



# ST LUKE'S PLAYERS

## NEWSLETTER December 2007

### “BELL, BOOK & CANDLE”

Congratulations to everyone involved with the Players' first production of the 2007/2008 Season - “Bell, Book & Candle”, especially to Sharon Sutherland who made her directorial debut. Here is what she had to say after the experience: “Every time I take on a new role in a production, I'm struck by just how much more there is to it that I knew before. My first time directing on my own was no different of course! *Bell, Book and Candle* was a long road from start to finish (starting with auditions way back in June), and yet somehow I still managed to run out of time at the end! As happens with every show though, all the crucial bits did come together and the show had a great run - now two weeks later, I find I'm starting to miss it! Like anything else in life, I can look back and see things I should have done differently, but when all is said and done, it really was a fantastic experience and that is largely due to the incredible group of people that I got to work with. From the cast to the production crew, everyone stayed easygoing, enthusiastic and good-humoured the whole way through - thank you all for your hard work, your support and for keeping it fun! Take away any of those roles - on stage or off - and the show starts to break down; take away the fun and what's the point? Finally, thanks to the Players' Executive for taking a chance and allowing me the opportunity to step fully into the Director's role.”

Well done Sharon and thank you!!!!

### “CINDERELLA - THE PANTO”

Are you searching for the perfect stocking stuffer? Are you having trouble finding a gift for that hard-to-buy-for grandchild, parent or grandparent? Are you looking for some lively entertainment after Christmas, other than television or video games, that is suitable for the whole family?

Well, St Luke's Players, with a cast of over 30, will be presenting “Cinderella - the Panto” this year. If you missed “Aladdin” last year, you're in for a special treat, whether you are a child, parent, grandparent or just like having fun! If you enjoyed “Aladdin” - this will be more of the same!

Based loosely on the well-known fairy tale of Cinderella, this family entertainment will include all of the components found in traditional British pantomime. The story unfolds with colourful sets and costumes, popular songs, exciting chase scenes, scary monsters and humour for all ages, with everyone living happily ever after!

Maybe you have never experienced a pantomime before. Does it have anything to do with pants? No. Is it some kind of silent entertainment? Oh no, current pantomimes are anything but silent! Cinderella audiences will be encouraged to boo the evil Landlord, laugh at the Ugly Stepsisters, swoon at the handsome Prince, be spellbound by the magic of the Fairy Godmother, sing along with Buttons & Cinders and moo at Daisy the cow. So how does a cow find herself in the story of Cinderella, along with six mice, two horses and a cat? Why are Cinderella's two stepsisters played by men? What is Tinkerbell doing in this fairy tale? Why is Cinderella at a disco party, instead of the ball? Who are the Tree Huggers and how do they fit into the plot? How do you make roly-poly-pudding? To find out the answers to these, and many other intriguing questions, you will have to attend a performance of “Cinderella - the Panto”.

Opening on Boxing Day afternoon (tickets are two for one), there will be five matinee performances at 2.00 pm on December 26, 29, 30, January 5 & 6 and five evening performances at 8.00 pm on December 27, 28, January 2, 3 & 4. All performances take place at St Luke's Hall - 3821 Cedar Hill X Road. Tickets can be obtained in advance at “Ivy's Book's” in Oak Bay Village, “Petals Plus” at 3749 Shelbourne Street/Cedar Hill X Road, or at the door (if still available). It is recommended that you buy your tickets early as most performances were sold out last year. Adults are \$11; Students & Seniors \$9 and Children under five years of age are \$5.

For further information please call 884-5484 between 10.00 am and 8.00 pm.

## NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

There is an interesting exchange of talent between “Cinderella - the Panto” and the Peninsula Players’ November production of Bernard Shaw’s “Pygmalion”. **Lynneve Stewart**, most recently seen in “You Can’t Take It With You”, and **David Mohr** (One of the Dames in the panto) played in “Pygmalion”, and **Jon Scheer**, who directed “Pygmalion”, plays Dandini, the Prince’s servant in “Cinderella”. **Frank McGilly**, last seen on the St. Luke’s stage in “You Can’t Take It With You”, was also in the cast of “Pygmalion”.

Reviewers and audiences of “Scotland Road”, the last show of The Victoria Theatre Guild (a.k.a. Langham Court), were dazzled by the stage set. St Luke’s vice-president, **Dave Hitchcock** helped with the painting.

## “RUMORS”

Neville Owen, who will direct our next show, Neil Simon’s hit “Rumors”, has scheduled auditions for Friday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 26 at 1:30 p.m. The auditions will take place at St Luke’s Hall. For further information please call Neville at 592 4285.

If you consider just the number of hit plays written and the number of theatregoers satisfied, Neil Simon is without a challenger as the most successful contemporary playwright. Simon began his professional career as a writer for top-drawer television comedy series, working alongside of such luminaries as Woody Allen for the likes of Phil Silvers, and Ernie Kovacs. He turned to theatre, and later, to movies, largely to put a more solid foundation under the laugh-a-minute creations demanded by television. His ability to dig deeper into the comic vein was rewarded by the Pulitzer Prize. As a fitting climax to his unique career, he was given the ultimate accolade - a Broadway theatre named after him.

After the warm reception given his “Plaza Suite” last season, we are bringing another of his hits, “Rumors”, to the St. Luke’s stage this April. “Rumors” deals with the various entanglements, misunderstandings and understandings of different couples concerning the state of health of another couple - who never appear on stage. Like Neil Simon’s other works, it builds its ample laughs around a compassionate insight into human frailty and strength.

## ST LUKE’S PLAYERS WEBSITE

Our members and friends will be pleased to hear that our website, [stlukesplayers.org](http://stlukesplayers.org), is in the process of an update, thanks to the computer savvy of Steve Sturgess. The website will keep you informed of everything that is currently going on and that will be going on at St. Luke’s, and will include items of general interest to theatre lovers. Bookmark the website, and enjoy!

## “YOU KNOW YOU WORK IN COMMUNITY THEATRE, WHEN. . . . .

- You can find a prop in the Ladies Dressing Room at St Luke’s, that hasn’t seen the light of day in ten years, but you don’t know where your own vacuum cleaner is!
- You have a Frequent Shopper Card at Value Village!
- You start buying your work clothes at Goodwill, so you can buy your costumes at the mall!

## FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

If you have material, news items or other information that you would like to appear in a future newsletter, please email it to Frank McGilly at [fjmcgilly@shaw.ca](mailto:fjmcgilly@shaw.ca)



# ST LUKE'S PLAYERS

## NEWSLETTER December 2007

### “BELL, BOOK & CANDLE”

Congratulations to everyone involved with the Players' first production of the 2007/2008 Season - “Bell, Book & Candle”, especially to Sharon Sutherland who made her directorial debut. Here is what she had to say after the experience: “Every time I take on a new role in a production, I'm struck by just how much more there is to it that I knew before. My first time directing on my own was no different of course! *Bell, Book and Candle* was a long road from start to finish (starting with auditions way back in June), and yet somehow I still managed to run out of time at the end! As happens with every show though, all the crucial bits did come together and the show had a great run - now two weeks later, I find I'm starting to miss it! Like anything else in life, I can look back and see things I should have done differently, but when all is said and done, it really was a fantastic experience and that is largely due to the incredible group of people that I got to work with. From the cast to the production crew, everyone stayed easygoing, enthusiastic and good-humoured the whole way through - thank you all for your hard work, your support and for keeping it fun! Take away any of those roles - on stage or off - and the show starts to break down; take away the fun and what's the point? Finally, thanks to the Players' Executive for taking a chance and allowing me the opportunity to step fully into the Director's role.”

Well done Sharon and thank you!!!!

### “CINDERELLA - THE PANTO”

Are you searching for the perfect stocking stuffer? Are you having trouble finding a gift for that hard-to-buy-for grandchild, parent or grandparent? Are you looking for some lively entertainment after Christmas, other than television or video games, that is suitable for the whole family?

Well, St Luke's Players, with a cast of over 30, will be presenting “Cinderella - the Panto” this year. If you missed “Aladdin” last year, you're in for a special treat, whether you are a child, parent, grandparent or just like having fun! If you enjoyed “Aladdin” - this will be more of the same!

Based loosely on the well-known fairy tale of Cinderella, this family entertainment will include all of the components found in traditional British pantomime. The story unfolds with colourful sets and costumes, popular songs, exciting chase scenes, scary monsters and humour for all ages, with everyone living happily ever after!

Maybe you have never experienced a pantomime before. Does it have anything to do with pants? No. Is it some kind of silent entertainment? Oh no, current pantomimes are anything but silent! Cinderella audiences will be encouraged to boo the evil Landlord, laugh at the Ugly Stepsisters, swoon at the handsome Prince, be spellbound by the magic of the Fairy Godmother, sing along with Buttons & Cinders and moo at Daisy the cow. So how does a cow find herself in the story of Cinderella, along with six mice, two horses and a cat? Why are Cinderella's two stepsisters played by men? What is Tinkerbell doing in this fairy tale? Why is Cinderella at a disco party, instead of the ball? Who are the Tree Huggers and how do they fit into the plot? How do you make roly-poly-pudding? To find out the answers to these, and many other intriguing questions, you will have to attend a performance of “Cinderella - the Panto”.

Opening on Boxing Day afternoon (tickets are two for one), there will be five matinee performances at 2.00 pm on December 26, 29, 30, January 5 & 6 and five evening performances at 8.00 pm on December 27, 28, January 2, 3 & 4. All performances take place at St Luke's Hall - 3821 Cedar Hill X Road. Tickets can be obtained in advance at “Ivy's Book's” in Oak Bay Village, “Petals Plus” at 3749 Shelbourne Street/Cedar Hill X Road, or at the door (if still available). It is recommended that you buy your tickets early as most performances were sold out last year. Adults are \$11; Students & Seniors \$9 and Children under five years of age are \$5.

For further information please call 884-5484 between 10.00 am and 8.00 pm.

## NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

There is an interesting exchange of talent between “Cinderella - the Panto” and the Peninsula Players’ November production of Bernard Shaw’s “Pygmalion”. **Lynneve Stewart**, most recently seen in “You Can’t Take It With You”, and **David Mohr** (One of the Dames in the panto) played in “Pygmalion”, and **Jon Scheer**, who directed “Pygmalion”, plays Dandini, the Prince’s servant in “Cinderella”. **Frank McGilly**, last seen on the St. Luke’s stage in “You Can’t Take It With You”, was also in the cast of “Pygmalion”.

Reviewers and audiences of “Scotland Road”, the last show of The Victoria Theatre Guild (a.k.a. Langham Court), were dazzled by the stage set. St Luke’s vice-president, **Dave Hitchcock** helped with the painting.

## “RUMORS”

Neville Owen, who will direct our next show, Neil Simon’s hit “Rumors”, has scheduled auditions for Friday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 26 at 1:30 p.m. The auditions will take place at St Luke’s Hall. For further information please call Neville at 592 4285.

If you consider just the number of hit plays written and the number of theatregoers satisfied, Neil Simon is without a challenger as the most successful contemporary playwright. Simon began his professional career as a writer for top-drawer television comedy series, working alongside of such luminaries as Woody Allen for the likes of Phil Silvers, and Ernie Kovacs. He turned to theatre, and later, to movies, largely to put a more solid foundation under the laugh-a-minute creations demanded by television. His ability to dig deeper into the comic vein was rewarded by the Pulitzer Prize. As a fitting climax to his unique career, he was given the ultimate accolade - a Broadway theatre named after him.

After the warm reception given his “Plaza Suite” last season, we are bringing another of his hits, “Rumors”, to the St. Luke’s stage this April. “Rumors” deals with the various entanglements, misunderstandings and understandings of different couples concerning the state of health of another couple - who never appear on stage. Like Neil Simon’s other works, it builds its ample laughs around a compassionate insight into human frailty and strength.

## ST LUKE’S PLAYERS WEBSITE

Our members and friends will be pleased to hear that our website, [stlukesplayers.org](http://stlukesplayers.org), is in the process of an update, thanks to the computer savvy of Steve Sturgess. The website will keep you informed of everything that is currently going on and that will be going on at St. Luke’s, and will include items of general interest to theatre lovers. Bookmark the website, and enjoy!

## “YOU KNOW YOU WORK IN COMMUNITY THEATRE, WHEN. . . . .

- You can find a prop in the Ladies Dressing Room at St Luke’s, that hasn’t seen the light of day in ten years, but you don’t know where your own vacuum cleaner is!
- You have a Frequent Shopper Card at Value Village!
- You start buying your work clothes at Goodwill, so you can buy your costumes at the mall!

## FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

If you have material, news items or other information that you would like to appear in a future newsletter, please email it to Frank McGilly at [fjmcgilly@shaw.ca](mailto:fjmcgilly@shaw.ca)