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## Hawkwood Performers

By Charlene Green – Dallas Morning News

ROANOKE / NORTHLAKE - Although Yohko, Hawkwood's fire-breathing dragon, is currently out of work, many of the entertainers who performed at the Medieval fantasy faire have found other engagements.



The popular Dragon Attack stunt show starring Yohko is on an indefinite hiatus, show producer Craig Lutke said.

The show -- which included Yohko the fire-breathing dragon, pyrotechnics, sword fighting, stunts and humorous scripts can be booked for festivals, fairs and other events through a web site maintained by Lutke. However, the stunt show has not been performed since the Hawkwood Medieval Fantasy Faire ended its 2001 season, he said.

"The problem with the Dragon Attack show is finding a venue that can accommodate Yohko," Lutke said. "She's a big old girl."

But that doesn't mean Lutke and the other characters from the stunt show have been idle. Many of them have joined Lutke's newest production, Wild Western Days, which includes his Bandit Attack stunt show.

"It was a pretty smooth transition to go from sword fights to gun fights," Lutke said. The next Wild Western Days festival is scheduled for Sept. 28-29 in Alvarado, he said.

Another popular performing group from the Hawkwood faire, The Bilge Pumps, will be performing at the Texas Renaissance Festival Oct. 19-20, and at then the Louisiana Renaissance Festival in December.

The North-Texas based singing group includes Lutke and other former Hawkwood cast members who dress as pirates and sing sea-shanties.

The Bilge Pumps traveled in San Diego in July and performed in the city's Sea Shanty Festival, Lutke said.

The pirate band recently completed recording several live performances which will be released on compact disc later this year, Lutke said.

And the dancers from the Dolunay Rose Traveling Gypsy Show have plenty to keep them busy, too.

The group performed in July at the Blackbeard's Pirate Festival, in Irving, where they met up with Lutke who was there performing with his band, The Bilge Pumps.

Lutke invited the belly dancers to participate in the Wild Western Days festival in September, and they accepted.

The dancers also are scheduled to perform at the State Fair of Texas Oct. 12-13 and Oct. 19-20, according to the group's organizer Gitanne.

In addition to performing, several of the Dolunay Rose Dancers also teach classes in traditional belly dance at a Fort Worth dance studio.

If only Yohko had been so fortunate. . .

For information on Craig Lutke's dragon and bandit stunt shows, see [www.stunt-show.com](http://www.stunt-show.com).

For information on the Wild Western Days festival, see [wildwesterndays.ibidismortem.com](http://wildwesterndays.ibidismortem.com).

For information on The Bilge Pumps pirate band, see [www.thebilgepumps.com](http://www.thebilgepumps.com).

For information on the Dolunay Rose Dancers and gypsy show, see [www.dolunayrosedancers.com](http://www.dolunayrosedancers.com).