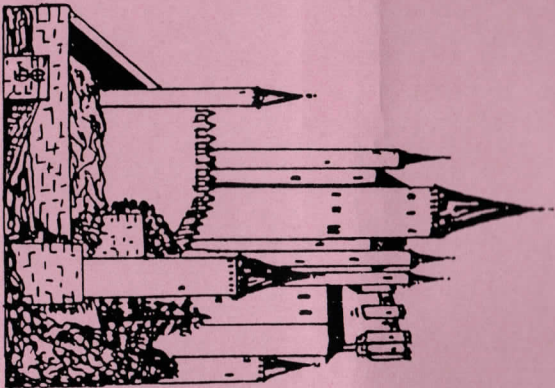


The Dragonflyre
c/o Marguerite Reed
1027 S. Lulu
Wichita, KS 67211



DRAGONFLYRE
november AS XXXIII

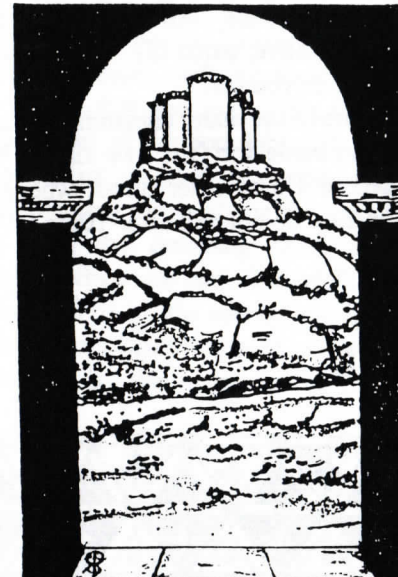
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FROM THE BARONAGE

Come now these words from Khulan and Kerare, Cherbi and Cherbin of Vatavia, by the grace of Their Majesties of Calontir.

We would like to thank Duke Syr Gabriel and Mistress Rhianwen for their many years of gracious and hard service. A new Baronage always brings some changes, and with change some confusion may follow as everyone adjusts. We greatly appreciate everyone's patience, understanding, and support. We would like to thank all of the dedicated gentles that worked so hard to make Valor a success, barring of course the oppressive heat and flies.

The Barony is in need of a new MOC/MOS. If you are interested in this position, please submit a letter to Us and the Seneschale. At this time, We would put forth a call to all artisans of the Barony for largess. For more information, please contact Cherbin Kerare.

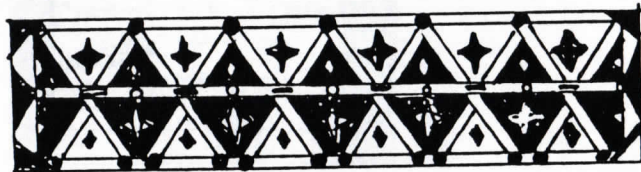
As summer draws to a close, there is still much to do in the Kingdom. We would encourage all to attend as many events and activities as possible. An old Mongol proverb states, "As long as your father's alive, enjoy life. As long as your pony is alive, see as many lands as you can."

Due to the many demands on Our time, We have decided to set Fridays aside for Our own time. We ask that all matters be addressed to Us at other times, whenever possible. As we have smalls, please do not call after 10pm. Thank you.

In service,

KHULAN

KERARE



FROM THE SENESCHALE

Greetings unto Their Excellencies, Khulan and Kerare, Baronage of Vatavia, and Her Populace from Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon, Seneschale of The Land That Burns.

Valor again demonstrated the warm hospitality that has made Vatavia famous. Many thanks to His Grace Gabriel and the fine team he assembled to make Valor a smashing success. A special thank you to Her Ladyship Maeve for taking care of the water situation when it arose Friday morning.

Good gentles, as you witnessed great feats of service at Valor, I do hope you made note of it and sent an award recommendation to Their Excellencies. They are eager to recognize the accomplishments of Their populace, but they cannot do so without your input. Please also remember to recommend people to Them to consider for awards other than the service awards (such Act of Dedication, Golden Heart, etc.), but also for artisanship (Achievement in the Arts, Achievement in the Sciences, Radiant Lioness, etc.), and archery/fighting (Veslar, Vojak, etc.).

Lady Orabella has expressed a desire to step down as Minister of Children (MoC) so that she may attend to modern commitments. I pray all members of the populace will join me in thanking Orabella for her exceptional service to our barony and the children. Therefore, I am accepting applications for the office of MoC. After consultation with the outgoing MoC and Their Excellencies, I am splitting the office into two. One MoC will be to serve those young people ages 13 to 17, the second will be to serve those 12 and younger. Letters of application should be sent to Their Excellencies, Orabella, and me by the beginning (7:00p.m.) of November populace.

Their Excellencies and I have set a deadline of the November Officers Meeting for winter event bids. Please include the following in your bid: Autocratting team (feast-o-cratt, marshall, A&S, etc.), Budget, Site, Activities, Date, Theme, etc. If you need help with your bid, please contact me! I have lots on file that you can use as a model for yours. We are also beginning to accept bids

for Valor XX. We feel that this will be a huge event and early planning is essential to its success. Please have the Valor XX bids in our hands, no later November Populace.

In service to Coronet, Crown, Kingdom, and Society,

Eleanor

FROM THE ARCHER MARSHALL

Greetings to the Populace of Vatavia:

Vatavia rules the IKAC in all divisions. Vatavia also represents about 90% of the CAP scores. The Mews lists four Vatavians in the top scores for three divisions.

Winter Archery will be shot at 5500 N. Maize Road, Sunday afternoons at 3:00pm.

In service,

Roderick De Graham

FROM THE CHRONICLER

Greetings to the populace of Vatavia.

After receiving four letters of application for my position-- which surprised and pleased me no end--the

Baronage, the Seneschale and I chose the successor whom we deemed most able. It was a very tough decision! All of the applicants were qualified, and all, I'm sure, would do a great job. I want to say a public thanks to Alexandra, Christine, Connor, and Corrigan.

Please be prepared to show the new Chronicler your support by giving her or him feedback, articles, and artwork.

And now comes the time to say goodbye: the two years I have spent as the Vatavian Chronicler were the most rewarding I've ever spent in the Barony, in the Kingdom, in the SCA. I learned an incredible amount during my tenure as office. I had so much help from so many wonderful people.

I want to give special 'thank yous' to certain gentles: His Excellency Gabriel; Her Excellency Rhianwen, Her Excellency Brialen; His Lordship Friar Thomas; Her Ladyship Marie Chantal; Milady Toda Galindez; Lord Corrigan McKenzie; Lady Cerridwyn; Lord Takahara Otoshi; Lord Thomas Foxliche; Lady Eleanor; and Milord Connor. Without all of you wonderful people, I could not have accomplished what I did. A huge Vatavian Vivat to all of you--those who assisted--and those who read!

In service,

Orkneyar the 5th



FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Many huzzahs for all the Vataivians who attended the Defender of the Wastelands event down in Ansteorra August 29th. Vatavia was well represented, not only on the list field but on the archery range as well. Many thanks to everyone, especially those who simply came and didn't fight or shoot, but came out simply to enjoy themselves. Such a large turnout of Vataivians at an out-of-Kingdom event definitely shows the solidarity and strength in this Barony.

Remember, as of October, fighter practice returned to Central Riverside Park at 1:00 'til whenever. Elsewhere, there is a map to Central Riverside so everyone can find it and come out. I still encourage everyone, fighters and non-fighters alike, to attend. I also encourage everyone to get out to archery practice if at all possible.

Sword and shield practice and armoring continues as the Ducal Pell and Armory on Tuesday nights....

In service to Vatavia, Calontir, and the Dream,

Takahara Otoshi

FROM THE PROPERTY MISTRESS

Good gentles,

I am still taking letters of application for the position of Property Mistress and Waterbearing Deputy. My purpose is to train members of the populace in these positions so that others may know what I do and decide if they would like to pursue service in either area.

When submitting letters, please give one to the Baronage, Heirs to the Coronet, the Seneschale, and myself. For Property Mistress please also give a copy to the Treasurer and for Waterbearing, a copy to the Knight's Marshal. Thank you!

If you have questions, please call me at 943-1859 or e-mail me at thebarrs@feist.com.

In Service,

Christine

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Populace will be held on ~~September~~ ^{November} 18 at the student activities center on the WSU Campus, 7:00p.m. Please reference the map section of your Wichita Southwestern Bell telephone book. Many Thanks to Lady Elspeth for arranging for MARS to sponsor us here.

Officers meeting will be held on November 4 at 7:00p.m. at Dawson United Methodist Church.

December Populace will be held on the 16th at 7:00p.m. at the student activities center on the WSU Campus.

Please call Ld. Roderick at 788-8826 for information regarding winter archery practice.

European dance meets the first, second, and fourth Wednesday of the month at Sims Park. For more info, please call Ld. Gabhain at 267-2507.

Note: We are in dire need of a winter dance site!

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

November

1 Fighter
Practice - 1:00

Archery Practice
- 3:00

2

3
Pell Practice/
Armoury - 6:30

4
Officer's Meeting
- 7:00

5 Calligraphy &
Illumination -
7:00

6

7 Middle
Eastern Dance -
Time TBA

8 Fighter
Practice - 1:00

Archery Practice
- 3:00

9

10
Pell Practice/
Armoury - 6:30

11

12

13

14 Middle
Eastern Dance -
Time - TBA

15 Fighter
Practice - 1:00

Archery Practice
- 3:00

16
MARS - 6:00

Costuming - 7:00

17
Pell Practice/
Armoury - 6:30

18
Populace
Meeting- 7:00

19

20

21
Vatavian
Champions'
Tourney

22

23

24
Pell Practice/
Armoury - 6:30

25

26
Welsh Group -
7:00

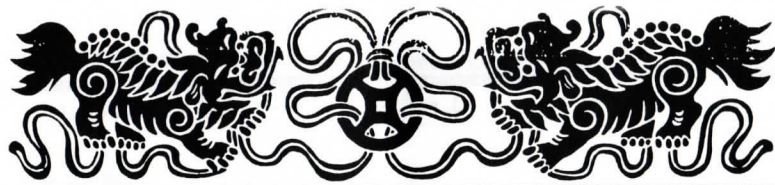
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28 Middle
Eastern Dance -
Time - TBA

29 Fighter
Practice - 1:00

Archery Practice
- 3:00

30



CHAMPIONS EVENT

Barony of Vatavia

November 21, 1998

BROOKSIDE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

2760 S. ROOSEVELT

Schedule of the Day

- 10:00am - Site opens
 - 11:00 - Fighting & Archery: List opens, inspections authorizations, field opens for warm-ups
A & S: Entry table opens
 - 11:45 - List closes for Speed Tourney
 - 12:00 - List closes for Champions, Speed Tourney & Archery Tourney begins, Archery will last until 5:00.
All A&S entries must be in.
Judges should report to the A&S Champion
 - 12:30 - Champions Tourney begins
 - 1:30 - Fighting begins for everyone!
 - 6:00 - Pot Luck Feast -
Please bring the first letter of your first name:
A-E- Fruits & Crackers for chili
F-L - Veggies & Dip
M-O - Desserts
P-T - Cheeses
U-Z - Breads
Chili* will be provided by the Champions.
(Please bring bowls & a big ol' spoon!)
 - 10:00 - Site Closes
- Bardic Competition and Court will be held at Cherbi's & Cherbin's leisure

Site Fee: \$4.00

Kids under 10 Free
Family Cap \$10.00

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

Criteria:

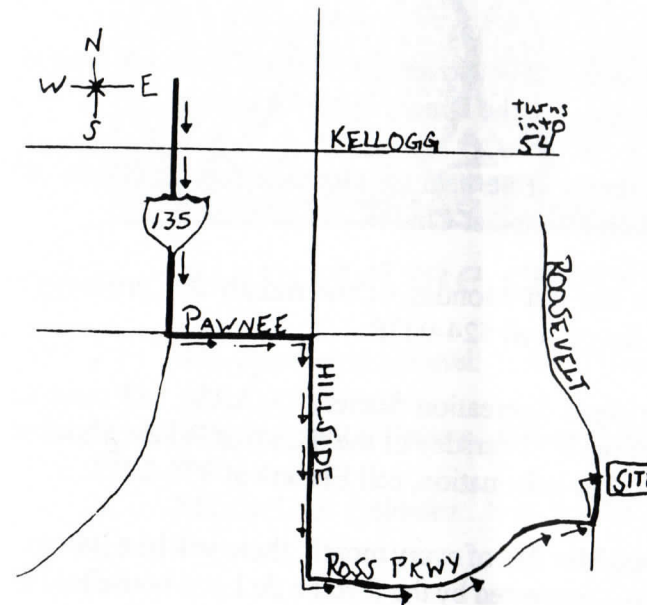
A & S - 3 Entries needed -
1 science & 2 arts or
1 art & 2 sciences

Bardic - Minimum of 2 pieces
One must be a song, the other your choice (a tale, another song, etc.) & at least one must be in persona.

Event Stewards:

Fighting: Udutai (316) 267-8916
Archery: Morcar (316) 773-3956
A & S: Batu (316) 263-1079
Bardic: Otoshi (316) 267-3456

For those of you who are disappointed about not making it to the Toys for Tots Tourney - don't be! There will be a toy donation box at troll that will be sent to Wyvern Cliff following the event.



Take I-135 to Pawnee
Go East 1/2 mi to Hillside
Go South 2/3 mi to Ross Pkwy
Go East 2/3 mi to Roosevelt
Turn left, site is on the
Right 1/2 mi.

BROOKSIDE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
WICHITA, KS

2760 S. ROOSEVELT

Middle Eastern dance is on Saturday afternoons, when the banner is flying, at Khulan and Kerare's. Call Her Excellency at 265-9825 for more information.

Fighter practice is held at South Linwood Park at 1:00. Pell practice and armoring continue at the Baronial Pell and Armory on Tuesday night at 6:30p.m. Please Call Lord Otoshi at 267-3456 if you have any questions about Tuesday or Sunday practices or armoring.

The Middle Ages Recreation Society aka MARS will meet at 6 pm. on Oct. 22 at Wheatshocker Apts. Please call Lady Elspeth at 978-2722 for additional information.

The Welsh group will meet Oct. 22th at 7:00pm at Lady Cerridwyn's house. Please call her at 524-0478 for additional information.

Champions Event will be November 21st at Brookside United Methodist. Please see the DragonFlyre for details.

Officers meeting will be held on October 7 at 7: 00p.m. at Dawson United Methodist Church.

Bardic is on the last Monday of the month at Cerridwyn's house. For details, call 524-0478.

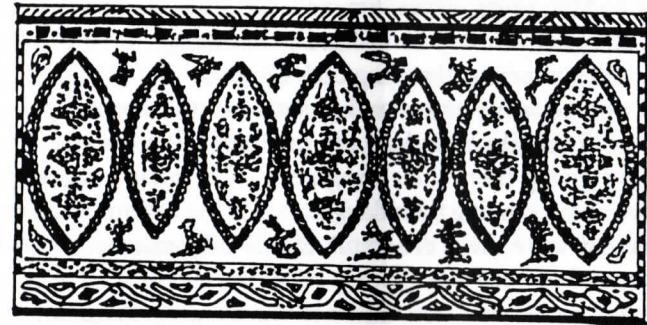
The Middle Ages Recreation Society (MARS) will meet at 5:45-6:45 on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Wheat Shocker Apartments. For information, call Elspeth at 978-2722.

On the second Monday of every month, there will be a Baronial Archery Class, presented by the Fletcha de Leon household as

a service to the Barony. Classes are held at 9400 E. Lincoln. Apt. 613. For information, contact Katya de Leon at 682-1263, or send email to boqueron@juno.com.

Calligraphy and Illumination is being held at 1422 N. Topeka, which is a block east of 13th and Broadway. Please call Ld. Corrigan for details at 945-1536.

Costuming/Fiber Arts is held on the third Monday of each month at 1739 S. Water. The Costuming/Fiber Arts interest group now has several books and a sewing machine available for loan to members of the populace. Call Ly. Sibeal at 265-4643 if you have questions.



DRAGONFLYRE CREDITS

His Excellency Gabriel.....Ink Pimate

HL Marie Chantal Delaire...Officers' Minutes

Milady Toda Galindez...Non-border Art

SITT WALLADA AL-AMIRA

Toda Galindez

The most famous, if not the best, of the many women poets of Al-Andalus (Muslim Spain 712-1492) was Wallada bint Muhammad al Mustakfi, who flourished in the first half of the 11th century. She was the daughter of the Khalif of Cordoba, the pre-eminent ruler in Iberia, enthroned at the pinnacle of Muslim culture in the West, the most sophisticated in Europe. After her father's death in 1029, Wallada gathered around her a group of the most eminent men of her day. Considering her later renown, this group probably included women.

Wallada is said to have been the daughter of a Christian slave and to have had blue eyes, white skin, and reddish-gold hair. But women of this complexion often served as literary images both of supreme beauty and supreme evil among both Christian and Muslim writers; and it was certainly the usual practice in the Iberian peninsula before 1212 for Christian kings to reinforce alliances with Muslim rulers by giving them their daughters. Christian kings were not sensitive about sending their daughters into the harems of infidels so long as they were given the status of officially sanctioned wives.

(It should be emphasized that notwithstanding the prurient and uninformed imaginations of generations of European and American image-makers, the harem is not a cushiony, carpeted marble prison for half-clad sex slaves. The harem is the private section of any home where only the immediate family, close relatives, and the most intimate friends are invited. It is the domain of the women, the nursery and school of the children, and the domestic refuge of the men. It is a Semitic, not an Islamic, tradition, owing much to the social customs of the Romans and Byzantines.)

In Wallada's lifetime the technological and cultural sophistication of the caliphate of Cordoba had advanced to a level unparalleled

anywhere in Europe and unsurpassed in the Muslim east only in Damascus and Baghdad. The society is described as being very free and ignoring many of the precepts of contemporary Islam, especially the prohibition of wine. Many women went about unveiled outside the harem, some worked outside the home—even as advocates in the courts—and enjoyed rights of tutelage, divorce, and property unknown either in Christian Europe or elsewhere in Islam. Wallada lived at a time and in a place perfectly suited to her temperament—a time and a milieu that she may have had some part in supporting, enlivening, and prolonging.

At least two of the men among her colleagues and admirers became her lovers, but whether in the body or only in verse is difficult to say. The best-known of these was the poet Ibn Zaidun, whose poems according to some are the only reason for Wallada's fame. Another was the vizier Abu Amir ibn Abdus, about whom Ibn Zaidun wrote so insulting a poem that Wallada was stung into replying with one even more outrageously frank. On the basis of other evidence, one is tempted to suspect that these self-publicized love affairs of poets in Al-Andalus may have been an accepted literary convention, deriving in part from before the time of Muhammad.

Perhaps the most significant thing about Wallada is that she is not one in a long list of Arab or Arabicized Muslim women poets renowned and remembered in their own tradition, by name and works, for a millennium and a half. Writers in English have paid almost no attention to such poets, even those of Iberia, who were certainly of great importance in the creation of the later troubadour culture of Languedoc. It is well to note that this culture and that which produced Wallada and her fellow poets were both destroyed by inquisitorial fundamentalists, both Christian and Muslim.

It is not possible to get a true picture of Wallada without a profound understanding of Arabic and of Muslim culture at some length. Two writers in English have treated her at some length. One, an

American, is profoundly biased by the attitudes of his society and himself, and appears to judge literary merit on the basis of the conventional behavior of the writer. A woman poet, in his view, should be "decent" and "feminine" (Nykl, 317), and should not behave like "certain college women, movie stars, and actresses" (Nykl, 107). A Pakistani living in England is equally biased in the other direction, though of course not advocating moral turpitude.

Who then was Wallada bint Muhammad al-Mustakfi? Was she a shining example of Arab, Muslim, and Andalusí poetic tradition and social innovation, admired and loved by her peers? Was she and over-indulged, violent, foul-mouthed and vindictive libertine and termagant, inspiring caution in her friends and hatred in her lovers?

Don't miss the next thrilling installment of Sitt Wallada al-Amira!

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Nykl, A. R. Hispano-Arabic Poetry and Its Relations with the Old Provençal Troubadours. Hispanic Society of America. Baltimore. 1946.

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BARON Khulan		265- 9825
	Rick Haddaway	
BARONESS		265- 9825
Kerare	Carolyn Haddaway	
SENESCHALE Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon		685- 8510
	Wendy Donaldson	
ARCHER MARSHALL Roderick de Graham		788- 8826
	Allen Graham	
CALTROP Brialen Ulfisdottir Vikings		524- 0917
	Debbie Taylor	
CHATELAINE Cerridwen o'r Eurgledde ferch Owain ap Glyndyfrdwy		524- 0478
	Deborah Billings	
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HISTORIAN Friar Thomas Bacon		685- 1182
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	Kim Shephard	