

# The PROMPTER



Director Gayle Heinrich and the cast and crew of *Dancock's Dance* have a short, well deserved break before heading to Armstrong for the O-Zone Festival. A powerful, emotionally demanding play for both actors and audience, it was an artistic triumph even if it didn't attract large audiences. Vivid characters worked out their inner anguish on a marvelous set with some very effective staging. Their festival performance is on Wednesday, May 14th at 8:00 pm and we fully expect they will do well. See page two for full details of the Festival.



## SHUSWAP THEATRE EXECUTIVE

President: **Tracy Stacer**

Vice President: **Julia Body**

Treasurer: **Marion Huysmans**

Secretary: **Ellen Gonella**

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## OKANAGAN ZONE DRAMA FESTIVAL 2008

### “From Page to Stage”

This year, Asparagus Theatre in Armstrong is hosting the O-Zone Festival from May 11 - 17. There is an exciting lineup of six productions, with something for everyone. The full Festival package costs \$105 for Theatre BC members, \$115 for non-members. This includes all performances as well as the Opening Night Reception, Green Room, Coffee Critiques, AGM lunch and meeting Adjudicator's Workshop and Final Night Banquet. What a deal! A smaller package is also available and individual tickets can be purchased for \$15 (TBC members - \$13). For full details, check out the Festival website at [www.ozone2008.com](http://www.ozone2008.com).

### PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

May 11	
Asparagus Theatre.....	<b>Sisters</b>
May 12	
Sicamous Am. Drama Club.....	<b>The Park Bench</b>
May 13	
Powerhouse Theatrical Society.....	<b>Wit</b>
May 14	
Shuswap Theatre Society.....	<b>Dancock's Dance</b>
May 15	
Theatre Kelowna Society.....	<b>Opening Night</b>
May 16	
Summerland Singers & Players.....	<b>Love Letters</b>
May 17 - Awards Banquet and Dance	
Adjudicator -	<b>Barbara Wheeldon</b>

### THE OLD ART GALLERY WINDOWS

The *Old Window Project* display and silent auction at the Art Gallery on March 30<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Piano music accompanied the buzz of the guests as they munched on refreshments and admired the creative variety of the “window art” submitted by local groups and artists. Two windows completed on behalf of Shuswap Theatre attracted their share of attention. As the 4:00 pm deadline approached, pens were poised for a small bidding war on both windows. The faux stained glass Hamlet is being donated back to the theatre by the winning bidder (who wishes to be anonymous but has the initials T.S.) with the proviso that one of the original ‘artists’ (who can’t seem to keep her mouth shut!) makes good on her promise to complete a second, matching window. Once finished, both windows will be on display at the Shuswap Theatre for all to enjoy!

*Submitted by Marion Huysmans*



**Marion Huysmans beside the windows she and Lisa Bennett created.**

## VISITORS TO THE THEATRE



Laugh lines, circles under the eyes, sagging jowls, and hollowed cheeks—the rosy faces of 31 Girl Guides turned into 90 year old versions of themselves. Howls of laughter and groans were frequent as the girls learned hands-on aging



techniques from Ellen Gonella and Marion Huysmans. On February 27th, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Salmon Arm Guides were working on their Performing Arts badge and they were interested in theatrical makeup. One of the Guide leaders and Marion organized the evening and Ellen ran the workshop covering basic makeup hygiene, base makeup, aging techniques and a little demo of fantasy makeup. The girls were very excited about getting hands-on. They were split into groups of 2 or 3 and all had a chance to an artist wielding the eyeliner as well as to be the canvas. Despite the groans about looking so old, the girls did a great job!



The guides enjoyed themselves so much, they made arrangements to come back for more. On March 12, the Theatre came alive with budding actresses, stage crew, lighting and sound designers and choreographers, as the Guides were allowed to explore and learn about Theatre operations from Marion Huysmans, Evelyn Birch, and Risa Bissenden. The girls were taken backstage and told about how the theatre runs. They had a go at the lighting and sound boards, sat in the audience, and even tried some improvisational acting as part of their Performing Arts badge. We hope to see their names on our future programs!

*Submitted by Ellen Gonella*



## Theatre Around the Province

### **O-Zone Festival**

at **Asparagus Theatre, Armstrong** May 11 - 17

### **Kelowna Actors Studio**

*The Sound of Music* May 8 - 25

*Singin' in the Rain* July 10 - 27

### **Mainstage 2008**

in **Nanaimo** July 4 - 12

### **Caravan Farm Theatre**

*Mother Courage* July 22 - August 24

## Fun Raising!

On a beautiful sunny Sunday in March, a group of members and friends gathered in front of the Theatre for an exciting game of Scrabble.



## SUMMERTHEATRE

While we are still awaiting final word on funding for Summer Theatre, plans are underway to have a stage full of acting, music and dance this summer. Two shows are under consideration, *So You Want to be a Cowboy* and *We Were Going to do 'Romeo and Juliet.'* The final decision as to which show to stage will be made following readings by the prospective participants. Dates still need to be confirmed for production and auditions.



## END OF YEAR GATHERING



Plans are underway for our year-end get together. No date has been set, but when it has, an email will be sent to all members.

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