



The Shaw Guild

President's Corner

It's already September, Fall is just around the corner, and this is the last Newsletter for 2008. The Guild year, however, is far from over, and some of our greatest events are coming up in October.

By the time you receive this issue of your Guild Newsletter, The Shaw will be ready to formally announce its 2009 season. As President of The Guild, and an ex-officio member of the Shaw Board, I have known for a few months what wonderful theatre will be brought to us in 2009, and have found it awfully difficult not to broadcast it in advance! In the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star and The National Post, there have been some occasional advance notices. Some of them were right. Some of them were completely wrong!

What I can say is that the new concepts developed by Jackie Maxwell and her team for 2009 are especially exciting. There will be eleven plays on stage, and the large rehearsal hall in the Production Centre will be used as our Fourth house, the Studio theatre. **Plan to join us on Guild Members' Day on Saturday October 11.** Guild members will be the first to hear Jackie's presentation on our next Season.

October is also your chance to toast the 2008 Shaw season. It has been a very good year, both critically and financially for The Festival. **Join your Guild friends and company members on Thursday October 2, for Curtain Call.**

At the end of the month, get your mask and disguises, and come to our **Halloween Fundraising Ball on October 31.** Great food. Great wine. Great friends. And it's all for a great cause!

Finally, please plan to join us for the **Guild Annual Meeting on Sunday November 23.** Annual Meetings are not always the most exciting event of the year, but they are extremely important for all non-profit organizations, and for the Executive members who count on members for their support and encouragement.

Have a great Fall!

Suzanne Hebert, President

The many faces of Noel Coward



Mark Your Calendar

The Props warehouse visit is on Wednesday September 10 at 2 pm . The Props warehouse is located in **The Glendale Industrial Mall at 360 York Rd.** From NOTL take the Niagara Stone Rd. to Airport Rd. and make a left on to Airport Rd. until York Rd. At York Rd. make a right and shortly the Glendale Industrial Mall will be on your right. Go all the way around to the back of the building following an unpaved road until you reach Unit #17. The door is unmarked but someone will be out front to admit the members.

Curtain Call-Thursday October 2 at 4:45 pm in the Production Center lobby. Join both Shaw company members and Guild members to toast the 2008 season This a free event. Please wear your Shaw Guild badge. Please RSVP **no later than September 29** to Katherine, Katja.stef@sympatico.ca or call her at 905- 984-8513.

Guild Members' Day - Saturday October 11, starting at 9:30 am

2009 promises to be a historic year for The Shaw, with a very special ground breaking Season. In 10 years, critics and friends will remember 2009 as the year of Curious? Come and hear Colleen Blake and Jackie Maxwell tell us all about the 2009 Season.

Last year's Members' Day was a great success and we plan to follow the same model: an all day event, starting at 10 am at the Festival theatre. Doors open at 9:30 for a light breakfast of coffee and pastries. At 10 am Jackie will divulge the great secrets of 2009, outlining the plays and the themes she has selected, and the beloved playwright who will dominate next year's Shaw Season. "Elegant." "Faintly outrageous." "Witty." Lord Louis Mountbatten said of him at his 70th birthday celebration: *"There are probably greater painters than ..., greater novelists than ..., greater librettists, greater composers of music, greater singers, greater dancers, greater comedians, greater tragedians, greater stage producers, greater film directors, greater cabaret artists, greater TV stars. If there are, they are fourteen different people. Only one man combined all fourteen different labels."*

Over lunch, Leonard Conolly, Canada's pre-eminent expert on GBS will talk about the 2009 Shaw plays (yes, there will still be two Shaw plays on stage next year). Leonard is a great speaker, and Guild members very much enjoyed his presentation last year. There will be a few other sessions, and the day should end around 2:30.

The price for the day, including breakfast, lunch and our speakers is \$30 per person. Please make your cheque payable to The Shaw Guild, and mail it to the Guild Attention: Guild Members' Day, The Shaw Guild, P.O. Box 83, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, L0S 1J0 **so it reaches us by October 1st.**

October 31, Friday is the Shaw Scary Halloween Evening featuring the Fine Art & Rare Wine Auction. Costumes Optional, Masks Recommended and Fun Required

A great fun and value evening. Bubbly reception with selected hors d'oeuvres, fabulous 3-course dinner with wines, live entertainment, great auctions, best costume and mask prizes, etc Starts at 6:00 p.m. at the Shaw Festival Theatre's Production Center - \$100 all inclusive per person. Tables of eight are available. Tickets from Peter Gill at 468-5190 or from the Shaw Box Office or www.shawfest.com

Funds raised by this great evening are matched by both levels of government to the Shaw Guild Endowment fund.



This and That

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Fair and Fete. As always, there are a few financial loose ends to be tied up, but it appears that we raised a record \$15,000! There are too many thanks to include individually here, but I hope everyone involved knows how much their hard work was appreciated by Bea, Evan and myself, and how grateful our partner charities will be for the money we can send them. The members of the Shaw Guild contribute a huge amount of energy and time to the event, and without their assistance, the project could never be accomplished. A big tip of the hat to them! Once again, thanks to everyone who helped out, in any capacity, to make our 20th year the best ever.

Alan Teichman, Shaw Festival Fair and Fete 2008 Coordinator.



Maureen Dagleish reading tea leaves



Ken Bell calling Bingo

A LABOUR OF LOVE

On September 3, in the gardens of the Festival Theatre, the Shaw Festival organized a special ceremony to dedicate the gardens to our wonderful Guild Gardeners. They are a dedicated, hard working group, and their efforts this year have made the world of difference to the grounds.

The deadheading is completed in all areas, and the cleanup and planting in the *linden alley* and just off the *members' terrace deck* were badly needed. The *Secret Garden* has a new lease on life, and the *green room patio* has never looked nicer. We know how much the Shaw company appreciates their work.



Some of our volunteer gardeners



The Shaw Festival Gardens

A Labour of Love

The Shaw Guild Volunteer Gardeners

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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
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Fundraising	Peter Gill	905-468-5190	gillhome@cogeco.ca
Orientation	Jack Harmer	905-468-0990	harmer@niagara.com

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A great success at this year's **Shaw-Stratford annual cricket match**. The final score was 210 to 177 and this was our fourth win in a row. Sixty-seven Guild members cheered our team to victory, while enjoying wine and a picnic lunch, followed by a scrumptious tea in the Festival Lobby. With our raffle, we should be able to give over \$500 to our cricket team for next year.



Amnesty International Festival for Freedom Concert

September 22nd Monday at 8 PM in the Royal George Theatre, \$25 each for tickets, available from Bernard's (gift shop in the Festival Theatre) in person with cash or call Gail at 468-5751 or Martha at 468-0481 for tickets. This year, in honour of the 20th anniversary of the concert and the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, the speaker will be Alex Neve, Secretary-General of AI Canada. This should be an extra-special evening. Please order your tickets without delay. As always this concert is produced entirely by the Shaw Festival Company who donate all their time and talent to this most important cause.