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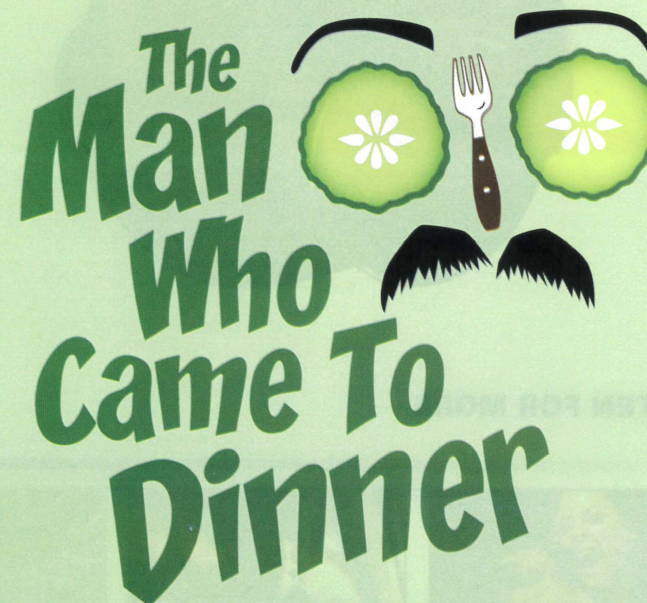
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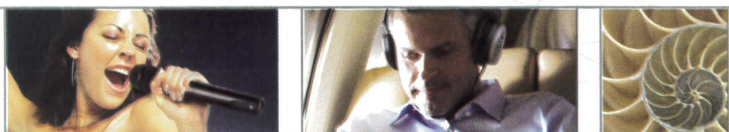
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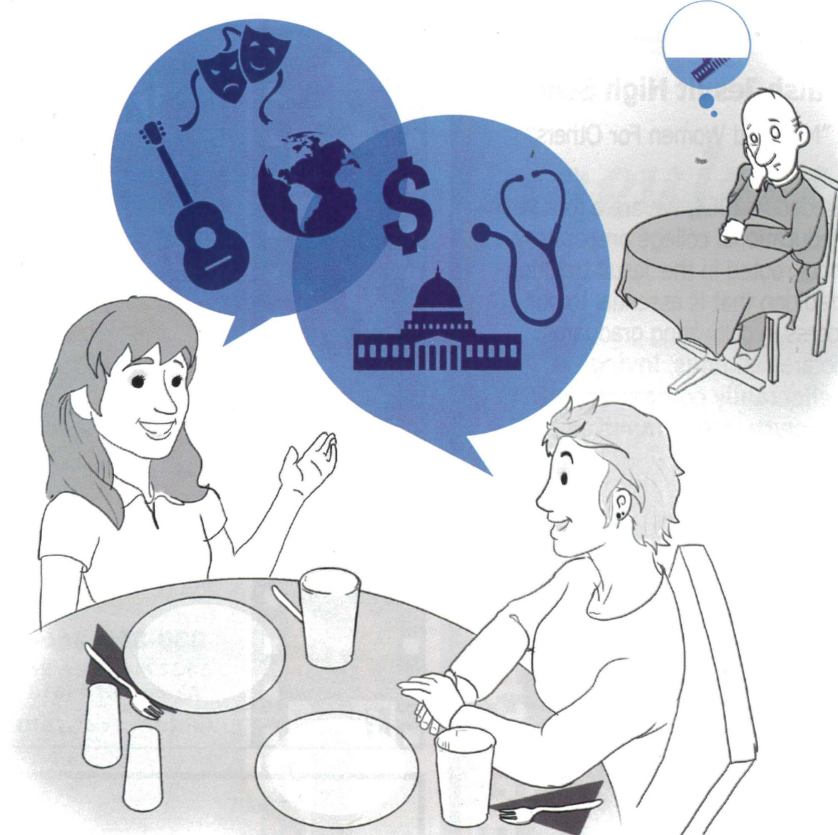


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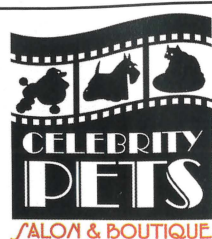
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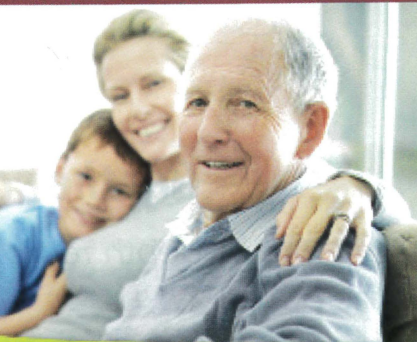


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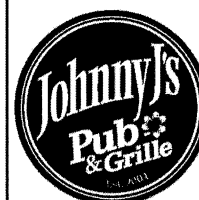
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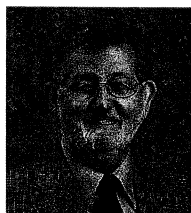
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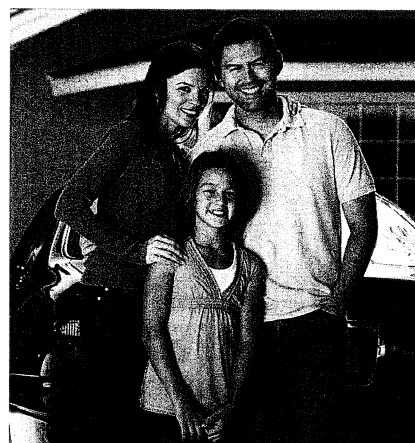
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley ...

Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members – Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch – and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal was to present a wide spectrum of plays: classics, dramas, comedies, new works – even opera – with casting open to anyone who fit a part.

The women chose a carnival as their fundraiser to start paying the rent. Despite a drenching downpour, they raised \$60. They named their space "Weathervane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weathervane opened its first season. During that summer of 1935, the group presented seven fully costumed and staged plays. In 1936, Muriel MacLachlan, with the other founders, offered classes to children and adults, beginning a tradition that has become today's Education Department. In 1938, a Women's Board was formed to offer volunteer financial assistance. This group is now the Volunteer Guild.

The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1474 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse was handled by the Operating Board, which reported to the Board of Trustees. Because directors were becoming scarce, the Board hired Bob Belfance as full-time Manager/Director. He held the position from 1961-1969 and from 1974-1992. During the Copley Road days, plays were presented six days a week. Because of their popularity, not everyone who wanted to see a show could be accommodated. A new home was planned.

During the 1960s, the membership's plans came together in June 1970 with the opening of *Dark of the Moon* here on Weathervane Lane. Longtime friend and founder Grace Hower Crawford died in 1971, remembering the Playhouse in her will. Her money enabled the Board to pare down the mortgage and set up an Endowment Fund. The last mortgage payment was made in 1974 through a contribution of the Women's Board. Three major additions followed: these included first-floor restrooms, classrooms, a costume shop, fly gallery and elevator. The former scene shop became the John L. Dietz Theater/Classroom in 2005 and the lobby project was completed in 2009 in time for the opening of the 75th season. Weathervane is proud to celebrate its 81st Season.

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HAL SCROGGY

The Man Who Came To Dinner is a beloved, classic American comedy. Therefore, it seems fitting to have work in the Harris Family Gallery done by a wonderfully talented, classic artist. Hal Scroggy recently celebrated his 95th birthday. Ill health has prevented him from painting for the last few years. However, during the past several months, Hal has felt rejuvenated and has gone back to his easel to create new pieces for this exhibit.

This will mark the third time that Hal Scroggy has been in the Harris Family Gallery in the past 30 years. I am so pleased to feature him again at Weathervane. He is an award-winning watercolorist in the United States and has exhibited extensively across the nation. Hal also is critically acclaimed in the U.K. His work has been included in three volumes of *Splash*, which is a prestigious annual publication that features the best paintings of internationally recognized watercolorists.

Hal was discovered by artist Roy Wilhelm when he was in grade school. He studied several years with Wilhelm, a local commercial artist who founded the Akron Society of Artists and was part of the "New Movement" in watercolor. Wilhelm helped Hal get accepted at The Cleveland Institute of Art.

Hal also served in World War II (infantry cannons). After the war, he worked in fashion illustration, motion pictures, television and as Art Director of Publications for B.F. Goodrich for 20 years.

When he retired, Hal began serious impressionistic watercolor paintings. His philosophy is, "I paint adjectives rather than nouns." He was a founding member of The Ohio Watercolor Society and a signature member of The American Watercolor Society (ASW). Hal also belongs to The Transparent Watercolor Society and The Whiskey Painters of America.

Hal's work, which features people and places from around the globe, seems a perfect complement to the current production, which, although is set in a small town in Ohio, has characters from other cities and countries whirling into the action of the play.

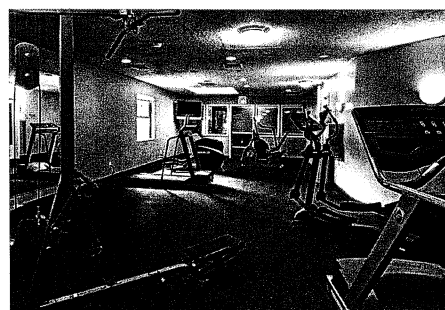
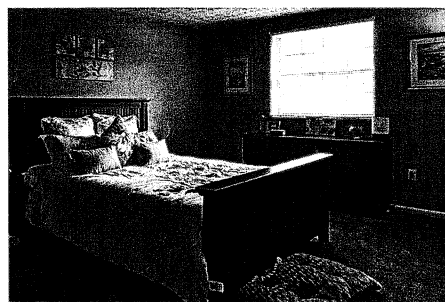
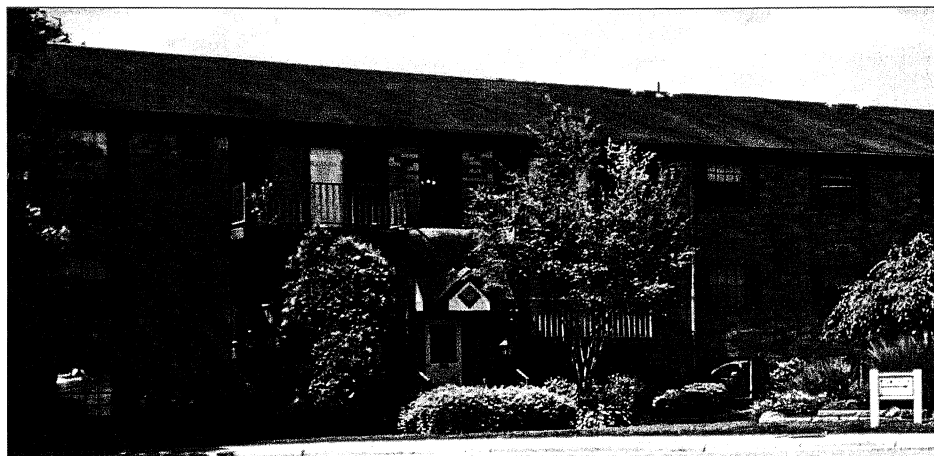
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MAINSTAGE SERIES

The Man Who Came To Dinner

By Moss Hart
and George S. Kaufman

Directed by **JIM FIPPIN**

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They say that fish and houseguests stink after three days. That old saying is proven true indeed in this delightful comedy from the late 1930s!

Upon arriving to dine at the Ohio home of a rich factory owner, a famously grumpy New York radio host slips on ice and breaks his hip — forcing him to stay at the house for weeks! In no time at all, the hapless houseguest proceeds to drive his hosts mad by monopolizing their house, terrorizing their staff, running up large phone bills and inviting strange guests!

The “man” of the play’s title refers to the character Sheridan Whiteside, the sharp-tongued sophisticate who holds court at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Stanley. The highly successful playwrighting duo Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman created Whiteside in honor of their real-life friend, Alexander Woollcott, the formidable writer and critic. Very much like his theatrical counterpart Whiteside, the imperious Woollcott suffered no fool gladly. A longtime writer for *The New Yorker* and host of the popular CBS radio show *The Town Crier* in the mid 1930s, Woollcott was renowned for his poison pen and acidic prose. According to New York University professor Laurence Maslon, Woollcott was the ultimate “taste-tester and

taste-maker” who “wielded an opinion and rapier-like wit that few could match.”

Packed with dozens of references to the celebrities, politicians, plays and books that would be well known to the audience of its day, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* remains a perfect “Who’s Who” of late-1930s popular culture and newsmakers. If you find yourself scratching your head to catch all of the famous names and titles mentioned throughout the play, connect online to www.georgeskaufman.com. Just click on the “archive” section to read a completely fascinating glossary of the play’s numerous citations.

The Man Who Came to Dinner premiered at the Music Box Theatre in New York City on Oct. 16, 1939, and played for 739 performances before closing on July 12, 1941. A film adaptation followed in 1942 and featured two of its best-known original Broadway cast members (Monty Wooley as the overbearing Whiteside and Mary Wickes as his long-suffering nurse Miss Preen). Broadway has seen two additional revivals of the show (in 1980 and in 2000), and the show also inspired a musical version, *Sherry!*, which played for 72 performances on Broadway in 1967.

From the Director, Jim Fippin

Alexander Woollcott (1887-1943), the inspiration for the character of Sheridan Whiteside in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, was an American author, critic, a front-line war correspondent (during the first World War), and radio personality, celebrated for his flamboyant character and acerbic wit. In a time before television, his radio program, *The Town Crier*, established his reputation as a raconteur, gossip, conversationalist, wit, and man-about-town (the town being New York). He wielded great influence as a critic of both literature and theatre; he could make a book a best-seller with a mention on his program and was instrumental in making the Marx Brothers the darlings of Broadway, and later, Hollywood. Friend and confidante of the jet set (before the advent of the jet), he was a prominent member of the Algonquin Circle, a group of literary and show business types that included Dorothy Parker, Robert Benchley, Herman Mankiewicz and George S. Kaufman. It was Kaufman, along with his frequent collaborator Moss Hart, who promised Woollcott a theatrical vehicle to showcase his Falstaffian persona. Stumped for an idea, and besieged by an increasingly impatient Woollcott, the playwrights were inspired by Hart’s recollection of a nightmarish weekend spent by their subject at Hart’s Bucks County

home. Arriving uninvited, Woollcott proceeded to terrorize the servants, insult his host and the other guests, and on his departure, signed the guest book, “This is to certify that I had one of the most unpleasant times I ever spent.” When Kaufman remarked that it was fortunate Woollcott had not broken his leg and stayed on to convalesce, Hart knew that they had their play, and a hit was born. *The Man Who Came to Dinner* had a successful run in New York (Woollcott did not play Whiteside on Broadway, although he did appear in the play on the road), was a hit film (featuring Monty Wooley and Bette Davis), and has been frequently revived, most notably with Nathan Lane as Whiteside in 2000.

On a personal note: in 1983, when I was a sophomore at Otterbein University (back then it was just a college), I was the prop master for *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. The show was directed by Doctor Charles “Doc” Dodrill, and designed by Professor Fred “Pop” Thayer, the two men who transformed the theatre program at Otterbein from a liberal arts minor into one of the most prestigious pre-professional programs in the country. While I can never repay the debt I owe both of them, I would like to dedicate this show to their memory. This one is for them... and of course, for you, our audience. Enjoy!

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

MOSS HART (1904-1961) and **GEORGE S. KAUFMAN** (1889-1961) first collaborated on *Once in a Lifetime* (1930) followed by seven other plays including *Merrily We Roll Along* (19834), the Pulitzer Prize-winning *You Can’t Take It With You* (1936), *The Fabulous Invalid* (1938), *The American Way* (1939), *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (1939) and *George Washington Slept Here* (1940). Kaufman’s other collaborators included Edna Ferber (*The Royal Family* and *Dinner at Eight*), George and Ira Gershwin (the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Of Thee I Sing*) and the Marx Brothers (*Animal Crackers* and the screenplay for *A Night at the Opera*). Hart wrote the books

for *As Thousands Cheer* (with a score by Irving Berlin), *Jubilee* (Cole Porter) and *Lady in the Dark* (Kurt Weill and Ira Gershwin). Hart’s other works include the play *Light Up the Sky*, screenplays for *Gentleman’s Agreement* (1947) and the Judy Garland version of *A Star is Born* (1954), and his best-selling memoir *Act One* (1959). Kaufman and Hart also directed many of their own works. Each man won a Tony Award for best director: Kaufman for *Guys and Dolls* and Hart for *My Fair Lady*.

(Sources: the Internet Broadway Database, playbill.com and georgeskaufman.com)


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come, too! On that evening, current subscribers, who have already had a sneak peek at a list of the plays, will hear descriptions by the director of that production. (Most should be present and those who won't will be represented by our Artistic Director.) That night, there will also be special price for the 2016-17 season subscriptions and dessert will be provided. Please RSVP to the box office at 330-836-2626. We would love for you to be a part of not just that evening, but of a whole year of wonderful evenings of art and theatre!

THANKS TO OUR HARD-WORKING VOLUNTEERS

The following are the dedicated volunteers who have assisted us recently.

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Pamela Lightner

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Greg Bealer	Professor Metz
Adam Young	Luncheon Guest (Henderson)/Expressman
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Adrienne Jones	Lorainne Sheldon
Danny O'Donnell	Sandy
Patrick Michael Dukeman	Beverly Carlton
Scott Thanasiu	Michaelson/Westcott/Plainclothes Man
Benjamin Fortin	Banjo

SCENES

The time: December 1939

The place: The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley
in a small town in Ohio.

Act I

Scene 1: A December morning.

Scene 2: Late afternoon about a week later.

Act II

Another week has passed. Christmas Eve.

Act III

Christmas morning.

There will be two 15-minute intermissions.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Set Construction

David Deming
Roger Dieringer
Dale Gilbert
Tom Marshall
Ruth Richardson

Costumes

Loretta Brinton
Jen Desberg
Millie Keyser

Joanna Mack

Pat Nichols
Therese Sheffer

Costume Stock Crew

Yvonne Chapman
Diane Geul
Melanie Hauer
Linda Jarvis

See your playbill insert for Sound, Lights and Properties Crew Lists and other acknowledgements.



JIM FIPPIN (*Director*) has been acting, directing and otherwise engaged in northeast Ohio theatre for thirty years. He has appeared on stage at Actors' Summit, Porthouse Theatre, Weathervane Playhouse, Coach House Theatre, The Players Guild, Magical Theatre Company and with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival and the Largely Literary Theatre Company. His resume includes roles in *How the Other Half Loves*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Children of a Lesser God*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Henry IV; Part One*, *Bus Stop*, *Richard III*, *Lettice and Lovage*, *Custer*, *The Real Thing*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Lion in Winter*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Hamlet*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Noises Off*, *Twelfth Night*, *Another Antigone*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *King Lear*. During his tenure as Artistic Director at Coach House Theatre (2000-2007), Jim directed *A Life in the Theatre*, *Don't Drink the Water*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Proof*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *California Suite*, *Private Lives*, *Art*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Educating Rita*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, *Betrayal*, *Chapter Two* and *Play It Again, Sam*. At Weathervane, he has directed *Italian American Reconciliation*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, and appeared on stage in *The Rainmaker*, *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *August: Osage County*, *Uncle Vanya* and *Life With Father*. Jim earned six Royal Coach Awards for his directing at Coach House, and a Chanticleer for his performance as Clarence Day, Sr. in *Life With Father* at Weathervane. In 2005 he was recognized by the Akron Area Arts Alliance as the area's outstanding theatre artist. Jim earned his B.F.A. in Theatre Performance from Otterbein College, where he met his wife, Elaine. They live in Wadsworth with their daughter, Emelie, now a senior at Our Lady of the Elms High School.



MACKENZIE SULLIVAN (*Stage Manager*) is a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary high school and has worked on more than fifteen productions so far in her theater career. This is her first time stage managing at Weathervane Playhouse.



ASHLEY COLLINS (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is immensely excited to be a part of this wonderful production! Since first appearing on Weathervane's mainstage with the cast of *Night Must Fall* in 2013, she has kept busy serving on various props and sound crews for other Weathervane events. She attended Mount Union College and Kent State University, and lives in Akron. "Love and thanks to Doc for understanding."



MEG HOPP (*Properties Co-Designer*) is really excited to be a part of the design team for this really fun show. A first-time props designer, Meg is thrilled to team with Jay Sigler to find, create and coordinate the 1939 period props for this production and thanks director Jim Fippin for his guidance in this new venture. Used to being on the stage and not behind, Meg just couldn't resist the chance to play the wacky Harriet in this show as well. You last saw her as Rona Peretti in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and Aunt Eller in *Oklahoma!* Meg is a proud member of the Weathervane Board of Trustees and thanks all of you for supporting our theatre and the Akron arts community.



JAY SIGLER (*Properties Co-Designer*) is pleased to be working either backstage, on stage, or in the front of house at Weathervane Playhouse. This is his first time working to design props for a show. He is usually seen onstage. His favorite roles include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino) and *Oklahoma!* (Will Parker) at Weathervane, *Forever Plaid* (Sparky), *Hello, Dolly!* (Cornelius Hackl), and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin) at Carnation City Players, *Honk!* (The Cat) at Dynamics Community Theater, and *1776* (Richard Henry Lee) at Brecksville Little Theater. He also has enjoyed performing in musical revues including *My Way*, *A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra* (Stow Players) and *Christmas My Way*, *A Sinatra Holiday Bash* (Weathervane). When he is not performing, he is a teacher at Mogadore High School. Go Wildcats! He would like to thank the entire cast and crew for making this a great show (especially his fantastic co-designer Meg Hopp).



SUSAN STOUT-DAVIS (*Lighting Designer*) began as a volunteer at Weathervane in the fall of 1983. She won a Chanticleer for Lighting Design for *Camping with Henry and Tom* in 1999. Sue volunteers for many shows on the light crew. Her most recent lighting designs were for *Dracula*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* and *Uncle Vanya*. This season, she also has taken up volunteering in our Gift Shop. Sue works at UPS, where she serves as the Wellness Champion on the company's Safety Committee. She makes her home in Cuyahoga Falls with her husband, Gary, and their sons, Nick and William.



JONATHON HUNTER (*Sound Designer*) has designed lighting for Weathervane productions including *Clybourne Park*, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, *Peter Pan*, *Oklahoma!* (for which he won a Chanticleer Award), *A Delicate Balance*, *The Roar of the Greasepaint — The Smell of the Crowd*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Music Man*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* and *Pippin*. He holds an M.F.A. in lighting design from the University of Virginia and is currently Weathervane's Technical Director. Jonathon's other Weathervane credits include properties designer for *A View from the Bridge*, *Breaking the Code* and *The Sum of Us* and stage manager for *They're Playing Our Song* and scenic design for *Peter Pan* and scenic co-design for *Dracula*.




RALPH COOLEY (*Scenic Designer*) is happy to return as a scenic designer this season, having designed the set for *A Delicate Balance* last year. You may recall his performance in *Dracula* (Van Helsing) earlier this year. Other favorite productions include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tevye), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Big Daddy), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Stanley), *King of the Kosher Grocers* (Izzy), *On Borrowed Time* (Gramps), *Same Time, Next Year* (George), and Judas in the first national touring company of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Ralph is the winner of three Chanticleer Awards, a Royal Coach award, and an Acting Excellence award from OCTA (Ohio Community Theatre Association). Retired now (he found out that work interfered with his life) he is happily married to Wendy, who is President of the Volunteer Guild, father to three fabulous sons (and daughters-in-law), the prettiest and smartest granddaughter and a new grandson.



JASEN J. SMITH (*Costume Designer*) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008. Since then, he's designed costumes for dozens of Weathervane productions. As a co-designer, he and Hedy Jones took home Weathervane's Chanticleer Award for best costume design for *Man of La Mancha* in 2009. He also won a Marquee Award from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Association for his work on *Children of Eden*. Elsewhere, his design work has been seen on the stages of Porthouse Theatre, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio Light Opera.



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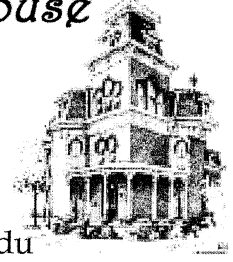
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TOM STEPHAN (*Sheridan Whiteside*) is happy to return to the Weathervane stage after appearing as the curly-haired Philip in *Relatively Speaking* and the seemingly not-too-swift Mayor Meekly in *Unnecessary Farce* last season. He was also seen in the OCTA

Award-winning production of *Other Desert Cities* with Wolf Creek Players last summer, and he played the sardonic Judge Heath in the Western Reserve Playhouse production of *Night of January 16th* this past fall. He has been hoping to play Sheridan Whiteside for many years – ever since he played the son Richard when he was in high school. He has been performing at Weathervane for 34 years, and can truthfully say that every role has been a favorite. Community service is also important to him, as he sits on the boards of many business, charitable, philanthropic, or volunteer organizations.



KELSEY TOMLINSON (*Maggie Cutler*) is very excited to be making her debut at Weathervane Playhouse. She was most recently seen as Ginette and Sandrine in *Almost, Maine* at Aurora Community Theatre. Other notable roles include *How the Other Half Loves* (Mary), *Company* (Amy) and *The Light in the Piazza* (Margaret Johnson). She currently works in the Marketing Department at Playhouse Square by day, and pursues even more theater by night.



SCOTT SHRINER (*Bert Jefferson*) has been performing at Weathervane since 1996, and he's been seen in comedies (*Lend Me a Tenor*, *Noises Off*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Charley's Aunt*), dramas (*All My Sons*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Angels in America*, *Three Days of Rain*), thrillers (*Bloody Murder*, *Dracula*) and musicals (*Putting it Together*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*). Scott also is a company member of Ohio Shakespeare Festival and a performer at Coach House Theatre and Actors' Summit. "Thanks to the loyal Weathervane audiences for supporting live theater in Akron, Ohio. Much love to my gorgeous and supportive wife, Emily!"



ADRIENNE JONES (*Lorraine Sheldon*) graduated with a B.F.A. in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University. While in Chicago, her favorite productions included *The Rivals* (Lydia Languish), *Trust* (Becca) and the title role in a female version of *Hamlet*. Recent productions include *Towards Zero* (Kay) at Coach House Theatre and *You've Got Hate Mail* (Wanda) with the Conservatory for Performing

Arts. Adrienne was last seen in Weathervane's production of *Ragtime* and she is excited to return after so many years!



PATRICK MICHAEL DUKEMAN (Beverly Carlton) is pleased to be back at Weathervane, having last been seen as Margaret Mead in *Hair* this past fall. Other credits at Weathervane include *The Roar of the Greasepaint – The Smell of the Crowd* (Sir), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Lawrence), *Xanadu* (Calliope/Aphrodite) and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Chairman). He made his debut on our stage in his dream role, Man in Chair, in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Since his relocating back to Akron from San Francisco, where he had been acting professionally for 20 years, he has played in *The Producers* (Roger) and *Honk! (Ugly)*. In San Francisco, his portrayal of Jerry Spring in *Jerry Springer the Opera* garnered him a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Best Actor nomination. He also received a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Best Supporting Actor nomination for his portrayal of The Stepmother in *Cinderella* at New Century Theater.



BENJAMIN FORTIN (*Banjo*) is happy to be returning to the Weathervane stage. Prior credits include *Shakespeare in Hollywood* and *Over the Tavern*. He also has been seen in productions at the Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Coach House Theatre. Benjamin currently serves as the Associate Manager of Online Engagement at the America Diabetes Association. He hopes that what you see here with your eyes, you cherish in your heart forever.



ALEX J. NINE (*Mr. Stanley*) returns to Weathervane's stage after appearing in *One Man Show* and *Black Friday* in the 8x10 TheatreFest last summer. He also has directed plays in two previous 8x10 Festivals. An Akron native, Alex has been performing at Weathervane for over 20 years and credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Brick), *Translations* (Manus) and in the ensemble of *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)*.



ROSE GABRIELE (*Mrs. Ernest W. Stanley*) is thrilled to make her first mainstage appearance at Weathervane. She was most recently seen in *How the Other Half Loves* (Fiona) and *The Country House* at Coach House Theatre. Other recent credits include *Things My Mother Taught Me* (Lydia) at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, *Lend Me a Tenor* (Diana) in Strongsville

Community Theatre and *Agatha Christie Made Me Do It* (Cindy). Some other favorite shows include *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Cabaret*, *Vanities*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Road To Freedom* and *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?* at True North Cultural Arts Center. Rose appears as a patient actor at the Cleveland Clinic, and performs in murder mysteries all around the area. She has toured in a professional children's theatre company. For ten years, she worked as an Emmy award-winning radio and television journalist here in Ohio. Rose owns her own communications business, and also works with a national firm to teach public speaking skills at many Fortune 500 companies. She also does numerous on-camera videos for large corporations.



BARBARA TROTTER (*Miss Preen*) has been seen previously on the Weathervane stage in *Rabbit Hole* (Nat), *A View from the Bridge* (Mrs. Lipari), *The Music Man* (Pick-a-Little lady) and *Uncle Vanya* (Mariya). Barbie was stage manager for *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *Putting It Together* and *Intimate Apparel*. She designed costumes for *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Proof* and *The Nerd* and was co-designer of properties for *August: Osage County* and *Don't Dress for Dinner*. Barbie teaches speech communication at The University of Akron. She thanks Jim, Mackenzie, Ashley, the cast, design team and crew for all their hard work and all the fun along the way. "Enjoy the show!!!"

MEG HOPP (*Harriet Stanley*) see her bio in the Creative Team section



DANIEL WALKER (*Richard Stanley*) is a junior at Kent State University, where he is studying theater. Past Weathervane credits include *Clybourne Park* (Kenneth), *Oklahoma!* (Joe), *Hamlet* (Guildenstern), *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* (John Holcomb), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Peter) and *The Outsiders* (Paul). Other local credits include *The Boys Next Door* (Barry), *A Christmas Carol* (Jacob Marley), *Hello, Dolly!* (Waiter Dannie), *Bye Bye Birdie* (ensemble), *Grease* (ensemble) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (ensemble). During the fall months, Daniel can be found portraying a pirate at Cedar Point's Halloweekends.



VICTORIA BENYO (*June Stanley*) is delighted to be making her debut at Weathervane. She has previously performed in several productions at Grove City College including *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Agnes Mundy), *Measure for Measure* (Juliet), Chekov's *The Boor* (Madam Popov) and *Sure Thing* (Betty). She is a member of the Tau Alpha Pi Theatre Honorary for her work acting and directing. Since finishing her master's

degree in education at The University of Akron this past December, Victoria is substitute teaching and coaching speech and debate. "Thanks to Jim for this opportunity and Mom for her continual encouragement. Colossians 3:17."



BARRY FRIEDMAN (*John*) says that appearing in this production gives him the opportunity to forget about the cold, bleak winter, anticipate the arrival of spring and enjoy one of his many passions – the Weathervane stage. Most recently, he was the assistant stage manager for our production of Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*. His last performance on our stage was in *The Music Man*. A 30-year veteran of the local theater scene, Barry has performed on the stages of Coach House Theatre, Beck Center for the Arts and Chagrin Valley Little Theatre. Some of his favorite roles include a Chanticleer Award-winning performance as Gangster #1 in *Kiss Me, Kate* and Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. An avid cyclist and standardized patient, Barry resides in Hudson with his multi-award winning significant other, Dede Klein, and Percy, Cece and beta fish Figurez-vous.



NICHOLE M. STRONG (*Sarah*) was last seen at Weathervane in the world premiere of *Crazy Man*. A few of her favorite roles include *Antigone* (Antigone) at the house of Ira Aldridge, *Yellowman* (Alma) at Weathervane Playhouse and *Picnic* (Mrs. Potts) at The University of Akron. Nichole is pursuing a bachelor degree in theatre arts at The University of Akron.



SHANE STAHL (*Doctor Bradley*) is very happy to be back on the Weathervane stage, having previously appeared in *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*. This marks his third time (and fifth role!) in a production of this show. Other credits include *Three Men on a Horse* (Al) at Coach House Theatre, for which he received a Royal Coach Award nomination, *Clue: The Musical* (Mrs. White) and *Wait Until Dark* (Sam) at Broadview Heights Spotlights. An accomplished standup comic, Shane is also the co-owner of Copperlight Events Live, an event planning company. In addition, he is working on a documentary feature to be released later in 2016.



GREG BEALER (*Professor Metz*) is thrilled to back at Weathervane. He was last seen on stage in *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* (Edward). Other credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bottom), *Move Over, Mrs. Markham* (Phillip Markham),

The Nerd (Rick). Directing credits include: *Twelfth Night* and *Hamlet*. Greg would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support.



DANNY O'DONNELL (*Sandy*) is so excited to be returning to the Weathervane stage after a brief hiatus. He was last seen in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Since his last time here, he has made his screen debut, with appearances in a multitude of individual films, and he has been noticed as Tucker in the award-winning film *Akron*. He recently graduated with his Bachelors Degree in Theatre Studies. Before he left the halls of Kent State University, Danny produced his own Student New Works Theatre Festival. He says he "is very thankful for this opportunity to perform for you all and would like to thank the cast, and crew for their hard work. As well as his friends and family for their constant love, support, and their cooking."



LAURA NIEHAUS (*Mrs. Dexter*) is excited to be appearing for the second time on the Weathervane stage after her debut in last fall's production of *Hair*. Last year, she received her Master's degree in Sociology from The University of Akron. Her favorite past roles include *Lend me a Tenor* (Julia) and *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mae). She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support.



VICTORIA MATHEWS (*Mrs. McCutcheon*) is so excited to be acting for the first time on the Weathervane stage with this wonderful cast and director. As a Spanish teacher and Speech and Debate Coach by day, Vicki works full time at Wadsworth High School. She also is a recent singing member of the Johnson United Methodist Praise Team. Her favorite roles in the past have been wife, mother, and grandmother. "Thanks to the MOMD for all your support over the last 4 decades. I love you."



ADAM YOUNG (*Luncheon Guest/ Expressman*) is delighted to be back on the Weathervane stage after a decades-long hiatus. He has been a part of many productions at area theaters like Aurora Community Theater, Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and Stow Players. Most recently, he appeared in *Murder By The Falls* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and performed in the award-winning *2 Across* at Aurora Community Theater. When Adam is not wrangling penguins, he enjoys designing world-class IT solutions and riding a big Harley Davidson motorcycle all over the valley.



SCOTT THANASIU (*Michaelson/ Westcott/Plainclothes Man*) feels fortunate and honored to be appearing in his third production at Weathervane. Last seen in *Ordinary Days*, Scott is once again in awe of the talent and dedication to excellence exhibited by his cast mates and the production team. Scott has volunteered in numerous productions backstage and as a sound designer. Scott first performed on stage in Weathervane's 2015 production of *Oklahoma!* He thanks his family, Diane, Shannon, Kylie, and Grace, for their continuing support and abundant love.



IRV KORMAN (*Baker/Radio Technician*) was last seen on our stage in 2003, playing four different characters in *Gypsy*. His first appearance at Weathervane was at the old Copley Road theater during the 1961-62 season in *Ah, Wilderness!* Since his last appearance at Weathervane, Irv has "tread the boards" at Coach House Theatre, Western Reserve Playhouse and Actors' Summit. From 1978 to 2008, Irv was a freelance entertainment writer for several local publications. As a result of meeting, interviewing and reviewing celebrities appearing in northeast Ohio, Irv authored two books: *I Was Jerry Lewis' Bodyguard for 10 Minutes* and *More Celebrity Encounters*. In December of 2014, his third book, a children's Christmas story, *Citytown Christmas Conundrum*, was released. His fourth book will be released in November.

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from the floor up by covering all 4 corners

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER

PRODUCTION CREW MEMBERS

LIGHTS

Logan Chapman
Mackenzie Sullivan

SOUND

Diane Thanasiu
Gracie Thanasiu
Hazen Tobar

PROPS

Ashley Collins
Meg Hopp
Jay Sigler
Scott Thanasiu

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Coach House Theatre for the loan of Dr. Bradley's bag

A bit of history trivia- the sarcophagus was first used in our 1990 production of the same show, and was built by former Technical Directors John Thomas and Scott Ferrall.



Raffle Tickets
\$5 each

TWO exciting raffles during the run of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. Enter for chances to win one or both!

RESTAURANT GIFT CARDS PACKAGE

Don't get trapped for dinner! Enter for a chance to win a collection of restaurant gift cards.

WEATHERVANE COUPON BOOK

Enter for a chance to win a 4-pack Super Coupon Book, good for any of the remaining shows in our season. That's a value of up to \$104!

Submit your raffle ticket at the Box Office. Raffle will be drawn Monday, April 4 and winner of each raffle will be notified by phone.