



The Nashville Speaker

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NASHVILLE BRANCH

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Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

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Our Mission

The English-Speaking Union of the United States is committed to promoting scholarship and the advancement of knowledge through the effective use of English in an expanding global community.

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Newsletter Editor & Communications

Lynne Siesser

2009 Overhill Drive

Nashville, TN 37215-3414

lsiesser7@gmail.com

615-298-5659

Have you made your reservation?

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012

Evelyn Wrench Speaker, Roger Pringle:
"Americans, Shakespeare & Stratford"

For well over two hundred years Americans have been coming to Stratford in considerable numbers: among the first to record a visit, shortly after Independence, were two future Presidents, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. In this lecture, Roger Pringle, Director Emeritus of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, looks at this enduring tradition and the reasons behind it. Some emphasis is given to the varying and memorable responses made to their Stratford experience by notable American writers, including Washington Irving, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Herman Melville, Henry James and Mark Twain. The talk also details ways in which American interest and generosity have enhanced the town's heritage.

Roger Pringle studied at the universities of Cambridge and Reading. From 1989 to 2007 he was Director of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust at Stratford-upon-Avon, with overall responsibility for the five historic Shakespeare Houses (including the dramatist's Birthplace and Anne Hathaway's Cottage), and for developing the Trust's educational work.

He has published several books on Shakespeare and on Stratford, and has lectured widely. He is also a poet and for thirty years directed the annual Stratford-upon-Avon Poetry Festival, as well as devising many poetry programs involving Royal Shakespeare Company actors, including Judi Dench, Ian McKellen, Peggy Ashcroft, Jeremy Irons and Ben Kingsley.

From 1976 to 1986 he served as Executive Secretary of the International Shakespeare Association. He holds honorary degrees from the universities of Birmingham City and Coventry, and is a life trustee of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and an honorary governor of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

**5:30p.m. for Black-tie Dinner
Hillwood Country Club**



Shakespeare's Birthplace from Henry Street

Roger Pringle will arrive October 31. He has never experienced an American Halloween. If you live in a neighborhood with lots of Trick-or-Treaters, please consider asking him to join you for the peak hour of goblins and ghouls.

GET TO KNOW ROXIE ROGERS, (First Honorary Member for Life)**Straight from an acclaimed performance at the Metropolitan Room**

Resolution by the Board of Directors of the Nashville Branch of the English-Speaking Union expressing appreciation for the dedication and exemplary service of Roxanna Rogers, who has contributed to the mission of the English-Speaking Union and has volunteered tirelessly for the Shakespeare Competition, The Region Two meeting, Twelfth Night and various membership meetings. She is admired and loved by all in the Nashville Branch and so has been made a Lifetime Honorary Member of the organization.

EDUCATION: B.F.A. Theatre Arts- Texas Christian University- 1983- Cum Laude
Texas Teaching Certification- University of Mary-Hardin Baylor- 1991

Tennessee Teaching Certification- David Lipscomb University- 1998

Also: studied at The New Globe Theatre- London- Teaching Shakespeare- 1999

AT TCU:

All four years of undergrad, on costume crew, set crew, lighting crew. Worked extensively with LaLonnie Lehman, head of costume dept., on sewing and design for all shows.

DURING LAST 20 YEARS:

Ran my own company, "Roxie Designs", both in Germany (while stationed there with ex-husband in the Army- three years) and in Texas and Tennessee, doing costume design and construction for theatres, re-enactment groups, and Renaissance fairs, as well as personal clothing for adults and children, home décor, and upholstery.

**WHILE AT BAYLOR UNIV:**

Graduate assistant to the costume dept. Chair, Dr. James Swain, constructed and assisted in design duties for all shows, lead crew. Major: Directing.

LAST SEVEN YEARS:

Costume crew and dresser for *Radio City Rockettes* at Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville for Rockettes Christmas show. (Working again this year).

WHILE TEACHING AT CHEATHAM COUNTY**HIGH:**

Managed the Joyce Mayo Theatre, directing all shows, rebuilt and re-furbished old theatre to include: building a new stage floor from scratch, re-wiring old lighting units and board, building all flats (there were none!), making all costumes, raising money for new curtains, making props, doing all advertising and marketing. Shows directed: *Bus Stop, Lend Me a Tenor, The Nerd, Godspell, Lysistrata, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Steel Magnolias, and The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged.*

WHILE AT THE AKIVA SCHOOL:

Worked at the Gordon Jewish Community Center Theatre, directed two shows with 125 children performing in each - original shows written by my students. *Mendel's Adventures in Chanukahland, and Dr. Einstein and the Time Machine.* Designed and built all sets and costumes.

By popular demand, Roxie will be back at the Metropolitan Room on Tuesday, February 12 - "Love Lost and Found", a medley of original songs.

Membership Tea, Sunday, September 23, 2012 – Roxie Rogers a capella

Rachel Woods and family



Roxie Rogers, Ray Burns & Lynne Siesser



The Party Room at Wessex Towers



Phyllis Heard

More pictures are available on the website

<https://picasaweb.google.com/ESUNashville>

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

For teen from Centennial High School

New York City, April 24, 2012 Captivating audiences with



a performance of a sonnet and monologue from Shakespeare, **Rachel Woods** from Franklin, Tennessee, a student of Kesha Tant at Centennial High School in Franklin, placed as one of ten finalists at the 29th annual English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition. The competition was held on April 23rd at Lincoln Center in New York City for 58 winners of ESU Branch

competitions nationwide. **Rachel** had won the ESU Nashville Branch regional competition.

This year's winner of the English-Speaking Union Charlottesville regional competition, Tiffany Ames, won first prize in the ESU National Shakespeare Competition, winning a full Scholarship to attend the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's Young Actors Summer School in London, England. Second place winner, Cyler Winnie, representing the Portland Branch, won a scholarship to attend the American Shakespeare Center Theatre Camp. Third place winner, Katie Weatherseed, representing the Greenwich Branch of the ESU, won \$500 from the Shakespeare Society.

The English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition is a school-based program to help students develop their speaking and critical thinking skills and their appreciation of literature as they explore the beauty of the language and timeless themes in Shakespeare's works. In three progressive competition levels, students memorize,

interpret, and perform monologues and sonnets in their own schools, at ESU Branch sponsored community competitions and at the National Shakespeare Competition. Inaugurated in 1983, the program has engaged more than 250,000 young people.

As the winner of a local English-Speaking Union Branch Competition, **Rachel** was awarded the trip to New York City for the final stage of the Competition. The ESU provided the Branch semi-finalists with two full days of activities, including an acting workshop at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and tours of New York City. Perhaps best of all for these teenagers was the opportunity to spend a weekend in New York City with other students from across the country who share their love of theater, language and, particularly, Shakespeare.

Among the distinguished judges for this year's Competition were Shakespeare scholar and Rutgers University Distinguished Professor of English Maurice Charney; Director of Mission and Co-Founder of the American Shakespeare Center Ralph Alan Cohen; New York University Tisch School of the Arts Classical Studio Director Louis Scheeder; Artistic Director of The Shakespeare Society Michael Sexton; Program Director of the Poetry Foundation Steve Young; Casting Director at the Public Theater Heidi Griffiths and Peter Francis James, an actor who just finished his role as Oscar in Edward Albee's *The Lady from Dubuque*. The judges were asked to evaluate three components of the students' performances: understanding of the material, ability to effectively communicate to the audience and artistic expression.

In Memoriam

Donah Jean Salyer Burgess, age 79. Passed on, July 12, 2012, in the sun room of her Old Hickory Lake home, surrounded by loving family. She battled Pancreatic Cancer more than two years. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Dr. Roger L. Burgess; four children & five grandchildren.

While caring for an energetic husband & raising four children, Mrs. Burgess maintained a significant professional career; beginning in Nashville, TN as secretary, Publications Editor, National Conference of Methodist Youth. Later in Washington, DC, she served on the staff of Methodist leader Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam during periods of major social change.

After several similar posts, Mrs. Burgess concluded her professional church service in New York City as Executive Assistant to Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, General Secretary, National Council of Churches, where she helped plan and carry out significant international, ecumenical events.

She traveled throughout Europe & to Africa with repeated trips to France to visit daughter, Candice and family. When each of five grandchildren turned 12, she took him or her on a trip of their choosing. These varied from travel to France, a tour of Alaska and a week in New York City "to shop!"

Mrs. Burgess held membership in several social change organizations. In 2011, she was honored for 50 years service in PEO. She served as a Stephen Minister during her 30 year membership in West End United Methodist Church, Nashville. In 2002, she helped found American Friends of Chantilly (France), an international association to preserve and protect magnificent art and statuary in the Domaine de Chantilly Castle; a collection considered second only to Le Louvre. She volunteered as corporate secretary for a decade, then Membership Secretary until 2012.

Alyne Queener Massey of Nashville, Tenn. died September 11 at home, surrounded by her family.

Mrs. Massey was a community leader and philanthropist who was infinitely generous with her time and talents, her intellect, her hospitality, her humor and her loving support of family and friends.

Throughout her life, she was a champion of countless nonprofits. Her caring nature and proactive approach resulted in a lifetime of accomplishments benefiting numerous people and organizations.

Mrs. Massey was born in New Haven, Conn. where her father, the late Millard E. Queener attended Yale Law School. She was raised in Columbia, Tenn., educated at Ward-Belmont Preparatory School and graduated from Vanderbilt University where she was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority.

She was married to the late Leonard Hearne Armistead, Jr. And thereafter to Mr. Massey, who established the Alyne Queener Massey Library at Vanderbilt University in her honor.

Mrs. Massey's professional achievements include having served as a former reporter with the Nashville Banner and subsequently, as the Director of the Womens' Division of Commerce Union Bank. She was the first woman to be elected to the board of trust of Third National Bank and served on the board of Volunteer Capital Corporation. She also formerly served on the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust and on the boards of the Vanderbilt Heart Institute, the Kennedy Center at Vanderbilt, the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and Museum of Art, the Preservation Society of Palm Beach, the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach and the Blair House in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Massey was a founder of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee and the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. She was an avid supporter of Battle Ground Academy, Planned Parenthood and of the Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee where she established the Jack. C. Massey Leadership Award dinner. She was also a member of the Colonial Dames of America, the Garden Club of America, the Garden Club of Nashville, the Belle Meade Country Club of Nashville, the Centennial Club of Nashville, the Bath and Tennis Club of Palm Beach, the Everglades Club of Palm Beach, the Meadow Club of Southampton, N.Y., the Bathing Club of Southampton and the Colony Club of New York

Williamson Herald

Sarah Hamilton Sell, M.D. 'Sally' Born March 20, 1913, died October 6, 2012. Born and raised in Birmingham, AL, Dr. Sell received a BA from Berea College in 1934, an MS degree in microbiology from Vanderbilt, and an M.D. from Vanderbilt in 1948.

She continued medical training in Pediatrics at Vanderbilt and Cincinnati Children's Hospital, followed by a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at LSU and Charity Hospital in New Orleans, and then was appointed to the faculty of Tulane School of Medicine. While at Tulane, she met and married the charming Englishman, Dr. Gordon Sell, later moving with their two infant sons to Nashville, where she joined the faculty of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. In addition to her clinical and teaching responsibilities, she chaired advisory committees on cancer, kidney diseases, and epilepsy. Her crowning achievement was her research and influence contributing to the development of the Haemophilus influenzae, type b (HiB) vaccine against meningitis in children. The HiB vaccine is now routinely given in the U.S. and is saving tens of thousands of children each year from the death and disability previously caused by bacterial meningitis. Dr. Sell retired from Vanderbilt as Professor of Pediatrics, Emerita, in 1978. She then worked for the Tennessee Department of Health and Environment where she helped set up a cancer reporting system for Tennessee hospitals, and made plans for the cleanup of nuclear facilities at Oak Ridge. Over a lifetime of medical, public and community service, Dr. Sell received numerous honors and awards: establishment of the Sarah H. Sell Chair in Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University, YWCA Athena Award, Tennessee Medical Association Outstanding Physician Award, Vanderbilt Department of Pediatrics Lifetime Achievement Award, Tennessee Pediatric Society Pediatrician of the Year, American Heart Association Helen Farris Award, Vanderbilt Medical Alumni Achievement Award, Nashville Business and Professional Women's Club Woman of the Year, Berea College Distinguished Alumna Award, Nashville and Davidson County Woman of the Year and others. Dr. Sell was a pioneer who led the way for succeeding generations of women. She was the first woman president of both the Nashville Academy of Medicine and the American Heart Association in Middle Tennessee, and the first woman to serve on the admissions committee for Vanderbilt Medical School. Throughout her career she worked to advance the role of women in science. Dr. Sell was devoted to her family, her community, her church, her friends and her profession. She gave herself joyfully and tirelessly to each in full. Mother, wife, scientist, physician, traveler, author, weaver, gardener, friend, Dr. Sell was an intelligent, personable, indomitable soul who loved and was loved by all who knew her. A memorial service will be held at Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, Nashville, TN, on Saturday, October 20, 2012, at 2 p.m., with visitation and remarks to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, the American Heart Association, or Berea College, Berea, KY.

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