

Formerly known as The Puppet Guild of Greater Miami, The Puppet Guild of South Florida was chartered by the Puppeteers of America in 1965 for the purpose of promoting the various aspects of puppetry. Membership is open to anyone interested in puppetry arts.

2003-2004 Board of Directors
 President Dave Goboff
 Vice Pres Nancy McLane
 Secretary Bob McLane
 Treasurer Marty Werman

Other Board/Staff Members
 Board Judy Werman
 Board, Newsletter .. Rick Moss
 Historian Wayne Hampton

Annual Dues
 Individual\$12
 Family or Group\$17

Membership privileges include opportunities to attend special workshops in all aspects and styles of puppetry, as well as notification of performances by talented local and national puppeteers. Join today and start networking with experts in numerous areas of puppetry eager to share their experience with you.

The Puppet Guild of South Florida is pleased to send you
THE PUPPET-GRAM
 Soon to be a major motion picture starring Abe Vigoda as The Jester

APRIL 2004

The Puppet Guild of South Florida Celebrates The 2004 National Day of Puppetry at Museum of Art

by *Dave Goboff*

On Saturday April 17, 2004 The Puppet Guild of South Florida once again partnered with The Museum of Art in Fort Lauderdale for our National Day of Puppetry event. The Goboff family presented their original show, *Yeh Shen, a Chinese Cinderella Story*, to an audience of about 70 kids and parents.

It was a big hit, especially since Lauren Goboff is a member of the Brownie Troop that made up almost a third of the audience. They came to earn their Try It badge in Puppetry.

Immediately after the show everybody went up to the classroom in the museum to make some puppets! The Guild was represented by Nancy and Bob McLane, Dave, Debbie, and Lauren Goboff, and Ellen Weiner. They, together with the museum staff, docents and volunteers, helped the Brownies and

the rest of the kids and parents construct paper finger puppets, paper lunch bag marionettes and a jointed frog shadow puppet. All the girls were able to earn their Try It badge by seeing the puppet show and making all three different kinds of puppets! After the puppets were completed there were two stages, set up by the guild, where the new puppets could give their first performances.



NDOP logo © 2000, Kevin Hedgpeth

Everybody was invited to have refreshments (cookies, pretzels and drinks) provided by the museum. The museum docents were also available to lead guided tours of the exhibits. It was a wonderful day for everybody! We are very fortunate to have a great working relationship with Fran Mulcahy and Lyn Kurpiewski from the Museum's Education department. We thank them very much for helping us celebrate this year's National Day of Puppetry!

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The Adventures of the Dirk Steele, Puppet Detective

A friend pointed me in the direction of the dame to beat all dames, the 2004 Southeast Regional Puppet Festival's PuppetsOnTheRidge.com website.

She had the layout that I wanted to see more of, so I went to visit her last night. She used all the right words, but something made me suspicious. She seemed to be hiding something from me like only a web dame can. It was hard to determine what was wrong. Maybe if it weren't for all the fog thrown into these film noir pieces, I could have seen more clearly.

I was getting tired of her game, so I started to leave. It was just then

that she invited me to stay. She said she could get me a special rate at the local hotel. I could stay there for \$99 bucks a night if I mentioned she sent me and asked for her special 2004 festival rate.

I knew she was lying. I could see it in her eyes and hear it in her trembling voice. I checked it out myself. It turned out that by NOT mentioning that I wanted the special rate, I was able to book the same room for only \$79.

Hey, it is really me, Rick. If you are attending the festival, **do not request the special rate.** Just ask for the regular rate and save \$20 a night on a room with 1 or 2 beds.



Dirk Steele is a professional puppet detective in South Florida and is frequently called in to assist puppet police nationwide.

The Latest (non hotel) News from the Asheville Festival.



Puppets on the Ridge

The schedule for both the workshops and the performances is complete and will be available on the PuppetsOnTheRidge.com website soon. (always subject to change).

They have added four more shows Renaissance Puppet Theatre Artists (Pennsylvania) will be performing *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

Blue Rose Moon (Pennsylvania) performing two Appalachian Tales.

Barefoot Puppets / Heidi Rugg (DC area) *Galapagos George*.

Angela Beasley's Puppet People will participate in the parade and be the MC/Cabaret performers for the banquet.

The second registration packet went out two weeks ago, so if you still have not registered, NOW is the time. Priority sign up will begin in May for Workshops and Saturday performances. The early you register for the festival, the better chance at the workshops and Saturday shows that you want. We will be posting the Saturday schedule on the website soon.

PUPPET NIGHTMARES. Start writing down your scariest, most humiliating experiences in the Puppet World. We will be sharing them in a late night experience.... You can email them to Lisa Sturz <redherring@brwm.org> or Drew Allison <drew@greysealpuppets.com>.

Week of Puppetry Held at Sugar Sand Park in Boca Raton

On March 21st, Sugar Sand Park in Boca Raton held a magnificent day of puppetry-related events as part of its spring break week of puppetry fun for the kids in the area. Tents were set up outdoors for face painting, performances, food, and fun. Inside, additional performances were held, along with workshops including our guild's Make It and Take It Puppet Workshop.



and wood stage that Dave Goboff brought.

This activity went on for four hours from noon until (well, let's see... noon plus four equals four so...) 4:00 PM. You would think that adults could work four hours without eating, but you would be wrong. Everyone had to eat, so Dave

The puppets start as paper folded lengthwise in three, then folded into four panels like a "W" (though some people chose to instead to fold the paper like an "M"). That piece forms the head. At the next table, the children could cut out a face to add on top. Continuing down the line, the children picked up wiggle eyes or sticker eyes, foam pieces, feathers, pom poms, and more paper to form the facial features. With all the pieces in hand (or on a plate), the final tables were devoted to gluing the pieces together. Completed puppets performed using an ingenious little cardboard

brought doughnuts, snack chips, and bananas, but Ronni and Rick chose instead to eat the Aleene's Tacky Glue. This stuff is NOT just a thick version of Elmer's. It is **VERY** different, and bold capital letters are just not enough when saying how **HORRIBLY BITTER** it tasted. **OH MY GOSH!**

While we played with the children inside, Jane Stratten was performing outside. Throughout the week, several members of our guild went back to teach workshops as well as perform. We were told that if the project is successful, it might become an annual event. It certainly seemed successful, so if you missed it, you might get lucky and get another chance next year.



Pictured clockwise from upper left: Some puppets and kids. Not shown but in attendance: Bob & Nancy McLane, Marty & Judy Werman (and Judy's mother), Bob Nathanson & Elise Handelman, Ronni Gerstel, Rick Moss, Dave Goboff, Wayne Hampton, & Dorothy Richter.

Puppet Fest 2005: They Are Allowing Us An Early Sneak Peek!

The next national festival of the Puppeteers of America will be an event not to be missed. Make your plans today to spend **July 24 – 30, 2005** in **St. Paul, Minnesota**. The facilities of Concordia University and the Four Points Sheraton hotel provide unique opportunities for this festival. You can choose to stay in a dorm room or a hotel room.

The modern and well-maintained facilities on Concordia's compact campus will be wonderful settings for the workshops, exhibit, store and especially the performances. A state of the art theater with perfect puppetry sight lines and a comfortable, acoustically marvelous concert hall will host some of puppetry's finest national and international performers.

Because of limited theater seating, we can accept a **maximum of 600 registrants**. Reserve your spot today. **A no risk deposit of \$150 will hold your place**. Deposits are fully refundable until January 1, 2005.

Now is also the time to apply to perform or present a workshop.

The performance application deadline is September 1, 2004. Workshop applications are due October 1, 2004. Mark your calendar or, better yet, apply today. Registration, workshop and performance forms are available for download on the festival website, www.PuppetFest2005.org.

If you have suggestions or questions, feel free to contact any of the festival staff listed below. We hope to see you at Puppet Fest 2005.

Kurt Hunter, Festival Director

Puppet Fest 2005 Contact Info:

Kurt Hunter, Festival Director
Puppet Fest 2005
5918 W. 39th St.
St. Louis Park, MN 55416-2840
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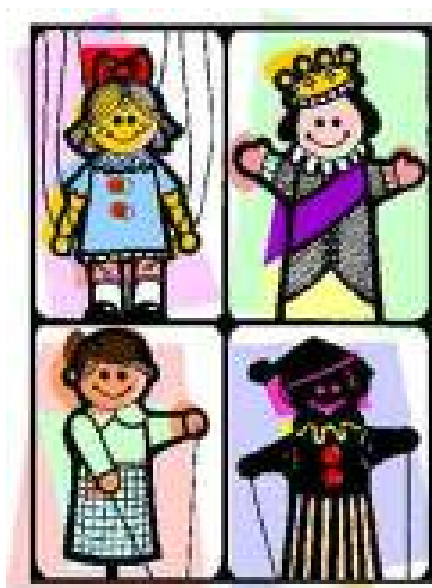
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The Latest News From PuppetFest MidWest: The Other Festival



A few of our guild members went to last year's PuppetFest MidWest and reported back that they had a great time. We just received an update about this year's event to pass along to our guild members.

Debbie Lutzky Allen reports that they have added another intensive workshop to this year's list.

"MARIONETTE DESIGN ON PAPER," led by Phillip Huber, will cover the basics of marionette design including body structure, jointing and stringing. Take your concept for your marionette character from initial idea and

mental visualization to a complete drafted drawing with patterns. PuppetFest MidWest (held this year from July 13-18, 2004 in Trenton, Missouri) is an independent annual puppetry festival that is presented, organized and financially supported by puppeteers as a gift to other puppeteers in the hope that it will inspire, strengthen and renew our commitment to Puppet Theatre. Contact information: PuppetFest MidWest Directors, Peter Allen & Debbie Lutzky Allen PO Box 14, Jamesport, MO 64648, Phone (660) 684-6825, online at puppetfestival.org



News and Announcements From Around the Guild And Country

Upcoming Guild Activities

Sunday, May 30, 2:00PM:

Afternoon meeting at Dave Goboff's house in Weston. Bring something to eat. We will do some exploring and playing with overhead projectors (to be supplied by Dave). Bring a cutting mat, scissors, a razor, permanent markers, gels, materials with interesting textures to try on the overheads, a simple scene or story, straws, tape, bamboo skewers and whatever else you can think of. Don't forget to bring your (completed) wooden puppet Nancy McLane gave you at Ronni's house.

Please RSVP so we can get a head count. Dave reports he might even preview a show if he has one in progress at that point.

1128 Hidden Valley Way
Weston, FL 33327
(954) 385-9414

Thursday, June 24 (tentative):

Video night in the SW Regional Library in Pembroke Pines. Video choices are still open to suggestions. More details to follow.

Southwest Regional Library
16835 Sheridan Street,
Pembroke Pines, FL 33331
954-538-9996

From I-95:

Exit Sheridan Street west
Go west on Sheridan Street past I-75; Entrance to library will be on the north right-hand) side of the street

From I-595 (heading west):

Exit on I-75 heading South
Exit Sheridan Street
Go west on Sheridan Street;
Entrance to Library will be on north (right-hand) side of the street.

Again please RSVP.

Extra Extra! 2005 Festival Scholarships Available!

Did I fool you into thinking that there are 2005 available scholarships? Sorry, this is just some news sent to us from Aretta Baumgartner about scholarships for the 2005 festival.

Youth and adult scholarships are available for the 2005 Puppeteers of America, Inc., National Festival to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota (Concordia University) July 24 through 30, 2005. Deadline for completed applications is February 1, 2005. For information and/or application, please contact:

Aretta Baumgartner, P of A Scholarship Committee at 5097 Sumter Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45238-3824 • 513-471-2579 • hensonfan@fuse.net

A New Regional Director Is Crowned In Southeast

At the 2003 National Festival in Tahlequah, there was a vacancy in the position of Southeast Regional Director. Many people tried to recruit Ben Sneed, though he was a little reluctant. It all worked out when Toni Turbeville stepped up and volunteered, but she recently resigned, prompting a search for a replacement.

right, we went right back to Ben Sneed. He could run, but he could not hide.

The Puppet Guild of South Florida congratulates Ben Sneed on his appointment to the position of Southeast Regional Director.

Learn more about Ben on his website, located at:
<http://www.benandkeeters.com>.

Any guesses who we got? That's

Message From Rick Moss

Do you have news of upcoming or recent events? Let us know. All articles not otherwise noted are written by Rick Moss. It could be a better newsletter if some articles had YOUR name on them, so send us some news!

Email your news to guildnews@puppetlove.com or call Rick at (954)917-5452, which is a toll free call from anywhere in Rick's neighborhood.

Dave Goboff Says...

**This is YOUR guild.
Make something
happen.**



For the latest scoop on events, membership lists, and all things guild related, visit us online at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PGSF>