



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

NEWS

APRIL 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2022-23 EXECUTIVE

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& Season Tickets

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www.stlukesplayers.org

www.facebook.com/stlukesplayers.com



The Game's Afoot was a resounding success, and rehearsals are underway for the final production of our season beginning May 24. *Firehoses and Family* is a Dramedy written by members Jo and Mitch Barnes.

It explores love and relationships—seriously and with humour. Tickets are \$18, available through Eventbrite or at the door.

On April 15 we had a reading of Tony Hubner's panto script, *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, attended by 9 of our members. It was a no pressure situation where we read around the table. It was fun, and who knows, we may get new auditionees for our next panto and possibly a new script for future consideration.

We will announce our 2023-24 season soon—brochures to apply for season tickets will be available on-line, at performances of our May-June and October shows, at locations around town, and in the St. Luke's Church lobby to the end of the run of the October show. If you prefer to apply on-line:

Season Ticket Order Form

Subscribing guarantees you preferred seating, savings off buying individual tickets for single shows, and the advantage of pre-ordering tickets to our sold-out Panto performances should you choose the 4-show option. The sooner you subscribe, the closer to the front your seats will be, if that is what you want.

The winners of 2 Tickets from *The Game's Afoot* 'How did you hear of us survey?' and 'Solve the Mystery quiz' for weeks 1 & 2 are: T. Heinonen, Gordon Porritt, Debbie Pulak and Mary Tinney. Congratulations, and thank you for taking the time to fill in the survey and play our game.

As always, we are looking for new and younger volunteers to help with all aspects of our productions. **The Production Guide** on our website under the 'Get Involved' tab will give you an idea of the myriad ways to get involved with SLPCT.

Some examples that come to mind are set building and painting crews, lighting and sound designers and operators, Front of House/Concession managers and volunteers, costumers and props coordinators, to name a few.

We have people experienced in all areas to mentor new volunteers who may not have a lot of experience, but are enthusiastic and willing to learn.

Young retirees are ideal as most of our set-involved work times are during the day, but we do have Sunday afternoons for those still working. The same goes for many of our volunteer crew positions such as Concession/Front of House who are needed an hour before the matinees and evening shows. Without these people our shows would not go on, so please consider how you might get involved to ensure SLPCT can continue to provide quality experiences to our loyal and new followers.

Our Annual General Meeting will happen in July, so to be eligible to vote, make sure your membership is up to date. Memberships expire June 30th of each year. Newer members must have been signed up at least 90 days prior to the AGM to be eligible to vote, which means no later than the end of March. This is also your chance to consider running for a Member-at-Large position on our Executive Committee. ♥

~ Respectfully submitted,
Bronwyn Taylor
taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca



Penny Pitcher is a member of the Victoria Target Theatre Society. Our mandate is to provide

a voice for older people, their families, and their caregivers. This we do through theatre, theatre that entertains and informs. Our repertoire includes plays dealing with health, safety, and quality of life. Some specific topics include stereotyping of seniors, Alzheimer's disease, driving, hearing loss, and, most recently, scams. We have several performances lined up in the next couple of months. Exciting. ♥

Fisherman's Wharf in calm by Penny Pitcher

THE OAK BAY TEA PARTY PARADE

is an Oak Bay tradition. Beginning on **Sat, June 3 at 10:30 a.m. at Windsor Park**, the parade winds through the streets of Oak Bay, ending at Willows Park about 45 minutes later.

SLPCT usually has a fun-loving group dress up and circulate around along the parade route. We wave and greet the onlookers while identifying ourselves as St. Luke's Players Community Theatre and handing out brochures and the supplied treats. **Contact us if you'd like to come out and play!**

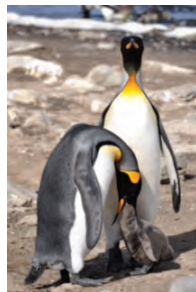


The 2022 Tea Party Troupe

MEMBERS DOIN' NEAT STUFF



I am currently on a 32 day South American cruise as far as Cape Horn and the most fascinating and exciting event was to view from up close three different kinds of penguins in their natural habitat. The photos here show the beauty of these penguins and so different and mesmerizing than in a photo or TV. If St. Luke's decide to produce a play in which penguins are cast, I believe I can master the walk. ♥



~ Gloria Mossman



Just finished a grand time working backstage at SLPCT's production of *The Game's Afoot*. Focusing on stage production of *Murder on the Orient Express* with Peninsula Players to perform in mid May. Spring is wonderful.

Take care. ♥ ~ Bill Tolson



Merry Hallsor and Wendy Henderson are once again working at BEMA for a July production of *Absinth, Bourbon, Vodka & Sake* by Caroline Russell-King. Merry will do set decor, Wendy costumes and they



will share the finding of props. If you're interested in helping with props, contact them. Both are willing to mentor someone new to the job! ♥

Welcome THE new KID ON THE BLOCK!



Susan Leslie is a retired lawyer who, during her working years, was involved with Lawyers On Stage Theatre (“LOST”), originally a fundraiser for Kaleidoscope Theatre. She played a number of roles for the annual LOST fundraiser including stage manager and co-producer and also sat on Kaleidoscope Theatre’s board for 5 years. Kaleidoscope Theatre eventually discontinued LOST and,

almost a decade after that, a few lawyers got together and restarted it, this time incorporating it and running it themselves. Susan was a founding member and was on the board for five years. She loves to read plays and, at the time she left LOST, had found two of their four successful productions.

During the most recent LOST years, Susan met the wonderfully talented Merry Hallsor who became a friend and mentor. Merry encouraged Susan to come have fun at St. Luke’s Players Community Theatre and she has! Merry showed her the ropes with set decoration on “*The Curious Savage*” and Susan also helped the lovely Jean de Cartier with props for the panto, “*Robin Hood*”. Susan is currently a volunteer on the Play Selection Committee and has enjoyed working with a great team—Rob Rubin, Mike Chadwick and Carmen Morgan—in selecting the next season (or two). In fact, Merry and Susan will be applying to be co-directors for “*The Outsider*”, a funny and topical play Susan found several years ago that she will be very excited to see on the SLPCT stage. Susan is grateful to have met so many wonderful people at SLPCT and looks forward to a lot more fun with this wonderful theatre company. ♥ ~ Susan Leslie

In every partnership there is a person who stacks the dishwasher like a Scandinavian architect, and a person who stacks the dishwasher like a raccoon on meth.

A termite walks into a bar and asks, “Is the bar tender here?”

Need an ark?
I know a guy.

Imperfect action is better than perfect inertia.



Here are some photos from the Church’s Fantastic Friday in February, when Gord Alexander, Martin White and Dave Hitchcock (from the SLPCT Set Building crew) helped in the woodworking section!





FIREHOSES & FAMILY

Written by
Mitch & Jo Barnes

Directed by
Geli Bartlett &
Mitch Barnes

Weddings, family, relationships

The story's themes are universal.

But the story behind the story is very much local.

Firehoses and Family, written by long-time members of St. Luke's Players Community Theatre, Mitch and Jo Barnes, is the third part of a trilogy of plays about the characters of Bobbi and Phil Stanton which have appeared on island stages over the last 16 years.

In the first play, *Silver Linings*, the couple are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. Calamity happens when Phil plans a big surprise party and Bobbi privately plans an intimate night for two. *Silver Linings* was first presented to the Peninsula Players for both entertainment and feedback and subsequently performed at the Vancouver Island One Act Play Festival in 2007 and reprised as part of the evening entertainment for the 60th Celebration of St. Luke's Players Community Theatre in 2009.

The second play, *Don't Touch the Clouds* takes place five years later in the couple's life when their two sons have finally moved out. When Phil eagerly anticipates the opportunities this affords and Bobbi is dealing with empty nest grief, communication breaks down and the relationship is tested. This production was performed and well received at the 2019 Vancouver Island One-Act Play Festival.

This brings us to *Firehoses and Family*. More years have passed, and Bobbi and Phil's adult children are now dealing with their own relationships. There's a wedding in the picture and new family members to meet. As well as watching new characters, the audience gets the chance to see Bobbi's sister Jo, best friend Maxine, and sons Cole and Luke, all characters who were only alluded to in previous plays. *Firehoses and Family* was initially a one act play which was presented in a Reader's Theatre format several years ago. With the advent of Covid, it was remounted as an online performance. These shows and the feedback received, as well as the playwrights' own interest in presenting the characters more

in depth, gave birth to the full length play now presented at SLPCT in 2023.

Firehoses and Family has a cast of 11 characters spanning a wide range of ages. It is a local piece of theatre which the playwrights are honoured to premier on the SLPCT's stage. The story is a mix of humour and the heartfelt, of chaos and clarity, and at its heart, the meaning of family. ♥

Performance dates:
May 24-June 4

For Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/firehoses-and-family-tickets-405700018677>

VICTORIA PRIDE



VICTORIA PRIDE 2023



Photos by KZP & Chelsea Parkinson

DRAG BALL
SATURDAY, JULY 1
Noon - 3pm Vic West Park

BIG GAY DOG WALK
THURSDAY, JULY 6
4:30pm - 8pm Clover Point Park

PRIDE IN THE WORD
SATURDAY, JULY 8
8pm - 11pm Lecture Theatre at VCC

PARADE
SUNDAY, JULY 9
11am Start Douglas & Fisgard

FESTIVAL IN THE PARK
SUNDAY, JULY 9
1pm MacDonald Park

SLPCT AGM

Sun, July 16 • 3pm
at 2444 Camelot

Come on out to an event you don't want to miss. Located in Floyd and Janine's beautiful back garden we sit amongst the flora, sip on cold drinks and chow down on Pot Luck delicacies. We'll have a quick meeting, elect our board of directors, then relax some more and get to know each other better.

Be THERE OR BE RECTANGULAR!



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

Presents



walk the walk
talk the talk
take your place
fill your space

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
June 12th to 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Six intensive theatre acting classes for beginners and the more experienced. Includes stage layout, acting and vocal techniques, the 'world' of the play, finding your character and projecting a stage presence.

6 classes for \$30 (+\$5 for SLPCT Membership)

For info & registration contact stephenlewis@shaw.ca

The instructor: Stephen Lewis has a B.A. and M.A. in Theatre and two professional associateships. Over 25 years he's had several supervisory/training positions. He was also a teaching assistant under the supervision of a professor in the UVic Theatre Department.

Stephen's prime teaching principle (especially true for acting), is to facilitate understanding so that the student actively participates in the learning process.

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON!

April 18 – May 14

Belfry's production of *Old Stock: A Refugee Love Story* (www.belfry.bc.ca/old-stock-a-refugee-love-story/)

April 21 – May 14

Blue Bridge's production of *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* (<https://bluebridgetheatre.ca>)

April 25 – May 7

Intrepid Theatre's Incoming Festival featuring world premieres, BC premieres, and Victoria premieres (www.intrepidtheatre.com)

May 3 – 20

Theatre Inconnu's production of *Witch* (www.theatreinconnu.com)

May 10–28

Langham Court Theatre's production of Ken Ludwig's *Moon Over Buffalo* (www.langhamtheatre.ca/moon-over-buffalo-tickets-now-on-sale/)

May 18 – May 21

Peninsula Players' production of Ken Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* (www.thepeninsulaplayers.ca/current-productions)

May 24 – June 4

St. Luke's Players' production of *Firehoses & Family* (www.stlukesplayers.org/04-FirehosesandFamily.html)

June 12 – 23

SLPCT Acting Classes
(See the ad on the left.)

Sunday, July 16

SLPCT AGM 3:00pm @ Janine's
All members requested to attend this fun event with elections, socializing with good people, potluck food and drink.

July 21 7pm & 22 2pm

SLPCT Auditions for
Prescription for Murder



FERNFEST is an annual neighbourhood celebration of local music and arts run by Fernwood NRG—a charitable organization.

FERNFEST brings two days of live music, performances, food and beverage, artisan market, kid's activities, art projects, magic, online auction, walking tours, surprises and so much more to Fernwood Square and beyond.

This **JUNE 16 & 17, 2023**, everyone is invited to this free event with activities for all ages celebrating the vibrant culture of Fernwood.

SLPCT has donated a Season's Ticket to their online auction.