



FootNotes



May 5, 2009



editorken@yahoo.com

Director's Notes

SHOW TIME 2010... *The Ladies of Broadway!*

Many of our show patrons, family members and friends alike have asked- "How will you guys top the 2009 Sarasota Spring Show"? Well once again, Coacher Don has put together a blockbuster show repertoire guaranteed to bring the audience out of their seats and onto their "feets". What better way to do so than with *The Ladies of Broadway*? Because so many of our members enjoyed reading about the background of the songs we are performing, we have agreed to provide the "back story" on the 2010 selections. Hope you enjoy.

The Merchant of Yonkers

Author, Michael Stewart, wrote a very important book based on Thornton Wilder's 1938 farce *The Merchant of Yonkers*. The plot originated in an 1842 play written by Austrian Johann Nestroy titled *He Wants to Go Off On a Spree* which was itself based on an 1835 English play, *A Day Well Spent*. WOW! We've traveled a long road already to get this story, so stay with it. *The Merchant of Yonkers* turned out to be a flop but fear not. In 1955 it was revised by expanding the lead role of Dolly Gallagher Levi, adapted into a play and renamed *The Matchmaker* starring Ruth Gordon. *The Matchmaker* became a big hit and was subsequently made into a 1958 film of the same name starring Shirley Booth.

The story is a good one. It was the turn of the 20th century, and all of New York City is excited because widowed but brassy Dolly Gallagher Levi is in town. Dolly makes a living through what she calls "meddling", matchmaking and numerous sidelines,
Continued in next column>

Calendar

May 30: Singing for life Blood Drive (plus all the convention stuff, etc...)

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including dance instruction and mandolin lessons. She is currently seeking a wife for grumpy Horace Vandergelder, the well-known half-a-millionaire, but it becomes clear that Dolly intends to marry Horace herself. Vandergelder spontaneously repeats a notable saying "*Money is like manure, It's not worth a thing unless it's spread about, encouraging young things to grow*". He tells Dolly life would be dull without her, and she promises that she'll "never go away again" - hence the musical reprise.

In 1964, using *The Matchmaker* as creative background, Jerry Herman developed a musical which was then adapted by the famous producer David Merrick as he created the Broadway blockbuster...***Hello Dolly!***

Although the part of Dolly Levi in the musical was originally written for Ethel Merman, she turned it down, as did Mary Martin (although each would later play it). Merrick then considered Nancy Walker, but eventually Carol Channing was hired, giving her the opportunity to create her most memorable role. The musical contained such notable tunes as *Before the Parade Passes By*, *So Long Dearie*, *Put On Your Sunday Clothes* and of course the title song which we will perform- ***Hello Dolly!***

We proudly introduce a robust musical arrangement of the Broadway classic, and know you will enjoy singing this show stopper every time we perform it. This promises to raise a smile in addition to raising the roof so ...***Dolly will never go away again!!!!***

Your Directing Team,
Coacher and GGG

Sunshine News

A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

"Although you cannot go back and make a new start, you can start now and make a new ending"

Hopefully, no news is good news, but, it sure would be nice to hear from someone about our members who may be ailing in some manner.

Cards, calls & prayers are always welcome.
Sunshine Chair— Ed Manville **941-346-8219** or
<hiedm3@comcast.net>

GENTLEMEN: I am updating the spouse birthday list. The following spouses are missing. If you would like your spouses birthday listed, please let me know by email or hand printed paper.

Vicky Baden, Roy
Sandra Casanzio, Richard
Valerie Colleran, Bill
Marlene Cross, Dave
Nancy Dinsmore, Lewis
Betti Hargen, Bob
Mary Jahnel, Marty

Geri Kilgallon, Tom
Lola Lambert, Dick
Jennifer Le Blanc, Mike
Jane Marrin, Steve
Norita Martin, Tom
Andrea Mazuchowski, John
Linda Nelson, Charles
Lana Owens, Chris
Luri Payne, Bryan
Juanita Petersen, Eric
Sheila Rear, Ken
Patricia Rimes, Don
Trish Setliff, Richard Stanley
Patti Shreffler, Charles
Laurie Shuss Gregory
Bonnie Sobania, Lee
Irene Stenzler, Steve
Jenifer Stiles, Paul
Vickie Randall, Hank Stromenger
Alice J. Sturgeon, Richard
Mary Tobin, James
Linda Tobin, Jerome
April Vokoun, Michael
Doris Wagner, Jon
Christine Worthley, Mike
If there is a mis-spelled name, correct that also.
Thank you, editorken

News & Views for the **FootNotes**
should be sent to the editor at—
<editorken@yahoo.com> by **Noon Monday.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member

5-06 Mike Feely
5-08 Gordon Brookfield
5-08 Steve Stenzler
5-11 Mike Cross

And Spouse

2-01 Ruth Fuller, Chris (with apology)
5-09 Laurie Lindberg, Chuck
5-09 Peg Styer, Jim

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

4-22 Chris & Ruth Fuller (with apology)
5-05 Ed & Louise Hinkley
5-06 Fred & Christa Williams
5-09 Kent & Kelly Perry
5-10 John & Carol Gilrane

SINGING FOR LIFE

Please note that our "Singing for Life" Saturday in May has been moved to May 30, (the weekend after Memorial Day), so you have plenty of time to get your quartet ready; for the Blood Drive. I can tell you that we are partnering with CHILI's restaurant for this blood drive, and we are targeting their venues in Bradenton, Sarasota and Venice. We need at least eight quartets (more are welcome), and we hope to rotate each quartet between two sites for about two hours each. We hope to include quartets from Lemon Bay, Venice, Sarasota and Bradenton in this effort. It should be a good PR opportunity, and a time to "show the flag" as we used to say in the Navy. We'll start setting up the singing schedule three weeks from now. All quartets, please register with me by May 16. Dick Bechtel

GENTLEMEN:

Ray Gape (the elder) has arranged for us to use the Elks Club on Lockwood Ridge Rd. for tonight and next week. It is about 1 mile north of 17th St. on the east side of Lockwood. It is not that far north of where we met at Pizza Hut on 17th. If you want food, pick up some carryout on the way. Let's give it a try, I will. editorken

GENTLEMEN:

Last week I failed to thank the committee who met to initiate thoughts about our FINANCIAL REALITY: Dobson, Frantz, Amer, Quinn, and especially non Board members: Goetz, Gannon, Kilbane. The latter three were especially valuable because of the NON BOARD perspective they offered. We owe all these men a bucket of gratitude for their time & ideas. Gordon Lenci, Chair