



BOX 94

NEWSLETTER OF SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

Sault Theatre Workshop

Community Theatre since 1948
PO Box 94 Sault Ste. Marie On. P6A 5L2

Studio Theatre 121 Pittsburgh Ave. Sault Ste. Marie On. P6C 5A9

Member of:



Our Young Company is
STAGE 1
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The Marquis



Volume 66
Issue # 1
Sept/Oct
2014

Hope Op Gala
will open our 66th
Season

Brochure Finally In The Mail

Season 66 Lineup Boasts Three Out Of Four Canadian Plays.

Early August is the normal launch time for our brochure and new season announcements but it took a bit longer this year. We've planned a Gala Opening Party complete with wine, hors d'oeuvres and a meet & greet the author for **Hope Op**, our opening play by our good friend from

North Bay, **Kristen Shepherd**. More on this delightful comedy later.

Norm Foster, our beloved playwright is back with **Bob's Your Elf** in the December slot directed by **Chris Horsepool**. **Snapshots** by **Cynthia Mercati** and directed by **Randi Mraud** is our QUONTA Festival entry this year. Sometimes funny and sometimes chilling, **Snapshots** is our only non-Canadian play this year (with the possible exception of our One Act Festival entries.

Lee Ann Pearson will direct our April production of **Missing** by **Florence Gibson MacDonald**. This is a tense drama about identity. **Missing** was the winner of the **Herman Voaden Award**, a national playwriting competition. Rounding out our season, we are pleased that the highly respected **Richard Howard** has once again agreed to be our adjudicator/workshop leader for our **One Act Festival Workshop** in June. Call us if you don't get your brochure, or if you need a couple of extras for your friends or workplace.

A tight year with lots of extra expenses has caused us to adjust our prices a little. Tickets

at the door have gone up, slightly, but there's no increase if you buy in advance. We have also made it easier to buy your tickets online with our new association with Brown Paper Tickets. Visit our website for details and a link. Now it's your turn! Hope you'll be part of our season!

Hope Op Author Well Known To Workshop



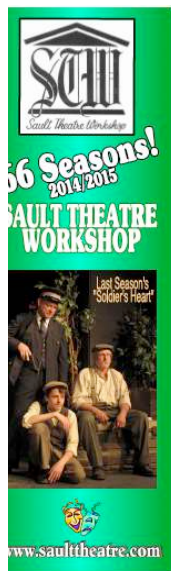
Kristen Shepherd was
riveting on stage in our
June 2008 One Act
Festival production

It was a two character play called **Traces of Memory**, written by **Ann Wuehler** and directed by **Carolyn Samuel**. This was the first time that North Bay had entered our One Act Festival and when the two actors, **Kelly Boegel** and **Kristen Shepherd** took the stage, it wasn't long before the hairs came up on the backs of our necks. This dynamite pair of actors were spell binding. Director Carolyn Samuel went on to become President of North Bay's Gateway Theatre Guild. Visits to North Bay for QUONTA meetings and Festivals was like a reunion with Kelly and Kristen.

Hope Op, Kristen's second play has only been presented by Gateway, so it is practically a premiere. Her first play **\$38,000 For a Friendly Face** won the **Canadian Samuel French Playwright's contest** and has been widely produced. **Val Horsepool**, **Hope Op** director, and a couple of our actresses got ahold of copies of the play a while back and have been after us to produce it ever since. We're pleased to have Kristen back on our stage for the Author Meet & Greet Gala. Hope you can be there too.

Producer's Note – Hope Op

Well it's the opening show time again and we have something extra special for you. We will be producing **Hope Op** written by northern Ontario author **Kristin Shepherd**, and, she will be in attendance at our Opening Gala on October 21, 2014. This show will be directed by our own **Valerie Horsepool** and has been cast for some time. We were very happy with the auditions and the actresses are all very focused and motivated. This is a very funny play and will have you in



stitches.

We have a cast which includes **Lorie Springall, Cat Warren, Randi Mraud, Sherry Longo** and **Brad Jones**. Our amazing Stage Manager again is **Colleen Halverson** with **Mr. Chris Horsepool** for lighting, costumes **Val Wilson** and **Chris Covey** on Sound. Producing is **Scarlett Marenger**.

#

STW's AGM Was Moved To September

A New President takes Command

Some of our long time Board Members were caught off guard in June this year as they prepared their annual report. At last year's AGM it was decided that our annual AGM would be moved to September to allow for a proper financial wrap up. A few of us forgot this and as a result, some reports were ready two months early.

At the meeting, our new season and it's play directors were introduced and there was some discussion on our financial standing after a difficult year. The slate of officers as proposed by our Nominating Committee was accepted. The newly elected officers who will be joining the others finishing two year terms include: President **Kirsty Wilson**, Vice President **Alisha Moore**, Membership **Val Wilson**, Box Office **Sandra Houston**, Technical Advisor **Chris Horsepool**, Fund Raiser **Kim Cyr**, Theatre Manager **Randi Mraud**, Newsletter/Web Site **Harry Houston**, Members at Large **Colleen Halverson** and **Catharina Warren**. Nomination was accepted for Secretary **Sherry Longo**. Finishing two year terms on the Board are Treasurer **Scarlett Marenger**, Social Convener **Carol Gartshore**, Publicity **Gail Nelson**, House Manager **Brad Jones** and Members At Large **Loraine Eagleson** and **Amanda Vanderleest**.

Acknowledgements of the Volunteer Awards to several of our members earning service pins from the Ontario Government were read out. A 40 year pin was presented to **Karen**

Sault Theatre Workshop Presents...

October 2014



Hope Op

Written by: *Kristin Shepherd*

Meet Prize Winning Author Kristin Shepherd at the Opening Night Gala

October 21st 6:00 - 7:00pm

Gala Tickets: \$40 each or 2 for \$70

Gala ticket includes hors d'oeuvres, 2 glasses of wine and door prize entry

Gala tickets available by advanced purchase before October 15th only, contact 705.946.4081 for more information & Gala tickets



Directed by: **Val Horsepool**

8:00pm Show Date:

October 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 & November 1

2:00pm Show Date:

October 26

Reserved seating for prepaid tickets or season ticket holders only.

All reservations released at 7:50pm.

For advance show tickets contact:

Brown Paper Tickets www.brownpapertickets.ca

Processing fees will apply

Or purchase in person at:

Madonna Optical, Station Mall

Tickets may be available at the door.

Adults \$22

Seniors \$20

Students \$10

121 Pittsburgh Avenue | Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6C 5A9 | 705.946.4081 | saulttheatre.com

Opening Gala for "HOPE OP" We are putting on the glitz on Oct 21.

The Gala for **Hope Op** and opening night of the show will be held at our Studio at 121 Pittsburgh Ave at 6:00 P.M. Get your sequins and bowties on and join us. Tickets are \$40.00 for one or \$70.00 for two. This includes the Gala, with two glasses of wine, hors d'oeuvres, and a chance at three Door prize draws, and the show of course. Most important is the chance to Meet and Greet the Author. Kristin Shepherd, from North Bay, will be in attendance and is very excited to have the Workshop performing her play. She is delighted with the star treatment and looking forward to meeting all of you. There will also be a question and answer session after the show. Tickets are selling fast.

Maybe we should have a Season Opening Gala each year. Let us know what you think. Scarlett

Mongomery-Jones, 30 year pin to **Gail Nelson**, 20 year pin to **Valerie Wilson** and 10 year pins to **Alisha Moore**, **Carol Rowland-Vas** and **Kirsty Wilson**.

Recognition of **Sandra Houston's** Award of the City Of Sault Ste Marie's Medal Of Merit followed. The final activity at the AGM was the presentation of an Honorary Lifetime Membership to **Richard Howard**.

Social Convenor **Carol Gartshore** served some delightful refreshments following the meeting.

BOB'S YOUR ELF

Norm Foster Tells A Tale Of Trouble At The North Pole

Our December production promises a lot of laughs and fun for young and old alike. **Chris Horsepool** is directing this charming production and has just completed auditions, so announcements of cast and crew will have to wait until next newsletter. You can bet, however, that the two week run will be chock full of fun for the whole family! Be sure to book early.

Mail Request Reminder



The Box 94 email version: **Gets to you faster!** Sometimes several days faster because you don't have to wait for out of town mail sorting and delivery. **Comes with full colour!** All the photos and logos are in their original form with colours. **Can be easily enlarged for reading or viewing!** Those of us with reading glasses can take advantage of this computer feature. **Easy to forward and share with friends.**

When you contact us by email for conversion to e-newsletter we guarantee your privacy by sending you a PDF file and keeping our mailing list private and exclusive to our newsletter.

All you have to do is send an email to hehouston@shaw.ca with Box 94 as the subject and give us your name and address so we can remove you from our snail mail list.

Don't Wait, Plan Your Entry For Our One Act Festival Workshop Next June!

It is a weekend that many look forward to as a highlight of their year. The QUONTA One Act Festival Workshop was conceived as a perfect opportunity to train new directors by giving them a chance to be creative with a shorter work and professional guidance. Many participating novice directors got their start this way. We quickly discovered that it is also very popular for audiences as a rare opportunity to see one act plays. When you add a remarkably wise and knowledgeable adjudicator and workshop leader such as **Richard Howard** it becomes a "must do" event in our theatre season. We're planning ahead. We've got Richard booked. Now we want to hear from you.

Open to all QUONTA Drama Region groups and any other groups across the province, it usually works out to three or four groups on Friday and the same on Saturday. There is a nominal entry fee and participants fee that includes attendance to all performances both evenings and workshops throughout Saturday and Sunday.

If you are interested, please call or email **Harry Houston 705 946-4081** for further information.

**QUONTA ONE ACT FESTIVAL WORKSHOP
JUNE 12 and 13, 2015 STUDIO THEATRE
RICHARD HOWARD - ADJUDICATOR**

MEMBER NEWS

Last Founding Member of STW Was A Pioneer In Broadcasting

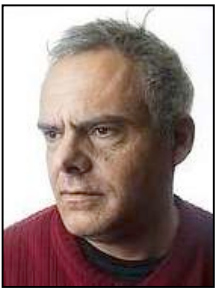
Babs Pitt nee Corbett Has Tribute Article in Sault Star



We have recently experienced the loss of a number of long time members and friends of Sault Theatre Workshop.

Babs, along with her mother, Lenore were Founding members of our group. Her impressive career, which began in the Sault, included television positions at CFCF, CTV and CBC in Montreal and Toronto. The Sault Star wrote a tribute

that outlined her remarkable career and we have posted links on our Facebook page. STW's 66th season is a real testament to our founding members' legacy



Another actor who has had many performances on the STW stage over the years as well as working with many other local groups has died. **Adrian Gabrylewicz** was 48 and just branching out into film making.

Adrian, who had been on dialysis for a number of years, was planning the production of his latest film "**The Wreck of The Pegasus Lee**" when he suffered a stroke. He was rushed to the hospital, where he arrived unconscious and doctors kept him sedated. A week later, September 25th Adrian died. We have a sampling of archive photos of several of Adrian's STW roles again on our Facebook page.



Bruce Bedell, another longtime member has passed away. We received news from his son, Francis that after a year long battle with cancer Bruce passed away, surrounded by his loved ones, October 2nd. The photo here is of Bruce from the 1980 production of **One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest**. Bruce and his wife, Cathy, who were Patrons and both involved in many productions,

moved to Bellville in the 90's.



A good friend from our QUONTA family, **Louise Parr** passed away in June. Louise was an award winning actress and long time QUONTA Executive who at times represented Sturgeon Falls, Sudbury and North Bay. She had been

nominated for the Maggie Bassett award for her contribution to theatre in the province.

Here's hoping that we get a reprieve from the sad news for the next many issues.

Give us your feedback!

It's no secret that that some of our plays get great reviews and we often hear lots of comments coming out of the audience as they leave the play, but we'd like a bit more. We invite you to send us your comments (both positive and negative) by email or snail mail. We want to hear about your whole experience from the time you enter to the time you leave. How was the concession? Were the choices available to your liking? Was parking a problem? Were the washrooms clean? Could you hear all right? What kind of plays do you like? Is there a favourite you'd like to see? How are our prices? What was your favourite play of the season? You have a chance to help us make things better. The comments will be read by our executive members and all comments will be kept confidential unless you tell us otherwise.

Oh, and if you'd like to be part of our group, we welcome that too. There's lots to do in addition to being "on" stage. Our mailing address

is at the top and bottom of this newsletter.

P.S. We'll be getting a new, more interactive web site soon so you can book and interact on line. Are you a Facebook fan? Join us on Facebook for interesting posts, videos, archive photos and reminders.



Courtney Pyke posted on Facebook:



Had to start saying good bye to a company that has allowed me the opportunity to be a part of the piece of theatre that re-solidified why I do what I do and never ceased to take my breath away. I am SO proud of my work and all the work of Tottering Biped Theatre has produced. I may have shed some tears because of this but on to a new adventure.

It's official. As of aug 25 I will be moving out to Moncton NB to start my life as the Company Stage Manager of the Atlantic Ballet.

Atlantic Ballet is one of Canada's most exciting ballet companies, and based in Moncton, New Brunswick, Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada tours nationally and internationally. Stunning visual impact and a deep emotional connection with its audiences have made this Company popular with audiences around the world.

Box 94 Wants To Hear From You! SEND US YOUR MEMBER NEWS

BOX 94 Volume 66

(our 66th season)

Editor Harry Houston

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e-mail hehouston@shaw.ca

Next Issue November/ December

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www.saulttheatre.com

Or Stage 1 web site

www.stage1theatre.com

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To ensure continued Newsletters be sure to keep your membership up to date.

Contact Membership Chair Val Wilson
(705) 759-4572

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e-mail Harry with Box 94 as subject.
(Also will be available on our web site)