

**A Review of "House on the Cliff" by Suzy Christensen
October 14, 2012**

For all of you mystery lovers, "House on the Cliff" (directed by Laurel Adams) will make you wonder, shudder, and remain on the edge of your seats. It never ceases to amaze me that a small community theater like the Peacock Playhouse can consistently offer such professional productions. The show is an ideal way to spend time with the entire family with a rather light and at times comical approach to mystery. As Janice Minette, who portrays Karen Clayton put it "...suspicions shift from one character to another". They all managed to throw me off and the ending was quite a surprise for me.

"House on the Cliff" is set in the grand living room of an isolated house on a cliff overlooking the northern tip of Lake Erie. Between the wonderful set design and lighting, and the portrayal of each character, I was easily drawn in and at times felt that I was sitting in the living room myself.



**ID L to R: Jason Swint, Hattie Sheehy, Tom DeBell, Janice Minette,
Virginia Mattox, Donna Blekfeld-Sztraky - Photo Credit: Mike Gora**

The casting was right on the mark and the show features a great mix of seasoned actors as well as newcomer, Donna Blekfeld-Sztraky who I never would have guessed was new to the stage. With other cast members including Tom DeBell, Janice Minette, Hattie Sheehy, Jason Swint, and Virginia Mattox it is obvious that they are experienced and

truly comfortable on the stage.

Having appeared on stage many times myself I realize that these productions do not “just happen”. My kudos to all of those talented folks who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Thank you Bev Larson and Kathy Heyer, Micah Robinson, Lynne Joynes, Jerome Laux, David Setzer, Mark Runge, Phil Mattox, Renzie Davidson, Joe Waldroup, Eileen Adams, Mike Gora, Denise Osborn and to those actors that not only donated their time and talents on stage, but helped out with other projects as well.

House on the Cliff, sponsored by Murphy Medical Center, is rated G and runs October 12 - 14 and 19 - 21, (Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 and Sunday matinees at 2:30). Seating is reserved and tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 for students and are on sale now at the Peacock Playhouse box office. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. You may also call for reservations at 828-389-2787; please note this number as the telephone directories are incorrect. You can also visit us online at www.peacockplayhouse.org.

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