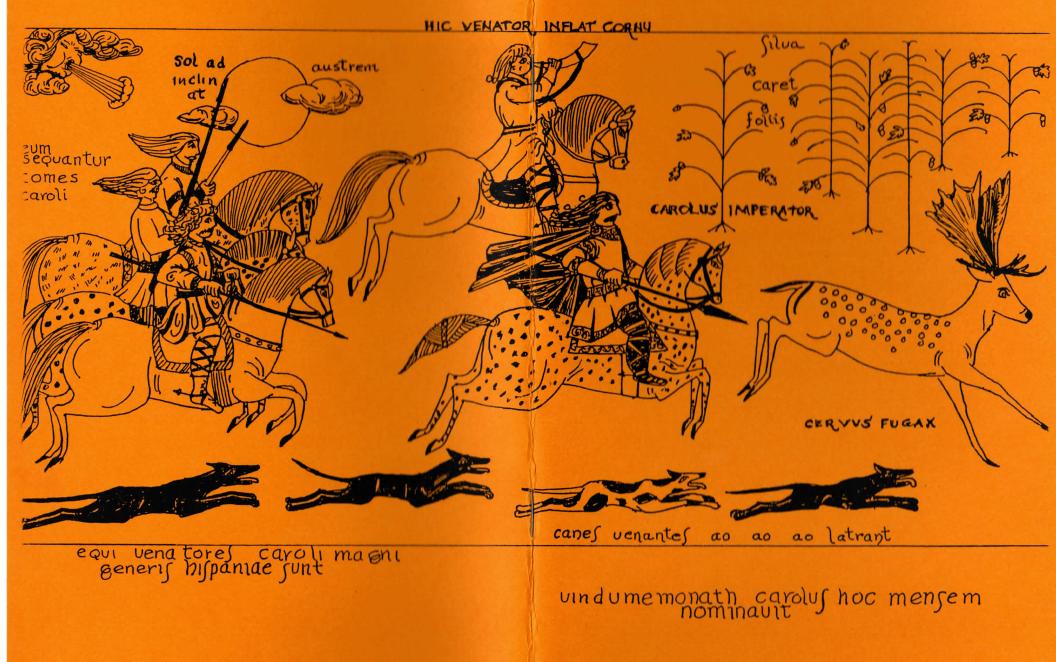
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OCTOBER A.S. XXXII



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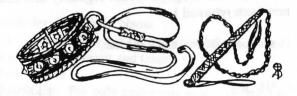
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ORAJONTIVRE CREDITS

Her Excellency Rhianwen	Ink Primate
HL Marie Chantal Delaire	Officers' Minutes & Heraldic Art
Milady Toda Galindez	Non-border Art, Courier

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FROM The baronage

Greetings unto the Citizens and Populace of Vatavia from Gabriel and Rhianwen, Baron and Baroness of these fair lands by the Grace of Their Majesties Calontir!

Valor is now but a recent memory in our minds, but we must already turn our thoughts to future events. Our Champions already have our next Champions event in the works! In addition, we would like to host a second Kingdom event—we have traditionally hosted Valor and one other event each year, and we are currently accepting bids for that other event. You do not have to be an experienced autocrat in order to submit a bid—all you need is an idea, the enthusiasm and organization required to plan, organize, and carry out your event, and the ability to work with the officers of the Barony. As an autocrat, you are officially a temporary deputy of the Seneschal, and you become a member of the officer corps for the duration of your tenure.

Another thing fresh in our minds is awards. We've had a few questions lately as to who can recommend whom for what and what Baronial awards mean. Therefore, elsewhere in this issue you will find the first of a several-part series on Baronial awards. Another article by Baron Sir Tedrick which describes the award system has been printed in previous issues of the Dragonflyre as well, and that article also gives an extremely good overview.

On a rather mundane note, I (Rhianwen speaking alone here) want to thank everyone who lent me support while I was working on my thesis. Several individuals alternately offered emotional support, ran interference, and did all of the things that fell by the wayside while I was otherwise engaged in my academic pursuits. I am especially indebted to Gabe, Eleanor, Otoshi, and Odindisa. Thanks, guys! (Your regularly-scheduled Rhianwen has now been returned.)

In service to Barony and Kingdom.

GABRIEL

REIANWEN

from the seneschal

Greetings:

It has been a pleasure to serve the Barony as Seneschal. But my term of office soon draws to a close. To this point I am making a last call for applicants to this office. I will accept letters of intent up to October Officers' Meeting. The replacement will be expected to assume the office as Acting Seneschal at October Populace Meeting. However, I will reamin as deputy to the office until my warrant expires in December '97, or my Kingdom Superior recognizes my replacement.

I am still accepting bids for a Yule event. If you are interested, please see me ASAP.

As always, I will remain in service to the Barony.

Tristan Rory de Jorz



FROM The CALTOP CLERK

Unto the citizens of Vatavia doth Her Ladyship Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrop Clerk, send greetings this Feast of Saint Disibod, AS XXXII. Please accept the following report.

The Laurel Queen of Arms, at her August 1997 meeting, registered the following proposals from Vatavian citizens:

Ceridwen Eurgledde ferch Owain. Name

Clare de Kirkpatric. Device: Gules, a bend sinister between three roses argent and a knot of four loops and tassels Or. Emma of Abingdon. Name. Jovan Greyhawk. Badge: Per pale azure and gules, an anchor argent.

Ossán mac Ruaidrí. Name and Device: Per pale argent and sable, a chevron throughout between three swans naiant contourny counterchanged.

Penelope Bonmatin. Name and device: Azure, three roundels and a demi-sun issuant from base Or.

Randal Lee. Name and Device: Per chevron azure and argent goutty de sang, in chief a Latin cross argent.

Riona Gillian McAllister. Name and Device: Aregnt, on a fess between three martlets vert an elephant statant argent a bordure vert estencely argent.

Sabina Wyntyr. Name.

Takahara Otoshi. Name and Device: Sable, five roundels in annulo within four lathes fretted as on a mascle Or.

At the same meeting, the Laurel Queen of Arms returned the name and device proposals of Simidh am Piobaire as no paperwork was received for the name.

If you have any comments or questions about these actions taken by the Laurel Queen of Arms, please feel free to contact me at 755-1917 between 7pm and 10pm.

I hope this missive finds all in Good Heart and Good Health. I remain in service to Vatavia,

Annys



FROM THE CASTELLAD/DEPUTY KNISHT'S MARSHALL

From the Castellan: For some weird reason, the months of September and October are presenting numerous events that are relatively close to our Barony. This would present a wonderful opportunity to take new people to a non-demo SCA event. Also, since most "close" events are still 2 - 4 hours away, I encourage all of the "regular" travelers to kidnap, er...uh... I mean, offer rides to those who sometimes have trouble arranging for transportation. The whole carpooling/caravanning idea can usual help boost Vatavian attendance at other events. Just remember, even though we are way out here in the boonies, how can we expect others to support us if we don't support them? Besides, taking new people to events introduces them to other people in our wonderful Kingdom and brings us closer together as a Barony. On another note, Her Ladyship Marie Chantal is still seeking volunteers to help with demos that we will be undertaking. All help is greatly appreciated. Contact HL Maire for more information at 788-6165.

From the Deputy Knight's Marshall: Kempai!! To all fighters who have recently authorized. One or two of them are extremely proud of their accomplishments and are extremely eager to be beaten, er...uh...I mean, *trained* by the seasoned fighters. In addition to the Castellan's letter, I wish to remind everyone that there are numerous events coming up that will allow you to get as much fighting as you can possibly handle. Specifically, Gimfell's Blood of Heroes event on the 27-28 has a special 5-man melee tourney that looks like it will be too much fun. But now is the time for our Dragonfly goon squads to get together and prepare for this wonderful opportunity to display the martial prowess of Vatavia. For specific times and locations, see the general announcements-calendar pages.

In service,

Otoshi

from the chronicler

Hail, Vatavians:

Once more, a hearty thanks to those inestimable gentles who have proved so valuable in submitting art, articles, and emotional support!

In the words of my Excellent predecessor--we have paper.

In service to the Dream,

oomorra the 3mm

Several Appouncements

Fighter practice is held Sundays at 1:00pm, at the west side of Watson Park. Everyone, fighters and non-fighters alike, are encouraged, to attend.

Sword & Shield/Pell practice is held at His Excellency Gabriel's house., as is armoring. Call 269-3854 for details.

Archery practice continues at 3:00pm, at 5500 N. Maize. Contact Ld. Michael van Burgen at 721-1955 for details.

Middle eastern Dance is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Please call Ly. Kerare at 265-9825 for more information.

Costuming occurs on the third Monday of each month. Call Ly. Aobhainn at 683-7425 if you have questions.

Calligraphy and Illumination has moved to Wheat Shocker Apartments on WSU campus. Class goes from 7:30 to 9:00-ish, the first Thursday of each month. Any questions, please contact Corrigan MacKenzie at 263-1536.

VATAVIAN AWARDS: Service

Rhianwen ferch Bran ap Gruffydd

Baronial awards are conveyed for service and deeds which aid or bring glory to Vatavia. These awards are given at the pleasure of the Baron and Baroness of Vatavia (whose authority to convey awards comes from the Crown). However, we cannot be everywhere at once! We are dependent on you to be our eyes and ears, and to let us know when you feel someone is deserving. It has always been our personal policy to encourage everyone to make recommendations you don't have to hold a specific award to recommend someone else for that award. We read and discuss each recommendation we receive. If it is for one of our polling orders, we also discuss the candidate with the rest of the order. Occasionally we will also consult the officers or the person coordinating an area at an event for further opinions before we make a final decision.

The Act of Dedication is the most commonly-received award. It is conveyed for giving service to the Barony above and beyond that which is normally expected of a Vatavian citizen. It may be awarded multiple times.

The key words above are "above and beyond that which is normally expected." The SCA is an all-volunteer organization. Each weekend we have the opportunity to attend and enjoy an event because others have given up some of their time to play host to 350 of their closest friends. When Vatavia puts on an event, we have the opportunity to repay this service in kind. Everyone in the Barony is asked to contribute a little of their time to help with the event. Those people who go beyond merely helping out for a few hours are the ones whom we generally choose to recognize with an Act of Dedication. Recipients are given a white cord, and subsequent augmentations are made with golden leaves.

The Golden Heart of Vatavia is awarded for long-term or intense service to the Barony. It can only be conveyed to an individual once. These are generally given to individuals who have continuously served the Barony over a period of time. Recipients are

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given a golden heart charged with a blue dragonfly.

The Star of Vatavia is the Barony's highest service award. However, more than the candidate's service is considered. A recipient of the Star of Vatavia has been found to embody the ideals of the Society, and consistently represents Vatavia to the Kingdom as a whole. The Star is a polling order, which means that candidates are discussed by the other recipients of the award and gives their recommendations to the Baronage. Recipients of the Star are permitted to display an golden eight-pointed star overlain by a silver eight-pointed star, charged with a dragonfly.

Next month: Arts and Sciences

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KIDSOOM CALEDDAR

OCTODER

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november

01-02	Fall Festival	Golden Sea, Salina KS
15-16	Event	Bois D'Arc, Southeast KS
	Ransom of Leyland	Dun Ard, Leavenworth KS
22 - 23	Toys for Tots	Wyvern Cliffe, Jefferson City, MO

December

06-07	Kris Kinder	Forgotten Sca, Kansas City MO
20	Reserved for Crown	Tournament



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SOCIETY FUR CREATIVE ANACHKUNISM, INC. (SCA)

membership application

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the importance of hunting

By Friar Thomas Bacon

In the standard synopsis of a noble's life in the Middle Ages, it is said that his life revolved around fighting and hunting, the two being different sides of the same coin. This in turn has fostered the belief that hunting was essential to the noble household. Yet archeological evidence says to the contrary. This essay explores the meaning of hunting in medieval life.

The stereotypical image of the noble in peace is one at the hunt, whether it is with a hawk on the arm or spear in hand. That hunting was important to the noble can be testified to by the large amount of space taken up in the laws and the court records by issues pertaining to the hunt. Large tracts of land were set aside as hunting preserves. In the case of that most famous of outlaws, Robin Hood, the most serious charge leveled against him was not that he took the king's taxes, but that he took the king's deer.

Given this enormous interest, it is reasonable to expect that the proceeds of the hunt must be very valuable. And it takes little imagination to conclude that this value must come from the fact that the hunt was an important source of meat. While logical, evidence shows it to be false.

In recent decades, archeologists have found that the middens, or rubbish heaps, can be more enlightening on people's lives than any account of a king's life. Among other things, what could be found in these middens are the bones of animals eaten, and thus provide a rough account of the source of meat. In general, beef constituted about half of all meat eaten, followed by some mixture of sheep and pig, depending on the region. Game, on the other hand, constituted only about five percent of meat consumed. The few household accounts that have survived tend to support this.

The one household that is the exception is the king's household. The early medieval kings in particular seemed to survive almost solely on venison. This anomaly has been explained by the unusually itinerant nature of the king's routine. With a large retinue that stayed only for a short time in one spot, the king's household would create intense peaks of demand that could be more easily satisfied by hunting than drawing down the limited supply of local livestock. One piece of evidence pointed to as proof is that the royal forests, from which most of the game would be drawn, tended to line up with the king's itinerary.

The question then becomes if hunting was not an important source of meat, why was it so central a part of the noble's life? At the beginning of the Middle Ages, there were almost no restrictions on who could hunt what. Yet by the eleventh century, hunting became an exclusive aristocratic privilege. A continuing source of tension between peasant and noble centered on what could be taken from the woods and wastes that surrounded every village. These restrictions were the most despised and the most broken. But the nobles gave them up most grudgingly.

The answer lies in the noble's self-perception. To the noble, hunting was a way to train for war, the noble *raison d'etre*. He got to practice handling his weapons and his horse. He could learn the lay of the land and what approaches an armed force could use. And it could harden his body for the rigors of the campaign.

A secondary concern was that hunting was a way to show off his wealth and erudition. There grew up around hunting an elaborate protocol. The hunt had become a ritual with its own specialized equipment and language. The kennels of hounds and mews of harks were a form of conspicuous consumption that only a noble could afford so as to mark his status. The actual kill had become secondary to showing the proper form.

A whole genre of literature formed to elucidate the proper techniques of the hunt. Any noble with scholarly pretensions, from Emperor on down, attempted to write such books. Like any specialized endeavor, a form of jargon arose, naming every detail of the sport down to the assemblages of prey. Every aspect was detailed from the beginning of the hunt to the carving of the game on the table.

In the latter part of the Middle Ages, the game that graced the tables of the noble's feast was mostly supplied by professional huntsmen. By then, most of it was not intended to be eaten, but more as a show of the cook's skill and the noble's wealth that he could present such exotic dishes.

The spirit of the medieval hunt can still be seen in the British fox hunt. While the exclusiveness has eased over the centuries, and the object of the hunt has narrowed to one creature, the essence remains. Few have the money and the time to own and train the horses, let alone own the extensive fields such a hunt requires. The competition lies in showing that one has mastered the protocol of the hunt. In recent years, the fox has even been done away with.

During most of the Middle Ages, while the aspect of taking game for food was always present, medieval man rarely wasting any source, it was secondary to the social aspects of the hunt. To the noble mind, the symbolic outweighed the practical. To be able to hunt one needed to be noble; to show one was noble, one hunted. And that was all that mattered.

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The ' in v'tavia

Toda Galindez

Medieval scribes, expanding Roman practice, employed an "alphabet" of abbreviation signs. These began as tiny letters single or grouped, written usually above the line of text to indicate omissions. These omissions might be the result of scribal error, or deliberate ones made in order to save space on precious writing surfaces. From these tiny letters, regular signs were developed, which soon lost most resemblance to the forms from which they arose. They were, however, understood by their shape, their position, and the reader's knowledge of the language.

As vemacular idioms began to develop in Western Europe and the activity of lay and clerical scribes increased, these marks became more and more standardized and some began to take forms increasingly specific to languages other than Latin. A few have survived to the present: the circumflex in French, the umlaut "in German, and the tilda

in Spanish. All of them indicate the abbreviation of a word by a letter or syllable once present in the regular orthography of Latin or an early vernacular.

The apostrophe in English has the same origin, deriving from one of the "hook" forms of medieval abbreviation. It is used now, as it was then, to indicate the omission of an unstressed vowel or syllable, as in *can't* or *doesn't*. This is the way in which the writing of the uninflected possessive was developed in English: "the dog his paw" or "the king his grace" becomes in writing "the dog's paw" or "the king's grace," pronounced and sometimes written "the doggis paw" or "the kingis grace," but equally often with the scribal hook to indicate the omission of the written "i" or "hi."

The widespread use and understanding of standard scribal abbreviation symbols--bar, slash, hook `` ", pigtail , wiggle , wiggle , etc. depended on the regularity of their application. Personal names might be abbreviated in legal documents in which the same names were often repeated, in bibles where saving space in so long a text was advisable, and in treatises such as those on astronomy, lapidary, falconry, or chess, in which technical terms, fully spelled out at the beginning, recurred frequently. Typographical names were not often abbreviated except for those known to everyone such as Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, or Constantinople. Other wise, such names were to important in establish and demonstrating an individual's status, privilege, and obligation. In such cases, immediate and universal recognition was more important than saving space, and abbreviations could be made easily in other classes of words. V'tavia is, thus, uncharacteristic of medieval abbreviation. One would expect to find, if the name were abbreviated at all, something like Vtv, or Vtv, or even V.

The humbly returning Vatavian who writes here intends no disparagement or criticism of the unforgettable William of Vatavia and Mammara Leone who received her with warmth and grace in AS XXII, or of the heralds who counseled the removal of the ' from Vatavia. This repeating newcomer would also suggest that the honorable and skillful scribes of Vatavia who may be interested might wish to consider the use of standard medieval abbreviations in their work.

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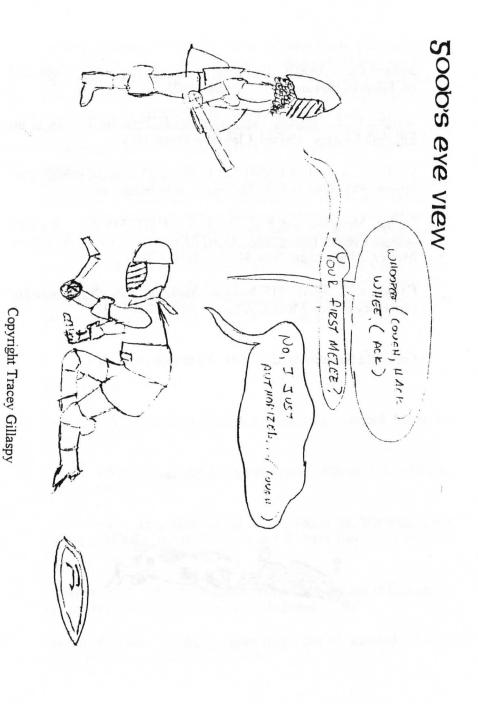
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Officer's meeting September 8, 1997

20 members attended: 15 officers/ deputies/ champions/ autocrats, 3 members of the populace, 2 smalls.

Valor XVIII was briefly discussed. A list of lost and found will be sent for printing in the Mews. Site locations for future Valors are being looked into. Valor may be the longest running Kingdom event, making Valor XX a very special occurrence. It was recommended that plans should be started now for it to provide good publicity during Valor XIX. Bids for autocrating both events should be made as soon as possible.

The scheduling for the Champions' fall event was brought up. The new Crown schedule has to be reconsidered as it affects this. The Champions will work on this. No Yule event bid has been received as of this meeting. It was pointed out that this is Vatavia's non-Valor event. It has been held as late as March. A proposal for a Welsh feats was presented. The idea was approved. Possible times to have the feast were offered. It was suggested to include it as part of one of the other events discussed.

Thirteen Vatavian items were approved at the Laurel Queen of Arms meeting in August. (See the letter from the Caltrop elsewhere in this issue.) The treasurer reported a profit from the Valor event. It was reported that two potential new members attended Valor.

There are three demonstration requests for October. October 11th is for Peterson School; October 18th is Shocktober Fest at WSU; and the end of the month is the Night of the Living Zoo. Help is needed for these.

Bardic for September will be held at Kasamira's tower. October's meeting will be at the regular location, Cerridwen's house. The Calligraphy & Illumination interest group has moved the meeting location to the Wheat Shocker Apartments at WSU. It will continue to meet the first Thursday of the month. Archery and fighter practices continue at the same locations. Fighter practice has moved back to the noon, non-heat, schedule. One new fighter was authorized the first weekend of September.

Several officers' warrants will be expiring: Seneschal, Knight's Marshall, Minister of Arts and Sciences. The position of facilitator for the Ministry of Children is still vacant. Applications for some offices are still being taken. Interested individuals should get letters of application in. Anyone interested in doing a Yule event or Valor should get written bids submitted.

The meeting adjourned.







October's meeting will be at the regular in much of which en-

BARON	
Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel David Cooper	Boy Duke
BARONESS	
Rhianwen ferch Bran ap Gruffydd Joan Steurer	269-3853
SENESCHAL	
Tristan Rory de Jorz	265-9825
Rick Haddaway CHATELAIN	
Takahara Otoshi	267-3456
Tracey Gillaspy	
ARCHER MARSHALL	
Michael Van Burgen	721-1955
Michael Hornbaker	
CALTROP	
Brialen Ulfsdottii Vikings	524-0917
Debbie Taylor	
CHRONICI ER	
Odindisa the Grim	269-1574
Marguerite Reed	
KNIGHT MARSHALL	
Fergus Mie Rhuadhri Ghlas	681-0268
Rob McMillen DEPUTY KNIGHT MARSHALL	
Takahara Otoshi	267-3456
Tracey Gillaspy	
HISTORIAN	
Friar Thomas Bacon	685-1182
David Moreno	
MOAMOS	
Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon	685-8510
Wendy Donaldson	
PROPERTY MISTRESS	
Christine Joye Stewart	943-1879
Jeni Ban	
TREASURER	
Aleyoneus du Battenhelm	682-4468
Park McKellop	