#### **UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS**





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# **Directed by Cynthia Anthony**

Presented at the Park Ballroom Paso Robles, California

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#### CAST



#### JOHN LAMBIE—Norman Thayer Jr.

John was a Special Ed. and Drama teacher for 40 years in Utah, Paso Robles, and Scotland. He is a SAG/AFTRA actor and professional artist. He has acted and sung on stage for Pioneer Players, Classic American Theatre, Cuesta Interact, SLO Little Theatre, Centerpoint Theatre, Cal Poly, Lake Arrowhead Theatre Company, Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in Santa Maria and Solvang, as well as Commercials, Film and Television. John has also directed over 50

productions in SLO county, including the Atascadero Centennial Musical *Colony*. John wrote a Christmas film for BBC, *The Bird's Christmas Carol*. The artist has been a past Teacher of the Year in Paso Robles and an Outstanding Young Man of America recipient. He has also trained in Mountain Rescue and First Aid. John's son Joel was a Property Master and Set Builder at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago; his daughter Sarah is a professional Actress/Playwright/Artist/Writer in Dallas.



#### PATRICIA ALEXANDER—Ethel Thayer

Paso Robles resident Patricia Alexander has always loved the theatre. Born in Los Angeles, she majored in theatre at UC Irvine, studied with acting greats Stella Adler and Estelle Harmon, performed in numerous stage productions in Santa Barbara back in the 70s, and had a season touring in a professional children's theatre repertory troupe. Ultimately, however, she was the most successful writing about acting. She ended up working as a staff reporter for Rona

Barrett, writing for Rona's segments on *Good Morning, America* and Rona's two national magazines. She went on to notch 40 years into her career belt as a freelance writer, eventually co-writing an award-winning book with her late husband, Michael Burgos, called The *Book of Comforts: Simple, Powerful Ways to Comfort Your Spirit, Body & Soul.* Patricia's love of acting was always present, however, especially as she went on to develop a career as a self-help speaker and workshop leader. Patricia used to kid that she transitioned out of an acting career because she felt that she just wasn't "a threat to Katherine Hepburn." Now here she is, at the age of 62, amused and thrilled to be taking on the role of Ethel, played by Katherine Hepburn in the movie version of this charming and lovable play. What a simply mah-velous universe!



#### **CLAIRE FUNDARO - Chelsea Thayer Wayne**

Claire began acting at the age of five. Her love of the theatre grew as she performed on many different stages throughout the Denver Metro area. After receiving her BA from the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1995, she married her classmate and best friend Tom Fundaro and moved to New York City to pursue her dreams. After having her daughter Grace Faye in 1999, she shifted gears and began to write. In 2000 the young family moved back to California,

and in 2001 she was hired to develop the Drama department at The Paso Robles Youth Arts Foundation. Her son Quinn was born in 2003, and in 2008 she began teaching acting classes with The Children's Creative Project. She continues to teach at Elementary schools all over the county. Some of Claire's favorite roles include, Bette in Christopher Durang's The *Marriage of Bette and Boo*, Marta in *Waiting For The Parade*, Mrs. Stahlbaum in *The Nutcracker*, and her most recent role Maria Spadaccini in the collaboratively written experience The *Unforgettable Wedding*. She is thrilled to be working with Cynthia Anthony and Wine Country Theatre.

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#### PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer/Director	Cynthia Anthony
Production Coordinator	Jacob Shearer
Communications Director	Laurie Zenobio
Set Designer	Bobby Horn
Set Decorator	Cynthia Anthony
Costumes	Cynthia Anthony
Makeup Advisor	Grace Anthony
Set Building & Painting	Bobby Horn, Dan Larsen, Garrett Larsen, Jacob Shearer, Brandon Gingg, Laurie Zenobio
Stage Manager	Beth Marshall
Lighting Design	Zak Suddjian
Light Operator	Garrett Larsen / Grant Larsen
Followspot Operator	Dot Lefebvre
Sound Designer & Operator	Thomas Grandoli
Props	Brianna Birks
Prop Acquisition	Kent Kenney
Specialty Props	Dreima Gingg
House Manager	Jody Birks
Concession Manager	Chris Robinson
Wine Managers	Sue Olt, Pamela Bratz
Poster & Program Design	Laurie Zenobio
Program Printing	The Blueprinter

#### **SPECIAL THANKS:**

Sue Olt, Dot Lefebvre, Dan Larsen, Garrett & Grant Larsen, Thomas Grandoli, Dreima & Brandon Gingg, Steve Maybry, Debbie & Ashley Lorenz, Bill Gaines Audio, Anita Hendry, Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce, Paso Robles Rotary Club, San Luis Obispo Little Theatre, Chad Stevens, Erik Robinson, The Blueprinters, Trader Joe's, Goodwill of Paso Robles.



#### **KEVIN AGER—Bill Ray**

Kevin grew up on a farm in North Carolina. Encouraged by an outgoing family, Kevin and his cousins created plays and acted in them for the entertainment of their aunts, uncles, and parents. His first formal acting experiences came in a summer camp where he acted in Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat a Broadway Review, and Rindercella. Later, with the Fairview Amateur Theatrical Society, Kevin performed in Oklahoma and Annie.

With the University of North Carolina at Asheville, he acted in *Oliver*. Kevin is proud to be a part of Cynthia Anthony's Wine Country Theatre.



#### **DYLAN GINGG - Billy Ray**

Dylan Gingg is a Paso Robles native who is currently in the seventh grade at Pleasant Valley Elementary. Dylan is also extremely involved in local Boy Scout Troop 60. From a very early age, Dylan has been participating in Renaissance and Pirate Festivals throughout the state with Barleycorn English Country Dancers. *On Golden Pond* marks his first formal acting debut.



#### JACOB SHEARER—Charlie Martin

Mr. Shearer is an established performer, director, and producer of theatre on the Central Coast. He has also sung with many vocal groups, including The Cuesta Master Chorale, The B-Sharps, Cactus and the Prickly Pears, and Pacific Repertory Opera. He toured Europe as a singer and continues to sing at local events and churches. Some favorite theatrical roles include Emile de Becque *South Pacific* (2007 & 2013), Javert, *Les Miserables*,

Pedro, *Man of La Mancha*, Mike, *Wait Until Dark*, and Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls*. As a director, Mr. Shearer has been at the helm of many high school productions and co-directed *Man of La Mancha* and *South Pacific* for the REC Foundation's annual Play in the Park. Most recently he has directed *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!* for Wine Country Theatre. Shearer attends Cuesta College and hopes to earn a degree in Opera Performance. Shearer is pleased to be bringing theatre to North County audiences as Managing Director for Wine Country Theatre.



#### BETH MARSHALL—Operator

This is Beth's fifth production with Wine Country Theater. Previously she was Alma Abernathy in *Guys and Dolls*, a nurse in *South Pacific*, and stage manager for *It Had to Be You* and *I Love You*, *You're Perfect*, *Now Change!* She also does "song and silliness" at Novo Restaurant Cabaret in downtown SLO on Sunday nights, and is a regular story teller/comedian at SLO Little Theater's *No Shame* and other venues around San Luis Obispo County. She started

her performing career later in life, after retiring from being a pilot at Delta Air Lines. As she likes to say, "Now, THAT was entertainment!"

#### DIRECTOR'S NOTES—CYNTHIA ANTHONY

Old age. Love is complicated. Memories. Regrets. Life is still full of surprises. The wisdom of youth. The immaturity of old men. The fight to stay positive. The easy slide into despair. The immense power of forgiveness. Such are the themes of this beautiful play. And, yet, it is so much more. Because it is our collective story, and our lives cannot be summed up in a list of themes. Yet so much is familiar in this journey to Golden Pond. Our need to be appreciated, our struggle to accept change with grace, our fight to remain significant, our longing to hide our vulnerabilities, our effort to fill the holes of our past, our need to laugh and cry and hug and hold, our pathetic ability to push others away, all of this is well-known and personal. So, why come to a play that imparts these lessons? Because it is the story of our lives. And if we don't seek to understand ourselves, others, our relationships, our differences and similarities, we will not evolve to become our best selves.

Your task today is not to analyze these significant themes, but to LIVE them, through the characters. Theatre is an odd thing. It is a created world, utterly fabricated, but the experience can be completely real. We hope you will step into Norman and Ethel's cabin on Golden Pond with wonder, excitement, and an open heart. Together we can create a living world and focus on our humanity—and the very weird, strange and marvelous journey we call life.

"We are always the same age inside."—Gertrude Stein

## **Auditions for CAROUSEL**

April 30th and May 1st All roles are available. [Check WineCountryTheatre.com in April for place & time.]

#### **SETTINGS**

1990. The living room of a summer home on Golden Pond in Maine. AT&T Operator Office in Waterville, Maine. Bill Ray's family room in California.

#### ACT ONE

SCENE 1: The middle of May. Early afternoon.
SCENE 2: The middle of June. Mid-morning.
SCENE 3: The middle of July. Early evening.

**ACT TWO** 

SCENE 1: The middle of August. Early morning. SCENE 2: The middle of September. Afternoon.



