

# Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

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## Strand Theatre Weekly Email: July 20, 2012

Written by David on July, 20 2012

Today is an important day in history. On this date in 1969 the Strand was only 53 years old and Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon. How far we have come in the 43 years since that historic day.

In 1969, and for that matter in 1916 there was an electrical item installed in the Strand that was finally retired yesterday. (warning, tech talk ahead) The Strand's mission is all about the live performances on our stage. To accomplish this goal, the Strand is guided by having our historic venue providing safety and comfort first. We have to be vigilant and "at one" with our old theatre. Such was the case this past Saturday night. It was 2 hours before Chick McGee took the stage and we noticed our lobby lights flashing. Bob S. opened the panel that feeds the lobby lights and tightened every neutral and hot. Unfortunately that did not fix the problem. Even though it was 6:00pm on a Saturday, electrician and problem solver extraordinaire Steve Dennis came to the rescue. The first thing he did was check all the connections at the main panel. This is the same main panel that was installed in 1916. It soon will be history, but for now we depend on it for the power to the lobby area of the theatre. He discovered all was fine with the exception of one item.

There are two main fuses for this single phase panel. One of the two fuses (original with the theatre) was hot. Not just hot, but very hot. Steve explained that they were made to have the fusible link replaced, and it was not uncommon for them to start to go bad and get warm. He felt the fuse was safe, but would need changed during the next few days. That day came yesterday and indeed the fuse was ready to fail. It fell apart as Bob S. opened it up for inspection. With the help of our friends at Arco Electric, we have a new fuse installed.

That still didn't explain the flashing lights. Steve then took the electrical panel in the lobby apart and removed the breaker for that circuit. The lobby lights only pull 5.67 amps. That is a very small load for a 20 amp breaker. The breaker was hot. It was close to failure and was causing the lights to flicker. We keep spare breakers at the theatre and with a new unit installed problem solved. The show went on without a hitch and everyone had a great time.

For those of you who were at the Comedy Show with Chick McGee, you know how much fun it was. Chick and Jeff Bodart and Jeff Oskay put on a great show. We learned some new things that night. First we learned that Ray Wetnight wrote "The Bears of Blue River"?who knew? We also learned the contents of Dianne's purse. Her daughter even got a phone call from Chick. It was very funny. Thanks to all who were good sports.

This week we are hosting an event for Shelbyville Parks and Rec's summer camp. It will be fun. We will count carefully as the audience arrives. You will notice our marquee says "122 TO GOAL". Here is the decipher. When we started we hoped to play to the equivalent of every person in Shelby County. Our County's 2010 census was 44,436. Our current audience total is 44,314. We SHOULD break the total this Friday with the Park's event. If not, we are scheduling something fun for Wednesday July 25th to ensure we are over the top. We'll let you more about that when we figure it out! Until then let the countdown begin.

The Shelby County Library is hosting magician Daniel Lusk on July 27th. They have been distributing free tickets for this event. As of now the event is sold out, with all tickets being given away. There is a waiting list in the Children's section of the library. Mr. Lusk has performed at the Strand twice in the past. He is very entertaining and the kids have a great time.

If we don't break the record on Wednesday, certainly the almost 400 patrons on the 27th will get us there. Later that evening we will be having our monthly Friday Night Frights. Our movies for this month are "Scream Bloody Murder" and "Devil's Hand". The double feature starts at 8:00pm.

Sweaters are in vogue at the Strand again. Our Air Conditioning is fixed! Our beverage cooler is fixed! Our lobby electricity is fixed! Life is good.

The Shelby County Players are spending more and more time in the Strand getting ready for their production of Damn Yankees. Director Cindy Leahy has assured us she has figured out where to put all 22 cast members! The creativity it takes to stage a musical is amazing. We look forward to seeing and hearing the result. We are sure it will be a "hit" (baseball theme pun?we couldn't resist). Don't be surprised when before Friday Night Frights you hear music from the

score of Damn Yankees! We want to get everyone in the mood.

Thank you for all your encouragement and support. We feel the arts are an important part of our lives. The Strand believes that live performance brings vitality to any community. We appreciate your patronage at the Strand or anywhere else you can hear or see performers practicing their craft. We have hope to see you soon at the Strand!

Shelby County Public Library  
Daniel Lusk Magic  
Friday July 27, 2012  
2:00 pm  
FREE (please check with the library for tickets)

Friday Night Frights  
Scream Bloody Murder  
Devil's Hand  
Friday July 27, 2012  
8:00 pm  
\$5

Shelby County Players  
Damn Yankees  
August 2 - 5

**Images on this post:**

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