

MUDDPRINTS

www.mississippimudds.ca

The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - Nov/Dec 2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From the Desk of the President - Jeff Lee

Our season got off to a great start and we have one of our three scheduled shows in the books. Congratulations to all involved in CP200+ Time to Remember for an excellent show that was a hit with our audiences. Over 800 people came out to see this show in total and they left entertained and informed about the heritage of our great town. Special thanks go out to the Town of Carleton Place for partnering with the Mudds on the show and to the Beckwith Heritage Museum for providing props and historical fact checking.

Frozen Jr. continues to move along with rehearsals and all are excited to hit the stage. We'll soon move into the building phase of this play so those wanting to help out with set build stayed tuned early in the new year.

Recent auditions for Mamma Mia! brought out a huge amount of talent both from main-stay Mudds and new-comers. It's unfortunate there wasn't room for everyone in the cast. This will be a fantastic show and community interest is already piqued for our Spring offering.

We recently lost long-time Mudds member and supporter Bette Lemaistre, our hearts go out to Bette's family. There is more in a further article on Bette's life and contribution to the Mudds.

Usually we'd be just finishing or in the midst of a show at this time of year so we have an uncharacteristic Christmas break for many. On top of our upcoming shows the board is working on some neat stuff for the membership coming very soon so please stay tuned.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all of you and thank you all for your contributions to the Mudds and our community.

GREETINGS FROM (GRAND)MOTHER MUDD ! - Jan Ferguson

A heartfelt sense of 'gratitude' to our hardworking Board of Directors, to the dedicated volunteers who work Nevada shifts, to all of the Crews, the Casts and the visionary Directors of THE LION KING, WE WILL ROCK YOU and CP200+TIME TO REMEMBER !

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

What a year for the Mudds family ! I couldn't be more proud ! And the 'icing on my cake' was the opportunity given by Catherine and Jenny to share the stage with you ! A momentous occasion for me, believe me ! From the make up and hair stylists who made me feel 'beautiful' to the patient back stage crew who kept me calm, to the whole cast who made me feel so loved and a part of them, I am eternally grateful ! The energy, the talent, the kindness and the discipline displayed before my eyes was a true testament to how and why the Mudds is what it is; (loosely quoted !;-)) ..."the best small town amateur, theatrical, musical company in the.....the.....World !!" ps. and I think the audience agreed with me, heh, heh



So, may this Season of Peace, Love and Joy surround you with those you love and those who love you !

MERRY CHRISTMAS with love from
(grand)ma mudd

Remembering Bette LeMaistre - Judith Scott

Last Tuesday I said goodbye to Bette, a long-time friend to many of us, and a fellow Mudds member to even more. On Tuesday 10th December her family honoured Bette's wishes with a moving and peaceful ceremony at St James Anglican Church in Carleton Place. There were many "familiar to me" faces in the church as well as many others I had not met before, whose lives had been touched by Bette.

Bette's nieces Pam, Stephanie and Kristi presented a tribute that touchingly recalled her zest for life. They spoke of her love of glamorous clothes and snazzy cars. They remembered the "on the edge" fun she brought into their lives as they were growing up.

Their tribute helped me recall the Bette I knew in the Mudds. A member almost from the beginning she worked hard to help the Mudds function. I did not meet her until 1984 and at that time she was an integral part of the Mudds. She served on the board as secretary for many years. She was the life and soul of the after-show parties. But mostly she loved being on stage in whatever role and performing whatever antics she was assigned.

And there were some antics! Bette did share a quirky sense of humour with some of us and I don't think she would mind me recalling one event where we were staging some Monty Python skits. Bette had a feature role in the "Bring out your dead" skit. She was always tiny, so she was the obvious choice for a corpse to be slung over the back and hauled to the cart. I can still hear her gravelly alto voice indignantly calling out "I'm not dead yet".

She had been in poor health for some years but in the last few weeks of her life the spark of her humour and sense of fun had somehow rekindled. At the reception some of us talked about that resilience, exchanged a few memories of Bette and had a chance to enjoy

the warmth of each-others friendship for a while.

As I write this, I can still hear her laugh and her voice. No Bette you are not dead yet. You live on in our hearts. As long as we live so do you.

From Pat Grainger: I really only knew Bette as a stage presence before I left town in 1988. In those days there was usually a rubber chicken showing up on stage in the last night of a run. I am pretty sure Bette and Pat Black and ??? had something to do with it!

We had a farewell costume party at the Link house on Oakland. The theme was the title of a movie or book characters or story line. Bette, Pat and Joel came as "Bell, Book and Candle."

When I returned in 2008, it was like we had not been apart. She was always interested in my family's doings.

Mamma Mia! - Meredith Millman, Director and Joanne Samler, Producer

Thank you to all the Dancing Queens who came out and auditioned for us, both live and on video. The talent was tremendous and some tough decisions had to be made. We are proud of the cast that has been assembled for Mamma Mia!. It's going to be an exciting production!

Rehearsals start on Wednesday, January 8th, it's going to be fun. The first night will be 7:00 - 9:00 at the Arena for an information session. All production crew are invited to this first rehearsal as well.

Donna - Michele Eno
Sophie - Amy Bourne
Tonya - Stephanie Scott
Rosie - Trish Smith
Sam - Robert Horne
Harry - Andrew McDougall
Bill - Jon Lockhart
Sky - Mike Alon
Ali - Seo-Yeon Whyte
Lisa - Joy Affleck
Pepper - Ronald Whyte
Eddie - Daniel MacDonald

Father Alexandrios - Chris Jones
Ensemble: Lisa Sonnenburg, Alyssa Stowe,
Ben Bourne, Patti Lockhart, Colleen Robillard,
Grace Gilbert, Laura Bennett-Ferland, Stefan
Kaleb, Roxanne Broer, Shawn Millman, Sylvia
Giles, Chris Jones, Sheila Csikany, Amber Hall,
Linda Beiglee, Helen Gillis, Melanie Perry, Mary
Capper, Pat Sargent, Kayley Kennedy, Kathy
Cosham, Alexa Narezny, Grace
MacDonald-Lee, Jodi Samler-Bakker

Can't wait to get started!

**Disney's FROZEN, Jr. Update - - Linda
Beiglee - Co-Producer**

Progressing into the next stage of our
production – this is the last week at St. Mary's
for rehearsals – after the Christmas break, we
head to the Town Hall – exciting times as the
show develops! Everyone is off book and the
singing is amazing! This is a show you won't
want to miss.

I'd like to thank Fr. Cosmas and St. Mary's
Church for providing us rehearsal space since
Sep. The spaces are hard to find and it's great
having the support of the youth.

On Dec. 9th we went to The Carleton Place
Manor where the Mudds kids sang their hearts
out to a very appreciative group of residents.
They mixed and mingled afterward and warmed
the hearts of many, including us. Honestly,
nothing like it !

We have done a photo shoot – costumes are
wonderful – Ann, Dalene, Stefan and Angela &
Kim took time out of their busy schedules to
prepare the girls for the shoot – watch out for
our poster! Tickets will be going on sale very
soon! Get yours early to avoid disappointment.
Show-wise, most of the blocking, if not all,
should be complete by the time we get to Town
Hall which is a great place to be – Sandra &
Kaz working away on this and Laurel has been
teaching and working hard on the music side –
kids are sounding so wonderful!

A production meeting was held Dec. 2nd – some
very good set design ideas coming along from
Julie as well as special effects from Jon & Jack
Lockhart. Everyone reported their progress and

things are clicking along – as we go into
2020, we're in good shape.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to
everyone! Looking forward to 2020 &
Frozen!

**MUDDS Holiday Skating Party - Christine
Dever, Board of Directors.**

Bring the family to the Carleton Place Arena
for a free skating session. Saturday,
December 28th, 2019, from 1pm to 2:30pm.
Check the MUDDS members Facebook
group page, closer to the event, for details.

**Mudds Social Scene - Christine Dever,
Board of Directors**

The Results Are In! Thank you to everyone
who filled out the survey over the past month.
It turns out we are a social bunch (no
surprise, there)!

An overwhelming majority (74%) of those
who responded would like to have more
opportunities to socialize outside of their
involvement in shows and meetings. About
half felt that when they are not active in a
production they don't really see other
MUDDS people – but would like to. 13%
indicated they are content simply to
participate in shows every so often. The rest
of the responses were somewhat evenly split
between those who get plenty of socializing
with their fellow cast and crew members but
would like to opportunities to meet and
mingle with those working on other
productions, and those who are happy with
the current amount of MUDDS "social
opportunities" because they already socialize
with MUDDS people both in and outside of
productions.

In terms of the preferred types of activities,
the annual summer BBQ/picnic was a clear
winner (82%, at time of writing), followed
closely by informal cast/crew social
gatherings such as going to a restaurant after
rehearsals (68%), one-of events such as
karaoke or movie nights (64%), seasonal
potlucks/parties (61%), and informal

gatherings not related to any particular show (57%). About half of the respondents (47%) said that they would likely attend 2 to 3 events per year, with the rest being evenly divided between none or once a year (9% and 16%, respectively), and monthly or as often as planned (6% and 22%, respectively).

Of the 8 parents who responded – 4 wanted more opportunities to get involved, 2 were already very involved, and 2 were also adult members in their own right. So, to any parents who want to get more involved – there are always opportunities! Talk to the production team of the show(s) your child/children are in, send an email to any of the board members, and keep an eye out for opportunities on the website, Facebook pages (public and private), and here, in the MUDDprints. Producers – consider reaching out to the parents of your younger cast members (if you don't already).

5 youth members responded to the survey – which may not seem like much, but is actually pretty phenomenal considering how busy, and social media-focussed, today's teens tend to be. So, a shout-out to those 5 youth – Thank you! It is great to see such enthusiasm! Of these, 2 were happy with the amount of socializing they get from being in a show, 2 wished there were more youth-oriented events planned, and 1 indicated he or she would like to socialize more but would appreciate an adult helping to facilitate this.

If this is representative of the rest of our youth membership (which I suspect it probably is), then we, adult members, would do well to consider this. If you are in a show with young people (or on the production team for the youth show) and there's a group going to a restaurant after a rehearsal, for example, reach out to the youth actors and specifically invite them along. If you hear a bunch of youth talking about getting together and maybe you see a quieter young actor looking on from the sidelines, why not suggest to one of the more outgoing youth that they invite him/her?

Although many people think that actors must have a lot of self-confidence (and many do), acting can also be a way for people who do not have a lot of self-confidence to express themselves in a "safe" way, because it is scripted – they know exactly what they are supposed to do and say, and when they are

supposed to do and say it. A lot of close friendships can form amongst cast and crew because of the emotional investment in a show, and also from the sheer number of hours spent together rehearsing. For some people though, they feel the closeness and comradery of being part of a production, but when it comes to the informal socializing – that part is unscripted, so someone who shines onstage can feel awkward and nervous when the curtain closes and they have to go "back to the real world".

If you know people are going out after a rehearsal or show, even if it seems like "everybody knows", it would be a nice gesture to make an announcement about it, or make a point of asking (loudly) a few people if they're going and let them know that everyone is welcome (if indeed they are). There may be some people, youth and adults alike, who don't know – especially new members who aren't familiar with our traditions and social practices. Either they haven't heard people talking about it or if they have, they may be unsure as to whether it's a general gathering or a few specific friends going out by themselves. Getting back to the survey results, some suggestions for other activities included theatre outings, combination pot-luck/sing-along events, and regular monthly get-togethers for whoever wants to show up (or not). These are all great ideas, and along the lines of what I have been thinking.

That would give us 2 to 3 organized social events (depending on if you consider the AGM a "social event" or not). If you submitted your email address as someone interested in helping plan events, I will get in touch with you soon (hopefully within the next couple of weeks, but definitely by mid-January) to discuss ideas and possibilities.

For the many of you who would like more opportunities to get together informally, I encourage you to take advantage of the Mississippi MUDDS private Facebook group to suggest and organize other activities. Many people go to St. James' Gate after rehearsals/shows/meetings etc. so a monthly pub night might be a possibility. I will also periodically use the Facebook group to suggest outings or activities. If you hear of a

show or a concert that sounds interesting, why not ask if any fellow MUDDS would like to go with you and make a group outing?

From the Editor - Sandra Dunlop, Editor

Please - if you have a change in any of your information (address, telephone number and especially email address) please make sure that you get that information to Sandra Dunlop at 613-599-7221 or pcbear@rogers.com. This will make sure that you continue to receive the Mudds newsletter and any other pertinent information that is sent out.

Know that I welcome articles monthly, be it from members, former members and people involved in current productions. The deadline for the next edition of Muddprints is January 20. I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to be long, just of interest to Mudds members and fans.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes go to members past and present who are celebrating their birthdays between December 17 to January 22. We hope you have a lovely day :-)

We are sorry we missed so many of your birthdays for November/December, as we did not send out Muddprints, so we would like to wish all of those who celebrated a birthday between November 25th and December 16th a very happy belated birthday. We hope you had a wonderful day.

To all our members past and present celebrating between December 17th and January 21st, we hope you all have a wonderful birthday. ??

Jesse Osborne	Dec-17
Fiona Brophy	Dec-17
Jeff Lee	Dec-20
Paul Hui Yu Wang	Dec-25
Clark Bains	Dec-26
Keira Uriarte	Dec-26
Holley Edgerton	Dec-27
Jan Ferguson	Dec-27
Tori Rodgers	Dec-30
Christy Bindhardt	Dec-31
Grace MacDonald-Lee	Jan-03
Jersey Hack	Jan-07
Sylvia Giles	Jan-09
Claire Campbell	Jan-09
Tori Bourne	Jan-09

Chris Barlow
Caitlin Doyle
Abbie Giles
Sierra Mathew

Jan-09
Jan-13
Jan-15
Jan-21

Watch this space for more birthday celebrations next month :-) Karen Lapointe, Membership

The next issue of Muddprints will be published on January 22. The deadline for articles is January 20.

If you wish to be removed from the Muddprints mailing list please send an email to pcbear@rogers.com - please make sure you give me your full name in the email.

Mudds Calendar (2019-2020)

Dec 19 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Jan 6 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 8 (Wed)	7:00pm-9:00pm	Mamma Mia! Info Session	Arena
Jan 9 (Thu)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 12 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CPHS
Jan 13 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 15 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CPHS
Jan 16 (Thu)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 19 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CPHS
Jan 20 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 22 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CPHS
Jan 23 (Thu)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 25 (Sat)	10:00am-4:00pm	FROZEN Set Build	Town Hall
Jan 26 (Sun)	10:00am-4:00pm	FROZEN Set Build	Town Hall
Jan 26 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Jan 27 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 29 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:20pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Jan 30 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 1 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	FROZEN Set Build	Town Hall
Feb 2 (Sun)	9:00am-4:00pm	FROZEN Set Build	Town Hall
Feb 2 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 3 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 5 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	T.D.
Feb 6 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 8 (Sat)	10:00am-4:00pm	FROZEN Cue to Cue	Town Hall
Feb 9 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 10 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 12 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 13 (Thur)	6:30am-9:00pm	FROZEN Dress Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 16 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 19 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 20 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 21 (Fri)	7:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Feb 22 (Sat)	2:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Feb 23 (Sun)	2:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Feb 24 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	FROZEN Rehearsal	Town Hall

Feb 26 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Feb 27 (Thur)	7:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Feb 28 (Fri)	7:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Feb 29 (Sat)	2:00pm	FROZEN Performance	Town Hall
Mar 1 (Sun)	2:00pm	FROZEN Performance (includes tear down and cast party)	Town Hall
Mar 1 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Mar 4 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Mar 8 (Sun)	1:30pm-4:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Mar 11 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Mar 15 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Mar 18 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Mar 22 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Mar 25 (Wed)	6:30pm-9:30pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	CHS
Mar 28 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Set Build	Town Hall
Mar 29 (Sun)	9:00am-1:00pm	Mamma Mia! Set Build	Town Hall
Mar 29 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 1 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 4 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Set Build	Town Hall
Apr 5 (Sun)	9:00am-1:00pm	Mamma Mia! Set Build	Town Hall
Apr 5 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 8 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 15 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 18 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	Mamma Mia! Tech and Q2Q	Town Hall
Apr 19 (Sun)	Noon-5:00pm	Mamma Mia! Final Dress	Town Hall
Apr 22 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 24 (Fri)	5:30pm-10:30pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
Apr 25 (Sat)	5:30pm-10:30pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
Apr 26 (Sun)	Noon-5:00pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
Apr 29 (Wed)	7:00pm-9:00pm	Mamma Mia! Rehearsal	Town Hall
Apr 30 (Thu)	5:30pm-10:30pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
May 1 (Fri)	5:30pm-10:30pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
May 2 (Sat)	Noon-5:00pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
May 2 (Sat)	5:30pm-10:30pm	Mamma Mia! Performance	Town Hall
May 3 (Sun)	10:00am-1:00pm	Tear Down	Town Hall