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The Cutting Edge

The Society of American Fight Directors

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## **The Cutting Edge, February/March 1999, Vol. 10 Issue 1**

The Society of American Fight Directors

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## Election Results Are In!



### DUES

1999 Dues are due. If you are not current, contact our new Secretary, Michael Anderson right away to avoid any interruption in membership. Michael can be reached at:

Michael J. Anderson  
Engarde! Unlimited  
2101 NE Kennedy Street, Suite 101  
Minneapolis, MN 55413-2639  
(612) 759-9711  
roadkill@bitstream.net



### THE COLORADO RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

is looking for experienced actor/combatants for paid positions in their summer shows. Rehearsals run May 1 thru June 4, 1999 and weekend performances run June 5 thru July 24, 1999.

Interested applicants should send a headshot and resume (with video if possible) to writer/choreographer and SAFD regional representative Geoffe Kent at 1633 Emerson Apt. #6, Denver, CO 80218 or contact him at (303) 266-3215 or kentge@msn.com.

Dale Girard has assumed the mantle of leadership as our new president, and a hearty congratulations goes out to him on his new office. Likewise, a sincere note of thanks to Drew Fracher for his six years of service to this organization as President. He leaves a noticeably stronger SAFD to his successor.

Paul Dennhardt is moving up in the world, from Secretary to Vice President. He'll be attempting the daunting task of filling Colleen Kelly's shoes. Good luck, Paul ~ you're the right man for the job.

Julia Rupkalvis steps up to bat as the new Treasurer, taking over for Mark "Rat" Guinn who has successfully kept us in the black these past few years.

And finally, the result of the one contested election...Michael Anderson is our new Secretary, taking the position vacated by Paul Dennhardt. Michael will be working very closely with Paul to put into practice the new dues renewal rotation, so help him out and be in touch. And now, an excerpt from Michael's letter to the membership:

"Mr. Dennhardt and I will be getting together in early February so that I may take up the secretarial mantle. I will then be able to field questions and concerns with the necessary information. To ensure the most efficient service, please e-mail

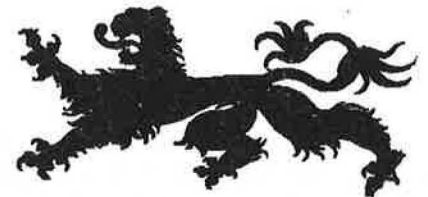
requests for information, address changes, or other SAFD business to me at roadkill@bitstream.net. This will be the easiest way for me to keep up with the membership...

One of my concerns is to find out who is on the roster, but not getting their mailings. I keep hearing about that and I swear I'll get to the bottom of it. If you folks have students or others in your region who have this problem, drop me an e-mail and I'll take the appropriate action. I will also work out a means to get the website current and speed the flow of accurate information throughout our organization."

For those of you who cannot e-mail Michael, his phone numbers are:

(612)-759-9711  
(612)-331-5746 (fax).

Congratulations to all new officers and much thanks to those stepping down for all their work!



## The SAFD Salutes Drew Fracher for Six Years of Service



BEFORE



AFTER

# 8th Annual Stage Combat Workshop At Louisiana Tech University

Sponsored by Tech Theatre Players

April 2 & 3 1999  
at the Lambricht  
Inter mural Center  
on the campus of  
Louisiana Tech  
University

Registration  
for the two  
day  
workshop:  
\$100.00  
before  
March 10th;  
Late  
registration  
\$125.00

Free Housing: Some Tech  
Theater Players open  
their homes for the  
weekend, but spaces are  
limited.

Immediate reservation is  
advisable

Mark "Rat" Guinn, Workshop  
Coordinator/Founder,  
is at it again!  
Ever since Michael Chin of  
the New York Fight Ensemble  
stated in the Fight Master,  
"...people in Louisiana, they  
sure know how to run a  
workshop," the pressure has  
been hot! This year we are  
promising that the Workshop  
will once again be hotter  
than the crawfish! Over 70  
students came last year to  
"laissez les bon temps roulez"  
(...oh yeah, and fight!)  
Come join the fun!

To Register for  
the workshop  
call:  
(318)-257-2930

Ask for  
"RAT"

Instructors Scheduled:

Fight Master:  
Dale Girard  
Fight Directors of the  
SAFD:

Brian Byrnes  
Michael Chin  
K. Jenny Jones  
Colleen Kelly  
Scott Mann

Certified Teachers:  
Michael "Roadkill"  
Anderson  
Mark "Rat" Guinn

Registration may also be e-mailed to [TJSGEM1@Yahoo.com](mailto:TJSGEM1@Yahoo.com).

Please be certain to leave your name, address, phone number, and please indicate if you are interested in housing with members of Tech Theatre Players during the workshop.

T H E C U T T I N G E D G E

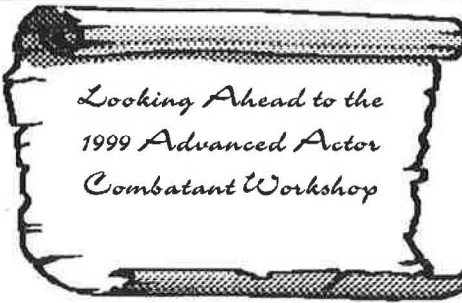
# Additional News...

New address for J.R. Beardsley:  
J.R. Beardsley  
4790 Caughlin Parkway #363  
Reno, NV. 89509  
(702) 747-2931  
Intljr@aol.com

For those of you who may not have heard, J.R. got married last summer! Here's wishing him the best.

Mark "Rat" Guinn has a new e-mail address:  
mguinn@latech.edu

SAFD President Dale Girard has also taken on a new e-mail home. You can reach him, surprisingly enough, at: SAFDprez@aol.com



1999 ADVANCED  
ACTOR/  
COMBATANT  
WORKSHOP  
by David Boushey

The 1999 Advanced Workshop promises to be the most exciting and all-encompassing advanced workshop to be held under the auspices of the SAFD.

First and foremost: Fighting for Film will be introduced as an integral part of the SAFD workshop. It has been a long awaited endeavor and the SAFD is delighted that those students aspiring to both stage and film careers will have the opportunity to explore film technique and how action is played to the camera. "Acting the Action" will be a key ingredient in the film exploration, along with the unique and specific techniques required for film fighting. The SAFD will have a hot set on which to play, that will be designed specifically for the workshop so that the participants may explore a full range of film possibilities. Fighting for Film promises to be a very exciting part of the workshop.

Martial Arts will also be introduced, whereby students will learn to blend martial arts and western European styles of fighting thus creating a more theatrical look for those students interested in not only martial arts but how they can be explored for both stage and screen presentations.

Knife fighting will become a more specific martial art form. It will have its own unique place in the curriculum. It will be focused into contemporary violence often in conjunction with empty handed combat and will be used extensively with film fighting.

The workshop will continue to focus on those areas of expertise that have made the SAFD the foremost weapons training facility in North America. Among several



options there will be a major focus on smallsword, rapier and dagger, sword and shield, unarmed

combat, single broadsword and quarterstaff. Such areas as mass battles, mixed weapons, and found weapons will be explored. In conjunction with various weapons and fighting styles other academic areas that enrich a combatant's total awareness of this field of endeavor will be offered such as

the history of weaponry and combat, as well as new philosophies that are a part of our modern interpretation of combat such as the role of women in modern combat and the effect of violence in the new millennium.

This workshop promises to have something for every advanced actor/combatant and will challenge and educate all. Enrollment is limited, so don't wait to register for this exciting workshop.



To register for either the Advanced Actor Combatant Workshop or the National Stage Combat Workshop, contact Linda McCollum at:

UNLV Department of Theatre  
4505 Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5044  
(702) 895-0833 (fax)  
mccollum@ccmail.nevada.edu

# Back-Word

Many of you have not been receiving your copies of the Cutting Edge on time, or at all. If you are among those who have, for whatever reason, experienced an interruption in your receipt of this publication, please contact Michael Anderson immediately and we will address the issue.

One of the great difficulties of running a national organization like this is the logistics of maintaining the multiple databases in multiple locations of an ever-changing membership.

Stay tuned in upcoming issues for information on various regional workshops, including: The Summer Sling (New York), The Lion in Summer (London), The Virginia Tea Party (Williamsburg), and many others. Regional Reps, if you are hosting a workshop anytime in the next year, please e-mail a brief synopsis of the workshop, i.e.

tuition, contact info, dates, etc. and I'll include it in the Cutting Edge.



Crossbowman

## The Cutting Edge

is concocted bimonthly by  
David Doersch.

*The Cutting Edge*  
is a publication of the  
Society of American Fight Directors

Submissions should be sent to:

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T H E C U T T I N G E D G E

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