

TAWAS BAY PLAYERS

October-November 2021

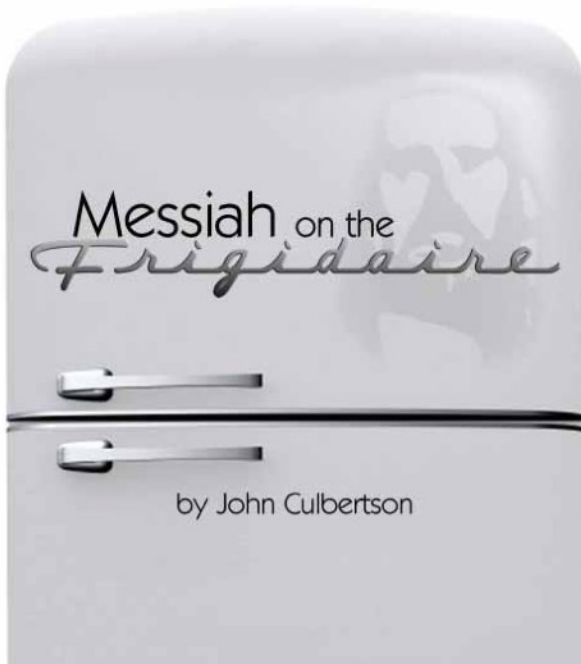


CURTAIN CALLS

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



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MESSIAH ON THE FRIGIDAIRE: Back On Track!

After a year-long delay, *Messiah on the Frigidaire* is back into rehearsals!

Director Beth Borowski and Assistant Director Jody Provost had to recast some of the parts since some of the original cast members were no longer available. The new cast includes Tina Wells as LouAnn Hightower, Suzan Nemeth as Betsy Gridley, Alan Dalton as Dwayne Hightower, John Morris as the Stranger, and Reesie Whitford as the Woman. Returning to the parts they

were cast in last year are Michal Jacot as Reverend Hodges, Ray Skiver as Larry Williamson, and Nick Serda as the Boy.

Messiah tells of the residents of Elroy, South Carolina, and how they are thrust into the evangelical spotlight when an image of Jesus suddenly appears on the side of a refrigerator in a trailer park. The story is funny, satirical and touching.

Messiah on the Frigidaire is slated for October 29-31 and November 4-7. Plan on coming to see this show; we guarantee you some laughs!

ANNUAL BANQUET PLANS THE FUTURE OF TBP

The Tawas Bay Players annual membership meeting/dinner took place on August 13. 44 people attended the meeting (37 members and 7 guests; several of those guests became members).

One of the highlights of the meeting was a report by Ed Krebs on the upgrades to our lighting system. With Ed's guidance and suggestions, TBP purchased a 21 foot ladder to enable us to access the lights. We also purchased two 4-channel dimmer packs, extension cords, bulbs for Fresnel fixtures and gels. Ed also addressed the problem of shadowing at the front of the stage and his suggested fix. Our sincere thanks to Ed for all of his work and expertise!



Due to the uncertain future of the pandemic, the 2021-2022 season is still in flux but is gradually getting back on its feet. *Messiah on the Frigidaire* will be our next show in October. We'll follow that with shows in the winter and in the spring of 2022, which have yet to be finalized. Summer of 2022's offering will be *I Love Lacy*, a romantic comedy written and directed by Michal Jacot.

In addition to "picking up the pieces" after the pandemic, we all enjoyed a terrific dinner courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, and some fine conversation with friends. All in all, a very nice night!

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COMMUNITY THEATRE IN NORTHEAST MICHIGAN from Tara Western

Tara Western keeps us up to date on theater happenings in our area, and it looks like some great entertainment is coming up. Gather some some friends and plan a road trip! See Tara’s expert notes below the schedule.

Title	Group	City	dates
Agatha Christie’s Murder on the Orient Express	Pit and Balcony	Saginaw	Oct. 1-10
All Night Strut *	Northland Players	Cheboygan	October 21-24
Men on Boats*	Center Stage	Midland	Oct. 29-Nov. 7
Ten November*	Bay City Players	Bay City	Nov. 5-14
A Cole in Your Stocking**	Bay City Players	Bay City	Dec. 2-4
She Loves Me ***	Center Stage Theatre	Midland	Dec. 3-12
MLM Is For Murder (Or, Your Side Hustle is Killing Us)****	Center Stage	Midland	Feb. 25-27, 2022

- * Google?!
- ** Kevin Cole is a world renowned pianist and local Bay City man.
- *** Sue Duncan and I saw this at Riverwalk in Lansing and it is terrific. It is known as “one of the most charming musicals ever written”.
- **** This is an AACT NewPlayFest selection and it sounds wonderful!!!



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THAT OLD BUTLER, ANYWAY?....

Keith Frank acquired a T-shirt that he had to share with me ... “Working for that rich family in Boston finally paid off. Notice that “Rhonda” (the dog from *Tangled Webbs 2*) is looking out the back and enjoying the ride. His own island and a dog named Rhonda ... Life don’t get no better than that!” Gotta agree with that, Keith!

TBPers at “Booked For Lunch”

Michal and Gregory Jacot spent the morning of July 31st helping out at *Booked For Lunch*, an event at the Tawas City Library. It was a warm summer day, and kids got to sit on a blanket as they listened to Michal and Greg read books to them. Of course, the Jacots didn’t just read the books ... they performed them, using different voices and involving the kids in the story. It was a fun day for all!



Brady Jacot's Totally Normal PowerPoint Presentation = Big Hit For TBP!



After our COVID-forced hiatus, Tawas Bay Players were excited to get back on stage. And apparently the citizens of Tawas were excited too, because everyone was ready to get to the theater and have a laugh. *Brady Jacot's Totally Normal PowerPoint Presentation*, a one-man comedy show written and performed by TBP'er Brady Jacot, delivered the laughs!

Audiences enjoyed the three-night run of the show. And it was a great fund-raiser for our group. Brady wrote the entire hour-and-a-half show at no charge to TBP, just to help us recover funds lost from last year's hiatus. *PowerPoint* made enough money to pay our rent for a year!

Congrats to Brady and his helpers: Neil Peterson, Chelewynne Shuart, and Bryce "Squire" Moon!



WAIT UNTIL DARK?

The first night of tryouts for *Messiah on the Frigidaire* presented a first for the Tawas Bay Players. A power outage plunged the Playhouse into darkness during auditions! But it takes more than that to stop the TBP! Director Beth Borowski just moved everyone outside and continued tryouts by the parking lot. Sure, we got some puzzled looks from people driving by, but hey, ya gotta do what ya gotta do!

This blast from the past, from Tara Western

Your Word of the Day — "Damfino"

What is this word, you ask? Is it a word? Italian, perhaps? This came to my attention at the read-through of *A Gentleman and a Scoundrel* (or was it *Kiss or Make Up?*) back in the late 19th century. When the actor came to this word, he said "What does 'Dam-Fee-No' mean? I've never heard it, read it, seen it." Director Vincent Weiler calmed him down and said, "It's short for 'Damn if I know'." Who was this poor mystified actor? Your very own newsletter editor, Michal Jacot.

(Editor's note: I remember this; in fact, I may never live it down!)





This is an antique postcard I picked up a few years ago. The handwritten message on the back dates it at 1912. I always got a kick out of the little limerick at the bottom:

"An Ass of an Actor"

*An actor, who thought he could act,
 Did his best applause to attract;
 "My art's ripe!" He cried,
 But the people replied
 "It's rotten!" And it was, for a fact.*

Apparently, ham actors existed even back in 1912...

Power (Washing) Couple

Our thanks go out to Stacy and Eric Perrot, who did some touch-up power washing and painting on the Playhouse. It's great to see members who take on stuff like this — they see something that needs to be done and they just do it. Kudos to you, Stacy and Eric!



Just in case you need help identifying any of these people from 22 years ago...

- FRONT ROW (L to R): Pam Katona, Laurie Jacot, Penny Zacharias, Mendy Shmina
 SECOND ROW (L to R): Pam Frank, Deb DeBois, Kathy Erickson, June Hudgins
 THIRD ROW: Pam Koepke, Barb Hunter, Pat Casey
 BACK ROW: George Robson, Theo Helms, Chris Mundy, Andy DeWilde

The TBP Singers have been going strong for decades! Mark your calendar right now so you don't miss their annual Christmas Songs and Stories, coming December 14th at 7:00 pm!

*The next issue of **CURTAIN CALLS** hits your mailbox in the last week of November! Until then, see you on stage!*