

TAWAS BAY PLAYERS November/December 2020



CURTAIN CALLS

CURTAIN CALLS is published semi-occasionally for the TAWAS BAY PLAYERS!



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SAME OLD SAME OLD

As 2020 draws to a close, a lot of people are heaving a huge sigh of relief. Without a doubt, this has been one of the most taxing and frustrating years in our history.

The Tawas Bay Players, like many other businesses, organizations and civic groups, have been at a standstill since spring. Our Board of Directors still meets (see the article reporting on their latest meeting), but the

COVID situation seems to change so rapidly that it is maddeningly difficult to set any concrete plans into motion. Experts now warn of the possibility of continuing restrictions into next spring. The legislation passed for theatre operation has been modified and will probably be modified again before long.

And, like everyone in the same situation, this means loss of income. Not only are we not producing plays, but we still have the normal utility bills to pay on our building.

We have explored different ideas, and looked at what other theaters are doing. Some ideas are feasible for us, some not. But that shouldn't stop any of us from continuing to brainstorm for fresh new ideas to keep the Tawas Bay Players name in the public eye. So keep thinking! We'll get back on stage yet!





9 QUICK STORIES ABOUT TAWAS BAY PLAYERS THE SINGERS

By Michal Jacot

We went without a lot of things this summer. One of those things was the Tawas Bay Players Singers, who usually pop up at various festivals to do their musical thing. So I thought I'd share some random thoughts with you on the Singers.

1. Group leader Pat Casey might need to fact-check me on this, but I believe the Singers have been in existence since 1992 (the year we did "Grease"), an astounding 28 years, and still entertaining the masses.

2. Many of the group's members are originals, showing off their vocal skills from day one. Pat keeps them organized and enthused as they all keep a staggering amount of music in their heads. She sorts the various programs, adding new ones, retiring old ones, mixing several together, and even tailoring programs to fit a particular audience. Pat keeps their program fresh and fun, and audiences love it.

3. Being a TBPS fan does have its drawbacks. It ruins you for listening to songs in their entirety. For instance, I can't listen to "Leader of the Pack" any more without suddenly bursting into "go Granny go Granny go Granny go!" halfway through.

4. I actually used to BE a TBPS member! No, not as one of the singers, but as the "Voice of the Tawas Bay Players Singers," doing some pre-recorded intros for the songs. Later, we streamlined the programs and give more time to the singing. Funny thing was, it was about two or three years before I realized the voice-overs were missing!

5. Laurie sang with the group while eight months pregnant with Greg. It never failed to deliver a laugh

from the audience when she waddled up to the front, displayed a nice side-view, and sang "I'm just a girl who can't say no..."

6. Speaking of Greg, he attended many TBPS shows as a toddler. During one performance in the park, the little kid who had barely mastered walking stood before the singing group and mirrored every dance move they did. Yeah, I guess he had been paying attention to the shows...

7. During one show in the park, a guy suddenly collapsed into his faulty folding chair. I laughed so hard (yes, I'm one of those people, finding humor in the misery of others) I had to relinquish my front row seat to go hide behind a tree so as not to disrupt the Singers. Luckily, Pam Koepke didn't see it or she would have lost it. I laugh about that to this day.

8. A Fourth of July performance in the shell at Tawas City Park was the scene of some perfect timing. The Singers finished their patriotic show with "God Bless America." Right on the stirring final notes, as they all sang "Americaaaaa!" The city fireworks started, and it looked like they started right over our heads. You never saw so many impressed people ... they thought it was planned that way. We let them believe that.

9. June Hudgins and George Robson did a bit in the TBPS Vaudeville show, a corny joke — June Luv: "George, what do you get when you cross an owl with a goat?" George: "Why, I don't know June, what DO you get when you cross an owl with a goat?" June Luv: "A hootenanny!" (Cue the slide whistle). One night they did their usual patter. June Luv mistakenly said, "Oh, George, what do you get when you cross an owl with a hootenanny?" Without missing a beat, George smiled and said, "Why, I don't know June, what DO you get when you cross an owl with a hootenanny?" There was a short pause as June realized she had no answer for him. Then the audience heard her mutter into her microphone, "Oh dear, I've mucked that one up."

Here's hoping we see the TBP Singers next year!

Highlights from the September/October

TBP Board Meetings

Our membership at the September board meeting was around 30. We always get members at our annual meeting, but the specific number wasn't available then.

Governor's Orders: Theaters are allowed to reopen at 20% capacity. A discussion was held about possible Christmas options (online) of old concerts and/ or readers' theater. 20% capacity for our theater would equate to an audience of 30, and that doesn't include actors and backstage personnel.

Tech Support Costs and Updates: The items to be purchased are on hold until we are finally able to open fully again.

Election of Officers: The current slate of officers (Keith Frank- President, Judy Quarters- VP, Pat Casey- Treasurer, Stacy Perrot- Correspondence Secretary, and Laurie Jacot- Secretary) will continue through the upcoming year.

Lawnmower: A discussion was held to purchase a lawnmower for the playhouse in the spring. This is on hold until March or April.

The Board agreed to skip their November meeting; their next scheduled meet is December 15th at 6:30 pm at the Playhouse.

TBP has never had a year like this, so news and updates on our plays is scarce. With that in mind, CURTAIN CALLS (normally bi-monthly) is going to go on hiatus for a little while, at least until we get to the point where we have some news to talk about! Any short bits of news will be passed on to membership by Pat Casey via email. Consider CURTAIN CALLS to be "in hibernation" for the winter. It will be back in your mailbox (or e-mailbox) before you know it!

—Michal Jacot, Editor,
CURTAIN CALLS



From 40 years ago....

Characters

(In the Order of Their Appearance)

Penelope Toop.....	Jody Nelson
Ida (a Maid).....	Tara Metzler
The Reverend Lionel Toop.....	William Western
Miss Skillon.....	Debbie DeBois
Willie Briggs.....	Mike Jacot
The Reverend Arthur Humphrey.....	John Williams
The Bishop of Lax.....	Ron Miknyocki

Scenes

The action takes place in the Hall at the Vicarage, Merton-cum-Middlewick.

TAWAS BAY PLAYERS

present

PHILIP KING'S POOL'S PARADISE

THURS. - FRI. - SAT

MAY 1 - 2 - 3, 1980

8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1980

7 p.m.

COMPLIMENTARY

Pools Paradise is the 3rd production of the season for the Tawas Bay Players. The group was reorganized last fall and presented **Barefoot In The Park** in November. Inspired by the success of our first play, we went right in to the next play, **The Butler Did It**. Both of our first plays were presented on a three-sided "thrust stage" constructed by members of the group. The stage is built in 4 x 8 sections and is dismantled and stored between plays. It is then reconstructed at the Community Building 10 days before a production. This could never have been accomplished without the overwhelming and generous donations of Schaaf Lumber, Schreck Lumber, Merschel Hardware, Tawas Hardware, Seymour Carpets and Wojahn Floor Covering.

Until now, rehearsals were held in classrooms at the High School. We now have a building of our own to use for storage and rehearsals, thanks to Ladd McKay. This is a big step for us in establishing ourselves as a permanent part of the community.

We are already reading scripts for a three-play season beginning next fall. There's also a possibility of several one-act plays that will be available for the entertainment of local clubs and groups.

Everyone is enthusiastic about the acceptance we've received in the community, and now, more than ever, we will strive to bring to the Tawas area "Community Theatre at It's Best!"

Producer.....	June Hudgins
Assistant Producer.....	Sandy Palmer
Director.....	Vince Weiler
Assistant Director.....	Anne Dunham
Prompter.....	Terry Aune, Ken Rapp
Publicity.....	Rick Swanson
Programme Head.....	Nancy Brandemuehl
Programme Staff.....	Karen St. James, Cindy Hayes,
Programme Sales.....	Craig Smyczynski, Donna Van Meter
Tickets.....	Karen St. James
Board.....	June Hudgins, Sandy Palmer
Costumes.....	Kaye & Ron Warner
Make-up & Hair.....	Sandy Palmer, Sheila Mund, Diane Preskhorn
Hand Props.....	Carolyn Larson, Lisa Biggs
Stage Props.....	Michelle Glossop
Stage Design.....	Carolyn Larson, June Hudgins, Sandy Palmer
Lighting.....	Rick Swanson
Audio.....	Ray Skiver, Tim Skiver,
House Manager.....	Donna Van Meter
Stage Manager.....	Tim Walendzik
Refreshments.....	Tawas Area Girl Scouts

**TBP
RETRO**

Construction Crew: Tim Walendzik, mgr., John Williams, Pat Hill, Vince Weiler, Ken Hudgins, Tom Schultz, Deb DeBois, Anne Dunham, June Hudgins, Carolyn Larson, Marge Meiswick, Mike Jarot, Ray Skiver, Sandy Palmer.

BITS & PIECES FROM
"POOLS PARADISE"
PROGRAM