

November 2019



**AREA
COMMUNITY
THEATRE**
907 Kilbourn Ave
Tomah, WI 54660

NEWSLETTER

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Reach Us

Area Community Theatre
907 Kilbourn Ave
Tomah, WI 54660

Phone: 608-374-7469
email: boxoffice@tomahact.com

Website
tomahact.com



December 5 - 8 and 12 - 15, 2019



Thursday December 5th Dinner Theatre 5:00 pm. \$45
Thursday - Saturday 7PM - Sunday Matinee 1PM
Adult Tickets \$20 - Children Tickets \$10

Box office opens:
November 18th for season ticket holders
November 25th for general public
Monday - Friday 2 - 5 pm & one hour before each performance

Produced by special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc.

Save the Dates!

*Annual Banquet
November 21st
Reserve your tickets*

*Tomah's Great
Holiday Shopping
Hunt
November 23rd*

*A Good Old
Fashion Redneck
Country Christmas
The Musical
Dec 5-8 & Dec 12 - 15*

*Sudden Death
at
Thornbury Manor
Murder Mystery
December 28th
Murray's on Main*

ACT Donation Levels

Saints
\$5,000 & up

Archangels
\$3,000 - \$4,999

Angels
\$1,000 - \$2,999

Standing Ovation
\$ 500 - \$ 999

Super Star
\$ 200 - \$ 499

Show Stoppers
\$ 100 - \$ 199

Spot Lighters
\$ 50 - \$ 99

Curtain Pullers
\$ 25 - \$ 49

From the Directors:

A Good Old Fashioned Redneck Country Christmas - the Musical

By Kris Bauske

When we started looking at producing this play there were a lot of questions. Would our audience be receptive to a play centered around a bunch of rednecks? What exactly are rednecks? One comedian has built a whole career around statements about "..., you might be a redneck." Wicktonary defines a redneck as "A poor, rural, usually white and male, person from the Southern United States or parts of the Midwest and northeast especially one who is unsophisticated and backward; sometimes with additional connotations of being rude, racist, and / or arrogant." It's up to you to decide which parts of that definition fit our characters, and which parts don't.

Somewhere in rural America there is a fictional town called Christmas. Lou's Diner is the only restaurant, and a general meeting place for the community. Lou (Amanda Schmock) and her co-workers Barbie Jo (Dr. Christine Jacobsen) and Darlene (Ashley Le Beause) are working hard on the day before Christmas while their men-folk Bill (Joe Minney), Dave (Roger Ellis) and Jimmy (B.J. Wilcox) have unexpectedly gone hunting. The only customers in the place are Mark (Marcus Rowan), the son of the town doctor and a current medical student, and stranded truck driver, Bob (Bob Dwyer) who turns out to be the narrator of our story. Charlie (Joe Davis/Rocky Shutter), the town banker, stops in briefly, but the miraculous part of the story begins when Mary Sue (Brynn Rowan) arrives, cold and homeless. God does answer prayer and brings events around to glorify Him. Our Christmas Eve story has many similarities to the birth that began the season.

We are thrilled to have such a talented cast present this Christmas story. You will laugh (and maybe shed a tear or two) as they act out this story and sing these songs. You might also reflect on what it means to be "county" and what it means to be "a redneck" in the best sense of the words. Special thanks go out to Lynda Clay-Palmer, our accompanist, Roger Jones who runs our lights and sound, and Noel Tiarks, our stage Manger.

Show dates are December 5 - 8 and 12 - 15, Thursday - Saturday shows begin at 7:00 pm, and Sunday shows start at 1:00 pm. You can choose to make opening night a dinner theatre experience by purchasing tickets for a catered dinner here at the theatre. Tickets go on sale November 25th (Nov 18th if you have season tickets). If no one answers the phone at 608-374-7469, please leave a message with your name and phone number. We look forward to meeting you in Christmas

Merry Christmas!
Steve & Barb

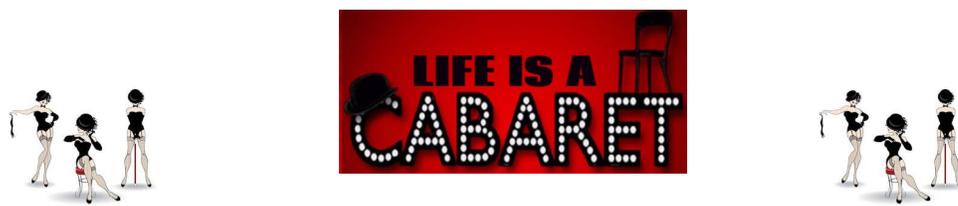
Letter from your President and Director of Development,

What an exciting time to be the President of ACT! Over the past two years nearly the entire ACT building has been remodeled and redecorated, including a new roof, outside signage, new first floor offices, and now a new furnace is being installed. Soon you will see a wider stage, and another room, to the left of the stage at the top of the stairs, transformed to a beautiful reception area for your use.

This is not the effort of a few, but many. Without your dedication to ACT, your donations, ticket purchases, attendance at other ACT events and volunteer hours, none of this would have been accomplished. So, at this time, let me extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who, in any way, has supported the theatre. Congratulations to all. ACT is a small non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of fostering appreciation for the arts and enhancing cultural experiences for people of all ages. We provide an environment where those who wish to share their artistic talents with our community can flourish.

Your support has made ACT what it has become today! From the bottom of my heart, I thank you and hope to see you at the Annual Banquet!!!

Sharon Larkin



MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW FOR 2019 ANNUAL BANQUET

The ACT Annual Banquet will be held on Thursday, November 23rd. This is a major fundraiser for your community theatre. Please show your support by purchasing your tickets no later than November 15th. You will enjoy a delicious meal, catered by Murrays on Main, as well as a program, some great entertainment and a silent action with exciting things to bid on. Our annual banquet has always been a fun evening shared with community theatre supporters. It will be held in the newly remodeled Cabaret Room on the first floor at ACT. The Cabaret Room is decorated in a 1940's theme and you are encouraged (but not required) to attend wearing a 1940's era costume. Last year we had several guests who came in Gatsby costumes, which could be worn again this year, if you like. All are welcome to attend and enjoy an evening of laughter and entertainment. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased at the ACT Box Office, by calling 608-374-7469 or by mailing the form included with this newsletter. Tables of eight are \$296 and can be reserved.

BOXOFFICE

Bonnie Dana is New ACT Box Office Manager

Bonnie Dana, a lifelong Tomah area resident has volunteered to be ACT's new box office manager. Bonnie brings enthusiasm and many years of theater going experience. Prior to retirement, Bonnie worked at the V.A. Hospital as a nursing and rehabilitation assistant for twenty-two years. She is currently the sexton of the Oak Grove and Warren Mill cemeteries. A former Tomah Concert Association Board Member, membership chair and treasurer, Bonnie is looking forward to sharing her organizational abilities with her fellow ACT box office volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering in the box office at ACT, call 608-374-7469 and leave a message. Both current and new volunteers are invited to meet Bonnie at a juice, coffee, and donut get-together Tuesday, November 19 at 10:00 am in the box office at 901 Kilbourn Ave. in Tomah.

ACT OFFICERS

President - Sharon Larkin

Vice - President - Rocky Shutter

Secretary - Barbara Munding

Treasurer - Barbara Sullivan

Business & Facility Mgr. - Colleen Richer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

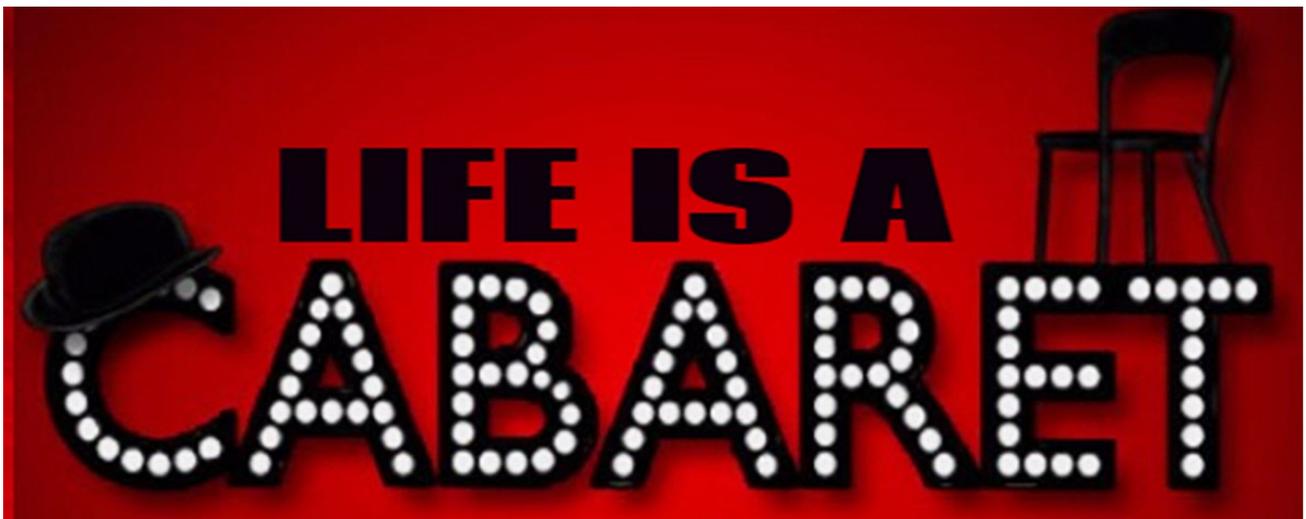
Steve Jones, Dr. Christine Jacobsen,

Dale Stafslie, Sharon Frenz,

Marcus Rowan, Dakota Viken,

Jerry Fushianes, Joe Davis

**Area Community Theatre
Annual Banquet
November 21, 2019 5:30pm
Please join us for the
Grand Opening of
The Cabaret Room**



*Cocktails 5:30pm/Dinner 6:30pm
Awards - Entertainment - Auction 7:30pm*

907 Kilbourn Ave Tomah, WI 54660

*“What good is sitting alone in your room?
Come hear the music play.
Life is a cabaret, old chum.
Come to the Cabaret”*



Business Attire is appropriate
Cabaret (1930) outfits or just headgear will
add to the atmosphere

Dinner catered by
Murray's on Main

Menu

Dinner Salad (Spring Blend Mix)
Grilled Chicken Breast/Fruit Salsa
Tenderloin Tips
Mashed potatoes w/gravy
Vegetable Medley
Dinner Rolls
Dessert



Cost \$40 per person
\$296 for a table of 8

You can make your reservations
by calling 608-374-7469

Reservations must be made by Nov 15th.

ACT Annual Banquet Reservation and Donation Form

Number of People _____ X \$ 40 = \$ _____

Table of Eight _____ X \$296 = \$ _____

Donation _____ \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Type of Payment Check # _____
 Credit Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____
 V Code _____

Mail to:
ACT
907 Kilbourn Ave
Tomah, WI 54660

Due by November 15th



October 24, 2019

Dear Friends of the Area Community Theatre,

At ACT, each year begins with great plans for the future. 2019 has been no exception and the year has been filled with exciting changes and wonderful shows for all to enjoy.

The year began with the completion of the beautiful 1st floor banquet room, which was remodeled with a Cabaret theme and the remodeling of the adjacent kitchen and storage areas. What a beautiful room it has become and the various individuals and organizations that have been renting it just love it. The room has a large bar, which was donated to ACT and the front of the bar has the word "Cabaret" beautifully painted on it by Staci Habelman. If you haven't seen the room yet, now is your opportunity. Purchase tickets to the annual banquet and enjoy an evening with friends while supporting your local theatre.

We have begun widening of the theatre stage and will continue that project in 2020 with electrical and lighting improvements and the installation of a hearing loop system for the hearing impaired to use during productions. The large rooms to the right of the stage will soon be remodeled and redecorated. A larger storage area for equipment and set design will be included in that project.

As with any property, there are always unexpected expenses each year. This past year was the year that our old boiler (furnace) decided to die. When we purchased the building in 2007 we were aware it would need replacement soon, yet it gave us twelve years of good service. Our Director of Development contacted several individuals who generously provided enough money (over \$60,000!) to replace the old furnace and the new boiler is being installed as this letter is being written. Words cannot express our gratitude to those who believe in the activities of ACT and are willing to invest hard earned dollars, so our community and the surrounding area can enjoy live theatre. Thank you so much!!

We also wish to thank all who have supported the Area Community Theatre and Cultural Arts Centre with monetary donations, ads, sponsorships, memberships, attendance at events and volunteer hours this past year. It takes a whole community to ensure the success of ACT and every dollar donated as well as every volunteer hour is much needed and appreciated.

As with all non-profits, financial concerns are always top priority. There are many areas of concern within the building that still need attention. At this time, we humbly ask you to help ACT with a donation. Although donations **in any amount are appreciated**, all donations of at least \$25.00 will be listed in the 2020 program (see reverse side of this letter). ACT is a 501©(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Although donations, of any amount, are most welcome and appreciated, donations at the following levels will be recognized in the program of each show during the 2020 season. Area Community Theatre is 501c3 nonprofit organization. Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Thank you for your consideration and generosity.

Saints	\$5,000 - up
Archangels	\$3,000 - \$4,999
Angels	\$1,000 - \$2,999
Standing Ovation	\$500 - \$999
Superstar	\$200 - \$499
Show Stopper	\$100 - \$199
Spot Lighter	\$ 50 - \$ 99
Curtain Puller	\$ 25 - \$ 49

Donations of \$3,000 and above will be recognized on the beautiful sculpture in the hallway entrance to the Area Community Theatre and Cultural Arts Centre. All supporters listed on the gold plates and stars have generously given to our building fund, enabling the purchase of ACT's beautiful building, as well as the many improvements to it throughout the years. A donor may increase their level on the sculpture with continuing donations.



Presents



Saturday December 28th

Help solve the murder at Thornbury Manor

Murray's on Main * 810 Superior Ave * Tomah, WI

Doors open 6:00 pm * Light meal & Mystery 7:00 pm

Tickets go on sale November 25th at the box office or
online at tomahact.com Tickets \$20

Why not enjoy a very different evening out with family and friends?



Saturday
November 23th, 2019
9 am - 3:30 pm



Area Community Theatre
907 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah



**Food for purchase*

**Door Prizes*



**Big Bucks Shopping Cards*

*Shop local vendors and crafters to get a
jump start on your holiday shopping!*



**Fundraiser for the
Area Community Theatre**

