

25 YEARS AND BEYOND.....

A resounding "Welcome" to all new participants, and a sincere "Thank You" to all those who have helped make our Silver Anniversary a shining year in the history of the Renaissance Festival!

Our 25th anniversary year was the largest Renaissance Festival in the country by 33%!
Attendance reached an all time high of 340,000 patrons. Huzzah Minnesota! All signs indicate another record-setting year.

In addition to the fantastic year MRF had, our other shows continue to grow at similar rates. I believe this growth is the result of the novel events happening year after year. Our visitors know they can count on us for variety, quality and fun with celebrations such as Chocolate Carving, Highland Games and the Flower Festival.

Of course, this wonderful success would not be possible without the tireless efforts and support of our talented participants and staff. Over the many years of the Minnesota Festival we have all become like a family. We hope to continue that tradition — so please continue to express your feelings and ideas.

I look forward to another year of continued excellence.

To all of you... James H. Peterson

Mark Your Calendars ...

for the Renaissance Festival Preview at Lake Calhoun on Sunday, July 14. This event has become a tradition to kick off the Festival season. Once again, the Royal Court will convene in order to audition new and old acts for the upcoming season. The last Festival Preview was a huge success and we had television coverage on four stations. With everyone's help, the Preview is guaranteed to be better than ever!

THelcome to the 1996 Season!!



1996 Site Information and Hours

Summer

June 3 - July 15 7 am - 8 pm Monday - Sunday

Pre-Show

July 15 - August 10 7 am - 10 pm Monday - Sunday

Campground

Registration begins: June 1

Open: August 6, 1996 Closed: October 2, 1996

SITE HOURS FOR SHOW DAYS

Outer Gates

Friday, Saturday & Sunday locked exactly at 10:30 pm (EXCEPTION: Back Gate (Chestnut & Highway 41)

Back Gate

Open Friday 7am to Monday 2am (Guard on duty)

Inner Gates

A Gate & B Gate: Open 7 am 10: Courtes

Interior Drive-In Gates

Open 6:30 am to 8:30 am AND 7:30 pm SHOW DAYS ONLY

Gate guards will be on site to check for IDs until 7:30pm on the part between the will have a guard until 7:45 pm each SHOW DAY. All persons of the part of the checked for IDs at the Hwy 41 & Chestnut gate in the evenings (during SHOW DAYS). All persons without IDs will have to leave the ventre until proper identification is presented.

As a new season begins, we have some new and returning staff to introduce to you!

Bonnie Jacobson, General Manager, is still leading her staff to amazing successes, after last year's record-breaker!

This year she is assisted by the Administrative Director, **Jean Wells**, formerly MAF's Office Manager!

Norma Jurek is taking over as Office Manager. She will continue as Games Director and Food Independent Manger. Receptionist, Mary Brown, will be the voice your hear as you contact our office.



Our Accounting Department also continues to have a "bullish" year under the leadership of Kurt Schneider. Tim Evens and Wendy Clark, Accounts Payable and Receivables/ Payroll, respectively, keep the money rolling in and out!!

Lady Lois Hendries has taken over ALL crafts duties, so a tip of the crown and a toast is definitely due.

Sales continues their drive for excellence under the leadership of Michelle Pattyn. Shawna Severson, Sales Associate, has made a run on corporate accounts in this fast-moving department! Our new Sales Associate, Allison Maas, is coordinating weddings and corporate parties.

Marketing returns this year better than ever, with **Tina Sigman** and **Diana Buckmann** leading the way to corporate sponsorships! Tina & Diana also wish to welcome **Greg Needham**, our new Marketing Associate.

Nicole Borota, Food and Beverage Director, comes north from Kansas. Nicole will be assisted in personnel by Teressa Pratt. Dennis Erp and John Pratt round out the CKC staff

Also deserving a standing ovation is our new Entertainment Director, Sandy Watters. How did we ever persuade her to come up from Florida?

Our site stands firm with Kathy Pedersen as Site Manager, Cindy Gess as Grounds Manager, Nancy Schultz, Ground Crew and Props, and of course our fantastic recomplying cal/carpentry crew, Joe Frey, Harvey Kittleson, Brent Jones (BJ), Rook House Marvelas, Dave Henrich, Chuck Sells and Jim Batzli.

Our new Costume Director, Cindy Perry, will be responsible for the authentic with clothing.

And, never to be forgotten, magical designs and drawings still flow for the life and Artistic Designer, Brian Kemkes.

Special mention also goes out to our wonderful seasonal staff, in the office and on site, for their dedication and commitment, without which we could not stay affoat!



Special Events



In addition to working on sponsorships, the Marketing Department has been busy compiling advertising schedules and promotions. Once again, we will plan a number of special events to take place during the Festival.



August 17 - 18
Wine Sala
Wine Auction
Wine Tasting



August 24 - 25 Mid-Cast Mirage Bellydancing Lessons Bellydancing Exhibition



August 31 - September 2
Royale Ale Festival
Home Brewing Competition

Home Brewing Competition Domestic Beer Tasting Import Beer Tasting



September 7 - 8

A Dighland Fling

ttish Highland Dance Competi

Scottish Highland Dance Competition Full Heavy Events Competition Scottish Clan Displays



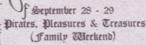
September 14 - 15

A Romantic Arts Affair
Renewal of Wedding Vows
Craft Auction



September 21 - 22 Coffee, Teas & Melodies

Coffee Tasting Tea Tasting & Displays Bread Festival



Medallion Hunt
Perfect Pirate Contest
hildren's Costume Parade

ww.faire-folk.com



PARADES

Spring is in the air and summer is just around the corner! Once again, various community festivals, annual summer events and, of course, The Aquatennial Torchlight and Grand Old Day have asked the Minnesota Renaissance Festival to join in their parade. We are in search of entertainers, who love to have a good time as well as earn a few complimentary tickets and food books, to participate in one or all of our parades this season. Mary Rohe will be our dedicated on-site parade leader. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please call the office and ask for Diana.

| Grand Old Day | June 2 | 10:30am |
|----------------------------|----------|---------|
| Oakdale Summerfest | June 21 | 6:30pm |
| Chanhassen Centennial | July 4 | 2:00pm |
| (Entertainers-No Pageant V | Vagon) | |
| Grand Parade, Annandale | July 4 | 6:30pm |
| Hopkins Raspberry Fest. | July 14 | 2:00pm |
| Aquatennial Torchlight | July 17 | 8:30pm |
| Shakonee Derby Days | August 3 | 10:00am |

Charity Silect Craft Auction

Huzzah to all crafters who participated in the 1995 Charity Silent Craft Auction! The event was a huge success, doubling the 1994 contribution for The Craft Emergency Relief Fund and the Minnesota Museum of American Art. This year, we will be holding the Charity Silent Craft Auction in the Pavilion on Saturday, September 14 from 9am to 4pm. The Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), a nonprofit organization which provides financial and in-kind support to crafters suffering career-threatening emergencies, and the Minnesota Museum of American Art will once again be the beneficiaries. Please consider making a donation of one or more of your works for the silent auction. With your continued support, the 1996 Charity Silent Craft Auction will be bigger and better than ever! Further information on this event will be sent in the Craft Spring Packet.





Say "Cheese" For Photo ID's!!

| CKC | Sat. | 8/3 | B-Gate 9am - 3 pm |
|---------------|--------|------|---|
| Everyone | Mon. | 8/5 | Canterbury Inn age Countes |
| Everyone | Tues. | 8/6 | Canterbury land 5.9 pm |
| | Sat. | 8/10 | B-Gate 9agragem |
| | Fri. | 8/16 | B-Gate 1-950H |
| | Sat. | 8/17 | C-Gate 4 DIT |
| | Sun. | 8/18 | C-Gate Triiring Good Scholk |
| Entertainment | wed. | 8/7 | Macaicsici |
| EIRCHARAITCIA | Thurs. | 8/8 | Macalester 630 630pm |
| | Mon. | 8/12 | Macalester 6:30 · 9:30pm of faire - folk. |





Sales is at it Again!

We are trying hard to get more people at the Festival, and I'm sure that we will succeed and once again have record attendance. So far everything has been running smoothly and we are six weeks ahead of last year! Go Sales!!! The group reservations have been coming in like crazy, and we will be having quite a few very large groups coming. The Feast is also filling up quickly, so if you are planning to attend and haven't made your reservations, call 445-7361 to do so.



YOU can earn two free tickets to the Minnesota Renaissance Festival!! Our Sales Department is busy setting up their corporate accounts for the 1996 season. We are always looking for new accounts to offer consignment tickets. If you know of or work for a company that would like to offer discount tickets to its employees, please call the group sales office at 445-7361.

TWO COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS WILL BE YOURS WHEN THEY SIGN UP!!!



Games, Food and Crafters, Oh MY!



We Made the List!!!

The Harris List is a national show list widely used by crafts people and compiled from recommendations by artists who have attended the shows. There are about 180 listings, organized by region.

Following is an excerpt from a letter sent to the Minnesota Renaissance Festival by editor Dr. Larry Harris:

"It gives me great pleasure to congratulate both you and your staff on your listing in the Harris List of the Nation's Best Arts & Crafts Shows.

In addition, I recognize your show to be one of the top 40 Fine Arts and Craft Shows in the Nation, an impressive accomplishment.

I personally want to thank all of you for maintaining a top-quality marketplace for fine artists and craftsmen particularly at a time when it seems increasingly more difficult to do so."

We pass on the honor and congratulations to each and every one of our loyal craft participants. We count on you to keep up the good work and help us maintain an outstanding reputation.



Play Away!

Welcome back to the new and returning participants! We are ready for the color and activity soon to happen

in the booths, rides and animal areas. I am pleased to be able to have Dave Albright back as Games Manager.

AJDA

Continuous communications with the US Department of Justice will mean changes are ongoing to the Site and its structures to better accommodate our disabled visitors. Policies and guidelines will be available: Any questions can be directed to Norma at (612)445-7361.

Food/Beverage Independents

For the eating and drinking pleasure of our visitors and participants, huzzah for the independents!! We are looking forward to another year of satisfying the hungers and thirsts of all who come to play in our village.

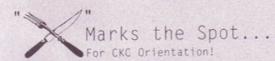




Castle Kitchens Now Accepting Applications

Huzzah! Spread the word throughout the Realm! Castle Kitchens' search for enthusiastic, ambitious peasants to serve up a delicious array of the King's favorite morsels has begun. We offer you the opportunity to earn money in an atmosphere found nowhere else on Earth! CKC will be offering referral bonuses this year for inviting a friend to share the Renaissance experience with you. Applicants must be at least 14 years old by August 12, 1996. For more information, please contact:

eressa Pratt at (Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5pm)



CKC Employee Orientation
Saturday August 3, 9am-5pm on
the Festival grounds. Remember
to bring your birth certificate,
driver's license or permit, or
school i.D., AND social security
card to show proof of identity
for the I-9 form!

CKC Supervisor Orientation Sunday July 21, 9am - 1pm on the Festival grounds. You will be notified if you need to attend.

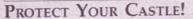
Folk.

Castle Kitchens extends a hearty welcome to all volunteer organizations at the 1996 Festival. These organizations staff many booths at the Festival and use their earnings to support their organizations. Many members have said that the entertaining atmosphere of the Renaissance beat selling candy door - to - door or doing car washes any day! Castle Kitchensia happy to provide this fund-raising opportunity to volunteer organizations.

Thank you for working with us!







OR YOUR SHOP...

EVERY SHOP IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A FULLY CHARGED 10 LB ABC UNDERWRITER-APPROVED EXTINGUISHER EASILY ACCESSIBLE AT ALL TIMES. THEY MUST BE TAGGED AND CURRENT DURING THE SHOW. LOST EXTINGUISHERS OR THOSE NOT IN WORKING ORDER MUST BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY! SAFETY SERVICES WILL BE STOPPING BY TO CHECK YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHER. IF YOURS IS NOT CURRENT, OR IN WORKING ORDER, CALL GARY CHAPLIN OR METROPOLITAN FIRE EQUIPMENT AT





We realize the inconvenience, but we need to keep the traffic to an absolute minimum. Please contact Cindy or Kathy for exceptions.

Emergency Procedures

We all hope that emergencies do not arise, but if they do, we need to know what to do! Here are some guidelines to cover possible situations.

In the event of a life-threatening situation:

- Call 911 from a pay phone. (NO coin is needed.)
- Wait at the phone for the police to arrive. You will be their guide to the emergency.
- For emergencies in the evening, contact Safety Services. There are radios at the BLT and Campground.

-Remain safe and well .-



Entertainment



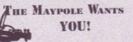
Notes

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Sandra Milliner-Watters (Sandy Watters) comes from Venice FL to Minnesota to serve as Entertainment Director after working for MAF in Florida. Sandy's theater background includes an apprenticeship at Burt Reynolds Theatre in Jupiter, FL, three years traveling internationally for Los Angeles based Covenant Players, a repettory theatre company, and a year as resident company member for Theatre Works in Sarasota, Florida.

Sandy's industry credits include work in film as a casting director, extras casting and production support for CBS' 'The World's Most Dangerous Stunts' segment on wing walkers; a recent segment on ABC's 20/20; as well as work in front of the camera for 'Tarzan,' the season premiere movie (where she actually met her first royalty, the Crown Prince of Indonesial) and the feature, 'Vampire Wars' have kept her busy before her journey to Minnesota.

With MAF's goal of year-round entertainment in mind, auditions will begin soon so that Sandy can see the talent that is available throughout the Twin Cities area. "I love show business. I love the creative process and the unique, gifted people you get to associate with. Acting is a craft and having been an apprentice for a year and a journeyman for three, I genuinely believe that I have some of the tools to master this craft and with the assistance of Gary Parker, I'm looking forward to an exciting year," says Sandy. "This is an exciting new adventure and I know this is a wonderful opportunity to meet many falented and creative entertainers who are serious about their craft."



If you are a musician who is willing and able to provide accompaniment to our Maypole Dancers, please call:

Christina Onusko-Greenwall

at

VETERANS PICNIC

Sunday, June 30

2 - 19 M. Ourtes V

Location - Festival Site

RSVP by June 25

Sandy 445-7361

Faire - folk.com



General Entertainment Policies

Apprentice (New) Entertainers:

- -Must audition for acceptance to the Academy
- -Must attend specific Academy sessions
- -Must be available all Festival days

All entertainers are officially in the '96 Festival when they have signed a contract.

All Entertainers are individually responsible for:

- -Providing professional resume and character biography
 - -Character development
 - -Development of performance material
 - -Costume & props
 - -Transportation to and from the Academy & Festival

All performance material (acts, scenes, bits) must be approved.

All hat passing must be approved by the Entertainment Director.



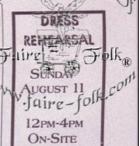














(MEDIA DAY)



Final Entertainment Notes...

We are currently establishing a database for more Corporate/ Special Events work. Update your resumes and show us what else you can do, including technical crew, film crew, specialty

act, stunt work and pyrotechnics, as well as talent, music groups, etc.

Applications will be provided at auditions. You are encouraged to update your resumes and provide references!



Week 1: July 8, 9, 10, 11 (Mon-Thurs., 6:30-9:30pm)
Week 2: July 15, 16, 17, 18 (Mon-Thurs., 6:30-9:30pm)
Week 3: July 22, 23, 24, 25 (Mon-Thurs., 6:30-9:30pm)
Week 4: July 29, 30, 31, Aug 1 (Mon-Thurs., 6:30-9:30pm)
Week 5: August 5, 6, 7, 8 (Mon-Thurs., 6:30-9:30pm)
Week 6: August 12, 13 (Mon-Tues., 6:30-9:30pm)

Graduation! Wednesday, August 14, 5:45pm

The Academy is free and open to all Festival participants - entertainers, crafters, food & games. All sessions will be held at:

Macalester College Student Union SW corner of Grand & Snelling, St. Paul, MN.

AUDITIONS!

Will be held on the following dates/times at the Macalester College Student Union: Saturday, June 29, 1996 12 - 6pm Monday, July 1, 1996 6:30 - 9:30pm Tuesday, July 2, 1996 6:30 - 9:30pm me, style or language

-You do NOT have to audition in Renaissance costume, style or language.

·The audition will be:

-An interview (why do you want to be in the Festival, what do you want to do)

-An on-vour-feet audition (something you choose to do)

If you are going to audition as a Village Character: prepare 1-3 minutes of something that shows voice, character, etc.

If you are going to audition as an Act: prepare 3-5 minutes of your act presentation, music, dance, magic, theatre, juggling, etc.

If you are a veteran performer at the Festival, but want to perform a NEW act of a NEW character, you should come to audition. Veteran auditions will be scheduled by ment only! Call Sandy at Mid-America after JUNE 5, 1996, to set up of the Sandy call be reached at 612-445-7361 or FAX 612-445-7380.

***If you are out-of-state, and can't make auditions send in a tape and resume or PR packet.





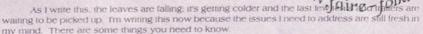






To All Campers

GREETINGS!



First off, thank you to all you people for your patience and understanding. This place doesn't work well under the best of circumstances, and it is a tribute to you people there are not

more problems.

Now, over the past few years, the festival has undergone a great deal of growth. Unfortunately, the campground is basically the same as it was six years ago. This makes it vitally important that everyone submits a campground application. It use these to plan for where and what is coming in. So, as of 1996, if you do not have a campground application in before you come out, you will not get space. As Lunderstand it, the front office will start sending these out in June, so be a pest if you have to.

The way it works is this: Submit a campground application: SEND NO MONEY. If your application is approved, you will receive a card in the mail, confirming that you have a space. You may then come out any time after August I to claim your space. Adjustments will be made for those coming in off the road. If you do not receive such a card, it may mean that your application was not approved for some reason. You may call the campground office to check.

There has been a transition in the past couple of years; you people are getting smarter, or older, or both. Anyway, there are getting to be more trailers than there used to be. I understand the desire for better (and dryen conditions, but there will have to be adaptations. Accordingly, from now on, all trailers must be parked perpendicularly with the nearest road. I realize that some of you will therefore lose your courtyards and party spaces, but trade-offs are necessary.

The Health Inspector made some comments about the number of vehicles in the campground. People are apparently forgetting about the parking rule. The policy is that, on weekends, only those people who live in the campground seven days a week may park their vehicles there. Exceptions are made based upon need. Hopefully, next year, we will have some kind of vehicle pass. But for now, any vehicle parked in the campground without permission will be subject to towing with no warning. It is not something I particularly like to do, but it will be done, none the less.

Trash...It seems like whenever they stop running environmental stuff on TV, the amount of trash in the campground increases. I may start forgiving campground fees for people who provide trash cans

Home builds and alternative camping units....From now on, if it doesn't have a license plate, or meet the standards of whatever state you're coming from, don't bring it out until it does. Such things as boats and unmodified cargo trailers are not acceptable.

Finally, to be frank, this isn't "Joe's Trailer Storage". So as of the end of next year, all trailers and vans will have to be removed from the campground. The tent-platform policy will not be changed.

I don't think any of these changes will cause undue hardship to anyone. They will make the campground better organized, more livable and will give everyone a better Festival experience.

See you in August, lac Martins



GOING TO THE DOGS

Although we all have pets that we love, and want to keep with us as much as possible, the MN Renaissance Festival has been receiving closer scrutiny by the Minnesota Department of Health, AND Scott County officials. Dog bites have become more frequent and serious over the last few years. We have seen the need for much stricter animal controls on site.

If you have a pet that you usually bring to Festival, we strongly encourage you to make other arrangements. We will continue with the same strict rules and regulations as last year. Again this year, all participant pets must have a photo ID. They must be physically restrained and out of sight during show hours. Also this year, pets must be kept under control during the non-show days and hours, as we have experienced damage to gardens and turf due to free-roaming pets.

Contact the staff member responsible for your area of participation to ask about an application.

Try to keep in mind that your pet may be more comfortable at home before you make your pet decision!



You Did What?



We would love to toot your hom for you, if you'll just let us know about awards, accomplishments, and other news that happened during the "off-season!"

Each show weekend also brings new "human interest" stories as participants and patrons interact. We'd love to hear those, too Just take a second to jot down things you see or hear that others may be interested in. Don't worry about perfection, as our newsletter staff can do rewrites as necessary.

Newsletter items can be given to monitors or dropped off at Gate B on any Festival day. Or, if it's more convenient, mail your contributions to the office in care of "Privy Staff."

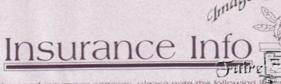
F.Y.I. Important Addresses

Office Address (Located in Canterbury Inn) 1244 South Canterbury Rd., Suite 306 Shakopee MN 55379

Site Address Ourtesy
12364 Chestal Blvd.
Shakoole MN 55339
Office Phone: (612)445-366

Site Numbers: (612)445-275.

V. faire-folk.



For those of you who need insurance services, please note the following for insurance agent to your attention:

Dear Festival Vendor:

Thank you for your interest in the group liability coverage offered for the Mid-America Festivals shows.

The information you requested is as follows:

- I) The quote is for food vendors and arts/crafts people only.
- Coverage is for <u>premises liability only</u>, no product liability. (Product liability will be included in the price for food vendors.)
- Nautilus (insurance carrier) can handle concessionaires from any MAF Festival (i.e. Minnesota, Michigan, Florida, Kansas City.)
- 4) Deductible is \$250 per occurrence
- Premium is \$127.25. This includes festivals listed above. Any festival outside MAF Festivals would require a separate policy.
- Coverage runs from June 1st, 1996 to June 1st, 1997 with The limit of liability being \$1,000,000.
- This coverage does not include building or contents Coverage. This would require a separate policy.

To secure coverage, fill out the enclosed form, sign, date, and mail with check for \$127.25 to RBW/Acordia Inc. Upon receipt, a certificate of insurance will be issued. This coverage meets Renaissance Festival requirements. Please feel free to call or write if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely.

Michelle Louiselle Account Manager

RBW/Acordia, Inc. 251 West Lafayette Frontage Rd PO Box 7128 St Paul MN 55107

| Name: | |
|---|--|
| | |
| Shop Name: | |
| Address: | |
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| Signature: | |
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