



Spotlight

A Christmas Carol in da UP, Yah Sure Runs October 31 to November 9

-Karl W. Heidemann

Inside this issue:

President's Corner **2**
Mike Marx

Audition! **2**

Christmas Carol Cast List **2**

Ticket Order Form **3**

About Our Theatre **4**

Join us on Facebook

Find us on the web:
www.rcctheatre.org

Did You Know?

- The grandparents of Phil Olson, our play author, were from Norway
- His parents were from Minnesota's Iron Range
- Phil has a degree in Math from Dartmouth and an MBA from the Univ. of Chicago
- But he played a summer for the Chicago Bears
- Now he lives in LA but writes about Minnesota

Our Fall production at the Rogers City Community Theatre is a holiday musical comedy for the whole family, "A Christmas Carol in da U.P., Yah Sure!" This is RCCT's adaptation of the hilarious musical originally titled "A Don't Hug Me Christmas Carol," with book and lyrics by Phil Olson and music by Paul Olson. These two brothers have written five musicals together in the "Don't Hug Me" style, based on the stand-offish nature of their Scandinavian heritage.

The play begins on Christmas Eve at the Bunyan Bar, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Cantankerous bar owner Gunnar Johnson gets in an argument with his wife, Clara, and tells her he's skipping Christmas this year. He storms out of the bar, goes snowmobiling across the lake, falls through the ice on his skidoo and goes into a coma.

In his coma-induced dream, Gunnar is visited by a character from folk legend, Sven Yorgensen. Sven plays the role of the ghosts from Christmas past, present, and future. Yorgensen takes Gunnar (our Scandinavian Scrooge) on a journey similar in form to that in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Car-

ol," but very different in content.

Director Karl W. Heidemann, says, "The cast has been having a lot of fun with this one. It's kind of like Charles Dickens meets Es-canaba in da Moonlight; it's a laugh a minute. Our biggest rehearsal problem has been trying to stop the laughter." The show features 17 original songs soon to be Christmas Classics, including: The Wheel is Turnin' but the Hamster is Dead, Gramma Cut the Christmas Cheese, Gunner Fell Into an Ice Hole, I Love You More Than Football, The Bunyan Beguine, and I'd Rather be Naughty. Heidemann says there is even a sing-along song so the audience can join in on the fun.

Show dates are October 31, November 1, 2; and November 7, 8 & 9. Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:30 pm, and Sunday Matinees start at 2:00 pm. Tickets are still the least expensive in all of Northern Michigan for live theatre: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors age 60 and up, and \$6 for all students.

Will Gunnar come out of his coma and find redemption with Clara at the Bunyan? Come find out!



Gunnar Johnson, our Scrooge character, will be played by Mike Marx. See page two for a

Performance Schedule

Evening Shows:

Fridays, October 31 and November 7

Saturdays,

November 1 and 8

Shows start at 7:30 (doors open at 7:00)

Matinees:

Sundays:

November 2 and 9
Show starts at 2:00

(doors open at 1:30)

President's Corner by Mike Marx



Yumpin' Yoesephina! This year's theater season is coming to a close quicker than we care to think about. And what a year it was, starting with our musical, "9 to 5", the fun and food filled dinner theater performance of "Murderous Crossings" and the world premier summer youth program show, "Curtain Call – the Musical."

Now, we end this star studied season with the comedy: *A Christmas Carol in da UP, Ya Sure*. This show will "put the icing on the gingerbread man," and will be a fitting

end to our sweet and spicy season. Do not miss this show! That is all I have to say about this production because I'm in it and my character, Sven, a Scandinavian, doesn't like to brag.

With the year ending, I am sending out a thank you to all of those who acted, worked the technical parts, marketed, and attended our shows. But, it is also time to think about next year's season. Next seasons productions will be announced soon, so be on a look out and maybe it will inspire you to join our/your commu-

nity theater group and share your talents. Help is always needed and appreciated.

Also, the end of the year is coming up and we are a non-profit organization and your monetary donations are appreciated and are tax deductible. Please consider becoming a program sponsor for next year. We keep a close eye on expenses, but those expenses seem to rise every year and your donations help keep us producing great quality shows.

That's it for this season! See you at the theater.

Beat The Doldrums this winter: AUDITION!

Story by Karl W. Heidemann



The folks at Rogers City Community Theatre have a secret that they have been using for years to beat the Winter Blues; you know, that unbearably long time between the Christmas Holidays and the first signs of spring. We put on a big Musical Comedy! That's right, a show with a lot of acting parts, some dancing for those who like that sort of thing and plenty of singing for everyone. We try to pick a show with a big cast that offers something for everyone; from the seasoned performer looking for a challenging lead role, to the novice who just wants to experience the thrill

of live theatre with a small ensemble part. The rehearsals are a lot of fun, give us all something to do to get us through the gloom of winter, and always result in a crowd-pleasing show.

This coming year is no exception. RCCT is pleased to have acquired the rights to perform a new musical, "*The Singin' Cowboy*." This fresh approach to an old tale offers foot-stompin', shoot-em-up saloon and trail songs as well as tender ballads. "*The Singin' Cowboy*" follows the adventures of the Singin' Cowboy as he tames the fierce Tumbleweed Tammy and converts her gang of

outlaws to the ways of goodness. Hilarity ensues, along with a lot of singing and some simple hoe-down style dancing. And this year, YOU can take part!

Auditions will take place at the Rogers City Theater on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 16 and 17 from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Rehearsals won't start until after the holidays on Saturday, January 3, 2015, and will be held every Saturday from 1:00 - 4:00 pm, and every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Performance dates are set for March 13 thru 22; on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm, and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

Who's Who in *A Christmas Carol in da UP, Yah Sure*



The lead role of Gunner, our Scrooge-like Scandinavian Yooper, will be played by Mike Marx, with Denise Perrault playing Clara, his wife. The ghostly Sven will be enlivened by Ed Perrault.

Lucy DeDecker will take the role Bernice, and Wesley Eagon rounds out the cast as Knute.

Karl W. Heidemann leads the crew as the show's director and set designer, with James

DeDecker as assistant director and vocal coach. Donna Klein is handling both sound and lights, with Mary Parsons in charge of the props. Volunteers will be helping with set painting and tickets.

Community Characters: The Story of Art

Over on the north side of our theater sits a very loyal theatre fan, who attends each and every show. Like many of us, he is well past middle age, has lost some hair, and his joints don't move like they used to. But he is a patient man and never complains. His name is Art.

Art is made out of paper mache and was created by local artist Barb Richards. He was Barb's first paper person; the next step up from the pig she fashioned for Plath's Meat Market window. Art was commissioned by Mary Ann Heidemann as a gift for her husband Karl when he opened his new law office on Third Street. Not only would Art act as decoration for the office lobby, but Karl would always have a client waiting.

For many years, Art managed to spook office visitors as well as passers-

by. He even met former Governor Engler while sitting in a lawn chair watching the Nautical Festival Parade. But when Karl retired from law and bought the theater, Art obligingly moved into the audience seats.

Children are especially fond of Art, and frequently leave him gifts in his shirt pocket or in the bucket of popcorn he keeps on his lap. Sometimes the play gets a bit rough. Art has been back to Dr. Richards a few times for joint replacement therapy or to have his fingers reattached. Occasionally, another theatre-goer will report Art to the management, out of concern for his lack of movement or because he seems to have stopped breathing. Then an explanation must be made, and a new friendship formed.

Only twice has Art been evicted from his place in the audience. The first time was during the standing room only showing of *Grease*, which displaced Art into a toilet



stall in the then-incomplete men's bathroom. The second eviction happened during a Queen's Pageant held at the theater, when Art had to scramble atop a wall at the rear of the auditorium to overlook his domain.

If you haven't met Art, be sure to stop by and say hello. But don't be surprised if he doesn't respond.

Order Your Tickets Today

Ticket Order Form (Fill out, clip and mail to address below. Tickets will be held for pick up at Box Office)

Please reserve for pick-up the number and type of tickets indicated below:

Number:	Amount:
_____ Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions for \$50	_____
_____ General Admission to <i>Christmas Carol</i> @ \$12 each	_____
_____ Senior Admission to <i>Christmas Carol</i> @ \$10 each	_____
_____ Student Admission to <i>Christmas Carol</i> @ \$6 each	_____
_____ List me as a footlight sponsor @ \$25 this show	_____
_____ List me as a spotlight sponsor @ \$50 this show	_____
_____ Donation toward next year's Summer Youth Theatre program	_____
Total:	_____

Information for program listing or ticket pick-up::

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Make check payable to : Rogers City Community Theatre

Mail completed form to: 257 North Third Street
Rogers City, MI 49779



Are You an Angel?

The Rogers City Community Theatre has the lowest live theater ticket price in Northeast Michigan, making donations an important part of our budget. Therefore, the RCCT Board has decided to expand levels of Program Sponsorship to include the following new categories for donations:

- _____ \$100 Donor
- _____ \$250 Patron
- _____ \$500 Angel

All Program Sponsors will be recognized under the appropriate category heading in all 2014 or 2015 show programs. Thanks for

We have the lowest ticket price in NE Michigan. Help keep it that way with your donations.

Rogers City Community Theatre

257 North Third Street
Rogers City MI 49779



Find us on the web:
rogerscitytheater.com

PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
ROGERS CITY, MI 49779
PERMIT NO. 115

Temp - Return Service Requested

To:

About Our Theatre



ROGERS CITY COMMUNITY THEATRE

257 North Third Street
Rogers City, MI 49779

Theatre Office Phone: (989) 734-7368
Movie & Show Hotline: (989) 734-3861
Web: www.rcctheatre.org
Join our group on Facebook!

Newsletter Editor:
Mary Ann Heidemann



See you at the show!

The Rogers Theatre was constructed in 1937 as a classic, single screen small town movie palace in the Art Deco style. After a fire in 1947, the theatre was rebuilt and expanded. Serving as a downtown landmark for decades, the theatre was purchased in 2003 by Karl W. Heidemann. The new owner added a stage, theatrical lighting and utility improvements. In 2004, live productions began alternating with first run movies, in a revitalized auditorium. In the summer of 2009, exterior restoration brought back the black and orange tile work of the original theatre façade.

Once the stage was available, an informal group of local theatre fanatics emerged that now constitutes the Rogers City Community Theatre (RCCT). In 2006, a youth summer theatre program began as well. Community cast members have ranged in age from 6 to 94. New theatre volunteers are always welcome, both on stage and behind the scenes.

In 2009, the RCCT incorporated as a Michigan non-profit organization and received IRS approval for federal non-profit status. Contributions are appreciated, and are tax deductible as allowed by law.

During the fall of 2013, a community-based fundraising drive provided support for installation of new theatre seating, sound system improvements, a digital 3-D projector and a new highly reflective screen, putting our theater at the cutting edge of stage and movie technology. All the more reason to come enjoy the show!