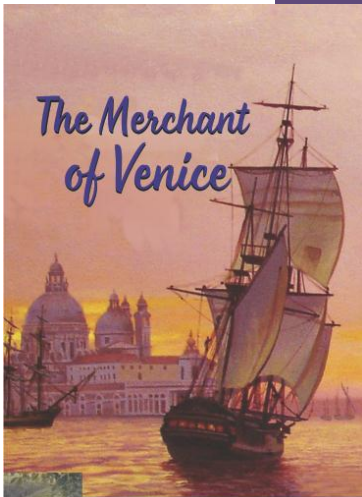


Elora Community Theatre

AUGUST, 2019

The Merchant of Venice (Shakespeare in the Park)



Deb Stanson writes:

” The Merchant of Venice was a great success this July. Thank you to our amazing cast and to David Tanner for his technical expertise. 6 years of Shakespeare by Elora Community Theatre! “

by Deb Stanson (co-directing with David Tanner)

(Many superlative comments heard about the show! Congratulations to cast and crew for an outstanding production! Editor's Note)

“ Wonderland! the musical was the first all youth production by Elora Community Theatre. 32 youth participated and it was a huge success. Special thanks to the dream team of Eileen McLaughlin (stage manager), Deva Neely (musical director) and Jennifer Roeder (assistant director). Thank you to Sandy McWhirter for making many costumes for us! We took the kids on the road to Pine Meadows Retirement Community to entertain the residents with some songs from the show in early June as an opportunity to perform in front of an audience before our performances at the Fergus Grand Theatre.. There were about 80 people in attendance who thoroughly enjoyed the performance and we were treated to cake and ice cream during intermission! They would love to have us come back again! 567 people attended over 4 performances of Wonderland! at the Fergus Grand Theatre. A big shout out to all the parents for your support! A good time was had by all! “ by Deb Stanson- Director



(What a treat! Enjoyed by hundreds of appreciative audience members!)

Contents of AUGUST Newsletter

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK Merchant of Venice and Wonderland
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RESERVED THE DATE SEPTEMBER 15 7 PM
Yes, Virginia There is a Santa Claus CASTING ANNOUNCEMENT
AUDITIONS FOR MOM'S GIFT
Coming Events and Announcements OUR SEASON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Join the crowd
(we wish)
at our AGM
7pm
September 15th
ECT WORKSHOP
West Montrose

AGM Announcement from ECT President:

Looking forward to our upcoming annual general meeting, **Sunday, September 15th at 7:00 pm at the ECT Workshop in West Montrose!**

We are fortunate to have scenes from past shows for entertainment this year.

Come out and support ECT and vote for your upcoming board of directors.

Better yet, put your name forward to be a part of the board!

Refreshments provided by current board members.
Actors looking forward to entertaining you. Don't miss it!



Come out and be entertained! Meet old friends! Have fun!



Look forward to seeing you there!



Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus

Excited to begin working with this talented cast and crew this fall! **Still needed is a male actor anywhere between 30's to 60's.** Props person needed as well.

Please contact Deb if you are interested.

(519) 496-6481

Cast and Crew

Edward P. Mitchell	Gary Seibert
Virginia O'Hanlon	Bryn Kennedy
Frank B. Church	Bart Penwarden
James O'Hanlon	Adrian Baker
Dominic (Dom) Donelli	Dave Beynon
Maria Donelli	Addison Butchart
Julie	Jessica Kaspar
Susan	Anna Rawle
Sean O'Hanlon	Mason Kaspar
Evie O'Hanlon	Deva Neely
Andrea Borland	Laura Hunter
Teddy Murray	Teagan Hiller
Mrs. Goldstein	Deb Dalziel
Celeste Donelli	Amie Butchart
Newsboy	Lucas Rawle
Goss/George/Tom Pryor/	
Otho/Chambers/Officer Flynn	Cory Sanders
Cornelius Barrinton/Officer	William Brezden
Sam/Thief/Schuller/Red	Robert Free
Shorty/Scotty/Art Fritz	Blaine Butchart
Offer Atkins	Gord Wood
Old Man	Gord Wood
Blind Man	William Brezden
Little Girl	Quinne Stoltz
Wife	Amie Butchart
Husband	Blaine Butchart

Police Officer	Ron Hattle
Choir/Ensemble	
	Quinne Stoltz
	Brooke Stoltz
	Regan Kennedy
	Zoe McWhirter
	Ella Ladner
	David Kaspar
	Marcelle Ladner
	Amelia Dunlop
	Riley McGlone
CREW	
Director	Deb Stanson
Assistant Directors	Sammy Beynon/Jennifer Roeder
Stage Manager	Eileen McLaughlin
Set Design	Robert Banning
Set Build and paint	Jim Hoare/Maggie Parent
Sound/Lighting Design	David Tanner
Costumes	Suzanne Trivers/Sammy Beynon
Musical Director	Deva Neely



AUDITIONS!

ELORA COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

MOM'S GIFT

By Phil Olsen

Note from Stan Jensen, Director:

"I have been given the privilege of directing E.C.T.'S winter show this season."

Auditions will be held FRIDAY September 27 & SUNDAY September 29th at 7 PM @ E.C.T.'S STUDIO SPACE, 1010 RIVERS EDGE DRIVE, WEST MONTROSE.

(Corner of Highway 86 & Katherine St.)

No prep required. We'll be doing cold reads from the script.

Show Dates are February 14 – 16 & February 21 – 23, 2020.

There are also Crew & Technical positions available.

STAGE MANAGER urgently NEEDED!

Please contact the director if you would be interested in filling this important position.

You can email Stan and he would be glad to answer any questions you might have about the play.

jensenstanp@outlook.com



CHARACTERS

KAT – 30. The older sister. Plain, extremely smart. Acerbic, but likeable, with a sense of humor. Vulnerable and sympathetic. Playfully sarcastic. Not mean spirited.

MOM – 60. Good sense of humor. Deeply caring. Vikings fan.

DAD – 60. A doctor. Nice guy. Reserved. Holds cards close to the vest.

BRITTNEY – 22. The younger sister. Pretty. A Hooters Girl. Peppy, ditzy, sincere, genuine, not sarcastic.

TRISH – 45. Pretty. A nurse. Kind.

KEVIN – 30. Neighbor growing up. Good looking, successful business person, jock in high school.

MRS. NORQUIST (*Voiceover*) – 70's. Neighbor. A little loopy. We never see her. (*Voiceover, can double cast - or if you would like, you can show her*)

PLACE

The living room and front porch of the Swensen family,
in a Minneapolis suburb.

This is a comedy with a little edge. A film rating would probably be PG.



For further information please contact Stan Jensen @
jensenstanp@outlook.com



**Announcing: Our Elora Community Theatre Coming
Season
at the Fergus Grand Theatre**

Yes Virginia
THERE IS
A SANTA CLAUS

Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus
by Andrew J. Fenady
Directed by Deb Stanson
Assistant Director Sammy Beynon

**December 13-15 and
December 20-22, 2019**

Friday 8:00 pm,
Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

In 1897, a young girl wrote to The New York Sun asking whether Santa Claus truly existed. The paper's response, written by reporter Francis P. Church, has become a beloved holiday literary tradition.

MOM'S GIFT

Mom's Gift
by Phil Olson
Directed by Stan Jensen

**February 14-16 and
February 21-23, 2020**

Friday 8:00 pm,
Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

Mom has been dead for 11 months and shows up at her husband's birthday party as a ghost with a mission. Like Clarence in It's a Wonderful Life, she has to accomplish a task to earn her wings. Only what the task is, is a mystery!

**LITTLE HOUSE
on the
PRAIRIE**

Little House on the Prairie
Music by Rachel Portman,
Lyrics by Donna Di Novelli
Directed by Acey Kaspar

**May 1-3 and
May 8-10, 2020**

Friday 8:00 pm,
Saturday 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm
FERGUS GRAND THEATRE

The musical follows the Ingalls family's journey westward and settlement in South Dakota where Ma and Pa Ingalls hoped to make a better life for their children. It tells the story of their struggle to keep their land claim. In story, song and dance, we see the Ingalls suffering the hardships of winter blizzards and prairie fires as well as rejoicing in the settlement of land and town.

TICKETS: ♦ Adults \$22 / Seniors \$18 ♦ Children \$10
♦ Groups 10 or more \$18
(plus applicable taxes)

SEASON TICKETS: ENJOY ALL 3 PLAYS & SAVE! ONLY \$58 OR \$48 SENIORS!

2019/2020 SEASON UPDATE

Our new season playbill is now printed and ready for distribution! Let Deb know if you would like some for distribution.



By Andrew J. Fenady

Based upon the teleplay by Val DeCrow and Andrew J. Fenady

Directed by Deb Stanson

December 13-15 & December 20-22, 2019

Inspired by a simple, poignant letter written over 100 years ago by 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon to the editor of the *New York Sun*—and by the timeless editorial response printed on the front page of the *Sun*. Virginia wondered and wrote: "Dear Editor, I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says if you see it in the *Sun*, it's so. Please tell me the truth. Is there a Santa Claus?" Ed Mitchell, the *Sun's* editor, gives the assignment of answering Virginia's letter to Frank Church who, until his wife and baby died last Christmas Eve, was the *Sun's* best and most dependable reporter. *Yes Virginia, There Is a Santa Claus* is a play for young and old, magically reaffirming life's highest beauty and joy—"the eternal light with which childhood fills the world."



By Phil Olson

Directed by Stan Jensen

February 14-16 & February 21-23, 2020

In this comedy with a heart, Mom has been dead for 11 months and shows up at her husband's birthday party as a ghost with a mission. Like Clarence in "It's A Wonderful Life," she has to accomplish a task to earn her wings. Only what the task actually is, is a mystery. There are so many things to fix. The problem is complicated by the fact that the only person who can hear or see Mom is her daughter who has been ordered by the court to spend Dad's birthday with him as part of her Anger Management Program. One by one the family's secrets are peeled away revealing a shocking truth that surprises even our ghost.



Book by: Rachel Sheinkin

Music by: Rachel Portman

Lyrics by: Donna di Novelli

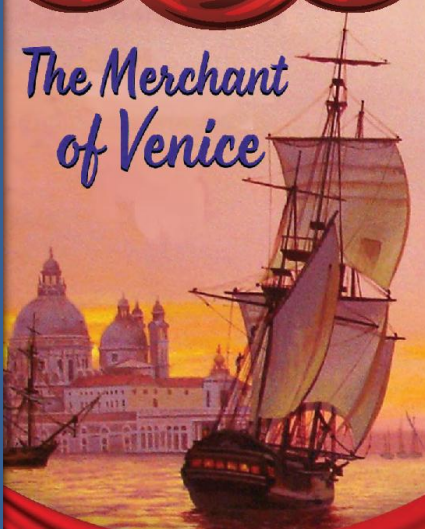
Based on the "Little House" books by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Directed by Acey Kaspar

May 1-3 & May 8-10, 2020

Through the magic of live theatre, the musical follows the Ingalls family's journey westward and settlement in South Dakota where Ma and Pa Ingalls hoped to make a better life for their children. It tells the story of their struggle to keep their land claim. In story, song and dance, we see the Ingalls suffering the hardships of winter blizzards and prairie fires as well as rejoicing in the settlement of land and town. Most of all, the story follows Laura as she grows from the wild child who loved to run free into a woman who embraces the responsibilities of her own future while struggling to remain true to herself.

The Merchant of Venice



Shakespeare in the Park
Directed by Deb Stanson
and David Tanner

July 5-7 & July 12-14, 2019
Friday 7 pm,
Saturday 3 pm & 7 pm,
Sunday 3 pm

**BISSELL PARK,
ELORA**
Admission by donation

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!

Membership:

All of our productions are put together by volunteer members of the community, many of whom have been involved with the Elora Community Theatre (ECT) throughout the years. We at ECT welcome the community to get involved with local community theatre, explore your artistic side, meet new friends and have a good time!

Each production needs lots of backstage help and you can be as involved as you wish, from dedicating your life to the theatre (temporarily of course!) or just an evening or two.

Membership includes:

- Members in good standing of ECT
- Participation in ECT productions
- Ability to vote at AGM and stand for election to ECT Board
- Monthly newsletter to keep up on current auditions and plays

If you are interested in joining ECT or have any questions about upcoming theatre activities or plays, please contact **Deb Stanson** at debstanson@gmail.com.

Yearly membership prices are:

- \$15 for an individual
- \$25 for a family
- 3 year membership \$30

Please note that all persons working on a production are expected to be members of the Elora Community Theatre.

Our History:

Elora Community Theatre has been a part of the community since 1972 and performs at the Fergus Grand Theatre. ECT has performed over 150 plays at "The Grand" and remains one of the principal users of the building.



Check us out on facebook
[Elora Community Theatre](#)

Elora COMMUNITY THEATRE

Celebrating the
2019/2020
SEASON



Set Builders Needed!

Our wonderful **Robert Banning** has retired this year and his talented partner in building **Lawrence Lee** has as well due to health reasons. We are in need of set builders for the winter and spring shows. Please contact Deb if you are interested in helping!



Thank you to **Maggie** for continuing your incredible set painting and special effects.



WEBSITE WOES from Suzanne Trivers

Receiving Newsletter

Hopefully you and everyone you know are now successfully receiving the newsletter. We are still working on the new website and things are not smooth yet. To access past Newsletters go to the Elora Community Theatre website where you can access any ECT newsletter published every month.



As part of our work to improve our electronic communication with you, our members and supporters, we have moved to a new email sending platform called Cyberimpact. This is a Canadian provider that follows Canadian anti-spam laws and stores all of our information on Canadian servers. We want to make sure that we protect the personal information that you share with us.

We have heard your concerns about our current electronic communications and we ask that you bear with us as we address the issue. Always a challenge when we are all volunteers.

Take care, Suzanne Trivers

suzannetrivers@gmail.com

Interested in a new opportunity?

We would like to recruit new volunteers for a couple of areas...one being publicity for our shows and also we need someone to write the newsletter each month starting September.

We would also welcome anyone interested in running for the ECT board, no experience necessary. Come and be an active part of our group. We need and welcome you!

Please contact us if you are interested.

OUR ECT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Sunday, September 15, 2019

7PM

Location: Elora Community Theatre Workshop
West Montrose (corner of 86 and Katherine)

Goodbye



This is my last newsletter but I've enjoyed being in touch with you every month during the last few years!

Thanks as always to Adrian and Laura Baker and to Suzanne Trivers, who make sure you receive my newsletter through our website, whether it be spring, summer, fall or winter and who faithfully get it posted on our ECT website every month. Because of this, you can always check back and see past ECT Newsletters.

Julie

