

10th Annual

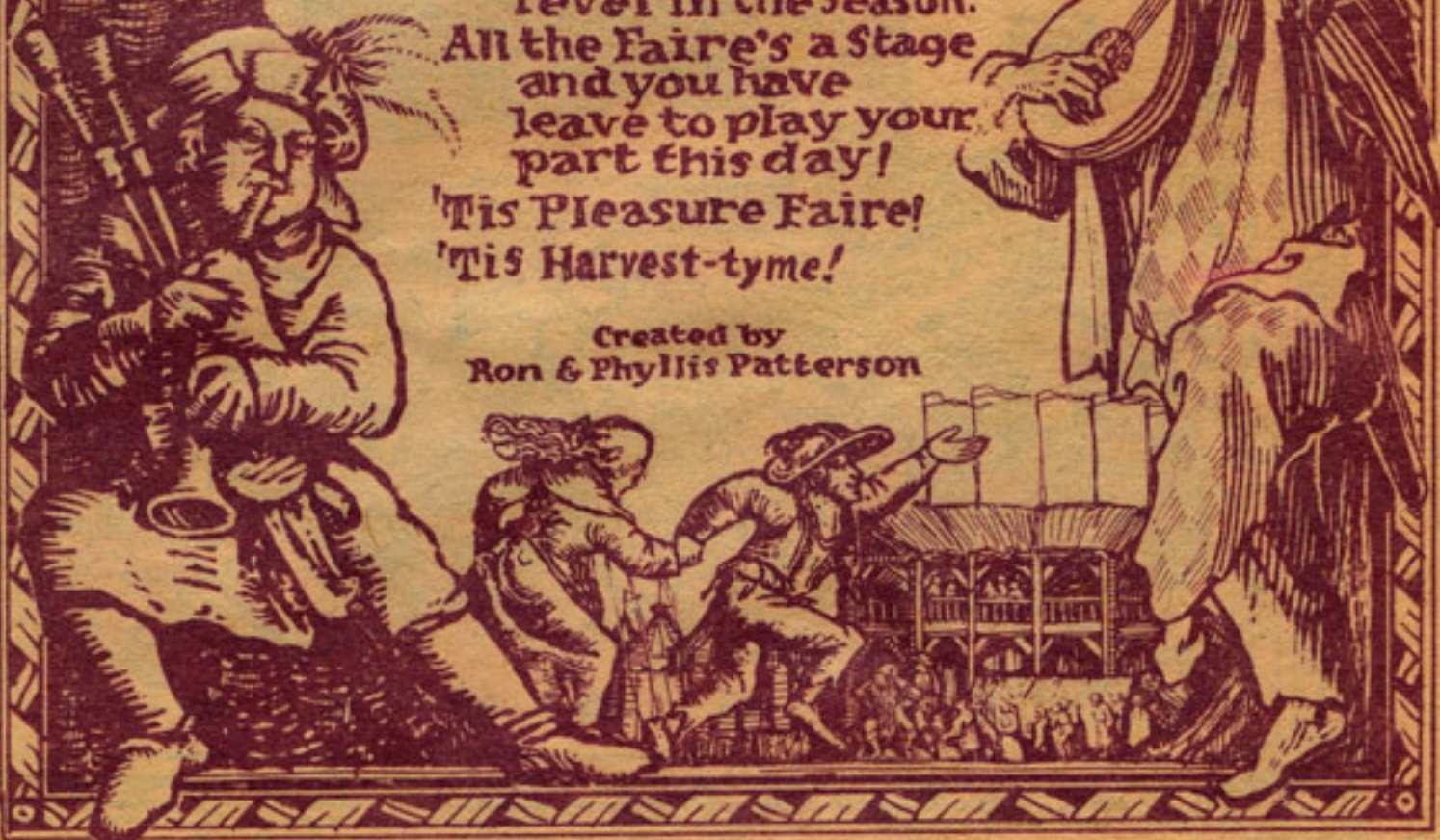
THE RENAISSANCE  
PLEASURE FAIRE

ye

# TRAVELLERS MAPPE & GUIDE

'Tis Harvest-tyme!  
'Tis the year 1576.  
'Tis Merrye Olde England  
of Good Queen  
Bess' tyme  
'Tis a time of peace and  
good commerce in  
the land...  
And Now 'Tis Faire Tyme.  
A time to put aside  
worldly cares and  
revel in the season.  
All the Faire's a Stage  
and you have  
leave to play your  
part this day!  
'Tis Pleasure Faire!  
'Tis Harvest-tyme!

Created by  
Ron & Phyllis Patterson



## TRADING



What d'ye lack? What's your Pleasure? Fyne Jewelry and lusters for your ladye-fair . . . carved wood, pottery, perhaps the labors of the spinners and weavers of our Shire? Perchance a candle to light your evening revels. Spices and pommanders. Stained and leaded glass to catch the sun. Leatherwork. Flowers and Fairings. All abound at The Pleasure Faire. And 'Tis the fynest in all the realm . . . displayed and hawked in colorful rustic stalls in Market-places signed by Arms of the Crafts Guilds, and under the watchful eye of the venerable old Guildmaster. See the market places on the mappe.

*"Many a pound a penny told . . .  
Many a bargain bought and sold."*

## FEASTING



When ye have wearied of the ways of trade and marveled at the wond'rous entertainments, parades and news of the day . . . then truly . . . 'Tis time to feast! Throughout The Faire the finest cooks and bakers do abound. And the pleasures of their craft are heralded by the sweetly scented air.

And to wash down such hearty vittles . . . Good English Ale, stout beer and wines, lemonayde, apple cyder and ginger beer to quench thy thirst.

Peruse the mappe for divers foods and drynk stalls and their many locations.

*"Ah, the roast beef of Olde England . . .  
and Hey for Olde England's roast beef!"*

## GAMING



Archery! Fencing! Hay toss! Tug-o-war! Try your skill at the many rustic games o' The Faire. And try your hand at a craft under the careful tutelage of fine potters, paper-makers, maskmakers, printmakers, puppetmakers and sundry other good folke of the shire happy to acquaint thee with the skills of their craft.

*"It's I have been to Pleasure Faire,  
An' oh, what wonders saw I there!"*

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**BEN JONSON THEATRE**

On this thatched and timbered stage, aboundeth pageante and spectacle, musicke and dance. Here thou wilt see: Will Kemp's Jig (he being the most famous Fool of this age). The rollicking reception of the rightly sought after Masterpiece of the Day award from the goodly Guildmaster. From the west of Scotland, north of Skye, Clan Colin, with the skirl of Pipes and whirl of Kilts. The Lord Mayor, High Sheriff and Harvest Maid, Giants and Hag 'O the Harvest, Morris Men, and mummers, celebrate the Call 'O The Faire and the Reaping of the Harvest. Nobles &

Village Folk – indeed all – present divers revels and rustic entertainments for Elizabeth Regina, Gloriana, and Her Courtly Entourage on Progresse from Nonesuch to Hatfield. Here you'll find the fascinating and flamboyant folderol of the Feast of Fools. The sprightly step of Lads & Lasses to the Catches & Airs from across the Irish Sea. Perceive poor Paris and his difficult choice as he dances between the Goddesses & Gloriana in an Italian style balletto. Bright with banners and garlands, ye Ben Jonson is the place to join or seek thy love to share merriment and mirth.

For ye Hour by Hour Schedule of Entertainments, hie thee to ye Posting Board by each Stage...



**PROCESSIONS and STREET PAGEANTS**

Cutting through the mingling throngs of Faire goers along the mainroad and lanes are parades numerous. St. Cuthbert's Guild awakes craftsmen and early Faire folke alike with their merrie songs. Accompanied by artisans of all trades bearing their brightly colored banners, the Guild Master is drawn in his cart to the Ben Jonson where he presents the Masterpiece awards. Bashful yet bold Hobby Horses prance in merrie maneuver. Giants – Gog and Magog marshall the throngs of celebrants who jig and jog their merrie way to Ye Ben Jonson Stage for the opening pageant celebrating the Harvest. The Call 'O' the Faire is heard. "The glove is up". Our Gracious & Noble Prince, Elizabeth on Progresse admires the industry and craftsmanship of Her loyal subjects, and stops to sample the wares & pleasures of The Faire. Parades of warlike Celts, lusty laborers, and the Padstowe horse wend their way through the streets to cries of fear, shouts of approval and gasps of wonder. Children of the Shire wend their way on Decorated Hobby

Horses. Farmers, Peasants and Milkmaids with tools and ladders in hand, make their merry way to the Washing Well and Market Cross. From Leather Workers Lane, where sharp eyed apprentices watch for buyers, to The Innyard Stage, where the bold court adventure, every street in The Pleasure Faire has its dramas as you pass. At the washing well, the maids of the Nobles exchange their gossip while the baser born throw gibes at the passers-by. The Schoolmistress from her classroom, while she sharpens her quills, watches the tinker, thatcher and joiner go by on their daily trip to the alehouse. Not far from the Washing Well, Mother Goose tells her age-old tales and invites the children of the Shire to trundle over to watch the spinners and weavers of Sheep-to-coat. If you wend your way to the Witches Wood, be ye going for a love charm, amulet or to learn your future, ye will pass on your way wondrous feats of balance and agility performed by rope-dancers. The life of the village is rich and varied, and every nook and corner has some exciting new discovery.



At the entrance of The Pleasure Faire are sights beyond compare. The strong man laughs as he lifts his weight and countrie folke dance near the gate. A man breathes fire over here; a piper plays and crowds do cheere. The Morris Dancers dance around. Food and drynke and games abound. The Crier cries the daily news and poets here invoke the Muse. Justice, though crude and convoluted, thrives in the court of the Dusty-Footed.



Wandering Players bring pleasurable plays to The Pleasure Faire these happy days. Harlequin and Columbine making sweet amore titillates and captivates the lech'rous old Dottore. Dame Chat will once again defame Gammer Gerton's precious name for the sake of a needle long since lost. Peasant players count not the cost to portray their love for the Queen "encantada" in "The Defeat of the Spanish Armada". A troupe from afar bring a magickal tale of a fanciful Gryphon and a Gargoyle bale. Plays here please both young and olde, & nearby food & drynke are sold.



At a small stage far from the Sheriff's eye, a Mountebank & his rivals vie. For each does feel that he can claim the public's purse and a share of fame. For fame would lift the Sheriff's curse, but most of all each wants that purse. So guard your step but do come see the merrie juggler's revelry. See the actors play and mummers prance; hear sweet musick, cheer the dance. Nearby feasting in the Glen just beyond The Faires' glad din.



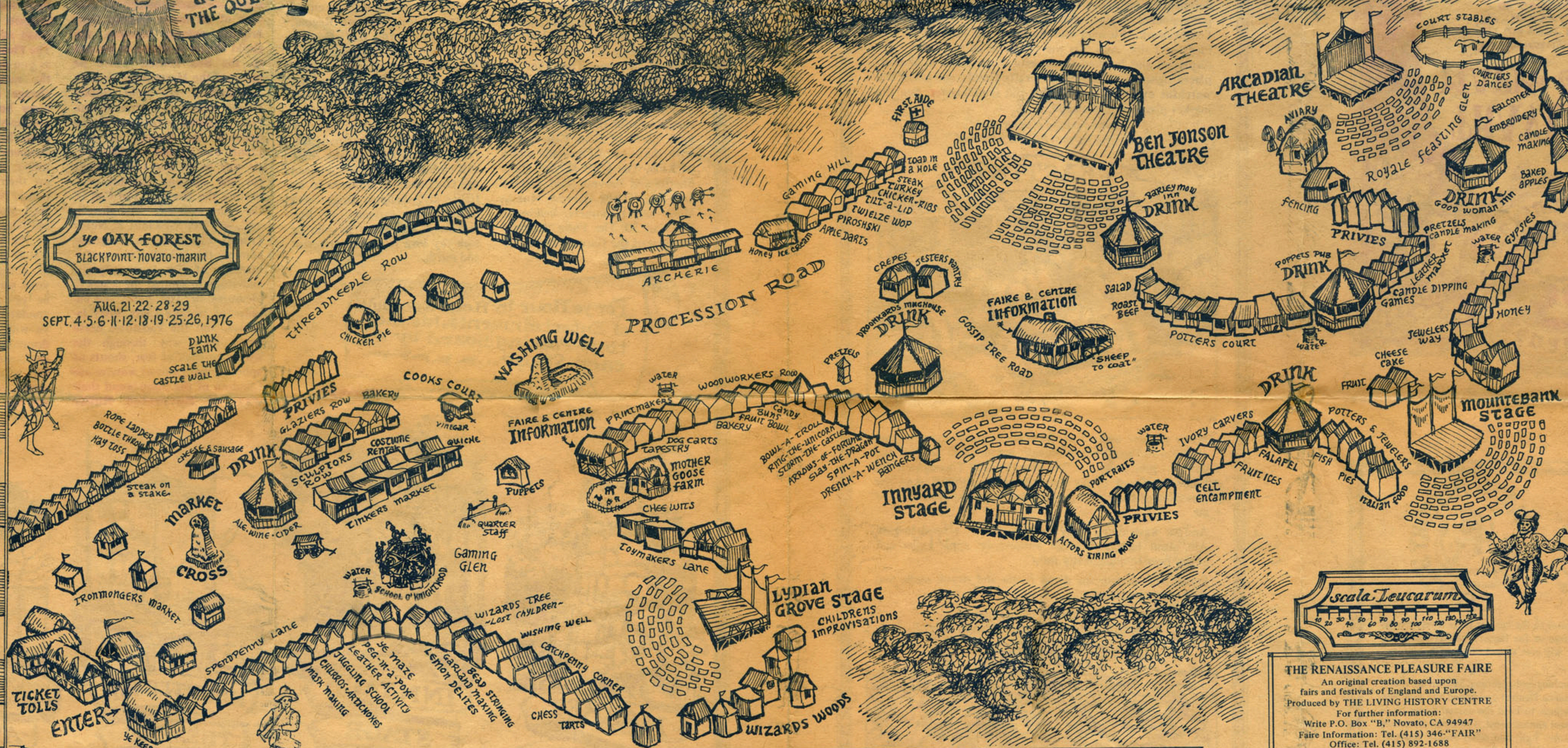
In a wooded glade far from the noise of the hawker's cries and the merchant's boys, you will hear madrigals soft and rare and the lutenist plays for the Earl there. His steward seeks actors full of grace who may please the Queen should she come to grace this leafy glade, as you may do. The courtiers robe within your view. They doff their silks and don their satins after they've heard their daily matins. So come alone, or bring your love to this quiet shady grove.





# Ye TRAVELLERS MAPPE of the RENAISSANCE PLEASURE FAIRE

**Ye OAK FOREST**  
BLACK POINT - NOVATO - MARIN  
AUG. 21-22-28-29  
SEPT. 4-5-6-11-12-18-19-25-26, 1976



**Scala Teucarum**  
THE RENAISSANCE PLEASURE FAIRE  
An original creation based upon  
fairs and festivals of England and Europe.  
Produced by THE LIVING HISTORY CENTRE  
For further information:  
Write P.O. Box "B," Novato, CA 94947  
Faire Information: Tel. (415) 346-"FAIR"  
Office: Tel. (415) 892-1688

Which came first, the fair or the festival? There probably is no answer to this riddle. The dating of fairs and festivals was usually related to the working seasons of the year. However, in prehistoric times, whenever traders arrived from distant lands a fair and celebration always took place. And whenever merchants and traders met, where their routes crossed, fairs soon blossomed. The "neutral ground" of hostile tribes trading at markets and fairs later gave way to the marketplace as towns grew up around these commons.

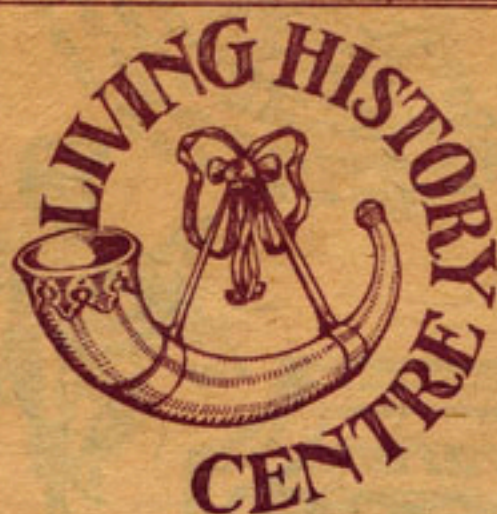
Note the Market Cross at Pleasure Faire, where travelers are invited to barter, proclaim, harangue or dance!  
In very early England, public notices were posted here, penance was done here and punishments inflicted. Market Crosses were very often erected on boundary stones, which established markets and fairs as "neutral ground" where trade and festivity replaced inter-tribal fighting...if only for a few days.

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! The Glove is Up! The faire is Open! God Save the Queen!  
The Glove, a traditional part of old English fairs, symbolized the monarch's pledge to protect all who used the fair honestly and kept its peace. An old German custom, the gauntlet with signet ring was always Gilded and Garlanded and carried in the Grand Opening Procession of olde English fairs.



# RENAISSANCE CENTRE

BECOMES



Look well around you, O Visitor to the Past, at these lovely woods and fields. It's a permanent preserve for History now. No housing development or industrial park will ever scrawl "twentieth century" across it.

This spring, after years of searching and planning, The Living History Centre (formerly the Renaissance Centre) concluded the purchase of this 250 acre site. It will continue to hold the annual Renaissance Pleasure Faire, The Centre's newest annual event, The Great American Shindig and Old Fashioned Country Fair, and other events, festivals, cultural and educational activities in the years to come.

The first Shindig, held this July in the adjacent valley and by our two large barns, was a nostalgic, historical and satirical look at rural nineteenth century America.

There's going to be a lot going on here on the site: The Workshop in the Woods, which uses The Faire setting as an Elizabethan village environment for mid-week educational programs. We're also developing nineteenth century American "living history" educational programs that will take place during the year.

This expansion of historical period made us feel that "Renaissance Centre," chosen in 1968 when Ron and Phyllis Patterson started the non-profit educational foundation, was no longer totally appropriate. So with much sentimental regret the name is retired and reserved for future need, and "Living History," which we have used for years to describe our programs, instituted.

We like the name. It describes our basic philosophy: that the direct experience of the life and times of a people is valid and vivid education. Our programs have been built on this premise of a re-created environment in which the visitor becomes an active participant—a logical outgrowth of The Renaissance Faire.

For full information on our current programs, future plans, associate membership, land fund needs, and to get on our Centre mailing list, come to one of the information booths.

*Foreward into the Past!*