

Announcements/Thank Yous

Thank you to all the 93+ cast and crew members who participated in the production of "The Snow Ball". This play was a challenge for me and without the co-operation and dedication of all involved, it could not have been the successful production it was.

~ Gwen Knight, Director

THE FERAL MAN, a feature film directed by KT's own Brett Kelly appears at the Ottawa Fringe Festival June 24th. For show times and info go to www.ottawafringe.com.

KT at Ottawa Little Theatre. Congratulations to several KT members who have been busy downtown in theatrical pursuits. The production "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" included in its cast not one but three KT members: John Collins (from Sylvia), Megan Prevost (from last summer's one acts), and Gordon Walls (from several). Also cast was Tom Blazejewicz who many members will know from working on "Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet". But that's not all! Barb Kobolak appeared OLT production "Amateurs" in May. It's not just a rumour that KT is a gold mine of talent and expertise!

Electric guitar player needed: GOYA Theatre "Thanks for the Music". This variety show featuring young local performers needs some young men to round out the cast, especially an electric guitar player. The show runs July 29-30-31 at CentrepoinTE Theatre. Contact Pat McAlpine, GOYA Theatre via <http://www.goyatheatre.com>.

FOUND: Woman's beige summer-weight blazer. It was left in the auditorium after the AGM on June 8th. It is now hanging in the cloak room by the stage doors. Contact anyone with theatre access to have the blazer returned.

Congratulations to KT member Paul Welch, who received a scholarship to study with Theatre Ontario at Brock University in St. Catharines this summer. The course is "Advanced Scene Study", a 1-week intensive course with Micheline Chevrier of GCTC fame. Well done, Paul!

Congratulations to KT member Mark Bazerman on his 14th MS Bike tour. Since the event's inception Mark has given generously of his time and athletic ability to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Please show Mark your congratulations and support this important cause by making a donation. Donations can be made by contacting Mark (phone or e-mail) or by using the secure online donation web page: <https://securems.mssociety.ca/bt/html/ensp.asp?t=32415>

Summer Members' Night

On July 26th at 8:00 p.m. Kanata Theatre will be holding a "members night" to showcase two plays written by Kanata Theatre members.

"Something Personal" is a play written by Paul Welch and "The Madness of Moose and Mosquitoes" is a fun play written by Helen Weeden. Both plays will be stage read by actors from K.T.

Please mark this date on your calendar and come out to support this event. There will a "Social Time" with light refreshments after the performances. If you'd like to jolly things along with something a little stronger then it's B.Y.O.B.

This event is FREE and is a good opportunity to bring "others" through our theatre doors - perhaps they just might stay and become a member. Please invite family members, friends and guests to come along and learn more about KT.

Any questions? Please call Helen Weeden 832-3787.

False Start!

Hello all aspiring technical crew of the KT community.

Unfortunately, the technical workshop scheduled for late June and July will not occur.

While I am not giving up on the idea of such a workshop, I realize now that more work and effort has to be put into it in order to make it something pleasant and meaningful.

I am hoping to coordinate efforts with the other members of KT to build a solid training experience which could be repeated as often as need be with minimum effort for the organizers. Provided that adequate opportunities to use the Playhouse are available for this workshop, we can do this when it is most accommodating for everyone.

I love teaching and I am looking forward to delivering this workshop. Until next time (for real!), have a good summer.

~ Rik Côté

Get Into Our Drawers!

KT members wishing to join the technical crew of *The Drawer Boy*, next seasons' first show, are welcome to contact Tracey Gardner at tracey.gardner@alcatel.com.

Join the team producing this important Canadian play - don't hide your talent in the back of the... well, you know.

Stay tuned to the summer edition of Greasepaint for more information.

The Drawer Boy Cast

After two intense nights of auditions, the cast for *The Drawer Boy* is as follows:

Morgan Alan Viau
 Angus Lino DiNardo
 Miles Marco Renna

Director Dorothy Gardner thanks all the extremely talented actors who took the time to come to the audition. All their preparatory work before the audition made casting extremely difficult but very satisfying. Thank you all.

~ Dorothy Gardner

Auditions: The Uninvited

Actually, you are all invited!

Run dates ----- Nov. 11-15 and 18-22, 2003

Genre ----- Ghost story

Set in ----- 1940's

Characters

Six women: one aged 18, two aged late 20's, two aged late fifties/sixties (one a housekeeper, one a busy-body neighbour)

Four men: aged late 20's - mid thirties, one in his fifties (a doctor), one in his sixties (a retired Colonel)

When ----- June 24th, 7:30 pm; call back June 26
 (If you'd like to audition but can't make those dates, call Bev at 832-3861)

Where ----- RMP Rehearsal Hall

For more details, call Director Bev Brooks 832-3861

Rock and Roll Cast Change

Adam Drodge, who was to play Donny Parker has been accepted to study at Sheridan in the fall. Congratulations Adam. The show has been recast as follows:

Donny Parker Thomas Franzky
 Screamin' John McGee Tom Kobolak
 Brent David Campbell
 Chink Karl Wagner
 Manny Carl Kearley
 Shirley Anne Crepault
 Music Director and Keyboardist Lorraine Gorman
 Stage Director Jim Holmes

The Production Managers are Sheryl Bell (sa.bell@bigfoot.com, 592-1239) and Michelle Badoo (592-3076). They would be interested in hearing from people interested in working on the show. The Stage Manager is Anne-Marie Davies.

Summer Playreadings

Editor's note: As reported in the May issue of Greasepaint, Summer Playreadings were going to be discontinued due to a perceived lack of interest among the membership. However, this decision has been revisited by the incoming Director of Plays, Jim Holmes. Please read on for details. Please also see the year-end report from the retiring Director of Plays, Wendy Wagner, on p. 5.

News of the death of this venerable Kanata Theatre institution was greatly exaggerated!

Summer playreadings were from the beginning a way for us to keep up contact during the summer, to preview some of the plays for the coming season free of the stress of auditions, to experience interesting plays, whether or not we might ever produce them, and generally to have a jolly time.

In recent years attendance at these events has fallen, and the board authorized me to discontinue them. But there is a clear continuing interest and I have decided upon an abbreviated version. There will be at least three summer readings:

July 16: Jon and Janet Isserlin
 39 Roselawn Court, Nepean
 727 0357
 issерlin@rogers.com
Comic Potential by Alan Ayckbourn

July 23: Jim and Mary Holmes
 54 Rutherford Way, Kanata
 592 1079
 holmeses@sympatico.ca
The Seagull by Anton Chekhov or
The Cripple of Inishmaan by Martin McDonagh

August 6: Jenny and Martin Haynes
 The Grange, Maple Lane RR#1, Dunrobin
 832 3023
 jenny.haynes@sympatico.ca
Over the River and Through the Woods by Joe di Pietro

All members are welcome. Parts will be assigned by the host. Please let the host know the day before if you will be attending. Modest refreshments are usually served.

If anyone else is interested in hosting a Wednesday evening playreading please contact me at 592-1079 or holmeses@sympatico.ca. Suggested dates are July 9 or 30 or a Wednesday in August other than the 6th. Please also suggest a play, preferably with lots of parts.

~ Jim Holmes - Director, Plays

Auditions: Aladdin!

Auditions for Aladdin, KT's 2003-4 Children's Holiday Play, will be held Sept. 22nd and 24th at 7:30 p.m., with call-backs Sept. 25th.

We will have more details about cast requirements at a later date. If you would like a script, please contact Helen Weeden at 832-3787.

At present we have no producer and would like to have one really soon so we can start planning for this performance with very lively singing and dancing. We'd also like to have set, lighting and costume design people on board very soon. Please consider joining us for what will be a fun, fun time.

Please read the following poem presented by Helen and Martin Weeden at the AGM held June 9th.

Aladdin and his Wonderful Magic Lamp

Together: Imagine!

Helen: A traditional tale of a magician, a young man, and a Princess.

Martin: This production about a lamp deserves nothing but excess!

Helen: With a simple set of shimmering fabric and lights.

Martin: Performed in December for children's delights.

Helen: KT will present an engaging story from the far East.

Martin: Please think about getting involved...

Helen: ... over the summer at least.

Martin: With wonderful dancing...

Helen: ... and jolly songs.

Martin: We'll need a musical director and a dance teacher to coach us along.

Helen: The music is easy, it's pre-recorded on CD.

Martin: But sound techies, still a very big need.

Helen: There's special effects for the appearance of genies

Martin: With magic carpet rides and changing of scenees???(seen-eze)

Helen: With lighting tricks to represent jewels.

Martin: Do we have electrical people who are handy with tools?

Helen: For 10 scenes the action flows from one lit spot to another.

Martin: Required: one stage manager and at least two ASM's to cover

Helen: A LARGE CAST, 20.

Martin: PLUS EXTRAS!!

Helen: Colorful Arabian costumes without fail

Martin: Some in mystical style along with a veil.

Helen: NO VALUE VILLAGE HERE!

Martin: We'll need shoes with turned up toes and a cumbersome turban.

Helen: Dressmakers will be excused if they get into bourbon!

Martin: We promise a rehearsal break-for a Christmas rest.

Helen: And you will all return at your very best?

Martin: But there is one thing we have to say.

Helen: Sorry, there will be a rehearsal on Boxing Day!

Martin: Right now we could use a producer.

Helen: We'll promise not to abuse her

Martin: Or him!

Helen: So come on and jump onto...

Together: ... Aladdin's wagon

Helen: Or carpet?

Martin: Are you the one who can design a marvelous dragon?

END

EODL 2004: Report

I attended the Eastern Ontario Drama League Annual General Meeting on June 7th in Cobourg. The Awards Chair, Lee Jourard, presented me with the Rupert Davies Award that is given to the hosting company for the Spring Play Festival. I presented it to the membership and to the Board of Directors. We will display this award in our foyer at the beginning of our 35th season in September.

I would like to mention that Brighton Barn Theatre is hosting the One-Act Play Festival on November 6, 7, and 8, 2003. Brighton Barn is a relatively new theatre company located in Brighton and they are very keen to show off their facility and hospitality to all EODL members. If you are interested in more information about the One-Act Play Festival you can give me a call (599-4476).

As for our preparations for the EODL Spring Play Festival in April 2004, I am pleased to report that I now have a complete committee. The accommodations chair, Amy Adams, has signed contracts with Holiday Inn Select West (Kanata) to provide accommodations, meeting and banquet space and Comfort Inn (Kanata) to provide accommodations to festival patrons and participants. The next committee meeting will be held on Monday June 30, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the rehearsal hall.

~ Wendy Wagner

Festival Chair, April 2004

Kanata Theatre's 35th Anniversary

Please mark
October 18th 2003
on your calendars!

On this date our fourth Celebration Ball will be held at Loch March to mark yet another five years in the passage of time!

At the Ball, dinner will be followed by dancing to live music by "The Mick Armitage Band".

Tickets are \$40 each, and can be obtained from Dorothy Beak or Wendy Wagner. They will be available during the run of *The Drawer Boy* in September.

This will be a wonderful get together for all our members far and near. You may of course bring a partner who is not a member. It should be an evening to enjoy - with no production worries! I hope to see a great turnout.

~ Dorothy Beak

Director of Plays: Year-end Report

I would like to thank the many committee members who have made my term so successful. You know who you are and your input is greatly appreciated.

Last year's committee helped choose the season we have so recently finished and next season's selections promise to be just as challenging and fun. All rights have been obtained and each director should now have their scripts in hand.

The KT script library has been fully updated and a complete new listing can be found in the sign-out book up in the costume room. I have also updated the Play Consideration List and purchased the necessary scripts for the new D. of P. to begin his term.

You may have read in the last Greasepaint that Summer Play Reading has been cancelled due to lack of participation for the past several years. The new Director can overturn this decision if KT's members are willing to continue participating by both hosting and attending these evenings.

I look forward to handing over the many boxes of "stuff" currently residing in different parts of my home and I thank you all for your support during the last two years.

~ Wendy Wagner

From the House Manager

As most of you know, Wendy Wagner came forward and volunteered to take over from me as House Manager. Wendy has had quite a bit of experience in this, as she acted in this capacity for a few shows. Please give her your full support in this important and time consuming role.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me over the years with Front of House. We started with the black and white theme when we opened the theatre with "*The Importance of Being Earnest*" and greeted the audience at curb-side, and at the front door.

Thanks to Eufon Williams, we added cloaks for those who worked "outside", and most recently, Russian hats, which Joan and I picked up in St. Petersburg last summer. The audiences really appreciate being greeted when they arrive, so let's keep up the good work. Wendy will be calling you, so I hope you can give her some time for Front of House. It's a great way to get involved in the theatre, and is lots of fun as well.

Hope to see you around the theatre in the fall, and I hope Wendy will let me help! Again, thanks for the fun years as House Manager.

~ Jim Ritchie

KT Handbook to be Published

As part of the 35th Anniversary Season beginning next September, I am publishing a Kanata Theatre Membership Handbook.

It will include a history of both the founding of the group and the design and construction of the play-house. The handbook will also contain job descriptions for the Board and for production personnel.

Everyone is encouraged to contact me with anecdotes, facts, "historical" photos or other items of interest that should be included in this handbook.

I look forward to hearing from the membership but the deadline for submission to the handbook is Monday June 30, 2003.

Wendy Wagner
599-4476 or wwagner@rogers.com

Membership and Training

It is with both regret and joy that I am passing the duties of Membership and Training along to Tom Kobolak. Over the past two years I (and Martin) have quite literally become aware of every member of Kanata Theatre. It has been a very time-consuming job and we are glad to let it go, but we did enjoy meeting all of you. I learned a lot about the running of K.T. by serving on the Board. Next time there is an opening, why not consider joining the Board?

Please, when you see me again say hello - I promise I won't "nag" you for money.

In future, all membership and training inquiries should be directed to Tom Kobolak at 591-1773, 5 Riding Way, Kanata, Ont K2M 1C3, E-mail tkobolak@magma.ca. You may also send inquiries to the theatre itself. As Bob Hope's theme goes "thanks for the memories".

~ Helen Weeden (with a GREAT deal of assistance from Martin)

KT Membership Dues

1 yr. individual \$10; 1 yr. family \$20; 1 yr. student \$5;
5 yr. individual \$40; 5 yr. family \$80.

For membership information, contact Tom Kobolak at 591-1773. Send cheques to 5 Riding Way, Kanata ON K2M 1C3; or drop it by the RMP, addressed "Attention: Membership and Training".

Theatretechies Unite!

<http://groups.msn.com/theatretechies>

Theatretechies is a new and quickly growing Internet discussion group for theatre. If you do anything backstage: make-up, lighting, sound design, set design and construction, stage management, costume design etc. – Come and check us out! All group members can exchange ideas with other group members, ask questions and post answers to those questions. All are welcome.

The list is managed and moderated by David Moes, Peterborough Theatre Guild dmoes@cogeco.ca

~ Submitted by Wendy Wagner

Report from the Director, Plays

My job is to recommend to the Board the plays Kanata Theatre will produce in its 2004-2005 Season and the directors of those plays. In a sense the Director, Plays is the artistic director of Kanata Theatre.

If you are interested in directing a play in the 2004-5 season please let me know as soon as possible. I need to know the slots in which you would be prepared to direct and your first choice or choices of plays, if any.

As well, I would be happy to hear from anyone with plays to suggest: contact me at 592-1079 or holmeses@sympatico.ca. If you previously suggested plays to Wendy, you don't need to send them again. I have her excellent records.

For the benefit of new and not so new members I thought it would be useful to outline the process. Some of this is a departure from the recent practice, but not from earlier Kanata Theatre tradition.

I will be assisted and advised by a committee of six only, consisting of Jenefer Haynes, Susan Monahan, Gwen Knight, Sandy Wynne, and two others who have been invited but have not yet been able to respond.

I will try to be result, rather than process, oriented. This season there was a fairly substantial drop in both subscriptions and individual ticket sales. Many reasons for this have been proposed, most with some validity, but I want to ensure that our choice of plays is not among those reasons. For that reason my personal bias is in favour of good plays with popular appeal, both for the audience and our members, and in favour of directors with demonstrated ability. That is not to say the plays will be unchallenging or that new directors will not be welcomed.

A few guidelines:

- I want to furnish meaningful acting opportunities with equitable age and gender distribution for at least 40 people during the Season, not including the Christmas production.
 - The absolute deadline for the announcement of the Season is determined by the need to prepare brochures tickets etc. in time for the fourth production, i.e. about January 31, 2004. I hope to make the announcement long before that.
- Subject to that, I propose no deadlines. In other words, suggestions can be made for plays or directors at any

time right up to the end of the process. BUT obviously a suggestion made at the last minute will need to have a lot going for it. AND I am not predicting when the process will end. Therefore it would be well to be early.

- We will address the composition of the Season and its directors at the very first meeting of the committee and at all subsequent meetings. When we have a Season to recommend to the Board, the process will end. That could be as early as September.
- The practice of progressively eliminating titles so as to achieve a diminishing list will not be followed. Theoretically the entire world of stage literature will be on the table at all times. We will decide what to include in the Season, not what to exclude from it.
- The process will be as transparent as we can make it. Information about the seasons under consideration, including the final recommendation or recommendations, will be made available to the membership from time to time. Members of the committee will be free to answer any inquiry about the process at any time. There will be no secrets.
- We may revive the old Kanata Theatre practice of having staged readings of excerpts from plays, especially those which are in unknown quantities. Sometimes staged readings will expose flaws or merits that are not obvious when the play is read privately.
- A word about ownership. A vast range of plays is available to the public through catalogues, listings, and performances. No one "owns" any of these plays, except in the copyright sense. Although people may become identified with plays they have expressed an interest in directing, no such claim is absolute. This committee will be free to assign any play to any director prepared to direct that play without regard to any such claim of ownership. The interest of Kanata Theatre in the quality of the Season is the only concern of the committee.
- A separate committee will advise in the selection of the Christmas production. The announcement of the Christmas play will be made at the same time as the Main Stage announcement.

~ Jim Holmes, Director of Plays

Chuckle: Theatrical Structure

Editor's note: This is another wry look at Theatre, from the website of Paul A. Skirzyk, an Equity Stage Manager in Winnipeg, Manitoba. More chuckles at <http://www.mts.net/~skirzyk/jokes.htm>.

Producer

Leaps tall buildings in a single bound.
Is more powerful than a locomotive.
Is faster than a speeding bullet.
Walks on water.
Gives policy to God.

Director

Leaps short buildings in a single bound.
Is more powerful than a switch engine.
Is just as fast as a speeding bullet.
Walks on water if the sea is calm.
Talks with God.

Playwright

Leaps short buildings with a running start.
Is almost as powerful as a switch engine.
Is faster than a speeding BB.
Swims well.
Is occasionally addressed by God.

Actor

Makes high marks on the wall when trying to leap buildings.
Is run over by locomotives.
Can sometimes handle a gun without inflicting self-injury.
Dog paddles.
Talks to animals.

Chorus Member

Falls over doorsteps when trying to enter buildings.
Says "Look at the choo-choo."
Wets himself with a water pistol.
Plays in mud puddles.
Mumbles to himself.

Stage Manager

Lifts buildings and walks under them.
Kicks locomotives off the track.
Catches speeding bullets in his teeth and eats them.
Freezes water with a single glance.
IS God.

