

# ACT ★ Preview

## *"The Plight Before Christmas" Takes Flight*

*Submitted by Steve Van Sickle, director*

The casting is complete and rehearsals have started for Archbold Community Theatre's next production, *The Plight Before Christmas*. This hilarious melodrama takes place in "The Olde Curiosity Saloon." The saloon is owned by who else but Ebenezer Humbug (John Taquino, Archbold) and run by a downtrodden woman, Cheyenne (Sue Short, Archbold). Poor Cheyenne lost her husband 18 years ago and was forced to abandon her poor daughter (our Heroine, Felicity, played by Myah Shaffer, Wauseon) on the doorstep of a kind and good woman, Aunt Fuzziwig (Michelle Johnson, Wauseon).

Humbug tries to force poor Felicity into marrying him by threatening to foreclose on Aunt Fuzziwig and throwing them out onto the street. It's up to her hero, Humbug's bookkeeper Bob Scratchit (Stan Short, Archbold) to find a way to save the day. Perhaps with the help of Sheriff Slim Dickens (Jeff Patterson, Archbold) and the mysterious stranger (Phil Badenhop, Wauseon) they can join forces to save the day.

This romp of fun and hilarity is filled out by the remaining cast performing "Olio's" between scenes and playing regulars of the saloon. The cast is rounded out by Bethany Collins (Pioneer), Kathryn Lillie (Holgate), Randy and Lindsay Rohrs (Ridgeville Corners), Jan Delaney (Archbold), Ed Mooney (Continental) and Shawn Liechty (Pettisville). The show is directed by Steve Van Sickle (Archbold) and assisted by Fairy Riter (Stryker).

The show will be held at Giffey Hall in Ridgeville Corners December 3, 4, 10, 11 at 8:00 p.m., with a Sunday matinee on December 12 at 2:30 p.m. Dinner theaters will be available for all performances. We need you to come help boo the villain, sigh for the heroine and cheer on the hero. This will be a wonderful show to bring family, friends, church groups or businesses to for a Christmas party.



ACT/NOVEMBER 2010



Plan now to hold your office, family or friends' Christmas party at Giffey Hall. Enjoy dinner and the show for one price. Let ACT do all the work ~ plan the meal, provide the entertainment, and clean up afterwards! Contact Diane at 419-267-5717 for more information.

## T.V. Talk

*Submitted by Teresa VanSickle, president*



Believe it or not the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons are quickly approaching. I want to take a moment to once again thank everyone that has supported ACT this year. Thank you to those of you that have made financial contributions. Thank you to those of you that have shared your talents with us by participating in the productions. And last but not least, thank you to those of you that have attended our shows. We couldn't do it without all of you.

We have our new board in place. We had to say a fond farewell to Don Spohler, but we are pleased to welcome Michelle Johnson in his place. We have had some changes in the executive committee. The officers for the year are Susan Short (Vice President of Development), Jan Delaney (Vice President of Production), Gareth Short (Treasurer), Melanie Nagel (Secretary) and I will once again have the privilege of being the president of this wonderful organization. Rounding out the board are Brenda Canada, Lambert Dieringer, Michelle Johnson, Donna Kinsman, Ed Mooney, Randy Rohrs and Tracy Ziegler.



The main focus of my article this time is volunteering. As I have stated in previous articles, it takes a lot of volunteers to put on plays, as well as keep our buildings maintained and in working order. We have several projects that we are currently working on. One of the major projects we are trying to get done before our Christmas show opens involves painting. We want to get our lobby and the basement where we hold our dinner theaters painted. As many of you know we have brick walls in our basement. We have been very hesitant to paint over the brick. However, the brick does not look nice and it takes a lot of time and effort to control the mold and mildew down there. We have to pressure wash and scrub the walls and all the furniture on a regular basis. We plan to paint the brick using a waterproof and mold and mildew resistant paint. We think this will help make the dinner theaters a more pleasant experience for our patrons. If you are a painter and would be willing to help with this, please let me know. If you aren't a painter, but you would like to help out by scrubbing walls to get them ready to paint, please let me know that as well. We need to get these projects done as quickly as possible to give us time to decorate for the holidays.

In the near future we will be working at getting our costume room better organized. This has been an ongoing project and we are ready to take it to the next level. We are looking for people to help sort the clothes, repair clothes, as well as put labels in all the clothes. If you are willing to help with any of those projects please let me know.

Bill Phelps heads up a group that is always working to better organize and maintain our buildings in Ridgeville Corners. If you are willing to help with those types of projects, please let Bill know.

We are also looking for lots of volunteers to help with the behind-the-scene things involved with a production. If you would be interested in building set, painting set, selling tickets, writing publicity articles, ushering, running lights, running sound, taking pictures, etc. please let Jan Delaney or myself know. We would be happy to put you to work.

Since this is the last newsletter before the holidays I want to wish all of you a happy and blessed holiday season!



### Newsletter Reminder - We no longer snail-mail a printed copy!

In an effort to cut expenses and be more green, we have gone to an online version. If you have received this newsletter through an email that was sent to you, then you are on the ACT email distribution list. If you hear of someone who did not receive it, but would like to have it emailed to them, please send their email address to Teresa Van Sickle at [actdramaduo@yahoo.com](mailto:actdramaduo@yahoo.com) or as always you can just keep checking the ACT web site, [www.archboldcommunitytheatre.com](http://www.archboldcommunitytheatre.com) to see what is going on. If you have no way to view the information online, let Teresa know that as well, and she will see that you get the information.

**Please let us know if your email address changes, so we can update our distribution list.**



## Committee Reports



**Reading Committee** – The committee is busy reading scripts for the 2011/2012 season. We are hoping to have the season picked out, and announce it at the next show. A big thanks to my committee: Teresa Van Sickle, Donna Kinsman, Jan Delaney, Brenda Canada and Jennifer Witte. They have put in a lot of time perusing many types of scripts, so that ACT can continue to bring you a wonderful season. Submitted by Melanie Nagel, Chairperson

**Production Committee** – As we begin the new season for 2010-2011, I would like to extend my thanks to the Production Committee for their service. I am passing the baton as Chairperson to Jan Delaney. It has been a pleasure, and a challenge as well, to serve as the Chair on this committee. I consider it the 'backbone' or ACTION committee of our productions. There is much to be done to successfully put on quality shows. We are able to do that with all the help that this committee provides, along with those recruited to volunteer. Some of the jobs that are covered by the Production Committee are: set construction/decorating/painting; stage manager/crew; lights and sound; publicity; selling tickets; ushers; costumes, hair & makeup; and programs. We look forward to another fun theater season for the community. Please contact any ACT Board Member if you are interested in helping with any of the upcoming shows. Thank you for your support of Archbold Community Theater as we strive to bring quality entertainment to the area. Submitted by Donna Kinsman, 2009-2010 Chairperson

## Auditions for *The Odd Couple*

What do you do when the holiday rush is over? Do you suffer from that deflated feeling that suddenly there is nothing to do? ACT has a great opportunity for you! Come audition for Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*! Set in Oscar Madison's eight-room New York apartment, the show centers around the original odd couple, Oscar and Felix. Oscar's wife has taken the children and moved to California. He's adjusted to life as a sloppy bachelor, hosting Friday night poker games for his buddies, but when neatnik Felix Unger's wife suddenly throws him out of the house, everyone's routine is upset.

A true story of a friendship that's put to the test time and time again, *The Odd Couple* is a classic tale of how friends support one another through thick and thin.

If you are interested in auditioning, take some time to watch the original movie starring Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon. The show calls for 6 men and two women as follows:



**Oscar Madison:** a lovable slob in his early 40s

**Felix Unger:** a neatnik fellow about the same age as Oscar

**Speed:** impatient, late 30s to early 40s, poker buddy

**Vinnie:** nervous poker buddy, kowtows to wife's demands, late 30s

**Murray:** the only cop in New York City who's not in a hurry, 38 or so

**Roy:** Oscar's accountant and poker buddy, late 30s to mid-40s

**Cecily and Gwendolyn Pigeon:** Oscar's delightful neighbors, work in an area health club, British, both formerly married

Michelle Johnson directs and Ed Mooney assists. Auditions will be held on Monday, January 3 at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Giffey Hall, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio. Come prepared to read from the script. Rehearsals will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 or so. Show dates are March 4, 5, 11, 12 and 13, 2011. Contact Michelle at [johnsonms65@aol.com](mailto:johnsonms65@aol.com) with any questions.



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Archbold, Ohio 43502

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## Calendar of Events

*The Plight Before Christmas* – December 3, 4, 10 & 11 at 8:00 p.m. and December 12 at 2:30 p.m. @ Giffey Hall Dinner theatres available for all shows.

Director’s Letter of Interest Deadline for *Alice In Wonderland Jr.* – December 31.

*The Odd Couple* – March 4, 5, 11 & 12 at 8:00 p.m. and March 13 at 2:30 p.m.

*Annie* – July 15, 16, 22 & 23 at 8:00 p.m. and July 24 at 2:30 p.m. at Archbold High School.

*Alice in Wonderland Jr.* – September 30 and October 1, 7 & 8 at 7:30 p.m. and October 9 at 2:30 p.m. at Giffey Hall.



### ACT Officers and Board Members

<b>Brenda Canada</b>	419-924-8003	canadafamilyus@yahoo.com
<b>Jan Delaney</b>	419-445-6466	nurseangel1@embarqmail.com
<b>Lambert Dieringer</b>	419-822-1537	bnsdier@gmail.com
<b>Michelle Johnson</b>	419-337-5376	johnsonms65@aol.com
<b>Donna Kinsman</b>	419-446-2603	4kinsman@bright.net
<b>Ed Mooney</b>	419-596-3176	moon24@tds.net
<b>Melanie Nagel</b>	419-966-0818	lwhoacts@rtexpress.net
<b>Randy Rohrs</b>	419-267-3855	rrohrrs@bright.net
<b>Gareth Short</b>	419-445-5965	garethjudith@embarqmail.com
<b>Susan Short</b>	419-335-9255	sejames1@embarqmail.com
<b>Teresa Van Sickle</b>	419-445-0391	actdramaduo@yahoo.com
<b>Tracy Ziegler</b>	567-444-4525	tdzglr@rtexpress.net