



Oxford Area Community Theatre  
2021-22 Season

# The Octette Bridge Club

by P.J. Barry

Directed by S. Michael McVey



**Friday & Saturday, February 18 & 19 @ 7:30**

**Sunday, February 20 @ 2:00**

**Friday & Saturday, February 25 & 26 @ 7:30**

**Sunday, February 27 @ 2:00**

# OxACT's Founding Patrons

Susan Braunig  
Bill Brewer  
Sgt. David Broxterman, USA  
William and Charlotte Bruhn  
Allan and Christina Button  
Robert and Biz Campbell  
Roger and Marilyn DeSoucy  
Randy and Bev Devirendt  
Edgar Dupont  
The General Store/Finishing Touches  
John and Kathy Gerberick  
Dave and Becky Heckert  
Bill and Jane Hollingsworth  
Michael Keller

Joe and Janet Kretschmer  
Jack Liles  
John Lowrey  
Marilaine's  
Mrs. C. Rollin Niswonger  
Jack and Sally Southard  
C. E. and Betty Stousland  
Dennis and Helen Sullivan  
Stephen E. Toney  
William and Dixie Utter  
Kaye York-Longworth

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## OxACT Mission Statement

“The mission of the Oxford Area Community Theatre shall be to provide the community with the highest quality amateur theater possible. In order to achieve our goal, OxACT will present a mixture of musicals, dramas, and comedies from the classical and contemporary repertoire. We will do our best to achieve balance between shows that are appealing to the audience, cast, crew, and director, while increasing theatrical knowledge for all involved.”



## OxACT's 2021-22 Board



Rebecca Howard, president  
Kayleigh Swatzell, vice president  
Patricia Troesch, treasurer  
Susan Meikle, secretary

Matt Benzing  
Ben Mattox  
Mike McVey  
Andrew Swatzell

The OCAC's ADA-compliant restrooms are located down the hall as you leave the theatre to the left (women's) and to the right

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The use of recording devices or cameras is strictly prohibited.  
Please silence all electronic devices, such as watches, and



**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE!**

OxACT reserves the right to determine if or when latecomers will be seated, and may request patrons to leave the theatre if they become disruptive.

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## ***SPECIAL THANKS TO***

*THE OCTETTE BRIDGE CLUB*

*Wish to thank*

*HEIDI SCHILLER*

*For her*

*Unbounded ENTHUSIASM and GENEROSITY*



## **AFTER-SHOW RECEPTION**

Due to COVID protocols and considerations, there will NOT be an opening night reception for this production.



**Oxford Area Community Theatre**  
**2021-22 Season**



**Production:**

**Director/Lighting/Production Design:**  
S. Michael McVey

**Assistant Director:**  
Belinda Barr

The Octette Bridge Club is produced by arrangement  
with Samuel French, Inc. and  
Concord Theatricals  
250 W. 57th St., 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10107-0102

**CAST:**

**THE SISTERS:**

Elena Jackson Albarrán ..... LIL  
Carla Browning ..... NORA  
Jenny Mattox ..... ALICE  
Cathy McVey ..... CONNIE  
Chris Starkey ..... BETSY  
Erika Wagner ..... ANN  
Barb Winkler ..... MARY MARGARET  
Jane Winkler ..... MARTHA

**THE PHOTOGRAPHER:**

Akio Wiese ..... ROBERT

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The action of the play takes place in Providence, Rhode Island

ACT ONE takes place in 1934  
ACT TWO takes place in 1944

*There will be one 10 minute intermission*

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**DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

*Life can be viewed as an unlimited series of journeys: child to adult, struggling to fit in, striving to stand out, education, empathy, and ethics. The journey from growing, to living with family, to being dependent, to being independent and self-sufficient is one of the most difficult and lonely journeys. Often when we think we have reached a destination with assurance, we stumble because of the passing or loss of a parent or sibling. Another journey begins. We all keep passing through little moments in other people's lives as well, but we only pass through this world but once. Enjoy this journey.*

~ Stephen Michael McVey

## WHO'S WHO CAST AND CREW

**Elena Jackson Albarrán (Lil)**, originally from Moultonborough, New Hampshire by way of Tucson, Arizona, is the oldest of three sisters (Acacia and Martha), and knows something about sibling drama. She last appeared in a production of *The Vagina Monologues*. She conducts ad hoc theatrical performances daily for her university History students and for family in the kitchen. Her role as Lil vindicates her high school musical career, in which she was only cast in background roles because she can't carry a tune.

**Belinda Barr (Assistant Director)** is a newbie to all things theater, but then Mike offered, and she accepted the assistant director part (what is that?). Going in blind with help from friends McVey's and cast sisters, the behind the scenes role is a perfect way to take the plunge.

**Carla Browning (Nora)** is happy to be back in the theater after a 30 year hiatus. She has recently appeared as a nun in *The Sound of Music* for Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre. She is thankful to Mike McVey for giving her the opportunity to share the stage with this talented and sweet cast. Growing up with 5 siblings of her own (Sharon, Vicki, Mike, Mark & Gretchen), she is no stranger to the dynamics of a large family. You can be completely yourself with them and they will always be your greatest cheerleaders.

**Jenny Mattox (Alice)** is a long-time lover and supporter of community theater. However, she was not an actual participant until the first OxACT production of this season, *All The Roles I'll Never Have*, in October 2021. That simply required singing songs that she had already memorized. This is very different. She thanks Mike McVey for this opportunity, her new sisters for being so much fun, and her family for their encouragement and love. She hopes that someday she will learn more about acting from her niece Jennifer and her brother Ben. Special thanks to her sister Kate—I love YOU more!

**Cathy McVey (Connie)** is tickled to be able to continue getting on stage with new and old friends courtesy of OxACT. From her first encounter with theater as a first grader, through years of such classics as *The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew* and *Midsummer Night's Dream*, all the way to *Octette Bridge Club*, Cathy has relished the opportunity to be someone else when the lights go up. She is proud that her “sister from another mister” Belinda has joined the ranks of OxACT and hopes this is the first of many projects we tackle together!

**Mike McVey (Director)** is retired and constantly surprised: surprises like having a 33 year old son who is taller and smarter than he is; having a daughter in graduate school with the potential to legally give him mental therapy after graduation; having two dogs who can understand what he says, but rarely do it; and at the age of 71 still having a lovely, devoted, and talented wife who is still willing to put up with him. He likes reading, watching movies, taking naps, and playing games. Two truths and a lie:

1. He has a \$53,000 dog.
2. He heard Mr. Rogers swear in the neighborhood.
3. He invented a fire alarm for chickens and sold them.

It's your turn.

**Chris Starkey (Betsy)** is happy to be back on the OxACT stage and thanks Mike McVey for the opportunity to work with this wonderful ensemble of wise and witty women. She has appeared over the years in *The Other Place*, *God of Carnage*, and *Walter Cronkite is Dead*. She thanks her real-life sisters, Pam and Joanne, for providing inspiration/insights into sibling DRAMA and devotion. (Love you, Seestors!)

**Erika Wagner (Ann)** is a long time Oxford resident, and a new member to the OxACT family. She is thrilled to be part of such a great ensemble cast. Having recently retired from her first career, Erika is now embarking on another exciting adventure as a student at Ohio University, working towards her Master's degree in Business Administration. She is also a Vocalist and Worship leader at her church. She enjoys being a thespian, student, and leader, but her most cherished roles are that of Wife and Mother of two.

**Akio Wiese (Robert Foster)** most recently appeared as Kurt in *Sound of Music* (Greater Hamilton Civic Theater) and Scar in *Lion King Jr.* (RiseUp Theater). His first play was as Bill in *Cheaper by the Dozen* (GHCT). Akio has a passion for theater, nurtured by lots of reading and six years of dance. A seventh grader in Oxford, he enjoys playing music (cello, French horn, and string bass), writing fictional narratives, and being outdoors. Some day he wants to go to Paris to see the Louvre and Eiffel Tower.



**Barb Winkler (Mary)** is excited to be performing for her first time with OxACT along with her new “sisters” and her real sister, Jane. Past involvements have included performances with Greater Hamilton Civic Theater, Fairfield Summer Theater, Middletown Lyric Theater, and Rotary Presents. Favorite roles include one of the Silly Girls in *Beauty and the Beast*, Housekeeper in *Man of LaMancha*, and one of the Boylan sisters in *Annie*. Barb is currently Secretary for GHCT, and has worked backstage in many capacities on several productions. Thanks to Mike for the opportunity to try something challenging!

**Jane Winkler (Martha)** is thrilled to be in her first OxACT production! She is a long time member of Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre and currently serves on the Board as Ticket Manager. She recently appeared in *The Sound of Music*. Favorite roles include Ethel Toffelmeier (*The Music Man*) and a Silly Girl (*Beauty and the Beast*). She actually is the oldest of 4 sisters and a brother. Jane is happy to be doing a show with her real sister Barb and all her new sisters. Thanks to Mike for this opportunity!



***Would you like to become part  
of the magic that OxACT brings  
to the Oxford community?  
Backstage, onstage, or providing  
support in other ways, if you  
would like to join our dynamic  
arts community, email [info@  
oxact.org](mailto:info@oxact.org)!***



## ***SHOUT OUT TO OUR SEASON DONORS!***

OxACT has always been supported through the generosity of community members who attend as patrons, or who donate to help us keep the lights on! If you would like to become a donor, you can make a donation through the PayPal portal on our website ([oxact.org](http://oxact.org)), or send a check to

**OxACT**  
**PO Box 535**  
**Oxford, OH 45056**

### ***BENEFACTOR \$250+***

Don & Vicky Daiker  
Hardy & Barbara Eshbaugh  
Karl Mattox

### ***ANGEL \$100-\$249***

Melissa Blackburn  
Bobbe Burke  
Marilyn & Robert Johnson  
Elizabeth Rogers  
El-Interiors, Ellen Weisman

### ***MARQUEE \$50-\$99***

Nani Ball  
Bill & Nora Ellen Bowers  
Jane Flueckiger  
Anne & Randy Ritz  
Lana Kay Rosenberg  
Bill & Sherry Schilling  
Mary Woodworth

### ***PATRON \$25-\$49***

Muriel Blaisdell &  
Cynthia Kelley  
Linda Cameron  
Brandy & Steve Darby  
Jerome Stanley  
Judy & Warren Waldron

**1980-81**

Mouse Trap  
Blithe Spirit  
The Boyfriend

**1981-82**

Barefoot in the Park  
Wait Until Dark  
The King and I

**1982-83**

Bus Stop  
Harvey  
Oliver

**1983-84**

Prisoner of Second Avenue  
Inherit the Wind  
Working

**1984-85**

Ah, Wilderness  
Dial "M" for Murder  
Pippin

**1985-86**

Godspell  
6 RMS RIV VU  
The Dining Room

**1986-87**

Evita  
The Real Inspector Hound  
Our Town

**1987-88**

Fiddler on the Roof  
All My Sons  
Morning's at Seven

**1988-89**

Baby  
Painting Churches  
Skin of Our Teeth

**1989-90**

Sound of Music  
The Glass Menagerie  
Arsenic and Old Lace

**1990-91**

Closer Than Ever  
The Diary of Anne Frank  
Once Upon a Mattress  
Marriage of Figaro

**1991-92**

The Music Man  
Gianni Schicchi and Suor Angelica  
The Shadow Box  
The Odd Couple

**1992-93**

Agnes of God  
Ten Little Indians  
Die Fledermaus  
Oklahoma!

**1993-94**

Annie!  
Fefu and Her Friends  
The Fantasticks

**1994-95**

Working  
The Miracle Worker  
The Boys Next Door

**1995-96**

Carousel  
Nunsense  
The Lion in Winter

**1996-97**

Annie Warbucks  
You Can't Take It With You  
My Emperor's New Clothes

**1997-98**

Steel Magnolias  
Sylvia  
Adventures of  
Peter Pan and Wendy  
No Fish in the House

**1998-99**

Stefanie Hero  
You're a Good Man  
Charlie Brown  
Bell, Book & Candle

**1999-2000**

Forever Plaid  
The House of Blue Leaves  
Talking With . . .  
The Rainmaker

**2000-01**

E. Hemingway  
Nuncrackers:  
The Christmas Musical  
The Prince and the Pauper  
Dames At Sea

**2001-02**

Parallel Lives  
I Do! I Do!

**2002-03**

Luv  
Wizard of Oz

# *How many of these great OxACT shows have you seen?*

## **2003-04**

Cole  
A Raisin in the Sun

## **2004-05**

The Search for Signs of  
Intelligent Life in the Universe  
"Master Harold"...and the boys  
Guys and Dolls

## **2005-06**

The Cemetery Club  
Between Men and Cattle  
Free to Be . . . You and Me

## **2006-07**

An Evening of Improv  
Company  
Cabin Fever, a Texas Tragicomedy

## **2007-08**

Spoon River Anthology  
Into the Woods

## **2008-09**

Fiddler on the Roof  
Quilters  
Black Comedy

## **2009-2010**

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the  
Forum  
Quake  
Pirates of Penzance

## **2010-2011**

Doubt  
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee  
Always, Patsy Cline

## **2011-2012**

The Crucible  
Adaptation/Next  
Prelude to a Kiss

## **2012-2013**

See How They Run  
The Book of Liz  
Walter Cronkite is Dead

## **2013-2014**

The Great American Trailer Park Musical  
God of Carnage  
The Retreat from Moscow

## **2014-15**

The Last Reading of  
Charlotte Cushman  
Seussical  
Tuesdays with Morrie

## **2015-16**

The Belle of Amherst  
Lost in Yonkers  
Always a Bridesmaid

## **2016-17**

Art  
Talley's Folly  
Four by Two by Four

## **2017-18**

Oh, Coward!  
The Gin Game  
Rabbit Hole

## **2018-19**

The Other Place  
39 Steps  
Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

## **2019-20**

True West  
Bingo!  
COVID Cancelled

## **2020-21**

COVID Called

## **2021-22**

All the Roles I'll Never Have  
The Octette Bridge Club  
Two on the Aisle, Three in a Van



# **\*\*AUDITIONS\*\***

**Parts are available for:**

**1 woman age 15-20**

**3 men 20+**

**Thursday, Feb. 24**

**6:00 pm**

**Saturday, Feb. 26**

**2:00 pm**

**Performance dates: April 22, 23, 24 and 29, 30 & May 1**

*For more information, contact the director at [kaswatzell@outlook.com](mailto:kaswatzell@outlook.com)*

