***High Button Shoes* is dedicated to Ray Puddicombe**, longtime Mountaineers Player who first graced the Kitsap Forest Theater stage in 1952 and has appeared in 29 Players' productions. He has been suggesting this show for our beautiful outdoor theater ever since he saw two of the musical numbers at Seattle's Paramount Theater in 1991 (*Jerome Robbins' Broadway*). Ray's wish is coming true and we would like to thank him for his perseverance!

Ray is also instrumental in creating the memorial picnic tables that are dotted throughout the property in memory of other Mountaineers Players. He has generously provided significant financial support to the Foundation's Kitsap Restoration and Rhododendron Preserve Funds. Ray, we thank you for your long time support of the Players and the theater!

The Mountaineers Players

Chair	Mark Malnes/Gail Foster
Vice-Chair	Gala Lindvall
Exec. Treasurer/Sec'ty & Players' Treasurer	Nicole Cooper
Secretary	Dawn Hanner
Committee	Barb Baker, Mick Etchoe, Nancy Estill, Diane Glenn, Lauren Harris, Lauren Mikov, Katie McCoy, Tom Randall,
Jr. Member	Kate Reinert
Newsletter "Cue" Editor	Linnea Svennson
Kitsap/Players Coordinator	Jamie Estill
Theater Chair	Gardner Hicks
Kitsap Cabin Chair	Scott Eby

Production Staff Bios

Guy Caridi (2002; 10) has been choreographing and performing dance since 1991, and for the Players since 2002. He's competed, coached & judged at national dance competitions; taught and performed internationally. He is Artistic Director for Savoy Swing Club.

Nicole Cooper (1998; 7) played the Fiddler in *Fiddler on the Roof* in 1998. She enjoys supporting the theater in any way possible, from doing cartwheels and flip flops on stage, to helping with costume changes backstage and serving as the theater treasurer.

Mary Duckering's (1970; 31) first show was *The Hobbit* and she has continued to be involved with the Players with only 3 or 4 years off. She's directed, costumed, cooked etc. She loves the theater in any weather and has seen everything from rain, sun, snow and volcanic ash.

Marcus Hickerson (2009; 1) is a machinist by day, stealth builder and painter by night. He is grateful to the Kitsap Forest Theater for taking pity on him and giving him a job to do that only involves singing and dancing when no one else is looking.

Olivia Hickerson (2008; 2) is thrilled to be spending her second summer at the Kitsap Forest Theater. She plays for live theater, is a rehearsal accompanist, is a member of the local swing band "Rude and Unprofessional" and teaches a little piano improvisation on the side.

Betty Jensen (1954; 31): This theater has provided treasured memories, lasting friendships, and a wonderful growing experience for my children, two of whom are in this production.

Gala Lindvall (1997; 15) is producing her 14th show for the Mountaineers Players. Her kids have been involved since 1988. The beauty of this theater draws her back every year.

Ellen McLain (2003; 3) has performed on Broadway with Sir Rex Harrison and Peggy Lee and toured nationally with Richard Harris and Juliet Prowse. She has played roles as diverse as Mimi (*La Boheme*) and Linda Loman (*Death of a Salesman*).

Craig Schieber (1994; 15) has directed, choreographed and acted in the NW for over 30 years. His favorite shows are ones with multiage casts; wisdom is shared across generations in both directions. Thanks to Lee Ann Hittenberger for inspiration. Craig also directs the Teacher Certification Programs at City U of Seattle.

Megan Sandstede is a Cental Kitsap high school sophmore who has been taking piano lessons for 4 years. In her spare time she likes to go horseback riding and to read suspenseful books.

Stephen Wall (2000; 7) has been music director for five Mountaineers shows. He was the Lion in *Wizard of Oz*. It has been a fun collaboration to work on this rarely unearthed jewel by Jules Styne. Credit must be given to Amy Beth Lindvall and Olivia Hickerson for their diligent preliminary work, transforming the musical score into a workable show. And thanks to my co-music director Ellen McLain for her unerring instincts about how to bring the theater to life.

Cast Bios

(Year of 1st appearance at KFT; number of shows involved in at the KFT)

Stuart Baker (2000; 8) is glad to be back at the Kitsap Forest Theater for his 9th show. In the fall he will return to Bozeman for his third year at Montana State University where he is studying Environmental Science and playing trombone and rugby.

Katelyn Cooper (2003; 8) is 9 years old and excited to be in her 7th season with the Players. She was a Bird Girl in *Seussical*. Favorite past roles: Chip in *Beauty and the Beast* (Mountaineers), Gretl and Marta in *The Sound of Music*, and Cruela deVil in *101 Dalmatians Kids*.

Eric Emans (2007; 2) returns to the Mountaineers after 2 seasons with Leavenworth Summer Theater (Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls*, Lancelot in *Camelot* and Captain in *The Sound Of Music)*. Favortie roles include Robin Hood (here), Orin Scrivello in *Little Shop of Horors*, Frank in *My Way*, Dean Martin in *Heaven Help Us* and Rooster in *Annie*.

Mick Etchoe (2007; 5) is happy to be working with this group of old friends in his fifth Mountaineers Production. He loved playing the Grinch in the spring show, *Seussical*. His other creative outlets are music and photography.

Gail Foster (1990; 21) is a familiar face on the Kitsap Forest stage in roles such as Marilla in *Anne of Green Gables* and Elsa in *Sound of Music*. She has also spent time on the production team as Music Director for *Seussical, the Musical* and Stage Manager for *Beauty and the Beast*. Her next role: Chairwoman for the Mountaineer Player's Committee.

Valerie Foster (2000; 13) has been doing plays with her parents at the Mountaineers for 9 years and was in *Seussical* this spring. She enjoys singing in choir and reading in her spare time.

Christy Gordon (1973; 15) was last seen on "the sacred mud of the Forest Theater" as Mrs. Darling in the Players' 2005 production of *Peter Pan*. She and her husband, Jamie, can't seem to stay away from this place for too long. The rhodys have a way of drawing one back – again and again! This one's for you, Ray – with much love.

Téa Hickerson is a 7 year old homeschooler from Poulsbo who loves to read and play with her friends. She is proudly making her world theatrical debut with the Kitsap Forest Theater!

David Jensen (1975; 13) is honored to share the stage once again with lifelong friend Ray Puddicomb and sister Christy Gordon. David wishes to thank all that help to keep the magic alive in this very special place.

Nathaniel Jones (1999; 4) is happy to be back in the Kitsap Forest Theater after playing Horton the Elephant in the Players' spring show, *Seussical, the Musical*. See him this September in *Forever Plaid* at Renton Civic Theater. For more information, visit www.NathanielJones.com.

Rachel Jones (2002; 7) is a 22 year old photography student from Federal Way. This is her 6th time on stage with the Mountaineers Players, coming back after stage managing *Midsummer Night's Dream* last year. Check out her work at www.racheljphotos.com.

Amy Beth Lindvall (1993; 14) was Titania *(Rock & Roll Midsummer Night's Dream)*, Miss Stacey (*Anne of Green Gables*) and Tiger Lily (*Peter Pan*). She is a Senior at Biola Univ. studying saxophone. She thanks her parents for supporting her in her many artistic endeavors.

Brian Lindvall's (1990; 12) favorite roles: Alan-a-Dale in *Robin Hood–The Legend Continues*, Ben in *Secret Garden*, Herr Zeller in *Sound of Music* and Rabbi's son in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Craig McCoy (1968; 24) is happy to be once again on stage at the Kitsap Forest Theater with this great cast. He met his wife at the theater during *Fiddler on the Roof*. He loves the Kitsap Forest Theater and hopes that you enjoy the show!

Katie McCoy (1999; 8) is really enjoying being a part of this show! This is her 11th year being involved with the Players, having first performed with them in *Fiddler on the Roof* in 1998 - when she met her husband, Craig McCoy. She wants to thank God, her husband Craig, and the cast and crew of this delightful show for allowing her to have a wonderful time in this beautiful space!

Ray Puddicombe (1952; 29) has been a Player for 57 years! He has played a Roman Emporer, Tramp, Army Colonel, Army Captain, Soothsayer, New Yorker, Indian Chief, Forest Ranger, Cowboy, Bulldozer Operator, Procurer, "Bottom", Scarecrow, Professional Dancer, Wizard, "Gabriel", Mayor and now a gorilla! What next?

Cheryl Phillips (1985; 11) is a 25 year player and was married at the Kitsap Forest Theater. She is thrilled to be spending her summer in the magical Kitsap preserve with her hubby, the Sound Guy. Most recently seen in Lyric Light Opera's *Beauty and the Beast* as the wardrobe. Other favorites include *Angry Housewives*, *Quilters* and *Pirates of Penzance*.

Abigail Best Taylor (2007; 2) is a Seattle area actress with a BFA in Acting. Favorite roles include Marian in *Robin Hood* with The Players and Sonya in *Uncle Vanya* with the Moscow Art Theatre School. Abby was last seen playing the piano and singing in *The All Night Strut* at Renton Civic Theatre. When not acting, Abby teaches drama for Circle of Friends.

Kitsap Forest Theater

Theater Inspired by a Magical Place!



High Button Shoes

August 1, 2 8, 9 15, 16 22, 23 2009

Director: Craig Schieber

Music Directors: Ellen McLain & Steve Wall

Choreographer: Guy Caridi

Keyboardist: Olivia Hickerson

Costumers: Mary Duckering & Betty Jensen

Set Design: Marcus Hickerson

Music by Jule Styne; Lyrics by Sammy Cahn
Book by Stephen Longstreet

High Button Shoes is presented by the Mountaineers Players through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc., 560 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022 • www.TamsWitmark.com

www.ForestTheater.com

Synopsis of Scenes

1913 – New Brunswick, New Jersey

Act 1

Scene 1 **Kokomo and points East**
He Tried to Make a Dollar ..... Floy, Pontdue & Ensemble

Scene 2 **Living Room of the Longstreet Home**
Can't You Just See Yourself? ..... Oggle & Fran

Scene 3 **Redmond Street**
There's Nothing Like a Model T ..... Floy & Ensemble

Scene 4 **Near the Stadium**
Next to Texas, I Love You ..... Oggle & Fran
On the Banks of the Old Raritan ..... Floy & Men
Security ..... Mama, Fran & Ladies

Scene 5 **The Longstreet living room**
Tango ..... Nancy & Willie
Bird Watchers Song ..... Mama & Ladies

Scene 6 **Road to the Picnic**
Get Away for a Day ..... Papa, Stevie & Ensemble

Scene 7 **"Longstreetville"**
Papa Won't You Dance With Me? ..... Mama, Papa & Ensemble
Can't You Just See Yourself? ..... Floy & Fran
Finale ..... Family & Ensemble

Act 2

Scene 1 **Atlantic City – the Beach**
Sunday By the Sea ..... Company

Scene 2 **Atlantic City – the Bathhouse**
Keystone Ballet ..... Bathing Beauties, Life Guard, Crooks, Chief of Police, Keystone Cops
Sunday By the Sea (Reprise) ..... Company

Scene 3 **Redmond street, New Brunswick**
You're My Girl ..... Oggle & Fran

Scene 4 **The Longstreet living room**
I Still Get Jealous ..... Papa & Mama

Scene 5 **The Road to Longstreetville**
You're My Boy ..... Floy & Pontdue

Scene 6 **Under the Stadium**
Nobody Ever Died for Dear Old Rutgers ..... Floy, Oggle Pontdue, Football Players & Ensemble

Scene 7 **Longstreet Garden**
He Tried to Make a Dollar ..... Ensemble

Support the Kitsap Forest Theater – visit **MountaineersFoundation.org.** There are many ongoing projects that need volunteers and funding to keep this wonderful theater alive. **Donate today to benefit future generations!** Help us update our sound system – to donate, please visit the above web site and choose "Mountaineers Players' Fund" or visit **www.ForestTheater.com** and click ***donate***. Question about volunteering or donating? Call 206-542-7815. **Thanks to the Mountaineers Foundation for their support of the Players!**

Cast of Characters

Harrison Floy ..... Nathaniel Jones
Pierre Pontdue ..... Mick Etchoe
Uncle Willie/Nat ..... Craig McCoy
Henry Longstreet (Papa) ..... Eric Emans
Sara Longstreet (Mama) ..... Gail Foster
Stevie Longstreet ..... Katelyn Cooper
Fran Beck (Mama's sister) ..... Amy Beth Lindvall
Hubert Ogglethorpe (Oggle) ..... Stuart Baker
Nancy Flaherty ..... Katie McCoy
Elmer Simpkins ..... David Jensen
Shirley Simpkins ..... Cheryl Phillips
Elmira Simpkins ..... Téa Hickerson
Whitney/Glennon ..... Valerie Foster
Mrs. Anderson ..... Christy Gordon
Mrs. Murphy ..... Rachel Jones
Lenters ..... Abigail Best Taylor
Coach/Police Captain ..... Brian Lindvall
Announcer/Lifeguard/Gorilla/David ..... Ray Puddicombe
Lt. Kowalski ..... Nicole Cooper

Director's Notes

High Button Shoes, produced in 1947, was written by Jule Styne, who later gained his greatest fame writing *Gypsy* and *Funny Girl*. This quirky show is where he got started. In addition, Jerome Robbins did the choreography for the show and won a Tony for his work. You are seeing a unique bit of musical theater history here because this show is rarely done. It did have auspicious beginnings, with Phil Silvers and Nanette Fabray starring in it. It ran for almost two years on Broadway. From what we can tell, the last time it was presented in the Northwest was at the Green Lake Aqua Theater in 1955.

The show is a study in how a work of art can pass the test of time in some ways and in others, be obscured by the march of time. *High Button Shoes* pokes fun at issues as alive today as they were in 1947. Look for jokes about the soundness of investing in land, the fascination with new technology, marketing schemes, beauty products, and marriage. On the other hand, some references are to events of that time, and unless you were there, you may need to read up on some history to understand the humor. The style of humor you will see today is as much of a historical adventure as it is just plain fun. The Keystone Cops were the hottest comedy in the early 20th century, when this musical is set. Today, as you watch *High Button Shoes*, you may discover that some of the gags you have seen on Saturday Night Live had their roots 100 years ago, with the Keystone Cops.

Finally, I must share with you the thrill I felt the first day our actors donned their Keystone Cop uniforms and acted out the shtick I had seen for so many years in scratchy silent films. Magically, what had been hazy black and white images on film jumped alive on stage right here in the Kitsap Forest Theater. Through this art form called live theater, we get to experience a sort of time machine effect that connects us with live images of days gone by. ~ Craig Schieber

Join our mailing list!

Visit our website (www.ForestTheater.com) to sign up for e-mail notifications of upcoming auditions and show information.

Music & Dance Staff

Music Directors ..... **Ellen McLain, Steve Wall**
Keyboardist/Synthesizer Orchestrator ..... **Olivia Hickerson**
Assistant Keyboardist ..... **Megan Sandstede**
Choreographer ..... **Guy Caridi**
Dance Captain ..... **Amy Beth Lindvall**
Fight Choreographer ..... **Ken Michels**

Production Staff

Producer ..... **Gala Lindvall**
Stage Manager ..... **Nicole Cooper**
Costume Design & Creation ..... **Mary Duckering, Betty Jensen**
Lina Brown, Pam Erickson, Gail Foster, Alisan Giesy, Christy Gordon, Gerry Jones, Mary Lou Lutz, Carol Matt, Colleen McManus, Viveca Sanai, Heidi Svennson, Beth Tesh
Set Design & Construction ..... **Marcus Hickerson**
Trenton & Olivia Hickerson
Set Dressing ..... **Scott Baker, Mary Duckering**
Props ..... **Amy Beth Lindvall**
Nicole Cooper, Gail Foster, Lee Ann Hittenberger, Rachel Jones, Ken Michels, Chris Stanley

Special Thanks to Rick & Kathy Cissna for loan of wooden folding chairs.

Special Thanks to Kathleen & Gary Ebbert for the loan of their "lawn ornament" Model T for our stage!
They recently returned to Port Orchard from a 29 day cross country drive in their 1915 Model T in commemoration of the 100 year celebration of the 1909 "Ocean to Ocean" race.

Sound Design ..... **Mark Malnes**
Greg Brown, Marcus Hickerson
Trail Decorations ..... **Rachel Jones, Katie McCoy**
Graphic Artist ..... **Brent Amacker (BRENTOONS Media)**
Publicity/Program ..... **Gala Lindvall**
Nancy Estill, Amy Beth Lindvall, Lois Rolfe, Heidi Svennson, Linnea Svennson, Seabeck Pizza, Players' Committee and entire *High Button Shoes* cast, crew & families.
Seabeck Road Sign ..... Ashleigh Emmons, Anna, Amy Beth & Gala Lindvall

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House Managers ..... **Barb Baker, Patreese Martin**
Thanks to McKinley Sewing and Upholstery for repairing seat cushions.
Box Office ..... **Nicole Cooper**
Parking ..... **Jamie Gordon**
Concessions ..... **Lisa Emmons**
Scott Eby, Troy Emmons, Dave & Gerry Jones
Kitsap Cabin Cooks ..... **Scott Eby**
Nancy Estill, Doug & Ellen Frick, Diane Glenn