Mar 15, 2025 Q1

PEC PLAYHOUSE NEWSLETTER pecplayhouse.org



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Pec Playhouse Theatre Quarterly Newsletter

2025 Season Announced



<u>Ken Ludwig's Dear Jack, Dear Louise</u> - A World War II love story will kick off the Pec Playhouse Theatre 2025 season. The story revolves around U.S. Army Captain Jack Ludwig, a military doctor stationed in Oregon, writing Louise Rabiner, an aspiring actress and dancer in New York City. He hopes to meet her someday, if the war will allow. But as the war continues, it threatens to end their relationship before it even begins. Show dates are May 16th - 25th, with auditions scheduled for March 24th. There are roles for one man and one woman. They should be portrayed in their late 20's to early 30's. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2:00 PM. <u>Ken Ludwig's Dear Jack, Dear Louise</u> will be presented at the First Congregational Church, 633 Reed St in Pecatonica, II.

In August, Pec Playhouse Theatre will help St. John's Lutheran Church in Pecatonica celebrate its 150th anniversary by staging <u>The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church</u>. It is a dark and stormy night as the Charitable Sisters gather in the Church basement to sort out a large pile of donated clothes and various items that they are sending to poor, flooded Guatemalans. As the evening continues there is a mystery woman who appears and not everyone is what they seem to be. A warm, wonderful comedy with 5 women who need to be aware of just who is in charge. Show dates are August 22 - August 31. Auditions will be held on July 7th, with roles for 5 women able to portray ages from late 20's to early 50's. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM and 2:00 PM on Sunday. St. John's Lutheran Church is located at 1301 Jackson St., Pecatonica, IL.

Save the date for Pec Playhouse Theatre's annual murder mystery dinner. <u>**Terror in TV Land</u>** features iconic television stars. This event is scheduled for Saturday, September 20th at the First Congregational Church in Pecatonica. Get your tickets early, as our annual murder mystery dinner fundraiser sells out quickly.</u>

Finally, the 2025 season will wrap up with a hilarious Christmas comedy called <u>Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas</u>. This charming show takes a funny, heartwarming and often poignant look at the struggle to find the spirit of the holidays amid the avalanche of commercialism. Show dates are November 21-30 in the Chapel of the First Congregational Church in Pecatonica, IL. There are roles for three men and two women of various ages. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM and 2:00 PM on Sunday. In addition, a Saturday matinee will be offered on Saturday November 29 at 2:00 PM.

Pec Playhouse Theatre is actively looking for Directors, Stage Managers, Lighting and Sound Designers and Prop People for all of the above productions (except the Murder Mystery). Please contact Michael Dice at <u>diceman54@hotmail.com</u>

We are also seeking volunteers to assist in many other ways including selling tickets, concessions, and ushering. Please contact the chairperson of our Volunteer Committee, Evelyn Petersen, at <u>Volunteers@pecplayhouse.org</u>.

Tickets for <u>Ken Ludwig's Dear Jack, Dear Louise</u>, <u>The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church</u> and <u>Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas</u> are available now and may be ordered online at <u>www.pecplayhouse.org</u> or by calling 815-239-1210. Tickets are \$18 each or you can save 11% by purchasing a season ticket for all three shows for \$48. Tickets will go on sale for the murder mystery dinner at a later date.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT—ROSEMARY MILLION



Rosemary Million - Rosemary lives in downtown Rockford with her partner, Michael Dice. She first got involved with Pec Playhouse when she was invited to audition for her first play, A Christmas Carol, in the old PPT theater on Main Street in 1998. She started onstage, but then quickly added volunteering in many other roles: usher, props, set decorator, scenic painter, stage manager, costumer, and script, asset, and programming committees or anything else needing to be done for a show. Rosemary is currently working on props and set for our next show, Dear Jack, Dear Louise, as well as planning for our next fundraiser. In her spare time she is reading scripts for the 2026 season at PPT.

Rosemary said, "All of these current things I'm working on are done with many others. It all works together because we all work together. Please call and get together to find something you like to do. We need new people with new ideas so our productions continue to grow in excellence. We won't demand more time than what you are willing to give. It's work but oh so fun!!!"

On-Stage Roles for Rosemary

1998—Six characters in *A Christmas Carol* 2000—Mrs. Tash in *Family Man* 2000—Two characters in *It's a Wonderful Life* 2001—Helen Hanff in *84 Charing Cross Road* 2002—The Mother in *The Glass Menagerie* 2006—Three characters in *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge* 2009—Mickey in *The Odd Couple (Female Version)* 2011—Gertie in *Fuddy Meers* 2011—Sister Aloysius Beauvier in *Doubt, A Parable* 2011—Rhonda Lynn Pampley in *Christmas Belles* 2012—Beulah Thistlebottom in *Waste Mismanagement* 2014—Miss Sara in *Fruitcakes* 2016—Ethel in *Moon Over Buffalo* 2018—Mrs. Graves in *Enchanted April* 2018—Big Mama in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

- 2019—Martha Brewster in Arsenic and Old Lace
- 2024—Isobel Lomax in *Kitchen Witches*

In addition to appearing on stage, Rosemary has been a part of the crew in 47 plays, working behind the scenes building sets, decorating and managing props. She has been our stage manager for 12 shows:

1999—On Golden Pond 2005—Man of La Mancha 2006—The Runner Stumbles 2007—Escanaba in Da Moonlight 2008—Godspell 2010—Don't Drink the Water 2010—Twelve Angry Men 2012—Greetings 2016—Proof 2018—Of Mice and Men 2024—Getting Sara Married 2024—A Christmas Carol

ANNUAL MEETING—JANUARY 11, 2025

On Saturday January 11, Pec Playhouse held their annual meeting at the First Congregational Church in Pecatonica. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by President Glen Wiegert.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Trina Ames Lisa Bendorf Gina Brown Gary Buettner Mary Lou Buettner Michael Dice Odette Little Bob Miller Rosemary Million Gary Moore Donna Pauley Evelyn Petersen Mary Alice Peterson Jeremy Ramsey

Lenny Adrignola Arnie Ames Arianne Baer Laurie Miller Brian Pauley Glen Wiegert Laura Wiegert

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

GUESTS PRESENT

Lucy Adrignola Roger Bendorf

REPORTS

Reports were presented from each committee and our treasurer, Laurie Miller. In 2024, we put on 19 performances, for three shows and sold 943 tickets. In addition to the plays we performed, we also were involved in the following:

Pecatonica Memorial Day Parade Barn Dance Fundraiser at the Happily Ever After Wedding Barn Matrimony, Moonshine & Murder (Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser) Recipient of the Winnebago County Champion Award at the Excelsior/Excalibur Awards Volunteered as ushers at the Rockford Symphony Orchestra's Star Spangled Spectacular Volunteered in various roles for the Rockford Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Pops Pecatonica Fall Festival Donated \$722 to the Pecatonica Food Pantry (Our half of the 50/50 proceeds from A Christmas Carol) Published four newsletters

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Glen thanked the outgoing board members (Arianne Baer, Pam Clark-Reidenbach, Angela Larson, Brian Pauley and Laura Wiegert) for their service and dedication. The floor was opened up for nominations for the five vacant positions on the board. Five people accepted nominations: Odette Little, Brian Pauley, Arianne Baer, Evelyn Petersen and Jeremy Ramsey. It was moved and seconded that since we had five nominees for five positions, we should approve by acclimatation. The motion passed unanimously.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Evelyn Petersen presented Brian Pauley with the Volunteer of the Year Award.



Board members (left to right): Odette Little, Lenny Adrignola, Laurie Miller, Arianne Baer, Brian Pauley, Jeremy Ramsey, Glen Wiegert, Evelyn Petersen, Arnie Ames



Brian Pauley receiving the PPT Volunteer of the Year Award

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WHERE HAVE WE BEEN AND WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

DONATION FROM WINNEBAGO COUNTY

On February 19, six PPT members received a generous donation from The Winnebago County Board. The check was presented by Joseph Chiarelli, Chairman of the Winnebago County Board (pictured below).

Characters from the Wizard of Oz were on hand to graciously accept it including Evelyn Petersen (Wicket Witch of the West), Lenny Adrignola (Scarecrow), Glen Wiegert (Tinman), Arianne Baer (Glinda, the Good Witch) and Brian Pauley (Cowardly Lion). Not pictured is Laurie Miller.

It was a fun event, especially standing in the corner of he Winnebago County Clerk's Office (in costume) and watching people's reactions. One little girl even wanted a picture with us, which we gladly posed for.



FROM OUR VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSON

Since the loss of our long-time home on Main Street, we know that all of our patrons and volunteers have been yearning for a new place to call home. We are so excited to start not only preparing our newly purchased location, but to rebuild, and grow our volunteer family.

We would like you to volunteer for Pec Playhouse Theatre. We want to help accommodate our volunteers to find position(s) that will work best for them. We have a variety of areas needing volunteers and are curious on what you would be interested in.

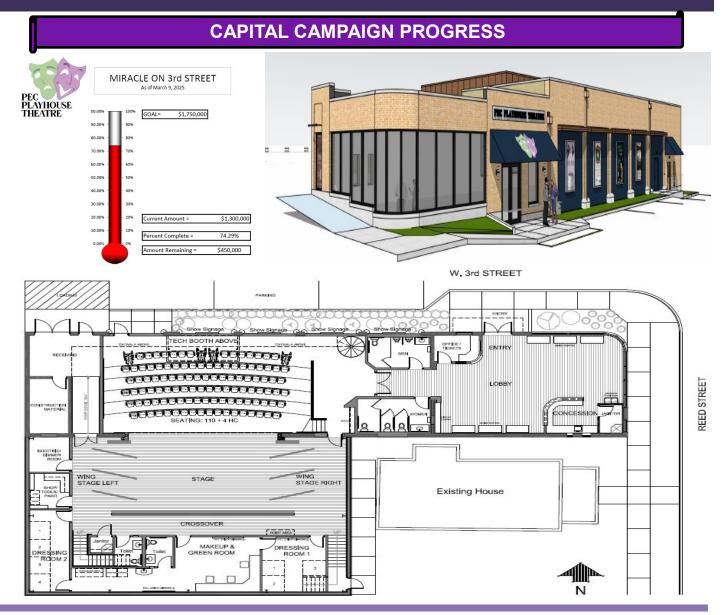
Please let us know if you're interested by sending an email to **volunteers@pecplayhouse.org** or call 815-239-1210 and leave a message after you hear the voicemail prompt. We will respond to your email/voicemail with information as soon as possible. We know that rebuilding the volunteer base will take a while, that's why we are starting to do it now.

Enjoy your Spring months and Stay Safe.

Evelyn Petersen

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Since we started out Capital Campaign to raise \$1,750,000 to remodel our new location at 202 W. Third Street in Pecatonica, we are thrilled to announce that we have raised \$1,300,000!! We are extremely grateful to all who have donated, but we still have a ways to go. Our Capital Campaign chairperson, Laurie Miller, has worked diligently to get us to where we are today. Anyone interested in donating can do so by visiting our web site at **WWW.PECPLAYHOUSE.ORG**, calling our Box Office at **815-239-1210** or contacting



Any size donation will be accepted and will be recognized in our new theater. There are opportunities to sponsor areas of our new theater and have your name or organization's name displayed permanently. To date, our Stage, Lobby, Concession Stand, Children's Corner, Theatre Marquee, Lobby Windows and 38 Seats are already sponsored. There are still several naming rights left. If you have an organization that would like to donate, we would be happy to make a presentation and answer any questions you have. To schedule a presentation or inquire about the remaining sponsorships, please contact **Laurie Miller**.

THANK YOU!!

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PPT FUN FACTS (Answers below)

1. Longest and Shortest Play Names

Two plays have five characters and one play has 51 characters. Can you name them?

2. Most Performances of a Play

We have performed four plays three times. What were the four plays?

3. Eleven Months of the Year

We have performed plays in every month except one. Which month is it?

4. Longest Running plays on Broadway

Of the 10 longest running plays ever performed on Broadway, Pec Playhouse has only done one. Can you name it?

5. Songs from Musicals

Can you name the musicals the following songs are from? PPT has performed all of them.

[a] There's No Business Like Show Business

[b] The Moon and Me

[c] Beautiful Through and Through

[d] Twelve Days Prior to Christmas

[e] 76 Trombones

- Sugar and Proof were the shortest names. Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol is the longest. Coincidentally, these three plays were all performed in 2016 consecutively.
- 2. A Christmas Carol (1998, 2008, 2024), Arsenic and Old Lace (1992, 1998, 2019), Escanaba in Da Moonlight (2005, 2007, 2021), It's a Wonderful Life (2000, 2009, 2023).
- 3. We have never performed a play in January.
- 4. Mamma Mia (2019).
- [a] Annie Get Your Gun (1995), [b] The Addams Family (2015), [c] Sugar (2016), [d] Nuncrackers (2018), [e] The Music Man (1996)

CONTACT US

PHONE:	815-239-1210
WEB SITE:	pecplayhouse.org
FACEBOOK:	Facebook Link
EMAIL	<u>tickets@pecplayhouse.org</u>
ADDRESS	Pec Playhouse Theatre
	202 W. Third Street
	PO Box 238, Pecatonica, IL 61063

Pec Playhouse Theatre Board of Directors

President: Glen Wiegert (president@pecplayhouse.org) Vice President: Brian Pauley (vicepresident@pecplayhouse.org) Secretary: Lenny Adrignola (secretary@pecplayhouse.org) Treasurer: Laurie Miller (treasurer@pecplayhouse.org) Arnie Ames, Arianne Baer, Odette Little, Evelyn Petersen, Jeremy Ramsey

BANNER

Watch for the banner below on our new building at 202 W. Third Street in Pecatonica!!



EXTERNAL PERFORMANCES

In addition to performing for our patrons, PPT also is available to perform for your organization. If you would like to work with us for an event your organization is holding, please contact Michael Dice (Programming@pecplayhouse.org)

2025 Board Meetings Apr 9 May 14 Jun 11 Jul 9 Aug 13 Sep 19 Oct 8 Nov 12 Dec 10 All meetings at 202 W. Third Street in Pecatonica