

## Kentwood Players presents



# Sordid Lives By Del Shores

Directed by Kirk Larson

Produced by Lori Marple-Pereslete and Virginia Mekkelson

July 11 - August 16, 2014

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Westchester Playhouse - 8301 Hindry Avenue - Los Angeles, CA 90045 Reservations: (310) 645-5156

www.kentwoodplayers.org

"SORDID LIVES" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

# SORDID LIVES

## by Del Shores

## Director Kirk Larson

## Producers Lori A. Marple-Pereslete and Virginia Mekkelson

Set Design Ben Lupejkis Lighting Design Robert Davis Costume Design Sheridan Cole Crawford & Jon Sparks

#### Cast

(in order of appearance)

Bitsy Mae Harling	Susan Stangl
Ty Williamson	Michael Sandidge
Sissy Hickey	Catherine Rahm
Noleta Nethercott	Elizabeth A. Bouton
Latrelle Williamson	Alison Mattiza
La Vonda Dupree	Samantha Barrios
G.W. Nethercott	Harold Dershimer
Juanita Bartlett	Kip Hogan
Wardell "Bubba" Owens	Dave Parke
Odell Owens	Eduardo Mora
Dr. Eve Bolinger	Cherry Norris
Earl "Brother Boy" Ingram	Greg Abbott
Rev Barnes	Eddie Ed O'Brien

#### THE SETTINGS

CHAPTER ONE—Nicotine Fit—Sissy's Living Room, Winters, TX.
CHAPTER TWO—Two Wooden Legs—The local bar, Winters, TX.
CHAPTER THREE—The Dehomosexualization of Brother Boy—
A therapist's office, Mental Institution, Big Spring, TX.
CHAPTER FOUR—All Laid Out (In a Mink Stole)—Southside
Baptist Church, Winters, TX.
All Chapters begin with Ty's therapy sessions, New York, NY.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Chapter Two and Three. Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

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#### **About the Cast**



Greg Abbott (Earl "Brother Boy" Ingram) – Greg returns to the Westchester Playhouse where he has previously appeared as Henry Ford (Ragtime), Marryin' Sam (Li'l Abner), Bert Healy (Annie), Herman (The Most Happy Fella), Hucklebee (The Fantasticks), Morty (Little Green Men), Rev. Crisparkle (The Mystery of Edwin Drood), and Theodore Whitman (Follies). Other favorites include Frederick (Enchanted April) and the Judge (To Kill a Mockingbird). Greg thanks Kirk for giving him the opportunity to portray this most unique character.



Samantha Barrios (La Vonda Dupree) – Samantha is honored to be a part of *Sordid Lives*. Recent theatre credits: *The Hollow* (Veronica Craye), *It's a Wonderful Life* (Mary), *Lend Me a Tenor* (Maggie,) *Two Gentleman of Verona* (Sylvia), *Steel Magnolias* (Shelby), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Magenta), *Hedwig* (Yitzak). Born in Venezuela, raised in the Sooner state and is part NYer. She is the proud mother of Rex – her Yorkie. Samantha received her BFA from Webster Conservatory. Thank you for your endless support!! Loves and hugs!!



Elizabeth A. Bouton (Noleta Nethercott) – Elizabeth is very excited to be back at Kentwood where she was last seen as Kate Keller. Other Kentwood credits include Nancy in *Oliver*, Lucille Frank, Edwin Drood, Molly Brown, Gabby/Bobbi, & Sister Mary Amnesia. Other credits include Mrs. Lovett, Desiree Armfeldt, Sally Bowles, Baker's Wife, Pennywise, Annie Oakley, Reno Sweeney, Aldonza, Tracy Lord, Julie Jordan & Meredith Parker. Many thanks to Kirk for the opportunity & kudos to this very talented cast & crew! Love SKS - FLAMES MM!



Harold Dershimer (G.W. Nethercott) – Harold returned to the theater 6 years ago after a 13-year break. His credits over these past 6 years include What the Butler Saw at the Morgan-Wixson Theater; Has Anybody Here Seen Roy? at Theatre Palisades; To Kill A Mockingbird at the El Segundo Playhouse; Joseph and the Amazing... at El Segundo's Broadway in the Park; Night Must Fall at the Long Beach Playhouse; and The Hollow, Lend Me a Tenor, Rabbit Hole, Candide, Parade, Annie, A Little Night Music, Working, and The Odd Couple at the Westchester Playhouse. He has also directed the multiple award-winning Kentwood Players production of Oliver! and KP's recent production of Fiddler on the Roof. Harold thanks his family for their continued support.



Kip Hogan (Juanita Bartlett) – Kip is thrilled to be making her debut at Kentwood Players in the role of Juanita in *Sordid Lives* and to be working with such a talented, awesome cast and crew. Kip has performed throughout Orange County for many years. Some of her favorite roles have been Snoopy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, Big Mama in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Abby Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Mrs. Van Dann in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and The Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella* to name a few. Kip is looking forward to getting on the stage and (hopefully) entertaining everyone. Kip would like to thank her extended family for all the love and support they always give her.



Alison Mattiza (Latrelle Williamson) – Alison is very excited to be back on the Kentwood stage after almost 2 years. Her last performance was in *Scream Queens* playing DeeDee. Other roles she has played on the Kentwood stage include Becca in *Rabbit Hole*, the housewife in *Working* and Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*. Also, Alison was honored to have the opportunity to direct *California Suite* for Kentwood last year. She would like to thank Kirk for giving her the opportunity to be in this great show with such a fantastic and talented cast! Alison hopes that y'all find Latrelle as unique and interesting as she does!



Eduardo Mora (Odell Owens) – Eduardo is absolutely thrilled to do his first show with the Kentwood Players. Some of his favorite stage performances have been Homer Smith in Lilies of the Fields at the Anaheim Community Theatre; Jaques in As You Like It and Lord Capulet in Romeo and Juliet at the Long Beach Shakespeare Co.; Jeff in The Curious Savage; and Sandy in The Philadelphia Story at Westminster Community Theatre among other shows in theatres around the area. Much thanks to the wonderful cast and Kirk! Love to friends and family and Steven for all his support.



**Cherry Norris** (Dr. Eve Bolinger) – Cherry is thrilled to return to the Kentwood Players where she last played Becky in *Becky's New Car*. She recently starred as Hope in the LA premiere of *Be A Good Little Widow* and has played numerous roles including Mrs. Robinson in *The Graduate*. Cherry wrote, directed and produced in the romantic comedy *Duty Dating*, a romantic comedy about a woman who on the advice of a love doctor does all the right things to marry the wrong man. She teaches acting at Anthony Meindl's Studio in Hollywood and coaches single women on dating and relationships. Visit her at www.cherrynorris.com.



Eddie Ed O'Brien (Rev. Barnes) – Eddie Ed O'Brien has played Pa Allen in *Dark of the Moon* as well as Jimmy Durante in *Jimmy's Hollywood Spirits*. He most recently understudied three roles in the premiere of the play *It's the Biz!* Eddie Ed has created zany characters and spoofs of TV ads. His one-man show, *A Man Called Silly*, was picked as a *L.A. Times Best Bet*. He hosts the variety show *Fun Night Live!* in Culver City and is half of the comedy-and-musical show *The Violinist & the Lunatic*, with his lovely wife, Marcie. He also played the principal role in the short film *Potluck*, which had its premiere in April. Eddie Ed is delighted to be a part of the very talented cast of *Sordid Lives* with the Kentwood Players.



**Dave Parke** (Wardell "Bubba" Owens) – Dave is once again having more fun than a human being has a right to have. This is such a fun play to be a part of. He wants to thank Kirk and the rest of the cast for trusting him with Wardell. This marks his 18th play at Westchester Playhouse where he has been a member since 1996. Look for him in commercials, TV and movies, also.



**Catherine Rahm** (Sissy Hickey) – After serving as Musical Director for this spring's production of *Fiddler on the Roof* here at Kentwood, Catherine is enjoying the complete change of pace in *Sordid Lives*. They don't get much further apart than Russian Jews in the shtetl from Southern Baptist white trash in Texas. Thanks to Kirk and the rest of the cast for making this such a fun project.



Michael Sandidge (Ty Williamson) – Michael Sandidge is happy to return to the Kentwood stage. Previous Westchester credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Fortinbras* (as Laertes). Some of Michael's favorite roles performed are Koko in *The Mikado*, Mortimer in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*, Hook in *Peter Pan*, and his most recent role as Ernst Ludwig in *Cabaret*. Michael would like to dedicate his performance to his mother, sister, and Flower.



**Susan Stangl** (Bitsy Mae Harling) – Susan is happy to be back on the Kentwood stage after a 12-year absence–last appearing in *I Remember Mama, The Elephant Man, Blood Brothers* and *Rain.* She directed *Becky's New Car* last season and has designed sound for dozens of KP shows. Meanwhile, she has acted, directed and provided sound for Theatre Palisades, the Morgan-Wixson Theatre and other local theaters. Thanks to Kirk for letting her sing and play guitar for y'all.

#### **About the Director**

**Kirk Larson** (Director) – Kirk is glad to be back directing at Kentwood Players. His last directing effort for Kentwood was *The Fantasticks*. He has been involved with this theater group for over 15 years and has been a member for 13 years. Some of his favorite directing credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Anything Goes*, and *Carousel*. Kirk would like to thank the Play Reading Committee and the Board for taking a chance on this show and the wonderful cast for bringing it to life. "Son of Flames" GMJS.

#### **About the Producers**

**Lori A. Marple-Pereslete** (Producer) – Lori has been a Kentwood member for 13 years and has held various Board positions along with being Kentwood's Properties Mistress. She can usually be found back stage producing, stage-managing, set building, decorating along with assisting other productions and theatres in searching for props. She's very excited to be working with such a talented cast and production team. She hopes you enjoy the show. Thanks to Tony for being a wonderful husband!

**Virginia Mekkelson** (Producer) – Virginia's first Kentwood job was in the lighting booth for *The Most Happy Fella*. That was so much fun, she has been in the booth for a number of shows like *Candide* and *Dracula*. On *Sordid Lives* she is learning to be a producer–but is still in the lighting booth.

## **About the Designers**

**Ben Lupejkis** (Set Design) – has designed sets for other Kentwood Players shows, as well as elsewhere. For Kentwood his designs have included Noah's ark for *Two By Two*, the lido deck of a river cruise ship for *Murder on the Nile*, a Titanic lifeboat et al for his award winning design for *Unsinkable Molly Brown*, and a radio studio complete with painted on sound tiles, where boat sfx could be made (sadly, there were none) for *It's A Wonderful Life. Sordid Lives* marks his fifth set design for Kentwood Players and the pleasure of working with Kirk, Shawn, Tony, Jim, and Lori. "Thanks for taking my concepts and making them live in our desolate Texas landscape." As always, he sends a special thanks to Pattie and their four-footed brood.

**Robert Davis** (Lighting Design) – Robert is thrilled to return to light the stage of the Westchester Playhouse, and he wishes to thank Kirk for the chance to work together on *Sordid Lives*. Recent SoCal lighting credits include *California Suite*, *The 39 Steps*, *Oliver!*, *Parade*, and *Dracula* here at the Westchester Playhouse, *Copenhagen* at The Attic, and *Play It Again Sam* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. Robert holds a BFA in theatre arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. When not hanging from the rafters, he busies himself narrating audiobooks. Much love to JP, always.

**Sheridan Cole Crawford** (Costume Design) – Sheridan has enjoyed costuming several Kentwood shows (recently "Becky's New Car") and also acts, directs, produces and has worked in a variety of technical jobs. She lauds the Season Subscription committee (under the leadership of George Rametta) and its success in *doubling* Kentwood's subscribers in one year! Theatre is alive and well here at the Westchester Playhouse, and we thank you for your patronage.

Jon Sparks (Costume Design/Wigmaster) – Jon Sparks is thrilled to be back with the Kentwood Players. Costumes: Dracula (with Elizabeth Summerer), Anything Goes, Philadelphia Story, Company, Leading Ladies, The Fantasticks, Cinderella. Wigs: WCT-Carousel, Annie Get Your Gun, The Crucible, Grease, Damn Yankees, Bye Bye Birdie, Laughter on the 23rd Floor. Regional-She Loves Me, Sordid Lives, Compleat Female Stage Beauty, City of Angels, Play On, A Little Night Music, Unsinkable Molly Brown, Cinderella, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, The Apple Tree, Little Green Men (World Premier Musical). GMKL-FLAMES

## Kentwood Players' Board of Directors 2014-2015

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#### **Production Staff**

Stage Manager	Lori Marple-Pereslete
	Shawn K. Summerer
	Mel Miller, Virginia Mekkelson
	Kirk Larson
Set Decoration Design	Lori Marple-Pereslete, Virginia Mekkelson
Original Graphic Design	Lloyd Larson, Tony Pereslete
Lobby Design	
Set Construction	Tony Pereslete, Jim Crawford, Ben Lupejkis
Scenic Painter	
Set Painting	. Virginia Mekkelson, Ben Lupejkis, Tony Pereslete
Wigmaster	Jon Sparks
Costume Construction	Sheridan Cole Crawford, Jon Sparks
Makeup Artist	Erika Brauer
Properties	Alta Abbott
Publicity Photos	Shari Barrett
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## Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Alta Abbott, Greg Abbott, Miriam Amster, Samantha Barrios, Gail Bernardi, Barbara Brophey, Patricia Butler, William Carter, Geanne Clarke, Arlene Cohen, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Frederick Cook, Jim Crawford, Sheridan Cole Crawford, Robert Davis, Harold Dershimer, Kathy Dershimer, Marty Feldman, Samuel Goldman, Marlene Grinde, Michael Grinde, Charlotte Lee Gunter, Shellee James, Jerilynn Kacena, George Kondreck, Kirk Larson, Gretchen Luna, Ben Lupejkis, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Alison Mattiza, Dennis McNett, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Michael Murphy, Barry Nackos, Cherry Norris, Eddie Ed O'Brien, Colleen Okida, Roy Okida, Marie Olivas, Francesca Palermo, Dave Parke, Tony Pereslete, Lee Polak, Jon Sparks, Susan Stangl, Max Stormes, Elizabeth Summerer, Susan Weisbarth, Amy Witkowski

## **Special Thanks**

Alchemy Theatre Company, Jim Crawford, Cheryl Saunders

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins*.

Kentwood Players is a Member of the LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website www.kentwoodplayers.org

## Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

**Orphans** 

A Drama by Lyle Kessler September 12 – October 18, 2014 Director: Kathy Dershimer

Contains adult language

An Ideal Husband

A Comedy by Oscar Wilde January 9 – February 14, 2015

Director: Samantha Barrios

Into the Woods, a Musical

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Book by James Lapine November 14 –

December 20, 2014

Director: Shawn K. Summerer

Mame, a Musical

Book by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman

Based on the Novel by Patrick Dennis, and the play "AUNTIE MAME" by Lawrence

and Lee

March 13 – April 18, 2015 Director: Ben Lupejkis

## **Special Theatre Parties**

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least ten friends, family members, or co-workers, special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance. For more information please call (310) 216-9094.

## **Reservations are Necessary**

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm Wednesday – Saturday Reservations MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER one week after they are made.

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