

DRAGONFLYRE

JANUARY ASXXXII

Have you seen this device? If you can correctly identify this device, be alert for the summons of the Vativian Caltrop, Her Excellency Brialen, and claim booty from the New World.

Peau, two lions couchant contourney OR



TABLE OF CONTENTS

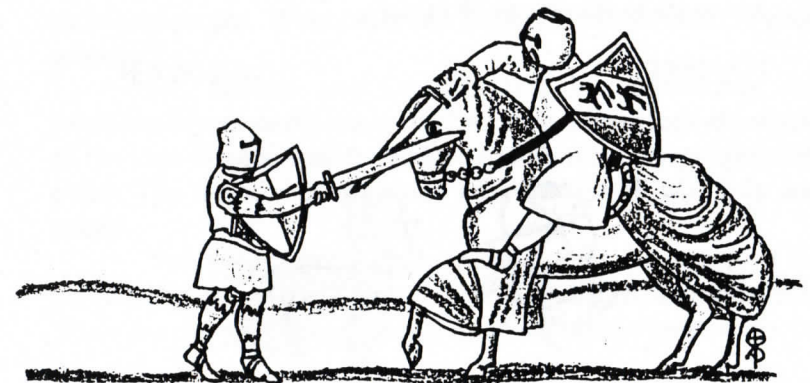
From the Baronage.....	2
Officers' Letters.....	3
General Announcements.....	7
Kingdom Calendar.....	9
Calendar.....	10
Champions' Flyer.....	12
The Baroness' Challenge.....	13
Vatavian Awards.....	14
The Whale's Road.....	15
Who's Who in Vatavia.....	17
Officers' Minutes.....	20

Copyright (c) 1997 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.
For information on reprinting articles and artwork from this publication,
please contact the editor, who will assist you in contacting the original
creator of this piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

This is the Dragonflyre, a publication of the Barony of Vatavia of the Society
for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Dragonflyre is available from Marguerite
Reed at 1027 S. Lulu, Wichita, KS 67211. It is not a corporate publication of
the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA
policies.

Interior non-border/non-heraldic artwork copyright
Suzanne Gross Reed © 1997. Used with permission.

Cover Art Copyright Chris Moore©1997. Used with permission.
"Two Irish Kerns greet a Scottish Mercenary"



from the baronage

Thank you all for braving the winter cold to attend SCA meetings and events. We were so very pleased to see more than twenty Vativians make the journey to Kris Kinder in Forgotten Sea early this month. Their Majesties received our Barony's tithe with great cheer and said that Vativia's generosity was "unparalleled." Thanks go to each of you who worked so hard at our events and at RenFair to make that gift to the Kingdom possible.

Winter Champions is coming up soon! One of the competitions featured is the Baroness' Challenge. This is a competition of first attempts — try a new art or science, and enter the results! (Rhianwen will even bring her recent first attempts at card weaving for your amusement.) Judging will be based on standard Kingdom criteria at the beginner level *plus* an additional category — Did You Learn? Please include a listing or discussion of what worked well, what didn't work well, and what you plan to do differently next time. This category will be weighted quite heavily, so even something you might consider to be a total disaster might win!

Of course, we also strongly encourage you to enter the Championships — being a Champion gives you the opportunity to promote your field within the Barony and represent the Barony to the Kingdom.

The holidays are upon us! Please stay safe and warm during this season of good cheer.

In service to Barony and Kingdom,

GABRIEL



RHIANWEN



from the seneschale

Greetings are warmly extended to the Their Excellencies Vativia, Gabriel and Rhianwen, and Their most noble populace from Arglwyddes Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon, acting Vativian Seneschale. I pray this missive finds all who reads it well and safe, encompassing themselves in the virtues and spirit of the impending holiday season.

Many thanks to Takahara Otoshi-san for his excellent work as Chatelain (or is that castellan?). Both HL Tristan and I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work with him in this capacity and are impressed with his abilities in this area of service. With manly vigor, he has done much to ensure the quality of the loaner garb, informing newbies and interested individuals of all they ever needed to know (ad then some!) to join in the fun, and, as his last act of office, organized the Food Bank donation for this year. The barony and the SCA are continually enriched by those such as him.

Arglwyddes Cerridwen o'r Eurgledde ferch Owain ap Glyndyfrdwy (whew!) has most graciously agreed to serve as our new Chatelaine. Please offer to her any assistance you can. I know she will do a wonderful job. However, no officer or autocrat stands alone. It takes concerted effort on all our parts to keep the barony running smoothly. Cerridwen has some great ideas and a beautiful philosophy about her role as Chatelaine. Ld. Ruadrigh de Graham and Ly. Orabella Grace O'Brien have also agreed to serve as Archer Marshall and Minister of Children, respectively. The barony has been and will continue to be made richer by the fine contributions of these good people. Welcome to the Officer Corps to all these good gentles!!!!

HL Brialen and Ly. Ala will be autocratting and feastocratting our next event in late February. Please look elsewhere in the next Dragonflyre for additional information regarding this event. The theme should provide great fun for all who help and attend.

Two things I would like to encourage you as members of the populace to consider and act on. One is award recommendations. There are many fine people doing excellent things (arts, sciences,

services, etc.) both here and abroad. Please, PLEASE take a few moments to recognize the contributions of our peers and submit an award recommendation to Their Excellencies or Their Majesties as is appropriate. Remember, anyone, regardless of rank, can write an award recommendation.

Secondly is the age old issue of travel. There were 23, yes 23, Vatavians at Kris Kinder!! How fantastic it was. It was great fun for all who attended. I am looking forward to seeing you all out and about more in the upcoming year. Let's continue to make Vatavia a strong presence in Calontir by getting out there, fighting, shooting, entering A&S, but most of all, sharing what we have with the our friends from across the Falcon lands.

Eleanor

FROM THE CHRONICLER

Unto my fellow Vatavians:

I would like to thank Milady Elana for submitting her Who's Who to start off the second year of the Viking chronicles. I knew it could be done. Don't let her persona story be the last one we'll see!

As exciting as being Chronicler is, another event looms large (literally) which will prove to be much more exciting than the position of Mistress of Propaganda. There may be times when attending to this may take me away from my duties. I have mentioned in the past that a Deputy Chronicler might be a desirable thing. A few interested gentles have come forward already--one of them, brave soul, has agreed to take on the Sysiphean task of the new census. My gratitude goes out to you, Lady Orabella!

If you have a computer with a word processing program (with a spell checker!) and a printer, that would be the first and most convenient step toward being a Chronicler. If you have questions or suggestions, give me a call or e-mail me at ragnar@feist.com.

ODINDIRΔ the 3um

FROM THE HERALD

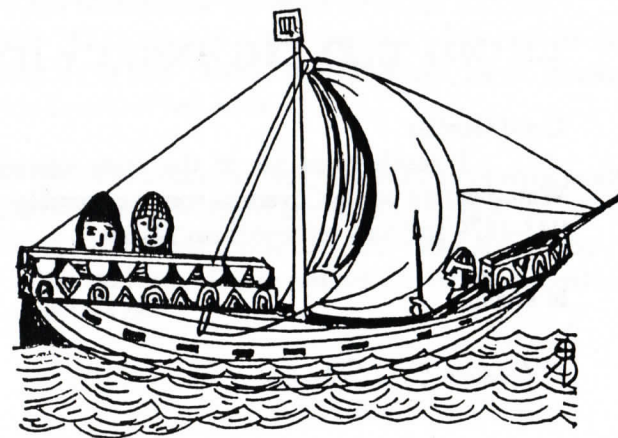
Unto the good Populace of Vatavia come greetings from Baroness Brialen. I hope this missive finds everyone warm and in preparation for the holiday season.

My better half, Her Ladyship Annys, has agreed to hold a consulting table at Champions in January. While I would be glad to give my opinion on heraldry to anyone who asks, Her Ladyship prefers to be at my side when this happens. I think she believes that it saves her time in the long run. If anyone has need of a consulting herald, and can't be at Champions, or if there is a need for consultations at other events, please, please let us know

It has been my aim to improve knowledge of heraldry in some way since taking office. Our glowing Chronicler has aided in this by publishing a good gentle's arms whenever possible and we the have the jolly "guess the gentle who owns the arms" competition. I would also like to encourage more use of heraldry in dress; it's not really hard. I've done it, and it makes events much more colorful! If anyone else out there has any suggestions or requests about other learning opportunities, please let me know and we will see what we can do. Her Ladyship Annys and the rest of the heraldic staff will try to have a heraldic workshop in time for RenFaire banners or clothing.

In service to Vatavia and Calontir,

Brialen



FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Unto the Populace of Vativia come these warm words from Takahara Otoshi.

The cold weather is upon us and we still seek an indoor practice site. Fighting went prior to the holidays coupled with the holidays themselves made the decision not to rent an indoor site for December. I am encouraging as many fighters as possible to attend War Maneuvers in Mag Mor on January 17th. Don't forget Champions is on January 10th at Camp Tawakoni.

Also--all fighters, please, *please*, PLEASE: Contact me prior to December 31st and confirm all personal information and authorizations. Call me at 267-3456 and leave a message. If you don't get listed in the Domesday Report, you don't get a fighter card.

In service,

Takahara Otoshi

FROM THE PROPERTY MISTRESS

Good Gentles:

I *really* need all of the embroidered Dragonflies for Waterbearing bottle Covers as soon as possible! Please call me at 943-1879 so I may retrieve them ASAP.

In service,

Christine Joye Stewart

General Announcements

Attention: Anyone who may have found a white AOD cord with two augmentation leaves adorning it please call Lady Cerridwyn at (316)524-0478. It fell from her belt at the November Populace at Kiwanis Park.

Calling the Artisans of Vativia! It's time for new Baronial T-shirts and boxer shorts at Her Excellencies request. Please submit your design for either a Baronial T-shirt or Vativian boxer shorts "bug-wear" to Aoibheann at the January Populace meeting.

Armoring is held at His Excellency Gabriel's house. Call Ld. Otoshi at 267-3456 for details

Bardic is held at Cerridwen Eurglede ferch Owain's house, the last Monday of the month. Please call Lord Jovan at 682-7346 for more information.

Fighters--please contact Lord Takahara Otoshi and have him confirm your personal information so that you can claim your new fighter card. Call him at 267-3456.

Calligraphy and Illumination continues at 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.

Costuming/Fiber Arts occurs on the third Monday of each month. Call Ly. Aobhainn at 683-7425 if you have questions. Leatherworking will be held concurrent with Fiber Arts in the lower level of the building. Please contact Ruaidridh de Graham for details at 683-7425.

KINGDOM CALENDAR

European dance is held each Wednesday night at St. James Episcopal Church. Please call Lady Eliane at 265-2507 for more information.

Middle Eastern drumming class will be held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 7:00pm, at His Lordship Tristan's house. Call 265-9825 for details.

If you would like to become a Kestrel Page, please call Lady Christine at 943-1879 to discuss a good time to schedule classes or get more information.

A position exists for a dynamic go-getter with a sparkling personality within the Barony of Vativia. Knowledge of heraldic colors a plus. Must be willing to act out new heraldry OR be able to con His Excellency Gawayne into doing it instead. Contact Her Excellency Brialen, Vativian Herald, at 524-0917.



DRAGONFLYRE CREDITS

Her Excellency Rhianwen.....Ink Primate

HL Marie Chantal, Delaire.....Officers' Minutes & Heraldic Art

Lord Corrigan MacKenzie.....Cover Art

Milady Toda Galindez.....Non-border Art

JANUARY

03-04	Twelfth Night	Lonely Tower, Omaha NE
10-11	Feast of St. Hilary	Shadowdale, IA City IA
17-18	Winter War Maneuvers	Mag Mor, Lincoln NE
	Lost Moor Brewfest	Lost Moor, St. Joseph MO
24-25	RUSH	Westumbria, Hays-Great Bend KS

FEBRUARY

07-08	Costume Seminar	Cum An Iolar, S. Johnson Cty MO
	Winter Challenge	Oakheart, Springfield MO
14-17	Estrella Wars	Atenveldt

MARCH

07-08	Caloncon	Standing Stones, Columbia MO
11-15	Gulf Wars	Meridies
21-22	Queen's Prize	Aston Tor, Eastern Jackson Cty MO
28-29	Baronial Anniversary	Forgotten Sea, KC metro area



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	FRI	SAT
JANUARY 1998						<p>*Please contact Tristan & Corrigan respectively to see if these events are being held on this day.</p>
				<p>1 *Middle Eastern Drumming - 7:00 *Calligraphy & Illumination - 7:30</p>	2	3
<p>4 Fighter Practice - 1:00 Archery Practice - 3:00</p>	5	<p>6 Armoring - 6:30-ish</p>	<p>7 Officers' Meeting - 7:00 European Dance Practice - 7:00</p>	8	9	<p>10 Champions Camp TaWaKoNi (See Flyer)</p>
<p>11 Fighter Practice - 1:00 Archery Practice - 3:00</p>	12	<p>13 Armoring - 6:30-ish</p>	<p>14 European Dance Practice - 7:00</p>	<p>15 Middle Eastern Drumming - 7:00</p>	16	17
<p>18 Fighter Practice - 1:00 Archery Practice - 3:00</p>	<p>19 Costuming & Fiber Arts - 7:00 Leatherworking - 7:00</p>	<p>20 Armoring - 6:30-ish</p>	<p>21 Populace Meeting - 7:00</p>	22	23	<p>24 Perfectly Period Party (Contact Brialen @ 524-0917)</p>
<p>25 Fighter Practice - 1:00 Archery Practice - 3:00</p>	<p>26 Bardic - 7:00</p>	<p>27 Armoring - 6:30-ish</p>	<p>28 European Dance Practice - 7:00</p>	29	30	31

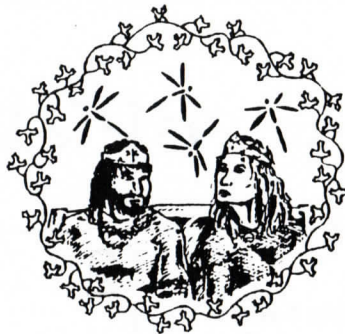
The Barony of Vatavia
Invites you to attend
Winter Champions

January 10, 1998
Camp Tawakoni

Site opens 10 a.m. and will close at 10:30 p.m.

Site Fee (includes feast) is \$5.00.

Make checks payable to SCA Inc., Barony of Vatavia.



Fighter Championship: Those fighters wishing to enter the list should contact His Lordship Fergus. The style of tournament will be determined by the number of participants. Fighting begins at noon.

Archery Championship: Range opens for practice at 11:00 am. Thrown weapons will be done as part of the competition. Competition begins at noon.

A & S Championship: A&S will be a tri-level competition. Contact Lord Corrigan for details.

Bardic Championship: Bardic is also a tri-level competition. The final part will be done during feast. Contact Lord Jovan for details.

Enter the Baroness' Challenge! This is a competition of any first attempt at an art or science. Requirements for entry are listed in the Dragonflyre. Contact Baroness Rhianwen at (316) 269-3853 for details.

Feast: Feast-O-Crat is Lady Cerridwyn. Feast will be Welsh, and you may contact her at (316) 524-0478. Soup Kitchen will be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Indoor activities are being planned for non-daring souls. **Children's activities** are being planned by Lady Orabella, and will start about 1 p.m.

For crash space, contact Her Excellency Rhianwen at (316) 269-3853.

Autocrats are the current Champions:

A&S: Ld Corrigan Mackenzie (Chris Moore) 263-1536

Archery: Ld. Ruaidrih de Graham (Allen Graham) 788-8826

Bardic: Ld. Jovan Greyhawk (Henry Jennings) 682-6033

Fighting: His Lordship Fergus mic Rhuadhri Ghlas (Rob McMillen) 681-0268

Directions: From Wichita, go east on Highway 54. Turn north on Tawakoni Road, which will take you directly to the Scout camp. This is the same site as Valor.

INTRODUCING

The Baroness' Challenge

Ready to try something new? Enter the Baroness' Challenge at Champions! This is a competition of first attempts, designed to encourage folks to try their hands at arts or sciences which they haven't tried before.

Requirements for entry:

1. You may enter any art or science. You may enter as many different objects as you like.
2. Your entry must be your first attempt in that particular field.
3. Include documentation as you would at any Kingdom A&S competition. (See the Minister of Arts and Sciences for this information if you need it.)
4. Include a brief discussion of your success in this project. This should be a paragraph or lists of What Worked Well and What I Will Do Differently Next Time.

Judging: Judging will be done by Rhianwen and a band of merry daredevil judges. Judging will be based on a variety of categories, including (but not limited to) Ambition, Creativity, Appropriateness of Materials, Documentation, and How Much You Learned from Doing This. (Please note that actual skill is not required. Unmitigated disasters will be cheerfully accepted.)

Prizes: We have prizes! Prizes will be awarded in at least two categories.

Best Overall First Attempt: The winner of this category will be the person who scores the highest according to the criteria.

Best Sport: The ability to experience an artistic catastrophe and learn from it, rather than giving into despair, is something for which Rhianwen has deep respect. The valiant person who displays the best sportsmanship will be selected to receive this prize.

Random Prizes: Rhianwen may well come up with other prize categories between now and the Court at Champions.

VATAVIAN AWARDS

The Vatavian award system for combat reflects the Kingdom system. There are two levels of awards for both fighting and archery. The combat orders are polling orders; the members of the order meet and advise Their Excellencies as to whom in the Barony should be included in their numbers. Their Excellencies, as with all awards, make the final decision as to whom is elevated. The members of the order have the responsibility to watch the other fighters or archers, encourage them and assist them in improving their skills, and making recommendations.

Vojak — This is the first of the two levels of fighters. The members of this order are the Baronial Guard. These fighters have proven to be solid fighters, supportive of the Barony, and have had war experience.

Straz — The Straz is the Barony's highest fighting award. The members of this order are considered to be Captains of the Baronial Guard. These fighters have displayed great skill at fighting, have continued to be supportive of the Barony, and have shown leadership skills.

Vessler — This is the first of the two levels of archers. The members of this order are the Barony's Archer Guard. These archers have proven to be skillful archers and are supportive of the Barony.

Zemen Strav — The Zemen Strav is the Barony's highest archery award. The members of this order are considered to be Captains of the Baronial Archer Guard. These archers show great skill at archery, are supportive of the Barony, and bring glory to Vatavia.

Copyright Joan Steurer©1997. Used with permission

THE WHALE'S ROAD: ST. MARTINMAS AND TOYS FOR TOTS

Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon

Baron Gawayne, Lord Otoshi, and I journeyed forth together to the nearby lands of Bois d'Arc to celebrate St. Martinmas. Okay, okay, I admit it, we weren't there to celebrate St. Martinmas, but to FIGHT!! The day began leisurely with everyone sitting around in the wonderfully warm cabin playing games and swapping war stories while food and drink flowed freely from the kitchen. Once it got warm enough, we meandered outside to armor up and begin the first of two tourneys. On the field we were joined by our most noble and fearsome Baroness and Lady Elspeth.

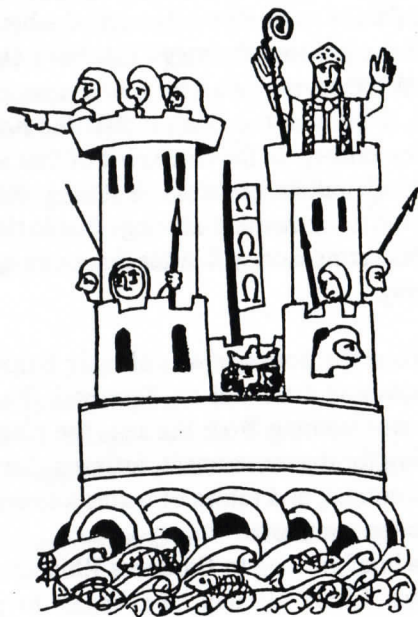
The Open Bearpit had about 16 fighters. We were planning 120 fights, but the list mistress really needed a break so we stopped at 80 to begin the polearm tourney. Takahara Otoshi-san, after a stunning streak of seven fights in a row won plus all his other victories, took the day in the Bearpit. HL Joe Angus of Grimfells won the polearm tourney. In the true spirit of that which is gleefully carnivore, the Grimfells style steak thang was wonderful as everyone gathered for dinner that evening. Due to the intimacy of the site, many folks sat around well after dinner swapping stories and jokes and singing.

The Toys for Tots site was already buzzing with activity when Otoshi-san and I arrived on Saturday. The spicy smell of cooking food was coming from the inn, the clattering sounds of fighters preparing for the tournament, artisans clustered in a corner submitting their entries, and tables of wares immediately greeted as we walked into the main area.

After a brief greeting to Baroness Rhianwen who was busy being the Lilies Chair all day, we began to prepare for the tournaments. Unfortunately, because he had just won the Warlord

Tournament in Golden Sea and the Open Bearpit at Bois d'Arc, Otoshi did not qualify for the novice tourney. I was surprised by the number of fighters who did, as well as how many long time excellent fighters had never won a tourney. Odo of Standing Stones emerged victorious. Valdemar Ironfist of Three Rivers won the day in the Toys for Tots Tourney itself after a well fought two out of three bout with His Grace Eringlin. The tournament was followed by an excellent vocal music concert led by Countess Alex and then a short court before everyone proceeded to the post-revel for fun, food, and song.

Copyright Wendy Donaldson©1997. Used with permission.



Who's Who in VATAVIA: elana morgan mackenzie

Once upon a time, on a small Scottish isle, a humble couple lived in a village of the Clan MacKenzie. They had two fine young Scottish children, Corrigan and Elana.

One day, trouble visited their island in the form of brutal pirates. The couple's beautiful five-year-old daughter, Elana Morgan, was stolen away along with many other girl children from the village, amid the screams and protests of her parents and older brother.

Elana was sold into a life of slavery in the far Eastern countries of the world, but made her way into the harem of a rich but kind Middle Eastern merchant because of her beauty and charm. Elana (now pronounced Ilhanah) was raised in the harem as a kind of family member, and taught the mysterious dances of the Middle eastern women. She grew up a graceful and talented member of the harem, but was also a bit too outspoken for the merchant, who eventually agreed to sell her to one of his drinking buddies, the famous and colorful Scottish mercenary, Coyote, who was smitten near to death with love for the girl.

Elana, horrified to be forced to trade her family home for the arms of a small and barbaric (if awfully cute) Scot, presently lopped off her hair and grieved for days. Despite her protests, she was carried off by the uncouth Coyote and brought back with him on his return journey to her homeland.

Arriving back in Scotland, the Coyote, upon sight of the first good Scottish ale-house, let out a joyous howl and, dashing headlong through the pub's doors, presently forgot all about the girl. Elana, having learned during her years of slavery to seize upon an opportunity when one presented itself, slipped away to make her way back to her MacKenzie home.

Meanwhile, Elana's older brother, Corrigan Malaki MacKenzie, having witnessed startling brutality at a young age, was much changed. He vowed a life of peace and non-violence, despite

a great proficiency with bow and axe. He became the most exquisite artist in the village, and his fame soon spread far and wide.

He was, however, smitten with love for a lovely and intelligent, not to mention wealthy, girl from the neighboring village of the Locke clan, Venora. Corrigan made a plea for her, and, after her father, James, made sure that Corrigan had a suitable flock of sheep to keep his daughter in the manner to which she was accustomed, relented. For he was himself a great fan of the famed artist, and could deny him nothing.

Venora was greatly wooed and they were married in beauty and splendor. About a year later, the happy news of a wee bairn spread through the villages. They were happy and content.

One day, as Corrigan was rinsing his brushes in the village stream, he glimpsed through the trees a colorful sight. An exotic girl, browned by a foreign sun and dressed from head to toe in a bright, if grubby, silk costume, was slinking warily from tree to tree. Just as he was about to rise and yell to his kinsmen to beware the thieving Gypsy, he recognized something familiar in her dirty face. Could it be? But it was! His long-lost sister was returned to him. He ran to her, scaring her half to death, and grabbed her up in a great bear hug. After a moments explaining, they were all tearfully reunited, brother and sister, parents and child.

Copyright Melisa Moore©1997. Used with permission.

OFFICERS' MEETING December 3, 1997

16 members attended: 16 officers/deputies/champions/autocrats

Future activities for the Barony and in the Kingdom were presented. January 10th is the Vataavian Champions' event. Legal paperwork needed for the site for this event was discussed. The feast-o-crat presented the menu. It was planned to have some dishes available for sampling at December populace meeting.

Winter War Maneuvers is January 17th. Arrangements for a fighter practice before that event are being worked out. RUSH will be holding its winter session in Westumbria on January 24th. The populace is encouraged to attend and support this event. Some of our members will be presenting classes. The Vataavian Perfectly Period Party will be on January 31st. Our winter event The Rhine Runs Through It, is scheduled for February 21st. The spring cooking symposium has been tentatively scheduled and planned. A Baronial Property workday was proposed. It was suggested to hold it in conjunction with a sewing day. Scheduling for these will be reviewed. It was recommended that if the group was interested in participating in the River Festival Parade, rafting, or bathtub race, planning needs to start now.

Various purchases for the group have been made. Others were discussed. The Herald's office has requested resource books. Equipment that would be used by armorers and other artisans was considered. Designing a new Baronial T-shirt was brought up. Each baronage in the past has been associated with a particular design. A design idea is needed. This will be announced at December Populace. A new Baronial Census was discussed. An interested individual has talked to the Chronicler about the project.

There will be a Bardic meeting held December 29th at Lady Cerridwen's house.

The Fighter Marshal, Otoshi, needs to hear from all the fighters before December 21st. There is information he needs to verify. Arrangements are being made to schedule indoor sites for fighting practice during the winter. Archery will continue to be held

at Archery Plus on Sundays.

The Seneschale requested any issues or questions that the officers would like brought up at the Seneschals' meeting at Kris Kinder. Officers were reminded to get their end of the year Domesday reports in. The Populace needs to get information for these reports in to the officers in a timely manner. Recommendations for awards for both Kingdom level awards and local awards need to be encouraged. There are several opportunities this winter for Vataivians to receive recognition.

The meeting adjourned.



BARON Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel David Cooper	Boy Duke
BARONESS Rhianwen ferch Bran ap Gruffydd Joan Steurer	269-3853
SENECHALE Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon Wendy Donaldson	685-8510
ARCHER MARSHALL Ruadrich de Graham Allen Graham	788-8826
CALTROP Brialen Ullsdottir Vikings Debbie Taylor	524-0917
CHATELAINE Cerridwen o'r Eurgledde ferch Owain ap Glyndyfrdwy Deborah Billings	524-0478
CHRONICLER Odindisa the Grim Marguerite Reed	269-1574
KNIGHT MARSHALL Takahara Otoshi Tracey Gillaspy	267-3456
HISTORIAN Friar Thomas Bacon David Moreno	685-1182
MOAMIOS Aobhainn na Kildare Kim Shephard	683-7425
MINISTER OF CHILDREN Orabella Grace O'Brien Patti Allen	788-8826
PROPERTY MISTRESS Christine Joye Stewart Jeri Barr	943-1879
TREASURER Alyoncus du Battenhelm Park McKellop	682-4468