

# The Minotaur



ATHENIAN PLAYERS THEATRE Newsletter vol. XIV iss. 7 December 2006

## Membership Grows

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members! **RUTH BOROVICKA** joined APT in September and appeared as Mrs. Frank in our production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. **SALEH PENNIE**, and **NOAH AL ZAYER** (from McArthur) have also joined our ranks and we look forward to working with them soon. **VERA BAULUZ**, new to Athens and interested in theater, found us on the internet and came to the November meeting (proof that Jim Parsons' website efforts bring results!). Vera has already pitched in (or out, as the case may be), helping with The Great Cleanup (see article on page 2), and will be involved with *Once Upon a Mattress*.

## APT-South?

It appears we may need to create a sister organization (or plan a road trip!), as yet another valued member of APT is moving south! **GINNY PUHL** has retired from Hocking College and is moving to Florida! She's jumping in with both feet, taking a part time position as a travel planner, devoting time to helping her mother, and performing in the opening ceremonies of the Daytona 500.

Whether on stage or back stage, Ginny has been a mainstay of APT. In addition to her longest-running role as Usher Queen, Ginny's many appearances on stage include roles in *I'm About to Develop an Attitude*, *Baby, Black Comedy*, *Nunsense*, *I'll Be Back Before Midnight*, *A Funny Thin Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Cahoots*, *All Because of Agatha*, *Is There Life After High School?*, *Dearly Departed*, *Rumors*, and *The Farndale Avenue ... Murder Mystery*. We'll miss you, Ginny!

Ginny Puhl

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## Recognition!

OCTA recognized **STEVE HASKINS** with a MERIT IN PUBLICATION award for his wonderful work as editor of *The Minotaur*!

Logan High School's production of *And Then There Were None* (directed by APT member **SHELLY RIGGS**) was screened on November 19th by the State Thespian Board. The show was invited to perform at the conference, in a full-length, main stage slot this year! This is a great honor for LHS, and Shelly is very proud of her cast and crew in presenting a quality performance for the board members. Not only is ATTWN a tough show, but they had to re-cast a leading role the week before opening! The conference will be held near Dayton, Ohio, the weekend of March 30th, and LHS will present an encore performance on March 29th at the Logan Hocking Middle School Theatre before traveling to state.

**JOE BALDING** has been elected to serve on the OCTA board!

President - Carol Ault

jlarent@frognet.net

Vice-President - Karen Chan

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Secretary - Christine Neumann

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Treasurer - Jim Parsons

headwinds2@gmail.com

Interim Editor - Carol Ault

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AUDITION INFORMATION

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**NEXT APT MEETING**

Tuesday, January 9

7:00-8:00 PM

The Plains Public Library

# In Passing

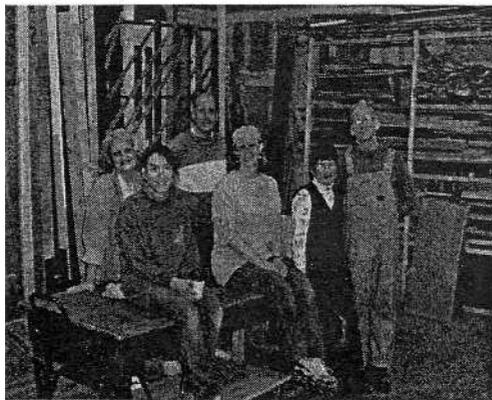
## The Great Cleanup

On the ground floor of Stuart's Opera House, behind the offices, there is a room which, for lo these many years and unbeknownst to us, has been serving as a hiding place for all the items "Stuey" has been known to move.

For two sunny warm days in December (Dean says if you need a sunny warm day, just call him and he'll schedule an indoor activity at the opera house!) a small group of brave and (fool?)hardy souls waded into the quagmire and performed theater magic. A storage system for our flats was built according to a design by David Bower. The lumber rack is now accessible and organized. Unusable paint and various and sundry other items were discarded; the purchase of shelves and storage chests allowed hardware, paint, and miscellany to be sorted and made accessible (many thanks to the Parsonses for getting a head start on this!).

Thanks to the work crew, it is now possible to locate our equipment and supplies, and there is plenty of room to build set pieces and props, and perhaps hold meetings or rehearsals for small groups. Of course, beginning with *Once Upon a Mattress*, one person will be designated to stay in the shop during strike, to direct everything to its appropriate home.

By the way, we never did find the proverbial kitchen sink. Stuey??????



As you know by now, founding APT member Steve Haskins has passed away. The September celebration of his life was a rousing, funny, sentimental tribute to a man we loved and will miss.

The following appears on our website and is to be printed in all programs for the season: *The members of the Athenian Players Theatre and Berean Community Players dedicate the 2006 - 2007 dramatic season to Steve Haskins in memory of his efforts in founding the Athenian Players Theatre, and reconstituting the Berean Community Players; his devotion of his talents to every aspect of theatrical production both on and off the stage; his*

'Twas two weeks before Christmas,  
and down in the shop  
A work crew had gathered to "sort  
'till you drop."

They organized luan, and molding,  
and wood  
Separating the keepers from what  
was no good.

They built racks and cages from  
wood new and bright  
Storing flats and set pieces by width  
and by height.

They found things that hadn't seen  
daylight for years:  
Four backdrops, old costumes.

They noted with cheers,  
We can now see each item that we  
have in store  
AND reach each, without moving  
twenty things more!

What's more, we can now use the  
floor and the table  
To build, paint, rehearse, or  
whatever we're able.

So on midday Sunday, each raised a  
cup

To say, "Merry Christmas -- DON'T  
DARE MESS THIS UP!"

**WCP, 2006**

**THE CREW:** Chief Project Engineer David Bower, Cecilia Rinaldi, Dean Barker, Vera Bauluz, Carol Ault, Celeste and Jim Parsons. Not pictured: Joe Balding and Lonny Frazee

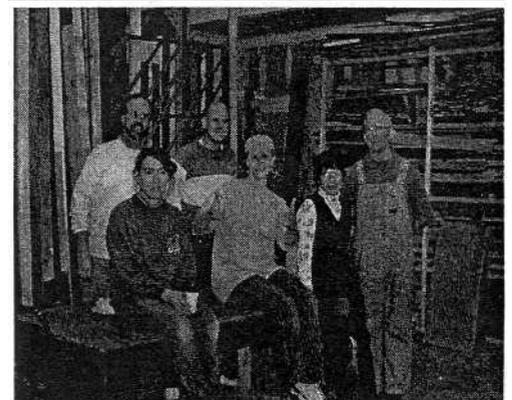
*support and encouragement of others; and his unflagging good fellowship.*

Steve was the glue of APT and it is encouraging to see some members stepping up, offering to take over some of the chores we used to take for granted would handled by Steve. The old adage "many hands make light work" holds true. APT needs YOU to become involved. What will you do to help maintain the viability of your organization? Usher for a performance? Help with publicity? Help build and/or strike the set? Work back stage or in the light/sound booth? Make a costume or a prop? Suggest a play for next season? Direct a play? Contribute to or edit *The Minotaur*? Come to meetings to help make decisions and carry on the business of APT (they only last 1 hour - we promise!)? Please come to our January meeting and let us know how you would like to be involved.

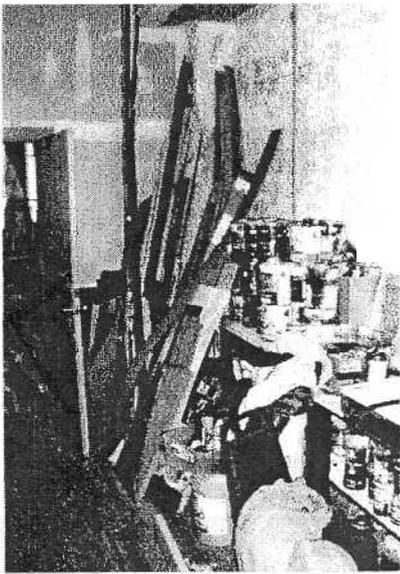
## Just A Thought

"Of course, that's just a suggestion." "Just a thought." How many times did we hear Steve say it?

The interim editor of The Minotaur is instituting a new column in Steve's honor - a forum for your opinions, thoughts, ramblings, etc. So....let the writing begin! And, knowing this group, you'd better send stuff NOW, before you forget and miss getting published in the next issue.

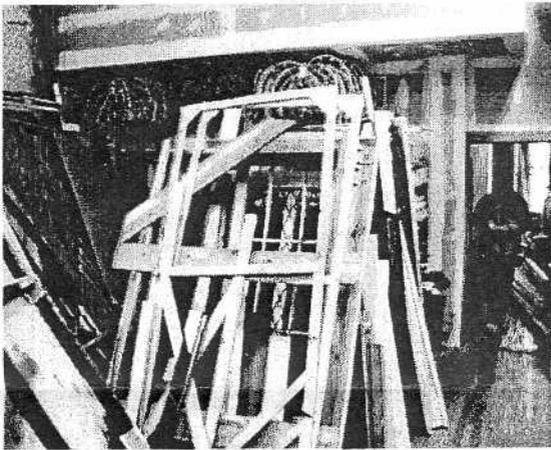
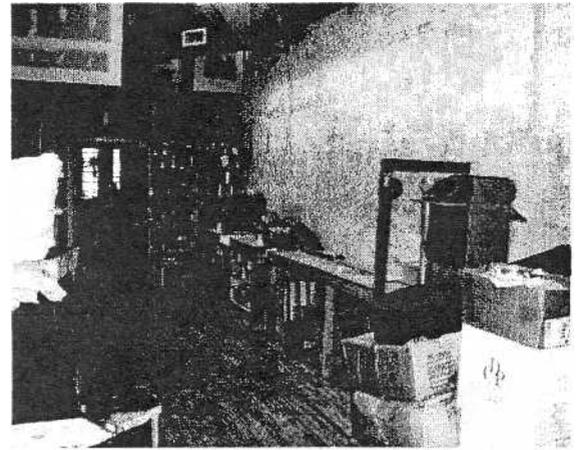


Captions: Jim Parsons  
Photos: David Bower



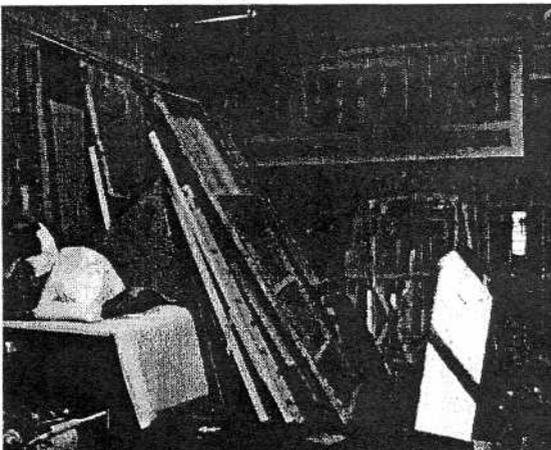
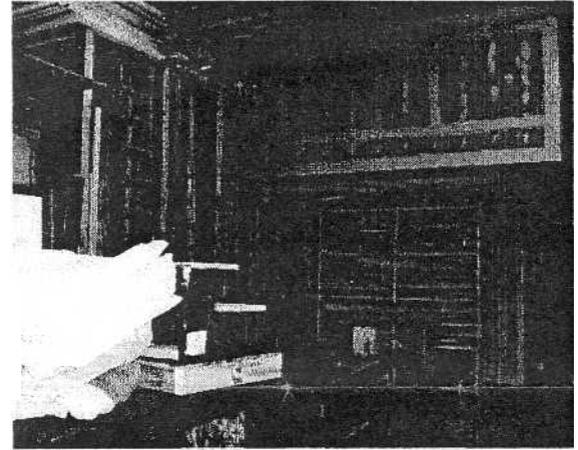
Workbench before the cleanup: table too cluttered to work on, paint cans everywhere, hardware jumbled, and wood spilling out of the corner.

Paint cans now on shelves in the corner, table cleared for action, and hardware sorted into bins.



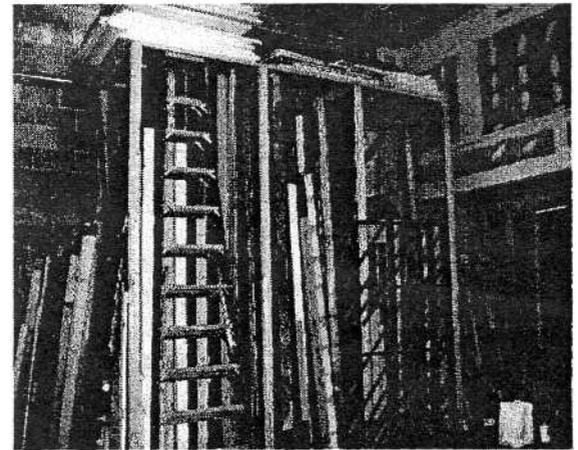
Before, it was impossible to get at anything back in the corner because so much had been piled there; the work table was not even visible!

Stacks of lumber are now sorted on the lumber rack. Only tall lumber is in the corner.



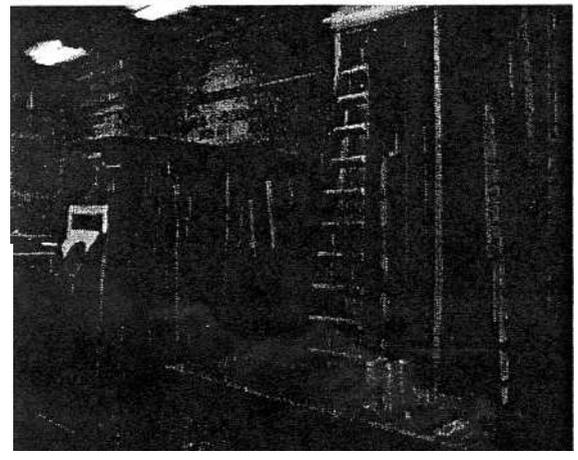
Before the cleanup: flats stacked against the wall sixteen deep so that you had to move every flat to get to the one you want.

Now flats slide into a rack. You can pull out the ones you need like taking books off of a library shelf.



Of course, there was that period during which we had to pull everything out in order to make room to work ...

but it all came out well in the end. This shows the other rack that now holds shorter flats and sheets of luan and plywood.



## ~AUDITIONS~ ~ ~

### **Once Upon a Mattress**

The Broadway musical version of "The Princess and the Pea" by Jay Thompson, Marshall Barer, and Dean Fuller. (March 2-3, 9-11, 2007, directed by Celeste Parsons)

Auditions will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2007, from 1-5 p.m. at Stuart's Opera House. There are 6 male and 10 female roles. (Visit our website for descriptions of the roles). You can save time and hassle by completing the Audition Information Form (also available on the website) in advance and bringing it with you to the audition.

### **An Evening of Comedy**

Three hilarious one-act comedies: *ADAPTATION* by Elaine May; *ACTOR'S NIGHTMARE* by Christopher Durang; and *FINAL DRESS REHEARSAL* by Jake Frakes. (May 10-13, 2007, directed by David Bower)

Auditions will be held March 25, 2007, from 1-5 p.m. at ARTS/West in Athens. Scripts are being made available at The Plains and Athens Public Libraries. Actor's Nightmare has 2 male and 3 female roles; Adaptation has 1 male and 3 female roles; Final Dress Rehearsal has 13 female roles.