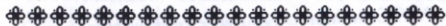


The
ATLANTA -SOUTHEASTERN
PUPPETRY GUILD NEWS

Chartered by Puppeteers of America

5-13-99



From the President.....

HI - HO everyone!

I would like to say that I think the first National Day of Puppetry was a success. The poster designed by Marcia Cohen was displayed at the Center for Puppetry Arts and the staff took several to outlying areas to be posted. The Center opened the museum to everyone for free and I think EVERYONE took advantage of it! We were swamped with patrons but they all enjoyed it and many inquired about the National Day of Puppetry. It was a pleasure to inform others of Puppeteers of America, the Atlanta-Southeastern Puppetry Guild and the international UNIMA. All seemed to be amazed at the immense-ness of the puppet community. I would like to thank the Carol Fijan who lobbied for and got this day which can forevermore be used as a focal point to inform and inspire the general public about our magical art form.

Enclosed is some up-to-date information on the P of A National Festival in Seattle. This looks like a great place to be August 1-7 so if you haven't sent your registration yet do it now! *Times-a-wastin'*.

Heard any good ones? Has anything spectacular happened in your life? Call me and let me know about it! Till next time....

Susan Kinney

PS: Its not too early to start thinking about next year's National Day of Puppetry poster and festivities! Submit ideas to any guild officer.

GUILD MEETING DATES;

NOTICE: There has been a change of dates...we will not be meeting on June 6 but on

June 13, 4:00- 7:00 This will be another potlatch and will be held at Susan Kinney's home. The workshop will be on inanimate objects as puppets.

NOTE: the hours of September's meeting have changed slightly.

September 12, 3:00- 6:00 Meeting held in Harlequin Hall at the Center for Puppetry Arts. Then we will adjourn to see the first New Direction Series show. It will be two Chinese shows performed by Huang Yi Que of Quanzhou Marionettes of China and Yang Feng of Seattle. As Guild members your rate is \$12.00 per person so come on down!

December 5, 4:00- 7:00 { Would you like to host this?

REGIONAL NOTES:


Scholarships available:

Mickey Lynes Southeast Region Scholarship for the National Festival.

Covers registration only. Travel, room and board must be provided by the recipient. Applications available from your guild president or the Regional Director.

GUILD OFFICERS:

- SUSAN KINNEY - PRESIDENT
H - 770-934-3947
W- 404-873-3089 ext. 130
puppetlearn@mindsprng.com
- BETSY STARK - VICE PRESIDENT In charge of programming.H - 404-315-6161
- EVY BERMAN - SECRETARY 404-377-8141
evygirl@snakebite.com
- TIM KOELLER - TREASURER 770-388-0302
tkoeller@worldnet.att.net

 **COMING SOON !!!**

Notice: If you plan to go to **Spoleto** don't miss Compagnie Philippe Genty on Sat. June 5 at 2 & 5pm and KYAIDAN on June 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 & 12 at 8 pm and on June 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 2 pm.

ALSO...

Don't forget to come to XPT (Xpermental Puppetry Theater) running May 19 through 22 at 8pm and Sunday May 23 at 5pm at the Center for Puppetry Arts.

And... a special showing of Julie Taymor's "Fool's Fire" film will be held on June 11 in the Mainstage theater at the Center. Guild members get tickets for only

\$5.00 (1/2 off the price of admission.) Call the ticket office for reservations. (404) 873-3391

AND.... May 29 at 8:00 a special show by Ron Binion to finance the Center Puppeteers' trip to the Seattle Festival. Tickets are \$8.00 at the door.

WELCOME:

TO NEW MEMBER SUSAN LONDON-KILLIP AND THANKS TO GREGG WALLACE, MARY HOOK, CAROL DANIEL AND BARBARA GOLTZ FOR RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

If you have paid your dues for 1999 but have not received a membership card, please contact Tim Koeller or Susan Kinney. You should have received one when you renewed your membership. If not, please let Tim or Susan know.

If you have not paid for 1999 yet contact the treasurer (Tim Koeller) immediately!

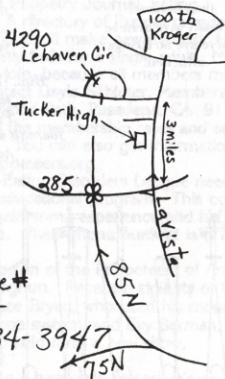
Please call Susan Kinney at 770-934-3947 or (404) 873-3089 ext. 130 if you have any NEWS for the next newsletter or I'll be calling YOU!



Directions to Susan Kinney's house:

Take 85 N to 285 W to the Lavista exit. Turn left and go approximately 3 miles to Lehaven Rd. on the left. This will be the 2nd street after Tucker High school. Lehaven Circle is the first and only street on the right off of Lehaven Rd. (Its just past the pool.) You can also come straight out Lavista if you don't mind the red lighes. Call my home number if you have trouble finding it.

Susan Kinney



Home #

770-

934-3947

Map NOT to scale!

MARIONETTE

Puppet -
limp
lifeless
sawdust and rags.

A movement now -
nod of a hollow head.
Later an eye jumps,
painted mouth opens.

Does it?
Not really,
no.

Though if the heart
says yes
then believe.

If the heart says believe
then there are no strings
attached.

*(Used with
permission.)*

*Can you guess the
author of this
insightful poem?*

*If you are the
first one
at the next
meeting with
the correct
answer
you will win
a prize!*

*Hint...Those who
save their old
PoFA*

*Journals will have an
Advantage!*

MEETING MINUTES BY EYV BERMAN:

The last meeting, on March 14, 1999, took place at Walter and Betsy Stark's house, and was well attended. We started with food, of course, and then filled each other in with the latest news. Some highlights:

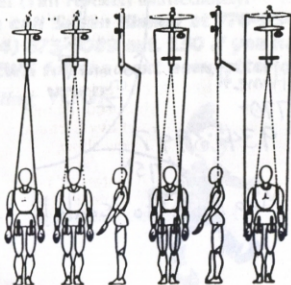
The Atlanta Botanical Gardens is building a puppet stage and needs shows. Contact Cindy Reittinger. The Main number there is (404) 876-5859.

If you are a member of our local guild but are not a member of the Puppeteers of America, consider joining the national guild!! You'll get access to their bookstore and library, all the advice you could ever want from experts, discounts on festivals, a subscription to the Puppetry Journal, voting privileges, the P of A directory of Puppet companies and puppeteers, and you'll make new friends! How much, you ask? Only \$40. for a single adult. Now is the perfect time to join, because all members must renew in May. Contact Gayle Schluter, Membership Officer, #5 Cricklewood Path, Pasadena, CA 91107. She can tell you all the membership rates and send you an application. You can also get information on the web at www.puppeteers.org.

The Atlanta Anti-Eating Disorders League needs Puppeteers for an educational program. This could be a great way to gain some experience and help out with a worthy cause. Their phone number is (770) 953-4744, ext. 13.

The Southeast Region of the Puppeteers of America has a mini-grant program. Recent recipients of the grant are our own Lee Bryan, who used his money to buy a new microphone system, and Eyv Berman, who is using her grant to help fund a new show, "Reluctant Rapunzel."

We are working on a new guild roster. It's so important to pay your dues when Tim calls you so that you will be listed on the roster and receive your



coveted copy. We want it to be as complete as possible!

Do you know anyone who wants to be a new member? Guess what? We have a brand new application for new members with information about the guild. You can pick up a copy at the next meeting, or you can contact any guild officer.

Do you know about Puptcrit? It's a news group for puppeteers. If you have e-mail, you can ask questions of other puppeteers or take part in stimulating discussions or just read what everybody else thinks. Get information from:

majordomo@lists.village.virginia.edu or through the puppetry home page: www.sagecraft.com.

The Center for Puppetry Arts has a wonderful display of Addis Williams' marionettes from the 1982-3 Broadway version of "Alice in Wonderland." This compliments the Center's enchanting mainstage production of "Alice." Come see Brenda Porter as Alice and Lorna Howley as the Queen!

Lee Bryan has a busy summer planned. Among other bookings, he'll be performing "Jack and the Beanstalk" and "Zany Zoo" in Roswell in July, and he'll be at the Center for Puppetry Arts performing "Princess and the Pea" in August and September.

Greg Wallace is studying to be a massage therapist and he needs clients for free massages while he is in school! Gregg's number is (404) 377-3018.

Betsy Berns Stark has been working on puppets that hang on the wall, begging the question, "Is it a puppet, or is it ART?"

Walter Stark is doing a show for XPT, which will be held at the Center for Puppetry Arts. (See *NOW SHOWING* dates and times.)

Evy Berman was in Guatemala for a month learning Spanish and living with a Guatemalan family. She will be teaching puppet camp for three weeks in June on St. Simons Island.

After the news, the guild meeting continued with a wonderful program on directing the puppet theatre, which was given by Lee Bryan and Gregg Wallace. Several members commented that the program reminded them of how meetings used to be with informative, useful programs! This writer thinks this is a sign of times to come as our guild grows stronger and stronger.

Some notes on the program:

A director is an important part of any puppet production because he/she is a person who can give an objective eye allowing you to collaborate and span new ideas that you may not think of on your own. The director is also a person who can give valuable input regarding sets, costumes, and rehearsal choices.

There are ways to direct a puppet show without hiring an actual director. Gregg and Lee explained the problems with each of them.

You can use a mirror, but you run the risk of getting too attached to using one and having difficulty when you make the switch to a live audience. Also, Gregg explained that in theatre there is a natural flow of action from left to right. Using a mirror reverses that natural flow, and distorts the image you see vs. what the audience actually sees. (It was very clear when Gregg explained it, I assure you.)

You also have the option of using videotape. Lee and Gregg prefer to have an outside eye watching the actual live performance. However, a videotape can be very useful for polishing the show during later rehearsals, and a videotape of a final performance is an invaluable reference tool when it comes time to remount a show that's been sitting in storage for a couple of years.

Lee and Gregg feel that hiring a director will help you actually finish a show. Booking a show can help you finish as well. A rule of thumb when working with a director is that it takes one hour of rehearsal

time for each minute of performance time. A few more tips: read your script through from each character's point of view, always be very specific when directing, and follow the rule of doing things in threes (three times) so that the audience has time to grasp what's happening.

They finished the program by giving members of the guild directing exercises while Lee performed with puppets. Also, Lee and Gregg suggested a good book, Directing Puppet Theatre, by Carol Fijan and Frank Ballard.

Don't you wish you'd attended the last guild meeting? We hope to see you at the next one on June 13.

SOMETHING ELSE:

The Center for Puppetry Arts needs a couple of volunteers to help as Puppet Camp Assistants. This would be 10am to 1pm for 5 days in a row. This would be great for older teens or young adults. Contact Pam Csipo at (404) 873-3089 ext.115.

Thanks!

From Peter Cffaldana, Regional Director -

If you would like to be listed in the Regional Directory or would like to change the wording you still have time. The deadline is June 15. Contact Peter at 634 Upperriver Ct., Orlando, FL 32828 **NOTE:** You must be a paid member of the Puppeteers of America to be listed.

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

PLANCHETTES



FROM AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PRINT

PLANCHETTES :—Puppets on a plank. A very old form of puppetry most probably of Italian origin

by H.W. Whanslaw