

New Way To Reach A Larger Audience

The upcoming production of Dancock's Dance is a departure for the Players, an intense drama with an accompanying light and soundscape quite unique for community theatre. What a wonderful opportunity for HP to showcase the depth of its talent and creativity and bring this exciting production to the attention of theatre lovers throughout Simcoe County. HP will be a month-long sponsor and advertiser on the Orillia internet radio station Swiss Radio operated by Rob Reid, a recent fan of HP productions.

<http://player.spacialnet.com/players/skins/default/player.html?stationID=84895&publisherID=0>, or just type Swiss Radio and click on the link.

Listen for our ads (featuring the voices of Sue Cook and Ron Payne, and the music collaboration of Tom Davidson).

Watch their website under the Culture and Performance banner online at <http://www.swisssh.ca/id3.htm>. It's a pleasant and somewhat eclectic station.

Also of note well-known actor, director and coach, Scott Hurst has just started a monthly e-newsletter called Scott Talk as a free community service which over time will expand to include editorial and interviews concerning acting technique and actor profiles. Our ad will bring our production to the attention over 350 theatre and live art lovers in this region. Scott Talk is distributed free of charge to all theatre and performance arts lovers in Simcoe County. To add your name directly to the circulation list, send an email to: scott.hurst@sympatico.ca

huronian players

community theatre

NEWSLETTER

Volume 48
Number 1

Huronian Players Approaching 50th Anniversary

Yes, that's right. In Season 2011-2012 we will be celebrating 50 years of quality live theatre in Midland. That's a lot of history, and we need help. We would like to form a committee to sort through archived material and we are looking for a few dedicated individuals to gather information, sort and envision creative ways of displaying our past. If you have any old posters, photos, tapings, memorabilia, customized t-shirts, costume pieces or unusual props from past plays we would also like to hear from you. This is going to be a really fun project! Anyone interested in this exciting adventure please call The Studio 526-6987.

House Refreshments

Front of House volunteers are always grateful for those donations of baked goods, cookies and squares to serve up during productions. We thank all who have made this a part of their contribution to the Players. So, on those days when you want to warm up the kitchen, you can also warm the hearts of our grateful patrons with this simple little act of kindness. Thank you!

dancock's dance



Mature content/ Coarse language
Audience discretion is advised

a drama by
Guy Vanderhaeghe
directed by
Ron Payne

12 performances
Feb 11-14, 18-21, 24-27, 2010
at The Studio Theatre 427 William St. Midland

Box Office at NSSRC: 526-9395
www.huronianplayers.ca

January 2010

Our Little Touch of Broadway



Our Little Touch of Broadway Songs was presented to an appreciative audience at our Christmas Party in December. Thanks to Ron Payne for guiding an enthusiastic cast of characters (you all rocked!) through their paces, to Paul Sloan for lending his talents and accompanying our talented team and to Alan Lewis for capturing the moment with his camera.

The
Studio
theatre

427 William Street, Midland, Ontario L4R 4L3 (705) 526-6987
Tickets available at the North Simcoe Rec. Centre (705) 526-9395
www.huronianplayers.ca

THE ONTARIO
THEATRE
FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION
THEATRIQUE
DE L'ONTARIO

Tech Call for “Renovations”

There are still some slots to fill for the backstage crew of Renovations. With Doris Sloan directing, Alan and Diane MacMenemey producing, Maggie and Steve Killing doing set design and set decorating, and Jonathan Killing as Stage Manager -- we're off to a great start. Here's what we need:

Assistant Stage Manager: Attends rehearsals. Cues actors backstage.

Perk: Gets to wear a headset.

Props: Attends rehearsals. Finds props (A prop is anything handled by an actor.)

Perk: Some shopping.

Costumes: Find and/or make costumes.

Perk: Shopping definitely required.

Seamstress: Works with costume designer.

Perk: Gets to sew.

Lighting: Works with director to set lighting. Attends rehearsals later in the schedule.

Perk: Gets to sit in the booth.

Sound: Works with director to add extra sounds.

Perk: Talk to Jonathan Killing about our sound equipment!

Set Construction and Painting: Help construct and/or paint the set.

Perk: Work parties are always fun.

If you are interested in being part of the crew call Emily Harris, Executive Producer, at 526-4915 or email her at hp@huroniplayers.ca

Open Auditions for “Renovations”

Huronia Players is holding open auditions for Renovations a comedy by Elizabeth Elwood, directed by Doris Sloan. Auditions for the five male and four female roles will be Thurs., Feb. 4 and Sun., Feb. 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Studio Theatre, 427 William St., in Midland. The production runs April 29 through May 15, 2010. For more information call 526-6987 or visit www.huroniplayers.ca Scripts are available from Emily Harris at 526-4915 if you wish to read the play in advance.

Studio Night Madness

Have you been secretly itching to try acting or directing? Have you been off-stage for 12 long, arduous years? Here comes your chance to try it for the first time, or get back on the horse after a long absence. Or, perhaps you have a piece of theatre that you've been dying to do -- maybe something bold, challenging, controversial, esoteric or obscure? Or maybe it's just your favorite scene? Well here's your chance to do something about the dust that collected on that luscious piece of theatre.

Studio Night is once again on the horizon. It's a single-evening opportunity to stretch your creative limits, and those of Huronia Players as well. Essentially an event without borders, Studio Night is a chance for new directors and new actors to take to the stage. Optionally, the usual suspects can try their hand at non-conventional material – plays and scenes that would not normally see the HP stage. There are very few rules – and that's the beauty of it.

Doug Ironside is once again the organizational lead for this event, taking place Sat., April 17 at the Studio. By the time you read this, it will be February – time to get that interesting little side project together. If you're interested in acting or directing for Studio Night, or even just want some more information, please contact Doug at temerity71@hotmail.com.

Huronia Players Theatre Arts Academy: Maiden Voyage

It's full steam ahead and all engines are go on the Huronia Players Theatre Arts Academy. We have a talented and energetic group of 25 youth who meet Monday nights at The Studio to learn theatre skills. The 8-12 year-olds meet at 6:45 and are excited to continue with lessons on mime, movement, voice and improvisation. Our 13-16 year-olds are a friendly group who meet at 8:15 and have already sunk their teeth into some improvisation skills and will be developing these while learning about mime, voice and stage combat. Check the next newsletter for more exciting news from the Theatre Arts Academy! -- Riona Sutherland

“Dancock's Dance,” A Startling Canadian Stage Drama

by Guy Vanderhaeghe

In a dramatic departure from recent productions, we will present the thoughtful and intense work Dancock's Dance in 12 performances beginning Thurs., Feb. 11.

Written by two time Governor-General's Award winning Canadian author Guy Vanderhaeghe, Dancock's Dance is the allegorical tale of a shell-shocked WWI officer, committed to an asylum in Saskatchewan during the final days of the conflict. Forced to confront his fears, failures and guilt, Lieutenant Dancock attempts to face down the established authorities he sees as the cause of his downfall.

Dancock's Dance, as with Vanderhaeghe's previous works, explores the collision of strange and opposite worlds, and yet at the same time reveals the nobility of individuals who are perceived by the outside world as social underdogs and outcasts.

Guy Vanderhaeghe is best known for his award-winning fiction, notably “The Englishman's Boy” (a Governor-General's Award winning novel and lately a CBC drama starring Nicholas Campbell), and “The Last Crossing.”

“What makes this play such a unique production for the Huronia Players, and such a treat for our audience, is the story itself. It is a dark, intense, and at times almost threatening drama”, says director Ron Payne, a veteran professional film and stage actor himself. Payne has undertaken to challenge actors and audiences alike by encompassing the play inside a continuous landscape of sound and light. Along with the stark realism of Vanderhaeghe's



Early in the rehearsal process (from left) John LeClair (Rudy) Pete Sauve (Dancock) Ron Payne (director) and John Bleasby (Superintendent) work out details. Also pictured are modular rehearsal boxes, built and donated to us by the Central North Correction Centre's wood working department – part of their rehabilitation programming that contributes positively to our community.

script, this is certain to leave audiences spellbound. The plotline is not all doom and gloom however. While there is harsh language and some strong adult scenes, not to mention a ghostly visitor from Dancock's past, Vanderhaeghe's story offers each of the main characters hope for redemption. Joining Dancock in the asylum is Dorothea, a young woman robbed of individual thought and initiative by an overbearing father; Rudy, a child-like inmate who imagines himself an immigrant king from Germany; and Kevin Kennealy, a sadistic and troubled orderly. The conflicts arising within and between each character pose a challenge to 'The Superintendent', a disciplinary authority figure who struggles to lead his asylum forward in the early days of psychoanalysis.

S.O.S. "Save on Stamps"

With the recent postage rate increase to 57 cents +GST, postage has become one of those expenses we need to "address" (pardon the pun!) So we are asking if you have an e-mail address in your household, and would like to receive our newsletter and other mailings electronically, would you kindly contact us and we will be happy to add you to our e-mail listing. Call Mac at 526-2937 or leave a clear message at 526-6987. Thank you. The newsletter is also available on our website for timely and cost effective delivery.