

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Donna Pickering
Director	Robert Pickering
Stage Manager	Chris Colbeck
Set Designer	Bill Shoop
Lighting Designer	Larry Carrico
Costume Designer	Mary Lou Mahood
Publicity	Bob Lees
	Julie Shoop
	Tom Luce
Program	Cheri Kuckel
Tickets	LeeAnn Haughey
	Bernice Ketchum
Posters	Bill Shoop
Set Construction	Cathy Hansen
	Larry Carrico
	Jim Haughey
Costumes	Mary Lou Mahood
	Kathy Foerster
	Lynne Field
Lighting	Brian Dirschell
Sound	Kevin Ireland
House Manager	Tom Rebenitsch
Properties	Cathy Hansen
	Jerry Corless
	Brad Johnson

## ABOUT OUR AUTHOR/DIRECTOR ROBERT PICKERING

Bob's love for writing has spanned a thirty-year period, starting at Indiana University, where he wrote a number of skits for college reviews, continuing on into the U.S. Marine Corps, where his musical review "Take Five" was selected to tour east coast Naval Hospitals, and as a writer and creative director for his own production studio making commercials for many major accounts. Upon moving to Coldwater in 1967, Bob became actively involved in the theater at Tibbits and has appeared in 10 seasons of summer stock. His roles have included the King in King and I, King Pelinor in Camelot, Captain Andy in Showboat, Moonface in Anything Goes and the lead role of Elwood P. Dowd in Harvey. He has also had major roles in Kiss Me Kate, How To Succeed . . . and Three Men on a Horse. His C.C.T. activities include acting and directing with credits for Bell Book and Candle, Poor Richard, Never Too Late, The Seven Year Itch and The Impossible Years. To date Bob has written six plays. Mother May I, was accepted and placed in the semi-finals of the Eugene O'Neill Midwest Playwriter Laboratory. "Up The Cherry Tree" won first place in the National Plays and Plays Contest, and this show, "A Nice Place To Visit" placed fifth in the prestigious Unicorn National Playwriters Contest in Kansas City. He has two more comedies ready for production and his musical comedy, "No Experience Necessary" is still in the final musical stage. Bob is also instructor of creative writing at the Coldwater School for the Gifted and his wife Donna still make their home in Coldwater, he has returned to the theater and commercials and ads as a writer for Hilltop Advertising Agency in Battle Creek.



AN ORIGINAL COMEDY  
Written and Directed by  
Robert J. Pickering  
Tibbits Opera House  
Nov. 5th, 6th, 7th

1981

## CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Man About Heaven	Bob Lees
Gloria	Cheri Kuckel
Young Girl	Wanda Lawrence
Benny Marino	Richard Colbeck
Leonard	Gary Malernee
Madge	Joyce Bemis
Mable	Jeannine Rebenitsch
Maude	Diedre Tuttle
Ms. Shrumm	Irene Grimes
Sidney	Rick Duncan
Officer Pomroy	Julie Shoop
Big Man	Mark Foerster
Sonny	Phil Watterson
Darlene	Julie Laine Glynn
Cornelia	Bonita Hoffner

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Since the setting is heaven, time has very little meaning. (After all, eternity is just eternity.)

### ACT I

A typical day in heaven. The scenes deal with Benny Marino's arrival at the pearly gates and his subsequent introduction to the rules and people he is expected to spend the rest of his life with. (or whatever.)

10 Minute Intermission (about)

### ACT II

A little later. (probably) These scenes cover Benny's unhappiness with the way things are run and his determination to change things.

10 Minute Intermission (maybe 9)

### ACT III

Still later. (more or less) The plot thickens as Benny "does unto others what they wouldn't dream of doing unto him." (for the most part)

Keeping Richard off the stage is, perhaps, the most difficult chore one could have in Coldwater. After performing in Detroit and Minneapolis, Dick showed up in Coldwater in time to make his debut in "Slight Exaggeration" and has since shown his versatility in CCT productions of "The Torch Bearers", "Plaza Suite", and "Night Watch." Dick is also no stranger to summer audiences, having appeared in Tibbits Summer Theatre productions of "Hello Dolly", "Carousel", "The King and I", and most recently, "The Music Man." A vital cog in the CCT wheel, we're always proud to have Dick on stage.



**J. RICHARD COLBECK**



**MARK FOERSTER**

After a successful run as Sam Nash in last fall's production of "Plaza Suite", Mark returns with his diverse talents to take on the challenging role of "The Big Man". A drama major from John Carroll University, Mark has made his home in Coldwater for over four years. His previous theatrical accomplishments include "Count Dracula", "Victoria Regina", "The King and I", and "Mousetrap". Mark plans more involvement in CCT in the future, and we couldn't be happier.



**BONITA HOFFNER**

A resident of Quincy for the past four years, Bonita is making her debut with the Coldwater Community Theatre. Her previous theatrical experience includes "The Miracle Worker." A native of Rogers City, Bonita is married to Branch Area Career Center OJT Coordinator, Michael Hoffner. Bonita is a welcome addition to CCT, and we hope to see her on stage a lot in the future.

Julie is a newcomer to this area from Chicago, but the Tibbits stage is not foreign to her. She was a part of the '81 summer stock company, romping through all three musicals. A native of Minnesota, Julie spent the last eight years in Chicago studying sacred music at Moody Bible Institute, voice and performance at Northwestern University, and doing free lance singing in churches, recitals, clubs, conventions and various choruses. She has appeared in Chicago at Orchestra Hall and in Carnegie Hall in N.Y.C. as a professional member of the Chicago Symphony Chorus.



**JULIE LAINE GLYNN**

This is the first appearance on the Tibbits Stage for Gary, but it is by no means his first experience on the "boards." Better known as "Mush Mouth" at 16/TVB-WNWN, Gary appeared in "Butterflies Are Free" while attending Michigan State University and later had the lead role in the Lansing Civic Players' production of "6 RMS RIV VU." Gary was also seen in "Count Dracula" and "Six Nights in a Barroom," also with the Lansing Civic Players. Welcome to CCT, Gary!



**GARY MALERNEE**



**PHIL WATTERSON**

The sight of our good doctor treading the boards is becoming a familiar one to Coldwater theatre goers. Last seen as a member of the barbershop quartet in the "Music Man", Phil has appeared in CCT's "A Slight Exaggeration" and "The Torch Bearers", as well as doing work in the Tibbits Summer Theatre's productions of "Guys and Dolls" and "Hello Dolly." Between babies and plays he sings lead in Coldwater Barber-shop Chorus and enjoys bowling, tennis and golf.



**IRENE GRIMES**

Irene, a staff member of the Coldwater High School English Department for the past 16 years, is by no means a stranger to CCT or the Tibbits stage. She has appeared in five faculty plays, has directed several school productions, and has been co-producer of school musicals. Irene made her CCT debut in Bob Pickering's "A Slight Exaggeration", and has since appeared in "The Torch Bearers." Over the course of the past two summers she has appeared in such stock productions as "Carousel", "The King and I", and most recently was seen as one of the Pickalittle Ladies in "Music Man".

A recent arrival in Coldwater, this is Rick's premier performance on the Tibbits stage. He last appeared in the role of Joseph in "Two From Galilee" in Stockton, California. Drawing from a rich theatrical background, Rick numbers "Fortune in Men's Eyes", "Purley Victorious", "The Big Black Box", "Inherit the Wind", "The Crucible", "Luther", "Death Knocks", and "Animal Ranch", a political satire, among his acting credits. He enjoys tennis, playing his guitar, and singing for personal enjoyment. CCT "welcomes you aboard", Rick.



**RICK DUNCAN**