

# The Dragonflyre

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BARONY OF VATAVIA



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Third Quarter 2020  
A.S. LV  
[www.baronyofvatavia.org](http://www.baronyofvatavia.org)

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## CREDITS

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## VATAVIAN BARONAGE

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**Baroness Geneviève de Chambéry** (Kristina Griffith)  
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## VATAVIAN OFFICERS

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**Demo Coordinator:** Baroness Marie Chantal Delaire (Mary Day)  
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**Property Master:** Lord Robert The Scott (Robert Botkin)  
620-474-5097

**Minister of Youth:** Lady Fujihara Murasaki  
(Jeo Bondurant) Text 307-630-5017

## BARONIAL CHAMPIONS

**Borec** (Armored Combat) Lord Erik Tokesson

**Obránc** (Cut & Thrust) : Lord Øyrikr Raðúlfsson

**Lucisnik:** (Archery) Master Jóhann Steinarsson

**Zevack:** (Bardic) Lord Samuel Strangefellow

**Estradni Umelec:** (Arts & Sciences) HE Wulfric Tyrrell

# Unto the Populace of Vatabia, We send love and warm wishes,

As the pandemic rages on, it has affected every facet of our lives, at times it has become unbearable for each of us. Yet Vatabia, take heart, together we stand and proudly remain undaunted. It has been a joy to see people pull together, help encourage one another forming new bonds of friendship and comradeship. It has made our hearts lighter and gives us great hope to see so many enjoying the opportunities to Shoot Archery, throw knives, axes and practice pell work. As well as participate in the Medieval Olympic games. While meeting in person is limited, these few opportunities are food for the soul. The season grows short, so join us if you can, to revel in the last of these outdoor opportunities. . . . As Winter is coming.

The completion of fall harvest, crisp breezes, falling leaves and a crackling fire are sure signs that the holiday season draws nigh bring together rich foods, friends and fellowship as we warm ourselves with indoor pursuits. Until safe and prudent health practices suggest otherwise we will continue our Zoom Conference meetings while we seek a new location for our in person gatherings.

The drums of war are beating off in the distance, like the hearts of our fellow Calontiri, longing for the day we can meet as a kingdom once more. We must make ready for this day will come. . . . His Majesty's horns will call. Winter War Maneuvers is coming to Vatabia! It is February 20th to be held at the Farha Sports Fields at the South YMCA. Though this day focuses on War tactics for our army, there is plenty of space for socializing. We are expecting a good crowd therefore, the autocrats will need volunteers to put this event together.

As the seasons change may you reap the harvests of your summer labors and enjoy family, friends and good memories of the dream.

In faithful service and love,

Lawrence and Genevieve  
Baron & Baroness  
Barony of Vatabia, Kingdom of Calontir

## FROM THE SENESCHAL

Greetings Vatavia!

With Covid-19 still knocking on everyone's door, Their Majesties notified their populace this last June that we could start small group get together's except for no contact fighting. We started Archery practice every Sunday now in two locations until weather turns colder and an Officers/Business meeting in July. We still wear our face masks even though they are uncomfortable and practice the social distancing, we gather on the average of 8 – 15 of the populaces attending each gathering.

The Baronial calendar has been updated on our <http://www.baronyofvatavia.org/> website and Her Excellency Genevieve sends out a weekly news blast with up to date information on activities that are going on. Locally and in the Kingdom are still being planned for 1 February 2021 and on, so that being said we have WWM (Winter War Maneuver's) event in February we are making plans for, a Demo at the Spring Renaissance Fair in April and Valor 4I in May. Even though we are limited on what we can do now, we have hope that we can have these events next year. If you would like to help with any or all let myself or their Excellencies know how you may help.

It is our turn in the rotation to submit a bid for Coronation I/15/2022. The last Coronation the Barony was responsible for was submitted and ran by His Lordship William Douglas and Her Ladyship Lucia of Vatavia. It was a snowy day, but the site was something to behold and to witness how much fun, we were having and if you were there for the feast how well it tasted. Oh, and how could I forget while I was announcing one of the courses, I forgot what we were serving. It may have taken me a couple more seconds to remember but I finally remembered and announced it. If you are interested, please contact me by my email [seneschal@baronyofvatavia.org](mailto:seneschal@baronyofvatavia.org) and we can get you some information to help fill out the bid.

We have two Officers stepping down on October 7<sup>th</sup> Officers/Business meeting and we have three stepping up at Officers, Lady Eyfrídr Gold-Bearer from A&S and Lord Konrad von Roth from Archery. Lady Alia is new to the Barony and has a lot of experience in the Arts and Sciences, and Lady Heidi Anne Draper is stepping up as Archer Marshal. The third person stepping up is Fujihara Murasaki as the Minister of Youth.

We are still looking for a new Castellan/Chatelaine. The Castellan, a deputy of the Seneschal, greets new members, answers their questions, and assists them as necessary. They also maintain a supply of garb which may be loaned to newer members. The Castellan is also the

public relations officer. Lord Øyriki Radúlfsson has stepped down from this position a while back and he will be tough to replace. It is a rewarding position to be in meeting new members and taking them on a walk down a road we all travel.

Yours in Service

Robert Steven MacLaren

Aka Robert the Scot

## FROM THE ARTS AND SCIENCES MINISTER

Greetings Fellow Vatavians,

I am a newcomer to Calontir and Kansas, hailing from the Southern Marches of the Kingdom of the West. I focus most of my Arts & Sciences time and energy on glass bead-making, otherwise known as lampworking, but also enjoy many fiber arts including hand sewing, spinning wool, and inkle weaving. I enjoy both teaching and learning, and organizing opportunities for others, especially beginners, to learn new skills and to become excited to share what they know. As our new A&S Minister, I hope to plan interesting classes for our populace and to help others in the Barony find enjoyment learning and sharing their knowledge and skills with others.

YIS

Lady Ália Martialis

## FROM THE DEMO COORDINATOR

Greetings fellow Vatavians.

It does not need repeating since we have all heard it way more than once. The first possible presentation by the Barony is tentatively at the first fighter practice in February at Exploration Place.

For those who have participated in the past years the Halloween event will be held at the Zoo during the day this year. I know some were planning on helping as private individuals, not Vatavians. ***However the Zoo will not be using any volunteers this year.***

If you receive any requests please forward them to me. We may not be able to do a presentation but we may be able to provide resources.

YIS

Marie Chantal Delaire

## FROM THE CHRONICLER

Good Greetings to the Populace of Vatavia,

I announced at the business meeting that **I will be stepping down as chronicler as of the end of this year, 2020, after five years of service.** The job is much easier than in the past because everything is transmitted electronically. To simplify that task even more so, the requirement is one issue per quarter— only four times a year! As an officer, your publications are your quarterly reports and there is no yearly Domesday.

The requirements for the office:

- ◆ Be a paid member of the Society
- ◆ Have a device that will run a publishing application in a PDF form. (I personally use a PC with “Microsoft’s Publisher”)

If you are interested please send a letter of intent to their Excellences, the Seneschal, and myself.

Be assured I will be at the next chronicler's service to help them and answer any questions.

It’s been my pleasure and honor to serve,

Mistress Sorcha,  
Chronicler of Vatavia

## FROM THE EXCHEQUER

Good day to all.

Here is where the Barony sits on Available monies as of the end of Sept. 2020. We currently have a balance of 16,466.86 in the bank. If there are any questions I can be reached at the Baronial website email: [exchequer@baronyofvatavia.org](mailto:exchequer@baronyofvatavia.org).

YIS

Lord Konrad von Roth

## FROM THE ARCHER MARSHAL

Greetings,

We began bi-weekly Archery Practice in September. It started out in Hutchinson, at the residence of Their Excellencies. We are wearing masks and practicing social distancing at practice.

We have just added a location in Andover.

We will be having weekly Archery Practice – weather permitting – alternating between the 2 locations.

As the weather gets colder, we will look at closing the season. If we later have warm days, and people are interested, we will have Archery Practice occasionally. Where it will occur will be decided upon by myself and the hosts.

We are doing limited pell work, at practice, maintaining social distancing. We have also had people working on A&S activities, have had pot lucks (modified for safety), and just socializing.

Addresses, dates, and times are on the Barony Calendar.

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns:

[hbotkin@cox.net](mailto:hbotkin@cox.net)

YIS

Heidi Anne Draper

## OFFICERS’ MEETING MINUTES

OFFICERS’ MEETING | July 1, 2020

Meeting held on the Zoom Platform and OJ Watson Park  
3022 S McLean Blvd, Wichita KS

21 members participated: 11 Baronage/ officers/deputies/ champions; 10 members of the populace

All library summer reading program presentations have been cancelled. Various internet sites, links and resource packets have been sent to them. Meetings will be started to plan for the Fall Great Plains Renaissance Festival September 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> at Sedgwick County Park. Champions will be done at the Festival.

Lilies will be over Halloween weekend. Several events will be done at Lilies. There will be a Vatavia Baronial campsite at the event.

It was stressed if are having a private gathering with fellow members do NOT post it any social media or notify local officers. It is a *private party*; just message people.

The new Kingdom Web Minister will be making Kingdom level committees. The Facebook and web site are to be all up to date. After Calon Con heralds’ meeting the Saker Herald informed Caltrop staff that Ulf Halfdane and Joachim Courtenay Maxsbruder would be on the next External letter early July. The *Dragonflyre has been published and posted early*. Deputy arts and sciences minister announced this year’s Kingdom A and S will be virtual. Locally the next A and S session will be to discuss largess ideas. There will be a largess contest at the Fall Great Plains Renaissance Festival. The 22<sup>nd</sup> will be a virtual outdoor cooking demo. HE Zoë announced there will be an unofficial Cooks’ Guild collegium, Stirring the Pot Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>. Her Excellency Genèvieve added that starting July 1<sup>st</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> classes at the Great Western War will be virtually available.

As of the end of May the Baronial account was 17,709.16. No expenditures have been made. There will be a meeting of the finance meeting after Officers’ to revise this year’s budget. It was stressed that this year there has been no income to date.

20 members participated: 13 Baronage/ officers/deputies/ champions; 8 members of the populace

At Mag Mor's request Vatavia has a bid to host Winter War Maneuvers. The bid to host the event here February 20, 2021 at the Farha indoor soccer field facility. Budget and other details, such as shower access, post revel, YMCA cancellation policy were presented and discussed. It will go to the financial committee for approval.

Bids for Valor 4I need to be in by November 2020. A class on being an event steward is planned for A and S.

The Fighter Marshal reported most of Calon Con went over Society guidelines. Until it is officially posted on the Calontir Kingdom page, there is no fighter practice. After the finance meeting the order will be made for loaner armor.

Archery is waiting on O.J. Watson Park to get clearance to do the pony rides. This involves some building of safety screening. Until that is accomplished Their Excellencies offered the use of their personal backyard range in Hutchinson.

A Baronial contact list is proposed. Participation will be totally voluntary. Non-Vatavians who play and participate here who wish to be included can. Currently the Chatelaine/ Castellan position is open. Letters are being accepted. In September the Arts and Sciences Minister may be stepping down.

It was stressed in Seneschal, Web Minister and other Calon Con meetings about appropriate social media posting. Be kind. Don't spread hate. Be positive. It was stressed that doxxing- the publishing of private or identifying information on the internet about an individual or organization- depending on what is said, it is illegal. If it is on a personal page there is nothing the Society or group can do. If you have questions about the posting send to Seneschal or Baronage. There is also the Kingdom Advocate. If feel threatened, contact the police.

The Baronage asked anyone needing help to contact them. His Excellency stressed this thing [Covid 19] is NOT over. Follow government guidelines. Be mindful of family, friends, and others.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

The Board of Directors has declared a suspension of activities till January 31, 2021. If the Fall Renaissance Festival is held next month members are free to volunteer but only as private individuals. The request from the Museum of World Treasures to participate in their four day Customer Appreciation event was turned down with regrets. The Clearwater Library received handouts and lists of possible projects and online links for their summer reading program. The Vatavian Winter War Maneuver bid has been accepted. It will be February 20, 2021. Planning proceeds as if the event will happen. It would be the first Kingdom event after the end of the suspension and could be well attended.

Weekly news blasts are now being posted on the Baronial website. The Web Minister would like ideas for a new look for the website. The next issue of the *Dragonfly* will be October 31<sup>st</sup>. Content is being requested: pictures, artwork, class handouts, etc. This month's populace meeting will celebrate all the summer birthdays of members. Guidelines for Vatavia's Social Media platforms are being revised and will be posted once approved. The next arts and sciences class will be on making hoods. The Labor of Love and Dirty Dozen showcase will be done virtually. Let the Arts and Sciences Minister or her deputies know of class subjects you are interested in.

The Baronial inventory will be updated to include the new loaner equipment. The Knight Marshal recommended rolling over the unused budget for next year once that activity resumes. It was proposed to work on items for use in the SCA Dell in the future. Such projects will adhere to the current social guidelines for Covid 19.

Fighting continues to be on hiatus till next year. Archery is being held every other Sunday at Their Excellencies residence in Hutchinson. The next meeting will be August 16<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be other activities at these practice. The 16<sup>th</sup> will be making vambraces. Members with ideas for sites in the Wichita area should contact Their Excellencies or the Seneschal. A marsh mellow catapult team competition is being organized. Details to be determined and posted later.

Three office positions are accepting applications. The Chatelaine/Castellan is the welcome wagon for the group and maintains the Gold Key loaner garb. There is no deadline set for applications at this time. The Arts and Sciences Minister will step down in September. This individual schedules the two classes a month and keeps track of and encourages those kinds of activities. Applications for this office should be in August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Archer Marshal has stepped down upon becoming the Exchequer. Deadline for this office applications is August 31<sup>st</sup>. Applications should be sent to the current officer, Their Excellencies and the Seneschal.

The Seneschal closed the meeting.

## OFFICERS' MEETING | September 2, 2020

### Meeting held on the Zoom Platform

13 members participated: 7 Baronage/ officers/deputies/ champions; 68 members of the populace

The upcoming 2021 calendar was announced. The Fall Renaissance Festival has been postponed to Spring 2021. Winter War Maneuvers will be held here February 20<sup>th</sup> 2021. March will be Gulf Wars. Spring Ren Festival will be April 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>. Valor XLI will be here May 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. A bid to host the 2022 Winter Coronation will be submitted to Kingdom January 2021.

Locally there will be September 9<sup>th</sup> the Labor of Love showcase for local members projects. Duchess Belanna will be teaching a class on embroidery September 16<sup>th</sup>. The week of September 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> kits for the catapult Olympics will be delivered to a member of each team. Catapult construction will be September 20<sup>th</sup> and the competition held September 23<sup>rd</sup>, both days will be ZOOM-ed. September 30<sup>th</sup> is the dirty dozen largess competition that had originally been planned for the Renaissance Festival. The weekly Newsblast has a section looking ahead for local and Kingdom events that members can reference.

The next *Dragonflyre* will be published October 31<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for officers' letters is October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Web Minister is continuing to make the site information gender neutral and maintaining regular updates. A new look for the site is still being worked on. The registration of the

alternate name, Nemesis of Athens to Eyfríðr was announced. Notification of her byname change to Gold Bearer should be received later month.

The Exchequer reported a balance of \$17,012.86. A refund check from Bokola Armory is expected in the next two weeks.

Archery practice is being held at Their Excellencies residence in Hutchinson every other Sunday. The next practice will be September 13<sup>th</sup>. A possible shooting site on the east side of Wichita will be checked in a couple weeks. Information for the Gwyntarian and Society Seasonal Archery Challenges is being looked into. More tournament type practices are proposed. Then archery potluck was well received and may become a monthly occurrence. There are two new marshals-in-training, Her Excellency Genèvieve and Lady Heidi.

Fighter practice continues to be on hold. Different possible ideas for training and conditioning for the fighters was discussed since actual face to face practice cannot be done at this time. There was even more discussion about how to train in the new weapons system, 9-foot spear- so fighters can be safe and pass authorization which is to be held at Masters of the Duel. It was noted that fighters also need to get their gear and weapons up to snuff to pass inspection.

The Olympics catapult competition is the first of the monthly competitions to be held through December. Teams will accrue points and receive monthly prizes. In December overall prizes will be awarded. There will be points for team work, creativity and other bonuses as well.

At the October officers' meeting three offices will change leadership. Eyfríðr will stepped down after three years as the Arts and Sciences Minister; and, Alia will assume that office. Murasaki will take the position of Minister of Youth. Heidi will be the new Archery Marshal. A deputy Web Minister is wanted. Applications are needed for the position of Chatelaine/Castellan.

The October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will also be the deadline for bids from potential stewards for Valor XLI. The November officers' meeting will be the deadline for Coronation 2022 bids.

The Seneschal closed the meeting.

# Renaissance Hazmat

By Marie Chantal Delair

There are many claims about what are now historically called plague doctors. One thing that is known is the protective clothing worn in the Renaissance by some of these individuals. The costume was suppose to protect the wearer from the miasma- bad air- thought to cause the plague. The description comes from Charles de L'orme the medical doctor to the French Royal family in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century CE.



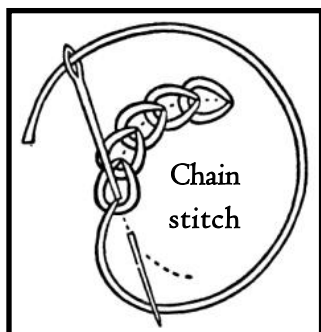
“The nose [is] half a foot long, shaped like a beak, filled with perfume... Under the coat, we wear boots made in Moroccan leather (goat leather)...and a short-sleeved blouse in smooth skin...The hat and gloves are also made of the same skin...with spectacles over the eyes.”

There is disagreement on whether the idea for the suit was made by de L'orme in 1619 or when he wrote about it in 1630. It is not even certain if he actually designed it; but, it is often attributed to him. Other sources make the claim that this ‘uniform’ was in use during the Black Death in Europe in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Primary sources from that time do not support that statement. Yes there were individuals in cities working to provide care. More about these community doctors next time.



# Basic Hands on Embroidery

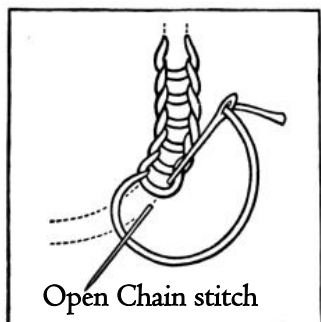
By Lady Catlin Marie du Moretaine



Coptic work embroidery, 13<sup>th</sup> century

<https://shop.mybluprint.com/embroidery/article/how-to-do-chain-stitch>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Sew-Chain-Stitch>

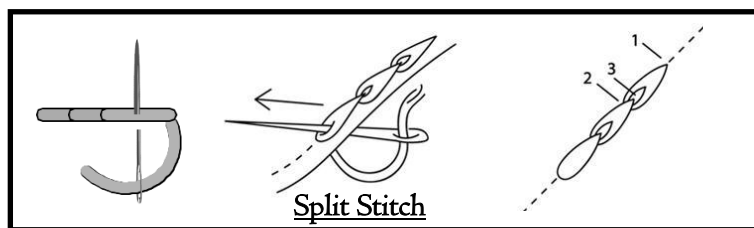


Open Chain stitch



Opus Anglican style embroidery.

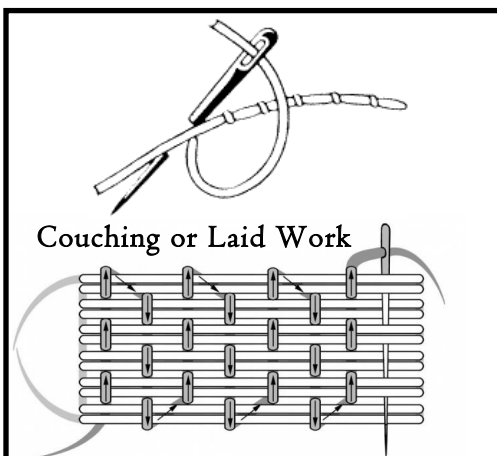
Detail from a British alter cloth, 1315-1335



Split Stitch

<https://www.wikihow.com/Do-a-Split-Stitch>

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/how-to-work-split-stitch-4034767>



Couching or Laid Work



Copy of a section from the Bayeux Tapestry from a retail kit.

<https://www.britannica.com/art/embroidery>

<https://www.folklorecompany.com/en/embroidery/the-history-of-embroidery/#>

<https://www.wallswithstories.com/uncategorized/embroidery-a-900-year-history-that-deserves-to-be-told.html>

## THEIR ROYAL MAJESTIES

### LUCIAN & TAMAR

[Falcon-Crown@calontir.org](mailto:Falcon-Crown@calontir.org)



## UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS

### •••October•••

*All Calontir SCA*

*in person events*

*are suspended*

### •••November•••

*All Calontir SCA*

*in person events*

*are suspended*

### •••December•••

*All Calontir SCA*

*in person events*

*are suspended*

## BARONIAL GATHERINGS

Populace Meeting Third Wednesday, 7-9 PM

Zoom Meeting (See Current Baronial News Blast)

Fighter Practice (Armored Combat and Calon Steel)

**In person practice canceled**

For more information, contact:

Lord Brynjólfur Fálkason

[knightmarshal@baronyofvatavia.org](mailto:knightmarshal@baronyofvatavia.org)

Archery Practice

Sundays 10AM-3PM | 2806 Malloy St.,  
Hutchinson, Kansas

Contact: Heidi Anne Draper

[archermarshal@baronyofvatavia.org](mailto:archermarshal@baronyofvatavia.org)

Officers Meeting & Finance Meeting

First Wednesday of the month, 7-9 PM.

Open to the populace.

Zoom Meeting (See Current Baronial News Blast)

Arts and Sciences Gathering 1st, 2nd and 4th

Wednesday, 7-9 PM

Zoom Meeting (See Current Baronial News Blast)

### Demos

The Fall Great Plains Renaissance and Scottish Festival originally scheduled for September 26th and 27th, 2020 has been postponed until next spring on April 17th and 18th, 2021.

## TO GET A COPY OF THE KNOWN WORLD HANDBOOK

Contact His Lordship Friar Thomas

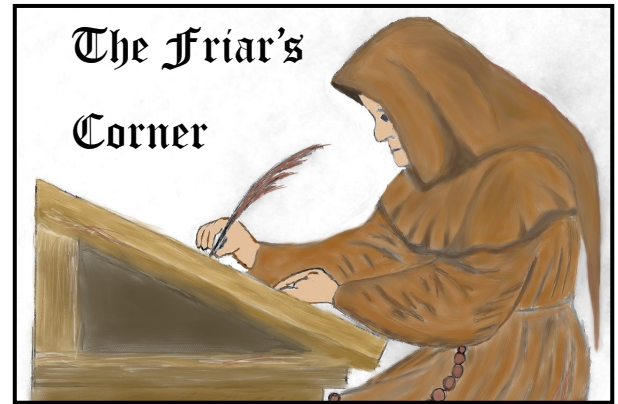
316-685-1182

Handbooks are \$23.00

# “The Dream”

## Deferred

By HV Friar Thomas Bacon



Throughout the years of the Society, a campfire discussion will periodically turn to “The Dream”. What “The Dream” is and what it means differs from person to person. There can be no pat answer. But common to these visions is a desire to escape from turbulent modern times. Given the current pause of the Society, perhaps it is time to again reflect on “The Dream”.

The Society is not so much a reflection of the Middle Ages, but a reflection of the Victorian perception of the Middle Ages. It is an idealized world where roles and behaviors simplified ambiguity stripped away. Conflict is stylized, limited, and stripped of lasting consequences. It is a fantasy in the original sense.

Escapism is often seen as a bad thing, a running away from problems, to avoid confronting them. And there are many who do just that. But it doesn't have to be that way. It can be a way of stepping back to see the larger whole. To extract yourself from the immediate turmoil, to catch one's breath. Or to discover what is missing in the current situation. To explore other arrangements of relationships and actions.

So what is it that attracts people to the Society? What is missing in modern life they hope to find in the Society? What dream are they attempting to capture by joining? There are no simple answers to these questions, for they are as varied as the individuals who play. But there are a couple of common threads to the tapestry of answers. One is the yearning for a simpler time with fewer and clearer choices. Second is to create a new personality without the baggage of the old. A third is to find a sense of validation and acceptance not found elsewhere. And they drift away when that is lost.

And that perhaps is the message that the Society could send back to the real world. That our society at large is broken because we have muddied the waters. That we have confused more with better. That personal truth is not the same as Truth. The Society is a volunteer organization, which means it only works when people freely give of their time and resources to the whole. Personal interests become meaningless should the whole fall apart from lack of time and resources. And that is what happens when people expect others to make those donations.

Whether the Society can outlast the current pandemic, and regain its popularity and activity cannot be guessed. It is not even clear that American society can last. There is so much rancor, distrust and failure to listen. The Society may be fantasy, but that does not mean does not have lessons to teach. And those lessons are not just for the Society alone, but should also be applied to the real world.

**And that is truly “The Dream”.**

# October 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	5	6	7 Officers & Finance Meeting 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	8	9	10
11 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	12	13	14 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	15	16	17
18 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	19	20	21 Populace Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	22	23	24
25 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	26	27	28 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	29	30	31

# November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	2	3	4 Business Meeting 7-9 pm (Zoom online) Corontion2022 bids due	5	6	7
8 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	9	10	11 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	12	13	14
15 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	16	17	18 Populace Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	19	20	21
22 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	23	24	25 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	26	27	28
29 Archery Practice 10am– 3pm	30					

# December 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 Officers & Finance Meeting 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	3	4	5
6 Archery Practice 10am- 3pm	7	8	9 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	10	11	12
13 Archery Practice 10am- 3pm	14	15	16 Populace Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	17	18	19
20 Archery Practice 10am- 3pm	21	22	23 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	24	25	26
27 Archery Practice 10am- 3pm	28	29	30 A&S Gathering 7-9 pm (Zoom online)	31		