

The Minotaur



ATHENIAN PLAYERS THEATRE Newsletter vol. XIV iss. 2 November 2005

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Musical Chairs

For personal reasons (that's right, it's none of your business) Katie Chaney has stepped down from her position as Secretary for Athenian Players Theatre. Taking her place by acclamation is Christine Neumann, who has held the position of Vice-President in the past. Christine should be familiar to most folks as part of the cast of many APT/BCP productions, most notably *Into the Woods*, *Crimes of the Heart* and *The Sound of Music*.

Kiss Her Goodbye

Kristin DaWalt, sometimes known as Rosmin Heinichen, has left the building. Kristin graced the stage in our productions of *Sherlock's Last Case* and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, both in our 2002-2003 season.

More than just another pretty face, Kristin also worked in the office of

Stuart's Opera House for the past couple of years, always accommodating APT, whenever possible, with a helping hand and a smile.



As a token of our appreciation, and to wish her well, APT Vice-President Celeste Parsons tracked Kristin down in the balcony of Stuart's (she's *always* in the middle of some task or other) and presented her with a card of thanks and an APT shirt.

Kristin has promised to keep in touch with us.

APT Member Elected to State Organization

APT member Cecilia Rinaldi has been elected as president of the Ohio Association of Reflexologists. Cece owns On The Path, Ltd., a health and wellness center in The Plains, Ohio.

You should remember Cece from her performances in *The Sound of Music* and *And Then There Were None*. Congratulations, Cece! You go!

Membership Grows

At the September meeting, APT's new member Courtney Thomas (who joined in August) came accompanied by Andrew Weed, who joined at the meeting. What a great example to set for all the other members. The rookie recruits another rookie! We also welcome Lisa Edwards, who just recently added her name to the role call.

Everyone, we hope, is always keeping an eye out for prospective new members.

Site for 2006 SE Regional OCTAfest set

Coshocton's Footlight Players will host the 2006 Southeast Regional OCTAfest at the Triple Locks Theatre in Roscoe Village. The date will be Saturday, June 3.

The last time they hosted the Regional was in 1999, when APT was represented by an excerpt from *Shirley Valentine*, for which Pat Berry Frazee won an award for Merit in Acting.

Triple Locks Theatre is a beautiful facility which seats about 200 and has very easy backstage load-in accommodations.

Plan now to attend our Regional and support APT, its sister theatres and the Ohio Community Theatre Association. Very often the excerpts we see at Regional and at State Conference are the inspiration in choosing part of our own future seasons.

Whether or not APT sends an excerpt, some of our members will go, so there will always be a ride. Contact Joe Balding or Steve Haskins for info.

APT MEETING

There will be a general APT meeting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 8 at The Plains Public Library. Bring a friend and be involved!

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SE Cailboard

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

Actors Guild of Parkersburg

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

The Man Who Came to Dinner
May 11 - 14

Berean Community Players

Oliver Mar 3 - 12

Coshocton Footlight Players

Baby Dec 9 - 17
A Few Good Men May 5 - 20

Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County

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

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

River City Players

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Mar 25 - 26

Zanesville Community Theatre

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!

Belles hangs up the phone

Another one bites the dust...

Our fall show, *Belles*, was not a money maker for us, but there were six very talented women on stage

giving six excellent performances. The show was unknown to most folks, and that seems to be the usual reason for our sometimes small audiences. But not to worry, those who attended were not disappointed, and any financial losses will certainly be recovered with interest when we offer *Oliver!* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner* later in the season.

But about the belles in *Belles*: Carol Ault's Peggy and Tawna Rogers' Roseanne were sincere and mostly serious characters, but surprisingly funny when it was least expected. Jennifer Edwards' Audrey was a wild card, and it fit just right for a slightly outrageous character who was, after all, a frustrated performer. Robin Barnes' "Dust" was perfectly spacey, yet when her sisters needed her, she came down to earth, if only briefly. Kim Mather's Aneece and Becky Prater's Paige were both very complex and likeable characters, in spite of their flaws. Of course, all six sisters were variously and very believably flawed, yet were strong and supportive of each other, each in her own way.

By the way, Kim and Becky were making their APT debuts in *Belles*, and we need not to let them get too far out of sight.

Behind the scenes were the very capable Norm Cohn and Lou Ann Jones backstage, and in the booth were a couple more new faces, Megan Eberly and Nick Rotondo. They are keepers, too.

Celeste Parsons is to be commended for a first-time director's job well done.

Soapbox

-editorial thoughts...

New in town? No? Well, then, where have you been lately? Ok, ok, if you're one of those APT members who make it to most of the shows, *even if you're not in the cast or crew*, then you're off the hook. The rest of you, listen up: You are supposed to be the "community" in community theatre. Paying your membership dues is great, and very much appreciated, but *being a member* usually means participating fairly often in the activities of

that group. Activities which, in the case of community theatre, generally include working on stage or backstage in at least one production in any given season. And oh, I don't know, maybe actually coming to see the shows...? Oh, I know that nobody can be expected to plan their life around a theatre membership. All I ask is that members show something more than a passing glance of interest.

If I'm way off base here, I apologize. My intention is not to alienate anyone. On the contrary, I'm open to suggestions as to ways to renew what seems to sometimes be waning interest.

Athenian Players Theatre is a great organization of very talented people producing excellent theatre. What can we do to make it even better?

Come to the next meeting with your ideas. The Plains public library, 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 8th. Please try to make it.

HC Visits APT

Ellen Nickels, who is on the faculty of Hocking College's new theatre program, was a guest at APT's October meeting. She outlined HC's hopes to develop a good working relationship with APT, one which could greatly benefit both parties.

We've already seen some of those benefits: HC students Megan Eberly and Nick Rotondo were *Belles* light & sound running crew, and they were excellent!

This is an equal opportunity newsletter. Your article (funny, serious, critical, coherent or otherwise) is always welcome.



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