



Candlestick lights up downtown

By Mickey Thurman

Eighty-four years ago, on July 10, 1928, the 7th Street Theatre opened its doors to the community. The local newspapers reported throngs of sell-out crowds attending the opening celebration. None of the other theatres on the Harbor were done in an atmospheric style theatre like the 7th Street. Vaudeville was slowly fading away and the “talkies” were making their way to the big screen. The 1929 photo on the right shows “Our Modern Maidens Sound Picture.” Lighted neon and moving lights adorned theaters all over the country.

Thanks to the Jones Photo Historical Collection, we were able to replicate the original “candlestick” neon blade sign which was originally on the corner of the theater. In 1930 additional lights were placed around the candlestick, along with a lighted read-board showing upcoming films.

The 7th Street Theatre Association began raising funds for a new sign in 2010 by selling engraved bricks. Later, we held two Jones Photo slide-shows, Jodesha Broadcasting donated the proceeds from the Joey+Rory concert to the sign fund, and Timberland Bank donated funds. In 2011 the Anderson & Middleton Company offered to pay the difference so that we could get the sign constructed. We want to thank everyone who contributed to the sign project, particularly the Jones family and the Anderson & Middleton Company for their contributions to the Harbor and to the 7th Street Theatre. Without the original photos, we would not have been able to replicate this sign and bring it back to downtown Hoquiam.



October 2012



October 1929

Jones Photo Historical Collection

The photo on the left shows the new candlestick sign installed on October 10th. The photo on the right is cropped photo No. 1004_1 from the Jones Photo Historical Collection taken on October 21, 1929.



The sign was constructed by Ramsay Sign Co. of Portland, Oregon. This photo was taken during the installation on October 10, 2012.

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Association
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The 7th Street Theatre Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation

Contractor Selection

By Ray Kahler

After we had the funding in place, our architect, Alan Gozart, prepared a Request for Proposal to solicit bids from sign contractors. Six contractors submitted proposals. We selected three contractors to meet with us in person to present their ideas for how the sign should be designed and constructed and to answer our questions.

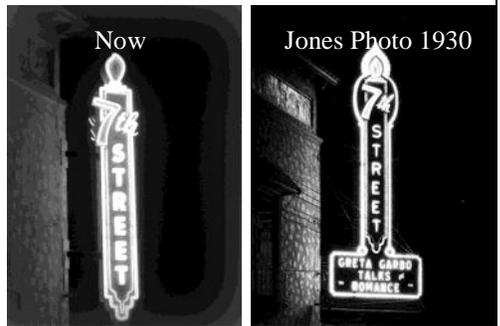
Our top priorities in choosing a contractor were how close their design was to the original, their relevant experience, and the quality of their presentation, including responding to our questions and concerns. The other considerations were cost, proximity, and warranty. Deciding on a contractor for the project was not easy, because there were several high quality proposals. After lengthy discussion, the board chose Ramsay Signs because of their demonstrated experience, the quality of their presentation, and the fact that they submitted the second lowest bid.

One of the major issues we struggled with was what lighting technology to use—neon or LED. We researched the pros and cons of each and we solicited advice from the sign contractors based on their experience with LED and neon signs. We ultimately decided to go with neon, in part because of concerns about the durability of LED in our wet climate and the lack of experience with LED-

style “neon” in theatre signs due to LED being a relatively new technology, and also because neon was consistent with historic preservation and the type of look we wanted.

We wanted a sign that would look good during the day, as well as during the night when it is lit up, and we wanted a color scheme that would work if we change the color of the building in the future. Because we only have black and white photos of the original sign, we don't know what the original colors were. In looking at other historic theatre signs, we found that red, white and gold are a common combination for historic theatre signs.

The total cost of the project was a little over \$40,000, which includes the design, construction, and installation of the sign; architect fees; and electrical work. The sign will be lit daily from about 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm.



Blast from the Past



From the Grays Harbor Washingtonian, October 3, 1940.

Here's a copy of an article from the Grays Harbor Washingtonian about a benefit show to be presented by the American Legion on October 22, 1940. The iron lung was a negative pressure respirator and used to treat polio patients. Jackie Coogan may be remembered by many of you as Uncle Fester in the Addams Family television series which ran from 1964 to 1966.



Jackie Coogan as Uncle Fester in the Addams Family TV show.

Classic movie series enters 10th year

By Mickey Thurman

I remember it clearly. I had decided to volunteer at the 7th Street after my daughter had gone to college and I was looking for something to fill up my time. I had attended a volunteer cleaning party at the 7th Street and was asked to come to a board meeting in early 2003. After a couple of meetings, and becoming a board member, I was asked if I'd like to try to get a movie series going. I thought "Sure, that sounds like fun!" And it has been. From day one. Little did I know how much of my time would be filled, not only with the organizational aspects of producing a movie series, but developing new friendships and thanking the stars every day for the absolutely wonderful volunteers who keep this movie series alive all year long.



Here's our movie committee at our annual Movie Picking Meeting on October 3rd. L-R, back: John Miller, Katrina Zozaya, Paul McMillan, Christie Goodenough, Charisse Anderson (hidden), Bob Martin, Shawn Brand, David Akers, Betsy Seidel and Mickey Thurman

L-R, kneeling: Jeff Cook, Ray Kahler, Ginger Akers and Jamie Brand

Our first movie was June 20, 2003—*The Wizard of Oz*. We had one showing attended by 398 people. We had a borrowed popcorn machine that produced about four bags every five minutes, and the popcorn line ran into the auditorium well after the movie started. We had one more movie that year, at Christmas (*Christmas in Connecticut*) and in 2004 began our organized series.

In 2009, David and Ginger Akers joined our committee and agreed to take on an additional series — the Silver Screen Classics (50 years or older) screened on Saturday and Sunday. This added six more movies per year.

How do we pick the movies? Our committee meets every October. To be able to be on the official movie picking committee, members must have volunteered for at least one year and logged at least five hours of volunteer time. We each bring in our choices for: Valentine's Day, Halloween, Christmas, a musical, a children's movie, and two choices each to fill the other three slots. Then we vote from all of the suggestions. For the Silver Screen Classics, David chooses the movies himself, but also receives input from other committee members.

Our top ten best attended movies have been *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Christmas Vacation*, *White Christmas*, *Willy Wonka*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Indiana Jones & The Last Crusade*, *Ghostbusters*, *A Christmas Story*, *Mary Poppins* and *Some Like it Hot*.

I want to thank our volunteers, our patrons and our sponsors for an amazing ten years.

2013 Movie Schedule

Jan 12 & 13	Singin' in the Rain (1952)*	August 24	Hot August Frights
Jan 18 & 19	The Birdcage (1996)		- Thriller Movie Marathon
Feb 15 & 16	Say Anything (1989)	Sep 14 & 15	12 Angry Men (1957)*
Mar 22 & 23	The Blues Bros (1980)	Sep 20 & 21	Forrest Gump (1994)
Apr 13 & 14	To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)*	Oct 12 & 13	Psycho (1960)*
April 19 & 20	Babe (1995)	Oct 25 & 26	Beetlejuice (1988)
May 4 & 5	Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953)*	Nov 9 & 10	The Manchurian Candidate (1962)*
May 17 & 18	Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid (1969)	Nov 29 & 30	Home Alone (1990)
		Dec 7	Christmas Vacation (1989)

Fri/Sat movies @ 7:30

*Silver Screen Classics—Sat @ 7:30, Sun @ 2:00

All tickets \$5, available online at Brown Paper Tickets and at the door. Doors open one-half hour before the movie.



**Hoquiam High School
Drama Department presents
Bye Bye Birdie
February 7, 8, 9 & 10**

The Hoquiam High School Drama Department has a stellar reputation for their annual musical productions. Every year brings a new and exciting musical to the 7th Street Theatre.

The 2013 production of Bye Bye Birdie will again amaze you at the talent of our local high school students.

Website revised!

A few months ago our webmaster, Ralph Hogaboom, worked with us to redesign our website to make it more user friendly. Our blog, which had been down for over a year, is now back with all of the old posts and new ones, too!

Be sure to check it out, and if you haven't signed up for our email event notifications yet, try it out. It's easy as pie.

You can also comment on our blog posts (hint, hint).

www.7thStreetTheatre.com

What's up next?
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**Historic newsreels from the Harbor
making their way back**

University of
Washington Libraries
will present a document-
ary of Harbor news-
reels from 1925-33 on
March 9, 2013

In 2004 the UW Libraries Special Collections came into possession of 53 35MM nitrate newsreels donated by a Seattle couple who had picked them up at a garage sale. Through funding from the Apex Foundation, the Libraries staff was able to have these films digitized. The films were discovered to be from the Grays Harbor County area and feature short news clips of various events between 1925 and 1933 ranging from the laying of the cornerstone of the Elks Building in Aberdeen, a wedding at the Grays Harbor County Fair, the opening of the Aberdeen-Willapa Highway, a gathering of schoolchildren burning a document in a large field, and many Aberdeen-Hoquiam football games, just to name a few.

Local historians have been working with the UW staff in researching these films. Roy Vataja, long-time volunteer at the Aberdeen Museum of History, has spent countless hours at the Aberdeen library researching newspapers from this era. He has discovered that C.D. Anderson had decided to produce local newsreels of newsworthy events here on the Harbor. The films were shown at local theaters prior to movies. Since national newsreels were a big attraction, Mr. Anderson felt that local newsreels would also be worthy of the big screen.

Roy has also found numerous articles which have identified the events in the newsreels.

The UWTV crew is producing a documentary about these newsreels. The documentary will be shown at the 7th Street on Saturday March 9th with a

matinee and evening showing.

The Grays Harbor Community Foundation recently approved a grant to help fund this documentary.



This is a snapshot from one of films — the opening of the Aberdeen-Willapa Highway in 1927, taken in Cosmopolis.



This is the actual camera formerly owned by C.D. Anderson. It is a Debrise Sept, a French camera, capable of shooting short film clips, single frames, or movies on rolls up to 250 frames. John Larson (Polson Museum) recently interviewed local photographer Les Morgan, who had a photo of the camera. The camera was purchased by Henning Henderson from Anderson in the mid-1930s.

Treasure chests

We removed the original stage floor and replaced it with maple in 2010. Local woodworker Mark Walden has hand crafted chests from the original Douglas Fir tongue & groove flooring. They measure about 10"x5"x2." We are selling the chests for \$65 each. They are each carefully crafted, numbered, stamped, and have an insert explaining their history. If you're interested in getting one of these limited edition chests, you can call, email or pick one up when attending one of our movies. Great gift idea!



Engraved bricks available again

One of our fundraising projects for the new candlestick sign was the sale of engraved bricks. The city was rebuilding the sidewalk in front of the theatre in 2010 and we had an opportunity to sell engraved bricks to be installed at the time the sidewalk was finished. We raised \$9,600 from this project.

Since that time, we have had numerous requests from people to purchase more engraved bricks.

We have found someone local who is able to engrave the existing bricks onsite. He will do the engraving once we get orders of at least 15 bricks. We've enclosed a brick order form with this newsletter. We will keep this project open until all of the remaining available bricks are engraved.



Bricklaying in the new sidewalk, 2010.

Where does your donation go?

The 7th Street Theatre Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation that owns and operates the 7th Street Theatre. There are two ways you can help support the theatre.

- **Memberships** help with the promotion of our events and ongoing expenses involved in operating the theatre. *Lead Actor, Director and Producer level memberships will be acknowledged in our concert and movie programs throughout the next year.*
- **General donations** are set aside into a special fund for restoration and preservation of the theatre building. Current donations will go toward a new heating system. Funding for restoration work is also provided by grants, applied for by the theatre board.

I'd like to give a year-long membership!

Membership level desired:

Supporting Actor	—	\$25 to \$49	\$ _____
*Lead Actor	—	\$50 to \$199	\$ _____
*Director	—	\$200 to \$499	\$ _____
*Producer	—	\$500 and up	\$ _____

(*These levels will be acknowledged throughout the next year in our movie and concert programs.)

I'd like to make a donation to the Heating System Fund \$ _____
 Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Thank you for your support!

7th Street Theatre Association • P. O. Box 777 • Hoquiam, WA 98550

You can also donate online on our website. Just click on the Support button on our website at 7thstreettheatre.com

Psst...have you seen the seat donor plaques in the lobby? You can still "save a seat" on our donor page and get your plaque on the lobby donor board.

COMING EVENTS

Movie: The Polar Express
Nov 23 & 24

Movie: Elf
Dec 1

Lighthouse Ballet presents The Nutcracker
Dec 7-9

Hoquiam High School Winter Concert
Dec 12

Movie: Singin' in the Rain
Jan 12 & 13

Movie: The Birdcage
Jan 18 & 19

Hoquiam High School Drama Dept. presents
Bye Bye Birdie
Feb 7-10

Movie: Say Anything
Feb 15 & 16

Miss Outstanding Teen Pageant
February 22

Miss Grays Harbor Scholarship Pageant
February 23

Hoquiam Middle School Spring Concerts
March 6 & 7

Grays Harbor Irish Club
St. Patrick's Day Kickoff
Friday March 16

Movie: The Blues Brothers
Mar 22 & 23

Movie: To Kill a Mockingbird
Apr 13 & 14

Movie: Babe
Apr 19 & 20

Movie: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes
May 4 & 5

Movie: Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid
May 17 & 18



Sign up for our coming events email and see all current event information on our website
www.7thStreetTheatre.com

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!



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