



THE TIOUGHNIOGA RIVER ANTHOLOGY

Written by Bill Whiting

Presented by the Cortland Rural Cemetery

in cooperation with

The Trope Troupe of the United Presbyterian Church

and **Cortland High Theatre**

Co-directed by:

Benjamin Wells | Scott Gay



CORTLAND RURAL CEMETERY

Continues >>>



Welcome & opening remarks: John Hoeschele, President — Cortland Rural Cemetery Board of Trustees

About the play: Inspired by Edgar Lee Masters’ renowned book of poetry, the *Spoon River Anthology* (1915), the *Tioughnioga River Anthology* was conceived and written by beloved Homer English teacher and theatrical expert , Bill Whiting. Like its inspiration, tonight’s play offers us a series of life stories as told by the dead. Unlike Master’s original work — which was a fictional account of small-town America — Whiting’s *Tioughnioga River Anthology* dramatizes the lives of actual people who lived, and died, right here in Cortland County. Indeed, many are buried in this very cemetery.

Character	Date of birth/ death	Performed by...
<i>Amazing Grace</i> — performed by Demarie Boreland, Michaela Pace, and Bailey Windhausen		
Master of Ceremonies	—	Scott Gay
Robert Randall	1751-183	Ben Mayberry
William & Betsey Basset Randall	1782-1869 & 1811-1869	Tom Ardis & Bailey Windhausen
General Roswell Randall	1786-1871	Tom Corey
Wilhelmina Randall	1819-1913	Sandy Tuthill
<i>Eternal Father, Strong to Save</i> — performed by Michaela Pace, Alex Reynolds, Bailey Windhausen, and Jason Wright		
Frances Carpenter	1830-1900	Scott Gay Deacon: Jason Wright Grocer: Connor Beattie Paris Barber: Ben Mayberry
William Stoddard	1835-1925	Alex Reynolds



<i>Battle Cry of Freedom</i> — performed by Michaela Pace, Alex Reynolds, Bailey Windhausen, and Jason Wright		
Ms. Sylvania Glover	1832-1889	Judy Van Buskirk
David Hannum	1822-1891	Tom Bonne
William Shakespeare	B. 1905	Connor Beattie
William Dillon	1877-1966	Jason Wright
<i>I Want a Girl (Just Like the Girl)</i> — performed by Jason Wright		
Joseph B Reynolds	1785-1864	Tom Ardis
Louis Wolmer	1909-2001	Jack Gerhard
<i>Rain, Rain</i> — performed by Chloe VanGorder		
Almira Crouch	1812-1825	Chloe VanGorder
John McGraw	1873-1934	Scott Gay
<i>Take Me Out To the Ball Game</i> — performed by Misha Khibkin and Chloe VanGorder		
Dr. Lydia A Hammond Strowbridge	1830-1904	Michaela Pace
Amelia Jenks Bloomer	1818-1894	Sandy Tuthill
<i>Sunday in Cicero Falls</i> — performed by Sandy Tuthill		
Iva Garcinetti	1892-1992	Demarie Boreland
Bertha Eveleth Jones Blodgett	1866-1941	Bailey Windhausen
Spiegel Wilcox	1903-1999	Ben Mayberry
<i>Alexander's Ragtime Band</i> — performed by Ben Mayberry		
Charles W. Sanders	1805-1889	Tom Bonne



William H. Ellis	1837-1910	Connor Beattie
Dr. Elmer Ambrose Sperry	1860-1930	Tom Corey
<i>Wabash Cannonball</i> — performed by Jack Gerhard, Guitar & Michaela Pace, Violin		
Thomas Kearny	1859-1889	Jack Gerhard
Daniel McBrearty	D. 1889	Alex Reynolds
Jimmy Ryan	Unknown	Jason Wright
Master of Ceremonies	—	Scott Gay
"And When I Die" — performed by cast		

**Please join us for a modest reception following the performance — in the Gibson Memorial Chapel.
Thank you for coming!**



MORE ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bill Whiting was a native of Watkins Glen , He received is undergraduate degree from the College of Wooster and held a Masters in German. He taught English and German at Homer High School for 31 years where he also founded their Shakespearean Society. Over his long career, he directed over 100 plays at the school as well as at the Center 4 The Arts and United Presbyterian Church Trope Troupe, which he founded. Bill passed away in 2010.
— *bio by Scott Gay*



TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE INCLUDES NEW & REVISED CHARACTERS

- Iva Garcenetti, Dr. Lydia A Hammond Strowbridge & Bertha Blodgett — written by Demarie Boreland
- Amelia Jenks Bloomer — written by Sandy Tuthill
- Sylvania Glover— written by Scott Gay
- David Harram & Joseph Reynolds — written by John Hoeschele
- William Randall, Almira Crouch, & William Dillon — written by Benjamin Wells



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING

- The Whiting Family for the rights to produce this play
- Sharon Stevens (volunteer videographer) and TimeWarner Cable for video taping; look for the video on TW Public Access Channel 2, YouTube, the CRC website, and the CRC Facebook page soon!
- The Cortland County Historical Society & Cortland JR/SR High for use of props/costumes
- SUNY Cortland /ACS for the donation of our stage-risers
- Dr. Cheryl Reygers Dental Office for use of their parking lot
- Noon-hour Cortland Rotary Club members for parking assistance
- The City of Cortland for assistance with parking & traffic
- Anonymous donor — flashlights



We are especially grateful for the financial support of the noon-hour Cortland Rotary Club!



ABOUT THE CORTLAND RURAL CEMETERY: The Cortland Rural Cemetery is a 44 acre, non-profit, non-denominational cemetery established in 1853. The cemetery features winding drives, lawns, shrubs, and trees amid islands of individual graves, family mausoleums, and monument groupings, and honoring the original, 19th century concept of a "rural" or "garden" cemetery. Visits are encouraged. Plots remain available for sale for new interments. And beautiful, peaceful, and inspirational settings are available throughout the park-like grounds for multiple graves, cremation burials, family plots, and private estate mausoleums. Additionally, one hillside has been dedicated to burials for Veterans and their spouses. In agreement with Cortland's Temple Brith Sholom, two sections are reserved for Jewish burials. And the intimate, newly restored Gibson Chapel is available for memorial services or group visitations, with seating arrangements for up to sixty people.

Learn more or get involved at www.cortland-rural-cemetery.com or "Like" our Facebook page!

