

Tuesday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 1968

The first meeting of an adult drama group in Kanata took place at 12 Sandwell Cres on the above date. 18 members were present.

The following officers were elected

President — Bob Horbin

Secretary — Mary Manger

Treasurer — Elsie Bryant

Publicity — Gwen Knight & Donna Gallagher

The name chosen for the club was the KAWATA THEATRE GROUP

The aims of this group are as follows:—

- 1) To foster interest in Drama in this community
- 2) To involve members in all theatrical activities for their mutual enjoyment.

We discussed the possibility of joining, as a group, with the Canelet-Little Theatre in Glencairn. However, it was finally decided that we would try first to manage on our own. Bob Horbin offered his services as director for our initial production.

**KANATA  
THEATRE  
GROUP**

Minutes of early meetings

## Sunday Dec 15

The Kanata Theatre Group met on Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at 12 Sandwell Cres. We finished reading *Life With Father* and continued with a short business meeting.

Bob Horobin's resignation as president was regretfully accepted. Bob and Pat will be moving to Toronto in the new year. Dewi Williams was elected to replace him as president. We now have to find a vice-president to replace Dewi.

Gwen Knight reported on her conversation with John Mlacak as follows:

March Town Hall is available for meetings at a nominal charge. However, the washroom facilities are poor so though it might be suitable for rehearsals we could not use it for a performance. However, it is to be renovated in the new year so we may be able to consider its use later on. The old March Township school can probably be used by us later on for building and storing scenery. It is owned by March Township but is presently filled with old school supplies.

John Mlacak would like us to write him a letter outlining our objectives and requirements. He will then let us know whether we can obtain a grant to defray our expenses, This letter will be written when we are certain of the date and contents of our production. He suggested that we contact Freda Zachary, a member of the Ottawa Little Theatre, as she lives in Kanata and may be willing to help us.

Ron Andoff has volunteered to help in the lighting.

It was suggested that we do more about publicizing our society in Kanata and March Township. Apparently some people are under the impression that we are affiliated with the Camelot Little Theatre. It should be made clear that we are a separate group. A notice will be put in the Kanata Standard, January issue, to this effect. We will also discover whether we can display a poster in the South March store. There is still no poster in the Kanata Mall. Donna Gallagher will be contacted about this.

It was decided that a meeting of the executive would be necessary before our next open meeting. This will therefore take place on Dec 31<sup>st</sup> at 17 Pentland Crescent.

It was proposed by Mary Mauger and seconded by Gwen Knight that there should be an upper limit on our contributions to the group funds. \$10 was set as the limit for adults and \$5 for teenagers.

The play reading committee reported that they had finished reading the selected plays and the following were the most suitable:

*Fumed Oak* – Noel Coward

*Rise and Shine* – Cadogan

*The Lady Killers* – Fitzpatrick

These are all one-acts and it has been decided that our first production should consist of 2 or possibly 3 one-act plays. The 3-act play *Claudia* by Franken was considered a possibility for future production. A good actress would be needed for *Claudia*.

Laurence Thornton offered to direct one of the plays. Dewi Williams will produce and Vera Thompson will be asked if she will consider directing one of the others. *A Resounding Tinkle* is another one-act possibility. The directors will now read these plays and make the final decision.

We concluded the meeting with some exercises in group: mime, improvising conversation, etc.

The meeting ended with refreshments provided by Bob & Pat Horobin at 11pm.

Our next meeting will be on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 20 Kingsford Cres.

**Tuesday Oct 22rd 1968**

The first meeting of an adult drama group in Kanata took place at 12 Sandwell Cres on the above date. 13 members were present.

The following officers were elected:

President – Bob Horobin  
Secretary – Mary Mauger  
Treasurer – Elsie Bryant  
Publicity – Gwen Knight & Doreen Gallagher

The name chosen for the club was the **KANATA THEATRE GROUP**. The aims of this group are:

1. To foster interest in Drama in this community.
2. To involve members in all theatrical activities for their mutual enjoyment.

We discussed the possibility of joining, as a group, with the Camelot Little Theatre. However, it was finally decided to manage on our own. Individual members may join the Gleancairn group if they wish to do so. Bob Horobin offered his services as director for our initial production.

We have decided to have play readings throughout the winter with the hope of putting on a workshop production at Leacock School in March or April.

The first of these play readings will be held on Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. At 13 Milne Cres. It was decided to charge a fee of 50cents per meeting to cover the cost of buying plays and for advertising supplies.

The lower age limit for members was set at 14 yrs. Teenagers may attend for 25 cents. It is hoped experienced people will be attracted to the group so that we may, with their guidance, stage a full-fledged production in the future.

The meeting closed at 10:15pm

(signed) Mary E. Mauger

### **Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup> 1968**

The second meeting of the Kanata Theatre Group was held at the home of Gwen Knight, 13 Milne Cres. On Wednesday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted with the addition that a note should be added that Annalisa McLeish had offered her services as scenic designer for our next production. Bob Horobin suggested that Dewi Williams should be our Producer/Vice-president. Mary Mauger seconded the motion and he was duly elected.

Bob Horobin reported on contacts made with the Town Theatre, Lakeside Little Theatre and Joe O'Brien of the Ottawa Recreation Dept. Help may be obtained from these people in the future. We may possibly avail ourselves of the Town Theatre's cut rate for group visits – also the visit backstage. It was decided to form a play-reading committee to select suitable plays for our spring production. The following people offered their services for this committee:

Donna Gallagher, Jane Thacker, Rosemary Scott, Gwen Knight and Cathy Munro.

Some consideration was given to limiting the numbers of our group. We will think about it and discuss it at our next meeting. A vote was held on the most suitable night for our meetings and Sunday was selected..

All members were requested to write down their main interests in the theatre work so that we might have some idea of the strenghts and weaknesses of the group.

Finally, we read the first two acts of *You Can't Take It With You*. The third act will be read at our next meeting which will be on Sunday Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at 17 Pentland Cres.

We enjoyed the refreshments thoughtfully provided by Gwen Knight and the meeting closed at 11p.m.

**17.11.68**

The third meeting of the Kanata Theatre Group was held on Sunday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at 17 Pentland Cres, the home of Dewi & Eufron Williams.

We enjoyed reading the final act of *You Cant Take It With You* and followed this with a short business meeting.

We decided it was too late to go as a group to the current production of the Town Theatre. However, members were asked to phone Mary Mauger if they wished to go to the December production.

We discussed limiting the number of our group and decided against doing this. We also decided that members do not necessarily have to reside in Kanata.

It was suggested that the March Township hall might be a suitable place for meetings and rehearsals. Sandy Davidge said she would discover whether we would be allowed to use it for this purpose.

Vera Thomson suggested we could occasionally vary our meetings by using mime to express various emotions. Gord Thompson said he had a movie projector in his basement which could be used for showing films on the various fields of Theatre work.

Our next meeting will be held on December the 1<sup>st</sup> at 40 Kingsford Crescent.

We finally read the first act of *Life With Father*, and this will be concluded at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 11pm after refreshments served by Mrs. Williams.

## Sunday Dec 1<sup>st</sup>

Kanata Theatre Group's 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at 40, Kingsford Cres. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed.

The play reading committee reported they were still reading the plays but several are unsuitable. The two one-acts *Rise & Shine* and *Fumed Oak* were fairly good. However, Sandy Davidge said *Rise and Shine* had been performed recently by the High School so it may be better not to do it so soon ourselves. Every member is asked to continue to read plays so that we may decide as quickly as possible what our production should be. Also, we must decide very soon whether 2 one-acts or 1 3-act should be our aim.

Members were asked to phone Mary Mauger before Dec 8<sup>th</sup> if they wished to go as a group to see the Town Theatre's *See How They Run* on Dec 16<sup>th</sup> (Monday).

The possibility of using the township hall for rehearsals and also of obtaining money from the recreation committee was discussed. Gwen Knight said she approach the Reeve, John Mlacak concerning these matters. We would welcome a grant to contribute towards the cost of our first production, for the purchase of equipment, rental of hall, royalties, etc.

We decided that a phoning committee would be useful to remind members of approaching meetings. Eufron Williams, Janet Bayley, Pat Horobin and Mary Mauger volunteered their services.

Donna Gallagher was asked if she would make up a new poster for the wall giving the time of our regular meeting as Sunday, with a slot so that time and place can be changed as required. Donna agreed to do this.

Kim Thornton suggested that we might read something from the Theatre of the Absurd. We will try to obtain copies of *A Resounding Tinkle* for our next meeting. Pat Horobin suggested we might do something suitable for children and this will be considered for the future – possibly next Christmas.

Finally, we read the final two acts of *Life With Father* except for the concluding scene, which will be read at our Dec 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. This will take place at 12 Kingsford Cres.

Refreshments were kindly provided by Vera Thompson, & the meeting ended at 11pm.

(signed) Mary E. Mauger