

Valentine Pearson



The 2014-2015 season of the Driftwood Players is dedicated in memory of Charter Member Valentine Pearson, in gratitude for her many years

The Driftwood Players are sad to share that we lost a dear member of our group recently. Valentine Pearson was a charter member of the Driftwood Players and one of only a few people to have worked in Driftwood's Cosmopolis, Hoquiam and Aberdeen theaters.

Valentine was an alumnus of the Government Drama School in Riga, Latvia. She enjoyed a few years of professional theater, until World War II broke, when she survived a work camp. She eventually made the voyage to the United States, returning to the stage in Driftwood's 1961 production of "Seven Nuns at Las Vegas", where she played different roles on alternating week-ends.

Valentine went on to star in 20 shows at the Driftwood and directed 24. She won the Ham Award and Service Award in 1966-67, Best Actress in a Lead Role in 1968-69 and 1969-70, and Best Actress in a Supporting Role in 1974-75 and 1980-81. Her service includes serving as trustee for Costumes, Front of House, Make-up, Education, Props and Arena. She was well known to do whatever it took to make the theater successful, including directing shows with just a few weeks notice.

Valentine appeared as an actress in Seven Nuns at Las Vegas (1961), Summer and

Smoke (1962), South Pacific (1966), The Man Who Came to Dinner (1966), The Merry Wives of Windsor (1967), The Sound of Music (1968), Solid Gold Cadillac (1968), All My Sons (1970), Don't Drink the Water (1970), Cactus Flower (1971), Blithe Spirit (1974), Harvey (1976), I Remember Mama (1978), Christmas Carol (1979 & 1983), Born Yesterday (1980), 13 Rue de L'Amour (1981), Pygmalion (1983), Once Upon a Mattress (1987) and You Can't Take it With You (1991).

She also directed Bell, Book and Candle (1961), Anastasia (1964), Tonight at 8:15 (1964), The Bad Seed (1965), The Deadly Game (1965), The King and I (1967), The Girls in 509 (1967), The Miracle Worker (1968), The Teahouse of the August Moon (1969), Love From a Stranger (1969), The Lion in Winter (1970 & 1989), Annie Get Your Gun (1971), Camelot (1972), Mary, Mary (1973), The Crucible (1973), A Flea in Her Ear (1975), Finishing Touches (1976), Seagull (1979), The Man Who Came to Dinner (1981), Pygmalion (1983), Arsenic and Old Lace (1983), Run For Your Wife (1990) and Artichoke (1992).

The Driftwood Players are honored to dedicate the 2014-15 Season in the memory of Valentine Pearson.



Ticket Information:

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Article Submission:

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The Glass Menagerie

Congratulations to the cast and crew of The Glass Menagerie, directed by Debbie Scoones with assistance from Bob Stalder for their well received run!

The talented cast of Val Parker, Rebecca Meacham, Jerrod Phelps and Bryan Blackburn wowed audiences night after night as they brought emotion and humor to their roles and took home THREE acting awards at Driftwood's recent awards banquet. Excellent work from the crew rounded out this wonderful show. Congratulations! Bravo!



2014 Awards Banquet



On June 7th, the Driftwood Players celebrated a wonderful season by enjoying a wonderful banquet, roasting the directors of the past year and handing out awards for excellence in the theater.

The event marked the first time in a few years in which all of the award winners were present to receive their awards. The attached photo shows the following award winners: (back row) David Quigg,

Ham Award-The Rocky Horror Show; (front row, left to right) Bryan Blackburn, Best Actor in a Lead Role-The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), Best Actor in a Supporting Role-The Glass Menagerie; Rebecca Meacham, Best Actress in a Supporting Role-The Glass Menagerie; Val Parker, Best Actress in a Lead Role-The Glass Menagerie; Mark Scoones, Betty Butler Service Award; Sara Henry, Best Actress in a Small Role-A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol; Dave Lund, Best Actor in a Small Role-Full Frontal Nudity; Kathe Rowe received Driftwood's highest honor, the Mabs George Service Award. Well done, all! Bravo!

2014-15 Season Announced

At the May Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees and Directors voted for and selected the upcoming schedule of shows for the 2014-15 Season. We are pleased to announce the following shows:

Lost in Yonkers
(Champagne Opener)
By Neil Simon
Director Sara Henry
Assistant Director Alex Eddy
September-October 2014

By America's great comic playwright, this memory play is set in a Yonkers in 1942. Bella is 35-years-old, mentally challenged and living at home with her mother, stern Grandma Kurnitz. As the play opens, ne'r do-well son Eddie deposits his two young sons on the old lady's doorstep. He is financially strapped and taking to the road as a salesman. The boys are left to contend with Grandma, with Bella and her secret romance, and with Louie, her brother, a small-time hoodlum in a strange new world called Yonkers. The New York Post called it "The best play Simon ever wrote."

Give 'em Hell, Harry!
(Special One Week Engagement)
By Samuel Gallu
Director Sara Henry
October 2014

This special one week, four performance engagement of the one man show highlighting the life of Harry S. Truman will make for an interesting election season presentation. The title comes from a speech in which a spectator yelled "Give 'em hell, Harry!" and he replied "I don't give them Hell. I just tell the truth about them and they think it's Hell."

Jesus Christ Superstar
Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Lyrics by Tim Rice
Director Steven Puvogel
Music Director Alex Eddy
November-December 2014

Rock opera was defined in this contemporary look at the events that defined the last 7 days in the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus' meteor-like rise in renown provides, as the title suggests, a parallel to contemporary

celebrity worship. As his radical teachings are evermore embraced, Judas increasingly questions the enlightened motives of this new prophet, resulting in betrayal. Christ's final days are dramatized with emotional intensity, thought-provoking edge and explosive theatricality.

Stage Door
By Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman
Director Kathe Rowe
February-March 2015

The play concerns a group of young girls who have come to New York to study acting and find jobs. The scene is Mrs. Orcutt's boarding house, where the hopes and ambitions of sixteen young women are revealed in scenes of entertaining comedy. Contrasted with this are the cases of the girl without talent and the elderly actress whose days are over. The central plot has to do with courageous Terry Randall, who fights against discouragement to a position in the theater where we are sure she will conquer.

See "Upcoming Season" on Back Pg.

Love, Loss and What I Wore

Written by Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron
Based on the book by Ilene Beckerman

Directed by Julie Skokan

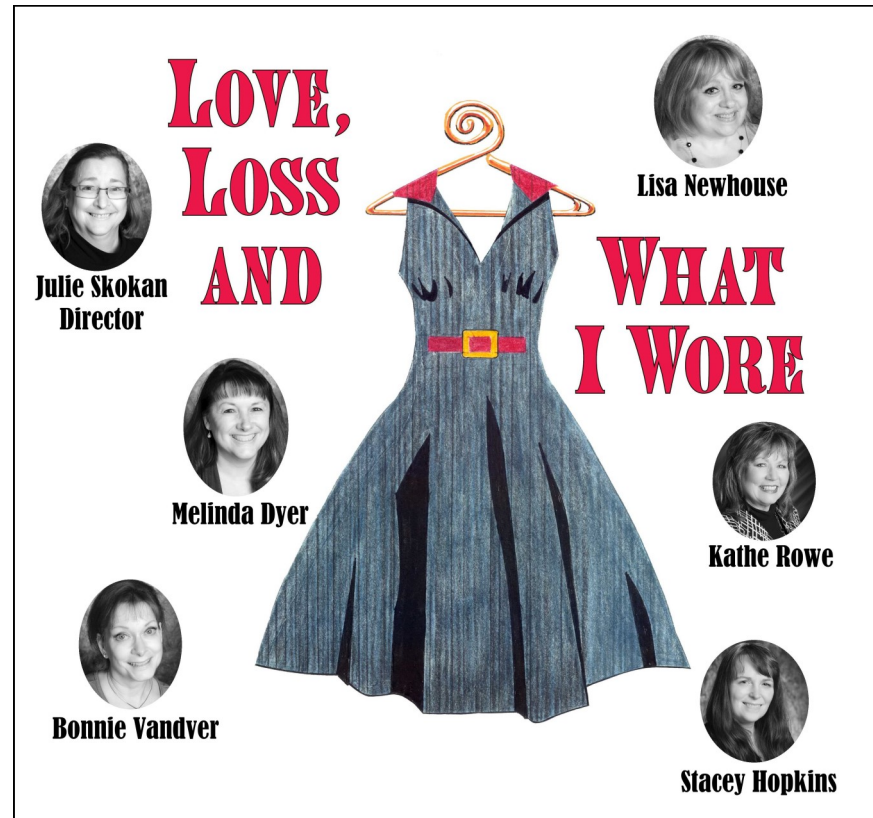
Dramedy- Readers' Theater

Adult Language

The Driftwood Players are excited to present a Readers' Theater presentation of the slice of life dramedy, *Love, Loss and What I Wore*. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes and memory covering all the important subjects - mothers, prom dresses, mothers, buying bras, mothers, hating purses, and why we only wear black.

Director Julie Skokan and Assistant Director Diane Muir have brought together a talented cast to entertain you in their portrayal of multiple characters. Lisa Newhouse, Bonnie Vandver, Melinda Dyer, Stacey Hopkins and Kathe Rowe bring the stories to life.

Performance dates are Friday and Saturday nights, July 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26 at 7:30 pm at the Driftwood Playhouse. There is no matinee for the summer show. This



show contains adult language. Tickets are just \$15 and available at Top Foods and City Center Drug in Aberdeen, Harbor Drug in Hoquiam, Valu Drug in Montesano, and Dolores and Faye's in Ocean Shores. Tickets are also available online at

www.aberdeendriftwood.com and at the door, as available.

Don't miss this fun summer dramedy!



Auditions! Auditions! Auditions!

The Driftwood Players are excited to announce audition dates for two upcoming shows.

Director Sara Henry is holding open auditions for the upcoming production of *Lost in Yonkers* by Neil Simon. She is looking for 2 boys ages 11-19, 2 men ages 35-60 and 3 women ages 25-70.

For information about *Lost in Yonkers*, see the article on Page 2.

Auditions are Sunday, July 6th at

3:00 pm and Monday, July 7th at 7:00 pm at The Driftwood Playhouse. For more information, contact the director Sara Henry by email at henrysara7@gmail.com.

Director Steven Puvogel, in coordination with Music Director Alex Eddy will be holding open auditions for 2 lead roles for the autumn production of the rock opera, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. They will be casting for the roles of Jesus and Judas and are looking for 2 men, ages 20-45.

For information about *Jesus Christ Superstar*, see the article on Page 2.

Auditions for these 2 roles will be held Sunday, August 24th at 5:00 pm and Monday, August 25th at 7:00 pm at the Driftwood Playhouse. Auditions for all of the female roles (ages late teens to 40s) and the remainder of the male roles (ages late teens to 60s) will be held in late September. For more information, contact Director Steven Puvogel by email at steven@puvogel.net.

Election Results

At the May Membership Meeting, elections were held for the Driftwood's Officers (one year terms) and a number of Trustee positions (two year terms). Congratulations to the following for their election and thanks for their service: President, Debbie Scoones; Vice President, Bob Stalder; Secretary, Monica Shay; Treasurer, Harold Warren; Front of House, John Hallacy; Props, Teresa Dubois; Make-up, Sara Henry; Lights and Sound, Ben Hohman; Sets and Newsletter, Steven Puvogel; Programs, Terry Rogers; Website/Social Media, Joe Shay & Steven Puvogel. Al Carter was also elected to fulfill the final year of the term for Buildings & Grounds. Congratulations!

Champagne Opener

Join us for the Gala Driftwood Players' Champagne Opener on Saturday, September 20th, 2014.

This biennial fundraising event will raise the curtain on our 2014-15 season. We have a special evening of entertainment planned that begins with the play called Neil Simon's best, *Lost in Yonkers*. There will be champagne, hors d'oeuvres, wine and appetizers.

Driftwood is an all volunteer organization consisting of your friends and neighbors coming together to provide our community the best in live entertainment. Like many other theaters, ticket prices alone cannot sustain the cost of maintaining our beautiful facility. Every two years, we ask the members of our community to come together to donate to the Driftwood Players Sustaining Fund so that we may continue to provide quality entertainment for years to come. Please plan to donate and join us September 20th. Thank you, donors!

Upcoming Season (from Page 2)

Calendar Girls

By Tim Firth

Mentor Director Brad Duffy

Director in Training Alex Eddy

April-May 2015

When Annie's husband John dies of leukemia, she and best friend Chris resolve to raise money for a new settee in the local hospital waiting room. They manage to persuade four fellow WI members to pose nude with them for an "alternative" calendar, with a little help from hospital porter and amateur photographer Lawrence. The news of the women's charitable venture spreads like wildfire, and hordes of press soon descend on the small village of Knapeley in the Yorkshire Dales. The calendar is a success, but Chris and Annie's friendship is put to the test under the strain of their newfound fame. Based on the true story of eleven WI members who posed nude for a calendar to raise money for the Leukemia Research Fund.

The Nerd

By Larry Shue

Directed by Dave Lund

July 2015

From the playwright who brought us *The Foreigner* comes another wonderful comedy. Now an aspiring young architect in Terre Haute, Indiana, Willum Cubbert has often told his friends about the debt he owes to Rick Steadman, a fellow ex-GI whom he has never met but who saved his life after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. He has written to Rick to say that, as long as he is alive, "you will have somebody on Earth who will do anything for you"—so Willum is delighted when Rick shows up unexpectedly at his apartment on the night of his thirty-fourth birthday party. But his delight soon fades as it becomes apparent that Rick is a hopeless "nerd"—a bumbling oaf with no social sense, little intelligence and less tact.

Be on the lookout for Season Ticket information to hit your mailbox and on our Facebook page in August. You won't want to miss any of the 6 exciting shows planned for the upcoming season!

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