

The Fort Smith Little Theatre
proudly presents

The Tavern

A Play In Two Acts

by George M. Cohan

Suggested by a play
entitled
'The Choice
of a Super-Man'
by Cora Dick Gantt

Produced by special
arrangement
with Samuel French, Inc.
of New York

Directed by
Rhed Khilling

Produced by
Rhonda Reider



FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE

PRESENTS

The Tavern

By George M. Cohan

DIRECTED BY

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Produced By Special Arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc. of New York

February 15-24, 1996

CAST

<i>Zach, the Tavern Keeper's Son</i>	Ryan Clayburn
<i>Sally, the Hired Girl</i>	Cathy Winn
<i>Freeman, the Tavern Keeper</i>	Ron Watson
<i>Willum, the Hired Man</i>	Terry Loum
<i>Vagabond</i>	Ray Coleman
<i>Violet, the Woman</i>	Kay Winter
<i>Lamson, the Governor</i>	Brad Kidder
<i>Mrs. Lamson, the Governor's Wife</i>	Becky Mooney
<i>Virginia, the Governor's Daughter</i>	Nikki McDaniel
<i>Tom Allen, the Fiance</i>	Christopher Decker
<i>The Sheriff</i>	John Gallagher
<i>Ezra, the Sheriff's Man</i>	Larry Browning
<i>Joshua, the Sheriff's Other Man</i>	Bryant Engles
<i>Tony, the Sheriff's Third Man</i>	James Cheshire
<i>Stevens, the Attendant</i>	Brad Kidder Jr.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Rhed Khilling
Producer	Rhonda Rieder
Set Design	Rhed Khilling, Ron Watson
Set Construction	Ron Watson, Rhed Khilling Rhonda Rieder, Terry Loum Maurina McCrorey, Fran Browning, Larry Browning Ray Coleman, James Cheshire Ryan Clayburn, John Heyn Brad Kidder, Kay Winter Nikki McDaniel, Brad Kidder, Jr, Becky Mooney John Gallagher
Stage Manager	Celia Waddell
Production Assistant	Staci Oliver
Wardrobe	Lee Batchelor, Fran Browning, Wilma McCauley Helene Of Arkansas
Props	Alesia Davis, Greg Davis
Lighting	John Heyn, Ronald Johnson
Artwork	Jim Perry

Sound Effects Design Bill Khilling

Sound Effects Crew Maurina McCrorey,
Robin Presson, Fran
Milam, James
Cheshire, Larry
Browning, Bryant
Engles, Alesia Davis,
Greg Davis, Jeremy Oxford

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

KUAF	KFSM-TV
KEZU	KPBI-TV
KZKZ	KPOM-TV
KFSA	KHOG-TV
KTCS	KFPW
KAYR	KLS
KFDF	KMAG
KISR	Roam's Taxidermy
<i>Southwest Times Record</i>	Burgess Sheet Metal
Sportsman Liquor	The McIntosh Group
Helene's of Arkansas	
Heine Upchurch - The Well Liquor Store	

*Theatre is a Many Splendored
Thing*

Director's Notes:

Thanks for coming to the show . . . We love to see your faces out there in the audience.

Well, it has finally happened . . . after 25 years of work in theatre and television, I'm directing my first show. And what an experience it has been so far! There was a wonderful turn-out at auditions with a large number of new faces, the set was designed and constructed by one of the best in the biz, Ron Watson, and we have a crew of 'backstage' personnel that most directors would be envious of. Roam Taxidermy provided us with the mounted heads that add a lot of character to the set. Aren't they great!

For those of you not familiar with "The Tavern", this show was written in 1918 and performed in the 20's. That was long before the term 'What is my motivation' became a director's nightmare. There were no 'technique' schools back then and these plays make today's writers cringe. The plot (if you can find it) is loose, the characters are silly and the acting is somewhat melodramatic. Also, the special effects are man-made. There were no 'canned' sound effects back then. The show depended upon people using their imagination to create the sounds that you heard. My dad, Bill Khilling, designed and built the devices that are generating the sound of the storm you will hear.

I wanted to direct a show that our audience was unfamiliar with . . . a show you wouldn't have any pre-conceived idea of as to how it should be acted. I wanted to present you with an evening of nonsense and laughter. I guarantee you will not have to think about this show to enjoy it. Just sit back, imagine that the sounds of the storm are real, get scared with the actors and follow along as they try to unravel the happenings in the tavern tonight. Be careful, there are twists and turns everywhere!

I dedicate my efforts and this show to my mother, Donna Sue Khilling, because I miss her laughter. Mom would have got a kick out of this play.

Rhed Khilling