

Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

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Strand Theatre Weekly Email: January 15, 2014

Written by David on January, 15 2014

This past week the Strand had quite a work session. Over 20 volunteers arrived on Saturday to continue the process of getting the Strand ready for our new seats.

We finished clearing out our attic. This is located above the offices on the east facade of the theatre. You can see the attic from the street. The transom windows at the top are actually in the attic. It was the repository of stuff since 1916 when the Strand opened. We know this for a fact since some of the things we removed were dated 1916! We found a treasure trove of items. There were a few surprises. We found 6 old toilets. Why they kept them we don't know. They are out now. We found projector parts and even an entire projector, complete with its cast iron base.

The attic was dirty, to say the least. The items were sometimes heavy. We removed the electrical box that held our old Frankenstein Switch. This was the main service panel for the theatre that was in use from March 1916 until September 2013. It is constructed of 1/4" thick steel. It was heavy. Two strong volunteers, Chris & Steve, did the honors of taking it down. Kudos to them for accomplishing what we thought would never happen.

The attic needs to be clear so that we can install our new mechanical systems for the balcony restrooms and offices. We vowed not to do that again. We are in the business of entertainment, community self-esteem and economic vitality. We are not going to be pack rats. It just isn't in our mission. We do, however, archive a tremendous amount of production related items. We have tickets, posters, programs and all sorts of things related to the events that are presented at the Strand. Fortunately all that only fills one tote per year. 50 years from now those totes will be as exciting to go through as the items we are finding now.

The offices are ready for renovation. The ceilings are removed in the north and south offices. The debris is cleared. All the junk that had accumulated is also clear. There are 6 rooms in the office area. All are clear.

The balcony now has a seating capacity of zero. All the 1938 seats are removed. We used air tools to help "encourage" the seats to submit to removal. A wonderful group of volunteers carried everything down to the Cabaret Area and Lobby. The junk is piled high. Check out our web site for pictures of the work.

We will be continuing our work on Thursday January 16th at 6:00pm. On Saturday January 18th we start at 9:00am. We welcome volunteers of all ages and abilities. This past week we had ages 6 - 76 represented! We wish we had the energy of our six year old volunteer!

Thank you for supporting the Strand.

Strand Theatre
WORK SESSION

Thursday January 16, 2014
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Strand Theatre
WORK SESSION

Saturday January 18, 2014
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Strand Theatre
WORK SESSION

Saturday January 25, 2014
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Images on this post:

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