

A Barnyard, a Village, and a Well!

This combination sounds like a disaster in the making in any rural area in Canada, but not with the latest project of stories and an international set, carried the audience through some 35 countries in 17 languages over six perfor-



Marysburgh Mummers Monica Alyea, Alex Rae Larkin, and Connor Larkin, pictured with "Penny" are helping out "Around the World"

Photo by: Lori Farrington

mances in late April. Authentic costumes and props, including a Russian peasant wedding dress from the early 1900's, enhanced the cast and crew which ranged in age from 7 to 70.

Proceeds from this show, as well as a significant donation, will be going to three charitable organizations that do "caring for people" work around the world. A goat, three little pigs, two ducks, two rabbits, two hens and a rooster are being purchased through the World Vision gift catalogue thanks to the proceeds from the 50/50 draws and canteen. "Way back in the winter, I was ordering coffee and a muffin at Carruthers and I saw this catalogue and the donation jar raising funds for a cow," commented Director Monica Alyea. "Well this started me thinking some more. We already planned to donate proceeds from the show to a couple of other organizations, but this looked like a fun approach for our 50/50 draws - and the winners were great sports donating all their money back in return for a knickknack animal!"

ST. PHILIP'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006

Pork & Corn Roast	Aug. 9th
Turkey Supper	Sept. 20th
Yard & Rummage Sale	Sept. 30th
Christmas Tea	Nov. 25th

Jenica Hammett, a well known and talented singer from the County, and a Mummer since the age of 6, was born in Romania and adopted as a baby. A project of her mom, Reeva, and herself is supporting the SOS Children's Village program in her home country. It provides a home-like environment for children who are without parents. The service model includes a SOS mother, sisters and brothers in a village setting that provides the background for an extended family community where cultural roots and a feeling of "belonging" can be celebrated. "Well doesn't that rather describe the Mummers group as well." said Bruce Dowdell, Chairperson. Jenica gave a beautiful first effort singing a song in Romanian and is now keen to learn the language (www.soschildrensvillages.ca)

Ryan's Well Foundation (www.ryanswell.ca), the driving story behind this show, will receive \$1000 to be used toward a well project, probably in Africa. The cast and crew were inspired by the story of 6 - year old Ryan Hreljac (now 14) from Kemptville, who decided to raise money to build a well so people would have clean water to drink, and whose efforts have gone on to raise nearly 1.5 million dollars and to see over 200 water and sanitation projects completed in nine countries.

"Around the World in 80 Minutes" was one of my most satisfying theatre projects to date." stated Monica. "Each Mummer involved chose to deliver on the power of one personally, whether delivering their first solo, cleaning a Mount Tabor toilet or discovering, as one young thespian said, "I'm not shy anymore!"