

# The Minotaur



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**President - Carol Ault**  
jlarent@frognet.net

**Vice-President - Celeste Parsons**  
head\_winds@hotmail.com

**Secretary - Katie Chaney**  
teachaney@surfbest.net

**Treasurer - Sylvia Abbott**  
sabbott3@columbus.rr.com

**Minotaur Editor - Steve Haskins**  
aptminotaur@earthlink.net  
athenianplayerstheatre.org

constructive criticism and numerous compliments for all of the excerpts, we were disappointed in not receiving any awards of recognition for acting or directing, but instead came home with an award for Excellence in Establishing Environment. The stage did look pretty darn good when we were through transforming it into a comfortable hotel suite, but the action and interplay of the actors were, in all our minds, the real stars.

So, in the end, *Angel Street* was selected to represent our region at State Conference over Labor Day weekend, and *Night Watch* was chosen as the alternate. We are hoping that both will be able to perform at Conference, as both were very strong excerpts. *Angel Street* is a Victorian drama which earned awards for directing, acting, costumes and hairstyles. *Night Watch* is a present-day drama with some very surprising twists and an amazing performance by the female lead, Chris Dolen.

You can see these and many other excellent excerpts at "Close Encounters of the Theatre Kind", this year's State Conference at the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg, Ohio over Labor Day weekend. The Conference always offers many great theatre workshops, too, as well as games and dances and parties. There's always more to do than one has time for, so it's impossible to be bored. Talk to SE Regional Representative Joe Balding or Steve Haskins for more information!

## Grant approved

▪ Carol Ault, APT President

The Athens Foundation awarded us \$2,313 for this year! Kudos to Karen Chan for writing and submitting the proposal, and to our officers and board members (and anyone else involved!) for prioritizing our needs and gathering

the specs. The funds will be used for the following:

- 1 - curtains (legs and borders)
- 2 - three tall stools with arms and backs to be used in the light and sound booth
- 3 - two stage work lights
- 4 - three garment racks
- 5 - two sanders



ATHENS FOUNDATION

These items will certainly enhance our sets, rehearsals, and performances! Now, we need to have more of you become ACTIVELY involved in our thriving community theatre group. We are excited about our upcoming season - *Belles*, *Oliver*, and *The Man Who Came To Dinner*. Check out our web site [www.athenianplayerstheatre.org](http://www.athenianplayerstheatre.org) - maintained by Jim Parsons - for the latest scoop about auditions and other information about our organization.

## Visiting the neighbors

June has been a busy month. Your humble editor and Joe Balding have been taking in a good bit of good theatre.

Ohio Valley Summer Theater's first show of their 2005 season, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, is great fun. Its cast includes fine performances by some veterans of APT shows, including Karen Chan, David Whealey, Nicki Mazzocca, Dean Barker and Ron Luce. The rest of the cast wasn't too shabby, either.

We also went to see *All Kinds of People*, the summer production by the OCTA Southeast Region's newest member theatre, the Deersville Community Players. This potpourri of songs by Oscar Hammerstein II was a great vehicle for an enthusiastic and talented

## SE Regional OCTAfest

Representing the Berean Community Players on June 4th, the cast and crew of *California Suite (Visitors from London)* hit the stage of Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County in New Philadelphia as the second of four excerpts

from member theatres in the Southeast Region of the Ohio Community Theatre Association. The cast of Miki Brooks and Charlie Smith gave a terrific performance. It was, according to

director Joe Balding, as good as, if not even better than, any performance during the regular run of the show, which is saying a lot. The audience, made up mostly of members of other SE Region theatres, seemed to love it, too, if their frequent bursts of laughter were any indication.

The other three excerpts were Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County with *Angel Street*, Excalibur Productions with *Breast Entanglements* and Actors Guild of Parkersburg with *Night Watch*.

While all three responders had good



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cast of local performers. DCP founder and Executive Director Joyce Lannum gave us a very interesting and informative tour of their theatre, the 1913 hall they fondly call their "Unique Antique". It's a lovely, intimate venue that seats 137, including the balcony.

Also, we went with some friends to Schiller Park in Columbus' German Village to catch a performance of William Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, this season's first production of Actors' Theatre. The major role of Silvia was beautifully played by Athens' own Hayley Van Meter, who appeared in APT's first show in 1992, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*.

So far, it's been a pretty good summer.

## Nunsense

APT's partner in crime, the Berean Community Players, are staging a fundraiser for Stuart's Opera House on July 8, 9 & 10.

The show is the perennial favorite *Nunsense*, a musical comedy by Dan Goggins. If you've never seen it (and even if you have) you're in for a treat.

The outrageous premise for this zany show is that five of the Little Sisters of Hoboken are putting on a talent show to raise money to bury the last four of fifty-three nuns who died of food poisoning after eating soup prepared by Sister Julia, Child of God.

Whether or not you're Catholic you are bound to enjoy this irreverent and highly entertaining look at the many hidden talents of these nuns. And besides, the music is really good!

*Nunsense* is directed by Joe Balding with musical direction by our beloved Lynn Sullivan. The cast includes Linda Watkins, Tawna Rogers, Ginny Puhl, Katie Chaney and Sylvia Abbott.

Call Stuart's Opera House at 740-753-1924 for tickets.

**APT MEETING**  
the next general membership meeting  
for Athenian Players Theatre  
will be at 7:00pm on Tuesday, July 12th  
at the Nelsonville Public Library  
Be There!!!

## Hollywood beware!

The Ohio University School of Film will be making a feature film late this year using mostly local actors from OU and the Athens area.

The film is *Winesburg, Ohio* and is based on the Sherwood Anderson novel of the same name. First published in 1919, the story follows young George Willard and the unforgettable characters who touch his life.

Several APT members have been cast in the project, including current president Carol Ault, Karen Chan, Joe Balding and Steve Haskins. There may be even more by the time shooting starts in the fall.

## SE Callboard

...here's what's happening around our region:

### Actors Guild of Parkersburg

*Seussical the Musical* Jul 29 - Aug 13

### Berean Community Players

*Nunsense* Jul 8 - 10

### Coshocton Footlight Players

*Schoolhouse Rock* Jul 7 - 17

### Deersville Community Players

*Opal's Million Dollar Duck* Oct 21-30

### Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County

*Teddy and Alice* Jul 7 - 17

### River City Players

*Bye Bye Birdie* Sep 3 - 4

Get out there and see some theatre!

## Arts & Music Festival



*Nunsense* isn't the only fundraiser for Stuart's Opera House that is scheduled in July. Stuart's will also host "Nelsonville's Arts and Music on the Square" on July 23, 2005.

A bandstand on the square will feature bands local, regional and national, such as The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, The Royales, The Derailers, The Carpenter Ants and more.

The event starts at 2:00 pm and lasts until 11:00 pm. Tickets are available through the Stuart's Opera House box office at 740-753-1924. APT president Carol Ault is signing up volunteers to work the festival for a couple of hours in exchange for tickets to the event. **Call Carol at 592-6017 asap if you are interested.** In addition, you can get more details about this and all other events at Stuart's by visiting their web site at [stuartsoperahouse.org](http://stuartsoperahouse.org).

# Have a Great Summer!

[www.athenianplayerstheatre.org](http://www.athenianplayerstheatre.org)