

puncilor

Volume 37 \lssue |

August 18-19, 2007

Opening Weekend & Silk Road: Ascover the Riches

Mid-America Festivals

1244 Canterbury Road

Suite 306

Shakopee, MN:55379

Phone: Fax:

Shop: Site:

First Aid:

Safety Services: Ext. 101

Site Hours For Show

Outer Gates:

Fri, Sat and Sun locked @ 10:30 PM

-Exceptions-

Back Gate:

7 am-2pm Monday With security guard on duty

Inner Gates:

A and B Gate open 7am -10:30pm

Check In Gate Times B Gate 6:30am -8:00pm C Gate 6:30am-1:00pm

Drive-In Gates:

6:30 am to 8:00 am

Arabian Horse Show: A Majestic Arabian Horse Exhibition will take place at 12:00 and will be demonstrating Haidong Gumdo, a 3:00 on the Joust Track. Watch the beautiful horses and riders of The Minnesota Half Arabian Horse Association

Belly Dance Performances: The Mozavik Arabic Ensemble will entrance you with their moves at the Special Events Pavilion at 11:30, 12:30, 3:30 and 4:30.

Middle Eastern Music: Let the sounds of Middle Eastern music take you on a journey to a far place. Music performed by the Mozayik Arabic Ensemble at 10:30, 12:00 and 1:30 in the Special Events Pavilion

Belly Dance Lessons: Leave your inhibitions at home and move to the beat in the belly dance lessons presented by The Mozayik at 10:00, 12:00, and 2:30 at the Mud Stage. Learn the moves and register to compete in our Middle Eastern Belly Dance Competition at 5p.m on the Mud Stage.

Dahlal International: Revel in the rich colors and textures of the Middle East's fashions at the Dahlal's tent located next to the Pavilion stage. Don't miss this one-time shopping opportunity at the Festival!

The PieceMakers Hookah Bar: Not your typical Renaissance Bar! Check out this new Middle Eastern experience located by the Gypsy Stage. Take in flavored tobacco or admire the colorful glass craftsmanship at this new booth!

Middle Eastern Dance Competition: Once you have mastered the art of moving your hips at the Belly Dance Lessons, Adults and Children can compete in the Belly Dance competition for a chance to win the MN State Title and Dahlal Gift Certificates. Starts promptly at 5pm on the Mud Stage.

Korean Sword Art: Twin Cities Gumdo Korean sword art. They will demonstrate basic techniques, cutting demonstrations, and audience participation in paper cutting.

Children's Hula Hoop Contest: Young princes and princesses can swivel their hips in a Hula Hoop contest at 11:00am at the Children's Realm Stage.

Children's Costume Contest: Lads and Lassies can compete in a Renaissance Costume Contest at 1:00 on the Children's Realm stage. After the competition, the children will be invited to participate in the Grande Marche Parade at 2:00.

Children's Knighting Ceremony: The King invites all children to become official Knights of the realm daily at 3:30. Held at King's Arbor. Please arrive at 3:15 to participate.

Pet Costume Contest: Bring your pet in their best renaissance themed costume to the Pet chef Express Cart to win prizes. Pet Chef Express cart is located near the front

Tai Chi Lessons: Join Who Knew Su Nu Usagi as she demonstrates the art of Tai Chi. Take the opportunity to unwind yourself as she provides beginners lessons Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 on Sheppard's Green!

Kings Dungeon

Come visit the eerier side of the Renaissance at the Kings Dungeon. Walk through the executioner's chamber; visit the catacombs of doom and more! Located on the Unicorn Stage, this new attraction is sure to entertain!

News from the Craft World

Welcome to the 2007 Minnesota Renaissance Festival. We have been anticipating the arrival of this wonderful event and now it's hard to believe it's finally here. I guess I'll just dive right into the changes for this year.

As most of you know Crystal Davis is no longer the Craft Coordinator and has passed over the reins to me; Devin Kuwitzky. I have already sent out an introduction letter but in case you didn't get a chance to read it I will give you a little refresher about myself. I just graduated from the University of Wisconsin LaCrosse in December of 2006 with a Bachelors degree in Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations and a minor in Psychology. I am very excited to have my first experience here at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. All of the Crafters that I have either had a chance to meet or talk to thus far have been very helpful and welcoming. It is nice to have such a warm welcome into something that is unfamiliar to me. Moving to a new state and starting my first job is nerve racking enough and to have people make you feel welcome makes things a lot easier. If you have any questions you can always reach me during the week at Mid-America Festivals office;

As far as Festival is concerned, I will be there every Saturday and Sunday. You can still leave messages for me at B-Gate each day of the Festival.

Passes: You should have either picked up or received your passes by now. If you sent in your pass and did not receive it back, it expired and you will need to get a new one taken. I have all passes that did not get picked up in a box at B-Gate for you to pickup opening weekend. Due to problems with the system and the newness of our Front office, we have had to have limited time doing Photo ID's. We understand that this will cause very long lines, but again, be patient and they will help you as quickly as possible. It doesn't help to get frustrated with them or with the Festival. We are all in the same boat and anger doesn't get things moving any faster. If you do not have enough red parking passes, the girls at B-Gate can help you. If you want to make changes to your pass list during the week call or email me. If I need an explanation, I will call you. We do not need to speak directly unless necessary. If you want to make changes during the weekend come see me. What about \$5 worker passes? You will still be able to utilize that, and with the same rules that were already in place. What are those rules? Refer to your Craft Participant handbook for the deadline. What about take a total purchase extra passes? For \$53 per photo ID and \$53 per Generic. You just have to inform me ahead of time.

The Craft Liaison program has once again been instituted. This program seemed to work well in the past and I hope it will continue into the future. I do want to thank all the volunteers that help with this program. They will deliver your Privy's on Saturdays and can provide you with forms for questions, comments or concerns.

Huzzah! Sir Rotten is celebrating 75 years of being Rotten!!!

Stop by the Information Booth and wish him another 75 years of Rotteness!! (Aug. 18th & 19th)

Happy Birthday Dick from everyone at the Chaska Civic Theatre!



The difference between a moral man and a man of honor is that the latter regrets a discreditable act, even when it has worked and he has not been careful were

hu.faire-folk.com

Greetings from Safety Services!

Welcome back, and we hope you all have a good season. We have a few things we'd like to go over quickly.

Passes

Please make sure you have your pass at all times. Without it, you'll be asked to leave. No one is allowed on site without a pass, no one is allowed through gates without a pass, and no one is allowed after hours without a pass. Please make sure that you and any of your employees have a pass prior to coming to work; those without passes will have to go to B-Gate to obtain them, and will not be allowed to cut through site to get there.

Cars on Site

Cars are not allowed to enter site after 8:00a.m, and all cars must be off site by 8:30 a.m.. This has been the rule for well over 16 years. Please do not plan on showing up at 8:45 and expect to be allowed onsite. Also, please note that, at the discretion of MAF management, cars may not be permitted on site if the ground is wet and muddy. If it rains, please plan accordingly.

Parking

Parking will not be allowed near B-gate for the first two weeks of Festival. There is an event planned outside the gates and parking will be limited in that area.

If you need to park ONSITE, you must make arrangements to do so with MAF Management. Failure to do so and display a parking pass will subject your car to towing.

Safety Services / First Aid Hours

Safety Services Staff is on duty from 6:00 p.m. Friday evenings until 2:00 a.m. Monday mornings.

First Aid staff is available from about 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. If you have a medical emergency during hours that First Aid staff is not available, a member of Safety Services night staff will assist you if possible. However, Safety Services staff is not under direction from a medical facility and will therefore likely refer you elsewhere for medical attention.

Please refrain from using First Aid as a place to visit and sit and relax. While the show is open the facility must remain accessible for people needing medical attention. The staff appreciates your visits however they do have a job to do.

Safety Services Phone Number

If you need us and can't find a site walker PLEASE CALL US! The phone number for First Aid and Safety Services Dispatch is

One doesn't have a sense of humor.

It has you. - Larry Gelbart

Memorial for Joel Stadtler Nov 14th 1957 - Dec 6th 2006

It is with great sadness and our deepest regrets that we inform you of a death in the Safety Services Family, Joel Leroy Stadtler passed away on December 61 2006. Joel had been our Horse Gate guard for 10 years, and a member of the festival family even longer. He was loved by many, and a friend to all. We will be having a short service at the Pavilion on Saturday August 18th at 9:00 pm for all of those who wish to come and share a story or memory. After the memorial, we will go to Horse Gate and mount a plaque in Joel's memory. All

Fire Extinguishers

J.N. Johnson service will once again be out to recharge, repair and replace fire extinguishers. Please look for him near C-Gate on Saturday, August 25th from 7am-2:00pm. The cost for services is as follows:

> Annual Fire Extinguisher certificates Recharge, 5, 6 and 10 yr Maintenance Hydrostatic Testing

season, so please make a point to visit if necessary.

\$5,00 \$20,00 \$45.00

He will accept only cash or checks and it must be paid at the time of service. This will be his only scheduled stop for the



Welcome Back Alf!

The Rough Theater By Carr

British theater director, Peter Brook, has written extensively about the theater. In his book The Empty Space, he defines and describes the various forms of theater. One of the forms he describes is the Rough Theater, a theater outside the theater, and a "popular" theater like our festival.

"Of course, it is most of all dirt that gives the roughness its edge; filth and vulgarity are natural, obscenity is joyous: with these the spectacle takes on its socially liberating role, for by nature the popular theatre is anti-authoritarian, anti-traditional, anti-pomp, anti-pretence. This is the theatre of noise, and the theatre of noise is the theatre of applause."

The festival is a place such as this. So often the very thing we decry about the festival, the dirt, dilapidated buildings, and roughness is what makes it such a special space for us and for our patrons, it is what makes this "set" so unique among theaters: and we the players, the entertainers, jongleurs and jesters celebrate the unconventional, the resistance to authority and, speaking for myself, the joyous filth, obscenity and vulgarity of this scene. It is in fashion a form of pure theater, the honest low-rent cousin to the snotty pretense of the Guthrie, or the sour foul-mouthed brother to the Saccharin musical theater like Chanhassen.

We are then, in our own way, a theater that is vital and alive in a way none others can be. We enter every fall complaining that our home's rotting edifice is getting worse and that the "box office" management doesn't "get" who we are, and still we arrive with anticipation. Every year we hear the conversation about how "it can't get any worse!" and why this is "absolutely going to be my last year!" knowing full well that when it comes to this tinder box jewel, we are weak and nearly defenseless. We know that despite the last minute condition of this place, or even our own aging, we can hardly stay away. There is something here that feeds us in a way we cannot find elsewhere, something so great as to cause us to voluntarily overlook the conditions, the pay or the paymaster.

We are, most of all, a loving and dysfunctional family. Many of us can hardly keep track of our wallets and keys, have never managed a schedule for our lives or find 9 to 5 a long-term impossibility. Many of us drive old cars, wear hand me downs and watch or read far too much sci-fi. We're the land of misfit toys, and what we love about this place is that it can take whatever we give it and it doesn't care. We can be ourselves here, even if we are hidden under costumes or covered in dirt make up. We can be free for a while.

As we start another season, and we hear the same themes of complaints about conditions, lousy pay, screwed up management, crappy buildings and long hours, we can acknowledge we are home. Perhaps though, as I am trying to do this season, we can also recognize that these things make this theater our home. Like all of you, in the midst of all of this gnashing. I'm glad to be home again, ready and waiting for the canon to blast and for the celebration inside this rough theater to begin again, it's what we do best.

Have a blast, and see you on the street.



Entertainment Department would like to welcome Cynthia Rapacz She is currently studying for her masters degree in creative writing at Hamline University. She is also the Vice-President and Co-producer of Extreme Farming.



Volume 37 Issue I Page 5

PETS

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Pets that will be on the festival grounds, in a booth or the campground need to registered with your department head, and have an application on file. You will need to have a "Pet ID" for your dog, which you will have to carry with you.

Please fill out the pet application and give a copy of your pets shot records, the \$10 fee and a small photo of your pet to your department head. For those of you that already have a "Pet ID" you still need to fill out an application and bring your current shot records along with the \$10 fee to get your card punched. Scott County wants us to keep track of this information in case of animal bites and it is also MAF policy.

HALL OF MASTERS

The Hall of Masters, near the Bear Stage, is a place for crafters to display their best work. Each crafter is scheduled to exhibit in the Hall twice during the season, if you feel you have an item particularly suited to one of the theme weekends, it is welcome. Alicia Wold, Mistress of the Hall, will accept pieces Saturday mornings beginning at 7:30am to display in the Hall, The location of your shop is noted on a large site map in the Hall, which gives patrons a chance to view your product, and find your shop if needed. Please fill out a registration card for every item you bring to the Hall and pick up your items after 7pm on the last day of the weekend.

THE RENAISSANCE COLLECTION

The Renaissance Collection, informally known as "The CAP" is located in Folkstone. The Collection is a historical view of Festival crafts representing exceptional work of Festival artists in all media. Please stop by and see the art and meet the Curator of the Collection, David Bryce.

PHOTO ID SCHEDULE

We are taking Photo ID's on Saturday and Sunday (August 18th, 19th, 25th and 26th) from 11am – 5pm at B-Gate. Please make sure that everyone who is associated with your booth, troop, game, food, etc. is on your respective lists. If they are not on the list, they will still be able to have their picture taken, but it will not be printed until employment is verified. Speak with your department head about your list if there is a question.





Stop In! The Chaska Community Center

All Festival employees who have a Photo ID will be able to use the center for the same rate as a Chaska resident. The center is equipped with a workout area, pool, basketball, volleyball, daycare, skating rink and full-service locker rooms. Call (952) 448-5633 for information & times. Take a break from the routine and check out what they have to offer.

ANNIVERSARIES TO HONOR

Each year the Festival honors participants who are celebrating 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of continuous involvement and dedication to the Festival. You could have started in one area and then moved through several other areas at the Festival. Forms are available on the back of the Privy Councilor, Information Booth, or at B-Gate on the first and second weekends. Completed forms should be submitted to B-Gate personnel. NO form will be accepted after Sunday, August 26th. If we don't receive the completed form, we don't know. And it will be another 5 years before you get your next award. So to recap, NO FORM - NO AWARD. Please remember, the years of participation must be consecutive.

Well we are BACK for another year of fun! We are established and wiser and the marketing behind this year should prove that! We appreciate all of the encouragement and help that we have received from all of the participants over the past few months. We have come up with some great new tools thanks to many of those suggestions! We appreciate all those that have jumped at some of the new opportunities like the Scottish Fair, the Minnesota Science Museum Dino and the dozens of other new events this year. These new events have helped us increase the reach of our promotions 5 fold!

As we look at other marketing opportunities we can't negate the effectiveness of word-of-mouth. The greatest advertising tool that we have is you! To embrace this we have come up with a great opportunity for all participants. The poster contest will take place thru the run of the festival. It is simple and takes very little time. Check out page 8 for more information.

After all the advertising is bought and planned and we have them in the gates, we in marketing have another feat to conquer. Many of you will notice new and exciting opportunities around the Festival. Whether it is the King is Dungeon, Fiesta Renaissance weekend, the Chocolate Festival, or the World Amateur Highland Heavy Games we need your support to make these events work. It is important in your everyday interactions that you are aware of events like these. Help us make the Festival better by promoting the new, the exciting and the growth! The events are listed in the facility of this letter, so check it out, ask questions and get excited! If there is an event that particularly peaks your interest and you want to get involved please PLEASE let us know and we find a great way for you to help out.

We can't begin to express our excitement to see how this year unfolds, we have been patiently waiting for this season to start and we are holding on with both hands but eyes wide open to see where it takes us.

* New for 2007:

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The following are new events that we have worked hard on over the past months. The majority of these events will be held in the BLT tent.

The World Amateur Highland Heavy Games and the Minnesota Amateur Highland Heavy Games: These events will take place second weekend in the B-gate parking lot area. We are excited also to expand the number and variety of Scottish groups and vendors to create the Scottish Village. We are definitely looking for entertainers to help hawk the area in general as well as the entrance.

Byggvirs Big Beer Cup: A National Homebrew Competition. This event will take place in the BLT tent third weekend. With the help of the Minnesota Homebrew association and other notable sponsors we are excited to host this great competition. Please note that patrons and festival participants will not be able to taste the beer.

King Henry's Birthday: Labor Day only, we will be providing free pieces of cake to patrons at the post parade ceremonies, while everyone signs him happy birthday.

Pet Fest: This event will take place during Irish Heritage Celebration weekend. We have a number of charities, dog accessory suppliers and other organizations coming out to celebrate the PET! This event will be taking place in the BLT tent both day's.

Longbow Competition: Also Irish Heritage Celebration, we will be hosting the first Longbow competition. The competition is open to patrons and participants alike, for more information or to register check out the website!

** Chocolate Festival: We are excited this year to have our first Chocolate Festival. We have about 15 vendors signed up to be out selling and sampling some of the Twin Cities most delectable chocolates. This event we will be held in the BLT tent as well.

Fiesta Renaissance: This new weekend has been created to celebrate one of the most finfluential groups of the Renaissance period, the Spaniards! We will be featuring Span-tish Dance, Fencing, and Spanish foods galore during this weekend.

Thanks!

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Deb & Danielle

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Upcoming Promotions!!!

The Marketing Staff needs your help spreading the word about the Minnesota Renaissance Festival! Earn points that can be redeemed for comp tickets and food books while having fun in costume!

Email us at

information

Bar Promo!

Tuesday August 21° 6pm - 8pm

Happy Gnome 498 Selby Avenue St. Paul

Points: To request your points in a particular manner please emai

Food books = 2 points Tickets = 1 point.



"On stage you're free. You can say and do things that if you said and did any place else, you'd be arrested."

~Robin Williams



Welcome Newby's!!

The marketing department would like to take this opportunity to introduce some great new additions to our staff!

Molly joined our department in early October as our new graphic designer! Thank her for the great new material and website! She will also be wandering the streets taking photo's: Don't forget to smile!

Tristan is one of our marketing interns for the season. A student of St. Cloud, she has bought a great energy and excitement to the marketing department. Be sure to welcome Tristan as she bounces around the site.

Will is the second of our marketing interns for the 2007 season. A student of Georgetown, Will has been a comedic relief in our most stressful of times. Due to the location of his college, Will is only going to be out at the festival opening weekend.

Entertainment Special Events:

Many entertainers mentioned last year that they wanted to know who ran the entertainment run events, so they could be involved. Below is a list of the events and who is running them. If you are interested in participating in appl contact the appropriate person.

> Food Eating Contest: Anj Olsen and Linda Clayton (Every weekend) Grape Stomp: Anj Olsen and Linda Clayton (6th weekend) Beer Tasting: Matt Alex and Brian Kisch (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th weekend) Wench Press: Stephen Miller (3rd weekend) Mask Fashion Show: Greg De Danann (5th weekend)

Men in Tights and Best Bloomers: Lori Baerg (6th weekend) Kilt Competition: Contacts still needed (4th weekend)

2007 Minnesota Renaissance Festival Poster Contest

Goal: Help promote your 2007 Minnesota Renaissance Festival! Entertainers can visit businesses across Minnesota distributing posters for the 37th Festival. The entertainer with the most posters placed up will win a Blue Green 3 day/ 2 night destination vacation! 1st and 2nd runner's ups will also receive prizes.

Poster Distribution: Visit each store personally and hand them two (2) posters along with a voucher to send in for the company to receive two (2) tickets to the Minnesota Renaissance Festival, for their help in promoting our show. Before distributing the vouchers, you must write your name in the assigned blank on the voucher so we can keep track of the total number of posters per person.

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- Restaurants
- Hotels
- **Gas Stations** Book Stores
- Music Stores
- Coffee Shops

- Office Buildings
- Libraries
- Large apartment complex's
- Nursing Homes
- Churches
- Universities

- Bars
- Travel/Tourist Shops
- Malls
- Coffee Shops
- Art & Craft Stores

How to Participate: The contest will begin July 18, 2007 and will run through the end of the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. Posters and vouchers can be picked up at cast rehearsal, promotions or in the office. Remember points will only be granted once business vouchers are received by the Festival office. If you have any other questions, please email the Marketing Department at . Only questions sent to this email will be answered.

Thank you for helping pron	note the 37th Ann	nual Minnesota Renaissance Festival!
Festival, please send this voucher to ou	r office to receive 30, 2007 / PLUS:	rith two tickets to the Minnesota Renaissance two (2) tickets to the Festival. Open Weekends Festival Friday September 28, 2007. Open Rain
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Minnesota Renaissance Festival		Name da Poster Distributor:
Attn: Marketing 1244 Canterbury Rd		Name coproster distributor:
Suite 306		V. Jaire - form
Shakopee, MN 55379		
952.445.7361 		

The Top Ten Campground Myths

(Warning; adult content) By Jac Martins

- #1 Everyone who stays in the campground is a drug addicted, baby- eating Satanist: FALSE. I happen to know that some are vegetarians. The truth is there are people from all walks of life who stay in the campground. That's what makes it an interesting place.
- #2 There are all night orgies in the campground: FALSE. Hate to spoil your adolescent fantasics, but this one's not true. Most people are way too tired after a day out here.
- #3 There are all night drum-jams in the campground: FALSE. A long time ago (say 20 years), this would have been true. But people got really tired of bad drumming, or as my teacher Adnan calls it "drumken monkey pounding". So drum-jams are restricted. By the way, a "drum-jam" is defined as three or more drums being played at the same place and the same time.
- #4 Young women have been known to disappear after going to Arthur's Knoll (the Morris Dancer's camp): TRUE. But it hasn't happened in a long time.
- #5 The RV section used to be a marsh: TRUE. Some of us remember when there were reeds and cattails right where trailers and motor homes are now parked.
- #6 The campground has always been where it is: FALSE. The campground, such as it was, was originally located in the oak trees out by A-Gate. It didn't move to where it is now until 1978. It also was much bigger. It used to extend out to the back road. But a lot of that was marsh.
- #7 The JCs were once banned from the campground: TRUE. It had to do with one of them driving his station wagon down the pedestrian path after the clean-up party one year. But that was a very long time ago.
- #8 There are lots of sexual assaults in the campground: FALSE. In the 20 years that I have been running this place, I have had two reported assaults. In the first, the young lady involved broke her assailant's arm. In the second, the young man was acquitted on all charges.
- #9 Jac is a really nice guy: FALSE. I'm really not a very nice person. Ask any of my ex-wives.
- #10 People have sex in the showers; TRUE. Let me put it this way; 3:00a.m.on a Tuesday morning is one thing, 8:00 p.m. on a Saturday night is another. If you should encounter this at any time, feel free to contact me or Safety Services. Such activity does count as sexual harassment and disorderly conduct. Wouldn't that just spoil the romance?



MNRF Yahoo Group

For news, information and a place to talk amongst entertainers, crafters, Jaycees, CKC and other Workers of the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. Join your community on line at:



Anniversary Service Awards

The Minnesota Renaissance Festival Service Awards will honor all those participants who have been involved with the Festival for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years. Please fill out the following participation form to be eligible. The years must be consecutive. (Please be as detailed and accurate as possible.)

The completed form can be returned to B-Gate, Information Booth or the Entertainment office.

No forms will be accepted after Sunday, August 26th, 2007 NO exceptions!

Email:	Phones: ()							
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