reading Committee for giving me the opportunity and creative freedom to share my new musical with you. Please let us know what you think, and perhaps more original works by Kentwood member/writers will appear on this stage very soon.

– **Scott Martin, Writer and Director**

## Special Thanks

**Devin Thomas - additional musical arrangements and recording engineer;  
Justin "Squigs" Robertson ([www.squigsink.com](http://www.squigsink.com)) - logo illustration;  
Maria Cohen; Michael Cohen; Jim Crawford; Alan Goldman; Loren Gould;  
Maurice LaMarche; Ben Lupejkis; Victoria Miller; Sue, Bill & Brad Moylan;  
Catherine Rahm; Scot Renfro; Paul Rugg; Jon Sparks; the Urbanski family;  
Bill Wolfe; all the wonderful parents of our happy little campers for their  
invaluable assistance; and anyone we missed due to printing deadlines!**

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*Little Green Men* Book, Music & Lyrics  
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*Little Green Men* was developed in cooperation with  
the Academy for New Musical Theatre - [www.anmt.org](http://www.anmt.org)

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# Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Ted Connors	Drew Fitzsimmons
Ida Rothberg	Marcy Agreen
Sparky Schultz	Sergio Christofalo
Nancy Gribble	Francesca Palermo
Carl Bennett	Slater Garcia
Joan McDoogle	Megan Moylan
Joey DeLuca	Dylan La Rocque
Georgie Johnson	Logan Gould
Mary Gale	Hannah Provisor
Susie Slauson	Emma Kate Hatton
Mrs. Kolotsky	Susan Goldman Weisbarth
Morty Klein	Greg Abbott
Sally Dunbar	Meredith M. Sweeney

**The Time:** October 30, 1938, Sunset

**The Place:** Camp Gitchiegoomie, a wilderness retreat in Northern New Jersey

## ACT I

### Scene One - The Dining Hall

*Halloween*

All (except Sally)

*Girls And Boys*

Teens & Kids

*How The Heck Are Ya?*

Ted & Sally

### Scene Two - The Campfire

*Boogeyman*

Ida, Teens & Kids

### Scene Three - The Dining Hall

*I Wanna Get Married*

Joan & Carl

*What's An Old Gypsy To Do?*

Mrs. Kolotsky

### Scene Four - The Cabins

*Say Goodnight*

Ida, Morty, Teens & Kids

*And It Always Made You Smile*

Ted & Sally

*Act I Finale*

All

– 15 minute intermission –

## ACT II

### Scene One - The Forest

*Little Green Men*

All

### Scene Two - The Dining Hall

*I Will Be Your Hero*

Ida & Morty

*For Every Girl There's One Guy*

Joan, Mary & Susie

*No More*

Mrs. Kolotsky, Ted, Sally, Ida & Morty

*Act II Finale*

All

# Production Staff

Director	Scott Martin
Assistant Directors	Jayne Hamil and Sheridan Cole Crawford
Producers	Calia Mintzer and Larry Cosgrove
Choreographer	Alison Mattiza
Stage Manager	Jordan Bland
Assistant Stage Manager	Adam Dunberger
Set Designer	Tony Pereslete
Costumers	Sheridan Cole Crawford, Jayne Hamil and Shirley Hatton
Lighting Designer	Tom Brophrey
Sound Designer	Susan Stangl
Master Carpenter	Lori Marple-Pereslete
Set Decoration/Creature Design	Valerie Ruel
Props Supervisor	Judy Polak
Booth Crew	Nikki Corso, Ron Gould, Russell Ham, Mel Miller and Kaye Porter
Hospitality	Alta Abbott
Audition Assistance	Gert Nord and Jeanne Spain
Photography	Shari Barrett
Postcard/Program Design	Liz Reinhardt

## Work Sunday Crew:

Alta Abbott, Andy Abbott, Michael Allen, Miriam Amster, Bernard Audette, Carol Becker, Gail Bernardi, Barbara Brophrey, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Jeanne Cosgrove, Ed Cotter, Hal Fisher, Hilary Fitzsimmons, Loren Gould, Ron Gould, James M. Green, Michael Grinde, Ben Lupejkis, Julia Maggs, Jack Mattiza, Virginia Mikkelson, Sue Moylan, Frank J. Olivadoti, Lee Polak, Abbe Provisor, Linda Reinhardt, Victor Reinhardt, Robyn Rothstein, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Adina Silo, Max Helderling Stormes, Shawn K. Summerer, Tiffany Towers, Fred Wolf and the cast and crew of *Little Green Men*.

## < YOUR AD HERE! >

Advertise in Kentwood's programs and reach out to over 1,000 people per show, six shows per season! Contact Program Ad Representative Greg Abbott with any questions (310-636-8336 - [anral@aol.com](mailto:anral@aol.com)) or to place an ad!

### AD RATES

Ad Size	Dimensions	Cost (entire season)
Full Page (includes one season ticket)	5" x 8"	\$ 400
1/2 Page	5" x 4"	\$ 250
1/3 Page	5" x 2.6"	\$ 150
1/4 Page (or business card)	5" x 2"	\$ 100

# The Cast



**Greg Abbott (Morty Klein)** - Greg has appeared for Kentwood Players as the Rev. Crisparkle in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Herman in *The Most Happy Fella*, Theodore Whitman in *Follies*, and Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks*. His most recent role was Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at the Redondo Beach Playhouse.



**Marcy Agreen (Ida Rothberg)** - Marcy is thrilled to be returning to the Kentwood Stage. You may have seen her here as a Hollywood Blonde in *Gypsy*, or more recently, as Monteen in the Neighborhood Playhouse's production of *Parade*. She would like to thank friends and family for their unending love and support.



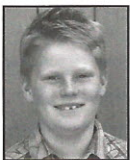
**Sergio Christofalo (Sparky Schultz)** - This is Sergio's first theatre production at Kentwood. Previous roles include Nathan in *The Full Monty*, Curly in *Oklahoma*, Mendel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and Oscar in *42nd Street* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre in Santa Monica. He'd like to thank Scott for this opportunity, and Liz and Carol for recommending him.



**Drew Fitzsimmons (Ted Connors)** - Getting to introduce a hot new play, inventing a wonderful role with a great cast and a fabulous writer/director, and doing it all playing across from the one and only Meredith M. Sweeney (trumpet blast), Drew really couldn't ask for anything more....except an agent.



**Slater Garcia (Carl Bennett)** - Slater is very excited to be in his first show with Kentwood Players. He most recently played Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables* with Encore Entertainers. He thanks his parents for their support, God for all the great things happening in his life and Mr. Martin for casting him in this awesome show's debut!



**Logan Gould (Georgie Johnson)** - Logan has been performing since age four and was recently seen in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He sings with the Agape Youth Choir and loves to play the drums. Logan is thrilled and grateful to be in this wonderful production.



**Emma Kate Hatton (Susie Slauson)** - Emma is thrilled to be back at Kentwood! She was last seen here as a ballerina in *Gypsy*. Emma has also appeared in *The Little Princess* for Golden State Children's Theatre and in several productions of *The Nutcracker* for San Pedro City Ballet. Emma is currently a third grader in Manhattan Beach.



**Dylan La Rocque (Joey Deluca)** - Dylan is a member of the Los Angeles Youth Theatre, where he has played Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Tevye in *Fiddler On The Roof*, Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, Rooster in *Annie*, and Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. This is Dylan's first appearance at the Westchester Playhouse.



**Megan Moylan (Joan McDoogle)** - Megan returns to Kentwood after *Magic Words* and *Gypsy*. Favorite shows include *Luann* (Huntington Beach), *Annie* (Cypress College/Westminster), and *Felicity/Kirsten/Kit/Ambassador* at American Girl Place. On TV, a Wal-Mart commercial and *Commander in Chief*. Thanks to Scott, Jayne, Alison, and the cast!



**Francesca Palermo (Nancy Gribble)** - This is Frankie the Mermaid's fourth show with Kentwood (*Gypsy*, *The Most Happy Fella* and *The Absent Minded Witch*). She is uber excited to be working with such a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious cast! Thanks to all!



**Hannah Provisor (Mary Gale)** - Appearing in "living room" productions from age two, Hannah's formal theatre training began with LA Youth Theatre. Her many roles have included Rosie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and Baby Rose in *Babes in Arms*. She is thrilled to be in her first Kentwood production!



**Meredith M. Sweeney (Sally Dunbar)** - Meredith first met her leading man on this very Kentwood stage during *Romeo and Juliet*. She is tickled pink to share it with him again in this delightful new musical. Many thanks to Scott for creating and casting her in this marvelous work. Love and happy thoughts to the Pickle.



**Susan Goldman Weisbarth (Mrs. Kolotsky)** - Susan was last seen on the KP stage as Sally in *Follies*. This past season she directed KP's award winning production of *Gypsy*. She thanks Scott for this opportunity and thanks Jayne for all her support. For Jake and De always.

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**Please turn cell phones and pagers to silent, turn off alarms on digital watches, and unwrap any candy or cough drops before the play begins.**

**Thank you.**

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## The Crew

**Scott Martin (Writer/Director)** - Scott has written and directed many musicals that have been produced in the L.A. area, including *Scream Queens* (Whitefire Theatre, Magicopolis Theatre, Stages Festival at Theatre Building Chicago and Stephen Schwartz's Disney/ASCAP musical theatre workshop), *Children of the Night* (readings at Musical Theatre West, El Portal Theatre, Beverly Hills Playhouse and Sony's Global Search for New Musicals in Cardiff, Wales), *Bleacher Babes*, and other family-friendly musicals such as *The Maltese Chicken*, *Rockin' Robin Hood*, *The Road To Paradise*, *Darn Dodgers* and *High Noonish*. He also co-wrote two children's musicals for Storybook Theatre at Theatre West in Hollywood. [www.scottmartinmusicals.com](http://www.scottmartinmusicals.com)

**Jayne Hamil (Assistant Director)** - TV writer-producer: *Still Standing* (CBS), *The Nanny* (CBS), *Sherman Oaks* (Showtime), *Proud Family* (Disney Channel), *Eddie McDowd* (Nickelodeon). Comedy writer: *Donny and Marie*, Suzanne Somers, Dick Clark, Danny Bonaduce, Mario Lopez, Jenny Jones. TV Specials: Jeff Foxworthy, Jamie Lee Curtis. Kentwood: *Cabaret* ('74), *All My Sons* ('74). For De and Jake.

**Sheridan Cole Crawford (Assistant Director)** - Sheridan has worked in many capacities at Kentwood, including directing, producing, costuming and acting and won an award this year for her role as Miss Cratchitt in *Gypsy*. She loves the energy of *Little Green Men* and is thrilled to be part of this production, the first original play in Kentwood's almost 60 year history!

**Calia Mintzer (Co-Producer)** - Longtime member of Kentwood Players since 1955's production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Favorite role, Fruma Sarah in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Last seen as Hattie Walker, "The Broadway Baby," in *Follies*. Winner of five Marcom Masque Awards and the Special Board Award. Currently Group Sales Chairperson. Thanks to my darling Fred for his love and support.

**Larry Cosgrove (Co-Producer)** - This is Larry's first attempt at the world of theatrical production. His past activities in the entertainment field have been limited to big band vocals. He thanks Calia for inviting him to share production responsibilities of *Little Green Men*. It has been a marvelous experience working with the cast, the production staff and such a creative talent as Scott Martin.

**Alison Mattiza (Choreographer)** - Alison joined Kentwood in 1995 when she appeared in *Guys and Dolls*. Other credits include *Chicago*, *A Chorus Line*, *A Little Night Music* and *Parade*. She thanks husband Van and son Jack for their patience and support, and Scott for allowing her to be part of this amazing production!

**Jordon Bland (Stage Manager)** - Jordan is pleased to make *Little Green Men* his second production with Kentwood Players. This Michigan native has been involved in productions of *Up the Down Staircase* and *Oliver*, as well as directing *Steel Magnolias*. He has also appeared in *Grease*, *Beyond Therapy*, and *The Pajama Game*.

# The "Real-Life" Story Behind *Little Green Men* Considered one of the greatest Halloween pranks of all time!



On Sunday evening, October 30, 1938, 23-year-old Orson Welles presented the radio play *Invasion From Mars* written by Howard Koch. Performed by members of Welles' Mercury Theatre Company, the program was inspired by H.G. Wells' *War of the Worlds* and is still considered one of the greatest Halloween pranks of all time.

The radio program began with an announcement that the broadcast that followed was a presentation by Welles and his actors. After the disclaimer, a musical performance of Bernard Herrmann conducting the CBS orchestra began, and suddenly, the first of several news bulletins interrupted the music. People weren't accustomed to "documentary re-creations" and were certain these bulletins were real. Plus, Americans were already on edge as the daily reports about the war in Europe were increasingly grim.

As the descriptions of "Martian invaders" became more horrific, thousands of people phoned their newspapers and local police to ask what they should do to avoid them. In New Jersey, families tied wet cloths over their faces to escape the "gas attack," and piled into their cars and clogged traffic for miles. A woman in Pittsburgh screamed "I'd rather die this way" and was barely prevented from taking poison. At the end of the show, most listeners were apparently too frightened to hear a chuckling Welles sign off by saying, "If your doorbell rings and nobody's there, that was no Martian . . . it's Halloween."

So, how could so many people be fooled by this Halloween prank? Most people were listening to Charlie McCarthy and tuned into Orson Welles' broadcast a little too late to hear the disclaimer. And the rest, as they say, is history.

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## *Did you remember the incident? Kentwood Members sound off!*

**Max Heldring Stormes** was a young child in Maine when the show aired. He said there wasn't much to do in his small town but sit in front of the radio. However, on that night, he was at a Halloween party, so he didn't hear it. He did share that he "knew it was fictitious - they made announcements beforehand that they were going to broadcast it, and a disclaimer was played as it began. A few days later, when I heard the reaction, I couldn't believe all of New Jersey went ape about it."

As an 11-year-old at the time, **Charlotte Lee Schildkret** said that her family was not taken in by it. "My parents couldn't believe how people could get fooled by it. The next day, all the conversations were about the people who thought it was real, as well as what a genius Orson Welles was."



**Sheldon Metz** wasn't around at the time of the broadcast, but was Orson Welles' make-up artist for commercials and industrial films for three years. When asked if Mr. Welles mentioned anything about the broadcast, he noted, "we talked about many things including the show. It was a big party. Everyone was having fun and no one knew or suspected the reaction. They were slightly embarrassed when they started getting calls and wires started coming in!"



**Dave Parke** was also not around when the broadcast was aired, but knows it intimately. "I have the original broadcast on a record. My mom had it too, and we used to listen to it over and over again for years. It was terrifying if you didn't know it was fake - and we would always have that in our heads as we listened. And every time the movie would come on TV, we would beg our mom to let us watch it, no matter what day or time it was!"

Now retired and living in Palm Springs, **Jack Lyons** played the 'CBS Lead Announcer,' in addition to several other voices, in a production of "War of the Worlds" at the Groves Cabin Theatre in Morongo Valley last October. "I actually heard the broadcast sitting in front of my parent's old Silvertone radio in our living room. Did I realize what I was hearing was an actual 'news broadcast?' I doubt it. I probably thought it was just another radio show my family listened to at night. But, boy, did we all hear about it in the newspapers and radio news shows all the next week. Even the kids at school were talking about the hoax. But I don't think we kids really understood the importance and impact of what Orson Welles and his Mercury Theatre of the Air Players accomplished. One thing emerged from the incident: I decided I wanted to be a radio actor, or at least work in radio. Who would have thunk it that 68 years later, I would actually be a cast member of a production that recreated the 1938 broadcast?!"

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**Do YOU remember the *War of the Worlds* Broadcast?  
Share your memories with us using the slips in the lobby!**

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From Shakespeare to Simon, from Sondheim to Hammerstein, we have worked diligently, putting in countless volunteer hours, keeping our prices low enough to allow all in our community access to a magical evening or matinee in the theatre.

Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.

There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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by Neil Simon

Directed by Larry Jones

Assistant Director - Karintha Touton

**November 7 -  
December 13, 2008**

## ***The Laramie Project***

by Moises Kaufman

Directed by Michael Allen

**January 9 -  
February 14, 2009**

## ***Working***

A Musical based on a book

by Studs Terkel

Music and lyrics by

Stephen Schwartz and others

Directed by Catherine Rahm

**March 13 -  
April 18, 2009**

## ***Present Laughter***

A Comedy by Noel Coward

Directed by Gail Bernardi

**May 8 -  
June 13, 2009**

*All announced shows  
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