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The Opera House Players Present



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**SOUTH
 OF HOPE**
 a play



**T. Gregory
 Argall**



June 22, 23, 24, 25, 2017

CHOREOGRAPHER'S CIRCLE (\$100-\$249)

**Alpine Communications
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**Sincerely Yours Interiors
Kay Vorwald - Monona**

**The Burger Barn -
Elkader**

The Store - Elkader

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THE CREWS

SET CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & PROPS

Jonathon Moser
Joeann Tesar
Edward Hayes-Hall

Cary Kann
Kay Moser
Del Reimer

Clark Ott
Janet Ott
Jenna Pollock

LIGHTING & SOUND

Craig Strutt
Jon Banse

Marla Reimer
Bob Hankey

Del Reimer
Jay Moser

COSTUMES, HAIR & MAKEUP

Mary Beth Specht

Joeann Tesar

TICKETS

Terri Strutt

Moser Pharmacy

PROGRAMS & PUBLICITY

Craig Strutt

Terri Strutt
Cheri Moser

Kay Moser

Thanks to all who helped make this show possible after the program went to press

The Opera House Players will again sponsor a week long theatre camp for area youth this summer, held July 10th thru July 15th. Compass Creative Dramatics will be working with students at The Elkader Opera House to learn, play, and perform *The Jumping Jacks & The Beanstalk*. Compass Creative Dramatics is a Chicago-based educational theatre that specializes in bringing theatre experiences like this to kids across the United States, and will guide students from auditions to performance in just five days with the help of two professional actors/educators! All participants must be pre-registered and be available for all rehearsals including two scheduled performances. Registrations forms available at www.operahouseplayers.com. For more information, you may contact Angel Keppler – akeppler97@gmail.com or 563-880-3723. *The Jumping Jacks & The Beanstalk* will be presented to the general public on Friday, July 14th at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 15th at 2:00 p.m. All seats are general admission and tickets will be available at the door.

Designer's Circle (\$250-\$499)

Jane Griffith Memorial

Janette Hansel

Roger & Jody Helmrichs

Joan Wangen & Romuald Piorkowski

Charles Strub

Roger & Linda Witter

Director's Circle (\$500-\$749)

Tim Burrack &

Gail Moorman Behrens

Julian Carr

Keith & Kathy Garms

Raymond A. Stassen

Producer's Circle (\$750-\$999)

Pastors Margaret &

Mark Yackel-Juleen

Angel's Circle (\$1000+)

John & Med Bickel

Dr. Michele & Steve Dikkers

Cary Kann as Larry Foster Cary has enjoyed growing as an actor since his first appearance as the Second Reporter in *Bye, Bye Birdie* (1996). He has also appreciated being able to use his visual arts background in logo and set design along with building props for OHP productions. Each of the shows with which he has been involved have been special, a place to meet new talented people from around the area and always a welcome reunion with those who have returned again to entertain and delight our audiences. Cary lives in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin with his lovely wife, Jonelle, and two cats; Angela, a somewhat cranky senior and Candy Cupcake, the young upstart. (And no they did not name her!)

Mary Beth Specht, Costumes/Mourner This is Mary Beth's ninth show with the Opera House Players and, as always, it is her newest and latest favorite. Each and every show has brought amazing and fond memories. A favorite character, song, dance, cast, set or costume accompanies each new play or musical. The experience is very much about the performance but is also a journey that fills the creative places of the soul that longs to share a moment of humor, joy, intrigue or wonder with you, the audience. When she is not immersed in preparing for a performance, Mary Beth's other passions include golf, granny basketball, and finally sharing a fabulous glass of wine with her husband, Jim. Her youngest will soon be leaving the nest for college and pursuing his dreams. She hopes she has inspired him to reach far and wide and to never let insecurities or fear limit his possibilities or potential.

Kay Moser, Producer / Mourner Kay has been involved with the OHP since 1973. She is most often found organizing everything from props to the director. Whenever anyone in the crew needs something, or wants to find something, the Opera House echoes with the sound of her name (we're thankful it's not something difficult to pronounce). She has been seen on stage during *Man of LaMancha* (1975), *Anything Goes* (1979), and *Chicago* (1991). Kay directed the OHP productions of *Forever Plaid* (1997), *The Governor's Son* (2003), *It's A Wonderful Life* (2005) and *Plaid Tidings* (2009). Kay lives in Elkader with her husband, Jay (Lights). When not working, Kay enjoys reading, listening to music and spending time with her family; son Benjamin and wife, Jenna, son Jonathon and wife, Cheri, and her four beautiful grandkids, Mariah Cirila, Taryn Kathleen, Trace Russell, and Gretel Ann. Kay is a buyer, bookkeeper, and technology coordinator at Moser Family Pharmacy, and manager of this beautiful Opera House.

Jon Banse, Technical Crew Jon resides south of Strawberry Point near Backbone State Park with Marge, his wife, and Jonathan, their son. He has been actively involved with the Opera House Players (OHP) since 1995. Jon's latest involvement with the OHP was as Stage Manager for the spring, 2017 farce *While the Lights Were Out*. In 2013, the OHP hosted the first World Premiere on this stage with another of T. Gregory Argall's work, *The Accidental Hit-Man Blues*, in which Jon portrayed Ron. He's excited that the OHP are presenting yet another World Premiere written by Mr. Argall. Besides theatre, he enjoys spending time with his family and singing with his quartet, "Three Lads and Dad" as well as the Keystone Barbershop Chorus.

2016-2017 Supporting Members

Actor's Circle (\$25-\$49)

Janann Bachtell	Zachary & Jillian Herrmann	Jeanne & Donald Niosi
Steve Beaumont	Joyce Hoth	Brad & Deb Orvis
Dennis & Mary Beck	Tony & Suzanne Huebsch	Don & Ann Ott
Mike Johnson & Jaydeane Berns	Lu Ann & John Hunt	Dorothy J. Petersen
Edwin Bishop	Glenn & Laura Janssen	Bill & Dorothy Peterson
Don & Anita Blaker	Randall & Haleisa Johnson	Larry Popenhagen
Barbara K. Boies	Eric & Carol Jorgensen	LeAnn Popenhagen
Dwayne & Joan Liffing-Zug	David & Mary Kahrs	Floyd & Janice Possehl
Bourret	Ron & Georgi Kaiser	Ann K. Powers
Elmer & Theresa Bries	Cary & Jonelle Kann	Larry & Jennifer Reed
Luann Butikofer	Cheryl Keltner	Bill & Annette Reimer
Keith & Linda Campbell	Dennis & Pam Kemming	Gerald & Arlene Reimer
Mike & Joanne Carroll	Thomas & Agnes Kenney	James & Jeanice Reimer
Jerry and Joanne Cummings	Patsy Kerndt	Lynn Rider
Darlene Dittmer	Keith & Anita Kobliska	Arlene Ritter
Tina Dryer	Gerry & Sandy Kramer	Edwin & Linda Roberts
Ann Feller	Fred & Lynn Lange	Gregory & Marjorie Schaefers
John & Betty Fischer	Harry & Dorene Larson	Rhonda Schmelzer
Pat & Arlys Fitzgerald	Kevin & Kim Lau	Sonja Sersland
Jerry & Chris Foley	Jerry & Deb Leahy	Wendy & Barry Shea
Linda Gardner & Anne Shelton	Dorothy Lucas	Allan & Mary Smith
David & Ann Gibney	Sharon Matthew	Kenneth & Linda Staff
Robert & Donna Gilkes	Victoria Carolan & Howard Mayer	Alice Staples
Ruth Goings	Karilyn McArthur	Duane & Sara Strong
Thomas M. & Joan D. Good	Janelle & George McClain	Robyn & Dorothy Tangeman
Jenny Gordon	Bill McHugh	Jim & Karen Teaser
Ruth Grau	Donna Menken	Joyce Thurn
Bob Griffith	Donna Menken	Ed & Dianne Uriell
Jean Marie Hall	John & Jane Metcalf	Calvin & Linda Van Nieuwal
Rick & Roberta Hass	Stanley & Sharlene Milewsky	Karla Vogel & Bob Myers
Magdalena Hayford	Harry & Linda Miller	Jim & Judy Walter
Tom & Nancy Healy	Joan Moore	Mick Weiss
La Vonne & Daniel Helle	Carl & Laura Moser	Morris & Sandy Weller
Randy & Sue Henning	Justine Nesvik	Lee Whalen
	Richard & Mary Newbern	

Playwright's Circle (\$50-\$99)

Francis(Gus) & LaVonne	Bona Dean Feller
Augustson	Ted & Janet Finn
Lois Banse Memorial	Colin & Caitlin Frazer
Martha & Stephen	Guy & Emily Ghan
Bartenhagen	Don & Lee Gordon
Charles & Jan Beall	Madonna Hosch
Shirley Best	Thomas & Marquerite
Dave & Victoria Breitbach	Hunzinger
Patricia Cantwell	Trudy Johnson
Lorna Christeleit	Thelma Keehner
Clint & Joyce Dennis	Rolfe & Barbara Leary
Kurt & NiCole Dennler	Bill & Sue Leonhart

Bob Hankey, Sound Bob first started helping at the sound board with *Forgotten Carols* (2011) and has helped with many shows since that time. Behind the scenes is as close to the stage as Bob cares to get but enjoys volunteering at the Opera House and elsewhere. Bob has worked at Keystone AEA for 34 years in the I.T. Department and is proud to call Elkader home. Bob and his wife, Susanne, have three grown sons.

Cheri Moser, Publicity / Sound Cheri has directed, choreographed, played in the pit or been on stage in 27 OHP shows, beginning back in 3rd grade with *Annie* (1992). She directed last Fall's *Willy Wonka* and also enjoyed producing two Cabarets on the Opera House stage earlier this spring. Cheri is thrilled to be a part of this T. Gregory Argall world premiere! She played one of the lead characters in the 2013 world premiere of his play, *The Accidental Hit-Man Blues*. Now she's just as excited to watch her husband, Jonathon, as he takes the task of being the first to portray one of Tom's amazing characters. She also wants to mention that she's directing *Catch Me If You Can* for the OHP this fall! So make sure you come back to the Opera House to check that out September 29th - October 2nd!

Terri Strutt, Tickets Terri first became acquainted with the Opera House Players in 1992 when she suggested her husband take their daughters to Elkader to audition for *Annie*. All three came home with roles and her family has been involved ever since. She volunteered to be the Ticket Lady (also known as the Ticket Queen) in 1995 and has enjoyed being part of the front of house. She has loved watching her husband, Craig, children, Nichole (Joel Lustre), Peter (Gowoon Kim), Cheri (Jonathon Moser) & Brian (Alissa Stormont) and now even their grandchildren, Mariah, Taryn, Trace & Gretel Moser perform on the OH stage.

Joeann Tesar, Director With her debut in this role, she is quite proud of all the amazing people who so generously gave their many talents to create an unforgettable experience with this wonderful play. Joeann is a Chicago native with a lifelong love of performing. Unfortunately her college aspirations of majoring in theatre fell apart when she discovered free Tuesdays at The Art Institute and ended up spending many happy hours playing hooky. Art, in all its many forms and unforgettable characters both on and off the canvas, captured her imagination ever since (by the way, she'd like to thank Calder, Chagall, Renoir, and Jonathon Moser for their ideas to her set design for this show). She rekindled her love of theatre in 2011 with her first OHP performance as Lillian in *The Forgotten Carols* and, although she has thoroughly enjoyed every role she has been lucky enough to acquire, her favorites to date are Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (2014), Conchita in *Copacabana* (2013), and Mrs. Winters in *Self-Help by Dummiez* (2012) (a comedy co-written by T. Gregory Argall with Todd McGinnis). She is married to her husband of 21 years, Dan, who is a talented farrier and blacksmith. They are very proud of their son, Danny, who not only is successfully following in his father's footsteps but also looking forward to his study of Agricultural Mechanics at Southwest Tech in the fall.

**The Opera House Players Present
A WORLD PREMIER EVENT**

South of Hope

by

T. Gregory Argall

Produced by special arrangement with
the author

Director Joeann Tesar

Producer Kay Moser



Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
Flash Photography and any Recording Strictly Prohibited



The Elkader Opera House has an induction loop system thanks to an upgrade of the sound equipment by the Opera House Players. With the activation of the T-coil by your audiologist and instruction on its use, you can receive the maximum benefit from your hearing aid.

The internal tonal correction of your hearing aid will bring the sounds you hear directly to you without the use of an additional receiver or headset. Two portable units are available for your use as well. Please request the use of a unit when you place your ticket order. This loop system is available for main floor seating only, so if you want to maximize your hearing experience, please request main floor seating when purchasing your tickets. It will not be available for this production.



DESIGNER'S CIRCLE (\$250-\$499)

**Anne Kruse,
Attorney at Law -
McGregor**

**Norby's Farm Fleet -
Elkader**

Caterpillar - Elkader

**Pro Build Company
LLC Elkader**

**Fennellys' Irish Pub
Elkader**

**St. Olaf Tavern
Randy & Lisa Lenth
St. Olaf**

**Fitzgerald Inc. -
Elkader**

**Strutt Chiropractic
Clinic**

**Heritage Printing
Company Elkader**

**Dr. Craig Strutt &
Dr. Jonathon Moser
McGregor**

**Mobile Track
Solutions LLC
Elkader**

**Swales Precast Inc
Roger & Alane
Swales**

**Moser Family
Pharmacy
Elkader**

Strawberry Point

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$500-\$749)



Elkader Coralville Iowa City

Marquette McGregor Walford

www.centralstate.bank

MEET THE CAST

Janet Ott as Catherine Dunhill Janet is very happy to be playing Catherine and has said, "This play makes you think about how you handle life when bad things happen. There are lessons that can be learned; the biggest is that attitude plays a major role in how we deal with adversity, laugh or cry." Janet has been with the OHP since *Peter Pan* (1989) when she made her debut as the crocodile. She then retreated backstage helping as Stage Manager or with set moves. She slowly made her way back onstage as part of the chorus in several musicals until 2009 when she had the lead in *Don't Dress for Dinner*. Janet has been in or worked on over two dozen shows with the OHP. She alternates between being onstage and backstage depending on where she is needed. Janet and her husband, Clark, have three children, Bryan, Erin and Traci, a daughter-in-law, Cassandra, a very cute three year-old granddaughter, Freyja, and an adorable almost one year-old granddaughter, Zinnia, who live in the Black Hills with their parents (Bryan and Cassandra). Erin resides in Denver, Colorado and Traci in Chicago, Illinois.

Jenna Kristine Pollock as Jayne Kobish Inspired by wild places, Jenna serves as the Clayton County Conservation Board Director. She also serves as a founding member of the Upper Mississippi <40 Young Professionals Group. The color green (in all shades), woodland excursions with her two black labs, splashing in puddles (with tall rubber boots), her niece and nephews giggles, and memorable moments on the Pollock Farm all serve as Jenna's "Happy Shields." In her own words, "We've all been there, and we'll travel back a time or two again, just a little South of Hope - rebelling against the stages of grief and feeling completely alone. It's doing what makes us happy, spending time with those we love and surrounding ourselves with strangers that turn into lifelong friends that propels us north. Thank you for joining us on this journey."

Jonathon Moser as Johnny Greer / Set Construction Jonathon is so excited to be involved in his first world premiere production at the Elkader Opera House! He knew he wanted to be a part of this wonderful, thought-provoking show the second he picked up the script many months ago. Jonathon has performed in or directed over 25 shows on this stage. Some of his recent favorites include *The Last Five Years* (2012), *Copacabana* (2013), and *Shrek the Musical* (2015). Jonathon is a chiropractor in McGregor where he lives with his wife, Cheri, and four children: Mariah (9), Taryn (7), Trace (6), and Gretel (3). He is also the co-owner of Grumpsters Cabins, a beautiful getaway in the hills of McGregor. He wants to thank Tom Argall for writing such a beautiful script and for being such a great friend to the OHP!

OUR 2016-2017 PATRONS

ACTOR'S CIRCLE (\$25-\$49)

Bodley Equipment & Repair - Postville	Everett's Service - Betty Marmann - Elkader
Celtic Touch Therapeutic Massage - Elkader	Farmer's Culligan Water Conditioning - Elkader
Copper Frog - Elkader	Ishman Jewelry - Elkader
Corby's Tire & Muffler, Inc. - Elkader	Safariland Taxidermy - Elkader
Dan Bickel Insurance - McGregor	Seabrooke's Accounting Service - Elgin
David Olson - Associates / Ameriprise Financial Inc. - Decorah	St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Elkader
Esser's Shoe & Clothing - Matt Esser - Guttenberg	Witt's Custom Framing & Gallery - Elkader

PLAYWRIGHT'S CIRCLE (\$50-\$99)

Citizen's State Bank - Strawberry Point
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International Strawberry Point
Elkader Eye Clinic - Elkader
Elkader Inn - Dennis & Sandra Bahls - Elkader
Elkader Tax and Bookkeeping - Elkader
Jansen Products Web Design & Hosting - Elkader
JEM Salon & Spa - Elkader
Lady Luck Casino - Marquette
Marge Banse, LMT - North Gate Healing Center &
Therapeutic Massage Elkader - Strawberry Point

Craig Strutt, Tech Director Craig, has acted in, directed, or otherwise been an integral part of 54 OHP productions since returning to the OHP stage in *Annie* (1992) where he played the role of Oliver Warbucks. He directed such OHP productions as *The Wizard of Oz* (2004), *Music Man* (2009) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (2014). He was last seen on stage in *Christmas on Broadway* (2015). To answer the most asked question, "Would you rather direct, or be on stage?" - Craig points out that they are two very different things, each with their own joys. Craig lives in McGregor with his wife, Terri, the "Ticket Queen". They are still experiencing the joys of being grandparents to Mariah, Taryn, Trace, and Gretel Moser. Craig is a chiropractor in McGregor.

Del Reimer, Lights Del became one of the *light guys* with the Opera House Players in the 1999 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He has worked the light booth for most OHP and rental productions ever since. Del appeared twice on stage as a chorus member in *The Governor's Son* (2003) and *The Forgotten Carols* (2011). He also assists with upgrades to the lighting equipment, special lighting, sound effects, and occasionally builds set pieces. Del spends more time at the Opera House since retiring from Alliant Energy in 2016. He and his wife, Marla, have two adult children - Nicole (Mike) and Derek (Michelle) who were both involved in OHP shows.

Jay Moser, Lights Jay has been involved with the OHP since 1973. While you can usually find him behind the audience running lights, he has also appeared in nearly 20 productions beginning with *Woman at Dead Oaks* (1980) and most recently *While the Lights Were Out* (2017). Jay is a pharmacist/owner of Moser Family Pharmacy in Elkader. He and his wife, Kay, have two sons. Benjamin and wife, Jenna, live and teach in Manchester and look forward to the birth of their first child this fall. Jonathon, a chiropractor, and wife, Cheri, live in McGregor along with their four wonderful children, Mariah, Taryn, Trace and Gretel.

Marla Reimer, Sound Marla began the adventure of operating the sound board with the fall musical, *Children of Eden* in 2002. Since then, she has managed microphones for every OHP production! A one-time appearance on stage in 1974 was enough for her. She now helps on occasion with costumes, props, and rentals. A talented multi-tasker, Marla coordinates our volunteer ushers for all OHP shows and has developed a love of telling audience members "where to go" when she is the Head Usher. Marla is semi-retired and currently works at JEM Salon & Spa in Guest Services. She and her husband, Del, have two adult children – Nicole (Mike) and Derek (Michelle) – who were both involved in OHP shows.

Jean Maehl
Barbara Martin
Diane & David McKenzie &
Family
In Memory of Ron Meyer
Gene & Barb Milewsky
Mary Milewsky
Bob & Susie Moran
Steve & Kathy Mueller
Maury & Letty Oehler
Neal & Anne Perry
Robert & Bonnie Pruett
Ken & Alice Reimer

Mark & Pam Reinig
Pat Ritter
Rich & Barb Roepke
Edmund & Barbara Ruff
Marilyn Sedorff
Lowell & Joyce Siegele
Sue Stott
Rod Torkelson
J.P & Cindy Zapf
Patricia Zidlicky

Choreographer's Circle (\$100-\$249)

Joel & Karen Bankes
Lyle & Jean Beck
Tom & Barbara Chandler
Herb Collins
Terri Connell
Lois Cordes
Tim & Diane Fisk
Becky Fritz
Florence Gifford
John & Sue Gnagy
Don & Mary Harstad
Robert & Theresa Hauber
Nancy K. Henricksen
Rev Nils Hernandez
Robert & Debra Huck
Pat Hunsberger
Dick & Mary Jensen
David & Leigh Ann Judge
Don & Marilyn Kamaus
Jim & Laurie Klosterboer
Lanny & Linda Kuehl

Russell & Juanita Loven
Pat Martin
Steven & Ann
McCorkindale
Randi & Pete McNally
Bobbi Mohning
Charles & Sydney Morine
John & Erika Moyna
Judy Moyna
Arma Jean Newbern
Jim & Sue Osterhaus
David & Joy Roslien
Lanny & Linda Scheffert
Jim & Margaret Schultz
Dr. Andy & M.J. Smith
Larry & Margaret Stone
R. Kirk & Peggy Swigart
Roger & Rosemary Thomas
Clyde & Sandy Thompson
Marge Walter
Jean Welsh

The Cast

CATHERINE DUNHILL

..... Janet Ott

JOHNNY GREER

..... Jonathon Moser

JAYNE KOBISH

..... Jenna Pollock

LARRY FOSTER

..... Cary Kann

THE SCENES

LOCALE: Office / Nearby Park

TIME: Current Day

ACT I

There will be a 15 minute intermission

ACT II

Please join the production team, actors, and playwright after this performance for a "meet and greet." T. Gregory Argall (South of Hope playwright) will be available to sign his books (available for purchase after the show) and would be delighted to meet you.

Upcoming events at the Elkader Opera House

Tonic SoL-FA
Friday July 7th - 7:30pm

Email: list@operahouseplayers.com
The Opera House Players
Present



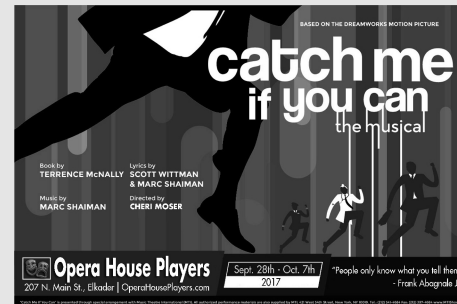
Performance July 14, 2017 - 7pm
& July 15, 2017 - 2pm



Dec 1, 2, 8, 9, 2017
7:30pm
Dec 3, 10, 2017 2:00pm
Matinees

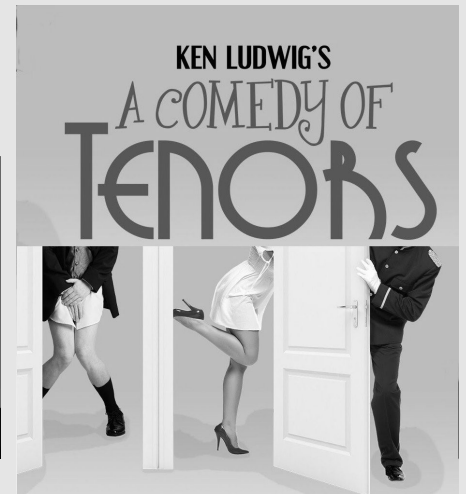
The Opera House Players
Present

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Sept 29, 30, Oct 5, 6, 7, 2017 - 7:30pm
Matinees Thursday Sept 28, Sunday Oct 1, 2017 - 2:00pm

We maintain an email list to keep you informed of events, and occasional special offers just for our email members.



April 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2018 - 7:30pm
Matinee Sunday Apr 8, 2018 - 2:00pm

Be sure to check out our websites for more information on upcoming events.