

NOVEMBER

A Dramatic Comedy by Don Nigro

Directed by David W. Booth


June 3-5 & 10-12 at 8 pm
June 13 at 2 pm

Stage Coach Theater
126 South Fifth Street
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

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Fiddler on the Roof

Music by Jerry Bock

Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

Book by Joseph Stein

Directed by Linda Johnson

Music Directed by Denny Vaupel

July 8-10 & 15-17 at 8 pm

July 11, 17 & 18 at 2 pm

Leaving Iowa

The Comedy About
Family Vacations



"Leaving Iowa"
Aug 2010

By Tim Clue and Spike Manton

Directed by Norm Read

August 12-14 & 19-21 at 8 pm

August 22 at 2 pm



The 25th Annual Putnam County SPELLING BEE

Music and Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Directed by Bernie Schuneman

Music Directed by Nika Plattos

September 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18
at 8 p.m.

September 12, 18 and 19
at 2 p.m.



Agatha
Christie's

And Then

THERE

WERE

NONE



Written by Agatha Christie

Directed by Tim Ball

October 7-9, 14-16 at 8 pm

October 17 at 2 pm

(formerly Ten Little Indians)

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Don Nigro is one of my favorite playwrights. I have now directed four of his plays, in part because much of his writing is simply uproariously funny, even within themes and circumstances that can be deadly serious. What I find compelling about him as an author, though, is his uncanny knack for sandwiching some incredibly astute observations of human nature between the sometimes mysterious, if not bizarre, actions of some of his characters.

Even within the context of such twisted personalities, there is very little chance that anyone will see *November* and not recognize someone they know. This fact of recognition occasionally made the rehearsal process emotionally challenging for the actors, as many of the characters were a little too close to home--all of us know someone leaving home, someone self-absorbed, someone selfless, and someone getting older.

So, November is a month in the calendar year, and it's a transition. Freudian based ego-psychologists say there are eight

genetically determined stages of life. *November* is a tale that actually encompasses the last three, but is particularly, as you might guess, focused on the one referred to as "late adulthood"--when most of us would aspire and subscribe to the idea that a life lived with no regrets is one lived generously.

However, if you have unfinished business and it isn't December yet, never give up until you're damned good and ready.

—DAVID W. BOOTH

*Do not go gentle into
that good night,*

*Old age should burn and
rave at close of day;*

*Rage, rage against the
dying of the light.*

—DYLAN THOMAS
1914-1953

November in June, An Unseasonably Cool Show!

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DAVID W. BOOTH, DIRECTOR

David is on the faculty and serves as the marketing director for the NIU School of Theatre and Dance, having come to the position with a long history as a trainer (Motorcycle Safety Foundation, FBI, Naperville PD) and a coach (martial arts and kids' sports). He has a MS in organizational development from NIU and has studied with the MFA in directing program at SoTD. He recently directed a staged reading of *Seeking Flight*, and *Heaven Can Wait* (2009). Since first appearing on the SCP stage in 1990, David has performed, directed at several venues, taught acting seminars, chaired fundraisers, served on the board, and received the SCOTY award in 1998.

DARLENE HILLMAN, STAGE MANAGER/ASS'T DIRECTOR

Darlene has appeared on the SCP stage in *The Shadow Box*, *The Elephant Man*, *When the Moon is Down*, and *Return of the Pink Panther*. She most recently played the role of the stage manager in *Noises Off*. Darlene has been a real stage manager for *Heaven Can Wait*, *Night Watch*, *Dracula*, *Earth and Sky* and *Nuts* at SCP, and for *Swan Song* at VCCT in Rochelle. She currently serves on the SCP board. She and her husband, Mike, have three children, and are anticipating the arrival of a fourth grandchild in July. Darlene serves as the office manager at Immanuel Lutheran Church in DeKalb.



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NOVEMBER

BY DON NIGRO

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Presented in two acts, with a fifteen minute intermission.

SETTING

Armitage, a small town in the hilly,
rural part of east Ohio, in the autumn of 1980.
A nursing home, a modest but comfortable bungalow,
and the sometimes gray reality between them.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Aunt Liz is played by Joan E. Kole
Aunt Moll, her sister, is played by D'Ann Hamilton
Aunt Dor, their sister, is played by Cheryl Johnson
Ben, their grandnephew, is played by Jim Doherty
Becky, their niece, is played by Cynthia de Seife
Rooks, Becky's husband, is played by Don Floyd
Mr. Kafka is played by Jeff Whelan
Mrs. Prikosovits is played by Lana Marten
Nurse Jane is played by Elise Johnson

PRODUCTION STAFF

Directed by David W. Booth
Scenic Design by Ellen DeSitter
Lighting Design by Todd Toles
Set Construction by Scott Montavon
Properties by Jan Booth
Costumes by Helen Becker
Make-up by Jill Seneczko
Light Board Operated by Andee Larson
Stage Management & Assistant Directed by Darlene Hillman
Assisting in Construction of the Set were:
David Booth, Jan Booth, Cynthia de Seife, Ellen DeSitter, Jim Doherty,
Don Floyd, Darlene Hillman, Cheryl Johnson, Elise Johnson,
Joan Kole, Andee Larson, Lana Marten, Bill O'Hagan, and Jeff Whelan

SPECIAL THANKS

Jane Baxter, Jennifer Dietrich & Jeff Morgan,
Domino's Pizza, Immanuel Lutheran Church & Student Center,
Kishwaukee Health System

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

CYNTHIA DE SEIFE AS BECKY



Cynthia is an artist and an educator with a passion for teaching and encouraging creativity in children and adults. Her past roles in Stage Coach Players productions include Mrs. Savage in *The Curious Savage*, Louise Styles in *Wild Dust*, and Mrs. Dilber in *A Christmas Carol*. Cynthia loves to color in a variety of media. She also makes healing jewelry. You can see her artwork and jewelry at various local art and craft shows.

JIM DOHERTY AS BEN

Jim is enjoying his third role at Stage Coach Players. Previously, he played Axel Hammond in *The Nerd* and Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*. Like his character in *November*, Jim is "away from home" too often. He works as a hotel consultant, and travels to Indiana, Michigan and California. When not traveling for work, Jim enjoys traveling for fun and time spent with his family and friends. He credits them for their encouragement.



DON FLOYD AS ROOKS



Don is playing his third antagonist at Stage Coach in less than a year, following his portrayals of racist redneck Bob Ewell in last season's *To Kill A Mockingbird*, and arrogant anvil salesman Charlie Cowell in this spring's musical, *The Music Man*. Besides taking heat as the bad guy, Don helps out at Stage Coach by producing the show posters, print ads, and the very program you're holding in your hand. Away from SCP, Don is husband to the lovely and talented Wendy

Witt, father to the brilliant and athletic Ross, and political consultant to the highest bidder.

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D'ANN HAMILTON AS AUNT MOLL

D'Ann has been active in Stage Coach Players, both onstage and off, since the 1980s. Favorite roles include Dotty in *Noises Off*, Linda Loman in *Death of a Salesman*, Mrs. Kendal in *Elephant Man*, Suzette in *Don't Dress for Dinner*, and Ouiser Boudreaux in *Steel Magnolias*. She works as a research librarian and is completing her sixth year on the Prairie Area Library System (PALS) Board of Directors. D'Ann thanks the cast and crew of *November* for their hard work and their gifts of laughter. She hopes that audience members, whether Novembers or Aprils, share Molly's philosophy to never give up.



CHERYL JOHNSON AS AUNT DOR



Cheryl has been an active Stage Coacher for more than twenty years. She was just seen on the SCP stage as Mrs. Paroo in the *The Music Man*. She appeared in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Nightwatch*, *Rumors*, *Nuts*, *Snow White and Pajama Game*. She also directed *Squabbles* and *You Can't Take it With You* for Stage Coach. Cheryl has been involved with theaters in Rochelle and Battle Creek, Michigan. She is proud to claim that she has played Miss Hannigan in *Annie* and Eulalie in *The Music Man* three times each. She is very flattered to be given this challenging role.

Best of Luck!

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ELISE JOHNSON AS NURSE JANE



Elise marks her seventh season with SCP this summer. She recently played Annelle Dupuy-DeSoto in *Steel Magnolias* (2009) and directed *Over the River and Through the Woods* (2008). Her favorite role is Sylvia in *Sylvia*. Elise has co-choreographed numerous shows, including *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *The Music Man*. She worked with David and Darlene in *Earth and Sky* and is thrilled to work with them again. Elise holds a BA in Theatre Studies from NIU and recently received a teaching certificate in English.

JOAN E. KOLE AS AUNT LIZ

Joan has acted in or directed more than seventy theatrical productions in six states. She has a MA from the University of Nebraska, a PhD from Union Institute & University, and has studied with the Denver Conservatory of Performing Arts and the New American Theatre in Rockford. A former college professor, Joan now adjudicates theatre festivals and local high school productions. Her favorite roles include Melissa Gardner in *Love Letters*, Aunt Ruth in *Marvin's Room*, Ethel Thayer in *On Golden Pond* and Lucille in *The Cemetery Club*. Joan also works with seniors through AgeQuake Theatre, and with developmentally-disabled adults through The Arc's Shining Stars.



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LANA MARTEN AS MRS. PRIKOSOVITS

Lana currently serves as president of the Stage Coach Players board. She is the recipient of both the SCP SCOTY and Lucille Aikens Lifetime Achievement awards. She has been stage manager for many shows. On stage, Lana's favorite role was Mother Superior in *Nunsense*. Other roles include Aida in *Over the River*, Dolly in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Meg in *Damn Yankees*, the Queen in *Once Upon a Mattress*, part of the Bird Trio in *Seussical*, Flo in *Picnic*, and Julia, the Chrysler Building, in *Lend Me a Tenor*. Her visits to the retirement home where her parents live show many of the realities of *November*.



JEFF WHELAN AS MR. KAFKA



Jeff did a little play in the eighth grade called *The Lizard of Oz* and he's been hooked on theater ever since. He played in many shows during high school and has also performed with the Children's Community Theater, Kishwaukee College and NIU. The past seventeen years have been devoted to Stage Coach Players, where Jeff has appeared in *The Elephant Man*, *Dracula*, *Sylvia*, *The Crucible*, *Fools*, *Visit to a Small Planet*, *Nuts*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *The Petrified Forest*, *Earth and Sky*, *Communicating Doors*, *The Nerd* and *A Christmas Carol (2009)*. Jeff sends his deepest thanks to his wife, Amy, and sons, Liam and Donovan.

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CREW BIOGRAPHIES

HELEN BECKER, COSTUME DESIGNER

Helen enjoys participating at Stage Coach in any capacity, including acting and working behind the scenes. She has been involved for ten years and says she has met some great people! She thanks her husband, Mike, for his understanding.

JAN BOOTH, PROPERTIES DESIGNER

Jan has been involved with Stage Coach Players for many years, both on and off stage. Her most recent backstage work has been as stage manager and props mistress. She was most recently on stage in last summer's *Steel Magnolias*. She has also served on the SCP board. Jan is a fifth grade teacher and canine agility trainer, and lives in DeKalb with her husband, David, and their four dogs and three cats.

ELLEN DESITTER, SCENIC DESIGNER & PAINT CHARGE

Ellen is a Theatre Studies student at NIU. This is her first full set design and she hopes to have more scenic design opportunities in the future. The most recent shows in which she has participated include: *Carmina Burana*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Metamorphoses*, and *Private Lives*, all at NIU.

ANDEE LARSON, LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR

Andee has been working backstage on productions since 1968. She has been a member of SCP since 1982. She retired from Northern Illinois University in 2009 and now works as a "den mother" at Go to the Dogs Daycare in DeKalb.

SCOTT MONTAVON, MASTER CARPENTER

Scott appreciates the opportunity to work on this project. This is his third season with Stage Coach Players. He will be appearing onstage later this year in *Leaving Iowa*. He lives in Sycamore with his wife, Cheri, and sons, Skylar and Jarod. His hobbies include Tae Kwon Do and Hapkido, which he also teaches through the Sycamore Community Center.

JILL SENECZKO, MAKE-UP CONSULTANT

Jill has studied at the Colorado Institute of Art in Denver, with Jack Medhurst at the Theatrical Make-up Studios in Toronto, Ontario, and at the Tricoci University of Beauty Culture in Rockford. She currently works as a stylist and make-up artist at Dolce Vita Salon in DeKalb.

TODD TOLES, LIGHTING DESIGNER

A twenty year Stage Coacher, Todd has been the lighting designer for over thirty productions. He directed *Annie Get Your Gun* and *School House Rock Live!*, and has been on stage for around twenty productions, as well.



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