WEST VALLEY LIGHT OPERA
PRESENTS
OUR 35th SEASON
1999 – 2000

The Will Rogers
Follies
A Life in Revue

Performing at the
SARATOGA CIVIC THEATER
13777 FRUITVALE AVE. in SARATOGA

June/July 2000
Welcome to the Saratoga Civic Theater!

If you enjoy the community theater productions you have seen in this theater, please tell your friends, and pick up the flyers/brochures/cards in the lobby. There are holders on the walls by the side entrance for both West Valley Light Opera and Saratoga Drama Group which contain information on upcoming productions, cards to place your name on their mailing lists and order forms for tickets to their future productions. Please feel free to take them and use them for future reference. It is only through your support that we are able to bring you such "professional" productions at such a reasonable price. Thank you for your continued support!!

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In Memoriam

Analee Poole

This wonderful supporter of WVLO never appeared on our stage, but she was among our opening night audiences from 1964 through 1999. We will truly miss this gracious lady who was our last surviving "original subscriber" and attended our productions even when she moved to Santa Barbara for a short time and then returned to Walnut Creek a few years ago. Annalee loved the opening night galas because she could encourage and praise the performers for all their hard work. She often made additional donations to WVLO—her most recent was to purchase the plaque for the “Jean Hutchins Award” so that someone would be honored annually in Jean’s name. Jean was our ticket lady for 17 years and we’re sure they are together now reminiscing their many theatrical experiences.

John Walsh—1919–2000

This delightful gentlemen was one of our performers, having appeared countless times on this stage for WVLO and SDG. He had a wonderful wit and loved to make the audience laugh. He had trouble remembering lines, but you could always count on him ‘ad-libbing’ something to keep the scene going. With John on stage, there was never a dull moment! We will miss him!
West Valley Light Opera

Presents

The Will Rogers Follies
A Life in Revue

Starring
JASON ARIAS

and Featuring
Molly Carter and Les Dale

Director/Choreographer: GERI CARLSON SAULS
Music Director: WILLIAM C. COYE
Producer: ELIZABETH DALE

GALA OPENING: June 24, 2000 8:00 PM
Fridays: June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28 8:00 PM
Saturdays: July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 8:00 PM
Sundays: June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23 2:30 PM

“Will Rogers Follies” is being presented through special arrangement with Tams Witmark Music Library, Inc. 560 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022

Visit our Web Site: www.wvlo.org
E-mail: gene18@ix.netcom.com
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Welcome to the third production of the WVLOA’s 35th season, “Will Rogers Follies”. We hope that you will find this delightful musical a bewitching tour of the life and times of the legendary Will Rogers.

You’re Invited! Whether you are already one of our over 1,500 subscribers or here in the Saratoga Civic Theater for the first time, we invite you to join us this coming October for West Valley Light Opera’s 36th season. It will open with Broadway’s newest musical by Cole Porter, “High Society”, based on the hit stage play, “The Philadelphia Story”, followed by a musical comedy about a middle-aged baseball fan who sells his soul to the devil, “Damn Yankees”, and will close with Frank Loesser’s “Guys & Dolls”, a Tony-award-winning musical fable of love, marriage and temperance on Broadway.

Look at Our Centerfold! Included in this program is a special blue insert which we invite you to use to subscribe to WVLOA’s 36th musical season. Subscribe NOW to ensure good seats and a substantial saving over the cost of individual tickets. Current subscribers may also use this form to renew for next season. All subscriptions and individual ticket orders will be processed according to the date on which they are received, but actual tickets will not be mailed until after this season’s last production has concluded in August.

Let me close by stating that you, the audience members who share your support and enthusiasm for WVLO’s endeavors, make it a truly gratifying experience for all of us involved, both on the stage and behind the scenes. We hope that you have a marvelous time at this musical and that you will join us for our future productions.

—Edward Hand, President
West Valley Light Opera Association

COMING TO THIS THEATER

Saratoga Drama Group

“Sweet Charity”  Sept./Oct. 2000  Tickets: (408) 264-3110

WVLOA

“High Society”  Oct./Dec. 2000  Tickets: (408) 268-3777
When I was doing research preparing for this show, I read some wonderful books about Will Rogers. He was such an amazing man, especially for the times he lived in! Do you know he sailed to Argentina in 1900 and traveled around the area there, then in South Africa—surviving mainly on his wits and his roping skills? How many of us have been to either of those countries even today, when it's so much easier to get there? (especially considering how seasick Will got!!) Will Rogers was also one of the first supporters of commercial air travel—he loved the excitement of it.

He came across as an everyday, ordinary, simple man, but was respected and consulted by some of the most powerful men of his time, including several presidents. This show serves to honor the honesty and humor that were Will Rogers' trademarks, while also bringing back the glory of the Ziegfeld Follies days, when Will gained much of his fame. It's a show about both subjects, and the main objective is to sit back and enjoy! If you learn something about Will along the way, all the better! I've had a wonderful time working with this tremendous cast and crew and thank them for all the hard work they've put in. Have a great time—I know I will!!

—Geri Carlson-Sauls

Director/Choreographer
SYNOPSIS OF SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Scene 1: The Ziegfeld Follies
Prelude – “Let’s Go Flying” .................................................. Ensemble
“Will-a-Mania” ....................................................... Ziegfeld’s Favorite & Chorus
“Never Met a Man” .......................................................... Will
“Give a Man Enough Rope” ................................. Will & Male Quartet

Scene 2: Clem Rogers’ Ranch in Oklahoma
“It’s a Boy” .............................................................. Clem & Will’s Sisters
“It’s A Boy” Reprise .................................................. Clem & Will’s Sisters
“So Long Pa” ............................................................... Will

Scene 3: The Moon
“My Unknown Someone” .............................................. Betty

Scene 4: Before A Show Curtain
“Clem’s Return” .......................................................... Clem

Scene 5: Wild West Show/St. Louis Fair
“The St. Louis Fair” ..................................................... Betty’s Sisters
“First Wedding” .......................................................... Will & Betty

Scene 6: Vaudeville
“The Big Time” .......................................................... Will, Betty, Rogers’ Children
“My Big Mistake” .......................................................... Betty

Scene 7: The Ziegfeld “Follies”
Playoff – “The Big Time” .............................................. Orchestra
“Powder Puff Ballet” .................................................. Ziegfeld Girls & Orchestra
“The Wedding “ ............................................................. Entire Cast

—INTERMISSION—

West Valley Light Opera Announces

We invite you to become a subscriber to WVLO’s
New Season. Please use the insert in this program!

Subscribe NOW to assure good seats and substantial savings!
Current subscribers may also use this form to review for next season
ACT II

Scene 1: The Ziegfeld Follies
Entr’acte .................................................. Orchestra
“Look Around” ............................................. Will

Scene 2: The Convention
“Our Favorite Son” ................................. Will & Ensemble

Scene 3: Will & Betty’s Ranch in California
“No Man Left For Me” ................................. Betty
“Presents for Mrs. Rogers” ....................... Will, Male Quartet & Ziegfeld Girls

Scene 4: The Bare Stage
“Will-a-mania” Reprise ......................... Clem, Will & Ensemble
“Without You” Reprise ............................... Betty

Scene 5: The Finale
“Never Met a Man I Didn’t Like” ...... Will & Entire Ensemble

ORCHESTRA
Conducted by William C. Coye

Woodwinds: Bobbie Howe, Mike Maida, Marty McHan,
Lynn Marie Glaiser, Arlene Jacobs, George Rasko

Trumpets: Jim Rollins, Jennie Saunders, Bill Hunsicker

Trombones: Mark Racicot, Becky Dugan

Euphonium: George Preston

Guitar: Steve Adkins, Bob Englund

Bass: Kay Raney

Percussion: Dori Shimer

Keyboards: Karen Morness, Michael Johnson, Marge White

Not all instrumentalists will play for each performance
CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In order of Appearance)

Will Rogers ........................................... Jason Arias
Betty Rogers ........................................... Molly Carter
Will Rogers, Jr. ....................................... John Gates
Freddy Rogers ....................................... Kimberly Gates
James Rogers ....................................... Timothy Gates
Mary Rogers ........................................ Madelyn Lilliston-Trinwith
Clem Rogers ......................................... Les Dale
Wiley Post ............................................ Doug Brook
Stage Manager ...................................... John Palmer
Roper .................................................. Cosmo Hom
Horse Puller for Wild West Show ................ Steven Thannisch
Radio Engineer ..................................... Brandon Bond
Ziegfeld's Voice ..................................... Michael Gray
Ziegfeld's Favorite ................................. Krissy Reiss-Petersen
Ziegfeld Girls/Cowgirls/Dogies .............................. Dina Blair, Jennifer Devereaux Ellington,
                                      Karen Parsons Leon, Kimberly McNamara,
                                      Elizabeth Mieuli, Lauren Minkel, Reggie Reynolds,
                                      Victoria Ribbs, April Sage, Debbie Wright Tawney,
                                      Jennifer Vaillancourt, Jennifer Walsh
Wranglers ............................................ Brandon Bond, Bobby Giraudo,
                                      Robert Summers, Steven Thannisch
Will's/Betty's Sisters .............................. Kimberly McNamara, Lauren Minkel,
                                      Reggie Reynolds, April Sage,
                                      Jennifer Walsh, Debbie Wright-Tawney
Will & Clem Rogers Understudy .................. Doug Brook
Betty Rogers Understudy ............................. Lauren Minkel
Ziegfeld's Favorite Understudy ..................... April Sage
Roper Understudy ..................................... Jason Winters

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
Argonaut School, Dance Attack,
San Jose State Theatre Department, Saratoga Drama Group,
West Valley College Theatre Department,
San Jose Children's Music Theater, and Richard Meidinger.
Production Staff

Producer .......................................................... Elizabeth Dale
Director/Choreographer ........................................ Geri Carlson Sauls
Music Director ..................................................... William C. Coye
Assistant Choreographer ....................................... Carol Pollard
Assistant Director ................................................ Geri Winters
Production Designer ............................................. Jason Winters
Scenic Artist ....................................................... Stephen C. Wathen
Technical Director .............................................. Ed Hand
Master Carpenter ............................................... William Shepard
Lighting Designer ................................................ Mike Munoz
Sound Design Consultant ..................................... Jon Wenger
Costume Designers ............................................. Susan Goulet Bartholomew & Amy Zsadanyi-Yale
Production Stage Manager ................................... Linda Wallitner
Stage Manager ..................................................... Bob Wallitner
Assistant Stage Manager ....................................... John Palmer
Properties .......................................................... Chris Fultz
Stage Crew/Dressers ............................................ Ron Evans, Chris Fultz, Julie Fultz, Cosmo Hom, Gretchen Jenne, Paul Lara, Marc Lewert, Linda McKee, Mike McKenzie, Howard Miller, Ken Molay, Kitty Orens, T.J. Paganini, John Tawney, Marilyn Vaillancourt, Kelly Weber, Jason Winters
Lighting Crew ..................................................... Roy Weil
Spotlight Operators .............................................. Jeff Carlson, Peter Guidotti
Sound Operator .................................................... Sara Escamilla
House Manager .................................................... Becky Ropa
Dance Captain .................................................... Jennifer Walsh
Audition Assistants .................................. Cele & Gene Pincus, Chris Fultz, Les Dale, Bea Ongman
Rehearsal Pianists .............................................. Karen Morness, Marge White
Costume Construction ......................................... Judy Neilson, Judy Pincus
Program, Lobby & Publicity Photos ......................... Edmond Kwong
Program & Publicity ............................................ Marge Hand
Promotional Designs ............................................. Gene Pincus
Reservations & Box Office ................................... Marian Smith
Opening Night Refreshments ............................... Elizabeth Dale & Kris Dudley
Lobby Refreshments ........................................... Angels Unlimited
Lobby Design & Display ...................................... Edmond Kwong
Company Photos ................................................ Tom Lewis
Program Graphics .............................................. Diane Hoxeng
Poster/Flyer Design ........................................... Nuberry Advertising
Poster/Flyer/Program Printing .............................. Simpson Printers
WHO'S WHO IN OUR CAST

Jason Arias  Dina Blair  Brandon Bond

Doug Brook  Molly Carter  Les Dale  Jennifer Devereaux Ellington

John Gates  Kimberly Gates  Timothy Gates  Michael Gray

Cosmo Hom  Karen Parsons Leon  Madelyn Lilliston-Trinwith
WHO'S WHO IN OUR CAST

JASON ARIAS—*(Will Rogers)* Jason returns for his 7th production with WVLO, his most recent as Bobby in “The Boy Friend” and Young Carriere in “Phantom”. Other credits also include “Gypsy”, “Annie Get Your Gun”, “Crazy For You”, and “Joseph...Dreamcoat”. Jason also appeared as Action in “West Side Story” for SCP. He currently attends WVC and works in the Box Office of SJRT.

DINA BLAIR—*(Ziegfeld Girl)* Dina makes her debut with WVLO in this production, but has appeared with PCLO in “Joseph...Dreamcoat”, with PSP in “Jesus Christ Superstar” and with TSHP in “Annie”. Dina is a Web Producer and extends her thanks to our Director for giving her this opportunity to be a part of this production.

BRANDON BOND—*(Wrangler)* Returning to our stage for back-to-back performances (he appeared as Andrew, the Lifeguard, in “The Boy Friend”), Brandon also recently appeared with the Monterey Jazz Festival’s Australia and New Zealand “Down Under Tour”. Credit include “Pinocchio”, “The King & I”, “Oliver!”, & “Stars of Tomorrow”. Brandon was named outstanding soloist of the Reno Int’l Jazz Festival, earned his BA in Political Science from Cal Poly and enjoys judo, golf and scuba diving.

DOUG BROOK—*(Wiley Post; Understudy for Will & Clem)* Doug returns to WVLO after playing brother, Judah, in “Joseph...Dreamcoat”. In the meantime, he has been busy both behind the scenes and on stage. Performance credits include “Annie” with TSHP; “Blood Brothers” with PAP; “How To Succeed...” and “Fiddler” with FMT. He was stage manager for “The Goodbye Girl” with SDG, “State Fair” with SJCMT and “Doubles” at SCPL. He will be directing “Crazy For You” for SCP next season. One of several plays he has written, “Retrograde”, will be published in an anthology of plays performed at Actor’s Theatre in Santa Cruz. Doug studied writing and theatre at Carnegie Mellon University.

MOLLY CARTER—*(Betty Blake)* Audiences will remember Molly in her first appearance with us as Hortense, the French maid, in this spring’s production of “The Boy Friend”. Her other theatrical credits include “West Side Story” with SCP; “Company” with SDG; “Most Happy Fella” with Lyric Theatre and several productions with CCMT. She portrayed Betty in CCMT’s production of “Will Rogers Follies” for which she received a Shellie Award as Outstanding Actress in a Musical. Molly is a project manager for Cisco Learning Institute at Cisco Systems and dedicates her performance to Fred Franklin, her other Will Rogers, who passed away this spring.
LES DALE—(Clem Rogers) Regular season subscribers will remember seeing Les in eleven other productions for WVLO as a performer, his most recent as Gerard Carriere in last fall’s production of “Phantom”. Before that he played Sir John Tremayne in “Me & My Girl”, for which he also designed and built the sets. The recipient of 4 ERMA awards for his roles in “Sugar”, “My Fair Lady”, “The Sound of Music” and “Annie Get Your Gun”, Les made his very first stage appearance in “Gypsy” at SCP and has been performing and designing sets ever since. A native of the Santa Clara Valley, he is a retired engineer from Pacific Bell and enjoys his hobbies of painting, making furniture, sketching and travel, especially to Spain & Italy. He is most proud of his wife, Elizabeth (the Producer of this production), and his beautiful and talented children and grandchildren.

JENNIFER DEVEREAUX ELLINGTON—(Ziegfeld Girl) This marks Jennifer’s fifth production here, her most recent was “Joseph..Dreamcoat” and before that “Gypsy”, “West Side Story” and “South Pacific”. She earned her BA in Theatre Arts & English from SCU and is currently a drama teacher at Bret Harte Middle School. Other credits include “Fiddler”, “Little Mary Sunshine”, “King & I” and “West Side Story” with SCP; “God” & “Harlequinade” with STOC; “As You Like It” and “Merchant of Venice” with SJ Shakespeare Festival as well as performing for TheatreWorks and SCU. Her real claim to fame, however, is playing a dancing cow in “Gypsy”.

JOHN GATES—(Will Rogers, Jr.) Season subscribers will remember John as young Erik in last fall’s production of “Phantom”. A 5th grader in Milpitas Christian School, John already has a long list of credits, including “Tommy”, “Phantom”, “Children of Eden” & “Will Rogers Follies” for AMTSJ; “Fiddler” & “Merrily We Roll Along” for FMT; “Blue Suede Shoes” and “Coppella” with SJCB; and performed in Disney World with Kids On Tour.

KIMBERLY GATES—(Freddy Rogers) If regular theater goers saw SDG’s production of “The Music Man”, this 3rd grader at Milpitas Christian School played Gracie Shinn, the mayor’s youngest daughter. She also appeared in “Children of Eden” with AMTSJ and as a mouse for SJCB. Kimberly also was a member of Kids On Tour.

TIMOTHY GATES—(James Rogers) Timothy was the understudy for his brother, John, as young Erik in “Phantom” and just recently was the understudy for Winthrop in SDG’s “The Music Man”. Even though he is only in 4th grade at Milpitas Christian School, his credits also include “Children of Eden” for AMTSJ; “Fiddler” & “Merrily We Roll Along” for FMT; “Blue Suede Shoes” and “Coppella” for SJCB; and performed with siblings, John & Kimberly, in Disney’s Kids On Tour.
BOBBY GIRAUDO—(Wrangler) This is Bobby’s third appearance with WVLO, his last was in “West Side Story” and before that “Meet Me In St. Louis”. Most of his performing has been done on this stage with SDG in at least seven productions, the most recent in “State Fair”, but he did dance in “A Chorus Line” for SCP. A Director of Business Development, Bobby has also produced and co-produced some recent musicals for SDG.

MICHAEL GRAY—(Voice of Florent Ziegfeld) Regular subscribers will remember Michael in our productions of “Carousel” and especially “South Pacific”, for which he was awarded the Captain’s Cape. He is a CPA who earned his black belt in Tae Kwon Do, has been married to wife, Janet, for 28 years and they have 3 grown children. Mike’s parents have been Saratoga residents for 42 years and he has an identical twin brother, Steve, who is a professional entertainer.

COSMO HOM—(Roper) Cosmo has been doing shows in this theater for WVLO and SDG for so many years, our records may not even list them all. Our subscribers will remember Cosmo as the first victim of our “Phantom” in last fall’s production, but will recall most especially his special effects of the electrocution of Carlotta. His versatility and dexterity in juggling, stilt walking, etc. always provide a featured spot in any production; but his technical expertise backstage is as valuable as his performing skills.

KAREN PARSONS LEON—(Ziegfeld Girl) Karen returns to this stage directly from SDG’s “The Music Man”. She had previously appeared in several other SDG productions, as well as with SCP and in our production of “How To Succeed...” A customer support representative, Karen loves the outdoors and the ocean, likes to go mountain bike riding, play tennis and trail run.

MADELYN LILLISTON-TRINWITH—(Mary Rogers) A 4th grader at Christa McAuliffe School, Madelyn is a newcomer to WVLO. She appeared in her class play this spring and as a member of McAuliffe chorus, aspires to someday play Eva Peron in “Evita”.

KIMBERLY McNAMARA—(Ziegfeld Girl) Although Kimberly makes her debut with WVLO, she is no stranger to this stage, have appeared in six productions for SDG, the most recent “The Goodbye Girl” for which she received the Gypsy Robe. We are especially grateful to her for letting us borrow her husband, Paul, to be our featured tango dancer in our last production of “The Boy Friend”. In her “real” life, she is a marketing communications and trade show manager, loves dancing, cooking, theater, and her husband, not necessarily in that order!
SUBSCRIBE NOW FOR
WEST VALLEY LIGHT OPERA ASSOCIATION'S 36th SEASON 2000 - 2001

All seats are reserved, parking is free and handicapped facilities are available.

Performances are at
THE SARATOGA CIVIC THEATRE
13777 FRUITVALE AVE., SARATOGA

For more information, call (408) 268-3777
WEST VALLEY LIGHT OPERA ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCES ITS 36TH SEASON, 2000-2001

“HIGH SOCIETY”
Music & Lyrics by COLE PORTER
Book by ARTHUR KOPIT and Play by PHILLIP BARRY

This is Broadway’s new musical by Cole Porter and is based on the hit stage play, ‘The Philadelphia Story’ by Phillip Barry which played on Broadway in 1932 starring Katherine Hepburn. This is a spritely musical comedy of manners, morals and life about a wealthy and spoiled Philadelphia socialite. In 1956, MGM produced a movie of the play starring Katherine Hepburn, (for which she won an Academy Award), James Stewart and Cary Grant. Later, MGM filmed their biggest moneymaker, a musicalized remake, entitled “High Society”, starring Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Grace Kelly. It returned to Broadway as a stage musical in 1998. Songs include “I Love Paris”, “True Love”, “Let’s Misbehave”, “Just One Of Those Things” and the title song.
Performances: Oct/Nov 2000

“DAMN YANKEES”
Words & Music by RICHARD ADLER and JERRY ROSS
Book by GEORGE ABBOTT and DOUGLASS WALLOP

Based on the Douglass Wallop novel, “The Year The Yankees Lost The Pennant”, this musical is about a middle-aged Washington Senator’s fan who is so devoted that he sells his soul to the Devil just for a chance to play on his favorite team. This musical comedy opened on Broadway in 1955, starring Gwen Verdon, Ray Walston and Jean Stapleton. In 1958, the film version also starred Gwen Verdon. Most recently a production of this musical toured here on the West Coast with Jerry Lewis the role of the Devil. The score includes “Heart”, “Shoeless Joe From Hannibal, MO”, “Whatever Lola Wants”, and “Two Lost Souls”. Performances: Mar/Apr 2001

“GUYS AND DOLLS”
Music & Lyrics by FRANK LOESSER; Book by JO SWERLING and ABE BURROWS

Set against New York City’s highlights and low life, “Guys & Dolls” is an entertaining fable of love, marriage and temperance on Broadway. This musical starred Robert Alda, Vivian Blaine, and Sam Levene, winning 3 Tony awards and the Drama Critics Circle Award. The film version was released in 1955 starring Marlon Brando, Vivian Blaine, Frank Sinatra and Jean Simmons. It was revived on Broadway in 1992 and featured Herschel Sparber as Big Jule, who performed with WVLO before turning professional. Memorable hit songs include “Bushel & A Peck”, “Take Back Your Mink”, “Luck Be A Lady”, “Sit Down, “You’re Rockin’ The Boat”. Performances: Jun/Jul 2001

Note: Musicals and performance dates may change subject to prior notice.

ALL EVENING SHOWS START AT 8:00PM. MATINEES START AT 2:30PM
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Theater (1 hr before curtain) : 408-741-9508

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**“Single” Subscription Prices**

(One seat to each of three shows)

- **REGULAR:** $41.00 per person
- **SPECIAL:** $35.00 per person

Prices include City Surcharge of $1.00.

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Signature: ____________________________

Please indicate seat preference

Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or tickets will be held at the Box Office.

Please mail completed form with payment, to:
West Valley Light Opera Assn
PO Box 779
Los Gatos, CA 95031

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WEST VALLEY LIGHT OPERA ASSOCIATION

35 Years of Hits (1964-2000)

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED...FORUM 96
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ELIZABETH MIEULI—(Ziegfeld Girl) Another newcomer to WVLO, but Elizabeth has a long list of theatrical credits with SCP and CHS. A high school senior in the College Advantage program at De Anza, she will attend Mills College in the fall. She dedicates her performance to her “really cool friend”, Hayley.

LAUREN A. MINKEL—(Ziegfeld Girl, Sister, Understudy for Betty) Another first-timer to WVLO, Lauren is a freshman at UCSC with a double major in Theatre and English Literature. She has performed in several productions with SJCMT, CTC, WHS, & WVC. She is currently attending AMTSJ’s Theatre Arts Institute.

JOHN PALMER—(Stage Manager) John portrayed the Minister of Culture in our production of “Phantom”, but more recently appeared in SCP’s “Man of La Mancha”. John sings tenor with STOCter.

KRISY REISS-PETERSEN—(Ziegfeld’s Favorite) This is Krissy’s first production with WVLO, but her career has taken her from ballet and modern studios in NYC and riverboats in Louisiana to the musical stages of San Jose. Krissy was most recently seen as a dancing gypsy for OSJ’s “La Traviata”. Her other credits include performances with SCP and AMTSJ. She graduated from UC-Irvine with a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance and lives in Capitola with her husband, Brett. To those of you watching and who support the arts, Krissy thanks you.

REGGIE REYNOLDS—(Ziegfeld Girl, Sister) Reggie is appearing in her fifth production with WVLO, her most recent as Mrs. Potiphar in “Joseph...Dreamcoat” as well as “Crazy For You”, “West Side Story”, and “Meet Me In St. Louis”. As a Materials Manager for Apple Computer, she also has numerous other credits with PCLO, AMTSJ, PAP, SDG and FMT.

VICTORIA RIBBS—(Ziegfeld Girl) Victoria was last seen in “West Side Story” and “Oklahoma” for WVLO, but has continued to perform in the area with AMTSJ and SCP. Victoria works for the Planning/Building and Code Enforcement Department for the City of San Jose.

APRIL SAGE—(Ziegfeld Girl, Sister, Indian Angel, Understudy for Ziefgeld’s Favorite) April was one of our ballerinas in last fall’s production of “Phantom”. A student of FTC, her credits include “Aladdin” and “Orchards” for them as well as productions for SCP. A ballerina since the age of 3, April plans to move to LA soon and extends her gratitude to her family and Jason for their love and support.
ROBERT SUMMERS—(Wrangler) This is Robert’s sixth production with WVLO—“How To Succeed…”, “A Funny Thing..Forum”, “Camelot”, “Man of La Mancha” & “King & I”. A software developer at IBM, Robert has also performed with AMTSJ in “Jesus Christ, Superstar” and SDG’s “Little Me”. He also enjoys guitar, soccer and aikido.

STEVEN THANNISCH—(Wrangler) Steve has been in so many productions on this stage, they are too numerous to mention, but subscribers will remember him as Tony from “The Boy Friend”, Wyatt in “Crazy For You”, Stewpot in “South Pacific” and Simeon in “Joseph…Dreamcoat”. He comes to us direct from playing the subtle, yet pivotal role of the Constable in “The Music Man” for SDG. Steve is such a method actor that he wore “Wrangler’s” during the rehearsal process to find his motivation! Look for him in his upcoming role with AMTSJ as seat holder I-13—BINGO!

JENNIFER VAILLANCOURT—(Ziegfeld Girl) A recent graduate of MVHS, Jennifer is making her debut with WVLO. A veteran of fifteen shows in the past five years with SCP, Jen's favorite roles have been Mrs. Potiphar in “Joseph..Dreamcoat”, Virtue (one of Reno Sweeney’s angels) in “Anything Goes” and Velma in “West Side Story”. Jennifer is looking forward to travel in England this summer, a dream she has shared with her best friend, Louise, since third grade.

JENNIFER WALSH—(Ziegfeld Girl, Sister) This Jennifer is also a newcomer to WVLO, but here in California appeared in SDG's productions of “State Fair” and “Goodbye Girl”. Her numerous other credits are from New England. Even though she is a “mom”, Jennifer enjoys internet travel and computer desktop publishing.

DEBBIE WRIGHT-TAWNEY—(Ziegfeld Girl) Even though Debbie took a hiatus from theater, she is a veteran performer with WVLO since our last count indicates this must be about her seventh production. SDG’s “Goodbye Girl” brought her back to this stage after several years’ absence. Other credits include performances with SCP, GT, Opry House, and her favorite role of Connie in “A Chorus Line” with PAP. A social studies and theater arts teacher for MHCS, Debbie enjoys spending time with her husband, John, and all their farm animals in San Martin.
WHO'S WHO ON OUR STAFF

ELIZABETH DALE—(Producer) As a member of the Board of Directors for over 15 years, Elizabeth currently serves as Vice President. She started in theater as our stage manager for “Student Prince”, was a co-producer for “Hello, Dolly”, then produced “The Sound Of Music” on her own and has been producing one show per season ever since. “Carousel” was her ’98-’99 production and next season she will produce “Damn Yankees” in the Spring.

GERI CARLSON SAULS—(Director/Choreographer) This is Geri’s directing debut with WVLO, even though she did perform in our production of “Gypsy” as Tessie Tura several years ago. She is enjoying working behind the scenes again, after having last performed on this stage in the role of Paula in “The Goodbye Girl” for SDG. Recent technical credits include Director/Choreographer of “A Chorus Line” for SCP and Choreographer for several productions for SDG, SCP and Cabrillo College. Busy on stage as well, she has appeared as the witch in “Into The Woods”, Emily in “State Fair”, Irene Malloy in “Hello, Dolly” and as Tess in “Crazy For You” at AMTSJ, for which she won a Ginny award. Geri works as a veterinarian in her “day job” and we all join her in thanking her husband, Chip, for supporting her in her theatrical endeavors!

WILLIAM C. COYE—(Music Director) Bill returns after an eight-year absence; having been music director of WVLO’s “Annie Get Your Gun”. He has music directed or played in the orchestra for over 100 productions since being bitten by the “theater bug” in HS. A graduate of CSU, San Francisco, Bill is a bassoonist with the SJ Wind Symphony and has directed church choirs for 26 years, recently being called to the San Mateo Congregational Church as music director. Bill credits Michael D. Ryan (his Mr. Holland) and the late Mssrs. John Krueger and Carl Sitton with being his musical muses. When not making music, Bill is a facilities engineer for Charles Evans & Associates in Sunnyvale and dreams of owning a ’36 or ’37 Cord automobile...or at least getting to ride in one.
GERI WINTERS—(Assistant Director) Geri has been working in musical theater since 1974. Her most recent venture was directing “Into The Woods” for SCP. This marks Geri’s eleventh production with WVLO in various positions from performer to Stage Manager and/or Crew to Light Crew to Video Special Effects to Lobby Design. She is delighted to be working on yet another show with Geri Carlson Sauls. The two Geri’s strike again!

CAROL POLLARD—(Assistant Choreographer) Carol, another newcomer to our staff, danced professionally for six years in the major hotels in Reno and Las Vegas. Most of her choreographical experience took place at CSU-Northridge where she choreographed “The Fantastics”, “How To Succeed…”, “Bye, Bye Birdie”, “Street Scene” and taught stage movement classes for the Teen Drama Workshop, choreographing all of their productions. Locally, she choreographed “The Fantastics” for Pioneer High School and “Little Shop Of Horrors” for SCP.

JASON WINTERS—(Set Designer & Understudy for Roper) Jason has worked with theater groups throughout the Bay Area since 1989 in many technical positions—Production Stage Manager, Set Designer (his most recent was designing the sets for SCP’s “Into The Woods”), Master Carpenter, Technical Director, Videographer and on stage and light crews. As a performer, he has appeared with MBD in “Win, Place or Murder”, SCP in “A Chorus Line”, and WVLO in “How To Succeed…”. Jason is enjoying calling, ”Geri” and watching two heads turn in response!

MICHAEL G. MUÑOZ—(Lighting Designer) Mike designed last fall’s production of “Phantom”, his eighth for WVLO and one of his most challenging. His special lighting effects were also seen in last season’s productions of “They’re Playing Our Song” and “Joseph…Dreamcoat”. Mike has also designed lighting for some of SDG’s productions, as well as SCPL. We join Mike in dedicating this program to his wonderful mother.

LINDA WALLITNER—(Production Stage Manager) Linda came to WVLO in 1997 and has worked most shows on the technical staff ever since. She and husband, Bob, shared the stage managing of “Phantom”, our season opener last fall. Linda was last seen on stage in the ensembles of “Brigadoon”
& “Cabaret” (which she co-produced) for SDG. Her favorite roles include Bloody Mary in “South Pacific”, Nikki in “Sweet Charity” and Housekeeper in “Man of La Mancha”. Linda is very happy to be back stage managing, because she loves working so closely with the staff, cast and crew. She shares her “love of theatre” with the love of her life, her husband, Bob.

BOB WALLITNER—(Stage Manager) In addition to “ Phantom”, Bob takes on his second production in this position; having served as Assistant Stage Manager for “They’re Playing Our Song” and “ The Boy Friend”. He has worked on the technical staff on most of the shows in this his fourth season. He has also worked on the technical staff for many productions for SDG as well. Bob is very happy that he got involved with the “magic of theater” and loves working closely with the “wonderful people” he has met. He shares his theatre experience with his wife, Linda.

SUSAN GOULET BARTHOLOMEW—(Costumer Designer) Susan has done costumes for SCP, PYT, BBSC, SJSC and SJSU where she works in the costume shop. She recently received the Wendell Johnson Award for Excellence in Design for “City of Angels” at SJSU. We will see more of her innovative designs in “Return To The Forbidden Planet” at SJSC this summer.

AMY ZSADANYI-YALE—(Costumer Designer) Amy returns to costuming for WVLO from “Me & My Girl” in 1997. She is the resident designer and costume instructor at WVC. She holds a BA from SCU where she received the American College Theatre Festival Meritorious Award for her designs for “The Crucible” and earned her Masters in Theatre Arts from SJSU, where she received the Wendell Johnson Award for Excellence in Design. Some of her other costuming credits include productions for SCP, PLO, Cañada College and BBSC.

JON WENGER—(Sound Designer) Jon has been involved with professional sound since the ’60’s when he worked in TV and Radio broadcasting. Since 1994 he has designed sound for over 20 local productions with various groups including WVLO and SDG. He also serves as resident Technical Director and board member for SDG. During his off-theater hours he makes DVD movies (in surround-sound, of course) for Zomax in Fremont.

STEPHEN C. WATHEN—(Scenic Artist) Stephen used his remarkable talents to once again bring our set to life. His credits have included remarkable set designs like the one for our fall production of “ Phantom” as well as many of our incredible sets during the past 25 seasons. Stephen has also designed for other Bay Area theatrical groups, films, videos, and special effects for George Lucas Films.
ACRONYMS USED IN THIS PROGRAM

AMTSJ American Musical Theater of San Jose
BBSC Bus Barn Stage Company
CCMT Contra Costa Musical Theater
CHS Cupertino High School
CPA Certified Public Accountant
CSU California State University
CTC California Theater Center
FMT Foothill Music Theater
GT Gaslighter Theater
MBD Mystery By Design
MHCS Morgan Hill Country School
MPG Menlo Players Guild
MVHS Monte Vista High School
NYC New York City
OSJ Opera San Jose
PAP Palo Alto Players
PCLO Peninsula Civic Light Opera
PCS Peninsula Center Stage
PLO Pacific Light Opera
RCCT Redwood City Community Theater
SCP Sunnyvale Community Players
SCPL Santa Clara Players
SCU Santa Clara University
SDG Saratoga Drama Group
SJCB San Jose Cleveland Ballet
SJCMT San Jose Children's Music Theater
SJRT San Jose Repertory Theater
SJSC San Jose Stage Company
SJSU San Jose State University
STOC Studio Theater of California
TSI Theater Spectrum, Inc.
UCSC University of California at Santa Cruz
WHS Westmont High School
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WVLO West Valley Light Opera

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The following awards, chosen by the Staff, are presented to a member of each production who has made an outstanding contribution to the success of that production in the following areas. Listed are the awards for the past six productions.

Captain’s Cape Award — Presented in memory of our late President, Captain R.P. Maurice to a member of the chorus.
  Donald Benson — “Crazy For You”
  John Palmer — “Carousel”
  Andy Koch — “They’re Playing Our Song”
  Perry Jones — “Joseph . . . Dreamcoat”
  Ron Evans — “Phantom”
  Elizabeth Kenton-Tate — “The Boy Friend”

Orchestra Vest Award — Awarded to a member of the orchestra.
  Bob Wylie — “Crazy for You”
  Max Alford and Karen Snell — “Carousel”
  David B. Herberg — “They’re Playing Our Song”
  Ronnie Johnston — “Joseph . . . Dreamcoat”
  Karen Snell — “Phantom”
  Bobbie Howe — “The Boy Friend”

Technical Vest Award — Awarded to a member of the stage crew.
  This award was initiated for the first show of this season.
  Joe Campbell — “Carousel”
  Julie Westfield — “They’re Playing Our Song”
  Elisa Herberg — “Joseph . . . Dreamcoat”
  Dan Rich & Jeff Jordahl — “Phantom”
  Kelly Weber — “The Boy Friend”

Jean Hutchins Award — Presented in memory of Jean Hutchins, our late ticket lady — the recipient is chosen annually by the Board of Directors.
  1998–99 Season — Marge White

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West Valley Light Opera Association is always looking for energetic and enthusiastic volunteers. The simple truth is that WVLOA could not exist without its exceptional volunteer force. We have positions for all of your interests and have weekday, evening or weekend shifts available. If you would like to join our talented volunteer work force, give us a call (408) 268-3777 and leave a message. We will be glad to tell you of the many roles you can play, all of which are critical to the continued success of WVLOA.
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