

The PROMPTER



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

STRESSMAS



Our successful Christmas production of ***Stressmas*** delighted audiences. Children could be heard laughing at the antics of the "Grumps", while adults were prompted to answer the question, "What is the meaning of Christmas for you?".

Congratulations to the musicians, actors, and singers who sang and danced their way into our hearts. To the director, Lana Caputi, and her able support team of James and Amanda Bowlby - our appreciation.



Thank you and congratulations also to Peter Blacklock, director of ***Renovation: The Musical***, as well as to the cast and crew for a wonderfully entertaining and successful show to open our 2011 - 2012 season.

Leading Ladies



Our second mainstage production of the season, ***Leading Ladies*** has now been cast and is in rehearsal. In the cast are George Rithaler, Fred Green, Kate Hunter, Peter Molner, Randy Brogden, Aileen Brand, Haley McDonnell and JP Lord. Director Julia Body is being assisted by Rebecca Marchand and Teresa McKerral is the stage manager. Judith Skelhorne will produce with assistance from Susan MacMillan. Most crew positions have been filled but people are still needed for props, sound and front of house. Set painters will be also be needed. Please call Judith Skelhorne if you can help - 250-832-9956.

Leading Ladies, written by playwright Ken Ludwig (*Moon Over Buffalo*, *Lend Me a Tenor*) is a hilarious farce set in Pennsylvania in 1958. Two English actors find themselves so down on their luck that they are reduced to performing "Scenes from Shakespeare" on the Moose Lodge circuit in Amish country. Leo hears that an old lady in York, PA is about to die and leave her fortune to her two long lost English nephews. He and his buddy, Jack, decide to pass themselves off as her beloved relatives and get the cash. The trouble is that the nephews are actually nieces and when Leo and Jack discover this, the pandemonium begins. Romantic entanglements, mistaken identities, and downright hilarity ensues.

Leading Ladies previews on Thursday, February 23 and runs from February 24 to March 3.

Watch our website for more information - <http://shuswaptheatre.com/>



Under Milk Wood

The first of our staged play readings of the year is set to take place at the Theatre on Friday, January 20 and Saturday January 21 at 7:30 pm. ***Under Milk Wood***, by Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, was written as a radio drama and is being directed by James Bowlby. The narrator invites the audience to listen to the dreams and innermost thoughts of the inhabitants of the imaginary Welsh village, Llareggub (read it backwards!) Staged readings are public performances in which the actors, after a few rehearsals, read the play from the stage without set or props and with minimal movement. It is an opportunity to appreciate the story, language and characterization of a fine script. The cost for each performance is \$5 at the door.

Please also mark March 9 and 10 on your calendar. These are the dates of our second staged play reading, ***The Herbal Bed***, written by Peter Whelan and directed by Kim MacMillan.

Update from the Building Committee

The Shuswap Theatre Building Committee is poised to take the next step in the fulfillment of our dream of having a new facility with all the amenities a theatre group, or a community, could hope for. After three years of planning, researching, exploring, talking to people and meetings almost every two weeks, we have lots to report.

First, we have a good concept of what our new facility should look like and how it will function in the community. The people who actually know theatre in our town have developed a very practical floor plan.

Secondly, we have a comprehensive business plan that can make it all possible from a financial stand point. Using the premise that there will be little or no financial support from outside of what we can produce, the plan calls for a multitude of activities to take place in the new building to cover the operational expenses.

Thirdly, we have an extensive list of funding options to pay for the cost of putting the building up. The goal is to enter the building debt free right from the start. This will take a considerable amount of fund raising and support from all the theatre members and from community members who support theatre and the arts.

Fourthly, after looking at thirteen potential building sites, we have focused on five options. Currently we are waiting to hear back about the availability of some of them. As soon as we have confirmation of the availability and costs of all five sites, it will be up to the society members to make the final decision.

We are probably only months away from having all the information we need for a site selection. Once this is done, we can launch into our fund raising campaign. Then it will be time to find some shovels and roll up our sleeves.

The five properties are as follows;

- 1- A section of the 2.2 ha parcel across from the Roots and Blues log building. The Fall Fair Association owns this parcel.
- 2- Parcel "2" located on the south end of the JL Jackson site. School District 83 owns this site.
- 3- Parcel "B" located on the east side of the JL Jackson site.
- 4- The city owned .9 ha. lot west of the swimming pool and north of Mino's restaurant.
- 5- Shuswap Theatre's current location, across from the Salmar and Art Gallery, with the inclusion of the Bart's Muffler property.

After a recent meeting with some of the city councilors, we now may have a sixth option in the down town area. More details will be forthcoming after we do our research.

The total cost of the project will be between 8-10 million dollars. It will serve as a multi-functional facility that can seat up to 600 people. The life expectancy of the new facility could easily be 70-100 years.

Act one was the concept, Act two, the planning. We are now taking an intermission while the scene is set for act three ... the fulfillment.

Jake Jacobson, Building Committee Chair

Theatre Around the Valley

Bumbershoot Theatre (Kelowna)

My Favourite Fairy Tales Jan 19-29

Many Hats Theatre Co. (Penticton)

Lost in Yonkers Feb 2-25

Powerhouse Theatre (Vernon)

Italian American Reconciliations Feb 22-Mar 3

Kelowna Actors Studio

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum Jan 19-22

Western Canada Theatre (Kamloops)

For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again Jan 26-Feb. 4

Noises Off Feb 23-Mar 3

Laughing Gas Improv

The drop-in play group for anyone interested in Improv, is the fourth Monday of every month, resuming Monday January 23 at 7:15 pm. If you have any questions please contact Julia at 250-833-1496.



The next Laughing Gas Improv performance will be Saturday March 17 at 7:30 pm. “**BLARNEY TIME**” will have you laughing so hard, the green beer will come out your nose! Watch for details on our website.



WHAT'S ON OUR WEBSITE!

MEMBER'S CALENDAR – if you'd like to know what is happening at the theatre and who is using it, we have a link to our Google Calendar on the home page of our website. If there is a renter, we ask that you respect their privacy and not come into the building, without prior approval.

BOARD MEETINGS – the Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month (unless posted otherwise on the website) at 7pm at Shuswap Theatre. You can read the minutes of the prior month's meeting (and other archived minutes) here: <http://shuswaptheatre.com/resources/minutes/> . If you have an item you'd like to discuss at a Board meeting, please feel free to contact Monica pr@shuswaptheatre.com to be put on the agenda. The Board welcomes the feedback and input of all of our members.

SHUSWAP THEATRE CALENDAR

January 10	Board Meeting 7:00 pm at the Theatre (<i>everyone welcome</i>)
January 16	Improv Practice 7:15 pm at the Theatre
January 20 & 21	Staged Reading of <i>Under Milk Wood</i> 7:30 pm at the Theatre
January 23	Improv 'Drop In' Playgroup, 7:15 pm
February 6	Improv Practice 7:15 pm at the Theatre
February 14	Board Meeting 7:00 pm at the Theatre (<i>everyone welcome</i>)
February 20	Improv Practice 7:15 pm at the Theatre
February 23	<i>Leading Ladies</i> Preview
Feb. 24 - March 3	<i>Leading Ladies</i> Run
February 27	Improv 'Drop In' Playgroup, 7:15 pm



SHUSWAP THEATRE BOARD

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