

**Lex-Ham Community Theater**  
presents

***I Never Sang  
For My Father***

By Robert Anderson

8:00 p.m., November 8, 9, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23, 2002

7:00 p.m., November 17, 2002

Macalester-Plymouth United Church

1658 Lincoln Avenue, Saint Paul

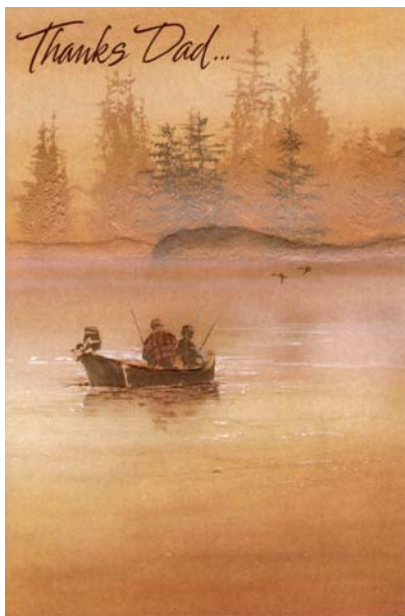
## Action and Scene

The time is the Present and the Past.

The Place is New York City and a town in Westchester County.

There will be a 10 minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

Refreshments will be available in the church's Social Hall during intermission.



*"Not many boys have fathers  
they could be as proud of."*

*- Margaret*

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## Production Staff

Director - Richard Jackson  
Stage Manager - Pat Schmidtke  
Lighting Design - Becca Long, Eric Johnson  
Sound Design - David Schliep  
Costume Coordinator - Judy Larsen  
Tech Crew - Terry Rank  
Publicity - Kara Greshwalk, Sam Roberts

Photography - Lila Taft  
Producer - Urban Landreman

*I Never Sang For My Father*  
by Robert Anderson

Cast  
in order of appearance

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Gene Garrison.....      | David Coral     |
| Porter .....            | Donald Crowe    |
| Tom Garrison.....       | George Farr     |
| Margaret Garrison ..... | Mary Davis      |
| Mary .....              | Colleen Allen   |
| Reverend Sam Pell ..... | Donald Crowe    |
| Marvin Scott .....      | Urban Landreman |
| Dr. Mayberry .....      | David Schliep   |
| Nurse Halsey .....      | Colleen Allen   |
| Alice .....             | Maria Edington  |

During his senior year at Harvard, Robert Anderson wrote the music and libretto for the satirical campus revue *Hour Town*. While serving the U.S. Naval Reserve during World War II, Anderson received a War Department prize for "best play written by a serviceman," *Come Marching Home*, which actually received a brief New York showing at war's end.

Winning a four-year Rockefeller fellowship in 1946, he studied under John Gassner, then taught playwrighting at the American Theatre Wing. In 1953, Anderson scored his first Broadway hit with *Tea and Sympathy*. Written as a veiled attack against McCarthyism, the play has gained latter-day respect as the first major American theatrical piece to treat homosexuality with tolerance and understanding. Two years into the *Tea and Sympathy* run, Anderson set up a playwrighting unit at the Actor's Studio.

He made his screenwriting bow in 1956 with the screen version of *Tea and Sympathy* (1957), then adapted Michener's *Until They Sail* and Katherine Hulme's *The Nun's Story* for the screen. His subsequent theatrical work included *Silent Night*, *Lonely Night*, *I Know You Can't Hear Me When the Water's Running*, and *I Never Sang for My Father*; this latter effort earned Anderson an Oscar nomination and a Writers' Guild Award when he transferred it to the screen in 1970. Anderson's last scriptwriting project was the 1991 TV movie *Absolute Strangers*, based on an actual legal contretemps involving a comatose pregnant woman. From 1959 through 1978, Robert Anderson was married to actress Teresa Wright. ~ Hal Erickson, All Movie Guide

## When I Grow Too Old to Dream

We have been gay, going our way  
Life has been beautiful, we have been young  
After you've gone, life will go on  
Like an old song we have sung

When I grow too old to dream  
I'll have you to remember  
When I grow too old to dream  
Your love will live in my heart

So, kiss me my sweet  
And so let us part  
And when I grow too old to dream  
That kiss will live in my heart

And when I grow too old to dream  
Your love will live in my heart

*Music and Words by Sigmund Romberg and  
Oscar Hammerstein II*

*"You don't know my father. You only  
know the man in the newspapers."*

*- Gene*

## Loveliest of trees, the cherry now

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now  
Is hung with bloom along the bough,  
And stands about the woodland ride  
Wearing white for Eastertide.

Now, of my threescore years and ten,  
Twenty will not come again,  
And take from seventy springs a score,  
It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom  
Fifty springs are little room,  
About the woodlands I will go  
To see the cherry hung with snow.

A. E. Housman (1859-1936)

## Schrafft's Oatmeal Cookies

Founded in Boston in the nineteenth century, Schrafft's shops soon became renowned for the quality of their candies, ice creams, and especially their cookies. Eventually they opened several stores in New York City, but according to food writer and food historian Judith Jones, true Schrafft's cookie aficionados believed that the Boston version of their oatmeal cookies was superior, and so they would travel to Boston by train to buy them.

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1-1/2 cups oatmeal  
1-1/2 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon allspice  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 cup milk  
1 cup raisins  
1 cup chopped walnuts

Cream the butter and sugar; add the eggs and vanilla and beat until light. Stir in the oats. Whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and allspice, and add to the butter mixture along with the milk. Beat until well blended. Stir in the raisins and nuts. Drop by spoonfuls onto greased baking sheets about 1-1/2 inches apart. Bake at 350°F for 12 minutes. Remove and cool on racks. Makes about 40 cookies.

The L.L. Bean Book of "New" New England Cookery

[www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com)

## Father Power

By father power we do *not* mean power to be used over children, tyrannical power, or paternalistic power. Rather we mean the pervasive, profound power that is a part of your and every other father's nature as a parent. Paternalism is the use of masculine power to shape a person into something the paternalist thinks he should be, regardless of the wants of the person. Father power is the use of your profound, natural influence to help your child become what he want to be. You not only teach your child what he will need to know to prosper in the world, but you also give him an important sense of independence from you—his own sense of power.

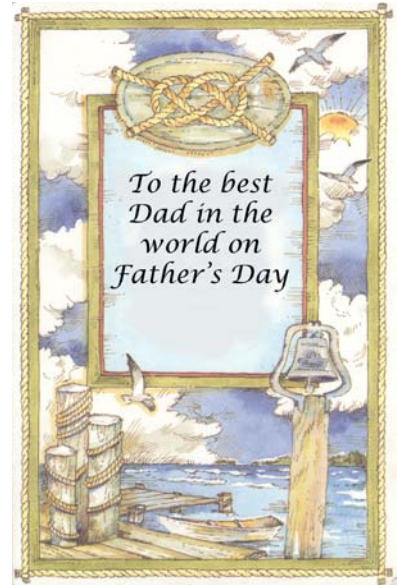
*Father Power* by Henry Miller and Dennis Meredith

*"I'm doing a lot for my kids. I don't expect them to pay me back at the other end."*  
- Alice

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Well, all's lost, all's spent,  
When we our desires get without content.  
'Tis better to be that which we destroy,  
Than by destruction dwell with doubtful joy.

Lady Macbeth  
*Macbeth*, Act III, Scene ii



## Fatherhood

So, fatherhood for men is a learned behavior. And we need to realize that learned behavior is passing now. We have to say that's a precious behavior and we need to keep that. I said, "It's easier to socialize a young man into being a warrior than to be a father." You can do that in the marine corp. And men are geared for that in some way, but to socialize them into being fathers is a different matter. We should be honoring fathers instead of attacking them. I think all of the older men have to be one of the reasons we like young men to come. This weekend if we say if you want to bring your son, he comes free. Because it's important for the son to hear the fathers say how important fathering has been to them. How important it is in their life. How it's twice as important as anything they thought they were doing in business. Young men need to learn that. So I say it's as hard to socialize a young man into being a decent and responsible father as to socialize them into being a decent and responsible artist".

Robert Bly, author and poet —interview for the Public Broadcasting System show, "No Safe Place".

**Colleen Allen** (Mary, Nurse Halsey) This is Colleen's second production with the Lex-Ham Community Theater. She appeared as Mis' Moran in Zona Gale's *The Neighbors* in 2001. When not on stage, Colleen is hard at work studying her craft.

**David Coral** (Gene Garrison) David has been a Twin Cities actor since 1996 after several years in Chicago and Madison. He was last seen as Baylor in Starting Gate's *A Lie of the Mind*. He has also been seen at Park Square, Pillsbury House Theatre, 50 Foot Penquin, the Minnesota Jewish Theatre, and Theatre in the Round.

**Donald Crowe** (Porter, Reverend Sam Pell) appeared in several traveling theater groups over the years as actor, model, dancer, and singer of old doo-wop hits, gospels and selected show tunes. Two of his most notable performances include the singing of "A Simple Song" by Leonard Bernstein and selections from *Jesus Christ Superstar* by Andrew Lloyd Weber. Donald also wrote and directed a two person play consisting of excerpts from the life of Sojourner Truth, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Fannie Lou Hammer. Some of his hobbies includes attending performances of other performing artists and listening to selected pieces of classical music and interviews by Terry Gross.

**Mary Davis** (Margaret Garrison) Mary is appearing in her second show with Lex-Ham, having been the Grandma in Zona Gale's *The Neighbors* during the 2001 Lex-Ham Short Play Festival. She finds portraying a kindly and affectionate elderly woman who complains about her husband quite a stretch for her. When she's not on stage, Mary lives in Fridley and helps her husband, Richard, with the optometric business.

**Maria Edington** (Alice) Maria was most recently seen with the Corcoran Park Players playing the role of Gabrielle in *The Madwoman of Chaillot*. She is a graduate of the Brave New Institute where she studied improvisation and the writing and performing of satirical sketch comedy. Maria collaborated with several other BNI graduates in writing and performing in the 2001 Minnesota Fringe Festival show: *A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Ford Galaxy, or you Can't Get There From Here*. She worked with the same group on their debut sketch comedy event, Christmas of 2000: *Miracle on 34th and Lake, or She Rode My Ass All The Way to Bethlehem*.

**George Farr** (Tom Garrison) has been around so long that he has outlasted a number of theaters for which he has performed - Dudley Riggs ETC Theater *Malter Mitty Sings* a one man show, *Great Scott & Grumpy George*, a two man show with his son, Scott and two other musicals. Harmon Place Theater, *Matchmaker* and *The Dining Room*. Lyric Theatre, *To Whom It May Concern*. Up & Over Theatre, *Love Letters On Blue Paper*. Guthrie II, *An Evening with Dick & Jerry* and *Pilk's Madhouse*.

Despite more than forty major roles to his credit, many of the other stages still managed to survive. His favorite roles include Noah in *Two by Two*, Norman in *On Golden Pond* and Weller Martin in *Gin Game*.

He had performed 65 musical programs this year as a Paul Wellstone Senior Entertainer when tragedy intervened.

**Richard Jackson** (Director) Richard has directed at many venues around the Twin Cities including Lakeshore, Bloomington Civic, and the Eden Prairie Community Theatre. He is looking forward to tackling Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* in March for Starting Gate Productions where he is the Associate Artistic Director.

**Urban Landreman** (Marvin Scott) Urban is continuing his tradition at Lex-Ham for portraying "Men in Black" having recently portrayed a judge and a priest. Other memorable roles include the silent hitman in *Wanda's Visit*, Ezra Williams, the grumpy neighbor, in *The Neighbors*, and the weather radio announcer in *The Mice Have Been Drinking Again*. Urban's paid job is with the Hennepin County Community Health Department's Assessment Unit. A special thank you to my father, my inspiration when clouds hang low and dark.

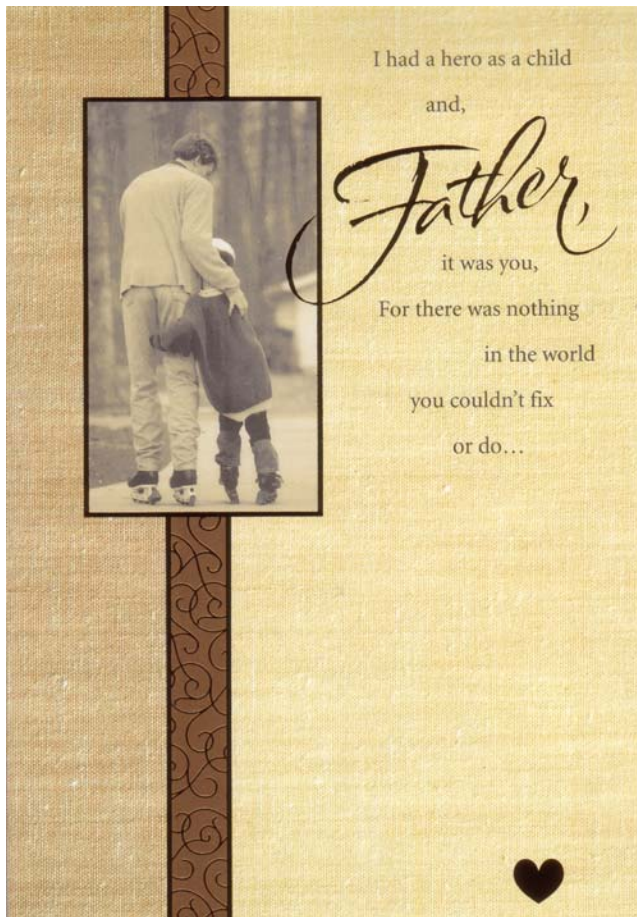
**Judy Larsen** (Costume Coordinator) Judy has been involved in dance and community theater for many years in southern Minnesota and Iowa. She has recently relocated to Saint Paul and was pleased to have an opportunity to become involved with the Lex-Ham Community Theater.

**Becca Long** (Light Design) Becca studied theatre arts at the University of Minnesota at Morris. She has designed lights for *Pajama Game* at UMM and *Steele Magnolias* at Theatre in the Round.

**David Schliep** (Dr. Mayberry, Sound Designer) David began in theatre in high school. He was a founder of the Red Wing Summer Playhouse. David directed eight shows there as well as serving as the stage manager in many others. Fun parts have included Prof Higgins in *Pygmalion*, General Bullmoose in *Li'l Abner*, and being in the recent production of *Our Town* at the Theatre in the Round. He is in his second Lex-Ham show having played Uncle Willie in this summer's *The Philadelphia Story*.

*"Oh, he was a fine looking man  
before he started to drink. Big,  
square, high color. But he became  
my mortal enemy."*

*- Tom*



**Special thanks go to**  
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Thanks to all the supporters of the Lex-Ham Community Theater.  
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# Lex-Ham Community Theater

The Lex-Ham Community Theater began as a program of the Lexington-Hamline Community Council (LHCC). Throughout its history, the LHCC has provided the neighborhood with programs that help to maintain good housing, a healthy environment, facilities for recreation and strategies for protection from crime. The original fundamental purposes of the LHCC remain the same: to improve the quality of life in the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood and to bring about long-term, sustainable community change for the neighborhood, by the neighborhood.

Since its start in 1995, the Lex-Ham Community Theater has striven to achieve its mission of producing quality theatrical experiences by and for the residents of the Lexington-Hamline and surrounding neighborhoods in St. Paul. The company has enhanced the local theatrical scene by selecting lesser-known works by noted playwrights and giving the regional and world premieres of works by local authors. All of its shows have provided people with little previous experience an opportunity to be on-stage or work off-stage side by side with those who have more experience.

Finally, the company strives to help build community by involving people across generations and walks of life with each of its productions.

The theater is currently spinning off on its own with hopes that its new structure will allow it to continue its deep ties to the neighborhood while growing in its artistic stature.

Call (651) 645-3207 to get involved.

Check out the Lex-Ham Community Theater's web site at:  
[www.LexHamArts.org/theater](http://www.LexHamArts.org/theater)

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## Shakespeare Reading Series

Join neighbors and friends for an informal reading of *Love's Labours Lost* at 6:30 p.m., Friday, December 20, 2002, 1184 Portland Avenue, Saint Paul

6:30 p.m. – potluck supper

7:00 p.m. – sit down and read the play

Parts are reassigned at the start of each scene, so everyone gets lots of opportunities to read.  
Please bring your own copy of the play

## Lex-Ham Community Theater

2003 Season

March: Short Play Festival - Short Plays all with the theme of Heroes including  
*Trojan Women* by Euripides  
*O'Flaherty V.C.* by George Bernard Shaw

June: *Quilters* by Molly Newman and Barbara Damashek

November: play for children