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RED MASK PLAYERS

present

The Trouble With Cats

A Play by Gary Ray Stapp

January 28-30 & February 4-6

Friday & Saturday Shows 7:30 PM

Sunday Shows 2:00 PM

**Kathryn Randolph Theater
601 N. Vermilion | Danville**



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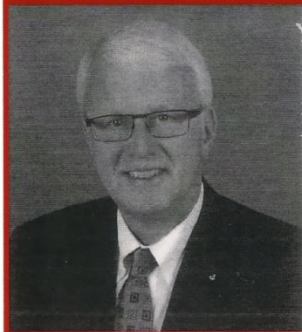
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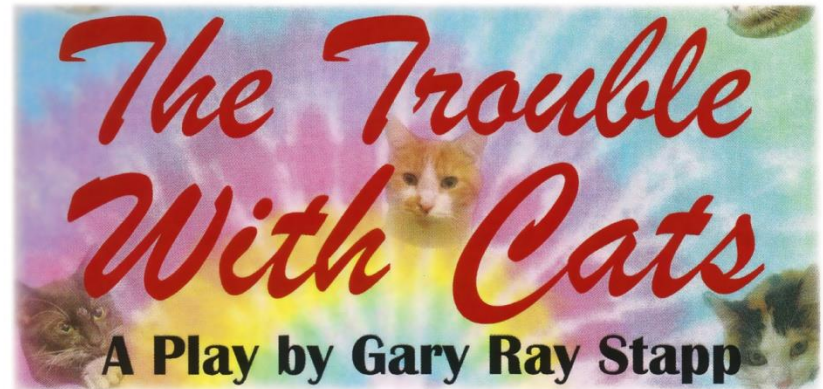
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— PLACE —

A Minnesota Lake House

— TIME —

Please note that simulated drug use is portrayed in this production.

Act 1

- Day 1, a Friday, late afternoon
- Day 5, a Tuesday, early morning
- Day 9, a Saturday, early morning
- Day 13, a Wednesday, mid-afternoon

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

Act 2

- Day 16, a Saturday, late morning
- Day 18, a Monday, early evening
- Day 19, a Tuesday, mid-afternoon
- Day 22, a Friday, early afternoon
- Day 23, a Saturday, late afternoon
- Early Evening, one year later

Produced by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing LLC Cedar Rapids IA



FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of the first things I did when I was elected to the Red Mask board three years ago was present *“The Trouble with Cats”* to the reading committee. I had a history with this show, it being one of the first I ever performed in when I started acting, at the Rantoul Theatre Group. Everyone thought it was as funny as I did so I just had to wait for the long lockdown season to end so that it could be on the schedule. My original plan was to try and reprise my role as Nelson, since I had never directed a show, and at that time I had no intention of being a director. Now, almost 4 years later I find that my preference is to be off the stage, being the one with the vision, so I applied to direct instead. This production has been an absolute delight from beginning to end. My cast has been a joy to work with every step of the way, I couldn’t have asked for better. My set design crew, E-Rock and E-Roll out did themselves, I hope you enjoy the fruits of their labors as much as I do. I’m not a fan of long-winded director letters, so, without further ado and any more gilding of the lily, sit back, relax and enjoy *“The Trouble with Cats”*.

Jim Kirby, Director



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

The last few years have been a whirlwind of emotions with the Covid-19 global pandemic. I myself have often thought of just getting away somewhere remote and relaxing. Not turning on the news, and just enjoying some leisure time away from reality. Then I think of all the things that would need to be taken care of at home. I would need someone to take care of the animals, make sure the house was secure, and then bring the mail in. Having a house sitter would make that so easy, just like in this show *“The Trouble with Cats”*. I get to imagine in my head what funny shenanigans might happen if I were to take a few weeks vacation and hire a house sitter or two. I hope that this comedy that we are presenting to you will give you a few hours of relaxation and laughs while you sit back and relax. We know that it is only a few hours reprieve from the growing issues in the world, but we hope you enjoy them. Thank you again for your support and patronage. Without people coming to the theater we would not be able to continue doing what we are doing.

Amanda France, President





BIOGRAPHIES

Jacob Ault (Parker John, P.J.) Jacob has been acting since 2007. He spent nine years appearing in numerous DACC plays. Favorites include *“You Can’t Take it with You”* and *“Funny Girl”*. Jacob’s other favorites include the Darkhorse Theatre Company’s production of *“August: Osage County”* and *“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”* with Myers Dinner Theatre. This is Jacob’s fourth show with Red Mask. He wishes to give a big shout out to a hardworking cast and crew.

Amanda Brown (Oney Cheshire) Amanda got her start in community theater at the Kathryn Randolph Theater, so performing on stage in this amazing old building is always heartwarming. She would like to thank the Director, cast, and crew for making this a fun experience.

Jamey Coutant (Ivy Julien) Jamey is thrilled to once again grace the stage at Red Mask. She was last seen on stage as Narrator #1 in *“The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon”* this past December at Red Mask. Jamey serves on the board of directors for both Red Mask Players and DLO Musical Theatre. Community theater and her theater family are very important to her, as is her love for children’s theater and keeping community theater alive for future generations. Jamey is thrilled to be part of *“The Trouble With Cats”*, and getting to finally share the stage with her PG Donna Sant. Jamey would also like to thank her family for all of their support. She also sends a big thank you to the Patrons who have continued to support and come to see live theater during the past couple years!

Sidnee Davis (Noelle Cheshire) Sidnee is thrilled to be back performing at Red Mask again with such a wonderful cast and crew! She has been in many shows over her 2 decade long theater adventure, but some of her favorite roles have been her most recent role of Faith in *“Grace”*, Lucy Grant in *“Bright Star”*, and Ugly Duckling in *“Shrek The Musical”*. She would like to thank her family for always being her biggest cheerleaders, the cast and crew for a fun filled experience, and kitties everywhere for causing trouble wherever they roam. Now sit back, and enjoy the show. MEOW!

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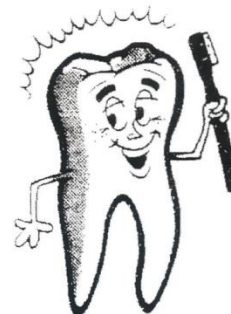
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BIOGRAPHIES

Brandon Hoag (Stage Manager) Brandon is extraordinarily excited to join Red Mask for the first time. This show is also his first stage manager position. A native of Fairmount, Brandon has acted in five plays ranging from Highschool to DACC. He was most recently involved in the DACC production of *“Charlie’s Aunt”* as Charlie. Brandon would like to give a shoutout to his three cats Achilles, Napoleon and Louis, for they ensure he does indeed have Trouble with Cats.

Lisa Hoag (Producer) Lisa comes from a performing family, though not an actor herself. Her grandfather, Dr. Jack Baldwin, performed with Red Mask before she was born. Both of her parents and her two sons have all acted while she has chosen to work behind the scenes, particularly with make-up. Lisa worked on DLO’s *“Shrek The Musical”* and this summer’s privately funded and written, *“The Kingdom of Dreams - A Tale of Oz”*. She would like to thank you for supporting Red Mask and she hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has.

Genie Hopkins (Mitzy Cheshire) Genie is new to the Red Mask Players and Danville! With a Bachelors in Fine Arts, she had many experiences on the stage during her college career, which included *“Seven Brides for Seven Brothers”* and *“On the Verge”*. She is excited to dust off her acting skills and return to the stage. Genie has traveled the nation for the past six years as a Physical Therapist, but she keeps the arts close to her heart by investing her energy in learning new languages and dabbling in music. She is humbled to be on the stage tonight alongside an amazing crew that have helped her feel welcome in a new town and on the stage! She would like to thank you all for coming out to watch this great production and hopes you enjoy the show!

Tim Kirby (Director) Tim has been appearing in local productions for the last 10 years or so. Most recently he was seen in *“Here’s To the Hayride”*, which he also co-wrote, at the Beef House Dinner Theater. This is Tim’s third time directing for the Red Mask Players, the last being *“You Are Perfect”* from last season. Tim has had a wonderful time with his amazing cast working on his first comedy as a director. As always, Tim wants to thank his kids, Tyler and Macy, and Dean and Lexi for their support. And for the first time, he wants to thank his peanut, Elsie May, the world’s greatest granddaughter.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Lizzy Lerner (Sunshine) Lizzy is excited to be a part of *“The Trouble With Cats”* at The Red Mask Theatre. Lizzy is making her second appearance here since *“The Mad Adventures of Mr. Toad”* in 2006. When Lizzy is not on stage, she works as a dental hygienist and is a resident cat lady.

Brandon Moore (River) Brandon is very happy to be performing once again on The Red Mask Stage. The last show he was in was *“The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon.”* Brandon would like to thank Tim for the opportunity to be a part of this very fun show. He would also like to thank the wonderful cast for making this such a fun experience.

Donna Sant (Joanna Birman) Donna is back on stage for the first time in almost 10 years. Some of her favorite roles were in *“Crimes of the Heart”*, *“Lost in Yonkers”*, and *“Barefoot in the Park”*. She has directed both adult and children’s shows, and has served on the Board of Directors. Now, playing Joanna, Donna realizes how much she has missed being back in this grand old theater!

Bryan Schroeder (Nelson Bombay) Did you know...that Bryan is once again blessed to be back on the Red Mask stage, co-appearing with his incredible wife Shannon (their 10 year Anniversary is a month after this show!)? Among Bryan’s prior appearances (which predate Shannon) were *“The Odd Couple”*, *“Of Mice and Men”*, plus several other regular season, summer, and Christmas shows. However, no role has ever been as true-to-life as Nelson! When not at the theater or behind the mic somewhere in Danville (announcing the Festival of Trees, Viking Invitational, Danville Dan’s games, et al.), Bry the Science Guy can be found at Danville High School teaching Chemistry and AP Biology. He hopes you enjoy this wonderful cast and funny show!



BIOGRAPHIES

Shannon Schroeder (Joy Bombay) Shannon is delighted to be back on the Red Mask stage, along with her husband Bryan, who is basically Nelson in real life. They were recently paired up in the Red Mask Christmas show as (crazy) Carol and (nearly-always-unconscious) Jackson. Shannon was Elaine in Red Mask’s *“Miss Firecracker Contest”* and was Clairee in *“Steel Magnolias”*, presented by Dark Horse Theatre Company. She is the publisher of Danville Area Living, a community magazine featuring good news about good local people, shops, events, charities and sports. She is a member of the District 118 School Board and is President of the Arts in the Park Board of Directors. Shannon wants to thank our director, Tim Kirby, for casting her in this fun show and her amazing castmates who have made this an incredible experience, despite them encouraging Bryan’s never-ending trivia and really bad jokes.

Anthony Smith (Amos) Anthony is partaking in his fifth opportunity with Red Mask Players. Years ago, he was a member of the cast of *“12 Angry Men”*. Many years later he returned to Danville and once again became involved with Red Mask. He appeared in *“A Few Good Men”*, *“Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde”*, and *“Superior Donuts”*. Anthony’s love of the theater goes back to his youth and he thoroughly enjoys working with the exceptional talent involved with Red Mask. Anthony and his wife, Nancy, met in Danville years ago, and have returned to the area to be near family.

Dave Techtow (Phillip Julian) Dave can’t believe it has been over twelve years since he was first cast in a play at Red Mask, and fell in love with acting. To be another person, sometimes completely different from his usual personality, has been extremely fun and exciting, and after doing ten shows it still feels that way. He is very happy to be a part of this excellent cast in this funny show.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Danville's Got Talent (live stream event)

Fischer Theater and the City of Danville
February 4, 2022

"The Graduate"

Red Mask Players
Auditions - February 7-8, 2022
Show Dates - April 1-3 and 8-10, 2022

"The Bridges of Madison County"

DLO Musical Theatre
February 11-13, 2022

"A New World"

Danville Symphony Orchestra
March 12, 2022

"The Play That Goes Wrong"

Kotrgrimm Storytellers
March 25-27, 2022

"The Hits of Motor City"

Beef House Dinner Theatre
April 7-10, 2022

"Mamma Mia!"

DLO Musical Theatre
Auditions TBD



BEHIND THE SCENES

Director Tim Kirby

Stage Manager..... Brandon Hoag

Producer..... Lisa Hoag

Set Design..... Tim Kirby and EZE Production House

Lighting DesignEZE Production House

Sound Design Tim Kirby

Costume Design..... Tim Kirby and Cast

**Set Construction.... Eric France, Eric Rossom, Amanda France,
Amanda Brown, Brandon Moore and Tayte Wolfe**

Technical Advisor Dean Kirby

Yoga Coordinator..... Sonnia Schroeder

Program Aubrey Falconio

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SPECIAL THANKS

Red Mask Players thanks everyone who has made donations to keep us afloat over the past 15 months. We could not have survived without your support. We are not out of the woods yet, but hopefully, being able to perform again will begin to get us back on better financial footing. We especially appreciate those businesses and individuals who continued to advertise in our program.

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