

The A & E Marquee
Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the
Arts and Entertainment Newsletter

June 2006

“2,006 in 2006”

Where We Came From – Where We Are Going

Our efforts began back in the twentieth century with a dozen people interested in the Arts, meeting eight or nine times a year in the offices of the Chamber of Commerce. By 2001, this ad hoc group found a focus and started dreaming about a cultural center that would meet the needs of a variety of artists in the area. As a result of the excitement generated by a report about a Turntable Divisible Auditorium in an arts venue in Chandler, Arizona, it was determined that we should try to form a non-profit foundation.

Twenty art enthusiasts attended a meeting in the home of Joan and Glenn Grube in January 2004 and thirteen agreed to serve as directors of this newly formed organization. They filed for non-profit status to the State of Florida, receiving approval in April 2004. They then began to clarify the mission, goals and strategic plans of the organization they called The Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment, Inc.

By the time we made our presentation to the Palm Coast City Council in January 2005, we were 39 members strong, including 16 Trustees.

Our initial fundraiser and membership recruiting event, **“Let’s Begin With a Toast”**, brought us more than 100 members. Two more successful events – **“Midsummer Night’s Dream With Us”** followed by **“Bagels and Brunch With a Broadway Beat”** – in conjunction with multiple presentations, brought us another 300 members. A mass mailing to potential members and follow-ups by our members brought our Founding Membership to 865 by the end of the year. We now have added just over 135 Supporting Members with our total now exceeding 1,000.

“2,006 in 2006”

Our goal is to recruit 2006 additional members by the end of this year. Campaign materials are included in this mailing to every member of the Foundation. We have opened membership to students, believing that they have a long-range vested interest in joining with us to realize our dream of building a world class A&E Center. If each and every present member of the Foundation commits to getting just three new members to join we will far exceed our goal of a membership of 3,000 by the end of this year.

Foundation Supports Local Artists and Entertainers

Will Wight FPCHS Reporter

Seeking better venues in which to display their talents, local artists and entertainers in Flagler County have found an aid to publicity through the Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment. An organization dedicated to preserving the arts in Flagler County, the Foundation will provide assistance to local artists. Its motto is ***“Our efforts on behalf of artists and entertainers will enrich our todays and enhance our tomorrows.”*** To date, the events sponsored by the Arts and Entertainment Center have featured many of our local artists and entertainers.

Aside from sponsoring events, the PCFFAE has also supported the Flagler County Art League by donating prize money to a student art exhibit and has also aided in the League’s search for a home. By mentioning the Art League’s need to Superintendent of Schools Bill Delbrugge, the Foundation set in motion events that led to the Art League’s new temporary home in Matanzas High School.

The Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment has proven that it is willing and able to fill a need in local life and enrich Flagler County in the process.

Turntable Theater Provides Flexibility

By Ian Kochevar FPCHS Report

The new multi-million dollar development of Town Center at Palm Coast is a brilliant idea. The Arts and Entertainment Foundation plans to fund, build, staff, and operate a much needed Center for the Arts and Entertainment in this development. An important piece of this Center will be a theater with a turntable divisible auditorium (TDA) that has the capacity to have three theaters within the same auditorium space.

The flexible seating and multiple stages of the new theater are its key features, especially considering the flexibility in the sizes of audiences. The main theater will be able to host such masterpieces as *Les Miserables*, with its huge cast, crew and staging requirements, and even larger performances. The uniqueness of the performing space is that it can also be turned into three separate soundproof venues. The seating for these three venues, each with its own stage, can, however, be linked in a way that allows for the largest audience and performance space in the main theater. The unique design allows for multiple performances and activities to be happening at the same time in three separate areas. For instance, a musical could be blazing on the main stage, while on a smaller stage, a string quartet or a foreign film followed by a discussion could be taking place. A community meeting or another performance could be happening in the other small theater.



Model

The Center will have the capability of realizing revenue that not only covers operating expenses, but also supports and provides gallery, office and performance space for the various arts organizations in our area. The theater, display, and workshop spaces will be available for use by both professional and local organizations. The resulting revenue will support all arts for many years.

Arts & Entertainment Foundation Welcomes 1,000th Member

The Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment, Inc. enrolled its 1,000th member, furthering the strong community and area support that has been demonstrated since the non-profit organization was founded.



Beth Corello of Palm Coast contributed her twenty dollars for a Supporting Membership in the Foundation after listening to a presentation given to the Cypress Knoll Neighborhood Association by Glenn Grube and his wife Joan. Beth's husband, Charlie, also joined and became the 1,001st Member.

Beth stated *“Having a local Arts and Entertainment venue is a superb idea! I look forward to the opening of the Center. I really got excited when Joan emphasized the inclusion of a Children’s Center which is so vitally important for the balance needed in every child’s education. Both Charlie and I elected to build in Palm Coast because we wanted to live in a community where there are children whose everyday energies and enthusiasm add to the enjoyment of life. We cannot donate tens of thousands of dollars to help fulfill the dream, but we will certainly give what we can to ensure the success of the Foundation.”*

This membership milestone provides the impetus for the Foundation’s campaign, **“2,006 in 2006”**. The leaders of the Foundation expect to have three thousand members by the end of this year. Every present member is being challenged to recruit at least three new members in 2006. Members are encouraged to arrange to have speakers from the Foundation make presentations at meetings of any organization to which they belong. “Coffee ands” hosted by members in their homes or community clubhouses for friends, relatives and neighbors are also being scheduled as host volunteers step forward.

For additional information about the Foundation for Arts and Entertainment and its Membership Campaign, contact Joseph Ganci at 446-2288 or visit its website at

www.pcffoundationarts-ent.org.

Say Hello To Our A & E Ambassadors

It goes without saying that each and every member of our Foundation is one of our unofficial ambassadors. We count on all of them to encourage friends and neighbors to share the Foundation's vision. Judging by the steady growth of our membership, many of our supportive members are outstanding ambassadors.

Recently, however, the Foundation has organized a more structured Corps of Ambassadors to represent the Foundation at all arts-related public events and many community activities. A number of our Trustees, Associates and General Members have been doing this all along, appearing at July 4th events in Flagler Beach, Center Stage Concerts at DBCC and other venues. Many others have already volunteered to serve as Ambassadors. We are now about to expand our presence in the community and Flagler County area. Our new team of Ambassadors will be an integral part of our membership outreach program as they provide information about the activities and plans of the Foundation and welcome new members.

One of our enthusiastic Associates, **Muriel Deosarran**, is the Coordinator of the Ambassadors Corps. She will establish a schedule of events at which members of her Team of Ambassadors will distribute Foundation literature (i.e. membership applications, newsletters, brochures, Legacy Donor Opportunities, overviews) and to answer questions regarding the mission, plans and

timelines of the Foundation. A tour of duty is usually no longer than two hours. Becoming an Ambassador provides a great opportunity for some of our newer members to get involved with the inner workings of our organization. More than a dozen Trustees, Associates and General Members have already volunteered. If you like to talk to people, why not join the team?

T-shirts are being designed to be worn at an event, which will allow the Ambassadors to "stand out in the crowd". Just as the Town Center at Palm Coast is being proclaimed as the heart of the City, our Foundation needs to be a presence, a real face and focus in our community. Our Ambassadors will put a face to who we are and where we are going.

If you would like to join our Arts and Entertainment Corps of Ambassadors or if you are connected to an event that would allow our Ambassadors to appear, please contact Muriel at (386) 437-4149 or Joan Grube at (386) 437-9715.

We sincerely hope that the next time you see our Ambassadors at an event, you will walk up to them, say hello and introduce yourself as a current or potential member of the Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment. We promise you will meet some very special and devoted people.

Future Events

Foundation members are busy making plans for end of the year and next year events. One option being considered is a country western themed party, "Poolside Jamboree," at the Frieda Zamba pool. For 2007 "Picnic and Pops," an outdoor symphonic pops combined with a picnic is being considered. On a bit more upscale mode, the Foundation is planning "**The Crystal Ball**" for January 27, 2007. This will be at Le Club de Bonmont at Plantation Bay. See our website for further information.

Secretary Glenn Grube also announced the following meetings of the Foundation's Board of Trustees:

Wednesday, July 26, 2006 – Updates on activities and accomplishments of the Foundation and Nominations for Trustees for 2007 – 2010

Wednesday, September 27, 2006 – Further updates and election of Trustees for 2007 – 2010

All general meetings begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Education Wing at the Florida Hospital, Flagler on Route 100.

These meetings are open to all members of the Foundation and the general public. Agendas are available to the general public at the meeting or by request to the Secretary (437-9715).

Any person interested in learning more about the exciting plans and activities of the Foundation and becoming a Supporting Member (annual dues of \$20/person) is encouraged to attend one or more of these meetings or go to the Foundation website www.pcffoundationarts-ent.org.

The Foundation Spotlights Volunteer Shirley Dunwoody

Christle Rafool FPCHS Reporter

For the dreams of the PCFFAE to become a reality thousands of volunteers are required. There are many talented artists among those volunteers. As a regular feature of this newsletter we would like to spotlight some of these wonderful people who give so generously of their time and talents. For this issue, we have chosen storyteller Shirley Dunwoody.



Shirley, dressed in her array of stylish hats and brightly colored garments, travels with her fluffy companion, Forget-Me-Not, throughout the community teaching character education through story telling. Since 1999 she has captivated the hearts of young and old listeners alike with her own delightful style of storytelling. She admits that singing is her first love, and she now weaves it into many of her skits. Along with her stuffed companions, she teaches character attributes such as honesty, respect, integrity and tolerance.

Shirley's many seafaring adventures and travels led her to Palm Coast in 1995. Shortly after her arrival, she began helping with the Boy Scouts of America and after much encouragement, began her storytelling career. In addition to storytelling in Flagler's schools, she also spins her tales for local groups, churches and festivals. "Most of my stories are for the heart and designed to make people feel good," she says.

This Arts and Entertainment Center is dear to Shirley because she loves the Arts, but more importantly, she says, "The 'performing arts' is a way for young people to overcome fears such as public speaking and stage fright." She provides workshops on character education storytelling for anyone who has an interest.

In addition to Shirley's volunteering to help the arts, she is an active member of two local storytelling groups; The Sandcastle Story Tellers in Daytona Beach and the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine. She also serves as a state officer for the Florida Storytelling Association. Shirley hopes her future includes more workshops and maybe even a grant to allow her to do her storytelling statewide.



Foundation Appointments

By Stephanie Salkin

Thomas Corum has been appointed First Vice President of the Palm Coast Flagler Foundation for Arts & Entertainment (PCFFAE). A retired corporate attorney and past president of the International Trademark Association, Corum currently chairs the investment committee of the Foundation. A Founding member and Trustee, Corum is one of the Foundation's major benefactors. (See accompanying article on recent donations.)

"I hope we will be able to make Palm Coast residents more aware of what will be available to them in the future," Corum comments. "Our hopes and dreams will become theirs."

PCFFAE has announced several other major appointments. James Darby, a Founding Member and Trustee has accepted responsibilities as Parliamentarian. Darby also chairs the Flagler County Commission. Founding member Linda Kuntz, a former banker, is the Foundation's new Treasurer.

James Harter, Founding member, has been elevated from associate member to trustee. A registered architect in the state of Florida, Harter has been providing *pro bono* architectural renderings of what the new center might look like, working alongside local architect Ben Butera.

Joan Grube, still another founding member, has taken the newly created post of Special Events Coordinator. No stranger to such responsibilities, Joan has headed up such successful Foundation fundraisers and membership drives as "Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Bagels and Brunch."

A&E Center Establishes Donors Legacy Program

By Emma Erickson FCHS Reporter



Unquestionably, the single most important factor in getting the ball rolling on a new establishment is to acquire the support and patronage of the community. The Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment Center is clearly on the right track to meet its goal of opening an arts and entertainment center to the public in the near future.

One way the A&E Center is attempting to gain financial support is to establish a Donors Legacy program. This program will enable supportive community members to make a donation to the Foundation and in turn receive the privilege to name the various theatres, rooms, galleries and other parts of the A&E Center.

The legacy Donor program is organized into several levels called Galaxy, Platinum, Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Amethyst, Emerald, Gold, Silver, Pearl, Ivory, Bronze, and Copper. These levels of sponsorship reflect the parts of the center for which one can get naming rights. For example, someone who pledges \$5 million or more at the Galaxy level may obtain naming rights for the entire Center. On the other hand, there are more modest levels of donations such as the Copper level – a \$1,000 pledge that will get your name on a theater seat or on a 14 point permanent plaque in the lobby. Other parts of the A&E Center that will be available to name include the main theatre, center lobby, small theatre/lecture hall, gardens and fountains, outdoor patios, informational center and even the grand piano.

In addition to the \$20 fee for membership, the Foundation also hopes to raise funds by establishing business partnerships with local companies and employers. Business partners can support the A&E Center by donating anywhere from \$50 to \$25,000 or more to receive benefits such as listing in playbills, reserved parking spaces at the center, complimentary theatre tickets, and permanent plaques in the lobby.

Although it seems PCFFAE is off to a great start, it needs support from the whole community. “There are a large number of millionaires in Flagler County,” claims Glenn Grube, Secretary. “If we can convince them that our area would truly benefit from a center like this, their generous support will bring us that much closer to our goal of opening in 2009”.

We have Begun – We Need You To Continue

The Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts & Entertainment gratefully acknowledges the following generous contributions.

William Livingston, President of Palm Coast Holdings has donated \$42,000 – an In Kind Donation for architectural renderings.

Lindsey Florence, Founding member and Trustee, has donated \$30,000 in securities.

Thomas Corum, Founding Member and First Vice president, has donated \$30,000

The Foundation is greatly appreciative of the above contributions. The goal is to have our center open by 2009. We can only do this with the cooperation and generosity of growth minded members of the Foundation and the residents of Flagler County.

Looking Backward: 2010

The structure was magnificent from a distance. As we drove toward Town Center, the imposing edifice with the intriguing sculpture, garden and glistening lake in the background, proved a testament to a city devoted to the artistic and cultural life of its citizens. The whole might invite comparisons to Athens in its Golden Age, the wondrous Theater of Dionysus at its center.

We approached the well-lit parking area. Hundreds of cars were already resting, having carried their occupants to the Gala opening of the new Auditorium. Streams of arts aficionados were enfolded in the welcoming arms of this new cultural phenomenon. As we entered the foyer, we were greeted by warmth and comfort. The soft earth tones were enhanced by padded benches and well-proportioned conversation areas. The walls, true to their purpose, were lined with brilliant paintings and photographs, the creative products of the ever active Flagler Art League. Uniquely lit, they provided appropriate balance to this portal of culture.

As invigorating as these sights were, the next stage of the journey only further excited our senses. The auditorium left us at a loss for adjectives. Walls rising majestically eighty feet to an intricately murralled ceiling. Two thousand plush maroon colored seats awaited occupancy. Gently rising from the front of the house, these comfortable sanctuaries from our daily grind beckoned amiably. We were awestruck in the knowledge that these seats could be mechanically maneuvered on great turnstiles leaving three separate stages in the same building. The pods created spaces of three hundred and five hundred seats. Three theaters in one, a marvel of 21st century technology). The whole invited comparisons with the best the country had to offer.

And then there was the stage! A bellweather of contemporary architecture, the proscenium measured sixty feet across and forty high. The velour Grand Drape in sumptuous red tones was reminiscent of the one hanging at Radio City Music Hall. The gleaming apron stood behind the orchestra pit, a fitting tribute to that created by Wagner for Bayreuth. All stood sentinel to the theatrical space behind. And when the curtains opened the true beauty of the

structure was revealed. The expansive stage floor measured forty feet to the rear wall, with huge double doors to the technical areas behind. The ceiling of the stage house, (the grid), laced with pipes, stood ninety feet above the floor. The right wings housed a state of the art fly system which operated a hundred lines by the push of a button. The computerized stage manager's panel, looking very much like the inside of a space capsule; provided control of every trap door, stage line and special effect, while allowing audio access to light and sound board operators, musicians, stage hands, dressing rooms and the like.

In the left wings was enough space to manipulate the huge scenic wagons necessary to keep any big show fluid. Hanging from those pipes above were valances and legs and eyes and scrims and all the accouterments of a first class operation. Tonight the theatrical skies were loaded with scenery and drops for the inaugural production of Oklahoma! The Trustees commissioned this Broadway production as a fitting opening. Oklahoma! is recognized as the first integrated book and score in U.S. musical theater history. Appropriate then that it is the Foundation's first offering. Appropriate also that it be housed in this extraordinary facility.

Anticipation for the performance is exhilarating but perhaps even more so is the anticipation of the post-show extravaganza, a catered affair in which more than eight hundred Founding members and hundreds more supporters of the project will gather to celebrate all the good work accomplished to arrive at this moment. Champagne will flow, caviar devoured, and many a sweet tale told of the founders and their valiant quest to bring a suitable cultural complex to this vibrantly emerging area of the southeast.... From sleepy environment in the minds of some visionary developers, Palm Coast and Flagler County have become one of the premiere residential areas in the country. And now, fittingly, we celebrate the opening of a premiere arts complex to serve the burgeoning area.

The tale shall live in history and we shall hold the year 2010 as, to paraphrase another important musical, "The start of something big."

“2,006 in 2006”

WE NEED EVERY MEMBER TO RECRUIT THREE NEW MEMBERS

“2,006 in 2006”

This year’s Membership campaign is critical to our fundraising effort. As we solicit individuals, businesses, organizations, large corporations and State and National Arts Foundations, the first question asked is “How large is the support base in your community for the Arts and Entertainment Center?” We expect to have at least 3,000 paid members by the end of this year. This high level of support is a key to our eligibility for large donations.

We are enclosing membership forms that you can use to help achieve this goal.

An alphabetic Master List of Present Members can be found on our website www.pcffoundationarts-ent.org

Palm Coast/Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment, Inc.
Annual Dues are only \$20.00 per Person for a Supporting Membership

Name(s) _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____
E-mail Address _____

Please make your check payable to and mail to:
PCFFAE PO Box 351766 Palm Coast, FL 32135-1766

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 will enrich our todays and enhance our tomorrows"*