

# Lights Up!

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**KWLT President's Address**

It's time for me to write another president's address, and as I sit down to write this, I realize I have very little to write. That's not because nothing has been happening at Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre, it's because there's nothing I feel is mine to say. We have a very capable Board of Directors this year, and I'd like to talk a bit about the board itself while I'm still its president.

I've been on the board for two years now and so have most of my colleagues. I've seen some people come and go, either because their terms have expired or because they have moved away, but the board has, at its heart, a very strong core of volunteers. And I really want to point out that these people are volunteers - our board members work full-time jobs and aren't paid for their services to KWLT. I know that being a board member has taken dozens of hours away from my life, at home and at work (but don't tell my boss), and some of our board members deserve to be given recognition for the thankless hours they've put in.

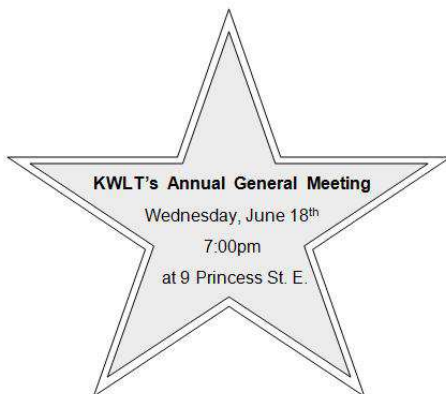
Chris Rovers, our Rebuild Manager, continues to amaze me with the hard work he's putting in. He ensured that our theatre is being built quickly and – more importantly – well. I'm sure Chris will mention in the rebuild column is that by the end of the month, our theatre space at 9 Princess St. is going to have a pair of brand new furnaces installed, and under Chris' guidance, they'll be more efficient than anything we've had before. Chris has also taken on the mantle of Fundraising chair, managing the fundraising committee and spearheading several new fundraising plans.

Chris' partner in crime is Dave Clegg. Every dollar that Chris has spent has gone through our treasurer, Dave. Dave has been managing our finances and taxes for the last two years and has made sure that KWLT has followed the path to profitability and continuing success. Being a treasurer may not be glamorous, one of the most important foundations of the theatre and for his work, Dave has my thanks.

Organizing and envisioning these six shows a year have been Mel Card and Mike Kearns, Artistic Director and Executive Producer, respectively. The two of them have worked together to overcome several potential crises in the last several months to make sure our current season stays on course, and that our next season stays safe and secure before it even begins. They both have my thanks.

I don't have enough room to thank everyone I wanted to, and I'm pretty sure I've gone over my word count already, so I'd like to thank, one more time, our board as a whole. I look forward to working with them for the rest of our season and with the new members who join us at this year's AGM.

Josh Hoey  
President, KWLT



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Contributions and Thanks to: Melanie Card, Josh Hoey, Aleriel Lear, Chris Rovers  
Visit KWLT on the web at [www.kwlt.org](http://www.kwlt.org)

**...From the editor**

Welcome to the March 2008 issue of **Lights Up!** It has been a few months since the last edition, and a busy few months, both for myself and for KWLT.

Back with the January One Act Play Weekend, I had the opportunity to give directing a try. I had a lot of fun and thought that my productions turned out really well. Those that were fortunate enough to attend got to see a live performance of some spectacular Abbott & Costello comedy routines. In fact, all the directors for the January One Act Play Weekend were directing their first productions and I think everyone did a great job. If you have ever thought that you might like to try directing, but you're not sure about it, directing a one act in this format is a good way to see how directing works and if it's something you might like to do. Even if you don't have a particular production in mind, there are many people within the KWLT organization to talk to.

There are certainly many areas where KWLT keeps asking for help - productions, fundraising, completing and maintaining our building and so forth. One particular event I would like to bring to everyone's attention is the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is only one evening a year and it is very important for KWLT members to show up to the AGM and participate in the decision making process. It is also the time when members have the opportunity (if they are interested) to run for any vacant board positions. Whether you are interested in running for the board or not, please mark in your calendars the date of the AGM and participate. Our AGM is currently scheduled for Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at 9 Princess St. E. Hope to see everyone there!

Tim Jackson  
**Lights Up!** Editor

**January One Act Play Weekend Interview**

Tim Jackson

I recently had the opportunity to interview Aleriel Lear, who played Abbott in the Abbott and Costello routines during the January One Act Play Weekend.

*TJ:* What interested you to audition for the January One Acts?

*AL:* Every once in a while I get the acting "bug" and it has to be satisfied before I go on with life. I missed the last couple shows put on by KWLT due to scheduling conflicts, so January One Acts were my next shot at a role.

*TJ:* How did you find the role in which you were cast? Were there any particular challenges?

*AL:* I played Abbott and the main challenge with that role for me was keeping the pace of dialog and keeping from overacting. The beauty of Abbott and Costello is in how natural and "normal" they make things seem, even while their skits make absolutely no sense whatsoever. The urge to play it up and goof off is great, so reining it in a bit was one of my challenges.

*TJ:* How did you find your role developed between the first rehearsal and the performances?

*AL:* I didn't find that there was much of a role to get into this time. There wasn't really a particular character that I was playing, since the skits could really be delivered by just about anybody in almost any situation. I did, however, stop snickering at every other line by the time the show went up.

*TJ:* What advice or suggestions would you give to someone considering to audition for a future One Act Weekend?

*AL:* My main advice would be to just come out and do it. I remember going back and forth on whether or not I should audition when I first started with KWLT in 2006. To me, the main thing is to get out there and do it. If you are interested, give it a shot. There's nothing bad that can come out of it. Just come out with an open mind and the willingness to learn, work, and have fun.

*TJ:* Describe something that turned out to be a lot of fun during the rehearsal process?

*AL:* During some line runs that Jackie (my partner in crime who played Costello) and I started doing various versions of the skit - the gansta version, the valley girl version, Abbott & Costello The Musical... Doing things like that is always one of my favourite ways to relax with the script.

Thanks to everyone who helped out with the January One Act Play Weekend!

**KWLT proudly presents...***The Importance of Being Earnest*, by Oscar Wilde

Directed by Angela Yeates

At the Registry Theatre

John Worthing is in love with the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax, but she is convinced she can only love a man named "Ernest". John's best friend (and Gwendolyn's cousin) Algernon Moncrieff is in love with young Cecily Cardew (John's niece), but she is convinced she can only love a man named "Ernest".

We see what happens when these four go toe-to-toe with Gwendolen's mother Lady Bracknell (a frighteningly proper old battleaxe), Cecily's governess, and a local minister.

Set in England during the late Victorian era, *The Importance of Being Earnest* is arguably Oscar Wilde's best known work. A trivial comedy for serious people, Wilde's play is still considered one of English theatre's finest comedies even 100 years later.

Note: This play is replacing KWLT's production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Evening performances April 3-5 and 10-12, 2008 at 8 PM

**Special note!** Matinee performances on Friday April 4 and Friday April 11, 2008, for local schools and community members

Tickets: \$15, \$10 for KWLT members, Group & Eyego rates available

For tickets, please contact 519-886-0660 or email [boxoffice@kwlt.org](mailto:boxoffice@kwlt.org)

For credit card purchases, please contact 519-579-1570 or [boxoffice@centre-square.com](mailto:boxoffice@centre-square.com)

**2007-2008 Update**

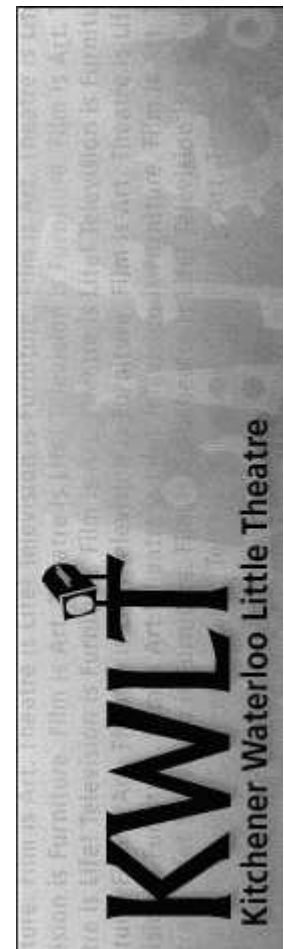
Melanie Card

KWLT continues with its action-packed 2007-2008 season. Don't miss Oscar Wilde's trivial comedy for serious people: *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This classic comedy of British manners and misidentification opens April 3<sup>rd</sup> and runs for two weekends closing on April 12<sup>th</sup> at The Registry Theatre in Kitchener. Also running for two weekends, from July 17<sup>th</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup> at The Church Theatre in St. Jacobs, is *The Three Musketeers* by Willis Hall. A lively swashbuckling romp of the classic story that you won't want to miss.

There is also one more set of auditions remaining for the season: The June One Act Play Weekend. The auditions are April 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> and the plays include: *Two Beers for Three People* by David L. Young. It is an absurdist ensemble play, with a cast of seven, that explores ALL the possibilities - including the merits and relevancy of "sex, violence, and nudity" within popular entertainment. *Perfect Meetings* by Seth Kramer is a comedy about Mark, who meets his soul mate, forgets to find out her last name, and his quest to find her again. *Spaghetti Proposal* by Seth Kramer is also a comedy, about an awkward wedding proposal and a big bowl of spaghetti. Last on the playbill is *The Wedding* by Jack Neary. It is a roll-in-the-aisles comedy that follows the plight of Frank who must accommodate the seemingly outrageous demands made by his only daughter.

As well, we have a sneak peek into the upcoming 2008-2009 season: *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose, *Henry V* by William Shakespeare, *Dangerous Liaisons* by Christopher Hampton, two One Act Play Weekends, and an English Pantomime. Audition and performance dates will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in June.

There are lots of opportunities to participate both on and off stage - keep an eye on the website for more information [www.kwlt.org](http://www.kwlt.org).



## 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](mailto:lightsup@kwlt.org).

### March

24-26 - Auditions for The Three Musketeers - *Room 2034, Math & Computers building, University of Waterloo*

### April

3-5 - Performances of The Importance of Being Earnest - *At the Registry Theatre*

10-12- Performances of The Importance of Being Earnest (week 2) - *At the Registry Theatre*

14-16 - Auditions for the June One Act Play Weekend - *Location TBA*

### May

Nothing on the calendar yet!

### June

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

12-14 - June One Act Play Weekend - *At the St. Jacobs Church Theatre*

18 - KWLT's Annual General Meeting - *7pm at 9 Princess Street East*

### July

17-19 - Performances of The Three Musketeers - *At the St. Jacobs Church Theatre*

24-26- Performances of The Three Musketeers (week 2) - *At the St. Jacobs Church Theatre*

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

Visit KWLT on the web at [www.kwlt.org](http://www.kwlt.org) for the complete calendar, show listing and other valuable resources!

## Fundraising Update

### Chris Rovers

We've continued our fundraising efforts over the last few months, with a new appeal to members and our audience very recently. With our partnership with CanadaHelps, we've been able to offer a new way to help Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre, a monthly giving program. With this program, donations of even as little as five dollars a month can help us build a steady income stream that helps us plan.

This idea of a predictable income stream is extremely important to us as we work to ramp up the rebuild once again. The best way that you can help with this is to sign up for a monthly donation - see <http://www.kwlt.org/donate> - and help us put ourselves on even better financial footing. The wider our donation base is, it will help with both the predictability of the donations and the appeal of KWLT to external agencies who might want to help us. It is a great way for our members to show that KWLT matters.

As well, we're just about ready to approach some of our business neighbours to see how we can work together to finish our theatre. We've worked hard to put together an attractive package that showcases the importance of KWLT.

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! 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](mailto:vp@kwlt.org).

## 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

## January One Act Weekend Pictures

### *Abbott & Costello / Fifteen Minute Minimum*



### *The Whole Shebang*



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Photo Credits: Kristy Shute, Tim Jackson

## Other Area Theatre Productions

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

Galt Little Theatre - *Les Liasons Dangereuses*, April 10 - 19

Kitchener Waterloo Musical Production - *Little Shop of Horrors*, April 17-19, 23 - 26

Guelph Little Theatre - *The Merchant of Venice*, April 17 - 19, 24 - 27, May 1 - 3

Royal City Musical Productions - *The Mikado*, April 24 - 27

Elmira Theatre Company - *Maggie's Getting Married*, April 25 - 27, May 1 - 4, 8 - 10

Elora Community Theatre - *The Kitchen Witches*, April 25 - 27, May 1 - 3

The Community Players of New Hamburg - *Carousel*, May 8 - 11

Guelph Little Theatre - *Lettice and Lovage*, May 29 - 31, June 5 - 8, 12 - 14

Poor Tom Productions - *The Glass Menagerie*, June 19-21, 26-28

## Rebuild Update

Chris Rovers

Hello, everybody! We've had a busy little while in the rebuild world and I'm here to tell you about it. As I wrote the last rebuild update, our contractors were just finishing the water main installation. Since that time, they have indeed finished and our floor has been repaired and replaced.

Our volunteer rebuilders have been in to work on preparing the site for the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning installation (and generally clean the place up) and we've signed a contract with those installers and they are now at work, installing new furnaces and duct work throughout the space. Once we have heat in the building, we'll be much freer to work at any time throughout the year. And since winter doesn't seem eager to release its grip on us, that's a good thing.

As well, the heat will allow us to install a backflow preventer - required by the city code - so that we can once again work on plumbing. Supply plumbing is the last thing we need to finish before we can put up drywall, so we're looking forward to being able to complete that task. Once again, we'll be calling on volunteers to help us out with that effort.

The members of KWLT showed their dedication to this project when they went out the day following a major snowstorm in order to get some city mandated work done. We moved a lot of snow, we cleaned a lot of graffiti and we did it all cheerfully and quickly. The day went very smoothly and we were able to get a lot of work done.



Overall, we're on track and we're just looking for more money to keep the project rolling. Having a heated building will be a major step in the evolution of the project and we're really thrilled it is happening over the next few weeks.

As always, if you would like to help out or have suggestions or questions, please feel free to email me at [vp@kwlt.org](mailto:vp@kwlt.org). See you on the build site!

**KWLT**

Remaining

**2007-2008 Season**

### THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST — By Oscar Wilde

*Directed by Angela 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](mailto:info@kwlt.org)