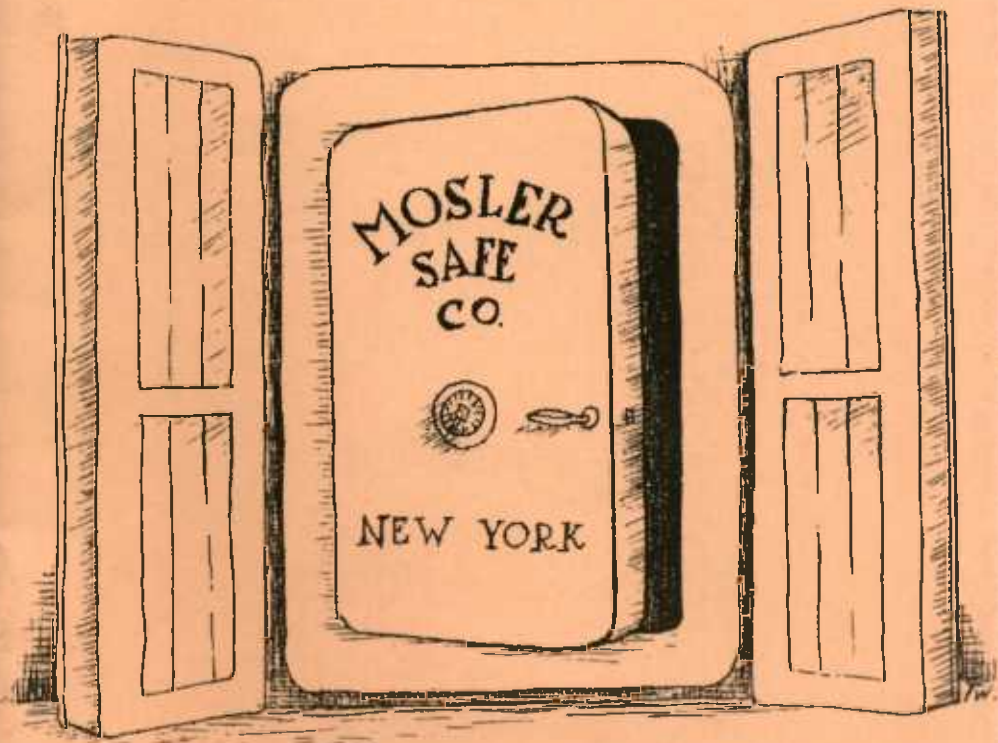


The North Fork Community Theatre  
Presents

# Speaking of Murder

by  
Audrey and William Roos



OCT 1993

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another season - and, with the eternal optimism of theater folk, we anticipate that it will be our best yet.

With lumber and paint, lights and make-up, props and words, we hope to create a reality that is realer than real and more focused than life. It all happens when a company of creative people joins forces with a receptive audience for the few hours of a show. A show is an evanescent and gossamer thing - existing briefly and then gone, living on only in memory. Perhaps because of this it may last longer than more tangible things.

Audiences know what actors and others involved in a production give them, but don't truly appreciate what they give back. Your attention, reactions, laughter, tears, and applause show that our efforts have not been in vain. Everything that happens is geared to entertain, and when the audience responds, it is all worthwhile.

So we begin - with a wonderful, engrossing mystery. I also welcome an old friend in a new role. Priscilla Sprague has graced the NFCT as actress and producer, and now brings her formidable talents to bear as director of *Speaking of Murder*. I'm sure she will succeed as admirably in this as she has in the past.

Bob Erland  
October 1993

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# **Speaking of Murder**

by  
Audrey and William Roos

**Priscilla Sprague, *Director***  
**Jed Clauss, *Assistant Director***  
**Bill Sousa, *Producer***

Produced by Special Arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.  
45 West 25th Street  
New York, NY 10010

## **Upcoming Shows 1993-1994**

### ***The Madwoman of Chailot***

January 7, 8, 9\*, 14, 15, 16\*, 20, 21, 22

### ***Carousel***

March 11, 12, 13\*, 18, 19, 20\*, 24, 25, 26

### ***The Man Who Came to Dinner***

May 27, 28, 29\*, June 3, 4, 5\*, 9, 10, 11

### ***The Leader of the Pack***

August 11, 12, 13, 14\*, 18, 19, 20, 21\*

\*Sunday Matinee\*

**Auditions for  
THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT**  
will be held

**Tuesday and Wednesday, November 9 and 10**

For information, contact Director Bob Erland at 298-3835

### ***North Fork Bank***

9025 Route 25, Mattituck, NY 11952

(516) 298-5000

## **The Cast** in order of appearance

*Ricky Ashton*. . . . . Dylan Croke  
*Connle Barnes Ashton* . . . . . Kerry Rasor  
*Janie Ashton*. . . . . Kristen Collins  
*Charles Ashton* . . . . . Robert Blaisdell  
*Annabelle Logan* . . . . . Debbie Gurriere  
*Mrs. Walworth*. . . . . Chris Rendel  
*Mildred*. . . . . Susan Skurka  
*Mitchell*. . . . . Wade Karlin  
and Bonnie

### **Special Thanks**

Mattituck Presbyterian Church, The Ushers, The Casting Committee, Eddie Hudson, Debbie and Ray Gurriere, Judy and Gerry Heingarten, Molly Allen, Harry "Pop" and Heather Baker, Michael, Lynn, Ruth, Katie K., Deb K., The Parents

The time is the present.

The entire action of the play takes place in the library of the Ashton home, forty miles north of New York City.

## Scenes

### Act I

- 1: Late afternoon, early July
- 2: Half an hour later

### Act II

- 1: The following Friday, before noon
- 2: Later that afternoon

### Act III

The same afternoon, five o'clock

**There will be one fifteen minute intermission between Acts I and II.**

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## The Crew

<i>Director</i> . . . . .	Priscilla Sprague
<i>Assistant Director</i> . . . . .	Jed Clauss
<i>Producer</i> . . . . .	Bill Sousa
<i>Assistant Producer</i> . . . . .	Katie Kosianowski
<i>Set Design</i> . . . . .	Priscilla Sprague, Bill Sousa
<i>Set Construction</i> . . . . .	Jed Clauss, Dave Aadahl, . . . . . Jim Van Tassel
<i>Set Decoration</i> . . . . .	Dick Keogh, Marjory Stevens, . . . . . Jim Van Tassel
<i>Stage Manager</i> . . . . .	Margory Stevens
<i>Lighting Design</i> . . . . .	Charlie Scheer
<i>Lighting Crew</i> . . . . .	Laura McBride, Marilee Scheer, . . . . . Tom Brennan, Larry Tuthill
<i>Costumes</i> . . . . .	Debbie Kruel
<i>Props</i> . . . . .	Lynn Hickson
<i>Program Cover and Poster Design</i> . . . . .	Teresa Shaw
<i>Program</i> . . . . .	Joanna Paulsen
<i>Program and Posters Printed by</i> . . .	The Mad Printers
<i>Publicity</i> . . . . .	Bill Sousa
<i>Prompter</i> . . . . .	Laura McBride
<i>House Manager</i> . . . . .	Katie Kosianowski
<i>Refreshments</i> . . . . .	Ruth Poliwoda, Lynn Sharar
<i>Photos</i> . . . . .	Glenn Abramowitz
<i>Dog Trainer</i> . . . . .	Sue Skurka
<i>Make-Up</i> . . . . .	Sue Skurka
<i>Tickets and Box Office</i> . . . . .	Judy Utter, Anne O'Donohoe
<i>Awards</i> . . . . .	Priscilla Sprague, Bill Sousa, . . . . . Joanna Paulsen



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Robert Blaisdell (Charles Ashton)** - Bob is pleased to make his NFCT debut. Since 1984, Bob has appeared in a total of 20 major roles with East Hampton's Community Theatre Company, and the Hampton Theatre Company of Quogue. In recent summers he has played in *Harvey* and *Death Trap* in Sknowhegan, Maine. Last August he portrayed villain Harry Roat, Jr. in *Wait Until Dark* with the Gaslight Theatre in Hallowell, Maine. He is a veteran broadcaster and a published writer and cartoonist. His novel, **Kuji Company** seeks a publisher. Bob is a graduate of the Pasadena Playhouse, College of Theatre Arts (now the State Theatre of California).

**Kristen Collins (Janie Ashton)** - This is Kristen's first time on stage with the NFCT. She is a fifth grader at Our Lady of the Hamptons School in Southampton where she is a member of the drama club and has participated in many of their productions.

**Dylan Croke (Ricky Ashton)** - Although this is Dylan's first performance with the NFCT, he is not a stranger to the stage. Dylan has performed in many plays at Our Lady of the Hamptons School in Southampton. He has sung solo in musicals including *Oliver* and *Army of Two*. In addition, Dylan plays football and basketball, and likes rollerblading, swimming, sailing, and skiing.

**Debbie Gurriere (Annabelle Logan)** - This is Debbie's fifth appearance on stage at NFCT. She has played a battered wife, a hooker, a mistress, a neurotic mother, and now, a murderess -- WHAT FUN!! She and husband, Ray, have been involved behind the scenes of many other productions, and both have served on the Board of Directors.

**Wade Karlin (Al Mitchell)** - Wade has been working with the NFCT for a few years, and as usual it's still a blast! Wade is a fisherman who lives in Mattituck with his three biggest fans - Wendy, Welby D. Mutt, and Mystic D. Puppy. In the Spring, Wade plans to attend Jedi Star Fighter School! Enjoy the show folks!

**Kerry Rasor (Connie Barnes Ashton)** - Kerry studied theater at Catholic University, Lee Strasberg Theater Institute and received a BFA in Drama from New York University. Her New York theater credits include the Saint Mark's Poetry Project, *The Coffee Lover* at the Cubiculo Theater and *Elvis Returns* at Cafe Bustelo. Kerry most recently appeared in *Schizophrenia* on LTV. Kerry would like to thank her family, as always, for their constant encouragement; Richard Olsen-Harbicil, Gerry Cimish and the NFCT for this opportunity to return to the stage.

**Chris Rendel (Mrs. Walworth)** - This is Chris' second show with NFCT having first played Anna in the 1992 production of *The King and I*. She has also performed with North East Stage for the last three years most recently in *The Vaudeville Girls* and with the Stirling Players. Chris has been involved in community theatre for many years both in this country and abroad. She has lived on the North Fork since 1991.



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Susan Skurka (Mildred)** - This is Susan's third time on stage with NFCT. After three years in Florida, Susan finds it nice to be back on the East End. The best part of returning is being among her old friends here at the theatre where she has always felt "at home" and among friends. Susan lives in Southampton with her dog, Max, and her parents.

**Bonnie (Dog)** - Bonnie has never appeared before on stage. Many times she has, however, waited patiently for her mistress to finish rehearsal or a performance but this is Bonnie's turn in the spotlight. Her mistress has not observed any temper tantrums at home and hopes that all this fame will not go to her head!

**Priscilla Sprague (Director)** - This is Priscilla's first time directing, and it has been a wonderful experience! Having a first rate cast and crew made her job easy. She hopes the audience enjoys the show as much as we have enjoyed "putting it together".

**Bill Sousa (Producer)** - At the NFCT, Bill has appeared in many, many shows, most recently as Bill Starbuck in *The Rainmaker*. He has also directed many of the NFCT's musicals over the past fourteen years, and has produced four Youth on Stage musicals. Bill has also appeared in the title role of *Dracula* at the Hampton Theatre Company and here at the NFCT, and last February appeared as Jack Barnstable in *You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running* at the John Drew Theatre of Easthampton with the Community Theatre Company. Bill also teaches drama and directs grades 5 through 8 at the Southampton Intermediate School. Enjoy the show!

**Jed Clauss (Assistant Director)** - Jed, like so many members of the NFCT, has done it all - on stage, back stage, over the stage, under the stage, behind the stage, and in the wings - he has directed, produced, acted, danced, sang, built sets, painted sets, installed seats, seated patrons, printed programs, picked up discarded programs, swept the floors, served on the Board, and now something new. Working with old friends is always a pleasure!

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