

**Celebrating 30
Years of Live
Theatre!**

*A Nice Family
Gathering*
by Phil Olson



December 2 - 18, 2011

***Celebrating 30 Years
of Live Theatre***

Dead Giveaway

By Pat Cook

September 30 – October 16

A Nice Family Gathering

By Phil Olson

December 2 - 18

Sing On!

By Rick Abbot

February 3 - 19

Father of the Bride

By Caroline Francke

April 13 - 29

The Baseball Show

By Cynthia Mercati

June 8 - 24

It Runs in the Family

By Ray Cooney

August 10 - 26

2011 - 2012 Board of Directors

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Patron Information

During the Performance

- * Please turn off all cellular phones, pagers and any noise-making devices.
- * 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.
- * The box office opens 1/2 hour before performances.



1932 SW 3rd Street

Mailing Address: PO Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50021

Phone: 515-964-5007

Website: ankenycommunitytheatre.com

Email: information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com

Tickets: tickets@ankenycommunitytheatre.com

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Directors' Notes

I would like to say thank you to Monte Engh as my partner in directing. It has been a truly wonderful experience and the team effort made it seem less overwhelming in this new role. I have acted in many shows and truly enjoy it, but being director has really given me a new perspective on the many shows ACT has done these last 30 seasons. That cast was terrific and took direction well and contributed greatly to the success of this show. So thank you to all involved and your hard work.

Becky Plager

It was just 12 short years ago that Becky and I made our first appearance on stage together in *Bedfull of Foreigners*. *A Nice Family Gathering* is a play that has something for everyone, and everyone can relate to one of the family members. I'm afraid this family is just like too many other families. They take the most important thing in their lives, their family members, for granted. So, during this holiday season and the many family gatherings, make sure that you spend time with you loved ones, and talk about "the good old days". Don't forget to say "I Love You!!!"

It has been a lot of fun working with Becky, and such a great cast. I really like this play, I hope you do too. Sit back and enjoy, and it is ok to laugh out loud.

Merry Christmas!!!

Monte Engh



Ribbon Cutting And Open House Celebration Set For December 14

Join the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce and Ankeny Community Theatre at a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house to celebrate ACT's 30th Anniversary. The event will be held December 14 from 4:30 - 6:00. The ACT Board of Directors, members and volunteers will be

available to share memories from the past 30 years. Come help us celebrate!



A Nice Family Gathering

CAST

In Order of Appearance

Carl	Cory Ewing
Mom	Kay Mueller
Dad	Rodney Tomlinson
Michael	Troy DeStigter
Jill	Barbara J. Jay
Stacy	Shelly Kubik
Jerry	Kent Whitmore

Time: Thanksgiving Day

Place: Lundeen house

ACT I

Scene 1	Thanksgiving Day morning
Scene 2	The same day, before dinner

Intermission: 15 minutes

ACT II

Scene 1	The same day, after Thanksgiving Dinner
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Production Team

Directors	Monte Engh, Becky Plager
Lead Tech	Harold Mosier
Lights	Doug Moon, Tim Klingensmith
Set Construction	Monte Engh, Harold Mosier, Mark Tuttle
Painting/Scenery	Mark Tuttle
House Manger	Doug Arterburn
Playbill	Lynn Arterburn
Marketing	Lynn Arterburn, Doug Arterburn, Becky Plager, Sharon Anderson

Special Acknowledgements

ACT appreciates the generosity of businesses and individuals who help support productions. The cast and crew of *A Nice Family Gathering* would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous contributions to this show:

Cory Ewing
Bob & Laura McKnight
Goodwill Industries
Mason Brothers Red Owl, Green Bay, WI
Mercy Clinics - Prairie Trail



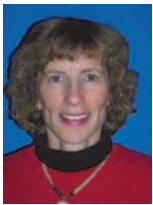
Cast Biographies



Troy DeStigter (Michael Lundeen) has graced our stage for many productions: *Ernie Cusack-Rumors*, *Mr. DePinna-You Can't Take It With You*, *The Wizard-The Wizard of Oz*, *Deputy File-The Rainmaker* and his last role which was outstanding as Henry Benish in *Play On!*. Troy is employed by Meredith Corporation. Not only does Troy enjoy theater but music as well. He is a collector of vinyl music records



Cory S. Ewing (Carl Lundeen) is making his debut here at ACT. Past performances he has done were *Oklahoma* and *Alice in Wonderland* at Fort Dodge Senior High. His hobbies include politics, music and movies. Cory is currently in a work study program at Kaplan University in Urbandale. His plans are to complete his AAS in Criminal Justice in January 2012 and continue to get his Bachelors degree in Political Science. He also stays busy as the Stage Manager for Sherryoke (karaoke show) and as City Coordinator for Ron Paul 2012 Presidential Campaign Committee. He has a dog named Petri which is half Yorkie and half Rat Terrier.



Barbara J. Jay (Jill Lundeen) is appearing for the second time on our stage. Barbara just completed her debut as Dinah in *Dead Giveaway*. She is a licensed skydiver, a sport she is passionate about, and a long distance runner. Not only does she volunteer her time here at the theater in productions but she is involved in other various volunteer roles and fund raising. Barbara is a graduate of Grand View University and works for the Iowa State Patrol in administrative support.



Shelly Kubik (Stacy Lundeen) is back for her third performance with ACT. You may remember her appearing in *Murder Takes the Stage* and *Hankerin' Hillbillies*. Shelly is one of the youth directors at Ankeny First United Methodist Church. She enjoys playing Scrabble with her husband Dave. The two of them are eagerly anticipating the arrival of their first child in April.



Kay Mueller (Mom) has taught speech and theater at DMACC's Boone campus for more years than she is willing to admit. She has been involved with many theatre organizations including the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre (IDT), the Des Moines Playhouse, ACTORS, and Ankeny Community Theatre. Her favorite roles include playing a washing machine in *Soap Opera*, Theater for a Change's entry in the Des Moines Fringe Festival, Fiona Foster in *How the Other Half Loves*, and Tigger in *Winnie the Pooh's Christmas Tale*. For ACT, she was most recently seen as Cecily Pigeon in *The Odd Couple*. In her spare time she enjoys reading mysteries, designing and sewing clothes, dating KC, and spending nap time with her cats.



Rodney Tomlinson (Dad) is appearing in his 4th production with ACT. *Fools*, *Saturday Night at the Drive In* and *A Christmas Foundling* make up the first three. He enjoyed playing "Hoke" in last year's holiday show. During Rodney's leisure time he enjoys photography, fishing and golf. The only problem is he is golfing like it is next month. (That will make more sense after you have seen the show.) Rodney also spends his time with his wonderful wife Karen, and his son Cade who is the energizer bunny masquerading as a 5 year old boy. Rodney is the Community Development Manager for Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa working with public relations, volunteers and event planning. You may also recognize his voice as he is the home-field voice for the Blaze, a men's semi pro football team in Des Moines and the track announcer for Riverside raceway motox and Fun Valley Motox.



Kent Whitmore (Jerry) has done several shows with ACT over the years. Shows include *Leaving Iowa*, *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 Vonnie. They have two children, Alicia, and Bryce, and a daughter-in-law, Cassie. Kent is a current member of the ACT Board of Directors.

Biographies Continued

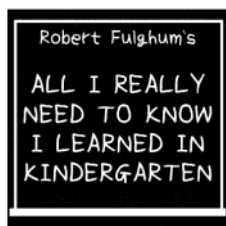


Monte Engh (Co-Director) made his ACT debut with *Bedfull of Foreigners* back in 1999. Some of his favorite roles have been in *Bedful of Foreigners*, *Wizard of Oz: the Nonmusical*, *Hankerin Hillbillies*, *The Odd Couple*, and *Funny Money*. He is married to Vicki, has three grown children and a new grandson, Ethen. Monte works for Kum and Go Stores. In his free time, he enjoys biking, sports, traveling, and going on mission trips. He currently serves as the treasurer for the ACT Board of Directors.



Becky Plager (Co-Director) has been a part of the ACT family for 10+ years now. The last character she played was Hacker, a wanna be military CO in *The Long Red Herring*. You may remember the boots and the whistle. Becky's last hat worn was that of Assistant Director for *Play On!*. What a fun show. She is very excited to be co-directing this entertaining show with Monte Engh. It has been a great experience and a fun cast. Outside of ACT, Becky enjoys experiencing other theater productions and volunteering for events with the Spinal Cord Injury Assoc. of Iowa just to name a couple.

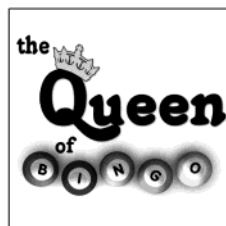
2011-2012 Season at ACTORS



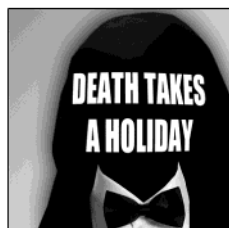
Heartwarming Stories & Songs
Sep. 23 - Oct. 9, 2011



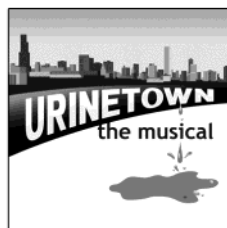
Hilarious Holiday Show
Nov. 25 - Dec. 11, 2011



Dinner Theater Comedy
Jan. 27 - Feb. 12, 2012



Classic Theater Favorite
March 30 - April 15, 2012



Outrageous Broadway Hit
June 8 - 24, 2012



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Contributions

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses and foundations for their generous support of our organization during the 2011-2012 season.

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March 1987



Guys and Dolls

Hat Box Dancers

Front Row: Elke Hollingworth, Deb Smith
and Jan Price

Back Row: Debbie Abeyta, Patty Loder,
Joyce Lundstrom, Kathleen Stoll

April 1986



The Wizard of Oz

Mary and Darel Hildreth
March 1992



Caught in the Net

Terry Yakish, Bob Fry, and Kay Mueller
April 2006

Ways to Help ACT

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Looking for the right gift for that special person in your life who has everything they need? Why not make a contribution to ACT in the name of that special person! What a great way to recognize birthdays, anniversaries or other special events. Just mail a check to Ankeny Community Theatre, Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50021. Season tickets also make great gifts to friends and family!

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
- ◆ Backstage 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.

Help Us Go Green

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 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.