



The Knight After

Unofficial Newsletter of the
Minnesota Renaissance Festival

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Notes From The Editor

The time has come for us to bid farewell to another Festival year. A year filled with change, old friends lost and new friends found, sadness and joy. But yet the spirit of our family survived it all. That is something that can never be taken away from us.

This has been a great year for The Knight After. I have received many wonderful comments about it. Several of you have expressed how much you love reading it and miss it when you don't get a copy. I had considered not publishing it this year, but am very glad that I did. Special thanks go to Paul Pleasants (Botch) for writing "The Open Fly" and to Scott Livingston (Mush) for creating "Mush's Musings". Important issues were brought out into the open by both columns. Because of the importance of the issue of sexual predators that was brought out, I am reprinting "Mush's Musings" from Issue #5 which is on page 6 of this issue. Many of you heard about it, but did not get a chance to read it. Please pass this important information on to everyone. His column this week expands a bit more on that issue.

Have a wonderful, safe, happy year.....till next we meet,
Blessings,

Sherry (Rosally Bud)

Tidbits

He who loses money, loses much.
He, who loses a friend, loses much more.
He, who loses faith, loses all.

Learn from the mistakes of others.
You can't live long enough to
make them all yourself.

Wine Gala



Inglenook presents the
free wine tasting event
daily. Applaud the
hilarity of the grape
stomping event, the
grape toss and the
Charity Wine Auction.

Mush's Musings

"Or the tortured ramblings
of a melting mind"

"...that's all there is, that's all I have to say,
good-bye..." (Poof)
by Mush, Lord of Lunatics, etc.

Well, what can I say? It has been an eventful year, again. I have made more noise than is considered popular, again. One would think I could learn. If you ask those who know me, the popular opinion would probably be that I will never learn. May as well follow through with this year's theme as well. I have decided to do this in a category format. You may read the section that applies to you, or not. This should save valuable slacking time.

Thieves guild, a very energetic group of new performers. I have the unfortunate honor of joining the ranks that has told them "that has been done before" although I have never attached "and better" to that comment. They have worked very hard this year to be entertaining and, in my opinion, succeeded. We may have issues about certain bits, don't we every year, but let's remember the conditions and changes that have impacted us all.

Given this, if the only thing we have to worry about is unintentionally doing something of yours or mine we are in good shape, they think like us and make good performers to work with. Unfortunately, while trying to patch this up with a couple of their members I had my intentions and sincerity called into question. Those who know me are aware I do NOT apologize unless I have reason and am very sincere about it. Needless to say I was a little upset to have my apology tossed back at me. It's too bad, they are jaded old veterans after so short a time, but after what I experienced there seems to be blame enough for all.

Come on Thieves, open the door. If everyone who comes knocking to fix the plumbing gets what I got, your left with nothing but leaky pipes and a ruined foundation.

Politics out here, nothing new here really. When you get a bunch of individuals together you are going to have politics. The degree will vary but we are human and it can't be avoided, just dealt with in the most open and honest way possible. When that happens things may turn around, not until.

Sexual predators, well, we got'em. In my more "popular" article I addressed this issue in a general way with an emphasis on one person in particular. People have been asking me how that turned out. As I write this the only information I have been

given from management is that there is little they can do. Allow me to expand upon this so you know almost as much as I do. Victims have come forward and talked to management. They gave information concerning separate events, involving the same predator. Now, based on my research, this predator can be charged with 2nd degree criminal sexual conduct.

Have any of you ever gotten a letter about sexual harassment from Fest? Or a warning not to do or say something to someone again, just based on that one person's interpretations of your word or deed?

Now we have victims with the courage to come forward with something that goes way beyond sexual harassment and the "word" is, there isn't much we can do?! I know it is up to the victims and Scott County to take legal action but what about booting this deviant out of our community to protect our friends and children from any further harm? How about letting him know we know what he is? Are we waiting until this all goes away, until it becomes first degree sexual conduct on another young girl who's only mistake is to trust a man who has been nice to her but has very different intentions? This season people have stuck their necks out to do the right thing, to fly in the face of our happy little tradition of ignoring this sort of thing. There have actually been people who tried to defend this waste of flesh and say that the parents of the victims should be held accountable, or just defended this trash by defaming the victims. By the Goddess people, what kind of things are we going to allow in the name of being popular or not making waves?! If we allow this sort of thing to "go away" and continue to ignore the victims, young girls who curl up at night, scream into their pillows and cry until the only thing left is a dull ache in their heart where their youth used to live, if management allows this to be hushed up and buried, we and they are as guilty of destroying lives as this sexual predator who hides amongst us. What can we do? For starters Festival can fire this man and alert Scott County to what has happened. Or does he have to call the artistic director a liar first? We can get a voice, we can speak out loud enough that any person who thinks to try this sort of thing or thinks our community is a safe hunting ground, will stay as far away from us as they can.

They will know that if they molest our family they will be caught, they will be charged and they will be punished! WE can do the right thing!

We have to.

Next Article: Mush is dead, long live Mush!

Future articles: (sorry folks, that's all she wrote)

The Open Fly

Advice For The Eternally Flustered

Noted Publicist

If you're gonna hire Botsch

you'd better be prepared to laugh.

-Lord Randolph, my best friend

It was just my nipple showing, not my whole breast.

-Jaylene Tronstad, Shakopee Jaycees,

after elephant ride with Botch, her boyfriend

Not a bad gig, but my farts smell like mud. -Lucky

I have no idea what you are talking about.

Maybe I was too fucked up at the time?

-Dave, Bill, and Tom

A weekend of finalities is upon us. Everything comes to a screeching halt after this, but does it? We keep coming back, and why? Because we love each other; sometimes too much. The coolest and most compassionate people on the planet can be found at the MN Renaissance Festival; along with some of the most reprehensible creatures you could find this side of Judge Judy. Who will be back next year? How many are calling this the 'last year'? How many people will use the last day to make a final statement? Hey, might as well go out with a BANG! Our esteemed and thoroughly thrashed Artistic Director had no back-up support from management. He became the 'Fall Guy' (trademark). Rumor has it that he is no more, simply gave up, and we here can understand that, because we all feel that way now. Budgets were cut across the board, everywhere. How many people need to suffer because JP hasn't paid the rent on the land for three years or finalized his third divorce with children? How much will the Festival SELL for after this year? Make your bid at E-Bay, and find it under the category 'Fire Sale'. Bids start at 4 mil, along with 5 mil in overdue debt... If we formed a union, we all might be able to afford it ourselves.

Botch (rhymes with Crotch) would like to thank these people: Jaylene Tronstad, my best friend in the whole world; Anj Koel and Deane Lassiter, for trusting me; Lord Randolph, (he knows why); Sherry Roth and Brad, for laughing at (with?) me; Mikael Rudolph for having a voice with balls, Scott Livingston for having a voice; Christine Stang and Lindsey Pleasants, for being

the VOLUNTEER stage crew; Alex Daye, Lori Dahlstrom, and Erin Kasper for realizing I had potential; the Shakopee Jaycees for telling me what they feel; Carr Hagerman for giving me good tips on how to be a low life; Robert Schug, for banning the 'Open Fly' from the listserv (MORE notoriety!); Anne Pleasants, for being a great ex-wife; Jim Terwedo, for being the best lawyer on the planet; and Amy Jo Kloss for letting me go, even when provoked. And everyone else who said 'Hi' to the mud guy, and gave him free food.

Peevish would like to thank these people: Hans Madsen, for putting up with me; The Washing Well Wenches, for tolerating our smell and dirt with good humor; Alex Daye, Lori Dahlstrom, and Erin Kasper, for believing and supporting us; The Site Crew, for the hot water heater; The Sheriff and the entire Royal Guard, the Privateers and Human Combat Chess Game participants; for the patience, love, and friendship; The entire Safety Services Crew; Hammer and Jamie Green, for assisting me during my medical emergency; Chris Olsen for being a great friend and fan of the show; Christine Stang, for being a queen in her own right and the best stage manager we have ever had; My parents; My employer, for their understanding and endless teasing; Deane Lassiter, for being a great director and support mechanism; Paul Pleasants, for being a great partner in crime; and everyone else who came to see the show.

Thanks also to everyone who took a moment to thank me personally for writing the Open Fly. That is what keeps it going. For those who laughed, you are welcome, and for those who were offended, well, maybe you deserved it.

 "What is next for the Minions of Mud? Will you be back next year?" -Curious Fan

Botch: After I sit in a sauna for fourteen days to pop my mud clogged pores, I plan on hooking up with The Jim Rose Sideshow to further my career and to satisfy my urge to watch people retch violently. I will be performing my new act, in which I will be lighting my farts while the song 'Ring of Fire' by Johnny Cash plays in the background. We will be opening for Marilyn Manson, and the show will come to a hideous climax when I perform oral sex on Marilyn himself during the final song. Hey, the paycheck is excellent! Then I'm going to Disney world! Back

(Continued on Page 4)

MORE WORDS TO LIVE BY

Never put off until tomorrow what you can avoid altogether.

TEAMWORK...means never having to take all the blame yourself.

INDECISION is the key to FLEXIBILITY.

Succeed in spite of management.

Aim Low, Reach Your Goals, Avoid Disappointment

Never underestimate the power of very stupid people in large groups.

The Open Fly Continued from Page 3)

next year? Possibly, but (note to management) we better have some details worked out BEFORE August 9th, if you know what I mean. And you better have a bucket full of money with my name on it.

Peevish: I don't know if we will be back next year. I will be going on the road becoming a hippie freak and selling out to the Festival Circuit just like all the other acts at Faire, NOT!! As my friend Done once said, "Festival is like chocolate cake. You look forward to it all year long, but once you get it, you have to eat it all at once, in a short period of time. By the time you are finished, you are pretty sick of it. But in a couple of months you start to crave it again..." I enjoyed doing Minions of Mud (trademark). It was very difficult and strenuous show to do, but the audience really seemed to enjoy it. Hopefully, with a few improvements, and if things can get done in a more TIMELY manner, it will return next year. Conna have to dump that Botch a "hole, however. It's too much of a whiner.

Until next year!!

BEING A BITCH

When I stand up for my beliefs and myself they call me a bitch. When I stand up for those I love, they call me a bitch. When I speak my mind, think my own thoughts, or do things my own way, they call me a bitch.

Being a bitch entails raising my children to be strong people who have a solid sense of personal and social responsibility, who are not afraid to stand up for what they believe in and who love and respect themselves for the beautiful beings they are.

Being a bitch means that I am free to be the wonderful creature that am, with all my own intricacies, contradictions, quirks and beauty.

Being a bitch means I won't compromise what's in my heart. It means I live my life MY way. It means I won't allow anyone to step on me.

When I refuse to tolerate injustice and speak up against it, I am defined as a bitch.

The same thing happens when I take time for myself instead of being everyone's maid, or when I act a little selfish.

I am proud to be a bitch! It means I have the courage and strength to allow myself to be who I truly am and won't become anyone else's idea of what they think I "should" be. I am outspoken, opinionated, and determined. By God, I want what I want, and there is nothing wrong with that!

So try to stomp on me, try to douse my inner flame, try to squash every ounce of beauty I hold within me. You won't succeed. And if that makes me a bitch, so be it. I embrace the title and am proud to bear it.

B - Babe

I - In

T - Total

C - Control of

H - Hersely



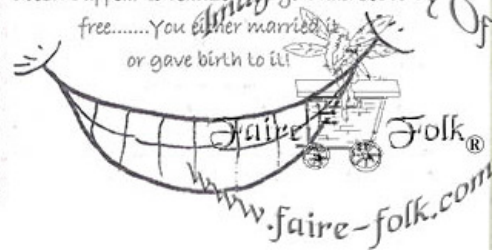
www.faire-folk.com

LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS

1. Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
2. One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.
3. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
4. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
5. The main reason Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.
6. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
7. Could it be that all those trick-or-treaters wearing sheets aren't going as ghosts but as mattresses?
8. If a mute swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
9. If a man is standing in the middle of the forest speaking and there is no woman around to hear him...is he still wrong?
10. If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?
11. Is there another word for synonym?
12. Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do "practice"?
13. Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all"?
14. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
15. If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
16. Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
17. Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?
18. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
19. Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
20. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
21. If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
22. Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?
23. How do they get the deer to cross at that yellow road sign?
24. Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?
25. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
26. One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
27. To be intoxicated is to feel sophisticated, but not be able to say it.
28. Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups.
29. The older you get, the better you realize you were.
30. Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.
31. Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.
32. Women like silent men; they think they're listening.
33. Men are from Earth, women are from Earth. Deal with it.
34. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.
35. Do pediatricians play miniature golf on Wednesdays?
36. Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?
37. Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
38. If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
39. If God dropped acid, would he see people?
40. If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest have to drown too?
41. If the #2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still #2?
42. If work is so terrific, how come they have to pay you to do it?
43. If you ate pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
44. If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
45. Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?

If you love something, set it free. If it comes back, it will always be yours. If it doesn't come back, it was never yours to begin with.

But, if it just sits in your living room, messes up your stuff, eats your food, uses your telephone, takes your money, and doesn't appear to realize that you had set it free..... You either married it or gave birth to it!





www.fair-joke.com

Mush's Musings

"Tortured ramblings
of a melting mind"

As per request, I am reprinting this very important article from Issue #5 for those of you who may have missed it.

Please read it and pass this message along.
Help us to stop the predators amongst us.

Last week I had a hard time finding something with teeth to write about and this week I have more than I can fit into one article, what is one to do? I will do my best to cover all that I can and make sure all the issues are given there due. My first comment is about our valiant boys in red and gold, yes, that's correct, the Safety Services folks. There has always been something we could say that was negative about our protectors. AAAAAAAAAAand there have been good things to say as well. This season seems to have a corner on the negative market. I have been guilty of looking at Safety Services in a poor light just like you. Based on a bad experience with one individual, I mentally dressed the entire safety staff in black uniforms and high topped goose-stepping boots. For this, I apologize. It was not fair and after further research I have found that the people we look to for protection from the drunken and abusive masses have been seriously crippled by new rules from above. Look at entertainment, given our new situation aren't we just a little touchy? Under the circumstances they are doing the best they can with what they are allowed. They may come across as testosterone addicts at times, this I have to grant (sorry guys) but these are the folks I want facing down the D.A.M Patrons (drunken, abusive, mass patrons)...so I don't have to. Talk to them, ask how things are going, you might learn what I did. Now we come to the really important stuff. I have been tormented by this topic for some years and have left it alone for the most part. Time for a change. I refer to the sexual predator that Renaissance seems to attract. Perhaps it is the over abundance of young vulnerable girls and boys, perhaps it is the permissive mind set that is dominant out here. Combination of both maybe? We all know what goes on, we all have seen it and perhaps ignored it so that we did not appear too prudish or become unpopular. Time for a change. These young girls and boys come out here for the same reason we do, with the exception of the sexual predators. These young people want to have fun and laugh and forget the problems that the real world may present. They are vulnerable and in danger. They may not even know what is being done to them until it is too late. Their

first love poem, how exciting...from a man old enough to be their father or grand father?? An adult that seems to actually listen to me and treats me like another adult, it is so different and special...yes it is, but when he starts touching you and trying to kiss you he is treating you like his next victim. Others are aware and are too afraid to say anything to anyone. Don't be, tell someone. Help stop this animal from victimizing anyone else!
YOU ARE NOT AT FAULT! DO NOT FEEL GUILTY!

I speak now to the predator's this is intended for, one in particular actually. You have hurt my friends, you have molested children and gotten away with it, you have hidden amongst the rest of us in a perfect disguise and gotten away with rape and the murder of innocence and hope. For these crimes you will be held accountable, for hurting my friends you will pay.

If you are reading this and think I am attacking you for some reason, maybe I am. Why would you feel this way if there were not something to base it on? If you are reading this and have wanted to stop this from happening for so long that your anger is almost unbearable-DO IT! STOP IT! YOU CAN!

If you are reading this and you are the one person, in particular, that I am aiming at stopping and seeing punished...it is too late. Your time is borrowed and we are angry.

I do not intend to start a "sexual predator witch hunt". I am basing my personal vendetta upon fact and written proof. I have done the research and am satisfied with the evidence, now it will be up to higher forces. But you all know that what I have written about happens, it is up to us to protect these younger members of our microcosm. Don't you wish some one would have protected you once, or your child?

I have been out of favor for so long I am not sure what it would feel like to be accepted again, so this leap into an unpopular position is not a big jump for me. But for others this is as uncomfortable as being fondled by someone you are too scared of to stop... Perhaps standing up for those in trouble is a better place to be after all, you won't be alone.

Important Notice

The Scott County Sheriff Department is looking into serious allegations of sexual harassment and assault purportedly committed by a few contracted entertainers of MAF. If you or anybody you know could share any information you might have, please contact Detective Patterson at 952-496-8410, and she will be happy to assist you. It doesn't matter how long ago it was. Silence will only allow it to happen again. You can remain anonymous.