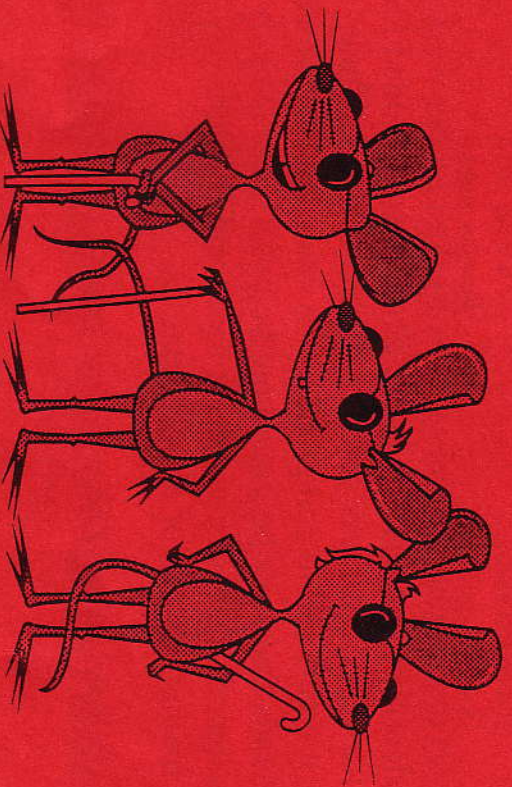


ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

PRESENTS .....

# THE MOUSETRAP



by

AGATHA CHRISTIE



Oct. 18 - 7:30pm	Oct. 25 - 7:30pm	Nov. 1 - 7:30pm
19 - 7:30pm	26 - 7:30pm	2 - 7:30pm
20 - 2:00pm	27 - 2:00pm	Dark

1996

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Agatha Christie is certainly one of the most distinguished mystery writers of all time. She is also astonishingly prolific, having written some sixty novels, nearly two hundred short stories and nine full-length plays. But of all her works, the most successful is "*The Mousetrap*." It is one of the longest running plays of all time. It opened in London in 1952 and is still running there.

Our cast and production crews have worked for six weeks to perfect this show, and they are all to be commended for their hard work. Unless you have "been there and done that", it is difficult to comprehend the many hours of work and details that must be ironed out before a show is ready for audiences. Please come back again and consider participating in some of our productions.

## THANKS FOR COMING.

THE MOUSETRAP IS PRODUCED IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH:



SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.  
45 WEST 25TH STREET  
7623 SUNSET BOULEVARD  
LONDON  
  
NEW YORK 10010  
HOLLYWOOD 90046  
TORONTO



# *THE MOUSETRAP*

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Mollie Ralston	Kathryn Bisbey
Giles Ralston	Greg Krouse
Christopher Wren	Kevin Quass
Mrs. Boyle	Shirley Evans
Major Metcalf	Jim Stordahl
Miss Casewell	Robin Heldt
Mr. Paravicini	Randy Dunwoody
Detective Sgt. Trotter	Kevin Sprague

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

### ACT I

Scene 1 The Great Hall at Monkswell Manor -  
Late Afternoon

(There will be a 5 minute intermission.)

Scene 2 The same place; the following day -  
After lunch.

(There will be a 10 minute intermission.)

### ACT II

The same. Ten minutes later.

Time: *Circa* 1949

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**KATHRYN BISBEY** (Molly Ralston) - Kathryn has multiple credentials in the fine arts. Not only is she a fine "straight" actress, but she is also an experienced veteran in dance and musical theater. Her credits with ACT and ACT II are numerous--too numerous to mention, but most recently she was Sister Amnesia in *Nonsense*, a comedy role that was hilarious. Can she go from a non-sensical role to that of a murderess??? Whatever Kathryn does, she does it well. Kathryn was also on the Board of Directors when ACT was "building" its theater. Between a full-time job at KVI and a full-time husband, Kathryn still makes time for her passion for the performing arts. In her first Agatha Christie mystery, can Kathryn be the guilty party?

**GREG KRAUSE** (Giles Ralston) - Greg's debut on the ACT stage was several years ago when he auditioned for *Our Town* and was given a part that he had played in high school. (Would that be cheating??? No, but perhaps it would make one suspicious that he could be the culprit in *Mousetrap*.) Greg doesn't talk much about himself, but we all know a lot about his wife, Brenda, their daughter, Ronnie, and son, Robbie. And ACT has kept Greg busy doing "little" jobs, e.g., painting, cleaning up, all sorts of fun things. Greg has been a BIG asset to ACT in more than one way. Besides, he looks great in a *Mousetrap* and in a sweater that is too small.

**KEVIN QUASS** (Christopher Wren) - As a fairly new ACT participant, Kevin has done most all of it - acting, directing comedy and drama. But is he the perpetrator in *Mousetrap*? Recently Kevin had a leading role in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and co-directed *The Hounds of Baskerville*. He also "did" theater at Luther College. Soon after *Mousetrap* he will be directing his attention to his wife and a newborn babe (December 6th). In the meantime, Kevin likes those addictive video games until "changing" time.

**SHIRLEY EVANS** (Mrs. Boyle) - Shirley is another newcomer to ACT's stage and playing her first role as an actress. Can she convince us that she is as innocent as she looks??? As a retired industrial nurse, Shirley has been taking some drama courses at DMACC and the Des Moines Playhouse as her new hobby. She also enjoys traveling in Europe, reading and gardening.

**JIM STORDAHL** (Major Metcalf) - Jim is a newcomer to the ACT stage and has been typecast as the cool, calm, retired military officer. Is it possible that the Major is a murderer? Jim is a "real" U.S. employee--at USPS--but is not all spit and polish, especially at rehearsals. (He needs to be reminded to wear [long] pants at times.) He obviously enjoys being a Thespian after his long absence from a stage in Minnesota, from whence he originates. It takes a comedian like Jim to remind his fellow actors/actresses that life is funny--especially while living with five females (a wife and four daughters) and limited hot water.

**ROBIN RAE HELDT** - (Miss Casewell) Robin Rae sounds like a stage name and she is bound to be using it many times in the future. To date Robin Rae has done numerous operatic and musical theater roles at AHS and UNI, e.g., lead roles in *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Oliver*, *West Side Story*, *The Merry Widow*, *Secret Garden*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and soloist in Handel's *Messiah* and Vivaldi's *Gloria*. She will graduate soon with a degree in the Fine Arts even though her family thinks she is a professional student. She is destined for stardom with her tremendous singing voice, but in the interim she works at KVI and is enjoying a dramatic role for a change. Can she be a murderess???

**RANDY DUNWOODY** (Mr. Paravicini) - Randy could probably play any role on the stage and do it well, and he is now doing his second who-dun-it for ACT. He was a wonderful "Barrymore" (not Lionel but the butler) in *The Hounds of Baskerville*, but he wasn't guilty. Could he now be guilty of murder as Mr. Paravicini? Randy has acting experience with the First Federated Church and works as a computer nerd at Mid Iowa Computer Center. Hobbies include volleyball, reading and working with kids at his church.

**KEVIN SPRAGUE** (Detective Sergeant Trotter) - Since Kevin's debut with ACT as the undertaker in (*I Remember Mama*), he has been the town drunk (*Our Town*), director of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, producer of *Company*, in three Summerfest melodramas (probably the villain), and been a technical director (lights and sound). He is president-elect of ACT's board of directors. Now, as a policeman, can Kevin convince the audience that he is on the right track??? Kevin is married to Lisa, and he works at Iowa State Veterinarian Teaching Hospital as an anesthesia veterinary technician. (That's even hard to say.)

**JO REID** (Director of *The Mousetrap*) - Small but mighty is the director of this show. She sometimes changes her mind, but she always puts on a good show. Jo's background is theater, theater, theater and throw in some music, music, music. Well, perhaps we should mention that she is the director of this who-dun-it, and that sometimes husband Jerry is chained to Jo's left hip in order that the lights, sound, moral support and the ACT II boxes are always there. Jo also has two adult daughters, one son and one and 2/3 grandchildren. Energy, energy, energy is Jo's middle name and ACT is lucky to have Jo and her expertise.

## PRODUCTION CREW

Director .....	Jo Reid
Producer .....	Grace Leverenz
Set Construction .....	Bill Shay
Set Design .....	Orville Ballard
Light Design .....	Beverly Heldt
Audio Technician .....	Mary Hay
Tickets/Publicity .....	Jim Bisbey
Refreshments .....	Wendy McLaughlin
House Manager .....	Jerry Reid
Makeup Manager .....	Friends of ACT
Program Design .....	Jerry Reid
	Kathryn Bisbey
	Jan Klinker

Special thanks to the following:

Walnut Street Gallery, Heartland Floors (Dana Bilyeu), Al Ites, *Ankeny Press Citizen, Ankeny Today*, Strawberry Patch (Jeff Kirschbaum), Kevin Quass's grandfather for loaning us his authentic radio, and special thanks to families of the cast and production crew for their assistance and patience.

## ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE (ACT)

### 1996 Board of Directors

President	Al Ites
President-Elect	Kevin Sprague
Past President	Monica Green
Treasurer	Steve Stone

Jan Price, Frank Rhoades, Wendy McLaughlin  
Swede Lundstrom, Jerry Reid





# A.C.T. SPOTLIGHT

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Winter Comedy: *Sunshine Boys*, directed by Mark Jacobs, February 21, 22, 23, March 1, 2, 7, 8

Spring Musical: *Little Shop of Horrors*, directed by Wayne Pierson, April 25, 26, 27, May 2, 3, 4, 9, 10

Additional productions will include *Bleacher Bums*, late March, and *Steel Magnolias*, early June.

## 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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