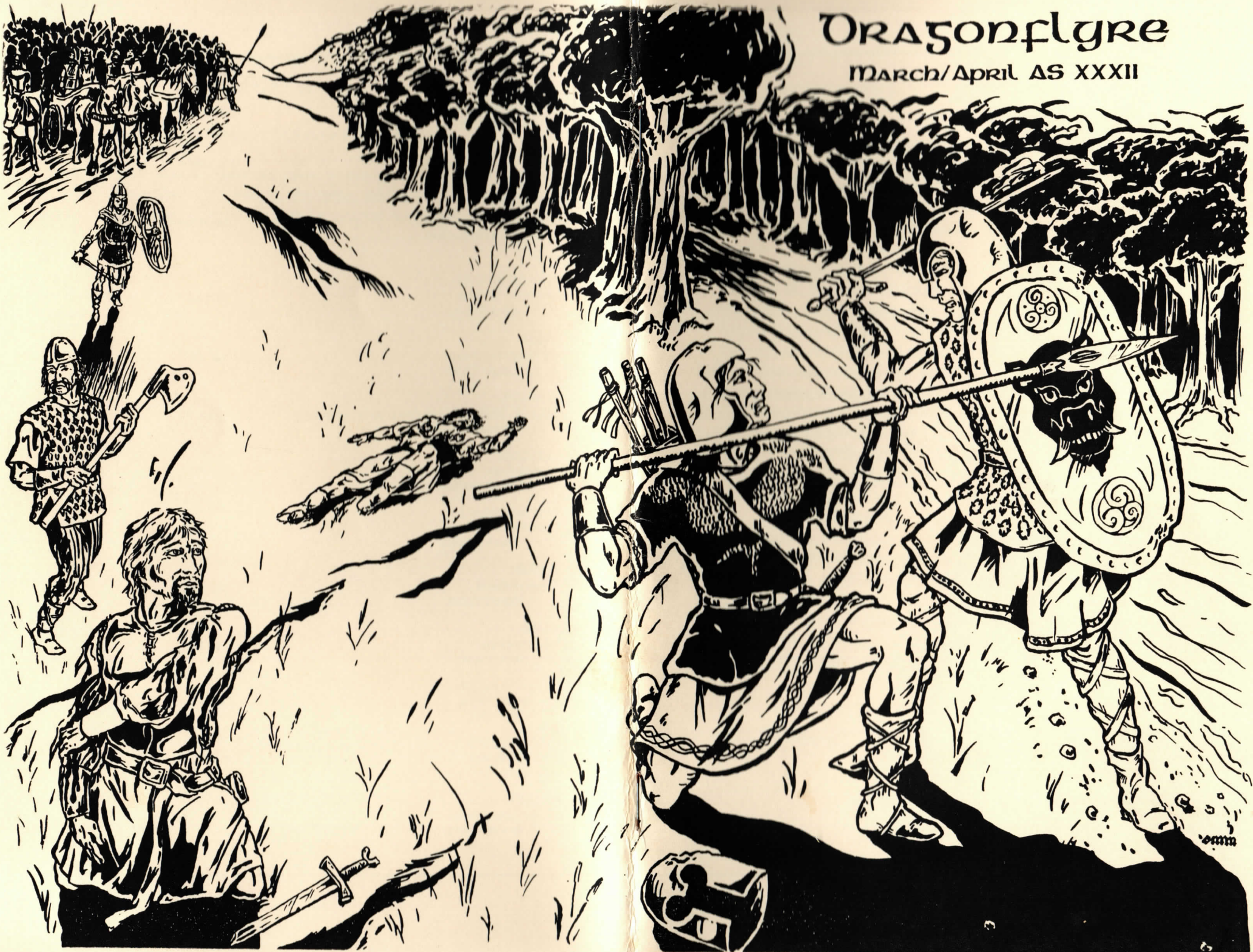


Dragonflyre

MARCH/APRIL AS XXXII



FROM THE BARONAGE

Unto the fair Populace of Vatavia come greetings warm and fair from Gabriel and Rhianwen, Baron and Baroness of these lands by the grace of Their Majesties Calontir.

The warm breezes of Spring are beginning to stir, and when Spring stirs, the hearts and minds of the populace turn to . . . battle! The event season is coming up again. March and April are very busy months, with Queen's Prize Tourney, coronation of Valens and Susannah, and our RenFair as only some of the exciting things going on. We wish to especially encourage you to go to these events; Queen's Prize is an opportunity to talk to both beginning and experienced artisans and to see the vast and diverse talent in our Kingdom. Coronation will take place in Grimfells, which is an easy drive from here. Coronation is a camping event, and the fine people of Grimfells are some of the most hospitable we've ever met. RenFair will again take place on the last weekend in April; contact His Lordship Tristan for details and to volunteer.

We will have a new Treasurer soon. Lord Alcyoneus has served well, but the demands of his work schedule have increased lately. We will let you know as soon as a decision is made.

Her Ladyship Kerare has agreed to be our regalia coordinator. The regalia coordinator is that member of the Baronial entourage who ensures that we have the appropriate cords, leaves, medallions, and scrolls for upcoming awards, and ensures that Court is properly set up. We frequently also choose to solicit advice and counsel from our regalia coordinator about Baronial awards. We have great faith in Her Ladyship, as her talent is as vast as her kindness.

Have a merry Spring!

GABRIEL

RHIANWEN

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from the seneschale

Greetings are warmly extended to Their Excellencies Gabriel and Rhianwen and the populace of Vatavia. I pray this missive all who reads it well and preparing for the upcoming spring.

We've been offered an exciting opportunity here in Vatavia. Although we do not have a firm date and time as of this writing (some time in April, probably the 11th), we will be having a couple from Mongolia who are willing to bring their ceremonial clothes and discuss their country and culture with us. This will be in the form of a BUSH or mini-BUSH, or possibly in combination with a Populace meeting. Please let me know any particular questions you may have for the Mr. and Mrs. Hoshut so that they may best address what our inquiring minds want to know.

Her Excellency and I have been working on the organizational points for forming an official medieval group at Wichita State University. By the end of the month, as part of this process, we need to know who are both students and alumni of WSU. Having a group on campus may allow us access to resources such as classrooms, indoor fighter practice area, etc. and other things that would greatly benefit us all.

Caloncon was relatively uneventful from the Seneschale's point of view. Nothing really new to let you know, other than we have the new waiver and the official troll forms that we will have copies of at upcoming events.

RenFair is just around the corner. His Lordship Tristan is doing a fine job of coordinating everything. Please, offer your help to him and his fellow coordinators. RenFair is an excellent opportunity for us to come together as Vataivians and show the general public what we do. I'd like to thank HL Brialen and the RenFair steering committee for all their hard work in developing ideas and proposals to present to the autocrat and his team. Your commitment and time are very valuable. We all appreciate what you have done to help our part of RenFair grow.

With the arrival of spring also comes an increase of events offered in the Kingdom. Please, PLEASE take the opportunity to travel to another group's event and support their efforts as they do ours. Many events will be an easy daytrip. If you are fairly new to the SCA or to traveling abroad, please feel free to contact any of our seasoned travelers or myself, and we will help you in anyway we can.

Hopefully, you have perceived an overriding theme in this letter — support. Support of what the fine members of Vatavia's populace are doing and creating to help Vatavia continue to prosper. Support for what our brethren out in the kingdom are doing for their groups and our Kingdom. Please take a few moments to consider what your gifts are (everyone has them) and how you can help enrich Vatavia and Calontir. . By continuing to work together, we will continue to grow and move towards achieving that goal known as The Dream.

In service to all,

Eleanor

from the ARCHER MARSHAL

Greetings to all:

Until the weather permits us to shoot outdoors, we will continue to practice at Archery Plus. This is the time to repair any equipment before archery season starts. I hope to see all at archery practice.

I would also report that the MidRealm Winter Challenge or Winter IKAC is now being held. There are currently 66 persons in the Known World Shooting this challenge. Out of the 66, there are 9 Vataivians! We are the second largest group in the challenge. If you have not shot, or wish to improve your score, come out and shoot at practice. We need 3 more people and we become the largest group for the Winter Challenge. The official practice and Winter Challenge will be March 1st and March 29th. All scores must be posted by April 30th.

In service,

Ruaidridh de Graham

FROM THE CALTROP CLERK

Unto the Citizens of Vatavia doth HL Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrop Clerk, send greetings this Feast of St. Wereburga, AS XXXII. Please accept the following report.

The Laurel Queen of Arms, at her January 1998 meeting, registered the following proposals from Vataavian citizens.

Christine Joye Stewart, Device: Azure, on an open book with an orle argent, in fess a thistle and panpipes azure.

Thomas Foxliche of the Grenewode, Change of name from Thomas Foxmoor.

The name and armory proposals from Calontir which were sent to Laurel in December will be considered at the April Laurel meeting, and we should know the actions taken at that meeting sometime in May.

If you have any comments or questions about these actions taken by 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.

I remain in service to Vatavia,

Annys

FROM THE CHRONICLER

Good gentles of Vatavia:

I have received quite a few submissions recently, for which I am truly grateful. Thanks to those of you who have dared the Viking Editor! I thought this might be a good time to gently point out that there are some requirements--and I realize this is something I should have done a long time ago, so I apologize. When submitting a researched article, please, please cite a bibliography. The bibliography must cite more than one source. This also applies when submitting an article about specifically SCA concerns--*TI*, *The Complete Anachronist*, or other SCA periodicals are all fine sources. However, if you are writing an article regarding information that can be researched outside of SCA publications, I require that those not be cited. For example, if I receive an article about rattan versus fiberglass, citing SCA materials is the right thing to do. If I receive an article about the Norse presence in Russia, and the bibliography consists only of SCA publications, I will *not* publish it.

In other news, somehow I have acquired two deputies: the fortitudinous Orabella Grainne O'Briain, who has undertaken the darn near Sysyphean task of the census; and the amicable Myfanwy Llanrhaedyr ym Mochnant, who will be learning some of the ins and outs of putting together my--er, *your* Dragonflyre.

In service to Scholarship,

oOoOoOoO the Sum

FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Unto the gentle populace of Vatavia come these warm greetings from Takahara Otoshi, Knight Marshal.

As I write this, Estrella is just a few days away. As you read this, you have already heard the great tales of the fun and glory that we experienced on the desert sands of Atenveldt. The Dragonfly made its presence known as it flew beneath the Falcon banner, fighting with a manly vigor beside our brethren of the Outlands. (Yes, though our Baroness Rhianwen and our Seneschale Eleanor fought, saying *womanly vigor* or *personaly vigor* just doesn't sound right.) *(Editor's note: Anyone wishing to discover the proper adjective, just contact me.)*

Our first indoor practice in February was a success. We cleverly fooled Mother Nature and tricked her into giving us good weather so that we could fight outside. Attendance was minimal, but those who attended had a good practice.

Speaking of practice, March is full of opportunities. I may not be available for fighter practice on Sunday, March 8th, as CalonCon is on the 7th in Standing Stones. This means that I am again requesting that a warranted marshal be present. Gulf Wars is scheduled for the weekend, and I do not plan on attending that event. Praying for good weather, I hope to see our fighter practice attendance continue to improve.

I continue to encourage anyone who wants to authorize as a Marshal to do so as soon as possible. I will assist in whichever way I can in preparing you for the authorization, which is relatively simple. You do not have to be an authorized fighter to be a marshal, and having a couple of other warranted marshals in the Barony would be helpful.

Also, if anyone is interested in being a deputy, feel free to contact me and we will discuss it.

In service to Vatavia, Calontir, and the Dream,

Takahara Otoshi

FROM THE MINISTER OF CHILDREN

I would like to thank some very fine and hard-working children for their help at the Baronial Work Day. They helped with stenciling a dragonfly on the loaner garb. They did a wonderful job. I would like to give a special thank you to Devon, Ly. Cerridwyn's daughter, for her help. She watched the children and kept them entertained while everyone else worked. Devon, we couldn't have done it without you.

Orabella Grainne O'Briain

FROM THE PROPERTY MISTRESS

Good gentles, I wish to thank the 21 dedicated members of the populace who helped out at Baronial Workday. Much was accomplished despite the rain. We were able to get loaner garb and feast-o-crats gear fixed, labeled, and inventoried. We were also able to do some minor repairs to the Baronial tents. Please keep your eyes open for the next Work Day, as we will need at least one more before RenFaire in April.

Additionally, I would like to announce that Ly. Penelope has graciously offered to be the new Baronial Food Storage Deputy, as Ly. Eleanor is now Seneschale. All feast-o-crats will need to call her to obtain food from baronial stores.

Again, I thank all at Baronial Work Day for their dedication.

Yours in service,

Christine Joye Stewart

FROM THE DANCE REPRESENTATIVES

Ly. Eleanor and HE Rhianwen held a meeting with four of the demo dancers. In attendance were Elana MacKenzie, Rhonda, Jessica, and myself. In this meeting we discussed what rules we felt should be established. In summary, they were as follows:

- 1) Have fun.
- 2) Everyone must dance more than one dance every class. Three exceptions to the rule are rides, new people who are checking us out, and injured people. If someone won't do more than one dance, he or she will be asked to leave.
- 3) Everyone must make an attempt at garb. There will be a loaner garb chest held by the dancers so that people who don't have garb can have something to wear.
- 4) Dress appropriately. If you don't have garb, wear something modest. The exceptions to this are people who don't know the rule. They will be made aware of it. If it happens again, they will be asked to leave. Also, no T-shirts that could be offensive to the church in which the class is held. (No T-shirts promoting alcohol, sex, drugs, etc.) No potentially offensive jewelry will be allowed. (Pentagrams, ankhs, upside crosses, etc.) If it is worn, it must be taken off or covered.
- 5) Smoking by anyone who is under 18 years of age is prohibited. There are no exceptions to this rule. If a minor wants to smoke, they must leave.

It was also decided that the dance class should have leaders who enforce these rules and who provide an example to the other dancers. These leaders will attend Officers' Meeting to provide a "voice" for the class. The leaders who were chosen are Conrad, Jessica, Rhonda, Star Elan, and Concohar. These rules were presented to the dancers on January 28 and were accepted.

In service,

Concohar

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Archery practice is on the 1st, 15th, and 29th of March, at 3:00 on Sundays at Archery Plus. Thrown weapons practice will be on the 8th and 22 of march. Contact HL Tristan or Ld Michael before going to practice. This is by appointment only!

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

Bardic is held the last Monday of the month. Call Lord Jovan at 682-7346 for more information, or Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

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 945-1536. (This is a new number!)

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.

European dance practice is held each Wednesday night (except the 3rd Wed. of each month) at St. James Episcopal Church at Roosevelt and Douglas, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Please call Lady Eliane at 265-2507 for more information.

Fighter practice remains on Sundays from 1:00 on at Central Riverside Park until further notice, or unless otherwise posted.

A position exists for a dynamic go-getter with a sparkling personality within the Barony of Vatavia. 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, Vataavian Herald, at 524-0917.

Anyone interested in any information concerning the SCA or in becoming a member of the SCA, please contact Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

BARONIAL LOST & FOUND

6 swab applicators	1 bottle sunblock	
1 roll duct tape	1 rt-hd leather glove	
1 lg boy's jacket	1 umbrella	
1 folding hand fan	2 bandanas	
3 clipboards	1 plastic goggles	
2 straw hats	1 Playmate cooler	
1 pewter mug	1 pr sandals	
1 cloth pouch	1 linen tablecloth	
1 leather wallet	1 grommet kit	
1 cloth bag	1 pr child's canvas	1 hair brush
shoes		
1 wood staff w/leather	1 small bag of top	leather
scraps		

Please contact Ly. Christine at (316)943-1879, or at thebarrs@feist.com

DRAGONFLYRE CREDITS

Her Excellency Rhianwen.....Ink Primate

HL Marie Chantal Delaire.....Officers' Minutes

Lord Corrigan MacKenzie.....Cover Art

Officers' Meeting Minutes February 4, 1998

Attendees: 17 officers/deputies/interest group advocates/autocrats
Das Bruderskrieg, February 21st at Camp TaWaKoNi, needs volunteers in certain areas. Sign-up sheets will be available at the Populace meeting. There are two, maybe three, merchants planning to attend. Lilies, June 12th - 21st, has arranged for each group to have an opportunity to meet the others attending the event by working at Troll. Please see Brialen to schedule a time for yourself. HL Tristan will be meeting with the Kansas Newman contact person to discuss this year's RenFaire and will have information for the Populace in the near future.

The January Letter of Acceptances and Returns from the Laurel Queen of Arms has been received. Ly. Christine Joye Stewart's arms and Ld. Thomas Foxmoor's name change to Thomas Foxliche of the Grenewode have been registered. Materials for the construction of panel #6 for the Roll of Arms was requested.

The Chatelaine will be ordering the new business cards this week. A meeting date to work on the brochure and newcomer packets was set up. There is a demo request for Wednesday, February 25th in the afternoon and another for Saturday, March 14th in the evening. See Marie if you are interested.

A new Census is being compiled and also information for the Minister of Children. Ly. Orabella is doing both and needs the Populace to give her the needed information. Myfanwy is temporarily filling the position of Chronicler. Dragonflyre articles or requests should be sent to her.

We have been informed the scores for Queen's Prize Tourney 1997 have been mailed. A costuming day to assist the younger members, especially the dancers, in making garb is being arranged, "T-tunic-orama". The younger dancers have plans to be more active and will be sending a representative to the officers' meeting.

An armory workday to sort and mark personal and Baronial property is being planned. Also an additional day to finish work on the Baronial property left undone due to the weather needs to be scheduled.

The indoor fighter practice is on February 15th at Alley Stanley Park from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Other groups are encouraged to come and use the building, especially if the weather is nice and the fighters choose to go outside. The Knight's Marshal, Otoshi, said he still needs information from the fighters or 2/3 may not receive their new fighter cards. Please help our fighters know about this.

The Archer Marshal presented the tabards he had made for each of the Baronial Champions to use. He announced that Vativia was the second largest group participating in the Winter IKAC. If three more participated we would be the largest group. The purchase of black and white targets for the archers was being looked into.

Award recommendations were made and discussed for the upcoming event, Das Bruderskreig. There was a discussion about the need for badges for Baronial awards. Some volunteered to undertake their construction.

The meeting adjourned.

Officers Meeting Minutes MARCH 4, 1998

Attendees: 13 officers/deputies/champions/autocrats, 1 member of the Populace.

This search for a site for this year's Valor is being conducted. A couple of good, potential locations have been found. Information from past Valors is being checked to plan the activities the best way possible. The RenFaire autocrat has begun meetings and deputy selection for this year's participation. Some items are already being made for the demo/event. Potential conflicts on the set-up arrangements were resolved.

Some plans for the Botanica demo on April 23rd were given. This is a demo with only a limited number of places available. Interested people must check with the autocrat.

The possibility of a BUSH or special Populace meeting were presented. Potential dates were suggested. Arrangements with the potential speakers will be checked first before definite plans are made.

Members were encouraged to assist Fyren Ar (Emporia) with their

upcoming demo on March 6th.

The heraldry staff has obtained three resource books. Two are name resources. The new heraldry forms mentioned in the Mews are not available. Individuals should continue to use the forms now in use.

The Chatelaine has been attending activities to contact new and potential members. Four have sent in for membership. There was one demonstration request that will have to be declined to to time constraints. Newcomer packets are being finalized. Advertising possibilities were considered.

Arrangements are being made for an interest group presentation during the monthly Populace meeting.

A donation was requested for St. James Episcopal Church, the previous dance site.

Archery practice continues at the same location with the same schedule. Some alternatives to hay bales and paper targets are being looked into. Fighter practice has continued, despite the cold temperatures. Beginning April 4th, the location for practice will change to OJ Watson Park, near 30th and McLean. There are currently 24 authorized fighters. Some were lost due to inactivity.

The Baron thanked everyone for the help cleaning and organizing the armory. The need for hammers was mentioned. Access to a metal roller is being looked into.

CalonCon is the first weekend in March. Warranted officers are expected to attend if possible; other officers are encouraged to go also. The first part of April officer reports for the first quarter are due. There was a letter received from Their Highnesses. The Kingdom positions for Treasurer and Chronicler are looking for applicants to fill these positions when the current officers step down. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply. The Crown also needs input from the people on awards in the form of award recommendations.

The meeting adjourned.

MADAME MANNERS

Dear Madame Manners,

The many titles in the SCA can be very confusing. What is the difference between Lord and Lady, Her Ladyship and His Lordship, Mistress and Master? Would you please clear this up?

Sincerely,
Anxious Addresser

Dear Anxious,

There is a simple and a complex answer to your question. First, the complex answer . . .

Everyone in the SCA is considered to be "of gentle birth", so from a person's first day in the SCA, he or she may be addressed as "Milord" or "Milady". For instance, when addressing Robert (a new person), you may call him Milord Robert. If you want to get his attention, you can say, "Excuse me, milord. . . ."

As people serve, create, fight, and shoot in the SCA, they are almost always recognized by Their Majesties Calontir with awards and membership in various orders. Most of these awards come with the right to a title, and the form of address when speaking to a person who has been gifted an award changes.

People with Award of Arms levels of awards (simple AoA, Torse, fighting or archery Fyrd, Leather Mallet, or Golden Swan) are called Lord or Lady. When Helga has been recognized for her promising embroidery with a Golden Swan, she is called Lady Helga, and when addressing her, you may say "My Lady."

Folks who have Grant of arms levels of awards (simple GoA, Calon Cross, fighting or archery Huscarl, Silver Hammer, or Calon Lily), are styled either His Lordship/Her Ladyship, or as The Honorable Lord or The Honorable Lady. When Robert gets his Cross, for instance, you could get his attention by saying, "Your Lordship!"

Created Peers (Knights, Masters-at-Arms, Laurels, and Pelicans)

are generally called Master or Mistress. Knights are called "Sir". When Helga gets her Pelican, for instance, she is called Mistress Helga. When Robert becomes a Knight, he is called Sir Robert. Although there seems to be no standard way of addressing them, I have found calling them "Good Sir Knight" or "Good Mistress" works quite well and has a certain "period" feel.

Most people granted the right to wear a coronet are addressed as "Your Excellency." This includes Counts and Countesses, Court Barons and Baronesses, and Landed Barons and Baronesses. The title in front of their names is analogous to their rank; Robert and Helga may be Baron Robert and Countess Helga. Dukes and Duchesses are addressed as "Your Grace". Robert would be called Duke Robert.

If Robert and Helga were to win Crown Tournament, they would first become Prince Robert and Princess Helga. They would be properly addressed as "Your Highnesses". After Their Coronation, They would be King Robert and Queen Helga, and They would be addressed as "Your Majesties".

To make matters a little more complex, some people use titles more appropriate to their personae. For instance, instead of a Count, someone may style himself an Earl. To keep these straight, you just have to keep track of who's who (a sometimes daunting task).

Now the easy answer

When people increase in rank, they never lose their previous awards. In other words, everyone is still a Milord or a Milady. If you're trying to get the attention of someone you've never met before, it's never incorrect to call out, "Milord!" (Expect to get a funny look, though, if you've just addressed the King that way)

Here's a sneaky technique to try if you suspect that someone has a variety of awards, but you're not sure which ones—estimate high. If you're pretty sure that someone has an AoA level award but are unsure whether she has a GoA, call her "Your Ladyship." If you're right, good job. If she is of AoA level, she'll probably correct you, but she'll feel good that you think highly of her.

If someone has a coronet on, check for strawberry leaves. If they are present, call the wearer "Your Grace". If they are not evident, call the person "Your Excellency." (Strawberry leaves come in groups of three.)

Learn to recognize the crowns of the King and Queen and those of the Prince and Princess. In general, these are larger than coronets.

It's never improper to ask someone how they prefer to be addressed, either. Just say, "Are you a Lordship?" Robert will probably be honored that you were concerned enough to ask.

Mistress Manners welcomes questions about life in the SCA from everyone. Please feel free to ask anything; if you have a question, chances are good that someone else is wondering the same thing. Please submit questions to Mistress Manners to the Chronicler.

The Bruce in Ireland

Friar Thomas Bacon

Robert Bruce is best remembered for reestablishing Scotland's independence and his victory at Bannockburn. But Scotland is not the only place where he bedeviled the English. What is not widely known is that he instigated an invasion of Ireland. This article will sketch out this forgotten episode.

The invasion was conceived soon after the battle of Bannockburn, which occurred on June 24, 1314. There were numerous reasons for this move. Foremost was that it split the attention of the English and deprived them of a source of troops. Secondly, a number of Scottish nobles had relations in Ireland, particularly in Ulster. And finally, Robert sought a crown for his brother Edward.

So on May 25, 1315, Edward crossed the Irish Sea and landed at Larne in Ulster. His landing was unexpected and practically unopposed. Making Edward's job easier was the fact that both the native nobility and the transplanted English nobility was fractured and fighting against itself, more politically than militarily. There he was joined by some of the local Irish chiefs. Marching due south, Edward defeated the remaining local chiefs a month later, taking Dundalk. He then plundered the area.

Meanwhile, Richard de Burgo, Earl of Ulster, who had been in western Ireland, and Edmund le Botiller the Justiciar of Ireland, who represented the King of England, gathered their forces to meet the threat. They joined forces just south of Dundalk in late July. The Earl insisted he meet Edward alone, as it was his lands that were invaded. Edward retreated north across the river Bann at Coleraine. There he promised to back one Irish chief to be king of Connacht--which chief promptly burned all the towns there. The chief's main rival, who was with the Ear of Ulster, left the Earl upon

hearing this. The Earl, now greatly weakened, fell back and was defeated on September 10.

Edward continued south. On December 10, he defeated Roger Mortimer in Meath. While Castle Trim held out, central Ireland was open to Edward. He marched west, then turned south. After spending Christmas at Loughsewdy, he moved southeast. The castle at Kildare was ready for him, and resisted for three days before Edward gave up and moved on.

Upon taking castle Dermot, Edward started back north, whereupon he met the latest English force. Though larger than Edward's army, the English host ended up retreating due to the quarreling of the English commanders. Edward took up a strong position in central Ireland. But he could not stay for long. War and a bad harvest had stripped the land bare. So Edward's forces retreated to Ulster, reaching there by the end of february. The English did not pursue. The Irish to the south were taking advantage of the chaos caused by the invasion, and so the English turned their attention to regaining control there.

On May 1, Edward had himself crowned King of Ireland and set about consolidating his hold on Ulster, though the principle castle of the area, Carrickfergus, held out until September, then suffering defeat by hunger. That fall, Edward returned to Scotland to ask for help from Robert, who came to Ireland just after Christmas. In early February, the Scots marched south. On the twenty-third, they had reached the outskirts of Dublin. Instead of attacking the town, they moved to the southwest, going as far as Limerick, plundering all the way. Shadowing them was the Justiciar's army. In mid-April, hearing that reinforcements were arriving from England, the Scots slipped back to Ulster. By the end of May, Robert was back in Scotland.

The reinforcements were led by Roger Mortimer. He allowed the Scots to go north, and concentrated on restoring order in the rest of Ireland. Circumstances forced him to make a number

of concessions to various Irish chiefs, which had the result of ceding English power in the outreaches. Nevertheless, these arrangements allowed Mortimer to solidify his position, eliminating Edward's supporters from his forces. But Mortimer was not to see through to victory, as he was recalled in May 1318.

For nearly a year and a half, Edward remained quiet in Ulster. Then in October 1318, for the last time, he moved south. A hastily formed force met him just south of Dundalk, near where he had been crowned, and defeated him. He died in battle. With that, the Scottish invasion ended.

In the greater scheme of things, the Scottish invasion of Ireland had no lasting effects outside of Ireland. Inside Ireland, the land was ruined and the population declined. The Black Plague thirty years later just added insult to injury. The invasion did mark the beginning of the decline of English power in Ireland, a decline unchecked until the Tudors. It was only the fractional nature of the Irish lords that prevented the English being tossed out.

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The Perfect Period Experience

Cerridwyn o'r Eurgledde Ferch Owain ap Fychan o'r Glyndyfrdwy

When I and several other fair gentles were invited to attend a "Perfectly Period Party," we really didn't know what to expect. The introduction to an event for new members in the SCA I thought was a neat idea.

When we all arrived, we had to wait while our feast gear was taken and set up for us. We were then summoned and as we walked through a doorway into the dining hall, we had indeed stepped back in time. The walls were as the immense stone walls of a castle and hung with banners. The long tables were beautifully set with white linen cloth and many candles. Minstrels' music played in the background, adding a festive and beautiful atmosphere.

Our hosts were Their Excellencies Akitsuki Yoshimitsu and Damienne d'Auxerre of the Barony of Coeur d'Ennui. They were delightful, excellent hosts, and as our delicious feast began, we spoke throughout the evening of our homelands, travels, the Crusades, and many other interesting period happenings. Their Excellencies told of their lands to the north and I would love to visit there someday. They sound wondrous indeed. And, of course, Their Excellencies' invitation to do so was appreciated by all.

The company at the feast included Ld. Corrigan MacKenzie, looking splendid in the tartan and kilt, displaying the colors of his clan. His lady, Vanora, looked lovely in her long flowing gown. We all wished them all the best that life can offer with the arrival of their first child soon to come. Also looking every inch the highland couple were Ld. Ruaidridh de Graham and his charming lady, Orabella Grainne O'Briain. A saxon couple, Godric and Maude, were good company and looked very well in their early period garb. They, being well-traveled, related many wondrous things that they had seen. Milady Elana MacKenzie, Ld. Corrigan's sister, was

elegant in an early Tudor gown borrowed from me, as she was currently visiting my keep and had no extra garb with her. I myself wore a thirteenth-century gown of peach brocade. I was very glad to see my Welsh countrywoman, Myfanwy. We had not seen each other for some time and we had a chance to catch up on current happenings. She also looked beautiful in her lavender biau. Lord Sean portrayed the hall steward very authentically, and we enjoyed his efforts.

The feast, prepared by His Excellency Gawayne and Lady Ala, was exquisite. We began with a choice of cider or water and delicious loaves of dark wheat bread served with herb butter and small wedges of cheese with pinenuts and diced fruits. We were then served a fantastic ham and potato soup. Most of us had seconds! The next course was very good, spaetzle with sauerbraten, served with oatbread and honey butter. Dessert consisted of fruit soup and rice pudding with dates. Her Excellency Brialen and Lady Katriona did a wonderful job of serving.

When the excellent German fare had been eaten--we were all extremely full--we adjourned to the hall and enjoyed much more interesting conversation. Unfortunately, it was all too quickly time to say our goodbyes.

I would like to highly commend and give much thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this the memorable occasion that it was.

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ENRICO FURIOSO

By Joavan Greyhawk

A maiden and a man I sing today! To tell a tale of woe and unrequited love; the lay of mad crusader Juan Enriqu , a cavalier they called the Falcon, and his beloved Erica, purple flower of the mountains, ravished by a Saracen, the wizard bane called al-Hussein.

“Twas in the reign of King Alfonso. In the realm of Aragon, dwelt a knight Juan Enrico, a swordsman and an archer bold, a noble lord that hight the Falcon. On a moon-lit autumn night, beheld the maiden Erica, daughter of the Lord Calluna, dressed in burgundy her fiery locks shone fire red beneath the hunter’s moon, as she danced around the meadow’s gloom. Each night Don Juan, the Lord Enriqu , would steal away to worship gentle Erica from afar, forsaking duties all and manly honour; to drink of purple passion and espy this dainty flower all dressed in bliss and purple gauze.

Erica, Diego’s daughter, had spurned the heart of lovers young and old, forsworn the hand of knights and princes bold. And grey-eyed Juan Enrico had no hope to win the maiden’s hand, and by her side in holy chapel stand, then gently lead her to his chamber bed, and with caress and kisses sweet and words of love thereby gain her maiden-head; instead, gained naught but mournful heart. And every night her swains would gather round, bedecked in golden satin’s sheen, to hearken to the minstrel and cittern’s sound, and dance upon the meadow green on starry nights for her delight. Don Juan did also take his chance and dared to dance with her, and by the rites of Courtly Love and other kindly arts, proposed with her to make himself the champion of her heart. For her part, Erica would not deign to take bridal vows, and give her bridle rein o’er to his growing need, the taming of his ramping steed, nay! The wanton wench did cast aside his words of love and vows with baughs of gentle mocking laughter bitter-sweet.

To put aside the burning shame of revelry and courtly geste, our hero, Juan Enrico, with the rest of all Iberia’s knighthood, did seek to answer call of chivalry, and take quest to fare across the sea with sword and crucifix in hand, and free the Holy Tomb of Christ our Lord from the

paynim Saracen. With Don Galvano and others of his peers, did bedeck themselves in arms and other knightly gear. Then passage took on the good ship Marianne, to cross the sea and seek the Holy Land. There amidst the lilies of the field, did anoint themselves in blood and honour and suffer foes to yield unto the right of Holy Christendom the blessed holy city of Hierusalem. Then returned to fame and glory in Iberia.

Such deeds of valour, told in quiet hush could not fail to turn a maiden’s cheeks of pallor into a deeper shade of blush. Thus with these deeds of noble chivalry did Juan Enrique hope to win the key to fair and lovely Erica’s maiden purity. But words of doom and woe awaited Lord Enrico. For in his stead, with secret herbal potions and other devilish charms did that blackguard Moor, Hussein, entice the fair maid Erica to fall into his open arms! Upon the wind swept shores of Lake Callune, in the falling shadows of dark forest gloom, beneath the wanton eye of a horned summer moon did fair Maid Erica, enthralled, drink deep the draught of impassioned Cupid’s rune.

Such tidings could not with Lord Enrique lightly sit, when he heard the deed he fell into a raving fit. And, having drunk from drams of spiced ale, did Juan Enrique’s wits begin to fail. First he slew the bearer who these sad tidings brought, then he sought to ride into Calluna town, and there did burn her father’s castle down! Methinks he did protest too much the fair maid’s innocence, indeed proclaimed her virtues and her honour with rare and moving eloquence. “No maid so beautiful as she would seek with Moor to tryst. To think that Erica would reveal her secret charms and yield herself to certain harm from such a vile ill-favoured man: by God, thou lyest!” But to the Falcon’s sorrow and dismay, nigh unto the month of Hay, the wicked works of al-Hussein did bloom and make display in fertile ground and show themselves in blushing maid, now wrought with child, full round.

Now the furies mad did make their sport with Juan Enrico, driving him from courts of chivalry in raving fits; the bold knight was bereft of wit. And Don Galvano did he challenge in the lists, a friend of old and comrade he, a champion knight well versed in Christian piety; now challenged he with blows of mailed wrist; in holy chapel and in the street, the gauntlet laid Enrique down at noble Galvano’s feet.

But Galvano was with Juan Enrico loth to go to war and thereby

break the troth of knightly Christian brotherhood. To seal the mood, and heal Enrico Furioso of this malady, and even to bring back his sober calm and sanity now scattered by the lack of his true lady's love and chastity, did good Don Galvano mount the back of golden gryphon none to soon, and ride him high into the sky, e'en unto the baleful summer moon where, 'by my whiskers', quoth he, did lie the Falcon's rhyme and reason.

But the Fates had already woven weird their tale, and for the star-crossed lovers 'twas too late, for of their lonely lives I must relate, both were bairns of a bale and redding star in autumn's hale, in winter's filth and in bleeding moon, the one too late and the one too soon, were the lovers mourned both born beneath the mighty serpent Wyvern's Tail.

The Falcon now rode forth upon the way, in battle gear and armour bright arrayed, to rescue his true Mary Mild and bring the wizard vile his final reckoning day. Upon a snow white stallion charger along the western road, a challenge bold he issued forth to whom he sought to goad, the wicked al Hussein, to duel by steel or arrow, that blackguard Moor to harrow, and free his heart for once and all from this heavy burden's load. Forth to Griffin's Gate, a Skraelling to debate by mortal combat's parry, touch and thirst, now consumed in bloody lust; all this to venge his awful hate.

Yet Hussein was more cunning than a fox, to face a Spaniard fell and grim upon the rocks of a bloody field of honour was not his way; with black arts he now turned the day into black night, that he might better make his flight; the craven coward turned away ans 'neath the deck of south bound ship, did give his foes the slip. As Grendal once besought his mother so al-Hussein sought out another, skirting the shores of Christian lands and cursing the maiden Erica as he ran. But though he thought to put himself beyond the reach of Christian law, the cursed leech could not hide away from his own doom, and on a rocky shoal beneath a shadowed moon, the wizard bane did perish by ship's breach.

Now the bold knight Don Galvano rode forth with Don Diego, with noble knights of Christian sort and other in cohorts, to seek the western road and storm the Griffin's fort, to rescue man and maiden and bring them into court of Love and Chivalry to test their worth. But sorrowing Maid Erica was torn between two lovers, aye, her aching heart was shorn in two; and clutching a charmed stone in hand, she voiced a

spell to put her from the eyes of man.

Then Diego and Galvano entered in and cast their ears about to greet the din of silent haunting echoes. Nor wizard wight nor any sight of Christian knight could they now spy, saw naught but empty court-yard underneath an empty sky, and in the halls could find no trace of any soul of Christian race; no sight, no sound, and no smell, save the scent of wind tossed fields of mountain heather and the hint of stormy mountain weather. . . and the sulf'rous stint of brimstone, thither, rising up to tell that the soul of al-Hussein now roasts in Hell! Thus, was Justice served.

But the fate of Juan and Erica is but a mystery, and the deeds of all the Dons are now but history. For when they, the lovers found, their lives were fled, of to burn in Hellfire's ice or find bliss in paradise, their souls now sped. And in the castle garden stood a bed of limestone wrought with marble statuary, and in the midst of kinights and ladies cast in granite mortuary, stood the maiden Erica suffused in the gloom of lost maternity, now a statue cold for all eternity. And also there they found a bloke, brought down I deem by faerie stroke, drowned in tears of sorrow, so sad and bitter-sweet, lay Juan Enrique lifeless with arms still clasped about his true love's feet.

The maiden and the man have gone to dust. And the meadow green is shroud in mournful hush. And on the shore there stands, by Lake Callune, the spire of Done Diego's Tower gone to ruin. But when spring is come to the vales of Aragon, and the rivers run deep with the foam of purple mountain snows, and the Virgin May brings forth her gentle showers, the south wind blows, and the heath abounds in grey-stalked falchion brooms and blooms if purple mountain flowers.

Finis

A.S. XXX

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From the Whale's Road

Concobar

A few weekends ago I was able to attend RUSH for the first time. While the idea of school sounded boring at first, I was pleasantly surprised to find that many of the classes were quite fun. Alana, Cerridwen, Raymond the Red, and I rode to the event with Friar Thomas Bacon. Because we arrived later than we had intended, Alan and I missed the first half of Dancing for Lilies Ball XII. We arrived at that class in time to learn one dance (I don't remember its name) and to dance John Tallow's.

Our next choice of classes had us splitting up. While Alana was attending Anglo-Saxon Garb for Women, I found myself learning how to brew liqueurs. I found this class to be informative for someone who has never brewed a beverage in his life. In fact, it gave me enough of an interest that I have now accumulated many good recipes. *(Editor's note: Maybe we'll see an entry of Concobar's in the next Baroness' Challenge?)*

During lunch we bumped into Leif of Crescent Moon and his wife. I was introduced, again, to them. While we were on our way back, I ran into an old friend from Arkansas City who now lives in Westumbria. We had a nice conversation about what we've been doing and how to get some of our old friends from college into the Barony of Vatavia.

After a relaxing lunch at a nearby Dairy Queen, Alana and I proceeded to the Introduction to Welsh class that was taught by Cerridwen. It was an informative class, which provided those of us who are not Welsh the fundamentals of proper pronunciation of Welsh words. We also learned beginning phrases such as "hello," "how are you?" and "please."

Our next class was quite a workout. The title was Medieval Aerobics. The class was only half as long as the instructor wanted it

to be so we were only able to make it through half of the class. Until that point, I had never thought of Western European Dance as an aerobic activity. The dances were arranged in the same manner as an aerobic workout. The "warm up" started with slow courtly dances. The tempo was increased with each dance until a steady aerobic pace was achieved. After the appropriate amount of "work out" time, we began the "cool down," which would have ended with "Hole in the Wall."

At 3:00pm, our attention was turned to a class that was based around the idea of having and using a persona. It was called Preparing Enchanted Ground. This class instructed us in setting up an area in which all who entered must be in character (persona) and must not stray from being period and in character. It also gave us a chance to try being and staying in persona, which will enhance our experience. Next, Alana and I decided to skip our last class and join Her Excellency Rhianwen, Lord Otoshi, and the other fine souls in the Tabard-O-Rama Sweathouse. It was there that we spent the next two hours making tabards for our Kingdom. Because I cannot sew a single stitch, I cut out falcons and made many wisecracks.

When the Tabard-O-Rama Sweathouse shut down, we retreated to K Bob's Steakhouse for a nice meal provided by Raymond the Red. After scaring all of the mundane people in the restaurant, we began our return trip back to the Barony of Vatavia.

In closing I would like to say that this event was a good experience for me, especially as a new person to the SCA. I learned a lot and had fun at the same time.

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Endnote

from Rhianwen, Odindisa's stunt double

Lady Odindisa is still on maternity leave, so she let me take the Dragonflyre this month. I apologize for rather stark style — your regular Chronicler will return next month with her normal outstanding work.

In service,
Rhianwen

BARON Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel David Cooper	Boy Duke
BARONESS Rhianwen ferch Bran ap Gruffydd Joan Steurer	269-3853
SENESCHALE Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon Wendy Donaldson	685-8510
ARCHER MARSHALL Ruadrich de Graham Allen Graham	788-8826
CALTROP Brialen Ulfsdottir 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 Gillaspay	267-3456
HISTORIAN Friar Thomas Bacon David Moreno	685-1182
MOA/MOS Aobhainn na Kildare Kim Shephard	683-7425
MINISTER OF CHILDREN Orabella Grace O'Brien Patti Allen	788-8826
PROPERTY MISTRESS Christine Joye Stewart Jerri Barr	943-1879
TREASURER Alcyoneus du Battenhelm Park McKellop	682-4468