



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

Privy Counciller

Volume 38 Issue 3

August 30, 31 & September 1, 2008

Royal Ale Fest

Polaris Kingdom

Visit the Polaris Kingdom and be one of the first to see the new 2009 Polaris ATV's and Rangers. Learn about the new features and then take one for a FREE test drive on the professionally built ATV track. Entrance is located by Queen's Pub

National Homebrew Competition

Join the Minnesota Homebrew Association as beers from across the nation compete for the Byggvir's Big Beer Cup this weekend only! The competition embraces historically accurate beers, meads, and ciders. The event will run from 10am to 4 pm in the Blue Lions Tent (BLT).

Longbow Competition

Come watch competitors from across the Midwest compete in the Minnesota State longbow competition. Held Saturday and Sunday at 2pm in the Special events Field. Please come early to get your spot!

FREE Grain Belt Beer Tasting

Tap into the spirit with FREE beer tasting in the Special Events Pavilion at 12:30, 2:30, and 4:30. Saturday & Sunday only. Seating is limited and will begin 15 minutes prior; everyone must have a valid ID by order of his Majesty King Henry and the State of Minnesota. No exceptions.

Beer Demonstration

Come to the Special Events Pavilion and learn how ye favorite ale be made! Speakers from the Minnesota Homebrew Association will share the secrets of the brewing process at 10:30 & 3:30.

King's 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! Lo-

cated on the Unicorn Stage, this new attraction is sure to entertain!

Wench Press

See valiant men test their strength, stamina, and courage in the time-honored competition of wench-pressing at 1:00 in the Special Events Pavilion.

Queen Margaret Birthday

Celebrate the Queens birthday at Noon at the King's Arbor. This event takes place after the parade. Join the Royal family for free cake and celebrations! Labor Day only!

Beer Cheese Soup Contest

Check out this new addition to our Royal Ale weekend. Watch as patrons just like yourself compete in this eating contest. The adult contest is on the Pavilion Stage at 1:30 pm and the children's contest is in the Children's Realm at 1:00pm

Children's Costume Contest

Lads and Lassies can compete in a Renaissance Costume Contest at 3:00 on the Children's Realm stage. Participating children will be escorted to the King's Arbor to show their fine garb in the Knighting Ceremony.

Children's Knighting Ceremony

King Henry 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 booth, to win prizes at 3:00pm. Pet Chef Express is located near the Children's Realm.



Image Courtesy Of
Folk
www.faire-folk.com

News from the Craft World

By Devin Kuwitzky

RETURNING CRAFTERS, NEW LOCATION

From Peddler to Shopkeeper Booth #133: Robert Mills - The Candlestick Maker
 From Peddler to Shopkeeper Booth #143 Bill Weidemer - Ravensmith

CRAFTERS ON SABBATICAL

Jennifer Busse- Additional Artist
 Bill Pine- Wands Cart P-54
 Judy Hunter- Jesters Court #629
 Pornprapa Blake- Dragons P-25

CRAFTERS NOT RETURNING

SHOP NO.	SHOP NAME	CRAFTSPERSON
#P-16	Royal Exchange Jeweler	A.J. Cullum
#828	A.N. Original	Allyson Nagel
#143	Wind Songs Design	Richard White
#822	Dungranch Pottery	Joe Leach
#511-512	Pouches'N' Petals	Ann Hallgren
#644-645	Fortrellelse Studio	Sarah Kunze
#343	Lady Victoria's Pic. Shoppe	Vivian Sherrick

****Reminder!****

Please remember to clean up all of your own debris and garbage. Site crew is not to be held responsible. **THANK YOU!!!!**

Passes- If you need to make changes to your pass list, do so before Wednesday noon. You may call me at the office or email them to [REDACTED]. The books are done on Wednesday, so if you don't get the changes in before the deadline, you will have to go to your respective Gate to make the change Saturday morning.

I can be found every Sat and Sun at the festival or at B-Gate. If you need to speak with me, the girls at the B-Gate counter will help.

Reminder Masters Dinner

The Master/Artisan Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, September 6th at 8:00 p.m. in Bad Manor. Please turn in your RSVP by Sunday August 31st at B-Gate. Thanks

Reminder: \$12.50 owed for Fire Number Signs

There has been a request by the Scott County Fire Department for all craft booths to have a fire number sign posted to their booths. The signs have been made and posted by the Site Crew for uniform reasons. The signs are 4 1/2 X 5 which puts them at eye level. The signs will be posted on your right side of your booths. The payment must be paid in Check form to Mid-America Festivals and given to Devin at B-gate by no later than August 24th. Any questions feel free to ask for Devin at B-Gate or during the week at the office at [REDACTED]. Thank You!

Image Courtesy Of
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Greetings from the Marketing Department

Thanks to all of the entertainers that helped with the Beer Tastings and the Kilt competition last weekend, both were a great success! This weekend we have FREE Polaris ATV Rides, this area is located down by A gate and patrons can access through the 800 line of booths by queen's pub.

New for 2008:

Polaris ATV Track: Polaris will be premiering their 2009 vehicles in the Polaris Kingdom located by Gate A. Patrons will have the chance to test drive the vehicles, learn about the new features and talk to Polaris representatives. The Polaris Kingdom will only be open the weekends of August 30-September 1 and September 13-14. Patrons do not have to pay an extra fee for this event and it cannot be accessed from outside the Renaissance gates.

Boece Ball Tournament: This event will be during the Italian Carnivale, September 20-21. It is open to anyone and everyone and will be held in the Special Events Field. Registration is on our website or patrons can register the day of the event. We welcome entertainment groups to participate.

Wine Festival: This year the Wine Festival will be a different weekend from the Chocolate Festival allowing more vendors to attend. This also will be located in the Special Events Field and is on September 13-14 during our Wine Gala.

Microbrew Tasting: This event will be held on September 7th during the Irish Heritage Celebration. Local breweries, bars and restaurants will be bringing out their finest beers for patrons to sample.

Thanks again,
Deb Schaber
Marketing Director

Join us at King of the Log for our annual After hours Tournament!! September 13 7:30 PM

Battle with workers from throughout the Realm for the King of the Log title. Join us for fun, friendship, libations and food.
Sign-up at the Log by 7:30



Red Hat Day, Sunday, September 7th.
The local MN RenFest Red Hatters group is helping organize events for the upcoming Red (and Pink!) Hat day on Sunday, Sept 7th. Our current schedule of events includes participation in the parade (meet by the Arbor at 11:15), gathering for a potluck-picnic lunch in the green area under the big tree by the dungeon at 12:30. (In case of rain lunch will be in the room next to the print making building.) Possibly a toast at the Arbor at 1:30 and Tea with the Queen at 4:00 pm.

We welcome anyone who wishes to join us as part of the celebration to attend the events. There is reduced admission to the tea (mention Red Hat day when making reservations).

In addition to those joining us as participants for the day, we are looking for entertainers who might want to do a hit and run for entertainment at lunch, and of course request everyone be ambassadors for the renaissance to the exceptional ladies who are a part of this organization.

Thanks to everyone!
MN Renfest Red Hatter Queen Mum Jo Ann French (Goodwife Joan)
MN Renfest Red Hatter Ambassador Kim Grandprey (Lady Spicer)

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The Dog And That...Guy!

By Carr

This past weekend I put on my Rat Catcher and hit the streets to abuse young and old alike. I love to improvise in the midst of laughter, or to hear a little outrage. There was a time when I was one of the only performers given latitude to be bawdy. I used to feel I hadn't done my job if "management" hadn't received a letter or two about something offensive that I inflicted upon some unsuspecting soul. Now days, I have competition, probably too much of it, and my bag humping and callous remarks seem a tad old fashioned and out of vogue.

Still, I love the connection I feel when the audience and I can co-create a comedic dance ripe with possibilities. As a street performing character, I can't do what I do alone. It's simple, without the audience, I don't have much material to work with. Stage musicians, euro-clowns, jugglers, magicians and sword fighting fancies love to have an audience, but could play their lines to an empty theater. There is a linearity to what they do, a beginning, a middle and, hopefully an end. In the form of performing I occupy, it's random, analogue, and doesn't really have any kind of theatrical arc, story line, or even a set of jokes. Most of the material is found by provoking the audience, pushing them around verbally to see what happens, and we don't know where it's going to go! When they respond, as they always do, the play begins. As a performer, I have to "jump and build" from one idea to the next, from one audience idea to another. The show is over, more or less, when I walk away.

Over the years I've come to value two particular elements, among many, that make working in this godforsaken dust hole worth the effort. Oddly, the first one isn't even human, it's the dogs. Dogs are a gold mine of comedic possibilities, because they seem to be good with whatever comes along, no matter what the conditions. We've all seen the kind of people that drag around some poor old-gimp elderly dog that would rather be home sleeping, farting and licking its integumentary system, then to be walking around in the cancer inducing cloud of limestone dust, spilt beer and hippie DNA covering the festival grounds. Still, even that poor dog is ready to go if provoked. Dogs are born ready to bark, chew, play, eat, drink, sniff, piss, poop and hump on anyone willing to get on the ground and give the invitation. Give a dog a bone, and anything can happen.

The other one, and even more critical to personal performing inspiration, is that guy or gal that will laugh at everything. They rarely get involved in the show, though they are comedies voyeurs, standing in the shadows and working up a lathering laugh track. What gives them their identity is the amount of loud, unselfconscious laughter they bring, which is a fuel spigot that can set an entire audience on fire. When they are watching and laughing, our material is funnier, our timing better, and our ideas more abundant. I've worked in the pitch with audiences who are flaccid and frigid, but if I've got just one dude with the big laugh, or a lady with a gasping, wet cigarette chortle, I know all will be well.

These are the little things we streeters know and love, so, if you want to make our day, send your friends that like to laugh over to watch our show, and if they have a dog, have them bring it along, because at the end of the show that dog, that guy and I will have had the time of our lives.



PETS

Pets that will be on the festival grounds, in a booth or the campground need to be 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 pet's 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 MAP policy.



Dance Around the World!

When: Friday evenings, 7:30, on an ongoing, drop-in basis
 Begins September 5, 2008, and continues through April.
 (NOTE: new night of the week—was on Saturday nights)

Cost: \$7 at the door (\$5 if you are a Tapestry member)

Where: Tapestry Folkdance Center
 3748 Minnehaha Avenue South
 Minneapolis

More Info: www.tapestryfolkdanec.org 612-722-2914

THE RENAISSANCE COLLECTION

Informally, known as "The CAP," its home is in Folkstone. The Renaissance Collection represents exceptional work of Festival artists in all media. In recent years, purchases have been made primarily from the Masters in the Masters Program. The Collection is a historical view of Festival crafts. It is well worth a visit and a chance to meet David Bryce, Curator of the Collection.

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.

"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

Lost and Found

We have been getting a lot of questions about lost and found items. If you lose something during the day, check the information booth. Even if it's turned in at B-Gate, we will bring it up to the information booth. After cannon, items are delivered to B-Gate. The same goes if you find an item. On Monday, all items from the weekend are taken to the main office. There they sit until someone claims them. Just as a reminder, items are **NOT** brought back to B-Gate from previous weekends. Helpful tip: Use the words "mom, dad, or home" in your cell phone. That's usually where we start when trying to get it back to its owner.