

## 2011 Renaissance Festival Report



**RICK HODGES IN FRONT OF OUR BOOTH**

The 2011 Renaissance festival ran seven weekends as usual starting Labor Day weekend (September 3<sup>rd</sup> until October 16<sup>th</sup>). Rick Hodges moved back to Kansas in 2011 and took over as coordinator in 2011 (Laurence Coker had been the coordinator the previous 5 years). Rick had originally started the Renaissance booth in 1995, a booth mainly built by Brian Sidlinger. Rick was the coordinator for the booth for the first three years (1995-1997). Rick also was President of KCA from 1995 to 1997. The booth was initiated as a fund raiser for KCA.

Scheduling for help with the booth in 2011 started after the Kansas Open with a sign up sheet being circulated at the annual meeting. Laurence helped supply Rick a list of contacts, a list of volunteers he had developed over the previous 5 years.

There was maintenance work and improvements made at the Renaissance Festival booth in 2011. The area around the booth was leveled off. Some fixed stools were added as well as new benches. The stools inside the booth were replaced as the RenFest said we could no longer use their benches. New signs were made. This all had to be paid for.

Changes were made in fees charged for our simul booth. This year adults were charge \$3 per game with two games per \$5. Previously this had been \$2 per game and \$5 for three. Rates for individuals under age 18 were adjusted downs from \$2 a game to \$1 per game.

The weather for the Renaissance Festival this year was as good as this author has ever seen. There was very little disruption of rain on the weekends and there were no very cold days as there has been in the past.

The change in charges, the good weather, and the enthusiast helpers resulted in the highest gross income the booth has had in a given years in last 5 years- \$1654. After the Renfest gets their 15% this makes the net total \$1405.90. Once again we had our donation box ( a idea Laurence started in 2010) which brought in \$116.84 this year. This is not subject to the RenFest getting 15%. Thus, we made \$1522.74. Unfortunately we had extra expenses in 2011. As usual we had to pay \$170 for liability insurance. And, with all the improvements that had to be made; well that cost \$1100. Thus, the net income comes to \$252.74.

We need to thank all that worked. Rick worked every single weekend, driving from his home in Peabody, KS. Working a whole weekend with Rick were Tom Moloney, Duane Johnson, Neil Andrews, and Tom Martin. Joe and Spence Conklin worked two days out of the three day Labor Day weekend. After that the schedule was mainly filled with many people working single days. Working single days were Laurence Coker (x2), Jack Pearce, David Rubenstein, Oliver Rubinstein, Bob Craig, Ansar Lemon, Zoe Lemon, Brian Yang, Joe Conklin (x2), Spencer

Conklin, David Cheng, Tony Cheng, Bob Spies, Bill Quinlan (x2), David Blair, Tom Moloney, and CJ Armenta and his son. All working a full weekend received a free year's membership in KCA.

Major renovation on our booth is again required in 2012. The roof and sides of the booth have been there since the booth started in 1995. The siding and roof will have to be replaced as well as a few of the support poles. All this took considerable negotiating with the RenFest management, something Rick has been diligently doing. Otherwise we would not have had our booth after the 2010 season.



**PARTICIPANTS AT THE BOOTH**



**FRIENDLY VISITOR TO THE BOOTH (Duane Johnson pictured far right, others unknown to author)**

**REPORT BY LAURENCE COKER**