The Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association Newsletter
October - November 2013



Greg Rueger, ETPA president and Helen Doving, ETPA director celebrate the start of construction!

What's Been Happening?

By now you will have seen construction fences around parts of the theatre and work taking place on the roof (structural support beams being added). The City of Coos Bay awarded a contract for our "Phase 1" construction to DBL Construction, a well known local contractor. "Phase 1" includes all of the structural repairs needed to allow us to re-open the theatre, the addition of main floor ADA restrooms, and the installation of enhanced electrical service to the building by Pacific Power. Under the able leadership of the City's ace project manager, Randy Dixon, the job is progressing without a glitch. Running a project this well takes knowledge, experience and many hours of planning and coordination. Thank you, Randy!



To prepare for re-opening, your board and key City personnel participated in a daylong Operations Workshop--funded by a donation for this purpose--with Herb Stratford (the historical theatre consultant who conducted our Market/Feasibility Study). We outlined our goals for operations and assigned board members to key tasks associated with making our plans come true!

On the funding front, we had received or gained commitments for just under $707,000 from local contributions and grants awarded. We now have the funding to cover our "Phase 1" scope of work, though additional funds are needed for the cleanup and readiness for opening work we will need to do. The Collins Foundation, Ford Family Foundation and the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust, our largest grant awards, have now all agreed that we have met the conditions they established to receive their support. We have arrived!

Our Business Blitz on July 31 and August 1 in which we partnered with the Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Association to ask local businesses for their support was a resounding success and helped greatly in "putting us over the top" for "Phase 1." We earned close to $25,000 from this campaign. Thank you to our top team of Joyce Jansen and Jenny Silva who brought in over half of that amount! Thank you to our business sponsors, Yellow Cab, McKay's Markets, and Maya Graphics for advertising our campaign. Thank you to Mayor Shoji for her support, our ETPA board and Chamber Ambassadors solicitation teams, the Chamber

of Commerce, the Downtown Association, and to Bob More for organizing the Blitz. Thank you to the many businesses who provided us donations -- with special thanks to First Call Resolution and Sterling Bank for their most generous contributions.

We have embarked upon fundraising for additional preservation, restoration and enhancement projects (like restoring and improving our Broadway façade, replacing and enhancing electrical wiring, etc.). We have quite a few grant requests outstanding from which we expect to hear over the next 4 months.

Seat dedications are selling like hotcakes...better get yours while you can if you have not already!

Kathy Erickson and Joyce Jansen join the ETPA's Board

This month our board elected long-time Coos Bay Area residents Kathy Erickson and Joyce Jansen as directors of the ETPA. Kathy brings her strengths as an experienced businesswoman and journalist to our board. For many years she owned, published and edited a newspaper in Scappoose, Oregon and, upon her return to Coos Bay in the 1990's, served as the managing editor of *The World*. Kathy is currently U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio's field representative on the South Coast. Joyce Jansen brings us leadership skills, in-depth knowledge of our community, and connections with our local businesses and the City. Joyce recently retired from a 36 year career with the City of Coos Bay, serving our community in various capacities that included Deputy Recorder/Assistant to the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Interim City Manager, and, most recently, Economic Revitalization Administrator. Both Kathy and Joyce will serve as directors through the end of this year and be placed on the ballot for ETPA membership election for longer term director positions.

ETPA Director elections and our annual membership meeting

We will soon be conducting ETPA member elections of our directors for 2014. If you are already a member in good standing of the ETPA and would like to be considered for serving on our board, **before October 9**, express your interest by sending information about yourself to Anella Dumas by mail to the ETPA's office (255 N. Broadway, Coos Bay, OR 97420) or by e-mail to coosbayegyptian@frontier.com. Ballots will be mailed to our members before the end of October and can be returned by mail or by attending our annual membership meeting on Saturday, November 16. Information about our annual meeting will be provided with the ballot mailed to ETPA members.



Cheers for Volunteers - Ray Duskin

Ray came by his interest in the cinema from the day he was born, living his childhood days on a farm in Southern California that was the site of many early-day movies. He attended a two-room schoolhouse in Agoura for the first two grades.

After grade school and traveling 90 miles a day to attend Canoga Park High School, he completed his education at the UC Santa Barbara and Fresno State.

He remembers his 4-H club days, with Maureen Reagan and her goat herd. She was strongly encouraged to switch to beef by her father, Ronald, when the goats persisted in climbing onto their roof, roosting and prancing around with their sharp hoofs. He also recalls, in *The Red Pony,* starring Myrna Loy, the consternation of the kids when they dragged the stuffed dummy carcass of the red pony from the creek, after it supposedly fell in and drowned. The film *Elopement,* starring Clifton Webb and Kay Francis, was shot mostly at his uncle's gas station across the road. Later, Ray worked as chief electrician on the film *Pork Chop Hill,* starring Gregory Peck and George Peppard.

His own acting career included scenes in *Our Town, The Importance of Being Earnest,* and *You Can't Take It With You.*

Realizing that movies were not his destiny, Ray joined forces with the Preston School of Industry, where he met his wife Rosella, who had come west to accept a job at Raytheon. After several years pursuing their careers, and because of the increasing unrest in the area, i.e. Watts, they took a sort of reconnaissance vacation around Oregon. Ray quit his job on July 1, 1967, and they headed north. In Portland, he signed on with the Oregon Bureau of Labor. After a couple of years, he was offered (later cajoled into taking) the position of Supervisor of the Building & Trades Commission for Southwest Oregon. He agreed to try it for one year only, retiring after thirty-five years of covering the entire southwest portion of the state.



Besides being a gardener, electrician, movie actor, and counselor, Ray is an internationally recognized authority on roses, holding membership in the American Rose and foreign Rose Societies. Conventions, rose shows, and county fairs depend on him as a judge and educator. Shore Acres State Park has utilized his knowledge and expertise.

Other than roses, Ray's passion is dogs—BIG DOGS. During his treks into uncharted trails with his dogs, he has had several remarkable, even hair-raising adventures with his faithful pals. One of these adventures was with a tough, armed deputy sheriff out in the middle of some un-posted wilderness; another involved quicksand out in the sand dunes. "The Saga of Barney" is the one about his dog, Barney, disappearing into the brush on the trail of something wild, not returning, not answering calls… and Ray's frantic search into the fast-falling darkness, finally to detect the sound of a faint whimper. Barney had tried to jump a log, didn't make it, and got trapped between the log and a fallen tree, unable to use his legs to get free. Ray found him hanging there and managed to lift the tree and extricate Barney, who could barely stand after that ordeal. Then he had to half-pack Barney all the way through the wilderness in the black of night to the car, where his other companion dog awaited.

Now, with the theater project taking precedence, Ray is a presence wherever and whenever there is a need for a smart, willing worker. And on Farmers' Market day, all the big dogs passing by stop to get a pat and pay their respects. Dogs really can tell!

Upcoming and Ongoing Events

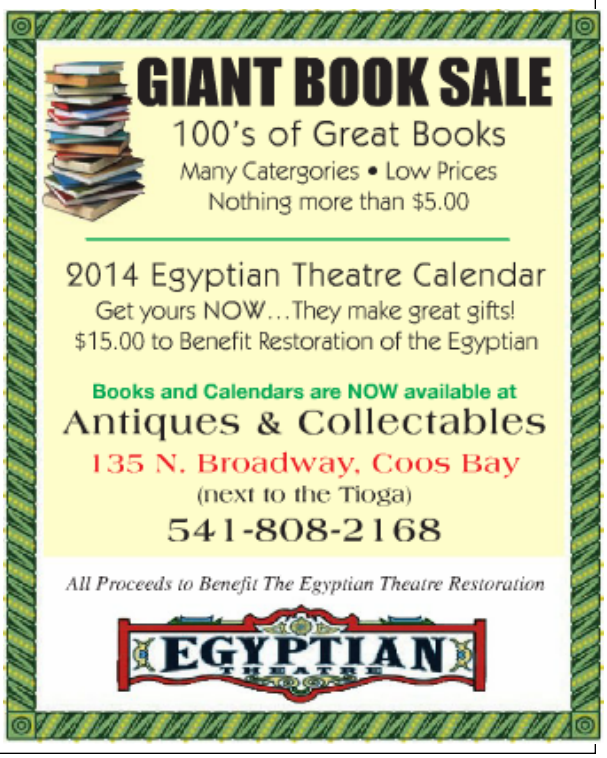
Wednesday Farmer's Market – Help support our efforts to reopen the Egyptian Theatre by stopping by our booth each Wednesday until the end of October. Join Tut's Army by becoming a member of the ETPA, purchase a set of specially engraved Egyptian Theatre wine glasses, or pick out a coffee mug, t-shirt or hoodie to show your support. Rick and the crew will be happy to fill you in on the latest scoop on our target date for reopening!

2014 Egyptian Theatre Calendars Are Here! - Our 2014 Egyptian Theatre calendars are now available for purchase. Watch for them at our booth at the Farmer's Market or at the ETPA office (255 N. Broadway in Coos Bay) during the First Friday Wine Walk and on Saturdays.

Coos Bay Wine Walk – Enjoy piano music and yummy snacks as you join us on the next First Friday Wine Walk on October 4th from 5 p.m. through 7:30 p.m.



This is an excellent time to mingle with friends and support the Egyptian Theatre renovation and reopening at the same time. Did you know that a large portion of the proceeds raised from every Wine Walk go straight to the Egyptian Theatre renovation fund? Come out and "Walk like an Egyptian" on October 4th. Your participation really counts!



Contest Continues: the first 4 people to find this symbol somewhere in the newsletter (other than in this announcement) will win a prize of either an Egyptian mug or etched wine glass. We will award 4 prizes per issue - two to the people who email where the symbol is (page & location on the page) and two to the first people who receive the mailed version of the newsletter and call the office (269-8650) with the information. Leave a message with the date and time you called and a number where we can reach you. Start looking!



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Egyptian Theatre Capital Campaign Fund 2013 Donation

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

_____

o $25.00 o $50.00 o $100.00 o $250.00 o $500 Other _____

Please make your checks payable to "ETPA" and return this form and your donation to ETPA, 255 N Broadway, Coos Bay, OR 97420. If you prefer to make your donation with a credit card, please fill out the information sign and mail.
Thank you!

Circle one: VISA MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ 3 digit Security Code _____

Exp. Date: _____ _Signature__ _____