

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

**Former Disney Artist R.J. Ogren Designs Haunted House in 3-D
for Steel Beam Theatre Fundraiser, *The Kane County Scaregrounds*.**

St. Charles, IL native R.J. Ogren, one of the original management artists in charge of creative control at Walt Disney World in the 70's and 80's, is the lead designer of Steel Beam Theatre's 2011 fundraiser, ***The Kane County Scaregrounds***, a 4000 sq. ft. haunted house in 3-D, which opens at the Kane County Fairgrounds, Randall Road, St. Charles, IL on Friday, October 7 and runs weekends through Sunday, Oct 30. Hours are Fridays and Saturdays 7-11 pm and Sundays, 7-10 pm. (Closed October 22.) Tickets are \$13; \$15 Fast Pass (no wait) at www.KCScaregrounds.com, www.SteelBeamTheatre.com or at the door. The ***Kane County Scaregrounds*** is recommended for ages 13 and up. Younger children will be admitted with an adult. There is free parking at the Fairgrounds.

The ***Kane County Scaregrounds*** will not only showcase the spectacular 3-D artwork of R.J. Ogren, and terrifying traditional Halloween ghouls and goblins, but will also feature creepy theatrical scenes created by Jack Shultz, director of Aurora's Riverfront Playhouse. Characters like Larry the Hairy Werewolf and Howard the Angry Comic Butcher crack jokes and lull visitors into a false sense of security while hideous creatures of the night lurk just around the corner ready to pounce on their helpless prey. Sound effects were designed and recorded by Bob Kresz, owner of Guardian Technologies, and food on the midway is provided by Ream's Elburn Market.

R.J. Ogren is a Vietnam veteran and graduate of the University of Miami (FL). At Walt Disney World, he painted, created and refurbished all the figures, sets, props and murals at the theme park. His work is seen every day on such

attractions as The Haunted Mansion, Pirates of the Caribbean, The Country Bear Jamboree, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Peter Pan's Flight and The Carousel of Progress.

Mr. Ogren has also designed 3-D haunted houses for The Queen Mary *Shipwreck*, Six Flags, Sonny Acres, Del Mar Fairgrounds and other venues across the country. Making his first mark as an artist at the age of 6 when he designed the zoo animals for the first grade play, R.J.Ogren has now created hundreds of paintings, portraits, murals, cartoons, graphic designs, scenic designs and architectural renderings for private and commercial clients. His work can be viewed at www.rjogren-artist.com.

For 10 years, Steel Beam Theatre (SBT), 111 W. Main Street, St. Charles, IL, has guided audiences and actors in shared experiences that help the participants more fully understand humanity. Steel Beam Theatre is consistently voted “Best Live Theatre” by Fox Valley audiences. SBT’s mission is to bring high quality theatrical entertainment, training and arts awareness to the Fox Valley community at an affordable price. Since September 21, 2001, SBT productions have attracted thousands to St. Charles, and the Theatre is an anchor that adds diversity and draws visitors to the historic downtown area for any given production.

Steel Beam Theatre also offers classes, summer camps, workshops and audition-based theatrical productions for children ages 6-16. Hundreds of area children have started their training in the theatrical arts in Steel Beam’s intimate, non-threatening and nurturing environment, where the student/teacher ratio is always low and each child receives individualized attention. Many Steel Beam Theatre alumni have gone on to major in the arts at

college, or appear in professional productions. Steel Beam Theatre –

Experience Life! Visit us on Facebook, at www.SteelBeamTheatre.com, or call 630.587.8521.

The Riverfront Playhouse in Aurora was founded in 1978 and established under the direction of David Morris as a creative outlet for actors of all walks of life and all levels of experience to learn and hone their craft. Opening soon is “Fat Bill’s Roadside Cafe 2011”, a sequel to the successful Fat Bill productions. See www.Riverfrontplayhouse.com.

Scaregrounds sound designer Bob Kresz is the owner of Guardian Technologies. Mr. Kresz has over 25 years experience in the information technology industry, and provides network and data security, such as firewalls, intrusion detection systems, and authentication solutions. See www.guardiantechnologies.net.

Ream's Elburn Market, home of Randy Ream’s national grand champion fresh bratwurst, is an old-fashioned family-owned business that specializes in knowledgeable, friendly service and high quality fresh meat, smoked meats, and other unique food items. See www.elburnmarket.com.

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