

Ⓟ Owasso Community Theatre Company Presents

Neil Simon's
RUMORS

DIRECTED BY: IRIS BALLOU

FEBRUARY 13TH, 14TH & 15TH, 2014

7:30PM NIGHTLY

STAGE AT STONE CANYON

STONE CANYON ELEMENTARY

7305 N 177TH E AVE, OWASSO

SPONSORED IN PART BY ITEC, Inc.

"Rumors(Neil Simon)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Rumors

Synopsis

Place: Sneden's Landing, New York

Time: An evening in May 1990

Act One

Brock House, 8:30pm

INTERMISSION

Act Two

Brock House ... one hour later

A note from the director:

What do you get when you mix four "upwardly mobile" couples, missing hosts, missing help and gunshots? A whole lot of fun and mayhem!

You are in for a real treat tonight. Owasso Community Theater Company (OCTC), now in its 10th season, has done this community a favor. We already knew Owasso was full of talented people, but we are so glad to welcome newcomers to the community onto the stage.

Directing *Rumors* for OCTC has been such a fun and rewarding experience. The cast is excellent and gave their all, braving COLD nights rehearsing in a rehearsal space that was heated only with space heaters—BRRRR! We've shared flu, colds, laughs and a lot of time preparing the show and we couldn't have done it without the love and support of family, Preston Lakes Addition for allowing us to rehearse at its club/pool house and YOU, our patrons. A big thank you goes out to my assistant director, Kay Neldon, and my wonderful stage-manager, Kim Rutherford.

Thanks also to all the unseen and uncredited volunteers, without whom props, set, sound and costumes would have been a huge struggle. Gratitude also goes to Stone Canyon Elementary School for allowing us to perform in its facility.

It fills me with pride to know that OCTC is going strong with a committed board of directors and enthusiastic volunteer tech support. When we started, 10 seasons ago, we produced one show in our first season, *Picnic* by William Inge. Three of us involved with *Rumors* were there to be part of the first show,

Sally Allen, Morgan Keenan and myself. What a thrill it is to be directing my fourth show for OCTC.

Thanks again for coming. Sit back and enjoy the show.

Cast

Kelly J. Nuckols—Chris Gorman

Kelly lives in Owasso with her husband, Scott, and daughter, Grace. Although this is her debut performance with OCTC she is no stranger to the stage. Kelly has performed in numerous church productions including the role of Ginger in *Gilligan's Island*. She also enjoys doing makeup, costuming and stage sets. Kelly is excited to be performing with this talented and funny group of people including her husband Scott and hopes you the show!

Rusty Hockenbery — Ken Gorman

Rusty is no stranger to the stage. After attending O.C.U. Musical Theater he hit the stage running! His favorite shows have been *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Linus ... Pageant* the musical, *Hot L Baltimore*, *Doctor Doolittle* and *Mary Poppins*. Although new to Owasso, he just stepped down from the board of Theater Tulsa. Rusty would like to thank his family for helping support him both on and off the stage ... LOVE YOU! To his fellow castmates, break a leg ... and thanks for a great ride! Welcome to Owasso!

Kaye Brownlee-France — Claire Ganz

Kaye is thrilled to be a part of her first production here in Owasso — thanks, Iris!! She and her husband recently relocated from Wichita, where she was very active in the theatre community. Since 2010, she frequently performed professionally at Mosley Street Melodrama and Cabaret Old Town Dinner Theatre. During the day she was the resident costume designer for Wichita Children's Theatre and Dance Center, as well as a performer for its *Once Upon a Time Series*. Her favorite past roles include Pickles from *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, Suzy from *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, Olive from *Spelling Bee* and Buffy from *Admiral Windwagon*, *Vampire Hunter*. Kaye spends her days searching for auditions, and contemplating opening her own Etsy store, while yelling at her two feline children — Jeter and Meekato — to get off the counter. In her spare time she hopes the Yankees have a better season and daydreams of a completely vintage wardrobe. So much love and gratitude to my dearest husband, Justin. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Dan and all my friends, near and far!

Ken Thornhill — Lenny Ganz

Ken is a member of the OCTC Board. He has been practicing for the role of Lenny since Christmas and is excited to be part of bringing this Broadway-style entertainment to Owasso. Ken shared the stage as Bill Sykes with his sons, Ben and Alex, in OCTC's *Oliver Twist* in 2013. Ken worked behind the scenes for 2013's production of *Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen*. By day, Ken is an aircraft mechanic at American Airlines in Tulsa. He enjoys cycling and running in his spare time.

Sally Allen — Cookie Cusack

Sally is one of the founding members of the OCTC. Although she has taken a few years off from acting, Sally has appeared in OCT's former productions of *Picnic*, *Nunsense*, *Cheaper by the Dozen* and *Ruthless*. In addition, she also directed OCT's production of *Steel Magnolias*. Having majored in theatre in college, she has had a love of theatre for quite a while. Sally has also performed for Sapulpa Community Theatre and the Top Hat and Glove Theatre in Claremore. Sally is also a charter member of the Owasso Community Choir. She lives in Owasso with her husband, Bill, and has two children, Dylan and Shannon. She is employed as the Manager of Learning Systems for Webco Industries.

Jerry Sparkman — Ernie Cusack

Jerry is excited to be a part of this very talented cast. This is his fourth production with OCTC, having been in the casts of *Night of January 16th*, *Anne of Green Gables* and *Mousetrap*. Jerry would like to thank his wife, Joycelyn, for her support. He would like to thank Iris for her encouragement, and he thanks God daily and enthusiastically.

Scott Nuckols — Glenn Cooper

Scott had only planned to drop his wife off for the *Rumors* auditions, but stayed to read parts so others could try out. At Iris' urging, he filled out an application and landed the part of Glenn Cooper. Scott has performed in several church dramas including *Christmas Shoes* and *Gilligan's Island*. He is enjoying his debut with OCTC alongside Kelly Nuckols, his off-stage wife who plays Chris Gorman. The Nuckols are new to Owasso, having relocated with American Airlines from Fort Worth, Texas. OCTC has been a great way to meet new people and get involved in the community.

Mike Neldon — Officer Welch

Mike has been in several OCTC productions including *Babes in Toyland* (toy master), *The Cemetery Club*, *Night of January 16*, *Secret Garden* (Archibald Craven) and *Oliver Twist*. He has also played Nathaniel in *The Living Last Supper*, as well as sings in the Methodist Church praise band in Owasso. He enjoys the outdoors and spends free time with his family.

Morgan Keenan—Cassie Cooper

Morgan got an early start in community theatre thanks to her mother's involvement with Ponca Playhouse. She appeared in *My Fair Lady* as a street urchin, in *Lettice and Lovage* as a tourist, in *Oliver* as an orphan and a street person and in *Gypsy*. She also appeared in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and *Aesop's Fables* and *Cinderella*. Morgan also appeared in church and school productions. Morgan is one of the founding members of OCTC and served as sound technician for its debut show, *Picnic*. She also appeared in *The Laramie Project*. After a break from theatre to pursue her interests in music, she was bassist for Hammer Down and Sideshow and the Sweetness, as well as a session bassist. Morgan is excited to be back on stage in this production during OCTC's 10th-anniversary season and is grateful to collaborate with such a talented cast and crew. She hopes you enjoy the show.

Cari James—Officer Pudney

Cari has been behind the scenes in live theater for more than 20 years. Her credits include lighting for *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail*, *Charlie's Aunt*, *Barefoot in the Park* and *Once Upon a Mattress*; set design for *The Miracle Worker*, *The Music Man* and *The Elephant Man*; running crew for *The Sound of Music*, *The Miracle Worker* and *Who's Life is it Anyway?* Cari's technical awards include: the great State of Texas in One-Act division 5A for *The Miracle Worker* and *Who's Life is it Anyway?*; regional award and the great State of Texas for One-Act division 5A for *The Elephant Man*. Cari has served on the Board of Directors with our own OCTC and serves as a consultant for community theater projects. Cari's acting credits include Court Jester in *Cinderella* and Miss Florence in *Anne of Green Gables*.

Crew

Director—Iris Ballou

Founding member, Iris Ballou, is directing her fourth show for OCTC with the production of *Rumors*. Iris has also directed *Story Theatre*, *Cheaper By The Dozen* and *The Fantasticks* and was musical director for *Babes In Toyland*. Her most recent role on the OCTC stage was as Lyta Encore in *Ruthless, The Musical*. She is most proud of her role(s) in *The Laramie Project* and thankful she could be a part of that show. She has been active in community theatre since 1977 in Ponca City, where she was very active with Ponca Playhouse, performing or serving in technical capacities in many productions. Some of her favorite roles are Rose in *Gypsy*, Charlotte Schoen in *Lettice and Lovage*, Mother Superior in *Nunsense*, and Sarah Bonham Carter in *Quilters*. Iris is thrilled to be working on a show again with fellow founding members, Sally Allen and Morgan Keenan, and is happy to be working again with Kay and Mike Neldon. She is extremely pleased with all her actors and is very happy that OCTC is so well taken care of.

Assistant Director—Kay Neldon

Stage Manager—Kim Collier-Rutherford

During 1980-1985 Kim had the opportunity to do props for Tulsa Opera. She also had the opportunity to props for *Black Elk Speaks* with American Indian Theatre and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are*

Dead with ATC. She came back to the theater, working the 2012-2013 season with Theatre Tulsa, doing props for the *The Odd Couple* and wardrobe for *Hamlet*, *Oliver* and assistant stage manager for *Tuesday's with Morrie*. She also worked with Broken Arrow Community Playhouse working as stage manager for *The Cemetery Club* and *The Odd Couple*, female version. Finally, she did wardrobe in the Theatre Tulsa's 2013-2014 season of *Legally Blonde*.

Producers—Danielle Pawley and Kay Neldon

Set Designer—Milan Anich

Master Carpenter—Jeff Gilstrap

Set Construction—Milan Anich, Jeff Gilstrap, Marc Banoub, Mike Neldon, Sally Allen, Heidi Banoub, Rian Banoub, Kay Neldon, Chris Larson, Ken Thornhill, Devon Gilstrap and Scott Nuckols, Danielle Pawley, Kelly Nuckols, Morgan Keenan

Props—Kimberly Collier-Rutherford and Chris Larson

Publicity—Kim Thornhill and Heidi Banoub

Special Thanks to—Preston Lakes HOA, Mary Glass Performing Arts Center, Owasso Public Schools, Stone Canyon Elementary principal, George Holderman, Tonya Loving and Dr. Clark Ogilvie

Sound Design—Iris Ballou

Sound Technician—Tony Jones