The Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association Newsletter Holiday Issue 2016

The first days of November highlighted, in a number of ways, the efforts of the ETPA and the community for the on-going restoration of The Egyptian, which turned 91 years old on November 19th. The *Facade Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony* on the 4th was attended by the ETPA board and members, and state and city dignitaries. All enjoyed celebratory cake and joyous Wurlitzer pipe organ music with Paul Quarino.



ED/Mgr Kara Long cuts the ribbon with State Senator Arnie Roblan, Coos Bay Mayor Crystal Shoji, and The Chamber Ambassadors while ETPA Board of Directors, members and supporters look on.

On Sunday, the 6th, The Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association held its *Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members*. Brian Leigh, Paul Quarino, Bill Richardson and Karen Robb were elected to three year terms. Vice President Bill Richardson and Executive Director/Mgr. Kara Long presented PowerPoint overviews of the past year with glimpses toward the future. Laura Fisher, ETPA Board Treasurer reviewed the financials, also with PowerPoint and graphing. Paul Quarino entertained members on the Wurlitzer prior to the 4K showing, free to members, of "*The King and I*."

And, fast forward to Friday, the 11th, Portland, Oregon. The Egyptian Theatre is recognized and the recipient of the 2016 Art DeMuro Award from Restore Oregon.

Congratulations to all -- our wonderful theatre and its wonderful supporters!

Egyptian Wins DeMuro Award

The Egyptian Theatre has been recognized by Restore Oregon with the 2016 DeMuro Award. The DeMuro Award honors extraordinary historic rehabilitation projects and compatible infill development across Oregon – residential and commercial, urban and rural, private and public. The award is named in honor of Art DeMuro whose redevelopment of historic properties such as the White Stag Block set the standard for quality, creativity, persistence, and business acumen.



Lee Littlefield, left, board member of the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association, and MJ Koreiva, Advisory board member for Restore Oregon, recently attended the award ceremony in Portland to receive the honor.



Wurlitzer and Brass



By Judy Snyder

Let the music be heard! This traditional Christmas concert will once again be presented at the Egyptian Theatre. The power of the mighty Wurlitzer Organ will delight those who attend this event. **Lee Littlefield** will evoke the rich sounds offering Christmas music and sing along tunes. The Christmas Brass Ensemble, featuring **Wilbur Jensen**, will add their skill and merriment to the program. This special event will take place at **12:00 noon, Saturday, December 10, 2016.** Jensen and Littlefield have made this melodious concert a holiday tradition for over 40 years.

Concertgoers will enjoy the power and presence of the Wurlitzer, one of a few still in existence that thrilled audiences several decades ago. There has been a tremendous effort to restore this wonderful instrument to its former glory as well as vast improvements to the building. A new marquee has been installed. The City of Coos Bay and many devoted fans have given of their time, energy and money in making these improvements a reality. With Lee Littlefield at the keyboard, the full magnificent, resonating sound and special effects of this instrument are brought to life.

The Christmas Brass will offer memorable traditional holiday music and novelty tunes. Ensemble members include: Wilbur Jensen and Steve Krajcir, trumpet; Nancy Orbison, French horn; Dr. Ted Terry, euphonium; Stephen Simpkins and Ken Masters, trombone; Bill Harsh, tuba; and Tom Beckstrom, percussion.

This is a free concert, donations appreciated, with theater concessions available. Any donations will be applied to the Egyptian Theatre Restoration Fund. Please take time to make this traditional concert part of your holiday plans.



Update on projection room upgrade: In January 2017 we should be installing our new 7.1 Dolby surround sound. With help from our USDA grant we will be getting 8 new amplifiers and 10 new surround speakers to replace the over 20-year-old amps and speakers.

This upgrade will take quite a few volunteers to accomplish as over 3000 feet of new wiring will be also installed with the new speakers. This will be a fun project so we will make sure to post plenty of pictures on our Facebook page for you to see.





The current speakers sit on the floor behind the screen.

All movies and shows subject to change. For the most up to date information check Facebook (Egyptian Theatre Coos Bay) or our website (www.egyptian-theatre.org)

New Board Member Appointed

The ETPA Directors recently filled a one year slot on the Board welcoming Jeremy Conway to its roster. We asked Jeremy to share with us a bit of his background and his thoughts about The Egyptian.

Jeremy Conway, born in Coos Bay, studied lighting design and technical theater at Southern Oregon University in Ashland. After graduation he came back to Coos Bay where he began working with the Egyptian Theater. Like many, the Egyptian represents the most formative memories of his theater going experience and he hopes to help preserve that tradition for generations to come.

His experience includes working with community and school theaters as well as time at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival where he learned how a small theater, with a strong vision, could grow into a robust local and regional attraction that creates unique cultural opportunities within the community.

Jeremy started working with The Egyptian in January of 2015 with a special concert by a renowned local musician. He immediately recognized the potential of the space in serving the community as more than its traditional role of a movie theater and has worked to improve the current function of the space as a multi-purpose entertainment venue.

Fascinated by the idea of bringing modern technology seamlessly into a historic space, his goals for the Egyptian include the renovation of the stage house. This will enable us to safely host a wide array of live performance while protecting the flexible use and historic charm on both sides of the curtain. His current project is putting together a plan to replace the aging fly system so we can once again display the beautiful painted backdrops that are original to the theater.

Invited to serve on the board in October 2016, Jeremy looks forward to being part of our legacy of breathing new life into the jewel of our town.



The Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association
wishes one and all a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
See you at the movies!



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Preservation Association

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