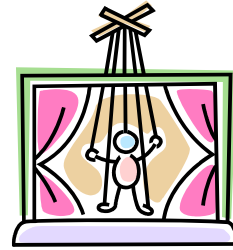


# THE PUPPETRY LOG

COLUMBUS PUPPETRY GUILD April 2008

The Columbus Puppetry Guild is chartered by the Puppeteers of America, Inc.



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## Next Meetings:

**April 20, 2008. 2-5 p.m.** Dorothy Bauer's house. 6847 Alloway St. W., Worthington, OH 43085. (614) 888-1456

**Program:** Sculpting session 3. Casting heads.

**May 18. 2-5 p.m.** Richard McCleod's Marionette Barn.

**Program:** Making puppet bodies.

**August 2** (tentative) – TBA – Puppet Show for Day of Puppetry at the Ohio State Fair.

## Minutes from March 16, 2008 Meeting:

**Attendance:** Frank Banks, Dorothy Bauer, Rita Fullen, Shirley Green, Dave and Beulah Greenbaum, Connie Kirk, Janice McDonald, Richard McLeod, Mark Myers.

**Thank you Dorothy Bauer for hosting our meeting.**

Mark reported about his shadow puppets experience at the Ohio Historical Society

carnival for family night in February. He said they did hand shadows which went over well with the audience. He said he did not take the box of Elsie's fragile puppets with him. He said the box contained shadow puppets for probably 3 stories about a jungle or circus. There were no tapes or scripts. Richard motioned that we will keep the puppets at Frank's house. Dave mentioned that Border's has published a new book on hand shadows that will cost in the \$15 range. It was mentioned that silk backgrounds work really well for shadow puppets.

Kevin Frisk is to perform at the Bellefontaine public library on April 12.

As we did not yet have a venue for an April show, Shirley mentioned that we should be thinking about our Christmas show. Rita will call around about performing another *Dangerous Dan Steals Christmas* show. We need to have 6 people for a Dangerous Dan show in December. We are in need of someone to play Santa Claus, a role that is more difficult as memorization of lines and wearing a Santa suit is needed. We would be able to store the stage at Dorothy's house which is much appreciated.

Frank asked if anyone would be willing to help him perform one day during the Ohio State Fair

which goes from Wednesday, July 30 to August 10 this year. We decided we would do that for our Day of Puppetry and aim to perform on Saturday, August 2 if Frank can get that time. Everyone performing would get day admission tickets. Those needing to unload vehicles will use the Gate 9 pavilion. People who said they are going include: Frank, Richard, Dave, Beulah, Janice Rita, Shirley. Frank said a person named Mike Williams would probably be interested. Richard may do a ventriloquist act.

Frank mentioned that Karen's memorial service was marvelous and that he has a 1:15 minute tape of it. Many of us would like to see it. He may bring it to the April meeting for those wishing to view it.

Our May meeting will be at Richard's shop as he offered to help us make marionette bodies.

Richard motioned for the meeting to adjourn.

During our sculpting session this meeting, we continued working on sculpting our puppet heads. Beulah had already completed one head and was working on a second. Dave showed us how to paint the rubber on the clay to form the mold.

In case, like me, you forgot how to make the mold, use a soft paint brush to apply the first coat of rubber on your clay head. The first 3 coats should be thin and covering all the details. Make sure there are no air bubbles (if air bubbles, prick with a pin). Let dry several hours between each coat. Use up all the rubber. After the first 3 layers, you can put the rubber layers on thicker. You may end up with about 12 coatings. After you have several layers, you can tear up soft rags and mush into wet rubber to make it stiffer; let dry, and then cover with next layer. To clean brush, wipe the brush dry before putting it into about 2 teaspoons of liquid dish soap mixed with about 4 ounces water.

At the April meeting, we will cast our heads into Alumalite. Since Alumalite requires 2 steps to mix, this may be our only chance to pour it into our molds so work on your heads.

*Note from editor:*

As I forgot to bring my camera to the March guild meeting, I decided to include a few pictures from puppet making at Fort Hayes. I currently have 5 students making puppets during this last quarter of school. One student has already finished 3 of the cloth puppets and is really interested in getting puppetry started in her church. The other four students are doing the foam forming method that we tried last year. One is making a wolf, which is a new experience for me also.

I have a small group of students who will perform for our school arts festival which will be held outdoors on our campus on Saturday, May 15, probably around 1:30 pm or afterwards, as I don't want to miss the hot air balloon rides and inflatable slide for my child. Everyone is welcome to stop by.

