

The Fashion Show: Part 1

We were having a special staff meeting to discuss some fundraising ideas. We needed money for all sorts of things that the budget wouldn't cover, like new bulbs for the Smartboard projectors, a larger woodworking room, and repainting Darren's office. He wasn't happy with pink.

Darren got the meeting going. "OK, I have lots of ideas. But every time I suggest something, someone shoots it down, so I guess I'll wait and see what ideas you guys have."

"Oh, Darren, don't pout!" That was Kate. "You're just upset because nobody liked your idea about buying a couch and lounge for the Principal's office!"

Darren hadn't really wanted a couch. But he thought the lounge would be a good place for him to relax and contemplate the frogs and mushrooms that Jessie had painted on his office walls.

"All right, I have an idea." It was Mindy. "You know how the RCMP do a 'Musical Ride' with their horses? Well, I figured that all of us who have horses could get together and maybe come up with a show like that!"

"And those of us who don't have horses...?" Bill was sceptical.

"Well, there would be lots of jobs for you too. Do you have a shovel?"

We were thinking about that when Bonnie made her suggestion.

"I have an idea. I know it's silly, but ..."

A few of us tried really hard to hide smiles. Bonnie always had ideas. Some of them were actually good ones. Occasionally.

"I have this tattoo pen and ink that I bought with a CTS grant." We hadn't heard about that. "I thought that maybe we could sell tattoos to people. You know, maybe during Parent-Teacher interviews or something ..."

"Uh..."

"I know how to do it. I practiced on Paige last weekend. I gave her a nice cobra on her ankle ..."

"Is that what it was?" Dawn interjected. "I thought it was an earthworm..."

"Maybe, uh ... someone else has a suggestion? Please?" Darren was sounding desperate.

Kathleen put up her hand. "I have an idea."

"OK, Kathleen, go ahead."

"Well, I'd like to do something that relates to my English classes, and involve all our talented singers as well."

Kathleen had started a choir last year. It had gone pretty well, considering that most of the participants were also on the volleyball team, the basketball team, in 4H, and working after school. They'd held their practices at 6:30 every morning.

"My idea is that we put on a dramatic performance, with singing. We could involve students, staff, and even parents who want to participate."

"Do you have anything in mind?"

"I was thinking 'MacBeth, the Musical'".

We all sat there contemplating the thought of 'Out, damn'd spot!' sung to the tune of 'My Favourite Things' from 'The Sound of Music'. We couldn't get our heads around it.

"What about a fashion show?" That was Kate.

"That has possibilities". Colleen was always supportive.

"Uh ... who would ..." Darren was apprehensive. Darren was always apprehensive. He was learning fast.

"Well, we have a sewing class. We could have a dinner, and a fashion show afterwards. The staff could model the class's creations.

I wasn't too sure about that. I'd seen the bathing suit top that Ashley had made last year.

"I like it! Would we get to choose what we wear on stage?" Thank you, Mindy!

"No, that's part of the fun. You don't get to see what you're modeling until just before you go out."

"Don't worry, Darren ... we'll have them make something special just for you!"

We could see the perspiration on his forehead.

"Can we dress Taco up and bring him too? He's almost potty trained!" Kate loved her new dog. Darren did too, mostly, except when Taco peed in his shoes every morning.

And that's how we decided to do a fashion show.