

Elora Community Theatre

OCTOBER, 2018

Announcing Cast of The Dining Room

Acey Kaspar
Shari Roberts
Dianne Thompson
Nancy Baker
Susan Williams
Andy Wasylycia
Shayne Monaghan
Lindsey Quinn
Dave Beynon
Dian Borek
Linda Smith Earle
Paul Elliot
Mark Halloran
Liz Poulton
Gary Bryant



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Message from the Director of *The Dining Room*:

It has been a very busy week of auditioning and casting filled with talented people. I am so very happy with the casting which is as varied as A.R.Gurney's characters, all 47 of them. ...and that's just the way it should be. On Sunday, October 28th as I write this, I am preparing for tonight's rehearsal, the end of our first week. It is such a challenge to play so many different characters, truthfully and honestly, and the actors are certainly rising to the occasion as we have fun with explorations and ideas to begin the whole fascinating rehearsal process.

Sincere appreciation to everyone who auditioned! We enjoyed having the honour to share your auditions.

I am also very grateful to have a supportive crew in stage manager Gary Seibert, producer Gary Bryant (assisted by Deb Stanson), Set Designer Robert Banning and Set Team, Robert, Maggie Parent and Lawrence Lee, Props and Set Dressing, Mary Anne Neville with help from Monika Lassner who is also acting as assistant stage manager, David Tanner Light and Sound Design, Bryan Hayter as promotional help and marketing and our wonderful active ECT Board busy promoting and supporting the show as well. Also thanks to Nancy Baker who has been helping us scrounge for working props right now. More details to come in next newsletter.

Julie Wheeler Bryant



*Acey Kaspar and Shari Roberts
Rehearsing the 'Under the Table Scene' (for the first time)*

(Thanks to Gary Seibert, Stage Manager of The Dining Room for Rehearsal Photos for the Newsletter)



*Andy Wasylycia and Paul Elliot in 'The Grandfather Scene'
Rehearsing the Scene for the first time*



by A. R. Gurney
 Directed by Julie Wheeler-Bryant
**FEBRUARY 8 – 10 &
 FEBRUARY 15 – 17, 2019**
 Friday 8:00 pm,
 Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
 Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

The Dining Room serves up fun and memories in this comedy of manners. Look what's on the menu: family values and feuds, power struggles, infidelity, vanishing customs, treatment of minimum wage earners, homosexuality, dementia, sex, drugs and the educational curriculum....to name just a few. If these four walls could talk! Eavesdrop and window peep into 18 different family dining rooms scanning 80 years, over breakfasts, lunches and dinners and special occasions, good times and bad, proud times and embarrassing. What did people really do in that room called the Dining Room? Was it really the good old days? This Pulitzer Prize finalist will reveal some secrets when you enter the changing world of The Dining Room. *Often funny and rueful and, by the end, very moving.*" —NY Times.

*Produced by special arrangement with
 Dramatists Play Service Inc.*

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Message from the Director:

Rehearsals are moving forward very well. We are pleased to add Acey Kaspar as Mr. Phillips and Laura Hunter as Prissy Andrews to the cast. On our crew side Joan Berry has joined us backstage as assistant stage manager with Nancy Baker.

Thank you to William, Julie, Gord and Rianna for participating in Centre Wellington's Culture Days. We performed a scene from Anne to a very appreciative audience. We also distributed flyers for our upcoming season

Pleased to announce both school shows sold out!

Anne signs are ready for distribution! If you would like one for your business or home please contact Deb.



(Thanks to Bill Longshaw for Anne Photos)



Julie Goudie, Deb Stanson and Rianna





William, Rianna and Julie G.

Editor's Note: *When I was attending Culture Days, I also noticed Mary Anne Neville and David Tanner lending an important hand to the ECT Culture Events, behind the scenes. It was a lovely day and enjoyed by all! Thanks to the people who made ECT visible to our community.*



SHORT HANDED

by Michael Grant
Directed by Jim Monaghan & Kimberley Young

MAY 3 – 5 & MAY 10 – 12, 2019
Friday 8:00 pm,
Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

In *Shorthanded*, a comedy about lost dreams and second chances, eight hockey players band together for game seven of the old-timer's hockey championship. The middle-aged men are looking for a shot at redemption, and to reverse the curse of a game-seven loss they incurred as Junior B players that has left the town without a hockey title ever since.

Winner of Playwrights Guild of Canada's new comedy award 2012!

AUDITIONS



Synopsis of play: Eight men on a small town local Senior A Men's hockey team play in a winner take all championship game. Due to unforeseen circumstances they must play with only seven skaters and a goalie. They are out to redeem a loss in the championship game many years ago when they played Junior Hockey. The town had not had a championship since that fateful day so the citizens are all at arena to support their team for this match. This is a comedy with a touching ending. No real hockey experience required. Hockey Equipment will be provided but we would be very open to you using your own.

Setting of play: The play takes place in the dressing room of a local town hockey rink



Dates and times:

- Monday December 3rd at 7 PM till 10 PM
- Wednesday December 5th at 7 PM till 10 PM

Callbacks on Sunday December 9th between noon and 4 PM....no appointments are necessary.

Audition Site: ECT rehearsal hall in West Montrose

Audition Process: Cold reads from play. Wear comfortable clothing as it may involve some low impact physicality.

Required: Eight middle aged men. Middle age come be from 30 till whenever.

Rehearsals start in early February and will be three times a week. Dates and times to be determined once cast is chosen. Show dates are the first two weekends of May in 2019. There are eight shows.

If you require more information please contact either Jim Monaghan at heartjim@hotmail.com or Kimberley Young at K_young-rdh@hotmail.com



ECT's New Board for 2018/19 Season

Deb Stanson
Nancy Baker
Maggie Parent
Suzanne Trivers
Deb Dalziel
Deva Neely*
Marilyn Abraham*
Laura Hunter
Julie Wheeler Bryant

A warm welcome is extended to our new members: Deva Neely and Marilyn Abraham and Sandy! Thank you for joining us and bringing your expertise and experience to share with us.

We have already had one board meeting in our new theatre year. Our next board meeting is Friday evening, November 2nd at the workshop.

Our members are very welcome to attend. Please contact President Deb Stanson for further information: debstanson@gmail.com



Congratulations to Bev Dietrich
on becoming an
Honorary Life Member of WODL!

Bev has been on the WODL Board since 2011, is well known to many in WODL, has attended WODL and Theatre Ontario Festivals for a long time, networking with theatre people throughout the province.

Bev is heavily involved in her home group and can usually be found Stage Managing or Producing, especially if it is a Festival show. She chaired (WODL) Minifest Committee for a number of years, then becoming an Area Vice President when Minifest faltered. She was awarded the Michael Spence Award in 2014. Her contributions to theatre in Western Ontario are considerable.

(Thanks to WODL and Elmira Newsletter for the info)

And a big note of appreciation from us at ELORA COMMUNITY THEATRE to Bev for representing us (Wellington Waterloo Area) at WODL all these years!



WESTERN ONTARIO DRAMA FESTIVAL 2019

Guelph Little Theatre and Elmira Theatre Company are making it possible for WODL Festival to happen again next year 2019 in GUELPH, but will need a lot of help from people outside of their group as it is a very labour intensive endeavor. Please consider helping in some way as individuals to help lessen the load for others...There are many areas that need to be looked after such as hospitality, workshops, technical, advertising to name just a few. Many of us will be involved with ECT shows at the time but if YOU are interested in helping and not involved with cast and crew commitments here, YOUR HELP would be most welcome I'm sure.



Western Ontario Drama League
Waterloo-Wellington WODL Representative:
Bev Dietrich
WODL Festival 2019

March 11 - 16, 2019, Guelph Little Theatre

Festival has always been hosted by one of the WODL member theatre groups. Volunteers from that theatre support the Festival shows, host the receptions and adjudications, plan workshops and organize the Gala. It's a big commitment. Some years it has been difficult to find a theatre group that is prepared to make this commitment to host Festival.

Community theatre is about bringing people together to create, to learn, and to share the resources of different people to make good theatre. WODL has been about bringing together the community theatre groups of Western Ontario to create, to learn and to share resources to help us all make better theatre.

Community is the key. So this year, in the spirit of community, Festival is being hosted under a slightly different model. Elmira Theatre Company and Guelph Little Theatre are teaming up.

The Festival shows will be staged in Guelph, supported by volunteers from GLT. ETC is organizing the hotel side of the Festival - the opening reception, the workshops and the Gala. Guelph is bringing the experience of hosting two Festivals in recent years (in 2013 and in 2017); Elmira is providing eager volunteers, brimming with new ideas. Thus far, the collaboration has been an exciting one with everyone eager to share ideas and learn from those with experience.

Reported in the WODL Newsletter September 2018

Ken Cameron, WODL Festival 2019 co-chair

Have you contacted WODL Festival 2019 co-chair Chris Grose to volunteer or express your interest in supporting WODL Festival 2019? Don't delay! Contact Chris today!

chris@huskyfarm.ca



Elora Community Theatre's 2018/2019 Season

NOVEMBER IS THE LAST MONTH TO SAVE \$ MONEY \$ AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SEASON'S TICKETS DEAL! Get your season tickets for our 46th year of presenting plays in our community. If you take advantage of this offer, you can save money and get it on your calendar now so you don't miss out! Enjoy all three plays for only \$51 or only \$45 for seniors. The Box Office at the Fergus Grand Theatre is ready and waiting for your order at 244 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus 519-787-1981 or fergusgrandtheatre.ca



You can also check our website eloracommunitytheatre.com for information and you can access any past newsletters.



Barn Clean up - **Yes, the barn cleanup happened!** It was wonderful to have the help of so many faithful ECT people that day.



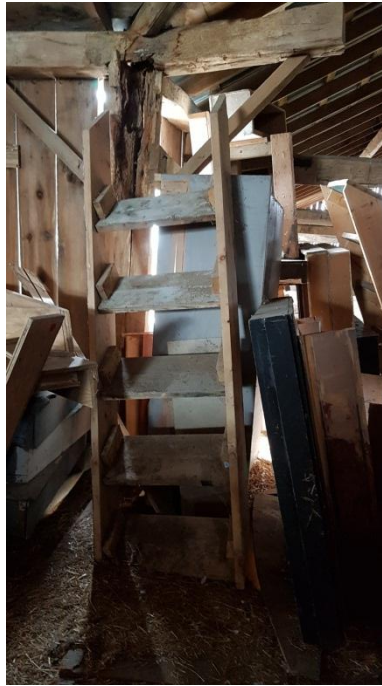
The good news is we made great progress and cleared out a lot of stuff.



Thanks to: Acey, Jamie, Teghan, Eileen, Dave Beynon, Suzanne, Nancy, Kevin, David Tanner, Don, Julie (Deb taking picture)
Also thanks to Deb for organizing dumpster!

However, we still need to schedule a couple of days in the future. It only amounts to a couple of hours! Your help really matters. Right now, we would love to share with you the following information about steps...already made of many shapes and sizes. If you would like them for your group, just let us know.

Thanks to Suzanne for the photo and you can contact her if your group would like the steps in following photos.





We are very grateful to the Musselman Family for so generously letting us use their barn for storage when we had no other way to turn. But we'd like to get all our stuff out of there soon so they can have their space back again. .



We could really use your help with the NEXT BARN Cleanup!



Are You Off The Wall??

Ron Dodson, Outreach Manager, Off the Wall, dodson59@rodgers.com

This summer, while you are relaxing on the patio and sipping a cool lemonade, think about your community theatre. Are there backstage needs that Off the Wall can fulfill?

We offer one, two and four day weekend courses on several theatre needs, taught by highly skilled artists who are otherwise employed at the Stratford Festival. This fall, we are offering:

WIG MAKING

FALL SESSION 1: November 24 and 25 and December 8 and 9

FALL SESSION 2: January 5, 6 and January 19, 20, 2019



In this popular four-day workshop conducted over two weekends, learn the basics of wig creation, modification and dressing. Under the expert guidance of one of the best Stratford Festival wig makers, Erica Croft, increase your skills and learn some amazing techniques in this age-old craft.

See stratfordoffthewall.com/courses-workshops for further details about each course, including costs.

Our courses are a long-term investment in personal skill development and the success of your community theatre. They are taught by the best, with low student-teacher ratios by instructors who encourage students to do projects that meet their own needs. If you need to make a tiara, faux food, a mask or a wig for an upcoming production, find out how with Off the Wall!

Call Off the Wall's Outreach Manager, Ron at 519.271.5302 or better yet, email him at dodson59@rogers.com.



ELORA COMMUNITY THEATRE presents ANNE OF GREEN GABLES starting December 7-16 Tickets: Box Office Fergus Grand Theatre 519 787 1981 fergusgrandtheatre.ca, eloracommunitytheatre.com

On the Spot Productions presents Peter Pan: The Family Musical Panto starting November 22-25 Go to Fergus Grand Theatre box office or 519 846 9691 ext. 201 to order tickets

Elmira Theatre Company presents Murder Most Fouled Up –Comedy Dinner Theatre starting Friday, November 2, 2018 – Saturday, November 17 Call 519 578 1570 or 1800 265 8977 or go to the ETC Website to order tickets

Guelph Little Theatre presents Firebird-Nov. 22-Dec. 2 Call 519 821 0270 or go to the GLT Website to order tickets

Elora Arts Council Announces: Gallery Music Concerts: November 4 at Wellington County Museum, Henry Janzen, Violinist and friends

Remember to turn your clock back next weekend and stay warm!

*...And I will be back with the ECT News in **NOVEMBER!***

Please email me if you'd like to submit ECT info for future newsletters

Julie Wheeler Bryant

[*jwheelerb@cogeco.ca*](mailto:jwheelerb@cogeco.ca)



Thanks, as always, to Adrian and Laura Baker who make sure you receive this and who faithfully get it posted on our ECT website. Because of this you can always check back and see former ECT Newsletters.



