



AMISH ACRES®
Historic Farm & Heritage Resort
Nappanee, Indiana

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The Round Barn Theatre announces its 25th anniversary season

NAPPANEE, Indiana—July 20, 2010—The Round Barn Theatre at Amish Acres in Nappanee has announced its 2011 main stage season of seven musicals and a comedy that will run from April 14th through December 31st. Over 350 performances are scheduled making it the state's most prolific regional professional resident theatre company.

The Old Rugged Cross, Hello Dolly, Ring of Fire, Smoke on the Mountain Homecoming, The Odd Couple, and Tis the Season: A Holiday Spectacular during the holiday season. All of the shows prior to the holiday schedule will run in repertory with *Plain and Fancy*, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary season.

After a two show dinner theatre season in 1971, that foretold what was to come, *Plain and Fancy* opened in 1985 with four actors and a pianist producing their pared down version of the 1955 Broadway hit musical comedy about Amish life and love. To date the musical has been performed before 350,000 patrons in over 3,500 performances, likely ranking it in the top twenty longest running productions in history.

The cast and audiences grew each year until The Round Barn Theatre was relocated to house the production in a 400 seat state of the art theatre. Within several years, at the urging of Joseph Stein, the author of *Plain and Fancy* and *Fiddler on the Roof*, the theatre took the ambitious leap into the world of repertory theatre. With two shows alternating nearly daily, the next chapter of the theatre's growth expanded rapidly until it now is supported by 20,000 square feet of scenic shop, prop and costume storage, costume shop, plus full size rehearsal space.

Now ninety main stage musicals, dramas, and comedies have been produced. The nine month season is supplemented with the Joseph Stein Young Actors Studio week long day camps, high school all-star productions, and concert seasons.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebration, the season will begin with *The Old Rugged Cross*. The musical was written by Dennis McKeen who played both Papa Yoder and

Peter Raber in the first season of *Plain and Fancy*. It features familiar music with many enduring gospel songs. Surprise cameo appearances from other *Plain And Fancy* alumni are planned throughout the season.

Hello Dolly is being revived for the first time since 1999. It remains one of the most attended and popular of all of the theatre's productions. *Ring of Fire* is based upon the music of Johnny Cash. Although not a biographical look at the country singer, it weaves his music into the lives of the cast of everyday people. The third chapter of *Smoke On The Mountain*, the *Homecoming*, will bring surprises since the last visit of the Sanders family to the theatre in 2005. Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple* will prove again there is a little bit of Felix Unger and Oscar Madison in each of us. *Tis The Season: A Christmas Spectacular* filled Santa, his elves, and even Las Vegas, along with the Christmas canon of holiday music from around the world will make its debut.

Season subscriptions go on sale August 1st from the Box Office at (800) 800-4942. Subscriptions may be purchased online at www.amishacres.com.

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**FACT SHEET
2011 MAIN STAGE SEASON
THE ROUND BARN THEATRE
AMISH ACRES
NAPPANEE, INDIANA**

OLD RUGGED CROSS

April 14-May 29, 2011

Theme Buffet:

May 20 & May 27, 2011

In celebration of *Plain And Fancy*'s 25th season, Dennis McKeen from the first cast has become a successful producer and playwright. His *Old Rugged Cross* brings together familiar music with an emphasis on traditional gospel songs.

Pastor Jim tries to keep control over his church and the park next door. But, as he is trying to make repairs on the church, visitors join him looking for guidance. The park draws people of every walk of life; a truck driver, a lonely woman, a family on vacation, a feuding newlywed couple, and couple celebrating their 50 anniversary. Each Character brings his or her challenge or story to the park. As the stories start to intertwine, hold on as Pastor Jim tries to hold it all together. We all know who has control. The fun happens as all the people realize the true meaning of the park.

HELLO DOLLY

June 7-July 17, 2011

Theme Buffet:

June 10 & June 17, 2011

"And what do you do for a living, Miss Levy?" ask Ambrose Kemper in the first scene of this most delightful of musical comedies. "Some people paint, some sew, . . . I meddle,"

replies Dolly. HELLO DOLLY! Is full of memorable songs including *Put on Your Sunday Clothes*, *Ribbons Down My Back*, *Before the Parade Passed By*, *Elegance*, *Hello Dolly! It Only Takes a Moment* and *So Long Dearie*. And we are off on a whirlwind race around New York at the turn of the century, as we follow the adventures of America's most beloved matchmaker!

PLAIN AND FANCY

May 28-October 23, 2011

Theme Buffet:

July 22, 2011

A New Yorker and his sophisticated girlfriend drive down around Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to sell a piece of property. Here they meet the Amish folk, whose convoluted English speech, clothes and habits haven't changed for centuries. The clash of cultures educates and entertains at the same time in this quaint musical comedy. It was the first Broadway show for both composer Albert Hague and author Joseph Stein who each went on to win Tony awards for *Redhead* and *Fiddler On The Roof*, respectively.

RING OF FIRE

July 26-Sept 4, 2011

Theme Buffet:

August 19 & 26, 2011

Ring of Fire is a tribute to the legendary Man in Black. **Ring of Fire** re-creates 38 hit songs of one of the most recognized voices in all country music. An onstage country band adds humor and talent to songs such as *Country Boy*, *Folsom Prison Blues*, *Jackson*, *I Walk the Line* and *Ring of Fire*.

SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN HOMECOMING

September 13-Oct 23, 2011

Theme Buffet:

September 23 & 30 & Oct 21, 2011

Before they go their separate ways, the Sanders Family gathers together to share stories of faith and family. The third installment in the Sander's saga features the family preparing to send the Reverend Mervin Oglethorpe and his bride June, off west in style with nearly 25 fabulous Bluegrass gospel favorites.

THE ODD COUPLE

Oct 26-November 13, 2011

Theme Buffet:

Nov 11 & 18, 2011

The Odd Couple is a play by Neil Simon, followed by a successful movie and television show. Felix Ungar, a neurotic, neat freak news writer is thrown out by his wife, and moves in with his friend Oscar Madison, a messy sportswriter. The Pigeon sister's and several others round out this misfit cast.

TIS THE SEASON: A HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

Nov 16-December 31, 2011

Theme Buffet:

Nov 18 & Dec 16, 2011

Meet the Characters:

Nov 26 before 2pm show & Dec 2, 2011

Holiday Spectacular:

Dec 3, 2011

Breakfast with Santa:

Dec 10, 2011

Santa's Elves learn the true meaning of Christmas and also see their boss, Mr Claus in a new inspiring light. Santa questions the business he chose to go in and Ms Claus holds

the toy shop together when they all leave to find the reason to continue Christmas. The Elves take a trip to Las Vegas and see a show where James Brown, Marilyn Monroe, the Beach Boys, and of course Elvis, all make a holiday appearance. This show is filled with Christmas favorites designed for all ages to enjoy!