

December 2016



Presidents Message

I am very grateful for Zoe Ashby, Past President of the Smiths Falls and District Arts & Culture Council for all her hard work during the last 5 years. Without her the Council would not have survived. I would like to say a personal Thank You to her and as the new President I have pretty big shoes to fill.

We are looking forward to the upcoming events that are in store for the Arts Council, such as Fill a Bowl, the Joyce Brennan Award, Paint Like a Master and more.

Getting everyone more involved with the Council has been a task that we have not fully explored. One way to do this is by helping to promote our members' businesses, activities, events, etc. through our website, newsletter, and perhaps other ways. We encourage members to get involved and help the Council fill a need within our community This organization is a diverse, and welcoming one. We are excited about upcoming events for the future.

We are always working hard to find new ways to educate and bring awareness to the Arts and Culture community, and bring people together.

Leah Hicks



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Art Journey Fall Show & Sale

By Deb Fortin

What do you get when you assemble a “cast” of artists and artisans in a local area community hall? You get SHOW. A wonderful, delightful, visual and touchable show. More specifically, the Art Journey Show and Sale.

Art Journey is a group of local area artists that gather together to show and sell their works of art to the public. In past years they followed the typical travelling style of show with each artist hosting visitors in their own studios, which allows visitors to choose which studios they visit.

More recently they have banded together, first in the Kinsman Pavilion at Lower Reach Park, and for the past three years in the Smiths Falls Memorial Community Centre on Cornelia St. W.

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This venue allows visitors to see all the artists in one place, saving them travelling time and ensuring they don't miss an artist they hoped to see.

This year's fall show took place the weekend of November 5th and 6th. It was a two day show open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. The participants vary from show to show which allows for a rotating roster of artists. This year we showcased fibre arts, fine woodwork, pottery, pyrography, photography, paintings, pencil art, mixed media, wood turning, wood carving and jewellery.

This year also saw the inclusion of another group of artists. Vine Rhymes; singers, songwriters, and poets, who entertained us and our visitors throughout the show. It was a lovely addition to our art show and we thank them for their participation and hope they will return next year.

As an incentive to visitors we have each artist contribute a small piece of their art to one of our door prize Gift Baskets. Also new this fall was our BEAN POLL, which allowed us to discover how our visitors heard about us. I think it was a great success and the folks had a good chuckle over the name. Wonder how it works? You'll have to come to our next show and participate in the poll yourself. Stay tuned for dates and times for 2017.

As an extension of our goal to present our works of art, we also do various technique demonstrations onsite to educate the public on what is involved in creating our works of art. This artist-to-public engagement leads to conversations on the "how and why" we create. We not only want the public to appreciate what we do but also to encourage them to learn a new craft or art form, thus carrying on the age-old tradition of creating art. In this age of high-tech focus we often neglect the hands-on practice of creating art. It is our hope to encourage future generations to get involved in creating.

For "Without ART the earth is just, eh!

The Joyce Brennan Award

The Smiths Falls & District Arts & Culture Council (SFDACC) presented the sixth annual Joyce Brennan Award for outstanding contributions to Arts and Culture in the Smiths Falls Area.

This award is given in honour of the late Joyce Brennan, who was a founding member of the Rideau Canal Museum Board and the Heritage House Museum, a Town Councillor, as well as a founding member of the SFDACC board. The award will be presented on December 4th, 2016 at Heritage House Museum as part of their 35th Annual Art Show event.

The first Joyce Brennan Award was presented posthumously to Joyce in 2011. It was accepted by her son, town councilor, Jay Brennan, at the newly-built Memorial Centre.

Pat Foulkes won the award in 2012. Her husband Tom accepted it on her behalf at the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario. A past-president of the Canadian Federation of University Women, Pat founded the Volunteer Fair and the Friends of the Library. Friends runs the Film Night International film series running currently at the Station Theatre. She also was a stalwart supporter of the Station Theatre project and ongoing contributor of theatre productions in Smiths Falls.

Bill Hamilton and Nancy Berthiaume were handed the award in 2013 for a decade of work at the Station Theatre, Public Library and many other places. It was presented at the Kinsman Community Pavilion in Lower Reach Park.



In appreciation of her work to bring the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario into the forefront as a successful facility, and for her contributions on the local Municipal Heritage Committee, the 2014 Award went to Anne Shropshire. She also sat on the Smiths Falls Arts &

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Joyce Brennan Award Continued

Culture Task Force in 2011 which led to the establishment of our Arts Council. The presentation was made on November 1st at the Memorial Centre.



Last year Karen Schecter received this award for her tireless efforts in the area of Arts and Culture which include innovative programming at the library, providing high quality international films for Smiths Falls heading up the Smiths Falls component of Film Night International.

The award this year will be presented on December 4th at the Heritage House Museum.

Fill A Bowl Fundraiser

This was the first year that the Arts & Culture Council held the Fill A Bowl Event along with L.I.P. It was held on April 2nd at the Seniors Centre on Cornelia (across from the Hospital). Local Potters donated soup bowls and several local restaurants donated soup to fill the bowls. Vine Rhymes, a local group of musicians, songwriters, and poets provided the entertainment.

The Council is hoping to hold another Fill A Bowl Event in early 2017. It is hoped that this will be held during the Winter Carnival Weekend which will be held sometime in February.

Paint Like A Master Night

November 21st, which was a really bad weather day, saw eight brave soles attend the first Paint Like A Master event sponsored by the Arts Council. This event happened at Fort Hemlock Pub. For two hours Betty Compton guided the participants how to paint just like a master would. By the end of the evening each participant had a completed painting.

The funds raised at this event will be going to a Bursary Program that the Arts & Culture Council sponsors every year to a graduating high school student which is presented to a local student who is going on to study the Arts.

Upcoming Events

Station Theatre News

The final play of the 2016 season is now on at the Station Theatre. This year's Pantomime is *Sleeping Beauty* which started on December 2nd and runs until December 11th.

The play was written by Ben Crocker and is being directed by Emily Duberville. It is about a Villainous Villainess, two fabulous felines and a host of traditional pantomime characters. This makes for a zany slapstick comedy and holiday hijinks.

The 2017 Season for the Station Theatre plays has now been set. You can look forward to seeing:

February 24th – March 5th



No Sex Please...We're British

by **Anthony Marriot & Alistair Foot**
is presented by special arrangement
with **SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.**

This is a play about when a postal accident lands boxes of Scandinavian naughty pictures in the living room of young newlyweds Peter and Frances. They must do everything they can to get rid of it before Peter's mother shows up, not to mention his uptight boss at the bank! Add in a bumbling best friend, a couple of policemen, and two "ladies of the evening" and this day will be one the happy couple will not soon forget! This zippy farce ran for over eight years in London!

April 28th - May 7th

The Chalk Garden

by **Enid Bagnold**
is presented by special arrangement
with **SAMUEL FRENCH INC.**



A classic play that tells the story of Mrs. St. Maugham who lives in her country house in a vill-

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age in Sussex, where her garden is composed of lime and chalk. She is taking care of her teenage grandchild, Laurel, who has been setting fires. Miss Madrigal, an expert gardener, is hired as a governess, despite her lack of references.

This endearing play never seems to age, perhaps because its characters are written with such wit and brittle cleverness



June 16th - June 25th

Bare Bear Bones

by Michael Grant

is produced by special arrangement with Playwrights Guild of Canada.

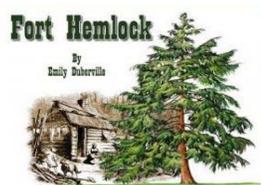
Norman and Ruth are empty nesters who, after 25 years of raising children discover they have lost the spark their marriage once had. On the advice of a discount marriage councilor, they return to a place where they remember being in love, *The Bear Bones Family Campground*. Arriving late due to a less than road-worthy tent trailer, they set up camp in the dark. The next morning sheds light, not only on their campsite, but also on the fact that since camping there years ago with their children, *Bear Bones Family Campground* has also seen some changes and became *The Bear Bones Alternative Lifestyle Campground*. As they are unable to leave, due to a broken trailer, this very conservative duo must work together to avoid all “that flops and jiggles” on the other side of the hedge while trying to save their marriage. *Bare Bear Bones* is a story of love and communication

August 18th - August 27th

Fort Hemlock

by Emily Duberville

A World Premiere produced by special arrangement with the author



In celebration of Canada’s 150th this is an original play that is being produced for the first time at The Station Theatre. The story is an apocryphal account of a fight that took place many years ago between rival groups of farmers. All the characters are ficti-

tious and the author has “*embroidered*”, where necessary, to create a compelling story. The essential features of the Smiths Falls landscape at the time are from research. The place names, the presence of Romany in the area and events like The Turkey Fair are all real.

October 13th - October 22nd

Who Dunit?

by C.B. Gilford

is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.



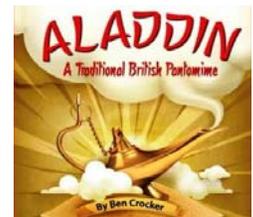
One of the most original comedy-mystery plots of all time. It first ran as a short story in Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine, and was later a hit on “*Alfred Hitchcock Presents*”. This has been translated into a dozen foreign languages, and reprinted in several anthologies. What happens when a famous mystery writer is murdered, goes to Heaven and discovers that not even St. Michael knows who murdered him? There’s only one answer: Saint Michael sends him back to earth to relive the past twenty-four hours of his life in order to solve the murder before it is committed. The writer discovers everybody he knows has a good reason to kill him! And then – is he just going to sit there and let it happen a second time? So the writer must outwit both the murderer and the Archangel Michael.

December 8th - 17th

Aladdin – A Traditional British Panto

by Ben Crocker

This production by arrangement with Ben Crocker Pantomimes



Discover an Aladdin’s cave of adventure, laughs, fun and surprises at the traditional Christmas panto.

Help the hero save the day, boo and hiss at the baddy and cheer and clap the cast in this traditional family panto. It’s a magical carpet ride you won’t want to miss!

For more information on the 2017 Season of Plays contact the Station Theatre.\

Chat Line

This will be a column where the membership of the Smiths Falls and District Arts and Culture Council can highlight some of the events they have participated in, are planning to take part in, or just if they are aware of Workshops, Shows, Tours, etc. that the membership would be interested in. Also, if you have any tips to offer that would be helpful to the membership.

This will not be a space for advertising of any of the above, as we will have advertising space available for that purpose in our future editions of the newsletter which will be published four times a year.

We are also looking for suggestions as to what you the membership would like to see in future newsletters. As well we plan to create a Meet the Member column.

Membership

The fees for membership are:

Single \$20/year

Organization \$100/year

Patron \$250/Lifetime

To become a member contact anyone on the executive for information, or mail payment to Smiths Falls and District Arts & Culture Council, c/o 23 Ross Street, Smiths Falls, ON, K7A 4V7

Contact Us

This is the official newsletter of the Smiths Falls and District Arts & Culture Council.

Monthly meetings, are scheduled on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., in the Council Lounge at the Town Hall of Smiths Falls.

Email Edition: All members with email address will receive their Arts & Culture newsletter in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format. A “free” copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader may be downloaded from:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

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The Smiths Falls and District Arts & Culture Council would like to start up a directory of Artists, Writers, Musicians, etc. in the area. Also, let us know if you teach workshops, lesson, and so on. If you would like to be listed in this directory please contact one of the executive listed below.

Your Executive

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