

## THE Marquee

From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director

November 2019 / ISSUE SIX / VOL I

**Did you know?** The *Cinemeccanica Victoria 8-R 35mm*, has had a long history of use and is the epitome when it comes to film projection. The Victoria 8 line started in 1961 and was

produced by Cinemeccanica; a company which still resides in Italy today. These projectors produce large amounts of light by arcing electricity between two carbon rods inside of a lamp. The fire hazard was very real and many safety protocols had to be followed. The lamp in our projector is walled off by steel to shield the projectionist from the light. Over the years we have discovered some very interesting old equipment in the Colonial, including archaic fuses



and cloth covered wiring. It is fascinating how very different this historic equipment is when compared to modern day electronics. Are you interested in checking out our projector? Feel free to reach out to us for a private tour please call 620-235-0622 or stop by the office.



Where is the FOX Marquee?

CDL Electric's sign division is graciously storing our treasured FOX marquee until we are ready for it to return to its home on Broadway. Thanks to a very generous local donor, we were able to purchase the north lot from the owners of the BMO Harris building. The north lot will become the new home of our beloved, iconic FOX marquee.



What goes bump in the night? Ghosts, of course! Let's close out the spooky season with a little ghost story from our past. The Jasper Haunts Paranormal team investigated our theatre several times from 2011 to 2013. During these visits, the team recorded the sound of footsteps on the stage, accompanied by the sound of a large object dragging across the stage. Also their night-vision cameras captured footage of some spectacular "sky fish" or flying orbs from under the stage. And then, of course, there is the female ghost on

the catwalk. Well, a lot of superstitions are

very specific to theatres: for instance, the superstition of the "ghost light." The ghost light is a bare bulb on a movable stand that sits in the center of the stage. This light is illuminated constantly to keep the theatre from going "dark" and to appease the ghosts. This tactic allows the spirits a light by which to perform so they don't become benevolent or mischievous.

What people are saying about the Colonial Fox: "You and the Foundation have restored a "sense of pride" in Downtown Pittsburg. ... You have led the cultural change and renewed an interest in the history of Pittsburg. We are proud to support your endeavors annually. I grew up and lived in Pittsburg for 63 years – I watch with pride what happens via your mailings and the Morning Sun." – Bill Hagman, Naples, FL

**Pittsburg's Finest.** The men and women of the Pittsburg Fire Department celebrated Interactive Fire Prevention Week by presenting an interactive display and live demonstrations for families and children last month. Few events have a more devastating effect on families and children than do fire disasters. The City of Pittsburg shows its commitment to the public by distributing fire safety facts through fun and engaging programs for the children of our community. The Colonial



Fox Theatre celebrates all those who make our community a great place to live and work!

We extend our thanks to all those who have responded and are responding to our **1920 CIRCLE** annual appeal. Please find the attached list of all the people (to-date) who have generously donated. We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation! **The 1920 CIRCLE** drive continues until December 31.

## **QUESTIONS?**

Please call us at (620) 235-0622 or e-mail us at <u>info@colonialfox.org</u> Our website – www.colonialfox.org Our address - P.O. Box 33 / Pittsburg, KS 66762

The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.