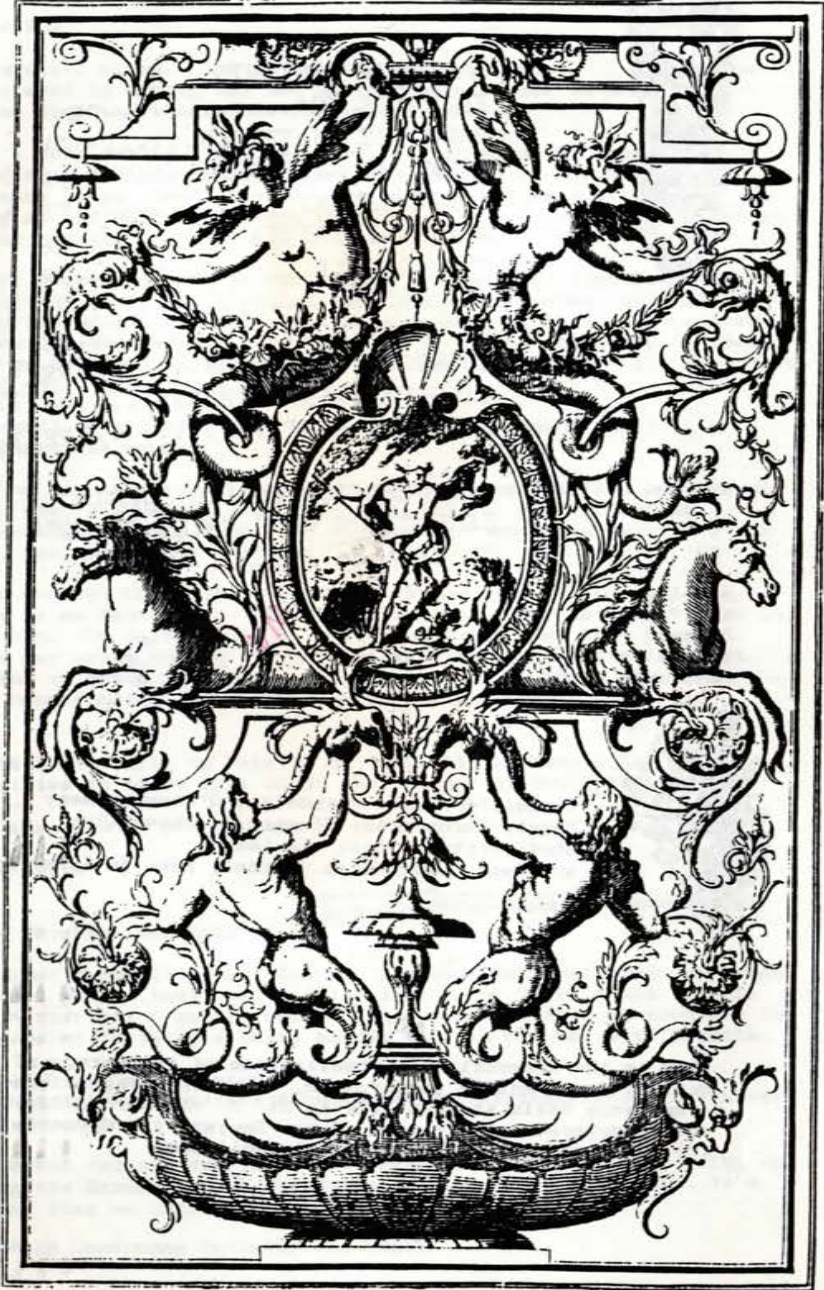
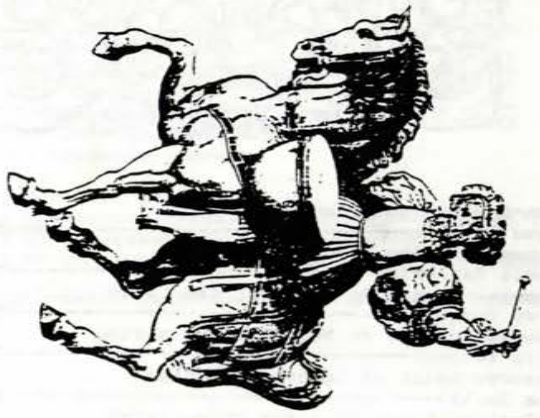


The DragonFlyre

February AS XXV



Barony of Vateavia
 c/o Lynne Batiz
 9000 E. 47th. St. e. #3
 Derby, KS. 67037



Mary Day
 1033 McCormick
 Wichita, KS 67213

91/05



The Dragonflyre is a monthly newsletter for the subscribers within the Barony of Vateavia, and others by subscription for \$11.00 for 1 year. Submissions: Art, Articles, poetry, letters etc. are gladly accepted or sent to approval by the local Barons to curtail any rebuttals or items in bad taste. Submissions should be on white paper, black ink for art. Letters or articles need not be typed, but it would be greatly appreciated.



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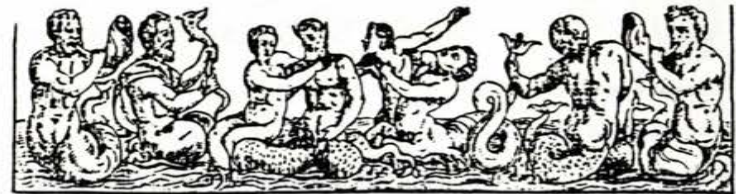
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ART CREDITS: PUBLIC DOMAIN
 EXCEPT FOR PG.7 WHICH IS DONE
 BY KERA de JORES



Chronicler: Lady Gwendolynn O'Shaughnessy
 Deputy Chronicler: Eleanor ap Rhiweallon
 Staff Writers: Zani the Lost
 Art Dept: Lady Marie Chantal, Kera de Jorz, Mystera

This is the Dragonflyre, a publication of the Barony of Vativia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Dragonflyre is available from Lynne Batiz at 9600 E. 47th St. S. #3, Derby, KS. 67037. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. and does not delineate S.C.A. policies.



From the MOA

Yes, I'm still alive. And so are the arts--somewhat. I hope those who've stayed in during the bad weather have worked on some nifty stuff and that they'll be showing us all soon.

We have a busy spring ahead, so we'll all have to get busy. Shakespeare's Birthday Party (April 23) and the Kansas Newman Renaissance Faire (April 26-28) will be here before you know it! Be thinking of and working on ways the arts can be better represented at these two events.

Remember, to participate in "Shakespeare," you need good late-period clothing--but don't let that frighten you! (For women, an Italian bodice dress would work well, and it's so far the easiest garb I've made--next to the T-tunic, of course.) The Costuming group has been working on late period clothes the past several months-- I'm sure they can help you. (That goes for men, too.)

Dancers will be practicing at least 2 times per month until "Shakespeare" is over--

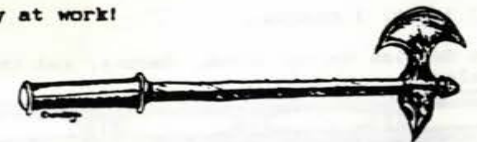
And if you happen to play even a little of an appropriate instrument, I have a simple tune I'd like help with (either "in Person" at Shakespeare's Birthday Party, or on tape). Please see me-- if I can play it, you surely can.

Upcoming events: COSTUMING SEMINAR in Kansas City is (or was) the place to be on February 2. For those who can't (or Couldn't) make it, those who do (or did) go would love to tell you what they Learned. Also, we may bring some of it here to Vativia--if there's interest. I understand we can get Mistress Liriel to teach us about advanced t-tunic construction (and it's rumored she might drag some help along).

And, with RUSH coming to Vativia on April 13, we have a lot of opportunities to learn more about what we do (or would like to do).

Hope to see lots of you happily at work!

Lady Saerlaith



From the Knights' Marshall

The Knights' Marshall would like all fighters to check their equipment to see what peices they individually lack to be fully armed. It is important that all fighters become fully armed as soon as possible for the purpose of feilding a solid sheild wall in our war with Triatia.

In Service Rinaldo il Bianco

 From the Seneschal

The Seneschal reminds everyone that several key events are coming up, including the Kansas Newman Ren Faire and the River Festival. It's all sooner than we think.

His Lordship Lawrence Taillefer the Leech

From the Chateleyn.

Unto the populace of Vatavia from Lord Galen MacDonald, Chateleya.

Greetings to you all. I hope that the passing season has left its benefits behind with you. I have only a couple of items that I wish to convey to you at this time.

The Student Activities Center at Wichita State University has requested that Vatavia perform a demo at their Campus Activities Center. This a promotional event for their upcoming student movie: The Princess Bride. The SCA, however, is being given every opportunity to promote ourselves at the same time. The date is Monday, February 11, from 9:00 am until around 12:00. We are in need of fighters, dancers, and populace to meet and greet interested people. As I would like to encourage the WSU student participation in the dance, the dances we will be performing will primarily be the most simple dances so you need not be a performance quality dancer, simply an enthusiastic dancer. Also, I have received permission to set up a table or two with a static display of our Arts, Sciences, and culture so I would like the loan of those SCA items of which you are most pleased. Finally, we may be able to have a VCR and television available so I would appreciate the loan of any SCA video you may have. I would like to be able to show the SCA in it's best environments, on the field, in the feasthall, and the other aspects of our events. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet people and perhaps make some new SCA friends. Please call me for more information at 264-4530.

I am still in need of a deputy. All those interested in being the deputy Chateleya please send -- or give directly to me -- a brief letter explaining why you feel you would benefit the office to me:

Galen
c/o Mark Donaldson
807 Carter Street
Wichita, KS 67203

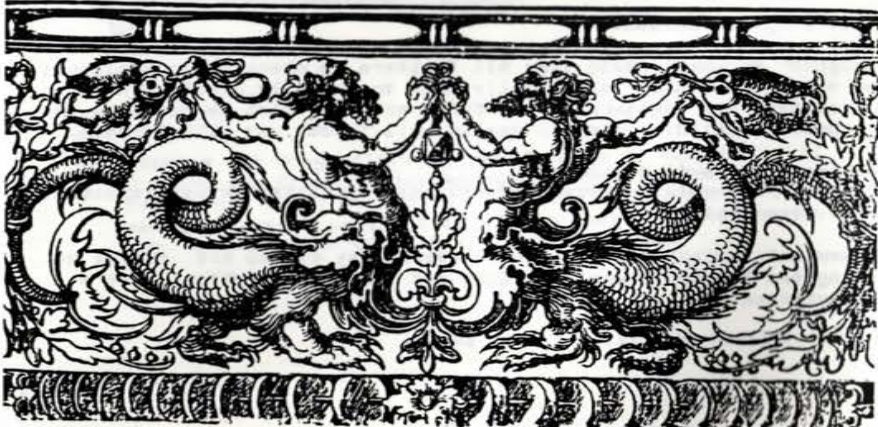
I will announce my choice at the February Populace Meeting.

The office of the Gold Key needs items to use for loaner-materials. Please donate your cast-off, outgrown, or never-used items. I will pick up items that you wish to donate. I will also accept large scraps of cloth to be sewn into loaner-garb.

The contest for artwork for the SCA posters is still going on. Details are in the last Dragonflyer.

Until later, I remain...

In Service to the Crown, Barony, and the Dream,
Galen



From the Caltrop



Unto Their Excellencies Baron Gawayne ap Tristan and Baroness Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikingr, the Lords, Ladies and Good Gentles of Vatavia, doth Lady Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrap Pursuivant for Vatavia, send Greetings.

On the December Laurel Letter of Acceptances and Returns, the name Maeve Kelly de Navarre (submitted as Maeve de Navarre Kelly) was registered. Her device "Argent, two peacocks close statant adorsed, tails in saltire, vert" was returned for conflict.

The following are on the December Calontir Letter of Intent sent to Laurel, King of Arms:

Conrad Leliasson - Name and Device: "Gules, on a pile between two dragon's heads, couped at the shoulder, Or, a dragonfly tergiant vert."

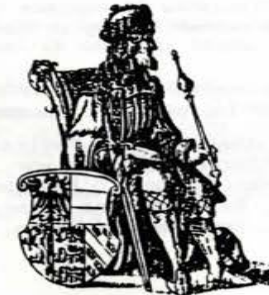
Lelia ni Lachtnain Uf Chathail - Device: "Per saltire vert and Or, in pale two unicorn heads couped to sinister Or."

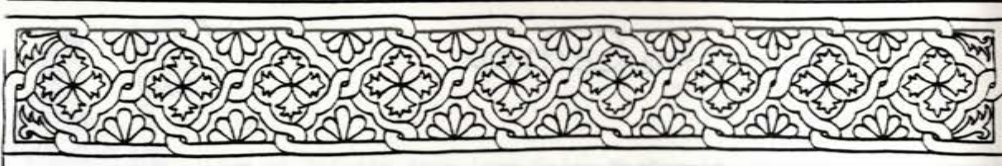
Reynald il Bianco - Device: "Per chevron inverted sable and gules, overall a winged serpent erect displayed argent."

Sibeal OhOgain - Device: "Vert, on a lozenge Or, a sprig of mistletoe of four leaves vert, berried argent."

Our congratulations to these Good Gentles! Your submissions have passed Kingdom!

I remain, in service to Vatavia, Calontir and the Dream,
Annys de Vernun of Kettering.





Unto Their Excellencies Baron Gawayne ap Tristam and Baroness Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikingr, the Lords, Ladies and Good Gentles of Vatavia, doth Lady Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrap Pursuivant for Vatavia, send Greetings and this report of the Court of the Barony of Vatavia held the evening of the twenty ninth day of December, AS XXV, following the Vatavian Yule Feast held at Minisa Park.

This Court, presided over by Their Excellencies Baron Gawayne and Baroness Brialen, was opened by Lady Annys at about thirty minutes past the hour of seven. Their Excellencies summoned a representative of Plotters Anonymous and charged them with the task of devising suitable Quests for Milords Tristan Rory de Jorz and Robert the Scot. Lord Harald Isenross of Spinning Winds was summoned and addressed the Populace about the coming conflict between Vatavia and Triatia. Lady Gwendolyn Morna O'Shaughnessey came before Their Excellencies and presented gifts to the Children of Vatavia. The children were invited to choose two items each from the Junior Baronial Treasure Chest.

Big Bear of Hammerstorm was summoned and was made a member of the Saethwr Fyrd. He was presented with the scroll attesting to his elevation to this order which had been read in the Royal Court December eighth in the Barony of Forgotten Seas. Their Excellencies presented to him a cord in recognition of his Victory in Competition. Lady Searlaith nic Uilliam O'Ceallaigh was summoned and announced the registration of the Names and Devices of Lord Leonardo il Calamara and Lady Marie Chantal Delaire. Lord Leonardo and Lady Marie were summoned and when asked permission to display their devices on the Vatavian Roll of Arms, gave it and revealed them to the populace.

Lords Rinaldo il Bianco, Magnus O'Carr, Sir Tedrick von Wolfschatten and Thorgrim Hrothgarsson were summoned and were presented with golden bells in recognition of their victories in the Tournays held that day. Milord Eric was summoned and presented with two golden bells in recognition of his overall victory. Ladies Kasimira Verena D'Arcy and Fiadnaita were summoned. Lady Kasimira was presented with Dillweed Vinegar and Lady Fiadnaita with Anise and Arrowroot for their victories in the Dessert Competition.

Milords Thorgrim Hrothgarsson and Grim Wulfhereson and Lady Ceithlenn nic Ruaidhri were summoned and Milords were presented with Cords of Citizenship in recognition of their support of the Society by paid National membership. Lady Ceithlenn was given a Cord of Citizenship to replace the one she had generously given to a new member during an earlier Court.

Those citizens of Vatavia who had worked at Valor XI and who had not been at the Fall Champions Tourney were summoned.

Cords or leaves in recognition of their Acts of Dedication were given to Demetrius il Condottierri, Eckerich vor Deutschland, Ianni the Lost, Gwendolynn Morna O'Shaughnessey, Searlaith nic Uilliam O'Ceallaigh, Eoin Scott na Daingiche, James Corteville, Aengus MacCleod, Courtney and Marin.



Thorgrim Hrothgarsson was summoned and announced the schedule for the meetings of the Chainmail Guild. Their Excellencies summoned the members of the Vojak, and with their concurrence, summoned Smoot and Leonardo il Calamara and made them members of the Order. Milords Leonardo il Calamara and James Corteville were summoned and made members of the Order of the Golden Heart in recognition of their continued exceptional service to Vatavia.

Her Excellency, the Baroness, announced that the Spring RUSH will be held in Vatavia with Lady Ceithlenn as the Autocrat, and that planning for the Kansas Newman Renaissance Faire has begun with Lady Ala of Featherstone as our Autocrat. His Excellency, the Baron, announced that rules for the River Festival Raft Race will soon be available and that plans to enter a Viking Dragon Raft are ongoing.

There being no further business before this Court, it was declared closed by Lady Annys at about ten minutes past the hour of eight.

Humbly I remain, in service to Vatavia, Calontir and the Dream,

Done by my hand this thirtieth day of December, in the year AS XXV (1990) while sitting at Kettering.



Medieval Trivia by Lord Demetrius

The term Illuminated was used to describe some decorated leaves (pages) in medieval books. Why was the term illuminated used?

According to one of the librarians of the University of Kansas' medieval collection, illumination refers to the effect of flickering candlelight on the gold metal used in illuminated books. It appears as though the book, itself, is giving off light. Technically, according to this librarian, the term illuminated should be restricted only to those books (scrolls, etc) in which gold metal is used as part of the decoration.



The Crusade

As I watch the men and young ones depart once again on the Crusade to the Holy Lands. I lament once again the ravages of war. The armor is packed the ships are loaded, I shed a river of tears as my beloved leaves. I can hear the sound of wars past; swords clash and many, too many die. My heart aches for all of us who will mourn the rest of our lives the mistakes of wars come and gone. The loneliness, the helplessness we at home must once more endure. As wave after wave of our loved ones depart. We must once again fight a Holy War, a war of good against evil. With our armament strong we will march again into hell and back. As the arrows zing, the swords clash as drums beat in the distance. The sands are stained red with blood again as the dust settles it is hard to tell who wins or looses. The Crusades once more a fight till the ends of time.

"May the Lord Bless and watch over all our warriors who are now at war. May he keep them save and bring them home again to the peoples who love and miss them." A comment of our times wiether it be for now or 600 years ago.

Lady Gwendolynn Morna O'Shaughnessey



For many people just starting out in the SCA, research seems to be a very formidable task. Let me offer a few suggestions to make it a bit easier.

Both Wichita Public Library and Wichita State University have thousands (you read that word correctly) of books dealing with some aspect of medieval life, including history, philosophy, culture, literature, cooking, armor, clothing and on and on.

If you go to Wichita State University (WSU), you can receive a special borrowers card. Cost (as of June, 1990) was \$5.00. It must be renewed every semester, but renewals cost nothing. You do not need to be a student! If you stop at the WSU 'police' station, they will give you a parking permit which costs nothing and allows you to park in any student location.

Entering the library, on your right and 75 feet from the entrance is the most critical part of the library - the reference desk. These people will show you how to operate LUIS. LUIS is a set of computers which allow you to search what is available within the WSU library. You can search by author or title, or if you are just starting out, you can also search by topic area. The wonderful folks at the resource desk will also show you how to use the computer which accesses all the holdings in Kansas and how to fill out an interlibrary loan request for those books that WSU doesn't have.

In the reference section you can also find references to primary sources (documents, literary works or physical objects originating in the time period under study). Let me give you a few examples:

- Z6517 Farrar, Clarissa and Austin P. Evans Bibliography of English Translations from Medieval Sources. New York: Columbia University Press, 1948.
.F3 1948
- Z6203 Boyce, Gray C. Literature of Medieval History, 1930-1975. Millwood, NY: Kraus International Publications, 1981.
.P25 1980
- per PN661 Speculum Volume 1, Jan, 1926 to current (Recent years carry an annual bibliography of translation projects, but only search for those which are recorded as complete).
.S6
- DA26 English Historical Documents. New York: Oxford University press, 1953
.E55 (multi-volume collection of translated documents)

Most of what you'll find in WSU (and any other library) will be secondary sources (works written by someone after the time period in an attempt to understand or explain some aspect of that period). In these secondary sources you may find someone has done a lot of work for you by summarizing a great deal of information from many sources. One caution, when someone selects and summarizes, he is choosing what to include, what to leave out and what to emphasize. Those might not be the same things you would choose if you were doing it. Some examples:

- D115 Fines, John. Who's who in the Middle Ages. London: Anthony Blond, Ltd., 1970.
.F5
- D114 Strayer, Joseph R. (ed) Dictionary of the Middle Ages. New York: Scribner's, 1982.
.Dr

For those of you with aspirations to taste and refinement I suggest you look at books in the DF/552 area.

For more help, return to the reference desk. If you are lucky, you can find someone who has some similar interests or who is interested enough to give you a little extra help. I found someone, who unfortunately has left WSU, who gave me some leads which have allowed me to contact history profs at other universities for help.

Good luck!

In Service,

DEMETRIUS



Know what you want to do. What you want to do determines the type and size of site you'll have to find. If you want a standard tourney, you need a limited amount of outdoor or indoor space. A hunt or a war requires very large amounts of outdoor space. A feast requires as well as a place for people to eat.

I wanted to put on a cooking symposium. I had an edge since Countess Elizabeth had done the same thing a year earlier. She was also gracious enough to loan me her notes. What I needed was indoor site at which two (sets of) People could prepare food at the same time. My major problem was finding a site which I thought I could afford (I expected 20 to 40 people and wanted very little money to go for site-I wanted to be able to spend it on food). Public schools, colleges, etc. had the facilities, but there charges were too high. Public recreation facilities did not have two kitchens. No one in the SCA was living in an apartment complex with a place to hold parties that had two kitchens. I finally found what I thought I could use at the place I worked (the Institute of Logopedics). Two room areas could provide lecture and cooking space, but you had to go outside to get from one to the other. The Institute will rent to persons who work for them.

Once I had the site I could ask people to teach. I knew several I wanted and received suggestions regarding others (when in doubt ask someone who has done something similar). I had to ask the teachers what they needed and what I would need to provide. I should have started a list from day one, but did fairly quickly. Things such as extra pens/pencils, signup sheets, a box to keep money in, a box for receipts, paper towels, lists of courses and teachers, copies of recipes, and all the other cleanup materials. I also needed some additional cooking equipment and I simply asked. By the time the very helpful populace of Vtavia was done, I actually had more than I needed. I was also helped by the willingness of the teachers to bring the things they needed. If you plan a fighting event, you may need a listmistress, table and some sort of scoring sheets, as well as at least one marshal, list ropes and herald.

I decided that what was cooked during the teaching sessions would form the components for the feast that evening. My cost could be somewhat larger for the symposium since everyone who came would also eat dinner. Budgeting is best done by asking for help. My costs were fairly simple. I had to cover the costs of the food being brought by the teachers and what I would bring, plus site costs. I computed how many people (at \$X per head) would have to come for me to break even. Since I assumed I would probably have about the same number as the previous year (35), I knew I could cover cost and actually make a few dollars if I sold lunch to cover the costs of all the food I had to buy. (The event actually made about \$25.00, but for local events making money is not required.)

I found that there were all sorts of details I had forgotten: setting up tables, making sure there was someone to take money since I had other things to do, and getting a cleanup crew. Again, I lucked out as there were a number of people who immediately stepped in to help do many things I hadn't arranged prior to the event.

As the autocrat, you have to make a lot of minor decisions which means that you don't spend alot of time "just enjoying" the event. On the other hand, I found that the more time I spent planning, the less I had to do at the time. The more I shared out the tasks, the less I and everyone else had to do. I won't claim that being an autocrat was the most fun I have ever had. On the other hand, it was a very interesting experience and one I will probably repeat.

Lord Demetrius



A Byzantine Cookbook
The First Chapter (LATE)

Period desserts are much more varied than what you obtain at feast might have you believe. The following is a rice-honey-nuts dish which doesn't sound one half as good as it tastes.

Kabule (also called Asida)

From A Bagdad Cookery-book, written in 1226 AD. In A Collection of Medieval and Renaissance Cookbooks, compiled by Duke Cariadoc of the Bow and Duchess Diana Alena, Fourth Edition, 1987 (Vol. 1).

Toast three ratls of white flour and remove. Then set the dish over the fire with three uqiya of sesame-oil and a quarter of an uqiya od whole cumin. When boiling and fragrant, pour in about two ratls of water and boil for an hour. Now add an uqiya of washed rice: when boiling and the rice is cooked, sprinkle in the flour, stirring all the time with a poker. When the flour is finished, pout in about a uqiya of sesame-oil, little by little. When set and thoroughly cooked and fragrant, remove from the fire. Grease the vessels with sesame-oil, and ladle out, covering with boiled sesame-oil, dine ground walnuts and pistachios, and sesame, peeled and roasted. Then add syrup or honey, and serve. If desired, instead of sesame-oil, butter may be used as a dressing.

Adapted Versior

2 cups water
1 2/3 tsp whole cumin seed
2 oz pkg walnuts
1 cup rice
3/4 cup flour

4 tsp sesame seed
2 oz pkg pistachios
1 cup honey (to taste)
3/4 cup seame oil (unflavored:
Warning do not use the
flavored variety, use vegetable
oil instead)

Toast the flour by spreading it thinly on a cookie sheet and putting it in the oven at 200* for about 20-25 minutes. Stir flour after ten minutes abnd frequently thereafter. (Toasting can also be done on the stove top in a frying pan on low heat with constant stiring) Remove when most of flour is a very light tan. Set flour aside.

Toast sesame seed by placing it in a flat pan and putting it in a toaster oven on top brown. Watch it carefully, it burns fast. As soon as browning is seen, stir seeds. Heat until over half of seeds are light brown (some will be darker at this point). I stop at this point to avoid burned seeds. Set seeds aside.

Put 1/4 cup sesame oil and cumin seed into a pan with a closed lid. Heat (on very low heat) for at least 30 minutes. Add water and heat (I allow it to simmer for another 30 minutes, but I don't know that that is needed) to a boil. Add rice. Cover and cook (approx 20 minutes at low heat). When rice is done, add flour, a small amount at a time stirring the rice as you do so. When the flour has been added, the mixture will be stiff. Add 2-3 tablespoons of sesame oil and mix.

Put small quantities (1/2 to 3/4 cup) in small bowls. It looks better if bowls are broader than they are high. Pour a talespoon or so of oil in the center so it covers the top of the rice. Pour about 1/8 of a cup of honey over the top and around the edges of the rice (it should surround the rice like a halo). Sprinkle a combination of the three nuts over the top. Serve.

I have made the rice ahead of time, reheated it and then added the honey and nuts. There is a loss in the aroma and reheated rice tastes like reheated rice; however, I think that most people would still find the dish more than acceptable.

Like most Arabic dishes Kabula was eaten with the hands. This makes the dish a very messy one and preparations should be made accordingly.



Vatavian Calendar :February thru April

Feb. 7 Officers Meeting
Feb. 11- WSU Demo- Contact LD. Galen
Feb. 9- Caloncon--Carsby

April 13- RUSH in Vatavia
April 20--Vatavia-Triatian Conflict--Spinning Vinde
April 23-Shakespeare's Birthday Party
April 26-28- Kansas Newman Ren Faire- The theme Robin Hood



Announcements:

The Property Master requests the return of all Baronial property for the purpose of inventory.

Luchienik shoot is tentively to take place in June, all missile weapons, not just archery.

Calligraphy and illumination contact Lady Raven for more information at 529-2281.

Dance Practice: Ly. Saerlaith 687-3241.

Costuming, Needle workers etc: Contact Ly. Saerlaith.

The Minister of Sciences can be reached at 688-1299.

The Seneschal can be reached 942-1045.

The SCA information line 522-7373.

Fighter Practice /Archery Practice to be held at Kansas Newman from 12 to when ever weather permitting.

February 15th is the deadline for the March Dragonflyre.

Bardic-February 24th-4:00pm at Aelfric's the theme Love and Romance.



Baron-Gawayne ap Tristan (Wayne Taylor)-----	524-0917
Baroness-Brialen ierch Vikingr (Debbie Taylor)-----	524-0917
Seneschal-Lawrence Taillefer the Leech (Larry Bumgardner)-----	942-1045
Pursuivant-Annys de Vernum of Kettering (Marie Watson)-----	755-1917
Treasurer-Lelia ni Lochtna O Cathail (Lana Smith)-----	838-0037
MOA-Searlaith nic Villiam O'Ceallaigh (Devery Corteville)-----	687-3241
MOS-Thorgrim (Richard Cathey)-----	688-1299
Knight Marshall-Rinaldo il Bianco Del Lindsly-----	529-2281
Archer Marshall-Lord Steven Egan O'Bannon (Steven Burris)-----	733-1936
Chronicler-Lady Gwendolynn O'Shaughnessey (Lynne Batiz)-----	788-4698
Luchistnik-Balroc (Steven Stuhleatz)-----	524-4834
Champion-Thorgrim (Richard Cathey)-----	688-1299
Historian-Lord Friar Thomas Bacon (David Moreno)-----	685-1182
MDC-Countess Hywala Frech Ferch Vyddel (Lisa Cooper)-----	685-3152
Bardic Champion-Aelfric Fritharicsson (Allen Leddon)-----	267-5913
Arts and Sciences Champion-Demetruis il Condottierro (Henry Marks)-----	777-0770
Chatelevn-Galen MacDonald (Mark Donaldson)-----	264-4530

