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Presents



August 6 - 22, 2010

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- \* The taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment of any kind is strictly prohibited.
- \* Smoking is not permitted in the building.
- \* In consideration to others and the performers, late comers may not be seated until an appropriate time during the performance.

### Ticket Information

- \* Show times: Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm; Sundays at 2:00 pm
- \* Reservations may be made by phoning 964-5007. Please leave a message and a volunteer will call you back. Reservations may also be made online at [tickets@ankenycommunitytheatre.com](mailto:tickets@ankenycommunitytheatre.com).
- \* The box office opens 1/2 hour before performances.
- \* Season tickets are available. One of our board members will be happy to discuss options with you during intermission.



1932 SW 3rd Street  
Mailing Address: PO Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50021  
Phone: 515-964-5007  
Website: [ankenycommunitytheatre.com](http://ankenycommunitytheatre.com)  
Email: [information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com](mailto:information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com)  
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December 3 - 19

Audition Dates: October 10 & 11

***The Long Red Herring***

By Pat Cook

January 28 - February 13

Audition Dates: December 5 & 6

***High Society***

Book by Arthur Kopit / Music & Lyrics

by Cole Porter

April 1 - 17

Audition Dates: January 30 & 31

***The Odd Couple***

By Neil Simon

June 3 - 19

***Play On!***

By Rick Abbott

July 29 - August 14

## Director's Notes

I fell in love with this script at first read. Summers and drive-ins bring back great childhood times. I remember pillows and pajamas, food, and fireworks. Going to the drive-in was a great adventure – whether with family or friends. Drive-ins may actually have been the first social network for teenagers. And those old movies, they were treasures. Now we watch them and shake our heads in amusement and disbelief. But back then – I knew for absolute certain that: shouting ‘No’ was not going to stop the villain, shouting ‘Help’ would guarantee the arrival of the hero, and the only thing slower than slow-running monsters were the people the monsters were chasing. Despite all those absolutes, I still laughed and cried and screamed in all the right places at those old movies. I like shows that make me think, touch my heart, challenge my beliefs, and teach me new ideas but sometimes I want a predictable, funny, scary, ‘shake your head’ kind of show. *Saturday Night at the Drive-In* is exactly that kind of simple entertainment. So feel free to laugh, shout and even ‘shake your head’ – but most of all just really enjoy yourself!

Polly Taylor



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# Saturday Night at the Drive-In Cast

Hayley Blok	Gloria
Melissa Bullington	Betty Lou, Aunt Dottie
Katherine Claes	Wanda
Ruthellen Cunnally	Olga
Troy DeStigter	Mr. Gleason
Monte Engh	Harry, Skeeter
Brooklyn French	Geech
Rachel (Ray) Geisler	Martha, Maureen
Dawn Hockemeyer	Popcorn Box
Katelyn Hockemeyer	Hilda
Bette Honeck	Mrs. Barlow
Haley Honeck	Terri
Chance Lowe	Ira, Buster
Richelle Manuel	Beulah, Mag
Adam McElhenny	O'Malley, Rocky, Marcus
Jason Messer	Mark
Ella Paris	Lola
Michael Porche	Pete
Carla Rogers-Paris	DA Matthews, Ma Badlands, Soda Cup
Darby Rourick	Janet
Kaley Ryan-Powell	Myrtle, Jane
Shania Schmidt	Trixie
Rodney Tomlinson	Announcer
Kent Whitmore	Bragg, Rowdy
Jacob Wolfe	Tony

Time: 1950's, a Saturday night in the summer.

Place: The Stars Under the Stars Drive-In Movie.

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

Produced by special arrangements with Eldridge Publishing Company.

# Production Team

Director	Polly Taylor
Assistant Director/Stage Manager	Michael Porche
Producer	Becky Plager
Tech Team	Tim Klingensmith, Harold Mosier
Backstage Crew	Amanda Atkinson, Becky Plager
Costumes	Lynn Arterburn, Becky Plager, Cast
Set Construction	Harold Mosier, Mark Tuttle
Set Painting	Mark Tuttle
House Manager	Jerry Reid
Playbill	Lynn Arterburn
Logo Design	Rebekah Tuttle
Marketing	Sharon Anderson, Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn, Becky Plager, Kathy Polson

## Special Acknowledgements

ACT appreciates the generosity of businesses and individuals in the Ankeny area who help support productions. The cast and crew of *Saturday Night at the Drive-In* would like to thank the following business for their generous contribution to the show.

ACTORS - costumes  
Goodwill - costumes  
Jerry Reid - Netbook  
Randy & Sarah Reid - projector  
Wanette Smiley - costumes  
Springwood 9 Theatres - popcorn  
Jordan Wolfe - car occupant on stage

Special Director's Thank you goes to Mark Tuttle for dealing with all the doors above and beyond the call of reason.

# Cast Biographies



**Hayley Blok** (Gloria) has performed in *Our Town*, *Wizard of Oz: The Nonmusical*, *The Phantom Tollbooth* and *Hankerin Hillbillies* at ACT. She

enjoys dancing, volunteering at her dance studio, shopping and hanging out with friends. Hayley will be a freshman at Northview Middle School.



**Melissa Bullington** (Betty Lou/Aunt Dottie) has played several roles in performances at Bethany Reformed Church as well as Mary Magdalene in *The*

*Passion of the Christ* at Berean Assembly of God. She is now ready for the big stage! Her off stage activities include camping, fishing, quilting and teaching first graders at Bethany Reformed Church. She currently works at Iowa Lutheran Hospital.



**Katherine Claes** (Wanda) is 13 years old and will be an eighth grader at Johnston Middle School this fall. This is Katherine's third

appearance on the ACT stage, having performed in *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Hankerin' Hillbillies*, and *A Christmas Carol*. She has enjoyed being in shows with her mom and dad, but is excited about being the only Claes in this production! Katherine loves art, Twilight, listening to music and playing with her two dogs, Daisy and Bella.



**Ruthellen Cunnally** (Olga) made her first ACT appearance in *Plaza Suite* in 2008. She has also appeared in *Holes* and *The Boxcar Children* at DSM

Playhouse, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at Theatre for a Change, *Much Ado About Nothing* at Salisbury House, *The Age of Innocence* at Terrace Hill, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* at ACTORS. In her down time between shows, she enjoys traveling, reading and photography. Ruthellen is an adjunct instructor of English at DMACC and Mercy College.



**Troy DeStigter** (Mr. Gleason) has been a big part of the ACT family for many years: *Ernie Cusack-Rumors*, *Mr. DePinna - You Can't Take It With You*,

*The Wizard - The Wizard of Oz: the Nonmusical*, and *Deputy File - The Rainmaker*. He enjoys collecting vinyl music records and watching movies. Troy is hard at work in a customized training program with the Department of Natural Resources.



**Monte Engh** (Harry/Skeeter) made his ACT debut with *Bedful of Foreigners* back in 1999. He was last seen on stage in June's *Leaving Iowa* playing

unforgettable Uncle Phil, Fred, the mechanic, Bob and Grandpa. Some of Monte's favorite roles are *Bedful of Foreigners*, *Wizard of Oz: the Nonmusical*, *Hankerin Hillbillies*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*,

and *Funny Money*. He is married to Vicki, has three grown children and works for Kum and Go Stores. In his free time, he enjoys biking, sports, traveling, and going on mission trips.



**Brooklyn French** (Geech) began her acting career during 4th grade by attending acting camp at the Des Moines Playhouse and continued her

experience in her 8th grade school play. She enjoys ballroom dancing (favorite dances are the Hustle, Foxtrot, and East Coast Swing). She loves to spend time reading MLIA and listening to music. Brooklyn will be a 9th grader at Northview Middle School.



**Ray Geisler** (Martha/Maureen) is also making her ACT debut. She volunteers at the ARL, crochets, listens to audio books, and plays World of

Warcraft. Rachel works at HP and at the Clive PetSmart.



**Dawn Hockemeyer** (Popcorn Box) has enjoyed playing several roles at ACT. Favorites include: *The Money in Uncle George's Suitcase*, *And Then*

*There Were None*, *Hankerin' Hillbillies*, and her very first role as Delightful in *Dearly Departed*. This is her 3rd show with her daughter, Katelyn. Dawn likes to read, play on Facebook, sew, ride bikes with Greg and Katelyn, teach Sunday School and theater camp, and volunteer as a CASA. She is employed part time at the Family Christian Store.



**Katelyn Hockemeyer** (Hilda) may look small but she comes in loud and clear in her performances in *Hankerin' Hillbillies* and *A Christmas Carol*. She

participates in karate at Dojos. She LOVES cats. She thinks her mom makes a perfect Popcorn Box. Katelyn will be starting 5th grade at Northwest Elementary.



**Bette Honeck** (Mrs. Barlow) has been a loyal patron of ACT and has decided to join in on the fun. Prior to ACT (we won't mention years), she

did one act plays. The first play she participated in was *Sound of Music* playing the character who won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize at the Austrian festival. She loves non-speaking parts. Bette likes to volunteer, play tennis, and read. Bette is very excited to be able to be in this play with her daughter, Haley.



**Haley Honeck** (Terri) is appearing for the first time at ACT. She will be in 9th grade at Northview Middle School this fall. Haley enjoys swimming,

bowling, tennis, volunteering, and hanging out with friends.



**Chance Lowe** (Ira/Buster) has not had any past community theatre experience. He caught the acting bug when he performed in the Parkview

Middle School play during 6<sup>th</sup> grade. He enjoys playing and watching sports, music, and playing video games. Chance will be in 7th grade this year.

# Biographies Continued



**Richelle Manuel** (Beulah/Mag) has performed here in the US in *How to Eat Like a Child* at Northview Middle School. and has also

performed in a school play, *Ang Hatol*, in the Philippines in 2007. She likes blogging, reading MLIA and GMH, speaking French and Filipino, dancing to Michael Jackson and Lady Gaga songs, taking pictures, and traveling to foreign countries. Richelle is enjoying her second year living in the US and wants to be the President of the Philippines someday. Richelle will be a Freshman next year at Northview Middle School.



**Adam McElhenney** (Rocky/O'Malley/Marcus) appeared on the ACT stage for the first time in *Don't Drink the Water* a few years ago. He is glad to be

back and is enjoying working with a great cast and crew. When not working for the State of Iowa, he enjoys filmmaking, writing, beekeeping, stamp and coin collecting, and traveling. Adam is glad to have the support of his family and would like to especially thank his partner, James, of ten years and their four sons Patrick, James, Tim & Kyle.



**Jason Messer** (Mark) is making his debut at ACT. He has performed as Benjamin in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor*

*Dreamcoat*, *Hello, Dolly!* and *Oliver*. Jason's hobbies include guitar, swing and ballroom dancing, and Devil

Sticks. He is a sophomore at DMACC pursuing an Anthropology degree. Jason would like to thank the other members of the cast for being such a great ensemble to work with and also thanks to his family for their support.



**Ella Paris** (Lola) has been a part of ACT's productions of *A Christmas Carol* and *I Remember Mama*. Her hobbies include cheerleading,

dance, and hanging out with friends. She will be in 8th grade at Ballard Junior High. She loves playing Lola and having her friend, Shania, as her BF Trixie in the cult classic "Vampire's Hickey."



**Carla Rogers-Paris** (DA Matthews,/Ma Badlands/Soda Pop) has graced our stage in past performances of *A Christmas Carol* and *I Remember Mama*. Her

daughter, Ella, is also in this play with the role of Lola. Carla enjoys cross stitch, genealogy, and reading.



**Darby Rourick** (Janet) has been seen more than once on our stage with roles in *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *Hankerin' Hillbillies*, *The Money in*

*Uncle George's Suitcase* and a couple plays at school. When not on stage, Darby keeps busy reading, running cross country, being on the speech team and in debate, hanging out with family and friends, and teaching Sunday school. Darby will be in 11th grade at Ankeny High School.



**Kaley Ryan-Powell** (Myrtle/Jane) has done several performances including *The Illiad*, *The Odyssey*, and *All of Greek Mythology in 99 Minutes or Less*, *Dracula* and *Cactus Pass*. Kaley enjoys improv, reading, and watching movies and a bunch stuff on HGTV She finds herself very busy at home with her family of Mom, Dad, 2 sisters and a brother where things can get very loud. Kaley works at Old Chicago.

His hobbies include softball, golf, and photography. He works for Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa in Public Relations.



**Kent Whitmore** (Bragg/Rowdy) has done several shows with ACT over the years. His last appearance was as Mr. Johnson/Civil War Guy/Joe Hofingers/Wayne in *Leaving Iowa* in June. Other shows include *Fools*, *The Money in Uncle George's Suitcase*, *Godspell*, and *Harvey*. When he's not on stage or working at Broadlawn's Medical Center, he enjoys walking, biking, watching old classic movies and TV shows, and working with youth. Kent is married to Vonnice. They have two children, Alicia, and Bryce, and will soon be getting a daughter-in-law, Cassie.



**Shania Schmidt** (Trixie) is making her ACT debut. She has appeared in her school production, *Pirates of Penzance*. She enjoys singing, volleyball, softball, and photography. She is excited to be in this production with her best friend, Lola (Ella). Shania attends Ballard Community Schools.



**Jacob Wolfe** (Tony) may be making his ACT debut but he is certainly no stranger to the stage. Jacob attends Hoover High School where he has been very active in the drama department there. He played Juror #1 in *12 Angry Jurors*, appeared in *Get Smart* and was assistant props manager for *Little Shop of Horrors*. He enjoys soccer and volunteers at the Franklin Library. He will be a sophomore at Hoover High school and attends Central Academy.



**Rodney Tomlinson** (Announcer) made his first appearance at ACT last year in *Fools*. He has appeared in *The Good Doctor* at DMACC and *Last Will and Testament* for the Ankeny Elks Lodge. Rodney has been the home field voice for the JSPC Rams football team in Jefferson for twelve years. He is also the P.A. voice for the Des Moines Blaze, a semi-pro men's football team.

“You Asked For It” was viewer –request show which ran from 1950 until 1959, mostly on the ABC network. Viewers would write in asking for reunion performances of show business stars, re-enactments of dangerous feats (shooting an apple, wrestling a snake, etc.), and other unusual one-time-only events.

## Biographies Continued



**Polly Taylor** (Director) is directing her first show at ACT. She has been working behind the scenes at ACT since the 1998 production of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940's*. She has been sound technician for many shows at ACT since then. She has performed producer duties for several shows. Polly has appeared on stage in *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Oldest Profession* and *Marquis Crossing*. She currently serves as president for the ACT Board of Directors.



**Michael Porche** (Assistant Director/Pete) joined the ACT family in February when he made his acting debut during *Every Little Crook and Nanny*. He also appeared as Max in *Lend Me a Tenor*. He is now trying his hand at assistant directing and has enjoyed every minute of it. In his free time, Michael

enjoys writing fiction stories. He believes greatly in the importance of organ donation. Michael enjoys spending time with his wife, Tara, and their son, Matthew. He is self-employed as the owner of a speed dating service called Game Set Match.



**Becky Plager** (Producer) has performed in several shows and worked behind the scenes at ACT since 1999. She recently played Mom in *Leaving Iowa*. This is her first experience as a producer. According to Becky, "Theatre is such a wonderful hobby for me. I am truly grateful for the chance to make people laugh. They say laughter is the best medicine, and I would have to agree". Becky is an Assistant Project Manager at Wireless Facilities Inc. She has two children, Robert and Angela. Becky enjoys working in her yard, remodeling her home, and volunteering for events with The Spinal Cord Injury Association of Iowa.

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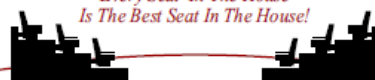
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Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses and foundations for their generous support of our organization during the 2009-2010 season.

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## ACT NEEDS YOU!

ACT depends on the citizens of Ankeny and the surrounding communities to keep the theater operational. Each volunteer is a valuable asset to the theater. Time commitments can be large or small. Volunteer possibilities include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Costuming
- ◆ Set building
- ◆ Make-up
- ◆ Concessions
- ◆ Committee work

You may also support the theater by purchasing season tickets or a membership. Check out the opportunities by picking up volunteer forms or season tickets and membership forms from the box office or visit our website. You may also call the theater and the volunteer coordinator will return your call. Make new friends, have fun with old friends, and know the satisfaction of being part of live theater.

## MATCHING FUNDS

Several companies have volunteer programs in place where the employer will match the amount of money that an employee donates to nonprofit organizations. Several also have programs where they match hours an employee has volunteered with a dollar contribution. Pioneer, Meredith, Federal Home Loan Bank and MidAmerican Energy are just some of the companies that have provided such funding to ACT based on employees contributing and working with ACT. Please check with your employer to see if you could be taking advantage of these programs and help secure ACT financing.

## EMAIL NOTIFICATION

If you would like to receive information about ACT such as newsletters, audition information, children's activities and show reminders, please go to our website to sign up for email notification. Help us cut down on our mailing costs while keeping yourself informed of the most current events at ACT. If you are already signed up, please keep us updated on any email address changes so we may continue to send you email notifications.