

*Zounds! here they are. Morrice! Prance!
Goldsmith--She Stoops to Conquer, 1773*

12 May, 1987

Dear Morriscos:

Here we go! Over the edge! The cusp approaches, the Ale draws nigh, we'll be tenting tonight on the old campground before you know it. The largest Ale committee in Midwestern history has been delving diligently in the depths of detail to bring you this year's bountiful bonanza of mirth and merriment. Gonna be fun, yah hey!

REGISTRATION

*They should be Morris-dancers by their gingle.
B. Johnson, 1640*



Enclosed you will find some of the fruits of our labels (Macintosh variety, of course). Please check your registration information carefully and mark any changes or corrections in RED pen (yes, I'm a TA. Other bright colors will do). Bringing this updated form to registration will speed matters considerably.

Some NOTES on the registration form:



1) Due to the innovative financial arrangements of some teams, individual accounts may not balance exactly. If your team as a whole OWES \$0.00, then you're all paid up. (Gratuities gratefully accepted for reading your collective minds and allocating checks accordingly.)



2) As most of you now know, tent costs are PER PERSON, not per tent. Thanks to those of you who carefully told me whom you plan to sleep with at the Ale, but it was not germane to registration and you still owe \$7.00 (plus whatever you choose to pay into the special blackmail database into which your data has been entered). You can settle up at registration (checks preferred, payable to the 1987 Midwest Morris Ale). Please put your name, OR that of the person for whom you're paying, on your check.



3) Unless otherwise noted on your form, everyone so far has received their first choice of accommodations. We still have space available in the indoor areas, but Bethel regulations require that beds, bunks and wigwams not be used unless paid for. If you want to upgrade your accommodations, please check with us at registration, and pay up accordingly. We are negotiating a flat fee with Bethel for tenters' "rain insurance" (right to move inside); if this comes through, we'll let you know when you register. It will not rain, of course. ☀

* ROUND OF WILD APPLAUSE to teams registered so far: Ann Arbor Morris and Sword (20); Bells of the North (19); Capering Roisters (12); Cornstalk (3); East Lansing (5); Grand Rapids Reformed Morris (7); Great River Morris (1); Keewenaw Stout Wood (8); Minnesota Traditional Morris (17); Oak Apple Morris (29); Windy City Women (4). We're expecting about twice the 135 now registered, and they keep

pouring in!

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

His fears had magnified...the sound of small morrice bells to the clanking of massy chains.
-- Smollett, 1748



Attached you will find maps and directions to the secret and secluded Ale site at Bethel Horizons in Dodgeville, WI. We assume that you can all find your way to Southwestern Wisconsin, so the maps start there. At registration, you can pick up maps of the site and of the local tours. If you have not indicated travel arrangements on your registration form, we assume that we'll see you at Bethel. There will be someone there by 12:00 noon on Saturday, and registration will continue into the wee hours. When you arrive, follow the signs to the parking lot and thence to the registration area. Please do not knock on random doors, as the Bethel staff are planning on getting some sleep. (!!)

Every night thou clearest the streets of...idle rascals, and of all Ale-toasts and Sops in brandy. -- Shadwell, 1691



If you are arriving by air or other public transport, please leave a message with Faithful Frances' Ale Answering Service at (608) 241-9115 A/S/A/P!!! so that we can begin to arrange shuttle service. Saturday's tours will be bussed, and we will have enough private cars on Sunday to accomodate the carless (assuming some out-of-towners volunteer to unload). Please wear hats, bells, or other distinguishing attire at the airport or bus station to identify yourselves to our chauffeur staff (who will be similarly unmistakable).

God match me with a good dauncer. Shakespeare, *Much ado*, 1599



Det-Ales

We Jig the Morris upon the Green.
D'Urfey 1719






Meeting Time is Saturday, 8:30 a.m. (see revised schedule enclosed) for three sets of folks: Squires/Forefolks, Musicians, and Tour Guides (Oak Apples only). Please check the board in the registration area for your meeting location (you can probably pick up your breakfast and bring it along).





Child Care for the Ale is still under negotiation (would YOU drive an hour into the country to take care of someone else's kids until 2 am?). We are trying to arrange an outside caretaker, for a nominal per-child fee, which will be confirmed by registration time. If this does not work out (ask when you register), parents please


contact Oak Apple **Martha Savage** to volunteer for a shift on the childcare team for the contra dance, the banquet, and/or the Sat/Sun tours.

 *\$ Saturday lunch* is *NOT* included in your Ale fee, so make sure to bring some pocket money to pass to the purveyors of palatables along State Street (Zorba's gyros! Ella's Reubens! Miles' Teddywedgers (Cornish pasties)! Shanghai Minnie's Governor Chicken! Babcock ice cream! and, of course, fresh Farmer's Market veggies and baked goods.) We will be providing a substantial breakfast, *TEA*  at Vilas Park, and a munchable snack on the bus on the way home, so starving artists and students needn't starve. But who could go to the Farmer's Market and not eat??

 *Show Dances* this year are, unfortunately, limited to *ONE* per team, at either Vilas Park (Saturday) or Folklore Village (Sunday). Due to the long bus ride to the Farmer's Market (buses leave at 10:00 a.m. SHARP! #) there will be no Saturday morning massed dancing on site. Bring your bus songs. There is time on Sunday evening for the usual wacko stuff; if you have something special to present, please let Oak Apples **Frances Hough** or myself (**Lynn Noel**) know in advance. We know, we know, it'll be spontaneous anyway!

 *Volunteer Medics* will be needed for each bus/tour group. Squires please bring the names of volunteers with medical or first aid training to the Saturday morning meeting. *By his high dancing and cutting of Capers...he did...sprain a vein.* -- Wood, 1691

 *Souvenirs* Please also bring along a current team address list AND the addresses of all attending hangers-on, so that we may astound you all with your personalized souvenir Ale address book. A reminder: there will be a "History Wall" with memorabilia of each past Midwest Ale. Please bring along incriminating photos, obsolete kits, your first ace bandage, and other memorabilia (no slides, videotapes or baby pictures please). You will be asked to prepare a display card telling us of the significance of your items, as significantly as possible.
Thar morisis and syk riot. -- Douglas, 1513

 *Driver Safety* Please help us to comply with Wisconsin law: no open alcoholic beverage containers in cars, designate a driver, and please don't carry glass containers around the site or while on tour. Also, no pets are allowed at Bethel Horizons, so please make sure your walrus has a safe place to stay at home. Thanks.

I pray you, good Morrice-mates, now leave me. -- Rowley, 1621     

 *See you Friday evening!!* -- Noel, 1987 1987 MWMA Registration Committee

1987 MIDWEST ALE TOUR SCHEDULE

(DANCE STANDS in italics)

FRIDAY May 22

5:00-? Registration at beautiful Bethel Horizons Retreat Center, Dodgeville, WI



8:30-10:00 Stretching and injury prevention exercises, massed dance practice

SATURDAY May 23

8:00-9:20 breakfast

8:30 Squires' and Forefolks' Meeting, Musicians Meeting and Tour Leader Briefing (concurrent)

BUSES DEPART 10:00 for downtown Madison. BE THERE ALOHA!

11:15-12:15 DANCE at Farmer's Market on Capitol Square.

1:00-2:30 arrive at U. Wisconsin Library Mall for lunch.

DANCE on Library Mall, Union Terrace, Bascom Hill

3:30 buses pick up at Library Mall and drop off at p.m. tour spots

DANCE at Vilas Effigy Mounds, Edgewood College, Brittingham Park, Vilas Zoo

5:00-6:00 MASSED DANCING at Vilas Park (snack served)

6:00 LOAD BUSES for return to Bethel

7:30 buffet dinner at Bethel (showers too!)

9:00 contra dance at Dodgeville American Legion Hall

SUNDAY May 24

8:00-11:00 buffet breakfast

9:00-11:00 Basque dance workshop

12:00-1:00 DANCE at Folklore Village Farm, Dodgeville

1:00-2:30 picnic lunch at Folklore Village and OPTIONAL local tours

Ridgeway, Mineral Point, Cave of the Mounds, Spring Green.

4:30-6:30 WORKSHOPS

7:00 hors d'oeuvres

7:30 BANQUET, presentations and performances at Bethel

MONDAY May 25

7:00-?? Breakfast is served. Bye y'all!

