

You Say It's Your Birthday... Well It's My Birthday, Too

I was feeling rather curious to tonight and I decided to check out celebrities who celebrate (or celebrated) their birthday the same day as I do.

- I have known for years that Fred Gwynne (Herman Munster from *The Munsters* and Judge Chamberlain Haller from the hilarious *My Cousin Vinnie*) was born on July 10th.
- Phyllis Smith who plays (ironically) Phyllis on *The Office*. Isn't it curious that many of the supporting cast members share the first name as the actor playing them? For instance, Oscar Nunez plays Oscar; Angela Kinsey plays Angela; and perhaps most ironic, Creed Bratton plays Creed Bratton (but has his last name on the show ever been established).
- Jake LaMotta the boxer who was the basis for the movie *Raging Bull*.
- Jonathan Gilbert (Willie Olsen from *Little House on the Prairie* who is the brother of Melissa "Laura" Gilbert and half brother of Sara "Darlene #1 from *Roseanne*").

There were 3 pages full of celebrities who share my birthday. Some I would call infamous and some I have no idea who they are. Follow the [link](#) to see who shares your special day.

The Mighty Thor

(Sorry If I disappoint fans of the Marvel Comics' character). Tonight was another fun evening of auditions at the community theatre. [The Nerd](#) came under my radar my sophomore year at

BGSU. I performed a scene as Rick *Steadman* in an acting class. After reading my copy of the scene, I immediately searched out a copy of the full script (and not from the college library). After reading the play, I was immediately enamored with the over-the-top character and said if ever I found a chance to audition for it, I would soooo be there. I nailed the scene in school and was told in my comments from the instructor that if he ever needed a white [Steve Urkel](#), he would look me up. I guess that was a compliment.

At the audition, I saw some returning thespians and one or two newcomers (always nice to see). On the audition form, I listed that I would like to try for Rick and Thor (an 8-13 year old brat). I did get to read the part of the brat while kneeling. I was told that if I could shrink about 3 feet, shave, and grow some hair on my head I would be considered.

When the time came to read for the title role, I attempted to fit in a few snorts where applicable, roll the eyes a bit, change my voice slightly so it had a bit of a "adenoidal" sound (which the stage directions call for) to it. The first scene was the scene in which the cast is introduced to the nerd. Hilarious.

The second bit was a solo part in which Rick makes himself comfortable in his 'Nam buddy's apartment. He unpacks a music stand, book, and tambourine (of which none were provided) and proceeds to butcher "The Star Spangled Banner." I made like I was banging the instrument at opportune moments on the sofa, my head, leg, etc. while doing my best to ruin our National Anthem. A friend mentioned that I could be arrested for such a travesty. I thought being booed ala Roseanne would be enough. I hope that I was "over-the-top" enough to please the director.

Although some would balk at the opportunity to play a nerd, I relish the chance to bring Rick *Steadman* to life once again, this time for a paying audience. Hopefully, a great friend

(who I was actually surprised to see since he and his wife are expecting some day soon) will be cast with me. Usually, he has been directing or directing and acting; but I really would like to be cast in a show where he does not wear so many hats. But even if neither of us get a part, there is always the next show. More auditions tomorrow night. Then what a nice birthday present it would be if I get any part (similar to last year after I found out that I was cast as the standout character in a previous show... although some do say I stand out in whatever part I am given... dunno) ☐ .