

Santa Clara Players

Present

Arsenic and Old Lace

By Joseph Kesselring



February 28 - March 22, 2014

Production Staff

Producer Jim Narveson
Director. Steve Lewis
Assistant Director Sara Doeltz
Stage Manager Michael Antonucci
Set Design. Jim Narveson
Lighting Design. George Doeltz
Costumes. Amy Conners
Set Construction and Decoration Jim Narveson, Marian Narveson
George Doeltz, Craig Leventon,
Production Flyer and Program George Doeltz
Technical Operator Michael Antonucci
Box Office. George Doeltz
Opening Night Reception. . Maxine Lukins, Debbie Doeltz, SCP Board
Opening Night Flowers Daisy Palmer

Special Thanks to
City of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Cultural Commission
Triton Museum of Art
Santa Clara Arts and Historical Consortium
City of Santa Clara Building Maintenance Department

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Cast of Characters

Abby Brewster Pat Cross
Rev. Dr. Harper/Lt. Rooney Steve Corelis
Teddy Brewster Allen Siverson
Officer Brophy Tony Ortega
Martha Brewster. Marian Narveson
Elaine Harper Jaime Wolf
Mortimer Brewster Chris Westphal
Mr. Gibbs/Mr. Witherspoon Stephen Moore
Jonathan Brewster. Bob Siegmann
Dr. Einstein. Larry Raboy
Officer O’Harra. Mike Meadors

The action of the play takes place in the old Brewster home in
Brooklyn in the early 1940s

There will be one fifteen minute intermission. During the intermission
you are invited to the lobby for refreshments as the guest of the Santa
Clara Players. If you must smoke, please do so off the wooden deck.

One Acts

As a community based theater group we also have an outreach program.
From September through June we offer traveling shows to all types of
community and church groups, social and senior organizations, as well as
private parties. Our program is extremely flexible and affordable and can
run anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour, depending on your needs. If
you are interested or need further information please contact us at
408-504-0664.

The Cast

Pat Cross (Abby Brewster) - What fun it is to play "Aunt Abby" and
work with such a talented cast and director! This is my 8th show with
Santa Clara Players, and I've enjoyed them all! Most recently, you may
have seen me as "Vanessa Wells" in *4 Weddings and an Elvis*. Prior
shows at SCP include, *A Bench in the Sun*, *Faith County*, *Radio TBS*, and
Tender Lies. I've also worked with other Bay Area theaters including
Broadway West, Northside Theater, Tabard Theater, and City Lights in
shows including *Steel Magnolias*, *Rebecca*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and
Last Night at Ballyhoo. My thanks to husband Chris, for his patience on
all those nights away at rehearsals and his on-going support, and the cast
who has made this such a delightful experience.

Steve Corelis (Dr. Harper/ Lt. Rooney) - When he saw the word “Old”
in the title of the next play, Steve knew he had to audition. He is thrilled
he got cast and is so delighted to be sharing the stage with a truly
awesome group of talented Players! He is a semi-retired teacher now
spending his time teaching part-time at San Jose City College, leading
tours at the Winchester Mystery House, and trying to keep up with his
ever-increasing family. He has 8 grandkids now- too many to name, but
they know who they are! Enjoy the play!

Allen Siverson (Teddy Brewster) - The role of Teddy marks Allen’s first
appearance with the Santa Clara Players. Prior roles include Colonel
Brady in South Valley Civic Theater’s *Inherit the Wind*. He has also
performed as Major Metcalf in the Gaslighter’s *Mousetrap*. Additionally,
Allen wrote and performed in *An Evening With the Old Crow* with the
theatrical group of Advent Lutheran Church in Morgan Hill. Allen has
thoroughly enjoyed his experience with the troupe from Santa Clara
Players.

Tony Ortega (Officer Brophy) - Tony is very excited in making his Santa
Clara Players debut and working with such a talented cast for *Arsenic and
Old Lace*. Although this is his first production with the SC Players, Tony
has worked with great theatre companies such as Teatro vision, San
Francisco Children's Musical Theatre, and most recently in the Bay Area
Playwrights Foundation for the SF One minute play festival. You can see
Tony on stage this spring in *Shrek: the Musical*.

Marian Narveson (Martha Brewster) - Marian is happy to be back on stage in this SCP production. She was most recently seen in *Nana's Naughty Knickers*, and *Bull in a China Shop*. Many thanks to everyone who worked on this production. Enjoy the show!

Jaime Wolf (Elaine Harper) - Jaime is excited to be returning to Santa Clara Players! She was last seen here as the title role in *Laura*. Jaime has been acting on stages around the Bay Area since she was eight years old. Some of her favorite shows include: *Waiting to Dance*, *West Side Story*, *Laura*, *Smoke on the Mountain*, *The Wake of Jamie Foster* and *The Crucible*. Jaime loves theatre for many reasons, but especially because she considers it a gift and privilege to have the chance to entertain an audience and make people laugh. This show is dedicated to her daughter, Savannah, and the many “helpers” who made it possible for her to appear in this play (you know who you are!).

Chris Westphal (Mortimer Brewster) - Chris has appeared in *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Music Man*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* in Southern California. This is his first time on stage in the Bay Area since returning here in 2013. When he's not playing a drama critic, Chris is a novelist, writing teacher, and video producer.

Stephen Moore (Mr. Gibbs/Mr. Witherspoon) - Stephen has been associated with Santa Clara Players for over five years, but this is the first time being here at a play as an actor instead of an audience member. To say it has been a long time since his last acting credit in an understatement; his last stage appearance was more than half a century ago when he was high school age. Stephen “jumped for joy” when he learned of his selection. He says that he has had a lot of fun and learned plenty from the other much more talented cast and crew.

Bob Siegmann (Jonathan Brewster) - After more than two years, Bob is back to play the dark, angry killer Jonathan Brewster, a 180 degree turn from his last part as the compassionate con man Joseph in *My Three Angels*. Bob has performed in many plays with the Santa Clara Players starting in 1973 when he appeared as the butler in *Ten Little Indians*. Other plays with the Players include *The Marriage Proposal* (1975), *The Mousetrap* (1975), *The Death and Life of Larry Benson* (1995), *The Price* (2006), *The Constant Wife* (2008), *Table Manners* (2008), and *Flaming Idiots* (2010). Bob has also performed with other groups. His favorites

among these include *Macbeth* (with TheatreWorks), *As You Like It*, *The Apple Tree* (a musical), *Our Town*, *A Canticle for Leibowitz*, and *Ladies of the Corridor*. Bob enjoyed working with the actor Steve Lewis in *My Three Angels* and has continued the enjoyable experience with the director Steve Lewis in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Bob also wants to thank Estelle Piper for her invaluable advice and help with his stage make-up.

Larry Raboy (Dr. Einstein) - Larry is pleased to join this wonderful cast and staff in his first appearance with Santa Clara Players. A veteran folk singer and actor appearing in many concerts and theatrical performances in the 1960's and 70's, Larry has since returned to the stage after his long career as a Technology Recruiter. Recent roles have included The Rabbi in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Osgood Fielding in *Sugar*, FDR in *Annie*, Uncle Charley in *Death of a Salesman*, Grandpa Martin Vanderhof in *You Can't Take It With You*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, Mr. Sowerberry in *Oliver*, Presidents Regan and Garfield in *Assassins*, Rev. Phelps in *The Laramie Project*, and Lord de Winter in Stephen Wathen's *The Three Musketeers*. *Arsenic and Old Lace* has always been a favorite comedy of Larry's and like a fine aged elderberry wine, he hopes you will find our show both tasteful and enjoyable. (Drink up!)

Mike Meadors (Officer O'Hara) - Mike is thrilled to be making his debut with the Santa Clara Players. Previous credits include *The Normal Heart*, *Titanic*, *Urinetown*, and *Darkside*. His play, *Astronaut*, was the winner of Talkstory Theatre's 2013 New Works Festival.

Amy Conners (Costumer) - Amy has enjoyed working with SCP since her first show here, *The Heidi Chronicles*. Since then, she has been lucky enough to be involved either on stage or costuming various shows. Amy graduated from San Jose State with a BA in Theater Arts. She has been involved in the Bay Area theater and television scene as an actor, producer, costumer and director.

Steve Lewis (Director) - I am pleased to make my directorial debut at Santa Clara Players. Usually I find myself on the other side of the table and have done a number of productions with the players, the last playing Dr. William Chumley in the production of *Harvey*. Much thanks to Sara Doeltz, my AD, for all of her help keeping the circus moving in the right direction. And my apologies to all the directors I have worked with in the past. Yes, now I get how hard it is to do that job!!

Sara Doeltz (Assistant Director) - This is Sara's seventh production with the Santa Clara Players. She has been seen on-stage as Heather van Pree in *Nana's Naughty Knickers*, Miss Mary in the 2012 summer melodrama *The Drunkard*, and twice as Chris Mouse in the *The Christmas Mouse*. She has previously been Assistant Director for *Dial 'M' for Murder* and *Spreading it Around*. Sara received her BA in Theatre Arts from Santa Clara University in 2004, but spends her days working as the evidence technician for an engineering consulting firm in Menlo Park.

About the Players

The ***Santa Clara Players*** is a non-profit community theater group dedicated to wholesome entertainment. We provide an opportunity for anyone with dramatic or stagecraft aspirations to work with experienced directors and producers. We provide high quality, family theater for the enjoyment of the citizens of Santa Clara and the surrounding areas.

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 For snail mail there is a form in the lobby.

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