

R M M R A

NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 2005

Dear RMMRA members and friends,

The Newsletter will be coming to you in two installments this year. This first installment will focus on our annual conference, this year to be held at Jackson Hole, Wyoming from the second to the fifth of June. Our conference organizers this year are Susan Aronstein (aronstei@uwyo.edu) and Susan Frye (frye@uwyo.edu), who would welcome your inquiries. The extended deadline for proposals for papers and panels is 30 March 2005. The theme for this year's conference is "Frontiers and Borders." Papers and panels on this year's theme will be preferred, but other paper topics will also be welcome.

One example of a suggested session on this year's conference theme has come from Kenneth Bleeth, Department of English, Connecticut College, New London, CT 06320. Professor Bleeth proposes a session on "Chaucerian Borders" with the following suggested ideas to stimulate your thinking: Borders and border-crossings in Chaucer's works: geographical borders; liminal spaces; gender boundaries, observed and transgressed; linguistic borders; borders and gaps in the manuscripts of Chaucer's works. Proposals can either be mailed to Professor Bleeth at his address given above, or he can also be contacted by e-mail at kenneth.bleeth@conncoll.edu. The deadline for these proposals is also 30 March 2005.

For those members who would like to improve their reading of Middle English texts aloud, I will be offering another session of Reading Chaucer Aloud as I did last year in Durango. If you are interested in participating, please contact me by e-mail: paul_thomas@byu.edu or by phone (801-422-2531). Other special sessions will be publicized in the second installment of the newsletter.

This "Frontiers and Borders" conference promises to be a real treat. Jackson Hole is a wonderful venue and the Snow King Resort Hotel, where all events will be held, is a very pleasant place, as some will remember from an earlier conference held there. Registration fee for the Conference will be \$100 for faculty (active or retired) and \$50 for graduate students. Those who read papers need to be currently registered members of the Association (2005 dues paid) and registered for the Conference. There is a dues form included with this newsletter.

The conference price for rooms at Snow King Lodge will be \$115 per night for a single, \$125 for a double, \$135 for a triple, and \$145 for a quad. For those who might like to stay in one of the condos also located at the Snow King, these range in price from \$155 for a studio to \$240 for a four-bedroom. Higher end "platinum" condos range from \$240 for a suite to \$350 for a three-bedroom. These reduced rates are available for those coming to the Conference who might like to visit the surrounding country and the nearby Teton and Yellowstone National Parks from 29 May through the night of 8 June. To get the conference discount price, you will need to phone the hotel reservations desk, giving them the code word Medieval. Their free phone number at Snow King Resort Hotel is 1-800-522-5464. The hotel's address is 400 East Snow King Ave.,

Jackson, WY 83001. The discounted prices will be guaranteed through the second of May and will be available after that on a space available basis. Make your reservations early for what promises to be a great conference.

The current interests and expertise of our two conference organizers show in the speakers they have invited for this year's Conference. Invited speakers include Kevin Harty, author of *Cinema Arthuriana* (2002 rev. ed.), *King Arthur on Film* (1999), and *The Reel Middle Ages* (1999) and Stephen Orgel, author of *Imagining Shakespeare* (2003), *Impersonations: The Performance of Gender in Shakespeare's England* (1995), and *The Illusion of Power: Political Theater in the English Renaissance* (1975). In addition, there will be a chance for members to display books, Chaucer Studio recordings, and the like. Contact either of the Susans for more information. I will be looking forward to seeing many of you at this year's RMMRA Conference, 2–5 June in Jackson Hole.

All best wishes,

Paul Thomas, President

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[Dues Form follows]

RMMRA Annual Dues Form for 2005

Name:

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Dues Categories: Check the correct box—\$25 (graduate students, independent scholars, adjunct faculty, retired faculty)_____; \$35 (Assistant Professors)_____; \$40 (Associate Professors)_____; \$45 (Full Professors)_____

Return this form with your tax-deductible contribution to Phyllis Walton, RMMRA Treasurer, 3031 South 500 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84106