

MUDDPRINTS

www.mississippimudds.com

The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - November 2015

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW - The People Vs Mona runs December 4 and 5 at 8 pm and December 6 at 2 pm. There will be reserved row seating and a cash bar at the evening shows. Soft drinks and treats will be available at the matinee. Tickets for the first weekend shows are \$25. On December 11 and 12 the show will be presented as dinner theatre with round tables of eight. Leatherworks Catering provides the southern-style buffet dinner in keeping with the Georgia setting for the story. Dinner is served at 7 pm. Tickets available at Hallmark, 428 McNeely Avenue (613-253-3000).

News from the Board - Lesley Moll, Secretary

The board met at the offices of Linda Beiglee on November 14th. There was discussions around the upcoming plays and all is well with all productions. It was decided that Jeff Lee will be taking on the direction of Peter Pan in the spring under the mentorship of Laurel Piper Tye. We all wish Jeff well and are sure that the show will be great. Next meeting of the board will be Saturday December 12th at 11am.

Expressions of Interest - Mudds Murder Mystery Group - Mark Piper, Show Development Officer

Hi, everybody. It's your friendly neighbourhood Show Development Officer here.

We on the Board have been thinking about ways to broaden the Mudds range, get people involved... and make a few bucks on the side. Would anybody out there be interested in getting involved with a Mudds Murder Mystery Group, with the eventual goal of putting on a murder mystery in a sometime in Spring 2016?

The goal is to get a venue in Carleton Place with food and a liquor license that can accommodate say 80 to 100 customers - as a private function - for about 3 hours per night, and do the standard murder mystery thing,

collect accolades, and give an envelope full of cash to the Board at the end of the night.

We have a script for at least one mystery already, sitting in our back pocket. But having a committed core of interested masochists and others - say about 8 to 12 people - might raise the possibility of an ongoing initiative using other scripts, and the development of a regular schedule and a known brand with a committed following. And we're not just looking for actors, of course, but also interest from directing, producing, costumes, makeup, and backstage people.

(Just to be clear: I'm not putting this out as an audition call, and I'm not the director - just looking for interest at this point.)

If this sounds interesting to you, please send me (Mark Piper) an email via the Mudds general info account (info@mississippimudds.ca) (put my name, or Mudds Murder Mystery Group, in the subject line), and, depending on the level of interest, we can maybe try to get something going early in the new year.

Peter Pan - Jeff Lee, Director

The journey to Neverland is underway. We thank the 45 people who came out for auditions and are sorry that all could not be

given parts. The decisions were not easy as there was so much talent presented, it was a nice problem to have. Peter Pan represents a unique crossover with adults and children where the former outnumber the latter in the Spring show.

Due to scheduling I took on the role of director from Laurel Tye and she has agreed to mentor me as this is my first show in the role. I am excited in what our performance will give to our audience; great music, fine acting, multiple levels of comedy and exciting action including sword play. We will showcase all that the Mudds has to offer in Music Drama and Dancing on Stage.

Stay tuned for updates on our journey.

Mudds Float in the Santa Claus Parade - Jeff Lee, President

Kate Martin and Kate Cooney have taken the initiative to bring together some of the cast of *Beauty and the Beast* – our youth winter production – to create a float and walking entry for the Carleton Place Santa Claus parade. Prepared is a theme based float, song and choreography to compete with other entries from our community. Please come out and support our entry in the Whoville themed parade. We are certain our troupe will do the Mudds proud.

The People Vs Mona - Jenny Pfitzer

This December, the Mississippi Mudds will be bringing murder, mystery, music, and laughter to the Carleton Place Town Hall with its winter production, *The People Vs. Mona*, directed by Brian McManus, produced by Tony Scott, with musical direction by Laurel Tye, and supported by the musical stylings of pianist Peter Brown.

A combination of romantic comedy and murder mystery set to music, the story is centered around Mona Mae Katt, the owner of the Frog Pad, a honky-tonk bar that serves as the cultural centre of the small southern hamlet of Tippo, Georgia.

Mona Mae has been accused of killing her record-producer husband C.C. Katt by bashing

him with a guitar ten hours after they were married. Mona's likeable but clueless defense counsel Jim is pitted against the ambitious prosecutor and mayoral candidate, Mavis, who also happens to be Jim's fiancée. Her musical trial is held in the Frog Pad, attended by all the local characters, musicians, and assorted hangers on, singing their way through all the evidence.

One of the witnesses is Blind Willy, a street musician who is, as he admits, "legally blind in his good eye". However, Willy has developed his sense of smell so well that he can identify anyone by their smell alone. Blind Willy, played by longtime Mudds member Mark Piper, gives his evidence in a musical form that is part Ray Charles riffs, part homage to Blind Willie McTell, and all comedy. "I can smell out a gardenia at twenty feet," Willy sings.

Mark says of the part, "Well, of course, given that I'm neither blind nor a black street singer, I didn't want to be seen as appropriating early twentieth-century blues performances in an insensitive manner, so I kind of had to take it in a different direction. So I just went with being a sort of local character - an aging hippie, if you like, that plays for tips in order to afford his beer at the Frog Pad. He's a free spirit - not really a blues singer, just that's how he sounds from hanging around Georgia for so long."

Costumer Judith Scott says of Blind Willy, "No, he's not homeless or dirty or anything like that. But he's developed this style that shows he doesn't care what other people think of him. He is what he is. So we dressed him up in worn jeans and long grey hair and a toque and Converse All Stars - like Mark says, an aging hippie."

And like all the other characters that gather around the Frog Pad - the gospel minister, the shady hotel owner, the cop who wants to play Curly in Oklahoma, and all the rest - he sets the stage for this light musical comedy murder mystery that will be fun for all.

The Mississippi Mudds' *The People Vs. Mona* runs at the Carleton Place Town Hall Friday and Saturday December 4 and 5 at 8:00 pm, with a matinee at 2:00 pm on Sunday,

December 6. Tickets cost \$25. The following weekend, the Mudds will present the show again at the Town Hall, following a buffet dinner that starts at 7:00 pm with an 8:00 pm curtain for the show, on Saturday and Sunday December 11 and 12. Tickets for the buffet dinner and show cost \$40. Tickets are available at Hallmark, 428 McNeely Avenue, Carleton Place - or call 613-253-3000. For more information, visit www.mississippimudds.ca

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 December 20th. I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to long, just of interest to Mudds members and fans.

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

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 (2015-2016)

Nov 23 (Mon)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 25 (Wed)	7pm	The People Vs. Mona - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Nov 26 (Thu)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 29 (Sun)	1pm	The People Vs. Mona - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Nov 30 (Mon)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 2 (Wed)	7pm	The People Vs. Mona - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Dec 3 (Thu)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 4 (Fri)	8pm	The People Vs. Mona - Show	Town Hall
Dec 5 (Sat)	8pm	The People Vs. Mona - Show	Town Hall
Dec 6 (Sun)	2pm	The People Vs. Mona - Show	Town Hall
Dec 7 (Mon)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 9 (Wed)	7pm	The People Vs. Mona - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Dec 10 (Thu)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 11 (Fri)	7pm	The People Vs. Mona - Show	Town Hall
Dec 12 (Sat)	11am	Mudds Board Meeting	
Dec 12 (Sat)	7pm	The People Vs. Mona - Show	Town Hall
Dec 13 (Sun)	10am-12pm	The People Vs. Mona - Tear Down	Town Hall
Dec 14 (Mon)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 17 (Thu)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Jan 4 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 7 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 11 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 14 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 18 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall

Jan 21 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 25 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 28 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 1 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 4 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 8 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 11 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 18 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 20 (Sat)	12-4pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 21 (Sun)	12-4pm	Beauty and the Beast - Dress	Town Hall
Feb 22 (Mon)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 25 (Thu)	6:30pm	Beauty and the Beast - Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 26 (Fri)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
Feb 27 (Sat)	2pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
Feb 28 (Sun)	2pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
Mar 3 (Thu)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
Mar 4 (Fri)	7pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
Mar 5 (Sat)	2pm	Beauty and the Beast - Show	Town Hall
		Followed by Cast Party	
March 6 (Sun)		Beauty and the Beast - Tear Down	Town Hall