



The
Octette Bridge Club

By P. J. Barry

January 8-10, 1987 at 8:00 p.m.

Matinee—January 11th at 2:00 p.m.

MSU Veterinary School Auditorium

Presented by the Starkville Community Theater
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



The Octette Bridge Club

by

P. J. Barry

Director Monroe Dewberry

Assistant Director Fay Kirk

CAST

MARTHA McDERMITT Alice Carol Caldwell

MARY MARGARET DONOVAN Barbara Bouchillon

NORA HILLER Catherine Conroy

CONNIE EMERSON Frances Heller

ALICE MONAHAN Terry McDowell

ANN CONROY Dixie Camp

LIL CARMODY Marsha Williams

BETSY BAILEY Madeline Golden

ROBERT FOSTER John Wells

The action of the play occurs in the living room of
Ann (Mrs. John) Conroy in a town in Rhode Island.

ACT I

Scene 1: A Friday night in late October, 1934.

Scene 2: Two hours later.

ACT II

Scene 1: The Friday night before Halloween, 1944.

Scene 2: About one hour later.

A ten-minute intermission occurs between acts.

THE PLAYERS

ALICE CAROL CALDWELL (Martha McDermitt) A.C. won "Best Director" award for SCT's *Tintypes* in the Mississippi Theatre Competition in January, 1986. She has performed in *Blithe Spirit*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *The American Dame*, *John Brown's Body*, and *Harvey*. A music and choral teacher at Armstrong Middle School, she and her husband Price are parents of Delia, an MSU freshman, and Michael, an SHS junior.

BARBARA BOUCHILLON (Mary Margaret Donovan) Barbara played Karen in *Plaza Suite* and has worked backstage in several other SCT productions. She is on the SCT Board of Directors. Barbara is the wife of Charles and mother of the bride for daughter, Leslie, and mother in general to Rusty, Scott and David.

CATHERINE CONROY (Nora Hiller) Catherine is an SCT charter member, has worked backstage, and as an assistant director for previous performances. She has appeared in *Little Mary Sunshine*, *Curious Savage*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Close Ties*, *Forty Karats*, and *Our Town*. Catherine is the wife to James and mother to Jon, Jami and Justin. Her interests include gardening, house plants, dancing, music and running.

FRANCES HELLER (Connie Emerson) A charter member of SCT, Frances is also a past president and a member of the SCT Board of Directors. She directed *Bell, Book and Candle* and *A Thousand Clowns* and has appeared in *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Curious Savage*, *Mary, Mary*, *Plaza Suite*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Forty Karats*, *The American Dame*, *Spoon River Anthology*, *I Remember Mama*, and *Blithe Spirit*. She is an English teacher at Wood Junior College.

TERRY REESE McDOWELL (Alice Monahan) Terry has appeared in three previous SCT productions: *Close Ties*, *Philadelphia Story*, and *How the Other Half Loves*. She has also worked backstage. She is an elementary school teacher because "I have a captive audience seven hours each week day." She has a passion for dancing and a wonderful family that puts up with her absences during plays.

DIXIE CAMP (Ann Conroy) Dixie is also a charter member of SCT and has worked backstage and as an assistant director in many previous SCT productions. She is making her stage debut in *The Octette Bridge Club*. She is a real estate broker and enjoys reading, needlework and photography.

MARSHA WILLIAMS (Lil Carmody) Marsha is originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she has had theatre experience with the Baton Rouge Little Theatre, Tulane University and LSU. She is a charter member of SCT and has acted in *Wait Until Dark*, *The American Dame*, *I Remember Mama*, and *Forty Karats*. She directed *Harvey*, was assistant director in *The Philadelphia Story*, *Tintypes* and *John Brown's Body*, and has worked backstage on other productions. She is married to Clyde and has three children, Steven, Rowan, and Kyle.

MADELINE GOLDEN (Betsy Bailey) Madeline combines extensive SCT on-stage and backstage experience. She has had roles in *I Remember Mama*, *A Thousand Clowns*, *Forty Karats*, *Tintypes*, *How the Other Half Loves*, and *Harvey*. She is secretary to the Home Economics Department of the Cooperative Extension Services.

JOHN E. WELLS (Robert Foster) A resident of Sessums, Mississippi, John is a charter member of SCT and has had roles in *6 Rms Riv Vu*, *How the Other Half Loves* and *The Philadelphia Story*. He is a past president of MSU's Blackfriars Drama Society, a member of Delta Psi Omega and Alpha Psi Omega, honorary drama fraternities.

BACKSTAGE

Set Design: Bob Anderson

Set Construction: Bob Anderson, Monroe Dewberry, Carl Scholl, Keith Haney, John Graef, Price Caldwell, Edwin Ellis, Ann Elizabeth Ellis, John Beal, Mallory Scholl, Shay McDonnall

Stage Managers: Fay Kirk, Pat Kelly, Ronnie Vickers

Make-Up: Shay McDonnall, Harriet Mastin, Sharon Powe, Helen Carter, Pat Hawkins, Douglass Thompson, Ken Mitchell, Betty Frnka, Jami Conroy

Lights (Set Up): Edwin Ellis

Lights (Run): Keith Haney

Hair Styles: Faye Stevens

Set Decoration: John Graef

Properties: Pat Kelly, Ronnie Vickers

Poster Design: Nancy Bolin

Costumes: Shirley Kitzman, Genevieve Carter, Mallory Scholl

Publicity: Regina Broadway, Clyde Williams, Betty Frnka, Shay McDonnall

Photographer: John Wells

First Night Party: Emilie and Jack White

House: Ross Williams, Nell Crowe, Fay Hutto, Shirley Carley, Charles Thomas, Inez Thomas, Howard Schickedanz, Edith Teasley, Jean Snyder, Frances Fortenberry, Lottie Ware

THANKS!

The Starkville Community Theatre gratefully acknowledges the help of the following individuals and businesses:

The Starkville Electric Company
B's Used Furniture and Antiques
Art Kennard
Mildred Katz
Louise Gray
Susan Dorsey

SCT extends a special "thanks" to **Mississippi State University** for providing the auditorium of the Louis Wise Complex for the performances, to **Joanne's Kitchen Shop** for rehearsal space, and to the **Starkville Public Schools** for storage and work space.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

SCT is happy to present **The Octette Bridge Club** as the second show of its ninth season.

I am especially grateful to the cast and the crew, all of whom sacrificed much of their free time during the holiday season to work in rehearsals.

The cast will be presenting the show next weekend at the Mississippi Theatre competition in Biloxi.

SCT'S SEASONS

1978-79

6 Rms Riv Vu (summer)
You Can't Take It With You
Dial M for Murder
Little Mary Sunshine

1979-80

The Wager (summer)
Curious Savage
Vanities
Mary, Mary
Bye, Bye Birdie

1980-81

Arsenic and Old Lace
Spoon River Anthology
The Rainmaker
Bell, Book and Candle

1981-82

Blithe Spirit
Plaza Suite
White Sheep of the Family

1982-83

The Man Who Came to Dinner
The American Dame
Wait Until Dark
Barefoot in the Park
The Five Little Peppers

1983-84

I Remember Mama
Close Ties
A Thousand Clowns
Peter Pan

1984-85

Our Town
The Philadelphia Story
Forty Karats

1985-86

Tintypes
John Brown's Body
How the Other Half Loves

1986-87

Harvey
The Octette Bridge Club
Critic's Choice

SCT'S OFFICERS AND BOARD

Officers: John Graef (President); Ross Williams (V.P. — Business); Terry Reese McDowell (V.P. — Membership); Jack and Emilie White (V.P. — Membership); Madeline Golden (Secretary); Nell Crowe (Treasurer); Fay Hutto (Historian)

Board of Directors: - Robert G. Anderson, Frances Fortenberry, and Leonard Brandon (1984-87)
- Jack Carroll, Clyde Williams, Barbara Bouchillon (1985-88)
- Howard Schickedanz, Frances Heller, Monroe Dewberry (1986-89)

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am especially pleased to announce that, as of November 25, 1986, SCT's season memberships have surpassed that of 1985-1986. By the conclusion of this weekend's presentation of *The Octette Bridge Club*, we expect season memberships to reach record levels.

I attribute this growth to the hard work of Membership Vice President Terry McDowell, the success of this season's first production, *Harvey*, and of SCT's special "Give a Play for Christmas" promotion.

For the past five years SCT has **literally** gone "from pillar to post." Shows have been performed in six different locations (as many as four in one year). Moreover, the absence of a "home" has created not only enormous difficulties for rehearsals, set construction, storage, and performances, but has also taxed the time of many dedicated members.

But SCT has survived. It is financially stable, and its members consistently continue to provide excellent productions for a growing, vibrant, diverse community.

Today, as the renovation of the Greensboro Center is progressing, SCT's officers and Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees of the Starkville Public Schools are moving forward to finalize a joint-use agreement which will provide SCT a "physical identity" and the facilities to enhance the arts in the community and in the school system.

I urge your continued support of SCT as we move toward the tenth season.

John Graef, President

