



# The Shaw Guild

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Good fortune has been shining on Shaw lately. You have probably heard about a number of government grants & private donations that have been received in the last month.

First there was the Industry Canada grant of \$2.13M, which must be spent on marketing initiatives. Shaw will use this money to purchase media ads plus brochures, as well as upgrade computer software programs and the telephone system.

Next there were two grants from the Ontario government in the amount of \$800K. \$300K is to be used to produce a concert at Fort George on August 9, which will be televised by Bravo! and CTV. The remaining \$500K must be directed towards tourism and marketing.

The Slight family donated \$5M in May to be used by the Shaw Academy. This comes as a commitment of \$500K per year, for ten years. As you know the Academy provides training to Company members and sponsors new play development.

Finally a long time patron of Shaw left a bequest of \$2.5M in her will to the Festival. This money can be used for general purposes. The Board of Directors will decide how best to allocate these funds.

At the moment we are carrying a \$1.7M deficit. While ticket sales have recovered from an earlier budget shortfall of 20%, we are still about 15% below where we need to be, to avoid a deficit this year. Hopefully the marketing efforts will help in this regard.

Carol Reid, President



Guild members strolling through the University of Guelph on their visit to The Shaw Archives



Bill Charnetski and Jane Hanna learning from a librarian



Guild members in the library classroom

# Mark Your Calendar

**A SPECIAL SESSION WITH PAUL SPORTELLI, The Shaw Festival Musical Director, on Thursday July 16, 10:30 to Noon** at the Festival Theatre in Rehearsal Hall 3. Paul will talk to us about the music for the 2009 season with special emphasis on the music of Stephen Sondheim's, "*Sunday in the Park with George*." He will also present, on the piano, some of the music from his new musical "*Maria Severa*" which will be presented this season as the fourth reading series presentation in the new Studio Theatre

**Back To the 50's Barbeque -Thanks /Applause to our Volunteers. Monday August 10, 2009 between 4 and 7** on the south lawn members terrace of the Festival Theatre. Dress 50's style and music 50's style (a pair of Shaw Festival tickets awarded to the best dressed 50's style.) Hamburgers, hotdogs and a chip wagon as well as ice cream drumsticks and in-season fruit. Lemonade and water will be available as well as a cash wine and beer bar. This is a free event for all Guild members– please wear your name tags. Please RSVP by August 1 to Katherine at 905-984-8513 or Katja.stef@sympatico.ca

**Cricket Match with Stratford in Stratford, September 14.** A bus trip is planned with an excellent box lunch with wine. After the match we will join both teams for the famous Cricket Tea. You can look forward to a day of cricket and conviviality and support The Shaw cricket team for another win. For further details phone 905-468-5076

## The Great Shaw Guild Raffle

This year, starting on July 25, we will be featuring a major raffle of almost \$ 10,000 worth of prizes. Want a Caribbean Cruise, we have it. Maybe a \$ 2,700 Diamond watch, it could be yours. A two night week-end mini-vacation, no problem.... and lots of other great goodies. Tickets are \$ 20 each and will be limited to 1000. Tickets will be available from July 25 at The Shaw Festival box office and the 79 Queens St. site and at the Chamber in person as well as at [www.Niagara-on-the-Lake.com](http://www.Niagara-on-the-Lake.com) and by phone at 905-468-1950. Tickets will also be available at the Valu-Mart on Queen St. and at the August 10 Shaw Guild Barbeque.



## The Shaw Guild Announced As Host For Prestigious 2012 CAVORT Conference

At the recent meeting of its Board in Minneapolis, CAVORT (Conference About Volunteers of Regional Theatres) announced that the site for its 2012 conference will be our very own Shaw Festival. The presentation to host this influential conference was developed by a small committee of Guild members, including Jack and Sally Harmer, Kathy Chambery, Marilyn Haring, Suzanne Hebert and Charmian Entine. Charmian has agreed to take on the overall responsibility for organizing the event on behalf The Shaw Guild.

This conference, held every second year, brings together volunteers from major regional theatres across North America. They meet to network, exchange ideas and find out what is new and exciting in the world of theatre plus hear of innovative ways to support and expand the impact of their local theatres. A significant conference programme and roster of social activities will all be part of this event which will take place in April of 2012.

This fall Charmian will begin calling for volunteers in areas such as: fundraising, information and communications, outreach to theatre throughout North America, organization of social events, programme development and volunteers co-ordination. If you are interested in hearing more about CAVORT, or wish to join the team in any capacity, please step forward. You can contact Charmian at 905-468-7792 or [entine@cogeco.ca](mailto:entine@cogeco.ca) to learn more about the conference and those areas where your expertise will be invaluable.

We certainly intend to put on a truly great conference for our colleagues in the world of regional theatre. It's going to be a great event, and the organizing team promises that all involved will have a lot of fun!



## A Call for Nominations

The following positions are open for 2010 and 2011:

**Information & communications:** The incumbent after serving one term is not seeking re-election. The Chair produces 5 issues of the Guild Newsletter each year, good verbal and written communications skills and computer knowledge (Word, Excel and Publisher) are important. The Chair also works with a small group of people who telephone members who do not have access to email to inform them on upcoming activities. For further information on this position contact the incumbent Len Kooperman at lenkooperman@aol.com or 905-321-1383.

**Membership:** The incumbent after serving three terms is not eligible for re-election. The Chair maintains a data base on members, and produces monthly membership lists and other reports as required. A good understanding of computer applications (Database, Internet, Word, Excel, E-mail) and the ability to develop, collect, maintain, and manipulate computerized data are important. For further information on this position contact Justin Venhuizen the incumbent at Justin.Venhuizen@sympatico.ca or 905-468-3336.

**Hosting:** The incumbent after serving two terms is not seeking re-election. The Chair oversees all aspects of Hosting at all theatres in co-operation with the Head House Manager and Managers of the Royal George and Court House. The Chair is supported by a team of hosting captains who telephone members for assignments. Good organizational and interpersonal skills, and computer literacy, including a working knowledge of Windows Excel spreadsheets) is important. For further information on this position contact the incumbent Jim White at Jimwhite@sympatico.ca or 905-562-9679.

**Docents:** The incumbent after serving one term has been elected Vice-President for the 2010-2011 term at the November 2008 Annual Meeting. The Chair oversees all aspects of the Docents programme, working closely with our 30 committed Docents, and with all departments of the Shaw Festival. Previous experience as a Docent is required for this position. For further information on this position contact the incumbent Peter Barwell at stay@brockhollow or call 905-468-0088.

**Fundraising:** The incumbent has served two terms and is not seeking re-election. The Chair is responsible for developing and overseeing a fundraising plan for The Guild. Over the last few years this has included the Garden Tour in the spring, and a second activity in the fall. For each activity, the Chair is supported by a team of experienced and dedicated Guild members. It is important that the Chair work well with a team, possess computer skills, identify potential sponsors. For further information on this position contact Peter Gill at gillhome@cogeco.ca or 905-468-5190.

Executive Committee meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month, except for December, between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.,

**If you are interested in any one of these positions, please contact a member of the Nominating committee to chat about your area(s) of interest and the positions currently open for nomination: Suzanne Hebert (468-3590), Carol Reid (680-1020), Sally Harmer (468-0990), Marguerite Luczay (468-9373), Peggy Bell (468-1272).**

<b>Executive Committee</b>			
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<b>President</b>	<b>Carol Reid</b>	<b>905-680-1020</b>	<b>cm.reid@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Past-President</b>	<b>Suzanne Hebert</b>	<b>905-468-3590</b>	<b>Sogestec@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Jack Harmer</b>	<b>905-468-0990</b>	<b>harmer@niagara.com</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Josie O'Brien</b>	<b>905-357-3577</b>	<b>obriens@vaxxine.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Richard Ventresca</b>	<b>905-468-8310</b>	<b>richard.ventresca@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Justin Venhuizen</b>	<b>905-468-3336</b>	<b>Justin.Venhuizen@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Guild Activities</b>	<b>Katherine Stephaniuk</b>	<b>905-984-8513</b>	<b>Katja.stef@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Information</b>	<b>Leonard Kooperman</b>	<b>905-262-1664</b>	<b>ddeaune@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Hosting</b>	<b>Jim White</b>	<b>905-562-9679</b>	<b>jimwhite@sympatico.ca</b>
<b>Docents</b>	<b>Peter Barwell</b>	<b>905-468-0088</b>	<b>stay@brockhollow.com</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>Peter Gill</b>	<b>905-468-5190</b>	<b>gillhome@cogeco.ca</b>
<b>Orientation &amp; Education</b>	<b>Kathy Heit</b>	<b>905-468-3000</b>	<b>Heitkam@sympatico.ca</b>

<b>Gardens We Had Gardens</b>
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The fourth 2009 Shaw Garden Tour which was held on May 30 was a great success, partially due to the sun gods shining down all day but mostly to all the Guild members who assisted in, and enjoyed visiting the wonderful gardens donated this year. Final tally is not yet in but it is clear that we raised more than ever for the Shaw Endowment Fund. Many thanks to our volunteers, garden owners, Mori Gardens and all the other generous sponsors. Several people have asked about the sponsor of the Dalfen garden. The sponsor was of course Southbrook Vineyards but due to a clerical goof at this end, we forgot to add their name and address under the picture Southbrook provided. If you haven't already visited them, at the Blue Wall, give Southbrook wines a try...at 581 Niagara Stone Road.



<p>President Carol Reid presented a \$500.00 cheque from the Guild to Shaw Wardrobe Head Rita Brown to kick off the Company Appeal fund. The target is to raise \$12,500 to support continued excellent production values at the Shaw.</p>
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