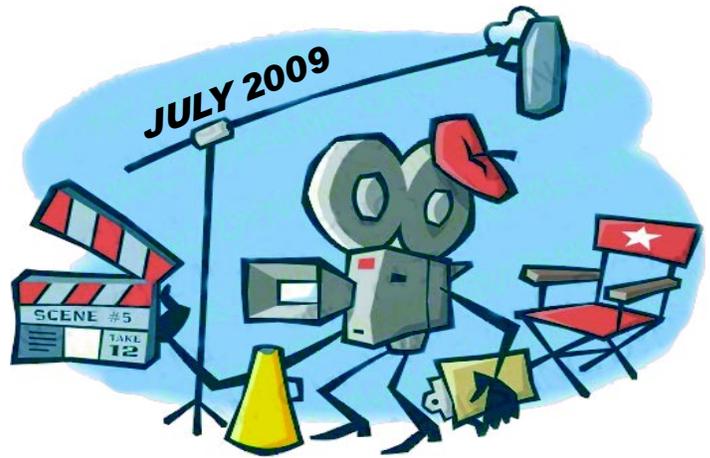




Hamilton Video/Film Makers

REEL NEWS

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WOW - What A Party (for Dan)

The 60th Annual Awards Night for the Hamilton Video/Film Makers was a, burp, great success on all levels, burp.

As seen by the photos included with this issue of the newsletter several, but not all, members showed up at the Kings Buffet on Centennial Parkway in Stoney Creek for the repast and libations portion of the meeting. Copious amounts of various types of food were consumed by everyone present and I am sure that the owners of the establishment did not make much if any profit from our group that night. The Kings Buffet is similar to the Mandarin, but much closer to the Legion where the second half of the meeting took place.

Now I must also add a “downer” to this blurb in the respect that with the number of members in the Hamilton club it is disappointing to see only about half of them turn up for the banquet. What is the reason? It cannot be the food. These type of establishments provide everything from sushi and rice to beef and potatoes, from almond cookies (*my favourite*) to ice cream and sprinkles (*Jim Smalls favourite*). Was it the request to be a bit more ‘spiffy’ in ones appearance? There is nothing wrong with dressing up a little for a special occasion and at no point did we demand that you do so. Then again, maybe it was the mention of a tiara in last months newsletter that confused some members, especially the guys who do not own a tiara. The cost of the meal is very reasonable in light of the volume of edibles that were available and the quality and service should not be holding anyone back. So why do we not see every single member at the event?

Consider that an important question for everyone for next years outing.

Upon our return to the Legion for the second half of the show, several members were quick to sit down and seemed to be moving at a slower pace. Could it have been a direct result of going up to the food bar seventeen times (*before dessert*)? Anyway, Carolyn Briggs and Agnes Houston had the coffee going before you could say boo to a ghost while Mary Cosgrove got the evening off as she did not issue any members name tags or have to make a list for the films to be shown that night. Jim Small, with the help of others got the audio-visual equipment going in no time at all and before you knew it the lights were dimmed, the DVD's were installed, the volume was cranked and from deep in the bowels of the room I am sure that I heard at least one person snoring.

There were eighteen entries from seven club members in the general category of the annual contest. Maybe next year we can have entries from eighteen members instead of just seven?

First up were the four entries for the Halmar One Minute contest. We showed “Cat-Can” by Alex Szatmary, “The Game” by JR (Johnathan Garfield), “Who Is That Guy Anyway” by Fred Briggs and finally “Shazzam” by Dan Copeland. This only took about five minutes as each entry could not exceed one minute in length which is why it is called a “one minute” contest and the name Halmar refers to the company run by Harold and Mary Cosgrove and is some of the letters in their names, but not all of them, and so now you know all of the details except who won the prize.

(continued on next page)

**Meetings held the first Thursday every month at the
Royal Canadian Legion Hall – 12 King St. E., Stoney Creek
Videomaking Basics – 7:00 p.m., Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.**

Dan Copeland ended up taking home the trophy as presented by Mary Cosgrove and the photo can be viewed elsewhere in this production. Little did some folks know that this was the start of the **“Dan Copeland Night”** at the 60th Annual Awards Night of the Hamilton Video/Film Makers.

So, here goes..... the **“First Time Entry Award”** is presented to a member whom the judges felt produced a noteworthy production in their very first time of entering the annual contest. For 2009 the award went to **Rick Doelle** and his entry **“Chicken Drop”**.

Two **“Awards of Merit”** were presented by Jim Small. The first one went to **Alex Szatmary** for **“The Story”** and the second one went to **Dan Copeland** for his **“Mine Safety Competition”** production. Photos were taken and Dan figured that that was it for the night.

Somewhere in the mass of photos from the night is one of Dan Copeland receiving two awards. One was the **Cinematography Award** for the production **“The Art of Mums”** and the other was the **Editing Award** for his **one minute entry “Shazzam”**. Do you see a theme developing here. I do, but that is because I have a list of all the winners and can see what is going to unfold.

In between the projection of each winner, as so efficiently carried out by Jim Small, the audience was woken up when they slept, provided by lame humour and information by the **Master of Ceremonies Jon (why am I up here) Soyka** and provided with prizes and money from the various door prize tickets and 50/50 draw tickets. At this point everyone seemed to be happy, or at least content with how things were advancing. Nobody complained about the coffee or the donuts.

Dan Copeland once again made his way to the front to receive another award when his film **“Highway of Heros”** took **third place overall** which is to say that it was in third place amongst all of the entries, not that it or Dan wore overalls. Got that clear. By now it was apparent that a very pronounced theme for the evening was developing as well as a path that was being grooved into the floor between Dans’ seat and the award receiving place at the front.



Dan Copeland receives his first award of the night, the Halmar “One Minute” Trophy from Mary Cosgrove for “Shazzam”



Alex Szatmary and Paul Bentley receiving their Award of Merit from Jim Small.



Dan Copeland accepts his Cinematography & Editing Awards from his squeeze of the night, contest chair Jim Small.

Cathie Copeland gives Dan the look that says, “You are going to have to build me a bigger house to put all those trophies?”

The **second place award** went to . . . guess who??????
Dan (do I have to walk up to the front again) Copeland was honoured for the production **“The Demons Of Miss Beasley”** which had also been entered in the 2008 Hamilton 24 Hr Film Contest. It was at this point that I think I noted a little bit of embarrassment on the look of Dans face.

The final award, the top dog award, the biggest physical award (for the films) the **First Place Award** went to the team **Liquid Ice Productions** led by no other than Dan Copeland. The production was titled **“Urban Spelunking”** and was also an entry in the Hamilton 24 Hr Film Contest where it placed in the top ten. This time a group of club members made their way to the front of the room to have their photo op. **Dan Copeland** was front and centre, but also in the image was **Manfred Ernst, Dave Stewart, Johnathan Garfield and Andrea Balkai** along with Jim Small who presented the award.

The evening was rounded off with Les Carter winning the top door prize which was presented by Agnes Houston and had been donated to the event by that dynamic duo from the Burlington suburbs, Adam & Agnes Houston. They were both dressed to the ‘nines’ and held court from their traditional seats near the coffee pots.

Lastly, the three previous winners of the **Bunny Upton Award** (Liz Stewart, Mary Cosgrove and Jim Small) got together, whispered in low tones in a conspiratorial manner about how **Jon Soyka** had just about finished his basement TV room and therefore he should receive the award for 2009 as he would have a shelf to put it on. At least that is what I, Jon Soyka, think happened and I am sticking with it.

At a reasonable hour, the sleepers were roused (from their sleep), the chairs were put back, the equipment was packed up, the lights were turned off and everyone went home to bed. The crew who normally go to Crabby Joe’s for beer and wings and stuff did not make it that far as it appeared that each of them had had their fill at the Kings Buffet earlier in the evening. There was a rumour that three of them got lost on the way home and ended up on the roof of the London Tap House establishment, but that is just a rumour.



The Liquid Ice Group celebrate their success in taking the First Place Award with their production “Urban Spelunking”



Les Carter amuses Agnes Houston upon winning the main door prize which was donated by Adam & Agnes Houston



Liz Stewart, Mary Cosgrove and Jim Small look on as Jon Soyka receives the Bunny Upton Award and wonders “where will I put this and will it clash with the walls I just painted grey”.



Christine Whitlock makes her regular monthly announcements while Jon Soyka with eyes closed dreams of all that food he left back at the Kings Buffet.



Ralph Trouten, the HVFMs longest serving member, catches up on the latest newsletter.



Agnes Houston, resplendant in her designer suit and quuffed hair waits to sip her coffee along with hubby Adam, dapper as ever in a black suit with matching shirt and hair.

A Big Round Of Applause To . . .

Once again a ton of thanks to **Liz Stewart of Type Ink** for the hard work done on the newsletter and the Annual Banquet program design, layout and printing. If you ever need design services and do not use Liz for the work, I will personally come over to your house and pull out your nose hairs one by one (*that made you wince, didn't it*). **Les Carter** gets kudos for the sale of 50/50 tickets and of course all those who set up and put away the chairs and tables for each meeting. **Joe Bochsler** merits, once again, a great big thanks for all the photos he records of club events. Thank you to all who volunteer their time and expertise in helping to make the club a more successful and interesting place to learn, work and play.

Coming Up . . .

Part of the problem with planning guest speakers for a club meeting is that the speakers have a life and unexpected events happen, so, I will just say that speakers have been lined up for the July, August and September and November meetings. I hope that they arrive and do not have to cancel at the last moment.

For the **July meeting** we will be graced with the presence of **Jeremy Major of The Shooting Eye**. Jeremy's team won the 24 Hour contest in Hamilton for 2009, but he has also been involved in various forms with several other productions that include feature films (Heartland Son), regular television shows (Pressure Cooker) documentaries (Sidecar, The Race 2 Road America), a web based series (Design Hope), an educational series (Mission: Possible) and others. Jeremy may appear on his own or with others, but any which way, I can guarantee that you will learn a lot from this presentation.

In the meantime make sure that you have marked the club meeting dates on your calendar and be there for the excitement that is about to unfold. Trust me.

Regards,
Jon Soyka



Adam & Agnes Houston (left) and Harold & Mary Cosgrove think Joe Bochsler is taking their photo but he is actually taking a shot of himself in the mirror.



Fred & Carolyn Briggs (foreground), Thom Speechley (light sweater) from the London Club and Keith Gloster from the Brantford Club smile nicely but we know they are really thinking... "Enough of the pictures, where's the food?"



Manfred Ernst, Nestor & Evelyn Rosa and Jim Cox (in the row behind) seem to be enjoying the show, but then again, looks can be deceiving.



Les Carter keeps a close eye on the 50/50 proceeds while an unidentified arm that looks a lot like Nestor Rosa's reaches for the donut.



Dave Stewart shows his amazing dexterity by balancing his food in one hand while walking at the same time.



Harold Cosgrove regails Ken and Iris Davy with his impression of the pirate Jack Sparrow, minus the eyepatch.



Sandy Whitehouse explains the rules of posing for photos at an HVFM meeting to her friend and visitor Linda Schofield.



Joe and Joan Bochsler are resplendent in their "Canada" colours.