

President's Annual Report

There have been many positive happenings in the past year, especially in attendance at our Mainstage productions. The year started off with lots of laughter and enthusiasm with *Little Shop of Horrors* which had the strongest opening weekend of any show in recent history with excellent audience feedback. The crowds and positive response continued with *Distracted* and the *Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. The decision to hold the productions over three weekends saw the last weekend of each run having the larger audience. A big thanks to the dozens of people who volunteered to direct, to produce, to act, and to be part of the crews. Thanks to the Artistic committee for choosing such an excellent 2013–2014 season.

With feedback from former treasurers, the Board decided to make the job more manageable by having a bookkeeper as well as a treasurer. Thanks to Joyce Jackson, an accountant, for volunteering as bookkeeper.

After six years of working diligently to find a new home for Shuswap Theatre, the Building Committee formed a new society, the Shuswap Society for Arts and Culture. They are working towards making the dream of a 500 seat Performing Arts Centre a reality in Salmon Arm.

As well as being enthusiastic audiences, the community has been supportive in other ways including sponsoring various productions. The Shuswap Community Foundation donated \$1800 for equipment to improve sound and visual communication between various sections of the theatre. The City of Salmon Arm, through the Shuswap Community Foundation, donated \$2,000 towards a system that would allow Shuswap Theatre tickets to be bought on line.

A structural assessment done by an engineer found the theatre to be structurally sound but not able to tolerate major renovations that would impact the building's foundation. An energy assessment recommended several ways that we could be more energy efficient.

The Board has continued to write policies and job descriptions that will enable smoother running of productions and theatre administration.

August, 2013, was a difficult month as we lost two key Shuswap Theatre members, Allan Marchand and Shane Gorner. Allan played a key role in the productions for many years, generously donating his hair styling expertise to ensure that every actress and actor had perfectly styled hair. Shane had added his acting talent and enthusiasm to several Shuswap Theatre productions.

A big thank you goes to my fellow Board members: Kim MacMillan, vice-president, Judith Skelhorne, secretary, Sherry Bowlby, treasurer, Directors - Althea Mongerson, Marcus Smith, Julia Body, John Coulson, Shannon Hecker and Glenda Marchand. This has been a working Board, with each member contributing in a number of positive ways.

Also a big thanks to all the committees and individuals who work in so many ways to make Shuswap Theatre such a vibrant community that enriches the cultural life of Salmon Arm.

Respectfully Submitted
Joyce Henderson.