

# Barbara Runnels Coats, FICF, RICP - Modern Woodmen and Starkville Community Theatre present



Written by CONNIE RAY

Conceived by ALAN BAILEY

Musical Arrangements by Mike Craver and Mark Hardwick SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

# The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Reverend Mervin Oglethorpe	Bob Swanson*
June Sanders	Krista Vowell
Burl Sanders	Paul Ruff
Vera Sanders	Madeline Golden
Denise Sanders	Cindy Ruff
Dennis Sanders	Christian Dunne
Stanley Sanders	Grif Lippencott*
	*SCT acting debut

# Scenes & Setting

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Just outside Mount Pleasant, North Carolina Saturday, June 15, 1938

Act One 7:00 p.m., the Sanctuary of the Church



Act Two About 10 minutes later



There will be a 10-minute intermission between acts.

## The Crew

Director	Pattye Archer
Assistant Director	Louie P. Gallo
Musical Director	Haley Harper Todd
Lighting Design	Thomas La Foe
	& Louie P. Gallo
Lighting Operator	Louie P. Gallo
Properties	The Cast and Crew
Costumes	Pattye Archer, Michele Crescenzo
	and Melanie Harris
Poster Artwork	Louie P. Gallo

# **Set Construction**

#### Marty Haug

Christian Dunne, Wayne Durst, Louie P. Gallo, Madeline Golden, Jessica Jolly, Mary Ann Jones, Thomas La Foe, Grif Lippencott, Cindy Ruff, Paul Ruff, Bob Swanson, Daniel Swanson, Nate Swanson, Henry Swanson

# Special Thanks

Bert Montgomery and University Baptist Church
Rev. Walton W. Jones and the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
Jeff Morgan and Artesia Baptist Church
Melanie Harris and Theatre MSU
MJ Etua, Bettye Shinn, Marsha Williams

# Ms Maude and Ms Myrtle

Special thanks to our wonderful Ms Maudes and Ms Myrtles.

These dear ladies are much appreciated!

Barbara Coats, Michele Crescenzo, Kat Hester, Jessica Jolly,

Kris Lee, Terry McDowell, Bonnie Oppenheimer, Brittany Page,

Abigail Voller and Amy Wilbanks

## The Music Act 1

Rock of Ages
Pastor Mervin Oglethorpe

The Church in the Wildwood
The Sanders Family

**Wonderful Time Up There**The Sanders Family

**Build on the Rock**The Sanders Family

Meet Mother in the Skies Stanley & Burl Sanders

**No Tears in Heaven** The Sanders Family

Christian Cowboy
Dennis & Denise Sanders

**The Filling Station**The Sanders Family

I'll Never Die (I'll Just Change My Address)
Denise Sanders

**Jesus is Mine**Pastor Oglethorpe & Sanders Family

The Blood Medley
The Sanders Family
Nothing but the Blood
Are you Washed in the Blood
There is Power in the Blood
There is a Fountain Filled with Blood

I'll Live a Million Years
The Sanders Family

## The Music Act 2

#### I Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now Vera & Burl Sanders

**Everyone Home But Me**Stanley Sanders

I Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now The Sanders Family

Angel Band
The Sanders Family & Pastor Oglethorpe

**Bringing in the Sheaves**Pastor Oglethorpe and the Sanders Family

Whispering Hope The Sanders Family

**Inching Along**The Sanders Family

The Transportation Medley
I'm Using My Bible for a Roadmap
Dennis Sanders and the Sanders Family

I'll Walk Every Step of the Way Burl Sanders and the Sanders Family

I'm Taking a Flight
Vera, Denise and Dennis Sanders

**Life's Railway to Heaven**Dennis Sanders and the Sanders Family

Smoke on the Mountain The Sanders Family

**I'll Fly Away**The Sanders Family

When the Roll is Called up Yonder The Sanders Family & Rev. Oglethorpe

# About the Cast

#### **Christian Dunne (Dennis)**

This is Christian's second performance with SCT. He's a senior at Starkville High School and often performs with International Thespian Troupe 1180, of which he is the President, but has been waiting eagerly to come back to the Community Theatre since playing "Lucas" in *The Addams Family* his freshman year. He's delighted to finally have the opportunity and is extremely grateful to everyone involved in making this show happen!

#### Madeline Golden (Vera)

Madeline could not be more thrilled to return to the stage at the Playhouse on Main and to be making music and memories with her Sanders family. Madeline first played the role of "Vera" 15 years ago when SCT produced *Smoke on the Mountain* for the 2005-2006 season. She reprised the role for the 2007 award-winning MTA and SETC production of the show, and for the sequel, *Sanders Family Christmas*. She admits to being a little terrified at the thought of having to revive her long dead and buried piano-playing semi-skills. But she believes with "hard work and prayer" she will make it through. Luckily, Madeline says, 'Vera' is a better piano teacher than player, and she taught 'Dennis' and 'Denise' well. Madeline thanks you for returning to the Playhouse and hopes you enjoy this evening of song and celebration!

#### **Grif Lippencott (Stanley)**

Ironically it was a connection through church that allowed Grif to act in his first SCT production, *Smoke on the Mountain*. When not on stage, you can find Grif on the farm raising cattle and chickens or playing any bluegrass instrument he can get his hands on. He offers his gratitude to his directors and fellow castmates for their patience, support and the new branch of family he's been given through this production.

#### Paul Ruff (Burl)

Many SCT regulars will recognize Paul, as he's been involved in over 40 shows at our theatre since he first joined us back in 1992. This return to our stage is also a return of another kind for him, in that he portrayed "Burl" back when we first did this show 15 years ago. He is grateful to have the opportunity to play this part once more, and even more grateful to have his wife join the cast this time as well. Performing is vitally important to him, and he sees it as a way to spread joy by doing

# About the Cast

something that brings him joy. As the current SCT president, Paul is thrilled that our doors are once again open and tickets are selling! (We need the money.) He would like to thank Pattye, Louie, Haley, his fellow castmates, and all of you wonderful people who support SCT. It's been too long!!!

#### **Cindy Ruff (Denise)**

You may have last seen Cindy back in 2018 as "Alice" in *The Addams Family* or as "Janet van de Graaf" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, or maybe you remember her from *Nunsense*, *She Loves Me*, or *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Do you notice a trend here? This lady loves singing onstage!! Cindy has also been in some non-musicals at SCT, like *The Dixie Swim Club*, *The Octette Bridge Club*, and *Don't Dress for Dinner*. She sends love and thanks to her onstage family, the Sanders, and a big THANK YOU to Pattye, Louie, and Haley! She hopes you enjoy our show!

#### **Bob Swanson (Reverend Oglethorpe)**

Bob is a newcomer to the Starkville Community Theatre stage. He and his family (wife, Meredith, and three boys – Daniel, Nate and Henry) made the move from Tupelo to Starkville in 2019. While in Tupelo, Bob appeared in TCT Off-Broadway's production of the Johnny Cash musical revue, *Ring of Fire*, and starred as "Bert" in *Mary Poppins* at Tupelo Community Theater. Bob sends his love and appreciation to his family and would like to thank directors Pattye and Louie for support and encouragement. As for his talented "Smoke" castmates, he would like to thank them for making him part of the Sanders Family.

#### Krista Vowell (June)

Krista is so grateful to be able to revisit Mt. Pleasant! She has participated in several SCT productions over the years, including *Noises Off, Steel Magnolias, and Catfish Moon* for which she won local, state, and national awards for her performance. In real life she is mom to Peyton and Meghan (they've grown up since seeing the show the first time!) and serves as Elementary Principal at Starkville Academy. Krista says she hopes the audiences enjoy being back in the theater and that this show brings them a couple of hours of joy that carries on beyond the final bows. And to Bruce - "I know you are busy leading the choir up there, but if you have a minute, look down on your June. She misses you."

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Donor names are transcribed from your most recent season ticket order forms. If you would like to update or add a listing, please email <a href="mailto:exec@sct-online.org">exec@sct-online.org</a> and we will make the change before our next production. Thank you!

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes contributors to the Bob and Mary Eleanor Anderson Scholarship Fund

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The cast of Smoke on the Mountain—Krista Vowell (June), Madeline Golden (Vera), Paul Ruff (Burl), Cindy Ruff (Denise), Grif Lippencott (Stanley), Christian Dunne (Dennis) and Bob Swanson (Rev. Oglethorpe).

## Turner A. Wingo



Barbara Coats, FICF 662-418-7957















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# **UPCOMING AUDITIONS**



## Auditions for The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940

SCT will hold auditions for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* by John Bishop at 6 p.m. Sunday and Monday, November 7 and 8, at The Playhouse on Main. The show runs February 4 through 12, 2022.

This over-the-top comedy, sponsored by Renasant Bank, tells the story of the creative team responsible for a recent Broadway flop (in which three chorus girls were murdered by the mysterious "Stage Door Slasher") as they assemble for a backer's audition of their new show at the Westchester estate replete with sliding panels, secret passageways, and a German maid who is apparently four different people. What happens when the infamous "Slasher" makes his reappearance and strikes again - and again? Come audition and find out.

The large cast includes roles for five men and five women of various ages. Sides for auditions are available upon request from the director, Michele Crescenzo (michelecrescenzo@gmail.com).

To be considered for casting, anyone auditioning (or interested in assisting as a crew member) must be able to provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination.

Ten roles, all ages. More information on our website and Facebook page.

#### Auditions for 9 to 5 The Musical

SCT will hold auditions for 9 to 5 The Musical at 6 p.m. Sunday and Monday, December 5 and 6, at The Playhouse on Main. The show runs March 31 though April 9, 2022.

Directed by Paula Mabry and sponsored by Vollor Law Firm, 9 to 5 The Musical features music and lyrics by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, and is based on the 1980 hit movie. Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic.

Please look for additional information on auditions in the coming weeks. This show is going to be fun, so make plans to be a part of it.

# Congregational Hymn

