



# BOX 94

## NEWSLETTER OF SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

### Sault Theatre Workshop

Community Theatre since 1948  
PO Box 94 Sault Ste. Marie On. P6A 5L2

Studio Theatre 121 Pittsburgh Ave. Sault Ste. Marie On. P6C 5A9

Member of:



Our Young Company is **STAGE 1**

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Volume 61  
Issue # 2  
Oct/Nov

## HAVING HOPE READY TO GO

### A Year and a half In The Making!

#### Having Hope At Home, the

tender and touching comedy by **David S Craig** about three generations of family dysfunction opens to a preview audience October 13 benefitting the Soup Kitchen and officially opening Sault Theatre Workshop's 61st season on Wednesday October 14. This marvelous production was days away from opening last December when lead actor and Workshop President Harry Houston was incapacitated and the production postponed. Originally directed by Richard Howard, the re-mount, featuring the same cast, was handled by George Houston.

In the cast, Kaila Wyslocky takes on the role of Carolyn Bingham the fiercely independent mother-to-be at the centre of the story. She is living on the old family farm with her partner Michel, a French Canadian, played by Steve Ancic and Grampa Russell played by Gerry Forsell. The sparks fly when she goes to battle with her authoritarian father, Dr. William Bingham played by Harry Houston.



Kaila & Steve

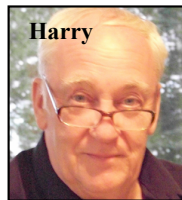


Gerry



Chris

Carolyn's mom, Jane, played by Christine Mair is very out-of-place in the tiny



Harry

ramshackle farm house and is appalled at her daughter's living conditions. Rounding out the cast and providing the major source of conflict is Dawn, the midwife, played by Bev Pelletier.



Bev

Bonnie Forsell is stage managing, with Chris Horsepool on light design and Val Horsepool looking after the set. Costumes are in the hands of Val Wilson while sound and lighting operators are in the hands of Justin Wilson and Kirsty Wilson

## LAST MINUTE CHANGES!

### HAVING HOPE AT HOME DIFFICULTIES NOT OVER YET!

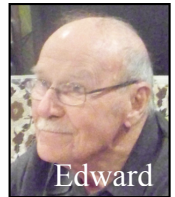


Bonnie

During rehearsal last week Stage Manager **Bonnie Forsell** suffered a stroke and was rushed to the hospital. There has been some stabilization since but she remains in intensive care and is being closely watched. Husband **Gerry Forsell** who had the role of Grampa Russell in the play has had to withdraw from the play to be at Bonnie's bedside. All the prayers of the cast and crew are focused on Bonnie's recovery.

Without a stage manager and actor, producer **Kirsty Wilson** and the company held a hasty meeting to solve the dilemma. Not wanting to postpone the production again, replacement lists were drawn up and a search begun.

**Edward Houston** had been asked to understudy and shadow the Grampa Russell role earlier because of some potential health issues with Gerry, but they had cleared up and Gerry had been all clear to do the role. Edward was asked to swing in and take the sizable role on short notice. Fortunately, he agreed and has been working like a trouper.



Edward

Stepping in as Stage Manager is **Dana Martin**, a veteran of our young company, Stage 1. Hopefully the full support of the company can help ease her nervousness in taking on such a large responsibility without a lot of experience.

The cast have been marvelous and despite the extra workload required to rehearse the blocking with a new actor and help to outline duties for the stage manager, moral is high. Director George Houston is pleased with the efforts and the "pulling together" that has taken place. It's a tribute to a dynamite play. There will be a lot of memories tied to this play for all sorts of reasons. You don't want to miss it.



George



## New Location For Marquis Sign

The Beaver Gas on the corner of Korah Road and Wallace Terrace has changed hands. **Chris Horsepool** is no longer operating that outlet so we had to find a new location for our sign. Fortunately we had a friend, Mary Rossiter, who owns property on the other side of that corner. Now we have some extra grass to cut.

## CINDERELLA CAST CHOSEN

Director Kirsty Wilson We have a cast! Auditions for Cinderella were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> and



18<sup>th</sup> of September and I was very pleased with the turn out. **Miriah Stafford** will be playing Cinderella, with **Jenn Floyd** as her Prince Charming and **Dave Walsh** as Cinder's long suffering father. The two ugliest stepsisters in the world will be **Joe**

**LeBlanc** and **Brad Jones**. Cinderella's faithful friend Buttons is played by **Justin Wilson** and **Amanda Vanderleest** will sparkle as the Fairy



Godmother. Rounding out the cast is **Dana Martin**, **Gavin Orchard-DiCorpo**, **Meg Reed**, **Lizzie Pearson**, **Kassandra Bailey**, **Tanner Allinson**, **Randa Tessier** and **Alexie Nystrom**. **Val Wilson** is handling the costumes and plans are already underway to

find/create the perfect ball gown for Cinderella. We've also started to put together a wardrobe for the ugly stepsisters that will do justice to their beauty and grace. Or not.

Sault Theatre Workshop Presents . . .

*"... Having Hope at Home is a big-hearted comedy that will leave you in tears—tears of compassion and recognition as well as tears of laughter."  
—Waterloo Record*

# Having Hope at Home

by David S Craig

On a winter night in a drafty farmhouse a baby is about to arrive. But modern medicine meets midwifery head on in a torrent of family feuding. As tensions rise between three dysfunctional generations, so does the laughter. It takes a baby to heal the rift in this funny, heartwarming story of forgiveness and hope.

Directed by **George Houston**  
Special Thanks to **Richard Howard**

**Studio Theatre**  
121 Pittsburgh Ave

## October 14 to 18 2009

8 PM Curtain  
(Sunday Matinee 2 PM)

Box Office : Adults \$18 Seniors \$16 Students \$5  
Call 946-4513 or 946-4081 for reserved seats  
or email order to [houston@sympatico.ca](mailto:houston@sympatico.ca)

We've started working on some of the songs for the pantomime, and they are bound to have people singing in their seats. We're going to be doing everything from Queen's **"You're My Best Friend"** to **"My Favourite Things"**. There's even a **Britney Spears** song in the mix!

- I'm so excited to bring a traditional English pantomime to the Sault for Christmas and teach a whole new generation of children the magic of the stage. I look forward to seeing you all there and hearing your voices raised in a resounding **"BEHIND YOU!"**

## PRODUCERS WANTED

Like to be in Charge? Good at organizing? Have a lot of contacts? You might be the very person we are looking for. Sault Theatre Workshop needs Producers! It's a complicated job but we can set up an apprentice program for training purposes and we have an excellent handbook describing the job. If that sounds like something you would like to do, contact any board member and let us know. It's a special way to be part of a play . . . and despite what you may have heard, it is not a thankless job!

# AUDITIONS

## String Of Pearls

By Michele Lowe

Directed by Val Horsepool

Friday November 13, 7 to 9 and  
Saturday November 14, 1 PM to 4

STUDIO THEATRE-  
121 Pittsburgh

Val Horsepool has picked a super play to present as part of our 61st season. She will be directing our QUONTA entry, **String Of Pearls**, by **Michele Lowe**. This is a funny and moving tale of a fated necklace that changes the lives of over two dozen characters. Val is hoping to make this amazing production all female – cast and crew! There are up to 12 roles to be filled (there will be some doubling of parts) for females aged 18 to 80. Val says if you play a musical instrument, bring it with you. Auditions will be fun. No experience necessary for cast. Crew should have experience. Rehearsals will begin the first week of January. Production dates are February 17 to 21 (16th preview performance for Big Sisters) and QUONTA performance Saturday March 20 in North Bay.

Note: This is a QUONTA Festival entry, which means it will have six performances in our Studio Theatre and one performance in the QUONTA Festival in North Bay during the March school break with the possibility of a Theatre Ontario performance in May. These festivals are competitive and will involve a professional adjudication. Participants will be expected to cover their own food and accomodation costs for the North Bay presentation.

There is nothing more exciting than taking a show on the road and becoming part of a special company! This could be your chance! If you have any questions, contact Val Horsepool or Harry Houston.

## Stage 1 News

### Kirsty Wilson - Stage 1

With a very busy summer behind us, it's back to school for most of Stage 1. That hasn't slowed us down though! Saturday classes are continuing, with a few new faces. We've been focusing on



monologues for the last little while. Each Stage 1 member was presented with a monologue specially chosen to focus on his/her strengths and weaknesses as an actor. We've been using the monologues to discuss how to create a character and different ways to approach the text. It's been a learning experience for all of us and given us more than a few laughs! We're hoping to present the monologues at the next Member's Night. Hopefully some of the more experienced STW members will offer some input on how to make them even better!

Our musical project "**Dr. Horrible's Sing Along Blog**" has been put on hold for a little longer. We were preparing to present



it for September's Member's Night when "**Having Hope at Home**" had a change of actors and the need for a fairly intense rehearsal schedule for the following two

weeks. We'll present the musical when we can find a time that is convenient for the cast and fits in with the busy studio schedule. In the meantime, some Stage 1 members have jumped at the chance to be involved with "**Having Hope at Home**".

**Dana Martin** has put her organizational skills to use and taken over the role of stage manager. **Justin Wilson** has been helping **Chris Horsepool** hang and focus lights and will be running the lighting board.

So what's next for Stage 1 you ask? **Cinderella!**

*Kirsty*

### YMCA ROCKS PROGRAM WRAPPING UP

YMCA Rocks 2 which is operating out of our Studio Theatre, (They use the basement and kitchen area) has quietened down considerably now that the participants are out on their various placements. **Mike Delfry**, who organizes the program, is pleased with the way things are working out. The program ends early November.

## MEMBERS NIGHT

Just a reminder, Members night is locked in! It's the last Wednesday of every month.



What is Members Night? It is an informal gathering of Workshop members for the purpose of socializing and experimenting, learning and creating, and having fun with theatre. At its simplest, we can just get together with some baking and coffee or tea and talk theatre with other members. We can read and discuss scripts. We can try out some one act plays with a friendly audience (members only), or direct scenes from full-length plays. We can play Charades or other theatre games. We can learn some warm up routines or have an "Accent Practice Night".

During the August Members Night a remount of "**Conflict**" the hilarious little one act presentation put on by Stage 1 for Rotaryfest was presented. We also had some excerpts from **Dr. Horrible's Blog** presented by members of Stage1. Some members got into a game of Poleconomy. September's night was to see a longer presentation of the Blog but the "Having Hope" difficulties as mentioned on page one took precedence.

Come on out on October 28 for the next one. The coffee will be on and there will be some baking! Call Harry or Kirsty if you're curious about the line-up or if you have something you'd like to do, or just come on out and be surprised. It is only open to members, however, so make sure you're up to date. We'll have membership cards there if you want to bring friends.

### Member News

**Joe LeBlanc** and **Rachiel Hartman**, both Stage 1 members who were awarded **Elsie McLeod Memorial Bursaries** in 2008 and 2009 will finally get to put this award to use. The bursary was originally tied to a Theatre Ontario Youth Summer Course, however Joe's course was cancelled and then the summer courses for youth were cancelled. After searching for a suitable replacement activity Joe and last year's winner, Rachiel settled on a course at Thorneloe in Sudbury. They were keen to go and almost packed when word came that those courses were cancelled. After a search and more questions the pair turned to QUONTA for help. At the October 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting QUONTA board members voted to present the pair with a cheque so that they could use the money to further their education in theatre in the best way they saw fit.

The future of the Elsie McLeod Bursary will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Box 94 Wants To Hear From You!**  
**SEND US YOUR MEMBER NEWS**



"I'm really an actor. I'm just doing this until I'm offered the right roll-er."

### Reminders

\* **The Long Awaited Production:**  
**Having Hope At Home**  
By David S.Craig  
Directed by George Houston  
**October 14,15,16,17**  
**8 PM Studio Theatre**  
**and October 18 2PM Matinee**

\* **Members Night**  
**Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup> 7PM**  
**Studio Theatre**  
**(Last Wednesday every month)**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**AUDITIONS – String Of Pearls**  
**Friday Nov. 13 - 7 to 9PM and**  
**Saturday Nov. 14 – 1 to 4 PM.**  
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**Season Packages Still Available**  
**Save Big – Reserve The Best Seats**

**BOX 94 Volume 61 (our 61st season)**

**Editor Harry Houston**

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**Next Issue Oct/November**

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Or Stage 1 web site [www.stage1theatre.com](http://www.stage1theatre.com)

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Membership Chair Val Wilson 759-4572

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