

# **A Thousand Clowns**

**By Herb Gardner**



**April 26, 27, 28  
&  
May 4, 5**

**8:00 p.m.**

STARKVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE

*presents*

A THOUSAND CLOWNS

*by Herb Gardner*

April 26, 27, 28

and

May 4, 5, 1984

DIRECTOR . . . . . Frances Heller  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR . . . . . Pat Alred  
STAGE MANAGER . . . . . Marsha Williams  
SET DESIGN . . . . . David Cook, B Flint  
SET CONSTRUCTION . . . . . David Cook, Bob Alred, Pat Alred,  
Faye Kirk, B Flint, Frances Heller,  
Marsha Williams, Barbara Bouchillon,  
Clyde Williams, John Graef, Kevin Graef,  
Margie Mertaugh, John Helms, Joan Embree,  
Jack Carroll, Jack Charlesworth, Glenn Cook, Chris  
Heller, Madeline Branton, Andy Salin, Mindy Hetrick,  
Monroe Dewberry, Katherine Conroy, Edwin Ellis, Ann  
Elizabeth Ellis, Marvin Salin, Tod Salin, Bob Fritzius  
SET TRIM . . . . . Diane Ellis, B Flint  
PROPS . . . . . Faye Kirk,  
Paula Ivey, Barbara Bouchillon  
LIGHTS AND SOUND . . . . . Edwin Ellis, Kelly Balius,  
Curtis Martin, Katherine Conroy  
SPECIAL EFFECTS . . . . . Diane Ellis, Edwin Ellis  
MAKE-UP . . . . . Jeri Mangum, Harriet Mastin,  
Sally McGlone, Pamela Dietz  
POSTER DESIGN AND PROGRAM COVER . . . . . Nancy Boling  
PROGRAM . . . . . Mary Eleanor Anderson,  
Nancy Lay, Shay McDonnall  
PUBLICITY . . . . . John Graef, Betty Frnka  
PHOTOGRAPHY . . . . . Ronald Davis, Jack Carroll  
HOUSE MANAGER . . . . . Ron Walker  
TICKET SALES . . . . . Fay Hutto  
CONCESSIONS . . . . . Howard Schickendanz  
OPENING NIGHT PARTY . . . . . Katherine Conroy,  
Martha Booth, Carol Carney

## SCENES

### ACT I

Murray Burns' apartment, Manhattan, eight-thirty in the morning, the present.

### ACT II

SCENE 1: Murray Burns' apartment, eight o'clock the following morning.

SCENE 2: Arnold Burns' office, later that afternoon.

SCENE 3: Murray Burns' apartment, early that evening.

### ACT III

Murray Burns' apartment, half an hour later.

There will be a ten-minute intermission between acts. There will be a two-minute delay between Scenes 1 and 2 of Act II.

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

NICK BURNS . . . . .	Chris Heller
MURRAY BURNS . . . . .	Edwin Ellis
ALBERT AMUNDSON . . . . .	John Baine
SANDRA MARKOWITZ . . . . .	Madeline Branton
ARNOLD BURNS . . . . .	Monroe Dewberry
LEO HERMAN . . . . .	Marvin Salin

## THE DIRECTOR

Directing is just one of the many talents of FRANCES T. HELLER. She has appeared in SCT's productions of *You Can't Take It With You*; *The Curious Savage*; *Mary, Mary*; *Blithe Spirit*; *Plaza Suite*; *Barefoot in the Park*; and *I Remember Mama*. Frances has also appeared in *Spoon River Anthology* and *The American Dame*, SCT's entries in the Mississippi Theatre Association Festival. Currently the Vice President for Play Selection, she directed *Bell, Book and Candle* and has worked with costumes, make-up, set construction, props and stage trim on various other shows. Originally from the Mississippi Delta, Frances is Instructor of English at Wood Junior College and the mother of one son.

## THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Total involvement and commitment are the words that describe PAT ALRED. She has appeared on stage in *The Man Who Came To Dinner* and *I Remember Mama* and has served as assistant director for *Barefoot in the Park* and stage manager for *Blithe Spirit* and *Plaza Suite*. *Wait Until Dark*, *Five Little Peppers*, and *Close Ties*, are just a few of the productions for which Pat has served on crews. A native of Ripley, Tennessee, she and her husband, Bob, have one son. Pat is an active member of Compassionate Friends and an LPN at Oktibbeha County Hospital.

## ACTORS APPEARING ON STAGE TONIGHT

CHRISTOPHER B. HELLER, a seventh grade student at Armstrong Middle School, is making his SCT stage debut. In school Chris appeared as a member of FDR's cabinet in *Annie* and Mouse King in *Nutcracker Suite*. In his spare time, he is an avid baseball fan and card collector. Chris is the son of Robert Heller and the director, Frances.

EDWIN ELLIS, Professor of Computer Science at MSU, has appeared in *Mary, Mary* and as a reader in *Spoon River Anthology*. A native of West Point, Edwin has also worked with lighting for a number of SCT productions. He and his wife, Diane, another SCT member, have three children.

JOHN C. BAINE III, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, is a veteran of SCT. Theatre goers will remember him in *Bell, Book and Candle*, *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, and *Barefoot in the Park*. John, a senior at MSU in the College of Veterinary Medicine, states that he will be very busy next year and will not have time to be as active in SCT as in the past. So, at this time John would like to say, "Thanks for the memories." SCT thanks you, John.

MADELINE G. BRANTON made her acting debut as Christine in SCT's production of *I Remember Mama*. She served on the make-up committees for *Barefoot in the Park* and *Close Ties*. Originally from Starkville, Madeline is a secretary in the Extension Home Economics Department at MSU. She and her husband, Scott, are the proud "parents" of two cats and a big green bird.

MONROE W. DEWBERRY has appeared in SCT's *Bell, Book and Candle*, *Plaza Suite*, and *Wait Until Dark*. He directed *Barefoot in the Park* and has worked on numerous shows with make-up, stage trim, and set construction. Monroe, a native of Maben, is Bursar at MSU is the father of four boys.

MARVIN SALIN, who delighted audiences as the wimpish undertaker, Peter Thorkelson, in *I Remember Mama*, makes his second SCT stage appearance. Marvin, a native of New York City, is Associate Professor of Biochemistry at MSU and is the father of two sons.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Aside from the satisfaction inherent in directing a successful theatrical production--that of seeing one's vision of a play reflected in all the multiple aspects of its production, a community theatre director has the opportunity for satisfaction not available to a professional. It lies in the contact he/she has with people, who despite the fact that their primary obligations lie outside the theatre, are willing to make a serious commitment that will inevitably result in long hours, hard work, inconvenience, a minimum of recognition, and not a small amount of frustration--all in the interest of making community theatre pleasing and worthwhile for audiences. To all the people who made that kind of commitment to *A Thousand Clowns*, I am grateful.

Within that group are those to whom I owe special gratitude for their special contributions--to the cast, for being willing to trust what they sometimes must have doubted; to my assistant director, Pat Alred, for her capable help and unwavering support; to my stage manager, Marsha Williams, for her perspective and insight; to them both for their sense of humor; to David Cook, for his imagination and long hours that provided a perfect backdrop for the action of the play; and, finally, to my son for surviving with patience at once my demands as a director and my shortcomings as a mother for the past seven weeks.

Frances T. Heller

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
Ronald L. Davis  
Mosley Oil Company  
Rick's Discount Furniture  
Steven Williams  
Island Wind Imports  
Gerald Richardson  
Jean and John Marszalek  
Donna Baird

### SIMPLY FINE DELICATESSEN

Hwy 12 & 25  
Open 24 hours a day  
Phone 324-2224

### ABC Storage Leasing Company and

### Starkville Warehouse Company

Rent a self storage unit in the Industrial Park  
Commercial - Industrial - Residential  
and Mini Storage  
All Sizes Available

Any Day - Any Time  
323-7720