

written by **William Inge**

Directed by Barbara Andree



**Sept. 10, 11, 12 & 17,  
18, 19 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Sept. 20 at 2:00 p.m.**

**2009**

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PLAYERS**

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# Upcoming Shows for 2009

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## Auditions!

Keep Christmas in your heart all the year through!

Audition for a Stage Coach Players tradition,  
Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday,  
October 19 and 20, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at  
126 S. Fifth St., DeKalb (the Stage Coach Theatre).

Check our website for further details...  
[www.stagecoachers.com](http://www.stagecoachers.com)

# Director's Notes

Many people have heard of this show in the movie form with Marilyn Monroe as the star. But if you've watched it recently, and then see this play, you'll notice they have very little in common. Even the characters are quite different. I think the movie was mainly made to showcase Marilyn's talents and has very little to do with the play as it's written.

This play is very powerful as a story of transitions. The bus riders are forced by a blizzard to halt their progress and during these few hours, they confront their shortcomings, dreams and strengths. The locals also have their chance at transformation by their extended interaction with the travelers. Some take giant leaps forward, some stay the same and some undergo subtle alterations in their lives. But no one is left untouched by this experience.

I, certainly, have been touched by the experience of directing this show. I've undergone my own transformation through working with this very talented cast and nurturing my friend as a novice stage manager. I've enjoyed the whole experience immensely and I'm very proud of the work they're presenting to you. Simultaneously during this time, my best friend Dean Matthews, who I've known since fifth grade, passed away a month ago after a long struggle with cancer. We were in shows together in high school and beyond and one of his dear loves was performing. I dedicate this show to Dean, because he never failed to make me laugh and now he knows all the answers.

Blessings, Barb Andree



# Bus Stop

The action of the play takes place in a street-corner restaurant in a small town about thirty miles west of Kansas City.

## ACT I

Scene 1 - A night in early March, 1:00 a.m.

Scene 2 - A few minutes later

## ACT II

Scene 1 - A moment later

Scene 2 - About 5:00 a.m.

There will be a 15 minute intermission between acts

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# Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Elma Duckworth ..... Bridget Crase  
Grace Hoylard ..... Kara Wilkins  
Will Masters ..... Scott Montavon  
Cherie ..... Natalie Boone  
Dr. Gerald Lyman ..... Steve Wright  
Carl ..... Tim Ball  
Virgil Blessing ..... Shawn Skau  
Bo Decker ..... Vince Virtue

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Stage Coach Players will again offer its annual Pumpkin Fest Children's Costume Contest. Children up through the age of 13 are welcome to participate.

The contest date is Sunday, October 25th and will be held near the parade route starting point on Becker Street and Park Place in the Ideal Industries lot in Sycamore. The costume contest starts at noon, with trophies given to the best costumes.



In addition, all children who enter the contest are invited to ride in a Clydesdale-driven wagon provided by George and Barb Alexander.

For more information, visit the Stage Coach website, [www.stagecoachers.com](http://www.stagecoachers.com)

# Production Staff

Director . . . . . Barbara Andree  
Stage Manager . . . . . Ana Blechschtmidt  
Set Design . . . . . Terry Racine  
Costumes . . . . . Connie McCleary  
Hair/Make-Up Design . . . . . Keely Smith  
Lighting Design . . . . . Rae Carlson, Bill Kator  
Light/Sound Crew . . . . . Emmily Brown  
Sound Design . . . . . Tom Grady  
Props . . . . . Megan Racine, Mary Kim Wood, Terry Racine  
Set Construction . . . Barb Andree, Bob Andree, Matt Andree,  
Tim Ball, Natalie Boone, Bob Cain, Bridget Crase,  
Roberta Maxfield, Scott Montavon, Jarod Montavon,  
Dave Pearson, Shawn Skau, Vince Virtue,  
Kara Wilkins, Aleida Wilkins, Steve Wright

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# Cast Biographies

(In Alphabetical Order)



## **Tim Ball** – Carl

Tim has been involved with Stage Coach since 1989 and in that time has worked on and off stage, served on the Stage Coach Board and chaired more than a dozen committees. Favorite roles include directing *Postmortem* (2007), playing Fred in *A Christmas Carol* (2006), Gooper, in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (2005), Biff in *Death of a Salesman* (1998), and directing *Arsenic & Old Lace* (1996). In

November, Tim will be directing

one of the scenes presented as reader's theatre taken from scripts entered into Stage Coach Player's first playwriting contest.



## **Natalie Boone** – Cherie

Natalie is thrilled to be back on the stage after a five year hiatus.

Natalie has been doing theatre her entire life. This is Natalie's second time working with SCP, her first being stage managing *Annie Get Your Gun*. Natalie has Bachelors degree in Theatre Studies from NIU. She has been working with Noble Fool Theatricals in St.

Charles this past year as a stage manager for their youth ensemble shows; *Once Upon a Mattress*,

*Godspell*, *Cinderella*, and most recently *High School Musical 2*. She will be Assistant Stage Managing their mainstage production of *Plaid Tidings* this coming winter. Some of Natalie's favorite roles have been Nancy in *The Boyfriend*,

Townsperson in *A Cry of Players*, and a teacher in *The Trojan Women*. In Natalie's copious amounts of free time she enjoys spending time exploring with her husband, and reading a good book. Natalie would like to thank her husband and parents for their continuing support in making her dreams come true.



**Bridget Crase** – Elma Duckworth  
Bridget has been in theater for years, most recently in *Our Town* and as the raving stage manager in *The Auditions*. This is her first time at Stage Coach and would like to thank Barb for giving her this great opportunity. She'd also like to thank the entire cast and crew of *Bus Stop* for making her feel at home and part of the family. Special thanks go out to her sister Brooke who first got her interested in the theater, her mom for pushing

her (albeit not too hard!) and for being her lifelong support. Thanks also goes to her father, brother, and the rest of her friends for being understanding and calm when she was. Thanks and enjoy the show!



**Scott Montavon** – Will Masters  
Scott has been lucky to be in numerous shows over the last 2 years, ranging from kids shows like *101 Dalmatians* and *Aladdin* to more adult offerings like *Heaven can Wait* and *Tales of Darkest Suburbia*. He is most grateful to be in a community that offers such a wide variety of opportunities for him to get on stage and learn. Scott finds theatre to be a great escape from his day job as an ironworker. He also hopes you all



enjoy tonight's show as much as he has enjoyed being part of it.



**Shawn Skau** – Virgil Blessing

Shawn is excited to make another appearance with Stage Coach Players, having been in *Heaven Can Wait* and *A Christmas Carol* in 2008. Shawn has lived in the DeKalb area most of his life and is the father of three boys. He would like to thank his family for their encouragement and providing the support necessary for this labor of love. Shawn would also like to thank Barb for giving him the chance in the role of Virgil, having

never played a musical instrument before.



**Vince Virtue** – Bo Decker

This is Vince's fifth show with Stage Coach Players. Past productions include *Christmas Carol* in 2007 & 2008, playing Frank Lubey in *All My Sons*, the interpreter in *The King & I* and most recently in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Now he gets his biggest role so far, Bo in *Bus Stop*. He would like to thank Barb and Ana for this part and the cast who's been excellent to work with. He loves them all. He also thanks his

family and friends for helping with this role and he dedicates his performance to nieces Amanda and Mallory and nephew Elliot. Enjoy the show!



**Kara Wilkins** – Grace Hoylard  
Kara is excited to participate in another production with Stagecoach Players. She joined the company last year with her debut in the radio shows and the summer production, *Communicating Doors*. Other productions she has been in include *101 Dalmations* and the upcoming *Miracle on 34th Street* with Childrens' Community Theatre of DeKalb. Kara loves theatre and is glad there are so many

opportunities to participate within the community. She would like to thank Barb, the cast and crew for a great experience and thanks her family for their support, patience and encouragement.



**Steve Wright** – Dr. Gerald Lyman  
Steve is a librarian at NIU. His recent roles at Stage Coach include Frank in *Over the River and Through the Woods* (2008), Judge Hathorne in *The Crucible* (2007), Dr. Bonney in *It Runs in the Family* (2007), and Elijah in *Inherit the Wind* (2006). He has appeared in three productions of *A Christmas Carol*, playing Scrooge in 2008 and 2005 and Bob Cratchit in 2007. Steve is also currently a member of the SCP Board, and

received the Stage Coacher of the Year award for 2008. When not acting, Steve is the bass clarinetist in the DeKalb Municipal Band, and can be seen at their weekly Tuesday night concerts during the summer months. Steve thanks his wife and family for their continued support!

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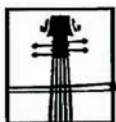
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**Winter Wonderland - Holiday Pops Concert**

Saturday, December 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

**The Arthur D. Montzka Young Artists Concerto Competition Concert**

Sunday, February 28, 2010, 3:00 p.m.  
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**The Romance of Spring**

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 7:30 p.m.  
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