



The Wild Guys - by Andrew Wreggitt and Rebecca Shaw
Fall 2007 Production

The 2007 performance of *The Wild Guys* was viewed by 1000 plus people, this being our best attendance since our first show in 1996. The opening scene, performed in front of the curtains, featured four characters talking on their phones. Each explaining to the person on the other end why he is going away for the weekend. Andy, a men's movement advocate, is taking his men's group away for a weekend of renewal. Randall, a cynical lawyer, says he should go because Andy is a big client of his. Rolling his eyes, he tells his girlfriend the trip is a men's sensitivity weekend. Robin is just excited to be going on what he describes as a soul exploration weekend. Last but not least, Stewart, a grocer, thinks his boss wants to talk to him about a promotion. He thinks the weekend will consist of drinking beer and fishing.

The curtains then opened to reveal a totally breathtaking scene. By cleverly using both real and artificial trees and rocks stage designer, Crystal Levesque, had transformed the Langham Community Hall stage into that of a realistic forest area. An audible sucking in of breath was heard nightly as the curtains

opened, and on several of the shows the audience demonstrated their appreciation with an instantaneous round of applause.

Scene two followed immediately with Stewart in the lead and the others following in single file, all suitably attired in hiking gear. Of course, the trip didn't turn out the way any of them expected. They lost their way and discovered they didn't have any food with them. Lost and hungry, they began to get on each other's nerves.

The audience loved Randall's (Darrell Novakovski) witty one liners and the way he rolled his eyes every time Robin went on about things like his talking crystal. Robin (Will Peters) a member of just about every self-discovery group there is did an outstanding job of playing the role of a nerdy New Ager.

Stewart (Menno Zacharias) the groups fearless leader, a favorite of the audience, was a natural on the set and funny simply because he just didn't get anything. Andy (Steve Balzer) leader and organizer of the 'Men's Awareness Weekend' never lost his cool as he attempted to keep the peace when friction arose between Robin and Randall. He did a remarkable job in the scene where he revealed that he had a delinquent son and also that his wife was having a secret affair. His emotional outburst shocked his buddies and drew a hushed silence from the audience.

The play written by Andrew Wreggitt and Rebecca Shaw was well performed and well received. However, in fairness to our supporters, I feel I must report that there were a few individuals who told me, "the play was not one of your best", then quickly adding, "but your reputation for good plays, good food and exceptional stage sets will definitely bring us back again next year".