



Spotlight

Find us on the web:
<http://rcctheatre.org>

***The Cemetery Club* Opens May 10**

Just because the word “cemetery” appears in the title, don’t expect this to be a sad or tearful play. In fact, *The Cemetery Club* is a rollicking, fun-filled exploration of friendship, love and the inextinguishable zest for life. Based on a play by Ivan Mitchell, the original 1990 Broadway production was made into a film in 1993 featuring Olympia Dukakis, Ellyn Burstyn and Diane Ladd.

The main characters in the production are three women who have recently lost their husbands. Each month, the women gather to visit their spouses’ graves, and meet afterwards to discuss their lives. Each woman has a different approach to managing widowhood. The friends must address a wide array of emotions arising from

their new single status, ranging from loneliness and guilt to revenge.

The plot thickens when one of the club members begins seeing a new beau. This new relationship sparks some judgmental remarks and even outright jealousy within the group. Things come to a head at the late-season wedding of another friend.

The strength of this production lies in the relationships between characters, the wonderful dialogue and the willingness to confront the roller-coaster aspects of life, fate and friendship. We can laugh at the characters only because they remind us of ourselves.

Critics have called the production “funny, sweet-tempered and moving.” Don’t miss this opportunity to share pure pleasure!

**T · H · E
CEMETERY
C · L · U · B**



Performance dates for *The Cemetery Club* are May 10, 11, 12; 17, 18 & 19; Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, and Sunday matinees at 2:00.

For information, call the box office at (989) 734-7368. A ticket order form is available on page 3 of this newsletter.

Inside this issue:

President’s Corner Mike Marx	2
Youth Summer Show: <i>Disney’s Little Mermaid</i>	2
Community Characters: Mary Lyon	3
Ticket Order Form	3
About Our Theatre	4

Did you know that:

- The flashing house lights before a performance have a set time schedule
- The first flash occurs five minutes before the show starts
- The second flash comes two minutes before the show
- The same time system is used at intermission
- This system safely seats our audience without disrupting the performance

Cast and Crew for *The Cemetery Club*

Ida:
Val Schalk

Lucille:
Charlotte Heidemann

Doris:
Elaine Heidemann

Sam:
Bob Starnes III

Mildred:
Mary Lyon

Director:
Mike Marx

Assistant Director:
Mary Lyon

Set Design & Construction:
Karl W. Heidemann and
Mike Marx

Volunteers are always needed!

President's Corner

by Mike Marx



Spring is taking its time getting here this year, but the theatrical season at RCCT is moving forward with our second production of the year, *The Cemetery Club*. Our first production, *Annie Get Your Gun*, was a fun time that helped get us through a Rogers City winter. I hope the fun we had showed through to the audience. Its always enjoy-

able to be with our "theater family," both the veterans and the newbies. If you ever get an "itch" to join us, please do. New friends are always needed to bring their talents to our productions and help keep our shows fresh.

National Volunteer week was just celebrated and I would like to take the time to thank all our volun-

teers. From our actresses and actors, all the tech people, marketing people, those who man the ticket booth and ticket takers, right down to our board members.

At Rogers City Community Theatre, we are all volunteers, sharing one of our passions: live theater. So to all who volunteer: Thank You!

Disney's *The Little Mermaid Jr.*

RCCT Summer Youth Program



The Rogers City Community Theatre will stage *The Little Mermaid Jr.* as the summer youth theatre production for 2013. Open auditions will be held at the theatre on June 25 and June 26, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Youth between the ages of 8 and 17 may try out. Prior experience is welcome but not required.

While at least two girls and 2 boys are needed for major speaking roles, an additional six or seven speaking roles can be cast as either male or female. Chorus members are also needed for the show's award-winning song and dance ensemble numbers.

A detailed rehearsal

schedule will be available after the parts are cast, but rehearsals will typically be held Mondays through Fridays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Performance dates are August 22, 23, 24 & 25.

For more information, contact director Andrea Schulwitz: andreaschulwitz@hotmail.com

How'd They Do That?

Rifle Twirling, Annie Style



One of the many skills on display in *Annie Get Your Gun* was rifle twirling. Heather Nordenbrock, who played Annie, came to the part well prepared to twirl, after two years in the Rogers City High School Band's drill team and four years in the Golden Buffalos Marching Band Flag Corps. But a problem soon

emerged. "The gun wasn't balanced, so it wouldn't twirl. The stock end was too heavy," said Nordenbrock. "We tried a real gun, but my dad (Karl Heidemmann, a cast member) just freaked out when the script had me point it at him. So we had to go back and improve on the fake gun."

Lawrence Anderson, who

made all the wooden guns for the show, soon devised a fix. He acquired a heavy metal ring from a plumbing supply store. The ring was threaded on the inside, so he threaded it onto the end of the wood gun barrel as a counterweight. Then the whole barrel, with weight, was painted black. Result? "Perfectly balanced!" according to Nordenbrock.

Community Characters: Mary Lyon

Getting on stage at the Rogers City Community Theatre was one of Mary Lyon's bucket list items. Mary had been attending performances at the theatre since she and her husband Charlie moved Up North from Frankenmouth in 2002. "I just loved seeing those plays," said Mary, "but I thought I was far too shy to do it myself. Then I saw the female version of the *Odd Couple*. It was fantastic, but it also made me think, 'Hey, maybe I could do that too.' So I finally decided to give it a try."

Mary's first on-stage appearance was in *Annie Get Your Gun*. "The whole cast was so welcoming, and we had so much fun working together. In fact, I never laughed so much in my

entire life."

Being a cast member does require a good deal of time, and even a few life style changes. "With the evening rehearsals, my former nine o'clock bedtime was shot. But being more active had other benefits. I do have pretty constant pain due to a medical situation, and yet by participating in the plays, I could just ignore that pain for long periods of time. I even quit smoking, because the smell of it bothered other people. Being in the cast seemed to bring a whole attitude change, and I felt really happy."

In addition to being in the cast of *The Cemetery Club*, Mary is serving as Assistant Director for the show. "I like the idea of improving things by



Mary Lyon with her grandson

trying out little changes. I like the way the shows are organized, and the support we get from the whole community. I'm a Red Hat, so I do enjoy helping people just have fun."

Order Your Tickets Today

Ticket Order Form (Fill out, clip and mail to address below. Tickets will held for pick up at box office.)

Please reserve for pick-up the number and type of tickets indicated below:

Number:	Amount:
_____ Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions for \$50	_____
_____ General Admission to <i>Cemetery Club</i> @ \$12 each	_____
_____ Senior Admission to <i>Cemetery Club</i> @ \$10 each	_____
_____ Student Admission to <i>Cemetery Club</i> @ \$6 each	_____
_____ List me as a footlight sponsor in all 2013 programs @ \$25 this season	_____
_____ List me as a spotlight sponsor in all 2013 programs @ \$50 this season	_____
_____ Donation toward Summer Youth Theater program	_____
Total:	_____

Information for program listing or ticket pick-up:

Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Make check payable to : Rogers City Community Theatre
 Mail ticket order form to: 257 North Third Street
 Rogers City, MI 49779



Are you an Angel?

The Rogers City Community Theatre has the lowest live theater ticket price in Northeast Michigan, making donations an important part of our budget. Therefore, the RCCT Board has decided to expand levels of Program Sponsorship to include the following new categories for donations:

- _____ \$100 Donor
- _____ \$250 Patron
- _____ \$500 Angel

All Program Sponsors will be recognized under the appropriate category heading in all 2013 show programs. Thanks for your continuing 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



Find us on the web:
<http://rcctheatre.org>

To:

PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
ROGERS CITY, MI 49779
PERMIT NO. 115

Temp - Return Service Requested



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!

About Our Theatre

The Rogers Theatre was constructed in 1937 as a classic, single screen small town movie palace in the Art Deco style. After a fire in 1947, the theatre was re-built and expanded. Serving as a downtown landmark for decades, the theatre was purchased in 2003 by Karl W. Heidemann. The new owner added a stage, theatrical lighting and utility improvements. In 2004, live productions began alternating with first run movies, in a revitalized auditorium. In the summer of 2009, exterior restoration brought back the black and orange tile work of the original theatre façade.

Once the stage was available, an informal group of local theatre fanatics emerged that now constitutes the Rogers City Community Theatre (RCCT). In 2006, a youth summer theatre program began as well. Community cast members have ranged in age from 6 to 94. New theatre volunteers are always welcome, both on stage and behind the scenes. Come join the fun!

In 2009, the RCCT incorporated as a Michigan non-profit organization and received IRS approval for federal non-profit status. Contributions are appreciated, and are now tax deductible.