



The Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association Newsletter August - September 2014

What's Been Happening? by Greg Rueger, ETPA Board President

What a GRAND Grand Re-Opening we enjoyed! We opened right on schedule (even though some construction was proceeding right up to the afternoon of our re-opening) — quite a significant accomplishment when you consider all that was involved. Many, many people of all ages attended our series of re-opening events — well over a thousand patrons once again entered our wondrous historical theatre, enjoyed hearing Paul Quarino and Lee Littlefield play the mighty Wurlitzer organ, watched some great movies on the “big screen,” tasted Kara’s “imported” popcorn and just plain had a good time. Coos Bay’s 1925 Egyptian Theatre is alive and kicking and ready to begin its second 90 years of entertaining our community!



As *The World* stated in their June 21 editorial: “The rebirth of the Egyptian is an example of what good can happen when a community comes together with a common cause. The public-private partnership between the city and the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association (*us!*) became a model. The thousands of volunteer hours devoted by residents was remarkable. The months and years of planning, hard work and sweat was immense. The creativity in securing funding for the project was impressive.” (*More than a million dollars was raised!*).

There are so many people and organizations who made this possible. Mayor Crystal Shoji, City Manager Rodger Craddock and the City of Coos Bay were among the first to step up and insist that the grand old theatre would not be abandoned. Then a number of concerned citizens banded together to begin the fund-raising efforts that would be pivotal in saving the Egyptian. They were joined by myriad volunteers who all had one thing in common: a love of the historic theatre and the determination to see it operating once again. The board was successful in acquiring grants from many generous foundations and organizations. Added to all those were the many businesses, families and individual supporters from the greater South Coast community, who made donations, contributed at fund-raising events, dedicated theatre seats and tiles in front of the theatre, and pitched in during construction and readying the Egyptian for its special re-opening. I wish to offer a special thank you to Randy Dixon, our city’s incomparable construction project manager; DLB Construction and many other local contractors who worked on our project; Banner Bank, which funded much of our grand re-opening festivities; and you, our ETPA members — who stuck with us through thick and thin to reach our re-opening.

Our first month of re-invigorated programming is almost behind us as I write this. Under Kara’s guidance, we have enjoyed a great re-start. The crowds at events like our *Mamma Mia*: sing-along pajama party, the concert given by the 234th Army Band, the beer and movie night featuring 7 Devils brews, and *Jaws* were impressive. More happy, happy faces. Just what we want to see! And the support for our Saturday children’s program from local businesses and organizations including Les Schwab, the Coach House, 7 Devils Brewing, the Coos Bay Lions Club and Southwest Physical Therapy/John Breuer Rehab has been superb.

Our future newsletters will be more oriented toward events at the Egyptian and will be spearheaded by articles from our Executive Director/Theatre Manager Kara Long. I will write occasionally to keep you informed about further restoration. We need to raise a little more than \$100,000 (a drop in the bucket after what we have already accomplished!) to finish the restoration of the Egyptian’s facade. Though selling quickly during our Grand Re-Opening, we still have seats and sidewalk tiles available. Come on down to YOUR Egyptian and help us complete our next phase of restoration! Your support is the key to our continued success.

And now on to Kara and our upcoming programming!

From the Director's Chair by Kara Long, Executive Director Attendance has been great!!

We kicked off many new event movies and brought back some events that had missed being in the Egyptian Theatre since our grand re-opening weekend.

We kicked it right into gear with our PJ Party, Sing-A-Long with *Mamma Mia*. Just shy of 200 patrons came to sing and dance and well more than 60-70% of us had our PJ's on! We had a conga line in the theatre during "Dancing Queen" and again during the end credits.

Families have been enjoying bringing the children and grandchildren back to see the classics they saw as kids or took their now-adult children to. *E. T. The Extra-Terrestrial* and *Jaws* both drew nearly 200 patrons each to enjoy these summer hits of the past on the big screen.

August will bring other hits, including *Back to the Future*, *The Sound of Music* and more. Check out our schedule of events and come join the fun. Remember to tell us you are a member at the box office and you will save \$1 off Adult and Senior and \$0.50 off children's admission.

See you at the movies.

Beer & Movie Night - blow the froth off a few and give to our Community too

July 17, 2014, launched the much-anticipated Beer & Movie Night at the Egyptian Theatre. More than 150 people poured into the Egyptian to see the comedy *The Hangover* and enjoy locally made beer by 7 Devils Brewing Co.

The night was full of happy people laughing and enjoying Beer Culture. Beer lovers love other beer lovers. The evening was such a success we have already planned the next one for August 28th with 7 Devils Brewing Co. We will show the comedy cult classic *Office Space*.



The evening was made even sweeter when Annie and Carmen, owners of 7 Devils, gave us \$830 back from their share of the beer money. Of the evening and their generous contribution, they said, "This is exactly why we built in Downtown Coos Bay and exactly what we hoped the re-opening of the Egyptian Theatre would be."

I was humbled by their gesture; their donation will allow us to show 3 Saturday Family Movies at no cost to the Egyptian.

So beer converts into Saturday Family Movies which converts into donations for the community. It does not get much better than that. I am so proud to be a part of this amazing community.

Giving back to the Community one movie at a time

July 12, 2014, we launched our Saturday Family Movie program. This program is designed to offer Family Movies on Saturday mornings at 11:00 and give back to the community by collecting donations for local charities instead of admission.

With our first movie, we collected 102 pounds of food and \$35 cash -- which converts into 245 pounds of food for families for Oregon Coast Community Action's South Coast Food Share. Deborah Ross, the Development Director of ORCCA, was thrilled. She said, "Oregon Coast Community Action (ORCCA) is thrilled to be partnered with the Egyptian Theatre for upcoming fund-raising events and community outreach weekends. Your support affords us the opportunity to assist more families in our community who are struggling with poverty and hunger."

Another partnership we have formed is with Bay Area Hospital. We collected items for their Kid's Hope Center at the July 26th screening of *The Princess Bride*. We can help children who are experiencing scary times in their lives with comfort items like a new toy, new book or some crayons and coloring books.

We are planning many more events to feature ORCCA's services to our community. Future collection items will give back to the following ORCCA Programs: South Coast Head Start program, by collecting school supplies; Helping Pans Kitchen Cupboard, kitchen items; and CASA of Coos County, by collecting new toys, coloring books and crayons.

We will be collecting for animal shelters and charities who give baby showers for mothers who need new items for their babies, and many more.



August Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Wine Walk 5-7 p.m.	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (1990) Dress as your favorite Superhero
					Sideways (R) 7:30p.m.	
				7	8	11:00a.m.
3						
Bringing Up Baby (G) 1938				Teen Idol 6:00p.m.	Sound of Music (G) 1965	
2:00p.m.					7:00p.m.	
10				14	15	16
Sound of Music (G) 1965				Teen Idol 6:00p.m.	Back To The Future (PG) 1985	Back To The Future (PG) 1985
2:00p.m.					7:30p.m.	11:00a.m.
17					22	23
Breakfast at Tiffany's 1961					The Blues Brothers (R) 1980	Self Guided Tours 10a.m.- 5p.m.
2:00p.m.					7:30p.m.	Rain Location for Teen Idol 2:00 p.m.
24				28	29	30
Self Guided Tours 10a.m.- 4p.m.				7 Devils Brewing Co. presents Beer and Movie Night Office Space (R) 1999 7:00 p.m.	Close Encounters of the Third Kind (PG) 1977	Grease Sing-A-Long (PG-13) 1978
					7:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.

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