

The Dragonflyre

Newsletter for the Barony of Vatavia



Quarter 3 2021

A.S. LVI

www.baronyofvatavia.org

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BARONIAL CHAMPIONS

Borec (Armored Combat) Lord Ottar Langfolr

Obrance (Cut & Thrust) Lord Joachim Courtenay der Marrxbruder

Lucisnik (Archery) Lord Konrad von Roth

Zevack (Bardic) Lady Avingail bat Michael haCohen

Estradni Umelec (Arts & Sciences) Lady Tove Brian esdahler

Greetings Calontir,

We would like to thank everyone who continues to help make events happen with the safety and health of the populace in mind as well as everyone in attendance who has been following the necessary protocols. We know it is not always ideal, but getting to see all of you makes the small sacrifices worth it.

Congratulations to both Mistress Roise ní Ullachain and Sir Seamus Yanger, our newest peers, who both waited patiently for their long-anticipated elevations!

We would also issue a reminder that We are accepting letters of intent to fight in Our upcoming Crown Tourney. If you feel like you have been seeing more announcements about Crown than usual, you are correct! We know that some people have hesitations around the idea of the responsibilities of being Crown, especially during these strange times, but the right team behind you and the love and support of the populace truly do make it more privilege than burden. We want everyone who is considering fighting to have adequate opportunity to think about both the work that goes into this role, and the rewards of being able to serve and champion Calontir. Please submit your letter to Us (Falcon-Crown@calontir.org) and the Kingdom Seneschal (seneschal@calontir.org) no later than September 25th. This due date is the same weekend as Masters of the Duel.

In accordance with Section VI of Kingdom Law: Any resident combatant and consort may submit a Letter of Intent. The letter must include proof of residence within Calontir and active paid membership with the SCA We would also ask you for a few sentences on why you wish to be the Crown Prince and Princess of Calontir.

Bona Fortuna

Lucian and Tamar

Harvest Greetings Unto the Populace of Vatavia

It is with Great Pride and Appreciation we send Greetings and well wishes to all,

Congratulations to our new Champions! It was such an honor to witness the displays of great skill, talent and accomplishments. Thank you one and all who competed to serve as champions, you have each shown yourselves worthy of much praise and word fame. Tove Brianesdohler will serve as the Arts & Science Champion, Avingail bat Michael haCohen as Bardic Champion, Ottar Lanfotr as Armored Combat Champion, Joachim Courtenay der Marxburden as C & T Champion and Konrand von Roth as our Archery Champion.

We truly have an AMAZING collection of people in our Barony and Friends! As a group you heeded the call, and brought great glory to our Barony by hosting a fabulous Ren Faire Demo. We want to share our heartfelt thanks for all those who pitched in to make this fun for everyone. We sincerely hope you were able to enjoy the festivities along with your marvelous outpouring of help and assistance.

As we look towards cooler weather and harvest season, it is with much excitement that we have a few camping events on the calendar. It has been two years since our last Crown Tourney, and with great anticipation, we eagerly wait to discover who will be the future heirs of our Kingdom. Please Join us, for this history in the making, by attending Crown Tourney at Cass County Fair Grounds in Weeping Waters Ne. This two day extravaganza promises to host lots of fun for everyone. It will be a Celebration not to be missed.

With the presence of Fall comes thoughts of the holiday season. As we make our preparations, it is good to remember that there are many families that have been affected by the pandemic. Through the Toys for Tots Tournament event our kingdom proudly donates thousands of toys each year. It is time to start collecting.

May you reap the harvests of your summer labors and enjoy the company of family, friends. In faithful service and love

*Lawrence and Genevieve
Baron and Baroness
Barony of Vatavia, Kingdom of Calontir*

FROM THE SENESCHAL

Greetings Vatavia!

Upon reading this newsletter we have just finished our first Large Demo "The Great Plains Ren-Faire" and it was a quite busy and fun time. We had over 65 Volunteers and it took pretty much all of them to help all of the visitors we had! We will have already had a Post Mortem Meeting on the Demo and will start looking towards on how to improve - how we do things and what property needs to be fixed and or changed. Most discussions will be posted on what when and where the follow up discussion will be. Come in and join the fun!

One topic that seems to be always discussed is what Covid restrictions we have at this time. First please respect others who still want or need to mask and also social distance from others. On our inside meetings at this time we all will have to mask but no need for outside unless you want to or need to wear a mask. We still need to sign the Contact list at every Activity. I will try to remind everyone on what our current restrictions are on the Calendar and Event/Activity posts. Also please read all the information that is on Event Flyers for Details on their Event/Activity Posts. Feel free to message me for the current restrictions if you are unclear what they currently are.

We are currently meeting in person every Wednesday for Officer meeting, A&S and Populace around 7 pm at the Willard Building at 751 George Washington Blvd and currently at 10 am on Sundays at OJ Watson Park for Fighting/Cut and Thrust, Archery Practice and A&S. Come on by and see old friends and hopefully make new ones. Check the Herald (newsletter) that their Excellences put out pretty much every week for details. I try to update the Calendar as soon as I can after each of their Posts. You can find the Baronial Calendar at <http://www.baronyofvatavia.org/>

Officers please do not forget to submit your Third Quarter reports into Kingdom by October 15th. Also please send me a courtesy copy so I can add it to my report.

Hope you all stay safe! If you need anything, please message me, or send me an email of your concerns or needs and I will get back to you.

A Thank You to everyone for all that you do.

Yours in Service

Robert Steven MacLaren (Aka Robert the Scot)
Seneschal—Barony of Vatavia

FROM THE HOSPITALER

Good gentles of Vatavia,

By the time this letter graces your eyes, we will have completed our demo at the Fall Great Plains Renaissance Festival. I can only trust that if you have put on your best faces at this demo as you have at other times this quarter, then we have done our Barony proud.

We have been able to do quite a bit in the last three months. At Westumbria's Purged The Scourge on July 24, and again at Feast of Eagles on July 31, we were able to provide Gold Key garb to newer participants who might otherwise have gone unclothed. On August 7, at the Museum of World Treasures demo, we interacted with no less than 226 museum guests (124 adults, 102 children), introduced them to multiple facets of Baronial life and distributed some fun take-home gifts to those children who wanted them. At the Baronial Champions Tournament on August 22, we again clothed several newcomers in Gold Key garb, assuring them that they were more than welcome to play with us.

Gold Key will be out in full force at the RenFaire once again for our newer members, and I am counting on each of you to help us put on a great show for the crowds. And again, if you do

at the Faire as you have done in the past, then I have nothing to worry about.

Let us look forward to the 4th Quarter with renewed hope that we will finally turn the tide on this pandemic, and that greater Baronial and Kingdom events will soon be upon us. Ever in service,

Johann Kennari
Baronial Hospitaler

FROM THE EXCHEQUER

Good day to all. Here is where the Barony sits on available monies as of the end of Aug. 2021. We currently have a balance of 15,670.79 in the bank. If there are any questions I can be reached at the Baronial website email exchequer@baronyofvatavia.org. YIS Lord Konrad von Roth

FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Greetings from the Knight Marshal of Vatavia.

What a fantastic year this has been so far all due to everyone's participation. We have had many new fighters don the loaner armor and experience the fun we all love so much. I want to personally thank all of the fighters who have helped and worked with these new fighters and have been so welcoming. As we look ahead into the cooler months approaching our outdoor fighter season draws to a close. Stay tuned for more updates on when exactly we will transition into our indoor space at Exploration Place but my goal is to limit the down time as much as the weather will allow us. I will provide more information on exact dates as we draw closer to the indoor practice season. Please keep a close eye on the Barony Website for updated announcements.

In service,

Brynjólfur Fálkason

FROM THE CUT & THRUST MARSHAL

Greetings from the Cut and Thrust Marshal,

Cooler weather is on the way and that means nicer days for fighter practice! We had a record turnout for Ren Faire so we will be on the lookout for new fighters to show up to practice in the coming weeks and I'll be bringing the loaner gear out to so we can outfit our new friends. We will also start working on small unit tactics so that when we go to war we will be more familiar with what is going on and be able to work together better. I also want to start having occasional classes so if there is something you are interested in learning or teaching please send me a message and I'll see what we can do!

In Service,

Right Honorable William Douglas
"Ferrum numquam dormitat"

FROM THE ARCHER

MARSHAL

Greetings Vatavians,

We have had the joy of gathering together for Archery and Thrown Weapons practice with our fellows.

We also participated in archery competitions at different events. Recently we had our Champions Event where many fine archers competed.

The archery season is coming to a close, as the park where we practice is moving to Winter Hours starting November 1 We will use the winter months to work on our arrows and bows.

We will be repairing arrows, making new arrows & bolts, and building crossbows. I look forward to working with everyone to improve their kits.

YIS,

Heidi Anne Draper

FROM THE ARTS AND SCIENCES MINISTER

Greetings Fellow Vatavians!

As the seasons turn and the weather cools, I find myself approaching one full year as your Minister of Arts and Sciences. Ironically, my feelings of reaching this milestone mirror the approaching holidays. I am apprehensive about finding and preparing for you all more and varied Arts and Sciences classes as the pool of volunteer teachers is waning. I am thankful for all the warm welcome and support I have received from the barony so far to fulfill my duties to better serve you. And I am hopeful that more volunteer teachers will step forward to teach at our 2nd Wednesday Arts and Sciences class sessions in the future. I am happy to help anyone brainstorm something they can teach. You would be surprised what you might know that others want to learn. Our next Arts and Sciences class will be "8 Period Embroidery Stitches" with Lady Frithuswith on October 13th. Don't forget to come, an embroidery class will help you decorate your garb for whatever upcoming joyous holiday events you might want to attend. I would also like to recognize my amazing deputy, Sarah, who has jumped in with both feet. Thank you so much for all your help and willingness to serve. Remember, I am always looking for new ideas for classes and discussions. If you have a class you are interested in teaching or a subject you would like to learn more about, please send me an email at the address below.

YIS Lady Ália Martialis artsandsciences@baronyofvatavia.org

FROM THE DEMO

COORDINATOR

Good Vatavians

In July we were once again able to share what we do with those outside the organization. The Museum of World Treasures invited us to be a part of their Coffee with the Curator presenting a special program on Scandinavian Culture in July; and then, to be a part of their Customer Appreciation Day in August. I personally want to thank those members that came to help with these:

HE Genèvieve, Master Jóhann, Lord Øyrikr, Lord Robert, Lord Leonardo, and Lord Darius. By the time this is published there will be our members and our numerous cousins who will have come to assist at the Great Plains Fall Renaissance Festival. It had been some time since we have been able to demonstrate and present all the different aspects of the current pre-17th century history we study. Heartfelt thanks to one and all for all your contributions.

This next month is the Sedgwick County Zoo's Boo at the Zoo. It is no longer a night time event. October 23rd-24th from 9am to 5pm stations and games will be set up for zoo guests to get a bit of the Halloween spirit while seeing the animals that are normally inactive at night. It is still to be determined if there will be outside volunteers needed this year. If you might be interested and might be available, please let me know. I will make the information available as soon as I receive it.

YIS

MCD

FROM THE MINISTER OF YOUTH

Greetings, Greetings!

This past July, I was lucky enough to coordinate Youth activities for Westumbria's event Purge the Scourge. For Purge, my deputy Drexel and I put together three activities. These were playing checkers, finger braiding and coloring. In all, two youth participated along with a handful of adults.

I would like to say a huge thank you to M'lady Cherish for helping us the day of the event. Along with being the Autocrat, she was also able to step up and be the 'Adult' at the table so to speak.

YIS

Lady Fujihara Murasaki

OFFICERS' MEETING MINUTES

OFFICERS' MEETING—July 7, 2021

Sim's Park shelter 2020 W Murdock, Wichita, KS

20 members were present: 13 Baronage/ officers/deputies/champions; 5 members of the populace; 2 children

Effective July 1 the Society mandate on masking was lifted. Any local, real word policies still need to be followed. The Society restrictions on no water bearing and no food services remain in effect. Bottled water and factory prepackaged food stuffs can be provided.

Their Excellencies encouraged members to attend Westumbria's Purge the Scourge July 24th. Vatavia's Champion event will be held August 22nd. A possible Vatavia encampment at Lilies in September was proposed. We will be hosting Winter War Maneuvers here at the Farha Sports Center in January 2022. The finance committee will consider a possible indoor regular meeting location. The first Renaissance Festival work day will be this July 10th at the storage location.

There is a presentation at the Museum of World Treasures July 15th on the contributions of Scandinavian culture. We have been invited to participate in the Museum's Customer Appreciation Day August 7th. In the near future the Fall/Winter schedule of activities at Exploration Place will be planned, which in the past has included Vatavia presentations and fighter practice. Plans will be reported when known.

The registration of Tove Briansdøhter was announced. The second quarter *Dragonfly*, featuring the Medieval Olympics competition pieces, has been posted. The final competition, trebuchet, will be re-scheduled at a future date to be determined. The Chronicler also announced that a blanket permission to publish is possible. Arts and Sciences has scheduled July 14th Master Jóhann doing Calontir songs; July 21st HL Friar Thomas and Mistress Sorcha teaching dance; and in September Frithuswith teaching basic embroidery stitches. The Castellan announced that there have been 8-9 new potential member contacts. There are also members from Outlands and Glenn Abhann who have moved into our Barony.

The Exchequer reported a balance of \$16,472. Our banking facility will change with the merger with Equity Bank. Convenience is all that will really change. There will be a meeting of the financial committee after the Officers' meeting today.

Armored Combat and Cut and Thrust have begun fighter practice at OJ Watson Park. These are held Sunday starting at 10 am. Any cancellations will be posted in as timely a manner as possible. The 7' maximum rule is effect. 9' spears will be done for melees in Kingdom. Hand protection for spears will be the same as for two-handed weapons. No tip cuts.

Archery practice has moved to OJ Watson Park as well. It also is Sundays at 10 am. Conditions in the pasture range after it rains may result in cancellation.

Social Media has added Discord as an unofficial media site. The Society Mission Statement and Core Values should be kept in mind when posting on sites, official and unofficial. The Web Minister is still attempting to resolve host issues on the award recommendation forms on our web site. Local recommendations should be sent to Their Excellencies email. Kingdom awards should use the Kingdom site for Kingdom recommendations.

The Web Minister is still seeking a deputy. Officers, who are required to have background check, were advised to check their status. Background checks are good for two years; most activities have been suspended for 18 months.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

OFFICERS' MEETING—,August 4, 2021

Studio School, 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita, KS, 67211

31 members participated: 13 Baronage/ officers/deputies/champions; 15 members of the populace; 3 children

As the meeting started members were reminded about some

basic 'housekeeping' items: the sign in sheet, the requests for phones to be on silent, the policy for attempts to wear appropriate period garb. Camping is now allowed at events. Non-bottled water can be made available; but, *each* person must provide their own drinking container. Buffet style food is now allowed. Individuals with food allergies were asked to inform Her Excellency Genèvieve who is keeping a spreadsheet with that information.

Events have resumed in the Kingdom. This month is a regional fighter practice in Missouri. Heralds Hill in Mason City Iowa has an event. Lilies is September 15th-19th. The Barony is responsible for registration Friday evening 9am-8pm with it set up as 2 hour shifts. One day of cleaning the showers and doing part of the Saturday party are also where the Barony will need volunteers from those attending. Looking to 2022 Vatavia will be hosting Kingdom's Winter War Maneuvers February 19th. Then Memorial is the Valor Tournament here. Bid proposals to organize Valor are due October 1st.

Populace this 18th will be a work day on Baronial property to prepare for the Fall Renaissance Festival September 25th-26th. Then August 22nd will be our Champions' event at Whispering Winds Camp near Valley Center. The Fall Renaissance Festival is September 25th-26th. Members receive free admission in return for ½ day volunteer work in the Dell or at the pop booth concession.

August 7th the Barony has been asked to participate in the Museum of World Treasures Customer Appreciation day. Volunteers must have signed up by this evening to get on the attendance list.

Arts and Sciences will have a class on illumination by Matthias August 11th. In September Frithuswith will teach medieval embroidery stitches. The Herald's staff reported that the name change proposal for Konrad von Roth is on the current internal Kingdom letter. The Gold Key was thanked for making loaner garb available for the Purge the Scourge and Feast of Eagles. The Minister of Youth was thanked for the activities done at Purge the Scourge. The next issue of the *Dragonfly* will be at the end of the third quarter. The deadline for letters and items is September 15th. Individuals were reminded about signed releases being on file before publication. Social Media has plans to post photos of arts and sciences projects. There was a discussion about the policy on releases for photographs, especially those containing people. It was noted anyone can request not to have photos of them published.

Social Media Officer now has a deputy. The trial period for the media platform Discord continues. Members were reminded to be very mindful of what they post, even on unofficial sites. The Web Minister is still working to resolve hosting issues especially on allowing changes to the site. The contact information needed to update certain offices was requested. The baronial site, baronyofvatavia.org, calendar is being updated regularly. Information on events and activities is also available in the Weekly Herald.

The Exchequer reported a balance of \$16,387.36 with a couple expenditures still to be made. Officers should make requisitions know in advance to facilitate having payment checks clear within 30 days. It was announced that the Domesday deadline had been moved back from the end of the month to January 15th. Letters of application for the position of Exchequer are due by August 15th. A decision will be made by September 1st to allow the incoming officer to participate in a quarterly report and lean about the forms and related paperwork.

Fighter practice continues at OJ Watson Park on Sundays, 10 am. However practice may be cancelled to encourage fighters to attend events, especially those which cannot be day tripped. There is now fighter practice on Wednesdays, which are not officers' meeting. These are at the Studio School. Loaner armor is available. As always personal protection is up to the individual.

Archery practice continues at the Park on Sunday as the same time. Types of thrown weapons were discussed including the possibility of using atlatis came up.

Their Excellencies announced that either the Baronial shade fly or Their personal shade fly will be available at events for the use of Vatavians.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

OFFICERS' MEETING—September 1, 2021

2021, at the Studio School, 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita Ks, 67211
21 members were present: 10 Baronage/ officers/ deputies; 9 members of the populace; 2 children

Kingdom events have resumed. Members are reminded to carefully read fliers to see if the event is requiring pre-registration. Masters of the Duel is September 25th which will have several Vativians attending. That is the same weekend as the Fall Renaissance Festival here at Sedgwick County Park. The next local event is our Yule event. The date is still to be determined. Planning is being done for the winter fighter practice and presentations at Exploration Place. In 2022 Winter War Maneuvers will be held here in February. A bid for Valor Memorial Day 2022 has been forwarded to the finance committee for approval.

Work continues to make the forms on the Baronial website functional using Goggle Docs. The OP needs to be made compatible with what have now on the website. The Social Media guidelines are completed and will be posted on Facebook. The deadline for items for the *Dragonflyre is September 15th. If the permission to publish paperwork has rights given to the SCA members are reminded that means to do anything or make any changes or updates to their work in the future would require written permission from the SCA. Milady Tove was congratulated as the new arts and sciences champion. Lady Frithuswith's class on embroidery September 8th must be rescheduled. Another possible class is being sought. Loaner garb is available for those needing it for events or the upcoming Renaissance Festival.*

The Exchequer reported a balance of \$15,761.79 after payment for the Wednesday meeting location and the \$118 donation from champions'. The next Exchequer was announced, Úlfr Halfdane. He will be trained as the deputy and take office after the Domesday report is completed. A 2021 budget was made. Except for donations there has been no income. Therefore any purchases must be pre-approved with the request being submitted in writing. When possible officers are asked to economize, trade, barter or consider proposing the sale of surplus property.

Heavy weapons and the cut and thrust fighters have been active at recent events bringing several victories back to the Barony. Archery was canceled for Labor Day weekend. Thrown weapons are being done when that practice is being held. Sir Wulfric will be notified that there has been interest expressed in youth combat at fighter practice. Forgotten Sea/ Kansas city fighters will be invited to participate at the Ren. Festival here.

A workday has been scheduled September 11th starting at 10am to work on the Baronial property. It is planned to paint the poles, finish the new signs and make repairs to thee tents/ shade flies. The layout for the Dell at the Ren Festival was presented. Scheduled arts and sciences demonstrations are planned besides the usual list field activities. Business cards and brochures for the Festival have been priced; and, the request forwarded to the finance committee. Signage is planned to draw attention from the top of poles and tents, down to eye level, and to the presentations. Sign up sheets were available. They will be posted on Facebook. Each pop booth shift will have one designated paid national member to handle money.

There have been no changes come down from the SCA Board of Directors regarding policy for events under the current health situation and concerns.

The meeting adjourned.

FINANCE MEETING— March 7, 2021

Sims Park shelter 2020 W. Murdock, Wichita, KS, 67203. Committee members present: Kris Griffith/ HE Genèvevieve de Chambéry; Robert Botkin/ Ld. Robert the Scott; Kurt Jones/ Konrad von Roth; Milady Rebecca representing the populace, and Mary J. Day/ HE Marie. Also attending were 10 other members of the populace.

An indoor meeting location at 751 George Washington, Wichita, KS has been found. It meets ADA requirements, no smoking, and parking needs. It was recommended to accept the location. The cost would be \$200 a month for five months, includes access to the gym once a quarter. It was approved to contract for five months, without the gym- \$140/ month, for a total of \$700. This is within the budget set for 2021 for rental.

A request was made for use of specific Baronial property at events outside the Barony. It was requested to take the a Baronial shade flies, part of the list field, 1 loaner adult bow and one child's bow, and the Baronial heraldic library to the Westumbria event July 24th. The request for the Baronial shade flies to be used at Lilies was tabled until September.

Also tabled was the question of obtaining QR signs for use at Renaissance Festivals and fighter practices and local activities and events. The budget for the year will be checked for the approved number and cost of signs. Additional uses of the QR code were discussed

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

Mary J. Day committee recording secretary.

FINANCE MEETING— September 15, 2021

Studio School 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas, 67211 Committee members present: Kris Griffith-Bumgardner/ HE Genèvevieve de Chambéry; Robert Botkin/ Ld. Robert the Scott; Kurt Jones/ Ld. Konrad von Roth- via phone; Mary J. Day/ HE Marie and Jamie Jones/ Ly Margaret MacKenzie – via phone for the populace

The meeting was called to consider the request for the publication of business cards and tri-fold brochures to be used at the Fall Great Plains Renaissance Festival and in the future. These items are not in the 2021 budget. The format and content of the cards and brochures has been approved by the Kingdom Media Relations Minister, Nancy Beattie/HG Magdalene vander Meere. The cost will be approximately \$200 for the cards and brochures.

The request was approved. Funds will be transferred from other budgeted items that have unused monies left: specifically, property, heraldry/demos, and archery. This will cover the cost of the publications. Payment will either be reimbursement or billing depending on the company's policy at time of pick up. There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

Mary J. Day committee recording secretary.

THEIR ROYAL MAJESTIES

LUCIAN & TAMAR

Falcon-Crown@calontir.org



UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS

October

Fall Crown

October 9

November

Toys for Tots

November 20

December

Kris Kinder

December 11

BARONIAL GATHERINGS

Populace Meeting Third Wednesday, 7-9pm

Studio School 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas, 67211

Fighter Practice (Armored Combat and Calon Steel)

Sundays 10am-2pm—OJ Watson Park

For more information contact:

Lord Brynjolfr Falkason

knightmarshal@baronyofvatavia.org

Archery Practice

Sundays 10am-2pm—OJ Watson Park

Season is closed after October

For more information contact;

Lady Heidi Anne Draper

archermarshal@baronyofvatavia.org

Officers' Meeting & Finance Meeting

First Wednesday of the month, 7-9pm

Open to the populace.

Studio School 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas, 67211

Arts and Sciences Gatherings 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday, 7-9pm

Studio School 751 George Washington Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas, 67211

Demos

Sedgwick County Zoo's Boo at the Zoo.

October 23rd-24th from 9am to 5pm

TO GET A COPY OF THE KNOWN WORLD HANDBOOK

Contact His Lordship Friar Thomas

316-685-1182

Handbooks are \$23.00

Covid Guidelines

Calontir,

We know that the current rules for events and gatherings are changing frequently, so wanted to provide some clarity with where our current Kingdom rules differ from the BoD minimum requirements. This list will also be uploaded as a PDF to the files section if you would like to have a copy available at events or meetings for any reason. If you have questions feel free to ask—Our email is always open, but please apply these in the spirit of safety in which they are intended, refrain from Rules lawyering, and DON'T BE THE REASON WE HAVE TO MAKE ANOTHER RULE.

Current Rules for Calontir Event Attendance (as of 8/5/21)

- These rules apply to both events and local meetings, practices, and gatherings.
- These rules are in addition to, not in place of, the Society level rules from the BoD.
- These rules are the MINIMUM requirements, and local group leadership may enact more stringent requirements if the local health conditions warrant.
- All Local, State, and Federal Guidelines are to be followed, including masking and gathering size limits.
- All attendees to any event, meeting, or practice, must be signed in on a roster including current accurate contact information.
- If you are fully vaccinated and it has been long enough that the vaccine will have reached maximum efficacy, you may choose not to wear a mask while outdoors.
- Everyone must mask indoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks must be worn covering the nose and mouth.
- You may bring your own food to an event and you may share it with others.
- Food may be served in an official capacity, such as an inn or vigil table, with the following requirements:
 - o Anyone making or handling food must be masked and gloved
 - o Anyone serving food or in the preparation or serving areas but not actually handling food must be masked.
 - o If you would usually be required to be masked, you must distance a minimum of 6 feet to unmask for eating or drinking.
 - o Vaccinated members of the populace may be closer than 6 feet outdoors, but must still distance to eat or drink indoors.
 - o Unvaccinated members of the populace must distance at least 6 feet to eat or drink both indoors and out.
- Feasts will not be allowed at this time.
- Water Bearing may be provided from the communal coolers, but only into personal containers, not our traditional shared jugs.

Requests from the Crown

- If you are medically able to get the Covid Vaccine, please do so.
- Please do not attend gatherings if you are not feeling well.
- Please respect the comfort levels of those who wish to follow more stringent masking and distancing practices than are strictly required
- The SCA is an organization of chivalry and community. Please remember these values and help us all set a good example for the rest of the Known World.

What is the SCA?

Original poem by Sarah O'Raghailigh (oh-rye-lee) of Vatavia; modernly known as Sarah D. Penick (pea-nick...pea like the little green vegetable) Originally written and performed for the Newcomers Only competition during the First Bardic War, Saturday, May 22nd, 2021

What is the SCA?

"What is the SCA?"
That is what people say
When I mention what I'm joining;
Their curiosity is growing.
How can I explain this group,
This merry company, this troupe
Of researchers who reenact
Medieval life? In fact,
How can I explain what I
Have learned, and seen with my own eye?
Maybe the place I should start
Is with ideas at the heart
Of what SCA stands for;
Maybe that's my open door
For sharing understanding; and so
Into this small attempt I go:

The first word is "Society,"
Which is kind of like "community" --
A group of people who are friends,
Fiercely loyal to the end.
Some people do not follow
This way that is so hallowed,
Instead choosing to be unkind,
Allowing pride to make them blind.
But I strike the chords of kindness
In this world of hate and violence
To try to make society
The best that it could be.

"Creative" is what is next,
And like a bird building a nest
The things we make can have beauty
While also having utility.
We dance, we sing, we learn, we share,
We fight, we feast, because we care
About history, and also, too,
Making friends who are good and true.

The last is "Anachronism" -- what
Is that? It is a mouthful that
Trips up all who hear and say it
But means that we
Aren't in the time we're meant to be.
While I believe that this time
Is what God knew would best be mine,
I do wish for some of the past --
Some clothes, some skills, and some re-
past,
The beauty of the bygone days
And some of my ancestors' ways.

Acting out the research that
Makes my heart go pitter-pat
Can be explained and amplified
By these words I have inscribed
Of what the SCA could be
If we all joined in unity.

1084 as the Christian Calendar calls it.

My name is Lofnheiðr Hrafndotter, I was born to a clan chief in my homeland. He wanted a good strong son, but instead got me, and never let me forget it as I killed my mother in childbirth. The less said about him the better, but I will say this. When the Great Pagan Army was called for, he at least had the courage to go. From what I was told, he died on that battlefield, swinging his axe and cursing the Christian God.

As for me, my life growing up was spent as most women from my homeland. I learned many skills, not the least of which sewing, weaving, and trading. When my father thought I was old enough, he was going to marry me off, but died when I was only 19, a year short of the mark. I have never once been interested in men, often preferring the company of other maidens. I took up a bow to hunt for myself until the matter of who inherited for my father was settled. When it was done, I was proclaimed chief of our clan.

I was never content in those frozen forests and fjords. As much as I hated my father, I did get a fair bit of my attitude and whims from him. I took our goods, and what little loot we still had from previous raids, and I decided to become a merchant. Then shortly after, it was announced that all of our kin were converting to Christendom. I refused. Part of my raising had been training as a priestess of Freyja. I knew my gods, unlike many fools, were greater than this Christian God and if we just stood together against it, we could drive the villain back.

So, I finally got up the courage and packed a ship with those who would still follow me, and the old ways and we sailed away. Rather than go west and face still more Christians, I decided to go east. We sailed the sea until we found the entrance to a river. We sailed as far inland as we could, trading with towns and villages as we went, mostly for supplies, but my goals and ambitions were greater than that.

We had to cross on foot, dragging our boat a ways, but we eventually arrived at a great river and sailed down it. We found more of our kin, and all too many were Christianized. But still we traded with them. Money is money, and food is food. But I quickly found myself among skilled merchants who taught me a great many things about trading and told me tales of rich lands from the south that had gold and silver plenty.

So further south we traveled. I found it handy to have on hand rich garments of the lands we came to. Not only were they more suited to the lands, but also people treated you differently. My skill with needle and thread came in handy more than once. I found trading in silks and amber were far more profitable than anything, but other goods sold just as well, just not in such vast sums.

We finally reached Byzantium and the Gateway to the East. There I found a natural niche as a trader of goods. I had a boat, and crew, and knew the waters now. So, I spent many years doing that. Now however, I find myself in my thirty-seventh summer and am constantly berated with questions of when I would take a husband. I tell them I have no such intentions now or ever. I am the end of my line, unless I should take in some urchin that I find worthy of being my heir. But my bloodline stops with me. As it should.

Freyja, but this parchment is long indeed! I think I should stop writing. We make port soon. We will soon see what the world has in store for me next.

On a Reluctant Warrior

A Petrarchan sonnet by Master Jóhann Steinarsson (or Jóhann Kennari in the Norse tradition)

Originally written May 15, 2010

Is it the lack of coin that doth dissuade
This spirit from approaching to the field,
No means to fund one's armament or shield,
The likes of which some others do parade
About the list, wherein a swift-swung blade
Will quickly cause the lesser man to yield?
Nay, more 'tis fear of anguish all too real,
And thought of pain-wracked limbs makes him afraid.
But one dwells not on what great wounds may come,
Nor trembles at the thought of worldly pain
When King and country muster for the war.
One finds that bruising but a trifling sum
When weighed against the riches one may gain
With one's sword-brothers on a distant shore.

The Violet Knight

By Lofnheiður Hrafnisdóttir

It was a cold morning on the Lists, winter was just past, and the tourney season was soon to begin. Young knights would be called to war or to the tourney fields as their lands saw fit. Nobles, knight, and sometimes kings in disguise would vie for the favors of young maids in the stands as they charged their mounts down the field to try and unhorse each other while competing for glory.

The stable boys were quickly preparing the horses, the knights were armoring, the crowd was slowly filtering into the stands to gawk at the spectacle. The first joust of the year was always exciting. One could never accurately predict which knights would be in the tourney and how they would fare from year to year. Which made it exciting in the extreme as often last year's champion would find themselves knocked out early on.

The local lord, a French lord of minor standing took his seat as the frost was finally cleared and his daughter, a vibrant redhead with the temperament to match, sat next to him. It was clear she was unhappy, and the reason why was well known though none would say so to the lord himself. A year hence the lord had dismissed a scullery maid from his service after finding her giving violets to his daughter as a gift. His daughter had protested, saying they were only friends, but it was widely whispered that the lord had tried to catch them in the same bed, and failed.

Now, he sought to marry his daughter off to a wealthy knight who could win the tourney this day. He smirked as a dowry was required to compete for his daughter's hand and if you did not meet his demands, then you could not. Ten nobles and knights sought her hand now, and he was most pleased with it. The day would prove interesting indeed.

As they were seated watching jesters perform another page came running up and handed him the price of an eleventh dowry. His daughter's hand was profitable indeed! A shame he only had one to barter with. Still, he accepted it and signed off that it had been accepted. He did note that the knight was listed with no name, and he looked at the page.

"Why has this knight not given me his name?" the lord asked of his servant.

"He wishes to remain anonymous so that no other knight would think to deliberately seek his life. His fear, my lord, is that by announcing his name, the other knights would try and murder him rather than face him. As has already happened this morn. Two of the competing knights for young Yseult's hand were found stabbed to death in their beds," the page returned, and the lord looked at the page in alarm.

"What foul villain has murdered in my lands?" the lord demanded.

"We do not know, milord. They retired last night to their tents, and none were seen coming nor going. But strangest thing, they were not robbed. No villain made off with their purses, or that we can see they had not. Every coin where it should be according to their squires," the page remarked in innocent confusion.

"Find the fiend that murdered them and see that they are properly punished. I will have no murderer loose in my lands!" the lord remarked in deadly tones.

The page merely nodded and hurried off. The lord sat back in his throne like a regal king of the tourney and sighed. Two dead knights. His mind was a blur as he tried to think if any other knights were less than savory in repute. Sadly, no such name or shield registered rung any bells for him. He resolved to just watch the tourney and wait to see who would win.

Young Lady Yseult was most unhappy. A tourney for her hand?! What century did her father think he lived in?! It was outrageous and she resented him and his efforts. Still, she missed Jeanette. They had never shared a bed, but they had shared a heart. Her father casting her out of his lands the year before had earned her ire for the rest of eternity. She would never forgive her father so long as she lived for taking her love from her, and then forcing her to marry some pig of a knight who cared more about knocking other men around than the concerns of his bride!

She sighed as she glared at the field as the criers announced the knights, their heritages, and shields. She watched a young English knight get unhorsed and thrown some feet from his mount by the blow of some pissant Italian. It was uninteresting to her. Her father kept on her to watch for the knight who would prevail and claim her hand. She prayed to any god listening that the knight who won was too poor to take her hand and give her a respite from this. Yseult had a plan to run away from her father. There just hadn't been time to prepare before the tourney.

Then, a knight caught her eye. What caught her eye was that the knight had a violet color scheme. Her favorite color. Then the symbology registered. A ring of violets around a violet falcon on a field of gold. That was odd. Violets were never registered as far as her lessons had told her. But clearly this knight had them in his heraldry, and the falcon striking was familiar some how. Whomever he was had to be nobly born to have cleared the patents of nobility required to compete.

"Odd heraldry. Still, it contrasts well and is easily recognizable. Who is he?" the lord turned from the knight that was waiting in the lists as his opponent was getting set upon his horse and armed.

"I do not know, milord. He is the knight who would give us no name. And his heraldry and patents were confirmed as a French knight from near the Lorraine Valley. I do not know his holdings, but the confirmation was made," the page returned seriously and Yseult watched her father rub his chin thoughtfully.

It still made her sick to think of herself as some prize that could be won. Maybe she would run away from her husband as well. She knew a few tricks for disappearing into a wood. That would come in handy in time. She sat back and watched the violet-colored knight charge his first opponent of the day. She then thought hard on something. All the other knights wooing her had tried to ask her favor. This one had not. And yet he was competing for her hand? That seemed odd indeed.

The Knight charged in on valiant steed and his opponent was another who had sought her hand. The two collided with ungodly force and the Violet Knight not only unhorsed his opponent but killed him from the sheer force of the blow of the lance that did not strike shield, but rather the helm. As the body of the other knight was dragged away, she hated the waste as that man was a brute, but did not deserve such a death, another reason to loathe her father, the Violet Knight rode back to his squires and lifted his face shield.

Yseult tried to glimpse the face of the Violet Knight but could not as the face shield was lowered again and he rode off to rest. The other knights competed in earnest, each trying again to gain her favor, but she refused all of them. Yseult watched as again the Violet Knight rode out and took up his lance. His opponent was again unhorsed and killed by a solid body shot. It was odd. That was the second would-be suitor that knight had killed.

"It seems odd. Father, how hard is it to kill men in a joust with a blunted lance?" Yseult asked seriously as she watched the knight retreat once again.

"Hard, but not that hard, Yseult. Some men have more force behind their blows. That headshot the first time is one of those flukes that can happen at any time. The body shot is less likely to kill. Given this is the first I have seen of this knight, he is probably young and inexperienced. Accidents will happen in those cases. He is likely not used to the weight of the lance and thus needs to practice. But given your hand was on the line, he probably enrolled to take the opportunity," her father stroked his beard thoughtfully.

Again, the Violet Knight came out some time later. This time his competitor was a knight who was not after Yseult's hand. The Violet Knight braced for attack, and this time Yseult watched him carefully. She saw every move he made, and how steady he held that lance. It was clear right up to the end that the knight never took his eyes from his target, even as his lance shattered into thousands of splinters of wood. This time the lance struck the shield precisely and the other knight was once again unhorsed, but not killed.

"Ah, there! He has found his grove! He will improve I am sure," her father remarked calmly, and she sighed.

"Maybe. Maybe not," Yseult remarked under her breath. Her father was a common fan of the tourney despite having never competed himself and thought himself a master of it. She doubted he could perform in the least on that field.

An hour went past and then she felt the call of nature. "Father, I must excuse myself for a bit."

He nodded simply as she retired, and she almost bumped across the servant bringing her father wine, bread and cheese. She sighed as she pushed past the man and made for the privy. She sat upon the bare board as she shut and locked the door. She was most unhappy now more than ever. She was in the middle of her business when a soft voice from outside caught her attention and her heart leaped into her throat.

"Yseult, speak not! I am here and in disguise. Be ready to flee today. Your father will hunt us likely. But know, I have a plan and am acting on it even now. Do not seek me, I will gather you when the moment is right. Your would-be suitors will find only a grave this day. But I must hasten away! Just be ready!" Jeanette's sweet voice was strong and confident, and even oddly masculine, but still decidedly Jeanette.

By the time Yseult finished in the privy she found no one outside the small building. She smiled for the first time in a year. Even without having seen her love's face, she knew which person she was. She moved quickly and back to the stands and found her father deep in conversation with the most likely suitor she despised above all others. The young man thought his penis was a gift from God to women. He also had once told her she reminded him of his horse's flanks. He was the biggest and most disgusting pig of them all.

She sat down and was looking furiously at the knight who was bargaining with her father and her ears caught the price the braggard was offering her father to "win" her hand. Her father had that spark of pure greed as he listened, but she stood up and soundly punched him in his face against all decorum and good manners. The knight landed soundly on his ass and looked utterly stunned. Her father chuckled as he gripped her by her heaving shoulders and guided her back to her seat.

"It would seem my daughter disagrees with your offer," her father remarked calmly.

The lord smiled at his daughter; she was so furiously like her redheaded mother. Sadly, her mother had died in childbirth with her. Honestly, he wanted his daughter away sooner than later simply on the grounds that her face was so painfully like her mother's. It wounded his soul to think of his deceased wife, whom he had loved so dearly. So, he could understand his daughter's desire to marry for love, and why she should refuse a suitor. But if she did not chose one, he would chose for her, and that was the point of the tourney.

"Sir Montclair, your offer is quite generous, but I must decline. If you truly seek my daughter's hand for more than your own pride, you must win the tourney. That was the rules I set forth. And I suggest you not try this a second time," the lord remarked coldly, and his heart sank as he saw the pure shock on his daughter's face.

Did she truly think her opinion did not matter to him? That he was driven only by greed? Maybe it was time, before he handed her off, to confess. The priests said confession was good for the soul. Maybe clearing the air with Yseult would earn her love back. Or at least start the healing between them.

Yseult could hardly believe her father had turned down such a princely sum! It seemed out of character! Maybe she needed to learn more of her father, or maybe it was just a scheme. Either way, it did not matter with Jeanette out there. Soon her beloved would be killing the pig. She smiled as the Violet Knight rode up to the stand and bowed to her father and her. Jeanette's voice in deep and masculine tones came from under the helmet.

"Milord, might I entreat upon your daughter to give me her favor this day?" Jeanette politely requested and before her father could do or say anything, and right in front of Sir Montclair, she pulled out a handkerchief and passed it to Jeanette.

"Sir Knight, I offer you this as a sign of my favor," Yseult smiled as her father raised an eyebrow at her as she showed favor for the first time this day.

The lord was stunned. Shocked even. His daughter had deliberately done that! No coercion, no warnings, which had been coming, and no attempt on his part to reason with her. This unknown knight was shown favor. Then again, he remembered that violet was Yseult's favorite color. Could it be that simple? Hardly. And this knight, he had to be a beardless youth with a voice cracking such as that. That would make him roughly the same age as Yseult. There were worse candidates and qualifications.

"Well, Sir Knight, it seems you have caught my daughter's favor! I hope you can earn her hand," the lord remarked with a smirk.

The Violet Knight simply bowed and saluted as Sir Montclair began to spit and sputter. "You would favor an unknown knight who arrived only this morn milord?! I offer you finest silver and gold! Twice my original sum!"

The lord sighed and looked at Sir Montclair, a Parisian knight and lord, "Sir, if you mean that sum, then win the tourney. I will accept that sum, a ridiculous amount, only should you win. It is obvious you are unfavored by my daughter and it would run against her will to turn her over to you without that win. Even for that amount of money!"

Sir Montclair stormed off and the lord sat back down and sighed as he turned to the knight and his daughter, "Jeanette, do not think you are so cunning as to disguise your voice from me who practically helped raise you. I will want to speak to you both when the tourney is done. I don't know where you learned it, but please by all means, kill the rest. I see now where my daughter's heart truly lay. And be sure the death of Sir Montclair is as humiliating as you can make it."

"Milord, why the change of heart?" Jeanette asked seriously.

"I will explain after. Win this and make sure he dies in most unsavory of ways, but above all, do not get caught lest I have to take official displeasure!" the lord remarked calmly.

"As you say, milord," Jeanette remarked calmly and nodded as she spurred her horse forward.

"Why the change father?!" Yseult asked seriously as she stared at him in obvious shock.

The lord smiled at his daughter, "I have much to tell you of your mother and I, and why it is I have behaved so poorly to you as you began to truly flower. Listen well, Yseult, it begins when you were only ten summers..."

Jeanette did proceed to slay each of the other suitors until only Sir Montclair remained. She had revised her plan quickly, to make it obviously the greatest humiliation the knight could face. She was ready as she rode out onto the lists with her shield up. Montclair was also ready, and his face was furious. It would take only a small provocation to get him to do as she wished. His was pride that wounded easily.

She spurred her mount forward and her lance snapped heavily against his shield. She smiled as she repeated it over and over. Each time she was careful to just build points, and she smiled as she won on points alone. Montclair was beyond furious. He dismounted and stormed over to where she was dismounting herself. Only she was doing it in front of his lordship and the man smiled down at her.

“Well, sir knight, seems you have won the tourney soundly! Bravo!” his lordship pronounced only to be interrupted by Lord Montclair.

“I object to this! This knight who has given no name, who’s shield should be called into every doubt, and whose presence here should be an affront to all knights did not win yet! I still stand and say draw your blade knave! Prove you can kill me with more than trickery!” Sir Montclair raged and Jeanette smirked behind her helm as she simply removed her helmet and turned to face him, her long brown hair flowing out at last.

“I am Jeanette De la Croix, of the Lorraine! My father, Pierre-Louis De la Croix is Lord Lorraine and gave me leave to compete sir! Do me the favor and die like the filth you are!” Jeanette raged as she did not draw forth a sword, but a wicked mace and before the shock could wear off, she swung with all her strength and Montclair’s head spattered like the melon it resembled.

That night, the lord sat with both women in his hall and shook his head at the tale the two told and he smiled, “Your mother, she must be laughing from beyond the grave. She said you had a fondness for women and that you would be easily swayed by them. I am sorry my intemperate behavior sent Jeanette away. Her father asked me why I cast her out and I told him my suspicion.”

“And my father asked me if it were true. I did not deny it. Thus, he taught me his methods from his own glory days at the tourney. He was banned some time ago for excessive uses of force on knights who irked him. But of course, as he warned, there would be knights who could withstand even what I could dish out. He warned me to slay them in their beds. And so I did,” Jeanette blushed deep crimson and the lord sighed.

“Jeanette, I give you my leave, but I fear the church will not. Starting tomorrow, would you stay with us here that we might get to know you better than as our ward and scullery maid?” the lord asked seriously.

“I would, milord,” Jeanette responded and clasped hands with Yseult.

The legend of the Violet Knight would be told to no one, and the tourney and deaths never again mentioned. Tales told only speak that should a knight appear with a ring of violets around a striking falcon, it was best to concede and leave, for the Violet Knight had once again come seeking her lover’s hand.

Medieval Olympics

Trebuchet—Jul



Barony of Vatavia Trebuchet

Built by Robert the Scot

Painted by Arcadia Grenier



Heraldry



Rinald il Bianco Shield

By HE Marie Chantal Delaire

In Memoriam Saerlaith ingen
Chanainn

By HE Marie Chantal Delaire



Eyfridr Gold-Bearer

By HE Marie Chantal Delaire



Dreamfeather of Vatavia

This July 22nd at the champions' event at Whispering Winds Camp a Vatavian tradition was continued. Borec, fighter champion, Erik Tokesson selected Robert the Scot to receive the Dreamfeather of Vatavia.

This award was begun by Rinald il Bianco, who was the Baronial fighter champion Anno Societatis XXVI (1991). When he stepped down the following spring he presented three individuals with a silver feather charm, a Dreamfeather. The individuals, which he wanted to recognize for giving a part of 'The Dream' to others, were Kasamira Verena d'Arcy, Gabhainn Luith mac Dhominail, and Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon. Later Borec Champions presented one Dreamfeather during their service to the Barony.

The symbol is based on Rinald's arms: Per chevron inverted sable and gules, a winged serpent erect displayed argent. Lord Rinald explained that he was the serpent; the wings were 'The Dream' on which he soared. The feathers were his way of thanking those who helped him to soar.

October 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Fighter Practice, A&S	4	5	6 Officers Meet- ing	7	8	9 Fall Crown
10 Fighter Practice, A&S	11	12	13 A&S	14	15	16
17 Fighter Practice, A&S, Archery	18	19	20 Populace Meet- ing	21	22 Griffins Fest	23 Griffins Fest
24 Griffins Fest Fighter Practice, A&S, Archery	25	26	27 A&S	28	29	30
31 Fighter Practice, A&S, Archery						

November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Officer's Meeting	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 A&S	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Populace Meeting	18	19	20 Toys for Tots
21	22	23	24 A&S	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Officer's Meeting	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 A&S	9	10	11 Kris Kinder
12	13	14	15 Populace Meeting	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 A&S	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 A&S	30	31	