

The WINDS of TARA

FOREWORD

My lifelong love affair with Margaret Mitchell's immortal *Gone With The Wind* began at the ripe age of 9 years old, when my mother gave me one dollar and sent me on a bus all by myself - the world was a much safer place then - to see what she told me was "*the greatest movie ever made!*"

Years later, I was working at Universal Studios in Hollywood, when I noticed a dress lying on the floor. I was taught from an early age to be 'respectful' of the property of others, so without hesitation, I walked over to the dress, picked it up, and went in search of a hanger. A fellow worker said to me, "Oh, don't worry about that dress...we're going to be throwing it out soon." I thought to myself 'what a shame!' and, while holding the dress at arm's length, the jacket opened and I noticed a label that read '*Selznick International - Scarlett*'. It was then that I realized I was actually holding a costume worn by Vivien Leigh in *Gone With The Wind*! I offered to buy the dress and they sold it to me for twenty dollars! Word spread throughout the studio and I would get notes in my box saying someone had items from 'Gone With The Wind' and asking if I would like to buy them. This is how my collection began.

How fortunate we are that author Katherine Pinotti also shares this love affair. Her book *The Winds of Tara* finally answers many lingering questions: Will Scarlett and Rhett reconcile? Whatever became of Caren, Suellen, and their beloved Tara? Pinotti's inventive storyline deftly answers all these questions, in addition to several unexpected surprises, all-the-while weaving *Gone With The Wind's* colorful locations and familiar characters throughout the framework of a highly-entertaining plot, as the reader is about to discover. I thoroughly enjoyed this book, and I am sure that every *Gone With The Wind* collector will also want to add it to their library.

James L. Tumblin

Oahu - 2008

James Tumblin is considered the world expert and largest private collector of more than 300,000 authentic '*Gone With The Wind*' memorabilia with an estimated value of seventy million dollars. His fabulous collection includes over 41 original '*Gone With The Wind*' costumes worn in the film, and the Oscar that Vivien Leigh won for her performance as Scarlett O'Hara.