



CHASE AWAY THE WINTER BLUES 2017

LENNOXVILLE UNITED
CHURCH



The 7th Annual “Chase Away the Winter Blues” Talent Show

The Gertrude Scott Upper Hall was filled to capacity as MC Rebecca Boire welcomed over 150 guests to the 7th Annual Chase Away the Winter Blues Talent Show on Saturday, January 28th. After a memorable half-hour pre-show performed to the enjoyment of the audience by the Welcome Band consisting of Wayne Nutbrown, Janice Graham and Willie Fisk, Mathew Fowler piped the talent show participants into the hall to signal the beginning of the show. As part of a sketch performed by Jamie Crooks, Dave McCormack and Nancy Suiter and Rebecca Boire, the Reverend Linda Buchanan was introduced to the audience and spoke warm words of welcome while deftly demonstrating her “clapping hands”.





Musical numbers showcased the talents of Eleanor Gang and Maryse Simard, Darlene Kerr and Pierre Dufresne, Alana Ospina and Kathleen Weary, Janice Graham, Margo Frechette, Linda Buchanan, Jamie Crooks, the Lennoxville United Church Choir and Jonathan Townsend who performed *Home*, by Philip Phillips, *A Whole Lot of Shaking Going On* by Roy Hall and as the show's finale, when he was joined by all the participants and the audience, *The Piano Man Song* by Billy Joel.



Sketches are the forte of the talented Barbara Hedges Boire and she never fails to delight the audience with her sense of humour and apt interpretation of local activities. Performed by Beth Rothney, Debbie Harrison and Cindy Van Vliet, we were treated to a public weighing-in fiasco at a mythical Calorie Counters Convention.



This was followed by an olfactorily-challenging visit to a student residence at “Chateau Champlain” featuring Kathleen Weary, Benjamin Ryan and Kevin Parnell. A Talent Show at Lennoxville United would not be a talent show without the Cockney antics of “Madge and Lil” played by the talented mother-daughter team of Barbara and Rebecca Boire in a sketch entitled “Church Monopoly” which saw a phone call being placed to Pope Francis, or “Frank” as he was referred to, in order to settle a tax assessment being questioned by Rebecca.

We were also highly entertained when Rev. Mead Baldwin, Rev. Tammy Spires and members of the Piggery Theatre Camp/North Hatley United Churches, including Kevin Parnell, Ben Ryan and Emily Baldwin took the stage to present their skit: “Sweet Dreams”. A first for the LUC Talent Show were Rev. Baldwin’s Pierre Elliot Trudeau impersonation and jokes!



At just about the half-way point of the programme Nancy Sutor and Janice Graham offered a memorial to the Late Grant Taylor who was to have performed in tonight’s show. Instead Nancy gave a well-prepared eulogy of Grant Taylor’s life while Janice honoured him by playing the two songs he had been scheduled to sing: “Paper Roses” by Fred Spielman and “I Can’t Help it if I’m Still in Love with You” by Hank Williams, Sr.

New to the stage this year and proving to be a real audience-pleaser were the two young ladies who gave us a demonstration of the clogging one can learn by joining the “Jimmy Naylor’s Cloggers” groups.

At the conclusion of the show, expressions of thanks and appreciation were voiced to the show’s organizers: Nancy Sutor, Ann Maher and Barbara Hedges Boire; the Master of Ceremonies: Rebecca Boire, the sound man, Nick Sylvester and the props/stage managers Ken Porter and Andy Porter following which participants and guests retired to the lower Scott Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshments provided by the ladies of the congregation.

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