Region III is getting ready for the Regional festival to be held in Schaumburg, Illinois. Titled “Spotlight on Schaumburg,” it is sure to be a hit! The dates are April 27-29, and the weather should be lovely for a round of golf or a trip into the city of Chicago. Our adjudicators are a fantastic bunch and it should be quite the event. We are pleased to have Dennis Yslas from Dallas, John Sullivan from Sioux City, and Jerry Proffit from Chicago. Jerry is on the Jeff Committee, which nominates productions for Chicago’s version of the Tony Awards, so his presence is quite a treat.

MICHIGAN - The 2007 scholarship auditions of the Community Theatre Association of Michigan (CTAM) will take place Sunday, March 4, 2007, hosted by Gratiot County Players, Alma, MI. Deadline for applications: February 24, 2007. To enter the scholarship competition, an applicant must be sponsored by a current CTAM member group. Applicants must be a high school senior or college undergraduate who plans to attend full-time a Michigan college or university with a major or minor in theatre. Applicants must provide certification of a GPA of 2.5 or better. Each year CTAM accepts up to 30 qualified audition applicants on a first come basis.

2007 Michigan Festival competition hosted by Ichabod’s Little Theatre in the Hollow, South Haven, MI, March 23 - 25, 2007. Ichabod’s does not have a website, but e-mail Pat Mulligan at dpupat@btc-bci.com for current information and she will mail you an information packet.

CTAM’s annual play writing contest is open to any playwright in AACT’s Region III (Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana). However, all entries must be accompanied by a letter from a CTAM member group. Deadline for this year’s play writing contest is May 15, 2007.

WISCONSIN - Wisconsin’s AACTFest is being held February 7-9, 2007 at the Verona High School Performing Arts Center. There are seven productions entered and it will also be the site of the Wisconsin Association of Community Theatre (WACT) Annual Meeting. Due to litigation exposure, Wisconsin is continuing to require producing to show proof of permission to use any copyright protected material.

WACT’s 2008 Conference has been scheduled for February 22-24, 2008 in Barron Wisconsin. Planning is still in the early stages but a reading/workshop of a new script is tentatively planned.

An awards program has been started to honor individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to community theatre in Wisconsin. The first presentations will be made in February in conjunction with the state AACTFest.
INDIANA – The Indiana Community Theatre League (ICTL) will sponsor the ICTL/AACT State Theatre Festival on March 23 – 25, 2007. This year’s festival, “Cause for Applause,” will be hosted by the Community Theatre of Terre Haute, Terre Haute, Indiana. The state is hoping for ten entries so we can send two entries on to the Region III AACT competition in April. ICTL will be again offering their annual Robert Miller Scholarship to an Indiana graduating senior this spring. Plans are now underway to sponsor a high school theatre festival next fall in Indianapolis.

OHIO - The Ohio Community Theatre Association will host Ohio AACTFest ’07 in Akron February 16-18. So far, seven theatres are participating and we are looking forward to sending our top group to Schaumburg in April. We will host OCTAFest, Jr., our youth theatre festival, in late July. This event was so successful and popular last year that we plan to make it an annual event.