



"A Murder Is Announced"

by AGATHA CHRISTIE

Jo Reid, Director Grace Leverenz, Producer

Oct. 25, 26; Nov. 1, 2 & 7, 8, 9 all at 7:30 p.m.

Matinee Sunday Nov. 3 at 2:00 p.m.

2002

performed by:

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

1932 SW Third Street

Ankeny, Iowa 50021

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

It has been announced that a murder will take place, and we are going to have the opportunity to witness it. So, suspend your disbeliefs and get ready to play detective.

Agatha Christie is true to form in this suspense-filled play. Have fun with it! I hope you will be able to tell your friends you were clever enough to figure out 'who dunnit'.

Thanks for coming and spread the word.

Jo

This show is produced with permission from:

SAMUEL FRENCH - London - New York -
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PRODUCTION CREW

Director Jo Reid
(Apprentice Director Karen Sandoval)

Producer Grace Leverenz
(Apprentice Producer Linda Wheeler)

Stage Manager Jerry Reid
Assistant Mike Kentopp

Set Construction Orville Ballard
. Dick Wilson

House Manager Jerry Reid

Lights and Sound Jim Bisbey

Stage Design Bev Heldt
. Jan Price

Caterer Christine Burkett-Shields

Publicity/tickets/programs . Grace Leverenz

Paint/cleaning crew--Cast & Board Members

THANKS TO ALL FOR A GREAT JOB!!

A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED

First presented by Peter Saunders at the Theatre Royal, Brighton; and subsequently at the Vaudeville Theatre, London, on September 21, 1977, with the following cast of characters:

CAST OF CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Julia Simmons Clare Stordahl
Letitia Blacklock Karen Burkett-Sandoval
Dora Bunner Linda Wheeler
Patrick Simmons Jeff Bakke
Mitzi Kathryn Bisbey
Miss Marple Christine Kentopp
Phillipa Haymes Carissa DeVos
Mrs. Clara Swettenham Jeanne Ginger
Edmund Swettenham Jim Leeper
Rudi Scherz Mike Kentopp
Inspector Craddock Jim Stordahl
Sergeant Mellors Troy DeStigter

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action takes place in two drawing rooms in an early Victorian house in Chipping Cleghorn. The two rooms have been made into one room.

ACT I - Scene 1 The morning of Friday the 13th

Scene 2 6:10 p.m. the same day

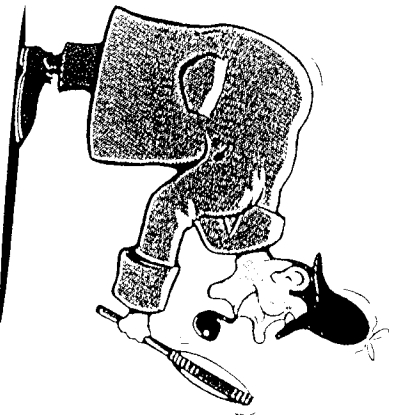
Scene 3 The following Saturday morning

ACT II - Scene 1 The following Sunday afternoon

Scene 2 The following Monday morning

Scene 3 6:00 p.m. the same day

THE TIME OF THE PLAY IS
"AGATHA CHRISTIE TIME"



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

CLARE STORDAHL (Julia Simmons)

Clare is a thoroughly modern girl who eats hot tamales daily, has two tattoos and is doing her first live theater just for fun. Since "Rent" is her favorite stage show, it must have turned her onto acting herself. Or perhaps it was her father that influenced her.

Meanwhile, Clare is "decoration" at HyVee and will soon be commuting to Ames to attend the Professional Cosmetology Institute in Ames. Clare likes to play cards, "do" her friends' hair and sleep! ACT loves to have ingenues that dress up the stage. For Christmas, Clare would like a black wig.

TROY DESTIGTER (Sergeant Mellors)

Troy is a playboy around town and loves plays (play on words). He is a bachelor and his plan is to build a "denny albaugh" house just in case. He also works for American Republic and keeps his media job sharp and interesting.

Troy has acted in numerous ACT shows--some small, some big roles. He prefers comedies, but he is always up and ready for any challenge. His work ethics are great! For Christmas Troy would like music CDs and DVD movies. Lots of them!

CARISSA DEVOS (Phillipa Haymes)

Carissa has been in several ACT shows, including the recent "Rumors". She is employed by HyVee in Ames. Just ask for the Assistant General Merchandise Manager. She lives in the penthouse at a Bondurant highrise.

Carissa's favorite activities are dancing, working out, and stepping out with her sister in their polyester dresses. Recently Carissa's friend from New York City (formerly Des Moines) published a book of art works and included photos of Carissa. For Christmas Carissa would like a new polyester dress!

JEFF BAKKE (Patrick Simmons)

Jeff is a man of all seasons. He has a great sense of humor, plays guitar and keyboard, rides his motorcycle, plays volleyball, sings in his church choir, and loves napping on the couch with Kelly, his wife of 16 months. Meanwhile, Jeff teaches fifth grade at Northwest grade school in Ankeny.

It appears that Jeff also loves to act, and ACT appreciates his talent. He is most talented by making the cast giggle. Jeff would like to receive season tickets to the Green Bay Packers for Christmas. He must be a cheesehead too!

JIM STORDAHL (Inspector Craddock)

Jim Stordahl has done it all! He is a professional photographer with an emphasis on weddings; he sings a beautiful *basso profundo* and has done the "Star Spangled Banner" at Sec Taylor; he has worked for USPS for many moons and currently postmaster at Maxwell. Jim has performed in several other murder mysteries for ACT and always the comic relief for the cast.

Jim is married, father of four beautiful daughters (one is Clare) and would like to retire as a millionaire by Christmas 2010.

JEANNE GINGER (Mrs. Clara Swettenham)

Have you seen a foxy, blonde lady with a bright red convertible traveling the Ankeny streets? It has to be Jeanne! She and her husband have seven kids, 23 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. She has worked for the Ankeny schools for over 23 years. Busy lady....

Jean loves to sing, dance and act. Jean has performed in 17 shows for ACT, and she's still going strong. The cast of "A Murder is Announced" gives her the award for the most colorful costumes. Jean also provides props for almost every show. For Christmas she wants her name in cement in Hollywood.

KAREN BURKETT-SANDOVAL (Miss Letty Blacklock)

Karen lives every day with enthusiasm! Some days she is on another planet, but she can tackle any problem, never turns down a challenge, and doesn't flinch at learning lines (lots of lines and FAST). Karen has a good line coach to help her--her 10 year old son! She thanks him profusely for helping her. Eric is a potential Thespian himself.

In addition to her passion for acting, Karen is Library Director at Bondurant Community Library. She expects to receive a lump of coal for Christmas 'cause she's been a naughty girl. She swears to have eaten a grasshopper while visiting the Milky Way.

MIKE KENTOPP (Rudi Scherz)

Mike has not yet lived down his rendition of Teddy Roosevelt when he wore short pants, a pith helmet and tooted a bugle. He's been in many shows for ACT and the Ingersoll Dinner Theater. He knows theater on stage and behind stage. He's also a great bartender. Mike has a great sense of humor and is pleasant to work with. Presently Mike is back to college getting his second masters degree. He hasn't decided what to be when he grows up. For Christmas Mike wants some new pencils.

KATHRYN BISBEY (Mitzi)

Kathryn and husband Jim live in their honeymoon vine-covered house with a white picket fence. Their family includes two cats! Jim is the perfect husband to follow Kathryn to the theater to support her and also to work in the light booth. or wherever needed.

Kathryn works fulltime, but her passions are singing and more singing for church and the theater. Most recently, Kathryn was Daisy Mae Scragg in "L'il Abner". Other hobbies are rollerblading and motorcycling. What a chick! For Christmas Kathryn would like some leather cycling pants.

JIMI LEPPER (Edmund Swettenham)

Jim came to ACT off the streets of Clive where he lives, works and is contemplating running for mayor. He also plays volleyball, softball and does some fencing.

His experiences in the theater have kept him busy. He has been in 14 shows as an actor, directed a drama/comedy, written some scripts, and collected murder mystery memorabilia. His Christmas request is to have dancing lessons.

LINDA WHEELER (Dora Bunner "Bunny")

Linda is doing her first acting hitch and having great fun being the addled Bunny. Her only other theater experience has been backstage helping the stage manager. She could be Shirley Temple's mother with her natural blonde curly hair.

Linda works at Meredith Corporation as an Investor Relations Assistant, and Deb Garner has been her line coach. Linda is an enthusiastic member of the Ankeny Community Chorus, walks three miles a day, and goes to her young friends' soccer games. She asks Santa for a pitch pipe for Christmas, perhaps to perform in the next ACT musical.

CHRISTINE KENTOPP (Miss Marple)

When Director Jo needed a Miss Marple for this show, she knew Chris was the one for that role. Chris has worn many hats at ACT and the Ingersoll, on and off stage. She's always willing and able, except for washing dishes.

Chris keeps busy with a full time job and caring for her family. Never a dull moment. For Christmas, Chris would like to be retired.

NOTE: If some statements seem untrue, it is intentional.

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ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

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Many thanks to our special friends who help
support live theater in Ankeny!!!

COMING EVENTS AT ACT

The Velveteen Rabbit (Jan. 10-25)

Steele Magnolias (Feb. 28-March 8)

Funny Girl (April 25-May 10)

**Note: SEASON TICKETS ARE
NOW ON SALE!**

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING
FOR THEIR SPECIAL HELP.

Ankeny HyVee

Dick Wilson

Ankeny High School

Larry Stevens

Jack Leverenz

Roxy Gwynn

Debi Garner

Ames HyVee

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Tickets: tickets@ankenycommunitytheatre.com

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2002-2003

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