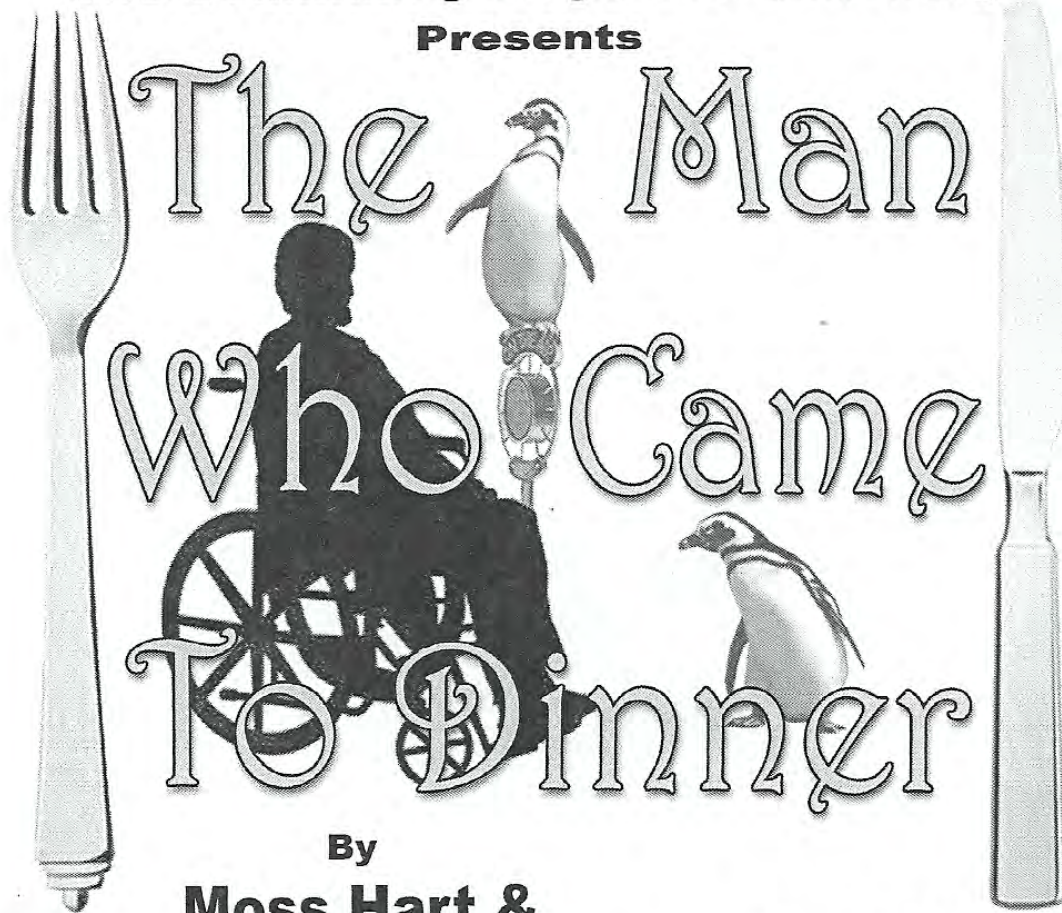


**The Community Players of Salisbury  
Presents**



**By  
Moss Hart &  
George S. Kaufman**

**Directed by  
Kel Nagel**

**April 17 - 8pm / April 18 - 2pm & 8pm**

**April 24 - 8pm / April 25 - 2pm**

**Wor-Wic Community College  
Guerrieri Center Auditorium**

**[www.communityplayersofsalisbury.org](http://www.communityplayersofsalisbury.org)**

## The Community Players' President's Message

Good evening and welcome to Players' production of *The Man Who Came To Dinner!* We have a large cast in this show, many familiar faces that you have seen on our stage over the seasons and several new faces who are making their debut in this performance. We have said from the beginning of rehearsals that this is "a funny show" and we hope that you will enjoy it as much as the cast and crew have enjoyed bringing it to you.

You can readily see and appreciate the contributions made by the director and the cast of a show when you go to a performance. However, often taken for granted are the efforts made by the "techies" who work backstage, in the wings, in the lighting/sound booth, in the make-up room, and in wardrobe. When you look at the list of production staff, please realize that these people work very hard to make the stage and actors complete the director's vision of what the show should be. If you know one of these "techies", take time to thank them for a job well-done!

Please enjoy today's performance! We look forward to seeing you in the audience for the last show of this season — *Blithe Spirit*.

*Rusty Mumford*

### Community Players Officers

President .....	Rusty Mumford
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Corresponding Secretary .....	Megan Davis
Recording Secretary .....	Sharon Benchoff
Treasurer .....	Charlie Linton
Immediate Past President .....	Tom Robinson

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David Allen	Jeff Baer	Joe Benamati
Pete Cuesta	Robin Finley	Sherri Trader Hynes
Ken Johnson	Katie Simms Parsons	Mary Veise

232<sup>nd</sup>  
Production

77<sup>h</sup>  
Year

**Community Players of Salisbury, Inc.**  
presents

*The Man Who  
Came to Dinner*

By  
**Moss Hart**  
and  
**George S. Kaufman**

Directed by **Kel Nagel**

**Wor-Wic Community College  
Guerrieri Center Auditorium**

Friday, April 17, 2015 at 8:00 PM  
Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 2:00 PM  
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Friday, April 24, 2015 at 8:00 PM  
Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 2:00 PM

Presented through special arrangement with  
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*This production was made possible, in part, by a grant from the  
Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council, awarded by the Maryland State  
Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

# Director's Message

*The Man Who Came to Dinner* manages to be both a star vehicle and an ensemble comedy. Certainly our lead, Darrell Mullins, spends virtually the whole show on stage and had to learn an incredible number of lines. The other twenty-four actors have their own contributions to make. The havoc wreaked on the Stanley household is brought to life by the whole cast of veterans and newcomers. We sincerely hope the newcomers will return.

Although it is set in serious times, the late 1930's, we hear nothing about the impending war or the lingering depression, or anything of Hitler or Roosevelt. The world of this show does not revolve around serious issues, but instead its lead character, Sheridan Whiteside. The show avoids discussing serious issues of the times in which it is set. It says a lot about human relationships, love, loyalty, hate, jealousy and selfishness — all while being very funny.

Whiteside, who gets injured on the front porch of the Stanley's home, is based on the real life Alexander Woollcott, a famous radio host, theater critic and friend of numerous celebrities, including the authors of this play. After he visited the home of Moss Hart for a weekend and was a general obnoxious nuisance, Hart asked Kaufmann to imagine if he fell and broke his hip and had to stay for a month. Thus a great play was conceived.

Other characters who visit Whiteside are based on real life celebrities. These include Lorraine Sheldon, based on the famous actress Gertrude Lawrence. Beverly Carlton is based on actor, singer, playwright and composer Noel Coward. You will easily figure out which character is based on Harpo Marx.

I would like to thank, in addition to the cast, the fantastic production team. Set crew, led by David and Bill, produced a lovely set for Debby Nagel to decorate. Jean and Jim King were terrific in handling props. Lynne Bratten and Jenny Tusing did a remarkable job with 1930's costuming, as did Rusty Mumford with period hairstyles. Thanks to Sharon Benchoff for helping with auditions and lighting the set, Travis Comegys for the sound, and stage manager and "right hand man" Megan Davis. Musically, I wish to thank Bill Gore for providing the thirties big band music, and Susan Robinson for recording the accompaniment for Beverly Carlton's song.

Many of you may know that I came back from significant illness to do this show. Thanks to all for thoughts, prayers and words of encouragement. Most of all thanks to the love of my life, Debby, for all the work she did on this show and for being there in sickness and in health.

*Kel Nagel*

# **Synopsis**

Sheridan Whiteside, radio personality, lecturer and friend with the famous, has slipped on the ice as he was leaving the Stanley's and broken his hip. Somewhat ungraciously he has become the focal point of the Stanley home as he mends.

## **Act I**

### **Scene 1**

A December morning

### **Scene 2**

About a week later

## **Intermission**

## **Act II**

Another week has passed.

It is Christmas Eve

## **Act III**

Christmas morning

## Cast List

Mrs. Ernest W. Stanley .....	Ann J. Northam
Miss Preen.....	Melissa Dasher
Richard Stanley .....	Jordan Kilgore
June Stanley .....	Chelsea Eline
John.....	Sammy Barnes
Sarah .....	Kim Szentesi-Thomas
Mrs. Dexter .....	Becky Mumford
Mrs. Mccutcheon .....	Maria Demetriou
Mr. Stanley.....	Ted Demetriou
Maggie Cutler .....	Melanie Hicks
Dr. Bradley.....	Richard Bird
Sheridan Whiteside.....	Darrell Mullins
Harriet Stanley .....	Robin Finley
Bert Jefferson .....	Matthew Hatfield
Professor Metz.....	Peter Cuesta
Luncheon Guests.....	Steve Culver, Steve Engler, Bill Zlakowski
Mr. Baker .....	Kevin Kinnamon
Expressman.....	Matt Griffin
Lorraine Sheldon .....	Judy Hearn
Sandy.....	Devin Doege
Beverly Carlton .....	Pete Evans II
Westcott.....	Steve Culver
Radio Technicians .....	Steve Engler, Matt Griffin
Banjo.....	Matt Bogdan
Two Expressmen .....	Matt Griffin, Kevin Kinnamon
Two Deputies.....	Devin Doege, Bill Zlakowski
Plain Clothesman.....	Tom Welsh

## Production Staff

Director ..... Kel Nagel  
Producer ..... Debby Nagel  
Stage Manager ..... Megan Davis  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Lilia Dobos  
Set Work ..... David Allen, Sharon Benchoff, Rick Bird,  
Gary Finley, Jean King, Jim King, Debby Nagel,  
Kim Szentesi-Thomas, Mary Veise, Tom Welsh, Bill Zlakowski  
Set Decoration ..... Debby Nagel  
Lighting Designer ..... Sharon Benchoff  
Sound ..... Travis Comegys  
Costume Designer ..... Jennifer Tusing  
Costume Coordinator ..... Lynne Bratten  
Hair/Make-up ..... Rusty Mumford  
Props Mistress ..... Jean King  
Publicity ..... Pete Cuesta, Kel Nagel  
Poster/Program Cover Design ..... Kathy Panchyk  
Program ..... David and Pat Oberholtzer, Tom Robinson  
House Manager ..... Mary Veise

## Who's Who in the Cast

**Sammy Barnes (John)** has been an active member of Players, Ocean Pines Players and Ocean Pine Radio Airwaves. He has recently appeared in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Psychic*, and *Dear Hortense*.

**Richard Bird (Dr. Bradley)** is happy to finally be a doctor by day and a doctor by night! As a veteran of many years, he has most recently performed in *The Hollow*, *The Mousetrap*, *The Foreigner*, *Foxfire*, *The Sunshine Boys* and others. He thanks Kel for the opportunity to downgrade his medical expertise in this role.

**Matt Bogdan (Banjo)** was a drama teacher for over 35 years. He has directed children's theater, high school theatre, and community theater. Last season Matt played Thenardier in Players' production of *Les Misérables*. Other credits include *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe* (George), *The Wizard of Oz* (Tin Man), *Oliver!* (Bill Sykes), *Oklahoma!* (Jud) and *1776* (Thomas Jefferson). His main philosophy is that drama should be fun and educational.

**Peter Cuesta (Adolph Metz)** is in his fourth production with Players having previously performed in, *Les Misérables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *They're Playing Our Song*. When not on stage or behind the scenes, Pete enjoys his family time, playing his guitar and sometimes playing the fool! Thanks to Kim for her love and support!

**Steve Culver (Prisoner/Westcott)** has previously appeared with the Community Players in *The Odd Couple*, *Oliver!*, *On Golden Pond*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Les Misérables*, *The Foreigner*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

**Melissa Dasher (Miss Preen)** is making her debut in a Player's production and couldn't be more excited! "Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to be an actor. After one show with you, Mr. Whiteside, I am sure this won't be my last!" Melissa thanks her husband and kids for blessing her with much grace the past few months. She thanks Kel and the cast for believing in her and giving her a shot.

**Maria Demetriou (Mrs. McCutcheon)** is happy to a part of another Players' production. Most recently, Maria was backstage as director of Players' last show *Vanities*. She is excited to be back on stage and is looking forward to future productions.

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## Who's Who in the Cast

**Matt Griffin (Expressman)** works at Bennett Middle School and has lived in Salisbury for 27 years. This is his first production with Players and he loves every second of it.

**Matt Hatfield (Bert Jefferson)** is appearing in his fifth Players' show. He most recently appeared in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Motel), *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (Eugene) and *The Foreigner* (Ellard). He wants to thank a wonderful cast and crew and a special thank you to Kel for directing another hilarious show.

**Judy Hearn (Lorraine Sheldon)** has been with Players since 2010. She is a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honorary. She has appeared in commercials for WBOC. Stage credits include *Fiddler on the Roof*; *The Foreigner*, *Les Misérables*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *On Golden Pond*, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *The Odd Couple*, *Oliver!*, *Ramona Quimby*, *The Mousetrap*, *The Hollow*, *Tartuffe*, and *Tom Dick and Harry*. She thanks Kel for giving her the chance to chew up some scenery with such a terrific cast! Love you all!

**Melanie Hicks (Maggie Cutler)** is making her debut in a Players' production and couldn't be more excited! Most recently Melanie performed in *Death and Taxes* and *Sentimental Journey* and loves watching plays of all kinds. When she's not enjoying the theatre, you can find her working at Wi Middle and Fort Whaley Campground or spending time with her two girls.

## Who's Who in the Cast

**Ted Demetriou (Mr. Stanley)** is a 25 year veteran of community theatre. This is Ted's first non-musical other than murder mysteries. With Players he has appeared in *Oliver!* and *They're Playing Our Song*. His all-time favorite role was Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls*, where he met his wife, Maria. He wants to thank this talented cast for the fun rehearsals, his wife, children and granddaughter for their support, and God for the love He always provides.

**Devin Dodge (Sandy)** was born in Cambridge and grew up on a farm with 30 cats. His favorite type of cat is a calico. As a child, Devin wanted to be an astronaut but later found out he was afraid of heights. His hobbies include sports, music, and, of course, acting. Though Devin is a long time observer of the craft, this is his first production. He is excited and looking forward to more productions in the future.

**Chelsea Eline (June)** has been acting since the second grade and has continued through all her schooling. She also enjoys singing, dancing, and being active outdoors. This is her first play with the Players, and she is extremely excited and feels blessed to be working with such wonderfully hilarious people. Currently a returning student at Wor-Wic, she will soon transfer to SU to pursue a degree in Theatre and Music.

**Steve Engler (Convict, Radio Technician)** is making his debut with Players. He is delighted to be part of this production and wants to thank his wife Margaret for her support.

**Pete Evans II (Beverly Carlton)** is making his third appearance with Players, having appeared in *The Foreigner* (Rev. David Lee) and *Les Misérables* (Brujon). He would like to dedicate his performance to his mother, Rebekah, who passed in November.

**Robin Finley (Harriet Stanley)** has been in several Players' productions, including *The Foreigner* and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. She directed Players' *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and Wor-Wic's, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. Robin is delighted to be working with Kel and this very talented, very funny, and very large cast and crew. She thanks her family for their support, Megan for her sense of humor, and Lily for liking her hair.

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## Who's Who in the Cast

**Jordan Kilgore (Richard Stanley)** is appearing in his sixth show with Players, but his first straight play. He was most recently seen as Captain von Trapp in *Sound of Music* at WPS. He'd like to thank his cast and crew for all the laughs and a great show!

**Kevin Kinnamon (Mr. Baker, Expressman)** is a veteran of one prior Players' show, *Anything Goes*. Kevin is a member of Christ UM Church's Celebration Choir and is happy to be a part of this show.

**Darrell Mullins (Sheridan Whiteside)** is making his fifth Players' onstage appearance. He appeared in *The Odd Couple*, *Footloose*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and *Annie* and directed *Hello, Dolly!*, *Chicago*, and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. At Salisbury University he is a teacher in Communication Arts and directed *Company*, *Urinetown*, *Rent*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Darrell thanks Kel for entrusting him with the challenging opportunity to play Sheridan Whiteside, a man of many words and not many of them nice. He is also grateful to the cast and crew for their patience as he struggled with lines and wheelchair navigation. Lastly, Darrell is ever grateful to his wife and children for letting him indulge in this creative and time-consuming hobby.

**Becky Mumford (Mrs. Dexter)** is happy to be back on stage after having to take some time off. She was last seen in the chorus of *Oliver*. Becky has been a member of Players for over 20 years and has enjoyed not only being on stage, but helping out backstage in many plays and musicals. Becky is a retired elementary teacher and now enjoys staying home and babysitting the grandkids. She wants to thank her friends and family, especially her husband Rusty, for their love and support.

**Ann J. Northam (Mrs. Stanley)** is a seasoned veteran of many roles in summer stock, regional theatre, dinner theatre, radio, television and Players' productions. Ann was last seen on the Wor-Wic stage as Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.

## Who's Who in the Cast

**Kim Szentesi-Thomas (Sarah)** is thrilled to be a part of this production. This is her second time on stage with Players. In addition to her onstage work she has been a member of the backstage crew both with Players and other community theatres. She enjoys volunteering at The Salisbury School in her spare time.

**Tom Welsh (Plain Clothesman)** is appearing in his sixth Players' show. He last appeared as an Ozian in *The Wizard of Oz*. Previously he has appeared in *Oliver!* (Dr. Grimwig), *The Moustrap* (Major Metcalf), *Chicago*, and *The Hollow* (Sir Henry Angkatell). He's a retired public school educator.

**Bill Zlakowski (Guest, Deputy)** is making his stage debut. He recently joined Players as a member of the set crew but couldn't resist trying his talent out on the stage. He thanks the cast and crew for their warm welcome.

**Sharon Benchoff (Lighting Designer)** has been an active member of Players for over three decades. She is best known for her work as a lighting designer for over forty productions including *Chicago*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *All Shook Up*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *1776*. For the past seven years, she has also designed the lighting for Bennett High School's "Rock and Roll Revival". She has taken on the role of director for the productions of *Noises Off*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Laughing Stock*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Tom, Dick & Harry*, and *Les Misérables*.

**Lynne Bratten (Costume Coordinator)** has created and coordinated costumes for Players' since 1984. Her most recent productions include *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe*, and *They're Playing Our Song*. Lynne also creates costumes for "Rock and Roll Revival" and Wor-Wic Community College. She is a retired educator who now owns and manages rental properties.

**Travis Comegys (Sound Designer)** is best known for lighting design. He has run sound at Wor-Wic for Dessert Theatre and Relay for Life. Travis has been an active member of Players for over ten years, lending his talents in set construction and other technical areas. He designed lighting for *Les Misérables*, *The Odd Couple*, *Laughing Stock* and *Tom, Dick and Harry*. Travis will be graduating in May from SU with a degree in Secondary Education.

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## Who's Who Behind the Scenes

**Megan Davis (Stage Manager)** is thrilled to be a part of another Players' production. Most recently she was seen on stage in Players' last show *Vanities*, but normally you can find Megan behind the scenes. A special thank-you to the cast and crew for making this show another memorable experience.

**Jean King (Prop Mistress)** would like to thank Community Players for four decades of camaraderie and fun both on stage and behind the scenes. Joining Community Players as a newcomer to the area in the 70s played a big part in making Salisbury her home.

**Rusty Mumford (Hair/Make-up)** has been a member of Players for over 25 years and is currently president. He has taken part in almost every show either on stage or backstage and has directed numerous productions, most recently *On Golden Pond*. He has appeared on stage in *Oliver!*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Rumors*, *Harvey*, *Social Security*, *Christmas Carol*, *Godspell*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *My Three Angels*, *Hello Dolly*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Footloose*. He gives love to his family, especially Becky (and the other two P's) and Joanne! Thanks for believing in me!

**Debby Nagel (Producer) (Set Decoration)** has worked behind the scenes on many shows. She has been set decorator for *Harvey*, *Doubt* and *The Odd Couple*, among others, in addition to working on costumes and props. Her last gig as producer was *The Foreigner*.

**Kel Nagel (Director)** has performed in over twenty musicals and plays with Players since his debut in the 1996 production of *Guys and Dolls*. He was last on stage in *Oliver!*. Favorite roles include Carlino in *Wait Until Dark*, Ernie in *Rumors* and Blessington in *Solid Gold Cadillac*. He previously has directed *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Hollow*, *Harvey*, *Doubt* and *The Foreigner*.

**Jennifer Tusing (Costume Designer)** is designing costumes for her second production for Players, though she has assisted in costuming productions for Players, Wor-Wic Community College, "Rock and Roll Revival", and the Arabian Lights Dance Troupe. Jenny also has a variety of theater and dance performance credits from around the Salisbury area.

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In memory of Mary Spencer

Tom & Susan Robinson  
Tom & Lydia Welsh

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Kel & Debby Nagel

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Jim & Carol Morris  
Veronica Nagel  
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