



Spotlight



Comedy Sketches from Famous TV Show On Rogers City Stage Beginning October 28

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Inside this issue:

Program Committee Corner: 2017 Season	2
Lionel Bart's <i>Oliver!</i>	2
Community Characters: John Krajenta	3
Ticket Order Form	3
Characters Needed for the Musical <i>Oliver!</i>	4

Did You Know?

- **The original Carol Burnett Show ran from 1967 to 1978**
- **These years encompassed 279 episodes**
- **An additional nine episodes appeared in 1991**
- **The show won 25 prime time Emmy awards**
- **In 2013, TV Guide ranked The Carol Burnett Show 16th of the 60 all time best TV shows.**

Mark your calendar for October 28th-November 6th. The Carol Burnett show is coming to the Rogers City Community Theatre, bringing with it all of the hilarious characters you remember on those great Saturday nights! Mama, Starlett, Ms Wiggins, Mr. Tudball, Eunice, and of course the Old Folks!

Original scripts from the wildly popular television comedy show have been made available for performance by community theatre groups nation-wide. This show selects many of the best Carol Burnett skits for presentation on our local stage, and they are guaranteed to bring a chuckle! In addition, many of Carol's famous guests will be dropping in as well. Dean Martin, is that really you?

One advantage of performing several separate skits is the ability to showcase more than one actress playing Carol. Rogers City has such strong female comedians that it just

seemed right to let all of them shine. Local favorites Lucy DeDecker, Theresa Gibson and Penny Hoeft all portray Burnett in different skits.

Likewise, both James DeDecker and Ed Perrault get a chance to perform as Tim Conway. James also makes guest appearances as Steve Lawrence and Soupy Sales.

Rounding out the regulars from the show, Baylee Lijewski portrays Vickie Lawrence, Robert Starnes Sr. plays Harvey Korman and Robert Starnes Jr. performs as Lyle Waggoner.

Additional guest appearances are provided by Denise Perrault, cast as Michelle Lee, Lucy DeDecker as Lucille Ball and Penny Hoeft as Nanette Fabray. Special guest Art Carney is portrayed by Bradley Heidemann. Please note that many actors will play multiple roles, but only their principal role is noted above. Be sure to check the show program for a full list of characters portrayed.

With many of the cast drawn from a younger generation, director Karen Maher found herself being asked, "Now just who is this Carol Burnett person?" Part of the pleasure of this production is the opportunity to pass along memories and laughs created by a brilliant talent of the recent past.

Co-directors of the show are Val Schalk and Karen Maher. Jody Collins and Anne Spens serve as Assistant Directors. Donna Klein is Music Director. Riconda Lamb and Mike Marx are managing lights.

Friday and Saturday shows on October 28-29 and November 4-5 begin at 7:30 pm. Sunday shows on October 29 and November 6 begin at 2:00 pm. The doors open a half hour in advance at all shows. Ticket are available at the Advance office, at the door, or by using the ticket order form found on page three of this newsletter. See you at the show!

-Karen Maher

Program Committee Corner: 2017 Season

By Heather Nordenbrock



A strong line-up of productions has been planned by the Rogers City Community Theatre for the 2017 season. Our new show schedule follows below.

The Miracle Worker

This award-winning classic, to be directed by Julie Riddle, will expand our youth theatre program and will be presented completely by local high school students. While the rehearsals will occur at the Rogers City High School, participants need not be RCHS attendees. Students from other area schools, as well as home-schooled students of high school age are all welcome to participate. The show will take place at the Rogers City Theater at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Fri-

day, and Saturday, February 9 through 11, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 12.

Oliver!

Donna Klein will direct this beloved musical, with show dates scheduled for April 28-30 and May 5-7. Children ages 10 and older are invited to audition for this production, which includes well-known songs such as "Food, Glorious Food", "As Long As He Needs Me", "Where Is Love", "Oom-Pah-Pah", and many more. Join Oliver, Fagin, The Artful Dodger, Nancy and other great characters in a musical telling of this timeless Charles Dickens tale.

Godspell, Jr.

Theresa Gibson will direct this year's Summer Youth

Theatre production. The striking music of Stephen Schwartz brings life to the traditional story of a great teacher. The production, presented by local youth, will take place Thursday, August 17- Saturday, August 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 20 at 2 p.m.

A County Fair in da' U.P. Yah, Sure!

Our 2017 season concludes with a sequel to *A Christmas Carol in da' U.P. Yah, Sure!* presented in the fall of 2015. All of your favorite characters from the first show will make their hilarious return in this uproarious comedy, directed by Karl W. Heidemann. The show will run October 27 to October 29 and November 3 to November 5.

Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* Set as Spring Musical

By Donna Klein

Charles Dickens' story about an orphan in Victorian England who escapes his meager existence and finds himself on the adventure of a lifetime in London takes the stage at the Rogers City Theater from April 28 – May 7, 2017. Open auditions for adults take place Tuesday and Wednesday, January 31 and February 1 at 7 p.m. This is a mixed-age cast.

Unlike other shows I've directed, I would like to meet separately with those interested in a particular role (and all youth) before our open audition dates. Please contact me (Donna Klein) at 989-306-3951 (text or voice), or on Facebook through the Rogers City Community Theatre group or at

donnaskleinmusic for more information.

Youth age 10 and older will be considered for roles as the workhouse orphans and Fagin's gang. Most youth roles are open to boys and girls. Youth will rehearse on Saturday afternoons from 1 – 4 p.m. starting on February 4.

Adults will rehearse Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 7 – 10 p.m. Adults who have roles that interact with youth will be added to the Saturday rehearsal schedule as we progress through the process.

I expect all ages to be rehearsing together during the week and on Saturdays by two weeks before opening. Most youth roles take place during Act 1, so those not in

Act 2 will not have to stay through Act 2 rehearsals until it is absolutely necessary.

Are you not sure you want to be in the show but want to have fun singing the songs? Contact me through one of the methods listed above. If enough people are interested, we'll get together sometime in January to do that!

Not familiar with *Oliver!* or your only exposure to the play is through the 1968 movie? Not to worry. Although our musical will be presented much differently, the 2010 London production that is available on YouTube presents the script almost verbatim and includes all of the songs we'll be doing. Search YouTube for "Oliver 2010 London Edward Cooke" and you will find it.



For a list and description of characters needed for the cast of *Oliver!* see newsletter page four.

Community Characters: John Krajenta

John Krajenta first became interested in theatre during his high school years in Chicago. Unlike some stage-struck aspiring actors, John was more fascinated in what went on behind the curtain; the props, lights and sets that made the show possible.

Later, while living and working in the Battle Creek area, John became a supporter and loyal audience for the Barn Theatre, a professional summer stock theatre that launched the career of many young actors in SW Michigan.

After a long and successful career in education, John and his wife were looking for a place on the Great Lakes to enjoy retirement activities, including a sailboat. Though they shopped property in Northwest Michigan, the Rogers City area offered everything they desired.

“The Rogers City community, includ-

ing the school system, was very welcoming,” said John. He became involved with the Rogers City school board, where he met Mike Marx, and Mike introduced him to the Rogers City Community Theatre.

For the past four or five years, John has served on the Community Theater’s Board of Directors. Given his administrative experience, John has pitched in to help Mike Marx and Karl Heide-mann guide the budget and financial affairs of the Board, including auditing the Annual Report.

Some of John’s favorite theatre experiences in Rogers City have included seeing young people up on stage. He also hopes kids will become more interested, as he was, in the technical aspects of running a show, like props, sets and lights. “If the lights don’t come on, there is no show,” notes John.



John Krajenta

In the future, Krajenta hopes the participants and the audience for theatre in Rogers City become more diversified, and continue to draw in more young people. He’s looking forward to the 2017 season, which includes several youth-oriented shows, as well as shows with humor. “I want the theater to continue growing stronger and remain the cultural center of our community.” Now that’s a great goal. Thanks, John, for helping get us there!

Order Your Tickets Today

Ticket Order Form Fill out, clip and mail to address below.

Tickets will held for pick up at the box office.

Please hold the number and type of tickets indicated below:

Number:

- _____ Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions for \$50
- _____ Season Ticket, one admission each to each of four plays for \$35
- _____ General Admission to *The Carol Burnett Show* @ \$12 each
- _____ Student Admission to *The Carol Burnett Show* @ \$6 each
- _____ Angel Contribution (as checked in box at right)

Amount:

Total: _____

Information for program listing or ticket pick-up:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Make check payable to : Rogers City Community Theater

Mail ticket order form to: 257 N. Third Street,
Rogers City, MI 49779



Are you an Angel?

The Rogers City Community Theatre is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation committed to bringing quality theater to NE Michigan. Donations are an important part of our budget. Please consider enabling our work through your gifts, at any level. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

- _____ \$500 Heavenly Host
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- _____ \$100 Guardian Angel
- _____ \$ 50 Seraphim
- _____ \$ 25 Cherubim

Angels will be recognized by category in all upcoming show programs. Thanks for your support!

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



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Characters Needed for the Musical *Oliver!*



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: <http://rcctheatre.org>
Join our group on Facebook!

Newsletter Editor:
Mary Ann Heidemann



See you at the show!

Oliver – a workhouse boy. Oliver sings in several group songs and has a solo song, “Where is Love?”

Fagin – an elderly receiver running a training academy for young pickpockets. He is featured in “You’ve Got to Pick a Pocket or Two,” “I’d do Anything,” and “Be Back Soon.” He has a solo song, “Reviewing the Situation.”

The Artful Dodger – Fagin’s brightest pupil. He is featured in “Consider Yourself,” “I’d do Anything,” and “It’s a Fine Life.”

Bill Sikes – a villain in his prime. He is featured in the reprise of “It’s a Fine Life.” He has one solo song, “My Name.”

Nancy – a graduate of Fagin’s academy and Bill’s mistress. She is featured in “It’s a Fine Life,” “I’d do Anything,” and “Oom-Pah-Pah.” She has one solo song, “As Long as He Needs Me.”

Bet – a lass in Fagin’s establishment who idolizes Nancy. She is featured in “I’d do Anything.”

Mr. Bumble – A large and pompous official in the workhouse. He is featured in “Oliver” and has a duet with Mrs. Corney, “I Shall Scream.” He has one solo, “Boy for Sale.”

Mrs. Corney – a sharp-tongued, domineering widow and mistress of the workhouse. She is featured in “Oliver” and has a duet with Mr. Bumble, “I Shall Scream.”

Mr. Sowerberry – the Undertaker. He has a duet with Mrs. Sowerberry, “It’s Your Funeral” (featuring Mr. Bumble).

Mrs. Sowerberry – the Undertaker’s wife and overseer. She has a duet with Mr. Sowerberry, “It’s Your Funeral” (featuring Mr. Bumble).

Mrs. Bedwin – the Brownlow’s housekeeper. She sings a reprise of “Where is Love?”

Charlotte – the Sowerberry’s promiscuous daughter.

Noah Claypoole – the Undertaker’s apprentice.

Mr. Brownlow – an older gentleman of wealth and breeding.

Dr. Grimwig – the Brownlow’s doctor.

Old Sally – a pauper.

Charley Bates – The Artful Dodger’s pal and one of Fagin’s boys.

The youth ensemble is featured in “Food, Glorious Food,” “Oliver,” “You’ve Got to Pick a Pocket or Two,” “It’s a Fine Life,” “I’d do Anything,” and “Be Back Soon.”

The adult ensemble is featured in “Consider Yourself,” “Oom-Pah-Pah,” and “Who Will Buy.”