



Dragonflyre
January A.S.XXVI
1992

Barony of Valavia
c/o Wendy Donaldson
821 N. Lulu
P.O. Box 67124
Wichita, Kansas 67124

MARY and DEAN DAY
Ends 92/06
1093 McCormick
Wichita, KS 67213



The Dragonflyre is a monthly newsletter for the subscribers within the Barony of Valavia and others by subscriptions for \$11.00 per year. Submissions, Art, articles, poetry, letters, etc. are gladly accepted but subject to the approval by the local Baronsage to curtail any reburials or items which seem in bad taste. Submissions should be on white paper, black ink for art. Letters and articles are greatly appreciated and need not be typed.

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From the Chronicler

Unto the Baronage and Populace of Valavia comes greetings from Lady Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon.

I would like to encourage everyone to submit article, artwork, etc. Remember, art submissions do not necessarily have to be cover art.

Dragonflyre will begin running a page for its younger readers in February. Please encourage your children to contribute. Kids have a way of making things relevant where we adults sometimes cannot. Their page will have a lot more meaning if they do it themselves.

As you may have noticed, Dragonflyre has expanded by four pages. With officer reports and educational needs, the additional piece of paper was necessary. This does not increase the postage, but does raise the copying costs some.

Some interesting things at Caloncon (despite the lovely weather). There are some changes in the Society wide policies that affect how I as your Chronicler do things. The Populace should be aware of the following:

1. If you ever have, are in the process of doing, or submit anything to the Dragonflyre or Mews or similar publication, then your work may be used by any other group in the Knowne World as long as the User sends a note to your Editor/Chronicler stating what work from what month's publication is being used and when. If you do not wish to release your work, past, present, and future, then I will get you a form that states you have exclusive rights to your published work. Note: This is a SCA, not Kingdom or Baronial, policy.

2. Some of you may know that only Kingdom and up periodicals can have advertising. However, if you John the Fighter make the best gorgets to be found in the Knowne World, then you may sponsor a page in your local newsletter for a fee which will be determined at the January Officers' meeting. At the bottom of the sponsored page, the editor will state you sponsored that page and you make super gorgets.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about these or any other Dragonflyre policies.

Eleanor

Editorials

"Events That Are Hard to Find and Not Well Marked"

I set out in high spirits, full garb, and a car packed to capacity. I waved good-bye to the family and was off to Brideskeep for the event I eagerly anticipated. I returned a little over three hours later distraught and frustrated beyond comprehension. I covered all known land near the mapped site. If anyone had been observing the frantic antics, it must have been at least amusing, perhaps puzzling. I did not have with me any phone numbers and could not contact anyone. I was emotionally devastated and in truth have yet to recover. I missed the whole event.

There was only one SCA sign and that was right on the highway and no more.

By Lady Kasimira Verena D'arcy

YEA! I made it to my first Kris Kinder, the shopping event of the SCA year. My Lord husband and I both purchased items for ourselves after thoroughly perusing the merchants' numerous and fine wares. Later that evening it was off to an excellent feast with both old friends and new acquaintances.

I always look forward to the entertainment and presentations to the Crown. It reminds me how privileged I am to belong to an organization with so many talented people who share their gifts with the individuals around them. Conversations ceased as a tall, fair lad told a tale and as a couple presented a sweet, and apparently favorite, delicacy to Her Majesty. But when a fair young maiden of approximately twelve stood to sing, and, later, when she and her brother gave the Crown gifts made by their own small hands, many Good Gentles continued to talk. Not in soft tones so that those who wished to hear could, but in normal voices. I heard one woman who was two tables away while I strained to catch the heartfelt words of these talented, dedicated young individuals.

We are an organization that recreates the Middle Ages as it should of been. The courtesy and honor we extend to one another as adults should be extended to the children as well. If we are to bring the concept of chivalry to the Current Middle Ages then we must lead by example by treating the Society's children with the same respect we use amongst ourselves so that the values we treasure and embody will continue throughout our generations.

In service to The Dream and Calontir,

Ly. Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon

Thank You

I would just like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to those individuals who gave two nights of the hectic holiday season to do a demo: Baroness Brialen, HL Lawrence, Ld. Leonardo, HL Marie, Ly. Ala, Ld. Sean, Ld. Aindries, Ly. Katriona, Ly. Phillipa, and Ly. Saerlaith. We were a smash, and the people in charge are hoping we will do this again next year. I'm looking forward to expanding our role and our relationship with WSU and its Student Activities Council so that it will continue to profit all.

In service,

Eleanor

What are the Baronial Awards and What are They Given For?

As answered by Baron Sir Tedrick in the December 1990 Dragonflyre.

Lower Tier Awards

Note: Any member of the populace may recommend another for the following awards by petitioning the Baronage. The baronage will usually try to corroborate before recognizing the individual.

Citizen of Vatavia: Azure (Blue) cord. Shows that an individual is a paid member of the SCA. The individual should report paid status to the Seneschal since paid membership is part of that office's monthly report.

Victory in Competition: Gules (red) cord. Recognizes any victory in any competition at a kingdom level event. Leaves on cord show additional victories.

Act of Dedication: Argent (white) cord. Recognizes an effort of accomplishment above what is expected of the populace as a whole.

Achievement in the Arts: Argent and Azure (Blue and White). Recognition of effort and achievement in some art form. Can be for an individual work of art or for effort in a particular field. Can be given repeatedly for work in the same art, but not the same work or piece. Leaves show additional recognition.

Achievement in the Sciences: Gules and Or (Red and Gold). As in Achievement the Arts only for sciences.

Vojack: (aka Baronial Guard): Azure and Or (Blue and Gold). Recognizes chivalrous conduct on the field as well as a significant number of weapon authorizations accomplished -- usually at least four. No additional leaves.

Barony, as well as a certain level of skill with bow or crossbow. No additional leaves. *Veslar (aka Baronial Archer Guard) (Red and white) Gules + Argent. Recognizes chivalrous conduct on the field as.*

Upper Tier Awards

Note: except for the Golden Heart, the Baronage will try to consult with the members of a particular order before recognizing an individual for the following awards. In the case of the Golden Heart, the Baronage will usually confer with the Seneschal.

Golden Heart of Vataria: Recognition of consist service and effort for the Barony.

Straz (aka Captains of the Baronial Guard): Recognition of impressive chivalry on the field, having most if not all fighter authorizations, and showing marshal leadership within the barony.

Zemen Strav (aka Captains of the Archer Guard): Recognition of a higher consistent skill level, activity in kingdom archery competitions, as well as leadership in the area of archery.

Order of the Radiant Lioness: Recognizes consistent high quality work in a particular fields of the arts and sciences, as well as teaching in these fields. The recipient receives illuminated and calligraphied scroll.

Order of the Vatarian Sword of Valor: Consist of all those who have won the Tournament of Valor. Winner gets a knife and a medallion.

Order of the Star of Vataria: Recognizes activity outside of the Barony (as well as inside) which brings renown and pride to the Barony. The recipient is usually known around the kingdom -- and maybe the Knowne World -- as someone from Vataria who's leadership and/or abilities are admired. The recipient might be thought of as the ideal SCA person.

How to Write Documentation (Part One of Three concerning documentation.)

By Ly. Phillipa Lloyd de Tarifa

1. Write down everything you did in making your item.
Yes, everything. You may not use it later, but write it down - at least once. See below for why.
2. Assume the judges know nothing.
A judge told me this when telling me what to put in my documentation. This way you include everything. And, after all, they don't know what you know until you tell them.
3. Write down all the reasonings, deductions, and assumptions you made in creating your item, and how you got to those conclusions.
This is how the judges find out what you know and how you thought out your project.
4. If using modern materiels or techniques, include such information as why you did so.
Did you sand your 13th century chest with a palm sander instead of by hand? Why? Tell the judges.
5. How basic did you get in you re-creation? Did you grow the flax, spin, and weave the linen your dress is made from? Tell the judges; it makes a difference.
They are much more impressed by your work and dedication if you create the materials or tools to make your item. They may also think you're foolish, but they are impressed.
6. If the item you have made has some purpose, include that purpose.
Why did you make it? That too has a place in documentation. Some items may need this explanation for the judges to find out what they are for. Don't assume the judges know already. Tell them.
7. Include every publication you used and make a bibliography from them.
Judges can tell how thorough you are by your bibliography.

8. Make photocopies of originals used as basis of re-creation if applicable.

Did you use the shape of one style of helm with the nasal of another? Make photocopies of pictures of those helms to show the judges.

A Byzantine Cookbook

By Ld. Demetrius il Condotteirro

It is often very difficult to know what to bring to drink to a medieval feast. Yes, beer and wine were common in period. For those sites at which alcohol is permitted, they are appropriate, but what about sites that don't permit alcohol and what about some of our friends who don't drink alcohol? For those and similar occasions, let me offer one very simple Arabic drink and one, more complex, ancient Roman drink.

Sekanjabin

The original recipe is from Traduccion Espanola de un Manuscrito Anonimo del Siglo XIII Sobre La Concina Hispano-Magribi. Translated from Arabic into Spanish by Ambroso Huici Miranda, and from Spanish to English by David Friedman. Reproduced in Duke Cariadoc and Duchess Elizabeth's A Miscellany. Volume 3 of their Medieval cookbook series.

Syrup of "Sekanjabin" Simple: Take a pound of strong vinegar and add it to two pounds of sugar, and boil it until it forms a syrup. Drink of it one ounce with three of hot water when fasting:(medical comments) make it with six ounces of acid vinegar to one pound of honey and it is admirable... and of sugar one pound; boil it until it takes the form of a syrup (more medical comments).

As Cariadoc notes, no mint is mentioned and the recipe appears to be two recipes with the first having medicinal uses. Cariadoc adapted his recipe from a modern text (A Book of Middle Eastern Food).

Modern Version

4 cups of sugar
1 cup of Vinegar
2.5 cups of water

Large handful of fresh mint.
(Dried mint, use less, but flavor is not the same)

Dissolve the sugar in hot water. When it has come to a full boil, add vinegar. Reduce heat, simmer for 30 minutes. Add mint, remove from heat. In this state (syrup) it will keep as a concentrate for months. To serve, dilute 10:1, you may wish to dilute somewhat less if you are adding ice.

If you use flavored vinegars, you will produce a very slightly different taste. If have tried white vinegar, cider vinegar, and pear vinegar. Each is just a bit different, but all produce a very pleasant drink.

Vin Cue

According to Mistress Gwyneth Espicier, Vin Cue was a drink which dated back to Roman times. The information was provided at the Second Annual Cooking Symposium held in Vatiaia in June, 1990.

Unfermented grape juice was boiled and skimmed for 15 minutes, then poured into pans and left to stand 24 hours. Then it was boiled again and reduced by half.

I reconstituted frozen Welch's Grape juice (Welches claims it has no additives) according to directions. I boiled and skimmed until froth stopped coming to the top (approx. 20 minutes). I then left it out for 24 hours (covered - I have cats). I boiled it until I had reduced it by slightly over half. I had almost a syrup, thick and very sweet.

The second attempt started with the purchase of a peck of white grapes (consigned to the "for rapid sale" shelf). The grapes were crushed by hand and the juice filtered through cheesecloth. I boiled and skimmed the juice until the froth stopped coming to the top (about 15 minutes), then I left it to stand for 24 hours in a covered pan. It was boiled down to reduce it by half. Again, I had almost a syrup, thick and sweet, but from my point of view a much livelier taste.

Since the final product seemed to be a syrup, Gwyneth suggested that it might simply store better that way and be served by being diluted with water, as wine usually was in Rome. Other fruit and herb/vinegar/honey drinks, not necessarily Roman, were made into syrups, diluted with water when served. A dilution of 2:1 or 3:1 seems to return you to a "grape juice-type" product. A dilution of 5:1 or 8:1 produces a grape-ade.

In serving the versions of vin cue, I have almost invariably found the hand squeezed variety is preferred, but there seems to be a variety of opinions regarding the amount of dilution preferred. The two major groups either like it undiluted or diluted with 4 to 6 units of water per unit of vin cue.

THE STAND OF SAMFORDS BRIDGE
BY BJORN STORSEN

AS HE STOOD ALONE, ON THE SAXONS BRIDGE OF WOOD AND STONE, HIS DUTY HE KNEW WAS TO CLEAVE SAXON FLESH AND BREAK THEIR BONES.

HE PRAYED TO ODIN, THOR, BALDER, AND FREYA, THAT THIS WOULD BE HIS FINEST DAY, AND MANY A SAXON HE WOULD SLAY, UPON HIS MORTAL LIVES LAST DAY.. AND THAT HIS KIT AND KIN WOULD ESCAPE HARM AND DEFEAT, AND OTHER BATTLES THEY WOULD WIN.

HOME, FAMILY, FRIENDS, HAUNTS HIS MIND, AS HE KNOWS FOR THEM HE NOW FIGHTS, HE FORGETS ALL PETTY SLIGHTS.

AS HE SEES THE DUST OF SAXON STEEDS, HE HAS A GREAT DESIRE FOR A HORN OF GOOD NORSE MEAD, AND A GREAT BANQUET TO FEED.

WITH VICTORY IN THEIR EYES THEY THINK ONE MORE NORSE TO DIE, WITH THOUGHTS OF CHIVALRY AND GLORY, RACING THROUGH THEIR MINDS, A LONE SAXON KNIGHT APPROACHES, AND SWIFTLY KNOWS DEATH AS THE VIKING WAR AXE CLEAVES HIS FLESH.

TWO MORE EAGER SOULS APPROACH TO DO BATTLE WITH THE NORSE GIANT, ON THEIR BRIDGE OF WOOD AND STONE, BUT AFTER THE FIGHT, HE ALIVE IS LEFT ALONE, AND THEY DEAD AND COLD AS STONE.

A FIGHT OF MANY HOURS, HIS BONES BATTLE WEARY, HE STANDS ALONE, A LONE KNIGHT APPROACHES THROUGH THE DIN, AND OFFERS MONEY, LIFE, AND SAYS THIS BATTLE YOU CANNOT WIN, AND TO SURRENDER WAS NOT A SIN.

HE THINKS FOR A MOMENT OF WHAT HAS BEEN OFFERED, AND WHAT HE WOULD PREFER, BUT THE THOUGHT OF KIT AND KIN, SINKS DEEPER IN HE KNOWS TO BETRAY THEM NOW WOULD BE HIS LIFE'S GREATEST SIN. HE SAYS NAY, FOR EVERY PASSING MINUTE IN BLOOD YOU PAY, AND AS MY LIFE'S END GROWS NEAR, MY KIT AND KIN HAVE LESS AND LESS OF YOUR MEN TO FEAR.

WITH DECEPTION AND STEALTH, WHILE OFFERING LIFE AND WEALTH, ARCHERS GO BENEATH THE BRIDGE OF WOOD AND STONE, AND THEIR ARROWS FLY, HE FEELS ARROWS PIERCE HIS FLESH, AND HE KNOWS THIS IS THE END OF HIS LIFE'S QUEST, AND THAT HE DID HIS BEST.

HE THANKS ODIN, THOR, BALDER, AND FRAY, FOR THIS HIS FINEST DAY, AS HE DIES, AND HEARS THE VALKERIES CRY, HE KNOWS THAT IN VAIN HE DID NOT DIE.

Trivia

By HL Marie Delaire Chantel

The Italian politics of the Middle Ages were subject to the constant issue of the supremacy of the papacy versus the Holy Roman Empire, which, in theory, included Italy. The northern cities of Italy defeated Frederick Barbarossa who conceded autonomy to them in the Peace of Constance in 1183.

Even into the 1300's, there existed a political schism between Guelph - Papal supporters - and Ghibelline - imperial supporters; that is for the Italians. The Holy See and Holy Empire had reached an understanding, Guelph and Ghibelline had not. Each developed its own culture and manners, even as to which side to wear a feather on a cap.

Can you tell Guelph from Ghibelline?

- | A--Guelph/Papal | B-Ghibelline/Imperial |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Red Rose | _____ |
| 2. White Rose | _____ |
| 3. Cut Fruit Horizontally | _____ |
| 4. Cut fruit Vertically | _____ |
| 5. Smooth goblets | _____ |
| 6. Decorated goblets | _____ |
| 7. Florence | _____ |
| 8. Seina | _____ |
| 9. Pisa | _____ |

Answers in next month's Dragonflyre

Vatavian Costuming Workshop

January 4, 1992
10 A.M. to 5 P.M. (?)
1739 S. Water

This workshop is being held for the purpose of drafting and fitting patterns for late period garb (16th century) bodices and doublets. You will need to bring the following items:

- A sheet of paper, 30 by 36
- A yardstick with a straight edge
- One yard of scrap fabric or an old sheet
- A tape measure
- Scissors
- Straight pins
- A felt-tip pen, or fabric marking pen, color to contrast with your scrap fabric
- A protractor, draughtsman triangle, or something similar with which you can draw right angles
- The undergarments you plan to wear with your new bodice or doublet

Any of the following items you can bring will be very helpful:

- A portable sewing machine
- A table to put the sewing machine on
- Electrical extension cord

If time permits and you wish to begin construction of your bodice or doublet, also bring:

- One yard of fabric for outer shell
- One yard of fabric for inner shell or lining
- One yard of heavy interfacing (NOT the fusible kind)
- Sewing thread to match the outer shell
- One yard of plastic feather boning

The method of construction to be demonstrated will produce a reversible bodice or doublet, if you wish. Fabrics woven of natural fibers, cotton, silk, or wool, are preferred. Blends of less than 50% synthetic fibers will work, but will not be comfortable to wear in a Kansas summer. If you have any question before the workshop, please call Ly. Annys at 755-1917 between 7:00pm and 10:00pm.

Announcing Yule Time in Vatavia

January 11, 1992

'Tis the season of joy and happiness and time for Yule in Vatavia. Good Gentles all, we invite you to come and take part in the festivities, including a BEAR HUNT.

Lady Kerare will conduct activities in hall decorations and candle making for the children. There will also be a Chinese gift exchange for all (uni-sex gifts, \$5.00 maximum limit).

The Arts and Sciences theme will be Yule in any medium. Entries must be received by noon. A sumptuous feast, limited to 100 people, made by Lady Sibeal Oh' Ogain, Bardic Circles, and Dance will be the featured events of the evening.

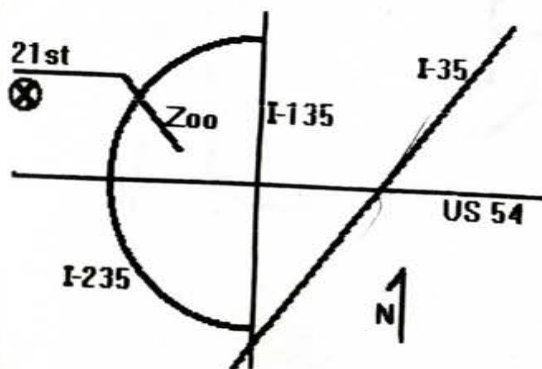
This is a one day event. Site opens at 10:00a.m. and armour inspection begins at 11:00a.m. 12:00 noon the fighting will begin with feast beginning approximately at 6:00p.m. The site closes at 10:00p.m. Crash space is limited, so please call ahead to insure yourself a warm hearth by which to pass the night.

Site: Sedgwick County Park
5600 Zoo Blvd.
Wichita, KS
(Next to Sedgwick County Zoo, North of 235)

Site Fees: \$3.00 for members, \$4.00 for non-members, feast is \$5.00.

Autocrat: Lady Alis Marie Delaney
Dixie Gosser
505 W.27 S. Apt. 102
Wichita, KS 67217
(316) 529-2080

Site is discreetly wet. No original containers, take home the empties!



Take your best route to the Zoo Blvd exit on I-235, then go north-west. The Site is just west of the Wichita Zoo.

Scottish

Baceloo



P
A



Calendar & Announcements

January 4 - Costuming. See flyer

January 5 - Officers' mtg. Brialen's church at 4:30

January 5 - Dance at Pawnee Plaza Mall, 12:00 - 4:00

January 6 - " " " 7:00 - 9:00

January 8 - " " " 7:00 - 9:00

January 11 - Yule Time in Vatavia. See flyer

Fighter practice is every Sunday beginning at 1:00 at Kansas-Newman when the weather is good and there has not been a major event that weekend. If you are interested in Wednesday fighter practices, contact Baron Sir Tedrick at least by that Tuesday night.

Chainmail, Tuesday night's at Thorgrim's. Be there. 7:00.

The birth announcement for Moraigh and Aleta's baby should have read Michaella, not MaCulley as the child's name. The Dragonfly apologizes for any trouble this may have caused.

Congratulations to Lady Sibeal on her new job as Mouse Keeper. er, ahh, I mean Property Manager. Time to turn back those scores.

Bardic is on hold until a site can be found.

BUSH in February. Contact Elanor by January Officers' if you wish to teach a class.

Baronial Officers List

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Baron - Gwayne ap Tristram | |
| Wayne Taylor | 524-0917 |
| Baroness - Brialen Ullsdotter Vikingr | |
| Debbie Taylor | 524-0917 |
| Seneschal - Lawrence Taillefer the Leech | |
| Larry Bumgardner | 942-1045 |
| Pursuivant - Saerlaith nic Uilliam O'Ceallaigh | |
| Devery Corteville | 687-3241 |
| Treasurer - Lelia ni Lochtna O'Cathail | |
| Lana Smith | 838-2858 |
| Minister of Arts - Galen MacDonald (acting) | |
| Mark Donaldson | 672-76301 |
| Minister of Sciences - Thorgrim of Hammerstorm | |
| Richard Cathey | 687-6471 |
| Knights Marshall - Rinaldo il Bianco | |
| Del Lindsley | 684-0782 |
| Archer Marshall - Stephan Egan O'Bannon | |
| Steven Burris | 733-1936 |
| Chronicler - Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon | |
| Wendy Donaldson | 672-7630 |
| Luchistnik - Dietrich Eisenhart | |
| Jim Morrison | 682-7320 |
| Champion - Rinaldo il Bianco | |
| Del Lindsley | 684-0782 |
| Historian - Friar Thomas Bacon | |
| David Moreno | 685-1182 |
| Minister of Children - Kerare.....Mont de Jorz | |
| Carolyn Haddaway | 686-6893 |
| Bardic Champion - Saerlaith nic Uilliam O' Ceallaigh | |
| Devery Corteville | 687-3241 |
| Arts & Sciences Champion - Kerare.....Mont de Jorz | |
| Carolyn Haddaway | 686-6893 |
| Castellan - Sean Angus MacDuinnchinn | |
| Chris Brown | 524-0919 |