



GREASEPAINT

Volume 36 Issue 4, December 2005

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

President's Message

Happy Holiday Season. In the darkest time of the year I hope you see the lights. That's my sermon for the season.

Congratulations **Gwen**, actors and crew. *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* was a tremendous success. People were engaged in the experience. Many in the audience made personal connections. My favourite conversation was with some gorgeous young women at intermission where it's hard to hear.

She: "That's my aunt."

Me: "Yes. So many people relate to it"

She: "No, (referring to Sue Monaghan) that is my aunt!"

Well done guys!

December is frantic at the Playhouse. **Kanata Ballet** had its recital. **Linda Jamieson's** *The Nutcracker* was in for a week for 6 shows showcasing about 100 local dancers. *The Nutcracker* again included Kanata Theatre's **Jim Ritchie, Brooke Keneford, Jim Holmes** and **Mary Holmes**.

Director **Brooke Keneford**, stage manager **Dorothy Beak**, cast and crew are rehearsing *Noises Off*. During *The Nutcracker* they made use of Linda's dance studio on Edgewater as an alternate rehearsal space.

Director **Andrew Williams** and stage manager **Wendy Wagner** are finding corners for rehearsals for *The Dragonslayers*. There are two afternoon shows daily Dec 27, 28, and 29. Don't miss it! Extravaganza PLUS.

Favourite question- "What's the story about?"

Answer- "Slaying the dragon."

Philip Lawless

We were able to share our lovely lobby for the reception following the funeral at St Isadore's of Phil Lawless, who contributed so much to the artistic life of Kanata Theatre. Thank you **Jenny Haynes** for organizing it for us. As set designer or principal scenic artist Phil did about 40 sets for Kanata Theatre over a period of more than 30 years. He also designed for Ottawa Little Theatre, the Savoy Society and the Linda Jamieson Dance Company. We will miss him more than we can say.

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Coming Events

Dec. 27-29: *The Dragonslayers*, Book and Lyrics by Bruce Coville, Music by Angela Peterson, directed by Andrew Williams. Shows at 1:00 & 3:00 p.m., @ RMP. Volunteer for Front of House: Betty Francis, 592-2147 or email frantobe@magma.ca - see p.2

Friday, January 6, 2006, 3:00 p.m.: Deadline for submissions to the January issue of Greasepaint - Email to Amy Adams, editor, at dc.adams@sympatico.ca. All Production Managers: please forward your production updates!

Jan. 31 - Feb. 11 2006: *Noises Off*, by Michael Frayn, directed by Brooke Keneford. 8 p.m. @ RMP. Check Production Updates, p. 3, to volunteer backstage. Volunteer for Front of House: Julie Clayton, 836-4980, jfclayton@sympatico.ca.

Feb. 13-14, 2006: Auditions, *Staff Room* by Joan Burrows, directed by Jim Holmes. 7:30 p.m. @ RMP Rehearsal Room. Callbacks Feb. 15; rehearsals begin Feb. 16. Contact Director Jim Holmes for scripts - 592 1079; Check Production Updates, p3, to volunteer backstage.

HEY KT! Your place on the Web is www.kanatatheatre.com

Announcements/Thanks-Yous

Kanata Theatre has lost a bright star. Philip Lawless, gifted artist and designer, whose brilliant work contributed so much to the artistic life of Kanata Theatre, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 6. A memorial service was held on Friday, Dec. 9 at St. Isadore's Church and a reception was held in the foyer of the RMP afterward, as his magnificent set for the Christmas Nutcracker production stood on the stage. Please see tributes, p. 4

Happy news: Susan Phillips and Gerry Thompson are proud to announce the arrival of Betty Emily Escher, their first grandchild. Born November 30th at 7:25pm weighing 7lbs-12oz, ecstatic parents Lorraine and Rick Escher agree she is already a star and she hasn't even been on stage yet.

And more! Eric and Janet Schmidt are pleased to announce the arrival of daughter Maya on Tuesday Dec. 13 at 7:30. Maya weighed in at 6 lbs 14 ozs, and Mama and Maya are both doing well.

A very special thank you to all of you who participated in our recent production of "The Beauty Queen of Leenane". Your support was much appreciated.

~ Gwen Knight, Director, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*

Lost

- One of the magnificent aprons from the servery. Did you forget and wear it home? Sneak it back in please.
- Keys to the pantry in the servery. Sneak those back to the drawer, please.

Found

- One leather jacket – hanging in the stage door cloakroom for months.
- One green fleece jacket left at the Holmes' from some party - now at the Stage Door cloakroom.

From the House Manager

I want to thank Dewi & Eufon Williams who so capably handled Front of House for the run of "The Beauty Queen of Leenane".

Betty Francis will appreciate your assistance at FOH for "The Dragonslayers" on Dec 27-29, and Julie Clayton will be looking for help as she lines up her crew for "Noises Off" Jan 31-Feb 11. Front of House provides a great opportunity for new members to get involved with Kanata Theatre.

A Merry Christmas to all,
~ Jim Ritchie

Predisent's Message, continued from page 1

Board News

Kareen Lively and **Andrew Williams** will launch an exciting new program for children's drama at KT in 2006.

January will see cupboards, cabinets, a stove, a double sink and a dishwasher installed in the alcove in the Rehearsal Room to make it easier to host happy hours and such. And yes, the counter will be raised to counter height to save the backs of the people stuck with the washing up.

Best Wishes for Happy Holidays

~ Mary

FOH: Dragonslayers

- Front of House staff needed for the children's play *The Dragonslayers* on December 27, 28 and 29.
- The performances are 1:00pm and 3:30pm on all 3 days.
- 8 people are needed for each performance, and it would be very helpful if volunteers could commit to both performances on any given day.
- Volunteers are requested to be at the RMP by noon.
- Please contact Betty Francis either by phone 592-2147 or email frantobe@magma.ca

Auditions: Staff Room

Location Rehearsal Room, RMP

Dates..... Monday February 13 and Tuesday February 14, 7.30 pm.

Callbacks.... Wednesday February 15; rehearsals begin Thursday February 16.

Kanata Theatre will be giving Staff Room, by Joan Burrows, its second ever production. The first was chosen as Best Production at the 2004 Theatre Ontario Festival. Staff Room consists of 15 very loosely connected vignettes, most of them comic, whose only real common thread is location, a secondary school staff room that could be anywhere in Ontario, even Kanata. The action unfolds over the space of roughly one term. There are 55 characters varying in age from mid teens to immediate pre retirement age. In our production they will be played by:

- Four teenagers, two of each sex, and
- Eight adults, four of each sex, who should appear to be in their mid twenties to mid sixties.

The challenge will be to differentiate the characters. It should be a lot of fun. If you plan to audition please let me know. Scripts are available for loan.

Rebecca Shields is the Production Manager. If you would like to help with the production please give her a call.

~ Jim Holmes, Director - 592 1079

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***Enchanted April*, Mar. 28 - Apr. 8**

Director	Bev Brooks
Production Manager	Michele Baddoo, 271-7169, michelema44@hotmail.com
Stage Manager	Betty Francis
Ass't Stage Managers	Carol Hussey, Beth McLaughlin
Scene Art	Adell Hay
Set Design/Construction	Bill Williams
Set Decor/Dressing	needed
Set Painting	Lucille Lacelle
Costumes	Elizabeth Davidson, Melissa Boyd
Sound	Rob Fairbairn, Rob Mitchell
Lighting	Bob Carey, Calie McPhee
Properties	Julie Clayton, Halia Osadca, Nancy Cormier
Furnishings	needed
Continuity	Halia Osadca
Make-up	Chrissy Hollands
Hair stylist	Carol Walkey
Green Room	needed

Staff Room, May 23 - June 3

Director Jim Holmes
Production Manager: Rebecca Shields, 591-1997,
rshields1234@rogers.com
Stage Manager Anne-Marie Davies
Ass't Stage Managers Michelle Baddoo, Sheryl Bell
Set Design Jim Fritz
Set Construction Tony Francis, Bill Williams

All other positions open.

Audition Call - Lakeside Players

*Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii...*and from there ensues a frantic, fast-paced descent into mayhem. And when all the identities are finally sorted out...well, I guess you'll have to see how it all works out, or maybe even read about in an upcoming Harlequin romance novel!

The Lakeside Players will be staging Allan Stratton's hilarious play from May 4 to 7 2006, directed by Kanata's own Alain Chamsi. Auditions will be held at the Ron Kolbus Centre (in Britannia Park) on January 24 and 26 at 7:00 PM with call-backs if required on January 31. We are looking for energetic, physical actors: 4 women and 3 men, age range from 18 to 50.

If you would like further information, please contact Alain at 728-0917 or at alainchamsi@netscape.net.

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 Gerry Thompson at 599 8638 or at GreasePaint@rogers.com. Send cheques to 6 Leacock Drive, Kanata ON K2K 1R8; or drop it by the RMP, addressed "Attention: Membership and Training".

Phil Lawless

~ by Jim Holmes

Phil Lawless died December 6, 2005.

Phil's death leaves a huge void in Kanata Theatre. The scope of his contribution is suggested by his production credits.

He was the primary set designer for:

Ring Round the Moon 1972
The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker 1973
My Three Angels 1973
The Importance of Being Earnest I 1974
The Tunnel of Love 1974
Dandy Dick 1979
The Philadelphia Story 1981
Round and Round the Garden 1982
Deathtrap 1983
Twelfth Night 1984
Living Together 1985
A Bequest to the Nation 1986
Fools 1992
The Importance of Being Earnest II 1996
Alone Together 1998

Phil's artistry played a huge part in the success of many sets of which he was not the primary designer. Some of these are:

After Magritte
The Real Inspector Hound
Move Over Mrs. Markham
Angel Street
Romantic Comedy
Habeas Corpus
Charley's Aunt
She Stoops to Conquer
The Importance of Being Earnest II
The Cemetery Club
The Miss Firecracker Contest

Phil was half of a formidable design team we used to refer to as "the Philips", the other member of which was his friend and brother-in-law, Philip Copple. He even ventured onstage in two productions in the 1980's, *The White Liars* and *Living Together*.

In the last ten years Phil designed and built the brilliant sets for The Linda Jamieson Dance Company's produc-

tions in the Ron Maslin Playhouse of *The Nutcracker* and *Giselle*. In recognition of his contribution the tenth anniversary production of *The Nutcracker*, just ended, was dedicated to him. The program inscription reads as follows:

"Dear Phil:

Thank you for sharing my vision of *The Nutcracker* set design; for giving it life; for creating a masterpiece which has become a much loved community treasure; for the endless hours you have spent maintaining, renewing and keeping vigil over it. I am eternally grateful.

Linda"

In his memory there has been established the Phil Lawless Memorial Ballet Scholarship, worth \$5000 to be awarded annually to a ballet student who wishes to train for and participate in one of the Royal Academy of Dance International Awards.

Everyone who worked with Phil will feel a profound sense of emptiness at the loss of his uniquely creative spirit.

The Importance of Being Phil...

I will always remember Phil when we I had the pleasure of working with him on *The Importance of Being Earnest*. He designed the set and had Algernon's flat all in woodgrain panelling, with picture rails, chair rails, wainscoting, etc. etc. He assumed he could buy all that trim (extremely expensive stuff), and because KT had just moved into their brand new home and were watching their pennies, they said "definitely not".

I believe it was Earl McLaughlin who told Phil he knew someone who could paint it ALL - and we did it, with the help of several others like Jane Maslin, Margrit Cattell, and even Director Sally, who all said they didn't know how to paint panelling!

Phil painted the beautiful garden backdrop, and even asked little old me to "critique" it. That's what happens when a person has confidence in what they are doing - they do things to make other people confident as well. I think that started a trend, which led to my little stint on stage for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Thank you, Phil - we will miss you. When I see a beautiful sunset I will think that you may have had a hand in painting it!

~ Dorothy Shaw