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Starkville Community Theatre presents



Phillip Barry's  
**The  
Philadelphia  
Story**



February 21, 22, 23 1985  
Curtain 8:00 p.m.  
February 24, 2:30 p.m.  
College of Veterinary  
Medicine Auditorium

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

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# ***THE PHILADELPHIA STORY***

By Philip Barry

Directed by  
Set Design by  
Lighting by

David Cook  
Bob Craycroft  
Edwin Ellis

## **CAST**

(in order of appearance)

Tracy Lord  
Dinah Lord  
Margaret Lord  
Alexander (Sandy) Lord  
Thomas  
Uncle Willie Tracy  
Elizabeth (Liz) Imbrie  
Macaulay (Mike) Connor  
George Kittredge  
C.K. Dexter Haven  
Seth Lord  
Elsie  
Mac  
May  
Edward  
Rev. Dr. Parsons

Michelle Bigham  
Molly Embree  
Alice Carol Caldwell  
Scott Kowerduck  
Howard F. Schickedanz  
E.O. Hawkins, Jr.  
Terry Reese McDowell  
W. Gerry Gilmer  
John E. Wells  
Steve Head  
Monroe Dewberry  
Fay Hutto  
Ross Hairston Williams  
Pat Kelly  
Malcome Keith Ladner  
The Rev. William T. Richter

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**Music by Benny Goodman and His Orchestra  
and by Ty and Shandy Phillips**

Assistant Director  
Production Manager

Marsha Williams  
Fay Kirk

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Set in June 1938 in the Lords' Country home near Philadelphia, the show has three acts. A 10-minute intermission occurs between the acts.

# BACKSTAGE

(\* Denotes chairperson)

**Set Construction:** Carl Ivy\*, Bob Craycroft, Zack Ivy, Paula Ivy, Lara Ivy, John Graef, Fav Kirk, Lisa Henderson, Ron Walker, Keith Haney, Dan Embree, Scott Branton, Glenn Cook, Price Caldwell

**Set Decoration:** Jack and Emilie White\*, David Jackson

**Properties:** Dixie Camp\*, Shirley Kitzman, Donna Coughlan

**Sound:** Joan Embree

**Opening Night Party:** Gary and Diane Jackson\*

**Artist/Poster designer:** Ruthie Thompson

**Photography:** Ron Davis, Fred Faulk, Debbie Nettles

**Publicity/Promotion:** Clyde Williams\*, Betty Frnka, Fidelia Alexander, Barry Brooks, Hayden Reynolds, Alice Carol Caldwell, John Rochat, Davis Beckham

**Costumes:** Frances Heller\*, Barbara Bouchillon, Mary Evelyn Bigham, Joan Embree, Diane Ellis

**Makeup:** Harriet Mastin\*, Mike Burrell\*, Marianne Ulmer, Sharon Powe, Helen Eaves, Jami Conroy, Lady Mary Thompson, Madeline Branton

**Hair Styles:** Frances Heller\*, Towne Cutters, Pink Palace, Main Hair Designs

**House:** Katherine Conroy\*, Shirley & C.T. Carley, Andy Erickson, Ruth Eckhardt, Florence Dunn, Charlotte Haynes, Jennifer Beal, Sandra MacDonald, Mel Crowe, John Helms, Allison Montgomery

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Island Wind Imports  
Four Squires  
Jack and Emilie White  
David Jackson  
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
Rick's Discount Furniture  
Simply Fine Delicatessen  
& HWY 12 Texaco Station  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Grace Bull  
Lupe's of Canton

Marty Blaine  
Country Air Florist  
Wood Junior College, Dept. of Theater  
Discount Shoes  
Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Reynolds  
Ralph Olivieri  
Jim White — Stuppy Wholesale  
Floral Supply (Memphis)  
Bingham's Jewelry  
Phillips Garden Center



# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Remember "The Smell of Greasepaint, the Roar of the Crowd"? That's theatre, Broadway style.

Hear the crunch on icy streets, the sniffles of flu, and the ornery roar of the director? That's theatre, SCT-style, at least for "The Philadelphia Story."

Despite sleet, snow, and maladies galore, the show is on! On-stage, backstage, and "all around the house" the cast, production staff, and support staff have exerted an enormous amount of time and energy — and patience — to bring tonight's show to you. I thank them all.

And now, it's back to 1939, when after a decade of Depression, America learned to laugh again.

## THE SCT'S SEASONS

### 1978-79

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

*Blithe Spirit*  
*Plaza Suite*  
*White Sheep of the Family*

### 1982-83

### 1979-80

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

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

### 1983-84

### 1980-81

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

*I Remember Mama*  
*Close Ties*  
*A Thousand Clowns*  
*Peter Pan ††*

### 1984-85

### 1981-82

*Our Town*  
*The Philadelphia Story*  
*Forty Carats*

† competition play

†† children's theatre production

## CASTING CARATS

Auditions for SCT's final 1984-85 production, *Forty Carats*, will occur on March 4 and 5. The show's director, Monroe Dewberry, will announce location for auditions next week.

A two-act comedy about the romantic adventures of a 40-year-old divorcee and her two very different pursuers, *Forty Carats* includes 5 men's and 6 women's roles.

Among the roles are one male (20-25), a young woman (16-20), a 45-65 year old woman, and two males (40-45).

Scripts may be checked out beginning February 25 at the Starkville Public Library.

# THE CAST

(† denotes SCT on-stage debut)

**MICHELLE BIGHAM** † (TRACY) An MSU freshman communication major from Greenville, Michelle's stage experience includes major roles in *Annie*, *Blithe Spirit*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *Web of Murder* (all in high school). An accomplished musician (piano and guitar), she has had extensive training in dance, voice, and modeling, and she has worked as a disc jockey. Michelle is an enthusiastic participant in sports, with tennis, swimming, and skiing being among her favorites.

**MOLLY EMBREE** † (DINAH) Molly is an eighth-grader at Henderson Junior High School. She has acted in *Snow White* and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* in school plays and in the MSU production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. An active musician who plays piano and french horn, Molly is also interested in architecture, reading, and languages (she has already completed one college course in German). Molly wants to be a zoo veterinarian.

**ALICE CAROL CALDWELL** (MARGARET) An SCT veteran who performed in *Blithe Spirit* (1980) and *The American Dame* (1983), Alice Carol has directed more than a dozen musicals in her professional role as music teacher at Armstrong Middle School. During the summer of 1984, she studied choral music at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N.J.

**SCOTT KOWERDUCK** † (SANDY) Scott is an MSU junior from Forrest City, Arkansas, where he had extensive community theatre experience in lighting, sound, and set design for such shows as *Prisoner of Second Avenue*, *Impromptu*, and *Plaza Suite*. A member of the Famous Maroon Band, Scott is an accomplished trumpet player. He is working on an unusual MSU double major: aerospace engineering and theatre.

**HOWARD SCHICKEDANZ** † (THOMAS) One of the more "visible" SCT members as concessionaire and ticket-taker for some seven shows and as V.P. for Business, Howard is making his stage debut in *The Philadelphia Story*. Born and reared in New York, Howard came to Starkville in 1972 as sales manager of Herschede Hall Clock Co. He holds a B.S. degree from New York University in Retailing and Management. He is an organist and member of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Chorus, and holds a private pilot's license.

**E.O. HAWKINS** (UNCLE WILLIE) A significant participant in the performing arts in Starkville, E.O. has performed in SCT productions of *Barefoot in the Park* (1983), *I Remember Mama* (1983), *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (1982), and *Bye, Bye Birdie* (1979) and sang lead in the Symphony Chorus' *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (1983). Active in collegiate drama at the University of Arkansas, he performed a variety of roles "ranging from Gilbert and Sullivan to Shaw and Shakespeare." E.O. is a professor of English at MSU.

**TERRY REESE McDOWELL** (LIZ) Terry's stage debut came in the SCT's winter 1984 show, *Close Ties*. An elementary school teacher, she has directed school plays, has been an artist's model, and has had voice training. A native of Starkville who has, she says, "many talented family members," Terry is the mother of three children who can tell you "all you ever want to know about blueberries — and boll weevils."

(over)

**W. GERRY GILMER † (MIKE)** As director of university relations at MSU, Gerry is executive producer of "MSU Magazine" and "The Emory Bellard Show," among many other responsibilities. He has had extensive experience officiating both college and high school football and basketball games and as a play-by-play radio broadcast announcer. His stage experience includes major roles in *Barefoot in the Park* and *This Property Is Condemned* (in Panama City, Fla.) and in *George Washington Slept Here* (in Albany, Ga.).

**JOHN E. WELLS (GEORGE)** Currently radio editor for the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service, John has some twenty stage credits, including SCT's *6 rms rww* (1978), as well as directing and stage managing stints. A charter member of SCT, John is a musician (percussionist). His other work experience ranges from apprentice pipefitter to television editor to technical writer. In his spare time he tends a bottle collection and an ancient conch shell horn.

**STEVE HEAD † (DEXTER)** An MSU senior communication major who is working his way through college as a bartender, Steve performed in *Hedda Gabler* and *Arms and the Man* at Delta State and as Curly in *Oklahoma!* at Westfield State College in Massachusetts. A concert and jazz trombonist, Steve also is a tenor. His ambition: to write a successful play.

**MONROE DEWBERRY (SETH)** Monroe's career with SCT has been on-stage — with roles in *Bell, Book, and Candle* (1981), *Plaza Suite* (1982), *Wait Until Dark* (1983), *A Thousand Clowns* (1984), and *Our Town* (also 1984) — and backstage (as set decorator, and costume and makeup crewman) and "all around the house" (as director of *Barefoot in the Park*). He is bursar at MSU and has judged beauty pageants throughout the Southeast for 21 years.

**FAY HUTTO † (ELSIE)** A chemist at the Mississippi Petroleum Products Laboratory, Fay has been a standout in SCT's arrangement for seating and for opening night social events. She worked on the makeup staff for *Our Town* and is a knowledgeable genealogist. Her volunteer activities in community service include working with retarded adults at the Rolling Hills Nursing Center.

**ROSS H. WILLIAMS † (MAC)** A painter, singer, and a young man interested in the economic, social, political, religious, and cultural development in the community, Ross has made substantial contributions in each of these areas since his graduation from MSU. Formerly a student assistant in the MSU School of Architecture's Small Town programs, he is currently Oktibbeha County's school attendance officer. He worked backstage on the props crew for *Our Town*. He enjoys basketball, tennis, scrabble, and chess.

**PAT KELLY (MAY)** Pat's performance is her third on the SCT stage. She performed as the nurse in *I Remember Mama* (1983) and in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (1982), and served on the makeup staff for the summer 1984 SCT children's theatre production of *Peter Pan* and for last winter's show, *Close Ties*. Another native of Starkville, Pat is secretary for the nursing division at the Oktibbeha County Hospital. She is a licensed emergency medical technician who is, she says, "an aerobics fanatic" and jogger.

**MALCOM KEITH LADNER † (EDWARD)** Mac is a chemist at the Mississippi Petroleum Products Laboratory. A hunting and fishing aficionado, he had several roles in high school drama, including, as he says, the "rear end of the horse" in *The Old Gray Mare*.

**WILLIAM T. RICHTER † (REV. DR. PARSONS)** Talk about type casting! Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, the Rev. Mr. Richter holds the B.A. degree (economics) from the University of the South (Sewanee). Prior to completing his theological training at St. Luke Seminary (Sewanee) in 1969, he was Assistant to the General Manager of the Delta Electric Power Association in Greenwood. (1949-69). He handled lighting and sound for a number of shows for the Greenwood Little Theatre.