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# California Suite

A Comedy In Two Acts

by  
Neil Simon

  
THEATRE  
GUILD  
VALDOSTA

May 8-11 & 15-17, 2014

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

# California Suite

CAST

## Visitor from New York

Hannah.....Bethanie Bass  
Billy.....Ken Kinard

## Visitor from Philadelphia

Marvin.....Andy Conerly  
Bunny.....Katelynn Kenworthy  
Millie.....Whitney Chappell

## Visitors from London

Sydney.....Clay Lee  
Diana.....Diane Marie Brunston

## Visitors from Chicago

Beth.....Lynnette Kenworthy  
Mort.....Andrew Thomas  
Gert.....Patti Cook  
Stu.....Jeff Fulp

Maid.....Karen Cutler  
Bell Captain.....Steven Morris





# California Suite

## PRODUCTION CREW

Director.....Brenda Brunston  
 Assistant Director (Act 1).....Diane Brunston  
 Assistant Director (Act 2).....Karen Cutler  
 Scenic Designer.....Grant Brown  
 Assistants to the Scenic Designer.....John Mitchell & Ellen Mitchell  
 Scenic Artist.....Lynnette Kenworthy  
 Stage Manager.....Andrea Slawinski  
 Light Board Operator.....Aiden Slawinski  
 Sound Board Operator.....Stephenie Austin  
 Backstage Crew.....Jon Michael Slawinski  
 Costumes.....Mary Ann Green & Mary Helen Watson

Set Construction.....Bethanie Bass, Grant Brown, Brenda Brunston, Diane Brunston, Whitney Chappell, Andy Conerly, Patti Cook, Danielle Costello, Karen Cutler, Mary Ann Green, Whidden Henry, Katelynn Kenworthy, Ken Kinard, Lynnette Kenworthy, Clay Lee, Ellen Mitchell, John Mitchell, Josh Robertson, Andrew Thomas, & Jessie Whitten

Producer.....Diane Marie Brunston  
 Front of House Manager.....Stephenie Austin  
 Publicity.....Ryan Swaims

## Special Thanks

Dean Poling and the Valdosta Daily Times  
 Scott James and Talk 92.1  
 Chris Beckham and Black Crow Media  
 VSU Department of Theatre and Dance

# Visitor from New York

## Cast Bios



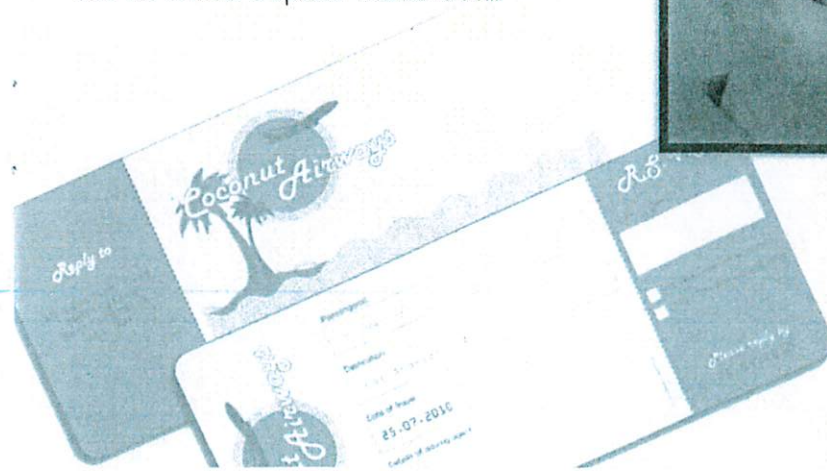
## Bethanie Bass

Bethanie Bass (Hannah) Bethanie is originally from a small town outside of Baton Rouge. She has lived in Valdosta since 1996 and works for Valdosta State University Bookstore. She serves as vice president on the board of TGV. Her performances here include roles in Seussical with Gingerbread Players and Smell of the Kill, a Stage 2 production. She also directed the Gingerbread Players production of The Fabulous Fable Factory and assisted in the direction of Charlotte's Web during this 25th year of TGV.

## Ken Kinard



Ken Kinard (Billy) Ken is a 21 year TGV veteran. Proud to have been cast in California Suite, some of his past performances are Arsenic and Old Lace, Moon Over Buffalo, The Trip To Bountiful, My Fair Lady, Christmas Belles, and Sordid Lives to name a few. He would also like to send a Special Thanks to Phil.



# Visitors from Chicago

## Cast Bios

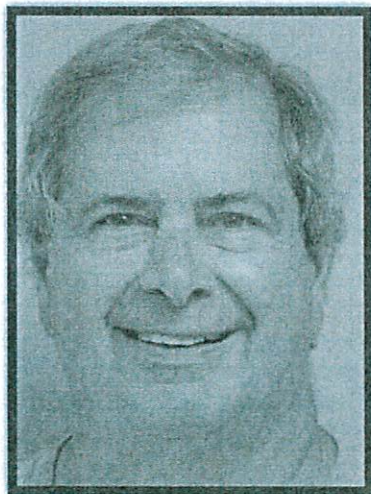


### Lynnette Kenworthy

Lynnette enjoys helping create and build the backdrops for TGV productions. She likes climbing ladders and playing with power tools! However she would like to thank Ms. Brenda for giving her the opportunity to play onstage in the role of Beth. Lynnette has had a blast with her Chicago visitor cast-mates as well as a great cardio workout! She is happy to finally be in a production with her daughter Katelynn and thanks her wonderful husband Kevin for his love and endless support of her crazy midlife interests!

### Andrew Thomas

Andrew Thomas (Mort) Andrew is happy to be on stage again at the 'dosta Playhouse. He was recently seen on the TGV stage as Henry in *Cliffhanger* and *The Narrator/Mysterious Man* in *Into the Woods*. Andrew thanks the cast and crew for their support and hopes everyone enjoys the show as much as he has enjoyed working on it.



### Jeff Fulp

Jeff Fulp (Stu) Jeff is having a BLAST working with this cast and director. He was last seen on stage as the senile old father in *Caught in the Net*. *California Suite* is his 8th play at the Theatre Guild, other favorite roles include Oscar in *The Odd Couple*, Paul in *Barefoot in the Park*, and Cooper in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. In his spare time, he enjoys cruising around in his 55 Ford. Jeff and Dian have two grown children, Lindsey and Taylor and a new son-in-law, Kevin. They all reside in Valdosta. Jeff is the Plant Manager at ERCO Worldwide.



### Patti Cook

Patti Cook (Gert) Patti is excited to be back on stage playing the ditzzy Gert. Patti has been with TGV since 2004 and has enjoyed every moment serving in various capacities. Favorite roles include: Doris (*Cemetery Club*), Maggie (*Lend Me a Tenor*), Louisa (*Ladies in Retirement*), Claire (*Rumors*), Honey Raye (*Christmas Belles*), Jessie Mae (*Trip to Bountiful*), Veta Louise (*Harvey*), Bernice (*Musical Comedy Murders*), Jacqueline (*Don't Dress for Dinner*), Polly (*Cliffhanger*), and most recently, Lexie (*The Dixie Swim Club*). Patti has also had the opportunity to direct *Into the Woods* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Patti would like to say a special thank you to Brenda for giving her the opportunity to at least play the part of an athlete.

### The Help

### Karen Cutler

Karen Cutler (Maid) Karen is happy to take part in another TGV production after having recently performed the roles of Jeri Neal in *The Dixie Swim Club* and Judy in *9 to 5* this season and *The Witch* in *Into the Woods* in the previous season. Karen is delighted to work with yet another talented cast and especially wishes to thank Brenda for the opportunity to Assistant Direct (Act Two).



### Steven Morris

Steven Morris (Bell Captain) Steven attends Valdosta State University. He has participated in three musicals throughout his high school career. First, he played the part of the young Jojo in *Seussical*. The following year he was Rico Castelli in *Copacabana*. His senior year he landed the lead role in *Footloose* as Ren McCormack. His first play with TGV was this past November in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He played the role of Link Deas.

# Visitor from Philadelphia

## Cast Bios

### Andy Conerly

Andy Conerly (Marvin) is a recent graduate of the radiologic technology program at Wiregrass Technical College. In the past, he has participated in performances at VSU including Macbeth and The VSU Cabaret. He has also performed in shows at Theater Guild Valdosta including Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Great American Trailer Park Musical, and Into the Woods.



### Katelynn Kenworthy

Katelynn Kenworthy (Bunny) Katelynn is a junior IB student at Valdosta high school. In the show, she plays the "half-dead" hooker (never thought she'd be saying that). Katelynn has been performing in plays down at the Theater Guild for over 10 years now and loves every part of it! Her favorite production to perform in was Seussical with the Gingerbread Players. This will be her first time in a main stage show and she is very excited and hopes that everyone enjoys the show!



### Whitney Chappell

Whitney Chappell (Millie) This is Whitney Chappell's first performance with the 'Dosta Playhouse. Whitney's passion for acting goes way back, performing with LHS Off Broadway all through high school. She continued to study theatre and received a B.A. in performing arts from Armstrong Atlantic state University in Savannah, Ga. After that, she won a scholarship to The New York Conservatory of Film and Television. She continues to dream about life in acting with stars always in her eyes.



# Visitors from London

## Cast Bios

### Clay Lee

Clay Lee (Sydney) Clay is pleased to return to the stage in a Neil Simon play since he made his TGV debut in Neil Simons' Rumors.



### Diane Marie Brunston

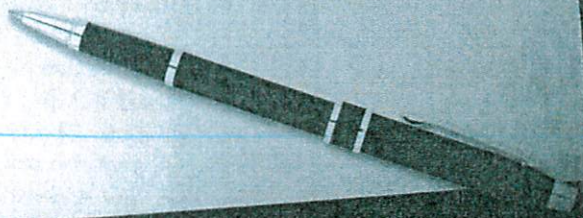
Diane Marie Brunston (Diana) Diane is thrilled to be tackling the complex role of Diana. She wants to say thank you to Brenda for giving her this opportunity. She would also like to say a special thank you to Clay Lee for his support. She has had a fantastic time with such a great cast. Diane is an animal lover and a proponent of pet rescue and adoption.





California Suite is one of my favorite plays and I am delighted to have the opportunity to close TGV's 25th Anniversary Season with this show, the tenth one I have directed at the Dosta Playhouse. Over the years I have tried to put my finger on just why I enjoy this show so much. The play centers on marriages in different states of disarray and I am not a married person. So why do I have such a visceral reaction to it? Beyond the surface of marriage, the show focuses on relationships: relationships that have met with difficult circumstances... something we can all relate to. I appreciate the candor, humor, and poignancy with which Neil Simon writes. He takes us on a roller coaster of emotions which truly reflects the human condition in its most vulnerable states. I am grateful to the cast bringing to life these wonderful characters in such an honest and unique way, to the crew for their support; not only to me but to the whole cast, and to Grant and John for their ingenuity and undying commitment to creating a beautiful environment upon which the cast performs. I would also like to thank all the patrons and members of TGV that have given me a place to share my love for the theatre.

- Brenda



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