

Minutes of Scarborough Players AGM
August 14, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS	Katherine Turner (KT), Greg Nowlan (GN), Anthony Jones (TJ), Teresa Bakker (TB), Ian Fox (IF), Chip Thompson (CT), Carolyn Williamson (CW), Christine Dick (DC), Ian Fox (IF), Larry Westlake (LW), Alma Sinan (AS)
REGRETS	Anne Currie O’Brien, Victoria Badham, Catherine Lenihan (both with connection problems), Rhonda Upshaw, Joseph Van Veen, Dan Walsh, Susan Sanders
MEMBERS	Linda Brent, Jamie Higgins, David Rudat, Mary Nowlan, Lynette Hines, John Pirker, Vivian Lockton, Dot Routledge, Len Henderson, June Watson, Tom Girling, Brian Whitmore, Heather Hyslop, Jim Hyslop, David Eden, Laura Wilde, Holm Bradwell, Alan Maynes, Gary Prudence, E Jones, Wendy Miller, Meg Gibson, Bill Simpson, Jennifer Bakker, Emma Wakelin, Darlene Thomas, Danelle Abbott

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

ZOOM protocols shared

APPROVAL OF AGENDA as amended
 Moved by Teresa Bakker - Second Bodene Corbitt - Agenda Approved

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 23, 2023 – Online and on screen

ACCEPT MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2023
 Moved by Tony Jones - Second Chip Thompson - Minutes Approved

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING August 23, 2023 – none

The 2023-2024 Season Report – the Actions of your Board - Attached at the end of these minutes
Ian Fox as FOH coordinator, Bodene Corbitt and Christine Dick – members at large stepping down from the Board.
We thank them for all their years of Service to Scarborough Players.

Treasurer’s Report – Anthony Jones (PPT and doc online) - Attached to the end of these minutes - revised

APPOINTMENT OF OUR ACCOUNTANT – NOTICE TO READER MNP LLP
Moved by Ian Fox - Seconded Christine Dick - Appointment of Accountant Approved

Hearing from you, the Membership – additional questions, suggestions - comments
Members – Questions, Concerns, - none

AWARDS
The John Caldwell Pace Award is given to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the group – sometimes over several years or for a specific body of work in a season. The Pace is about those folks who get the job done.
Wow, capturing the moments that matter and always with such grace, good humour and warmth – putting even the most self-conscious subject at ease for last 10 of our productions. We so appreciate that he says YES each time he is asked to share his talent. It is with great pleasure and our thanks we **are delighted to present the John Caldwell award to *Brian Whitmore***

The Ben Gans New Star Award was created to acknowledge the work of new and/or junior members of the company for their contribution to the season. **There is some truth** to notion that if you need something done, ask very busy women. Well, these 2 extraordinary women rose to every task and then some. Both joined the company when cast in *A Christmas Carol*. They took the lay of the land and added their hands (and those of their family!) where needed. Hair and Make-up, Costumes, Assistant Stage Manager, Social Media guru and onstage again in *Shakespeare in Love*. Jamie brings her passion and west coast experience to each endeavour – Queen Elizabeth’s wonderful wig, helping everyone with hair, make-up and social media. Vicki was our ASM for *Steel Magnolias* (Yes, and!) as well as creating clear media strategies and wonderful postings for Social Media sites. It is with great pleasure and our thanks for their creativity and hard work - **It is with great pleasure we present the Ben Gans award to *Jamie Obregon and Victoria Badham***

The Maggie Caldwell Award was created to acknowledge long service to Scarborough Players. The recipient of the Maggie has served on the Board for 3 years working tirelessly to ensure that our audiences were always well looked after. He encouraged many to take on a leadership role as an FOH manager. He also invited new volunteers to begin their involvement with the theatre as FOH volunteers – stage monitors. We could also call on him to choreograph a ballroom dance as in *Halfway There* and *1949* – one of his many talents along with appearing onstage – last seen as Clarence, angel 2nd class in *It’s a Wonderful Life*. There is nothing 2nd class about this man-
. **It is with pleasure that we present this year’s Maggie Caldwell award to *Ian Fox***

Act-Co President’s Awards – Act-Co Invites member groups to submit names for recognition

On Behalf of Scarborough Players to Our Marketeers- Vicki, Larry, Jamie, Chip, Alma, Eileen and Danelle

For their creativity and dedication to getting the word out about our shows. It works! Our audiences are excited to buy tickets and subscriptions. Thank you, all.

On behalf of Scarborough Players to The Costume Squad for *Shakespeare in Love*

Sharing wonderful skills in creating, sewing, altering costumes and accessories, bringing 28 actors into the Elizabethan Age. Thanks Mary, Andra, Sandra, Annette, Eileen, Vivian, Sheila and Katherine.

On behalf of Scarborough Players to Meg Gibson, Director

Bringing her dream to life through her direction, choreography, voice work and intimacy coordination making *Shakespeare in Love* a palpable hit. It isn’t always a mystery!

On behalf of Scarborough Players to Mercedes Davy, Fight Choreographer

Being a champion and an inspiration in face of obstacles that would bring others down. You created fabulous fight choreography for *Shakespeare in Love* and appeared in every performance as a talented minstrel. Thank you for sharing your talent and keeping

TS Awards – Please attend the TS AGM on Wed. August 28, 2024, on ZOOM

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2024-2025

Motion: “Scarborough Players will continue with the current membership fee for 2024-2025” – Moved by Alma Sinan - Seconded Greg Nowlan – Fees Approved \$20 for Adult Regular Membership, \$30 for a Family – 2 adults, and children under 18. Children under 18 free but without voting rights at the AGM or other meetings for the membership

APPROVAL OF THE ACTIONS OF YOUR 2023-2024 BOARD

Motion: “To approve the actions of your 2023-2024 board” – Moved by Linda Brent - Seconded - Jennifer Bakker Actions Approved 91% Abstain 8%

Elections for the 2024-2025 Scarborough Players

ELECTIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 BOARD (screen share of nominees) **PRESIDING John Pirker**

Nominations and Results:

President – one nomination – Katherine Turner

Motion: to close nominations Jennifer Bakker, 2nd Lynette Hines Closed and acclaimed

Vice President – one nomination – Greg Nowlan

Motion: David Eden 2nd Bodene Corbitt Closed and Acclaimed

Secretary – one nomination – Teresa Bakker

Motion: Dot Routledge 2nd Chip Thompson Closed and Acclaimed

Treasurer – one nomination – Anthony Jones

Motion: Larry Westlake 2nd Ian Fox Closed and Acclaimed

Front of House Coordinator – one nomination – Catherine Lenihan

Motion: Heather Hyslop 2nd Jennifer Bakker Closed and Acclaimed

Membership Coordinator – one nomination – Melissa Wood

Motion: Chip Thompson 2nd Emma Wakelin Closed and Acclaimed

Publicity and Marketing – Larry Westlake

Motion: Gary Prudence 2nd Christine Dick Closed and Acclaimed

Members at large – There is room for five and we have five nominations – Harry (Chip) Thompson, Carolyn Williamson, Alma Sinan, Douglas Oak, Victoria Badham

Motion: Jennifer Bakker 2nd Heather Hyslop Closed and Acclaimed

Unanimously by acclaim. Congratulations to the New Board of Scarborough Players

REVIEW OF NOMINATION PROCEDURES FOR THE TS BOARD

Register and attend on ZOOM – 8 members needed for board – nominations needed by August 21, 2024

SP can put forward one name for president, one name for vice president and two names for members at large

Nominating Greg Nowlan for Vice President Lynette Hines 2nd Larry Westlake

Nominating member at large, Anthony Jones nominated by Bodene Corbitt 2nd Lynette Hines

Nominations carried

Others may stand for the TS Board by submitting a nomination form which includes the names of 5 TS members who support the nomination. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the AGM.

Other News from Theatre Scarborough

Our partnerships in Theatre Scarborough are strong. The Board works to ensure that the theatre is well looked after, the Box Office, Theatre Refreshments and all shared needs are supported. It has been a pleasure being part of the board and thanks to presidents, Dot Routledge of SMT and Len Henderson of STG for their spirit of collaboration. Thanks to TS president, Ian Fox for his dedication and getting the job done.

Special thanks to Wendy Miller, Mark Parent and all the Box Office volunteers for looking after all our patrons.

Special thanks to June Bedford, Rhoda Brachman and all the Theatre Refreshment volunteers for offering treats and drinks. Thanks to Susan and Bob Sanders for managing and maintaining the Hearing Assist.

Shout-out to Dot Routledge for taking on designing a new website that will be easier for folks to use and will be up and running soon.

TS and the City

Things have not changed much from last year in that we still do not have a signed lease, the heating and cooling continue to be a problem. For more information about our relationship with the City, you will need to attend the TS AGM on ZOOM on Wednesday, August 28th at 7:00 p.m.

TS and Community Events

We're Back! We continue to reconnect with some of our important community partners and add new ones.

Guildwood Day- the first Saturday in June at Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate

Canada Day East York Parade - organized by Valerie Lusted, Erin Jones

Taste of Lawrence July 5 and July 7, 2024 SMT performed

Please come to the TS AGM for more information

Guild Alive with Culture July 27 and July 28, 2024.

More information and details at the TS AGM

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SCARBOROUGH PLAYERS

End of Year 2023/24

Financial Statements

1.0 Expenses

1.1 Production Costs

	Half Way There	A Christmas Carol	Steel Magnolias	Shakespeare in Love.	Screwball Comedy	Total
Rights	\$ 950.00	\$ 5,458.56	\$ 2,049.89	\$ 3,101.38	\$ 2,260.00	\$ 13,819.83
Programs	\$ 1,453.66	\$ 1,684.24	\$ 1,542.26	\$ 1,711.94		\$ 6,392.10
Set	\$ 859.68	\$ 1,501.51	\$ 519.62	\$ 1,941.79		\$ 4,822.60
Food	\$ 577.91	\$ 822.19	\$ 952.19	\$ 951.93		\$ 3,304.22
Costumes	\$ 101.53	\$ 565.84	\$ 198.60	\$ 1,430.47		\$ 2,296.44
Ads	\$ 593.25	\$ 587.60	\$ 593.29	\$ 344.65		\$ 2,118.79
Truck	\$ 849.76	\$ 286.06	\$ 342.67			\$ 1,478.49
Scripts		\$ 720.88	\$ 583.84			\$ 1,304.72
Posters Flyers			\$ 254.47	\$ 251.14		\$ 505.61
Props	\$ 137.54	\$ 25.97	\$ 146.28	\$ 166.49		\$ 476.28
Makeup		\$ 187.05	\$ 166.87			\$ 353.92
S.M. Supplies		\$ 259.12		\$ 67.38		\$ 326.50
Fight Coord. Fee				\$ 300.00		\$ 300.00
Photos	\$ 111.61		\$ 90.21	\$ 95.16		\$ 296.98
Printing				\$ 95.71		\$ 95.71
Lights / Sound			\$ 67.79			\$ 67.79
TOTAL	\$ 5,634.94	\$ 12,099.02	\$ 7,507.98	\$ 10,458.04	\$ 2,260.00	\$ 37,959.98

- Note 1. The rights for Halfway There represents a late payment
2. The remainder of the rights and the script costs for Halfway There were paid in the previous fiscal year.
3. The script costs for Shakespeare in Love are included in the rights cost

1.2 Unit costs

	Total
Lease	\$ 36,038.56
Waste Management	\$ 3,143.35
Toronto Hydro	\$ 2,721.10
Enbridge Gas	\$ 2,509.45
Workshop Tool Purchase	\$ 2,196.79
Primus Phone	\$ 1,260.30
HVAC Service Contract	\$ 791.00
Supplies	\$ 594.86
Fix Thermostat	\$ 339.00
Vacuum Cleaner Purchase	\$ 322.92
Cutlery Purchase	\$ 152.00
Fly Traps	\$ 26.56
TOTAL	\$ 50,095.89

1.3 Theatre Scarborough Costs

Theatre Lease	\$ 20,900.55
CSF	\$ 3,047.14
TOTAL	\$ 23,947.69

Note. The Common Service Fee (CSF) is the cost of Brochures, Insurance, Box Office etc., divided equally amongst the three production companies.

1.4 Other Costs

Damage claim	\$ 6,080.44
EOY Report	\$ 3,144.22
Treasurer Supplies	\$ 441.21
Zoom Fee	\$ 242.84
50/50 Supplies	\$ 192.12
Awards	\$ 124.60
ACT-CO fee	\$ 100.00
TOTAL	\$ 10,325.43

- Note. 1. Damage claim: The cost of repairing the rental truck after an accident.
 2. Treasurer’s Supplies: Blank Cheques, Stamps and envelopes

2.0 Production Attendance

2022/23	No. of performances	Attendance	House percentage
Storm warning	6	940	38%
An Inspector Calls	7	1166	48%
Dog in the Nighttime	10	1556	64%
Arms and the Man	10	1252	51%
Total Attendance		4914	
Overall House percentage			50%

2023/24	No. of performances	Attendance	House percentage
Halfway There	10	1498	61%
A Christmas Carol	10	2122	87%
Steel Magnolias	10	1840	75%
Shakespeare in Love	10	1796	73%
Total Attendance		7256	

Overall House percentage

74%

Revenue	
Donations	
Total Member Donations	\$ 5,145.93
Production Revenue	
Ticket Sales	\$ 153,865.58
50/50 Steel Magnolias	\$ 2,665.00
50/50 Xmas Carol	\$ 2,356.00
50/50 Shakespeare in Love	\$ 2,208.00
50/50 Halfway There	\$ 1,631.00
Total Production Revenue	\$ 162,725.58
Other Revenue	
HST Rebate	\$ 4,859.82
GST Rebate	\$ 4,112.05
Costume purchase	\$ 56.63
Total Other Revenue	\$ 9,028.50
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 177,310.01

4.0 Income Statement

For the Period August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024

REVENUE				
	Production	\$ 162,725.58		
	Other	\$ 9,028.50		
	Donations	\$ 5,145.93		
	Membership	\$ 410.00		
	TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 177,310.01	
EXPENSES				
	Unit	\$ 37,959.98		
	Production	\$ 50,095.89		
	Theatre Scarborough	\$ 23,947.69		
	Other	\$ 10,325.43		
	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 122,328.99	
	INCOME (LOSS)			\$ 54,981.02

5.0 Change in Cash Balance

Change in Cash Balance
As of July 31, 2024

Cash on Hand, August 1, 2023	\$ 203,937.89	
Add Income	\$ 54,981.02	
Cash on Hand, July 31, 2024		\$ 258,918.91

Statements prepared
Treasurer, Scarborough Players

by Anthony Jones,

Report to the Members For the 2023-2024 Season

We are back – meetings, auditions, director hiring, play reading, Out Louds, Improv Fridays in-person at the unit, rehearsals, set building, costumes, props, crews, publicity, designers, move-ins, move-outs, closing parties, all times 4, and so much more. We were also back with large-cast shows

Our 2023-2024 Productions

The season began in September 2023 with the production of *Halfway There* by Norm Foster. Maureen Lukie returned as our director with Holm Bradwell as Sean Merrit, Coral Benzie as Janine Babineau, Lynn Oldershaw as Rita, Rhonda Upshaw as Vi and Anne McDougall as Mary Ellen. Set a small café in Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, as the town is known for being halfway there between the Equator and the North Pole. Each day, around 4:30 p.m. the four women meet to discuss what is happening in the town and in their lives. Into this cozy ritual, walks Sean Merrit, the new locum to replace the town doctor for the summer. Set designer and head carpenter, Greg Nowlan with the help of the wonderful set musketeers, created a warm and welcoming café. We welcomed Kristin Chan as stage manager with Ciara Crozier as assistant stage manager and providing the props for her last show with Players before moving out of the city. Jennifer Bakker's lights, Katherine Turner's costumes and David Eden's delightful sound design added to the East Coast experience. The audience loved the show and laughed and laughed and laughed. One of Norm Foster's newer plays and one of his best!

December 2023 allowed for the return of a large cast show. Twenty actors playing 60 roles under the direction of Katherine Turner, created the world of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* adapted by John Jakes. It was wonderful to welcome many new Players to the company. Greg Nowlan as Scrooge and Chip Thompson as Dickens were joined by Dave Corbitt, Melissa Wood, Neil Kulin, Rhonda Upshaw, John Pirker, Alma Sinan, Larry Westlake, Caleb Upshaw, Victoria Badham, Gerald Seward, Mary Nowlan, Paul Coady, Tala Fayed, Matthew Thomas, Jamie Obregon, Avery Lara Gouge, Raya Talunay and Zev Stone. Set designer, Anthony Jones created a very analogue set – moved by the actors – to reflect the story as Dickens might have told it, taking us back to theatre in the 1860's. Chris Northey created a wonderful lighting design and Bodene Corbitt adding the sounds of the season. A costume squad helped create the wardrobe – from the Regency of the Scrooge's early years to the Victorian period of his final redemption. Young Zev Stone won the award for most costume changes – he played all the boys from Tiny Tim to the boy sent to buy the turkey. Thanks to Wendy Miller, stage manager, along June Watkins and Eileen Dalton and the backstage team kept everything moving at the right time. Thanks to Chip Thompson who played piano and helped everyone sing and to Alma Sinan who taught everyone the Roger de Coverley – the dance at the Fezziwig Party and a tip of the hat to Valerie Lusted who managed all the laundry!

Steel Magnolias – “the juxtaposition of strength and fragility is apt for Southern women,” says playwright Robert Harling of the women who inspired his heartfelt and very funny play. In March 2024, director, Greg Nowlan guided Alison Mullings as Truvy, Valerie Courville as Annelle, Rhonda Upshaw as Clairee, Coral Benzie as Shelby, Christine Dick as M'Lynn and Malorie Mandolidis as Ousier to create the world of love and friendship in Truvy's Beauty Salon. The one challenge of the play was to turn Alison as Truvy and Valerie as Annelle into believable hairdressers. Thanks to the wonderful

Steel Magnolias of Scarborough – Susan Jankovski and Michelle Jankovski of Susie’s Beauty Salon on Kingston Road near Fenwood- who shared their secrets and made it work. Lighting by Jennifer Bakker, Sound Design by Larry Westlake, and costumes by Katherine Turner (oh, the hunt for Shelby’s pink outfits) added to the spell of wonderful storytelling. Bodene Corbitt as stage manager and Victoria Badham as ASM along with Jamie Obregon, Kaylee Oak and Ellie Oak, kept Truvy’s well stocked and changed for the seasons. Audiences laughed and cried and laughed and stood each performance to honour all who contributed to the magic.

After waiting four years, finally in June 2024, *Shakespeare in Love* came to life. Director, Choreographer, Music Director, Meg Gibson, with producer David Rudat guided a cast of 28 to take audiences back to 1593 London as Will Shakespeare struggled to write *Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate’s Daughter*. Jeff Grujcich as Will and Misha Harding as his muse Viola had audiences falling in love with them each night. The talented ensemble, often playing multiple characters along Reggie, the dog, brought audiences to their feet each performance. They had to learn to dance and to fight (thanks Mercedes Davy) and sing and to constantly change the evocative set, designed by Anthony Jones. Wendy Miller as stage manager welcomed Cindy Alexander and Jayda as ASM’s. Wonderful props were created by Carol Kim and Jamie Darker. A Super Squad of costumers brought each character to life – Sandra Clive created Queen Elizabeth’s dress for Paula Wilkie as if by magic. Eileen Dalton created nurses’ wimples x 3 along we several codpieces and Vivian Lockton, the Queen’s magnificent collar and all the women’s head pieces. Andra Bradish sewed at least a dozen doublets while Mary Nowlan created Minstrels’ britches and skirt. This was truly an extraordinary collaboration with everyone onstage and backstage and creative team working to tell this story. A wonderful production to end the 2023-2024 season.

Your Play Reading Committee guided by chair, John Pirker, continued to provide opportunities to gather on ZOOM to read plays for possible future productions and just for fun. Here are some of the plays read throughout 2023-2024. Your committee is working towards presenting about 8 titles to the Players’ Board to determine the 2025-2026 season by mid-November 2024.

2024 Plays read, or to read, by the Committee:

Out Louds so far...

The House of Mirth by Edith Wharton and Clyde Fitch – Out Loud #1 April 3, 2024

Good People by David Lindsey-Abaire – Out Loud #2 April 10, 2024

Home, I’m Darling by Laura Wade – Out Loud #3 April 17, 2024

Mending Fences by Norm Foster – Out Loud #4 May 1, 2024, cancelled not enough readers

Other Desert Cities by John Robin Baitz – Out Loud #5 May 8, 2024

Ethan Claymore by Norm Foster – Out Loud #6 May 15, 2024, Cancelled not enough readers

Arcadia by Tom Stoppard – Out Loud #7 May 22, 2024

Ethan Claymore by Norm Foster – Out Loud rebooked – July 10, 2024

Dancing at Lughnasa by Brian Friel- Out Loud, #8 July 24, 2024, in person at the Unit!

Ten Lost Years by Cedric Smith George Luscombe and Jack Winter, based on the book by Barry Broadfoot Out Loud #9 August 7, 2024 - in person at the Unit

Plays Sent to the Committee

Some Assembly Required by Eugene Strickland
The Heiress by Ruth and Augustus Goetz
Cause Celebre by Terence Rattigan
The Circle by Somerset Maughan
A Christmas Cactus by Eliot Byerrum
When We are Married by J.B. Priestley
The Killdeer by James Reaney
Listen to the Wind by James Reaney
Laburnum Grove by J.B. Priestley
How Could You, Mrs Dick? By Douglas Rodger
Quiet in the Land by Anne Chislett
Gossip by George F. Walker
Filthy Rich by George F. Walker
Six Degrees of Separation by John Guare
Butterfingers Angel etc. by William Gibson
Stupid F----- Bird by Anna Posner adapted from The Seagull by Anton Chekhov

Not yet sent to the committee

The Father by Florian Zeller
Dear Santa by Norm Foster
Burn by John Muggleton
The Most Fabiulous Story Ever Told by Paul Rudnick

Dropped Plays

- some were sent out, some just discussed and dropped
Bob's Your Elf by Norm Foster
Seasons Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn
The Christmas Tree by Norm Foster
The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams
George Orwell's 1984 adapted by Robert Owens, Wilton E. Hall, Jr and William A Miles, Jr.
The Government Inspector by Jeffrey Hatcher
Marjorie Prime by Jordan Harrison
Hilda's Yard by Norm Foster
A Gift to Remember adapted by Joseph Robinette from the book by Debbie Macomber
Cranford at Christmas by Laura Turner
Coney Island Christmas by Donald Marguiles

Next Fall by Geoffrey Nauffts

Butcher by Nicolas Billon

The Waiting Room by Lisa Loomer

As you can see the Committee has been busy trying to find Good Stories, Well Told. If you have any suggestions, please pass along the titles to the committee. Christmas Plays are needed.

Again, thanks to John Pirker as your committee chair and to members Magda Nusink, Bill Simpson, Danelle Abbott, Alma Sinan, Christine Dick, David Eden, Chris Hardess, Lynn Oldershaw and Katherine Turner.

If you are interested in joining the Committee, please email John a

Director Hiring Committee

The committee to select directors for the 2024-2025 season, was chaired by Christine Dick with Bodene Corbitt, Chip Thompson, Carolyn Williamson, and Brian Whitmore. They interviewed several directors for each show and brought their recommendations to the Board. After questions, discussion and deliberations, the following directors were determined – James Quigley to direct *Screwball Comedy*, Sheila Gatensby to direct *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, Katherine Turner to direct *You Can't Take it with You* and Larry Westlake to direct *Pygmalion*. The Committee also brought to the board a plan to make the hiring process even more direct and transparent. We thank the committee for all their thoughtful work on this most important task.

Subscriptions are coming back – for 2023-2024, we had 672 subscribers and so far for 2024-2025 we have 709.

Introducing the Marketeers

For our 2023-2024 season, we did not have a Board member who served in the Publicity and Marketing portfolio. So, rather than doing nothing, a group of dedicated individuals came together with determination to get the word out and bring our audiences back!

Carolyn Williamson got the ball rolling. We had to resolve several issues including social media and You Tube access. But things began to get exciting as new members joined and put their hands in...

Alma Sinan – stories for patrons' news, Vicki Badham – social media guru, Larry Westlake – archives, videos and interviews, Chip Thompson – editor in chief, Eileen Dalton – ideas always, Jamie Obregon – social media, Danelle Abbott, - initially social media but needed to step away due other demands, Greg Nowlan – images and artwork, Katherine Turner – press releases and contact with the papers, Brian Whitmore – photographer! We love getting the word out.

The Remarkable Musketeers!

Almost every Saturday starting at 10 a.m. – they begin to arrive at the unit. Their goal to get the sets built while conversing, having a coffee/tea break and enjoying the good company. Head Carpenter, Greg Nowlan makes sure there is work to be done from clean-up, to building, to painting and learning how to use new tools like our brand-new Track Saw. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the remarkable sets of the 2023-2024 season: Tony Jones, Holm Bradwell, Tom Bakker, Kevin McDonnell, Ken Gray, Gary Lennox, Shane McDonnell, Mary Nowlan, Vivian Lockton, Will van der Zyl, Paul Coady, Bill Simpson, Jamie Obregon, Douglas Oak, Ellie Oak, Pat Wilson, Jasmine Oak, Kaylee Oak, Manan Desai, Melissa Wood, Griffin Young, Kathy Knight...You, too can join the Saturday fun.

The Lumineers

We would like to thank Jennifer Bakker and Chris Northey who completed the lighting design for all Players shows this season. There is a lighting team, and they all work collaboratively helping each other – Jennifer helps Chris and Chris helps Jennifer along with Alan Page, Emily Pople, Bill Scott, and Kaiden Hipper. Thank you all.

So, what else have we been up to during this past year...

During the run of *A Christmas Carol* and SMT's Christmas Cabaret we did a food drive for Feed Scarborough. We stored everything in the Orchestra Loft until Feed Scarborough sent their truck.



Theatre Scarborough

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On June 1, 2024, A team of volunteers participated in Guildwood Day and handed out our 2024-2025 season brochure. Anytime we get to interact with the community is positive. Residents of Guildwood are our potential audience and they often do not know the theatre is just west of them. We were in the parade along with Rick and Evan Macdonald's beautiful vintage cars -Valerie Lusted, Rhonda Upshaw, Andra Bradish, Maureen McMorrow, Christine Bonnemaision, Melissa Wood, Scott Baker later joined at the booth by Jessica McQueen-Bird, Lorin Beiko, Darlene Thomas with Katherine Turner.



Maureen McMorrow and Melissa Wood hold the banner
Evan Macdonald in his 1957 Thunderbird convertible

Canada Day East York Parade - organized by Valerie Lusted, Erin Jones



Taste of Lawrence July 5 and July 7, 2024 SMT performed

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Andra Bradish and Elizabeth Santos at the Booth

SP and ACT-CO – the Association of Community Theatres – Central Ontario

Through ACT-CO, we continue to engage with Community Theatre groups across Central Ontario to share stories, plans and some solutions as we all continue to recover from the pandemic. The groups agreed that all had recovered enough to bring back the Act-Co Festival and a Gala for the 2024-2025 Season. Adjudicators have been announced, and the festival will begin on October 17, 2024 and run until April 13, 2025. A Gala committee is working to create a new experience for the Spring celebration rather than what felt like a wedding in a banquet hall. We would like to thank Act-Co president, Anne Currie O'Brien, and her Board for keeping us all in the loop, working together. Act-Co continued to offer workshops and townhalls as well as monthly newsletters to keep us informed. Act-Co social media was active reminding everyone about auditions, performances, and opportunities for live theatre across the GTA and beyond.

Reports from your Board Members for 2023-2024

Katherine Turner – President

It has been a very busy season with much work being done by many hands to produce Good Stories. Well told. We have completed an exciting and well attended season. As always, it is a pleasure to serve Scarborough Players

- Served as President of the Board – created and sent agendas and pertinent documents, chaired board meetings – The Board traditionally meets on the 2nd Monday of the month – we try to follow the Saturday TS meeting.
- Sent out Newsletters and New Blasts to Membership - they were not pretty but were informative!
- Wrote a few Press Releases supporting the work of the Marketeers
- Submitted permit requests – schedules to the Scarborough Village Recreation Centre
- Served on the Play Reading Committee
- Audition coordinator for three shows this season
- Served on the Theatre Scarborough Board as Players’ President
- Coordinated volunteers for Guildwood Day and The Guild Alive with Culture
- Directed *A Christmas Carol*
- Produced *Halfway There*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Steel Magnolias*
- Costume coordinator for *Shakespeare in Love*
- Had fun doing the 50/50 all season with help from Mary Nowlan and Linda Brent

Greg Nowlan – Vice-President

As Vice-President, I served on the Scarborough Players Board and made decisions around the running of our group with the rest of the board.

Other things that I did in support of Scarborough Players:

- Designed posters and flyers and programmes
- made Magnet mementos for all shows
- Master carpenter for the season
- Designed 2 sets
- Drove the truck for load-ins and load-outs
- Served on the TS board
- Got some acting in - *A Christmas Carol*
- Got some directing in - *Steel Magnolias*
- Other small chores along the way

Anthony Jones - Treasurer

As treasurer for Scarborough Players, I was responsible for the payment of all bills and invoices and the depositing of all cheques. In addition, I presented a monthly financial report to each board meeting and a financial report to the Annual General Meeting.

This season I also had the pleasure of doing the set design for *A Christmas Carol* and *Shakespeare in Love*.

Teresa Bakker - Secretary

I love being part of the Scarborough Players Board and am very proud of the work we do. In the last year as secretary I have attended, participated in and written minutes for the monthly meetings. I also wrote the minutes for the 2023 AGM.

I have volunteered in the box office for almost every Scarborough Theatre show. I stage managed two STG shows; *Trap For A Lonely Man* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Outside of Scarborough Theatre I manage the box office for Ajax Community Theatre and was stage manager for their production of *Doubt*. I am currently stage managing *Barefoot in the Park* for Oshawa Little Theatre which opens September 26th. I look forward to continuing as secretary for Scarborough Players if the members vote me in.

Ian Fox- Front of House Coordinator

There are now almost 250 names in the database of folks who have volunteered for FOH assignments, many of whom are first timers. The number of people willing to act as FOH Managers has also grown and for many volunteers, they come together as old friends ready to enjoy their evening at the theatre. Getting 70 of you for every show is not always easy but it usually works out in the end. It has been my pleasure to serve as FOH Coordinator for the past few years and I am pleased to be on record as nominating Heather Hyslop to be my replacement. She is well experienced with the Theatre Scarborough environment, and I feel very confident that she will do an excellent job in the role. I would also like to thank all the FOH volunteers for their time and efforts. It has been most enjoyable meeting and working with you and your support has been all that I could have wished for. *(Please Note: We thank Heather for agreeing to take over. However, Heather chose to remain on the STG board and therefore could not serve on the Players' Board. Catherine Lenihan has been nominated as FOH coordinator.)*

Bodene Corbitt - Membership Co-ordinator

This past season, I stage managed *Steel Magnolias*, did sound design for *A Christmas Carol* and am currently stage managing and sound designing for *Screwball Comedy*. I was a member of the Director Hiring Committee for the 24/25 Season.

I am leaving the Board this year because we have many new members with amazing skills that will help the Board move forward. I want to free up a spot! I will still be active in the productions. I have had a wonderful time working all these years with the Board and have made great friends.

Alma Sinan - Member at Large

- SP Board: participated in board meetings
- member of SP's Play Reading Committee: read & critiqued plays, attended meetings and Out Louds.
- member of SP Marketeers: wrote descriptions of the 4 shows for the 2024/2025 season brochure, wrote articles for the newsletters, helped edit other items like press releases as requested.
- SP Front of House: volunteered as Stage Monitor for several shows
- performed in *A Christmas Carol* (December 2023) and volunteered as dance coach for that production
- created a public dance workshop "Be a Guest at Fezziwig's Party (Learn Regency Dance)" for SP in December 2023 in support/promotion of *A Christmas Carol*

Carolyn Williamson – Member at Large

This was my ninth year on the board, and my fourth as a Member at Large. It was such a pleasure to work on a full season again (and what a season it was – bravo to all the fantastic casts, crews and volunteers who made it happen!)

In addition to my board duties this year, I continued teaching a monthly drop-in improv workshop. Having returned to in-person sessions last year, it has been such a great experience to see people together again, enjoying each other's company and getting back to object work and moving around in the space (we were all a little rusty on "improv from the neck down" after three years on Zoom!) I was surprised to realize just how long we've been doing this, and we'll celebrate our 100th session in January 2025! We've continued to welcome new participants and kept a steady core of long-time participants. If you haven't tried it yet and are curious, please drop me a line at scarboroughplayersimprov.yesand@gmail.com.

This year I also returned to the Director Hiring Committee and enjoyed the experience of hearing different visions for our season's plays. It was wonderful working with the other committee members and rewarding being a part of the shape of the season to come. I think you're going to love it. Finally, after a brief period of the Players being without marketing or publicity, I proposed a new approach that focused on a team of volunteers pitching in on a show-by-show basis, each of whom would be responsible for one aspect of the promotion. The Marketeers, who first worked together on *A Christmas Carol*, is made up of some of the most dedicated, creative people I know and since the responsibility no longer rests on a single person, I can see true joy and playfulness coming out in the work. After stepping back while I focused on other endeavours, I look forward to rejoining them to work on the 2024/2025 season.

It has been my pleasure to serve the members of the Scarborough Players this season and it would be an honour to continue to do so.

Chip Thompson – Member at Large

I attended all board meetings this year, save one. I served on the Director Hiring Committee, read scripts and participated in the play selection process for next season. As a member of the Marketing Committee, I edited newsletters and promotional materials. Additionally, I volunteered for Front of House and took part in several Out Louds with the Play Reading Committee. Also enjoyed being Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol*.

Christine Dick – Member at Large

In my role as a Member-at-Large, my primary responsibility for this year was to chair the Director Hiring Committee. My thoughtful fellow Committee members – Chip Thompson, Bodene Corbitt, Carolyn Williamson and Brian Whitmore – and I identified some improvements to the process, so the next Director Hiring Committee can look forward to an even smoother experience. In my general duties: I attended monthly board meetings, participated in play-reading "out-louds," was an Audition Greeter for *Halfway There*, and ushered/greeted with the Front of House team. I was also part of the amazing ensemble of *Steel Magnolias*.

Although I will be stepping down as Member at Large, I will not be stepping away -- it is truly a pleasure to serve Scarborough Players and the amazing team of people who love bringing stories to life.

Larry Westlake – Member at Large

First of all, I would like to say what a great year it has been! Having last sat on the Players' Board over twenty-five years ago, it was nice to be back with a group of people that really care about what they do – good stories, well told is true.

I began in the position of Member at Large and first took it upon myself to start archiving all the photos, programs and articles on our shows from the beginning of time till now. I had done this with Scarborough Theatre Guild. After having lost a few things to floods there, I found it a great way to preserve the history of the group. As of now, I am on my second memory stick with each Players' season listed and then each show within that season and any info I found within THAT file. This has also led us to what we are calling Throwback Thursday with Victoria Badham, where we are posting pictures from our Archives on Social Media. As that ancient saying goes: "you gotta know where you came from to know where you are going", or something along those lines. Besides, I think people get a kick out of seeing the old pictures and even spotting many friends and family members that are no longer with us.

Then came the videos. During *A Christmas Carol*, I had my camera with me and was backstage with Katherine Turner and made a comment about how it would be fun to make a commercial. Within seconds I was filming Katherine talking about the show. Then followed a couple quick interviews with cast members and the second commercial came along.

There was some problem with the YouTube channel, so I ended up creating a new one and started to move the videos from the old channel to the new channel – that was a lot of work, but stopped when we magically got access to the original channel again (the white labeled one) and that is where we are posting now. I will work on getting any newish content off the other one over the next few months.

After forming a small publicity committee with 'like-minded people' (Katherine, Chip, Carolyn, Alma, Eileen, and Victoria) it took off from there. (Jamie joined us as well along the way). Since then, I have made over a dozen YouTube videos/commercials for the shows this season and they have all been well received. For *Shakespeare in Love*, I went a step further and brought in help – a second camera man. This show was fun as there was so much to choose from: Costuming, Choreography and Sword Fighting as well as interviews with both the Director and Producer. While I was interviewing individual people and taking still shots on the first day of Fight Choreography, my associate had locked off a camera in the rehearsal room and was roaming around with a second. Now I know what Spielberg must feel like!

Having just finished the first video of the new season with the Director of *Screwball Comedy*, I can't wait to see where we are a year from now. Besides having fun with this, I am finding I am learning a lot about the editing process and for this old brain, that is saying a lot!

As I stated off the top, it has been an enjoyable experience this year and I can't wait to do it all again for our 2024-2025 season.

Thanks to Katherine and the entire Board!

Larry

Special thanks to Ian Fox, Christine Dick and Bodene Corbitt for their service to Scarborough Players Board and the members

In Conclusion

There are small tasks that can make a real difference—you, our members love being part of live theatre...

So, what do you know, what do you want to contribute...

- Write copy for a newsletter story
- Share your computer skills, your social media skills, your design skills, or your organizational skills...
- Join the publicity and marketing team!
- Do you work for a company or organization that might be interested in sponsoring a production?

- Do you have a social committee or website at your workplace where our productions can be included?
 - Bring a friend to a show who has never been to our theatre
 - Come and Play Out Loud – more to come in the Fall and later
 - Design lights, design sound, design sets, stage manage, assistant stage manage
 - Build sets, learn to build sets – join the Saturday gang at 10 a.m.
 - Find, create, and manage props
 - Operate lights, Operate sound
 - Sew costumes, repair costumes, find costumes, research, imagine, create
 - Clean stoves, fridges, and toilets... (We really do this as it must be done!)
 - Plan social events, cater SP events
 - Audition – Act
 - Direct shows, hire directors!
 - Produce shows, please!!!
 - Join the Play Reading Committee
 - Suggest Plays for Consideration
 - Join in, build a new audience, make a difference
- Share an idea and offer your hands to make it happen! To help – email sp@theatrescarborough.com and let us know what you want to do!

LOOKING AHEAD

2024-2025 – OUR 66th SEASON!

Screwball Comedy, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, You Can't Take it with You and Pygmalion

We do wonderful work - play a part, join the action – You are a Player!