

MBCC Theater Board Presents

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS



A World Premiere Play by Joni Hilton

October 19, 20, 21, 26 and 27, 2007

**MBCC Community Hall Theater • 303 South Peck Avenue
Manhattan Beach, California**

From the Director

In June of 2006, I got a call out of the blue from a director friend of mine with whom I'd worked a lot over the years. She asked me to do her a big favor. Would I please come down to the Long Beach Playhouse and do a staged reading of a brand new play for LBPH's New Works Festival? I was eternally busy but reluctantly said I would. The play was called *Rock, Paper, Scissors* and featured as its main character a very surly and unlikeable man. Yet as I read it, I became fascinated with his circumstances. What transpires for him is something to which we can all relate. (Oops! I almost ended a sentence with a preposition!) There are essentially two types of theater; that which entertains us and that which engages us. We all love to be entertained but not necessarily be made to 'look in the mirror' during the process. It's just plainly uncomfortable. Yet the rewards of the latter can often outstrip the former. Good theater of substance should not only entertain us but make us think..and feel. Indeed, it should resonate. So won't you accompany us tonight? You may not like George...but you will appreciate his journey.

Thank you all for coming.

Jack Messenger

From the Producer

It takes courage, sensitivity and a sense of humor to face cancer straight-on, not an easy subject for the central issue of a play. But thanks to the backing of the MBCC Theater Board, Jack brought Joni Hilton's thought-provoking play to MBCC, and it has become a labor of love for all who have been involved.

We are proud to have The Wellness Community as our Benefit Sponsor and grateful for the support they have given to this play and to those in our community fighting cancer.

Thanks to Lisa Schwartz and Little Company of Mary for supplying four very important props, the gurneys. Special thanks to Mike Tushaus for sharing his professionalism in both lighting design and original music score.

To Jack and our enormously talented cast, thanks for the laughter and tears. From the first reading, *Rock, Paper, Scissors* has been a beautiful collaborative effort with each cast member playing their part both on stage and behind the scenes.

Finally, a big thank you to Sam Hitchcock and the MBCC Theater Board for their tremendous support of this World Premiere Event.

Nancy Starke

MBCC Proudly Presents

Rock, Paper, Scissors

by Joni Hilton

Our story takes place in anytown USA. The scene is a hospital quad wing. The time is morning.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

George Cavarro - Jack Messenger

Cookie Cavarro - Lois Bourgon

Jean Sulier - Daren Flam

Gorilla Murdock - George Jackson

Ernie Linlake - JC Edwards

Nurse Judy - Sue Mayo

Nurse Tuyen - Amy Valdez

Candy Striper - Katie Starke/Aurora Foster

This Production thanks Stephan Cooper for his photography skills!

Stephan Cooper
www.StephanCooper.com
310_701_2337



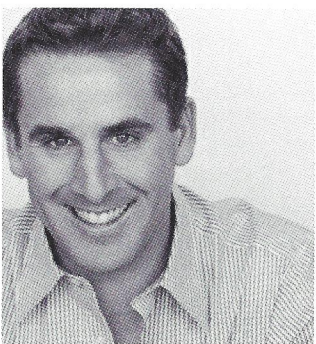
The Cast



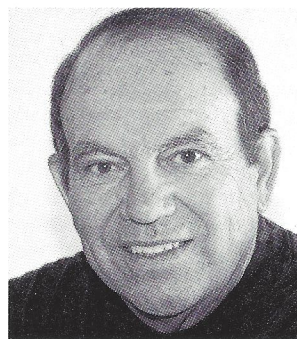
Lois Bourgon (*Cookie Cavaro*) Thanks MBCC for 20 great years! From a Hot Box Girl in *Guys and Dolls* in 1986 to Rosabella in *Most Happy Fella* and all of the shows in between. Outside of MBCC I have been very busy! *Into the Woods*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Mame*, *Titanic*, *Ragtime*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Sound of Music*, *King and I*, *Wizard of Oz*, *She Loves Me*, *Parade*, *Sail Away*, *Street Scene*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Evita* and *Carousel*. My CD, *Seasons of Life* is available at loisbourgon.com. I introduced my cabaret act also called Seasons of Life, at the Cinegrill, Norris Theater and Long Beach Playhouse last year. A special thanks to Jack and Nancy! My performance is dedicated to the memory of Diana and Deloma.



JC Edwards (*Ernie Linlake*) JC identifies with this role channeling an aging Fonzie from the TV show *Happy Days*. The mechanically inclined guy, quick with a laugh or a sarcastic comment, and suffering from an ulcer is NOT much of a stretch from JC's real life. Also, JC never gets out of his hospital bed during the play, which insures there will not be another knee collapse during the show as happened in *You Can't Take It With You*. JC has been playing character parts in MBCC show since the late 1970's, and has produced a few shows – usually when given no choice by his wife, Pat: the MBCC Music Director. When not working around the church, he can be found enjoying his 3 day a week part-time schedule at Northrop Grumman.



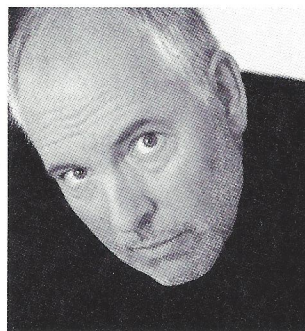
Daren Flam (*Jean Sulier*) Daren is pleased to be back at MBCC for his second turn after playing Young Joe in *Damn Yankees* last year. Daren has been on stages in Los Angeles and Chicago for the last ten years. His film and television credits include *The Magnificent Seven* on CBS, *Light it Up*, and *The Twilight Zone* to name a few. Daren would like to thank his parents, Michelle, and his brothers for their love and support. Fight on!



George Jackson (*Gorilla Murdock*) Although not new to the MBCC stage, this is George's first dramatic role. MBCC credits include *Anything Goes*, *1776*, *My Fair Lady*, *Spats in Sugar*, *Mr Lundie* in *Brigadoon*, *Pasquale* in *Most Happy Fella*, and the lead role of Abel Frake in *State Fair*. He lists his favorite real life role as "Papa" to four fantastic grandchildren, Kelsey, Douglas, Kyle, and Ashley. George is a member of the MBCC choir and The South Bay Coastliner Barbershop Harmony Chorus. Retired (USAF Colonel & Lockheed Martin), George enjoys golf, woodworking, travel and family time. George wishes to thank Jack Messenger and the rest of the cast and crew for a putting up with this rookie! A special thanks to my wife, Nancy, for her love and support. This role is dedicated to my parents, George and Eva Jackson, who lost the "valiant fight" in 1983 and 2004.



Sue Mayo (*Nurse Judy*) Sue started her musical career singing in the rock band *ROUNDHOUSE* with her husband Kurt. Sue has graced this MBCC stage as Lola in *Damn Yankees*, Eve in *Applause*, Gladys in *Pajama Game*, Phyllis in *Follies*, and Melissa in *State Fair*. She attributes her love of the stage to her mom and dad, seeing her first musical *Kismet* when she was 10 years old. Sue thanks her husband and sons, Kevin and Nick, for all of their love and support through the years. Note: in real life, she is a Surgical Coordinator for orthopedic surgeons...type casting?



Jack Messenger (*Director/George Cavaro*) Wow! This is Jack's umpteenth production here at his *home studio* aka MBCC. He's messed up in many productions here beginning with *The Foreigner* in 1992 and recently with his turn as Applegate in *Damn Yankees* and as Lois Bourgon's secret love interest in MBCC's recent hit *The Most Happy Fella*. Jack has also directed productions of *Steel Magnolias*, *The Nerd* and *The Odd Couple* here at MBCC when he's not out making a complete fool of himself in other productions around LA and OC. Here's a special toast to George Cavaro and to my Dad – and the long way home.



Amy Valdez (*Nurse Tuyen*) Amy received her B.A. in Drama from UCI then attended the SCR Professional Conservatory. She has enjoyed performing at various OC venues in musicals, drama as well as comedy. She is a member of *Room To Improv*, performing monthly at Studio City. It has been a privilege working on *Rock, Paper, Scissors* with such a generous cast and crew. Thanks to her family for their support. Respect to fellow artists, past and present.

Production Staff

Director.....Jack Messenger
 Producer/Assistant Director.....Nancy Starke
 Original Music Score.....Mike Tushaus
 Lighting Design.....Mike Tushaus
 Lights and Sound.....Mike Neary, Dennis Taylor
 Properties.....Lois Bourgon, Julie Crum, Lisa Kopenhefer,
 Cyndi Ladnier, Sue Mayo, Cindy Palm, Nancy Starke
 Make-up.....Karen Hill, Carol Hitchcock
 Costumes.....Lois Bourgon, Sue Mayo, Tina Zarro
 Stage Crew.....Sam Hitchcock
 Graphic Design.....Kim Foster
 Artwork/Set Design.....Sally Palm
 Set Painting.....Sally Palm, Sally Stowe
 Set Construction.....Sam Hitchcock, George Jackson, Lyle Stoltenberg
 Tickets.....Nancy Jackson
 Tickets (Special Benefit Performance).....Pauline Stoltenberg
 Photographer.....Stephan Cooper
 Refreshment Sales.....Dave Freeman, Shipmates
 Video.....Susi Farrell
 Theater Board Chairman.....Sam Hitchcock

The Playwright



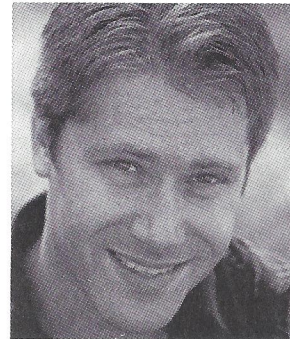
Joni Hilton has written 16 books, more than a hundred magazine articles, and two prize-winning plays. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Professional Writing from USC, and has specialized in comedy. At age seven, her mother dragged her to the doctor to find out why she spent all her time in a closet, writing. The doctor talked to Joni for a few minutes, then told her mother: "She's a writer. Leave her alone." She lives in Northern California with her incredibly patient husband, Bob, and their four children.

The Producer



Nancy Starke is proud to be working as Producer and Assistant Director on *Rock, Paper, Scissors*. Her production credits began in NYC doing film/TV productions such as *Legal Eagles* and *Baby Boom*. She was a producer of 16 MBCC Children's Choir plays from *Babes in Toyland* 1998 to *Peter Pan* 2007 and was Co-Producer/Assistant Director for MBCC's 2006 *Damn Yankees*. Kudos to Jack and the entire cast and crew for their talent, passion, energy and huge support in making this production happen. Special thanks to Dave, Molly and Katie for their patience and love. I would like to dedicate my work on this play to the memory of my brother, Jeffrey Paul Sides 1956 - 2006.

Sound and Lighting Designer



Michael Tushaus is excited to contribute to MBCC's production of *Rock, Paper, Scissors* as its Sound and Lighting Designer. Recently, Mike has lent his talents to both the Hermosa Beach Playhouse on behalf of CLOSBC as well as the Rubicon Theater in Ventura. Prior to his work at CLOSBC, he received many awards and much recognition for his work in theater in his home state of Nebraska. Since coming west, he's done much work for L.A.'s major theaters including Reprise! at UCLA, Coronet, Wadsworth, La Mirada and the prestigious *A Noise Within* in Glendale. Visit Mike's website at **digisphere-music.com** to see and hear his latest work. He thanks his wife Karen for her love and patience; and Jack for his trust and support.

The Cast and Crew of
Rock, Paper, Scissors, and
The MBCC Theater Board
are very grateful to Little Company of
Mary and the Wellness Community for
their commitment and support!



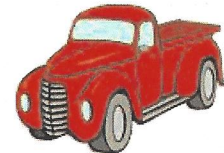
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Tom Killam



and his Truck!