

Osborne & Eppler's

L.A. Valentine

Presented By:

Appalachian
Community
Theatre

Dinner Theatre

L.A. Valentine, a Noir Comedy
By Osborne and Eppler

Presented by Appalachian Community Theatre

Directed by John Holstein

Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College
3505 Daniel Boone Pkwy, Foster WV 25081
February 9, 10 - 14 - 16, 17 2024

6:30 Dinner - 7:30 Show (Doors open at 6pm)

Feb 11, 2pm Dinner 3pm Show (Doors open at 1:30)

\$30 per person

Menu: Spaghetti, Meat Sauce or Vegetarian Marinara
Salad, Roll, Desserts

Cast

Geoffrey Saunders • Brittany Whitt

Brooke Phillips • Jacob Green

DJ Conley • Eva Warner • John Carr

Billy Grass • Faith Cooper

TICKETS



ACT TIMES

SWVCTC 3505 DANIEL BOONE PKWY, FOSTER
WV 25081

9TH-17TH FEB, 2024

L.A. VALENTINE BY OSBORNE AND EPPLER



FORWARD

Appalachian Community Theatre is actively searching for property in the Madison/Danville area suitable in size to support building a theater and/or “multi-use” facility. We are open to ideas and suggestions, including partnering with other civic groups and/or government organizations to provide said building for various uses, including of course show productions, meetings, cinema events and/or renting space for private gatherings.

Appalachian Community Theatre supports the Boone County STAGE program. By developing this multi-use facility, we would be able to provide STAGE a proper place to conduct their activities, including rehearsals, auditions, and of course, their yearly productions.

If you or someone you know has property they would be willing to either donate or sell at a modest price that is suitable and parking is available, please contact one of our members. We would love to speak to you and perhaps enter into a business relationship or purchase agreement for the property.

PLEASE ENJOY AS ACT PRESENTS *L.A. VALENTINE*

A MESSAGE FROM THE TROUPE

Thanks to all of those who have contributed to A.C.T. over the years. From actors and actresses, to directors, technical assistants, musicians, artists, lighting, sound, stagehands, business office, house services and such, none of this would have been possible without your help. We continue the work that began many years ago. Through the efforts of Alumni members, our troupe is able to assist the arts in southern West Virginia.

Our theater group, loosely organized in the 1970's, has made a great impact on our area. Many of our Alumni have gone on to act with other groups, colleges/universities and a few on a broader/national level. Our members have grown with us and continue to help and support our efforts. We hope to add a list of names of all past and current ACT members to this page. The current project we're working on is gaining financial support from Alumni members to assist with costuming the students in the Boone County S.T.A.G.E. program – our local “youth” program, sponsored by the Boone County Board of Education, Appalachian Community Theater, the Boone County Community Foundation, and other area businesses and organizations.

As always, former A.C.T. members are welcome to come back into the fold and join us on the stage. We encourage former members to come to our productions and the productions of Boone County STAGE. We appreciate your continued support. When you have a chance to visit our performances, please let us know you're in the audience. We love to recognize past members during intermission. Our audience also enjoys seeing former members coming back home to support the arts.



THE GANG

Judd Cain	Detective Charlie
E.G	Barb Snyder
Friday	Skittles
Ace Carlo	Fire Chief Wayne
Cigarette Girl	Dr. Krauser
Bartender	Dr. Burt Wilder
Rocco	Inga
Detective Lou Espadrille	Ilsa

SYNOPSIS

It's 1940ish. There's a black widow on the loose. Murder and intrigue. And comedy. Did we mention there's comedy? Noir comedy. Let the Fedoras fly as we enter the city of Angels. It's a dirty street, one paved with the dreams of innocents. Detective Judd Cain, about to retire to a life of leisure, gets one more case. There's always one more case. This time, it's more tangled than your grandmother's knitting bag. Not your classic Whodunit, our hero turns antihero turns hero, and you're the witness for the prosecution. It couldn't be her, could it? Was it a spurned lover? What does the grill have to do with it? Was it the sinister bartender? All we know is, this isn't a sweet, nor innocent, Valentine's dinner.

A SPECIAL THANKS

 Stephens Automotive Group

 The Goldie Stephens Memorial Fund

Paul Stephens

Mike and Paula Ballard

Richard and Melissa Stephens

Michael Stephens

The Boone County Community Foundation

Danny Warner

The Danville Area Lions Club

 C'anna Decker & The Beauty Shop

Kevin Bailey & Tri-State Gun and Pawn

Southern WV Community and Technical College

Boone Career and Technical Center

 Park Avenue Restaurant of Danville WV

Appalachian Community Theatre Board of Directors

Brian Platt

Ken Bolyard

Cathy Green

Our Wonderful Volunteers

 A Sponsor of the show

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WANTED BY LAPD IF SEEN, REPORT IMMEDIATELY



GEOFFREY SAUNDERS **KNOWN ALIAS: JUDD CAIN**

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Saunders resides in Chapmanville, WV with Robin, his wife of 24 years. He has two sons, Dakota and Luke. He is an educator of 20+ years and currently serves as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in South Charleston. This is his second Appalachian Community Theater Show. His previous role was Harry "Telephone Man" Pepper (*Barefoot in the Park*). He has also portrayed Jonathan Harker (*Dracula*), Perry Cline (*Deadly Divide*), the Store Manager (*Elf*), and Atticus "Attie" Van Leer (*Southern Fried Nuptials*) (The Aracoma Story, Inc); Horace Gilmer (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) and Wes Warnicker (*Footloose*) (Southern Coalition for the Arts); Juror #8 (*12 Angry Men*) and Wilbur in (*Charlotte's Web*) (Appalachian Players Guild); and Warren (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*) (Southern WV Community and Technical College). His most recent role was John Mahone in the Aracoma Story, Inc production of *Coal*. He enjoys running, playing tennis, performing in shows, and reading.



BRITTANY WHITT**KNOWN ALIAS: BARB SNYDER**

Brittany has worked with numerous theatre companies in the state, including The Aracoma Story Inc., Boone County S.T.A.G.E., Appalachian Community Theatre, and Mountain Roots Community Theatre. Notable past roles include Lucy (*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*), Alice Bieneke (*The Addams Family Musical*), Magenta (*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*), and Ouiser (*Steel Magnolias*). Her favorite role she has played is Nurse Ratched in *One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest*. She also worked as Gold Side Stage Manager for four years at her alma mater, The University of Montevallo, during the College Night season. She made her directing debut in February 2023 with A.C.T.'s production of *Barefoot in the Park*. When she is not on stage, she can be found sewing and cosplaying (BrittWhittCosplay). Brittany lives in Madison with her hamster, Nat.

**BROOKE PHILLIPS****KNOWN ALIASES: CIGARETTE GIRL, DETECTIVE CHARLIE, AND INGA**

Brooke is a 4H Extension Educator at the Claudia L Workman Wildlife Education Center and a 2021 graduate of West Virginia University where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminology. She is currently attending University of Phoenix to obtain her Master's in Clinical Psychology. Brooke's most notable roles include Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*), Stepsister Joy (*Cinderella*), Mrs. Banks (*Mary Poppins*), Mrs. White (*Clue*), Shelby (*Steel Magnolias*), Corrie Bratter (*Barefoot in the Park*), and Ms. Norbury (*Mean Girls the Musical*). Since graduating, Brooke has returned to volunteer for STAGE in Boone County as

their costume designer and has assisted with props, sets, and whatever else is asked of her. She has been an avid volunteer for Boone County 4H, where she now serves as the overnight camp program director. Brooke also serves as a board member of ACT.

FAITH COOPER**KNOWN ALIAS: SKITTLES**

Faith is a preschool teacher at Bible Center Preschool. She attended Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College and obtained her AAS degree in Early Childhood Education. Faith's most notable roles are Lily St. Regis (*Annie*), Wendy (*Peter Pan*), and Audrey (*Little Shop of Horrors*). After school hours, Faith does photography, piano, and works part-time at Hallmark!

**PARK AVENUE
RESTAURANT****WILLIAM "BILLY" GRASS****KNOWN ALIASES: BARTENDER AND
ALBERT SYNDER**

William is a Bridge Valley graduate and George Washington High School alumnus. His theatrical debut was as the Delivery man in *Barefoot in the Park*. William serves in the West Virginia Army National Guard as a Combat Medical Specialist and is employed in the Emergency Department of WVU Medicine Thomas Hospital as a Graduate Nurse.

WANT TO KEEP UP WITH US?

Want to know what we are doing next? Visit our Facebook page or website to find out about upcoming shows and news from us!

Visit us at
WVACT.com

DJ CONLEY**KNOWN ALIASES: ACE CARLO AND ILSA**

Hailing from Chapmanville, DJ Conley is the son of Sabrina and Jimmy Conley and brother to Faith. Graduate of CRHS in 2017, a 2020 graduate of Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College, and a 2022 graduate of WVU, where he received his BSN. DJ currently serves as the Community Health Improvement Coordinator for Coalfield Health Center. Acting since the age of 8, he has been in over 20 productions. Some of his favorite roles include Augustus Gloop (*Willy Wonka*) and a cast member in *Ring of Fire* with TAS Inc., Marryin' Sam (*Lil' Abner*) with CRHS Theater, Paul Bratter (*Barefoot in the Park*) with ACT, and Dwayne Rhodes (*9 to 5*) and Dr. Scott (*The Rocky Horror Show*) with Southern Coalition for the ARTS. DJ is a co-founder of the Chapmanville Intermediate School Little Tigers Theatre. His directing credits include *School House Rock Live Jr.*, *Seussical Jr.*, *Madagascar Jr.*, and *Winnie the Pooh KIDS*, all with Little Tiger Theatre. Assistant musical director for *Footloose* and music director for *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, both with The ARTS. DJ was honored as the runner-up for a Broadway World Regional Awards in Best Supporting Role for his portrayal as Dr. Scott in *The Rocky Horror Show*.



STEPHENS
AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

www.stephensauto.com

The Goldie Stephens Memorial Fund



EVA WARNER
KNOWN ALIAS: FRIDAY

Eva Warner is a long-time resident of Madison, WV, where she resides with her family, DJ and children Kevin, Ryan, and Jane. She has been an educator for 23 years and is currently a Title I teacher at Ramage Elementary. She loves everything literacy and enjoys helping those of all ages find a love for reading. In her spare time, you can find her cheering on her kids in whatever sport or hobby they choose to pursue. When not on a ballfield or in a gym, Eva and her family loves supporting their community through their work with the Madison United Methodist Church or the Danville Area Lions Club. This is Eva's second show, in which she was Yvette in ACT's production of *Clue*.

JOHN CARR
KNOWN ALIASES: ROCCO AND
DETECTIVE LOU ESPADRILLE

John Carr is a Boone County native where he attended the Christian Faith Academy in Van, WV until April 2020 and continued his senior year through homeschool during the pandemic, graduating in May of 2020. During his sophomore year, he realized his love for theater when he took on the role as The Ogre in a high school production of *Puss in Boots*. John went on to portray Captain Hook in a high school production of *Peter Pan* during his junior year. This performance caught the attention of Children's Theater of Charleston (CTOC), where he went on to portray Judge Taylor in the stage rendition of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.





JACOB GREEN
KNOWN ALIASES: E.G., DR. KRAUSER,
DR. BURT WILDER, AND FIRE CHIEF
WAYNE

Jacob Green lives with his wife, Cathy, and his two kids, Cadee Mae and Zachary in Madison, WV. He works as Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools of Diversion and Transition under the West Virginia Department of Education. Jacob has studied at both Marshall and West Virginia Universities, earning a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in education. This is his 26th year as a professional educator. Jacob began acting in high school as part of the Oak Glen High School Little Theatre program in New Cumberland, WV. Locally, he has taken on the roles of Mr. Cocker in the Boone County

STAGE Production of *Back to the 80's*, Addy Van Leer in ACT's production of *Southern Fried Funeral* and *Southern Fried Nuptials*, and was a member of The Aracoma Story, Inc.'s ensemble cast of *Ring of Fire* and reprised his role of Addy in their production of *Southern Fried Funeral*. Jacob has also worked crew for The Aracoma Story, Inc.'s *Always... Patsy Cline* and *The Marvelous Wonderettes*. In his spare time, he likes to read, strum his guitar, and most importantly, spend time with his family.

THE BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board

Rachael Stephens, President
 Abby Randolph, Vice President
 Connie Phillips, Treasurer
 Robin Bunch-Bailey, Secretary

Members-at-Large

Kevin Bailey
 John Holstein
 Dana Holstein
 Jacob Messer
 Brooke Phillips
 Chelsea Price
 Keith Stephens

THE DIRECTOR

JOHN HOLSTEIN



The Director of L.A. Valentine, John Holstein, hails from Madison, West Virginia. John first began work in Theater with the Boone County STAGE Program. Approached by Robin Bunch Bailey to assist with the sound, John was captivated by the sheer dedication of the young thespians in the STAGE program. Noting a lack of support for this extremely worthwhile school activity program, John has volunteered his services in whatever capacity needed since his first show back in 2006. After working sound & lighting for several years, John began assisting with set builds, and later, with set design. Taking on the role of Technical Director with STAGE, he has worked in almost every facet of theater productions.

John had this to say about the Boone County STAGE Program, “....I saw a need. These kids give their heart and soul to their participation in STAGE. Some of these kids do not participate in any other extracurricular activity at school. This is all they have. Many kids are offered college scholarships for their work in the Fine Arts. We cannot ignore the interest and opportunities these kids have, no more than we can ignore the interests other kids have in band, athletics, or academic pursuits.”

With the revival of Appalachian Community Theatre in 2018, John threw his hat onto the stage to assist with ACT as well as Boone County STAGE. In 2019, John made his Directorial Debut with Osborne and Eppler’s *Southern Fried Nuptials*, the sequel to the 2018 Production of *Southern Friend Funeral*. He has since Directed *The Odd Couple*, *Clue*, *Greater Tuna*, and now, *L.A. Valentine*, while continuing to design and build sets for other ACT/STAGE shows such as *Steel Magnolias*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Matilda*, and *Mean Girls*, as well as sound and lighting for all of the Boone County STAGE and ACT shows. John's most memorable moment in theater: That one time he took to the stage in the production of *Greater Tuna*, where both he and his good friend Dr. Jacob Messer took on the roles of multiple characters (particularly the “helmet” scene on opening night, you just had to be there). He hopes to revive that show in the coming years, on a bigger stage, and hopefully, with a few more people in the audience.

John would rather be fishing.

UPCOMING...

Boone County S.T.A.G.E. presents

THE WIZARD OF OZ: YOUTH EDITION

By L. Frank Baum
with Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

THE MADISON CIVIC CENTER
APRIL 18TH, 19TH, & 20TH AT 7:00 PM

APRIL 21ST AT 3:00 PM

TICKETS \$10 AT THE DOOR

DOORS OPEN 1 HOUR BEFORE THE SHOW

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

Background Music by Herbert Stothart
Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard
Orchestrations by Larry Wilcox
Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespear Co.

