



ST LUKE'S PLAYERS

Executive 2009-10

President:Jane Guy
Past President:Neville Owen
Vice President: .. Dave Hitchcock
Secretary: Jo Barnes
Treasurer:Bronwyn Taylor
Members at Large:Deb Taylor
..... Mike Chadwick
..... Wendy Cornock

St Luke's Players'
Newsletter is published quarterly

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For information about
St. Luke's Players go to:
www.stlukesplayers.org

Website created and maintained
by Steve Sturgess

President's Message

Jane Guy

Greetings to you all and hopefully you are enjoying the wonderful summer we are experiencing on the West Coast.

Your new Executive was voted in at the AGM on June 27th and comprises:

- President - Jane Guy
- Past President - Neville Owen
- Vice-President - Dave Hitchcock
- Treasurer - Bronwyn Taylor
- Secretary - Jo Barnes
- Members-at-Large
 - Deb Taylor
 - Mike Chadwick
 - Wendy Cornock

I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of all our members to thank Neville Owen, outgoing President, for all the hard work and dedication he has given to the Players for the past four years as President. We know he will continue to work behind the scenes, just not as *El Presidente*, though for this coming year he will have the position of Past President on the Executive and we will be happy to have his wisdom and experience to fall back on.

The AGM was followed by a BBQ with about 35 members

attending and the weather cooperated. Dave Mohr entertained us with a magic show which was enjoyed by all - the *piece de resistance* being the "appearance" of a yellow parakeet.

Many people said what a good time they had had and enjoyed the socializing, the magic show, and good food. Many also commented on the well run meeting, so kudos to Jo.

Many thanks to outgoing Executive member, Elaine Lewis, for compiling the audience survey results - some 357 surveys were received. The Executive will use information from these to plan for the future, particularly in the types of plays we will offer and where we spend our advertising and publicity dollars. We found that 23% of the audience were first-timers to St Luke's, 90% were over 50, and Noel Coward and Agatha Christie remain popular.

Jane



The Chalk Garden
By Enid Bagnold
Directed by Rita Humphreys

The auditions for *The Chalk Garden* were extremely well attended with 35 people seen over three days. It was very difficult making the final decision, as everyone gave an excellent reading. After much deliberation, the following cast was chosen:

Laurel: Kate Boutilier
Mrs. St. Maugham: Rosalind Coleman
Madrigal: Wendy Cornock
Maitland: Mitch Barnes
Olivia: Jo Barnes
Judge: Alan Ormerod
Other Applicant: Elaine Lewis
Nurse: Deb Taylor

The Production Team, headed by Producers Bronwyn Taylor and Sharon Sutherland include:

Set Design: Tony Gilsenan
Set Decor: Cher Owen
Lighting and Sound: Dann Sherman
Stage Manager: Jon Scheer
Props: Virginia Landucci
Costumes: Jane Krieger
Hair: Melanie Cummins
Front of House Manager: Dave Hitchcock
Set Construction: Neville Owen & Dave Hitchcock
and many others.

The Chalk Garden will be performed from **October 14 to 24, 2009**. It is a psychological drama about family and relationships; and our basic needs for love, attention, and control.

Rita Humphreys,
Director

Concession volunteers are needed for:
evenings Oct 14-17, matinee Oct 17,
evenings Oct 21-24.

Shift choices are:

- 1) available any time
- 2) available a certain day, either week
- 3) available week 1
- 4) available week 2
- 5) Matinee - Oct 17

If you can commit to one shift, or more, contact Bronwyn at 250-592-4826 or taylobr@telus.net

In August we started building new scenery flats in the basement at St. Luke's Hall. As these are finished, they will be taken upstairs and used for constructing the set of *The Chalk Garden* - designed by Tony Gilsenan.

In addition, Glenn Wright, Dann Sherman and Jon Scheer will be laying new flooring in the Dressing Rooms in August.

If you are willing to help please contact Dave Hitchcock either by e-mail (hitch@shaw.ca) or telephone (250 370 1291).

From the Archives Celebrating our 60th Season

Following the formation of St. Luke's Players in 1949, their first play was produced in 1950. As well as productions in the church hall, there were several entries each year in various drama festivals on the Island, often with awards for the play or actors. Theatre runs were usually two nights but it wasn't long before Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights were established. It wasn't until 1975 that four nights became the norm. This continued until 1987 when it was proposed (actually it was me!) at a meeting that it seemed an awful lot of work for four performances and the run was extended to three nights the second week. Agatha Christie's *A Murder is Announced* didn't disappoint. Audiences came but it wasn't until November 1990 that Wednesday was added to the second week. Matinees were not included until 1996.

St. Luke's Players have an interesting archival box containing scrapbooks of the earlier years, which sadly are in a delicate condition now, but also there are photograph albums, old programs and lists of plays. Many names, now familiar with Langham Court, began their Victoria community theatre involvement with St. Luke's, and the most famous, Margaret Martin, first mentioned in 1951, turned professional and has had a distinguished career. Who could forget her Emily Carr in *The Wonder of it All?* She was last seen in Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* at the Chemainus Theatre Feb -April, 2008.

Barbara Pittam



Panto Auditions Planned - “Oh yes they are, Oh no they're not!!!!”

Oh yes they are!! Although we are still enjoying summer, preparations for this year's St Luke's Christmas panto - *Jack & the Beanstalk* are already underway. Dave & Helena Hitchcock will again be co-directing the Players' fourth panto. The selected script contains all of the usual ingredients found in a traditional panto. There is a cast of 12 principal characters (including Jack, his brother Billy, his mother Dame Trott, a Princess, a King, a Good Fairy, an Evil Fairy and, of course, the Giant!) as well as a chorus of Villagers.

The show opens on Boxing Day and runs through to January 3.

AUDITION NOTICE

Auditions for *Jack & the Beanstalk* are scheduled for
Friday October 2 and Saturday October 3
at St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill Cross Road.

More detailed information about the auditions will be sent out closer to the time, but anyone interested in taking a part or helping on the production crew and who would like an early “peep” at the script, (or if you have any questions about the production) are asked to contact Dave or Helena by email (hitch@shaw.ca) or telephone (250 370 1291)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Memberships expired on June 30 2009. Many thanks to those members who have renewed their membership. If you still wish to renew your membership, please complete the attached form and mail it to the Treasurer along with the very reasonable \$5.00 annual membership fee and a self-addressed stamped envelope so your membership card can be mailed to you.

SEASON TICKET SUBSCRIBERS

Please note if you are a Season Ticket subscriber, the tickets will not be printed until the end of August. If you applied without sending a self-addressed stamped envelope (as per the application form) the tickets will be waiting for you at the door at *The Chalk Garden* performances. Unfortunately we can no longer cover the cost of double mailings. If you wish to purchase Season Tickets, please see the attached form.

You may be a winner

St Luke's Players and Langham Court now have a reciprocal agreement for comp tickets. All members are eligible to win 2 tickets in a draw. Once you've been the lucky winner, your name will be withdrawn from the pool.

Check out St. Luke's Players' website for more information on upcoming plays and to look at photos of your favourite productions from the past.

www.stlukesplayers.org