

Lights Up!

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KWLT President's Address

The Play's the Thing

It's Wednesday, October 17th as I write this address. It's a day off for everyone involved in the October One Acts; yesterday was our last dress rehearsal and tomorrow is opening night. It's the first show I've been involved with in almost two years, and I've realized again how much I missed theatre and how much it means to me.

Not only is this the first show I've done in two years, it's the first show I've done since I joined the Board of Directors. I know some of our board members have been able to continue to take part in shows while doing their duties, and some of them haven't been so lucky, and I'm glad that I have again had a chance to work with fellow actors.

I love being on the Board and I love being able to give some time to help this company. But for a time, "KWLT" for me started to mean meetings, and organizing, and fundraising, and mailing lists, and the rebuild, and budgets, and pretty much everything but the theatre company itself. I always knew, in the back of my head, that people were rehearsing -and since I joined the Board, I've only missed seeing a single performance.

Getting involved again has been a fresh reminder of what KWLT is worth, and what it's all about. It's the working with people and the meeting of friends, old and new, and sharing a creative vision. It's about having fun, and making something in the process. In this show, I've talked with some people who haven't been with KWLT in a long time – years, for some of them – and how coming back to be a part of a production again just feels right.

For those of you reading this issue of **Lights Up!** who keep your membership active only to keep in contact and to come see our shows at member rates, don't forget that the membership you buy also entitles you to come and be a very important part in the shows that you would otherwise come to watch on a weekend evening. Take advantage of your membership to its fullest extent and become a part of our productions. The 2007-2008 season is just getting kicked off with plenty of opportunities to take part. We'll have more One Acts as early as January, Romeo and Juliet, and The Three Musketeers, and I can tell you that I'll certainly be auditioning.

Josh Hoey
President, KWLT



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Lights Up! Editor: Tim Jackson (lightsup@kwlt.org)

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Visit KWLT on the web at www.kwlt.org

...From the editor

Welcome to Fall 2007, the start of our 2007-2008 season, and to the second edition of *Lights Up!* I hope that everyone had a chance to read through the first issue and found it worthwhile. Based on the response I have received back from the membership, there wasn't a strong demand for the printed version of the newsletter, so this issue will be delivered electronically to you, our members. If you decide you'd rather receive a paper copy of the newsletter, be sure to let me know.

Since the publishing deadline of the last issue, KWLT had put on a fundraising barbeque, has done a great amount of clean-up of the front yard at 9 Princess Street East (no more orange fencing!) and completed the first production of the season, the October One Act Play Weekend.

Looking forward over the next several months, KWLT has a production of *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge* and the January One Act Weekend (these you will have to come and see). Ok, perhaps I'm favouring the latter a bit more, but bear with me with this production for I will find myself sitting in the director's chair.

All of the productions and events we produce take a lot of time and effort from a good number of people who volunteer their time. From someone who may volunteer an evening of their time as an usher, right up to a board member who may volunteer many hours of their time in a week, the strength of the organization is built in part by the volunteer spirit of its members. You may be familiar with the many notices looking for build day help, production help, and front of house help. There's one other area that I wanted to bring to our member's attention – the various committees.

If you didn't know about some of the committees that have been formed, let me bring those to your attention. Currently, we have an Artistic Committee, which reviews play proposals and makes recommendations to the board. We have a Fundraising Committee which is looking for donations to help us finish building the theatre. Also is the Publicity Committee which looks for way to advertise our organization, productions and events. There is the Rebuild Committee, which finds the best way to rebuild our theatre with the resources we have. And finally, there is the Website Revitalization Committee which is looking into how to make our website better. If you have any suggestions for any of the committees, have access to some resources, or just want to help out, just let the committee chair know. You can find the committee chairs and their contact info on the Board of Directors page on the website.

However you choose to, I hope that everyone one of our members will find a way to contribute something to make KWLT a better place than it was the year before. To everyone who has volunteered their time for KWLT, be it this year or in previous years, thank you!

Tim Jackson
Lights Up! Editor

Pictures from the Sept. 1st Build Day



Photo Credits: Tim Jackson

October One Act Play Weekend Summary

Dave Clegg

KWLT's 2007-2008 season got off to great start on October 18th when the "October One Act Play Weekend" opened to an audience of nearly 50 people at the St. Jacobs Church Theatre. As subsequent performances came and went the audiences just got bigger and more excited, and by the time the show closed two days later it was clear that we had on our hands one of the best One Act Play Weekends (OAPWs) in a long time.

The "October One Act Play Weekend" ran for four performances from October 18th to the 20th. As KWLT's introductory fare, the OAPWs are designed to welcome newcomers to the theatre in all forms: as actors, crew members, directors, writers, and audience members. Because of their broad appeal OAPWs typically include lighter, comedic fare, and usually include at least one locally written play. The "October One Act Play Weekend" stayed true to these traditions, supporting a cast and crew of 26, including two new KWLT directors as well as several first-time KWLT actors. The show also included a locally written play – *The Theatrix* – written and directed by Rob Card. Rounding out the night were *Check, Please* by Jonathan Rand and directed by Andrew Salter, and *Canned Hamlet* by Tim Kochenderfer and directed by Josh Hoey.

The three shows ran successfully for four performances each, and the production was a memorable experience for all concerned. I'd like to thank everyone who was involved in the production or who came out to see the show: you all helped turn it into the success that we always knew it would be.

KWLT BBQ and Silent Auction from Sept

Tim Jackson

On Saturday, September 15th, KWLT had a fundraiser and BBQ. The weather was a little cool and windy for mid-September, but we had a good turn out in consideration of that. Out in front of the building, we had our BBQ and some live music. Inside, there was a silent auction running through out the day as well as games including Wii bowling, Guitar Hero and Texas Hold 'em Poker.

Thanks to all who donated items to the silent auction and to those who came out and helped make the day a success!

Fundraising Update

Chris Rovers

As you know, we are continuing our efforts to raise the additional hundred thousand dollars necessary to complete our building. We have been making progress in preparing to approach local businesses, to help sell them on the importance of KWLT and the returns that the community and the businesses themselves can gain from helping us. This effort to approach the local business community is our primary focus over the past few months and we hope to be able to report results soon.

In addition, we held a fundraising barbeque and silent auction on September 15th at the building site. We managed to raise nearly a thousand dollars, thanks in part to the generous support of the City of Waterloo, who paid most of the expenses of the barbeque itself. In addition to the fundraising effort, it was an excellent community event, with live music, games, socializing and activities.

As a reminder, KWLT Stars! are still available for a personal donation of just \$250. Donors get their names on a chair at the new theatre, an invite to the grand opening gala and more! Donations (in any amount) can be made online at www.kwlt.org/donate/ through CanadaHelps. The Christmas season is approaching and a donation to KWLT makes a great gift for the person that is hard to shop for. Help local theatre and cross someone off your shopping list, all in an easy donation. If you would like to help out with fundraising efforts or have any questions or concerns, please drop me a line at vp@kwlt.org.

KWLT Presents: www.kwlt.org - 519.886.0660. info@kwlt.org

MRS. BOB CRATCHIT'S WILD CHRISTMAS

By Christopher Durang Directed by Rob LeGood

Tickets: boxoffice@kwlt.org or 519.886.0660
boxoffice@centre-square.com or 519.578.1570

November 29 - 30 December 1 & 6-8 at 8pm
 St. Jacobs Church Theatre 1376 King St. N. St. Jacobs
 Produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Service, Inc.

\$10 for members
 \$15 for non-members
 \$9 for 

KWLT proudly presents...

Anita Kilgour

Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge, by Christopher Durang
at the St. Jacobs Church Theatre

When the Ghost of Christmas Past attempts to teach Scrooge the meaning of Christmas, her magic misfires sending them to the Cratchit's pathetic home time and time and again. Mrs. Bob Cratchit, a minor character in the Dickens tale, takes center stage here. No longer content with their family's suffering ways, Mrs. Bob has had enough and begins to take matters into her own hands. As the Ghost loses more control and the plot morphs into other various Christmas stories, confusion leads to a climatic and bizarre denouement.

Did we also mention it's part musical?

"The script really drew me in when I first read it, just over a year ago," says Director Rob LeGood, "and the crew we found for this gem lives up to every single one of the laughs that the show has to offer. Our rehearsals are filled with laughter and it's going to translate to the stage amazingly well."

KWLT proudly presents this bizarre send-up of the classic Dickens' tale.

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

Performances Dates: November 29th, 30th, December 1st, 6th-8th. All shows 8pm.

St. Jacobs Church Theatre, 1376 King St. N., St. Jacobs, ON

Tickets: \$15, \$10 for KWLT members

Group & Eyego rates available

For tickets, please contact 519-886-0660 or email boxoffice@kwlt.org

For credit card purchases, please contact 519-579-1570

or boxoffice@centre-square.com

**2007-2008 Outlook**

Melanie Card

The 2007-2008 Season is off to a roaring start. With the success of this season's first production, The October One Act Play Weekend, we launch in to *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge* by Christopher Durang opening November 29th and running until December 8th. This is a show you don't want to miss. A bizarre send-up of the classic Dickens's tale complete with singing and dancing, it's sure to be a fun time.

Also coming is The January One Act Play Weekend (Jan 31-Feb 2) which includes a spoof on the movie 300, a satire that attacks drama festival conventions and expectations, a comedy that asks the question, "What if the entire universe was just some nerd's science project?", and several Abbott and Costello routines.

And to finish off our packed fall schedule, KWLT and FASS are again co-hosting the Free Theatre Workshop Series, featuring four free workshops at the University of Waterloo every Wednesday evening in November. And don't forget that the deadline for full-length play proposals for the 2008-2009 season are due November 23rd.

With lots of opportunities to participate both on and off stage, as well as one more directing opportunity this season, keep an eye on the website for more information www.kwlt.org.

From the Archives:

Tim Jackson

Your editor has dug up some old issues of the KWLT newsletter and would like to present a reprint of a featured article. This edition's featured article is the forward from KWLT's November, 1988 newsletter. Many thanks to Ian! D. Allen for saving a part of our history.

I want to give special thanks and hugs to the Oktoberfest Face Painters who raised \$60 for KWLT, to the unknown person who donated a box of envelopes, and to Suzie Pepler for stepping in to manage front-of-house for **Deathtrap**.

I have been hearing that some members feel left out; because, nobody calls them to ask them to help with a show. As an amateur group, we are a bunch of people who like doing theatrical things. We like to paint, hammer, light, laugh, hug, act, direct, and sleep. The people doing these things don't always have time to call around to find helpers. You can be more involved by calling to say when and how you want to help

If you want to work on a play, find out the times of the auditions or the shows and decide, in the privacy of your own home, to call the producer or stage manager of the show and tell him/her what you want to do and how much time you want to spend doing it. *No salesman will call; no cost; no obligation.* See the item in this newsletter about **Crimes of the Heart**. Wanna do something? Give us a call right now at 886-0660!

Remember the special perks you get with being a member; encourage your friends to join.

If anyone has anything from the pre-fire days in their archives they would like to share back with KWLT, please contact me and let me know!

January One Act Play Weekend

Tim Jackson

Our first production in the 2008 calendar year will be the January One Act Play Weekend. This weekend promises to be another great evening with the following performances:

Fifteen Minute Minimum

written by Roberto F. Ciccotelli, directed by Tim Jackson

The Whole Shebang

written by Rich Orloff, directed by Chris Rovers

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written by Mike Kearns, directed by Adam Sanderson

In addition to the three one-act performances, there will also be some Abbott & Costello sketches directed by Tim Jackson.

Audition Information:

Auditions will be held Nov 19-21, Room 334, Hagey Hall at the University of Waterloo. Show up between 7pm and 10pm.

Performance Information:

Performances will be Jan 31- Feb 2 at the St. Jacob's Church Theatre, St. Jacob's, Ontario.

See www.kwlt.org or watch the announcement list for further details!

KWLT 2007-2008 Board of Directors and Officers

Josh Hoey	President
Chris Rovers	Vice President & Building Manager
Erin Windibank	Secretary & Past President
David Clegg	Treasurer
Mike Kearns	Executive Producer
Mel Card	Artistic Director
Amos Boratto	Technical Manager
Melissa Fraser	Communications Director
Adam Sanderson	Publicity Officer
Nadia V. Ursacki	Membership Director & Privacy Officer
Tim Jackson	Newsletter Editor
Andrew Salter	Director at Large
Dustin Windibank	Director at Large
Anne Murray	House Manager

More Fundraising Initiatives

Anita Kilgour

KWLT Fundraising has been going strong since the day of the fire. Despite the concerted efforts of board and membership alike, we find that we're still trying to reach a target figure that eludes us.

We need, currently, roughly \$100,000 to be able to complete the rebuild at 9 Princess Street East. Funds through various charitable organizations like the Trillium Foundation & the Waterloo Arts Council are starting to dry up. Members have been generous, but there is only so much they can do.

So we put together a corporate sponsorship package and will canvas the business community in the tri-cities to see if we can encourage them to help fund our vibrant theatre community and our efforts in the rebuild.

Anita Kilgour is spearheading this effort. If you know of a charitable outreach arm of your company, or recommendations of ones that might be amenable to approach, please contact her via akilgour@gmail.com or call her at (519) 502-4736 with the details.

The show will go on - just a little more work.

Pictures from the October One Act Play Weekend, Oct 18-20

Check Please



The Theatrix



Canned Hamlet



Photo Credits: Tim Jackson

KWLT Calendar

If you have any KWLT related events you would like to add to the calendar, please send the details to the editor at lightsup@kwlt.org.



November

19-21 - Auditions for January One-Act Play Weekend
Room 334, Hagey Hall, University of Waterloo

23 - Proposal due date for 2008-2009 Season

29-Dec 1 - Performances of Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge
At the St. Jacob's Church Theatre

December

6-8 - Performances of Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge (week 2)
At the St. Jacob's Church Theatre

January

7-9 - Auditions for Romeo and Juliet
Location TBA

31-Feb 2 - January One Act Weekend
At the St. Jacob's Church Theatre

February

16 - Submission deadline for next **Lights Up!**

Look for the next edition of **Lights Up!** in March.

Visit KWLT on the web at www.kwlt.org for the complete calendar, show listing and other valuable resources!

Other Area Theatre Productions

Here are some of the productions put on by other groups in and about Kitchener Waterloo:

Elmira Theatre Company - *The Odd Couple*, November 9 - 24.

Kitchener Waterloo Musical Productions - *Fiddler on the Roof*, November 15 - 17.

Elora Community Theatre - *On Golden Pond*, Nov 16 - 24.

Royal City Musical Productions - *Kiss Me, Kate*, November 22 - 25.

Guelph Little Theatre - *Cinderella*, November 24 - December 9.

Poor Tom Productions - *The Anorak*, November 29 - December 1.

Galt Little Theatre - *Dear Santa*, December 6 - 13.

Theatre Guelph - *Clue: The Musical*, Dec 7 - 15.

Elmira Theatre Company - *Ten Times Two*, February 1 - 16.

Guelph Little Theatre - *A Bed Full of Foreigners*, February 7 - 23.

Galt Little Theatre - *As Bees In Honey Drown*, February 14 - 23.

Rebuild Update

Chris Rovers

Hi, everyone! Once again, I'm writing to let everyone know what's going on around the build site. 9 Princess Street East has seen a fair bit of activity since my last update, so I'm here to fill you in.

First, our contractors at Silver Birch have broken up the concrete in the lobby area, tore up our front yard, brought in the new four inch water main and then fixed our floor and smoothed out our yard once again. They are still running some water tests, but that contract should be completed very soon - perhaps even by the time you read this. As soon as they are done, our sprinkler contractors will be installing the first part of that system, which includes everything necessary for us to once again have access to water in the building - something very useful when it comes to plants.



\$375,000

\$275,000

Our Fundraising
Progress To Date



And speaking of plants, the volunteer crew has been busy as well! Once the front yard work was complete, we took advantage of the nice September weather and put in a large, C shaped flower bed, one of two that will eventually bring the front yard to life. Fortunately, the flower bed was able to be constructed from recycled or free materials - blocks left over from the construction, compost and mulch from the City of Waterloo Waste Management Site. This really allowed us to save money and still bring in a nice finished product.

The next step is gutters around the front canopy - that should be in pretty soon. The next major item is Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), but we need to wait for fundraising to catch up. We expect that expense will be on the order of ten thousand dollars, so we need to build up our bank account first.

As always, if you would like to help out or have suggestions or questions, please feel free to email me at vp@kwlt.org. Thanks!



KWLT

Remaining

2007-2008 Season

MRS. BOB CRATCHIT'S WILD CHRISTMAS BINGE — By Christopher Durang

Directed by Rob Legood

Auditions: Sep 17-19 (7-10pm)

Performances: Nov 29-Dec 1, Dec 6-8, 2007 8pm

JANUARY ONE-ACT WEEKEND

Auditions: Nov 19-21 (7-10pm)

Performances: Jan 31-Feb 2, 2008 8pm, Feb 2, 2008 2pm

ROMEO & JULIET — By William Shakespeare

Directed by Graham Yeates

Auditions: Jan 7-9 (7-10pm)

Performances: Apr 3-5, 10-12, 2008 8pm

JUNE ONE-ACT WEEKEND

Auditions: Apr 14-16 (7-10pm)

Performances: Jun 12-14, 2008 8pm, Jun 14, 2008 2pm

THE THREE MUSKETEERS — By Willis Hall

Directed by Anita Kilgour

Auditions: Mar 24-26 (7-10pm)

Performances: Jul 17-19, 24-26, 2008 8pm

KWLT can be reached at 519-886-0660 or info@kwlt.org