

The PROMPTER



OUTLAW



As you read this newsletter, our first production of the season is coming to a successful close. *Outlaw*, directed by Julia Body, was well received by audiences who appreciated the singing and strumming by Ken Smith in the Green Room before the show and enthusiastically sang along with the well-known songs at the beginning of each scene. There has been much comment about the costumes and set (how did they make the grass stand up?) as the audience was transported to the wild west of Kansas. Everyone loves a cowboy and Norm Foster's witty one-liners and great characters have been a big hit.



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A FINE TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Our annual Open House, called BACKSTAGE PASS, was once again a huge success. With Ron Langridge renewing his role as host, the audience was treated to a sneak preview of our upcoming season. It was an evening of laughter, door prizes, theatre trivia, more door prizes, musical interludes and yet more door prizes. Highlights of the evening included:

- an hilarious, unrehearsed scene from our first show, *Outlaw*, that had many people in tears from laughter
- an audience participation improvisation demonstration involving an Easter Bunny, a candlestick, a bathroom and a dastardly murder
- and a musical sampling from Peter Blacklock's upcoming production of *Emily*.

The success of the evening was due to the hard work of Marion Huysmans, Evelyn Birch, Ellen Gonella, Tammy Meyers, and Dickie Motherwell, who rounded up all of the door prizes. A huge thank you to all of you. Thanks also to the many businesses who provided the door prizes - Spirit Quest Books, Cantina Vallarta, Eurohouse Deli, Ming's Garden Restaurant, Subway, Salmar Grand Cinema, Little Caesar's Pizza, The Movie Company, Salmon Arm Florist, Askew's Foods, Safeway, Overwaitea, Barley Station Brew Pub, and Home Restaurant.

The Christmas Panto

The *Wonderful Story of Mother Goose* is off to a wonderful start. A fantastic number of people have signed up to crew the show though others are still needed. Cilla Budda, the producer, would love to assist you in finding the right spot for you. Call her at 250 832 6805. Ellen Gonella has a good handle on costume designs and can give sewers lots of ideas on what is needed. Lindsay Lundquist, or Linxy Lunkwist to some, is organizing the music. Set construction is in the capable hands of John MacVicar.

The play is full of bad jokes, good music, funny characters, a bit of smut – in short, a rollicking good show! Many people auditioned and the cast is complete. The production, in true Panto style, has two cross-dressing roles. Rich Daniels of CKXR fame is the dame, Mother Goose. Her daughter's love interest, Colin, the rightful heir to Merrilea is played by Risa Bissenden. Mother Goose's daughter Jill is played by Lina Wahlstrom and her brother Billy by Aidan Sparks. The evil squire is played by Jade St. Onge. Kyle Blenkarn and Travis Anderson play Sage and Onions, two characters reminiscent of Laurel and Hardy or Abbott and Costello. The cast is rounded out by many fairies, elves and gnomes specifically Shamylla Vanderhall-Rose as the queen of the fairies, Karyn de Vries as Fairy Harmony and the forces of evil, Fairy Discord is played by Madison Heiser.

All of this will be held together by director James Bowlby with Stage Manager Sherry Bowlby and Assistant Stage Manager Rebecca Marchand.

The show runs December 12, 13 and 14 and 19, 20 and 21. The Friday evening performances are at 7:30 and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 1:30.

Major Face Lift

The renovated foyer and Green Room were “revealed” at the Backstage Pass with lots of great feedback. Besides fresh paint, new light fixtures have been installed and there is an area for us to showcase the work of a guest artist which will be changing for each production.

Many, many people contributed in one way or another to this major project. Volunteering their time and expertise were: Veronica Sasges, Marion Huysmans, Jim Clayton, Richie Davidson, Peter and Cynthia Blacklock, Randy Brogden, Don and Dory Titus, Jean Brighthouse, Jaci Metivier, Don MacLaughlin, Evelyn and Bonnie Birch, Gayle Heinrich, Hayden Clayton, John MacVicar and Linda Whittaker.



Thanks also to the many donors including Fabricland, Jim Clayton, Dickie Motherwell Enterprises, Shuswap Optometric Centre, Salmon Arm Stationary and Office Supply, Corryn Ellen Grayston, UPS Store, Arthur Channer, Peter Buxton-Carr, Jim Johnston, Gayle Heinrich, Salmon Arm Medical Clinic, Ta’Zuma Holdings, Harbourfront Holdings Ltd., Absolute Industries Ltd., Rona Home Centre, Jack Bowers and Sewlutions.

ACTORS’ WORKSHOP SERIES

Following on the success of the first in the series, the second of the Actors’ Workshop will take place on November 18 (note change of date) from 7:00 to 10:00 PM at the Theatre. This workshop will explore the tools an actor uses to flesh out a character. To answer the question, “Who am I?” the participants will work with text, learn ways to research a character, explore physicality and find strong acting choices. These sessions are led by Gayle Heinrich and are open to anyone over the age of sixteen. The cost for each workshop is \$20 and membership in Shuswap Theatre.

Gayle is an accomplished actor and director and serves on the Artistic Committee of Shuswap Theatre. She was an instructor at Mainstage 2008 in Nanaimo and will direct our winter production *Dinner with Friends*.

For more information about this workshop, contact Gayle at gkheinrich@sunwave.net or at 250 833 2175.

Theatre Around the Valley

Asparagus Theatre

New Clothes for the Emperor Dec. 4 - 13

Caravan Farm Theatre

The Secret Sorrow of Hatchet Jack MacPhee
Dec. 11 - Jan. 4

Eagle Valley Arts Council

We'll Meet Again - A Tribute to Our Veterans
Nov. 11 - 12

Kelowna Actors Studio

Cinderella Nov. 20 - Dec. 14

Quaaout Lodge

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Nov. 14 - 16

SAS Jackson

Nursery Crimes Dec. 10 - 12

SAS Sullivan

42nd Street Dec. 2 - 6

Summerland Singers and Players

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever Nov. 13 - 22

Western Canada Theatre

Seussical Nov. 27 - Dec. 6

Shuswap Youth Theatre

The Shuswap Youth Theatre (SYTCO) has been a wonderful addition to our building this Fall. For those of you who felt just a little crowded playing up on that stage with a cast of ten or fifteen, imagine how much fun it is when we get forty youth up there! Not only that, we manage to squeeze in James and Peter, too!

Our initial hope was to attract twelve to fifteen young players. Having a group this size has made us change our approach somewhat to make sure everyone is involved. Generally, we split into two groups for warmup and practice, and then come together at the end for presentation.

Several weeks ago we vacated the stage for the cast of *Outlaw* and moved to the Downtown Activity Centre, but we hope to get the real stage back soon.

James and Peter would like to thank all the parents who have helped out with the sessions. We plan to run until mid-November and then resume in the New Year. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please contact Peter or James at ac@shuswaptheatre.com.



FALL FAIR

With the assistance of some young and very enthusiastic painters, our float for the 2008 Fall Fair Parade was finished just in time. A huge "Thank You" to everyone who helped paint, letter, assemble, drive, dress up... It was a long day, but lots of fun. We even came home with second place in our category. Ideas for next year's float are already percolating!



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