

The Minotaur



ATHENIAN PLAYERS THEATRE Newsletter Volume XI, Issue 1 September 2002 Steve Haskins, editor

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APT Officers

President - Joe Balding Vice-President - Tawna Rogers
Secretary - Linda Watkins Treasurer - Sylvia Abbott

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Start the season right by attending the first meeting at 7pm on Tuesday, September 10th, at The Plains Public Library!!

SEASON #11

APT's eleventh season will open with *Sherlock's Last Case* by Charles Marowitz, directed by Ted Alexander (see "Auditions" in the next column). Our second show will be the musical *Is There Life After High School?*, which will go up in March. The season will close with the third show, the May production of *A Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court*. All members are encouraged to get actively involved, whether or not you plan to audition to be in a show. As we all know, there is a great deal of work, on and off stage, that needs to get done in order to successfully stage a play. APT membership should be an indication of willingness to serve the organization by offering support in the way of time and effort whenever and wherever it is needed. It is understood that not everyone can be available to pitch in all the time, but each member should find some time during the season when they can avail themselves to the needs of APT.

AUDITIONS

Open auditions for *Sherlock's Last Case*, directed by Ted Alexander, will be held at Stuart's Opera House on Saturday, September 7th (1-4pm) and Sunday, September 8th (5-8pm). This is a mystery/comedy that will keep the audience laughing on the edge of their seats! There are roles for men age 40+ and for women ages 18-30 and 40-60. Bring your best English, (London) accent! Play dates are November 8, 9, 15, 16 & 17.



Ohio
Community
Theatre
Association

OCTAFEST 2002: -FUN IN THE SUN-

Fun indeed! State OCTA Conference was, once again, a great experience! Joe Balding and Steve Haskins attended this past weekend and had a wonderful time. Some of the best acting ever done was right there on the stage in excerpts from all over the state. Many workshops were offered, too. Steve came back with some new painting techniques for sets. In keeping with the "Fun in the Sun" theme, the weekend included a steel drum band & hula dancers, swimsuit competition, Luau Olympics, Tiki Wars (OCTA Feud) and a Latin Jazz band, as well as the usual banquet, parties and awards luncheon. There were some terrific entries in the newsletter, set and costume design competitions, too.

Our own Southeastern Region was well represented by Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County (New Philadelphia), whose excerpt from *Stopping Out* won honors for Excellence In Ensemble and Excellence In Acting (Edith Whitehorse). Congratulations to them on a job well done!

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OCTAFEST 2002 (CONT.)

Further honors for our region included OCTA Presidential Award winner Susan Metz Foster (Coshocton) and Dick Beal Outstanding Regional Representative winner Susan Barzda (Cambridge). Congratulations to them! Also, the Southeast Region was recognized as the "Most Improved" in the Patron Program.

Next year's conference in Columbus, "Building Golden Memories", will celebrate OCTA's 50th year.

NEW OFFICERS

As of September 1, 2002, our eleventh season began, with a board headed by a re-elected President Joe Balding. New Vice-President Tawna Rogers also took office, and we saw the return of Secretary Linda Watkins and Treasurer Sylvia Abbott.

-B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N- (UPDATE)

Big Jim Balding is undergoing physical therapy at the Rockmill Rehabilitation facility in Lancaster. He's making good progress and expects to be home very soon! Please send any correspondence to 67 W. Washington St., Athens.

PLAY READING COMMITTEE

This year's play reading committee consists of Christine Neumann, Ted Alexander, Tawna Rogers and Karen Chan. If there is a play that you would like to see produced by Athenian Players Theatre, simply give a copy of the script to any play reading committee member. The committee will read all scripts submitted, narrow the field to those they feel we could reasonably produce, then propose a season (with some choices to vote on) to the general membership, which will then choose their favorites. Those plays will become our 2003-2004 season. One thing to remember when offering a proposal: it will make things easier if you have a director in mind for your submitted play(s). Deadline for 2003-2004 play submissions is September 20th, 2002, so there is no time to lose.

APT dues (just \$10) for 2002-2003 are due!
Pay any time to: PO Box 283 Athens, Ohio 45701

LITTER PATROL

Our August litter pick-up was made a little easier by virtue of the lower humidity and the good team of patrollers. On hand were veteran trash pickers Connie Roberts, David Hoxworth, Ginny Puhl, Terry Smith, Joe Balding and Steve Haskins. Starting at 1pm, two hours & 18 bags of trash later, we quenched our thirsts with cold bottled water and went about our busy day. Next patrol in October, date TBA.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(Ed. note: each issue of The Minotaur will attempt to give an update on past APT members who have moved on. Anyone with a good word on who's-doing-what these days is encouraged to share with the membership via this column.)

Karen Hughes (*I'm About To Develop An Attitude, Cinderella, The White Liars, Flowers For Algernon, Nunsense, The Yiddish Trojan Women, Funny Girl, See How They Run, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*) retired from her job with the Wayne National Forest a couple of years ago and, much to the disappointment of her friends at APT, moved back to the old family homestead in Pine Knot, Kentucky, where she is a "backup" Bookmobile driver and works two or three days a week at the library. She does library PSAs for the local radio station, and reads short Halloween & Christmas stories, also aired by local radio.

Karen is also involved with Somerset Community College theatre. Her productions there include *Love Scenes from Shakespeare, Villains of Shakespeare, Radio Suspense Theatre*, several reader's theatre productions and, most recently, *Tartuffe*.

For the past two years, Karen has served as an adjudicator in the High School Theatre Festival, which involves several area high schools.

"At any rate", she says, "I enjoy my little house and good sized yard (there is a pasture behind me and that's neat) and all the plants & animals (rabbits, squirrels, etc.). But, I miss you folks and look forward to visiting one of these days!!!"

We miss you, too, Karen.

Anyone interested in submitting an article for publication in the Minotaur will please contact the editor.

An Editorial Aside.....

Life marches on, even in the wake of calamity. Such is the case as we pause to remember 9/11 and the events that changed our world. The best that we can do for ourselves, and for those about whom we care deeply, is to live our lives as though they matter, because they do. If we will be our best in all our endeavors, then no one can say we didn't try. Some will even say we triumphed.

-Ed.