



October to  
December  
2019



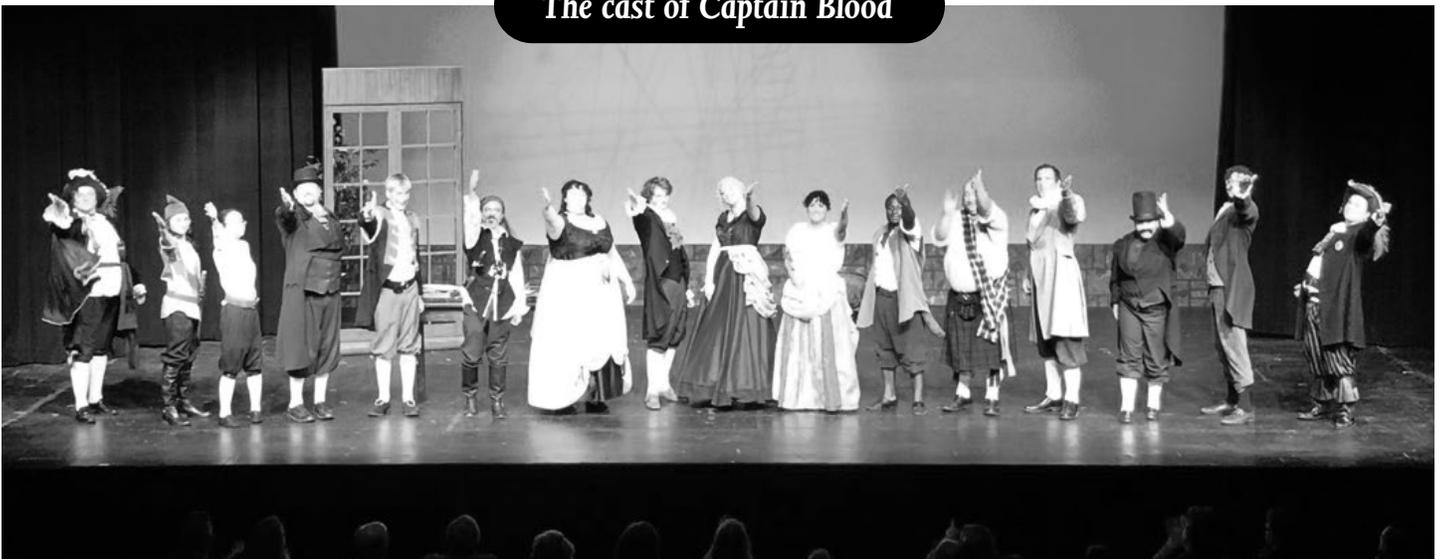
# MASKS & FACES



Volume **79**  
Number **1**

The 94th season of RLT is off to a great start with a very successful run of our season opener, *Captain Blood*, and a wonderful collection of plays at our fall cabaret. The remainder of the season includes a staged radio-play, two comedies, a heartwarming look at the mysteries of aging, and our spring cabaret in May.

The cast of *Captain Blood*



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(306) 352-5535

Masks and Faces is the official publication of Regina Little Theatre Society, Inc. and is published four times per year.

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Our December show is a unique take on the classic *It's a Wonderful Life*. We spoke to director **Dallas Duffus** about her approach to presenting this holiday favourite:

**RLT** What excited you about directing *It's a Wonderful Life*?



**DD** It's a feel good holiday classic that everyone loves and the chance to bring it to life on a live stage is so exciting. The story has a message that stands the test of time - everyone goes through tough times and with the support and love of friends and family it is still a wonderful life. I have actually run into a few people throughout the process that have never seen the movie (including one of our actors!) and for them it's going to be all new and shiny.

**RLT** What do you like most about the script?

**DD** The script lightens the heaviness of the story by abbreviating some of the plot and adding fun elements like commercial breaks. During the play selection process I had the opportunity to correspond with the author, Joe Landry, he is quite the character himself and thrilled that we are producing his script. It is amazing how technology can bring people together despite their geography.

**RLT** What do you think might be challenging about presenting a "radio play" on the RLT stage?

**DD** This is a different kind of acting challenge for our thespians - 5 actors voice over 50 characters! This is new to me too, so I've been watching lots of videos online on how to make your voice sound differently, really interesting. In addition we have to provide enough action to engage the live studio audience while keeping our actors close to their microphones - there were no wireless mics in 1946.

**RLT** Do you have anything special in mind for this production, given the unique elements of a radio play?

**DD** The foley team are as much a part of the show as the actors, we are setting the show in the mid 1940s and recreating all the sounds in the show with our amazing foley team. We are also having live music which is going to add so much to the story.

**RLT** What can audiences look forward to with this production?

**DD** My hope is that they will come, enjoy a wonderful show and leave feeling uplifted and happy about the upcoming holiday season. After all, it is a wonderful life!

## President's Message, November 2019

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**W**hat a season! The 2018-2019 was a very successful season. It always impresses me that we seem to get better each year. The Play Selection Committee chooses plays that appeal to a wide audience and then the casts and crews really bring them to life. All of our volunteers are to be congratulated for their extraordinary contributions that play a role in our success.

**R**egina Little Theatre is so very proud of the success of ***Captain Blood***. I received many positive comments about the play content, the costumes, and most of all about the actors. They brought to life all the swashbuckling story of pirates, romance and a man fighting injustice. Congratulations to director Bryce Schlamp, and the cast and crew for another success. A special nod to the volunteers in the costume room: thank you Nora Berg, Lacey Frigon, Sebastien Pilon, Sandra Preikschat and Jean Taylor. They created a great wardrobe.

**O**ur Fall Dinner Cabaret was another success. The plays presented covered a wide scope of entertainment. ***High School Reunion*** was a humorous look at how five people and their relationships evolve over several years through high school reunions. A special nod to Derek Barrs' cameo. Are you tired of Time After Time yet? ***Lizzy's Ghost*** was an eerie look into the paranormal. What would you do if you came face to face with a ghost? Definitely something to think about. ***Being Rose*** was a thoughtful look at the memories of an elderly woman who doesn't always remember things as they were but how she wanted them to be. ***Little Shop Boys of Horror*** was an extended inside joke about the unbelievable demands made to the carpentry shop volunteers by various directors and stage managers over the years, and the limitations of the real world. Written by John Chaput and with a cast made up of our actual 'shop boys', it was a fun look at community theatre. A special thanks to our team of catering volunteers for the great menu. Thank you Nora Berg, Brenda Lee Lueke, Legbo Menegbo, Brett Milos, Shauna Missick, Cathy Moberley, Judy Riess, Cheryl Scherle, Bryce Schlamp, Jackie Schlamp and Jennifer Lyn Squires.

**T**he Play Selection Committee has come up with a great playbill for the rest of our 94th season. There is the fun of a Christmas time favourite presented as a radio show. This show will bring back memories of Radio Rides Again. We hope everyone enjoys ***It's a Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play***. Our February presentation, ***A Red Plaid Shirt*** is a humorous look at how two friends deal with retirement. With a little "subtle redirection" from their wives and a creative solution to a very unusual problem they find the right track... eventually. Our April production, ***Helium***, is a moving and uplifting story of a brilliant and creative chemistry teacher who braves the trials of frailty and aging. We will present another dinner cabaret in early May. I don't know the line up yet, but I can guarantee that it will entertain, and the food will be delicious. Our final production of the season will be the hilarious ***The Mouse That Roared***. The young sovereign of a microscopic and bankrupt country comes up with a unique solution to her country's problem which is to declare war on the U.S.!

**P**lease join us as we celebrate our 94th Season.

*Faye Habern*





## Do You Have Any Old Programs & Newsletters?

**We would like to include them in our archives.**

Contact RLT at 306-**352-5535** or at [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net)



## Join the Fun and Make History!

Regina Little Theatre is the **oldest all-volunteer community theatre group in Canada!**

We are excited to present outstanding plays every season but the **key** to our success lies in the many helping hands that work together on stage and off.

### And that's where you come in!

Every play needs not only *actors*, but also **backstage crew, stage managers, costumers, prompters, prop wranglers, painters, movers** and **more!**



**You are the key!** Contact us at 306-**352-5535** or [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net)

Whether on stage, behind the scenes, or as one of our board members, John Chaput has been integral to RLT over the years. We caught up with John after the Fall Cabaret to ask him about his latest project:

**RLT** Your original play *Little Shop Boys of Horror* performed during the Fall Cabaret was absolutely heartwarming. The audience loved seeing our beloved "shopboyz" on stage. What made you decide to write a play featuring these unsung heroes of RLT?



**JC** It was really just a timely whim. I heard - I forget where and from whom - that the Shop Boys had a long-standing wish to be on stage but lacked a script. I figured I could write one and offered to try. Four of them are in the same curling league as I am, so it was easy to arrange a couple of meetings and consult with them on what kind of a story they would like to perform. I wrote the entire original script, but it was based on their preferences and input. They had to be comfortable with it, and they were totally on board with satirizing RLT itself and themselves in particular.

**RLT** One wouldn't have guessed that the shop boys had no prior experience performing. What were some of the things you did to prepare them for the stage?

**JC** Credit the boys themselves. It became evident early in rehearsals that they were receptive to direction and eager to do the work. (Stage Manager) Peter Bruce and I put emphasis on stage fundamentals - diction, blocking, hitting cues, stuff like that - and we were pleasantly surprised to see how readily they picked up the essentials and even a lot of the nuances. Peter and I told them that the audience was sure to be forgiving of any lapses or mistakes, but that we wanted them to be as solid on stage as they could manage, and they exceeded our expectations. From my perspective, it was a huge advantage to be both playwright and director. I made the play short (just under 20 minutes) and distributed the dialogue evenly - except for "Dee Rector," who had about twice as much to memorize as each of the boys; Melody Chalifoux was excellent in the role as the Shop Boys' foil.

**RLT** Do you have any favourite moments from rehearsals you could share with us?

**JC** There was one early rehearsal when we got to the part where the guys proclaim "CHERYL SCHERLE!" as the bane of their existence. Cheryl was nearby in the Carpentry Shop doing early work on *It's a Wonderful Life* and when she heard her name she jokingly called out, "WHAT?" Cracked me up. Then, in the last few rehearsals, Barry Uncles started going all-in on his Shakespearean lines. He was so over the top that he was rolling down the other side of Everest, but it was perfect. It took a couple more rehearsals for everyone to keep a straight face while he did that.

**RLT** Have you gotten any feedback from anyone on "the list"?

**JC** Not yet. Faye Daborn and Bonnie Senger expressed relief that they weren't on it, but "the list" was strictly for directors, SMs and set designers. "The list" was actually a stumbling block during the writing phase. It was a good gag to have it transform from a short to a long list, but then I realized that by expanding it I would risk offending people by omitting them. The script was full of inside jokes that we could get away with because of the nature of our one-act cabaret audience; this was the biggest inside joke of them all and out of necessity had to run a little long.

**RLT** Do you think we will see any of the shop boys in an upcoming audition room?

**JC** It wouldn't surprise me. They all showed themselves to be capable and, furthermore, funny. The audience response was tremendous; the boys and Melody earned every laugh and bit of applause. That kind of spontaneous feedback can be very encouraging. It could be that we'll add to RLT's pool of mature male actors, so maybe I've created additional competition for myself as a performer. Oops.





2019

**Season 94!**

2020



## It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Adapted by **Joe Landry**

Based on the movie by **Frank Capra**

Directed by **Dallas Duffus**

Produced by special arrangement with **Playscripts Inc.**

Performances: **Dec 4-7**<sup>2019</sup>

This beloved holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve.



## A Red Plaid Shirt

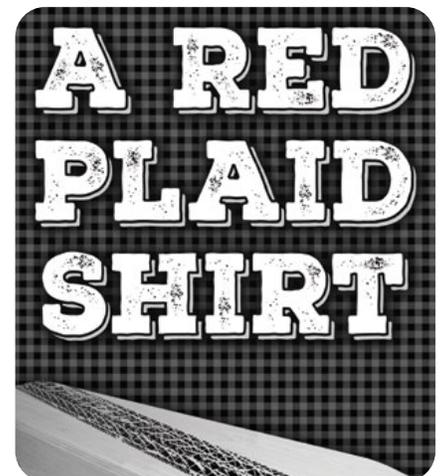
By **Michael G. Wilmot**

Directed by **Stacey Paus**

Produced by special arrangement with **Playwrights Guild of Canada**

Performances: **Feb 12-15**<sup>2020</sup>

Two friends fill the void left by retirement in different ways. Marty decides to explore the open road on a Harley and Fred pays more attention to his health, inventing many new ailments along the way. With plenty of laughter, some "subtle redirection" from their wives and a creative solution to a very unusual problem they hit the nail on the head... eventually, in this laugh out loud comedy.



# Helium

By **Julian Wiles**

Directed by **Nora Berg**

Produced by special arrangement with **Dramatic Publishing**

Auditions: Feb **10** & **11**<sup>2020</sup>

Performances: Apr **15-18**<sup>2020</sup>

Helium is the moving and uplifting story of a brilliant, humorous, and creative chemistry teacher who braves the trials of aging while keeping her imagination, charm, and dignity intact. "Hysterium" and "preposterous" are two of the elements that former teacher Molly Kingsley "discovers" in the laboratories of her wandering, 80-year-old mind.



# Spring Dinner Cabaret

Auditions: TBA • Performances: **May 8 & 9**<sup>2020</sup>

Regina Little Theatre presents two great evenings of cabaret-style theatre! A selection of bite-sized plays accompany our renowned food and drink menu. Raffles and draws, too! Guaranteed good times! Two nights only. Don't miss it!



# The Mouse That Roared

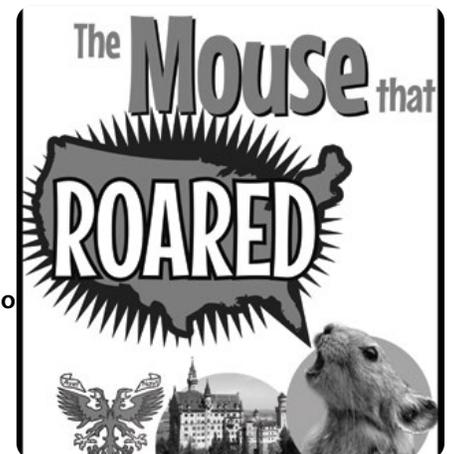
By **Christopher Sergel**

Directed by **Leonard Wibberly**

Produced by special arrangement with **Dramatic Publishing**

Auditions: TBA • Performances: Jun **10-13**<sup>2020</sup>

Duchess Gloriana, sovereign of a microscopic country in the Alps founded centuries ago by a roving band of English bowmen has a solution to the near bankruptcy of her tiny domain - to declare war on the U.S.! When her declaration is considered a prank, she decides to escalate. But all bets are off when faced with the impossible - they win!



## *In Memorium*

We have recently lost some beloved long-time members of Regina Little Theatre.

**Steve Arsenych**

**Lee J Cowie**

**Margaret Frazer**

We are grateful for all of their work and dedication over the years, and extend our deepest sympathies to their loved ones.



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## *Shirley Brooks Memorial Scholarship*

We are very proud to announce the first recipient of the **Shirley Brooks Memorial Scholarship** is **Nathan Breitenbach**.

Launched this year, the scholarship was created to honour the memory of our friend and Board Member, **Shirley Brooks**. The scholarship is designated for people of First Nations, Inuit and Metis heritage to be used for their education in the performing arts. **One scholarship of \$400 is awarded yearly.** This funding can be applied to any classes in the performing arts and is paid directly to the educational institution hosting the classes or workshop.

**For more information regarding the Shirley Brooks Memorial Scholarship or to apply, please visit our website.**



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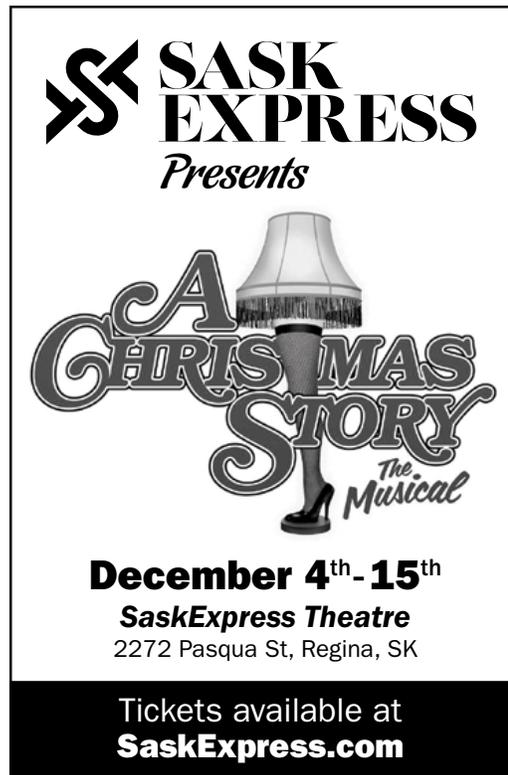


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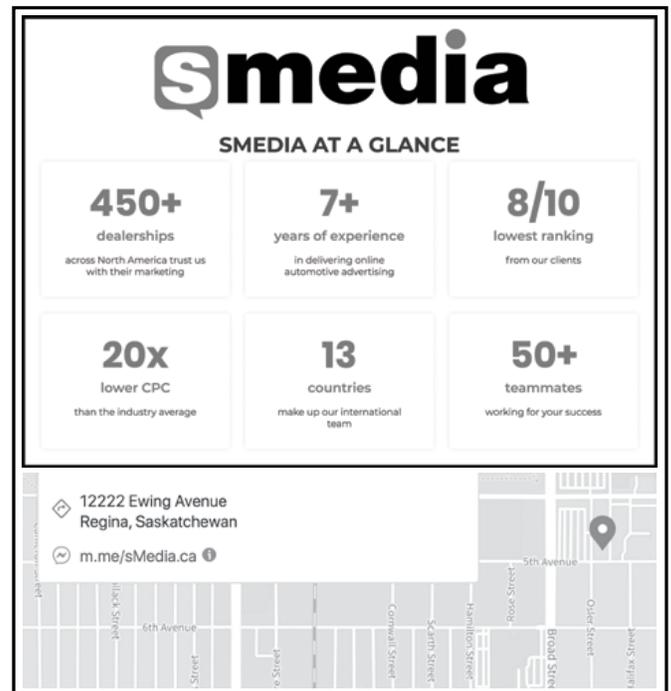
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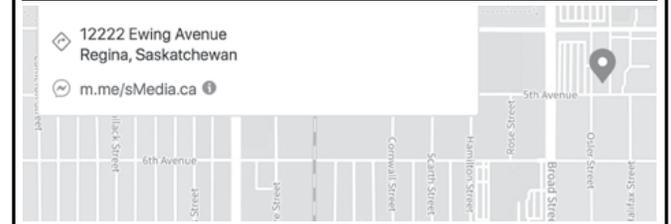


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### Season ticket subscribers automatically become members of RLT!

Individuals who wish to participate on stage or behind the scenes but who are not subscribers must purchase a basic membership of \$25 for the season.

## Single-Admission Tickets

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### One-Acts Cabaret

<b>All ages</b> (Single admission)	<b>\$15<sup>00</sup></b>
<b>Early bird</b> (Before Wednesdays of performance weekend)	<b>\$12<sup>00</sup></b>

## Box Office

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**1077 Angus Street**  
Regina

Monday-Thursday:  
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Friday:  
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One coupon per customer per day. Coupon must be surrendered to Box Office at the time of purchase. May not be used for prior and/or completed purchases of tickets, nor with discounted tickets (including block bookings) nor with any other voucher or coupon. May not be used to purchase season tickets or gift certificates. Valid only for Regina Little Theatre main stage play Wednesday evening performances. Seating is as available at the time of coupon redemption and is not guaranteed. Reproductions are not accepted.



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