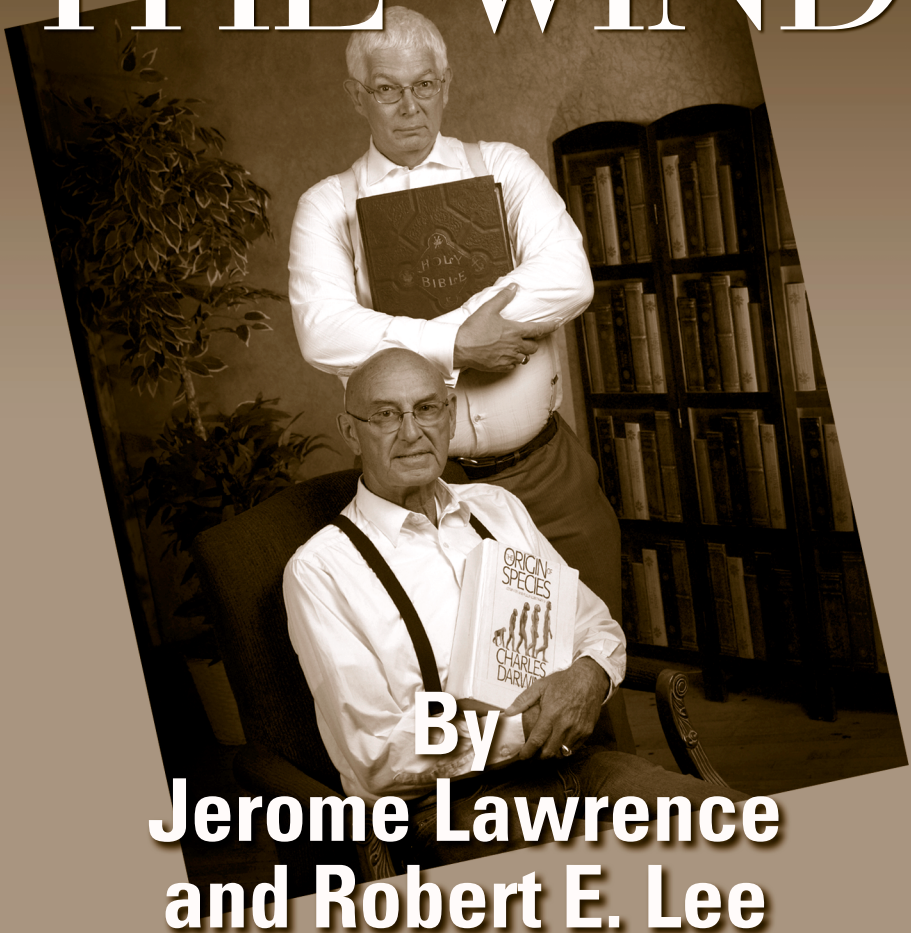


RED MASK PLAYERS

PRESENT

INHERIT THE WIND



By
**Jerome Lawrence
and Robert E. Lee**

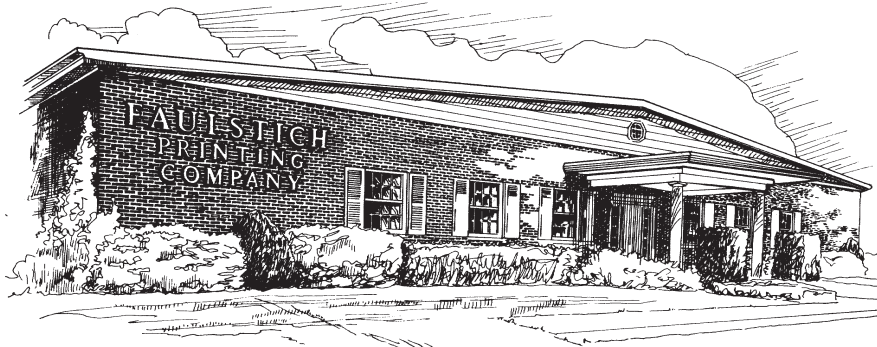
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INHERIT THE WIND

By Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

Cast Order of Appearance

<i>Howard</i>	Dalton Chrzanoski	<i>Mayor</i>	Rick Prentice
<i>Melinda</i>	Meredith Black	<i>Matthew Brady</i>	Robert McIntire
<i>Rachel Brown</i>	Brooke Kuchefski	<i>Mrs. Brady</i>	Mary Anne Cecil
<i>Meeker</i>	Lonnie Ford	<i>Tom Davenport</i>	Jeff Romig
<i>Bertram Cates</i>	Kenneth Cooper	<i>Henry Drummond</i>	Jim Crain
<i>Mrs. Goodfellow</i>	Ann Soderstrom	<i>Judge</i>	Jim Stuart
<i>Mrs. Krebs</i>	Toni Povilaitis	<i>Dunlap</i>	Gail Garner
<i>Sillers</i>	Frankie Kimmell	<i>Reuter's Man</i>	Jimi Dick
<i>Rev. Brown</i>	Dave Tectow	<i>Harry Esterbrook</i>	Chase Todd
<i>Mr. Bannister</i>	Mark Wolfe	<i>Jurors</i>	Dave Downing
<i>Mrs. McClain</i>	Barb Garner		Jeffrey Miller
<i>Mrs. Blair</i>	Ruth Vonk		Don Richter
<i>Elijah</i>	Michael Morgan		Jarod Tinsley
<i>E.K. Hornbeck</i>	David Laker		



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to your Red Mask Theater!

We begin our 74th season with a classic play, *Inherit the Wind*, based on the famous Scopes Monkey Trial. When we were selecting plays for the season last spring I put off reading *Inherit the Wind* until the very end. I was convinced it was dark, slow paced and boring. I quickly discovered that my assumptions were incorrect. There is a tremendous amount of humor, somewhat dark at times, in this fast paced expose on the foibles of mankind. I found the play to be one of the best crafted plays I have ever had the pleasure to read. I am sure that you will come away from this performance with an appreciation of societal values as they shape our interpretation of justice. An added bonus to this play is its ties to the Danville area.

Sit back and enjoy an outstanding performance of a classic American play, *Inherit the Wind*.

Respectfully yours,

Gail Garner

President, Red Mask Players, Inc.



Robert E. McIntire

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Time: 1925

Act I

- Scene 1 – Courthouse Courtyard and Courtroom
- Scene 2 – Courtroom
- Scene 3 – Courthouse Courtyard

Act II

Courtroom

There will be a ten minute intermission between acts. At this time restrooms and refreshments are available in the lower level of the theater. Gift items are also available for purchase in the lower level during intermission. We request that there be no smoking in any area of the building. Also, no food or drinks will be permitted in the auditorium. Thank you.



Red Mask Players are funded in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council and the Danville Area Arts Council.



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

On a scorching July day in 1925, a trial began in Dayton, Tennessee, pitting two intellectual greats of the time against each other. At issue was a state law banning the teaching of evolution and a Dayton teachers knowing infringement of that law. For twelve days, Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes captured the nation’s attention as a media circus swept through Dayton, carrying the historical event to a world of readers and listeners. But as the trial failed to achieve its intended purpose – testing the Tennessee law – and the participants gradually followed each other to the grave, the once-famed Scopes “Monkey Trial” fell from the public eye and memory.

Then in 1955 came *Inherit the Wind*.

Inherit the Wind is a fictionalized account of the 1925 Scopes “Monkey Trial”, which resulted in John T. Scopes’s conviction for teaching Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution to a high school science class, contrary to a Tennessee state law that prohibited the teaching of evolution. The fictional characters Matthew Harrison Brady, Henry Drummond, Bertram Cates and E.K. Hornbeck correspond to the historical figures of William Jennings Bryan, Clarence Darrow, John Scopes and H.L. Mencken respectively. However, the playwrights state in a note at the opening of the play that it is not meant to be an historical account. In 1996 Lawrence commented in an interview that “we used the teaching of evolution as a parable, a metaphor for any kind of mind control...It’s not about science versus religion. It’s about the right to think”. Their intent was to criticize the then current state of McCarthyism.

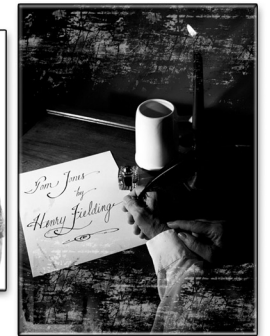
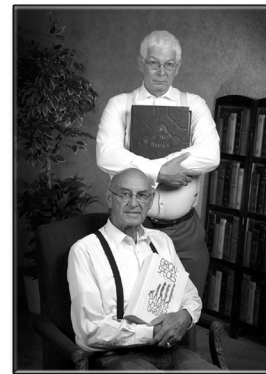
This play also has unique ties to Danville. John T. Scopes is a former Danville resident who attended Danville High School during his freshman year. William Jennings Bryan, who is portrayed as Matthew Harrison Brady, took speech lessons from our very own Kathryn Randolph while with the Redpath Chyautauqua group.

I am indeed honored to have been chosen to direct this most historic play. Along with my stage manager, Jim Wolfe, producer Nancy Henderson and a cast of brilliant actors we would now like to present to you *Inherit the Wind*.

Debbie Prentice

Director

Best of Luck..... Red Mask Players Enjoy the show



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ON STAGE



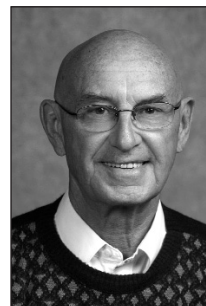
Mary Anne Cecil (*Mrs. Brady*)

Mary Anne has just finished playing Ernestina Money in *Hello Dolly* for DLO and Evangeline Harcourt in *Anything Goes* for Myers Dinner Theatre. She has played both grandmothers in *Over the River and through the Woods* for Red Mask and in Texas. Other favorite roles include both aunts in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Bella in *Lost in Yonkers*, Sister Hubert in *Nunsense* and Helsa Wetzell in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* to name a few. Mary Anne wishes to thank Debbie and Jim for all their support and for giving her the opportunity to do something dramatic for a change.



Kenneth Cooper (*Bertram Cates*)

This is Kenneth's 5th Red Mask show. He has been in 15 or more shows in Danville since he returned in 2003 for the Red Mask children's show *MGTV*. Having done so many shows, he feels he is a part of the local theater family. He learned about most of the productions through his "agent", his beloved grandmother, Claudia Cooper. He hopes you enjoy this production of *Inherit the Wind*.



Jim Crain (*Henry Drummond*)

Jim is happy to be back on the Red Mask stage! He is a Danville native, recently returned from Port Charlotte, Florida, where he appeared in numerous productions with the Charlotte Players. Jim appeared in *How the Other Half Loves* on the Red Mask stage many years ago. Jim owns an antique and resale shop at the old McMillan school on Georgetown Road. He would like to thank the director and stage manager, producer and the entire cast for their support during this production, and special thanks to his wife Michell for all her help! Break a leg Jim!



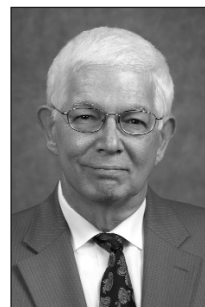
Brooke Kuchefski (*Rachel Brown*)

Brooke is appearing in her second adult Red Mask play but is no stranger to the Red Mask Theater. Brooke has been performing since she was nine, starting here in the Red Mask Children's Theater. She has also done plays at her grade school, St. Paul's, at Schlarman High School, the Danville Masonic Lodge and has appeared in the last three summer productions with the Lincoln Park Theater Company. Brooke is a junior at Schlarman High School where she is an honor student, an ambassador of the school and on the Student Council. She would like to thank her mother, past directors and cast members for all of the encouragement and support given to help her in the pursuit of her dreams.



David E. Laker (*E.K. Hornbeck*)

Celebrating his 36th year in community theatre, David would like to thank Debbie, Jim, Nancy, Cast and Crew (friends all, old and new) for a wonderful and joyous experience. David would also like to acknowledge the Rantoul Theatre Group for allowing him to be part of their production of *Inherit the Wind* three years ago, "thanks guys, I didn't forget you". When not on the stage, David is a counselor at the Danville Correctional Center, a devoted father to George and Libby (the cats) and is married for the past 24 years to Mary Ann, his long suffering, devoted, supporting, slightly nervous, wonderful actress in her own right, and completely loving wife (thanks for everything).



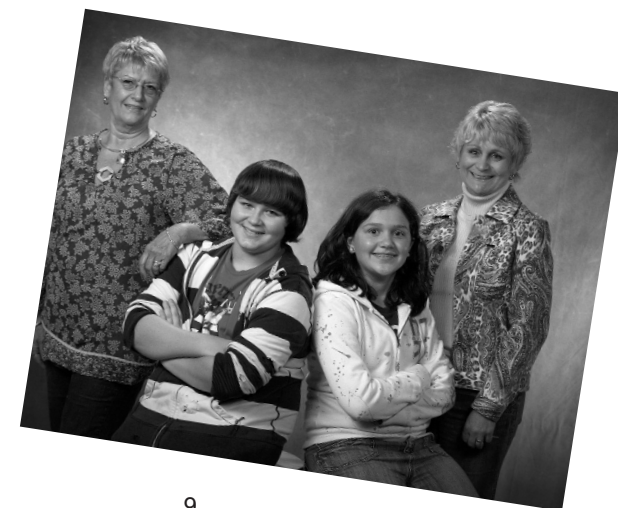
Robert McIntire (*Matthew Brady*)

Robert takes a rare turn as a counsel for the prosecution after retiring as Vermilion County Public Defender earlier this year. Bob has appeared on stage for the Beef House Dinner Theater, Danville Light Opera, the Station Theater, Gregory's Academy and the Red Mask Players, last appearing here in *Web of Murder*. Bob is now in private practice with the firm of Action & Snyder. He lives in Danville with his wife Cheryl.



Dave Techtow (*Rev. Brown*)

David has always loved theater and for years had the desire to act. However, his only previous experience onstage is singing karaoke! He is delighted to be onstage with such a great cast in one of his favorite plays.



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RED MASK

PRODUCTION TEAM



Debbie Prentice (*Director*)

This is Debbie's second attempt at directing an adult show at Red Mask. Her directorial debut was *Don't Drink the Water* in 2007. Debbie has served in almost every capacity in the Red Mask Theater including acting, directing two children's shows and serving four years on the Board of Directors. Debbie is married to Rick Prentice who is playing the role of the Mayor in this production. She would like to thank the board for the opportunity to direct this wonderful play, her wonderful state manager, Jim Wolfe for agreeing to be her co-pilot and Nancy Henderson, her brilliant producer and girl Friday. Debbie and her husband live in Danville with their two four-legged children of the feline kind, Meg and Stewie.

Jim Wolfe (*Stage Manager*)

This is the first time that Jim has ever worn the stage manager hat and he has really enjoyed doing so. "It's a lot less stressful than directing or memorizing lines!" He directed last year's *Tom Jones* and has been seen in several Red Mask productions. "Thanks, Debbie for getting me involved with a great group of people."

Nancy Henderson (*Producer*)

Inherit the Wind marks Nancy's first turn at producing for Red Mask, but she is no stranger to the job, having produced more than 25 shows for DLO during the past 20 years. In addition she often works behind the scenes designing and making costumes, which she did for last season's productions of *Tom Jones* and *Diary of Anne Frank*. Nancy is also a familiar face onstage in local theatre, having appeared on the Red Mask stage in *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *On Golden Pond* and *The Replacement*. She thanks a great cast, and Debbie and Jim who are always a joy to work with!

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RED MASK



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Named after the founder of Red Mask Children's Theater, the Jean Lewis Scholarship is an annual award of \$750 to a student planning a career in the theater, performing arts, or a directly related area such as speech or radio/television. Area high school students as well as university or community college students are eligible to apply. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate their ongoing interest in theater by their past participation in local theater opportunities. Performing artists will be asked to audition as part of their application. Along with a completed application, those seeking the scholarship funds must submit two letters of recommendation.

Guidelines and applications are available at our website (www.redmaskplayers.com/getting-involved.htm), and in January from guidance counselors, speech teachers, or drama departments at area high schools and from the DACC Communication Department.



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Director..... Debbie Prentice
Stage Manager..... Jim Wolfe
Producer..... Nancy Henderson
Set Design..... Debbie Prentice, Jim Wolfe, Gail Garner
Set Construction..... Simba, Bimba and Wolfe
Lighting Design..... Leslie Boedicker
Lights & Sound..... Henry Hunt & Heather Miyagi
Props..... Cast
Hair & Make-up..... Mary Ann Cecil, Dave Laker & cast
Costumes..... Greg Duckett, Nancy Henderson & cast
Stage Crew..... Bob & Sheri Hous
House Manager..... Gaye Garner
Box Office..... Ron Soderstrom
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