



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

Security on duty
6pm Friday thru
2am Monday

First Aid Office
8am - 8pm

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 41 Issue 4

September 10 & 11 2011

Highland Fling

www.faire-folk.com

World Amateur Highland Game Championships - The 5th annual highland games will test the will of even the strongest competitors as they compete in 8 different categories for the World Amateur Title and an opportunity to have professional status!

Mid-West Men's and Women's - Come cheer on the Men and the Women as they compete in the Highland Heavy Games competition and the first annual Highland Heavy Games for women!

Scottish Village Vendors - Celebrate Highland Fling with vendors from across the area! Learn about Scottish organizations such as the Wenchies at Work, Celtic Creations and more! The Village will also include food vendors with traditional Scottish food, crafts, and even music. Be sure to try the delicious meat pies from Nitch's Cakes!

Kilt Competition - Cheer loud for your favorite contestant and enjoy the unique traditional Scottish dress. This event will be held at the Special Events Field stage at 1:30 daily.

Highland Dance Exhibition - The Minnesota Scottish Highland Dancers will demonstrate their traditional Celtic Dancing. Shows will be held on the Special Events Field stage at 12:30 and 4:00 daily. Don't miss the Royal Scottish Country Dancers performing daily at 1:00 pm on the special events field.

Schells Beer Tasting - Join in a traditional Scottish tradition with FREE Schell's and Grainbelt Beer Tastings on the Pavilion Stage at 12:30pm, 2:30pm and 4:30pm. Seating is limited and will begin 15 minutes prior; **everyone** must have a valid I.D. by order of his Majesty King Henry and the State of Minnesota. No Exceptions!

Military, Police, and Firefighter Appreciation day - This year marks the 10th anniversary of the September 11th tragedy and we would like to thank all Military, Police and Firefighters who protect and serve the nation every day.

Sign Language Saturday - All are welcome to join in the celebration of signed language and see our exciting performances interpreted in American Sign Language. Patrons won't want to miss the variety of comedic acts, improvisation and interacting with our boisterous entertainers (Saturday only).

Greetings from the Marketing Department

Attention Crafters:

If you are a crafter and would like to get involved with some of the marketing opportunities we are offering, please email [REDACTED] for more information!

Coming Next Weekend!

- Wine & Chocolate Festival
- Charity Auction
benefiting Can do Canines
- Grape Stomp
- Men In Tights Competition
- Best Bloomers Competition
- Homemade Wine Competition
- Free Vow Renewals
- Lets Make a Deal Casting Call

Don't wait for change

Commentary by Carr Hagerman

I'm a fairly hard optimist, generally believing things aren't nearly as bad as many would believe. I think things are getting better, and the long view is better than myopia on the present moment. Evidence in my life, anecdotal as it is, supports the conclusion that life is pretty good, and that this experience is directly related to the attitude I choose to carry. Even with later-in-life aches and pains, it seems to be going well.

Working at this Festival can kick over some of these basic assumptions. It's easy enough to look at some of our challenges and see how innovative and cost effective solutions or how a bit more investment in a few modest areas would improve the experience for our customers. It's penny-wise and pound foolish to cheat a customer out of a great experience because we've been tacitly lazy, whittling and cheap. With so many competitors after the same dollars we have to pull out the stops to make sure that when a customer arrives, they're treated like the gold they actually are worth.

I spend the bulk of my day looking at what I can do to improve how our customers experience the show, and to take care of entertainers so they feel compelled and happy to bring surprise and delight to everyone. It's so rewarding when I see a great interaction and the hard work it took that entertainer to work on an approach that has impact. It's also disheartening when I see a performer, crafter or vendor more engaged with their cell phones or a closed conversation than they were with the customer that just walked by.

Selling and making money is what we need to make this worth our effort, but it is the experience the customer has that makes it worth *their* effort and leads to the payoff for everyone. So what gets in the way, and what can we all do that would help raise the caliber of this experience?

First, we have to become *radically* focused on guests. From management to participant, anything that takes away from our guests having a fantastic time is distracting. If we do our job as performers, customers are happy, but if that customer walks into a crafter's booth where the energy is disinterested or subdued, then both elements fail. If a crafter engages a customer with vitality only to watch a performer offend or ignore the customer the moment they walk away, then both are diminished. We are in this together, and if our work creates a seamless and magic experience, then we do ourselves a great service.

Every interaction requires our energy, optimism and attention. Every greeting is an opportunity to connect, and when we greet with flair, vitality and a light heart, we raise the level of joy and that can only lead to good and better things.

There are so many things that could and should be fixed or improved by management. Many would nod about the necessity of some changes, whether it is cleaner privies and privy areas, new stage decks or more "hand-made" crafters, there would be no shortage on agreement for what management could do to improve the guest experience. There is also plenty of performers and crafters could do that would also raise the quality of the experience for patrons, but taking all those things into consideration don't change the one basic element that can never be forfeited, our willingness to be fully present, inviting and jovial with each person we meet while we are here.

We can remain repugnant to management and continually point to what needs to be changed (all could be legitimate) and to the messes and mishaps as examples of a perceived incompetence, or accept what is as it is. We can choose, as most of us do, to face towards and keep our focus upon the one element that makes the biggest difference to our immediate success, the customers that *are already here* and waiting to be entertained and engaged.

We are a celebration of human collaboration and inventiveness, and also a little bit of a mess. Perfect! We're artists, performers, hippies and non-conformists. Perfect! No matter the conditions, how we are or what we do or do not have, when that canon blasts at the start of each day we have a choice about who we all want to be while we are doing this thing. I say, choose wisely and everything will work as it should.

Let's Make a Deal Auditions

Saturday, September 17th

9:00am - 12:00pm

Two people that audition on our site are guaranteed a trip to Los Angeles to have an opportunity to meet Wayne Brady and be on the show! Everyone who auditions receive \$5 off admission to the Festival!

Image Courtesy of
The Folk
www.faire-folk.com

Dance Around the World!
(Friday nights in 2011)

Want to expand your dance experience around the world? The focus will be on fun in an introductory international folk dance series taught/led on Friday evenings by Renaissance Festival Scottish country dancer Fer Horn and Morris dancer Ed Stern, plus others. Classes run every Friday after Labor Day through next April.

We'll learn a wide variety of line and couple dances from many countries: England to the Balkans to France, Bolivia to Israel to Iran and everywhere in between (and beyond). Then there will be lots of opportunities to enjoy the dances in the following weeks and months. Fun for anyone who wants to learn the fundamental steps and patterns that are the building blocks of the world's dances. Feel free to come any week; come whenever you can. There's no need to bring a partner; there will be plenty of opportunity to learn all the steps. Above all, we'll have fun learning the dances together. Remember: we are "the folk" and these dances are meant for us.

When: Friday evenings, 7:30-9:00 p.m., on an ongoing, drop-in basis.

Begins September 9, 2011, but you can begin after Festival is over—or later in the year—continues through April.

Cost: \$8 at the door (\$6 if you are a Tapestry member, \$5 for students, free for kids 13 and under) includes request dancing from 9:00-11:30.

Where: Tapestry Folkdance Center
3748 Minnehaha Avenue South
Minneapolis

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



Stage Schedule

12:30pm - Minnesota Scottish
Celtic Dance Association
1:00pm - Royal Scottish
Country Dancers
1:30pm - Kilt Competition
4:00pm - Minnesota Scottish
Celtic Dance Association



Highland Heavy Games

10:00am - 22lb Stone of Strength
10:45am - 16lb Stone of Strength
11:30am - 56lb Weight Throw
12:15pm - 28lb Weight Throw
2:00pm - Caber Toss
3:00pm - Heavy Hammer Throw
3:45pm - Light Hammer Throw
4:30pm - 56lb Weight for Height
5:00pm - Awards Ceremony

© Original
The production
www.CelticBook.com

2011- Crafters

Please welcome our new crafters!

The Yarn Wenches Affiliation #110

Stronghold Leather #145

The Real Estreya Knits #P-60

Readings by Kelly #P-34

Siege the Day #638

Green Glass Man #446

Ravens Glass #A1720

Gilded Plume #P-59

The Jester's Court #522

Ye Olde Polish Woodshop #819

Ladies of the Lake #828

*Ye Kings Glass Blower A1800

*(now operated by FOCI MN Center for Glass Arts)

Crafters on Sabbatical this year:

La Petite Wardrobe #145

Silks with Attitude! #P-55

Psychic Tarot by Kate & David #P-52

The Redwood Wagon #522

Magidob's Flagge Shoppe #638

Surewood Forest #110

Farewell and best wishes to:

Becka Beads #828

Reader Elizabeth Woznick #P-34

Ye Olde Iron Garden #402

Bear Paw Paper Works #408

Oddest Goddess Face Painter #P-01

Classic Glass #A1720

*David Tate & Steve Palmer

*(Former glass blowers for Ye Kings Glass)

22nd Annual Charity Auction

Come to the Pavillion at 3:00pm to help support those with disabilities by donating items for our auction or by bidding on fun prizes! 100% of the proceeds will benefit Can-Do Canines, a non-profit organization that provides service dogs to those in need.

Contributions are greatly appreciated, please drop any donations off at B-gate.



Greetings from the Craft Department

Attn: Master Crafters & Artisans!

Invitations are going out this weekend for the **Masters/Artisans Dinner** which will be held on **Sat. September 17th at 8pm** in the Wedding tent. RSVP's are due no later than this Monday. (9/12/11)

-Crafters may purchase discount tickets and food books at B-gate

-Crafters: If you received a call of paperwork not received please return the paperwork this weekend or see Susan if there is a question.

**Reminder to all crafters about pass lists.

Please send any changes or updates to me directly by the Thursday before the weekend they'll be working for you.

Anyone using a generic pass for your booth should have the actual hard pass with them, and anyone using a day pass **"MUST"** be listed on your pass list.

Thanks everyone for your cooperation, this will make check-in go much smoother for everyone.
Susan

Craft Coordinator:

Susan Stettehaugh

Craft booths currently for sale:

- #110
- #230-231
- #338
- #402
- #424
- #425
- #437
- #446
- #522
- #523
- #606-607
- #638
- #819
- #845

Please e-mail me:

for more information if you're interested in a specific booth.
Flyers will be available at B-Gate also.