

The PROMPTER

Welcome to Shuswap Theatre's 32nd season! Much has happened since the last edition of the Prompter. Our Executive, Artistic Committee, Visioning Subcommittee and various individual members have been hard at work on many projects. Read on to see what is happening and how you might help make this the best season ever for community theatre in Salmon Arm!



A warm welcome to Tammy Meyers who is our new Community Liaison for Shuswap Theatre. Tammy brings a ton of energy and ideas with her, making the past few months very exciting ones for the Visioning Subcommittee. With Tammy's assistance, the members have been generating ideas to revamp and revitalize the Theatre, both physically and in terms of it's perception in the community. With the interior design expertise of long-time volunteer, Veronica Sasges, the first major change will be the inside of the theatre itself. After being lovingly maintained by Cilla Budda for many years, it is receiving an updated, elegant new look - sort of a 'Home Makeover - Salmon Arm Edition'! This will be unveiled at the Backstage Pass on September 13th. (See page 2 for details.) Help is still needed with the makeover. Please contact Marion Huysmans at 250-804-8009 or at mjh@shuswap.net to find out how you can help.

SHUSWAP THEATRE EXECUTIVE

President: **Tracy Stacer**

Vice President: **Julia Body**

Treasurer: **Marion Huysmans**

Secretary: **Ellen Gonella**

Directors

Evelyn Birch, Peter Blacklock,

Mark Levey, Denise Reimer,

Prompter Editor:

Susan MacMillan

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Membership Secretary:

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BACKSTAGE PASS

The plans for our September Open House are well underway. This is the annual social and informational event that gives anyone in the community an opportunity to find out what's happening in the upcoming season and to learn more about what we do at Shuswap Theatre. You can sign up to volunteer for one of the productions, for one of the courses scheduled or other activities such as our regular improv nights. This year it's all happening on **Saturday Sept 13th at 7:00 PM** and admission is free! There will be door prizes, food and entertainment so don't miss out on this great annual soiree that kicks off our new season. If you'd like to help with this event please contact Marion Huysmans at mjh@shuswap.net or 250-804-8009.



SHUSWAP YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY

SYTCO is launching its first season! Instructors Peter Blacklock and James Bowlby invite young actors, aged 10 to 16 to get involved in theatre games, exercises and training. Participants can expect to be part of the Christmas Pantomime, *The Wonderful Story of Mother Goose*. The emphasis will be on having fun and accomplishing a great performance, while participants will experience the excitement of creating a character. Classes begin on **September 18** and run each **Thursday from 3:45 to 5:15 PM** at Shuswap Theatre. Participants or their families need to become members of Shuswap Theatre for the 2008-09 season. For more information, contact James at 250-832-8383 or at ac@shuswaptheatre.com

IMPROVISATION

If you are looking for a fun experience with a great group of people, **Improv. Nights** are for you. No experience is necessary for these evenings of theatre games, improv situations and theatre skills. The emphasis is on having fun and throwing inhibitions to the wings! The first session will be on **Wednesday, September 17 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM**, running every two weeks thereafter. Those who attend will be required to become members of Shuswap Theatre. Contact Peter Blacklock for more information, 250-832-4760 or ac@shuswaptheatre.com.

AN EXCITING SEASON AHEAD

Our Artistic Committee of Peter Blacklock, James Bowlby and Gayle Heinrich have worked very hard this spring to plan the productions for our 2008-09 season. The line up is as follows:

Outlaw by Norm Foster
Directed by Julia Body
 October 24 - November 1

Christmas Season Show
*Directed by James Bowlby and
 members of the YTP*
 Dec. 12 - 14 & 19 - 21

Dinner with Friends
 by Donald Margulies
 March 6 - 14

Emily by Peter Blacklock
 May 1 - 9

Learn more about these plays at the Backstage Pass, Sept. 13.

OUTLAW by Norm Foster

Our first production of the season is OUTLAW by Canadian playwright, Norm Foster. Over the years, Shuswap Theatre has produced many of Foster's plays, most recently our opening production last year, *Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun*. In *Outlaw*, set in 1871, a hard working Canadian farmer goes to Kansas to work on a cattle drive to earn enough money to survive the winter. On his way home, he is accused of killing a man. He is not just accused of killing any man, but the brother of a rich cattle baron who demands justice his way. The cattle baron's ranch hand and the sheriff are determined to carry out their orders while the Canadian tries to save his neck using his wits. (He is Canadian after all!)

This Comedy/Western has a cast of 4 males, aged 20 to 60. Auditions will take place at the Theatre on **September 3 and 4 at 7:00 PM**. Contact Julia Body (250-833-1496) for scripts or information. As always, crew members are needed in all areas.

ACTORS WORKSHOP SERIES

Another exciting venture will begin on **Tuesday September 16 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM**. This five session series is for actors new to the stage who are interested in learning basic techniques, as well as for those who would like to re-learn and practice. The series is open to anyone and workshops will be conducted by Shuswap Theatre members. Those who attend will be required to become members of Shuswap Theatre. Other sessions will take place on November 11, January 6, February 17, and April 14.

Theatre Around the Valley

Kelowna Actors Studio

Cinderella Nov. 20 - Dec. 14

Powerhouse Theatre, Vernon

Same Time, Another Year Oct. 22. - Nov. 1

Sunshine Theatre, Kelowna

Variations in Love Oct. 28 - Nov. 1

Western Canada Theatre

God's Middle Name Oct. 16 - 25

Fall Fair

Shuswap Theatre is submitting another creative entry into the Fall Fair Parade on Sept 6th. Our entry hopes to showcase the many ways that community members can become involved in Shuswap Theatre. We want people to know that you don't have to be on stage to be part of the theatre experience. We are looking for help with the float and participants of all ages willing to dress in costumes and walk with the float. If this sounds like something you'd like to help with, please contact Marion Huysmans at mjh@shuswap.net or 250-804-8009.



Congratulations to our secretary, Ellen Gonella, and her husband, David, who recently celebrated the birth of their first child. Rosemary Elaine was born on July 13 and weighed 7lbs 2oz. We all look forward to seeing her soon at the Theatre.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Shuswap Theatre Society AGM will be held at the theatre on **Monday, September 15 at 7:00 PM**. Nine directors will be elected to form the executive, then those members will choose a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer from the group. Please consider letting your name stand for the executive or nominating someone you feel would be an asset in that position. To nominate someone, contact **Returning Officer, John MacVicar** at **832-4264**. Whether or not you nominate someone, we urge you to come to the meeting and help to elect the executive for the coming year.

Shuswap Theatre Society ♦ Box 2432 Salmon Arm BC V1E 4R4 ♦ (250) 832-9283