

Editor: Sherry Roth

Submissions: by
Wednesday via
e-mail (renfest@
cloudnet.com) or
Sunday at the
Pavilion



Unofficial News of the Minnesota Renaissance Festival

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Women

Entitled to
Nights of
Continual
Happiness

(W.C.N.C.A., Inc.)

Top 15 Pick-Up Lines Used by William Shakespeare

15. How about a little Puck?
14. Of course, "Romeo and Gertrude" is just a working title. I might be persuaded to change it for you M'Lady.
13. Et Tu, Cutie?
12. Shall I compare thee to a brick outhouse?
11. If I whispered in thine ear that thou hadst a body of beauty unknown but to the heavens, wouldst thou hold it against me?
10. Wouldst thou care to join me in forming the beast with two backs?
9. My heart, it pines, as my trousers tent.
8. Without thine companionship, dear lady, I fearest I'd spend the evening with pen in hand, if thou knows what I mean.
7. Hey, Baby, can Ophelia up?
6. Is this a dagger I see before me? Nay! I'm merely happy to cast eyes upon thy beauty!
5. Greetings to you, fair sailor.
4. But soft, what light through yonder trousers breaks?
3. Wouldst thou away to yon Motel 6 with me?
2. O! Prithce sittelh upon my visage, and perchance to let me divine thy weight.

and the Number 1 Pick-Up Line Used by William Shakespeare...

1. Do me, or not do me. THAT is the question!

New Look!

The header to "The Knight After" has been restyled. I hope you like the changes. Remember to submit your articles, poetry, want-ads, etc. to me at the above locations. I wish to thank you for your support and all the encouragement.

To love and be
loved is to feel
the sun from both
sides.

Image Courtesy Of

Religious beliefs are like laundry detergents.....use whichever brand you please, so long as it gets your wash clean enough to suit you.

Help needed this weekend at the Special Events Pavilion for the Ale Tasting. We need volunteers for I.D. checking and also for crowd control. Please see Sherry at the stage. Thanks!



WANT-ADS

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Wanted: Crafters and vendors to approach stage acts backstage with ten and twenty dollar bills to exchange for ones, and/or quarters. Please come early, come often. It benefits us as much as it does you by minimizing our sorting later.

Please understand you will have to sign an insurance waiver upon entering the backstage area limiting our liability in case of accidental injury, death or illness tracing back to the exchange including but not limited to: paper cuts, contact dermatitis, leprosy, carpal tunnel syndrome or displaced vertebrae. Also, there will be a surcharge of seventeen cents per thousand dollars exchanged in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars per transaction. We regret the necessity of leveling this excessive tariff, but after all, we are money-grubbing Scrooges, not "team players".

Sincerely, Mikael "The Mime" Rudolph

The following article was submitted unsigned. It is printed in its entirety without any editing.

Top Signs You're at a Bad Renaissance Festival - Part Duh...

Crafters and vendors charged by management to exchange bills and make change.

Tower Slide!, Tower Slide!, Tower Slide!

Some of the best food booths each year suffer hostile takeover by mediocre product owned by management.

Veteran shopkeepers replaced by sneaker and sunglass wearing, minimum wage-earning, theatrically untrained, pimple-face teenagers screaming, "Huzzah, ten pounds for the King!", disrupting any street or stage bit in their area.

Owner has virtually no personal relationships with vendors.

Crafters and Vendors build their booths at their own expense, then are forced out by drastically inflated leases, unnecessary forced insurance "hoops" and other ploys and their booths are "absorbed" by management.

Major stage rebuilt to the tune of thousands of dollars and yet the plan submitted by the Artistic Director is virtually ignored so entrances and exits are blocked and/or too narrow to get anything on and off the stage.

Major stage rebuilt to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars - "top draw" performers are not consulted - and a moat and a rock garden are built, separating performers from audience. Thousands of dollars more are spent rendering stage fit for use by the only performers with enough leverage to have things done their way.

Front gate rebuilt to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars, yet no-one who will be doing the performing on the gate is consulted and thus performing options on it are severely limited - if, that is, you are able to successfully navigate the narrow stairs with a hoop skirt on at all.

Gravel is dumped in front of front gate in area where opening and closing gate shows are held. Performers not consulted. They admit afterwards that it wouldn't be their first choice of surfaces to throw themselves down on to gravel to the king.

Owner has virtually no personal relationships with entertainment cast. Management has virtually no communication with entertainment cast. It must be contagious as no-one seems to have any communication with anyone.

Opening day performance schedules are changed without informing stage acts so patrons know performer schedules before performers do. Some acts arrive to discover that their first grid slot is 1/2 hour before they had every right to assume as they were not informed it was changed from the previous 5 years.

Huge blue and white striped plastic tents. Huzzah!

Caricature Artist is told to dismantle his booth between runs of festival. Booth material stored exactly where he was told to put it is cannibalized by site crew to make other repairs. He is then told he has to pay for a new booth to be constructed. He is given the dimensions his new booth is limited to. He pays for the rebuilding of his booth and it is done within the dimensional limits he was given. Once completed, he is told the booth is too large.

Ye Olde Pepsi sponsorship signs in full view. Ye Olde Lotto signs in full view. Ye Olde Cash Machines in full view. Ye Olde sweatshirt and teshirt stands in full view. Ye Olde Firestone tracks across site.

Electronic Sound Amplification systems in place of natural sound amplification amphitheatrical architecture (the Greeks pre-dated the Renaissance, but apparently the technology hasn't made it to this festival).

(article continued on page 3)  Faire Folk®

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The Knight After

Hacking Shakespeare

(This article was found on a local newsgroup while surfing the web.)

You may be familiar with the sets of magnets with various poetic words on them, suitable for composing poetry on your refrigerator door. For Christmas this year, I received 2 sets, one is a "Shakespeare Love Kit" and the other an assortment of computer-related terms and jargon. Naturally, the two have ended up combined. Here are some of the resulting compositions that guests and I have left on my refrigerator:

Through infinite myst, software
reverberates
In code posses'd of invisible folly.

Wilt thou dare interface
With thy Apple Macintosh
keypad
By toggling my tweaky bosom?
Alack!

Leave laserjet laughter to the
laptop lover.
Behold beta beauty in a
keyboard's keen kindness.

Now yet torment thy
melancholy hardware
By always vexing the amorous
flame
Of thine model motherboard.

This tyrant widget controls
skuzzy games and
pleasure treasured dear:
Then kiss me.

Faire Folk®
Celestial evil's idolous
template within AOL
Will deceive some cybersex
users and e-mail
our service.

Tis a rare tongue that maiden
bugs command, revealing
bounteous distress.
Trashing bold memory: click
and crash gloriously.
Weep not, beauteous Microsoft!
Hereafter reboot.

Bad Signs - Part Duh...Continued from Page 2

Large contingent of undertrained and anarchic security personnel entrusted with enforcing the law and site rules habitually indulge in the sport of harassment and then are fired for illegally destroying festival property. Yet this is partially good news as a portion of the "absolute power corrupts absolutely" quorum goes out with the wash. Please note the word "Nazi" has not been mentioned.

Emotionally unstable, underqualified and nearly universally disrespected and disliked nightmarish (bad!, bad!, bad!) Entertainment Director doesn't return but only because she decides she can't survive another harsh local winter. Management was ready and eager to have her back. Performers definitely not consulted.

Contracted professional performers are expected to participate in promotional events as scheduled by management above and beyond their contracts at their own expense. They are offered two comp tickets as recompense with an approximate value of dinner for two at Burger King. They are chastened if they decline.

An attempt is made to add a "Non-Compete" clause to the contracts of professional performers, forbidding them from making a living at their chosen profession outside of the fifteen days the festival annually employs them. When this is strongly resisted, clause is rewritten to forbid them from being in two places at the same time. Performers accept the rewrite.

"Good name" of stage act legitimately invoking "Non-Performance" clause ("If Contractor FOR ANY REASON does not perform...compensation shall be proportionately reduced to the extent - blah, blah, blah...") to concentrate on family and full-time teaching is dragged through the mud to cast members by aforementioned idiot, looney tunes former Entertainment Director.

Stage rebuild that is scheduled and promised and even CONTRACTED with one major stage act is delayed because (pick a year):

1. Tower Slide!, Tower Slide!, Tower Slide!
2. Front gate rebuilt instead.
3. Moat and rock garden built instead.
4. County-enforced (overdue) wheelchair access to booths done instead.
5. Children's Realm built instead.
6. Children's Games area rebuilt instead.
7. On site tavern rebuilt instead (1998).
8. Feast location rebuilt instead (1999).
9. Convention Center built instead (2000).
10. Ye Olde Heliport built instead (2001).
11. Owner's tax-sheltered new Caribbean home built instead (2002).

Artisan adjacent to aforesaid stage is told not to alter his booth for three straight years because of impending remodel...15 years ago.

Late August 1999 - Mime performer falls through rotting remnant of stage to his death. He offers no final words. His Non-Performance clause is invoked four weeks later when management finally notices he has missed 41 consecutive stage grid slots. Ye Olde balloon clown inherits his contract, offering remarkable renditions of just about everything on a stick you could imagine. Due to sight-lines at the ill-fated stage, many patrons in attendance at the open casket funeral are shocked to discover mime had feet and legs. A collection is taken from among former performers, former crafters and former vendors to commission a humble, but marvelously crafted stone to mark his grave. There are no words etched on the stone.

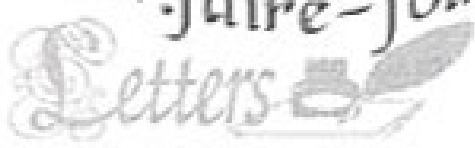
Former Entertainment Director arrives and attempts to negotiate contracts with several mourners. Owner is not in attendance. God is. Those in attendance aren't sure the owner would be recognized anyway.

Image Courtesy of **COMING TO NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE**

Faire Folk®

Verses to the "Birthday Dirge"
How To Give Your Cat A Pill

www.faire-folk.com



Advice From Lady Wansumore

Dear Lady Wansumore,
There seems to be a secret society in our midst. Every morning, on the way to cast call, I see them. They come from all areas of site, seemingly out of nowhere. They are men of all ages, all sizes, all varied sorts, with but one thing in common: they're all carrying plaid bundles and wearing shorts. Who are they? Where are they going? What do they do? There seems to be more and more each morning as Highland Fling approaches. You can't help but wonder if they're planning a takeover! Can you shed some light on this, please?

Signed, Mad For Plaid

Dear MFP,
A takeover? By men in shorts with plaid bundles? Next thing you know you'll say they're doing the can-can on Fool's Knoll! Have no fear, dearie. What you have stumbled on are varied members of the "Sacred Pleating Grounds". A small group that meets in the mornings to worship bad jokes, shared hangovers, medicated body powder and the occasional lacing of a passing bodice. They are a gentle bunch, helpful and fun loving. Actually fragile in their own way. It is a little known fact that if during the "Great Kiltting Ceremony" their sporan is a few inches out of reach, they are quite

helpless. So, if you should happen on one again, simply smile and continue on. Don't make any sudden moves, as they are skittish in the wee hours of the morning. But, worry no more...they're as gentle as lambs.

Sincerely,

Lady Wansumore

tidbits

Seek out the company of those who are searching for the truth. But AVOID AT ALL COST those who claim to have found it!

.....

Sometimes you have to be able to see the invisible in order to see the truth.

THE TOP TEN LIES COSTUMERS TELL

10. It's a Flemish style.
9. I got it on sale.
8. It looks just like the natural fiber.
7. It shrank.
6. This color can be achieved with natural dye.
5. All my references are in storage.
4. I do it that way because it's stronger than the period method.
3. I'm going to finish that as soon as we get on site.
2. It's a theatrical decision.
1. I have documentation for this.

(Thanks to Margo Anderson from the Norther Calif. Festival for this. She is the costumer I purchased my leather bodice from.)

