

GENERAL INFO EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW-

Kettle Moraine Players approach each play they do with the thought that the final result will be as close to professional as possible. We expect an intense effort from our performers and our production team. They usually deliver that which is why we've won state and regional awards.

Like all our shows, we will have fun putting it together but it will be hard work. The most fun will come at performance time when we delight the audience. You should be approaching it with the idea that it will be a lot of work and will be the centerpiece of your life for 10 weeks, but the investment is worthwhile because in the end you will be part of something very special. This may be the only chance in your life to be a part of this play.

If you're still reading, then you're probably going to take a run at it.

CRITICAL DATES-

Performances- FRI 10/1, 7:30PM & SAT 10/2, 7:30PM at Lang Auditorium in Campbellsport HS. On Monday, Oct 4 we will move the show to the Schauer Center in Hartford where it will be performed FRI 10/8, 7:30PM & SAT 10/9, 2:00PM- You should also keep open the evening of SAT 10/9 in case a performance needs to be added. STRIKE SET at end of last performance on Oct 9th.

Set Work- We will begin building set on Saturday, Aug 21st and expect it will take 2-3 Saturdays from 9am to 1 or 2pm. We have many of the components so it won't be too difficult.

REHEARSALS- there are usually about 25 rehearsals. Not everyone is at every rehearsal because we work on material grouped by who's in it. Rehearsals will begin Aug 2nd but the first few after the read thru will focus on Norman and Ethel. Charlie, Chelsea, Bill, and Billy are in fewer scenes and therefore will have less rehearsal. There will be no rehearsals from 9/13-9/20 unless the cast wants to get together to run lines.

Scheduling- we try to schedule in a way that only has you coming when you're needed. We do look at your calendars when building the schedule and that's why it's important for you to fill out those 4 pages as accurately as possible.

Time- Probably 7pm-9pm on weekdays 3 times per week on average.

CHARACTERS- this play features some of the best characters in American theatre. Each of them would be fun to play.

NORMAN THAYER – he's 79 and he shows it. He's a bit frail, probably shuffles, has a failing memory, but is, in many ways, as sharp as a tack. He masks his fear of death in his sharp sense of humor. Played by Henry Fonda in the movie and Hume Cronyn on Broadway.

ETHEL THAYER – she's 69, but is vibrant and energetic for her age. She is Norman's opposite in many ways. She manages his moods and runs interference when he is less than charming with others. Played by Katherine Hepburn in the movie and Jessica Tandy on Broadway.

CHARLIE MARTIN – age 44, the local mailman who's had his eye on Chelsea Thayer forever. Charlie has an almost uncontrollable laugh that is a critical component of his character. A real fun character to play. Norman doesn't think Charlie is the sharpest tack in the drawer.

CHELSEA THAYER WAYNE – age 42. Played by Jane Fonda in the movie she is a pivotal character in the plot. Although she's only in 2 of the 5 scenes her adversarial relationship with her father is key.

BILLY RAY – age 13. Billy is the son of Bill Ray. He is energetic and outgoing. His presence is important to the development of Norman's character. Billy gives Norman a new reason to go on living.

BILL RAY – age 45, a dentist from California who is Chelsea's love interest and whom she marries during the play. His presence is also important in the development of Norman's character. His conversation with Norman is a great piece of comic writing.