



# The Atlanta Puppet Press

The Newsletter of the Atlanta Puppetry Guild

[www.atlantapuppetryguild.org](http://www.atlantapuppetryguild.org)

Chartered by the Puppeteers of America

February 2006

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## Your Ideas Are Needed!

The Atlanta Puppet Press has the potential to become a great newsletter, but I can't do it alone. You can help by submitting short puppetry related items that would be of interest to other guild members. Here are just a few possible ideas:

News and Events	How-To's
Book & Show Reviews	Helpful Tips

If you would like to be a regular columnist, there are many topics that you can choose from. Also, if you can draw or paint, I would love to have some original puppet related artwork to use in the newsletter.

I also need your feedback, so please do not hesitate to let me know what you like or dislike about the new newsletter.

Please send submissions and feedback to [newsletter@atlantapuppetryguild.org](mailto:newsletter@atlantapuppetryguild.org) and start your subject line with 'APGNL:'

## Meeting Summary

Full minutes are included inside, but here's a summary of what happened at our last puppet guild meeting, held on **Sunday, February 26th, 2006** at the home of **Carol Daniel**.

The meeting began with introductions of two guests – **Tim Montheith**, a local cabaret performer who works at ???? in Buckhead with life-size people puppets, and **Lorna Sampsel**, who just moved to Lawrenceville from Florida, where she had worked for the Palm Beach Puppetry Center.

After a potluck dinner highlighted by Carol's **homemade chili**, a brief show-and-tell session occurred, with Tim showing off some of his puppet-costumes, Carol showing us her new puppets for her new show about China, and Kevin Pittman showing two new animal puppet creations

Next, the group settled in to discuss official business. In a nutshell, it was decided that we would not try to put on a National Day of Puppetry event unless someone was interested in heading up such an event. With no eager volunteers, we went on to discuss the website and newsletter, and with an official vote it was decided that the newsletter will now be published shortly after each guild meeting, allowing it to follow up on important happenings.

With business out of the way, the group retired to Carol's den for a viewing of a video about the life of Igor Fokin, a Russian puppeteer who had a very successful career until he died of a heart attack at age thirty-six.

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Sunday, May 7th, 2006 at 5 PM**, once again at the home of **Carol Daniel**, who has been so gracious as to open her home to the guild for the past two meetings. Keep checking the guild website – [www.atlantapuppetryguild.org](http://www.atlantapuppetryguild.org) – for updates and confirmation of the date, time, and location of the next meeting.

# Puppeteers of America *Playboard* Now Available Online

View the January / February issue of *Playboard* here : <http://www.puppeteers.org/Playboardjanfeb06.html>

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## Puppetry Humor

**Q:** How does one become a puppet wrangler for a TV show?

**A:** You need a tiny lasso, a miniature pony, and a lot of practice!

Courtesy of Mark Cahebay

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## Join the Puppeteers of America!

Here's just a few reasons to join the PofA right now:

- Four *Puppetry Journals* a year, plus the *Playboard* newsletter
- PofA Handbook and Membership Directory, just chock full of useful contact information.
- Ability to get group rates for liability insurance.
- Discount on items in the puppetry store.
- Access to PofA consultants

- Discounts on registration for national and regional PofA festivals

For more information, please visit the Puppeteers of America website: <http://www.puppeteers.org/>

If you do not have Internet access, you can also request information by U.S. mail:

The Puppeteers of America, Inc.  
Joyce and Chuck Berty  
PO Box 29417  
Parma, OH, 44129-0417  
888-568-6235

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## Guild Related Web Sites

Atlanta Puppetry Guild: <http://www.atlantapuppetryguild.com/>

Puppeteers of America: <http://www.puppeteers.org/>

UNIMA-USA Website: <http://www.unima-usa.org/>

# Super Sonic Puppet Festival 2006

July 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006

The first ever tri-regional festival (featuring the North-East, Mid-Atlantic, and South-East regions) is all set for this summer in beautiful downtown Asheville, North Carolina. The official hotel is the Crowne Plaza Resort, but remember that **everyone must make their own reservations**. The festival rate is \$119 plus tax per night.

Shows will be in the Diana Wortham Theatre, with additional performances in the common areas of the hotel and theater complex. All workshops will be held in the hotel on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings.

Be sure to check out the late night programming as well: A Puppet Slam on Thursday night, the traditional Potpourri on Friday night, and a Masquerade Ball on Saturday!

Want to run a workshop? The proposal deadline has been extended to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, so you still have time to get your proposals in.

And be sure not to miss one of our own – Lee Bryan – performing his hit show, *Pinocchio*, at the festival!

For more information, including festival registration, please see the festival's website:

[www.eastcoastpuppetfest.com](http://www.eastcoastpuppetfest.com)

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## Other Regional Festivals

Much Ado About Puppets	Tacoma, Washington	8/4 – 8/7	<a href="http://www.muchadoaboutpuppets.org">www.muchadoaboutpuppets.org</a>
Celebrate the Puppet	London, Ontario, Canada	7/27 – 7/30	<a href="http://www.puppetwerx.ca">www.puppetwerx.ca</a>
PuppetFest Midwest	Trenton, Missouri	7/11 – 7/16	<a href="http://www.puppetfestival.org">www.puppetfestival.org</a>

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## Center for Puppetry Arts Schedule

[www.puppet.org](http://www.puppet.org)

<i>Rainforest Adventures</i>	Mainstage Theater	Through April 9th
<i>The Tortoise and the Hare and More</i>	Downstairs Theater	Through April May 21st
Simple Sock Marionette Construction	Workshop	April 20 <sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM
The Art of Wayland Flowers	Workshop	May 16h @ 8 PM
Xperimental Puppetry Theater (XPT)	Downstairs Theater	May 18 <sup>th</sup> – May 21 <sup>st</sup>
Lee Bryan's <i>Jack and the Beanstalk</i>	Mainstage Theater	May 24 <sup>th</sup> – June 18 <sup>th</sup>

# Summary of Minutes of the Last Guild Meeting

Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006

- **Attendance:** Tricia and Bob Berrett, Carol Daniel, Barbara Goltz, Greg Wallace, Peter and MaryAnn Hart, Lorna Sampsell, and Tim Montheith were present for the meeting held at Carol Daniel's home. We had a great potluck dinner with lots of good conversation. Tricia told us about an exhibit at Red, 1110 West Peachtree Street, that she thinks we might enjoy
- **Treasury and Membership:** Tricia Berrett, Treasurer, reported that we have \$2085.01 in the bank. Membership chairman, Barbara Goltz, reported that we are still in the process of going through old membership lists to determine who truly wants to be active in the guild.
- **Website Renewal and Security:** We discussed website renewal. Kevin indicated that , although we might be able to save a few dollars, it would be a lot of trouble to change to a different web host company, so we all decided we would stay where we are. We also discussed security issues with our website, and decided to change the password. We are still thinking about ways to secure address and phone numbers to members only.
- **Newsletter:** A decision was made to have Kevin do a newsletter AFTER a meeting to reflect the activities of that meeting. He will continue to send out notices of meetings, and any other pertinent information in a timely fashion.
- **National Day of Puppetry:** We discussed the National Day of Puppetry. We feel that the reason for that special day is to promote the art form. The Center of Puppetry Arts does a very good job of that, so it probably is not something that we can do be benefit the art form any more.
- **Cyber-Meetings:** We discussed cyber meetings, as a possible replacement for physical meetings. The group seemed to feel that they prefer to have actual physical meetings, but that the internet is certainly useful for information updates, and that in the future we will very likely use the internet in more ways to enhance our communication.
- **Show and Tell:** Kevin showed us some of his beautiful new animal puppets. Tim shared with us some of his puppets he uses in his adult puppetry act in a local club. We watched a one-hour movie about Igor Fokin, a Russian born puppeteer who came to America, worked as a street performer in Boston, and died at the age of only 36.

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## Atlanta Puppetry Guild Officers

### President

Peter Hart  
770-621-9162  
hartpete@aol.com

### Vice President

Gregg Wallace  
greggwallace@compuserve.com

### Treasurer

Tricia Berrett  
404-633-1575  
tbberrett@aol.com

### Secretary

Carol Daniel  
piccadillypuppets@comcast.net

### Membership Director

Barbara Goltz  
bgoltz@fds.com

### Newsletter Editor and

### Webmaster

Kevin Pittman  
klp@moonshade.oit.gatech.edu

## About The Newsletter and the Guild

The Atlanta Puppet Press is published four times a year by the Atlanta Puppetry Guild. A new edition of the newsletter will be available approximately one week before each guild meeting.

Chartered in 1974, the Atlanta Puppetry Guild is dedicated to bringing together artists, educators, librarians, hobbyists, professionals and everyday people who share an interest in the art of puppetry. Current activities include potluck socials, field trips to view and discuss adult puppetry presentations, occasional workshops, and participation in the National Day of Puppetry on the last Saturday in April.

Members receive notifications of meetings, new newsletters, and other local puppetry events via e-mail. The cost of a membership is \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a dual membership. The membership year runs from May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Please send membership application and a check payable to "Atlanta Puppetry Guild" to:

Atlanta Puppetry Guild, 3800 Harts Mill Lane NE, Atlanta, GA 30319

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### Atlanta Puppetry Guild Membership Form

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number (home unless you prefer to be contacted at work; please indicate which number you're listing):

Also member of  Puppeteers of America  UNIMA-USA

Special interests or other information: