



●●●●●●●● OUR HISTORY ●●●●●●●●

Our roots go back to the Great Depression of 1932. Frances Tatnall, a recent graduate of Bryn Mawr College, together with her sister and brother-in-law, conceived the idea of producing an operetta.

She enlisted the help of W.W. (Chick) Laird, then a student at MIT. Plans for a summer production emerged with Chick as co-founder and director. Needing a place to perform, Chick approached his uncle, Pierre S. du Pont, for permission to present their first production at his Longwood Gardens open-air theatre.

Mr. du Pont was a lover of theatre and recognized his spacious stage provided an ideal environment for theatrical productions. Thus began the Brandywiners' history as a major contributor to musical theatre in the Brandywine Valley.

Mr. du Pont maintained an active interest in the Brandywiners until his death in 1954. The Brandywiners have continued their legacy of producing summer shows in cooperation with Longwood Gardens.



THE BRANDYWINERS and BROADWAY



THE BRANDYWINERS, LTD.

P.O. Box 248
Montchanin, DE 19710
302-478-3355
800-338-6965
www.brandywiners.org

●●●● OUR ORGANIZATION ●●●●

The Brandywiners, Ltd. is one of the largest, non-profit theatrical groups in the Brandywine Valley. We present high quality musicals each summer in the spacious Open Air Theatre of Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.

Did you know that?

- Our tradition of artistic excellence spans more than 75 years involving 350 active members.
- We offer an attractive package that includes tickets to the show, free parking, all-day admission to the beautiful gardens and a spectacular fountain display after the evening performance.
- We donate our profits to education and cultural institutions in the tri-state region - more than \$660,000 throughout our history.



●●●● OUR PRODUCTIONS ●●●●

The Brandywiners' annual performances are eagerly anticipated and thoroughly enjoyed by audiences.

- We operate with an annual production budget of over \$200,000.
- We give six performances over two weekends each summer.
- Our productions are accompanied by a live, professional theatre orchestra.
- Our shows feature a large chorus and dance ensemble in lavish costumes.
- Our initial productions were Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.
- Broadway-style musicals began in 1954 with the performance of "Brigadoon"

Longwood's spacious stage, with an upper level and sloping green, provides a perfect setting for large scale Broadway style musical productions.

