Benevolent Order of Scurrilious Monks

Abbot's Report

Summer Solstice 2026

Abbot Had Visitors!

On the first of June, 2026, Brother Leelove (Ashley Nichols) and his mother, Kathy Nichols, arrived at the Nemo Landing Missouri State Park on Lake Pomme de Terre. Lake Pomme de Terre is a five minute drive from our Abbot's home in the Missouri Ozarks. We spent time chatting in Ashley's big motor

home before moving outside to the picnic table where we enjoyed delicious barbecued burgers. The next day, Kathy bought us lunch at a local restaurant called the Crappie Hole. We shared a crappetizer before lunch and then we drove around and looked at a few more campgrounds on the lake. Ashley has a degree in materials engineering and he is clever about fixing things. He helped his old Abbot work on his automobile's air conditioner and ordered enough plumbing fittings to replace most of the plumbing in our Abbot's mobile home. Ashley's company in Daytona, Florida manufactures for real rocket engines using multi million dollar 3D printers that print with powdered metals. He has no regrets about not taking over the Nichols Renaissance Gaming business. We first met Ashley when he was five years old. He and his father, Jerry, had traveled to Waxahachie, Texas to build their first maze at the first annual Scarborough Faire where it rained 16 out of 19 festival days. We survived that muddy mess and soon after, we met them again building more mazes in Colorado and Kansas City. Kathy told our Abbot the story of how they later wound up running all of the games at the Texas Renaissance Festival. Brother Prehensile (Bill Swain) was sitting in the TRF office one day when King George said, "I want to put in some games. Who should I call?" Bill took a business card out of his wallet that had a picture of a maze on it and he said, "Call this guy." The rest is history. Brother Prehensile no longer spends his days going around in circles with his elephants but his son is planning to take elephants to the Republican National Convention. Elephants and Republicans kind of go together. An unprecedented midterm Republican convention is happening in Dallas in September of this year and the Republican Presidential Convention is scheduled for the summer of 2028 in Houston. Bill says he might tag along to look at the Republicans.

A Royal Request

Brother Twang (Michael Marzella) called our Abbot on the telephone last February. He has fully recovered from his open heart surgery in 2025 and he is alive and well on an island off the coast of Florida along with his biological brothers. We in the renaissance biz have met many Kings over the years but Michael stands out as our Abbot's favorite King Henry VIII of all time. He is much nicer than the original. He mentioned that he would like to see Scott Auld become a Scurrilious Monk.

Our Abbot holds Michael in such high esteem that The King's wish is our Abbot's command. So, with this report, congratulations or condolences go out to Scott Auld, our newest Scurrilious Monk.

Questionable Emails???

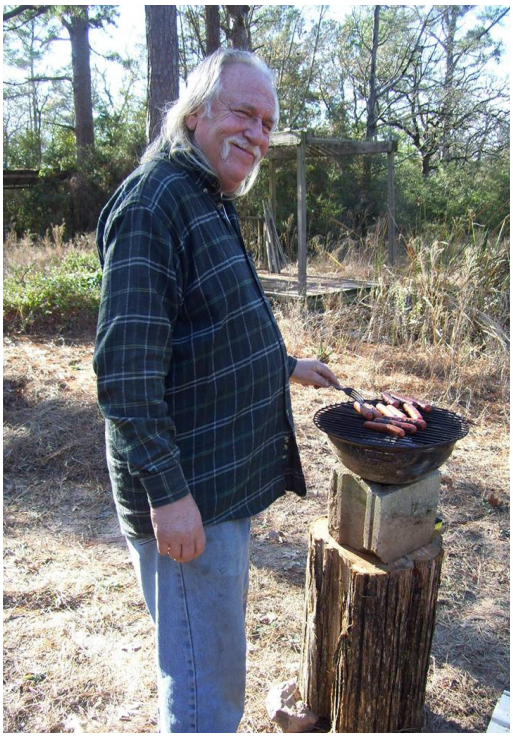
Our Abbot has been receiving multiple Emails from several groups and individuals. Some of them want to loan the Benevolent Order money. Some of them say they want to grant money outright. Some of them say that they want to buy the Order. The most recent one looked sort of like this: Subject: **Possible Family Office Investment earmarked for benevolent order of scurrilious monks inc up to $35M** from: Maria Guerra <lillian.davidson@nassauplanningstrategy.info> Date:06/17/2026 09:23AM To:donald@boosm.org

Hey donald, We're looking to allocate between $2M and $35M from our family office relationships directed at the spirituality events vertical within this quarter, our team has ringfenced this area intentionally. benevolent order of scurrilious monks inc is on our shortlist. Are you open to jumping on a call? Best, Maria Guerra

Our Abbot did not take the opportunity to jump on a call. He was suspicious. He has been somewhat more curious about Emails from people who claim that they want to buy the Benevolent Order. Grok recently told us that the Benevolent Order is a well established business and indeed it is. A forty year old 501(c)(3) non profit organization could be useful for many different purposes. Our Abbot has been known to say that everything he owns is for sale. He's been thinking about selling the Order for $150 million and then sending a million bucks to every monk and then retiring.

Bernie's Breakfast T shirts Available

Brother Breakfast (Bernie Heissfeld) is now retired. He was trained by the military to be a cook. He learned that lots of people like coffee, eggs and toast. When he started working at the renaissance faires, he soon saw an opportunity that he was



well qualified to take advantage of. Bernie made and sold breakfasts to rennies on Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings. His breakfast businesses thrived at renaissance faires in Colorado, Arizona, Minnesota, Texas, New York and Florida for thirty five years. Recently, while cleaning house at his home in Villa Grove, Colorado, he came upon a stash of unworn Bernie's Breakfast tee shirts with artwork by notable artists like Dan Thompson, Elizabeth Rothwell and Bro RoMo (Ron Moses). Bernie's Email address is ezpotluck123@yahoo.com.

Fireflies Marrying on Halloween!!

The *Kamikaze Fireflies*, Casey Martin and Rob Williams, are planning to marry at the Ohio Renaissance Festival in

Waynesville, Ohio this coming Halloween. Those wishing to attend are advised to buy their festival tickets early because they'll probably be sold out before the wedding day. All the information one could possibly need can be found here: https://www.kamikazefirefliesswedding.com/

David Doyle at Death's Door?

The Benevolent Order's official astrologer, Brother Francis (David Doyle), predicted that 2026 would be a significant year for the Order and for its Abbot. He pointed out that every year that our Abbot's birthday has fallen on a full moon has been significant for one reason or another. Brother Francis has been our staunchest supporter. He has been sending our Abbot an astrological *Celestial Events* document every month for nearly forty years. We fear that the *Celestial Events* of June 2026 will be the last report that we shall ever receive. In an email dated May 21, he reported that a recent CT scan followed by a biopsy of a lymph node showed that he has multiple cancers again. On top of that, he has been suffering with chronic kidney disease, congestive heart failure and atrial fibrillation. We can only hope that the secret work he did for the military will make him eligible for early access to the medbeds. We'll see if this *Report* comes back marked "return to sender". Brother Francis is accustomed to traveling outside of his body. We are expecting that his passing will be peaceful. Our Abbot would not be surprised to hear him report back from beyond the veil.

Obituaries

Brother Nom de Plume (Sean Poole) died on March 6, 2026. In August of 1973, Sean survived a devastating car accident that left him with a broken back. He lived in pain for the rest of his life. In 1977, he began his career in radio and graduated from college with a degree in communications. He spent ten years working in radio and television. In 1979, our Abbot traveled to the Texas Renaissance Festival for the first time. He still remembers seeing an unusual looking fellow limping along behind a two wheeled wooden cart shouting out, "Bring Out Your Dead!" in a big, booming voice. We never actually met that year but by 1987, Sean had become TRF's entertainment director. We became better acquainted at King Richard's Faire in Massachusetts where Sean met the love of his life, Terri Cabral in 1994. They stayed together for more than 30 years before finally marrying the year Sean died.

Stephen Bennett died on May 29. He had a pottery shop at Scarborough Faire next door to Kathy Nichols' stained glass booth. There was a little gazebo attached to his booth where a beautiful woman sold Stephen's hand made jars filled with hand cream. It seems like it was a new beautiful woman every year but that might not be true. The babes loved Stephen. Brother Dollface (Kandra Niagra) wrote in her May 2026 *Wee Peeple Newsletter*, "The Dollmaker feels so blessed to have known him. On Saturday nights they got together preparing pasta dinners

(heavy on the garlic) at his pottery shoppe where he would explain interminably about the variations in wines, afterwards playing amusingly raunchy songs on the guitar...They had long philosophical talks discussing the writings of Gurdjieff and Ram Dass, and she listened to many stories about the origins of Renfests and Hippies in California. (Kandra took this photo.)

Her daughter, Shannon, would excavate his pottery from the creek bed. He had a habit of tossing unwanted pots, bowls, mugs etc.. over the porch railing...She still has those pots- (and-even though rejected, they are all signed! Lol). The Dollmaker bought a Star Cream jar every year- and she will never part with those jars... to which Brother Sew What (Christine Simeone) commented, “Oh no no no! We had many discussions over the years about business and lots of other things.” Ann Curtis, author of *Adventures of a Dirty Blonde*, posted in the *Dead Wren* Facebook group on June 3 to tell us about Stephen's final days: “Stephen Bennett's 'Alpha-gal' tick borne illness appeared to have been a foreshadowing. Scarborough kicked off well enuf with Stephen still throwing pots fast and furious, but then he began to tank about 5 weeks ago. He had sold the ScRF booth and now needed to clear it out. Derek got there and sprung him from the hospital in Waxahachie, where he'd just been informed of stage 4 cancer. He requested to come here to our home in Harper as it was 'paradise’. Stephen spent his last 2 weeks here. It was horribly hard to see our dear friend go so quickly, and meanwhile we were incredibly honored to help him move on to the next level.” One can find places to buy Ann's book by following this link: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063658148101

Zak's Facebook name was Mac Zak but our Abbot has a vague recollection of his last name being a hard to spell Polish name starting with Zak and ending in ski. Zak left Poland at the end of World War II. He became a Union Boss working on oil rigs in Argentina for a few years before he became a gaucho in Brazil. Later, he worked as a hard hat deep sea diver near Haiti searching for the wreck of the Mary Celeste. Most of us never knew about any of that. Zak became famous in the world of renaissance faires as a blacksmith who manufactured and marketed swords, knives, axes and all manner of other bladed weapons. Starfire swords became must have costume accessories for hundreds, if not thousands of renaissance enthusiasts. Human Chess players, Society for Creative Anachronism fighters, Jousters and other various macho types all wanted a Starfire sword. Eventually, they started showing up in movies and on TV shows. Some of Zak's apprentices started

their own sword businesses. Zak died at age 88. He outlived three wives and left behind 25 grandchildren and at least 25 great grandchildren. Kids loved him. Starfire swords are immediately identifiable. Examples of his works can be found by following this link: https://www.facebook.com/StarfireSwordsLtd/photos.

Becky Hurst made and sold sculpted candles. She was married to our brother, Jerry Hurst. Our Abbot did not know her well but he can remember Jerry being *The Royal Candlemaker* on one side of the river at Scarborough Faire while Becky had *The Legendary Candle Company* far away on the other side of the

river. She frequently performed live candle-carving demonstrations at her shows. Becky's ill fated shop at Scarborough burnt down several years ago during the off season and was eventually rebuilt. According to Billye Conner's *Dead Wren* post, She not only provided jobs, she provided a safe place with shelter from the storms. It didn't matter to her if you were different or quirky, in her eyes she was put on earth to help people. And for many she did just that. She had candles at Sherwood Forest Faire, The Arizona Renaissance Festival, The Texas Renaissance Festival, The New York Renaissance Faire, The Colorado Renaissance Festival, King Richard's Faire and The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.