

Cripple Creek Twist on the Old Dickens Classic Returns to the Butte

For those who love Cripple Creek history and the classic Dickens' *Christmas Carol*, this holiday season will be perfect past, present and future.

A Cripple Creek Christmas Carol returns to the Butte Theater in Cripple Creek, bringing community and professional actors together for a fun-filled 2 hours of legendary historical characters, holiday music and good tidings.

This popular show first took the stage in 2002 and was a favorite with locals and visitors alike. Thin Air Theatre Company (TATC) brings this show back to life in 2009 and as is the tradition with this Christmas show offers a gift to the community of reduced ticket prices. All tickets for the show are \$3 off the regular Butte season prices.

The show was originally written for the Butte stage by Chris Armbrister and Chris Sorensen, former Imperial Player actors. Armbrister is one of the three producers of TATC and Sorensen has written several other scripts for the Butte stage in recent years.

Based on the classic, the Cripple Creek version relies on 1890's gold discoverer Bob Womack to rescue ~~Scrooge~~ the Scrooge-like Zachariah Gooch from his selfish ways. Womack, who discovered the gold that made Cripple Creek famous, died in poverty. His ally in saving Gooch is 1890's mining mogul Winfield Scott Stratton, who made millions from his gold mines in Victor and blinked not an eye at assisting those in need.

The show is followed by a traditional Olio/Musical filled with holiday cheer and caroling.

This production makes a perfect outing for the entire family, for Christmas and New Year's parties as it concludes its season with a New Year's Eve closing night show.

Shows at the Butte at 139 E. Bennett Avenue in Cripple Creek run Thursday, Friday, Saturday, at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m.. Tickets are reduced from normal seasons prices as a gift to the community: Adult \$12.75; Senior \$10.75; Children \$7.75; Groups of 20+ \$9.75 each.

For more information and to make reservations, visit butteoperahouse.com.