## -Entertainment-Georgetown Little Theatre started at high school

By SHIONA WATSON

The Georgetown Little Theatre had its beginning in an "amateur Theatricals" evening class which was held at the Georgetown District High School during the winter and spring of 1959-61. As a grande finale the members of the evening class staged a one-act play called "The Mayor of Torontal."

Members of the cast included Vera Macdonald and Mary Goebel. who are still active in G.L.T. plays today. This enthusiastic group formed the nucleus of what was to become the Georgetown Little Theatre.

Rehearsals for the first three-act play "Dirty Work at the Crossroads" started in October 1960 and the play was presented in February 1961 at Wrigglesworth School, From 1962 to 1969 the plays were held in the Highschool Auditorium, which was at the west end of the present gym. Although the stage was considerably larger than the one at Wrigglesworth, the acoustics in the hall left a lot to be desired, especially when there were small audiences for the last play of the season.

The group turned full circle and returned to Wrigglesworth where performances were presented until the spring of 1979. The plays for the 1979-80 and 1981-82 seasons were held at Sacre Coeur Hall, which was a satisfactory arrangement until the new theatre opened in the fall of 1981. The theatre was named in memory of John Elliott, a

former Georgetown Councillor, and G.L.T. had the honour of being the first group to perform in the facility. We presented "Not Now Darling" and Lois Elliott portrayed Janie, making her first hometown appearance in the theatre named after her father.

The Elliott family continued to support the arts and provided G.L.T. with rehearsal and setbuilding facilities in two separate warehouses for a nominal fee. Costumes and props were stored in an old Noval school. So, although the new theatre provided us with a fine stage and comfortable seating for our patrons, a strong desire still existed for G.L.T. to acquire a building which would adequately serve all our needs under one roof.

On the occasion of our Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Jubilee, held at the John Elliott Theatre, and Holy Cross Auditorium, we were proud to announce that negotiations had been gratefully finalized with the Town of Halton Hills to purchase the old Stewarttown Hall.

January 2, 1986, our dream of owning our own facility became reality and we took possession of the Stewarttown Hall. The past year has seen many changes in the structure. Members have worked diligently to build a new costume room in the attic. A library now exists in the old vault. An entranceway at the back of the stage has increased it's potential and a dressing room enables us to conveniently present One Act Plays to our members and guests.

Windows now sparkle and a fresh coat of paint has enhanced the buildings' exterior. The addition of flower boxes and a new G.L.T. sign have also added new dimensions.

The Open House in June brought favorable comments from our new neighbors and we were delighted with the interest shown by the public in touring our premises and studying our displays.

Entries into various festivals over the years have netted G.L.T. many awards, along with nominations for Best Director, Producer, Lighting Visual and Acting categories.

Our present membership stands at eighty.

Three pre-view "Benefit Performances" are held during our season and local charities submit applications to become beneficiaries. During the 1987/88 season over \$3,000.00 was raised. We are pleased to be able to offer these fund raising events to our community and applications have already been received for various projects for next year.

1988-90 membership now stands



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- the cast has the honour of raising • will present the musical "Guys and" funds for a worthwhile cause in addition to providing a rollicking 🌗 evening of song and dance

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Tickets go on sale October 9. All The Gala Benefit Performance tickets are \$11.00 and can be puron November 15 will be in support chase at Royal LePage on Guelph of the North Halton Association for St. Call 877-4323 for more ticket information

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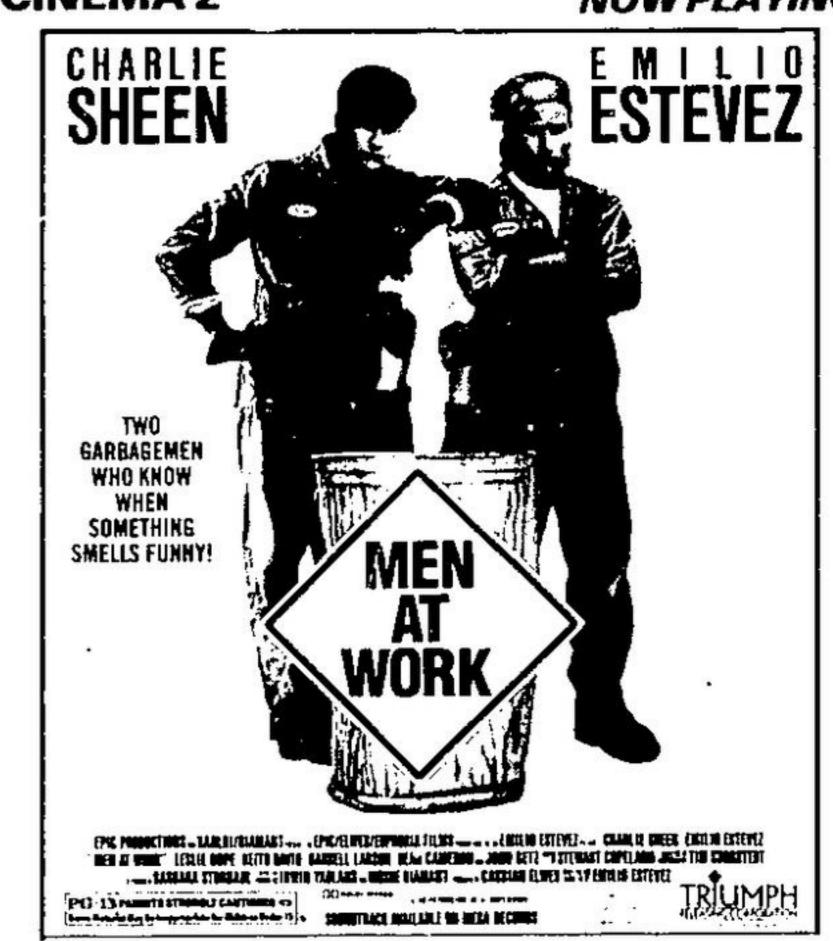


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