

Encore!



NORTHUMBERLAND PLAYERS

June/July 2008

2007/08 Executive

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ENCORE Editors

Valerie Russell

Nancy Little

Member: Cobourg &
District Chamber of
Commerce

Registered Charitable
Business No.
11906 1885 RR0001

Just So Proud to Say...

I am feeling very proud of The Northumberland Players. Recently I was talking about our organization to a gentlemen, who just moved to Cobourg, and voiced an interest in volunteering. I found it very easy to tell him about the talent we have on the stage and behind the scenes.

I was proud to say that our actors and directors work hard to perfect their craft. Once the season is announced The Firehall is booked full for rehearsals and workshops for members with a passion for creating quality theatre. The Players had over seven thousand patrons enjoy three dinner shows, two musicals, a Youth Theatre Christmas show and a Fundraising Dance this past season. The summer Youth Theatre camp continues to grow. We have hired five talented individuals this summer to give young people an opportunity to grow theatrically, socially and cognitively.

I was proud to say that we have the best costume and set designers who raise our shows to a professional level. The Ladies of the Arcade run a costume department second to none.

Cobourg is a hotbed for talented musicians and singers, musical directors, artistic directors and choreographers. Our technical volunteers share their professional skills in productions to provide the audience with the best lighting and sound in the County.

I was proud to say that we have a Board, Executive Director, and accountant dedicated to sustaining creative shows and financially successful projects in a very competitive market...

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NORTHUMBERLAND PLAYERS

213 Second Street, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 3N7

Tel. (905) 372-0577 / Fax (905) 372 3662

players@eagle.ca

www.northumberlandplayers.com



2008/2009 Season

Any Wednesday By Muriel Resnik in Dinner Theatre
Best Western Cobourg Inn and Convention Centre
October 17 – November 2, 2008-06-18

On Golden Pond By Ernest Thompson in Dinner Theatre
Best Western Cobourg Inn and Convention Centre
January 23 – February 8, 2009

Hair: The American Love – Rock Musical
The Capitol Theatre Port Hope
February 27 – March 7, 2009
(Adult subject matter, some course language)

The Last Resort By Norm Foster
Victoria Hall, Cobourg
March 27 – April 4, 2009

The Affections of May By Norm Foster in Dinner Theatre
Best Western Cobourg Inn and Convention Centre
April 17 – May 3, 2009

Remember that we have *Subscribe & Save 10% Packages*

- **Season \$167**
- **3 Dinner Theatres \$122**

Season tickets & Theatre Gift Certificates can be purchased through
Northumberland Players at 905-372-0577

Northumberland Players Annual Barbeque!

Sunday, July 27th 4:00 pm

Lynne McCall's

3625 Kennedy Rd

Camborne Ont.

RSVP 905-342-9645 or lynneymc@yahoo.ca

BYOB, a salad or desert and a lawn chair

“We’re Growing Plays”

Northumberland Players Presents

The First Annual One-Act (Comedy) Playwriting Competition

Here is a submission

From the Desk of Carol-Anne Caswell

(An excerpt from *The Three Charms of Philly*)

The women are sitting at the kitchen table playing a game of heads up poker. Doris straddles her chair, her big belly squishing against the chair back, with Philly, the dive-bombing budgie perched on her bare shoulder. . Melanie, rugged looking after a hard night of hollering and swigging beer, takes another and slams it down on the table.

MELANIE: Dolly, where’s the bird? He was there a minute ago. For the last time; Why do you let him loose when I am here. He’s gonna dive bomb me again. I knows it. Things’knocked over half of my beers tonight. Oh there he is; the dumb bird! I’m gonna get you.

As Melanie leans over the table to grab the bird she spills her beer over the cards. The beer splashes down the front of Doris’ tube top. With a yelp, Doris jumps up with the chair stuck between her sweaty thighs. She falls and kicks out the leg of the card table. Melanie’s chair is swept over with her falling into it. Full beers, smokes, cards, and a half eaten pizza still in the box. Melanie and Doris tumble across the kitchen into the frig door. The women pick themselves up and decide to clean up in the morning. They stagger out of the kitchen towards their bedrooms. Philly laps up the beer splashed over the kitchen linoleum and after three attempts finally lands successfully on the top of the frig. He preens his feathers, flies down for another bird swig and enjoys the evening’s spillage.

10 days for Philly 0 for Melanie.

- 30 -

I chose comedy writing for our 1st playwriting competition, for production or a reading, to give the writers of Northumberland County an opportunity to entertain our theatrical community. There is already too much drama in our lives, locally and globally. We need a good laugh.

Writing a One-Act Comedy is cathartic. As our characters come alive we laugh and we cry with them. The stories you could tell, I’ll bet...what funny story would you like to bring to the stage.

I am very excited to be promoting the playwriting competition. It is a form of expression that allows the playwright an opportunity to set the stage, create the story, characters and the dialogue. Live theatre gives its audience the opportunity to collectively, respond/react to the play.

You have the summer to complete your manuscript. Remember, we are creating plays already; everyday. Laughter is such good medicine!

Our Selection Committee: Jan Crane, Mary Doig, Ron Tollett, JR Henwood, Honor Sylvester, Lauren Page Russell, Margaret Kropf.

If I can do it anyone can!

You will find submission requirements on our website. Have a great summer!

Any Wednesday by Muriel Resnick
Dinner theatre.

Auditions were held on June 10th & 12th at the Firehall with great results. After much "playing" the following people were cast:

Ellen - Susan Amos, most recently seen in *There Goes the Bride* at the Park Playhouse, two roles in *Urine-town*, and *High Temperature* with N.P.

John - John Rolston, who is known to most as J.R., was recently seen in the productions of *Papa's Angels*, and *Not Now Darling* for N.P. and *There Goes the Bride* at the Park Playhouse.

Cass - Casey Kenny, has been involved in community theatre for ten years and worked with Walt Disney World onstage. His most recent productions have been *Rumors* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Dorothy - Siobhan Kenny (no relation to Casey) is returning to N.P. after being away for several years. She is very excited about returning to her roots in Cobourg and trying a play rather than a musical.

Director, Brenda Worsnop, would like to thank everyone who came out to audition. She was impressed by the amount of talent that was evident, making her choices very difficult.

This promises to be a fun-filled show with the first read-through on August 14 and rehearsals beginning the following week.

Producer, Helen Matthew, is already hard at work gathering together the crew and Margaret Hilborn is putting the final touches on the set design.

If you are interested in working on this fun, romantic comedy, please contact Helen at 905.885.5546.
Production dates are: October 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, Nov 1, & 2 at the Best Western.

Northumberland Players Youth Theatre 2008 Christmas Play
Auditions

The Only Christmas Pageant in Town

By Faye Couch Reeves

Directed by Victor Baitley

Firehall Theatre

September 2008

Saturday 6th & 13th 10 a.m.—12 p.m.

Wednesday 10th 6 p.m.—8 p.m.

Cast consists of 49 characters

Production Dates at Victoria Hall are November 26—November 28, 2008

ENCORE! June/July 2008



WORKSHOP NEWS

THREE NEW WORKSHOPS PLANNED

NUMBER ONE

“Sound Design”

Intended for anyone interested

Sat, Sept 6, 2008, 9:30-3:30
\$30.00 (NP members get a discount!)
10.00 for catered lunch on site
At the Cobourg Public Library, Rotary Room

Workshop leader: Chris Worsnop

Limited to 15 registrants

Sign up and learn:

- The details of a job description for Sound Designers/Operators
- How to use the sound editing freeware called AUDACITY + information on some \$\$ sound editing software programs
- How to locate and download free sound effects from the Internet
- Some tricks for adjusting sound files so that they sound best
- Compiling and burning a CD
- Some important technical details about burning CD discs for use in theatre equipment
- How to prepare a sound cue sheet
- What to expect during Hell Week (setting levels, cue to cue, tech rehearsal)

Participants will need to bring a laptop (Windows) computer, with CD drive. The workshop room is an Internet "Hotspot" so a laptop with wireless Internet connection would be ideal, but not essential.

Your workshop representative on the NP executive is Chris Worsnop. Please contact him with requests for future workshops and with any questions about those listed here.

905 372-2126

cworsnop@cogeco.ca

NUMBER TWO

“Directing for the First Time”

Intended for people who have not directed before, or those who would like to brush up their skills

Sat, Sep 27, 2008, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm; Sun, Sep 28. 9:30 am – noon
\$75.00. (NP members get a discount!)
10.00 for catered lunch on site
At the Fire Hall

Workshop leader: Ron Cameron-Lewis
Ron teaches theatre and drama at the Oakville Campus of Sheridan College, and at the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

Limited to 15 registrants

Sign up and learn:

- Introduction: Who we are, where we're from & where we're going
- Pre-production stages
- Auditions
- Readings
- Casting
- For type/against type
- Rehearsal process
- Stages of rehearsal
- Warm-ups & methods to enhance the "company"
- Building on creativity
- Improvisation
- Exercises to enhance acting choices
- Giving notes – getting the best
- When to control; learning to let actors fly
- Post mortem analysis
- General advice
- Blunt advice
- Styles of theatre
- Major ensemble problems & advice for addressing them
- Qualities of a good director
- Wrap-up session

Ron will adapt the content to the needs of the group, but will aim to cover the topics listed.

NUMBER THREE

“Set Design & Set Painting”

Intended for anyone interested

All Day Sat and Sun a.m. one weekend in January or February, 2009
Fee TBA (NP members get a discount!)
Location TBA

Workshop Leader: Dr. Jane Coryell

Winner of 9 awards for best set design in the Association of Community Theatres—Central Ontario Festival (plus 7 other nominations)

Limited to 15 registrants.

The first day will be devoted to some Secrets of set design.

The second half day will reveal some Incredible painting techniques to make a set look real under stage lights.

This workshop is still in the formative stages, but the leader and approximate time frame are confirmed.

Confirmation, Fees, Subsidies & Reimbursements

Workshops are announced to NP Members at least one week before other groups in the Eastern Ontario Drama League. Once the information is made public, reservations are first-come-first-served.

A registration is confirmed only when the payment for the workshop is received, either by cheque or credit card. To pay by credit card call Chris at 905 372-2126, or call the Fire Hall.

A standard fee for each workshop is established relative to the actual cost to NP. This fee is quoted to all comers.

For any workshop, paid-up NP members qualify for a 30% subsidy from the 50/50 draw income gathered at our performances.

A full reimbursement will be paid to any registrant whose cancellation is received at least 14 days prior to the workshop date.

Just So Proud to Say... continued

I was most proud to say that our members support the organization with donations and thousands of volunteer hours, mounting shows in four different theatre venues in the area. Two weeks ago, I called members to help clean up our storage space and 15 volunteers spent four hours of a nice weekend organizing and throwing away old materials to enable us to work more efficiently. We had a BBQ and the task didn't seem so difficult.

So you see I have a great deal of which to be proud. I am surrounded by artists, musicians, craftsman, performers and most importantly friends who understand the importance of "community" in community theatre. This is a great way to play and grow isn't it?

Auditions

Northumberland Players 2009 Musical Production

HAIR

Director Shannon Oliver Producer Ann Dobby Choreography Alina Adjemian

Sun Sept 14 1 pm at the Firehall Theatre

Show dates Feb 27—March 7, 2009

Please come prepared with a vocal audition and two copies of your music.

There will be a choreography audition as well.

Cast consists of 25 to 30 characters ages 18—35

Dinner Theatre

On Golden Pond

Directed by Dave Clark Produced by Jack Boyagian

Audition date TBA (sometime in September 2008)

Production dates Jan 23—Feb 8 2009

Cast consists of three men and two women 35-70 years of age & one boy age 14

SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

We have a limited number of spaces available in our 6 summer theatre camps this summer (2 of them have been filled up!) Summer camp registration forms are available on our website at northumberlandplayers.com If you are interested in sending your child or know someone who would benefit from this camp experience please tell them about us.

There are 5 fabulous instructors and plans for a great summer of teaching everything from script to stage.