

PONTIAC THEATRE IV



PO Box 431042 Pontiac, MI 48343-1042 WWW.PONTIACTHEATREIV.ORG

By: Steve Cunningham

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered this year and helped make this the most successful year ever at the Michigan Renaissance Festival. The NET profit was \$23,573.05 meaning each group that shared the booth responsibilities received \$11,786.52. I especially want to thank some "superstars", Lisa Whitfield, Fred and Jane Schade, Paul Morkin and Mary Blanch, John Tonner, Mel Case, Debby Shepherd, Steve Smith, Ken and Julie Simpson, Kim Rodman, Nina Thompson, Sue and Jackie Salter, Bruce and Cheryl Toncray, Mike Brody, Bonnie Wells, Leon Pearson, Steve and Sandy Krupa, all of who worked multiple shifts. I know there are many others who worked hard and I am grateful to everyone for their contributions. We did end up, as usual, overstaffed on Saturday morning and understaffed on Saturday afternoon, making Saturday afternoon a bit difficult for everyone. I would ask that next year people try to volunteer for all day Saturday or consider coming out to see the Festival Saturday morning and working in the afternoon. My guess is that the dates for 2008 will be September 20th and 21st, so please try to keep those dates clear. Again, my heartfelt thanks to all who helped make this our most profitable Festival ever.

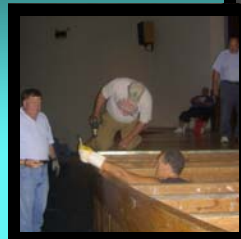


Renaissance Festival

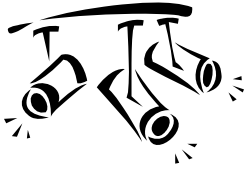
Replacing the Apron

Watch Your Step

There are only a handful of PTIV members who have ever witnessed the complicated removal of the APRON section of the Pontiac Northern stage. Unfortunately, after the high school performed on the stage in the fall and removed the apron for their pit orchestra, the Northern students were unable to rebuild the apron properly, leaving it unsafe for our upcoming performance of Charlotte's Web. Never fear, ever loyal PTIV members Paul Morkin, Bob Sherer, Mary Blanch, Fred Schade, Jim Whitney, John Tonner, Tom Tang, Jim Tang, Don Delaire, Tony Padilla and Scott Muenz worked tirelessly to rebuild and reset the huge, ancient, heavy, rickety stage area and restore it to its original glory. Don't try this at home! Thanks to all the set builders.



These people are amazing!



Behind the Scenes

The Peterson Center

We did it! After months and months of negotiations with an endless number of city representatives, The Peterson Center has finally agreed to give us more space. We have been offered three more rooms at the Center to use at our discretion. First on the list of "Must happen quick" is the expansion of the costume space. At the moment, one cannot even open the door to the costume closet, not to mention *enter* the closet without first cajoling two or three rickety costume racks out of the tiny room. We now have a much larger space available which is on the Stage Left side of the stage in the large common room. We also have a nice size room next to the Center's current offices which we intend to use as our very own PTIV theatre office with plans to eventually install a dedicated PTIV phone line and computer. The third room is another "office-sized" room that will be used as a meeting room for PTIV business. Things are looking up! Thanks to **Carl Tenuta** and **Monica Hirn** for their relentless pursuit of this project.

Carl Tenuta (240-7201) will be organizing a group to clean and set up the two office rooms and **Lori Curran** (683-0774) will be organizing the set up of the new costume space. Please contact them directly if you would like to help.

Charlottes Web

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the wildly successful performances of *Charlotte's Web*. Due to unavoidable scheduling issues, several of the main roles had to be performed with understudies who were expected to memorize double parts consisting of an unbelievable amount of lines and blocking. The young understudies were amazing and the audiences enjoyed the "terrific" costumes and



"radiant" rendition of this classic story. Thanks go out to **Fred and Jane Schade** for conceiving and creating the amazing "writing" web, as well as to **Robert Tonner** for having his New York staff make all of the different sized "Wilbur" costumes in just two days. We also send a "great job" *shout out* to **Mary Morgan**, first time costume director, **Monica Hirn**, first time Stage Manager and **John Muenz** and **Surai Stankiewicz**, first time Producers. Many thanks also to the many people who helped with costumes and set building, too numerous to name, but never underappreciated. As usual, the kids and adults in the show loved working with Director **John Tonner** and tears were flowing at the cast party with the emotional conclusion of the show's run. That's the sign of a great production and is the proud signature of PTIV shows.

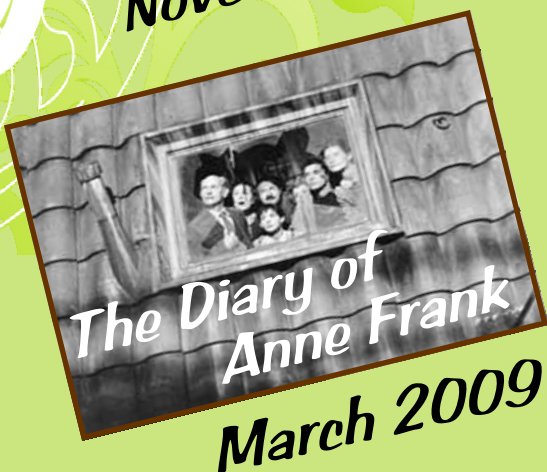
Lifetime membership Award

It was with great respect and appreciation that **John Tonner** presented **Bob Kamiskis** with a Lifetime Membership Award. Bob was first



seen on the PTIV stage in 1975 in "*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Forum*". He graciously accepted the award during the *Charlotte's Web* Green Room as the cast enjoyed his amusing recollections of the old days in the theater and his eventful time spent acting in films in Hollywood. He shared a priceless scrapbook with cast members and crew backstage that held a treasury of playbills and newspaper clippings that chronicled his very full career on the stage. Congratulations to Bob and his lovely wife, Joanne.

ANNOUNCING THE
2008-2009 Season



PLUS...

Big Musical presented in MAY
to be announced as soon
as show rights are confirmed

If you are interested in Directing one of these shows, please contact a PTIV Board Member.

Please note that "Aladdin and his Wonderful , Magical Lamp" will be PTIV's first YOUTH SHOW, meaning that Student positions for Director, Producer and Stage Manager will be selected from a pool of qualified High School student candidates. Youth Production Staff will be mentored and supervised by a full Adult Production staff. High School students who are interested in applying for Student Production Staff positions for "Aladdin" must contact a PTIV Board Member.

See Web Site for Contact information. WWW.PontiacTheatreIV.org



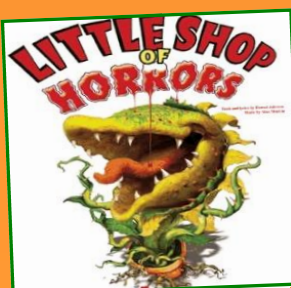
The Complete History of America -Abridged

Congratulations to Director, **AmandaJane Schade** on her 2nd successful "Abridged" show. The Complete History of America —Abridged, starring that famous set of Three, Mac Shaw, Phil Cuthbertson and Dwaine Estes, follows last year's equally hilarious presentation of "The Complete Works of Shakespeare—Abridged" AJ and the guys seem to have hit on something big! PTIV has discovered that there is a loyal following of "Abridged" fans eager to see more...and there is more. AJ is entertaining the notion of bringing more from the series of "Abridged" shows to our stage which include topics such as "The complete history of Hollywood Movies—Abridged", "The Bible, The Complete Word of God —Abridged" and the list goes on. If you want to see more of the Abridged series with AJ & the Guys, send her an e-mail at: SchadeAJ@yahoo.com

40 by IV

Thank You **John Tonner** and **Scottie Moilanen** for putting together a superb show featuring so many of PTIV's talented musicians and actors. John Tirelessly tracked down past PTIV members to invite them to reprise their singing roles from the last 40 PTIV seasons. He also showcased the talent of some of our newer members at a beautiful dinner theater event hosted by All Saints Church.

Many thanks to **Gail Hunger, Jack Hunger, Nancy Hunger, Paul Morkin, Mary Blanch, Steve Cunningham, John Muenz, Maria Delgado, Janet Jimenez** and all of the performers who helped make this event a magnificent success.



Come and See....and Be Entertained!!!

Come and see this amazing show directed by **Steve Cunningham** with Music Director **Scottie Moilanen**, promising incredible and terrifying special effects. Show dates: May 9, 10 and 16, 17 at Lincoln Middle School, 131 Hillside Pontiac, 48342 (at the corner of Montcalm and Summit) The words "Feed me, Seymour." will haunt you for weeks not to mention, you'll NEVER want to go to the dentist again!. Questions... check the website or call Producer, **Monica Hirn** (248)-877-6264



The Complete History of America - abridged



Photos by:
Craig Julien
AmandaJane Schade
Tom Tang

Charlotte's Web

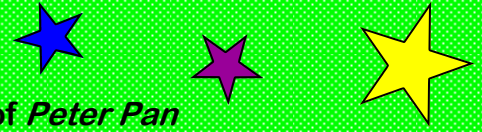


PTIV Superstar Kids and Teens

Chris Brody — selected for All State Choir

John Muenz — cast as “Captain Hook” in his school production of *Peter Pan*

Shayla Curran — cast as “Cecily” in *The Importance of being Earnest* at Starlight Theater



Italian words to live by....

Tutto E Possibile

(Anything is Possible)

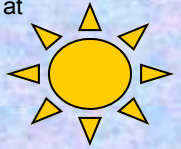
News & Info!

If you would like your news announced in future newsletters, you may contact us at :
Monihirn@aol.com or by mail to PTIV P.O. Box 431042, Pontiac, MI 48343-1042

GOOD LUCK JIM

It is with a sad heart that we say goodbye to **Jim Whitney**, as he leaves PTIV and Michigan to accept a great job in Fargo, North Dakota. Apparently, he prefers a more TROPICAL climate than what we have here in Michigan. Jim has served PTIV as Board President for several terms and has shared with our group his tremendous theater experience and great insights as an actor, a master set builder and a terrific singer. Vice President **Monica Hirn**, Jim 's biggest fan, has stepped into his office as President until the end of this term in August. Remember, elections will be held at the annual membership meeting in August (date TBA) Anyone interested in running for a position on the PTIV Board of Directors should contact secretary **Janet Jimenez** at ponttheatreivsecretary@gmail.com

We'll miss you Jim and Cheryl
keep warm and keep in touch



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