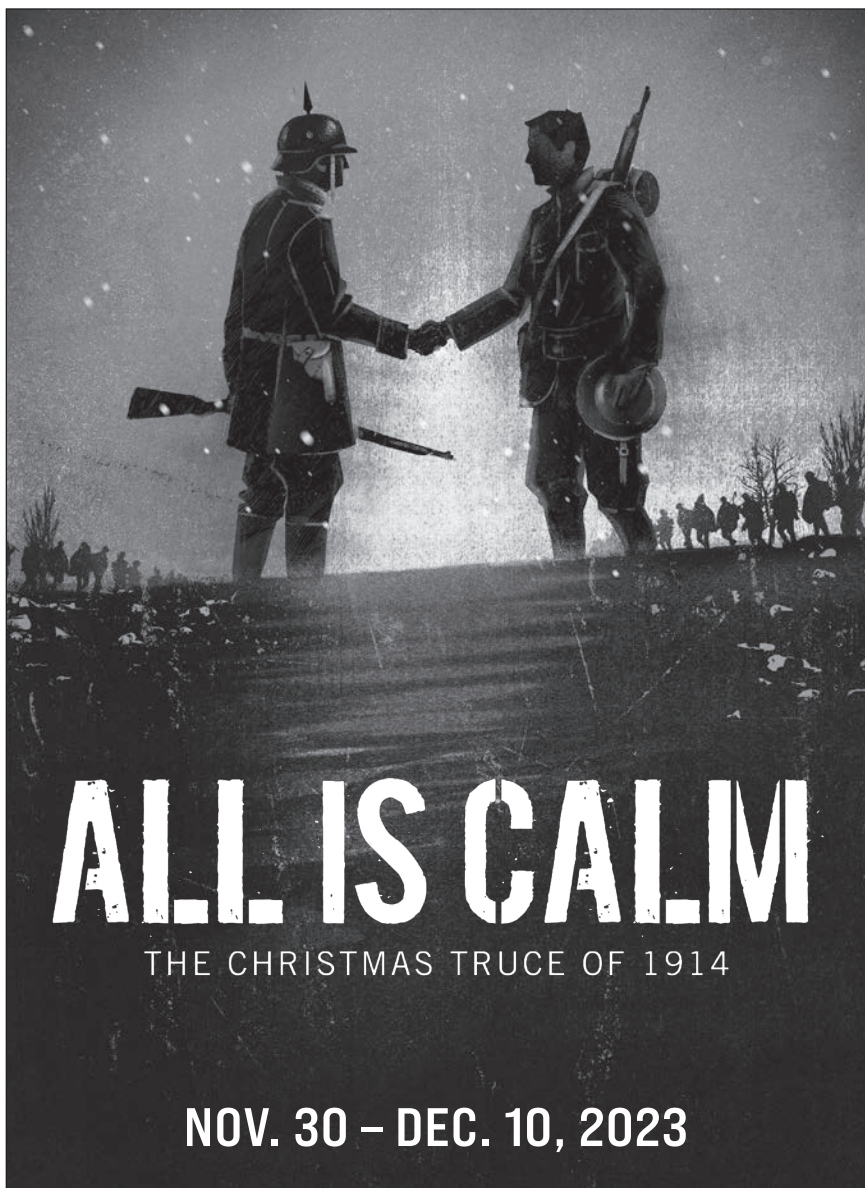


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NOV. 30 – DEC. 10, 2023

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present

ALL IS CALM

THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 10, 2023

Written by Peter Rothstein

Vocal Arrangements by Erick Lichte and Timothy C. Takach

Directed by **RUSS B. WALKER**

Presented through special arrangement with Broadway Licensing. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by Broadway Licensing (broadwaylicensing.com).

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Thank You

From the PACT Board of Directors

On behalf of the PACT Board of Directors, I want to thank you for being at our production and supporting regional live theatre. Thank you to my fellow volunteer board members for their dedication and hard work throughout this season. I'd be remiss not to recognize others who make us successful – Annette Berksan, who brilliantly handles our social media and continues to help build our brand, Alex Berksan, who has become our in-house photographer – and the dozens of others who help with concessions, tickets and so much more. PACT couldn't continue this tradition of excellence without their dedication. I deeply appreciate each and every one of them. Overseeing this effort on a day-to-day basis is our theatre manager, Su-z Kleinhans, who takes care of too many things to mention. As a retired educator, there's no better place for her to be than around a bunch of folks who act like kids.

We are excited to be partnering with the Aransas Repertory Theatre (our friends across the channel) to host this poignant tale of an impromptu and unofficial truce that occurred at the front line in 1914 during WWI. It is a touching reenactment of events told through song by the soldiers themselves. Don't forget to check out our recently announced 2024 season and other upcoming events as we continue to secure and produce some of the best live shows and concerts in the Coastal Bend. If you like what you see, tell everyone and please come back to see us.

Rick Adams, President, PACT Board of Directors



The use of any audio or video recording device or the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. As a courtesy to others, please turn off all electronic devices, such as cell phones, and refrain from texting during the performance.

EVACUATIONS: In the event of an evacuation, **DO NOT RUN.** Walk to the emergency exit nearest you. **NO SMOKING:** Smoking of any kind, including the use of E-cigarettes, is not permitted in any area of the theatre. Patrons who wish to smoke may do so outside the building. **REFRESHMENTS:** Outside food and beverages are not permitted inside the building during performances and events.



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The Mission of the Port Aransas Community Theatre is to entertain, inform and educate, thereby enriching the cultural life of the Texas Coastal Bend area.

PACT shall provide area residents and visitors the opportunity to attend and participate in quality presentations of a cross-section of the finest theatrical works available. PACT shall provide education in the theatre arts to adults, young adults and children. In meeting these goals, PACT shall be mindful of the standards of its audiences and shall maintain fiscally sound management.



PACT BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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Ray Dillahunty

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Su-z Kleinhans, Theatre Manager

Non-Board Contributors

Annette Berksan: Social Media, Website, PACTBILL and Print Design

Alex Berksan: Show Photography

Special Thanks

IGA Family Center in Port Aransas and Port A Pizzeria for displaying show banners.

Port Aransas South Jetty, The Island Moon and the Port Aransas Tourism Bureau & Chamber of Commerce for promoting the show.

City of Port Aransas for the award of hotel occupancy tax funds for PACT's 2022, 2023 & 2024 seasons.

River City Roofing, Zarsky Lumber and Art Shanklin Construction for donating to the PACT Drive-In Project.

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Let me just say that at the beginning, I did not want to do this show. My wife, Suzy, came across it a few years ago and began a campaign to make me read it even though I was totally against reading a play about war. Months later, in June of 2020, I gave in and read this play.

Wow. To say I was blown away by the harsh reality of the actual words from the men in the trenches would be an understatement. Compiled from journals, songs, poems and letters to home, “All Is Calm” tells a story of how, for one evening, the Germans and the Allies set aside their fighting during WWI and discovered they shared a lot of the same festive ideals of the Christmas season.

It is almost unbelievable, yet this is a story that needs to be shared and experienced during this time in our lives. And when I say “our,” I mean WE as a people, human beings, have all been experiencing various stressors and emotions in the last few years. The pandemic, elections and a host of other issues have rendered many of us divided; and even now with warring factions in our news every day. If two very strong opponents can, for single night, lay down arms and differences and share laughs, camaraderie, and for a brief moment, joy – then it’s time we as a people take a lesson, and do the same. I hope this did not come off as preachy, as that was not the intent. My intention is to provide our patrons a glimpse into the historical past – and the hope of a brighter future.

Russ B. Walker, Artistic Director, Aransas Repertory Theatre

BECOME A PACT VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are needed for each production to sell concessions, pass out playbills, serve as ushers inside the theatre and sell tickets in the box office. As a thank you, volunteers are invited to stay and enjoy the performance at no cost.



Email portaransascommunitytheatre@gmail.com to volunteer.

CAST

EZEKIEL “ZEKE” DAVILA
 CEZAR HERRERA
 DANIEL IMMEKUS
 BRAYDEN JAKE
 TOD MURPHY
 JOHN RIDLEY
 PHILIP RIDLEY
 RYAN ROGERS
 TYTUS SEWELL
 RUSS B. WALKER
 RATCHET (*Body*)

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director RUSS B. WALKER
Music Director MAGGIE SCHEERER
Stage Manager SUZY WALKER
Set Design RUSS B. WALKER, SUZY WALKER, RYAN ROGERS,
 JOHN RIDLEY, PHILIP RIDLEY & RAY DILLAHUNTY

SHOW SYNOPSIS

The Western Front: Christmas 1914. Out of the violence of World War I, a silence, then a song. A German soldier steps into No Man’s Land singing “Stille Nacht.” Thus begins an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music, and peace. An a cappella chorale, *All Is Calm* is a remarkable true story in the words and songs of the men who lived it.

“Hands down, the most emotionally moving Christmas show I’ve ever seen.”

– TheaterMania

CAST



Ezekiel “Zeke” Davila



Cezar Herrera



Daniel Immekus



Brayden Jake



Tod Murphy



John Ridley



Philip Ridley



Ryan Rogers



Tytus Sewell



Russ B. Walker



Ratchet

MUSICAL NUMBERS

PROLOGUE

Will Ye Go To Flanders?

PART 1: THE OPTIMISTIC DEPARTURE

Come On and Join
God Save the King
Good Bye-ee
Good Kid
Killer Quest!

PART 2: THE GRIM REALITY

It's a Long Way to Tipperary
Pack Up Your Troubles
The Old Barbed Wire
I Want to Go Home
When This Bloody War is Over
Raining, Raining, Raining
Deutschlandlied
Keep the Home Fires Burning
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

PART 3: CHRISTMAS

Christmas in the Camp
We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Die Wacht Am Rhein
Christmas Day in the Cookhouse
O Tannenbaum

PART 4: THE TRUCE

Angels We Have Heard on High
The First Noel
Er is een Kindeke geboren
Ihr Kinderlein Kommet
Wassail
Minuit Chreiteins
Will Ye Go to Flanders? (reprise)
Es ist ein Rose Entsprungen
Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern
Good King Wenceslas

PART 5: RETURN TO BATTLE

Aulde Lang Syne
We're Here Because We're Here
The Last Post

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

EZEKIEL "ZEKE" DAVILA is 17 and a senior in high school. This is his first musical, but his 14th play. "I've known the directors for three years and they have finally let me be a part of this show! Hope you enjoy!"

CEZAR HERRERA is thrilled to be a part of such a talented and fun cast. This is his fourth year performing in *All Is Calm*. You may have seen Cezar in several shows at the Aurora Arts Theatre, Harbor Playhouse, Rialto Theater and Rockport Little Theatre. Thank you Port Aransas for letting us get you in the holiday spirit!

DANIEL IMMEKUS is very excited to once again be a part of *All Is Calm* with this talented group. This is his fourth appearance in this production, which, as a student of history, is a story that is fascinating and dear to him. In the past you may have seen him in various productions at the Rialto Theater in Aransas Pass, including *Pride and Prejudice*, the aforementioned previous productions of *All Is Calm* and as Juror 8 in Rockport Little Theatre's production of *12 Angry Jurors* in

October this year. Daniel has also been involved in several sacred Christian music and choral performances. Many thanks to his wife, Trinell, and the support of family and friends.

BRAYDEN JAKE is so glad to be back at PACT! You might remember him as the director of *I'll Be Back Before Midnight!* In 2022. You might also recognize him from *The Spongebob Musical* (Old Man Jenkins) and *High School Musical* (Zeke Baylor) over at Harbor Playhouse. He'd like to thank his mom (hi, mom!) and his friends for supporting him.

TOD MURPHY is as pleased as seeing Aunt Eliza to be once again be in *AIC 4.0*. You may have seen him recently in *Twist, Grumpy Old Men: The Musical*, *Mid-Life 2! #WhatDidIComelInHereFor?* — or in the audience enjoying the efforts of his friends. "I'm especially proud of the newbies Brayden, John, Tytus and Zeke. Thanks to Philip and Ryan for returning to the trenches. Also thanks to the OGs. I thank God for Susan, who started the ball rolling all those years back. Enjoy the show."

"*All Is Calm* can transport audiences to parts of the heart rarely explored."

— St. Paul Pioneer Press



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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

JOHN RIDLEY is excited to be making his stage debut in this production of *All Is Calm*. He is currently enrolled in the welding program at Del Mar College. Consequently, between classes and rehearsal, he has very little free time.

PHILIP RIDLEY is happy to be reprising his role in this year's production of *All Is Calm*. He is honored to be included in this cast alongside his brother, John, and other good friends. He hopes to make you cry (in a good way).

RYAN ROGERS is proudly returning to *All Is Calm* for the third time. He has also performed in *Pride and Prejudice* at the Rialto Theater. He looks forward to another great show with his best friends.

TYTUS SEWELL is a recent resident of Corpus Christi. He moved here five months ago to take a job as a process engineer at Citgo. Before moving to Corpus, Tytus earned a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering at Michigan State University in his home state. At MSU, Tytus played baritone in the Spartan Marching Band. You can hear Tytus playing trombone and guitar at Bayshore Bible Church. It is

at this church where he was asked to join the cast of *All Is Calm* by a fellow band member. Tytus did lighting and backstage work in high school, but this will be his first time on stage. He would like to thank the rest of the *All Is Calm* crew for welcoming him into the trencher family.

RUSS B. WALKER has performed on stages in Texas for more than 30 years and is delighted to have the opportunity to bring *All Is Calm* to the Port A stage! For the past nine years, he has been acting, directing and producing live theatre in the Coastal Bend with his beautiful wife Suzy. Enjoy the show!

RATCHET (Body) is delighted to appear on the PACT stage! He has previously been seen as Mr. Hoskins/Mr. Spenalzo in *Arsenic & Old Lace* at the Rockport Little Theatre, at the Rialto Theater in *Murder on the Orient Express*, *All is Calm* (2020, 2021 and 2022) and *Murder at the Big Top*. He hopes you enjoy the show! He'd like to thank Suzy and Dorothy for bringing him together by saying, "Why do I always have to play the dead body?" Who knows where he will turn up again!

"A beautify musical recounting of a World War I cease-fire of gifts, poetry, and melody."

— The New York Times

WHO'S WHO ON THE PRODUCTION TEAM

RAY DILLAHUNTY (Set Design) is retired from the oil and gas industry. He has become involved in many volunteer activities in Port Aransas since becoming a full-time resident in 2017. He and his wife, Leslie, are avid birdwatchers and lead "Birding on the Boardwalk" every Wednesday morning for the Nature Preserve. He is active in the Parrot Heads, SandFest, Keep Port Aransas Beautiful and other organizations. Over the past several years, much of his volunteer work has been designing and constructing sets for PACT. Most notable works are his man-eating puppet, Audrey 2, for *Little Shop of Horrors* and sets for *Noises Off*.

MAGGIE SCHEERER (Music Director) feels blessed to join the "WALKER LEGACY" (and these talented Thespians) in this moving production. She gives her heartfelt thanks to her "precious family (Jerry, Dustin, Mary, and Caleb) for their unconditional love and support of this particular project." Being involved in the show helps her remember the generations of military

veterans in her family, especially the following combat veterans: Great-(5x) Grandfather, CAPT Andrew Caddel (Texas Revolutionary Army, Battle of San Jacinto); Great-Uncle, SNS John W. Bedingfield (USN, WWII Battle of Leyti Gulf); Dad, MSgt Frank L. Bedingfield, Jr. (USMC, Retired; Vietnam, 2 tours); and oldest son, SFC Dustin R. Scheerer (USA, Retired; Iraq, two tours and Afghanistan, two tours). "Always HONOR, and THANK, our Veterans and Active Duty Military. Freedom Is Not Free."

SUZY WALKER (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be able to bring this show to Port Aransas, having previously stage managed the show at the Rialto Theater and Rockport Little Theatre. She would like to thank the original guys who have continued coming back year after year to perform with them, as this show is one of her favorites. Suzy thanks her husband, Russ, for believing in her and supporting her, and for letting her only do two weekends this year so they can go on a Christmas trip the day after the show ends.



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— San Francisco Globe

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TICKETS

