

## Aladdin Gets Them Cheering ...

... and booing! Participation was the buzzword at every panto performance, and enthusiastic audiences were more than happy to oblige. The cast reciprocated, of course, with an appreciative wave or well-placed jeer, adding even more fun for both adults and children alike.

The cast was a great mix of experienced actors and newcomers, which worked well under playwright Bev Nicholas's direction. The crowds loved to hate Wayne Peeters' villain, Abanazar the Wazir, taking every opportunity to boo, hiss and shout barbs whenever he came on stage. His partner in crime, Scheherazade the Teller of Stories, was played to perfection by first-time cast member Amber Tabor. One of the funniest moments in the show was when these two scoundrels sang *Those Were The Good Old Days* and audiences didn't know whether to applaud the duet or boo the bad guys. They did both! Bob (Toby) Turnbull, Abanazar's right-hand man, Ahmed, had humorous run-ins with everyone from a



couple of 'actors' named Gert and Ernie (Jo Hubbard and Don Black) to the Widow Twankey and Wishee Washee, Aladdin's mother and uncle, played by Denis Stephenson and Chris Wright.

Central to the storyline, of course, were Aladdin and Jasmine and Aladdin's clever cat, Amir. Amanda Philip and Kelly McDowell had a great time playing the would-be lovers, and young Timber Philip was fantastic as Amir, truly stealing the show. Our panto wouldn't have been complete without the Genie, a Marilyn Monroe look-alike played by the talented Kim Peeters, a wonderful chorus of Sharon Creasey, Larry Creasey and Julie White, and a loveable camel named Humphrey, played by Larry at the head and Sharon at the rear. Bev Nicholas wore four hats in this production; playwright, director, producer and that of the Sultan of Magador. His silly Sultan delighted audiences with poems, romance and a little Macarena – or was it the Chicken Dance?

Gerry McNalty was our piano accompanist, with Bob Bagnell on percussion. These two musicians added a whole new element and really enhanced the production. Many thanks go out to Mike Hale who mastered the lights, Sheldon Peeters – the man behind the sound board, and Jane Turnbull our stage manager extraordinaire. They all had their work cut out for them with this show, and they delivered every single night. Thank you, as well, to all the front of house volunteers.

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## Annual General Meeting

Attendees at this year's AGM enjoyed lunch before the meeting as well as some pre-meeting entertainment provided by Timber, Rush and Fox Philip.

The Shelburne Town Council approved dates and the proposed plays for next season were presented. This All-Canadian season (see page 2 for more details) was approved and performance rights are currently being requested. A proposed change to ticket prices was approved and we will be reducing Friday night tickets to \$12 for the upcoming season. They will remain at \$15 for *Drinking Alone*, however, since promotion and some ticket sales are already in place.

A change was made to our Constitution repealing membership fees. Instead, anybody taking part on stage, backstage or front of house qualifies for membership. This was approved, enabling nominations to be requested. Carol-Ann Jorgensen stepped down as Vice President and Sharon Creasey was elected to the position. Jean Miller and Amanda Philip remain as President and Secretary-Treasurer.

## Our 2013-14 Season is 'Made in Canada!'

We are very excited to announce the proposed shows for the upcoming 2013-2014 season, all featuring Canadian playwrights. Performance rights are currently being requested.

First up, our fall production showcases John Spurway's comedy *Grounded*, about five passengers stranded at Pearson Airport waiting for their delayed Air Canada flight. What starts out like a Seinfeld episode about 'nothing' quickly turns into a spy spoof when a little twist takes the plot in a totally different direction. You won't see this one coming! Mark your calendars – the show, directed by Debbie Tait, runs October 4th through to the 12th, with auditions on Sunday June 23rd.

Next, Bev Nicholas treats us to a home-grown panto, *Dick Whittington and His Cat*. Dick Whittington and his cat, Tammy, journey to London to seek their fortune after hearing that the streets are paved with gold. When he finds they are not, he is hired to work in the kitchen of Alderman Fitzwarren, where he meets some colourful characters, and the Alderman's beautiful daughter. Tammy the cat becomes renowned for her rat-catching abilities and the evil King Rat sets out to destroy Dick and become the Lord Mayor of London. Complete with corny jokes and catchy songs, this panto will have you cheering for more! The panto runs January 24th to February 2nd 2014, with auditions to be announced.

*Jenny's House of Joy* by Norm Foster rounds out our season in the spring. Set in 1870s Kansas, this period comedy tells the story of the women working at the best brothel in Baxter Springs. When a young runaway lands on their doorstep looking for a job, Jenny and her girls are taken aback by her business savvy and penchant for the oldest profession. An all-female cast brings this funny and touching play to life. Directed by Jean Jardine Miller, the production runs April 25th to May 3rd 2014, with auditions on Sunday February 9th, 2014.

It's going to be a fabulous season, eh? Be sure to get your tickets early. Or, make plans to audition for a show – we're always looking for new members both on stage and behind the scenes. This could be your year!

### Thank you, Carol-Ann

We've had a great year in terms of working together on the Executive Committee and regret Carol-Ann's resignation as Vice President.

Indispensable in organizing our participation in 2012 in both of Shelburne's street parades, Carol-Ann is always a helpful person to have around and will continue to assist in 'growing' TSC with us in other ways. Alfie will sorely miss you at our kitchen table Executive Committee meetings, CA...

### New face on the Executive

Sharon Creasey, our new Vice President, is well-known to most of us. She has worked backstage as Stage Manager, ASM and line assistant on a number of productions and appeared on-stage in *Aladdin* this year.

Living in Flesherton and working in Brampton, Sharon's enthusiasm for TSC has already been demonstrated by all the driving she's had to do to get to rehearsals and performances. We can be assured that she'll be a great Vice President. See you soon at the kitchen table, Sharon!

This month's newsletter was written Amanda Philip with contributions from Jean Miller. Articles to be included in the next newsletter can be emailed to [info@tiplingstagecompany.com](mailto:info@tiplingstagecompany.com) before May 31st - attach a Word file or cut and paste them into the email message.

## COMING UP

### Tickets for *Drinking Alone*

Tickets for Norm Foster's *Drinking Alone* are available online at [www.tiplingstagecompany.com](http://www.tiplingstagecompany.com). You will also be able to purchase them from one of our three Shelburne ticket outlets later in the month. You can also use the ticket order form on the 2012-2013 season brochure - either the printed version which is still available from most Hills of Headwaters boxes (although demand has caused some to run out!) or the downloadable one for which there are links on the website.

### Help Wanted

*Drinking Alone*: We will be needing people to help with setting up on April 20th (10:00 am for as long as it takes), tearing down on May 5th and for ushering/concession throughout the run - April 26th, 27th and 28th, May 3rd and 4th. These are all evening performances except for the April 28th matinée.

If you are able to help set up, tear down or to usher for one or more of performances, please email [info@tiplingstagecompany.com](mailto:info@tiplingstagecompany.com).

### More Help Wanted

We need some assistance from members in selling advertising space in our 2013-2014 'Made in Canada' season brochure. All the features and benefits of advertising are itemized in the rate card on the website. So, if you have a business, or work for a business, which could benefit from supporting community theatre in Shelburne and, at the same time target the advertising of its products or services to a desirable audience, take a look at it.