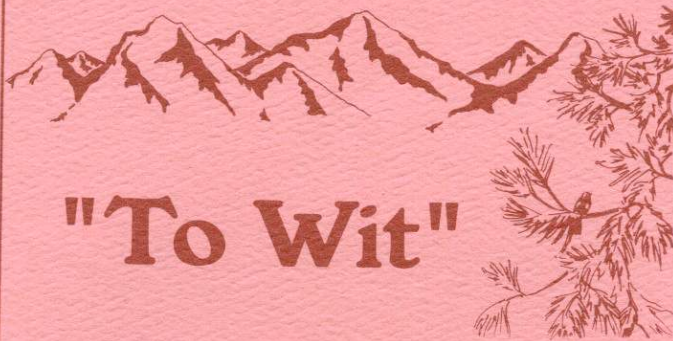


The 10th World Premiere Presentation  
by  
**Coldwater  
Community  
Theatre**



# "To Wit"

An Intriguing Play in Two Acts  
by Joan Garner  
Slidell, Louisiana



February 21, 22, 23, 1991

8 p.m.

Tickets: \$5 for adults

\$3 for students

**Tibbits Opera House**  
14 S. Hanchett Street  
Coldwater, Michigan 49036

Presented with support of the Tibbits Opera Foundation  
and Arts Council, Inc.

HISTORY OF  
COLDWATER COMMUNITY THEATER

The actors known as the Coldwater Players was formed in the 1940's. In the late 1960's, the troupe enjoyed a brief revival as the Coldwater Community Theater.

Robert J. Pickering's play SLIGHT EXAGGERATION came to the stage in 1979, and CCT has been an active organization ever since.

The ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD FOR PLAYWRITING EXCELLENCE formed in 1984, the first presentation was in 1985. That same year CCT began producing musicals.

In 1987, CCT initiated it's four performance season; in the fall of 1990, we joined with the crew at Hillsdale Community Theater to produce - perform the musical "1776".

91-92 marks the 13th consecutive season for Coldwater Community Theater. We are made up entirely of volunteers who love applause. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Charlie's II. Please join us!

THE ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD FOR  
PLAYWRITING EXCELLENCE

With the presentation of "TO WIT" the Coldwater Community Theater has produced ten original plays. When the award was initiated in 1984, the three Pickering shows produced in 1979, 1981 and 1984 were the first recipients.

Beginning in 1985, the actual award was presentation of the manuscript. To most new authors this is better than money! In 1987 monetary awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place were added. The AWARD is now international and enjoys a outstanding reputation. This year the Committee will be accepting original unproduced musicals. CCT is proud to be the only amateur theater group in Michigan to offer this program.

THE AUTHOR

Joan Garner has been involved in theater at the school level and later in community service all of her life. After moving to Slidell Louisiana in 1973 to secure new employment, Miss Garner wandered into the local community theater and has been there ever since. Specializing in set design, Joan also works on every aspect of play production backstage, has directed five productions and has served on the Slidell Little Theater Board of Directors.

Supporting a flare for story and dialogue, Miss Garner has turned her skit writing skill of earlier years towards composing her full production pieces. To date, she has written eight plays with "Shenanigans", "Bravado!" and "To Wit" successfully produced.

Quitting her "9 to 5" job in 1989, Joan has devoted the past two years to distributing her plays and working on others. Her play "Bravado" won 2nd place in the 1990 PICKERING competition.

\* \* \* \* \*

RECIPIENTS OF THE  
ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD  
FOR PLAYWRITING EXCELLENCE

SLIGHT EXAGGERATION  
November 1, 2 & 3, 1979  
A NICE PLACE TO VISIT  
November 5, 6 & 7, 1981  
HANG ONTO THE HORSE  
April 19, 20 & 21, 1984  
COOPERATIVE LIVING  
April 11, 12 & 13, 1985  
FOLLY'S QUARTER  
May 8, 9 & 10, 1986  
BIG AL GOES STRAIGHT  
March 19, 20 & 21, 1987  
IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT  
February 11, 12 & 13, 1988  
MURDER MOST FOULED UP  
February 9, 10 & 11, 1989  
ABSURDLY YOURS  
February 8, 9 & 10, 1990  
TO WIT  
February 21, 22 & 23, 1991

# "To Wit"

## Scene Synopsis

The action of the Play takes place in the Colorado Rockies approximately 50 miles north of Denver, the Shelley Estate.

A heartwarming, sophisticated play pitting intellect against emotion.

## ACT I

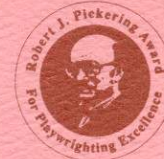
Scene 1: Mid morning  
Scene 2: One hour later

## ACT II

Scene 1: Late evening  
Scene 2: After midnight  
Scene 3: Early the next morning



There will be a 15 minute intermission between acts



## CAST

(In order of appearance)

FRANCES B. SHELLEY.....Celinda Ireland  
Author Exemplar  
ELAINE NELSON.....Irene Grimes  
The Loyal Secretary  
GRETCHEN LOWRY.....Kimberlyn Palchak  
The Maid, and Stacie's Friend  
ADAM STERLING.....Wade Adams  
The Reporter  
STACIE WILCOX.....Kellie Hicks  
The Successor

## PRODUCTION STAFF

(In order of importance)

PRODUCER.....Christine Colbeck  
DIRECTOR.....J. Richard Colbeck  
STAGE MANAGER.....Marisue Taylor  
SET DESIGN.....The Author  
PROPS MISTRESS.....Judy Marshall  
SET CONSTRUCTION CREW.....Ed Nofz & Company  
PUBLICITY.....Kimberlyn Palchak & Company  
TICKETS/MAILINGS.....Kim Shea & Company  
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....Bill Butdorf  
HOUSE MANAGER.....Kay Riegle  
PROGRAMS.....The Producer  
COSTUMES MISTRESS.....Deborah Jersey

Special "thanks" to the many people and organizations which provide our Community Theater with much needed donations, especially THE GUN SHOP THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, COLDWATER COUNTRY CLUB and COLBECK, MCALHANY AND STEWART.

And, thanks Bob! This one's for you!

\* \* \* \* \*

OUR DIRECTOR J. Richard Colbeck

Taking on an original production is nothing new to Director J. R. Colbeck, having been director of seven of the ten PICKERING AWARD winners. The first two winners were directed by Bob himself... Our Director is also chairman of the play selection committee for this Award. Audiences remember his performances on the stage as well, most recently as Benjamin Franklin in "1776". As a local attorney, he divides his time between stages, the Tibbits and in the Courtroom!

OUR CAST

CELINDA IRELAND

"Frances B. Shelley"

Cindy is returning to the stage after a four year hiatus. Her last role was Adelaide in CCT's GUYS AND DOLLS. Off stage she has been busy with props, set construction and as a technical director. She has also sat in the director's seat often, most recently for the CCT/Hillsdale Community Theaters production of "1776". Cindy is also very involved in the business end of CCT, serving her fourth (non-consecutive) term as President. Cindy believes Community Theater is "the most exciting hobby most anyone could have." She speaks for all of CCT when she says we appreciate the support CCT has enjoyed for the past 12 years of continuous productions.

KELLIE HICKS "Stacie Wilcox"

Ms. Hicks is making her stage debut, courtesy of CCT. The last time she was on stage was when she played an elf in Snow White in the 7th Grade. Although she looks (out of makeup) to be about 18, she is really 24 years old, a wife of two years and teacher of second graders at Washington Elementary. She was recently elected to the position of the Secretary with the Coldwater Community Theater, and still (?) looks forward to becoming more involved in our future shows!!!

IRENE GRIMES "Elaine Nelson"

Irene's most recent appearance on the stage was as Mammy Yokum in the 1990 spring production of LIL' ABNER. She took her talents behind the scenes to stage manage for the fall musical "1776" both at Sauk Theater and the Tibbits. She has appeared in many PICKERING winners, including the first one in 1979, SLIGHT EXAGGERATION, 1981 A NICE PLACE TO VISIT, 1986 for FOLLY'S QUARTER and the list goes on and on! Irene is well known to our Community Theater patrons and the Summer Seasons audiences for her wonderful performances.

KIMBERLYN PALCHAK

"Gretchen Lowry"

Kim is pleased to be playing a very pregnant person, again, not so long after her pregnant performance in LIL'ABNER last spring. This past fall she played Mishkin in CCT's performance of FOOLS. Kimberlyn has also been in a previous PICKERING award winner (1990) ABSURDLY YOURS. A long standing member of CCT, she holds the prestigious office of the Vice President and has so far over four terms. In her off-stage life Kimberlyn works as the Business Development Program Manager for Community Action Agency in Battle Creek.

WADE ADAMS "Adam Sterling"

Wade has been with CCT since the 87-88 season, and made his stage debut in the PICKERING winner, IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT. During this production, he enjoys the status of the only male on stage AND the love-interest. Other roles have included the Prince in "MOLLY BROWN", Fred Grahm/Petrucio KISS ME KATE and Romeo Skaggs in LIL' ABNER. He took the role of producer in the 1990 AWARD winner, which by the way did not include a singing "role". Wade is also a song writer/guitarist, having received two "TOP 10%" honorable mention awards.

COLDWATER COMMUNITY THEATER  
PRODUCTIONS

1979-1991

A SLIGHT EXAGGERATION  
THE TORCH BEARERS  
PLAZA SUITE  
NIGHT WATCH  
A NICE PLACE TO VISIT  
THE GIRL IN THE FREUDIAN SLIP  
CALIFORNIA SUITE  
AND MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE  
THE GOOD DOCTOR  
TEN LITTLE INDIANS  
HANG ONTO THE HORSE  
REHEARSAL FOR DEATH  
CHRISTMAS TREE TALES  
WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY?\*COOPERATIVE LIVING  
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE  
CHRISTMAS TREE TALES II  
FOLLY'S QUARTER  
COME BLOW YOUR HORN  
HARVEY  
BIG AL GOES STRAIGHT  
GUYS AND DOLLS  
MISTER ROBERTS  
THE LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS  
IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT  
THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN  
CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF  
A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
MURDER MOST FOULED UP  
KISS ME KATE  
WAIT UNTIL DARK  
CHRISTMAS TALES  
ABSURDLY YOURS  
LI'L ABNER  
"1776"\*\*\*  
FOOLS  
TO WIT

\*Co-produced with Branch County  
Hospice

\*Co-produced with the Hillsdale  
Community Theater