

*Standing*  
**O V A T I O N**  
*CENTRAL IOWA ARTS PROGRAM*



PRESENTS

February 8-17, 2019



*Happily Ever After:*  
*A Wedding Comedy*

by Mark Dunn

[www.standingovationiowa.com](http://www.standingovationiowa.com)

*Happily Ever After* Cast  
In Order of Appearance

Gwenjane Searcy	Lisa DeWaard
Polly Rosenhaus	Ruthellen Cunnally
Adelle Renfro	Kay Mueller
Chester Renfro	Don Rothweiler
Pastor Bruce Puff	Garren Bugh
Renee Purdy	Beth Feilmeier
Kyle Longacre	Michael Porche
Cash Renfro	Joe Kirwen
Francie Renfro	Ali Kirwen
Gert Fleers	Robert Craven

Time: Present Day

Setting: The Fellowship Hall of Piney Woods Bible  
Methodist Church in a small town in East Texas.

ACT I

- Scene 1      The Day of Kyle and Francie's Wedding  
Scene 2      One Hour Later

ACT II

- Scene 1      Moments After the End of Act One

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.

The videotaping or other photography or audio  
recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

*Happily Ever After* is produced by special arrangement  
with Playscripts, Inc.

## **Production Team**

Director	John Butz
Assistant Director	John Claes
Producer	Stacie Bendixen
Stage Manager	John Claes
Stage Crew	Shayne Sangimino
Set Designer	Sean Kearney
Set Construction	Kevin Lind (lead), Sean Kearney
Set Painting	Sean Kearney (lead), Cast
Light & Sound Designer	Sean Kearney
Light Operator	Lorene Swanson
Sound Operator	Dagan Peacock
Costumes	Cheryl Clark
Props	Tamie Mullen
Program	Lynn Arterburn
Photographers	Amber Romans, Greg Romans
Logo Design	Rebekah Tuttle
Marketing	Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn, Stacie Bendixen, Chris Dury, Claude Dury, Adam Haselhuhn, Greg Romans, Tammy Sposeto, Rebekah Tuttle

## **Special Acknowledgements**

ACT appreciates the generosity of businesses and individuals who help support our productions. Thank you to the following for their support on this show.

Ankeny Skeffingtons - tuxes

Heuss Printing, Inc. - programs

Party City

Ankeny Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - rehearsal location

Lutheran Services of Iowa - rehearsal location

## Biographies



**Garren Bugh** (Pastor Bruce Puff) was seen last season in ACT's *A Christmas Chaos*. Other ACT shows include *Leaving Iowa*, *Wait Until Dark*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Amorous Ambassador*, and *A Delightful Quarantine*. Garren has served on the ACT Board of Directors. He enjoys cooking, auto repair, card-making, and spending time with his two children, Reagan and Makenzie.



**Ruthellen Cunnally** (Polly) is delighted to return to the ACT stage appearing in her sixth show. She was last seen playing Capt. Irene Whitaker in last season's *A Few Good Men*. She is no stranger to most theaters around central Iowa and recently appeared at ACTORS in *Cemetery Club* and at Tallgrass Theatre in *Women Playing Hamlet*. In her free time, Ruthellen enjoys reading, photography, and traveling. She is a lecturer in the English Department at Iowa State University.



**Lisa DeWaard** (Gwenjane Searcy) last appeared on stage in the ensemble cast of *The Vagina Monologues* at Kata Klysmic Productions. She is no stranger to the ACT stage. Her most recent ACT show was *Done to Death* (Margaret). Other favorites include *Godspell* (Gilmer), *Lend Me a Tenor* (Maria Martello), and *The Maginot Line* (Lily). Lisa loves cats, frogs, and anything Broadway. Her favorite pastimes include trivia and karaoke. She is extremely happy to be a part of this wonderful show. "Love to my mom, my brother, and my four fur babies."

A&G ROMANS  
PHOTO

Senior Pictures | Professional Headshots | Family Pictures

[www.aandgromansphoto.com](http://www.aandgromansphoto.com)

515-783-2155



**Beth Feilmeier** (Renee Purdy) is appearing in her eighth ACT production. Favorite roles include Judeen (*A Delightful Quarantine*), Mitzi (*The Tronble With Cats*), and the role that won her the inaugural ACT Favorite Leading Actress Award, Greta (*Some Sweet Day*). Beth enjoys spending time with her dog, Gizmo, working on her new house, and traveling. She works for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. This performance is for her dad, Roger, who passed away in 2016.



**Ali Kirwen** (Francie Renfro) most recently appeared on ACT's stage as Ida in *Honk!*. She has also served as assistant director for *Almost, Maine* and *Frankenstein* and currently serves on the ACT Board of Directors. Ali is a doctoral student at ISU studying Human Computer Interaction and Psychology. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, playing computer games and board games, and reading.



**Joe Kirwen** (Cash Renfro) previously appeared at ACT as Henry Clerval in *Frankenstein*, Dave in *Almost, Maine*, and Young Stephen in *The Middle of Yesterday*. Joe was assistant director for *Honk!* and *The God Committee* and stage manager for *A Few Good Men*. He enjoys reading, computer gaming, and spending every waking moment at the theater. Joe is always thrilled to share the stage with his lovely wife, Ali.



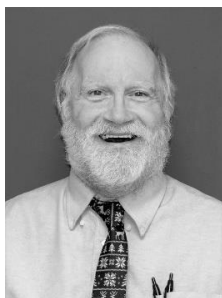
**Kay Mueller** (Adelle Renfro) is back on the ACT stage after a long hiatus. Favorite shows include *How the Other Half Loves* as Fiona Foster (Ingersoll Dinner Theater), *Kitchen Witches* (ACTORS), *Lend Me a Tenor* (Des Moines Playhouse and ACT), and *A Christmas Carol* as Mrs. Cratchet (Iowa Shakespeare Experience). Kay enjoys reading mystery books, designing and sewing clothes, and playing card games. She works at the Boone DMACC campus teaching speech and theater.



**Michael Porche** (Kyle Longacre) portrayed Lt. Col. Nathan Jessep last April in *A Few Good Men*. Favorite roles include Max in *Lend Me a Tenor* (ACT) and the President in ACTOR's *November*. Michael has also directed numerous ACT shows. He is a strong supporter and volunteer for Iowa Donor Network.



**Don Rothweiler** (Chester Renfro) made his ACT debut in August portraying Nunzio in *Over the River and Through the Woods*. He has appeared in numerous roles at the Des Moines Playhouse including The Chairman (*The Mystery of Edwin Drood*), Ensemble (*Young Frankenstein*), and Cinderella's Father (*Into the Woods*). He has performed with the Urbandale Community Theater, Iowa Stage Theatre Company and Quincy Illinois Community Theatre. Don was a part of the Iowa Touring Theater Company (education outreach troupe of the DM Playhouse). Hobbies include Old Time Radio performances with the Des Moines Playhouse, cartooning, and creating and performing with puppets.



**John Butz** (Director), now an Urbandale resident, was born in Washington, DC. He has directed/acted from Cape Cod to L.A., where he received a StageSceneLA Award for his portrayal of Ben Franklin in *1776*. John is delighted to be making his ACT debut with *Happily Ever After*. Other favorite directing experiences include: *Fifth of July*, *The Foreigner*, *Carnival!*, *Marvin's Room*, *Dracula*, *Our Town*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Butterflies Are Free*, *Laura*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, and *Trojan Women*. As an actor, he most recently has been seen in the Des Moines area as Sam in *Six on Six* (UCT) and Rod in *Calendar Girls* (Tallgrass). Off stage, John enjoys travel, cooking, word and trivia games, and Cards Against Humanity. "My deepest thanks to the cast, department heads, crew, and all the

other volunteers who work so hard to bring you the ACT season. Support Local Theater!”



**John Claes** (Assistant Director) played Capt. Matthew A. Markinson in ACT’s *A Few Good Men* last April. He has also performed at the Des Moines Playhouse, Urbandale Community Theatre, and Tallgrass Theatre Company. John is an instructor for ACT’s Summer Drama Camps. He is currently serving on the ACT’s Board of Directors. John is the Director of Philanthropy and Corporate Relations at Lutheran Services in Iowa.



**Stacie Bendixen** (Producer) has appeared in several shows at ACT, most recently *Honk!*, as well as productions at Urbandale Community Theatre and CAP in Altoona. Stacie is currently the Past President of the ACT Board of Directors and works in corporate communications at Wells Fargo. She enjoys public radio, breakfast food for any meal, and conversing with her talkative cat, Jemma.



**Robert Craven** (Gert Fleers) grew up with four younger sisters who gave him all the experience he needed for the theater. His introduction to the stage came early, as he was a participant in the Des Moines International Children’s Chorale festival and Ballet Iowa’s production of *The Nutcracker* as a child. It took a while to get Bob back on the stage, and ACT is delighted to have provided him the opportunity with this show. Bob, a Drake University graduate, has been a Residential and Commercial Realtor since 2005. In his spare time, he likes to drive around in one of his classic cars.

## 2018 - 2019 Contributors

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

### **Producer (\$1000+)**

Viola & Glenn DeStigter  
Jeanne & Bob Hopson  
Kimberly Spitzig

### **Director (\$500 - \$999)**

Stacie Bendixen  
Adam Haselhuhn  
Lois & Dennis Kern  
Doug Moon  
Barb & Don Wagner

### **Stage Manager (\$250 - \$499)**

Anne & Joel Anderson  
Cheryl & Max Clark  
Vicki & Monte Engh  
DS Hamilton  
Christopher Lewis  
Sandy & Harvey Olsthoorn  
Sharon Hall & Kirk Reeder  
Valerie & John Stratton  
Matt Tuttle  
Patricia & Richard Wilson

### **Actor (\$100 - \$249)**

Mary & Dave Bendixen  
Susan & Scott Casber  
James Clack  
Anne & John Claes  
Ellen & Dick Crowe  
Troy DeStigter  
Sheila & Dennis Dietz  
Diana & Gregg Durlam  
Karen Dyer  
Mary Jo & Bob Frazier  
Joan & Edwin Gibson  
Evie & Ken Gregersen  
Deb & Dan Ivis  
Mary & Lory Johnson  
Joyce Jones & Peggy  
Zimmerman  
Truly & Don Judisch  
Donna Kelling  
Ali & Joe Kirwen  
Donald Kom

Dawn Liekweg  
Gail & Gene Lucht  
Lorie & James Machamer  
Doris Merrill  
Dee Moss  
Kay Mueller  
Jo Ellen & Gary Nervig  
Brandi & Scott Nielsen  
Kerry Jo Ostring  
Tim Pearson  
Kathy & Dale Polson  
Jan & Al Price  
Joan & Tom Quinlin  
Georgene & Stephen  
Raver  
Sharon & Jim Roberts  
Mary Ann & Bob Scott  
Marsha Smithey  
Tammy & Frank Sposeto  
Sarah & Justin Woodard  
Carolyn & Don Zuck

### **Patron (\$20 - \$99)**

Sherree & Rick Adams  
Lynn & Doug Arterburn  
Mary Atha  
Maureen Backstrom  
Megan Bendixen  
Rosie Bly  
Barb Canova  
Kaci & Chris Conetzkey  
Jacquelyn Coulson  
Karen Cross  
Brad Church  
Sarah & Shane Devick  
Lois Dickerson  
Jacquelyn & Jason Duke  
Beth Feilmeier  
Marilyn & Richard Geier  
Lisa & Troy Gould  
Jean Hance  
Terri Happe  
Teresa & Steve Herold  
Pat & Dave Hoff  
Betty & Rex Humke

Melanie Jones  
Sally & Wayne Kallberg  
Karla Kasper  
Tim Klingensmith  
Paul Lamb  
Jim Leeper  
Joyce Lutz  
Allyson Martens  
Heather & Chris Matson  
Ali McLeish  
Barb & Mike Mickelson  
Tamie Mullen  
Shawn Pavlik  
Becky Plager  
Denis Quarberg &  
Connie Meyer  
Debbie Rasko  
Donna & Ken Reams  
Jo Reid  
Greg Romans  
Joan Rotert  
Nanci Schaper  
Marilyn Sharar  
Joan Sieczkowski  
Lauren Stratton  
Anna Sunstrom  
Jackie Vandivier  
Joanne Ver Huel  
Evelyn & Creston Vos  
Whitney & Matt Welp

### **Business Friends**

Ankeny HyVee  
Ankeny HuHot  
Ankeny Main Street Cafe  
Ankeny The Other Place  
B-Bops  
BRAVO  
DM Foundry  
Heuss Publishing, Inc.  
Ken Nelson, State Farm  
Insurance  
Leaning Tower Pizza  
Plot Twist Bookstore  
The Cellar at White Oak



## 2018 - 2019 ACT Board of Directors

President - James Machamer      President Elect - Susan Casber

Past President - Stacie Bendixen

John Claes  
Cheryl Clark  
Ali Kirwen

Doug Moon  
Tamie Mullen  
Becky Plager  
Tammy Sposeto

Valerie Stratton  
Matt Tuttle  
Whitney Welp

Mailing Address: PO Box 122, Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Website: [www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com](http://www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com)

Email: [information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com](mailto:information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com)

Camp: [camp@ankenycommunitytheatre.com](mailto:camp@ankenycommunitytheatre.com)

Tickets: Midwestix (515)244-2771 or on our website

### **“Shakespeare for Actors” An Acting Workshop for Teens and Adults**

6:00 pm - 9:00pm Wednesday, March 13th  
or 9:00 am - 12:00pm Saturday, March 16th

Have fun bringing Shakespeare to life in this acting workshop led by local director and actor, Michael Hollister. Learn the difference between the classical and modern style of performing his work. Practice speaking his poetic language more like natural dialogue. A great class for fans of Renaissance fairs!

Where: Ankeny Community Theatre  
Cost: \$15 for ACT members,  
\$20 for non-members.

Visit [www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com](http://www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com)  
to register.

Registration and payment are required by  
March 10, 2019.

