



17 January 2010

Dear Seminararians:

We are delighted to report that all the abstracts for our seminar are in, were on time, and are now posted on the Members page. Thanks very, very much for observing the deadline. Things are much easier this way.

I (MLS) have written my own essay and have linked it to the Members page on Adobe so you can see how your colleagues will read your work. The plan is, still, for each of you all to send us your essay in Word, and we'll do the .pdf-ing, if this seems to be the best move. I have my own essay in .html for the sake of easy reading, as well. For those of you who mention an author or text besides Marlowe or Shakespeare, especially one with which the rest of the group may not be familiar, I've made a name link from your abstract. As someone who looks forward to reading your essays carefully, I would like to be fully informed, so I know what you're talking about, and I'd imagine many of you feel the same way.

We see our role as facilitators of conversation, so in the coming months, we will figure out the best ways to do this. The idea is to have fun, not to saddle you with duties that you may not want, such as responding to essays, a practice which the SAA strongly discourages, and rightly so. We'll get back to you on this.

It is customary, as many of you know, to have some kind of dinner or outing as a seminar. If there is strong sentiment for such a gathering, we will will do our best to make it happen. I myself would be just as happy spending some informal time with as many of you as possible, over a drink or perhaps coffee or a walk around the block. (Maybe the Hyatt will have discount beer night: \$9 or so!) At these conventions, I tend to spend just as much time wandering around the town as I do at the convention, so if you feel the need for some fresh air, let me know. I'm quite the shopper, though you should be forewarned that I see it as blood sport. You're more than welcome to come along. Besides, I need help with my Marlowe book, and I seek advice. Desperately.

At least two of our distinguished members are local, and we will seek their recommendations about restaurants or places to get away and pass them along to you. Of course, if you've never been to the Newberry (W. Walton St.) or the Art Institute (Michigan Ave.), I can only urge you to take advantage of those opportunities. They're easy to find, and I plan to go to both, so I can at least point you in the right direction, should you seek it.

One bit of very good news: the president of the Marlowe Society, Roslyn Knutson, has said that she will be attending our seminar as an auditor, or as part of the audience. For those of you who do not know her, this is a good opportunity to meet her. You will like her very much. Also, once again, we strongly encourage you to consider joining the Marlowe Society of America.

Please contact both of us if you have any questions or if we can improve your experience with us in any way. You'll be hearing from us on 10 February about your final submissions, and we look forward to receiving your paper on our before the 14th, that very special day for the chocolate and floral industries. Early submissions are, of course, always quite welcome.

Strongly advised: make those hotel reservations as soon as you can. I think that once you register for the convention and the SAA gets its \$, they give you some kind of discount code that you can use with the Hyatt. Feel free to use the links provided on our webpage.

For the abstracts:

<http://www.saa9.org/Members.html>

For MSA membership:

<http://www.marlowesmightyline.org/Membership.html>

Warmest regards,

MLS (& / 4 SKS)