

# MUDDPRINTS

[www.mississippimudds.com](http://www.mississippimudds.com)

## The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - May 2015

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the Carleton Place Area in the Lower Meeting Room at 7:00pm. All current members are invited to attend and entitled to vote.

### **News from the Board - Sandra Dunlop, Secretary**

The Annual Mudds BBQ will be held on Saturday, July 11 at the home of Karen Lapointe.

New membership forms have been developed for Regular and Associate members for the upcoming season.

A shadow box is being created for the Mississippi Mudds to be hung in the Auditorium at the Town Hall in memory of Pat Black.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **State of the Mudds - Jeff Lee, President**

Thank you each and every one for a fantastic Mudds season. I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to lead this extraordinary and historic troupe.

We opened our season with A Midsummer Night's Dream put on by our talented youth. Under the direction of Mark Piper our youth were able to stretch themselves and again impress our audiences with some very difficult acting work. Year after year the youth, both seasoned and newcomers, put on an impressive display of talent and do the Mississippi Mudds proud.

The timeless classic Cinderella was our Christmas offering this year. Directorial spouses Tony and Judith Scott put together this pantomime adaptation that had something for everyone. Honouring the finest traditions of the Mudds, Cinderella offered catchy music, impressive choreography, outrageous characters and humor on many levels to entertain its large audiences. Most shows had a subtle but perceptible reaction to the reveal of Cinderella's ball dress.

Kate Cooney brought us The Wizard of Oz Jr. This audience favourite featured a large cast, a massive number of costumes, exceptional makeup work and challenges for every level of the organization. The kids pulled off this iconic show with gusto and gave the audience a unique treat.

A stage and screen adaptation of The Princess and the Pea, Once Upon a Mattress rounded out our colourful season. Mattress, like Cinderella, was the very essence of Music, Drama and Dancing on Stage. This show was a challenge for the actors and the crew and was smooth night in night out and featured brilliant performances from everyone from the leads to the chorus. Sandra Dunlop made this into a play where the entire stage of characters was one entity with the goal to entertain.

All of the shows above feature both Mudds veterans and newcomers. All will agree that



each Mudds show takes on a life of its own and every cast and crew becomes family for a little while. To our producers of this year's shows, Wendy Jewel, Kim Balazszie, Linda Beiglee and Karen Lapointe, the Mudds thank you for taking on your challenging role; your stress and sacrifice is very much appreciated and your efforts are why that curtain opens with an audience watching.

Through every single show is one person who's been the Mudds iron-man. Mark Tye has been the heart of Mudds technical for more years than I know. Mark's talents are also put to use in venues such as Centre Point Theatre. It is so easy to take such a steadfast presence for granted but I personally am grateful to have someone of Mark's caliber to learn from and the Mudds are grateful for his enormous contribution show in show out. While the cast party is going on, Mark is tearing down the sound and light equipment at town hall. Many of the most impressive looking lights that we use in our shows belong to Mark and he allows us to borrow them because he cares about making the show look its best.

Another fixture in the Mudds for the past 21 years has been Peter Brown. Peter has been our pianist, band leader and musical arranger. Peter's talent in all of those fields has really helped distinguish and define the Mudds. Peter is moving on to a new opportunity that will not be compatible with him continuing his very large role in the Mudds. Peter's last show will be The People vs. Mona this Fall. His new opportunity gives Peter more stability than the Mudds can offer. Peter will be available in the future to write arrangements as his schedule permits. The Mudds cannot thank Peter enough for his contributions. He will be missed and we wish him the best in his new position.

Through the years Doris Ohlmann has worked season after season promoting our shows and our organization. Doris has a way with people, a talent for writing and the respect of a great many people that has gotten the Mudds noticed over the years. Doris is stepping away

from this role and has left some big shoes to fill. The Mudds are eternally grateful that she gave so much time and effort.

One only needs to walk up to the attic 30 minutes before show time to see that there are a great many talented people behind the scenes who make our shows happen. A hearty thank you to the makeup people, the costume makers, the dressers, the props people, the stage hands, the lighting operators and the stage managers who are the guts of each show. There is yet more, ticket printers, concession hands, ushers, front-of-house managers, web site operators, photographers, set builders and set painters. The Mudds is simply amazing in that volunteers in this small community can come together with such dedication and professionalism to deliver a quality experience to our audience.

I wish to thank the board for their hard work and support this year. Sandra Dunlop, Joanne Samler, Catherine Hutton, Adrian Osborne, Trish Smith, Kate Martin and Jan (Mother Mudd) Ferguson all served on the board while many took on time consuming and challenging roles in the Mudds season.

The Mudds Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2015 in the lower meeting room of the Carleton Place Arena. The board will provide the membership with an update of the season and finances of the organizations as well as hold elections for the new board. The nomination committee will be contacting each member in the coming weeks to ask about your willingness to run for the board of directors. It is my intention to let my name stand as President again and I am certainly open to some amicable opposition should anyone choose to oppose me. There will also be other board positions open so I encourage all members to consider serving the organization on the board.

Our Next Season:  
Romeo and Juliette (working title)  
The People vs. Mona  
The Sound of Music Jr.  
Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure

Again, thank you all for an amazing season and I look forward to working with all of you and maybe some of your friends in the season to come.

Jeff Lee  
President, Mississippi Mudds

### ***Mudds Applauded by the Town* - Jan Ferguson**

Hello everyone! For any of you who have not heard, Carleton Place Council applauded our efforts over the last 42 years on our own stage!

At the finale of 'Once Upon A Mattress', Mayor Louis Antonakos took to the stage and congratulated the Mississippi Mudds for 42 Years of Volunteer Service, Performance and Dedication to both the Theatre Arts and the General Community' !

These memorable words are imprinted on a beautiful plaque, that the Mayor presented to me! Needless to say, I was taken completely by surprise, even though , it would appear that everyone from Director, Sandra Dunlop to friends in the audience were aware of the 'situation'!

I just want to say, to all of you, that I was honoured and humbled accepting this on your behalf! It's fine to say that I had the 'dream', but, it is the hundreds of members, like you, that have allowed me to live that dream year after year and watch it grow beyond anything I could ever have imagined on my own!

So, I too, like the Town, 'congratulate each of you for your volunteer service, your performances and your dedication to OUR theatre arts and that of the general community! The plaque will be on view, for all to see, in a display case being installed in our auditorium. More details on that in a later edition of MuddsPrints!

As I think back to those 'early' days, songs come into my head, like ' Lucky, Lucky, Lucky Me!' and 'If They Could See Me Now' ! ;>) (ha, ha, try and get those tunes out of your head now!)

SO, I THANK YOU ALL AND CONGRATULATIONS! (YOU HAVE EARNED IT!)

Jan Ferguson (Mother Mudd!)

### ***Auditions for "The People Vs. Mona* - Tony Scott, Producer**

**When:** June 13. Starting at 10am in 10 minute intervals.

**Where:** in the Board room above the Mudds storage on McArthur island, 150 Mill Street, Carleton Place.

**How** to sign up and book a time slot: phone or email Tony Scott, 613 253-2007, [tonyscott@sympatico.ca](mailto:tonyscott@sympatico.ca). Ditto for more information.

**Show Dates:** December 4, 5, 6, 11 & 12

**Rehearsals:** Starting September 9, Wednesday evenings 7 to 10 and Sunday afternoons 1 to 4.

**Audition team:** Brian McManus (your director), Laurel Tye (musical director), Peter Brown (piano), Barb Dickson (stage manager), Judith Scott (costumes) and Tony Scott (producer). You probably know us all.

**Audition requirements:** script reading and sing a song. Try out your southern accent! The song for women is: Harper Valley PTA ; the song for men is: Old Man Down the Road (John Fagerty)

**Information** about the show: THE PEOPLE VS. MONA is a musical, comedy, murder, mystery for 15+ actor-singers. There are 3 main characters, 4 courtroom characters and 8 witnesses. The settings are the Frog Pad, a friendly watering hole and the courtroom, in the small Georgia town of Tippto.

### **THE CHARACTERS ARE:**

**JIM SUMMERFORD**, Defense Attorney, Narrator – Easy going Southern gentleman. 7

songs

**RAMONA MARIA “MONA MAE” KATT**,  
Defendant – Third generation American Latina,  
Frog Pad owner; Down-to-earth, naturally sexy,  
passionate and idealistic. 7 songs.

**MAVIS FRYE**, Prosecutor – ambitious,  
upscale, chic. 3 songs.

**JUDGE ELLA JORDAN** – Smart, no-  
nonsense. 2 songs.

**BAILIFF** – Regular guy/gal. Company.

**COURT RECORDER** - Regular guy/gal.  
Company.

**CLERK** - Regular guy/gal. 3 songs, company.

**WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION:**

**TISH THOMAS**, Journalist Tippo’s cultural  
maven.1 song, company.

**GORDON BELL**, Traffic Officer – Sensitive  
cop. 1 song, company.

**DR. THEODORE BLOODWEATHER**, Coroner  
– Serious professional. Company.

**KATT’S KITTENS** – Backup singers.

**WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENSE**

**EUPLE R. PUGH** – Elderly attorney, local  
hero. 1 song.

**“BLIND WILLY” CARTER**, Street singer  
–Street-smart. 1 song, company.

**RAFSANJANI PATEL**, Motel Proprietor – New  
Southerner, assimilated and proud. Company.

**REVEREND ROSETTA PURIFY** – Dynamic,  
sincere, a true believer. 1 song, company.

***Puppets Up August 8th and 9<sup>th</sup>* - Judith  
Scott**

Three volunteers needed for a few hours on  
August 8th and 9th. Noreen Young has invited  
our beloved Dobbin to walk in the Puppets Up  
Parade on those days. We already have one  
young member (Nadia Meyer) willing to be  
inside the skin and walk the route in Almonte.  
We need another to be inside the skin and 1 or  
two to guide. This is a fantastic chance to get

The next issue of Muddprints will be published on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The deadline for articles is  
June 20<sup>th</sup>.

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pcbear@rogers.com - please make sure you give me your full name in the email.

some good publicity for the Mudds, make  
some friends and have some fun. As well if  
you need hours for your High School  
graduation then this would count. And Noreen  
is promising free tickets to one of the shows  
for volunteers.

This is not restricted to teenagers. Any age  
volunteer would be much appreciated. To find  
out more contact Judith 613 153 2007 or  
[judithscott@sympatico.ca](mailto:judithscott@sympatico.ca)

Thanks in anticipation.

***Publicity* - Trish Smith**

The Board is looking for someone to take over  
the Publicity Chair. If you are be interested or  
would like more information, please contact  
Trish Smith at [smithwilson@rogers.com](mailto:smithwilson@rogers.com).

***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](mailto: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 June 20<sup>th</sup>.  
I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have  
to long, just of interest to Mudds members  
and fans.

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***Mudds Calendar (2015)***

June 13 (Sat)	9am	Auditions - The People Vs. Mona	150 Mill Street
June 15 (Mon)	7pm	MUDDS Board Meeting	Tomahawk Tech
June 22 (Mon)	7pm	Annual General Meeting	CP Arena Lower Meeting Room
July 11 (Sat)	2pm	Mudds Annual BBQ	Home of Karen Lapointe