

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE
Presents



ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

By JOSEPH KESSELRING

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

April 21 - May 7, 1995

Ankeny Community Theatre Presents:

ARSENIC
AND
OLD FATHER

Directed by Kevin Sprague

Produced by Christine Kentopp

April 21 - May 7, 1995
Ankeny Community Theatre
1932 SW 3rd St., Ankeny, Iowa
515-964-5007

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THE CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

Reverend Harper	Swede Lundstrom
Abby Brewster	Kaylene Ruby
Teddy Brewster	Mike Kentopp
Officer Brophy	Bud Pratt
Officer Klein	Al Ites
Martha Brewster	Jo Reid
Elaine Harper	Susan Rhoades
Mortimer Brewster	Kevin Quass
Mr. Gibbs	Troy DeStigter
Jonathan Brewster	Larry Eisenhauer
Dr. Einstein	Bill Fox
Officer O'Hara	Julie Quass
L. Rooney	Gene Lucht
Mr. Witherspoon	Greg Krause, Al Price

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Kevin Sprague
Co-Director	Kathryn Bisbey
Stage Manager	Wendy McLaughlin
Producer	Christine Kentopp
Lights	Frank Rhoades
Sound	Jim Bisbey
Set Construction	Bill Shay, Orville Ballard
Playbill	Steve Stone
Publicity	Monica Green

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The entire action of the play takes place in the living room of the Brewster home in Brooklyn.

ACT I

An Afternoon in September

ACT II

That same night

ACT III

SCENE 1: Later that night

SCENE 2: Early the next morning

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Kaylene Ruby (Abby Brewster) Kaylene has appeared in ACT productions of *Play On and Plaza Suite*. Previously she had been an member of the Badlands Players in Harve, Montana. Kaylene is a Journalism Professor at Grandview College.

Jo Reid (Martha Brewster) Jo last appeared in *Our Town* as "happy". Mrs. Soames. Other productions bearing Jo's mark include *Godspell*, *Carousel*, and directing *Guys and Dolls*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Bad Seed*, *Wizard of Oz*. Jo also performs with ACT II. She is a former ACT Board Member and Past President of ACT.

Kevin Quass (Mortimer Brewster) This is Kevin's debut with ACT. A graduate of Luther College, Kevin has performed in *Enemy of the People*, *Hey, Coach*, *Send Me In*. Kevin is computer support for biotechnology at Pioneer Hi-bred International and is married to Officer O'Hara.

Susan Rhoades (Elaine Harper) Susan has been active in ACT since *The Wizard of Oz* where she kept track of the munchkin children. She has been co-producer of *Bell Book and Candle*, *Play On*, and *Our Town*. On-stage she has been in the Summerfest Melodrama and ACT Musical Review. Susan works as an educational advisor at the DMAACC Urban Campus. She also tries to keep husband Frank out of the dark by putting him in the ACT light booth.

Larry Eisenbauer (Jonathan Brewster) For ACT Larry has performed in *The Fantasticks*, *Harvey*, *You Can Take It With You*, *Move Over Mrs. Markham*, and *The Foreigner*. He has been involved with ACT since its infancy in 1980 being the original draftsman of our bylaws. Professionally, Larry is a Judge of the Fifth Judicial District.

Bill Fox (Dr. Einstein) This is Bill's first appearance with the Ankeny Community Theater. Bill has been involved both on and off stage. Previous acting experience include *Spoon River Anthology*, *You Can Take It With You*, *Oklahoma*, *Bye-Bye Birdie* and *Guys and Dolls*. Married and the father of three sons, he works for Norwest Card Services.

Mike Kentopp (Teddy Brewster) (Company and *Our Town* are credits for Mike with ACT. He has also appeared in *You Can Take It With You*, *Camelot*, - *The Pied Piper South Pacific*, *Camelot*, *Oliver*, and the lead in *Fiddler on the Roof* for the Northeast Nebraska Community Theater. Mike is employed by Central Iowa Farm Service as a Crops Consultant.

John (Swede) Lundstrom (Rev Harper) Swede has been around ACT for many years performing in *Inherit The Wind*, *Carousel*, *Guys and Dolls*,

Bookyell, Anne (*et Your Girl, Wizard of Oz*, and *The Foreigner*) He is currently a member of the ACT Board and performs with ACT II

Greg Krause (Mr. Witherspoon) Greg debuted with ACT in last fall's production of *Our Town*. New to Ankeny in the last two years, we hope to see much more of Greg. He is married with two children

Troy Desfigler (Mr. Gibbs) Troy has been in *Our Town* for ACT as well as in *The Front Page, Playboy (Of The Western World, Whose Life Is It Anyway?*, and *You Can't Take It With You*.

Gene Lucht (Lt. Rooney) Gene's first role with ACT was in *The Nerd*. Other performances include *The Music Man, You Can't Take It With You*, and as Dracula in the Carrol Community Theater production. He is Field Editor for Iowa Farmer Today, a statewide publication.

Bud Pratt (Officer Brophy) Bud's credits include: *Sound of Music, Guys and Dolls, Carousel, Hay Seed, 40 Carats, Annie (et Your Girl, Catch Me If You Can, Wizard Of Oz, I Remember Momma, Remmon Review*, and as MC for ACT II. Currently retired, Bud has also served on the ACT Board of Directors as Treasurer.

Al Htes (Officer Klein) Al began with ACT as a chorus member in the *Musical Review*, next came *Play on, Bookyell, The Villain of Giltner Gulch, Our Town*, and co-producer of (*company*). If not enough, he is also a member of the ACT Board. Professionally, he is General Manager of Central Service and Supply.

Julie Quass (Officer O'Hara) This is Julie's theatrical debut! Professionally, she is an accounting manager at Systemed Pharmacy. An ISU grad, she is a fan of ISU Men's basketball and Drake Women's basketball

Amanda Gibbons (Mr. Spenalzo) A student at Ankeny High, Amanda has been involved in dance for seven years and is in Swing Choir - Sophisticates. She thinks this is a good 1st role. "I don't have to worry about forgetting my lines"

Sara Stone (Mr. Hoskins) A theater brat since she was two, hanging around her father's shows, Sara has performed in the Act productions of *Wizard Of Oz, Carousel*, and *I Remember Mama*. A student at Ankeny High, she is a member of Choir and Colorguard

Elise Kentopp (Mr. Spenalzo) Although this is Elise's first role with ACT, she has been in (*Harlowe's Web, Go Ask Alice, Fiddler On The Roof, Prates Of Penzance*, and *Snow White*). She is a member of the Choir and a student at Ankeny High

Al Price - (Mr. Witherspoon) Al has directed and performed in many of ACT's productions including *Our Town*, *Oklahoma*, *Gays and Dolls*, and *Amie Get Your Gun*. Al has also appeared with the Drama Workshop in Des Moines.

Kevin Sprague - Director A Jack-of-all-trades, Kevin has performed in *I Remember Momma*, was light manager for *Play On*, directed our summer melodrama, and was Co-producer of *Company*. He is employed at ISU Veterinary Teaching Hospital as an anesthesia technician which has aided his directing of *Arsenic*.

Katherine Bisbey - (Assistant Director) Kathryn has a degree in music theater and dance followed by numerous theatrical credits to her name. Since her arrival in Ankeny, she has participated in most ACT productions and all of the musicals, most recently *Godspell*. A member of ACT II and the ACT Board of Directors, we wouldn't get nearly as much done without her. When not involved with theater, Kathryn works in marketing at KVI.

Wendy McLaughlin - Stage Manager Wendy has extensive work with the Newton and Knoxville Community Theaters performing cello for *Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, and *Amiel*, among others. She has sung in *HMF Pinafore* for the Grinnell Community Theater and currently with St. John's Lutheran Cathedral Choir. Wendy was Stage Manager for ACT's production of *Company* and for *Yover Than Ever* at Drama Workshop. She has been Educational Audiologist with Heartland AEA II for 10 years.

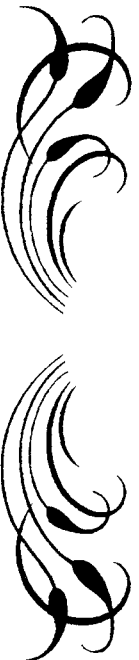


SPECIAL THANKS TO:

TURSKI'S CLOTHING for Teddy's Official Signing Clothes

THANKS, ALSO TO.....

Robin Deason for her expert hair designs
Carpenter Uniform for outfitting our officers
Al Price for lending his directoral wisdom



Director's Notes:

Arsenic and Old Lace was first presented to the theater world in 1941. The stage version included among its cast, Josephine Hull (Abby), Jean Adair (Martha), and a true horror legend, Boris Karloff as Jonathan. You may notice several references to him throughout the play.

Three short years later, director Frank Capra brought the Brewster sisters to Hollywood - literally. Even allowing Hull and Adair to reprise their stage roles. Karloff was offered a reprisal as well, but turned it down, deciding to make a return to horror films in *House of Frankenstein*. In his place soap opera star Raymond Massey was cast. In addition Capra cast Peter Lorre (Dr. Einstein), former Iowan Priscilla Lane (Elaine), and, of course, Cary Grant (Mortimer).

It has been a pleasure not only to have directed this classic, but to have worked with this fine cast of characters presented here tonight. So sit back, get comfortable (if you can), and enjoy this "classic" tale of madcap mayhem.

Thank you for coming.

Kevin Sprague

CONTRIBUTORS

We appreciate the generosity of the following "Friends of ACT." You are invited to join them in assuring the future success of locally produced live theater in Ankeny.

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