

The Bugle

ECHO PLAYERS NEWSLETTER—
DECEMBER 2009

No one can be the best at everything. But when all of us combine our talents, we can and will be the best at virtually anything.



ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL WINNERS



Best Play: Parlour Games by Brian March
Best Director: Wendy Minton, Parlour Games
Best Original Script: The Cure, Ballenas Secondary School
Best Leading Female Actor: Evelyn Applin, Parlour Games
Best Leading Male Actor: Jim Currey, Closer and Closer Apart, Echo Players
Best Supporting Female Actor: Susan Evans, Ledge Ledger and Legend, Echo Players
Best Supporting Male Actor: Brian McLellan, Ledge Ledger and Legend, Echo Players
Best Ensemble: Ballenas Secondary School, The Cure
Most Poignant Piece: Closer and Closer Apart, Echo Players
Best Onstage Relationship: Geoff Jenkins, Dori McGarrigle, I'm Herbert, Parksville Players
Best Wearer of Many Hats: Margaret Jenkins, festival chair, director etc.
Oscar Award: Geoff Jenkins for his many contributions

We held our 5th Annual Vancouver Island One Act Festival in November and I am very pleased to report that it was again a successful event even though we only had Five Plays. Thanks to all who came out and supported the Festival.

Next Years Festival promises to be back on track with hopefully a full week of Plays. I have received lots of enquiries already so watch for further details in New Year.

Margaret Jenkins (Festival Chairperson)

DONATION OF SPECIAL SOUND EFFECTS

ECHO Players has just received an interesting donation. Jim Windsor, currently a Geography Professor at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George, has donated three CDs with over 200 sound effects (*Military Sounds, Sounds of the City and Trains, Planes and Automobiles*). Some of these SFX were used for ECHO's one act plays entered in last November's Vancouver Island One Act Play Festival. Jim intends to retire to Qualicum Beach and is keen to join ECHO Players.

NEW YEARS EVE WITH ECHO PLAYERS

It's that time of year again!

We are holding our Annual New Years Eve Dinner at Lefty's Restaurant
in Qualicum on 31st Dec 2009

SPACE IS LIMITED TO SIXTY SEATS (60) PLEASE CONTACT THE BOX OFFICE AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT **250 752-3522**

THE BOX OFFICE IS NOW OPEN TUESDAY – SATURDAY 10.00a.m.- 3.00p.m.

This year it is a Waiter Served Dinner.

MENU AND TIMES

6.00p.m. Cocktails

6.30p.m. Starters served Soup or Salad
Mandarin Salad or Curried Vegetable Lentil Soup
Rolls and Butter
Choice can be made on the night

7.15p.m. Main Course

Roast Baron of Beef with homemade Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy
OR

Grilled Halibut with Lemon Dill Cream Sauce.

Both choices include Mashed Potatoes Garlic Buttered Green Beans, Peppers and Romanesco
Broccoli

**PLEASE NOTE WHEN BOOKING YOUR TICKETS FOR DINNER PLEASE CHOOSE
YOUR MAIN COURSE THIS WILL HELP SPEED THINGS UP ON THE NIGHT.**

A Vegetarian meal will be available if requested at time of booking.

8.00p.m. (Approx) Dessert, Tea and Coffee

Choice of Nirvana (a four layered concoction of shortbread pecan crust, caramel cream cheese
chocolate pudding and chocolate Whipped cream.)

OR

Cookies and Cream (homemade peanut butter oatmeal chocolate chip cookie warmed up with Ice
Cream)

COST PER PERSON IS \$27.50 (INCLUDES GRATUITY)

DRINKS ARE EXTRA Beer \$4.00 per pint

Wine available Naked Grape Red or White

Cost 6.0z \$7.50

9 oz \$10.00

16 oz \$18.50

32 oz \$34.00

There are other wines available (Check Wine List for prices)

**SHOW TICKETS ARE SOLD SEPARATELY AND MUST BE PURCHASED AT TIME
OF BOOKING DINNER.**

SHOWTIME IS 9:00P.M. FOLLOWED AT MIDNIGHT WITH FINGER FOOD AND
CHAMPAGNE

Any queries contact me, your Social Chairperson, Margaret Jenkins at 752-0593



*You are invited to
The Echo Christmas Party
Where: The Village Theatre
When: Tues., Dec. 15, 2009
Time: 7:00 p.m.*

*Come and enjoy some eggnog, mulled wine,
Christmas cookies and mince tarts.*

*Lift your voice to sing Christmas carols, or just listen. Enjoy the
fellowship and take the opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday
season and the happiest New Year.*



NOTICE OF AUDITION RESULTS – “WAITING FOR THE PARADE”

Following an excellent turn-out of local talent and a resultantly difficult selection process, the director and producers are delighted to announce that the following have been cast for “Waiting for the Parade”:

Margaret – Kathy Harper
Janet – Laurie Clarke
Martha – Kelly Barnum
Catherine – Teresa Stanley
Eve - Allena Cave

Our thanks to all those who came out to audition, for your patience and commitment.

It is with great pleasure that the Board has unanimously voted to make **Phil Copple** a life time member of ECHO PLAYERS in appreciation for all his contributions.

Scott Murray is welcomed as the new theatre rental coordinator/stage & or green room bookings. The Board would like to thank **Diane Leblanc** for her work and for making a smooth transition possible.

Thank You

Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas, ECHO Players' Christmas production, opens at Qualicum Beach's Village Theatre on December 10. Written by Robert Fulghum, known for All I Really Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten, it has been described as "a funny, poignant collection of stories, songs and vignettes." The 22 vignettes will rekindle memories of events that were embarrassing but that, in retrospect, are greatly amusing. We hear of Christmas pageants in all their glory and chaos, the curse of Scrooge, when the season to be merry becomes the season to be married (a Polish Jewish bride to an Irish Catholic groom) and the omnipresent Christmas poinsettia.

Director Don Harper has gathered a strong cast of experienced actors, all of whom are known to Oceanside audiences. Eileen Butts, Rosalee Sullivan, Paul Churchill, Rob Atkinson and Brian Lecky bring their skills in musical theatre to these entertaining stories about ordinary people coping with the Christmas holidays. Kathy Harper, an accomplished musician as well as thespian, is the Musical Director and Accompanist and Kelly Barnum will bring her experience as a drama teacher to Stage Managing and Choreography. It promises to be excellent entertainment for the Christmas Season and, of course, tickets will make excellent Christmas gifts!

Performances run December 10 – 12, 16 – 19 and December 30 at 7:30pm, December 31 at 9:00pm and matinees on December 13 and 20 at 2:00pm. The Box Office at the Village Theatre (110, 2nd. Avenue West) opens for ticket sales on November 24th. Box Office hours are between 10:00am and 3:00pm Tuesday through Saturday and between 5:30 and 8:00pm on performance dates. Tickets may be ordered by phoning 250-752-3522 or by going to the Box Office in person during these hours.

Based at the Village Theatre in Qualicum Beach, ECHO Players is a community theatre society which has served Oceanside and beyond since the 1930s.



The Kingfisher



The cast and crew of ECHO's third major production, "The Kingfisher" due to open Feb 11. are rehearsing and planning. Director, Werner Koch, is so impressed with

his cast ; **Aviva Fox; Jim Currey and Len Mustard.**

Stage Manager, Gloria Grant, is already organizing with her generous good humour.

The Producer, H.M. Randall, is delighted with her crew and looking forward to many creative "good times" with this production.

The play is set in a charming, sunny, English garden.

We feel sure that the warmth of the lighting and colours of the floral greenery will brighten everyone's lives in the midst of February. Add to this witty, comical, dialogue, with the love story that is the basis of the relationships and you will certainly enjoy a delightful evening.

Plan to attend!

ECHO PLAYERS – TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Committee consists of George Murguly, Alistair McVey (Chair), Ken McCready, Michael Stebbings, Dana Fetherstonehaugh, Rudi Heijnen, Jim McArthur and Steve Beynon. During the recent summer, George Murguly, Ken McCready and Dana Fetherstonehaugh repaired several old inoperative fresnel and ellipsoidal lights. While preparing the lights for *Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas*, Roger Kemble, Ken McCready and George Murguly effected additional repairs to several lighting instruments. In addition, with the approval of the ECHO Board, the following new items have been purchased:

- Computer Projector;
- 2 ceiling-mounted speakers;
- 5 new fresnels;
- 1 RF video/audio modulator to improve video picture on the monitors;
- 4 flatscreen monitors.

Jim McArthur has built a new rack in the Electrical Room.

Prior to the recent One Act Festival, Michael Stebbings reconfigured the sound board and tidied the Tech Booth.

A Lighting Work party will be held on January 9th and 10th, 2010. All lighting instruments will be cleaned and focused before being remounted. If you would like to assist in this work, please contact Alistair McVey at 250-752-1980.

Social News

We had a great start to our 2009/10 season with the after Show Members Evening in the Green Room following "Menopositive the Musical". Our next event will be on December 10th Opening Night for UH-OH Here Comes Christmas. As I write this the Green Room is having a Major Facelift. So come out and meet your fellow Members and enjoy the new surroundings. Then on the 15th December we are having our Second Annual Members Christmas Party, come and join us in the Green Room for Carol Singing and Festive Food and Drinks.

New Years Eve Dinner is being held in LEFTYS IN QUALICUM. There are limited Number of Seats so please call the Box Office to reserve yours. The cost is \$27.50 per person including Gratuities. Drinks are extra. Show Tickets are sold separately and must be purchased at time of booking Dinner.

It will be a Waiter Served Three Course Meal.

We will have the usual Finger Food and Champagne at Midnight at the Theatre.

I will TOAST YOU ALL FROM MY SUNSHINE BEACH VACATION.

Lucy Churchill will be supervising this occasion for me with the help of others.

Thank you Lucy.

Please mark Thursday 12th August 2010 on your calendars for our Annual B.B.Q.

On behalf of my Social Committee we would like to wish All Echo Members and their Families a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Margaret Jenkins (Social Chairperson)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to **ALL** the New Members as follows.

Charlotte Asplin, Lillian Bramwell, Bill and Suzanne Adkins, Stacey Rynorchuk, Karen Chandler, Dixie Deans, Loise Holmsland, Anna Grieve, Brian Lecky, Robert Machan.

Should I have missed a name I apologise Welcome Anyway

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank All our Members who give endless hours of time in the support you give to the club which is appreciated more than I can say.... **"Thank You"**

I continue to pursue Ideas that involve Members and would like to propose a Membership evening of a Playreading!!

Would anyone be interested in joining, we do have the offer of a Play and Director in 2010. I would like to hear from one and all with any ideas or suggestions ...nothing is set in stone this is "OPEN"

Please call or email me anytime 250-752-3004.

brendajemmeson@shaw.ca

Hope to see you ALL at the Christmas Party December 15th.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and the HAPPIEST and HEALTHIEST NEW YEAR.

Brenda Jemmeson (Membership/Playreading chair)



Many thanks to all our Volunteers

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. The ultimate expression of generosity is not in giving of what you have, but in giving of who you are. I look forward to joining forces with all of you again, in the new year, to create more quality productions and lasting memories. So to you, my fellow volunteers, I wish you the most joyous of holiday seasons.

Mary Ann Kennedy (president, Echo Productions)

