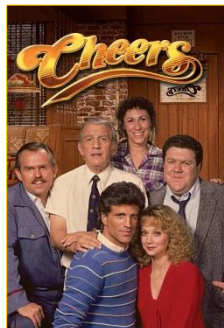


## Spotlight on TV



I admit it: with this wet summer I've been watching more TV than in summers gone by.

Even with weather issues aside, however, TV was never really a summer activity. Typically all that aired was reruns. In that spirit, however, I decided this summer to reconnect with an old favourite, *Cheers*, to see if it still held up.

I've started at the beginning and am only just nearing the third season. I'm not yet really at the point when I originally got into the show; that will come later once Frasier, Woody, and Rebecca, are introduced. Nonetheless, I'm still quite enjoying it.

Obviously, for those familiar with the show at all, some of the original premise is now dated and in particular, bartender Sam's womanizing is particularly problematic. Put I'm also surprised at how progressive it was in other ways. In season one, for instance, which first aired in 1982, some of the gang learn a lesson about homophobia.

I am also enjoying watching the actors settle into their characters as the show moves along, aided by the writers as they begin to develop even the peripheral characters more fully.

Finally, I am especially taken aback by the greatness that was Nicholas Colasanto's portrayal of Coach. I had mistakenly believed that he had just been the earlier, older version of the none-too-bright Woody character, whereas Colasanto also brought a fatherly, sweet charm.

Reconnect with the Boston gang of barflies with the complete series of *Cheers* available from Yellowknife Public Library this summer or pick up DVDs of other favourite classics of the small screen.

John Mutford, Library Manager

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