

The Shaw Guild

Shaw met Irish heiress, Charlotte Payne-Townshend through Beatrice and Sydney Webb, co-founders with Shaw of the Fabian Society, the precursor to the Labor Movement. Described by Beatrice as “a large graceful woman with masses of chocolate-brown hair,” Shaw initially hesitated in marrying her, a fellow Fabian and dedicated to the struggle for women’s rights, not wishing to be seen as a gold-digger.



However on June 2, 1898 the following notice appeared in the newspaper The Star “As a lady and a gentleman were out driving in Charlotte Street, Covent Garden yesterday, heavy showers drove them to take shelter in the Office of the Superintendent Registrar there, and in the confusion of the moment he married them. The lady was an Irish lady named Miss Payne-Townshend and the gentleman was George Bernard Shaw”. The Shaws had no children as Charlotte did not want children. Charlotte gradually suffered from a form of bone disease, Osteitis Deformans, dying in 1943.

President’s Column

With a membership that now stands at 390, The Guild is a very healthy organization! We not only have 390 willing volunteers, we also have 390 ambassadors for The Shaw Festival.

Each of our 2007 events were successful because of the organizational skills of the conveners and the enthusiastic participation of our members. As of October 1, Guild members had accumulated over 7,600 volunteering hours. That’s a lot of hours! Each one of these hours represented real monetary savings for The Festival, whether you were helping in the gardens, tearing tickets, hosting the member’s lounge or conducting backstage tours. Congratulations and a big thanks to all.

We also owe our gratitude to all those who contributed to our various fundraising events. Since its inception last year, we have donated more than \$70,000 to The Shaw Guild Endowment Fund. In addition, the Executive Committee has agreed to set aside \$500 each year to accumulate enough funds to celebrate a big 50th anniversary bash in 2012. continued on the next page



The Shaws on their Honeymoon.

Volunteering and giving is indeed what we are all about. As new members constantly join our group, we must ensure that they fully understand what The Guild is all about, and where their own individual skills and interest might best be of service. During the past year, Past President Faye Goodwin has developed a very comprehensive programme of orientation for our new members. This is crucial for our organization and for The Shaw Festival. Your Executive Committee has decided to add an Orientation Chair to the Executive Committee on a two-year trial basis and Jack Harmer has agreed to take on this task, which we know will benefit from his long-standing dedication and commitment to our theatre.

I particularly wish to thank the members of the Executive Committee for their support and long hours during this past year. Each of them has been a vital part of our team. To those staying on in 2008, thank you, we couldn't do it without you. To those retiring we appreciated your dedication and I know that we will continue to see you often as active Guild members and friends: Livia Martin, Vice-President and Dave Hunter, Coordinator of the Docent programme. And to those who will join the team in 2008, a heartfelt welcome aboard!

I am looking forward to next year and to new opportunities for The Guild and its members. Please come forward with your ideas, your concerns, and of course your offer to participate. As our organization approaches its 50 year anniversary in 2012, we will continue to adapt to the changing preferences of our members and to the needs of The Shaw Festival.

Suzanne Hebert

President, The Shaw Guild

A Reminder

Guild Membership Renewals

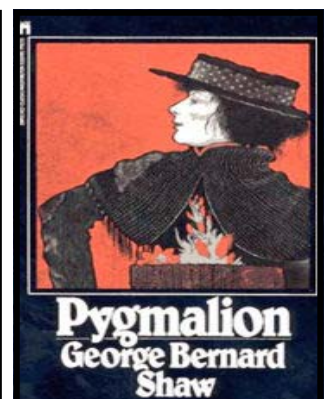
Every member should have received a membership renewal form for 2008. Do not forget to send it in as soon as possible. Renewal fees are still only \$15.

And don't forget to fill in your volunteering interests sheet. Please return both to

The Shaw Guild, re: membership, PO Box 83, Niagara-On-The-Lake, ON, L0S 1J0

If you have any questions about renewing your membership or volunteering categories, please contact our membership Chair, Justin Venhuizen at 905-468-3336 or Justin.fran@sympatico.com.

The first production of Pygmalion in English opened at His Majesty's Theatre, London on April 11, 1914 and starred Mrs. Patrick Campbell as Eliza. It was directed by GBS. The original poster depicts Mrs. Pat (as she was frequently called) as Eliza. Most critics at the time thought she was much too old for the part at 49. But she was the obvious choice, being by far the biggest name on the London stage, and Shaw would not have seen it any other way since he wrote the play for her. *(She was also the only actress in London who would say the word "bloody" on the stage.)*



Calendar of Events 2008

Soulpepper in Toronto, January 30, Wed, 1:30 PM

Matinee performance of David French *Salt Water Moon*, \$80.00 per person.

Scene Shop Visit, March 4, Tuesday, 7:00 PM.

Lesslie Turner will once again entertain us. This time on *A Little Night Music* and *Mrs. Warren's Profession*.

President's Spring Luncheon, April 6, Sunday 12:30 PM.

Festival Theatre Lobby.

Show and Tell, April 6, Sunday, 2:30 PM.

Presentation of the 2008 Guild Program and the 2008 Shaw season with Colleen Blake, Festival Rehearsal Hall.

Town Preview, April 18, Friday and April 25, Friday.

An Inspector Calls.

Play at Stratford, May 13, Tuesday.

Members can choose either matinee performances of *Hamlet* with Ben Carlson or *Cabaret* with Trisha Lindstrom

Garden Tour, May 31, Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM

Further information on the next page

Set Change-over & backstage tour, June 12, Thursday, 4:45 PM

At The Courthouse Theatre, *A Little Night Music* to *The Step-mother*.

Guild Dress Rehearsal, July 4, Friday, at 1 PM

Mrs. Warren's Profession by GBS, The Festival Theatre. Tickets to be distributed at Noon

Fair and Fete, August 4, Monday

Festival Theatre grounds

Cricket Match, August, day and time TBA

in Niagara-On-The-Lake

Enrichment Event, August 6, Friday, 7 PM

The Alexander Method with Victoria Heart. Coach, The Festival Theatre

Visit to Props warehouse, September 10, Wednesday. 2 PM

Open House

Curtain Call, October 2, Thursday, 5 PM

Macdonald-Heaslip Lounge

Guild Members Day, October 11, Saturday, 10 AM to 2 PM

Workshops in the Morning presenting one or two plays of the 2008 season, followed by lunch

Annual Guild Meeting, November 23, 2 PM

Rehearsal Hall Three

SHAW GUILD GARDEN TOUR

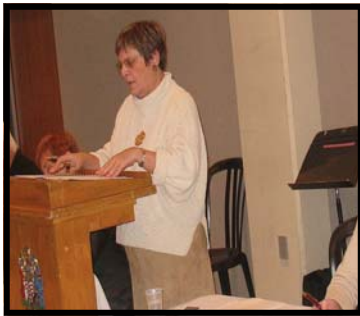
Our fund-raising Garden Tour is planned for Saturday, May 31 and will feature six special private gardens in Chautauqua and elsewhere in town. As always we need volunteers to staff the gardens in shifts of 10 AM to 1 PM and 1 PM to 4 PM. If you were kind enough to volunteer last year we will contact you early in the new year and if you would like to volunteer for the first time please contact Peter Gill at 905-468-5190 or at gillhome@cogeco.ca. Tickets will be available from The Shaw box office and the Chamber of Commerce sometime in April. **Tickets are \$20 each.**



Mrs. Patrick Campbell was the stage name of Beatrice Stella Tanner. Her first marriage from which she took her stage name produced two children and ended with the death of her husband in the Boer War in 1900. Fourteen years later she became the second wife of George Cornwallis-West, who was previously married to Jennie Jerome, the mother of Winston Churchill. Despite her marriage she continued to use her stage name. She made her stage debut in 1888. *Pygmalion* had a long gestation period before appearing on stage in 1914 due to difficulties in locating a theatre, finding a suitable leading man and Mrs. Pat. having been injured in a taxi accident. In 1899 GBS and Mrs. Pat began a correspondence which was to last over forty years. Some biographers indicate they fell in love through correspondence, however during rehearsals for *Pygmalion* Mrs. Pat married George Cornwallis-West who later left her for a younger woman.

Annual Guild Meeting

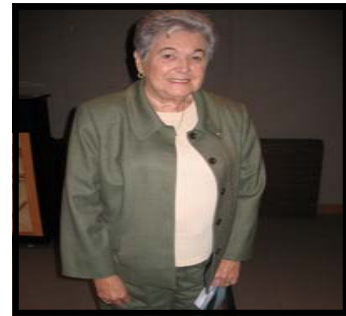
The Annual Guild Meeting was held on November 25 and two new members of the Executive Committee were approved: Carol Reid as Vice-President and Peter Barwell as Chair of the Docents. Suzanne Hebert, the President presided over the meeting of seventy members and Don Finlayson, Shaw Director of Production gave the members a thoughtful and informative talk. A number of long time members were recognized for the many years of volunteer service to The Shaw Guild. Anne Andres is a veteran of over 35 years of service to The Guild.



Suzanne Hebert, President



Don Finlayson, Director of Production

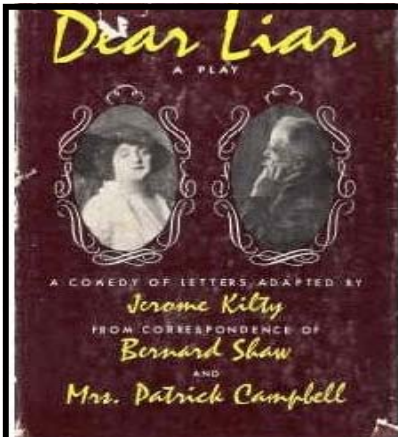


Anne Andres, 35 year volunteer

Anne has been a resident of the Niagara Region for over sixty-one years. Anne joined what was then referred to as an auxiliary organization of The Shaw in 1968. She together with Felicitas Mandeville began bringing Cherries, Sugar Plums and Apricots from her farm on the Niagara Parkway and putting them in baskets to sell in the theatre lobby. Of course the proceeds went to The Shaw Festival. The Guild has come a long way from that modest but heartfelt beginning. During Anne's time with The Shaw Guild she has participated in organizing the Fair and Fete and hosting at the member's lounge.

The Shaw Scary Halloween Ball

The Halloween Ball was a great success with one hundred and ten members attending. The music was lovely and the food was great. The Ball raised \$12,724.43.



In the late 1950's Jerome Killey adapted the forty year correspondence between GBS and Mrs. Pat into a play or rather, more of a staged reading with two actors called *Dear Liar*. The letters, both his and hers were found under her bed after she died in France in 1940. The relationship between them emerges as a passionate love affair. He becomes her "Joey dearest" (a reference to a popular pantomime clown in the first half of the 20th Century) and she becomes his "Beatricissima." The play first appeared on Broadway in 1960 with Katherine Cornell and Brian Aherne. The Canadian television production in 1964 with Zoe Caldwell and Barry Morse is considered by most critics to be the finest version. The Hallmark Hall of Fame produced the play in 1981 with Jane Alexander and Edward Hermann. It is frequently staged by colleges and universities throughout North America.



BE THE FIRST TO KNOW

This years Town Preview Play will be *An Inspector Calls*, at The Festival Theatre, on April 18 and 25. The town previews are offered each year by The Shaw Festival to residents of Niagara-On-The-Lake for a small donation. Profits from the evening are donated to local charities. This years Guild Dress Rehearsal will take place on July 4 at 1 pm, at The Festival Theatre. The play is *Mrs. Warren's Profession* by GBS, directed by Jackie Maxwell.

Guild Trip to Stratford

The Guild is once again organizing a trip to Stratford with a unique concept. We are planning to take a small bus on Tuesday May 13 giving members the opportunity of seeing either *Hamlet* (with Ben Carlson) or the musical *Cabaret* (with Trish Lindstrom.) After lunch our bus will drop members off at the theatre of their choice and pick them up after the performance. The price will be in the \$100 range per person for the transportation and the play tickets. It is very important for us to know whether there is enough interest. If you are interested please contact 905-468-3590 or at so-gestec@sympatico.ca or Carol Reid at 905-680-1020 or at cm.reid@sympatico.ca.

Our First Event of The Year

***Salt-Water Moon*, by David French, at the Soulpepper Theatre in Toronto with Jeff Lillico and Krystin Pellerin
Wednesday January 30 matinee, Price: \$80, includes the bus trip and ticket to the matinee performance.**

David French is a popular and critically-acclaimed playwright born in Newfoundland in 1939. The Province and its people are central to his work. French is one of several playwrights of the 1960s who wrote plays about ordinary life in Canada which provided long overdue local portraits for Canadian audiences, in their own style of speech and in their own social milieu. His works are humorous, ironic, romantic and passionate. *Salt-Water Moon* is judged to be one of his best plays. He won a Dora Mavor Moore Award and was nominated for a Governor General's award for *Salt-Water Moon*.

Our Guild group will be leaving Niagara-On-The-Lake around 10 am, for a leisurely drive to Toronto. In Toronto the group will have a choice of restaurants in the Distillery district for lunch, and will also have time to visit some of the wonderful local shops. After the matinee we will drive back to Niagara-On-The-Lake, arriving around 6 pm.

Registration Form

SALT-WATER MOON

Wednesday January 30.2008

Please reserve _____ bus and theatre tickets @\$80 each. Total of \$_____

Please note: Bus and Theatre tickets will not be mailed. Payment is confirmation of your reservation for this event. Information on departure time and location will be provided later.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Send to: The Shaw Guild, Attention Soulpepper, PO Box 83, Niagara-On-Lake, On, L0S 1J0

Shaw Guild Members are wonderful volunteers. The members listed below have gone beyond the call of duty, with their support and enthusiasm. We hope that we have not forgotten anyone. Our apologies if we have.

The Treasurer: Treasurer, Richard Ventresca thanks Amanda Pyper of Durward Jones Barkwell & Company, who reviewed the financial books of The Guild pro bono. He also thanks the members of the Guild's Endowment Committee, Mario Ferrara and Peter Gill.

The Hosting Committee: Hosting Chair Jim White thanks the Hosting Captains: Ken and Peggy Bell, Luba Fraser, Ann Nelson, Mora Richmond, Pamela Ward, Ruth Belfie, John Edmonds, Joanne Forsyth, Lesley Fowler, Kathie Hill, Kay Langlois, Al Martin, Elizabeth Rothmel, Josie O'Brien, Sheri Webber, who spent countless hours phoning and scheduling Guild members for hosting.

The Monday Morning Gardeners: Convener Peggy Bell wishes to recognize the group of regular volunteers who come and help at the Festival theatre gardens, every Monday morning, rain, heat or hip or cataract surgery notwithstanding: Cathy and David Abbott, Lil Aylesworth, Anne Bittersohl, Barb Bragadir, Margaret Fairman, Lesley Fowler, Mike Fox, Kathy Heit, John Hunter, Sonia Johnson, Dennis Kam, Jon Klein, Bryan Marcus, Burke McNeill, Arthur and Franca Moss, John Ployart, Gail Santsche, Eric Seppala, Katherine Stefaniuk, Larry Turner, Toini Warrell, Fred and Gail Wilkinson, Joan Wilks, and Dave Willick. And also those volunteers who have come occasionally to help: Ken Bell (cookie courier), Liz Ikonikov, Linda Murray, Mary Ann Seppala and our newest member Ann Ferenz.

The Docents: Docent Programme Coordinator Dave Hunter wishes to recognize the enthusiasm and dedication of our Docents: Tiina Adams, Peter Barwell, Ken and Peggy Bell, Emily and Bill Charnetski, Glenna Collins, Maureen Dalglish, Margaret Fairman, Faye Goodwin, Jane Hanna, Jack and Sally Harmer, Suzanne Hébert, Sheila Hill, Larry Kostoff, Len Kooperman, Marguerite Luczay, Barrie Mathews, Alan Mills, Nancy Mouget, Jeannette Murdoch, John and Nancy Ployart, Carol Reid, Jackie and Lloyd Rollerson, Fran Venhuizen, Richard and Susan Ventresca.

The Nominations Committee: Past President Faye Goodwin thanks members of the committee: Luba Fraser, Maureen Dalglish, Suzanne Hebert and David Fowler.

The Fund Raising Group: Peter Gill, Fundraising Chair, wishes to recognize the assistance and enthusiasm of the members of The Guild who helped organize the 2007 Garden Tour and the Shaw Scary Halloween Ball. These included Peggy & Ken Bell, Diane Turner, Cecilia Bennett, Deana Broeders, Dave Hunter, Ruth Ellis, Judy Gill, Graham Dalrymple, George & Etta Mitchell, Doreen & Owen Steel, Pam Ward, Bonita Cawker-Warrack, Marilyn Haring, Josie O'Brien, Mora Richmond, Henry and Heather Beckman and Susan & Richard Ventresca.

The Contact Committee: Len Kooperman, Information and Communication Chair, thanks the wonderful members of the Contact Committee: Margaret Fairman, Jan Gore, Al Martin, Barbara Ransom, Bea Smith, Sheri Webber and Ann Wills.

Guild Social Activities: Chair Katherine Stephaniuk thanks the members of her committees organizing our wonderful social events:

Peggy Service who made the trip to Souleppper happen, in February and who also came up with the idea of this Fall's Guild Members' Day.

The President's Luncheon: Peggy and Ken Bell, Sally and Jack Harmer, Joan Hutcheon, Nancy Ployart and Mary Lou DiMarco. Special thanks to Mark Zielinski and Peter Gill.

Curtain Call: Dorothy Abbey, Beatrice Behrends, Janet Borrowman, Kathy Hill, Jon Klein, Christine Lancaster, Muriel Smith, Josie O'Brien, Nancy Ployart and Jim White.

Fair & Fête: The Shaw Company and Convenor Suzanne Lefebvre thank all the volunteers who helped with this wonderful community fundraising event:

Dorothy Abbey, Elisabeth Adams, Lil and Bob Aylesworth, Ruth and Mike Belfie, Rollice Blake, Bill and Emily Charnetski, Frances Cowan, Mike Deitsch, Betty Ferguson, Rose Finnigan, Nancy Forsyth, Peter and Judy Gill, Marie Gillespie, Margaret Griffiths, Jean Grimble, Yolanda and Mike Henry, Sheila Hill, Judy Holmes, June Langford, Mary and Peter Joselin, Patricia Keilhau, Kathleen and Donald Keith, Elsie Kubow, Pat Lamb, Kay Langlois, Lynne Legallais, Marguerine Luczay, Livia Martin, Megan McEwan, Neil and Margaret Middleton, Alan Mills, Lenore Morrison, Jay Moyer, Carol Mullen, Josie O'Brien, Elizabeth and Ian Rigg, Adria Ryan, Peggy Service, Glenda Smith, Stephanie and Steve Venhuizen, Susan Ventresca, Kate and Jos Verweij, Jim White, Fred and Gail Winkinson, Ann and Bob Wills and Mark Zielinski

And particular thanks to Carol Kirstein for her palm reading and to Maureen Dalglish for reading our tea leaves.

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Executive Committee

President	Suzanne Hebert	905-468-3590	sogestec@sympatico.ca
Past-President	Faye Goodwin	905-468-8981	Bob.faye@sympatico.ca
Vice-President	Carol Reid	905-680-1020	cm.reid@sympatico.ca
Secretary	Josie O'Brien	905-357-3577	obriens@vaxxine.com
Treasurer	Richard Ventresca	905-468-8310	richard.ventresca@sympatico.ca
Membership	Justin Venhuizen	905-468-3336	Justin.fran@sympatico.ca
Guild Activities	Katherine Stephaniuk	905-984-8513	Katja.stef@sympatico.ca
Information	Leonard Kooperman	905-262-1664	ddeaune@sympatico.ca
Hosting	Jim White	905-562-9679	jimwhite@sympatico.ca
Docents	Peter Barwell	905-468-7487	stay@brockhollow.com
Fundraising	Peter Gill	905-468-5190	gillhome@cogeco.ca
Orientation	Jack Harmer	905-468-0990	harmer@niagara.com

Continued from the previous page

The Shaw Festival, through Vice-President Livia Martin, wishes to acknowledge all the Guild volunteers who contributed to the success of its activities:

Emily Charnetski who organized the welcome tables on **Shaw Members' Days**, with Guild volunteers Janet Borrowman, Mike Henry and Yolanda Henry, Helmi Moehl, Kathie and Peter Hill, Eve Wylie, Bill and Pat Francombe, Bill Charnetski, Dorothy Abbey, Francis Stewart, Marilyn Haring and Kathy Chambery.

Al Martin who co-ordinated the distribution of **Playing This Week** to local hotels, and the volunteers who went out each Monday morning during the season: MaryLou DiMarco, Margaret Fairman, Ruth Hunter, Annabel Kennedy, June Langford, Helmi Moehl and Linda Murray Kate and Jos Verweij who helped during the visit to the Costume Warehouse.

SHAW MEMBERSHIPS

With the new Shaw season quickly approaching, consider becoming a Shaw Member, in addition to your Guild membership. Even at the lowest membership fee of \$75, one receives quite a few perks.

+Advance ticket ordering + Subscription to the Shaw Magazine +Recognition in the Member's Register+ Access to the Members Terrace+ Access to Members Day Tickets+ and, of course, an Income Tax receipt.