

The Alberta Drama Festival Association and
Windmill Theatre Players



HOST

THE 1998 PROVINCIAL ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL



MARCH
20 & 21

at
the
Highwood Memorial Centre
HIGH RIVER

Public
Admission

\$5/session

\$2 - students

SESSION 1
FRIDAY,
MARCH 20
at
7:30 pm

SESSION 2
SATURDAY,
MARCH 21
at
7:30 pm

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Highwood Stock Festival coming to High River

BY JOANN NEWTON

Remember back, wa-a-ay back in the 1960s when bellbottoms were in, skirt hems were up and people dropped out?

To help bring it all back again, the Windmill Theatre Players of High River invite you to turn on, tune in and drop by the Highwood Memorial Centre Feb. 6-7 for their sixth annual dessert theatre "Highwood Stock Festival," this year highlighting the many moods of the '60s.

"Highwood Stock Festival" will feature seven one-act plays to be presented over the two evenings.

These seven plays will then go on to compete at the Zone 8 Regional One-Act Play Festival in Canmore on Feb. 20-21 (far out!). March 20-21 will see the Provincial One Act Play Festival return to High River this year, drawing performances from the entire province to the competition.

In the true spirit of the psychedelic '60s, this year's set of Windmill plays are a mixture of the dramatic, the avant garde, melodrama and farce.

Two of the plays are written by local playwrights Karen King and Larry McKillop. McKillop's play, *Teeter Totter*, is set in modern-day small-town Alberta.

There, a female RCMP officer upon learning details of a long-ago crime, finds herself investigating issues from her own past and within her own heart.

Four Toes and a Toothbrush, as its name implies, is a piece of absurd theatre (way, way out). The playwright, Karen King, says, "It has a plot; what more do you want?" (Cool!)

Clara and the Gambler by Jason Milligan is the third play to be shown during Friday evening's performance.

It is actually set in the '60s, albeit the 1860s, or thereabouts. This melodramatic comedy reveals the likely turn of events which may occur when a gambler wins a wife in a poker game — someone else's wife, that is.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, four more plays will be presented. *The New Girl* by Vaughn McBride is set in modern day but is perhaps timeless in its treatment of the trials, tribulations and triumphs of growing old.

In it, we meet two women in a nursing home who have come to a point in their lives when they can say whatever they want to whomever and whenever it pleases them.

The Omelette Murder Case by playwright Tim Kelly is described as a spoof based on the trashy detective magazine story, sort of a who-dun-it doing the twist!

In *I Wandered Lonely* by Heldor Shafer, we are introduced to an aging motorcyclist recovering from a recent accident. Although his days as "easy rider" are long past, they remain vivid and full of meaning to him.

Last Call For Breakfast by Richard Gaunt is an avant garde "coarse-acting" play in which anything conceivable that could go wrong in a stage production does.

Described as "so experimen-

tal, even the cast doesn't know how it's going to end," this play provides a fitting conclusion to this weekend of entertainment which salutes the 1960s.

True to the tradition of Windmill Theatre Players' dessert theatre, "Highland Stock Festival" will heighten the explosion of dramatic entertainment with the abundant availability of LSD. (Lots of Scrumptious Desserts) throughout the evening.

The hip happening will also offer musical interludes between plays, featuring top-of-the-chart hits from one of the most exciting decades in recent musical history.

Desserts and bar service will begin at 6:30 p.m. with curtain time at 8 p.m. both evenings.

Tickets, which include all-you-can-eat desserts and coffee, will be available at the door for the

groovy price of \$12 for one evening or \$18 for both.

So, dig out those go-go boots, bellbottoms, paisley shirts, peace signs and beads, and join the flower-child generation once more at the Highwood Memorial Centre, High River, Feb. 6-7.

A HELPING HAND



photo by Bruce Campbell

Clarrisa, right, hitches a ride to Flo's wheelchair to the washroom during the one-act play *The New Girl* at the Windmill Theatre Players' Dessert Theatre Saturday at the Highwood Memorial Centre. Clarrisa was played by Shannon Simington while Celia Penman is Flo. See more photos on page 15.

H.R. TIMES FEB. 10 1998





Playful desserts AT HIGH WOODSTOCK

Photos by Bruce Campbell

LEFT: Bert, played by Bill Regnier gets some advice from Nel, a nurse played by Rachel Kielstra in *I Wandered Lonely*, Saturday at the Windmill Dessert Theatre at the Highwood Memorial Centre.

BELOW: Laura Ferguson takes acting with a grain of salt during the production of the satirical one-act play *Last Call For Breakfast*. Ferguson plays a grain of salt in the play. She is joined by a little pepper, Karen Stewart, and stage crew Nina and Cliff Cameron.



BELOW LEFT: Serving up some tasty desserts.

BELOW MIDDLE: Rosa Stern gives Shake Speare, a Mike Hammer-like dick, an earful during *The Omelet Murder Case*, a spoof on *Hamlet*. Barry Maynard is Shake Spear.

BELOW RIGHT: Claude comforts his wife Gertrude in *The Omelet Murder Case*. Gertrude is Carla Schmidt while Claude is played by Dave Burton.





PINE
TREE
PLAYERS



THE ALBERTA
DRAMA FESTIVAL
ASSOCIATION

1998 Alberta Zone VIII

One Act Play Festival

at Canmore Collegiate Theatre



Session 1: Friday,
February 20 at 6:00 pm

Session 2: Saturday,
February 21 at 1:30 pm

Session 3: Saturday,
February 21 at 7:00 pm



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