



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

66th Season. No. 1

September 2014

Executive 2014-15

President: Bronwyn Taylor
Past President: Rosalind Coleman
Vice President: Merry Hallson
Secretary: Susan Nicholl
Treasurer: Mike Chadwick
Members at Large:
..... Julie Gray
..... Jane Guy
..... Paul Hawkes-Frost
..... Janine Longy
..... Beverly van Druten-Blais

St Luke's Players'
Newsletter is published quarterly

Editor: Jane Guy

Direct inquiries or correspondence
for the Newsletter to the Editor

E-mail: jane-guy@shaw.ca

Memberships & Season Tickets

Bronwyn Taylor
Susan Nicholl

Website

Beverly van Druten-Blais

For information about
St. Luke's Players go to:
www.stlukesplayers.org

President's Message

Bronwyn Taylor

Dear Members:

Welcome to St. Luke's Players' 66th season. We are excited to be presenting *Steel Magnolias* in the fall (it is different from the movie, so don't think "I've seen it already").

To those who have renewed or become members and/or season ticket holders for the 2014-15 season, thank you! For those who haven't renewed their membership, please consider doing so for the princely sum of \$5.00 per year, as this is the last newsletter you will receive until you do. Newsletters include information on upcoming events, auditions, what members are involved with outside SLP, an invitation to our Annual General Meeting cum BBQ party, photos of casts and crews in action, and more. Season Ticket Holders receive a reduction of \$2.50 per show on our already very reasonable rates and the privilege of reserved seats in the first few rows - the sooner you apply, the closer to the front are your seats. Currently we have 250 season ticket holders and 98 paid-up members.

Enough of the commercials, but before I introduce myself as your new president, I must thank out-going President **Rosalind Coleman** and Vice-President **Dave Hitchcock** for their many years of service to the Board. Rosalind will continue as past president, and Dave's whistling will continue to fill the air at set construction sessions. Also, many thanks to **Max Terpstra** for the time he spent as our Webmaster and to out-going

Board member **Kathy Macovichuk** for her leadership on the Play Reading Committee and expertise with all things graphic. Both have offered to continue to support SLP on the technical side. **Elaine Lewis** is also leaving the Board, but has not gone. She is prompter and part of the stage crew for *Steel Magnolias*, and will mentor the person who takes over the purchasing scripts and royalties.

I have been involved with SLP for 7 years, so have a living memory of things we have tried and found (not) to work recently, as well as a vision for where we want to go in the future.

My main contributions have been, in no particular order: stage manager, producer, Season Tickets & Membership manager, Treasurer, Front of House Manager, and a substitute actor for 2 nights, 2 lines in 2 scenes - I much prefer to be a worker bee!

The past couple of years have seen many changes, improvements, and initiatives with St. Luke's Players that are on-going, so my goal as your new president is to complete the current initiatives (e.g. new chairs if we can find comfortable ones, a tech booth at the back of the hall, expand storage space on site for SLP, improve sound-proofing) over the next couple of years before taking on anything new. These are major cost items, so your Executive will need to look carefully and realistically at the resources available in any one year to allow for such capital expenditures.

Bronwyn Taylor

Steel Magnolias

by Robert Harling / Directed by Don Keith

Our opening play of the 2014-15 season experienced many challenges. **Michael King** began production by holding auditions and he chose an amazing cast of women. We started play readings as producers **Bronwyn Taylor** and **Tara Williamson** brought the crew together. Right from the very start, it was evident that the play would be a winner. **Laura Brougham** was stage manager and came to each rehearsal with a toolbox ready for any occasion, not to mention jujubes. Michael began to connect the blocking puzzle pieces. We were off to a grand beginning.

Then came the challenges. Our lovely Laura, stage manager, got a job in London as an au pair girl. The actor playing Annelle had to leave because of a family illness. However, the greatest challenge was to replace Michael King who was unable to return after major surgery. Everyone pulled together. The show must go on and, yes it has, in spades.

Don Keith, who has directed with St. Luke's Players before, whooshed in to continue Michael's magic. **Dianne Currie** is the new Annelle; we have a new stage manager, **Euphemia MacMurchy** and assistant stage manager **Victoria Simpson**. Now with about 6 weeks until opening we are confident the play will be a hit. As my mother often said, "It will all come out in the wash" and it is sparkling!

Janine Longy
Assistant to the Director

VOLUNTEERS NEED

We are always looking for Front of House & Concession volunteers for our performances. If you are available for shifts during the run of *Steel Magnolias* or the Panto, please contact Monike at monikeh65@gmail.com



Elizabeth Brimacombe (Truvy)
and Brittany Raper (Shelby)



Ann Harris, Janine Longy, Victoria Simpson, Don Keith, Dianne Currie, Elizabeth Brimacombe, Pati-Ann Lawe, Euphemia MacMurchy, Hillary Allan, Sandy Weinmeyer, Brittany Raper

Did you know?

Steel Magnolias was written by Robert Harling, an aspiring actor, after his younger sister Susan died from diabetes in 1985. As her best friend and closest sibling, Harling found it difficult to cope with her death so his friends advised him to write about his feelings as a coping method. His writing began as a short story and evolved into the full-length play *Steel Magnolias*, that tells the story of six very special friends bonded together by mutual triumphs and tragedies. Sharing each other's strength and loyalty, these remarkable women survive the cycles of life, birth and death to emerge stronger, closer and still laughing. The play takes place in Truvy's beauty salon in the fictional town of Chinquapin, Louisiana where the six indomitable Southern women share their personal triumphs, tragedies, beauty tips, recipes, and more than the occasional piece of scandalous gossip.

Evenings: Oct 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 & 18 at 7:30 pm Matinees: Oct 11, 12, 18 & 19 at 2 pm

SNOW WHITE

AND THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN DWARFS

a panto

by Damian Trasler, David Lovesy & Steve Clark

Directed by Allan Haynes

SYNOPSIS

Take a trip to the Wild West in this innovative reworking of the classic fairy tale! Snow White, heiress to the "Happy Ever After Cattle Ranch", is the fairest girl in the prairie - but her wicked and jealous stepmother, Widow Blackheart, plots to separate her from her fortune. Can Snow White survive her treacherous schemes and win the hand of Sheriff Vince Charming? A band of seven brave miners, her lifelong friend, Nanny Oakley, a pantomime horse and a brainless idiot, Silly Billy the Kid, are there to help!

AUDITIONS were held Sep 5, 6 & 12

Rehearsals will get underway as soon as the casting is completed.

WE STILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:

Props Manager/collector
Scenic Artist
Sound Operator
Lighting Operator
Follow-spot Operator
Stage Crew

If you are interested please contact the Producers

Mike Chadwick at: mikechadwick99@yahoo.com

Bronwyn Taylor at: taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca

Winners of tickets to Langham's *The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs* are:

**Louise Blair
Graham Thomson**

Our Members Around Town

Geoffrey Davidson is directing, and **Chris Harris** and **Vanessa Bloomfield** are acting in, the Shakespeare by the Sea production of *Comedy of Errors*.

Rosalind Coleman and **Caroline Mackenzie de Korte** are acting in *Pride & Prejudice* at Langham in October; **Merry Hallsor** is costume designer/coordinator and **Monike Hawkes-Frost** is helping with costumes; **Anne Swannell** is painting and making some props.

Perry Burton and **Kathy Macovichuk** wooed the Langham audiences this summer in *Boeing, Boeing*; **Jean de Cartier**, **Ann Harris** and **Anne Swannell** worked their magic on set; **Leigh Robinson** was ASM; **Carole-Anne Moore** did Lighting; and **Monike-Hawkes-Frost** did costumes.

Geli Bartlett appeared in *Antigone* at Theatre Inconnu.

Jo Barnes was in *Anne of Green Gables* at Four Seasons Musical Theatre.

Mitch Barnes appeared in a Fringe show, *Red Herring*.

Geoffrey Davidson is directing and **Rosalind Coleman** is acting in *The Mousetrap* for Peninsula Players in the Fall.

Our wonderful **Leigh Robinson** has moved to Nanaimo to take theatre courses at the University of Vancouver Island; she will be missed but we wish her well.

Elizabeth Brimacombe performed at the *In-Jest Festival of Clown and Play* in Vancouver.

Did we miss you?

Please contact Jane Guy at jane-guy@shaw.ca to update us on news of members around town.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Memberships expired on June 30, 2014. Many thanks to those members who have renewed their membership. If you still wish to renew your membership, please complete the attached form and mail it to St Luke's Players along with the very reasonable \$5.⁰⁰ annual membership fee and a self-addressed stamped envelope so your membership card may be mailed to you.

This is the last newsletter that will be sent to non-members.

Evenings: Dec 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, Jan 2 at 7:30 pm **Matinees:** Dec 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, Jan 1, 3 at 2 pm

Did you ever wonder what happens to exciting props created for our productions? Below is an excerpt from an article posted on the Shatford Centre website (a community theatre in Penticton).

Cake Walk play comes to the Shatford in May 2015!

Ann Harris and Leslie Manion with the cakes on the day of delivery. Leslie had the original idea to bring this play to Penticton and is a friend of Colleen Curran, the playwright who wrote it. It is a great bonus to have Ann's cakes already made for this production. Special thanks to Ann!

Ann Harris arrived with a collection of 'cakes', which she created for the 'Cake Walk' play that was produced in Victoria in 2013 with the St Luke Players, a group that is 66 years old.

Ann was brought up in Penticton and many will remember her family home on the Naramata Road across from the Township 7 Winery. Her home is one of the most historic in this region.

The cakes are not edible, they are creations made with styrofoam blocks and shapes, cheese cloth, light glue, wall board paste and many more inedible accoutrements.

In Victoria, Ann worked on the set and also in props. She is an amazing woman who passionately tells her story of this play and how much she loved being involved.

She has since sent photos and a write up that we will post in the next few months as we lead up to this 1st play at the Shatford Centre with our collective players that come together. We have an exciting team developing. The play will take place on the last weekend in May 2015. Colleen Curran, the playwright, will be here for this production.



The cakes were delivered and now are stored in the basement of the Shatford!

St. Luke's Church Fantastic Family Fun Day September 13, 2014



Thanks to Merry Hallsor, Jenny Raine, Janine Longy, Elaine Lewis, Beverly van Druten-Blais, Allan Haynes, Virginia Landucci, Gordon Griffiths, Bronwyn Taylor, Elizabeth Brimacombe and Lyn Oldale.



ARE YOU MISSING A GREY CARDIGAN?

**A pale grey, cotton
open-front cardigan
similar to this was
left at Jane Guy's
house after the
AGM/BBQ.**

**Please call Jane at
250 472 1746
if this is yours.**

Refer to St. Luke's Players' website for more information on upcoming plays and to look at photos of your favourite productions from the past.

www.stlukesplayers.org