

*Wren Press*  
NEWS OF THE REALM  
*Minnesota Renaissance Festival*



*August 15-16*

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EDITED BY - *Rebecca Stevens Kirby*

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## General News

Welcome Friends One and All

Well, as I sit here composing this prose of welcome, I'm struck by the thought that this will be my 13th year of Renaissance. Will 13 be lucky, am I superstitious? I really don't know and it really doesn't matter because the one thing I am very sure of is that the Minnesota Renaissance Festival is the best in the country.

And of course the thing that makes it the best is all the people involved. When the collective 3,000 craftspeople, entertainers, food workers, food independents and other support people come together and create the life force of the Festival we become a village that is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

I am often asked what makes this Festival so unique and successful. The answer is: All of you. So welcome to you all. I wish you the very best success in 1987. I also would like to thank all the staff of Mid America Festivals and Castle Kitchen for their support and efforts. After all, they are the ones who keep it all together.

Tim (Lucky?) Ruedy  
General Manager

## Emergency Procedures

We all hope that serious emergencies don't arise but if they do you need to know what to do. Here are some guidelines to cover situations that could arise.

In the event of a life threatening situation:

1. Call 911 from a Pay Phone. No coin is needed.
2. Wait at the phone for the policy to arrive.

If a problem occurs during show contact Safety Services. They are the folks in the red and yellow costumes carrying a large pole topped with a flag. They have radio contact with para-medics and police and can also assist you with less serious problems. They are headquartered out of the building that is attached to the First Aid Station.

In the event that a major disaster occurs we may need to evacuate everyone from the site. You will need to help direct people to the nearest way out. Safety Services will be directing and co-ordinating crowd control. Please assist them if called upon to do so. The emergency evacuation map below shows all the exits. Please familiarize yourself with it and the layout of the site. Thanks alot for taking the few moments to do this. And as Dr. Ruth says "Have a safe show!"



## Fire Extinguishers

Each shop must have a fully charged 5-Lb ABC underwriter approved fire extinguisher easily accessible at all times. Lost extinguishers or those not in working order must be replaced within 24 hours of notification by Dan Waalen of Safety Services. Fire extinguishers must be checked and tagged every year. Tag must be current during show. This service will be available during the second week of the show (August 22 and 23) for a nominal fee. Gary Chaplin of Metropolitan Fire Equipment will be at "C" gate EARLY on the days stated above to refill, tag and replace fire extinguishers. If you need to call them ahead of time their phone number is 612-941-7226. Please have cash available to pay for your equipment needs.

retag	\$2.00
5-Lb refill	\$10.00
10-Lb refill	\$14.00
new 5-Lb	\$35.00
new 10-Lb	\$49.95
valve/o ring rplc	\$7.50 (in addition to refill)
If they have to be six-year-old, cost is \$3.00 plus refill cost.	

### Photo I.D.'s

Today and tomorrow are the last days to get your photos taken for I.D.'s. You can have them made at "C" gate from 1:30 to 5:00. **THERE WILL BE NO PHOTO I.D.'S TAKEN AFTER SUNDAY.**

### Gate Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 7:00 AM to 10:30 PM open

During Weekends: 7:00AM Friday thru 2:00AM Monday open.

Gates locked from Monday at 2:01 AM to 7:00AM.

All gates will be locked after 10:30PM except back gate near Chestnut and Hwy 41. A gate, B gate and C gate will be locked in the evening as soon as traffic is cleared. These hours are effective through September 28, 1987.

## Straw for Sale

If you would like to purchase straw bales you can buy them from the clean-up crew for \$2.00 a bale. Check with the guys at the clean-up shack behind Bad Manor in the 600 inner circle.

### A Few Things To Note

- \* No entrance to the quarry and mining area.
- \* Place garbage in the dumpsters. For arrangements to haul away building debris contact Brian Huseby, M-F 8:30-5:00 at 445-7361.
- \* No parking in front of garbage dumpsters.
- \* Help contact vandalism. It cost all of us. Report any vandalism to Safety Services or the Festival Staff. You may remain anonymous. Anyone apprehended in the act of vandalism will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.



## Travel Shop Discount 10% OFF

All participants can take advantage of a 10% discount on traveler shop merchandise. Just show photo I.D. at the time of purchase.

## Discount Tickets

Participants may purchase blocks of tickets at our lowest discount rate of \$7.95. In order to buy them at that rate you must purchase at least 15 tickets. After the first 15 you can buy any number you want at the low rate. They may be purchased at B gate or at the office. Just show your photo I.D.

## Mail and Packages

Safety Services will be delivering mail to craft shops during the week. Any accumulated mail that was not able to be delivered may be picked up at the Safety Services Shack. Check in the blue cooler that says "MAIL". Packages will be held at Safety Services also. Do not have packages delivered C.O.D. as we will not accept them and will have them returned.

## Pence to Pounds

In an effort to help participants understand the expenses involved in producing the MRF we will feature a question and answer article each week. So get your brain computers working and see if you can figure out the answers. Here goes.....

1. There are 350 hanging flower baskets, two thousand set plants, 30 shrubs and two full gardens on site (bless you Kathy Totschuck!). How much is spent each year?

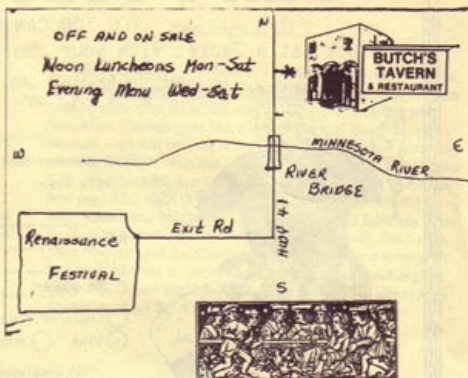
2. This year a drain field was installed on site to control standing water and puddles. Where is it and how much did it cost to install?

Answers are below.

Answers: 1. Plants etc.: \$6000.00. 2. The drain field goes from Bad Manor past 600 shop line to Smith and N. (And bless YOU grounds crew guys. Way to drain!)  
Cost: 10,000.00. (And bless YOU grounds crew guys. Way to drain!)  
Last's shop through wine 700 and out past crown stage.

## Wooden Nickel Program

You may find a wooden nickel comming your way and wonder whatever it is for! They're the Festival's way of saying "Thank you for a job well done. You get them for things like a nice touch to your costume, a cheerful smile on your face for a customer, a nice job hawking or any of the other small things that you do that add up to making this a really terrific show. Get five nickels and turn them in at the Traveler's Shop for a free Festival T-shirt.



## Lady Claudia's DESSERTS & DELACACIES

No Price Increases Since 1983!

### NEW FOODS

Hye Rollers • Hot Biscuit Pockets  
Claudia's Own Preserve and Sauce Line

### STILL FEATURING

Giant Chocolate Dipped Strawberries  
Deli Fill Sandwiches  
Chocolate Decadence Cake

SEPARATE HERE  
Lady Claudia's *Faire* COURTESY OF  
Very Good Guy *Faire* DISCOUNT COUPON  
COSTUMED PARTICIPANTS ONLY  
Receive 25¢ Off Any Beverage Purchase  
One Coupon Per Beverage Purchase Only  
Coupon Must Be Exchanged at Time of Purchase  
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# Satin Festival Jackets!

YOU TOO CAN HAVE ONE!

Black Satin Jacket with your choice of Flannel or Quilted Lining

Includes the Festival Logo and your real or character name embroidered on the front.

ORDERS DUE BY 9/1, 1987

DELIVERY AT THE FESTIVAL OFFICE IN 4 - WEEKS

\$30 Flannel Lining

\$36 Quilt Lining



Embroidered Name \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Size: XS S M L XL

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check or Money Order enclosed.

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and check/money order or credit card information to: RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL JACKETS

3525 W. 145th Street

Shakopee, MN 55367

Make check payable to Booker T's

For more information call Bill Lochen at [REDACTED]



Chaser's Liquor

\*Has doubled their size and wine selection

\*Conveniently located on Hwy212 in front of Cooper's "New Market"

\*\*Free\* bag of ice with liquor or wine



## ESPRESSO + CAPPUCCINO

COFFEE



TEA

~ iced beverages available ~

OPEN 7:45AM

DISCOUNTED PRICES  
UNTIL THE BIG BANG BOOM!

Grey Castle located in Upton Downs

**COFFEE & TEA**

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# Food

## Breakfast at Bad Manor

Come and show off your bad manors at the Bad Manor Breakfast. Each Saturday and Sunday (and Labor Day Monday) There will be breakfast at Bad Manor. From 7:00 AM to 8:15 AM you can get scrambled eggs, sausage links, a bakery item, o.j., and coffee or milk. And all for only \$2.00! So come and chow down and pick up your copy of the WREN FEST NEWS.

## Food Coupon Booklets

Participant Food Coupons will again cost \$4.00 for \$6.00 worth of coupons. They can be purchased on show days only and are available from:

Time	Place
6:30AM to 1:00 PM	C Gate
1:30PM to 7:00 PM	B Gate

Limit: 2 books per I.D. Participant Food Coupons will be honored at all food booths except beer and wine.

## Evenings at BLT

Didn't make it to your favorite food booth before the end of the day? Well you don't have to spend the evening being hungry. Cute little pizzas will be served for only \$1.75 by that charming food host, Mark Volimas (give him a kiss and he may give you extra cheese!) Dark and lite beer is available for \$.75 a pull or get a ten beer peg for \$6.00. Pop and mineral water will also be available for \$.50. Blue Lion Mugs are for sale for \$9.00 or \$15.00 with a ten beer peg. Mug #69 will be raffled off on August 29. Raffle tickets cost a buck. And with guys like Mark Sterling, Ed Rash-key (sorry Ed, I couldn't remember how to spell your last name), Ken Larson, Mike Mathiney and Jim Chlebeck behind the bar you know you'll find someone there to listen to your sob stories and groan at your bad jokes. Where could you find as place as well as this to wind down after a hard day at the Festival?

Phone: 934-5299



**Lions Tap**

"Famous Hamburgers"

FAMILY RESTAURANT  
Bert and Bonnie Notermann



Located at Highway 169 & Co. Rd. 4 • Eden Prairie, MN 55344

**Lions Tap**



Your Hosts:  
Bert & Bonnie  
Notermann

Highway 169 & Co. Rd. 4  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
"West of Flying Cloud Airport"

EAT IN OR TAKE OUT  
**934-5299**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

HOURS:  
Mon., Thurs.  
Fri. & Sat.  
Sunday

11 a.m.-11 p.m.  
11:00 - midnight  
11:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m.

**COME IN AND REGISTER  
TO WIN...**



**A FREE  
TRIP TO  
LAS VEGAS**

**FREE HAMBURGER**  
with the purchase of  
another hamburger



**\$1.45 VALUE**

This \$1.45 Value Can Be Applied  
To Any Of Our Famous Burgers.

One Coupon Per Person-Not Valid With Other Offers  
Valid Oct. 1 Thru Oct. 31, 1987

**FREE HAMBURGER**  
with the purchase of  
another hamburger



**\$1.45 VALUE**

This \$1.45 Value Can Be Applied  
To Any Of Our Famous Burgers.

One Coupon Per Person-Not Valid With Other Offers  
Valid Sept. 1 Thru Sept. 30, 1987

9817 Dorset Lane \$15 Gift Certificate



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# Crafts

## Craft Staff

Craft Co-ordinator: Rebecca Stevens Kirby  
Lady Rebecca during the show and Becky the rest of the time.

## Hall of Masters Staff:

Linne Jensen, Mistress of the Masters  
Chad Cardiff and Jenny Coleman, Assistants to the Mistress

## Museum Staff

David Bryce, Master of the Museum

## Monitors

Dorothy Molstad, Head Monitor  
Susan Naeve  
Susan Dalhed  
Carol de Muth  
Laura Bossart

If you need to talk to Becky you can find me at the craft office on the second floor of the Hall of Masters from 9:30-10:30 AM and 5:45-6:45 PM each day during the show.



## Hall of Masters Registration

To help make registration go more smoothly use a registration form. Get them from your monitor and fill them out. Turn them in with your display item on the morning of the weekend you will be exhibiting at the Hall. It will really save time and make check-in go much easier.

## Hall of Masters Exhibits

### MEDIA

	Wood/Woodwork, Toys, Furniture, Paintings, Prints
	Leatherwork, Shellwork, Metalwork (all metals), Stonework, Lapidary
	Pottery, Clayworks, Drawings, Calligraphy, Paperworks
Sept. 4, 5, 6	Fabric Arts, Fiber Arts, Weaving, Clothing, Plantcraft, Featherwork, Wickerworks
Sept. 12-13	Glass, Sculpture (in all media), Waxworks, Candles
Sept. 19-20	Jewelry, Graphic Arts, Carvings, Musical Instruments
Sept. 26-27	Masters' Weekend. Masters Only, all media.

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### Burlap Bags

Crafters may purchase Renaissance Festival bags at the 500 Commissary for \$1.00 each and resell them in their shop for \$1.25. Customers like them for carrying their purchases.

### Coupon Requests

The Mayor's Court will be sponsoring a pinata for games weekend and are asking crafters to offer a coupon for money off on a purchase in their shop. Anyone who would like to have a coupon in the pinata should turn one in to Linne Jensen at the Hall of Masters. They will have two pinatas, one on Saturday and one on Sunday. Visiting children will be asked to break the pinata and there will be candy for the kids and coupons for mom and dad. Coupons can help bring customers into your shop and encourage them to buy something from you.



Our scribes are prepared and willing to work for you!

WE CAN LETTER YOUR "IN-SHOP" SIGNAGE AT VERY REASONABLE FEES WHEN YOU BRING YOUR REQUEST TO US DURING FESTIVAL HOURS. WE CAN WORK WITH WATER RESISTANT INKS ON PAPER OR MAT BOARD. MAKE SURE THE QUALITY OF YOUR SIGNAGE IS UP TO THE QUALITY OF YOUR WARES. DO YOU NEED SIGNS FOR PRICES, EXPLANATION OF TECHNIQUE OR MATERIALS, COMMISSIONS OR SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOMED, LADY VISA?

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### Craft Call Board

In back of the Safety Services Shack, which is next to the First Aid Station is the Craft Call board. Notices of interest to crafters are posted there. It's a good place to look for sales help or put up a note for someone, so be sure to check it out.



## In the Service of Isabella

by  
Roger Bryan Kirby

My father is Juan Antonio Giovanni. He was employed by Duke Ercole de Este in the year of 1442. He has remained in the Duke's service since that year as Court Jester and Fool. I was born the 16th of June, in the year of our Lord, 1483. My name is Valentino Giovanni. I was raised in the Court of Ferrara and was tutored as a child by some of the most enlightened minds of our day. As such, I must disagree with the commonly held belief that one's outward form reflects inner spirit. My father has the spirit of a great condottiere commanding ten thousand men in the field of battle. But an accident of fate had determined that my father is, as I am, a dwarf.

But my size didn't concern me as I stood before the Duke Ercole's daughter, Isabelle de Este, and swore to carry out her mission. We both swore, the "priest" and I, and promised to be brave and to be true to each other no matter what our adventure might bring to us. I call him the "priest", dear reader, as I must, for his identity must remain secret. For if it became known, he would have assassins at his door in a fortnight.

The main bridal party was to depart on December 3, 1501. We were to depart on the 1st so as to arrive before the Duke and his sons. We were to enter the city, gain admission to the palace of Pope Alexander VI and especially the personal quarters of his daughter, Lucrezia Borgia, gain our intelligence and then join the wedding entourage upon its arrival to the city. Our report was to be consigned to a messenger and dispatched to Ferrara where Marquessa Isabella would be able to take action so as to gain the advantage.

We arrived in the city of Rome the night of December 21 in a steady downpour that had drenched us thoroughly and found quarters at an inn near the Vatican. After changing our wet clothes for dry and filling our bellies with a hearty meal, we prepared for a reconnoiter. Our plan was to walk the side streets and observe the guard. We crept around the walls of the Vatican for well over three hours before we spotted a chink in the buildings armor.

The priest and I had just rounded a corner when we spied upon one of the Pope's mercenaries gliding across the courtyard in a guilty sort of way. We stepped back under the shelter of an archway and watched as he backed to a doorway. A tap of his pike on the door caused it to slowly open. Two arms came out of the light to embrace him and drew him inside. We waited until we felt sure he would not emerge and I dashed across the plaza to check the door. It was open and I peered into a empty hall. I moved up the hall and crawling the last few yards, I concealed myself behind a tapestry. Voices were echoing down the hall as two Spanish ladies in waiting came towards me. They turned down a passage and soon returned with a richly embroidered gown. They were remarking how heavy it was and one complained that she wished the Donna Borgia wouldn't have fittings at the other end of the palace but in her room near where her trousseau was conveniently stored. We had found it!

I quickly rejoined the priest whose nervousness was increasing by the moment. We waited in the shadows until near dawn as the soldier emerged. Crossing back to the Vatican, he pulled his pike through the gate and bolted it behind him. The priest and I made our way back to the inn and waited there through the day.

That evening we emerged and made our way back to the gate. We concealed ourselves once again under the shelter of the same archway. As a creature of his habits, the soldier again made his furtive dash across the courtyard and entered at the same time and in the same way. We quickly moved to the open fortress gate and entered. Our feet rang quiet on the hallway floor. We had muffled our feet with hose over our slippers. Half walking and half running we made our way to the tapestry and hid behind it, anxious that a cry of alarm would sound. But hearing nothing except the sound our labored breathing, we cautiously approached Lucrezia Borgia's room. The priest pressed his ear against the door and listened. Nodding to me, he opened the door a crack and we slid in against the wall. I struck a tinderbox and lit a candle against the dark.

We gasped in amazement, for the room was overflowing with furred and jeweled gowns. We set to work. I counted the gowns and the priest recorded their number. There were velvet dresses, filigreed of silver and gold wire, sables, 200 blouses embroidered with pearls and gold. The hems of her skirts were laced with beaten gold. In an armoire we found an especially excellent gown. The priest exclaimed in a hushed voice that it must have a value of 20,000 ducats, which I confirm as truth, dear reader, and a hat with a value of 10,000 gold ducats. Our inventory complete, we quickly withdrew and departed as we had entered.

As we crossed the openness of the yard, we encountered another guard. We stopped for a moment and boldly marching toward him, I called "Sir, have you seen the Donna?" He eyed me with suspicion. As I drew near, he half drew his sword. I drew my small sword and slammed the pommel into his codpiece. He gasped a small hiccup and drew forth his sword. The priest, drawing his sword back, the man from ear to collarbone. His body slumped to the ground. We concealed it under the same archway under which we had hidden an hour ago.

We passed our report to the messenger who waited for us the following morning at Ponte Molle. The bridal party had arrived and the horses and men shielded them from sight. The messenger turned to me as he took the manuscript and inquired if there was a messenger with the other, who had inquired after me.

"Tell him that in Rome, fashion is deadly serious."

—To be continued—

