



Kanata Theatre's Monthly Newsletter

Greasepaint

Volume 30 Issue 11, July/August 2000

Website: <http://www.kanatatheatre.com> **Box Office:** 831-4435

Message from Madam President

Who said summer was for R & R? (Does that stand for Rain and more Rain?!) I sure hope that you have all managed to grab a little rest and relaxation over the past couple of months, while dodging in and out of the rain storms! I have been kept pretty busy with summer visitors, friends, family, outings and work, but am constantly in awe of the outstanding environment in which we live and enjoy every moment of it.

Rumour has it that many of our members are busy too, with workshops at the RMP, rehearsals for "Sylvia" (not long now!), summer playreadings - and don't forget the summer workshop presentations on Friday, August 11 at the RMP. I know many people are away at this time, but I hope those who are not will come out and support these dedicated and talented thespians.

In the meantime, I would like to extend an invitation to come out to Dunrobin to read a play at my house on Wednesday August 16. If the night is warm and you would like, bring your floaties too - the pool is warm! Haven't decided on what we are reading yet, but hope to have something light (but with substance!) and befitting a summer evening. Give me a call if you are coming out - I'd love to see you (832-3023).

In closing this short and sweet message, an early reminder: Don't forget to mark your calendars for the General Meeting on Sunday September 10, 7:30 pm. These meetings are informative and fun and are a beneficial source of communication between the KT Board and membership. I hope more members will be in attendance at this meeting in order to learn about our upcoming season and welcome new members into the KT group.

In the meantime, I wish you all the best of times in the sunshine during these last days of summer, and look forward to seeing you soon.

Cheers, Jenny.

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Coming Events

Saturday, August 26, 2000: Theatre Make-Up Workshop. Instructor: Helena Mundell. First session full (details p. 3). Add your name to the waiting list. Contact Tracey Gardner (592-0314 or tracey.gardner@alcatel.com).

Tues. Sept. 5 & Thurs. Sept. 7, 2000: Auditions - "To Forgive, Divine". Directed by Susan Monaghan. 7:30 p.m. in the R.M.P. lobby (enter via front doors). Callbacks Sunday Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m., R.M.P. lobby. Contact Director Susan Monaghan at 271-1777 (evenings), or Producer Julie Clayton at 836-4980, jfclayt@ibm.net for more information.

Friday, Sept. 8, 3:00 p.m.: Deadline for submissions to the September issue of Greasepaint - email plain text (.txt) to Amy at dc.adams@sympatico, or call 592-6547.

Sunday, Sept. 10, 2000: Kanata Theatre Fall General Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the R.M.P.

Sat. Sept. 16 - Sat. Sept. 30, 2000: Upper Canada Playhouse, "Woman in Black". Tickets priced at \$8 to \$17 and can be obtained by phoning (613) 543-3713. See details p. 2. Contact paul_gardner@sympatico.ca.

Wed. Sept. 27: Merle Nicholds "Roast". Benefit for Kanata Seniors' Centre. KT has been invited to participate by presenting a skit. Joan Ritchie is organizing the evening, and Dewi, Eufon and Andrew Williams are overseeing the skit. Contact Dewi and Eufon at 592-4108, dewi@magmacom.com for more information.

Out of the Loop?

• There have been a lot of changes, additions, and deletions since the last published membership list. If anyone needs any of this information before we publish again in September contact Paul Gardner, the "Keeper of the List" (592-0314, paul_gardner@sympatico.ca). Please check the list in the header of the e-copy to update your own e-mail address book.

Announcements/Thank You's

To my friends at KT: As some of you may have heard I am moving to Toronto to pursue my acting career full-time. Kanata Theatre has been my home for many years and the support and love of its members is something I carry with me daily and am using as inspiration on my journey. I will still be around occasionally (since I imagine I'll be hungry haha) and will always be in touch. Sylvia will be my (temporary) swan song for a while so I hope to see many of my friends at the bar after the show. Wish me luck.

~ Brett Kelly

P.S. Michelle Sissons, last chance....

Childrens' Holiday Play: Unfortunately, Brett Kelly is unable to direct the childrens' holiday play. The KT Board thanks Brett for offering to direct the play and we wish him well for his plans following "Sylvia". I am delighted to report that **Bob Lackey** (recently seen in "Jacques Brel") will direct "The Haunted Castle" by Beth McMaster. There are 7 parts of varying ages and several musical numbers. Please watch future issues of Greasepaint for more information, including audition dates. For more information, contact Heather Walt at 836-3644; Fax 831-0160; email covenant@istar.ca

~ Heather Walt, Director of Plays

My sincere thanks to Kanata Theatre for the wonderful floral basket I received after having surgery in June. I am recovering nicely and admire the basket every day.

~ Elsie Bryant

Thank You!!! Summer Scene Studies: A special thank you goes out to Guy for playing with Rolly, Stevie and Shirley. I can't forget the best prop - thank you Laura. Don never looked better.

Brett, you do look ravishing in mint green. Thank you. A special thanks to all the KT directors and members who came out Friday night to show their support. All the participants in the Workshop 2000 greatly appreciated your applause and laughter. After many weeks of hard work there is nothing better than a good audience who show how much they appreciate your efforts. We'll see you all next summer!!!!

~ Dorothy Gardner

Dudez Productions is looking for go-go dancing private investigators!!! "Spacemen, Go-Go Girls and the True Meaning of Christmas" is looking for stars. Director, writer and co-star Brett Kelly says, "It's a tribute to all cheesy movies. It's going to be pitched to the Comedy Network, on the Internet and at festivals." The crew will start filming in Ottawa and Nepean in August. For more information e-mail dudezprod@hotmail.com.

Woman in Black: Upper Canada Playhouse in Morrisburg will be staging "Woman in Black" from September 16-30, 2000. Tickets are priced at \$8 to \$17 and can be obtained by phoning (613) 543-3713. For new members, here's the skinny: "Woman in Black" was staged by KT in our first full season in the Ron Maslin Playhouse and was our first BIG hit. Let's put a group together and see how the big guys stack up. If you are interesting in going, e-mail paul_gardner@sympatico.ca.

Audition Call: "To Forgive, Divine"

Auditions for "To Forgive, Divine" will be held at the Ron Maslin Playhouse in the Lobby (please enter by front doors as the stage is in use). This is the second production of KT's 2000-2001 season, running November 15-18 and 21-25, 2000.

Auditions: Tuesday Sept. 5 and Thursday Sept. 7, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Callbacks: Sunday September 10 in the RMP lobby at 7:00 p.m.

Characters (in order of appearance, and as described in the script):

Margaret Crowley: "...a fourteen-year-old full of *%ss and vinegar"

Margaret: "...a plain no nonsense woman, around sixty." She also speaks with a slight Irish "lilt".

Katie Cachenco: "...early thirties, pretty and a bundle of nerves"

Father Jerry Dolan: Catholic priest "mid-thirties, pleasant looking"

Ralph Cachenco: Mid thirties, high school athlete. "Empire State Building with hair"

"To Forgive, Divine" is a warm, light comedy about a young priest who undergoes a mid-priest crisis when planning his high-school reunion with his ex- and now-married girlfriend. Need more info? Want to see a script? Call Susan Monaghan at 271-1777 (evenings).

Membership Dues: 1 yr. individual \$10; 1 yr. family \$20; 1 yr. student \$5; 5 yr. individual \$40; 5 yr. family \$80. Please check the address label on your envelope. If it is highlighted, then you owe KT some money. Contact Tracey Gardner at 592-0314. Cheques can be sent to 41 Parsons Ridge, Kanata, Ontario, K2L 2X5; or drop it by the RMP, addressed "Attention Membership and Training".

Notes from Playhouse Operations

Wanted: Refreshment manager

After years of exemplary service, the Lowries have decided that it's time for somebody else to take charge of the refreshment counter. Almost a year after their announcement, we are still looking for somebody to step in and fill their shoes. The Lowries have instructions on everything from purchasing supplies to staffing a show, so there's no need to feel intimidated.

Please call Karl Wagner at 599-4476 if you are interested in the job. The 2000-2001 season starts "real soon" and we're running out of time!

Home "Sweat" Home

My first crisis involved the plunger that Jim passed on to me at the AGM. I got a phone call from Gwen just as the curtain was going up on 'The Ginger Man'. "The backstage toilets are backed up and there's flooding in the workshop", she said to me. I dashed over and tried the plunger, but it just wasn't up to the task. My plumbing snake couldn't cut it either. Neither could the industrial plumbing snake that Sewer-Matic brought in. It was time to call in the big guns; namely, a high pressure flusher. It cut right through the clog that was 4 years in the making. It turns out that a scrap piece of electrical conduit had been stuck in our main sewer line since construction.

There are a number of projects proposed for this year including a bit more drapery work, some finishing touches on our dimmer system, and some painting.

The building committee has met with the architect a few times this summer for some preliminary discussions about the Playhouse extension. There really aren't a lot of details worthy of discussion at this point, since it's been pretty much limited to legal matters and wish lists.

If you are interested in further information or want to get involved in some of the Playhouse projects contact Karl at 599-4476, or kewagner@home.com.

~ Karl Wagner, Director, Playhouse Operations

KT is *THE* Place to Be for Summer Theatre!!

Summer Workshops 2000 shaped up to be not only the busiest but also the best yet. During the weekend of July 8 & 9, fifteen KT members participated in a Movement and Fight Training workshop given by Theatre Ontario's Mark Ingram. The violence ranged from hair pulling to punching and kicking, but the emphasis was on the right way to stage a fight so that no participant gets hurt, and so you make the audience see what you want them to (i.e. a convincing brawl), not what *really* happens.

The scene studies people have been working since the end of June, with one or more of the groups in the Playhouse virtually every day. One evening Margo MacDonald, one of the founders of "The Company of Fools", put the Midsummer Nights group through an Olympian workout. Shakespeare will never be the same around here!

On Friday night (Aug. 11) it was show time. A large audience of KT members, family and friends came to watch the scenes; there were even a couple of directors present to scout out the new talent! On the programme were scenes from, among others, "Death of a Salesman", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet", and even "Criminal Genius" (where did you get those shoes, Don?). Every scene was an excellent example of the wonderful talent we have here at KT. Congratulations to Tom Kobolak, Dorothy Gardner, and all the participants on a wonderful night of theatre.

But wait! There's still more!

On Aug. 26, Helena Mundell will be presenting a workshop on Theatre Makeup. There are already 18 people registered, and we are considering the need to extend the workshop over two days (separate sessions) so that all participants will receive individual attention. If you are interested in this workshop your name can be added to a waiting list. Just let Tracey Gardner know (592-0314 or tracey.gardner@alcatel.com).

~ Tracey Gardner, Director, Membership and Training

Dear KT...

Another letter to the newsletter. If I keep this up I'll become a regular columnist!! I have talked to more people about Kanata Theatre and I am getting more acquainted with the dynamic that is played out there. As my psychologist would say, "very interesting".

Taking part in the acting workshop has been interesting. To watch and do the character development and stage craft development is always interesting no matter the level of the player. I will admit that I cannot make a decent cup of coffee with the Green Room coffee maker. Oh well, we all have our talents... that ain't one of mine!

I see that the poster for the coming season is up. My opinion, for what it is worth, is that the whole season is one light comedy! Could it be possible that more balance be sought in future? Perhaps something gory for Halloween - "I'll Be Back Before Midnight" is a good thriller. A diet of pabulum can be very dull.

In other news... If anyone gets the chance to go to Stratford to see Paul Gross (of Due South fame) play Hamlet, do not pass it up. His portrayal is very good and I came away from the show with more understanding of the play and its dynamics. I had never thought of Hamlet as being jovial at times, but Mr. Gross made good sense of it.

As an "armchair director" I saw some things that I didn't like in this production, but then I always have a hard time just getting caught up in the action and letting it happen. Thus some minor detail sticks out like a sore thumb and I have to consciously ignore it to get back into the play. However, all in all, it was well worth the time. Besides, when you are that close to great wine country the double whammy of play and wine tour is excellent! "Hamlet" runs in Stratford until November. The wine tours? I'm not sure. Hope everyone is having a wonderful summer, and "Break a leg" to the cast of Sylvia!

~All the best,
Guy Buller

Chuckles

Don't quote me, but...

"It's a really hard thing to talk about acting. It's all energy and magic. It's like talking about a colour. You can't do it. You just have to look at it. You just have to feel it."

~ *Marisa Tomei*

"Do I subscribe to the Olivier school of acting? Ah, nuts, I'm an actor, I just do what comes naturally."

~ *Humphrey Bogart*

"My technique is to look up at God just before the cameras roll and say, 'Give me a break.'"

~ *James Caan*

"I started out as a lousy actress and have remained one."

~ *Brigitte Bardot*

"I don't know what else I could do but pretend to be an actor."

~ *Sir Alec Guinness*

"My acting range? Left eyebrow raised, right eyebrow raised."

~ *Roger Moore*

"Every time I start to do a picture, without fail, I feel as if I don't know what I'm doing."

~ *Tom Cruise*