



# Curtain Calls

June / July 2022

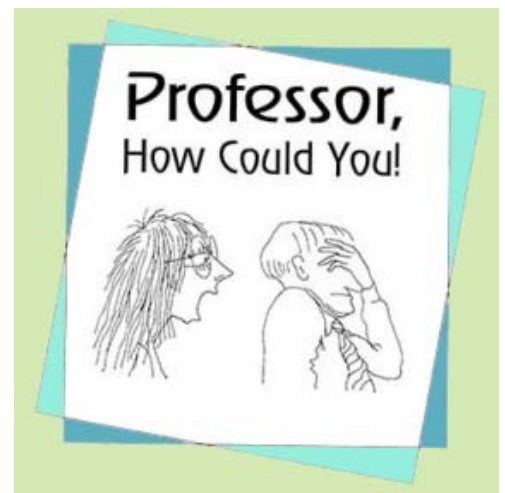
## “Professor, How Could You!” Finishes Successful Run

TBP’s spring show, *Professor, How Could You!*, wrapped up its two-weekend run, and it was definitely an audience-pleaser!

Director **Barb Hunter** put a talented all-teen cast through its paces. Many of the parts were doubled up, creating even more work for the director, but Barb’s work paid off with a funny show. Producer **Stacy Perrot** and Assistant Producer **Jolene Grusecki** kept everything running smoothly behind the scenes.

*Professor, How Could You!* dealt with a college professor who is offered the position of dean on one condition: that he be married. The people around him conspire to marry him off, presenting him with three potential wives, with predictably hilarious results.

The cast consisted of **Hope Bellows** and **Addison Street** (Grandma); **Riley Garrett**, **Mahcayla Nichols**, and **Ace Litzner** (Priscilla); **Abigail Herbolsheimer** and **Elizabeth Herr** (Vicky); **Jillian Howey** and **Alexandra Perrot** (Valerie); **Brendan Kellman Sowerby** (Prof. Keats); **Adriana Alonso Postigo** and **Aspen Stockton** (Tootsie); **Kyle Reynolds** and **Mason Vincenty-Cole** (John); **Nick Serda** (Grandpa); **Daniel Stone** (Boggins); and **Joleen Whitford** and **Xander Whitford** (Butcher Boy).



The August/September issue of **CURTAIN CALLS**  
will be in your mailbox by the last week of July!  
Have your articles and contributions in to me by July 15th!

# I LOVE LACY

**Summer Show Is In the Works, Despite Audition Delays**

TBP's summer offering, *I Love Lacy*, held tryouts a

little later than planned, but the show is now cast!

Auditions were originally intended to be held May 23 and 24, but COVID isolation issues delayed them to May 31 and June 1.

The cast features **Gabi Coon** as klutzy but lovable Lacy Casey; **Zach Dalton** as her goofy friend Trevor; **Alexandra Perrot** as her other goofy, but somewhat saner, friend Sue; **Daniel Stone** as Lacy's new boyfriend Bryce; **Alan Dalton** as Lacy's gruff father Carl; and **Anna Young** as the mysterious Italian girl, Gabriella.

Lacy Casey is just trying to find the right guy. Her friends are trying to help her navigate her rocky love life, and when it looks like Mr. Right has come along, well, everything is just peachy ... isn't it? But is her new boyfriend all he's cracked up to be? And what about best friend Trevor, who has a secret crush on Lacy? And what's the deal with the Italian girl? And what exactly do croquet and the Super Bowl have to do with it? All of these questions, and even more that you didn't even know you wanted to ask, are all answered in *I Love Lacy*.

The show is written and directed by **Michal Jacot**, assistant directed by **Laurie Jacot**, and produced by **Judy Quarters**.

*I Love Lacy* will be presented the last two weekends in July.

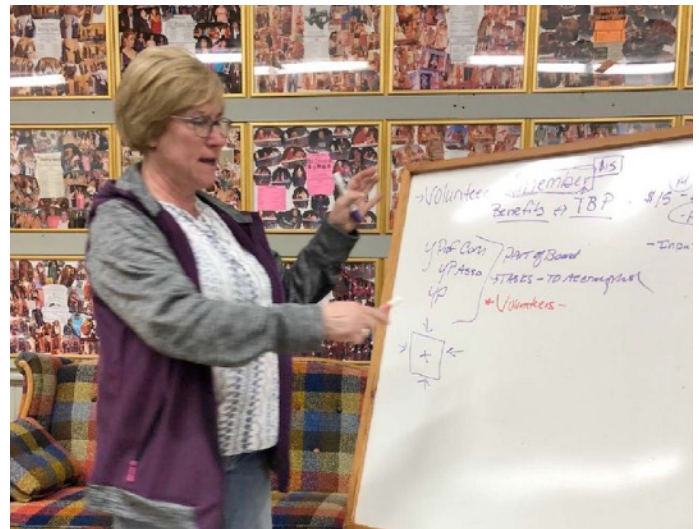
## Your TBP Board at Work

The Board of Directors for our group is a working board, making decisions and solving problems so that our productions can keep running smoothly. Among their recent work was the creation

of an advertising package through our local radio station.

President **Keith Frank** worked with Carroll Broadcasting (the umbrella company that consists of WIOS-AM, WKJC-FM, and HITS-FM) to build a radio package that gives each one of our productions plenty of air time to use for tryouts, shows, and any events we are putting on. If you are a producer for director of an upcoming show, contact Keith for details to take advantage of this. One board member (not chosen at the time of this article) will be in charge of the marketing package.

Board members participated in a Zoom meeting on getting and keeping members engaged. One of the ideas was to host Business After Hours, a monthly event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce to promote local organizations and businesses. That will take place June 29 at the Playhouse. CTAM's **Mary Jo DeNolf** visited our theater and elaborated on these ideas, interacting with attendees for three



CTAM rep Mary Jo DeNolf talks about keeping volunteers engaged.

hours on Saturday, May 7 at the Playhouse. One key point was that appreciating and recognizing volunteers can be simple; a thank you a day can go a long way! **Pam Frank** and **Sue Duncan** hope to bring a more complete summary to the TBP Board for consideration in the near future.

Ideas were heard from our membership as well; those ideas are showcased elsewhere in this newsletter in full articles.

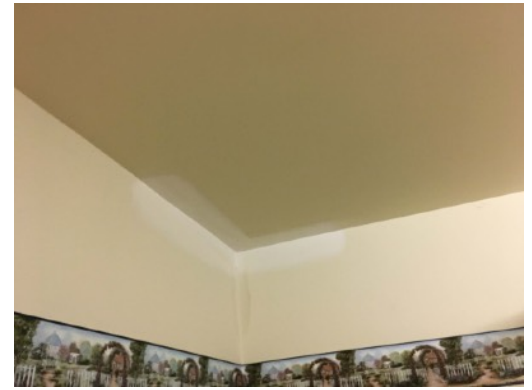
# Playhouse Repairs or, The Saga of the Restrooms

By Pam Frank

There have been some recent improvements made at the theater. We became aware of water damage to the bathroom ceilings following the winter production. It didn't take long to determine that the problem was an ice dam along the north side of the roof. **Keith Frank** contacted the East Tawas DPW and they sent out their bucket truck. They power washed and salted and managed to start melting the ice dam. While they were in the parking lot, Mike Butzin stopped in while he was passing by. He inspected the roof and discovered that the rubber boot on the bathroom vent pipe was torn and allowing additional water in which was also contributing to the wet ceilings. He came back and repaired the boot.

Keith then contacted Mike Parnicky and Mike replaced the damaged sections of drywall in the ceilings of both bathrooms. The call for volunteer painters was answered by **Jeff Chadwick** and **Ed Krebs**. They primed the new drywall and then painted both rooms. Unfortunately the wallpaper border in the women's room didn't hold up to being masked off and when they removed the tape, the border was damaged. **Laurie Jacot** stepped up to remove the remaining border and glue. Then Ed came back to patch what was needed and repaint the walls. **Michal Jacot** constructed a shelf under the counter in the women's bathroom (constructed from free pallets) to keep the toilet paper and other supplies up off the floor. To complete the update **Dee Bixby** is planning a new skirt for under the women's restroom sink.

Many thanks to all who helped with the restrooms.



The drywall water damage was repaired, then our members went to work finishing it.



## CLEAN TEAM VS. THE PLAYHOUSE

By Tara Western

On Saturday, April 30, a team of seven dedicated members gave the playhouse a thorough cleaning. Spearheaded by **Sue Duncan** and me, **Pat Casey**, **Michelle Crossley**, **June Hudgins**, **Chris Mundy**, **Michal Jacot** and **Laurie Jacot** spent two hours making the facility shine. The kitchen, lobby, bathrooms, house, Hudgins Hall, and makeup room were dusted, mopped, sanitized and organized. Laurie and Pat worked for more than an hour in the house, wiping every seat back and arm rest and vacuuming all that carpet. Michelle and Sue deconstructed some kitchen cupboards, again, at least an hour! June cleaned the ladies' bathroom, the actors' bathroom and the make-up room. Michal and I cleaned the gentlemen's room and he raked leaves outside and dusted the knight! Chris worked outside with his grandson. Lunch was a Barnacle Bill's pizza (courtesy of TBP) and a green salad and yummy spice cupcakes from Sue.

*(Pictures of our progress are on the following page!)*



## TBP CLEANING BEE makes things

Sparkle and Shine!

1. **Michelle Crossley** did a deep cleanup of our kitchen.
2. **Laurie Jacot** and **Pat Casey** went to work on our theater seats, cleaning and sanitizing all 150 seats, wiping down light fixtures, and vacuuming.
3. **Sue Duncan** drives a mean vacuum cleaner! I wonder if she rents out her services ... ?
4. Our stairwell has never looked cleaner!
5. When the crew was done, they stepped back and took a look at what they did. Hudgins Hall looked spectacular!
6. **Michal Jacot** helps **June Hudgins** with dusting the top-tier collages.

# New Refrigerator



During the winter show it became apparent that there were problems with the refrigerator. Sometimes there was ice in the freezer, other times it was water.

**Keith Frank** contacted Cole's Appliance and purchased a scratch and dent model with a very small crease along the side with a list price of \$525. Cole's generously gave us a \$200 discount in return for a program ad. This gave us a brand new, fully warranted fridge at a great price. It's smaller than the old one but it works.

## *Ticket/Membership Prices to be Raised*

After some discussion, the board voted to increase our ticket prices and our membership dues.

Starting with the 2022-2023 season, our ticket prices will be raised to \$15 per show. This is the first increase in many years and is consistent with the prices requested from similar community theater groups.

Also starting with the upcoming season, our membership dues will be raised to \$15 per adult and \$5 per (under 18) child.

## **F.O.E.T.L. Presents “Into No Man’s Land” at Playhouse**



On May 26, the Tawas Bay Players hosted the Friends of the East Tawas Library Cabin Fever series featuring Holocaust survivor Irene Miller. Usually the Cabin Fever series take place in the Council Chambers in the East Tawas City Hall. However, with the anticipation of a much larger crowd for this event, the FOETL reached out to the Tawas Bay Players and requested to hold the event in the theater. The TBP Board unanimously supported the request.

Mrs. Miller was three years old when she fled Poland to Siberia during the Nazi occupation with her parents and sister. They eventually ended up in Uzbekistan.

Her program relates her life as a refugee living in Russia, the death of her

father and her eventual placement in an orphanage. Her touching story explains how she, her mother and sister emigrated to Israel after the war. She eventually came

to the United States and currently resides in the Metro Detroit area. Her book detailing her life story is titled *Into No Man’s Land, A Historical Memoir* and can be ordered from her website, [www.irenemillerspeaker.com](http://www.irenemillerspeaker.com).

The program was well attended with over 135 people in attendance including several Tawas Bay Players.



*Tawas Bay Players mourns the loss of two dedicated members.*

## June Groff

June Groff passed away in May.

It is impossible to sum up June's contribution to the Players in one article. She has been a part of our group for 37 years and has served our group in many different capacities: producing, props, wardrobe and costumes, back stage help, refreshments, and more.



June entered TBP in 1984, helping **Kay Robson** with refreshments in *Fiddler on the Roof*. In 1996, Lyle, her loving husband

of 45 years passed away in the between week-ends of *Do Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up*. Daughter **Judy Quarters** reflects on that time: "But as Dad and Mom would have wanted - the Show Must Go On! And it did. Our darling Jun Luv made the opening speech dedicating the show to Dad, and Dennis had to go on stage immediately!"

For all the time June was involved in TBP, she was actually on stage only once. In our production of *Oklahoma!*, she was a square dancer with Lyle and her square dance club members.

Of all of the plays June worked on, her favorite was 2003's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

TBP was her second home and it kept her active and busy - and she loved every minute of it.

Up until about two weeks ago she was helping in the ticket booth and a week ago she was at the theater for a stage construction meeting for *I Love Lucy*. A Tawas Bay Player right up to the end.

Good-bye, June. We will miss you.

## Sheilah Monroe

TBP lost another valued member in April with the passing of **Sheilah Monroe**.

Sheilah and her husband Waverly have been active with our group for the last few years. I fondly remember working with her as a fellow juror in *Twelve Angry Jurors*, and as one of the "Trivial



Pursuit" girls in *The Odd Couple*, but she lent her theatrical talents to many productions onstage and backstage.

Behind the scenes, Sheilah was a caring, giving woman, a free spirit who accepted everyone. She will be missed.

A celebration of life for Sheilah Monroe will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022 at 11:00 AM at the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in East Tawas with Pastor Max Miller officiating. Pastor Max has asked if any of her friends from Tawas Bay Players would like to say a few words, read a poem, etc. during her service. Let Waverly know at 989-362-5926 or 989-820-1286 if you are interested in participating, and he will pass that information on to Pastor Max. There will also be note cards available at the celebration so people can share memories or stories about Sheilah.

## **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING COMING THIS SUMMER!**

Make sure it's marked on your calendar - the annual Tawas Bay Players annual banquet and membership meeting will be held August 12th (which, by coincidence, is also **June Hudgins'** birthday).

**Pat Casey** will send out an email invitation with all the details as it gets closer. Plan on attending to see what TBP has got planned for the new season! And plan on renewing your membership (see the article in this newsletter about the new prices) so you can continue to receive *Curtain Calls* and stay on the inside track with news on your favorite community theater group!

## **CTAM PLAYWRITING CONTEST READERS' THEATRE**

*By Tara Western*

In the March Callboard (Community Theatre of Michigan's newsletter) I read an article that caught my interest. Chuck Goddeeris, the Playwrighting contest chair is seeking groups to record all the submissions. These will be shared at the fall conference and on CTAM's YouTube channel.

Well, I thought, this is right down my alley. The Board approved the project and **Pat Casey**, tech support extraordinaire, has agreed to record the play. The contest ends May 15 and Chuck hopes to get the list of submissions to me by May 22. I will have much more information at that time and I'll be looking for readers. The time commitment should be minimal. I'll be in touch.

Need answers? Email me at [tarawestern@hotmail.com](mailto:tarawestern@hotmail.com).

## **Personnel Database Available**

**Michal Jacot** created a list of key personnel to use as a database for our members. It lists those who have directed and produced, which show, what type of show, and year. This list goes back 14 years.

This list can be used for new directors or producers who may be looking for someone with some experience in a certain area.

On a related note, TBP is always looking for new faces in the directing and producing chairs. The rule of thumb is, you first need to assist or co-direct with a seasoned director to learn the job. Once you do that you have "earned your stripes" and can direct a show. This rule works the same way with producing.

This list will be updated every year, and a copy of it is posted on the bulletin board at the Playhouse for everyone's reference.

## **Spring Cleaning All Year Long**

*by Tara Western*

**Sue Duncan** and I spearheaded the April 30 cleaning of the playhouse for a very specific reason. I am embarrassed to tell you that I never realized that the House Manager was expected to get the playhouse "ready" for the coming play. Assuming it was just the bathrooms and kitchen, I had a big "aha" moment when I heard two previous, loyal House Managers had "retired."

With the almost two-year shutdown of the theatre, a lot of things have fallen by the wayside. Sue and I hope that this can become part of the production "to do" list. Here's the plan:

A week or so before opening night, TBP members will prepare the building for "company" ... our patrons. We believe it should be a team effort. If we do it before each play, the building will never get too dirty.

This is a perfect time to volunteer as it is only one day and a couple of hours. Many people don't have the time to donate 6-8 weeks being in a play, or 3-4 weeks working backstage. And there's pizza!

Please look for an email about this opportunity in mid-July.

# TBP RETRO

A cast shot from “The Prince Who Wouldn’t Talk,” TBP’s offering from the summer of 1985. From left to right: **June Hudgins, Becky Tanner, Michal Jacot, ???, Jeanne Modrzynski, Mark Weiler, Al Orr, and Deb DeBois.** (Can anyone identify the man in white behind Michal? It might be **Ron McMurray?** My memory is fuzzy on who was in the show with me!)



**Looking Down The Road ...**

# DISASTER

**is coming!**

***Fires! Crashes! Earthquakes! It's all those  
1970's disaster movies back again!***

***Our fall show is going to be spectacular!  
Watch the next Curtain Calls for all the details!***