



LEAVES ARE CHANGING

Hello everyone, I hope your summer was as exciting as mine!

I won the Bob Sproule award at the 2011 QUONTA Festival!

Hurrah! In August, I attended the Theatre Ontario Summer Courses at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. This was the first time that I've attended the Summer Intensive Courses, and I was blown away!

I took the "When I Am On Stage... Who Am I" workshop, taught by Terry Tweed. The first word that comes to my mind when I

think of my week is QUALITY! The Theatre Ontario committee was friendly, committed and organized. They bent over backwards to help participants with any crazy problem they would have. Accommodations and meals were good. An evening of entertainment was also part of the package! I visited Stratford for the first time to see Twelfth Night! What a great show!

The classes were intensive and professional; I worked HARD but learned so many new techniques! The atmosphere was great! I had

a blast and met amazing people. The uncomfortable beds were totally worth it! Haha!

I encourage anyone who wants a great theatre learning experience to sign up in 2012!

In this issue of QxQ, you will find information on the 2012 QUONTA Festival.

Until next time, have fun, keep on sharing the passion and break a leg on your upcoming productions!

Yours in Theatre,
 Jessica Lajoie



Terry Tweed and I

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

School is back in session and the leaves are changing colors. This can only mean that our region is busy rehearsing and preparing our season openers. Break Legs Everyone!!!! It never ceases to amaze me how active we are in the north. Elliot Lake's *Elate* are busy following through with their preliminary plans for hosting QUONTA Festival 2012. Thank You Murray Finn for the tour of The Civic

Centre Theatre and showing off the upgrades to the technical aspects of the Venue. QUONTA would like to join Gateway Theatre Guild in remembering Bob Clout. Words cannot express how much these mentor/teachers/friends have given us over the years. What he has left behind are pearls of wisdom that we can pass on. He will always be remembered. How exciting is it for

QUONTA Region to be co-hosting Theatre Ontario 2012! Theatre Ontario, QUONTA and Theatre SMC have teamed up to host festival next May. A very exciting opening reception, amazing workshops for participants and Four nights of superb Theatre. I am hearing wonderful things are in store for us. It cannot arrive fast enough. QUONTA was very pleased to hear that the vacant Executive

Director Position at Theatre Ontario was filled by Carol Beauchamp. We look forward to a long, productive and amiable relationship.

We welcome you as Executive Director and extend an open invitation to visit us at QUONTA whenever and as often as you can. Have a safe fall season, Break Legs!!!

Penny Martin

GROUP REPORTS - ESPANOLA LITTLE THEATRE

Another great summer has passed and I hope everyone got to do the things they wanted. Our first order of business for the Fall is our Annual General Meeting, which is to be held on September 26th. A change of venue for our meeting will see us at the Legion in Espanola in one of their meeting rooms.

We will be holding auditions shortly for our Christmas Dinner Theatre. Our own Jason Morrow has stepped up to be Director. We are excited to have him back as Director and look forward to the new season. We will be announcing the

Play shortly and other announcements will follow as well.

My role as President ends with the upcoming AGM and I wish my successor all the best and commit to offering whatever support I can give. I will be staying on the Executive as Past-President and look forward my new duties. We instituted a 'staggered Term' for the Executive at the last AGM. This involved some (randomly chosen) of the Executive serving one-year terms and the others serving two-year terms. From now on, all terms will become two-year, but we will have some

fresh faces each year, due to the change. This year we will be seeking three (3) new Directors, unless those persons put their names forward again.

One of the losses we have already felt is with respect to Mike Boivin, Vice-President, who has had to step away from ELT and Community Theatre, because of a new career change and the fact he is residing (for the time being) in North Bay. Mike is already enrolled in Teacher's College (North Bay) and we wish him all the best. Mike has filled many roles from Actor to

Production to Executive so his absence is felt.

On a personal note – I recently had surgery done to replace a mitral valve on August the 9th - so I am sporting a new scar and a much improved level of health. Everything is going fine with my recovery and I have already started modest exercises. Many thanks for all those that extended good wishes and generated the good vibes I felt from my Community Theatre family.

Warren Maskell

GROUP REPORTS - THEATRE SMC

We are presently preparing for auditions for Thornton Wilder's *OUR TOWN*. The production will be produced by Thomas Brandstetter, Janet Brown, Terri-Lynn Maniaco, and Mary Polnick and will be directed by Joseph Lauzon and Loretta Durat. Terri-Lynn will be pulling double duty as she will also remain as the stage manager.

Theatre SMC is also proud to announce that their website saw major renovations during the summer. The process was a long one but the site is now up and running with new features including a blog section, social networking links, online ticket sales, a highly colourful and dynamic design coupled with high end functionality.

Information regarding Theatre Ontario Festival 2012 and Theatre SMC's production of *Our Town* has already been posted. Check it out at www.theatresmc.com.

QUONTA GROUP MEMBERS

You can e-mail our webmaster, George Houston, with your season's plays at g.houston@bell.net. He will ensure that your information is included on the QUONTA website. Thank you.

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GROUP REPORTS- GORE BAY THEATRE

Gore Bay Theatre will be produced in early January, and our QUONTA show, hopefully WAITING FOR THE PARADE, if we are able to cast it. We still need another woman (5 in total) however, we do have another show planned if unable to cast. All for now.

Walter Maskel

planning two shows, a children's show, WHICH WITCH IS WHICH, which



Terry Tweed

QUONTA 2012
 ROTATOR

GROUP REPORTS- TAKE TWO THEATRE

I wish all QUONTA members a successful year ahead!

Take Two Theatre participated in "Welcome to Timmins Night" and was well received by the hundreds of persons in attendance. We displayed some of the activities that our theatre group is participating in.

Paula Aiello will be directing the upcoming fall production of Ken Ludwig's, Toni Award winning, "Lend Me a Tenor." Roles have been cast and the play will be performed at Timmins High and Vocational School on November 24th, 25th and 26th.

The City of Timmins is looking forward with great

anticipation, to the upcoming musical production of "Heart of Gold". It is written and directed by a Take Two member and local playwright, Lauren Kuhl. Music is composed by Timmins Symphony's resident composer Luc Roger Martin. Timmins Symphony Orchestra is working together with Take Two Theatre and Timmins Museum to present this cornerstone event, which celebrates the founding of Timmins in 1912 after the Great Porcupine Fire of 1911. It will be set to take stage at Ecole Secondaire Theriault in June 2012. Watch for upcoming details and keep up to date on Take Two Theatre activities on

our website.....
www.taketwotheatre.com
www.timminsymphony.com

In January 2012, we will be having our Christmas party at the Legion again this year. A Chinese buffet will be on the menu. It promises to be another fun filled and entertaining evening.

This year Murray Tilson, one of our executive members, will be submitting entry for the upcoming QUONTA festival, called "GIN GAME", written by D. L. Coburn. It is a dark comedy about two elderly residents of a nursing home, playing a series of gin rummy. As their past lives unfold, the outcome of the game

becomes a metaphor for their lives.

Finally, I would like to say what an honour and privilege it is to serve for the first time as President and executive member with Take Two Theatre. I have acted and been a part of Take Two Theatre for the past 5 years. As, well I have been involved in community theatre groups in Bowmanville, Port Hope and Oshawa. I look forward to working with my fellow executive members Ted O' Connor, Jim Davis, Carolyn Cooper, and Murray Tilson, as well as, members of Take Two Theatre and the community.

Lindley Morrison

This years festival hosted by ELATE in Elliot Lake, will be adjudicated by Terry Tweed.



- Monday**- Elate- Whales of August by David Berry
- Tuesday**- STW- The Sugar Bean Sisters by Nathan Sanders
- Wednesday**- SMC- Our Town by Thornton Wilder
- Thursday**- Gore Bay - Waiting for the Parade by David Murrell
- Friday**- Gateway- Doubt by John Patrick Shanley
- Saturday** - Take Two - The Gin Game by D.L.Coburn

GROUP REPORTS - ELATE

Over the summer there have been changes to our executive.

President: Elizabeth Louis (2" 1-year term)

Vice-president: Fran Jensen (2" 1-year term)

Treasurer: Fran Perkins (1" 1-year term)

Secretary: Kim Arnold (1" 1-year term)

Co-ordinator: Margaret Yates (several years)

We have decided that we are not able to repeat last year's very successful

New Year's Eve Dinner Theatre. There were not enough members available to act or direct one-act plays for this time period. We also looked for another location in town as the acoustics at Collins Hall are not the greatest.

We are planning to participate in the One-Act Festival in June of 2012 in SSM and follow up with an evening of dinner theatre in June or July in Elliot Lake.

We will have an entry in the 2012 Quonta Festival in March 2012 and

are delighted to be able to host the festival this year. Plans are well under way for this event.

We entered two one-act plays in the One-Act Festival in June 2011 in Elliot Lake. We performed "My Narrator" by Norm Foster and directed by Elizabeth Louis. The second entry was "Let me Hear You Whisper" by Paul Zindel and directed by Fran Jensen. It was a wonderful learning experience for all with adjudicator Rod Carley.

The most recent success our "Variety Live" show, directed by Fran Jensen,

where ELATE presented local talent performing as vocalists, instrumentalists and monologues. The audience, though small, was impressed. However it did not achieve the goal of being a fundraiser for ELATE as we did not sell enough tickets.

We are planning to hold regular workshops through the year to renew interest in theatre.

Fran Perkins

GROUP REPORTS – SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP ANNOUNCES ITS 63RD SEASON

Come join us! All performances take place at the Sault Theatre Workshop Studio

Theatre, 121 Pittsburg Ave. at 8 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees beginning at 2p.m.

To open our 63" season, Sault Theatre Workshop will present *Albertine in Five Times*, by Michel Tremblay and directed by Lee Ann Pearson. This production will be a joint production with Chippewa Theater Guild of Sault Michigan. Sault Ontario production dates are October 12 — 16, 2011. Sault Michigan

performances are scheduled for November 3 - 5 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 6 at 2 p.m. at Chippewa Theater Guild, 7'00 Eureka Street. *Albertine in Five Times* tells the story of a powerful exploration of the life of one woman during five distinct periods in her life.

At the end of November and in December we will present the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*, by Steve Shaw and directed by Kirsty Wilson, artistic director of our young company Stage 1. This family friendly two week run will be staged November 30 to December 4 and December 8 to 11, 2011.

Our QUONTA 2012 entry is titled *The Sugar Bean Sisters*, a play by Nathan

Sanders and directed by Val I-Lorsepool. This play is an "exuberantly wacky comedy... weird and wonderful." In this Southern Gothic comedy of romance, murder and alien abduction, the Nettle sisters are determined to escape spinsterhood; with Willie Mae going to Salt Lake and finding a good Monnon husband and Faye, by hopping on the spaceship when the "space people" return for another visit. Performances are scheduled February 22 to 26, 2012.

In April, George Houston will direct *Over the Tavern*, a hilarious and warm comedy by Tom Dudzick. This Ed Sullivan approved play will be staged April 25 to 29, 2012.

In June, Sault Theatre Workshop will again present *Studio Gems*, an Evening of One Act Plays June 6 to 10, 2012. Also, back by popular demand, we will host the QUONTA One Act Festival Workshop with Richard Howard, adjudicator/workshop leader, June 15, 16, 17.

August 24 — 27 2011 our young company, Stage 1, presented *Get Smart* for a 4 day run to appreciative audiences and the young people had fun bringing the show to the stage.

We can now boast about our upgraded, smell free, washrooms which were upgraded over the summer. Check them out the next time you visit us!

Gail Nelson