

The Minotaur



ATHENIAN PLAYERS THEATRE Newsletter vol. XIV iss. 1 September 2005

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Happy APT members show off some of the items purchased with this year's grant from the Athens Foundation. We were able to buy new work lights, costume racks, stools for the light/sound booth, blacks for the stage and sanders for set building (related story on p.2).



ATHENS FOUNDATION

APT enters 14th season

It's hard to believe, but Athenian Players Theatre is now thirteen going on fourteen!

Auditions for *Belles* took place on August 28th and director Celeste Parsons has chosen her cast for what will be APT's 46th production!

The cast includes Carol Ault, Robin Barnes, Jennifer Edwards, Kim Mather, Becky Prater, Tawna Rogers and the voice of Travis Del Matto. Kim Mather and Becky Prater will be making their APT/BCP debuts in *Belles*, and we welcome them! The others have all appeared in various shows with us over the years, and are happily back to break another leg.

Celeste also has already lined up her designers and running crews for this show, but please stay tuned for announcements about set construction. Even though this show will have a minimal set, some help may be requested in getting it ready.

Don't forget to mark your calendars now so you won't miss this remarkable play. Performance dates are October 20-23. Call 740-753-1924 for tickets.

Pat does New York

Patricia Elisar, past APT member and director of *Romantic Comedy*, appeared this past summer in Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* at the Folding Chair Classical Theatre in New York City. The production got strong praise for its directing (Marcus Geduld) and acting, and we are very proud of Pat for the work she is doing on the NY stage. We only wish she were back in Athens County more often so she could grace the stage for us at Stuart's Opera House. She is a very talented actor and has been keeping busy with plays and

occasional workshops in the Big Apple.



Pat Elisar (left) as Mariya, with Amy Groeschel as Sonya and Marcus Geduld as Vanya in Folding Chair Theatre's *Uncle Vanya*.

APT MEETING

There will be a general APT meeting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, September 13 at The Plains Public Library. Bring a friend and be involved!

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Editor's note: Following is a letter from APT grant writer Karen Chan, thanking The Athens Foundation for their generous 2005 grant to Athenian Players Theatre.

Susan C. Urano
Executive Director
The Athens Foundation
P.O. Box 366
Athens, Ohio 45701

Re: \$2,313 Grant Completion Form

Dear Susan,

The Athenian Players Theatre would like to take this opportunity to thank The Athens Foundation for their generous support and grant monies. The following is a list of the purchases we made and now have from your gift:

Four 500 W bulbs for backstage lights
Legs and Border Curtains
Two Altman 154 Scoop lights
Three garment racks
Three drafting stools (for light booth)
Two sanders

We anxiously await the opening of our 2005-06 Season in October of BELLES when we will be able to put to use the backstage magic that will transform our sets and make our backstage crew very happy! We would like you to know that more than the Athenian Players Theatre Company will benefit by your generosity. We will happily lend our newly acquired equipment to Berean Community Players, Imaginary Theater, The Drama Club and Stuart's Opera House while they are housed at Stuart's Opera House should the need arise. Your grant enables us to make our productions seem effortless and magical. In point of fact, the audience may not even notice the magic, they will just experience it!

Enclosed please find copies of pictures we submitted to The Athens Messenger and The Athens News last month "thanking" The Athens Foundation for this grant. We have already proudly displayed your new logo in our program for our last production, AND THEN THERE WERE NONE as well as in our fundraiser program for Stuart's Opera House of NUNSENSE (copies enclosed). Our news letter, The Minotaur, has also expressed our thanks to your organization. Athenian Players Theatre will continue to display the Athens Foundation logo in all of our programs for the 2005-6 season. Our website athenianplayerstheatre.org also credits the Athens Foundation for your generous support.

Again, on behalf of The Athenian Players Theatre Company, many many thanks.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Chan
Athenian Players Theatre Grant Writer and Member

SE Callboard

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

Actors Guild of Parkersburg

Steel Magnolias Sep 16 - Oct 1
All That Glitters Nov 4 - 20
Ten Little Indians Jan 13 - 28
Peter Pan Feb 24 - Mar 3
Cotton Patch Gospel Apr 14 - 29
Noises Off Jun 16 - Jul 1
Nunsense Aug 4 - 20

Athenian Players Theatre

Belles Oct 20 - 23
The Man Who Came to Dinner
May 11-14

Berean Community Players

Oliver Mar 3 - 12

Coshocton Footlight Players

Flaming Idiots Oct 7 - 22
Goodbye Charlie TBA
Baby TBA
A Few Good Men May 5 - 20

Deersville Community Players

Opal's Million Dollar Duck Oct 21-30

Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County

Messiah on the Frigidaire Sep 9 - 24
Sweet Charity Nov 4 - 19
Fiddler on the Roof Feb 17 - Mar 4
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
Apr 21 - May 6
Harvey Jul 14 - 29

Mid Ohio Valley Players

Titanic -Tragedy & Trial Sep 16 - Oct 1
The Hobbit Nov 18 - 20
Jerry Finnegan's Sister Jan 13 - 28
The West Side Waltz Mar 3 -18
The Heiress Apr 21 - May 6
The Miracle Worker Jun 9 - 24

Zanesville Community Theatre

The Mystery of Irma Vep Sep 16 - 25
The Haunting of Hill House Oct 21- 30
15th Annual Angel Tree Benefit
Dec 9-11
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Jan 27 - Feb 5
Seussical the Musical Mar 24 - Apr 2
Gershwin By George May 12 - 21

Get out there and see some theatre!

Arts & Music Festival

The July 23rd fundraising event for Stuart's Opera House on the Public Square in Nelsonville was a great success! And we all know that what benefits Stuart's is going to benefit APT and the whole arts-loving community.



Tawna Rogers set up a table on the Square that day to give both Athenian Players Theatre and Berean Community Players some exposure. Our space was appropriately located right in front of Stuart's, and featured posters and some photos from past shows as well as a short history of both groups and schedules of our upcoming season for people to take home.

CHECK THIS OUT!

New plan for meetings

Beginning this season, there will be a general meeting for Athenian Players Theatre from 7:00 to 8:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. The board members will meet at 6:30 to take care of executive business, thus keeping the general meeting to a one hour limit.

Athenian Players Theatre can only be as strong as its members make it, so please participate by contributing your ideas and concerns at these meetings. September's meeting will be at the public library in The Plains.

www.athenianplayerstheatre.org

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Close Encounters of the Theatre Kind

Stardate 09:06:05

Having just been released from an alien abduction, Steve Haskins and Joe Balding report that they survived their close encounter by posing as aliens themselves (see photos below) in a desperate attempt to blend in at the 2005 Ohio Community Theatre Association (OCTA) State Conference.



There were creatures from every corner of the known universe descending on Space Station French Quarter in Perrysburg. There were many astonishing goings-on as intergalactic games took place, much food was devoured (*have you ever watched a Neptunian eat? Trust me, it's disgusting!*) and Joe even had some success teaching some of the tentacled boys and girls from Alpha Centauri how to tap dance.

All in all, they turned out to be a pretty harmless lot, and we let them know that they should stop by Earth the next time they're in the solar system.

Steve won second place in the "Most Original" category in the costume contest, posing



as the Dork from Zork.

Among the awards presented during Monday's ceremony were several to our sister theatres in the Southeast Region. Gayle Krieger of Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County (New Philadelphia), along with her crew, won for Best Costume Designs for *Hello Dolly*. Connie Childress and Tina Schott of Actors Guild of Parkersburg won for Excellence in Individual Costume Coordination for *42nd Street*.

Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County and Mid Ohio Valley Players (Marietta) were among the winners of newsletter awards.

We in the SE Region should also be proud of Susan Metz-Foster of the Footlight Players (Coshocton), who was elected to serve as OCTA's President! Susan is one of the hardest working and most respected members in OCTA, and she will surely make a fine President.

Aid For Katrina Victims

During the State Conference, "Mission Commander" Jerry Zimmerman passed the hat for donations to help the thousands of victims of Hurricane Katrina. He let the crowd know that our donations would be matched by an anonymous donor (up to \$1000) and a corporate donor. The collection raised \$1,806. Add on the matching donations and OCTA's total came to \$3,612 which was given to the American Red Cross for their use in aiding our fellow citizens most in need.

Athenian Players Theatre has also sent a donation to the Red Cross in the amount of \$250 for the same purpose.

This natural disaster has affected all of us, directly or indirectly, and will continue to do so for many months and perhaps even years. Remember to keep counting your blessings.

Small Town Girl Wins Big Apple

APT's own Tawna Rogers has won the drawing in OCTA's raffle for the trip to New York City. Well, if it couldn't be me, I'm glad it was one of my friends.

And it came just in time to serve as a birthday present as Tawna celebrates her golden anniversary of life on the planet Earth!

She will be making her travel arrangements with the help of Slater Travel who, according to last year's winner, was extremely helpful in their assistance.

Tawna must take her trip between October 1st 2005 and October 1st 2006, and can use the \$2000 winnings in any way she chooses: travel to and from NYC, Broadway plays, restaurants, hotel accommodations, whatever. Let's just hope she at least sends a postcard!

Congratulations, Tawna!



DUES ARE DUE

As always, the beginning of a new season coincides with the due date for Athenian Players Theatre membership dues. Still a bargain at just \$10/year, your dues may be paid at the monthly meeting or, if you prefer, just send a check to APT at PO Box 283, Athens, Ohio 45701.

The dues become a small but important part of the operating costs that APT needs to meet each year, so please help support your community theatre not only with your time and talent, which are very much needed and appreciated, but with your membership dues as well.

APT-SHIRTS

T-shirts are available with the APT logo on the front. The shirts are of various sizes and colors, all with the round 10" logo in black.

The shirts will be available to APT members for \$10 at the meeting on 9/13, and will be available to theatre-goers at the performances of *Belles* in October at a non-member price to be determined at the 9/13 meeting.

The minimum order of 12 shirts was placed just to see what interest was out there. A few have already been sold.

www.athenianplayerstheatre.org