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The Lambs' Script



A publication of The Lambs®
America's first professional theatrical club, established in 1874
Winter-Spring 2013-2014



Gerry Ruth

A Classic Lamb
1932-2014

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The Script first published in 1932

Printed by Seaway Printing, Southport, NC

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From the Editor's Desk

As this Winter/Spring issue of *The Lambs' Script* goes to press we can be quite certain that William Shakespeare was not predicting our grueling recent winter when he wrote the line, "...Now is the winter of our discontent..." for *Richard III* in 1594. Nor would John Steinbeck have had this season's blizzards in mind when he used those same words to title his last novel in 1961. Nevertheless, discontent was felt by many of us as world scientists and politicians quickly re-grouped to change the term "Global Warming," to "Climate Change," in hopes of avoiding further embarrassment. In any event, we welcome the arrival of the warmer seasons.

On a sadder note we lament the passing of the warm and wonderful Lamb who graces our cover, **Gerry Ruth**. Her work as club Historian and as author of our *Script* column, *News of the Lambs*, were just the latest of the many efforts she and her late husband, Jim Ruth, had made in behalf of The Lambs. Gerry's love for The Lambs even continued after death with her generous bequest to the Club. Her bright smile and spirit of adventure are nicely captured in our cover story, "Gerry in Hollywood," generously prepared by her dear friend and co-adventurer, **Patti Dey**.

Our thanks to Shepherd **Marc Baron** for deferring to Gerry regarding the *Cover Story* about our new Shepherd that was originally planned for this issue. Our former editor, **Lewis Hardee**, is working on that story to lead off our next *Script* issue. By the way, Lewis just released his new book, *Handel with Care*, and we will have more about that celebration of the great composer in our next issue.

As always, **Davida Rothberg** keeps us *In the Fold*, and offers an especially jam-packed column in light of our sadly missing *News of the Lambs*. Also in these pages you will find assorted *Lambs Tidbits*, and Boy **Scott Glascock** supplies a *Welcome to the Fold* that celebrates an impressive group of new members. Speaking of impressive, we include a touching letter from U.S. Infantryman, Capt. David A. Strongin that will make you even prouder to be a Lamb.

Floreant Agni, David Dow Bentley III

A Rosa is a Rosa is a Rosa...

Lamb **Rosa Antonelli** graced our 5th floor with another classical piano recital. Rosa has played in concerts all over the world including at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, and toured Europe and Asia, performing in over 20 countries. In 1998 Rosa became a distinguished Steinway Artist. Rosa is also a Professor of Piano, obtaining her Masters as a Professor of Superior Piano with honors at the National Conservatory of Music in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

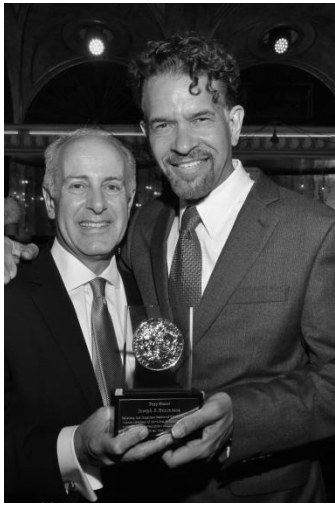


Rosa arranged for Steinway to bring in a baby grand just for her Lambs performance. This Lambs recital was hosted by Boy, Scott Glascock, and donations from attendees benefited our Lambs Foundation. Rosa will again appear at Carnegie Hall this fall.

Summer Low Jinks



Please mark your calendars: Low Jinks moves to Thursday nights for the summer, starting Thursday, July 3rd. We return to Fridays after Labor Day, for Friday, September 5th.



Actors Fund Housing Development Corporation, Joe oversees affordable housing opportunities for active and retired artists.

The Actors' Fund of America was established in 1882, and its first President was **J. Lester Wallack**, who was a Shepherd of The Lambs (1878-1882, and 1884-1888). He was also owner of Wallack's Theater in Manhattan's Union Square, where The Lambs met until finding its own quarters. The Fund held its first meeting at Wallack's Theater. It's worth mentioning The Fund's first Vice-President (**A.M. Palmer**), Secretary

(**Daniel Frohman**) were Lambs, as were 1/3 of its original trustees. Shepherd Tom Dillon (1969-1986) was a Fund President for many years. Shepherds **Richard Charles** (1986-1997) and **AJ Pocock** (1998-2001), Boys **Mike Mearian** and **Ed Herlihy**, and Lambs Council member **Fran Gaar** were *all* Trustees of The Fund. The Lambs proudly continues its association with the Fund. The photo above is of Joe (*left*) and Brian Stokes Mitchell, Chairman of the Board of the Fund. (*Photos by Anita and Steve Shevett, courtesy of The Actors Fund.*)



It's a Wash!

The Lambs Annual Wash – a barbeque and Low Jinks show – is on again, set for Sunday, September 14th. Mark your calendars for a great time. The event is held at the Lillian Booth Actors' Fund Home in Engelwood, NJ. A bus will be available. Details coming soon!

Gerry in Hollywood by Patricia Dey

My dear friend, **Gerry Ruth**, was an amazing woman. She had a sense of fun and adventure and was always open to new ideas, especially anything that regarded travel. She and her late husband, fellow Lamb **Jim Ruth**, traveled extensively throughout their marriage, but by the time I met her, she had been off the road for some time. It didn't take her long to change that situation. I would casually mention an event somewhere, and she would be packing her bag. I never saw anyone act so fast, except maybe me! Sailing off on one of the *Turner Classic Movie Cruises* was one of our favorite adventures. We would also jet off to California at the drop of a hat. Trips to the Reagan Library were a particular favorite, but the *Cinecon* 5-day film event held in Hollywood every fall was rarely missed. It topped the calendar. One such time was exceedingly special.

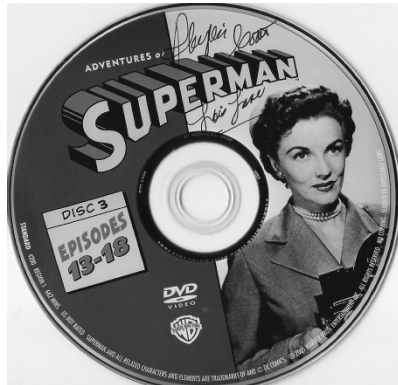
It was a nice summer morning when I received a call at 6 a.m. from my friend, Bart Williams. Bart had been told at a midnight Hollywood party that Phyllis Coates was going to have a major tribute at Cinecon 2012. The Cinecon board knew that Bart was a good friend of Phyllis and promptly enlisted him to handle the event. Phyllis Coates was the iconic Lois Lane, opposite George Reeves on the 1950's television show, *Superman*. Over the years she became the favorite Lois Lane to *Superman* fans worldwide, even though she only did one year on the show. (*Picture below (L.-r.) Gerry, Phyllis Coates and Patti Dey*)



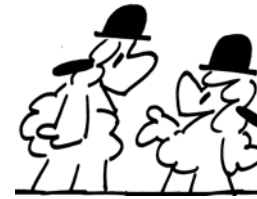
While Bart was happy with the news, he panicked knowing the scope of what would be expected of him. So it was that I got the call asking for me and Gerry to help him during the event. Phyllis had to be monitored. She was exceedingly active, and since the hotel and theatre were vast venues, she would need help with hair, makeup, and navigation to various sites. When I agreed to assist he thanked me, but said gingerly, "I need the two of you, and I need an immediate answer or I'll beg off the event." I replied, "Give me 15 minutes, ok?" I hung up and called Gerry, waking her out of a sound sleep. She answered right away in a groggy-sounding voice, and I said, "Sorry to call you this early, but Bart called and needs an answer straight away." I told her the situation, and without hesitation she said, "Book it!" I really wanted to do this, and I thanked her profusely.

I had met the 86-year-old Phyllis when she was only 82. While she was fine physically, she had become eccentric and unpredictable in a very short time. This event meant a lot to her, and we wanted to assist her from beginning to end. Almost immediately the odd behavior became apparent. She changed her room three times, and needed a special hairbrush with none to be found. She kept misplacing precious dried fruits, vitamins, and supplements. She cancelled dinner most every night. Furthermore, there were fans and reporters who wanted to interview her. She would schedule such appointments and then promptly forget about them. I was trying to help, but Bart was tearing his hair out. Loud, frustrated voices were heard every day. Poor Bart! He tried so hard, but Phyllis was a trip! I reacted like Bart, but Gerry was always cool, collected and patient. The energy in Phyllis' room was always supercharged. That was even more the case when she would make casual references to George Reeves' death. I would chase her to try and quickly get that "insider" information, but it would quickly die. Throughout this madness, Gerry was always there for Phyllis and totally focused, unlike Bart and me. She and Phyllis really connected.

(Inset photo: Patti Dey's signed DVD where Phyllis Coates autograph reads "Lois Lane.")



Telling Tails



April had a swell start at the Club with *Lambs Telling Tales*, a story night on the Fifth Floor, hosted by **Susan Laubach** and **Sarah-Ann Rodgers**, and featuring **Scott Glascock** and **Peter Kingsley**. The evening lasted just under an hour, with each true-story tale timed at about 10 minutes.

Our second turn at tales featured **Steve DePass**, **Jacqueline Kroschell**, **Lee Moore** and **Susan Laubach**. The response has been good and this will be a recurring event, with the next scheduled for Wednesday, September 17th, 7 PM. Grab a cocktail and come up to the fifth floor, then gather around in the pub afterward. Guest tale-tellers are welcome, but all must be scheduled in advance. You may email the hosts at StoryNight@The-Lambs.org and request to be a tale-teller.

Honors Deserved!

Lamb **Joseph Benincasa**, pictured right, was the recipient of a Tony Award for Excellence in the Theater on June 2nd, 2014, for his 25-years of dedicated service to The Actors Fund of America, and for service to the entertainment community. The awards were established in 1990 and are bestowed on institutions, individuals and/or organizations that have demonstrated extraordinary achievement in theater, but are not eligible in any of the established award categories. The Tony Awards Committee presented the award at the Tony Honors Cocktail Party, a private reception at the Paramount Hotel's Diamond Horseshoe, as a preliminary event for the forthcoming awards ceremony of June 8th.



Joe has been with the Fund for a quarter century, and in his current role as CEO he is in charge of the Fund's many creative programs to assist performing artists with everything from training and employment to health care. Additionally, as President of The

woman who had been largely overlooked in the excited media buildup surrounding the film. That woman was the late historian, Dr. Sue Eakin, who when she was 12 years old had first come upon a copy of Solomon Northup's grueling tale of being captured into slavery. Rediscovering the story years later in college, it became her life's work and passion to learn if the cruel story of *12 Years a Slave* was true. Her studies verified that it was, and in 2007, at the age of 88, she completed her final definitive edition of the work. It did not take Hollywood long to determine this was an important story to bring to the screen. Dr. Eakin was the mother of a Texas friend of mine, our former Lamb, **Frank Eakin**. A filmmaker and publisher, Eakin is the executive producer of Eakin Films and Publishing. His current project is the audiobook, e-book and paperback of *Twelve Years a Slave*, the narrative that became the lifetime project of his mother. The audiobook is performed by Academy Award winner Louis Gossett Jr.



Fasten Your Seat Belts

We are all thrilled by the Broadway success of Lamb **Margot Astrachan**. Margot is one of the producers of the Broadway musical comedy *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. The hit show has received 10 Tony Award nominations, and has won 7 Drama Desk Awards including Outstanding Musical, Outstanding Actor in a Musical (Jefferson Mays), Outstanding Director of a Musical (Darko Tresnjak), Outstanding Lyrics and Outstanding Book, Outstanding Projection Design. Our fingers are crossed for the June 8th Tony Awards.



Watch for Davida Rothberg's feature about Margot in an upcoming issue of *The Lambs' Script*. Margot will also be hosting some panel events at The Lambs in the near future. Outstanding!!

For the next two days we got Phyllis to her autograph signings, interviews, meetings with ex-husbands, and finally to the event itself. She was to be honored in the full spotlight, and there would be a wonderful Hollywood cocktail party afterward. Phyllis was always concerned about her looks and constantly hid her cane, thinking her fans would be disappointed to see her walking with it. Assembling Phyllis every day was an enormous job. Bart and I were always reacting to her, but Gerry was undaunted. Phyllis felt great affection for her. Poor Bart was the public relations manager and he was thoroughly exhausted. He arranged guest shots, interviews with media, and despite Phyllis' unraveling he kept to the schedules. Phyllis thought she was just fine throughout the day, and that was largely due to Gerry's calm demeanor.

When the three of us got to the hotel ballroom and were preparing for the presentation, a huge surprise was suddenly thrust upon us. Cinecon had arranged a *Superman Fest*, with sudden appearances by writers, directors and character actors from the original TV show, along with an unexpected appearance by Phyllis' ex-husband. While Bart and I were watching these events unfold, we suddenly looked around to discover that Phyllis was not there. Mobs of people obscured our view, but I pushed through the crowd and saw Phyllis running through the lobby with my friend, Gerry, in hot pursuit. An elevator door opened with Phyllis ready to get on. Gerry gently interceded so as not to embarrass her, and guided Phyllis away from the elevator, while cajoling



her wonderfully. Phyllis had no idea what she was doing, or where she was, or where she was going. I was concerned for Gerry, but didn't need to be. Gerry saw me trailing after them and was so glad to have help in this situation. Both of us got her back to her party! She didn't know a thing had happened, but Bart did and was flushed at the sight of her. He escorted her as originally planned to meet and greet her friends and fans as if nothing had happened. Anxiety was rampant that day, but the proactive person who saved the day was Gerry Ruth.

(Above: Phyllis Coates with actor James Dunn from the 1950's television program *It's a Great Life*. Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.)

I often think of that trip and how Gerry enjoyed her part as a caretaker of the glamorous Phyllis Coates. Ironically, I just got a call from Jim Nolt, who is arranging a 100th birthday celebration of George Reeves in Hollywood, this coming August. A superb luncheon is planned at the Beverly Garland Hotel. Unfortunately, Phyllis has been admitted to the Motion Picture Home in Los Angeles. Thoughts of Gerry and the memories of all the fun at the Cinecon, made me jump at the idea of getting Phyllis to the event celebrating George Reeves. She was a major part of the television series, and I feel it's her rightful place to be there. She is in a wheel chair temporarily, and that might be a problem. Gerry would be right on this! I got Bart on the phone to tell him of my idea, but he is on tour all summer and can't help. Then he called me back, saying that his friend, Bruce Dettman is of the same mind and will be in touch with me to try to arrange to have Phyllis at the table to celebrate her friend and co-star, George Reeves. I am working on that now.



Above (L.-R.) Ginger Rogers, Gerry and Jim Ruth, in a photo hanging in our clubhouse

from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Puffin Cultural Forum, 20 Puffin Way, Teaneck, N.J. (201) 836-3499

A new website has been captured for The Lambs. Members are already aware of the websites www.The-Lambs.org, www.TheLambsFoundation.org, and www.TheLambsClub.org. Now we proudly announce the addition of a new website, www.TheLambs.Club. Be sure to visit the sites regularly as it helps to elevate our positioning on the Internet.

In Joe Sharkey's recent *New York Times* article, "Forget 1960, The Golden Age is Now," (May 7, 2014), Lamb **Rene Foss**, is widely quoted regarding the evolution of luxury flying in the airline industry. Foss, a near 30-year veteran as flight attendant with a major carrier, offered this insight: "...if you choose to spend \$10,000 or \$20,000 or however more, you can have that private berth. And if you don't have the money, you have a different choice in service. It's called main-cabin cattle car." Her sense of humor must have been the key to her authoring a book titled, *Around the World in a Bad Mood*, which has no shortage of her amusing reflections on that cattle car.

Our Texas Lamb, **Kelli Estes** and her *Lone Star Lyric Company* continue to have great success with the LSL Cabaret Series. While in Houston your editor had the opportunity to attend the groups' recent *Fat Tuesday Feast*, a musical evening celebrating the Mardi Gras sounds of New Orleans. The audience was as pleasantly wild as the show and a good time was had by all.

Photo right: Dow Bentley (far left) and recent Lambs club visitors (far right) Paulie McDade and Jerry Williams, join the Mardi Gras fun at a Lone Star Lyric performance in Houston.



In the closing moments of this year's Academy Awards' telecast, the director, Steve McQueen, danced joyously onto the stage with his cast as the film, *12 Years A Slave*, was named *Best Picture of the Year*. The show was nearly over, but McQueen would not leave the stage before singling out for recognition one special

Lambs Tidbits
by David Dow Bentley III

We welcome **Gini Dustin** in her new role as The Lambs' Historian. We are also delighted to have **Terry Wells** now serving as Curator of The Lambs Foundation.

The Club is proudly displaying two letters sent to The Lambs marking the beginning of our 140th year. One is from Ken Howard, actor and President of SAG-AFTRA; the other is from Governor Andrew Cuomo. Each recognizes the unique contributions The Lambs bring to the entertainment world. The documents join other displays on our walls that include both a Papal Blessing from the Vatican and a proclamation honoring The Lambs from Mayor Michael Bloomberg. All may be viewed on our website.

It was no April Fool's joke on the evening of April 1st when Lambs **Anita and Bill Brown** joined fellow Lamb, **Christine Reisner-Rebic** and a host of talented performing artists who came together at the Metropolitan Room to share their talents during a "Luigi Tribute" celebrating the talents of renowned jazz dancer and instructor, Luigi, who is best known as the "Innovator of the world's first Jazz Dance technique." In a room full of love for this great artist, Bill & Anita sang an unpublished and very unusual song written some years ago by a member of Woody Regan's musical workshop. Originally titled, "For Lisa," the couple adapted the song as "For Luigi." Their duet was reportedly one of the highlights of a wonderful evening.

Brenda Murphy (Professor of English, University of Connecticut) is collaborating with George Monteiro (Professor of English Emeritus, Brown University) on a new volume entitled *Eugene O'Neill Remembered*. Ms. Murphy contacted your editor requesting permission to include therein a story by Charles Kennedy O'Brien titled "Eugene O'Neill," that had appeared in the March/April 1954 issue of the *Script*. Permission has been granted, and the projected limited run of 1500 copies (intended primarily for scholars and libraries) will be published by The University of Alabama Press in the summer of 2015.

At press time, Jo Ann Yeoman was slated to present an interactive, 90-minute *Era Blitz* that would take the audience through etiquette, courtesies and social twists-and-turns of former eras, while such customs as how to flirt with a lace fan, take snuff, get ones hand kissed or bow to a monarch, would all be explored on Friday June 13th

Gerry & Montague
by Marc Baron



When I first joined The Lambs more than 30 years ago there were several members who made this Lambkin feel welcome and special. They include **Fred Kelly** and **Lewis Hardee**, my sponsors, as well as **Tom & Alice Dillon**, **Peter & Gloria Collins**, **Dick Charles & Joyce Randolph** (Charles)—and **Jim & Gerry Ruth**. I often worked with both Jim and Gerry on various club events, and recall often meeting them somewhere for breakfast to talk all things "Lambs." They all had forged a bond of love for this club, creating a unique and welcome extended family. I could never have imagined all these years later that I'd be serving as Shepherd. These kindred folk shared with me, and others, a generosity of spirit I had never experienced before.

A grand example of that spirit is the generous bequest Gerry Ruth left to The Lambs. Gerry told me some time ago that she had included The Lambs in her estate planning. Gerry had frequently demonstrated her love of the Club in countless ways, so this generosity was no surprise for me. It was her beneficence that prompted me to propose to our Council a way of recognizing those who choose to leave a lasting testament through estate planning. The result was the formation of the *Henry Montague Society*. Since formally announcing the Society last fall, several others have been named as members. Membership may be accomplished by simply informing any officer that you have included The Lambs, or The Lambs Foundation, as a beneficiary in your estate. Names of current members are listed on our website. In addition to Gerry, they include **Scott Glasscock**, **Lewis Hardee**, **leslie Shreve**, **Camille Savitz** and Ron Savitz, and myself.

Gerry Ruth's Montague Certificate will be placed in our large rehearsal room and a memorial service will be held in our 5th floor quarters sometime later this summer. Details shall be forthcoming.

Thanks to Gerry, we'll also be launching a line of Club merchandise featuring lamb line-drawings by Jim Ruth, and sales will benefit our Foundation. It will be difficult to not think of Gerry whenever I'm at The Lambs and, like Montague, her spirit will forever roam our halls. I will always treasure the family I call 'The Lambs.'

[ED. NOTE: The letter below came to us from retired U.S. Infantry Captain, David Strongin. It is a warm remembrance of the kindness of Lambs who went before us.]

Email from David Strongin:

From: [David A. Strongin](#)

Date: 3/9/2014 10:38:34 PM

To: Historian@the-lambs.org

Subject: More Info on The Lambs from a grateful guest

Dear Lambs,

As nearly as I can recall it was 1953 when I was a patient at St. Albans Naval Hospital and member of an organization named the 52 Association, that I was informed was made up of WWI veterans who contributed to a fund that sponsored outings for wounded veterans. My first of two was to The Lambs Club.

These people would scoop up a busload of the ambulatory and treat them to everything from a night at the Stork Club with Conover Models for companions, to baseball games at Yankee Stadium, the Westchester Country Club, and The Lambs Club (Partial list) where my group was served beer by Joe E Brown, 'Peanuts' Lowry, Ed Begley Sr., and Admiral Arleigh Burke CNO (who did not remember it on the occasion our paths crossed many years later), and still others who names will come to this old mind at some later moment.

In the theater Blackstone did a full act for us. The morale boost was enormous in the experience, the sharing of it, and even the listening to it retold.

Most of us were conscious that Joe E [Brown] had lost a son in WWII. He got close to the subject with us. I remember the sadness in his eyes. Most of us had seen combat in Korea and understood loss.

Anyway, I thought that you who carry on at the Lambs Club might like to know that your hospitality and kindness were not forgotten.

My eldest son was about to be born then. We lived in Levittown. Tim distinguished himself as an Aerospace Psychologist and is retired from the USAF. His son is building his own story as a weapons officer and F-16 pilot. It's an American story.

Thank You,

David A. Strongin. Captain, Infantry (Ret.)

Deck Those Halls



Our Annual Holiday party saw its largest turnout in years. Rebranded as our 'Annual Holiday and Anniversary Party,' revelers enjoyed a Holiday Low Jinks show, while enjoying sumptuous fair prepared by Chef Gary Epstein. Shepherd **Marc Baron** highlighted important and featured dates about our Club's history, such as its founding during Christmas week in 1874. The Shepherd awarded *Spirit of The Lambs* certificates marking those with membership of more than 15 years, and then presented *Montague Society* certificates, thanking those who have left bequests in their estate planning to The Lambs or The Lambs Foundation.



Daniel-Ruiz-Isasi (pictured above with guest *Merrin Lazyan*, *Angela Ruiz-Isasi*, and standing is *Laura Archer*) presented The Lambs with two recovered historical items including a signed photo of Montague, and a leather-bound book of Minutes from 1897. **Peter Kingsley**, our elf handing out Secret Santa gifts, also provided us with a short dramatic reading. **Scott Glascock** did a comic recitation with a modern take-off on "Twas the Night before Christmas" titled "A Politically Correct Christmas." All-in-all this was a great way to end 2013, and start the 140th year of The Lambs.



Above, the 2m pub in holiday regalia.

[**ED. NOTE** : Written by her predecessor as Historian of The Lambs, **Lewis Hardee**, we include below the wonderful obituary of Gerry Ruth that ran in The New York Times this past February.]

Gerry Ruth

Following a recent illness, **Geraldine "Gerry" Ruth** passed away on February 12 as she wished, at her home in New York. She was born March 3, 1932, in New York City where she was a lifelong resident. She had a loving and devoted marriage to Jim Ruth, a professional cartoonist and a Vice President at Manufacturer's Hanover Bank in charge of artwork and video presentations. Gerry's professional career was as a librarian. With her husband she was actively involved in the entertainment and social life of New York. Their clubs included The Lambs, The Sons of the Desert. At her passing she was an officer of The Lambs, its Historian. She was a longtime active member of the Ziegfeld Club, serving as its treasurer, and of the Twelfth Night Club where she was a member of its board of directors. During a low period in the fortunes of The Lambs, she worked with her husband to help keep this venerable club alive. When financial difficulties during the 1960s forced the suspension of its newsletter, *The Lambs Script*, which had been founded in 1932, she and Jim produced an interim publication to keep club members informed. With the reinstatement of *The Lambs Script* in the 1990s, they contributed a regular column, "News of The Lambs." After Jim's passing in 2005 she continued the column under her own by-line. A very social person, she met regularly with friends at The Lambs or Sardi's Restaurant. An avid movie buff, she went with friends on Turner Classic Movie Cruises, and at the drop of a hat it was like her to fly off to Hollywood for a movie festival. This kindly, caring, gifted and giving lady will be sorely missed and never forgotten by her many friends, one of whom once told her, "You know, Gerry, you are not just loved. You are beloved." She is survived by a brother-in-law, Jack Ruth, of Queens. Her many friends were her family. A memorial service will be held at the 3 West Club in New York, to be announced. She will be interred next to her husband at Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island, New York.

(Right, Jim Ruth's caricature of Gerry often seen in issues of the Script.)



In the Fold by Davida Rothberg



Hello and welcome to *In the Fold*. After the winter we just had, I have never been more eager to see green grass and flowers blooming instead of snow and ice, as the birds now sing their hopeful song of warmer weather and the summer to come.

It's hard to imagine, but for the first time in a long time our Valentine's Day Low Jinks fell on February 14th, the actual day of the holiday. I was the host, but lo and behold our celebration was postponed until February 21st by another bad storm. I guess love can be "in the air" on any date. We all had a good time anyway.

February 28th, **Eileen Lacy** braved the weather and hosted Low Jinks. **Gini Dustin** took over as host on a blustery March 7th, and on March 14th, our Irish lass, **Roseann Sheridan**, hosted an *Irish Night* with Paul Chamlin at the piano. **Linda Fields** and I were the dual-Emcees on March 21st. **Peter Dizozza** helped celebrate his father's good health and birthday serving as our host on March 28th.

On April 4th, **Camille Savitz** had her usual fun-filled quiz night giving out many chocolate kisses to an appreciative crowd. **Eleanor Carney** did her hosting duty on April 11th, and **Helen Klass** added a touch of class to her evening on April 18th. I hosted April 25th with six of my cousins as guests. **Kathy Kelleher**, who wasn't feeling very well, enlisted **Roseann Sheridan** to serve as her replacement for the evening of May 2nd. **Billie Stewart** paid mothers a tribute on May 9th, and on May 16th that cute couple, **Bill and Anita Brown**, took over the emcee duties. Rian Keating served us on May 23rd.

As I write these lines in the merry month of May, **Peter Kingsley**, our dapper actor, is preparing to close out the month as our host on May 30th. Our Low Jinks schedule for June is slated to start off with **Joan Scafarello** on June 6th for a theme night featuring duets, trios and so forth. The trick is, it's either all-girls or all-guys that will be performing the songs on that evening. **Billie Stewart** will be back on June 13th to host, followed by **Eleanor Carney** on June 20th. The dueling divas, my friend **Linda Fields** and I, will end the month as co-hosts on June 27th.

July will be busting out all over when **Peter Dizozza** debuts our new Summer Thursdays Low Jinks schedule on July 3rd. **Camille Savitz**

takes over armed with chocolate kisses (I hope) on Thursday, July 10th. Then on Thursday night July 17th, (my real birthday), I will host a theme night of *Songs That Define You*. Be sure to be there for champagne and birthday cake! On Thursday evening July 24th our diva, **Helen Klass**, will hold court, and our feisty friend **Kathy Kelleher** will close out the month on July 31st.

Our Thursday Summer Low Jinks continue with our French chanteuse, **Ginny Dustin**, on August 7th. **Eleanor Carney** will follow with an *Americana Theme Night* on August 14th. August Low Jinks wrap up our Summer Thursdays with hosts **Joan Scafarello** (August 21st) and **Roseann Sheridan** (August 28th).

Elaine Marlow will get the ball rolling Friday night September 5th when we return to our Friday night Low Jinks schedule. On Friday night September 12th there will be a special Low Jinks showcase featuring the rehearsal of entertainment being prepared for the annual *Lambs Wash* for the Lillian Booth Actors' Fund home now scheduled for Sunday September 14th.

As I prepare this column, other planned Lambs events include a May 21st piano recital by **Rosa Antonelli**, and a May 28th *Story Night*. A play reading is also scheduled for June 12th (2 PM and 7 PM on the fifth floor), and on June 25th, a show titled "After Play" was scheduled for 7PM on the fifth floor.

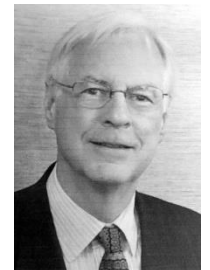
Some of our Lambs have been involved in their own outside cabaret performances. They include the charming **Frank Torren**, who does a great show; **Carol Shedlin**, who always has a very interesting act; **Rian Keating**, who puts together a clever show that benefits his special charity; the lovely and talented **Shana Farr**, a gal who has Indiana roots like myself and a beautiful voice; and **Linda Fields**, who shares her talents at the Brick Church. Our new Lamb, **William Remmers**, starred in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore* with the Blue Hill Troupe, wowing the audience with a voice that was every bit as strong as he is tall. Woody Reagan, (who starred in his own successful cabaret act), has joined forces with Paul Chamlin and his wife, Rochelle Breyer-Chamlin. They are making beautiful music together using selections from the great songbook of composer Jule Styne. By the way, Paul took over for Woody at the piano on several nights when Woody was recuperating from surgery. Both men add so much to our Low Jinks evenings and we appreciate their talent for great musical accompaniment.

SHARLEEN COOPER COHEN - was elected a Theatrical Nonresident member on 21 March 2014, sponsored by Margot Astrachan and Scott Glascock. Sharleen's first career was as a highly successful interior designer - her work appeared in House Beautiful, Architectural Digest and the Los Angeles Times Home Magazine. She then turned to writing novels, publishing seven with over two million copies in print, and optioning three



for film and television. Sharleen's first musical, *Sheba*, for which she wrote book and lyrics, was produced successfully Off Broadway in 1995 and has enjoyed subsequent productions. Her musical, *Stormy Weather, the Story of Lena Horne*, has had a long successful history since first readings in 1998, culminating in the show's Philadelphia world premiere in 2007, and the West Coast premiere (Pasadena Playhouse) in 2009, both productions starring Leslie Uggams. Sharleen has been involved as a producer or associate producer on Broadway, Off-Broadway, regional and London theatrical productions. She has written the book and lyrics for several other musical projects that have been successfully produced or are in development. Her latest play had a first reading at the Pasadena Playhouse in January to great acclaim. Sharleen is based in Malibu, CA.

MICHAEL LONERGAN - was elected a Theatrical member on 21 March 2014, sponsored by Shana Farr and Scott Glascock. Michael is a principal with GothamTix/Gotham Adventures, which supplies entertainment and activity packages to travel wholesalers, tour operators and concierges. He has managed, produced and/or raised money for over 30 theatrical productions on and off Broadway and in both the West End and Paris, often working with many leading artists in the theatre. He is a former assistant general manager of the Center Theatre Group/Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, and early in his career worked on Shubert Alley for Alexander H. Cohen. Michael lives in Manhattan and is a member of the Knickerbocker Club and the National Arts Club.



travel, tourism and the performing arts. Clive resides in Manhattan and is a member of the Knickerbocker Club.

LARISSA SHAHMATOVA - was elected a Theatrical member on 10 January 2014, sponsored by Peter Dizozza and Nancy Zehner. Larissa was born in Vladivostok and started studying violin at age six, winning her first competition at age nine. She subsequently studied in Novosibirsk and at the Moscow Conservatory. Larissa came to the United States in 1993 and studied at the Aspen Music Festival and graduated from Julliard. A major



prizewinner at international and national competitions, Larissa has soloed with symphony orchestras including the Moscow Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra, Novosibirsk Philharmonic, Federal Way Philharmonic and the Oregon Symphony. In addition to playing classical violin, Larissa was until recently the front woman for an alternative rock band performing her original material in New York City clubs. She wrote, arranged and co-produced her debut album "Truth Drugs." She also found the time to earn a law degree, and is a member of the City Bar.

JONATHAN WEINSTEIN- was elected a Non-Theatrical non-resident member on 10 January 2014, sponsored by Peter Kingsley and Scott Glascock. Jon resides in Austin, Texas and Castine, Maine, is in the property management business, and an enthusiastic supporter of the performing arts.

SANTO D. MARABELLA - was elected a Theatrical non-resident member on 31 January 2014, sponsored by Marc Baron and Scott Glascock. Santo is a Moravian College professor of management and a playwright, director,



screenwriter, cable TV host and producer. He holds a bachelor's degree in management from Villanova University, an MBA from St. Joseph's University and a doctorate in social work administration from the University of Pennsylvania. Santo is the Chair of the Greater Reading Alliance of Community Theatres and is also the Chair of the Reading, PA Film Commission. He has written and/or produced several industrial and educational shows and films, and writes a monthly business column.

Theatrical Lambs who are involved with plays include **Sandy Bendfelt, Herb Goldman, Eileen Lacy**, while our own **Jacqueline Kroschell** recently appeared in a movie. Actress-singer **Annette Hunt** has appeared in several plays, and the ever-popular **Joyce Randolph** has been featured in several television interviews. Thanks to the help of Lamb **leslie Shreve**, we are now affiliated with *Women in the Arts and Media Coalition, Inc.* All Lambs are a part of that organization.

If you have noticed that my column is a little more extensive than usual, that is because I am contributing some of the news that our dearly departed **Gerry Ruth** would have been sharing in her column. Gerry was a beloved member of The Lambs and has given the Lambs a special bequest in her will. Her dear friend, **Patti Dey**, has contributed a special story about Gerry in this issue. Patti not only helped care for Gerry in her final weeks, but took in Gerry's beloved cat. Patti is a very giving person and I want to salute her for her kindness and devotion to both people *and* animals. She even helped me by adopting two cats that had belonged to a friend of mine that was killed in an automobile accident. Yea Patti!

I want to thank Lambs members who sang for the Episcopal Actors Guild on April 28th. Those appearing got a very appreciative hand from the audience. They were **Roseann Sheridan, Rian Keating, Frank Torren, Annette Hunt, Shana Farr, William Remmers**, and our own singing piano player, **Peter Dizozza**. Peter accompanied us and played some of his original songs. I also sang at the event, and I am told we had several inquiries about how to become a Lamb. Thanks also to Boy **Scott Glascock** for raising awareness of what the Guild does for its community. Scott really knows how to advertise both organizations. And speaking of our BOY Scott, we thank him for his generous donation of an ad in this year's Tony Awards program, along with Joyce Randolph, Sandra Bendfeldt, Fr. John Sheehan and Sarah-Ann Rodgers who all gave generously toward the cost of the ad.

Speaking of the Tony Awards, big congratulations go out to Lamb, **Margot Astrachan**, who is one of the producers of the Broadway hit, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. The show has been honored with ten Tony Award nominations. In the next issue of *The Lambs' Script* I will be highlighting Margot's career in show business and possibly telling the story of how she became the winner of 67th Tony awarded to a Lamb. By the way, our fifth floor will be open to the Tony Award participants on June 8th, the day of the award show. Lambs are

welcome to join them. By the way, I heard via the grapevine that congratulations are also due to two of our Lambs members. Secretary **Kay Arnold** received a special honor, and **Rita Hammer's** daughter, a well-known cookbook writer, was also honored.

Our Shepherd, **Marc Baron**, has been very busy going from coast to coast working with the union, SAG-AFTRA, where he's a board member. He just traveled to Washington, DC, to attend the 8th Annual GI Film Festival, representing SAG-AFTRA, meeting with Gary Sinise, David Arquette and Adam Driver, and attending several meetings on Capitol Hill. Marc is also very active with his feature film *MegaBall\$*, which is gaining lots of attention. Thanks Marc for all the good work you do for the union, and especially for The Lambs.

Stuart Chamberlain has been asked to write the *Radio Hall of Fame Induction Show* in Chicago on November 8th.

If I've left anyone out, it's certainly been unintentional. I wish you all well, and do remember that 3 West will be closed on Independence Day, Friday, July 4th, and Labor Day, Monday September 1st, Columbus Day, Monday October 13th, as well as November 27th & 28th for Thanksgiving, and December 24th & 25th for Christmas. Keep checking our website as events are always being added.

Here's hoping you have a great spring and summer, and let us keep you *In The Fold*.

In Memoriam, Karen Dille

by Kay Arnold

Our beloved Lamb, **Karren Dille**, passed away on January 3, 2014. She was an actress, singer, and dancer who played Betty Rizzo in the original production of *Grease* on Broadway in New York. She was a member of Actors Equity and SAG-AFTRA, as well as serving on the SAG Awards Nominating Committee. She toured as back-up vocalist with Engelbert Humperdinck and performed in *Cabaret* in New York. I worked with her in one of Bernice Lee's musicals along with **leslie Shreve**, and I will sorely miss her.



Welcome to the Fold

by Scott Glascock

[**Ed. Note:** *Our sincere gratitude to Lambs Margot Astrachan, Scott Glascock, Sarah-Ann Rodgers, Robert Anderson, Peter Dizozza, Shana Farr, Nancy Zehner, Peter Kingsley, and Marc Baron for their sponsorships of the prestigious list of the new members below.*]

ANNE HAMBURGER - was elected a Theatrical member in September 2013, sponsored by Margot Astrachan and Scott Glascock. Anne is a



graduate of the Yale School of Drama, and is a theatrical producer based in New York, spearheading creative development of both for-profit and not-for-profit productions. Anne was the artistic director of the La Jolla Playhouse, launching both *Spring Awakening* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. She also served as Executive Vice President for Disney Creative Entertainment. Her early work with *En Garde Arts* earned six Obies, an Outer Critics Circle Award and two Drama Desk Awards.

GIACOMO SELLONI - was elected a Theatrical member on 18 October 2013, sponsored by Scott Glascock and Sarah-Ann Rodgers. Giack (pronounced "Jack") is a longtime member of the Dramatists Guild, and is also the Treasurer of The Players. Giack is a proud resident of the Garden State.



DOUG GERBINO - was elected a Theatrical member on 15 November 2013, sponsored by Robert Anderson and Peter Dizozza.



Doug holds a BFA in Music and an MFA in Education, and is a drama and music teacher in the Dix Hills school system. He also teaches piano and voice privately. Doug is a member of several professional education associations, an actor in community theatre, a longtime member and past President of the Sons of the Desert (founded at The Lambs), a contributing

writer to Cinema Retro Magazine, and a former member of The Players.



CLIVE BURROW - elected a Theatrical member on January 10, 2014, sponsored by Shana Farr and Scott Glascock. Clive is a writer and publisher with interests in