

ACT OFFICERS
President -- Jerry Fushianes
Vice-president -- John Shuck
Secretary -- Amy Kleespies
Treasurer -- Barbara Sullivan

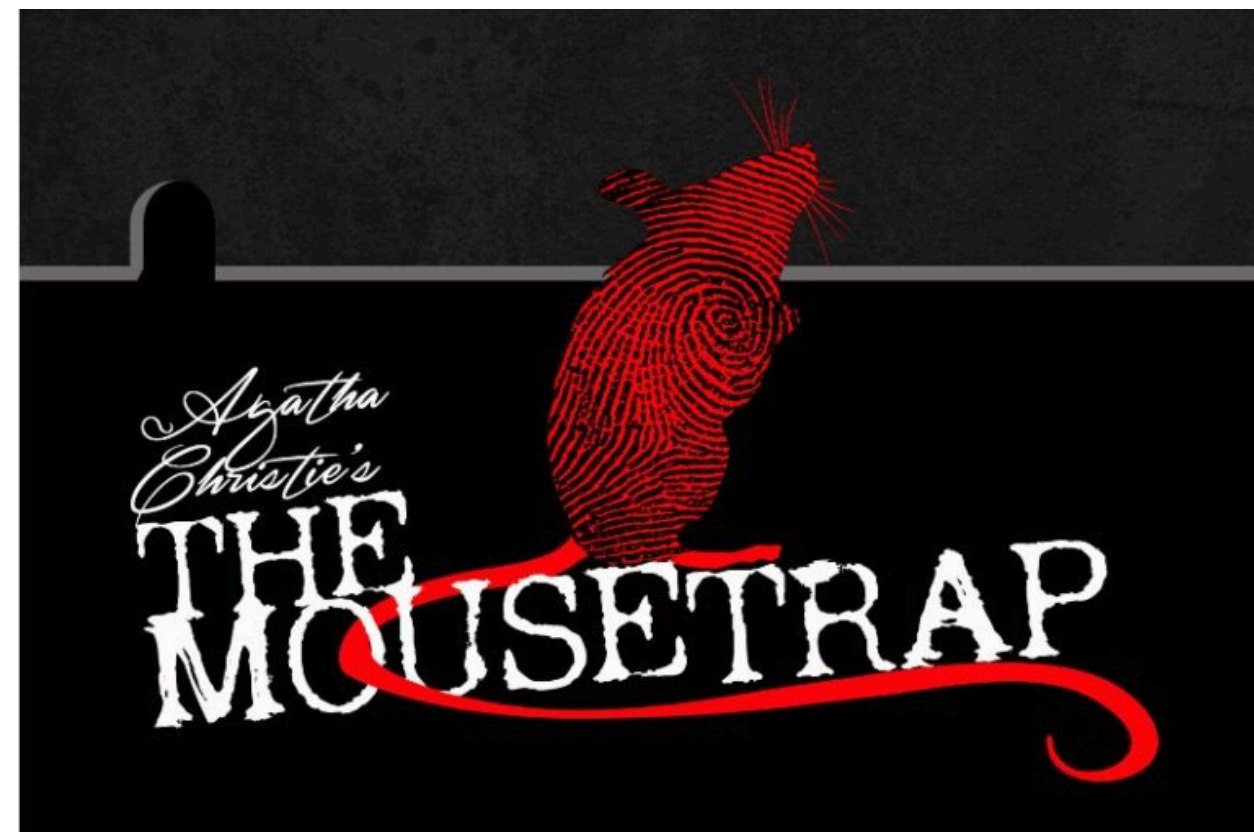
BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE
Sharon Larkin, Brian Shutter,
Lori Ripley, Bonnie Dana,
Amanda Schmock, Shannon Wilcox

Lisa McCormick, Theatre Manager
Business Office Hours: 10am - 5pm
Monday - Friday



October, 2025

ACT NEWSLETTER

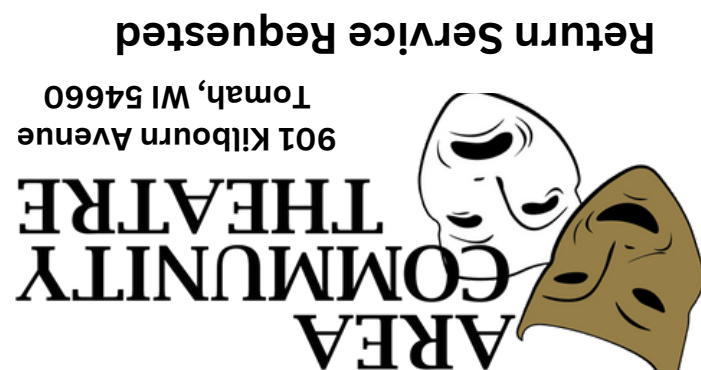


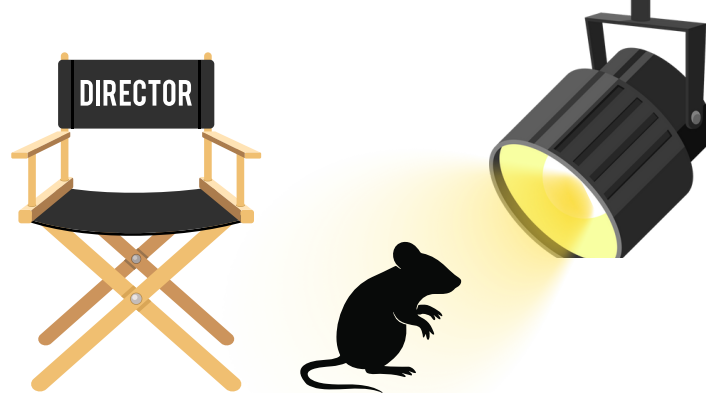
Directed by Rocky Shutter & Lori Ripley
Assisted by Joseph Refsland

SHOW DATES:
NOVEMBER 6, 7, 13 & 14 AT 7PM
NOVEMBER 8, 9, 15 & 16 AT 1PM

Tickets at www.tomahact.com or call 608-374-7469

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 204
Tomah, WI





Show Dates:

Opening Night:
Thursday, Nov. 6
at 7pm

Additional
Show Dates:
Nov. 7, 13, 14
at 7pm
Nov. 8, 9, 15 & 16
at 1pm

****NOTE****
Saturday AND Sunday
Matinees at 1pm

The Cast of "The Mousetrap"

Caitlin Elenteny as Mollie Ralston

Blaine Baribeau as Giles Ralston

Lori Ripley as Mrs. Boyle

Jason Schmock as Mr. Paravincini

Kelly Thayer as Mrs. Metcalf

Elise VonHaden as Miss Casewell

Chris Suzda as Christopher Wren

Mitchell Bugni as Sergeant Trotter

From the Directors: Rocky Shutter & Lori Ripley

Mark your calendars for our next ACT production of "The Mousetrap." Directors Rocky Shutter and Lori Ripley along with assistant Joseph Refsland are actively involved in rehearsals with their talented cast to prepare for this classic Agatha Christie mystery. We are excited to bring back one of the shows ACT did fifty years ago when they were located at Building 1255 on Fort McCoy. Set in a 1950s-esque guest house, Monkswell Manor, the play centers around the tenants of the house—Mollie Ralston (played by Caitlin Elenteny) and Giles Ralston (played by Blaine Baribeau) and their questionable guests on the opening night of their bed and breakfast-type establishment. In the opening scene, we learn of a murder in nearby London, which sets the topic of conversation for the rest of the play. The first guest to arrive, Christopher Wren—played by Chris Suzda stirs the pot with his quirky and, at times, suspicious persona. The next, known only as Mrs. Boyle (portrayed by ACT veteran Lori Ripley), fills the role of the judgmental, cantankerous older woman. Two other guests, optimistic Nurse Metcalf (Kelly Thayer) and the evasive Miss Casewell (Elise Von Haden) are the next guests to arrive at the manor on this evening with blizzard-like conditions outside. The final guests to arrive are the exuberant Mr. Paravicini, performed by Jason Schmock who arrives at the manor, after crashing his Rolls Royce into a snowbank, and Detective Sgt. Trotter (newcomer Mitchell Bugni) who is very serious and professional. It would be an injustice to give away any more of the plot of "The Mousetrap" as Ms. Christie provides many twists and turns as well as a few red herrings along the way. Be sure to get your tickets online at www.tomahact.com or by calling the box office at 608-374-7469. ACT business hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am-5:00pm. Our friendly Theatre Manager, Lisa McCormick, will also be able to assist you in purchasing tickets. We look forward to seeing you at one of our performances. After you have seen the show, please do not give away the surprise ending to those who have yet to see the play!! It's a secret!

We would like to thank the following for donations from November 1, 2024 - October 31, 2025

These donations will be put towards ACT's building fund and to help cover costs of putting on shows.

Saints (\$5,000 and Up)

Burnstad Family Foundation
Terry & Sharon Larkin
David Rezin
Harry Wellenkotter

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

Richard, Jason & Lindsey Gerke
Bernadette M. Otto Charitable Trust
Pete & Elaine Reichardt

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

The Berry Family
Diana Gerke
Houston Dental Clinic
The Kindness Community, Inc.
Susan Murphy
Christine Schreier
Top Dog Marketing

Standing Ovation (\$500 - \$999)

Dr. Richard Ahn in Memory of Helen Ahn
Wesley & Martha Klatt
Kurt & Louise Olson
Dr. Michael & Tess Saunders
Ann Thompson

Super Stars (\$200 - \$499)

Chris & Myra Anderson
Dean Blegen in Memory of David Schreier
Pam Buchda
Cardinal IG
Natalie Divyak
Fred & Kathy LeSavage
Kay Mark
Geraldyn Musielewicz
Scott & Dorothy Nicol
Kurt & Louise Olson
Oakdale Electric Coop Federated Youth Foundation
June Potter
Eric & Mary Prise
Pat Reis
Rockland Flooring
Mark & Kerry Rose
John & Sandra Schindler
Walmart DC 6085

**THANK
YOU!**


Show Stoppers (\$100 - \$199)

Active Health Chiropractic Center
Bonnie Dana
Amy Hedrick
Sherry Heilman
Kelly Larkin
David & Bryanna Miller
Karen Rapp
Anna Mae Rudolph
John Rusch
Barb Sullivan
Summit Spirits
Latisha Walker
Barbara Westrate

Spot Lighters (\$50 - \$99)

Brenda Calloway
Donna Goede
Edward Grygleski
John Haeberlin
Amy Hedrick
Lyda Lanier
Eric Pedersen
Sue Pergande
Nancy VanderMeer & David Hall

Curtain Pullers (\$25 - \$49)

Libby Berry
Joanne Cram
Renee Fletcher in memory of Don Fletcher
Randy Pribbemow
Lorna Rosenow
Monica Stenerson
Jim VanWychen

Donations at any level are greatly appreciated and help to defray the operational costs of our theatre. If you would like the opportunity to have your name on our beautiful sculpture, a cumulative donation of \$3,000 through the past years is required.

Donate Today!



Thank you for donating to the Chair Project:

Dr. Richard Ahn
Chris & Sharon Borek
Frank G. Andres Trust
Thomas B. Earle Trust
Houston Dental Clinic
Lamont & Dilynn Kiefer
Jim & Nodji VanWychen
Vine Vest, LLC
Harry Wellenkotter

ACT Members

January 1 - December 31, 2025

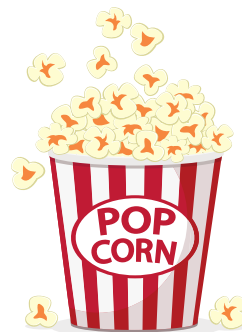
Chris Baker	Shannon Hogie	Lisa McCormick	Ginny Schroeder
Chelsea Brohaugh	Sandy Humphreys	Mara Mednis	Molly Shields
Liz Brown	Nancy Jacob	Kim Miller	Donna Shuck
Pam Buchda	Steve Jones	Amanda Mills	John Shuck
Kristi Cossette	Julie Kemnitz	Joe Minney	Brian Shutter
Mike Cossette	Dilynn Kiefer	Susan Murphy	Dan Smithburg
Bonnie Dana	Lamont Kiefer	Mary Neve	Kelly Smithburg
Justin Derhammer	Lisa Kirschbaum	Sam Neve	Pam Steinmetz
Natalie Divyak	Amy Kleespies	Bridget Owens	Monica Stenerson
Bruce Fischer	Jeff Klonecki	Dawn Pierce	Rose Storkel
Kathy Fischer	Sandra Klonecki	Elaine Reichardt	Susan Stump
Renee Fletcher	Sam Komay	Pete Reichardt	Barb Sullivan
Rob Forbush	Lyda Lanier	Lori Ripley	Lynne Trainor
Melanie Frei	Sharon Larkin	Pamela Rixie	Shelly Trowbridge
Tom Frei	Terry Larkin	Kerry Rose	Brayden Tupper
America Fushianes	Alice Leis-Murray	Mark Rose	Louise Urmanski
Jerry Fushianes	Fred LeSavage	Michael Saunders	Latisha Walker
Brent Garringer	Kathy LeSavage	Tess Saunders	Anne Wallus
Shelly Gasper	Alta Leuthold	Ann Scheckel	Shannon Wilcox
Diana Gerke	Mary Maas	Larry Scheckel	Leland Wildes
Deb Gilles	Carrie Martinez	Amanda Schmock	
Amy Hedrick	Joe Martinez	Christine Schreier	

2026 Memberships Available

2026 Membership Cards are in! Your membership is important to us because this is how we receive the larger grants to improve the theatre - based upon the number of members that we have. Don't forget the many benefits from being a member like Half Off Opening Nights on all 5 Shows in a Season plus a Free Small Popcorn! That is a savings of \$70! Get your 2026 ACT Membership today by calling 608-374-7469, go to our website at www.tomahact.com or stop by the Business Office at 901 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah.

2026 Members - Thank You for Signing Up Early!

Sandra Ahlquist	Jerry Chaffee	Julie Kenmitz	Lisa McCormick	Tina Turner
Dr. Richard Ahn	Lenna Chaffee	Dilynn Kiefer	Mara Mednis	Cheryl Weber
Sharon Anderson	Natalie Divyak	Lamont Kiefer	Taz Noble	Michael Weber
Terry Amundson	Sandra Dressbrow	Lisa Kirschbaum	Lori Norquay	Stephanie Woods
Tim Amundson	Diane Field	Martha Klatt	Linda Clay Palmer	Travis Woods
Randy Ball	Rob Forbush	Wesley Klatt	Allen Pasch	
Dean Blegen	Lisa Frost	Dennis Koranda	Sue Pergande	
JoEllen Blegen	Sue Geurkink	Jan Koranda	Darlene Rudolph	
Judy Bonn	Lynn Glancy	Denise Krofta	Cheryl Schoeny	
Lavena Brady	Ann Grygleski	Kevin Krofta	Mike Schoeny	
Liz Brown	Edward Grygleski	Alta Leuthold	Colleen Springman	
Diane Buchda	Deb Hanson	Carrie Martinez	David Stelter	
Pam Buchda	Lorna Harvey	Joe Martinez	Nancy Storkel	



Tickets at www.tomahact.com

907 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah
608-374-7469



Agatha Christie's
THE MOUSETRAP

Directed by
Brian Shutter & Lori Ripley
Assisted by Joseph Refsland

"The Mousetrap" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Show Dates:

November 6, 7, 13, 14 at 7pm

November 8, 9, 15 & 16 at 1pm



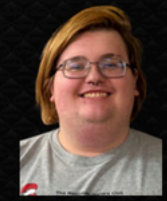
Caitlin Elenten
as Mollie Ralston



Blaine Baribeau
as Giles Ralston



Mitchell Bugni
as Sargeant Trotter



Chris Suzda
as Christopher Wren



Lori Ripley
as Mrs. Boyle



Jason Schmock
as Mr. Paravincini



Elise Von Haden
as Miss Casewell



Kelly Thayer
as Mrs. Metcalf



Show Sponsors

Show Underwriters



Terry & Sharon Larkin



AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE

50th Anniversary

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

DATE TO BE ADVISED

MORE DETAILS TO COME...

We want your memories...

We are looking for your memories from ACT shows over the last 50 years! Write them down, send us an email, or we will even come to you and record your story! We hope to put together a wonderful video of photos, stories and so many memories of 50 years of ACT!

Contact Lisa at boxoffice@tomahact.com or call 608-374-7469

Blaine Hackett Joseph Refsland

Pete Reichardt

BJ Wilcox Roger Jones
Latisha Walker



SPECIAL EVENT
AT
BRICK SIP
HAUS



Escanaba

Directed by:
Jerry Fushianes

IN DA MOONLIGHT by Jeff Daniels

Permission granted by Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

October 18

Dinner & Show

Catered by Murray's on Main

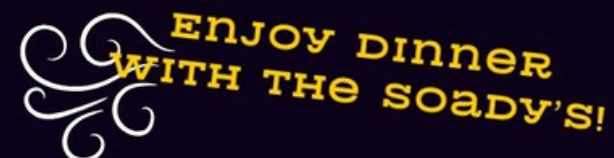
Doors Open at 4:30pm

Dinner at 5pm

Show at 7pm

\$45.00 Dinner & Show

\$20.00 Show Only



October 19

Packers Tailgate & Show

Food & Drinks Specials

Available All Day

Doors Open at 2:30pm

Game at 3:30pm

Show at 7pm

\$20.00 Show Only

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

Special Event will be at Brick Sip Haus 800 Superior Avenue, Tomah

Tickets at: www.tomahact.com

907 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah ~ 608-377-3765



DR. B'S BINGO SPOOKTACULAR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 7PM – DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

Bingo cards \$20 each or 3 for \$50

RESERVE A TABLE AT WWW.TOMAHACT.COM OR CALL 608-374-7469

Costume Contest with prizes
from Murray's on Main!

50/50 Raffle

Members Only Basket Raffle
Sponsored by State Farm Insurance

Bingo Cookie Raffle
by Shannon Hogiel!

Beverages & Popcorn For Sale!

Win Baskets Donated by
Local Businesses
When You Bingo!

SPONSORS:



Active Health
Chiropractic Center

Houston Dental



State Farm
Jeff & Kristi Holthaus

Terry & Sharon Larkin



Penny Precour, Attorney at Law

Area Community Theatre – 907 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah – 608-374-7469 – www.tomahact.com

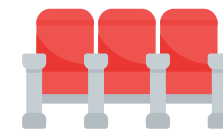
From Your Director of Development, Sharon Larkin



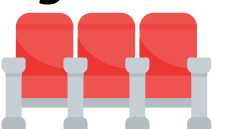
Front Entrance ACT Business Office

I have some exciting news for you! Ever since purchasing our building in 2007, the outside entry to the business/box office has needed upgrading, as the brick wall was deteriorating and the cement has been peeling away. There were never any railings or handles to assist people up and down the steps. I'm thrilled to announce that handles have recently been added and a railing on the ramp will be installed soon! The brick has been removed and will be replaced with another product. We hope to repair the cement this fall. The entry will have a fresh look and be much safer for our guests. Stop by and see the improvements!

Name a Chair...Leave a Legacy

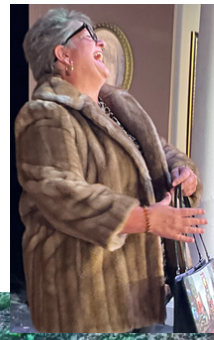


Chair Campaign Update



We have selected JWC Building Specialties, Inc out of Hartland, WI to install our new theatre chairs. The chairs are from Irwin Auditorium in the style called, Citation. The chair backs are a little taller in a rectangle shape. The seat cushion is double the size we currently have and the fabric is a tweed pattern of black, gray and taupe brown. The chairs will be a combination of 21" and 23" wide for a more comfortable seat. We will also be adding cup holders to all chairs! They have measured the space to maximize the amount of chairs with the best visibility to the stage. Also during this time, we will replace the floor under the chairs and paint the walls. The plan is to begin this project at the conclusion of "The Mousetrap" and be completed before the first show of the 2026 season. Donations are coming in and we are over half way there but we can still use your help! Fill out the form in the newsletter and mail in to the ACT office! Remember this is a tax deductible donation as well!

A group of five students posing in front of a brick wall. A large, stylized, pink and white 'A' sign is mounted on the wall, with the letters 'A-Z' written vertically inside it. The students are arranged in two rows: three in the front row and two in the back row. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The student on the far left is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and khaki shorts. The student next to them is wearing a yellow polo shirt and a tan skirt. The student in the center of the front row is wearing a green polo shirt and blue jeans. The student on the far right of the front row is wearing a white t-shirt and a red and black plaid skirt. The student on the far right of the back row is wearing a light blue t-shirt and a blue and white plaid skirt. The student in the center of the back row is wearing a light blue t-shirt and a blue and white plaid skirt. The background is a brick wall with a large, stylized 'A' sign that says 'A-Z'. The students are all smiling and looking towards the camera.



Join us anytime! Want to know what shows we are reading at each meeting, call Lisa at the ACT office at 608-374-7469 or boxoffice@tomahact.com to get on the list!



A decorative teapot and two cups of tea on a table. The teapot is light purple with a pink peony flower and green leaves. The cups are also light purple with a pink peony flower and green leaves. The cups are filled with a brown liquid, likely tea. The teapot has a white lid with a small knob. The cups have a small handle. The teapot and cups are on a white surface. In the background, there is a dark blue object and a purple object.



How Does ACT Decide What Shows To Do?

ACT conducts play readings throughout the year! The purpose of a play reading is to read a play or musical to determine if it is a good fit for ACT and the community. Once shows are read, the committee suggests it to the ACT Board to decide if it should be considered for a future show in the upcoming seasons. Have you ever enjoyed a show so much that you wanted to be on stage but didn't know where to begin? Do you enjoy reading shows but not sure if you are ready for the stage or able to memorize all those lines? Then a play reading is for you! Let us know if you are interested in being a part of this fun committee by sending us your email to Lisa at boxoffice@tomahact.com. If you just want to suggest favorite shows, you can do that too!



Woodsmen Hockey Partners With ACT Saturday, October 25th



What does hockey, community theatre and the 1980's have in common? ACT is partnering with the Woodsmen Hockey Team on a night of hockey raising money for community theatre! Join us in this 1980's themed night for great fun and raise money for the both of us! ACT volunteers will be doing the 50/50 raffle and spreading the word about our amazing theatre, shows and events! Join us Saturday, October 25th at the Tomah Hockey Rink. Game begins at 7:15pm.



ACT Plans to Revamp Current Committees & Board of Directors



ACT is looking at making some changes to its Board of Directors and Committees. Here is a little description of a committee and a board member. Maybe you have an interest to get more involved here at ACT in the future. It is highly recommended that all persons in a leadership role at ACT become a member. The ACT Board is currently looking at all committees and its volunteers to restructure these groups.

Committees should be run and chaired by volunteers. A board member would sit on the committee to report back to the ACT Board at their monthly meetings. We are looking to build up our volunteers on our committees. If you have a gift or a talent that would be useful around ACT, let us know. Not all committees are for long periods of time. Some are for a specific show, event or project, where others work out over time. Maybe you are very organized and can help us sort props, costumes, shoes, nuts and bolts, lumber, paint, etc. Maybe you have extra time to help usher for a show or sit in the box office/will call window to hand out and sell tickets. Do you like to read plays? We have a library full of scripts to be read to see if they would be a good fit for a future show. Maybe you enjoy fundraising, finance or networking with community businesses. Or possibly you are more mechanically inclined and can help build sets, run lights or sound, paint, or glue away! The point is, there are so many ways to get involved in ACT - give us a call and let us know how you can help!

Board Members can be anyone who is passionate about community theatre and want to support ACT. A board runs an organization like a business. They are morally and financially responsible, able to think ahead and are an ambassador for ACT. Board Members must be members of ACT. The Executive Team is made up of officers that hold the roles of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Director of Development. To become an officer, you must have served one year on the ACT board. We want to rebuild our board with community members who are just as passionate about community theatre as we are!

If you would like more information on meeting times or events, please reach out to Lisa at boxoffice@tomahact.com or call her at 608-374-7469.



AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE

NAME A SEAT, LEAVE A LEGACY

This special campaign offers you the chance to be a part of ACT's history by helping to keep the theatre thriving and also reserve your spot in history! Name a Seat for an individual, family, business or in memory of a loved one or past thespian of ACT. We are excited to have raised half the amount needed and want your support to take us to the top!

Why New Seats: The seats in the theatre are old. They were used for many years at Volk Field and then donated to us twenty-four years ago! All have certainly seen their better days and desperately need replacement! After careful consideration, we have chosen seats that will be perfect for all. They will have cup holders, thicker cushions and aisle seats that will be a bit wider. We will need to remove the existing seats and paint the theatre walls before installing the new ones.

Name a Seat: Your gift of \$500 honors your memory for decades to come. Your name will be placed on a plaque in the lobby and will continue to acknowledge your generosity for the next few decades!

Purchase a Seat: Checks should be written to Area Community Theatre (ACT) and have "Seat Campaign" written on the memo line. If purchasing one or more seats, please include the name(s) you would like listed. Mail payment to: Area Community Theatre (ACT) 901 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660

Seat Ownership: Please note that the dedication of a seat does not in any way apply ownership of that seat. This does not guarantee that specific seat assignment in the theatre and seat sponsors must still purchase tickets for any performance at ACT. Of course, if the seat is available for a performance, we will always try our best to accommodate your request to sit there.

*Join us in making ACT's next 50 years
even more remarkable!*



901 Kilbourn Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660
www.tomahact.com 608-374-7469 boxoffice@tomahact.com



AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE

Name a Chair-Leave a Legacy Campaign

Name:_____

Address:_____

Email:_____

Phone #:_____

Seats Purchased:_____ Amount Paid (\$500 per Seat):_____

Name(s) for Plaque:_____

Specific Seat Preference (if available):_____



Not actual chairs, but similar style to what we will be ordering.

Fabric swatch is actual fabric-woven black, taupe and gray

If you have any questions at all, please contact Lisa McCormick, Theatre Manager at boxoffice@tomahact.com or call 608-374-7469.