



Any of you who have kept pace with my ramblings over the last three years have discovered certain characteristics of my “modus operandi.” Although I hate to limit my perspective of the world, a very loud voice within me insists on change. Therefore, take notice: publication of *Sacred Spaces* will end with the next issue.

The Guild however, must go on. It was never my intention to bring together this group simply to disband it at a whim. I would like to see the Guild continue to grow and prosper. In fact, I’d like to be a member. Our success with the Chartres project has put us very much in the collective consciousness of the Society. *Sacred Spaces* has been our mouthpiece, true, but another publication bearing the Guild’s name could—and will—take its place.

Marc Rubenstein (Lord Aelfric of Sarisberie) has volunteered to become the new chronicler/organizer for the Guild, and I have taken him up on his offer. He will begin a new Guild newsletter (with a new title) that will premier with the Spring, 1996 issue. I am refunding all subscriptions with the Winter issue of *Sacred Spaces*, so if you want to get Marc’s newsletter without missing a beat, you will need to pay for a new subscription with him. I have given him the list of current Guild members, so (after January 1) you can just send him your name and a check, and he’ll subscribe you.

One of the things Marc and I have discussed is his desire to make the Guild an official SCA organization, so that every kingdom can have its own branch, making Guild members eligible for awards and SCA honors. I encourage those of you who have

an opinion on the subject to write to him at 38 Blackthorne Lane, Gray, Maine 04039, and let him know your feelings about this idea. You may also want to suggest a title for the new Guild newsletter.

The architectural revolution we’ve been hoping for hasn’t happened yet, but I’m convinced that we need to give it time. Maybe the idea of becoming more mainstream in the Society will help. Or we may just be in a “down time,” and five years from now people will look back at the “golden age” of architecture and really go to work.

In this issue, I’ve gone back to the basics. You can’t build anything great without the right set of tools, and unless you’re an antique collector, you may not even know what a basic set of period tools looks like.

With regard to the letters page (opposite), let me briefly address some of the issues there: I do intend to contact Baroness Mistress Damiana and talk about her ideas, although I’m not sure whether to involve the Guild—that decision will probably fall with the members, and happen after Jan. 1.

I have resisted repeated efforts to publicize war machine plans, simply because they’re so difficult to use in context to create sacred spaces. Maybe the new editor will feel differently.

With regard to the ongoing discussion about building permanent SCA sites, I heartily agree that such projects are both possible and desirable. Maybe the creation of local guilds will make the actual labor and costs more achievable, and we will see a sweeping change throughout the Society. As Doug Duvall points out, however, this requires (unpaid) cohesive leadership and vision. Any volunteers?

Do enjoy this, the next-to-last issue, and share with me your parting thoughts, as I move on to other frontiers.

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