

2022–2023 PATRONS

Actor's Circle \$25–\$49

Briezy Aacres (Monona)
Everett's Service (Elkader)
Safariland Taxidermy – Dan Beck (Elkader)

Playwright's Circle \$50–99

Bridge View House Air B&B (Elkader)
Citizen's State Bank (Strawberry Point)
Elkader Tax and Bookkeeping (Elkader)
Furniture Showcase (Oelwein)
JEM Salon & Spa JSC Property-Rentals, LLC.
(Elkader)
Rivals, Inc. Custom Gear (Strawberry Point)

Choreographer's Circle \$100–\$249

Adverse Weather Insurance, LLC (Volga)
Barn on the Bluff B & B (Elkader)
Birdie's (Elkader)
Franzen Ridge LLC – Dean & Joann Franzen (Elkader)
Norplex Micarta (Postville)

North Gate Healing Center – Marge Banse
(Elkader/Strawberry Point)
ROOTS – Rebecca Hefel (Guttenberg)
Sincerely Yours Interiors – Kay Vorwald (Monona)
Umbrella Arts (Guttenberg)
Volga City Veterinary Clinic (Volga City)
Witt's Custom Framing & Gallery (Elkader)

Designer's Circle \$250–\$499

Alpine Communications (Elkader)
Anne Kruse, Attorney at Law (McGregor)
Cedar Street Suites (Elkader)
Community Savings Bank (Edgewood)
Elkader Floral Shop (Elkader)
Fennellys' Irish Pub (Elkader)
Grau Logs & Lumber – Chris & Julie Grau,
Pat & Staci Grau (Elkader)
R.D. Witter Farm Corp (McGregor)
Strutt Chiropractic Clinic – Dr. Craig Strutt &
Dr. Jonathon Moser (McGregor)

Director's Circle \$500–\$749

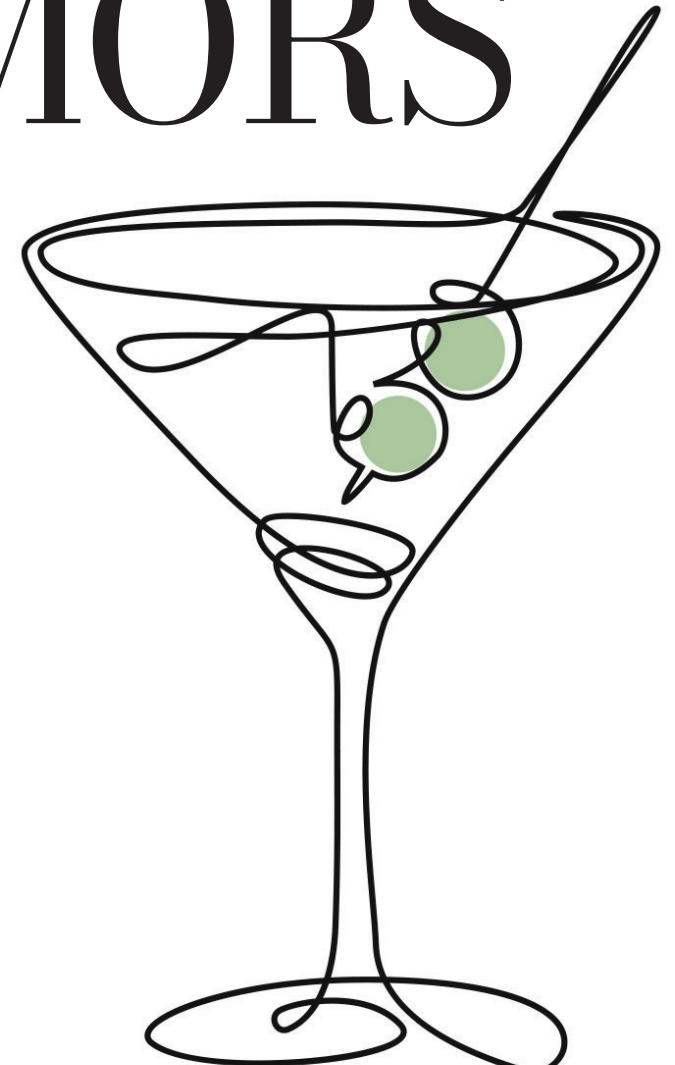


Angel's Circle \$1000 and above



THE OPERA HOUSE PLAYERS

NEIL SIMON'S RUMORS



About the Opera House Players

For over 55 years the OHP has been bringing entertainment to the stage in Elkader! In the fall, with the support of many people from all over northeast Iowa and southwest Wisconsin, the Opera House Players have presented such blockbusters as *Singin' In The Rain*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Disney's Mary Poppins*, *Oliver!*, *Peter Pan*, *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Music Man*.

In the spring, the productions usually involve a somewhat smaller cast and crew, but are never short on entertainment! Our summer "black box" theater features an on stage production with a more "edgy" theme. The group also schedules a special holiday musical or play every other season, alternating that with A Classic Christmas Fantasy, a showcase of area talent.

The Opera House Players sponsor summer theater events for area children to give them a taste of theater. We also provide educational events for area schools whenever possible. The improvements to this marvelous structure continue by financial donations from the OHP, other businesses and supporters, but also by the numerous OHP volunteers that spend countless hours making it happen.

The Opera House Players installed a hearing loop for the Main Floor Seating, helped create new dressing rooms, built a removable pit cover, added new stage curtains, updated to a new lighting system with several new fixtures and capabilities added yearly, and are upgrading the back stage area as well as technical aspects of theater, sound, and rigging to make the building even more valuable to the community.

All of this would not be possible without the support of the City of Elkader who maintains this wonderful facility and who worked hand in hand with the volunteers to make it happen. Our grateful thanks also goes to you, our patrons, members, and audience members for supporting theater in this area.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of any community theater group and the Opera House Players are lucky to have some of the best. Whether you have a theater background or not, this is a place for you to get involved. People from all walks of life participate, forming new friendships, learning new skills, and gaining self-confidence. What kinds of opportunities are available? Acting, directing, set construction, orchestra, publicity, props, costumes, make-up, ushering... and much more!

Be sure to look for announcements on our future productions as well as other events occurring in the Opera House. If you would like more information about our group or theater, visit our website at www.operahouseplayers.com.

Choreographer's Circle \$100–\$249

Mike & Donna Anderson
Francis(Gus) & LaVonne Augustson
Martha & Stephen Bartenhagen
Mary Beck
In Memory of Maureen Bergan
Dennis & Lorna Christeleit
Terri Connell
Lois Cordes
Bona Dean Feller
Janet & Ted Finn
Diane & Tim Fisk
Chris Foley
Becky Fritz
Guy & Emily Ghan
David & Ann Gibney
Tom & Michelle Gifford
Larry & Karen Glass
Don & Lee Gordon

Russ & Barb Hagen
Robert & Susanne Hankey
Don & Mary Harstad
Nancy K. Henricksen
Zachary & Jillian Herrmann
Mark & Brenda Howard
Lu Ann & John Hunt
Bonnie & Ed James
Don & Marilyn Kamaus
Thelma Keehner
Bruce Landis
Fred & Lynn Lange
Kenny & Penni Leonard
Barbara Martin
Patricia Martin
Charlie & Julianne Mason
Steve & Ann McCorkindale
Diane & David McKenzie
Larry & Carol Minard

Bobbi Mohning
Bob Moran
Erika Moyna
Brad & Deb Orvis
Dan & Val Paris
Linda & Joseph Paris
Bill Reimer
Mark & Pam Reinig
Linda Lou Roberts
Ken & Carolyn Sand
Margaret Schultz
Marilyn Seedorff
Dr. Andy & M.J. Smith
Larry & Margaret Stone
Sue Stott
Curtis & Celeste Strong
Roger & Rosemary Thomas
Sandy Thompson

Designer's Circle \$250–\$499

John & Dawn Cunningham
John & Susan Gnagy
Bob Griffith
Janette Hansel
Roger & Jody Helmrichs
Dr. Jeff & Carolyn Hoffmann
Pat Hunsberger
Randi & Pete McNally
Steve & Kathy Mueller
Joan Wangen & Romuald Piorkowski
Linda Witter
Ken & Fran Zichal

Director's Circle \$500–\$749

Tim Burrack
Nancy McClure
Karen Schroeder
Craig & LeAnn Watson
Margaret & Mark Yackel-Juleen

Angel's Circle \$1000 and above

John & Med Bickel
Dr. Scot & Jane Christiansen
Dr. Michele & Steve Dikkers
Keith & Kathy Garms

2022–2023 SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Actor's Circle \$25–\$49

Janann Bachtell
Barbara K. Boies
Stewart & Marlys Boysen
Theresa & Elmer Bries
JoAnn Butikofer
Keith & Linda Campbell
Mike & Joanne Carroll
Darlene Dittmer
Marvin & Julie Duff
Barb Duwe-Peterson
Roland & Elizabeth Evans
John & Betty Fischer
Pat & Arlys Fitzgerald
Linda Gardner & Anne Shelton
Timothy Gilkes
Julita Goedken
Jean Marie Hall
Helen Hanson
Magdalena Hayford
Gerald & Linda Henkes

Larry & Marlis Huinker
Laura Janssen
Trudy Johnson
David & Mary Kahrs
Ron & Georgi Kaiser
Patsy Kerndt
Diane M. Kraus
Maxine Kuehl
Shirley Marmann
Ginger Medberry
Donna Menken
Mary Milewsky
Lorraine Miller
Carl & Laura Moser
Rita & Roger Mullis
Denise Grau Nelson
David & Julie Olson
John & Linda Orr
Brian Power
Ann K. Powers

Larry & Jennifer Reed
Gerald & Arlene Reimer
Carl & Mary Scherbring
Wendy & Barry Shea
Lowell & Joyce Siegele
Jim & Janet Solomon
Kenneth & Linda Staff
Erma Swenson
Robyn & Dorothy Tangeman
Joyce Thurn
Geraldyn Torkelson
Karla Vogel & Bob Myers
Jennifer Wachuta
Twyla Walz
Mick Weiss
Morris & Sandy Weller
Cheryl & Jim Whalen
Mary Wildman
Tom & Jen Wilwert
David & Leslie Wynthein

Playwright's Circle \$50–99

Janice Andregg
Victoria Breitbach
James Brust
Jerry & Kelly Carpenter
Paul & Andrea Carroll
Roland & Marguerite Clinton
Ken & Jean Cornish
Marvin & Annette Dahling
Jason & Kris Eulberg
Rhys & Hannah Evans
Merle & Barbara Frommelt
Jerome & Jane Godson
Randy & Sindee Gohde
Chris & Julie Grau
Ruth Grau
Cherie Hallberg
Jeff & Betty Heins
Mary Ellen Hoefler

Winnie Holmes
Chris & Christina Hopp
Madonna Hosch
Thomas & Marquerite Hunzinger
Jerry Janssen
Dick & Mary Jensen
Cary & Jonelle Kann
Joshua & Heather Klingman
Gerry & Sandy Kramer
Pat Krapfl
Noel C Kurt
Jennifer Lancaster
Kevin & Kim Lau
Jim & Connie Leete
Janet Lueck
Tom & Celeste McGreal
William McHugh
David & Melanie Mergen

Gene & Barb Milewsky
Stan & Sharlene Milewsky
Linda Miller
David & Maylo Moser
Cici Mueller
Bill & Dorothy Peterson
Robert & Bonnie Pruett
Ken & Alice Reimer
Dennis & Elise Rodenberg
Edmund & Barbara Ruff
Connie Ruhser
Ellen Rule
Fred Schaffer
Alice Staples
Betty Troendle
Ed & Dianne Uriell
Sharon Vaske
Randy & Kathy Waterman

April 14, 15, 21, 22 at 7:30 PM

April 16 & 23 at 2:00 PM

Rumors

by Neil Simon

“Rumors” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Co-Directors
Tom Chandler
Kay Moser

Technical Director
Jon Banse

Producer
Kay Moser

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
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 also available for your use. 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.

MEET THE CAST

Mary Beth Specht (Chris Gorman) – Mary Beth has been performing with the Opera House Players since 2013. Some of her favorite roles have included Charlotte in *Moon over Buffalo*, Mrs., Beauregard in *Willie Wonka*, Hold Me Touch Me old lady in the wildly funny OHP production of *The Producers* and the librarian in *Matilda the Musical*. The Opera House has become like a home away from home after many plays and musicals, each experience being wonderful, unique and rewarding. Mary Beth grew up in White Plains, New York and moved to Prairie Du Chien in 1982. Never expecting to make the Midwest her permanent home, it has become her personal stage for raising three amazing children and pursuing a love for golf, skiing, hiking, biking, and other passions, including Granny Basketball. Mary Beth has been in the education field as a teacher, administrator and mentor for the past 43 years, a career that has brought her some of the greatest challenges and joys in her life. Her most cherished and favorite memories and moments are those spent with children, grandchildren, and husband Jim who lovingly tolerates her wacky escapades and crazy dreams.

Cary Kann (Ken Gorman) – Cary has been involved in countless OHP productions both onstage and as a set/prop designer, utilizing his talents in the visual arts. He last appeared in *The Odd Couple* as Oscar Madison in 2022. He won a 2017 ICTA award for his portrayal of Larry in *South of Hope* (2018). Cary lives in Prairie du Chien with his wife, Jonelle. He has three grown children: two beautiful daughters who both continue to enjoy performing on stage and an extremely handsome son who looks just like him.

Bridget Camp (Claire Ganz) – Bridget is excited to be performing in her first spring play with the Opera House Players after participating in a few musicals, most recently, *A Christmas Story* (2022) and *Matilda* (2021). She has thoroughly enjoyed spending time with and learning from this hilarious and talented cast, crew, and direction team. Bridget lives in Elkader with her husband, Drew, and four children: Erin (10), Liza (8), Blair (5), and Ben (4). Together they own and operate Camp Powersports–NAPA Auto Parts in Elkader.

Lee Pool (Lenny Ganz) – Lee recently moved to Elkader. This is his first OHP production, but hopefully not his last. He has acted in many plays and musicals over the years in many different venues, including performing as Lurvy in *Charlotte's Web*, Harry Beaton in *Brigadoon*, Alfred Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Dr. Horace Roy in *Ghostchasers*, Fagan in *Oliver Twist*, Dr. Scrimshaw Jeckel in *Welcome to Bedside Manor*, and in several *Murder Mysteries* for the New Hampton Public Library. Lee lives in Elkader with his lovely wife Lisa, and their two dogs, Minnie and Oakley. Lee works for Keystone AEA as a teacher for the deaf/hard of hearing, traveling to various schools in northeast Iowa helping learners with hearing loss.

THE CREWS

Set Construction, Design, and Props

Cary Kann	Roger Thomas	Kay Moser
Tom Chandler	Bill Chandler	Chris Gregerson
Del Reimer	Jay Moser	Liza Camp
Jon Banse	Megan Pierschbacher	Bridget Camp
Lee Pool	Wendy Shea	
Rhys Evans	Marge Banse	

Special thanks to Lyle and Pat Gregerson for donation of set materials

Sound and Lights

Bob Hankey	Craig Strutt	Jay Moser
David Beck	Del Reimer	

Costumes

Mary Beth Specht
Barb Chandler

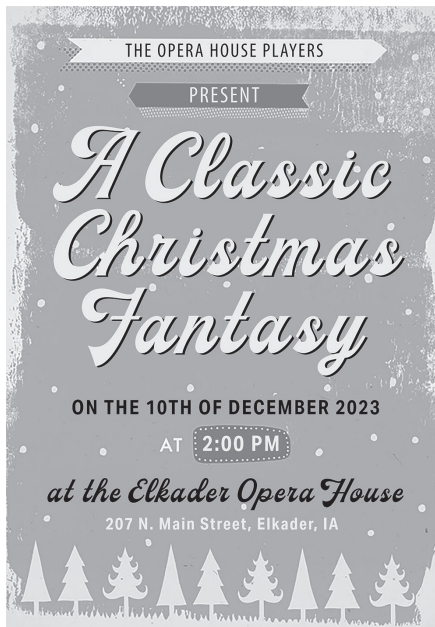
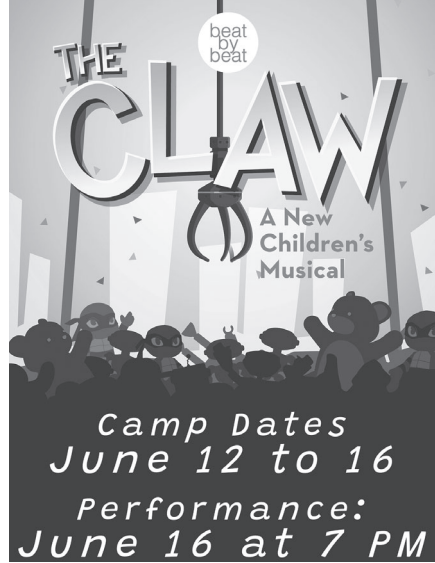
Tickets

Terri Strutt
Elkader Floral Shop

Programs and Publicity

Joel Lustre	Cheri Moser	Kay Moser
Craig Strutt	Terri Strutt	

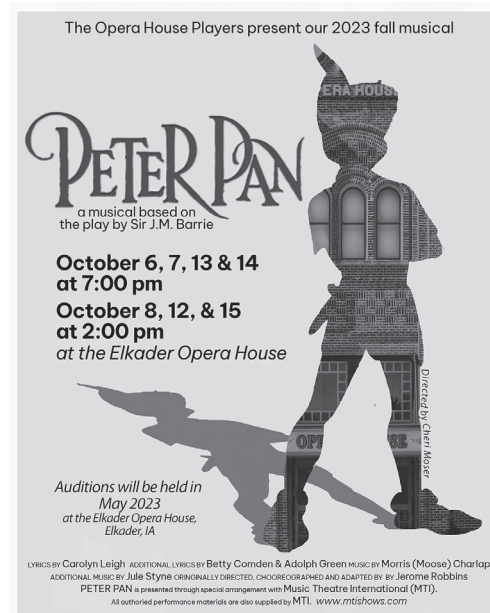
UPCOMING EVENTS



ELVIS

Tribute Show

STARRING *Joseph Hall*
July 15, 2023 - 7 PM



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

www.OperaHousePlayers.com
www.ElkaderOperaHouse.com

Jenna K. Pollock (Cookie Cusack) – Jenna joins the cast for her sixth performance on the Elkader Opera House stage. She enjoys trying on characters for comedic relief as a break from her day-to-day activities. Her previous roles include Frau Gloop in *Willy Wonka*, Mimosa in *While the Lights Were Out*, Tatiana Racon in *A Comedy of Tenors*, and Jayne in *South of Hope*. Jenna has a lot in common with Cookie Cusack, including her passion for the culinary arts and chronic back pain. Jenna grew up on the Pollock Heritage Farm north of Volga and resides nearby to assist with farming activities. She has served as the Clayton County Conservation Board Director since 2015. She resides on an acreage near Elgin with her four pets Warden, Zephyr, Hawk, and Evan.

Jon Banse (Ernie Cusack/Technical Director) – This show celebrates Jon's 50th production with the Elkader Opera House Players. Jon has been actively involved in virtually every production of Opera House Players since 1995, and is honored to be a part of "the magic" created in The Elkader Opera House. He considers the cast & crew of this show—and every show—as family members and a delight to work with. Over the years you may have enjoyed his talents both on stage and behind the scenes as he has appeared in major roles, minor roles, multiple roles at once, director, set builder and/or back stage hand. Jon began his Elkader Opera House adventure in 1995 in the production of *Singing in the Rain*, in which he played multiple characters. Some of his most memorable roles over the years include: Joseph in *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, Sparky in *Forever Plaid & Plaid Tidings*; and Ron in *The Accidental Hitman Blues*. In his free time, Jon enjoys singing in Barbershop Quartets, golfing and hanging out with his wife Marge, son Jonathan, and future daughter-in-law Danielle. Jon and Marge reside south of Strawberry Point near Backbone State Park.

Andrew Wilson (Glenn Cooper) – Andrew is a Garnavillo native. He moved back after 20 years of being away from his hometown. He lives with his family and enjoys various hobbies. Andrew's greatest job ever is his performance for his one-year-old granddaughter. Andrew loves to help build sets and ushering at OHP. This will be Andrew's third performance, having joined OHP in 2019 when he played Sir Willoughby Drake in *It Runs in The Family*, and Roy in *The Odd Couple* in 2022. Andrew has developed a passion for plays that he is on a constant recruiting track with his kids and friends to try acting at least once.

Charlene Cessna (Cassie Cooper) – Charlene was involved in plays such as *The Music Man*, *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and more in her youth. She moved to Elkader 2 years ago with her two children and spouse. Charlene served in the United States Marine Corps for 4 years. She's very excited for her first production with The Opera House Players and can't wait to help bring *Rumors* to life!

We maintain an email list to keep you informed of events, and occasional special offers just for our email members. Email us at notify@operahouseplayers.com

Linda Jensen (Officer Welch) – This is Linda’s debut performance with the Opera House Players. She has always been interested in theater and participated in several productions throughout high school and college. She enjoys listening to live music, reading, attending various events, spending time with family, and being outdoors. Linda spent 32 years as an elementary educator. After retiring from teaching, she moved back to her childhood home near Garnavillo. She currently has two part time jobs. She works at United Steaks and Spirits and at PromiseLand Winery.

Lisa Pool (Officer Pudney) – Lisa is married to Lee Pool and they have a daughter, Isabel, who is finishing her degree in social work at Upper Iowa University. Lee and Lisa are new to the area moving from New Hampton this past June and own “The Bridge View House” (Airbnb). They absolutely love the bluffs and rivers and in their free time you can find them kayaking down the Turkey River or floating the Mississippi in their old 1976 Cabin Cruiser. They also enjoy biking, camping, and traveling. It has been on Lisa’s bucket list to be in a theater production, so now after this performance of *Rumors* she can now officially check it off her list.

Kay Moser (Co-Director/Producer) – Kay has been involved with the OHP sine 1973. She has appeared on stage a few times, but her favorite place is where she is most often found producing, stage managing and helping the cast and crews in any way she can! She enjoys traveling, reading and taking lots of walks!! She lives in Elkader with her husband (light guy) Jay. Her life is made complete when she can spend time with her son Benjamin, wife, Jenna and their sons, Kallum and Ronan along with son Jonathon, wife, Cheri and their children Mariah, Taryn, Trace and Gretel. It has been fun spending time watching this show come to life from the audience side of things and she is thrilled to welcome the new performers to the OHP family! She hopes you enjoy the show!!

Tom Chandler (Co-Director) – Tom appeared in his first OHP production in the fall of 1968 and has been involved with the group ever since. Tom’s involvement has included playing in and directing pit orchestras, managing the technical aspects of the shows, minor and major roles on stage, as well as directing many of the group’s musicals and plays. Retired from the instrumental music program at Central, Tom now devotes his time to vintage cars, grandchildren, and OHP productions (not necessarily in that order). He lives in Elkader with his wife, Barb, who has managed the OHP costume department and has dressed shows for most of the last four decades.

THE CAST



**MARY BETH
SPECHT**
“Chris Gorman”



CARY KANN
“Ken Gorman”



**BRIDGET
CAMP**
“Claire Ganz”



LEE POOL
“Lenny Ganz”



**JENNA K.
POLLOCK**
“Cookie Cusack”



JON BANSE
“Ernie Cusack”



**ANDREW
WILSON**
“Glenn Cooper”



**CHARLENE
CESSNA**
“Cassie Cooper”



**LINDA
JENSEN**
“Officer Welch”



LISA POOL
“Officer Pudney”

Scene: A house in Sneden’s Landing, N.Y.

Act I: An evening in June

Act II: A half hour later