

A New Title

Yesterday after putting my time in at my day job, I headed over to the Huber for set construction. I finally got a glimpse of the old theatre full of flats, scraps, set decor, etc. It was like walking into an attic which I enjoy doing looking at the treasure trove of the past. We took a bunch of flats and furniture over to construct Holmes' abode at 221B Baker Street as well as Baskerville Hall.

When it comes to set building, I fall into one of two categories... those who can... do. Those who can't... stand aside. The paint brushes were snatched up before I got a chance to put my painting to use.

I was useful in my new role of facilitat**TORE** (emphasis on the **TORE!**). I am perfectly willing to do my part even if it means playing fetch, holding a ladder, or whatever seemingly minor job needs tending to. I even got to tape some of the seems in the walls before the paint was applied. I know where my real talent lies I just am taken aback that some have more than one theatrical talent.

But after nearly 10 hours of work, the set is (according to reliable sources) about 90% complete. I must say that working with friends to get the job done definitely helped. Laughing, pizza, laughing, and a lot of work goes somewhat more smoothly when you have friends with you and even some who actually know what they are doing... or do a good job acting like they do.

To see the finished product (which I feel will only help make those on stage look better), reserve your tickets now to see the immortal Sherlock Holmes mystery, [*The Hound of the Baskervilles*](#), October 15-17.

A Pair of Thick, Woolen Socks

I just finished watching a fascinating interview on Oprah. I am not a regular viewer by any means but she seems to be going out with a bang. I could not pass up the opportunity to watch her sit and chat with the world's first self-made billionaire author. If ever J.K. Rowling has her memoirs published I will be in line to snatch it up. Just one hour totally fascinated me. How from very humble beginnings to a 13 month and one day marriage to the death of her mother and the estrangement from her father all combined to give her the ammunition to create what has become a worldwide juggernaut.

The term "phenomenon" came up in one intriguing moment. Remember back in the mid 80s when Michael Jackson's Thriller was declared the phenomenon of the day. At the time, the concept did not enter the King of Pop's head. And neither has it entered Rowling's. If it had, she feels that she would now be trying to do herself one better. Attempting to create the next great world and leaving Harry Potter by the wayside. Incidentally, the author turned down Jackson's offer to turn her world into a musical.

Did you know it took Jo twelve rejections before, on the lucky 13th publisher, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's* (which we blokes know as the Sorcerer's) *Stone* saw the light of day? Even then, she was warned that children's books make little to no money. Well... after seventeen years, 7 books, 6 movies (with two coming), millions in collectibles, and the theme park... who is laughing now?

She even detailed some of the downside of her life that is very much a part of the masterpiece. In her eyes, every other page seems to point to her mother's failing from MS. The

dementors (who prey upon the happiness of their victims and seek to suck out their soul) represent her own battle with depression. However, the prevalent theme throughout the entire series is love. I say shame on all the groups who would criticize or even ban the books when the strongest virtue of Christianity is seen through every page, every frame. However, the surest way to ensure that your work is read is to have it banned.

What does the future hold for the billionaireess? More writing. If she doesn't write she will lose her sanity.

Spoken like a true artist. Did she know that Harry would become so huge while writing at nights beside her sleeping baby daughter while one step away from homelessness.

Absolutely not. She had no idea that: "This boy will be famous. There won't be a child in our world who doesn't know his name."

Two Weeks To GO!

Two weeks from tonight will be OPENING NIGHT of the Sherlock Holmes classic (still can't believe how many odd looks I get whenever I mention the title) *The Hound of the Baskervilles* at the splendiferous (yes... that is a word) Huber Opera House!

For my part, I am happy to state that my lines are learned which is quite common at this point in a show (more common than the line learning from my last play... still a great experience but challenging which was even more rewarding personally). The next couple of weeks will be a whirlwind of activity from work to vocal lessons to rehearsal and whatever else may come my way but as always... I AM SUPER EXCITED!

Sunday, my talents will once again be used in set

construction. As many of you know if you ever need anything painted... I am your guy! I remember the praise I received for my last set painting... I think it was a few years ago for *The Odd Couple*. Funny how no one has ever asked me to once again use my paint brush. Their loss, I guess. But my talent has not gone unnoticed. More than once [justj](#) has commented to [Mare](#) about my remarkable painting prowess. We'll see on Sunday if it used.

Hopefully, by Tuesday everyone will be better on their lines to avoid the dreaded Saturday before review rehearsal day. I just learned that another tangenteer will be coming to review the show. Hopefully, it will not take as long for her review to be published as the one I wrote for OKLAHOMA! did.

Click the link to the [Village Players](#) website for tickets and time information.

Technically Sound But...

Not good enough in my eyes either. A good lesson today. Worked on two songs... one a light, fun, fluffy piece that includes a patter line (a long, section spoken in time to the beat) at the end. K suggested I do it as a rap instead of the traditional. For this piece, I think not. I envision a small group of friends accompanying me as I recite the section full of alliteration. Definitely will work on that! Could be much worse, I could have to learn "[I am the very model of a modern Major-General](#)." (Not yet, please!)

My coach also decided to test me on another song. Although the piece is written in the key of C (no sharps nor flats... shouldn't be difficult to play), she kept hitting the wrong keys in order to find out how confident I am in the correct

notes. At the end, she told me that, technically, it is good but it is time to go beyond the technical. A very dramatic piece which I believe is meant to show the lead character's vulnerable side. I was challenged to find that vulnerability and let it come out. **SELL THE SONG! OK!** Homework! Character songs are easy... digging into the vulnerable side of a heroic character will be a fun challenge. One I am confident that I will be able to rise to.

School For Bullies

I think it would be rather difficult to be the only male cheerleader in a relatively small school system. However, even after being bullied to the extent that he received a broken arm for his pains, Findlay, Ohio sixth-grader Tyler Wilson has no plans to give up on it. His trials have met with national press as he and his mother were featured on Good Morning America this morning. He has also received phone calls and visits from male college cheerleaders. And although Tyler has stated that he has been threatened with another broken arm, he has no intention of sitting on the side lines.

GOOD FOR HIM! YOU GO DUDE!

As I learned long ago: Find something you are good at and do it the best that you can. Wise words... wonder who came up with that.

Not the GMA clip, but you get the gist of it. One thing the clip does not mention. After Tyler got home with the broken arm, he told his mother that he tripped over a curb and landed on his arm. Just like a sixth-grade boy.

My First Professional Call Back

I could never, ever put the last 10 years down! I have been in 17 (soon to be 18) stage productions and met the most amazing group of people anyone could hope to meet. They really are my best, dearest friends! Today, I went to my first professional call back. I had absolutely no idea what to expect so I made sure to get a decent night's rest (after watching the best season premiere of *Smallville* in its ten years... what a way to start off the final season) and eat something this morning. I was a little nervous but a LOT MORE excited.

As I entered the call back space, the receptionist acted like I was from outer space. Not far off but after learning that I was the first to arrive (big surprise) she invited me to sit in the sitting room and wait so I had more time to read through my sides. Only three other perspective actors arrive... two of whom I have had the pleasure of working with before... and one already professional from Indianapolis who has appeared in a commercial with a certain Colt.

After waiting the arrival of the producer (who ran a bit late as his car was attacked by a horde of rampaging wildebeast), we were subjected to horrors too gruesome to describe on this little, family-friendly blog. I must tell you that I have

never seen such horrors.

Following the torture, we were given “the acting is not all peaches and cream speech”. Even after the fearful events we were put through, I thought that it could not get any worse. And I have heard the same speech more than once.

And the outcome of all the horrors! EXCELLENT! I am forbidden to say anything more. But I am just a bit more excited than I was when I left this morning ☐

I wonder if I get to rid myself of the “scruff” after October 17.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct.. 15 Yard Penalty

After Saturday’s OSU/OU football game, I saw on a friends fb account that the OSUMB’s halftime performance was less than outstanding... full of Looney Tunes, Flintstones, and other cartoon themes. However, I wonder if the Bobcat alumnus thought the following was so extraordinary:

Apparently, the heinous display by Rufus Bobcat upon the unsuspecting Brutus was premeditated. The no-goodnick tried out for the role of mascot a year ago with the ultimate goal of tackling the Buckeye. He has since been summarily banned from all Ohio University affiliated athletic functions. The funny thing is, the miscreant no longer attends the Athens, Ohio college. He now attends nearby Hocking College. OU has issued an apology to the Buckeyes.

In every way but personally, the shenanigans were for naught as the Bucks handed the Bobcats a 43-7 thrashing. They should have tackled the player with the ball instead of the mascot. Kind of funny especially after the games outcome. A streaker running across the field was even more shocking and hilarious.

Boxing Day

No...I am not celebrating the British holiday a few months early. Today, the family gathered at the home of my oldest brother to celebrate the birthday of two of our youngsters. I guess once you go beyond 18 years, my family does not age. We also got to meet big brother's new friend who was introduced in typical fashion: "This is (____). This is everyone." So our uncle got up and did a more traditional introduction.

Apparently, the two groups of parents failed to get the cake situation correct. Both groups swore the other was to order it and pick it up. As it happened, grandma ran into Big Brother and his friend at Wal Mart yesterday. In the end, Grandma and Grandpa went to Dairy Queen in hopes of finding an ice cream cake. No one better complain about the design.

As the party progressed, some of us ventured over to the Wii. Bowling, boxing, and Guitar Hero seemed to rule the day. The

boxing is definitely one of the most entertaining games to watch others play as evidenced by the following video. You may have to click the link... not sure if it will be embedded directly on the post.

And it's always a good day when the Cowboys get beat! I'm sure there is another tangenteer who is absolutely ecstatic!

Not In The Clinic Anymore

Last night after waiting a week following my call back invitation, I got the details. Not at all what I was expecting. The call backs were to be last week and casting decided by Monday. After Monday, I was becoming a bit concerned. At this point, I was more curious about the filming then having a part or not. We had attempted to film *The Clinic* a year or so ago, but that fell through. So I emailed the writer of the play to see if he knew anything in his consulting role.

After returning from work last night, I opened up an email titled "Call backs." However, this was not for the film I was expecting. The call backs are now on September 25 (the date we were to begin filming the short film). The new film sounds like an original feature length film. I was given a few scenes to memorize and familiarize myself with for the callback.

Not only that but underneath was instructions that all but a working title "Family Movie" was to remain mum. I do know this much, if I successfully progress beyond the callback, I can expect a lengthy shooting schedule... months in fact. Plus, a contracted, paid role! Trying not to think that far ahead.

I am a bit excited. I have read the scenes for which I will asked to read from and I think they look really good. The fact that I received this news on September 15 has not been lost on me. This is the third opportunity I have been presented (a job at Disney World, moving to a large city, and

now...). I think it is more than coincidence and I am at least going in and do my best... but of course I will. I would expect nothing less of myself and neither would any of my fellow tangenteers or readers who comment sporadically. One step at a time.

Sam Is Not Spam!

While going through my myriad assortment of pending comments I do every once and again come across some interesting peekers to my blog. The newest is a 6 year old gymnast from Great Britain named [Sam Ramos](#), who along with his parents and older brother, are an amazing team known as the Daredevils which has appeared on such programs as Britain's Got Talent! The little guy might not have the site the others do but just follow the link to his site and watch his amazing acrobatics on the trampoline and read the article from The Sun. Pretty amazing stuff!

Let's show the amazing kid some tangents love!