

Tech Sunday

WAIT A MINUTE! Isn't this a week early?! We still have another full week and a few days before curtain. Weell... that may be but the Huber is always in a bind this time of year: school programs, civic gatherings, etc. So, we must share the space with others. Mr. Potter would definitely find this situation downright despicable. But, I guess we will make nice. Yes, we did have the lights and mics going for the first time four our nearly 4 hour rehearsal... which was to be expected. However, it went rather well for the first time on stage, off book, all the way through with lights, sound, and set thrown in. I was pleasantly surprised how well I did with the lines. There was only one spot I really noticed where I forgot a line but the same is repeated only two lines later, so I will just pick it back up Thursday night.

Poor George... I'm not entirely sure that I would like to be in his shoes. All those lines. I have a great many, but.. OH, MY! In one of our scenes together, he asked me why I did not have my script. It was in the house being used for prompting.

I am also happy that I have been able to come up with my full costume... minus a hat... in my own personal wardrobe. I had to take my jacket to be cleaned, but that is to be done by Tuesday afternoon... good to go!

I must say that I think we have another heart-melting, scene-stealing little tyke on our hands. It's a good thing Mr. Potter and Zuzu do not share time on stage because I'm not sure I could keep the mean demeanor.

So... another 12 days before curtain. Just need to keep reading over my lines, getting my cues in order. I did get a new line tonight... added from the movie

Too much free time

Who complains about too much free time? Well, with no wife or kids, a dislike for many common social activities- okay let's just go with the truth here and say no friends I hang out with outside of church, and work that takes less than the normal eight hours plus lunch per standard, I just have too much free time. What do I do with it? Get movies from the library, spend time on the internet, and play games mostly- what a life, eh? In the last few days I have even purchased several games on [Steam](#)- did they have to make it so easy? I didn't even use steam until they had a \$9.99 sale on their [Orange Box](#) collection a few months ago. Now I have the complete Luxor marble game collection, Ghostbusters, GRID, and Osmos. Another service called [Direct2Drive](#) also successfully tempted me with a \$5 sale a short time back. I added no less than a half-dozen games from them including Neverwinter Nights 2 and Serious Sam Gold. A waste of time and money really. Well, I have been playing a lot of Serious Sam and the Luxor games, so just a waste of time in their case. To be fair, I didn't pay much for any of the titles, nowhere near full price, but still...

So what can I do instead? Theatre groups abound in this area, but I know very few of them anymore- I would have to look them up again. I have also looked a little into compassion ministries, serving those in need. I still have to look it up on the church website as I was directed to a few weeks ago. The obvious one in most people's minds is the friends issue. I have been to singles group, but it was very uncomfortable for me so I really don't go anymore. No friends that way. Perhaps through the other two potential outlets? I don't know. I know I have needed to schedule a quiet time with God,

but I have known that for so long I wonder if I am really capable?

For now though I just sit here on the computer...

Back On The Hardwood

So much for retirement, eh? Tonight, my Uncle Bob returned to take command of yet another high school basketball team. He coached the high school girls for 12 years and retired. Last year, he co-coached the boys team and retired after the season ended. Finally last summer, he got the itch again while on the golf course and is now coaching the varsity girls team of his alma mater's biggest rival.

I really get a kick out of watching him perform. Very emotional, vocal, and BOY CAN HE PROJECT (of course, I have known that most of my life ☹)! Most of the family went to his return game tonight to support him... fun times, although... His team did well until the final act when the girls could not hit the broad side of a barn (the girls scored two points in the fourth frame) . The score was tied 28 a piece at the end of the third act and even through the first two or three minutes of the final period. I think the three pointer by the opposing team took a lot of the wind out of their sails. But as Uncle Bob said, they have a lot of work ahead of them.

Holiday Fun & Chaos

The chaos actually began Wednesday morning. Mom was working in the beauty shop... **UNTIL 11** at which time she wanted the kitchen. At ten, Dad decides it is the perfect time to strip the counter top off. Granted, it is pretty old, worn, and could stand to be replaced... but the day before we have company over for Thanksgiving?! Oh, MY... am I glad I had to go to work from 12-9.

After my 9 hour shift, I returned to see him still at it. Mom was already in bed, but I can imagine the scene at home. I would not want to have been there ☹️. At around 11.30, he decides it is good enough and **THEN** decides to run the vacuum. At 11.45, Mom comes out, gives him a dirty look, and walks back into the bedroom... nothing even needed to be said.

Thursday morning, I got up at 8 in time to shower, bring the table and chairs down from upstairs, then watch the Macy's parade. Ironically, my favorite part of the 3 hour extravaganza is not the floats, nor the balloons. It is watching the performers from Broadway shows and singing groups seeing how badly they can lip sync. Who is Boy Likes Girl? I must be getting really old! Did anyone see Gloria Gaynor and her 30 year old "I Will Survive?"

After the parade came (not the dog show) the traditional immediate family dinner. Ma and Pa, siblings and their families. I did not indulge too much because I had two other meals to attend. I did get to see Chad and his pumpkin pie (or was it Cool Whip with a bit of pumpkin).

After digesting a bit, I ventured to another gathering. I knew I had a good amount of time between the afternoon and evening gathering so I went to the home of my wonderful friends and had smoked turkey and other delicious food. We have never had smoked turkey, but I find it enjoyable. Carol

brought a game that I swear I did not cheat at. I read a few cards without looking at the answer and put them in the back of the box. It's only cheating if you look at the answer ☹ And I was treated to The Potty Movie... thanks girls. I found it quite odd that a 3 year old had a strangely deep feminine voice.

Finally, I returned home for our traditional Thanksgiving celebration with my mother's family. In total, we probably had 20-25 people in the house. It's always good to be surrounded by family and loved ones but something about the holidays makes it even greater. Maybe it's the constant ribbing Chad tries to dish out about sports but knows he is fighting a losing battle. Outnumbered about 16:1. But the Cowboys again won their game. Maybe that's why they always play on Turkey Day. Sorry I can't say the same for the Lions.

Finally, about 10, everyone was gone, tables and chairs put back. and I was pooped. I wanted to go back for a game night, but I did have to be at work at 6.30 this morning and I almost did not make that! Hope everyone had a great holiday giving thanks for the many blessings we receive every day!

Thanksgiving Favorites

I forgot to poll our Thanksgiving guests, but I was wondering about everyone's favorite Thanksgiving dish. Judging by what the kids had for breakfast this morning, I would say my kids' favorite Thanksgiving dishes are as follows:

Taylor, age 9 – sweet potatoes (we put marshmallow creme in ours)

Sammie, age 5 – mashed potatoes and gravy

Disney, age 3 – oatmeal (ok, so oatmeal wasn't at the Thanksgiving dinner, but Disney didn't really eat Thanksgiving dinner, so I don't think she has a favorite dish. She LOVES oatmeal though!)

Christopher, age 16 mos. – turkey

And for lunch, Mom and Dad had their first delicious leftover sandwiches. They were so good we think we'll have the same for dinner. We got a smoked turkey this year, and it was delicious! It was great to not have to mess with cooking a turkey with great company and all these little ones underfoot. There are so many ways to make a leftover sandwich; the best way is of course with creamed onions. We didn't have any creamed onions leftover this year, but my husband's yummy mashed potatoes make a really good leftover sandwich condiment. And not having leftover creamed onions is a good thing – I'm glad people enjoyed them! Creamed onions are my favorite Thanksgiving dish AND my husband's! So what's yours? Feel free to add anything in the comments section I may have forgotten!

[poll id="10"]

A Turkey Day Movie Review

Or, how I spent my Thanksgiving Day.

First things first, I didn't have anything close to a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. First at just before Noon, my youngest and I had bison chili. Not your normal fair at all for Thanksgiving. My youngest had kennel duty at school for the afternoon, so we needed to get to Fort Wayne early in the afternoon. Fun stuff for a Thanksgiving day. I would assume

that this is the norm for students in a Vet Tech program.

While in Fort Wayne, my daughter and I caught the 3d Disney Movie "A Christmas Carol". First things first, The 3D for this show was awesome. I'm a very big fan of Dickens "A Christmas Carol" There are many movie versions of this story and I've enjoyed most of them.

First No Spoiler if you know the story. There will be spoilers later.

They kept the main story of "A Christmas Carol". All of the important aspects of the story. The animation was very well done and the characters were well maintained. For periods of time, I actually forgot that this was an animated movie. As I said earlier, I really liked the 3D effects. Most of them were well done to make the movie have depth. A few made you feel like you were in it. There were also a few that looked like they were just done because they could. I would have rather had those cut out, but I guess that is what some people expect in a 3D movie. Main result, if you like the Dickens' story, you will like this story. If you like 3D animation, you will probably like the show. I would definitely pay the extra amount to see the 3D version.

***** Spoilers Follow *****

I wondered how this would work out. I didn't see the necessity of doing this story in 3D or as an animated movie. I've been wondering about that since I first saw the theater trailers. I had many reservations before I went to see it. I was pleased that they did not destroy the story. Now for picking and praising. First, I thought the characters were very well done. The initial 3D effect at the start of the movie hooked me from the beginning. I liked the candle effect in front of the window. Other effects I liked were the snowflakes, flying over/through London and the Ghost of Christmas Past.

I liked the way the effects were used during the Ghost of

Christmas Present was wonderful. Actually, I was impressed by this vision of the ghostly visitations. It was also a very good way to use the 3D effects. Not many complaints through the first two ghosts, except may the 'rocket' effect at the end of the Ghost of Christmas Past's visit. One of my first problems with 3D for 3D only.

My biggest problem with the movie were the 3D for 3D only. While the initial tour of London was almost there, the tour of historical London is a great way to set the movie. I next noticed it at the end of the Ghost of Christmas Past. There were one or two times during the Ghost of Christmas Present's visit, but they didn't bother me nearly as much. But during the scenes with the Ghost of Christmas future, it seemed like these 3D effects were overwhelming. In fact they added quite a bit to the story to get these 3D effects in. That is the only reason I can think of that they added the Death Coach chase and the shrinking of Scrooge. Parts of the movie were really not needed and if they lasted much longer, I think the movie could have been ruined for me. Without the 3D, I don't think I would have liked that part at all. I am, of course, a Dickens' fan and I don't think you need to add to an already wonderful story.

Happy Thanksgiving!

[A little turkey day humor](#)

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To our national birds
The American Eagle
The Thanksgiving Turkey
May one give us peace in all our states
And the other a piece for all our plates

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A man in Phoenix calls his son in New York the day before Thanksgiving and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough."

“Pop, what are you talking about?” the son screams. We can’t stand the sight of each other any longer,” the father says. “We’re sick of each other, and I’m sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her.”

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take

care of this,"

She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way."

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Stuffed Turkey

Baby Bruno was sitting in his grandmother's kitchen, watching her prepare the Thanksgiving meal.

"What are you doing?" Bruno asked.

"Oh, I'm just stuffing the turkey," his grandmother replied.

"That's cool!" Bruno said.

"Are you going to hang it next to the deer?"

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The Turkey Popped Out of the Oven

The Turkey popped out of the oven
and rocketed in to the air;
It knocked every plate off the table
and partly demolished a chair.
It ricocheted into a corner
and burst with a deafening boom,
Then splattered all over the kitchen,
completely obscuring the room.
It stuck to the walls and the windows,
it totally coated the floor,

There was turkey attached to the ceiling,
where there had never been turkey before..

It blanketed every appliance,
it smeared every saucer and bowl;
There wasn't a way I could stop it;
that turkey was out of control.

I scraped and I scraped with displeasure
and thought with chagrin as I mopped,
That I would never again stuff a turkey
with popcorn that hadn't been popped.

written by Jack Prelutsky

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HAPPY

THANKSGIVING!

Happy Thanksgiving!!

I am thankful every day for all that I have, but today is an excuse to feast in celebration of our thankfulness. Here's to hoping you have a safe and happy holiday!



Thanksgiving day....

I'm not quite sure what I will be doing on Thanksgiving except driving to Ft. Wayne in the afternoon so my youngest can take care of her kennel duty. I will be picking her up tomorrow afternoon and then driving back on Thursday. I'm not sure yet what I will have for dinner on Thanksgiving.

So Thanksgiving, of course, is a day to give thanks. This year wasn't the best, but it did have some things to be thankful for.

There was an addition to my family when my 3rd daughter got married, and so I now have a 3rd son in the family.

During that time my second daughter and her family came up to Ohio to attend the wedding. I was able to schedule some time off and take them back to Florida. So I was able to spend some time with the part of the family I see the least.

My youngest started college and is doing well at school.

I've been able to spend a lot of time with my oldest daughter this year.

And I have some wonderful friends who have been a comfort for the lousy times of this year.

Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

Evilness IS Greatness

I believe we are now in our fourth week of rehearsals and still in the modified crampness that is the Huber's costume shop. BUT, we get the stage tomorrow night... **HOORAH!!!!** Tonight, we put everything together... blocking and lines, the whole show start to finish. Not too bad. Travis was very pleased with our efforts. One piece of advice was some of the casts dancing around on stage... which is always difficult the first couple times through... especially when it is a non-musical, non-dancing production. However, this comment did not apply to me for obvious reasons that will be made quite clear when you come see the show the weekends of December 11 &

18..

Personally, I am quite pleased with my evilness so far. I constantly hear references to "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch" and Scrooge... I still think Mr. Potter is even more sinister. I have one line that I just love and cast members have commented on my delivery. However, I need to look at my long passages. I get on a devilish roll and then blank out on a line, but I **AM OFF BOOK!**

Still needs work but once we get on the stage it will all come to greatness! And the [Village Players](#) NEW website is up and running... so check it out.. Although, I need to point out that on the online ticket ordering, only the first weekend is up... something which [Webman](#) and I discovered A small glitch I forgot to mention to the director. Oh, Travis...

I almost forgot to mention the lovely drive home in the fine London fog that has only gotten worse as I make my way to watch the hilarious *I Love You, Man*. Good luck with the drive in the morning or the delay whichever comes your way.