

The Dragon Flyre

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BARONY OF VATAVIA



This Illumination is the combination of two different medieval sources, thus creating an original work in a period style.

The first is the *Combat of Mark & Armant* (fol. 345v), Tristan de Léonois (BNF Fr. 99), 1463

<http://visualiseur.bnf.fr/ConsulterElementNum?O=IFN-7839148&E=JPEG&Deb=1&Fin=1&Param=C>

The second is the *Combat of Lancelot and Gawain* from the early 1400's.

<http://visualiseur.bnf.fr/ConsulterElementNum?O=IFN-8100007&E=JPEG&Deb=26&Fin=26&Param=C>

First Quarter 2017

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www.baronyofvatavia.org

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BARONIAL CHAMPIONS

Borec (Armored Combat) Ld Magnus O'Carr [Torin]

Cut & Thrust Champion: HE Donald MacDonald

Lucisnik: (Archery) HL Roderick de Graham

Zpevak: (Bardic) HL Jóhann Steinarsson

Estradni Umelec: (Arts & Sciences) Ly Margaret MacKenzie

This is the First Quarter 2017 issue of The Dragonfly, a publication of the Barony of Vatavia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc). The Dragonfly is available from Sherri Moreno, 207 N. Oliver, Wichita, KS 67208. This is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2017, Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles and artwork from this publication, please contact the chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

To the venerable and excellent Populace of Vatabia, do Uldin and Sung, Baronage, send greetings,

We would be remiss if we did not extend our sincerest thanks to Her Grace Yasamin al-Hadiyya and His Grace Garick von Köpke for their care and attention given as stewards for Their Royal Majesties Ashir and Ashland's Crown Tournament. We also wish to extend our thanks to Lady Maria Arosa de Santa Olalla for crash space coordination and largesse wrangling, to those who opened up their homes to host our friends in Kingdom, Lady Margaret MacKenzie for handling advance reservations, Lord Lief Tryggvasson and Lord Robert Steven MacLaren the Scot for the timely repairs to the list field, Lady Yamamoto Yukiko for heading up gate, the Shire of Theobald for running an amazing tavern for the day, Honorable Lady Snowlyne inghean Seamuis and Volu-Dýrfinna Grimmsdóttir for the phenomenal feast, Clan Hanashi for stepping in to take charge of cleanup, and to everyone who helped make Crown Tourney such a fantastic event for our Kingdom.

We are pleased to let you know that Lord Øyriki Radúlfsson is our new Castellan, taking over the office of Chatelaine in Lady Deirdre de Warenne's stead. Master Hanashi no Kagemoto no Kurokage Tengu no Samurai Taisho has taken over the office of Knight Marshal in place of Lord Magnus O'Carr.

As was announced at Officers' Meeting in March, Honorable Lord William Douglas will be stepping down from the office of Seneschal later in November of this year. We would appreciate letters of intent for this position no later than April 19th, 2017. (Yeah, that's pretty much now!) This is a very involved position; William would like the chosen applicant to serve as his deputy through at least one reporting period to help learn all of the office requirements.

We still have a few offices in need of a deputy. Each office needs help in running their tasks and volunteering in this manner is a great way to learn more about how a particular office works and the day-to-day workings of the SCA.

Spring is officially here. Archery, Armored Combat, and Cut and Thrust have all moved back outside to OJ Watson park for the season. Join with your friends on Sundays to practice your chosen art or simply to gather together. Rumor has it that there will periodically be classes you won't want to miss held on these days as well. Rejoice! Exult!

Vatabia has a few of events of note coming up in the following months, the first being Champions Tourney on April 30, 2017. Festivities will start at 9:00am at OJ Watson Park. For more information please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/uldin+sung/champions>. Feasting will be a period potluck. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Next we have Lilies War XXXI June 9-18, 2017. The Barony is officially on the schedule for Gate at Lilies! We have committed to cover 8am-2pm on the first Sunday, June 11th. If there are enough interested volunteers we would like to stretch our shift out a bit further. Here is the link for signing up to volunteer: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Q_prvFB-C0xbnzgjLe2DG8rLDKHHAm45HIYahYzBk4/edit?usp=sharing.

We well know that the party schedule throughout the war is generally pretty full. Uldin and I have proposed that it would be nice if we as a Barony provided a luncheon alongside one or more of the major Martiallate activities held. We think this would be a fun thing to do together as a group, and there has been enough interest that we will be moving forward with the idea. Let us know what you think, and how you would like to help out with setup, food, etc. Keep an eye out on the DFO and Baronial FB page and group for more details to follow!

Lady Maria Arosa de Santa Olalla, Honorable Lord William Douglas, Baron Donald Andrew MacDonald, and Baron Uldin of Ravenscroft are all sponsoring and/or running a number of tournaments at Lilies War this year. No doubt they will need help with heralding, listing, and/or waterbearing. As the war schedule is posted keep an eye on when their tournaments are being held and offer to lend them a hand if you are able.

You may visit <http://www.lilieswar.org/volunteer/> for a slew of additional opportunities to help serve at the War.

On July 22nd, 2017, Masters of the Duel returns home to Vatavia where it started! Lady Lucia of Vatavia is graciously stewarding this event. Lady Elizabeth Anne Draper and Lord Robert Steven MacLaren the Scot will be providing a delicious tavern alongside. September 1st-4th, 2017, we are hosting Valor once more. We are trying something a bit different this year, given that Valor is our largest event and spans multiple days, we have accepted a bid by committee. While both of these events may seem further out, it is not too soon to reach out and offer assistance. Many hands make light work!

Don't forget, there are a number of events around the corner outside our Barony. Do you enjoy pomp and circumstance? Court? Coronation in Mag Mor (Lincoln, NE) is where it is at! The Tournament of Horse and Falcons (Forgotten Sea, Kansas City, MO) will feature two high pageantry tournaments and three peerage elevations. Are you interested in fighting? Archery? Fun arts and sciences competitions? You won't want to miss St. George & the Dragon (Oakheart, Springfield, MO) and Melees and Mayhem! Do you plan to muster for war? Joining your Kingdom in the good fight? The War Council has a schedule of training scenarios available. Visit <http://warcouncil.calontir.org/Home/> for more information. Lilies War, of course, boasts all of these things with a heaping side of classes, parties, and fireworks!

In ever faithful service,

Baron Uldin of Ravenscroft and Baroness Sung Sai-êrh

Baron@baronyofvatavia.org

Baroness@baronyofvatavia.org

FROM THE SENESCHAL

Greetings unto the Populace of Vatavia,
Welcome to the beginning of eventing season! I look forward to seeing as much of the populace as possible out and about in Kingdom. With that said we also have multiple events locally that are coming up in the next few months. Masters of the Duel (autocrated by Lucia de Vatavia) is coming up in July and Valor (autocrated by Robert the Scot) is coming up in September. Both of these event stewards will need help from the local populace and I hope that everyone will help where they can.

I will be stepping down in August and am currently looking for a deputy to train to take over the position of Vatavia Baronial Seneschal. This is an important position that I would like to train someone in at least one (if not two) quarterly reports so that they know what to expect. If you are interested or have any questions please feel free to contact me via email, Facebook messenger or in person.

I also want to remind all officers to please start looking for deputies so that there is a backup if needed. Emergency replacement deputies are important to have so that the running of the Barony continues. Thank you to all of the officers, Baronage and populace that constantly continue to make this Barony great!

-His Lordship William Douglas
Seneschal, Barony of Vatavia

FROM THE CASTELLAN

Greetings unto the Populace of Vatavia,

I am excited to be writing my first message as the new baronial Castellan. The past few weeks have been very busy and with Crown Tournament so very close, it does not look like it will be slowing down anytime soon.

I am pleased to say there has been a recent surge of newcomers to our group with a variety of interests. We have seen numbers at weekly meetings and practices steadily increasing and I would like to see this trend continue. If you see any of these new faces, please reach out and introduce yourself. Make them feel welcome.

In an attempt to continue this trendy of activity, I am heavily focusing recruitment at the middle and high school levels while school is in session. Every social studies teacher in the Wichita area has been informed about our upcoming Champions event and our presence at the Renaissance Festival. Students with an interest in history or any of the activities we do are being encouraged to seek us out so be prepared to answer questions at these upcoming events!

After the school year comes to a close I will be looking into a couple other different recruitment ideas. If you have any suggestions for demos or events would do to bring in new people, please contact the Demo Coordinator or myself.

In Service to the Barony,

Lord Oyrik Randulfson

FROM THE CALTROP PURSUIVANT

Good gentles all,

We are now moving into one of the busier times of the year, especially with field heraldry. Our upcoming spring demos will need plenty of people to interact with the crowds, and I would encourage anyone with a strong voice to lend a hand assisting at the various tournaments in the coming months. Lilies War will have more than its fair share of voice herald opportunities, as will many events coming in May.

Øyrik Raðúlfsson's Device and Inuhara Fuyume Sara's Device Change have both been registered; we are still waiting to hear progress on other submissions in process as of this writing. The Caltrop Office will notify all concerned parties as we receive information.

I am still looking for a Deputy Caltrop; the office is not a difficult one, in fact it is quite fun. But while I do enjoy it, no position is permanent and the post will need to be filled one day. If you are interested, feel free to contact me at herald@baronyofvatavia.org.

In service,

HL Johann Steinarsson

Caltrop Pursuivant

FROM THE EXCHEQUER

Good Day to all.

Here is where The Barony sits on available monies at the end of 1st quarter of 2017. We currently have a little over \$9500.00 in the bank. We currently have 4 outstanding checks that were carried over from last year. All four checks are the site deposit and site fee for two events, which are Crown Tourney on April 8th and Masters of the Duel in July. We will also be writing checks to reserve the site for Valor in September. If you have any questions please feel free to message me through the Baronial website email exchequer@baronyofvatavia.org

YIS

Lady Margaret MacKenzie

FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Greetings

I am Master Hanashi no Kagemoto (Kage) your new Knight Marshal.

Fighter practice is scheduled at 11:00a on Sunday mornings at OJ Watson park, at the far north end, weather permitting.

All forms of SCA combat are practiced then. From cut & thrust, to archery, to heavy armor combat.

Hope you can make it out.

In service

~Master Hanashi no Kagemoto no Kurokage Tengu
no Samurai Taisho

FROM THE ARCHER MARSHAL

Ok Well archery practice has resumed, now if Mother Nature would just bring back the warmer weather. Practice will run at 11am at the horse corral of OJ Watson park (weather permitting). Please contact me with any questions or requests for thing that you would like to work on during practice. Also if any of the loaner gear is gonna be needed let me know ahead of time so I know what to pack.

Vatavian Archer Marshal

Lord Konrad von Roth

FROM THE ARTS AND SCIENCES MINISTERS

Unto the Most Worthy Populace of Vatavia and environs, do we your Arts & Sciences co- ministers, Lady Maria Arosa de Santa Olalla and Lord Niall Mac a'Ghobhainn, bring these Greetings:

As we move into the warmer months, we call upon all those involved and interested in the Arts and Sciences to join the Populace on Sundays, for fighter practice at OJ Watson Park. This outdoors venue is perfect for those larger & louder activities and projects that might otherwise not be a good fit for the Wednesday night gatherings. Music and dancing will make several appearances over the coming weeks, for everyone in the Barony to enjoy and join in. Whether you wish to teach a formal class, work on your project, or show off your results (it is allowed!), please share your skills and knowledge with the Barony & Populace on Sundays. This is also an excellent opportunity for the Populace to interact with Vatavian artisans and scientists, and appreciate their work. All projects and endeavors are welcome at fighter practice, and those who wish to teach a class on a Sunday are encouraged to contact the Arts and Sciences Ministers. OJ Watson Park is at 3022 S McLean Blvd, in Wichita 67217.

Likewise, the calendar is open for classes and demonstrations of every kind for the next quarter. Generally classes are held on the second

Wednesday of the month, though we can accommodate other Wednesdays as well. If you have a request for a particular class or instructor class, or if you wish to teach, please contact either of us. Remember, any period or Society subject is the perfect thing for arts and sciences. These meetings are held every Wednesday at 7 PM, save the week of Populace meeting, at MakeICT, 1500 E Douglas in Wichita.

There is a full schedule of events throughout the Kingdom of Calontir these coming months. Highlights include the Spring Crown Tourney, here in Vatavia, Saturday, April 8. There will be an Arts & Science Competition Round Table in the afternoon. For more information, see <http://baronyofvatavia.org/event/index.php>

Kingdom Arts and Sciences is April 15-16 in Lonely Tower. This is the premier Kingdom event for Arts & Sciences, and all are encouraged to enter into the competition. Please note that the Order of the Laurel shall meet at this event, as will a combined meeting of the Calon Lily and the Silver Hammer. For more information see <http://lonelytower.org/baronial-calendar/kingdom-arts-sciences-championship/>

And looking ahead, summer in Calontir means Lilies, June 9 – 18. The official site can be found at <http://www.lilieswar.org/> Lilies is always replete with arts, sciences, music, dance, classes and more, not the least of which is the Lilies' Artisans Road Show. All Vatavians are encouraged to make a sojourn at Lilies, and take and teach as many classes as they can.

Looking beyond the quarter, a reminder that both Valor and The Queen's Prize Tournament are coming fast in September. Keep an eye on the usual sources for details as they become available.

Lastly, Her Excellency has done a superb job recently of keeping active threads on Facebook, asking for word of arts & sciences achievements and endeavors from the Populace. Please be sure to answer these calls, or otherwise make known your work in the arts and sciences. With so many events coming up, and with so many very talented and active people, we can't keep a complete record of your successes and accomplishments unless you let us know. And in the same vein, if you truly appreciate the works of a Vatavian in the arts or sciences, be sure to make an award recommendation in the Barony or the Kingdom, as appropriate. <http://awardrec.calontir.org/>

http://www.baronyofvatavia.org/award_rec.php

We remain Yours in service,

Lady Maria

Lord Niall

Arts and Sciences Ministers, Vatavia

FROM THE DEMO COORDINATOR

Good Vataivians, greetings,

I want to thank all who participated in the indoor fighter practices and special subject presentations at Exploration Place this winter. We regularly had 25 % to 35 % of the guests attending our activities. Once we had over 41% of that day's attendance. Your willingness to talk with guests and to bring your projects to work on and share have continued to have our group one of the more involved and more interactive of the volunteer groups. We already have an invitation to be back again for next winter.

I also want to thank those who donated their time for the other presentations we had this quarter. There were those who attended the fighter practice; and then, went on to do a fighting presentation for the Scouts Blue and Gold Banquet. Special thanks to those who arranged their work schedules to take time in the middle of the day to present about the different garb we do to the Wichita branch of the American Sewing Guild. Also to those who could not attend but loaned their garb so we could show a variety of times and cultures. I personally want to thank those that loaned heraldic items for the Visual Literacy display for March at Exploration Place.

Your dedication and generosity have added to our renown.

Vivat the dedicated.

MCD

Good morrow fellow Vataivians,

Our last scheduled presentation at Exploration Place will be Sunday May 7th. There is still no specific subject selected. Notification will be made on the different websites and social media as soon as that is determined. At this time the June to December schedule is being arranged with Exploration Place. It should be finalized by April after which dates and subjects should be available.

We have been invited to participate July 23 as part of the Maker Faire being held there that weekend. This is the day after the Masters of the Duel event Vatavia is hosting. This will be a smorgasbord of all the things we do as 'makers' to create the items we use and research.

I am looking to develop a new display and presentation based on the Nine Worthies and the Round Table to tie in to the Hall of Heroes exhibit that will be at Exploration Place May 20th to January 1st. Contact me if you are interested in helping or have ideas. I have already been given the idea of artwork of the Nine Worthies as comic book heroes-not exactly my art style. There could be coloring pages or a coloring book.

Our good Castellan has proposed a presentation for his living history club Tuesday April 25 for the afterschool 'nerd night' from 4 pm-6 pm. It is still in the planning stages. He needs to know those of us available and wishing to participate. He also is working on other possible opportunities to reach out to more potential members in the coming months.

In service to sharing-

(Keep your capuchins on and your bowstrings dry.)

Marie CD

OFFICERS' MEETING MINUTES

OFFICERS' MEETING | February 1, 2017

Make ICT 1500 East Douglas, Wichita, Kansas

23 were in attendance: 15 Baronage/ officers/deputies/ 1 event steward and 2 other members participated; 2 children

Clothiers' is this February 4th in Kansas City. The calendar is full for April. April 8th-9th is Crown tournament held here in Andover. April 15th-16th is Kingdom Arts and Sciences in Lonely Tower. April 22nd-23rd is the local Great Plains Renaissance Festival. It was proposed to have the local Champions' event Sunday April 30th.

There is a full schedule of presentation requests. For February there is a Scouts' Blue and Gold banquet fighting presentation being organized by Ld. Torin. March has two presentation requests; two in May; and an invitation to participate in the local Maker Fair in July.

Crown Tournament plans continue. An additional individual, who is a national member, is needed to handle Crown event registrations. Requirements are being determined to have the possibility of outdoor fighting at this event. Items for the auction were announced. More donation items are requested. Members were asked to consider providing crash space to visiting members attending. Contact Ly Maria with pertinent details if you wish to host visiting guests.

Two more Vataivians have proposals sent on for registration this month. Results are expected this Spring and Summer for all proposals currently at Laurel. The next issue of the Dragonflyre will be April 15th. Officers' letters are due by March 29th. Book binding/making and the final die making class are scheduled for February. Classes for 2017 are needed. It was noted that roundtable discussion topics can be used for a class. Classes can be held at other locations, such as spear techniques at a fighter practice.

The outgoing Exchequer reported a balance of about \$8400 in the bank. Confirmation for the incoming Exchequer is expected soon. Baronial inventory lists will be checked and confirmed against the actual existing inventory at the designated locations.

The current Knight Marshal will be stepping down to take a Kingdom deputy position to the Earl Marshal. HL Kagemoto will be taking over the fighter practices at Exploration Place. Archery is still on Winter hiatus.

The deadline for Valor bids was extended 30 days. Some alternative sites that would better meet the current event needs have been found. Potential event stewards are encouraged to check with the Seneschal about these sites. Alternatives for organizing this event were mentioned.

A letter was received for the position of Chatelaine and was accepted. The necessary prerequisites are being finalized before the office changes hands.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

OFFICERS' MEETING | March 1, 2016

Make ICT 1500 East Douglas, Wichita, Kansas

22 were in attendance: 18 Baronage/ officers/deputies and 1 other member participated; 2 children

Due to the upcoming Gulf War that Their Excellencies, the Seneschal, and other Vatavians are attending the Populace meeting has been rescheduled to March 22 at the regular VFW location. March 15 will be a regular arts and sciences night at Make ICT.

Crown Tournament will be held here next month. Items requested for the fund raiser auction will be checked at Populace the 22nd. The fund raiser could be postponed until Queen's Prize. Members are encouraged to attend Queen's Prize in Theobald this Fall. It was noted they often come and volunteer to help at our events.

Those members who participated in the cub scout demo Sunday February 26th were thanked. A photographer provided 30-40 photos to the group of that demo. Several pieces of garb have been received for the presentation March 7th to the Wichita Sewing guild at 1:30. March 12th is the presentation at Exploration Place on Visual Literacy-Heraldry. Their next presentation is scheduled on May 7th which has no specific subject at this time. It was suggested that a new presentation on the Nine Worthies could be developed to tie in with the next traveling exhibit on Heroes.

The Castellan has several teens interested in attending our Champions' event the end of April. He has also sent information to all the Social Studies teachers of district 259. It was suggested having some token or item to provide to interested individuals coming to Vatavian events, similar to the Kingdom providing mugs to first time Kingdom event attendees. Other potential venues for Vatavian presentations were mentioned. A new Arthurian movie coming out in May was also mentioned as an opportunity.

Arts and Sciences classes are still being scheduled. Outdoor classes during fighter practice are highly encouraged. One is already scheduled for May. Members were asked to keep the A and S Ministers informed of their activities in this area: projects, including making largess and auction items, competitions entered or attended, classes at Kingdom events, etc.

Two new name proposals have been sent directly to the Submission's Herald, Saker, by some very new members. May 1st a change in the proposal process will be made. Items will be sent to the Eyas Herald, Mistress Dorcas Whitecap for internal letters. Saker HL Gotfrid von Swaben will be handling external letters to national/ Laurel. It was also announced that Ld. Myghal of Theobald is the deputy for the Gerfalcon regional herald.

The new Exchequer reported a balance of about \$8000. There is a bill from the storage facility, U-Store. A \$50 donation was received from the cub scouts for the presentation done February 26th. The Web Minister reported the sit had been updated. The deadline for officer letters is March 29th. The next Dragonflyre will be on the art of combat and Spring.

The new Fighter Marshal, Kagemoto-san, announced that practice has made the Spring move to outside. Their Excellencies, after receiving council from members and considering various factors and amenities, have decided to continue to have all martial activities held on Sundays at OJ Watson Park. As of War Maneuvers there are four new marshals in training for Vatavia. Archery practice will resume actual shooting March 12th after the ponies are relocated to their Spring/ Summer pasture.

The Caltrop Pursuivant announced that the position for his deputy is still open. It was noted that the office is not one held indefinitely. The Seneschal also is looking for a deputy. His warrant is up November and he will be stepping down. He would like interested individuals in place so that they may go through a couple reporting periods with him to learn the office requirements.

The sections of Corpora about events and member participation at events was read. Members are to wear an attempt at pre- 17th century garb. The term event also includes demos and populace meetings. Members were also reminded that the SCA waivers and insurance coverage is only in effect for the scheduled time of the event or demonstration. All other times it is the individual's personal responsibility and liability.

The meeting adjourned.

THEIR ROYAL MAJESTIES

ASHIR & ASHLAND

Falcon-Crown@calontir.org

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES

DAMIEN & ISSABELL

Falcon-Heirs@calontir.org

UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS

••• April •••

- 1-2 Spring Spears | Calanais Nuadh | (Rolla, MO)
- 8-9 Spring Crown Tournament | Vatavia | (Wichita, KS)
- 15-16 Kingdom Arts & Sciences | Lonely Tower | (Omaha, NE)
- 22-23 Unslung Heroes | Aston Tor | Jackson County, MO
- 29-30 Melon Wars | Flinthyll | Burlington, IA

••• May •••

- 6-7 War College | Amlesmore | Hallsville, MO
- 13-14 St. George & the Dragon | Oakheart | Springfield, MO
- 13-14 Spring Arrows | Deodar | Cedar Rapids, IA
- 20-21 Melees & Mayhem | Crescent Moon | Topeka, KS
- 27-28 Tournament of | Forgotten Sea | Kansas City, MO
Horse and Falcon

••• June •••

- 10-11 Lilies War | Calontir | Smithville Lake, MO
- 17-18 Lilies War | Calontir | Smithville Lake, MO

••• July •••

- 8-9 Summer Coronation | Mag Mor | Lincoln, NE
- 15-16 CalonCon | TBA
- 22-23 Masters of the Duel | Vatavia | Wichita, KS
- 29-30 Feast of Eagles | Cum an Iolar | South Johnson County

BARONIAL GATHERINGS

Populace Meeting Third Wednesday, 7-9 PM VFW Post 112, 1560 South Topeka Street, Wichita, KS 67211

Fighter Practice (Armored Combat and Calon Steel)
Sundays, 12-3 | | Sundays, 11 AM | O.J. Watson Park,
3022 S McLean Boulevard, Wichita, KS 67217 For more
information, contact: Master Hanashi no Kagemoto (Kage)
knightmarshal@baronyofvatavia.org

Archery Practice Sundays, 11 AM | O.J. Watson Park,
3022 S McLean Boulevard, Wichita, KS 67217 contact:
Konrad von Roth | archermarshal@baronyofvatavia.org

Officers Meeting & Finance Meeting First Wednesday of
the month, 7-9 PM. Open to the populace. Make ICT,
1500 E Douglas Ave, Wichita, KS 67214

Arts and Sciences Gathering 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesday,
7-9 PM at Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave, Wichita, KS
67214

Baronial Demos:

April 22 & 23, 2017

Great Plains Renaissance Festival

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4-6pm

Living History Club School Demo

Contact our Castellan, Øyrik Raðúlfsson for more
information about this demo.

Sunday, May 7th, 2017

Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd. No specific sub-
ject. Contact HE Marie Chantal Delair for more
information.

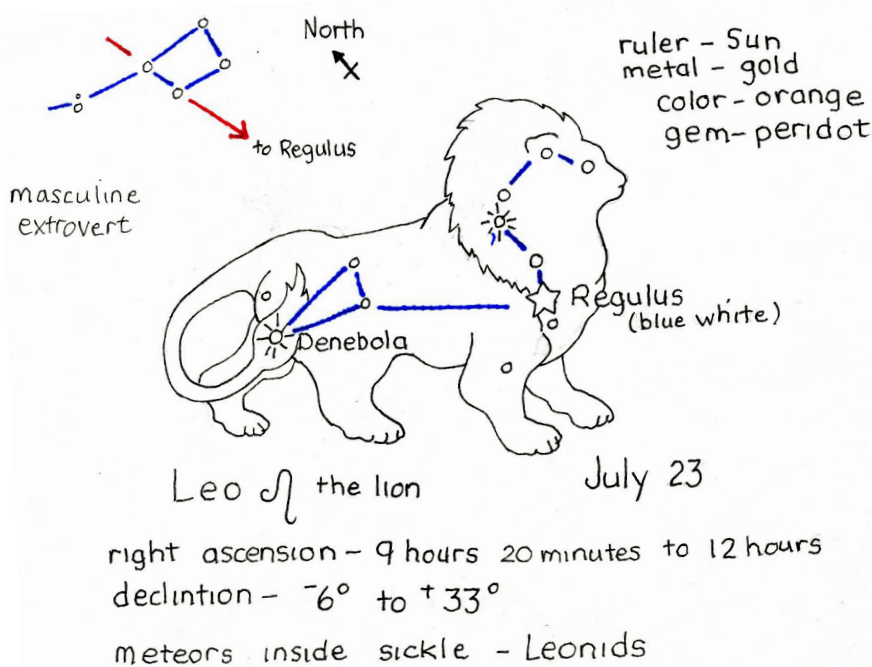
TO GET A COPY OF THE

KNOWN WORLD HANDBOOK

Contact His Lordship Friar Thomas | 316-685-1182
Handbooks are \$23.00

In Like a Lion by Marie Chantal Delair

In our period of study there were several identifications for the third month of the year. Charlemagne named it Spring Month. Anglo-Normans referred to it as March(e) from the Latin Martius, the god Mars. In these lands that burn the proverb is often recited: in like a lion out like a lamb. That actually is a 19th century weather prediction idiom. In Wales it is associated more with April.



The association of March and a lion can be found in period astronomy. The idea March comes in like a lion was based on stellar observations. These weren't original to the Middle Ages. To discover the foundations one must look to ancient sources. The earliest known identified constellations are the Bear, Pleiades, Orion and Libra. Most early, documented asterisms, smaller patterns within a larger constellation, came from Mesopotamia in the Euphrates Valley. The Greeks adopted the Persian, Hindu and Arabic stellar patterns. These in turn were adopted by the Romans.

Leo the lion is also one of the earliest documented astronomical stellar pattern. The backward question mark or sickle was called Ser or Shir in Persia, Aryo in Syria, and Simha in India. The Turks called it Artan; the Jews Arye. All these mean lion. To

the Greeks and Romans it was either the Nemean lion of one of Hercules's twelve labors; or, the lion the god Bacchus changed himself into. To the Jewish it was the lion of the tribe of Judah. The Christians identified it with Daniel's lions or with doubting Thomas.

Leo's importance was in part due to the bright blue-white star in its pattern, Regulus. Persia, China and India divided the sky into four quadrants each with its ruling star. For Persia these were Aldebaran in Taurus, Antares the heart of Scorpio, Regulus the heart of Leo, and Fomalhaut in Piscis Austrinus, the southern fish, found just south of Aquarius. These correspond to the Chinese White Tiger of the West (Pih Hoo) comprised of Orion, Taurus, Aries, and Gemini; the Azure Dragon (Tsing Lung) of the East which included Scorpio, Libra and Virgo; the Red Pheasant or Vermillion Bird of the South which included parts of Virgo and Cancer; and the Black Tortoise of the North.

The importance of these bright stars made them easily noticeable and useful. They were used for navigation and still are today for satellites. Their presence in the sky announced seasons. Astrologists used their appearance to determine horoscopes used for many purposes including with physicians to set a course of medical treatment for patients. Ascending key constellations or major stars or planets were seen as pivotal influences.

In the current Middle Ages the constellation Leo rises in the east at sunset in the beginning of the month and is at zenith at midnight. At the vernal equinox, March 20, it is completely visible at sunset. It dominates the night sky all month. Until, by the end of the month, it has completely set by sunrise. It no longer is the in coming constellation. That is Virgo.

Social media as a metaphor for the church

By HE Friar Thomas Bacon

The Friar's Corner



Despite all our celebration of the individual, the human species is at heart a social animal. Hence the great attraction of social media. This is no less true during the Middle Ages. But instead of hand held technological boxes, it was the church that mediated these transactions.

Nowadays when people think of the church during the Middle Ages, it is usually in terms of crusades, inquisitions, and theological disputes. Yet for the average person of the times, the church meant none of these things. Instead the church was the center of social life that had nothing to do with the doctrines that were preached.

The first thing that one must understand is that faith, for the peasant, was a shallow thing. It was deeply felt, but largely consisted of following the proscribed rituals. The peasant did not understand, or care about, the theological underpinnings of these rituals; but understood merely that if he adhered to them he could go to a better place that was heaven. This did not mean that they were mindless followers, but did not care about distant abstractions over more immediate cares. Keeping the faith was more of an insurance policy.

What aided this was that the average parish priest was almost as ignorant as his peasant flock. And in most cases he was not an actual priest, but some form of a caretaker, or vicar, filling in for the actual appointed priest who was elsewhere. This is one of the ongoing scandals of church of the period. The income of a parish is called a prebend. The more well connected priests would arrange to collect multiple prebends to enhance their income, part of which would be paid to a vicar to perform the actual duties. These would be of course less educated. And they would mumble through the Latin mass and the sacraments. And a major theological discussion of the time was whether sacraments improperly performed were still valid. But that is a different essay.

Village life was largely communal. While the individual peasant owned the farm fields, that ownership was in the form of strips inter-mixed with all the other peasants, so that they all shared the good and the bad soils. Capital cost of farm equipment was high, which meant that in practice the fields were worked as a communal enterprise, from plowing to harvesting using shared equipment like the plow. Other tasks, including whatever tasks imposed by the lord, were also communal exercises. Thus it was natural for social activities to be also communal.

And the natural gathering point for that social activity was the church, for several practical reasons. The biggest was that the parish church was usually the biggest open span enclosed space outside the lord's holdings. And in the Middle Ages, there were no pews in the church, you stood during services. So the inside is uncluttered.

The churchyard was the largest open space in the village. The traditional village square was the village market place and there usually crowded with booths and stalls. People were used going to the church not only for religious services, but the front of the church was the location for important ceremonies and announcements.

This also extended to the towns. Towns were divided up into parishes, often following the occupational nature of neighborhoods. And again, the church form the social nucleus for that neighborhood there was being no other convenient meeting place. And in the various civic celebrations that occurred throughout the year, participation was again organized by parish.

So any activity that extended beyond the immediate family would frequently occur in the parish church. Be it feast, dance, or general fellowship you would gather at the church. Now there were taverns and ale-houses, but places were generally neither female nor family friendly.

This was only at the parish church building. This would not be happening in cathedrals, chapels, or cloistered precincts. These were all more sacred spaces. But the parish church was a more humble place.

The use of the church building in this manner was not condoned by the higher authorities. This was an ongoing fight as evident by the incessant stream of denouncements and edicts against this practice. The vicars were often from the village, or a nearby village tended to blunt the effects of these edicts. Though on occasion, a reformist bishop, who was sufficiently active, could enforce the ban.

While unlike today where social media is available 24/7, people couldn't all the time, there were still plenty of opportunities. The church building was rarely, if ever, locked. While Sunday was the only regular day of rest, there were still plenty of feast days and other holidays to break up the work week. Nor was farming, which occupied 90 percent of the population, a constant grind. Plowing and harvesting were periods of intense work, but the periods in between were relatively lax. There was ample opportunity to socialize at the church.

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	3	4	5 Officers & Finance Meeting 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave.	6	7	8
9 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	10	11	12 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	13	14	15 Kingdom Arts and Sciences
16 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	17	18	19 Populace Gathering 7-9 PM VFW Post 112, 1560 S. Topeka Street	20	21	22 Great Plains Renaissance Festival
23 Great Plains Renaissance Festival	24	25	26 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	27	28	29
30 Baronial Champions Tournament 9am-6pm						

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Officers & Finance Meeting 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave.	4	5	6 War Collage
7 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	8	9	10 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	11	12 St. George and the Dragon	13 St. George and the Dragon
14 St. George and the Dragon Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	15	16	17 Populace Gathering 7-9 PM VFW Post 112, 1560 S. Topeka Street	18	19	20
21 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	22	23	24 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	25	26 Horse and Falcons	27 Horse and Falcons
28 Horse and Falcons Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	29	30	31 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave			

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	5	6	7 Officers & Finance Meeting 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave.	8	9 Lilies War XXXI	10
11 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	12	13	14 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	15	16	17
18 Lillies War XXXI Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	19	20	21 Populace Gathering 7-9 PM VFW Post 112, 1560 S. Topeka Street	22	23	24
25 Fighter Practice Archery Practice 11 AM Watson Park	26	27	28 A&S Gathering 7-9 PM Make ICT, 1500 E Douglas Ave	29	30	