

or the first time since the creation of our guild, we will soon have a chance to show that we can do more than talk, which, as we all know, is cheap. I have some very exciting news for everyone, but first, the necessary exposition.

In the fall issue, I talked about my wish that the guild could do something nice for the interkingdom choir. Last issue I added superlatives. Something very nice. And very big.

The choir normally performs at the Pennsic War in the barn at Cooper's Lake campground, a very large, very mundane barn, for those of you who haven't seen it, with a basketball hoop in the worst imaginable place. This year, we will be changing all that. Our mission will be to try to create a "sacred space" in which the choir may perform with spiritual majesty - a space equal to their skill. We will be recreating some of the interior elements of the great cathedral of Chartres, including the stained glass and several human figures.

I have spoken with both Mistress Jocelyn, head of the choir, and Baron Bran, autocrat for the Pennsic War. Jocelyn says she is excited about the project, and will enlist the help of her many choir members. Baron Bran also wrote a very warm letter, and has reserved the barn on the official Pennsic schedule for our project

on Friday evening. That's right. THE Friday, the grand poobah of all Pennsic evenings. We will have exclusive use of the barn from 6:00 to about 9:00 that evening, with the choir scheduled to perform at 8:30 (sundown).

As you might imagine, I'm suddenly a little nervous. There's so much to be done between now and August. And we can't, we *mustn't* give anything but a spectacular presentation of our guild's considerable combined talents.

The most difficult part of this project, I believe, has less to do with actually building the elements of the setting than it does with getting all of the pieces to the right place at the right time, putting them together, and making them look like they belong there.

We now have about 150 paid guild members. Of that number we have blacksmiths, carpenters, weavers, potters and God knows what else. I would like to call on many of you for help on this project. Or if you have absolutely no time, maybe you can donate cash to the effort. Please send checks made out to "Sacred Spaces," if you want to help in this way. I intend to start an account specifically for this project, and I will print a reckoning in the fall issue to tell how we spent the money.

We will be handing out a one-page "program" of some sort at the event identifying the elements of the setting, and putting it in context for those who pass within. I have also suggested to Baron Bran that he schedule the Masqued ball for Friday evening after the choir performance, and we leave the setting intact. In this way, thousands of people might share in the special experience we're trying to create.

If you want to help, read the article within, and write me A.S.A.P. We have already begun work on many aspects of the project.

By the way, yes, I did just move. For anybody interested, I also started a new job and have a 5-month old baby girl. I'm also buying a house. And now I'm trying to get 150 people from Nova Scotia to Sweden working on the same project!

Don't even say it.

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