

StageCoach Players present

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD

by
Lori Allen Ohm

Based on
George Romero
and
John Russo's
original film



OCT. 22, 23, 24,
29, 30 @7:30
OCT. 31 @2:00

With a special
HALLOWEEN NIGHT
performance starting @10:00

Directed by
Tim Ball

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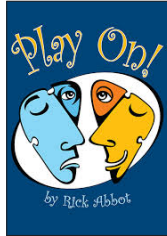
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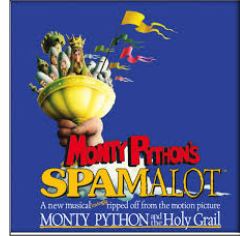
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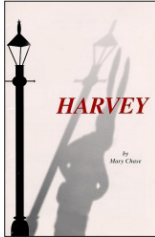
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Night of the Living Dead

SETTING

1969. All of the action takes place in the rural area near the Village of Lee, Illinois. Early one fall evening. Act 1, Act 2 and Act 3 run consecutively.

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Tom	Scott Montavon
Judy	Janice Sodoma
Harry Eagran	Rick Bivens
HelenEagran	Christy Torian
Karen Eagran	Alexis Gillum
Karl Eagran	Andrew Gum
Barbara	Bonnie Miller
Johnny	Robert Draganowski
Car Radio Voice	Kelsey Hoyle
Zombie #1	Aaron Schryver
Operator Voice	Kelsey Hoyle
Zombie #2	Thomas McManamon
Ben	Denny Boynton
Zombie #3	Kelsey Hoyle
Zombie #4	Caprishia Williams
Zombie #5	Richard Christensen
Zombie #6	Jonathan Gray
Zombie #7	Mike Groark
Zombie #8	Shawn Skau
Zombie #9	Lynn O'Toole
Radio News Voice	Larry Ball
Zombie #10	Gwynneth Boynton
Zombie #11 (Week 1)	D'Ann Hamilton White
Zombie #11 (Week 2)	Chris Welch
Ed Sullivan	Mike Groark
Blue Monocle	John Davis/Mike Mattingly/Denny Boynton/"Sticks" McGhee
Brian Williams	Thomas McManamon
NASA Spokesman	Shawn Skau
Interviewer	Richard Christensen
Dr. Grimes	D'Ann Hamilton White
Zombie #12	Liv Torian
Zombie #13	Cydney Henson
Zombie #14	Roberta Maxfield
C.J. Earl	Robert White
Chief McClennan	Maria Boynton
Harv	Jonathan Gray
Walker	David Kuhn
Posse	Richard Christensen, Mike Groark, Brian Maxfield, Thomas McManamon

CREW

Director	Tim Ball
Stage Manager/Asst. Director	Jeanna Hunter
Assistant Stage Manager	John Davis
Light Design/Operator	Bill Gardner
Lighting Assistants	Vince Virtue, Mandy Paschen, Rebecca Gardner, Joanne Gardner
Costumes	Janet Rosenberg
Assistant Costumes	Joanne Gardner, Rebecca Gardner
Makeup/Hair	Keely Smith
Assistant Makeup	Josh Baie, Deb Brubaker, Marie George, Lora Gillum, Cassidy Gray, Lawrence Nepodahl
Properties	Kathy Hewitt
Assistant Properties	Linda Ball
Sound Design/Operator	Abbey Lippert
Scenic Coordinator	Carolyn Canon
Prosthetics/Zombie Effects	Jacob Maxfield
Master Set Builder	Dave Pearson
Set Building/Painting	Dave Pearson, Rick Bivens, Bob Brown, Carolyn Canon, John Davis, Lora Gillum, Mike Groark, David Groat, Andee Larson, Bill Larson, Roberta Maxfield, Scott, Montavon, Scott Morris, Lynn O'Toole, Tim O'Toole, Todd Pope, Bernie Schuneman, Tammy Shelton, Robert White
Set Design	Antonin Artaud
Movement Advisor	Janet Berkes
Ring Leader	Chris Porterfield
Poster Artwork	Bryan Olson

VIDEO CREW & ADDITIONAL CAST

Director	Sean Henson
Assistant	Jeanna Hunter
Boom Operator	Vince Virtue
Video Editing	Sean Henson
Additional Makeup	Deb Brubaker
Additional Editing and Boom	Sarah Romero
Additional Zombies	Katie Banasiak, Deb Bodmer, David Kuhn, Andee Larson, Bill Larson, Norm Read, Cheryl Rotza, Robert White

Special Thanks:

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Oak Mound Cemetary, Anderson Funeral Home, Jim & Wynne Hegland, Janet Rosenberg, American Title Guaranty, WNIJ, Mike Dreyer, Nora McKay, Denny & Maria Boynton, Dave Pearson, David Booth, Chauncey Watson

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Larry Ball (Radio Voice) – Larry is happy to give life to the radio announcements for *Night of The Living Dead*. Larry has been active in SCP many years and was named the Lucille Aikins Lifetime Achievement Award winner in 2010.

Katie Banasiak (Video Zombie) – Katie is excited to be part of the Zombie video gang. She has previously been in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Babes in Toyland*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Peter Pan*, and *Aida*. She has also participated in Imagination Camp at NIU for five years. She is currently a freshman at Sycamore High School. She would like to thank her parents for their support.

Rick Bivens (Harry Eagan) – Rick Bivens made his return to the stage last year in *To Gillian On Her 37th Birthday* after a six year absence from Stage Coach Players. He is very excited to be part of this talented cast and crew, and thanks everyone who supported the Team PAWS charity for his first Chicago Marathon. Eskimo kisses!

Deb Bodmer (Video Zombie)

Denny Boynton (Ben) – As a lifelong fan of horror and science fiction, Denny is very excited to have the opportunity to be a part of this production. Denny is very active in local theater, having most recently appeared in *Ordinary People* at the Vince Carney Theater in Rochelle, as well as taunting King Arthur and his silly English “knnnnnights” earlier this year in *Spamalot!* In addition to acting, Denny is the drummer for the local band, Blue Monocle, enjoys reading, writing, and video production. He is also pleased to once again share the stage (and video monitor) with his wife, Maria, and daughter, Gwynneth. The zombie apocalypse is always more fun with family.

Gwynneth Boynton (Zombie #10) – Gwynneth is thirteen years old, and when she isn’t acting, she plays soccer for NIFC, plays the cello, and is a student at Sycamore Middle School. Besides *Night of the Living Dead*, Gwynneth has been in plays such as *A Christmas Carol*, *Annie*, *School House Rock*, *Cheaper By the Dozen* and a couple others. She wants to thank everyone for coming and she hopes you enjoy the show!

Maria L. P. Boynton (Chief McClennan) – Maria is delighted to be able to play a part in the fantastically outrageous undertaking that is *Night of the Living Dead*. Maria is the Director of Community Engagement at Northern Public Radio, is married to Denny (Ben), and has three daughters — Zoe (NIU), Josephine (DU) and Zombie #10 (Gwynneth). She also has awesome parents, Tom and Shari Pearcy. Thanks to Tim for letting me be part of the fun, and thank you to every single person who makes up the family that is the Stage Coach Players for the love and fellowship. Theater is weird and wonderful. You should audition. Enjoy the show.

Richard Christensen (Zombie #5 Interviewer, Posse) – Richard has been seen on stage at SCP since the 80s. His most recent appearances were in *Harvey* and *9 to 5*. Richard works at NIU. He recently returned to DeKalb from Nashville, TN, where he lived for 10 years and was the first president and a founder of Encore Theatre Company of Mount Juliet, TN. He enjoys films and time with his grandchildren.

Robert Draganowski (Johnny) – Bobby made his SCP debut in last month’s *The Graduate*. He relishes the opportunity to swing both ways in *Night of The Living Dead* – as the living Johnny and as the walking dead Zombie Johnny

Alexis Gillum (Karen Eagan) – Alexis Gillum is 9 years old and caught the theater bug 2 years ago when she participated in *A Christmas Carol*. Her favorite things to do are read, dance, sing, and of course, be in the spotlight.

Jonathan Gray (Zombie #6, Harv) – Jonathan is delighted to be performing in *The Night of The Living Dead*. Jonathan has performed in productions of *101 Dalmations*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *One Act Play*, to name a few. During his 10-year acting career, Jonathan has trained and performed at The Second City Theatre in Chicago, the Steppenwolf Theatre and at the Harrand Camp.

Mike Groark (Zombie #7, Posse) – Mike is thrilled to play a dead guy. He has brought terror to previous casts and audiences as the slayer of Count Dracula, a bigoted preacher, a drunken cop, a bigoted juror, and a hard a@s, take-no-prisoners priest. Now he gets to bring terror in an Aloha shirt and flip flops, without having to say a word. He thanks Tim, Jeanna, and company for being the coolest/funniest/campest show ever, and for inviting him into the family.

Andrew Gum (Karl Eagan) – This is Andrew's acting debut. He is a sixth grader at Aurora Christian School. He enjoys playing many sports including football, basketball, and soccer. He also loves playing video games with friends or just by himself.

D'Ann Hamilton-White (Dr. Grimes; Zombie #11) – D'Ann has been active in Stage Coach Players, both onstage and off, for many years. She was recently seen in *Harvey*, and the Black Box production of *Plays in Ten*. When not involved with theater, she is establishing her indexing and editing business, catching up on neglected hobbies, enjoying married life, and oh yes, wining and dining!

Cydney Henson (Zombie #13) – This is Cydney's fourth show with SCP. She likes making lots of friends here and

thinks it is fun being scary. She'd like to thank her family for letting her be a flesh-eating Zombie.

Kelsey Hoyle (Car Radio Voice, Zombie #3) – Kelsey Hoyle, nanny by day, thespian by night. This is Kelsey's first on stage role with SCP and she couldn't be more excited to be a zombie once again! She couldn't be more thrilled to be working with some of the best brains in the business. Enjoy the show and have a very spooky Halloween!

David Kuhn (Video Zombie, Walker) – David is happy to play a jail bird video Zombie and the voice of Walker at the video gathering of the Zombie-hunting posse. He has been seen on stage at SCP several times since making his debut in *The Robin Hood Capers* in 2013.

Andee Larson (Video Zombie) – Andee has been a member of SCP since 1982 and is making her zombie debut in *Night of The Living Dead*.

Bill Larson (Video Zombie) – Bill is making his stage and SCP debut in this show.

Mike Mattingly (Blue Monocle) – Mike is in the unique position of playing himself, a member of Blue Monocle, in this show. He laughs in the face of the Zombie attack! Mike was most recently seen in *Harvey*. He has also been seen on stage at SCP in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Robin Hood Capers*, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Roberta Maxfield (Zombie #14) – Roberta is very excited to be a zombie usher for *Night of the Living Dead*! She was recently seen as Sister Helen in *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?* Roberta has also been seen in *Forbidden Broadway*, *Rumors*, *All My Sons*, *Nunsense*, and *Gypsy*. Thanks to Tim for this fun experience and to my son Jake for all the bloody effects!

Thomas McManamon (Zombie #2, Brian Williams, Posse) –

Thomas is having fun dragging around as a Zombie and getting smashed by the living. He was most recently seen on stage as Phil in *White Christmas*. When not on stage at SCP, he is attending classes at NIU.

Bonnie Miller (Barbara) – Bonnie is thrilled to be playing Barbara in SCP's *Night of the Living Dead*. This year she's also had the opportunity to play a pirate in CCT's *Peter Pan*, a crazed maid who tried to break up a wedding in *The Wedding from Hell* dinner theatre at the Fargo in Sycamore, and a nun in SCP's *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up? What better way is there to finish out the year than with a zombie apocalypse?*

Scott Montavon (Tom) – This is Scott's 10th outing with SCP. Past projects have included *Heaven Can Wait*, *Bus Stop*, and *Leaving Iowa*. He feels fortunate to be cast in *Night of the Living Dead* and hopes you enjoy the show.

Lynn O'Toole (Zombie #9) – This is Lynn's second SCP play. She was first on stage in *Play On*. She is excited to get to be a zombie this time around! She would like to thank her family and friends for their support especially hubby Tim for his continued support and behind the stage help at SCP.

Norm Read (Video Zombie, Posse) – Norm has appeared in many roles with SCP, most recently as the Historian and Brother Maynard in *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Other favorite roles include Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, Matthew in *Anne of Green Gables*, and Henry II in *The Lion in Winter*. He has also worked backstage as Director, Stage Manager, Costumer, and served on the Board of Directors. He received the Stage Coacher of the Year Award for 2006. Norm thanks his lovely wife, Winifred, for her patience and support.

Cheryl Rotza (Zombie #14) –

Aaron Schryver (Zombie #1) – Aaron has been involved with Stage Coach Players for 22 years. He has done many different projects and is currently enjoying serving on the SCP Board of Directors. When he's not at SCP, Aaron enjoys working at First Student DeKalb.

Shawn Skau (Zombie #8) – Shawn is excited to make another appearance with SCP. His most recent shows include *Not Now Darling* and *A Christmas Carol*. He would like to thank Tim and Jeanna for the opportunity to be part of the walking dead.

Janice Sodoma (Judy) – Halloween has always been Janice's favorite holiday and she is very excited to be doing a Halloween show. The last four years, Janice has worked at Steel Beam Theatre's haunted house. She has been doing theatre for many years and this is show number 24. Favorite roles include Ms. Casewell in *Mousetrap*, and the Sugar Plum Fairy in *Shrek*. Janice learned, by doing this show, that brains are apparently delicious and now she has sudden midnight cravings for a new snack. Brains!!!!!!!

Christy Torian (Helen Eagan) – A member of Stagecoach Players since 2012, Christy was last seen onstage in the 2014 production of *White Christmas* as Martha Watson. Other SCP credits include *Bill W. and Dr. Bob*, *Spamalot*, *Urinetown*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *Annie*, and *Shrek*. Christy hopes to scare the pants off you with this show, and then warm your heart in the upcoming production of *Miracle on 34th Street!*

Liv Torian (Zombie #12) – Liv is thrilled to be a zombie in *Night of the Living Dead*. She has been seen in four previous SCP productions and is looking forward to portraying an elf in *Miracle on 34th Street*. Liv wishes you a Happy Halloween and hopes you enjoy the show!

Chris Welch (Zombie #11) – Chris has been a member of Stagecoach since 2007 and has appeared in many musicals, the most recent being *White Christmas*. Ever since the TV show “The Walking Dead” aired she has had a strong desire to play the part of a Zombie. Thanks to Tim for helping her live her dream. Zombie apocalypse here we come!

Robert White (C.J. Earl; Video Zombie) – Bob’s first Stage Coach appearance was in *The Hollow* in which he played Sergeant Penny. Since then he’s been in several Stage Coach radio shows, which he especially enjoys. A former board member, he recently received

the SCOTY award. He thanks Tim for this opportunity and compliments the commitment and talents of this dedicated cast and crew in putting together such a challenging and monstrous production. Thanks always to D’Ann for her love and support.

Caprisha Williams (Zombie #4) – Caprisha is an active community volunteer for non-profits and has a civil action collaboration group. She has also been involved in children’s theater for six years including appearing in *Sleepy Hollow*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Honk!*, and *The Miracle Worker*. This is her first adult show. She hopes you enjoy the show.

PRODUCTION BIOS

Tim Ball (Director) – Tim has been a member of SCP since 1989. He has played the roles of director, board member, committee chair, and actor. He was most recently seen on stage in *White Christmas*. Some of his favorite roles include Gooper in *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, Speed in *The Odd Couple*, and Bob Cratchit and Fred in *A Christmas Carol*. Tim was named Stage Coacher of the Year in 1998.

Carolyn Canon (Scenic Coordinator) – Carolyn was excited to have her first opportunity to be involved in an actual film shoot as a video zombie. But, she is much more comfortable in her role as set painter. She has painted sets for SCP’s *Annie*, *Urinetown*, *Spamalot*, and *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?* She loves Halloween imagery and this challenged her imagination in a new way. Thanks to Tim and Jeanna and the rest of the cast and crew for letting her “play”! And, of course, thanks to her husband, Mike, for helping her and encouraging her!

John Davis (Assistant Stage Manager) – John has been a touring musician for more than 20 years. He was last seen as Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*. He has also been seen in *12 Angry Jurors* and *White Christmas*. When not on stage, he loves writing, painting, and sculpting.

Bill Gardner (Lighting Design and Operator) – This is Bill’s third year and eighth production as an audio engineer, lighting designer, and audio SBX programmer. Being involved with both musicals and straight plays has given him the good fortune of working with good people and great talent, something that all theaters should have, especially when you see the actors lose themselves in the roles and work with the fantasy world you have helped to create. Thanks to his assistants in this show Vince Virtue, Mandy Paschen, Rebecca Gardner, and Joanne Gardner. Enjoy the Darkness! Remember Brainzzzzz...mmmm goodness!!!

Kathy Hewitt (Props) – Kathy is often seen on-stage at SCP, performing in many musicals including *The Sound of Music* as Sister Margaretta and as Aunt Eller in *Oklahoma*. This is Kathy’s 2nd experience in charge of props. She also worked as a back stage assistant earlier

this season in *Spamalot*. She also works in the SCP Box Office and she played in the pit band for *Annie*. Kathy works at the Crum-Halsted Agency and lives in Sycamore with her dog Lucy.

Jeanna Hunter (Stage Manager)

– Jeanna is excited to be “wrangling Zombies” with Tim on this show. From sunset in a graveyard to midnight at a vacant farm house, we’ve definitely met some unique challenges. Thanks to Tim for his creativity and for sharing it with us all. Thanks to our cast and crew for their patience, talent, and sense of humor. And special thanks to my family for all their support.

Jacob Maxfield (Prosthetics and Zombie Effects)

– Jacob was challenged by the charge to create black and white goopy guts that could be eaten by the Zombies. He messed with a lot

of different possibilities before settling on the gore you see in the videos and on stage. He is also responsible for the scars, bite marks, and rotting flesh wounds suffered by the Zombies.

Janet Rosenberg (Costumes)

– Janet has been looking forward to working on the theatrical interpretation of *Night of The Living Dead* since she first heard that it was being included in Stage Coach Players’ 2015 Season. Cast and crew of this production have exceeded all expectations. She would especially like to thank Rebecca Gardner for helping her figure out how to make costuming of a live production look like a black and white movie and for showing her how zombie wear can be brought off with finesse and a bit of humor. Rebecca will be missed by all of us when she leaves for college next month.


PRODUCTION NOTES

Nearly twenty years ago along with my dad, I travelled to Chicago to watch a production of *Night of the Living Dead* that my brother Todd was in. It was a different script, but same story as the original 1968 film. It was an extremely entertaining play filled with as much humor as it was with horror and gore. The set, costumes, props and all technical aspects of the production were simple, played on a small stage and worked well like many plays done at small theatre companies in Chicago. So when the opportunity came to direct a staged version of one the most well-known horror films of all time here at Stage Coach, I jumped at the chance and then proceeded to make the production as complicated a project as I could. Those involved in this production have stepped up to bring all of the facets of this monster together. They improved on many of the ideas I shared, took on extra components within the production and incurred scratches, bruises and other maladies while shooting video near a quiet, old house near Lee, Illinois. We hope the hard work has culminated in an extremely entertaining evening for the audience, the actors and crew members alike.

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