

The November cover is by Ossen MacRuadhri The Dragonflyre logo from Her Her Ladyship Ladyship Marie

My thanks to Lord Dirik and Lady Marena as usual.

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CALENDAR

DANCE - Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m. Contact Eliane @ 265-2507 for the location

FIGHTER PRACTICE - South Linwood Park at 12:00

Dec. 4 - Officer's meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Brialen's church

Dec. 14 - A&S Populace Meeting. Check the Serf line for details.

Dec. 20 - Pigdown Populace Meeting, see flyer for details.

TIDBITS

CLOTHIER'S GUILD

We are reforming and are seeking your support. We are thinking of reincarinating in November. If you have a portable sewing machine or simply a ready needle, please contact Ly. Odindisa at 269-9354

Middle Eastern dance class will be starting up again in November. call 686-6893 for more information.

THANKS to everyone who participated in demos for the month of October. Your effort is much appreciated. Ly Odindisa the Grim

For information on the Company of Travelers, an informal group in Calontir dedicated to the sharing of how our personas see the World, contact Efentes Demetrios Miothophoros

OFFICERS' MEETING OCTOBER 2,1995

18 members attended: 12 officers/deputies/champions, 6 members of the populace

Financial matters were covered first. Final figures and bills for the Valor event were covered. Budgeting for the year was covered in general and tithing specifically. Budget policy was explained. Various methods for presentation of the tithe were considered.

Officers delivered reports on the status for their areas. Two heraldic items have been sent on to Kingdom; seven have been forwarded to national. Contact Leonhard for information. The Property Master is updating the inventory. He will be contacting individuals for maintenance / repairs of some items. As always the Chronicler would appreciate material for the Dragon flyre. The persona stories and first event I ever attended articles were appreciated. The Chatelaine told of up coming demonstrations. No inquiry on the Madrigal dinner has been received as of yet. The MOS announced upcoming arts and sciences related events : a judges' workshop January 6th, and the Queen's Prize Tourney January 13th. Thursday, October 12th there will be a second Baronial monthly meeting devoted to the subject of pattern making, to be held at the Boston Recreation Center.

The possibility of using the gyms at the city parks for a winter fighting site was discussed. Preliminary information on this was presented. For now, fighter practice will be moved to south Linwood Park, noon, to take advantage of grassier, non-acorn covered areas, closer shelter, and closer personal facilities.

The Seneschal reported that three officer positions are currently open: MOC, MOA, and Archer Marshall. There will be no official archery practice, but practicing privately can still occur. There was some discussion as to whether to continue the offices of MOA and MOS separately. Contact Eckerich if you are interested in any of these positions. He has event fliers for the Crystal Ball and Black Squirrel, a Halloween alternative night, for those interested.

A proposal for a Kingdom event in the spring was presented. Details of the proposal and scheduling possibilities were covered. Timing and manpower to host the event were a concern. Site availability and a more complete Kingdom calendar are to be obtained before a final decision is made. This led to the issue of champions. A lengthy discussion on six month or yearly championships was undertaken considering the advantages and disadvantages of each. Specific plan and costs for the January Mongol event were given. Final plans for the champions event November 4th were covered.

OFFICERS' MEETING NOVEMBER 6, 1995

20 members attended: 16 officers/deputies/champions, 4 members of the populace.

The Minister of Arts and Sciences reported that the arts and sciences populace meetings will now be on the second Thursday of the month. The plans for this months Mongol Extravaganza were presented. Scheduling for all the populace meetings was discussed. It is now possible to book rooms through the coming year. Replacement and system requirements for a new boom box for the Barony were covered. The dancers can move to the indoor site as soon as the necessary information gets to the facility's manager. Bardic will continue to hold monthly meetings. Contact the new champion, Jovan.

The treasurer reported a profit from the champion's event. The advantages and disadvantages of continuing to bank with the current financial institution were discussed. Other possibilities may be checked. Tithing was planned. Implementation of funding for items in the budget should begin.

The Chronicler has been organizing the office. Colored covers for the Dragonflyre were proposed. Printing up part of the Vatavian history is being looked at. No new items from Vatavia are currently at Kingdom level or on the Laurel letters. The status of some items is being looked into. Contact the herald, Leonhard, for details. The Chatelaine reported on the demo requests in process. A new brochure has been designed. Information on the WSU Madrigal dinner was presented. (Gracie is wanted for a repeat performance.)

Fighter practice will continue at south Linwood Park, Sunday at noon. The status of the Knights' Marshall for the group was covered. Paperwork and official practices are being continued. The new Archer Marshall is Michael van Bergen. Contact him about the practice schedule. When the weather permits, it will be outdoors.

Repair and replacement of Baronial property was presented. These are part of the budgeted items. The proposal on the use of boffer weapons is currently being edited. The Baron asked about the possible donation of a space heater to the armory.

The Mongol event is in the process of being rescheduled. (What do you expect; they're nomadic.) Contact Batu for information.Future populace meetings were covered. The December 20th general meeting will also be a pot luck pig down starting at 6pm.

The meeting adjourned.

FALL CHAMPIONS

HYMN OF THE ROYAL CALONTIR NAVY

(The tune of Beethoven's IX Symphony, "Ode to Joy") written by Haerek Hjalmarson

Ship your oars and weigh the anchor, Make sail for the high North Sea. Foes have come to rob our homeland, Berserks on a fighting spree. Never shall our hearts be dread-filled, No geld for our enemy, When we show the ensigh of the Royal Calon Navy.

Reef the main sail, man your oars, And give way on the pounding sea. Boatswain calls us now to battle, Heaving to our foes we see. Now their hearts be doomed & dread-filled, Ready ABOUT! They seek to flee, When they spy the flag-ship of the Royal Calon Navy.

Heave the grapnel, draw your swords, And lay to on the stormy sea. Valkryies shall feast on blood When we have at the enemy. We'll ne'er shirk nor seek to doubt, Aye, we'll cry for DEATH! or Victory. We're the fighting seamen of the Royal Calon Navy.

Battle's done, we'll board their longship, Take of plunder that we see. Hearth & home shall not grow cold. When vikings beg on bended knee. Homeward bound our hearts rest easy, Sing we our song and shout it free, Steadfast sailors & marines, the Royal Calon Navy.

(reprise)

Long live the King, and Long live our Queen, and Long live the Lord High Admiralty; Three cheers for the Falcon & the Royal Calon Navy!

(Cheer)

The harvest was in, and there was a nip in the air. Winter is coming but there remains one last thing to do before settling in. So on a brisk fall day on the shores of Lake Afton, the barony gathered to proclaim a new set of champions.

The day began with a heavy gray overcast looming over the landscape. As the sun ascended, the clouds dissolved leaving a bright blue sky. The wind with its biting chill made the gathering assemblage shiver.

Nevertheless, eleven fighters prepared to do battle. But two were pretenders, not eligible for the prize being fought: the Baron and Baroness. The tourney proceeded briskly and soon Milord Ducan gained the champion's torse.

Meanwhile, inside the hall, the artisans had their own kind of scrimmage. There were two prizes to contend for. The first, the tri-level was won by Lord Eirik (or was that Batu?). The second, the Arts and Science Championship itself, was won by Lady Eleanor.

Even with the prize won, the fighters were loath to put up their weapons, and many feats of prowess were done that afternoon. But even fighters weary of combat, particularly when there is food set on groaning boards. So they set aside their armour and prepared for feast.

The feast featured roast beef and salmon, and lots of it. The side dish, spiced potatoes, won the prize for most period vegetable dish. An incredible shortcake took the prize for most period dessert. There was a tray of pastries, but they did not last the afternoon. On a decorating note, the head table was graced by a pumpkin upon which the arms of Vatavia were carved. It was revealed after the feast that carved on the backside, facing the baronage, was a face of less than decorous nature.

During the feast, the populace were entertained by dual bards, vivying for the title of Zevack, or bardic champion. While many tales of bards were told, the piece most embraced by the host was the Ode to Master Harold Isenross (reproduced elsewhere, ed.). It was interesting to note who was into classical music, as various people started trying to remember the tune, though all got on quickly. Though closely contested, finally Jovan Greyhawk received the nod.

Court followed, with the winners receiving awards. Lord Barbarossa of Westumbria presented a new pole axe for the

champion of Vatavia. Remember Duncan, keep the pointy end away from the baronage. Another quest was announced. Anyone have a spare harp string.

The evening ended with a small bardic circle around the fireplace, singing songs, telling Pavel stories and other frivolous frivolities.

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SUCHELL FUR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC. (SCA)

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Greetings Artisans

I was glad to see a strong turnout at Champions. I would love to see some more. We will always have a tri-level at events held locally. Also, if you would just like to show your handiwork off or place it so others can enjoy it, this would be the place.

We will have a second meeting each month with different classes available. These begin at 7:00 p.m. at Hyde Park on the 2nd. Thursday of each month. Socializing is also strongly encouraged! If you would like to teach a class please call and talk with me.

The newest activities in the Barony are Middle-Eastern dance classes and an interest group for calligraphy. Please call for more information.

Thank you to all who let me know what you been doing this past quarter. We turned in 1/3 of the Barony for finished and "in progress" projects.

Lady Kerare MOA MOS

PIGDOWN POPULACE MEETING

The December 20th populace meeting comes at a time of celebration, good cheer and good will towards all. We in Vatavia are truly blessed to be able to share our lives with such fine friends. In order to share the holidays and celebrations with everyone, the December populace meeting will be a potluck dinner. In order to spread the good will, we will also be collecting canned goods for the needy from anyone who wants to bring them.

The Barony will be providing the meat (a pig - surprise surprise), and the populace will bring the rest. By alphabet: A-E: Bread, F-L: Dessert, M-Z: Vegetables. The dishes don't have to be period dishes, they just have to taste good!

Greetings to the Populace of Vatavia!

I have been asked several times by several times by several people how I made my french hood and tudor garb and I thought "Why don't we all get together and have a costuming evening?"

So I will be conducting a workshop on Tudor costuming and the making of french hoods sometime in November and I greatly encourage those of you interested to please call me for a confirmation date.

Please call me at 524-8920, after 6 p.m. for the date and time.

CHESS

Flanking the elephants were the ASVA (the Horses). The Horse's move has been called the hallmark of chess. It is like no other move in any game, and in all the centuries of chess it has never changed. It is best described as a leap of one square orthogonaly (that is along a rank or file) followed by one square diagonally. In Persian chess, the horse had the ability to jump over any piece which stood next to it. [The elephant also had this power.] In the Chinese game however, neither piece had this ability. This raises a difficult question; which was the original move of the horse and elephant? The only solution to this dilemma seems to lie in the fact that, in Southeast Asia, the horse retained its power of jumping a square, while the elephant, in adopting the five-fold move, sacrificed this ability in exchange for greater mobility.

In the corner squares of the chessboard stood the RAT-HA (Chariots), which had the same move as the modern Rook. [The invention of castling, however, would have to await several centuries.] It should be noted that during the early days of Hindu chess, the arrangement of these pieces was never fixed or standardized. In various parts of India, the chariot was replaced by the NAUKA (or Boat). In other parts, the chariots and the elephants switched places. Eventually, the elephants took over the corner squares and were given the orthogonal move of the rook (a straight sweep along any rank or file), only to have their former diagonal move given to a new piece called the Camel. [But see also the rules on decimal chess]. In India, the chariot disappeared altogether. But this was long after chess had passed on to other countries.

Occupying the second row of squares were the eight PADATI (the Foot-Soldiers). Like the Pawn, the padati moved one square at a time, forward only, and captured diagonally. At this time they did not have the option of moving two squares on their first move. Upon reaching the eighth rank of squares, the padati was automatically promoted to a Mantri. Remember at this time, the minister was the weakest piece after the pawn.

"We are but pawns in the game of chess played by great Heaven in its waywardness Hither and thither on the board we move And singly reach the box of nothingness." (Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, 12th cent.) As you can see, the face of chess in India was as varied as the country itself. And the standard of play was never very high. It remained for another country to adopt the game fix the rules, and write its first histories and philosophies. The Persians brought chess to the attention of the World.

THE BOOK OF COURTESY

This is a redaction of the Book of Curtisy written around 1460 by an unknown author. I have modernized the spelling and replaced obscure Middle English words with more modern ones. I did not attempt to maintain the rhyme or meter, though the general flavor remains. I did not change the grammar. This is the first of three sections. From "Early English Meals and Manners", ed. Frederick J. Furnivall, London, 1868, pgs 177-181.

Here begins the first book of courtesy.

Who so will of courtesy learn, In this book he may have it! If thow be gentleman, yeoman, or knave, The need nurture for to have. When thou comes to a lord's gate, The porter thou shall find there at; Give him thow shalt thy weapon then, And ask him leave in to go To speak with lord, lady, squire, or groom. There to the dais to take the tale; For if he be of low degree, Than him falls to come to thee; If he be gentleman of birth, The porter will lead thee to him. When thow come though hall door to, Do of thy hood, thy gloves also: If tho hall be at the first meat, This lesson look thow not forget: The steward, controller, and treasurer, Sits at the dais, thou greet in health. Within the hall sit on either side,

Sit other gentlemen as falls that tide; Salute thee faire to them also, First to the right hand thou shall go, Sit to tho left hand thy never thou cast; To them thou bow without twist; Take heed to yeoman on thy right hand, And sit before the screen thou stand In middle the hall upon the floor, While marshall or usher come from the door, And bid thee sit, or to board thee lead. Be stable of cheer for honor, and council; If he the set at gentleman's board, Look thou be hind and little of word. Part thy bread and carve in two. The outer crust the nether from; In four thou cut the over dole, Set them together as it were whole; Sit cut tho nether crust in three, And turn it down, learn this at me. And lay thy trencher thee before, And sit upright for any sore. Spare bread or wine, drink or ale, To thy mass of kitchen be set in mind; Lest men say thou art hunger beaten, Or else a glutton that all men see, Look thy nails been clean in blithe, Lest thy fellows loath there with.

Bite not on thy bread and lay it down,-That is no courtesy to use in town;-But break as much as thou will eat, The remnant to poor thou shall let. In peace thou eat, and ever eschewe To fight at board; that may thee rue. If thou make grimaces on any wise, A velany thou catches or ever thou rise. Let never thy cheek be Made too great With morsel of bread that thou shall eat; An ape mow men say he makes, That bread and flesh in his cheek bakes. If any man speak that time to thee, And thou shall forswear, it will not be But galloped, and a-bide thou most; That is a scheme for all the host. On both half thy mouth, if that thou eat, Many a scorn shall thou get. Thou shall no laugh nor speak no thing While thy mouth be full of meat or drink; Nor sup not with great soundage Neither potage nor other thing. Let not thy spoon stand in thy dish, Whether thou be served with flesh or fish; Nor lay it not on thy dish side, But clean it honestly with-out pride. Look no grease on thy finger there Defoul the cloth thee before. In thy dish if thou wet thy bread, Look ther-of that not be led To cast again thy dish into; Thou art un-hinde if thou do so. Dry thy mouth all well and fine When thou shall drink other ale or wine. Nor call thou not a dish again, That is take for the board in plain; If thou spit over the board, or else upon, Thou shall be holden an uncourteous man; If thy own dog thou scrape or claw, That is holden a vice amoung men knave. If thy nose thou clean, as may befall, Look thy hand thou clean, as with-all, Frivately with skirt do it away, Other else though thy tippet that is so gay. Clean not thy teeth at meat sit, With knife nor straw, stick nor wand. While thou hold meat in mouth, beware To drink, that is an-honest turn, And also physic forbids it, And says thou may be choke at that bit; If it go thy wrong throat into, And stop thy wind, thou art forgo. Nor tell thou never at board no tale To harm or shame thy fellow in mind; For if he then withhold his self-control, Afterwards he will forcast thy death. Where-sere thou sit at meat in board, Avoid the cat at on bare word For if thou stroke cat other dog, Thou art like an ape tied with a lump.

BARON Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel Boy Duke David Cooper BARONESS Rhianwen ferch Bran ap Gruffydd 269-3853 Joan Struer SENESCHAL 684-1953 Eckerich Rothvalken von Stromberg John Platz Chatelaine Odindisa 269-9354 CALTROP Leonhard Von Lowenstrum 682-1669 Jim Purkey TREASURER Maeve Kelley De Navarre 636-5606 Terry Thorndyke CHRONICLER Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikings 524-0917 Deb Taylor KNIGHT MARSHAL 262-8141 Niall Mac a Ghobhainn Don't know now-will find out MINISTER OF ARTS and SCIENCES Kerare de Joreses 686-6893 Carolyn Haddaway Minister of Children Ann Bromere 267-7639 Gail Martin ARCHER MARSHAL Vacant SERF LINE Bog Serf 264-7373 A&S Champion Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon 685 8510 Wendy Donaldson Bardic Champion Jovan Greyhawk 682-2346 Henry Jennings Fighter Champion Duncan McCrakin 686-4170 Vaughn Weaver