



COLONIAL FOX THEATRE FOUNDATION

Green Room Newsletter

Summer 2011 - Volume 5, Issue 3

TEAMWORK IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

When the architect asked, “Do you want the contractor to repaint the movie screen mural or will you do that with volunteers?” I winced. Sure, somewhere in the deep recesses of my mind, I knew that when we repaired the north wall the movie screen mural would need to be repainted.

Still, when the time came, the task seemed overwhelming.

Derek Heikes, owner of Heikes Masonry, won the bid to repair the north wall and is especially interested in this project because he is a Colonial Fox Theatre fan with a love for old buildings. He has seen other theatres like ours restored and have a positive impact on their cities;



Left: Power wash and steam clean. Above: Painting after patching. Right: New coat of paint covered screen. Below: Repainting screen.



in particular the Plaza Theatre in Lamar, Missouri. Derek believes the Colonial Fox will have the same success in Pittsburg.

Knowing how intimidating repainting the movie mural was to us, Derek offered to tape its outline before they painted the wall so we'd have a pattern to follow. Plus, he loaned us the use of his lift for the

job. Then, as we were re-drawing the outline, he asked, “Vonnie? Do you know Sue Robinson? You ought to call her. She'd be all over

this.” That's all he needed to say.

Sue Robinson is an artist turned professional painter who enjoys helping out a good cause. She started putting her art degree to work as a color consultant with Sherwin Williams in St. Louis:

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Friday Flix 2011

Aug 19
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
Accent Dental

Sep 16
Toy Story
MPIX

Oct 21
Beetlejuice
B & R Electric

Nov 11*
Polar Express
M & I Bank
*date may vary

Come and See the Show!

Our Friday Flix Series continues to be a big hit with the community and its popularity is spreading. *Stagecoach*, the classic western starring John Wayne in his break-out role drew folks from Joplin and Neosho. *The Princess Bride*, a classic favorite filled to the brim with sword fighting adventures and lovey-dovey romance was a sell-out.

Flix still to come are *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Toy Story 3*, *Beetlejuice*, and *The Polar Express*. This year's annual showing of the cult classic, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, will highlight the premier of our new *Jump to the Left Shadow Cast*.

Check out our Facebook page for the Friday Flix Movie Quote each month. Recite the quote at the concession stand and get 50% off a popcorn and soda.



Volunteers teach “Let’s Do the Time Warp Again” dance to audience prior to the start of the 2010 Rocky Horror Picture Show.

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Which, by the way, is a cool coincidence, since Sherwin Williams donated the paint for both the new and the old movie screen masterpieces. One of the things that impressed Sue the most about re-painting the screen was the amount of interest it stirred up in passersby. Several evenings were spent painting into the dark of the night. Still, people stopped, asked about tours, signed up to be contacted as future volunteers, and even picked up a brush and started painting.



Sue Robinson on the lift as Pat Jones creates the film ribbon.

This expressed enthusiasm made us realize that the movie screen mural had become part of the downtown landscape that people loved and were excited to see restored. Thank you again to Derek Heikes, Sue Robinson, and Sherwin Williams for making the movie screen mural restoration possible.

Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers who came out to help in the theatre clean-up and Friday Flix events. We just CAN'T do it without you!

**July 15
Friday Flix
Princess Bride**

- Ryan Amick
- Kathy Bernard
- Julie Bernhardt
- Diana Catron
- Thomas Catron
- Brett Dalton
- Trenton Davis
- Stella Hastings
- Naomi Powers
- Hunter Powers
- Sherri Stephens
- Matt Ward
- Dillon Williams



**July 9 & July 23
Theatre Cleaning**

- Shirley Beer
- Randy Carter
- Diana Catron
- Thomas Catron
- Stella Hastings
- Gina Pinamonti
- Naomi Powers
- Wendy Strukel
- Mary-Kate Sullivan
- Cody White
- Kris Williams
- Rocky Williams



Check out our NEW Website Design!



**Stay up-to-date with the
Colonial Fox Theatre project!**





**Visit our redesigned website at:
www.colonialfox.org**

Let There Be Lights!

Recently, when Ted and Susan Monsour, collectors of unusual light fixtures, began thinking about a trio of beautiful chrome-finished Art Deco style wall sconces they thought of the Colonial Fox Theatre. We're so glad they did!

The Monsours are no strangers to restoration projects and were an important component of Joplin's downtown revitalization when they started Club 609. These two

One of three exceptionally beautiful gifts.

entrepreneurs helped to restore the building, sought out funding, and created a business plan. Their over twenty years of hard work has proven successful as their delightful Main Street restaurant inspired other investments in downtown Joplin. Even the connecting blocks of Main Street have begun to shape up in terms of cosmetic work and leaving less vacant buildings and lofts.

Ted and Susan Monsour's faith in the Colonial Fox Theatre Foundation to influence a similar transformation in Pittsburg is most encouraging. We thank them for their support and for these exquisite light fixtures and look forward to the day when we can all enjoy them in the context of a restored Colonial Fox Theatre.



MEMORY LANE

If Walls Could Talk

The Colonial Fox Theatre has been around much longer than we have and it's hard to say exactly what her walls have seen. However, thanks to all of you who have shared your memories we are able to get a glimpse into the past.

One such glimpse is a memory from a gentleman who worked for Harry Condos in Harry's Hat Shop and Shoe Shine parlor, one of the retail spaces adjacent to the theatre entrance during the 1950s. Another memory takes us back to the time of the Serial Saturday, a series of movies which continued a story from week to week. Some of the old time favorites were Sky King and Hopalong Cassidy.

In those days, movie admission was



nine cents for two features, cartoons, and newsreels. Other entertainment included bingo nights—patrons playing bingo for prizes between

movies. If bingo wasn't their thing, patrons paid a visit to the snack bar for some Kit Kats, Jujubees, Butterfingers, Malted Balls, Milk Duds, Necco Wafers, Nestle Crunch bars, or good old fashioned popcorn.

If you've got a craving for some of delicious movie popcorn, stop by for one of our Second Sunday tours or Friday Flix. Share your Colonial Fox memory on our newly designed website: www.colonialfox.org.

GOOD VIBRATIONS

It comes as no surprise to people who remember attending the Colonial Fox Theatre and/or who have toured the Theatre during her revitalization process that the Colonial Fox Theatre has good energy. Patrons are excited to come inside and they leave with a smile on their faces and a dream in their hearts.



As we begin the phase of construction that calls for interior stabilization, we wish to guard these good vibrations and protect against the entrance of negative energy. To do that, we called upon Rick Evans to perform a Smudging ceremony.

The Sacred Smoke Bowl Blessing, commonly called Smudging may



Above: Components of the Smudge are prepared.

Left: Rick Evans fans the smoke of sacred herbs throughout the theatre.

sound "new age-y" to some, however its tradition goes back thousands of years and can be compared to the Christian spiritual tradition of incense burning. The smudging ceremony calls for mixtures of sacred herbs and resins to be burned in an abalone bowl. Smoke is then wafted around the person or place for which the blessing is intended. As in all spiritual traditions, the smoke is deeply symbolic- it ascends to heaven, acting as a spiritual messenger carrying the prayers and intentions of those present for the Colonial Fox Theatre.

2011 Sustaining Members*

LEADING ROLES \$25,000 up

Dick & Faith Coleman Family Foundation
Kansas State Historical Society
Richard & Nancy Miller Family Foundation

HEADLINERS \$5,000 - \$24,999

Bess Spiva Timmons Family Foundation

ENCORE \$1,000 - \$4,999

Vonnie & Gene Corsini
Gordon & Beverly Elliott
Bill & Dot Hagman
Heikes Masonry & Restoration
Holiday Inn Express
KSEK 99.1 FM
MPIX
Gina & Brian Pinamonti
Angela & Greg Shaw
Tim & Louise Spears
Earl Wolfe

STANDING OVATION \$500 - \$999

Accent Dental LLC
B & R Electric
Brent Castagno
Lori Ann Spachek – State Farm Ins
Pinamonti Orthodontics
Pittsburg Farmer's Market
Wells Fargo Advisors

CENTER STAGE \$250 - \$499

Mitch & Diane Bicknell
John & Carol Casterman
Warren Desantis
Albert & Jennine Marrone
Quality Floor
Jerry & Doris Sample

RED CARPET \$100 - \$249

Marie Albertini	David Nance
Alexander & Lucy Bednekoff	Jack Overman
Aaron & Chloe Besperat	Dean Papp
Paul & Laura Carlson	PSU Women's Studies Club
Lee & Sandra Christensen	Dr. R. James Rhodes, Jr.
Dick & Faith Coleman	& Judy Rhodes
John & Ruth Courter	Sherwin Williams
Stephen & Mary Lynne Crosetto	Ruth Short
Barry & Joyce Draper	Jayne Sponsler
Jane & Felix Dreher	Jerry & Jo Ann Steele
Linda Grilz	Louis & Corene Stroup
Irma Hawley	Victor & Mary-Kate Sullivan
Jon & Beverly Herron	Babs Tims
Don & Kay Holsinger	Jim & Wava VanBecelaere
Shirley Beer & Michael Joyce	Rack & Marsha Wallace
Vance Kelley	Marinell Webber
Don Judd & Wendy Long	George & Marcia Weeks
Dotty Miller	Gregory White
John & Bev Mitchelson	Mary Kaye & Wayne Wiley
Ted & Susan Monsour	Heather & Randy Winzer
Bill & Linda Morris	James Wood
Lillian & Paul Mundt	Talaat & Marie Yaghmour
Dorothy Nail	

*As of July 22, 2011



Theatre Vocabulary

Fly System

When Peter Pan whisks himself off the stage to Neverland; you may have wished to believe he was really flying. However, what you were seeing is the work of a fly system; a system of rigging and ropes that is used to raise and lower scenery on stage, operated by hand or mechanically from backstage. A fly system features flying rigs which can be used to fly performers, or lift scenery out of view in the fly space. The Colonial Fox Theatre has a vast fly space above her large stage which is completely invisible to the audience. Once restored our fly rigs will have endless possibilities. Some of our fly system's most common uses could be to run high-powered lighting and special effect devices in the fly



space during a local band's concert, or lower a few fake trees to give some ambiance as Timon, Pumbaa, and Simba sing Hakuna Matata.

