

TAWAS BAY PLAYERS

JUNE-JULY 2021



CURTAIN CALLS

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



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BACK IN BUSINESS!

It has been a year in theater, and in OUR theater, like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic crippled many businesses and organizations, and the theater world was no exception. But it looks like we are at the end of that tunnel, or at least very close to it. And it feels good to say, the **Tawas Bay Players are back in business and getting back on the stage!**



Plans are being made to come out of hibernation and resume our stage work. To be sure, things will look a little different for a while. Some accommodations are being made until we are finally rid of this pandemic pest. You can read all the details in this newsletter.

TBP ANNUAL MEETING

August 13 at 6:30

(Tentatively) At the K of C Hall in East Tawas

After this last year we have a lot to catch up on, so please plan to attend!

Look for your email invitation!

Brady Jacot Explains *Brady Jacot's Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation*

TBP returns to the stage with a brand-new, never-before-seen show! ***Brady Jacot's Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation*** is a one-man comedy performance done by our own Brady Jacot. What should you expect? Well, let's get the scoop from the man himself ...

Brady Jacot is giving a presentation ... but not on what you might think. In fact, we're not really even sure what the presentation is about. It's somewhat of a mystery, but maybe this fake interview we conducted with Brady will help you figure it out:

INTERVIEWER: Do people that enjoy kale bother you?

BRADY: It's not up to me to speak for the rest of the people. But I can tell you with 100% certainty that they bother everyone in the entire world, hands down, no debate, kapow boom!

INTERVIEWER: Have you ever gotten so angry with an audience member that you've threatened to install a sprinkler system in their house?

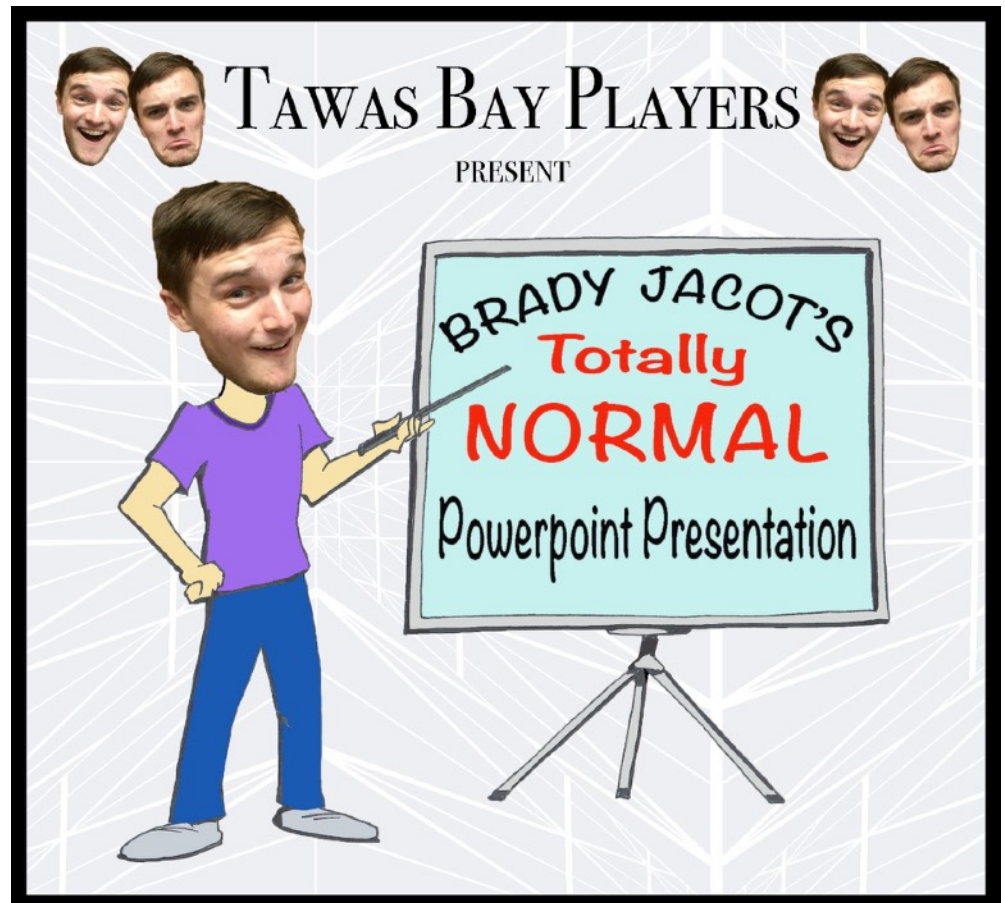
BRADY: Off the record, I'd say that I have not only threatened it, but have followed through and installed said sprinkler systems. The whole process is time consuming and costly, but so worth it to see the look of mild confusion on their face. On the record, I'll say "maybe."

INTERVIEWER: Should we believe in Bob?

BRADY: I'm not allowed to answer that at this time.

INTERVIEWER: Are nursery rhymes funnier in obscure verb tenses?

BRADY: Absolutely, and if you don't know what a verb tense is, maybe you should just avoid auditioning for the role of "Audience Member."



INTERVIEWER: Why did the Gen Z chicken cross the road? (As opposed to the Millennial and Boomer Chicken, of course.)

BRADY: (Brady gave no answer to this question, and instead roamed around the room incoherently saying "patella" and "consanguineously.")

INTERVIEWER: What is your biggest weakness? And will it be exploited for the enjoyment of others during your show?

BRADY: Unfortunately, yes. My greatest weakness will come to light during the Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation. And no, I'm not referring to my low blood pressure or my thyroid deficiencies. The weakness is even bigger, stronger, able to corrupt weak souls in mere minutes. But I've lived with it my entire life. So yeah, I'm not going to tell you because I'm trying to get people to come to my show, you know? Defeats the point if I give you all

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Brady Jacot's Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation (continued)

the juicy details.

Brady Jacot's Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation will answer all of these questions and many, many more. A comedy hour with characters, bits, and stupidity galore, this presentation is going to help us laugh our way out of the pandemic. You might even learn something. We don't know what, but you're bound to pick up something, right?

Brady Jacot is not an award winning comedian, and frankly has no business being on our stage at all. But he was so kind in offering to write, direct, produce and perform his own show that we decided to let it slide. Brady has been a part of TBP for his entire life, as well as part of WE Players. He is currently studying performance in the form of Acting, Music and Communications at Oakland University. If you want to know more I guess go to the show and talk to him yourself. We have better things to do.

It looks like you can expect the unexpected. 100% of the \$5.00 ticket sales go to TBP. Cash only - no credit cards. ***Brady Jacot's Totally Normal Powerpoint Presentation*** runs for three nights, August 6-7-8, with a 7:00 pm performance on all nights (no reserved seats; first come, first served) Arrive early and plan on a night of fun!

Fall Show:

Messiah on the Frigidaire

Our long-delayed production of ***Messiah on the Frigidaire*** will finally hit the stage this fall! *Messiah* was one of the first TBP casualties of the pandemic; it had been cast and was two weeks into rehearsals when it was shut down. Director Beth Borowski is excited to get back to the show! The small town of Elroy, South Carolina is thrust into the evangelical spotlight when what seems to be the image of Jesus appears on a refrigerator in a trailer park. When the news goes national, it sets into motion a frenzy of conflict as the trailer park becomes a Mecca for miracle seekers and soul searchers. God moves in mysterious ways in Elroy!

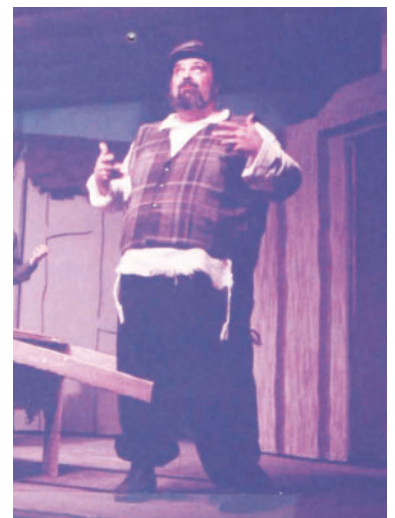
As of this writing, Beth doesn't know if her original cast members are still available. If additional tryouts are needed, they will be announced by the next issue of *Curtain Calls*. *Messiah on the Frigidaire* is scheduled for October 29, 30, 31 and November 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Remembering Greg

By Tim Haskin

Greg Dahlstrom: A powerful voice both in music and in conversation. A wonderful story teller ("Twas the Night Before Christmas" and soooo many others) and a glorious Santa. He was "Fiddler," Yes, oh so great he was. Donna's soulmate and husband and eternal friend. Greg was a very respected and talented member of TBP and will be remembered for so many reasons. His many talents and wonderful personality will surely be missed. But just imagine the music and "acting up" he is having with the heavenly Angels already. Greg was a rich man with a heart of gold and we are richer having been his friend!

Note: A graveside service for Greg will be on June 27th at 4 p.m. at Holy Family Cemetery in East Tawas with a picnic to follow at Tom Dillon Park.



TBP Purchases Lawn Mower

TBP has invested in a new lawnmower for our grounds! We are depending on our volunteers to help with the mowing. Laurie Jacot is handling the scheduling for lawn mowing personnel. The more people she gets means less turns for everyone. This is an easy way to contribute to the Players.

The entire place takes about an hour, and with the new self-propelled mower it goes quite easily. If you would like to help out, contact Laurie and she'll put you on the list. With enough volunteers, you may only need to cut the lawn once or twice for the entire summer.



Christmas Program Returns

Tawas Bay Players' beloved *Christmas Songs and Stories* will make its comeback this December. Coordinator Pat Casey tells us there are a lot of new songs that will make this year's program even more enjoyable. Look for the program on December 14, just in time to lift your spirits for the holidays!

Remembering Those We Lost

By Michal Jacot

This last year brought a lot of loss to our theater family. Each one of these people brought a lot of talent, time, and enthusiasm to the Tawas Bay Players. As I put this list together I was dismayed to see how much talent we lost in a few short months. We will miss all of them ...

- **Greg Dahlstrom** was a longtime member of the Players. He lent his distinctive deep vocals to many of our musicals as well as non-musicals like *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *War of the Worlds* and *Of Mice and Men* (a role he was particularly proud of). For years, he was one of our story tellers in the TBP Singers Christmas show. (See Tim Haskin's tribute elsewhere in this issue.)
- **John Manning** was in several productions with TBP and Shoreline Players. He was in *The Boys Next Door* and is best remembered as the leader of the Munchkins in *The Wizard of Oz*. He was a happy, optimistic man who always had a good word to say about everyone. John will be missed.
- **Chad Robson** appeared onstage and worked behind the scenes on many shows as

well. His musical talent aided us in the pit in several of our musical productions.

- **Georgene Greene**, a former member of TBP, was a driving force in many of our musicals and stage productions. She had her hand in every aspect from being on stage herself to directing and of course leading and playing in the pit.
- **Mike Robson** was a member of the Tawas Bay Players Singers for many years. He and his brother George stayed with the Singers for a long time. I will never hear "thank heaven for little girls" without thinking of Mike!
- **Rae McCready** was a long-time supporter of our group. She was a behind-the-scenes cheerleader for us, attending all our shows and spreading the word around town to come see us.
- **Bob McKindles** was a member for close to 10 years and was our "techie/parade driver" for the TBP Singers. We're still using the generator he donated. Bob helped build sets and he also appeared onstage in *No Sex Please We're British*. A small part but he was very proud of it!

Our thoughts are with the families of all these wonderful people. Our memories will keep them in our theater hearts forever!

TBPer in “A Servant of Two Masters” at Oakland University

Late April saw a cautious return to live theater at Oakland University in Rochester, and the Tawas Bay Players had a representative in its cast!

Pat Casey, Pam Koepke, and Michal and Laurie Jacot traveled to OU to see *A Servant of Two Masters*, a very funny physical comedy featuring Brady Jacot. Brady has been seen on the TBP stage in our 40th Anniversary Review and playing drums at our Christmas shows. In addition, he has performed in murder mysteries and plays for Tawas High School and for WE Players, and will be performing a comedy show of his own this summer (see article elsewhere). A freshman at Oakland, Brady is pursuing a theatre major, with an eye on a career on the stage. He has a gift for comedic parts, and his

performance in this show was outstanding! *Servant* was presented with pandemic precautions in mind. The show was presented in an outside courtyard, with plenty of distance between chairs. The director used some very clever strategies to block the show for social distancing among the actors. It would seem impossible, for instance, to block a sword fight or a romantic kissing scene, but both were presented in a unique way that got the message across without close contact by the actors. Brady was the only freshman in the play with lines (and it was a sizable part). He was excited to have the chance to get on the stage! Congratulations, Brady!



As you can see, the Tawas Bay Players are gearing up for the upcoming year with lots of projects, enthusiasm and optimism. We hope to see you supporting these projects or, even better, participating in them! We miss seeing all of you!

Your next CURTAIN CALLS will hit your mailbox around mid-August. See you then!

