

DA YOOPER WHO STOLE CHRISTMAS

Clipper City Chordsmen, Manitowoc, WI • Written der hey by Bill Fricke

Der Official Script – Final Version - AGAIN - we mean it this time, we really do!!!!

- Rick Gerroll – Narrator – Off stage right
- Jason Ring – Otto Gulch
- Chris Kornely – Maxine
- Various Chorus members doing parts in pantomime

(Curtain is Closed)

Hello der hey – and welcome!!! Please take your seats – hurry – please – why do you think they flash the lights in the lobby der hey? Now, I ask that you turn off anything on you that might ring or buzz or humm and in case someone yells “Fire” please take a note of where the exit signs are. Thank You!!!! Now. . . I’m going to tell you a little story of a Christmas Miracle. Now, its not the story of when Ole Statch won the \$10,000 scratch-off while buying some Pabsts Blue Ribbon for his mother-in-law on Christmas Eve. . . but that’s a good one too. . . (Curtain Opens) No, its about discovering the secret of . . . oh wait . . . I’ll let it unfold for you der hey. . . .

WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS NOW

Welcome to Schmitt Creek. Da most wonderful place north of Germfask in Da great U.P.. . . Dats da Upper Peninsula for you trolls who live on der other side of the Big Mac Bridge. Now a tradition up here as the sun sleeps a little longer at night is to ring bells in a harmonious fashion. As the bells are arranged for the Christmas Celebration you can hear the local chorus . . . a group of men just home from Deer Camp . . . sing about the magic of these bells.

CAROL OF THE BELLS / SILVER BELLS

Now every good story needs a foil – and I’m not talking about the foil you use to wrap around your antenna for better T.V. reception . . . old people in the crowd, explain that to the young ones around you. No, I mean someone who hates everything and wants no one else to be happy too. Someone whose Cromer fits a little too tight der hey. Meet Otto Gulch, the grouchiest person you’ll ever meet, and if you are having fun, well, Otto Gulch will take it away. Was it his silly, Yooper name? I don’t know der hey, but he handed **Tim**, the mayor of Schmitt Creek, a cease and desist order – no bells ringing in Schmitt Creek – NOISE POLLUTION! It was from his attorney . . . Scheister, Scheister and Schuster. See what I mean about just being mean!!!! As Maxine, his adorable, but indentured dog, took the bells down, Mayor **Tim** vowed to fight using Salutz and Salutz, Attorneys at Law to fight and win the case. How bad is Otto Gulch, really? Asked **Keith**, who was a recent transplant to Schmitt Creek . . . and a generally happy man, and who was the new Beer Distributor north of Hi-way 7 – well, anywho – he wondered how bad could Otto Gulch really be?

YOU'RE A MEAN ONE MR GRINCH

Holy Wah!!!! Exclaimed **Keith**! How can one person be so grouchy? Said **Keith to Don**, who was also a beer distributor, his route was East of Hi-Way 7. Well, said **Don**. We think its because he lives alone. He’s the only house nort of here. Yep, he’s the only house up Schmitt Creek. (looks at crowd – like Groucho Marx) Now, did you really think we’d let a joke like that go by? Now, he’s tried to sell his house, but who would buy a house from such a grouchy man??? Why doesn’t he use Action Realty??? Asked **Keith**. If he did, he would sell it for sure . . . I don’t

know, replied **Don**. The cold water from Lake Superior definitely runs in his veins. That's too bad, said **Keith**. He needs to be "warm and Fuzzy" yes, **Keith** was a Happy Man.

WARM AND FUZZY

Now **Roger**, the oldest and wisest member of the Deer Camp Singing Group, who by the way, was the retired Beer Distributor NorthEast of Hi-Way 7, explained that Otto, well his Chromer did fit a little tight on his head, and his swampers, a little awkward on his feet, but the main reason Otto was so stinking grouchy was Lost Love! **(Chorus says out loud – "AWWWW")** You see . . .said **Roger**, Otto's girlfriend, Brandy . . . who was an old-fashioned girl, left him with the former beer distributor located SouthEast of Hi-Way 7. To Hawaii they ran, Otto's heart was broken, just like when **Al's** tip-up froze solid after he hooked that prized Muskie. **(Chorus says out loud – "Oh No")** Well, the romance didn't last, but Brandy would write Otto – Join me, it said. Celebrate Christmas with me in Hawaii!!!

MELE KALIKIMAKA

Now **Bruce**, who was the beer distributor North of Hi-Way 7, handed **Tim**, the mayor of Schmitt Creek, an order from Judge Judy, who was in her ice shanty on Looooong Lake, Saying the Deer Camp Singing group could make noise again **(Chorus Cheers _ Hurray – der – hey)** But **Bruce** said – no bells yet – the Walleye are biting and she hasn't had a chance to review the case fully. . . . I know what to do said **Derek**, just home from delivering beer SouthWest of Hi-Way 7. We'll use stuff from the shed out back and my garage . . . **Tim** got very excited . . . because he knew just the song they could sing.

FELIZ NAVIDAD

Now – Da Deer Camp singing group was always welcoming new members. They had asked Otto to join, but he always refused. Within the Deer Camp singing group was Quartets – there were usually four men in these quartets, but at times they would ask other members to join them . . . as a way of better their craft . . .sort of like craft beer. . . . **(Chorus says - "Yuuuummmm" with REALLY BIG SMILES)**. A small group calling themselves Furry Pears told the story of Rudolph.

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER

Now **Jon**, Who was the Beer Distributor of the upper East side of the North Side of Hi-Way 7, told the group of how excited everyone was that Santa was coming . . . It was all about how you rated the previous year . . . yep, the best beer distributors got the best gifts based on their attitude . . . Da Crappie Crooners - well, we'll let them tell you how it goes der hey. . .

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Hurry . . . said **Jim**, the accountant in the group . . . we know, it's a funny job and not as good as a beer distributor, but the deer camp group accepted Jim none the less. . . . Anywho . . . said **Jim**.. . Ole gave his \$10,000 winnings to Investors Community Bank – they put it in a high interest Yield CD. . . and Ole is so happy he said we can use the earning to finally have that talent show we always wanted. **(The chorus says –"Hurray")** See said **Tim**. . . . Otto can try, but he can't take Christmas away from us. Yes, said **Keith**, he can't take away our Christmas Spirit. Careful, said **Tim**, you'll give away the ending of the show. **Keith** didn't care you see. . . **Keith** was a Happy Man. . .

SILENT NIGHT / O HOLY NIGHT

Curtain Closes

We are going to take a little break now to allow you to use the outhouse and chat a little bit with friends and fellow show goers. When the lights flash, join us again for a wonderful talent show der hey.

INTERMISSION

Welcome back. Boy der hey . . . do we have a treat for you. Da boys have been busy getting the Moose Lodge ready for the talent show. (Curtain Opens) Our first group first meet when Tim mother in law fell in dat vat of beer . . . All four men jumped in to save her. . . and save her they did. . . after getting out 3 times to use the bathroom . . . Dats an old one – dats fer shure . . . Please welcome **Private Stock**.

Our next group got der name when they got stuck in a sudden snow storm that just seemed to whip up off Lake Superior. It gave Jim a chance to explain how accounting benefits beer distribution but most importantly – they found out they could sing together . . . and sing they do . . . welcome der hey . . . **Lake Effect**.

The next group has been singing Barbershop for a long time, a very long time . . . but they don't know how long because not one of them is an accountant. Anywho, as grandparents, dey will sing some fun songs for you now . . . we bring to the stage **Touch of Harmony**.

Our next group became friends when they all realized they enjoyed. . . a great game of sheepshead, a cold one, da Packers and singing harmonies in da Barbershop Style. Sort of the quartet of friendship, don't you think der hey???? Please put your choppers together and welcome **Cool Street**.

Well, I thank you for coming today . . . and . . . wait said **Tim** . . . A weary band of orphans . . . 4 of them too . . . what a coincidence. . . just got kicked out of the town square by Otto for singing. They lost their way crossing the Big Mac Bridge. **Tim** said the deer camp group who sings would take them in and allow them to do what they love most . . . Sing!!!! Please welcome **Vintage Mix**.

(After Vintage Mix Leaves) . . . The band of Orphans left the stage quickly for they were afraid of Otto. All they wanted was a chance to sing – and maybe get picked up by a record label . . . so they would be orphans no more.

(Otto enters) . . . What's going on? I took away your bells, your place to sing, I do everything I can to make Christmas not come every year – but it always does. WHY!!!!!! Because . . . said **Keith** . . . We know the Secret of Christmas . . . and the Deer Camp group who sings explained to Otto why Keith and them were such Happy Men. . .

THE SECRET OF CHRISTMAS

As Otto broke down and sobbed. . . and sobbed . . . and realized the wrongness of his ways, **Keith** said. . . join us. . . you will see how singing will make your heart bright. Otto exclaimed . . . Wait . . . you REALLY MEAN IT.

(The chorus yells an enthusiastic "YES") . . . and suddenly Otto's Cromer wasn't so tight . . . his swampers felt wonderful and his heart was open . . . He was a happy man!!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS . . . IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Now Otto took the Four Orphans from Milwaukee to his favorite restaurant – Meats Opera Haus – in St. Nazianz – and he welcomed them and raised them as his own and bought them what they wanted at the MSO online auction for Christmas. He published their music. . . printed locally by Fricke Printing Service . . . and they became famous . . .

Now wasn't dat a lovely story. I know, I know, there are a few gaps here and der, but join the Deer Hunting Group that sings on Tuesday Nights and they will share stories with you . . . in song. . . **and you too can be a happy man.**

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS