



Mid-America Festivals

1244 Canterbury Road

Suite 306

Shakopee, MN 55379

Phone: [Redacted]
Fax: [Redacted]
Shop: [Redacted]
Site: [Redacted]
First Aid: [Redacted]
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

Image Courtesy of

Privy Councilor

Volume 39 Issue 1

August 22-23, 2009

Opening Weekend ~ A Silk Road:
Discover the Riches

National Bird Show - A little bird says come to the Special Events Field for the first National Bird Show! Explore the wonders of all things birds. This new event is sure to be a hoot!

Microbrew Tasting - Experience the flavors local breweries have to offer at the 2nd annual Microbrew Tasting located at the Blue Lions Tent (BLT). This event is held from 11:00 - 5:00 both Saturday and Sunday. All participants must be at least 21 years of age and have a valid ID. The cost is \$5 for the tasting.

Middle Eastern Belly Dance Competition - Come compete in the Minnesota State Belly Dance Competition for your chance to win the title of Minnesota's best belly dancer and gift certificates from Dahl's Internationale. Adults and children are encouraged to show off their new skill of moving their hips like a gypsy on the Pavilion Stage at 5:00.

Minnesota State Juggling Competition - Join us on Shepard's Green Sunday, August 23rd for the MN State Juggling Competition. This one day event starts at 3:00 and welcomes jugglers from around the state to compete in three different competitions: total quantity of balls juggled, length of time juggling four balls, and a creative juggling competition. Registration begins 15 minutes prior to the event. Prizes will be awarded for each category compliments of Air Traffic.

Arabian Horse Show - Join the riders of the Minnesota Half Arabian Horse Association and their beautiful horses during the Arabian Horse Show at 10:00 and 3:00 on the Joust Track.

Belly Dance Performances - Watch the members of Middle Eastern Dance show off their moves at the Pavilion Stage at 12:00, 1:30, 3:30 and 4:30.

Middle Eastern Music - Let John Khoury's Arabic Ensemble take you to the Middle East through the sounds of music. Performances will be at 10:30 and 2:30 at the Pavilion Stage.

Belly Dance Lessons - Learn to dance like a gypsy on the Mud Stage at 10:00, 12:30 and 2:30! Let John Khoury's Arabic Ensemble help you shed your inhibitions and show what you can do as a belly dancer. Register to compete in our Middle Eastern Belly Dance Competition taking place at 5:00 on the Pavilion Stage.

Dahl International - Stock up on the Middle East fashions at the Dahl tent located next to the Pavilion stage. Purchase all you need to show of your new belly dance moves, including costumes, shoes and more. You won't want to miss this one-time shopping opportunity!

Tai Chi Lessons - Come release your stress with Who Knew Su Nu Usagi as she demonstrates the art of Tai Chi. Enjoy beginner's lessons on the Shepard's Green at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Korean Sword Art - Watch as Twin Cities Gumdo demonstrates the Haidong Gumdo, a Korean sword art on Shepard's Green at 11:00, 1:30 and 4:00. The demonstration will include basic techniques, forms, application, cutting demonstrations and audience participation in paper cutting.

Children's Hula Hoop Contest - Young princes and princesses are welcomed to swivel their hips to victory in the Hula Hoop Contest. Test your hula hoop skills at 1:00 at the Children's Realm Stage for the chance to win prizes and be named the Hula Hoop Champion.

News from the Craft World

By Devin Kuwitzky

Welcome to the 2009 Minnesota Renaissance Festival. We have been anticipating the arrival of this wonderful event and now it's hard to believe it's finally here.

IMPORTANT NEWS: I wanted to let all of you know that I will be leaving Mid-America Festivals after the first weekend of the show. I just got married at the end of June and will be moving with my husband to Madison, Wisconsin. My husband has recently graduated from Chiropractic school and he will be opening a Chiropractic office in Madison. I am excited for this new path in my life but I want to wish you all good luck and a successful season. Thank You all for welcoming me into the world of Crafts. I have learned a lot during my time as the Craft Coordinator. You are a very talented group of people who have a lot offer. You have given me a new respect for Arts and Crafts.

The office has hired someone to take over my position, her name is Teresa. Teresa will be walking around with me first weekend to learn the ropes. She has only been with the company for a week. Please be patient with her while she is learning the program. The Crafts department is a very large department to tackle. You can reach Teresa at the office at [REDACTED]. She will do her best to answer questions.

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. If you don't have enough orange (no-site access) 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 Teresa by **no later than Wednesday**. 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 extra passes? You can still purchase extra passes for \$56 per photo ID and \$53 per Generic. You just have to inform Teresa ahead of time.

Teresa will be selling discounted Renaissance Festival tickets that crafters may purchase. The prices this year are \$15.00 for Adults and \$8.00 for children. You may purchase these from Teresa out at B-gate during festival hours or come and see her at the office during the week.

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.

HALL OF MASTERS CLOSED FOR 2009

The Hall of Masters is not going to be open for the 2009 season due to repairs. We are working hard at getting these repairs made so it will re-open. As many of you may know there is a lot of construction that needs to be done on site. The Hall is on the list to get repaired but I am not aware of an exact timeline on when they will complete it. It is hopeful that there will be at least a timeline available by 2010. I apologize to the Masters and Artisans who display in the Hall that it allows you to showcase your talents and your beautiful artwork. This year you will be missed by having a special listing in the broadsheet (this gets handed out to the patrons as they enter front gate). The listing will have you listed out with your names and shop numbers. The rest of the Master Program perks will be enforced and of course there will be a Master's Dinner!!

MN Sales Tax increasing to 6.875%



Faire Folk
www.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.

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 after 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 [REDACTED]



*Join us at King of the Log for our annual After Hours
Tournament! September 12 7:30 PM*

**Battle with workers from throughout the Realm for the King and
Queen of the Log title. Join us for fun, friendship, libations and food.**

Sign-up at the Log any time during the weekend.

Please sign-up by at the Log by 7:30

Image Courtesy Of
Faire Folk®
www.faire-folk.com

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 29th from 7am-Noon. The cost for services is as follows:

Annual Fire Extinguisher certificates	\$5.00
Recharge, 5, 6 and 10 yr Maintenance	\$20.00
Hydrostatic Testing	\$45.00
New 5lb Unit	\$41.00

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



Another Fine Mess! Some thoughts from Carr Hagerman

It's been a tough year for nearly everyone I know, and I include myself in that class. The economy has been like a belligerent drunk, and while some say the recession is over, the hangover is likely to be a real humdinger. There have been times when it seems our country is coming undone at the changes and stumbling over the mess. Woodrow Wilson wrote, "If you want to make enemies, try to change something." Boy oh boy, how right he was.

I am fundamentally an optimistic person (I have my down moments, too) and believe that we are in exciting new times. As a writer and an artist I don't think I'm an enemy to change, but have discovered my own resistance and inflexibility, and recognize how easy it is to remain fixated on what's "normal." But art isn't about the status quo, and being an artist isn't about protecting the norm. Ultimately, art is about resistance, and at times of great resistance and chaos, art seems to flourish.

I've opted to reset my approach a bit by challenging some old paradigms. Rather than seeing the festival as a dusty old dump or the Land of Misfit Toys, I want to build on the idea that it is real theater, that we practice an artful form, and not just a playground for people that love Anglo-history and fantasy. Our performances are a way of turning human interactions and ideas into artful expression. Connecting and engaging with another human being in an interesting, provocative and playful manner, is an act of an artist.

When someone is watching us perform, or participating with us, we are using our judgment and experience to create a kind of living artistic moment through a dynamic relationship to audience and the environment. We are reaching out and building a bridge to another human being. When that connection isn't manufactured, scripted, or overly calculated, it is real, and that is a quality that our audience can experience as a simple form of art. Engagement, as it turns out, is the core of artistic expression because as a member of the audience, when we are engaged and pulled into the performance, we take something away from it, something that touched us, made us laugh, or think or reconsider ourselves in the world.

What people seem to want most, in these rough and tumble times, is a sense of certainty and optimism. They want to know that the world isn't falling apart, that we're all going to be okay. Art has always provided an answer because it's about finding form in chaos or celebrating the chaos itself. It allows us, as artists, to revel in our humanness, to see the uncertainty and the hurly-burly as an invitation to explore the edges and dance at the fringe. In the end, the messiness isn't something separate from us, it *is* us.

So as we open the season for another year, be mindful of what our customers have been through, and smile, dance, sing and celebrate because we know that everything is as it should be, and low and behold, we're all going to be just fine.

Greetings from the Marketing Department

Welcome back to a new and exciting year with lots of changes! The marketing department would like to thank everyone for the hard work they've contributed to this year's Renaissance Festival! We've had many successful promotional events, spreading the word about our Festival season.

Welcome Newby's!!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce some great new additions to our staff!

Kelly Stelzner - Marketing Coordinator
Tiffany Lund & Lisa Kalis - Marketing Interns

Thanks again, Deb Schaber
Marketing Director

Faire Folk

www.faire-folk.com



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 MAF policy.

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.



PHOTO ID SCHEDULE

We are taking Photo ID's Saturday August 22nd and Sunday August 23rd at B-Gate from 10am-2pm. 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 list, they will still be able to have their picture taken, but it will not be printed until it gets 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 others. Forms are available in 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 forms will be accepted after Sunday, August 30th.** This is firm, as we need ample time to produce certificates and order gifts. Also, do not assume we "know" you have been here for that long. 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**. Remember, the years of participation must be consecutive.

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 30th, 2009

NO exceptions!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone#: _____

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Year	Area of Participation	Booth Name	Booth Number
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