

Scene Shop Report 2015

The 2014 – 15 theatre season was quite the success.

Since the last annual board meeting several new members have joined the theatre and made the scene shop, set design, and set construction a vibrant and interesting endeavour.

The set for the “Odd Couple” was excellent and included several levels of clever. Of course I am somewhat biased about that. Excellent would also describe the work that went into “Bah, Humbug”, the dual set for the Winter plays, “Jewel” and “My Narrator”, and the award winning work on the set for “Pack of Lies” in the Spring.

Mike Nash, Jean Angers, and others have poked around in the scene shop and added shelves for screwdrivers and other items, and have gained a bit extra space in the scene shop, which was promptly swallowed up by other items.

The new doors for the theatre and the scene shop are wonderful additions to the building.

A good quality shop vac was purchased for the scene shop, and it has seen journeyman use during our season and with other events in the theatre. Just to show how much work is done in the scene shop for set construction and so on, a new blade for the shop saw was purchased after less than a year’s use.

Upstairs (above the dressing room) items were photographed and barring technological Armageddon should be on a Picasa page for directors and prop persons to see before Kim MacMillan leaves the area in mid-September. (He doesn’t know this yet.)

There is still a collection of aging Black and Decker drills in the scene shop. I would like to have them quietly go into that good night, be it recycling or safe disposal. Since many of the set construction people bring their own familiar and excellent tools with them to build the theatre sets, these tools are seldom used. However, there is a need for a good quality newer set of drills or drill driver and drill combos for theatre use.

I would ask that the board have someone keep an eye out in the fliers for impact driver/drill sets from Makita, DeWalt, Bosch, Master Craft, and so on to have a good set of tools at the theatre.

I continue to recycle and re-use the screws for the sets, as well as whatever lumber, plywood, skins, and other items that survive the play and the frustrations of teardown after a run. Some things just get away on us, though.

Once the set for “Bedtime Stories” is completed, I would like to use the somewhat empty scene shop to act as a holding area for the collection of set materials (doors,

panels, windows, unknown items, and so on) that are stored above the green room/lobby. Access is by a ridiculously steep set of stairs up to an area where smacking your head against roof beams is pretty much given for anyone over 120 cm high.

I would like to put out a call for volunteers to lend their hands to help get these materials down to ground level safely, and then (if they wish) help determine usefulness of these items and what to do with them. It's time to find out what exactly is up there, how we can use it, and better ways (if possible) to store it.

Please consider a new impact driver/drill set for the scene shop. Most combo sets are around \$200 or possibly less. Safely recycle our old drills and batteries

If you have questions, please ask me at the meeting or email me at randy07b@shaw.ca .

Submitted by Randy Brogden