

# The Dragonflyre

c/o Chris Moore 3223 S. Mt. Carmel Wichita, KS 67217





August A.S. -xxxiv- (1999)



### Baronage

### Officers

### Seneschale

Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon ...... (316) 685-8510 Wendy Donaldson ..... winslet@feist.com

**Minister of Children** Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

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# Baronial Officers

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### Chirurgcon Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

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Arts & Sciences Champion Genevieve de Chanbray ...... (316) 663-7745 Kris Griffith ...... geneviev@southwind.net

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Banner Bearer

Serf-Line (recorded information line) (316) 264-7373 (264-SERF)



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This is the **Dragonflyre**, a publication of the **Barony of Vatavia** of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Dragonflyre is available from Chris Moore at 3223 S. Mt. Carmel, Wichita, KS 67217, (316) 945-1536. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. and does not delineate SCA policy.



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# From the Baronage

Greetings to the populace of the Lands that Burn. First, we would like to thank all of you who worked at Lilies War and those who attended. We would also like to give our thanks and wish safe journey to those who will be supporting Their Majesties on the fields of Pennsic.

Birthday Bash (The Clans on Crusade) and the Tournament of Valor are just around the corner. We hope to see many of you there. Remember, we are hosting the kingdom, and representatives from other kingdoms, at Valor. Let us show them that the lands may burn, but our hearts are warm and wetcoming,

Khulan

Cherbi

so that all may have a good time. A little work from all makes everything go easily.

The following offices are still open: Minister of Children, and Chirurgeon. Please contact the Seneschale or Ourselves if you are interested.

To make the change over of officers easier and smoother, we are asking that candidates for offices be interviewed and chosen two quarters before a warrant expires. This will allow for the training of new officers and prevent the lapses we currently experience when warrants expire.

In service,

Kerare Cherbin

# Breetings!

It's been awhile since we didn't do June populace, so I have a little catching up to do. Please bear with me.

First off, I would like to thank the exiting champions for a job well done. Cerridwyn and Qasar, you both did such a wonderful job spearheading the event/demo in Beaumont! How could we do it without you?

I am so excited about Valor! Branguen continues to work very hard trying to get all the help she needs. Please, folks, it's our party we throw for the kingdom. Everyone needs to pitch in some, O.K? This should be the best Valor the Known World has every seen, and Vatavia needs all her people to make that possible.

from the Senaschale

Speaking of Vatavia's people, this Saturday is our Birthday Bash. Eliane and her crew have come up with a creative event that I'm sure we all will enjoy. I hope to see everyone there.

A couple of quick notes about the Census/OP. Please read the inside front cover of it!!!! There is some confusion arising that could readily alleviated just through that one resource. Just a quick overview of it: It is a little different than it has looked in the past. We've now placed a person's Order of the Precedence (OP) information with his/her name. We will be making available other documents that you might wish to include with your census. These publications include, but are not limited to the complete OP, description and definitions of awards with Calontir and Vatavia, and guidelines on writing award recommendations. It our hope to make this a sort of periodical Super Wal-Mart everything you need in one place.

Please submit updates, changes (like moving and telephone numbers!!!!), and corrections to me so I can maintain this document in an appropriate fashion. Information presented directly to me doesn't go through filters. It doesn't get delayed. I can sit there, look at you, and confirm everything. This will ensure a more serviceable, accurate product for everyone.

We have survived Lilies War once again, and it

The Newcomers' Arts & Sciences Competition

went extremely well and the prize was given to a wonderful, talented artist from Aston Tor. This Lady

made a Mongol helm. This piece was well done. All

is hoped that a good time was had by all.

Their Excellencies' announced a new policy at the last officers' meeting. They wish Their officers to begin the search process for their successors two quarters ahead of when the warrant for the office expires. Amongst the first to be effected by this will be Ruadrich, Brialen, and myself. In accordance with this, I am now beginning the solicitation process for my office (my warrant expires at the end of December). Letters of application should be submitted to Their Excellencies and me. You should include both modern and SCA qualifications for the office. These are due in both our hands no later than September officer's mta.

In humble service to all, Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon



**G**reetings fair gentles.

# From the Chatelaine

of the entries were very impressive!

I hope you will encourage all new or interested people to come to Birthday Bash on July 23rd-25th. This is going to be a very enjoyable event!

### Yn Gwasanaeth, Lady Cerridwyn



# From the Knight Marshal

### Anto the populace of Vatavia,

It's getting...HOT! So, to better beat the heat, Baronial Fighter Practice will be starting at 10 a.m. until Fall. It will still be held on Sundays in South Linwood Park near the tennis courts.

Please remember that Regional Fighter Practice is being held in Salina on the 1st Sunday of the month. Fighter Practice on the Sunday of June 18 has been pre-empted by the Tournament of Horse and Falcon.

And finally, it's report time. All local marshals should have had their quarterly reports in by the 15th of July.

Protecting the Dream through service,

Ebhan MacRuairidh

Of These Lands That Burn



# From the Chronicler

Anto the Populace of Vatavia come greetings from Corrigan MacKenzie.

It is with a glad heart as I work on this issue of the *Dragonflyre*, that I see all the responses on the opinion page, now called the *Vox Populix (Voice of the People)*. I never realized how *passionate* so many of you are about Valor, both for and against its future. So, in the Vox Populix, read what you, the populace feels about the Tournament of Valor. Look at the insert in this issue. It is, you'll find, a Kingdom Award Recommendation form. Valor is coming soon, so be sure to let Their majesties know who is deserving of recognition.

As always, my gratitude goes out to all who have submitted articles and art for this issue. I hope to see more coming from around the Barony.

In Service to the Dream, Corrigan MacKenzie



# Meetings & Announcements

The Populace Meeting is the third Wednesday of each month. August Populace will be on the 18th at 7:00 pm, at Sims Park (near Botanica and the Wichita Art Museum). Please call Lady Eleanor at 685-8510 or Their Excellencies Khulan and Kerare at 265-9825 if you need more information.

Anyone wanting further information about the SCA, please call Lady Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

Anyone interested in being a contact person in the Kingdom Arts & Sciences Resource Book, please contact HL Genevieve at (316) 663-7745 or geneviev@southwind.net

Officers meeting will change to Mondays from now on; In August it will be Monday the 2nd, 7:00 p.m., at Dawson United Methodist Church. Please call Eleanor at 685-8510 if you need information. Baronial Archery Practice is Sundays at 5500 Maize Road, at 3:00 pm. Contact Lord Michael Van Bergen at 265-5804 for directions or alternate times to shoot. Contact Lord Roderick at 788-8826 for other information.

Baronial Fighter Practice is held on Sundays in S. Linwood Park, near the Tennis courts. Because of the heat, it will begin at 10 a.m. for the remainder of the summer. On the first Sunday of each month, our official Fighter Practice will be held at the Regional Fighter practice in Salina. For more information on fighting or related activities, contact Lord Ebhan Mac Ruairidh at 686-4724.

Armoring continues on Tuesday nights at Duke Gabriel's house, at 6:30 p.m. Please call Lord Cilian at 267-3456 for more information. The Middle Ages Recreation Society (MARS) meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Wheatshocker Apartments. Please contact Lady Elspeth at 978-2722 for more information.

Beneral Dance Practice is now on Monday nights, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Sims Park pavilion.

Want to learn a simple dance to dance at feasts? Want to just step on someone's toes? Come to Courtly Dance Practice, Thursday evenings at Cessna Park, corner of Mt. Vernon and Woodlawn, at 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact Lady Isabeau at 773-3956.

Beginning Middle Eastern Dance is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Khulan and Kerare's, 1815 S. Hydraulic. Baroness Kerare requests that you call before coming, 265-9825.

Bardic is held on the last Monday of each month. In June it will be held on Monday the 31st at 7:00 p.m. at Lady Cerridwyn's home, 3551 S. Walnut. For more information, please call Lady Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

The Welsh Group meets on the 4th Thursday of each Month. In August it will be held on the 26th at Lady Cerridwyn's home, 3551 S. Walnut. Please call Lady Cerridwyn for more information at 524-0478.

Calligraphy and Illumination is held at 1422 N. Topeka (one block east of 13th and Broadway), at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Thursday of each month. Beginning in August, a 6-part series of classes will begin, focusing on the basics of calligraphy and illumination. For site information, contact Lord Godric at 267-4152. For other information, contact Lord Corrigan at 945-1536.

Costuming/Fiber Arts is on hold for the summer. If anyone wishes to get information on costuming or related areas, contact Lady Sibeal at 265-4643.

To all interest groups—in keeping your web site informative, all interest groups are welcome to design their own web page for the Vatavia site. This should include an in depth overview of what your group does, pictures, etc. Anyone needing help should contact Lord Connor at 267-3456.

The Heralds have a short message for the populace, about names and arms:

### 'Submít To Đour Heralds'

Lord János is organizing a dance band to accompany the Dragonfly Dancers. If you can play a simple melody on a plausibly period instrument, or can maintain a steady rhythm, then join us. Practices are at 7:00 pm Sundays at János' home. For more information, please contact Lord János at 264-3576 (evenings) or email him at Idjanos@aol.com.

Sayidda Jahanara bint Orianna would like to know how many Middle and Far Eastern personnas would be interested in starting a guild to research these areas. The idea is to start a formal group in order to encourage people to share their research/ resources in this area with others who are interested but maybe just getting started. She would greatly appreciate all input. Contact Sayidda at jahanara@MISSOURI.EDU

#### **Kingdom of Calontir** & Sciences Championship, Tri-Level Competition and Regional Fighter Practice

in the Shire of Bois d'Arc July 31 AS XXXIV

The First Christian Church 315 W. Laurel Independence, Kansas

Site Fee: \$5.00 Children under 5 free. Make checks payable to "SCA, Inc. Shire of Bois d'Arc" Site opens at 9 am and closes at 6 pm. Noon tavern at site.

Come one and all and support the artisans of Calontir. Bring tokens to give and share your comments of admiration and support with the artists.

#### **KINGDOM CHAMPIONSHIP**

Open to anyone in Calontir. Entrant must have three items from different categories with at least one each from an Art and a Science. Entry forms must be received by July 20, 1999. Research papers were due the 20th of June.

#### **TRI-LEVELS**

Tri-Levels is open to anyone. You may enter as many items as you want. The entry forms must be received by July 20, 1999.

JUDGES ARE NEEDED. Please contact Mistress Alina if you would like to judge. Beware, she may nab you to judge anyway - so volunteer first!

REGIONAL FIGHTER PRACTICE will be held at the city park. Please sign up at Troll and get your site token before heading to the fighter site. More info will be available at Troll the day of the event.

CRASH/CAMPING available at City Park.

DIRECTIONS (to Troll): Make best route to Independence KANSAS (not Missouri)!!!!!! From HWY 160/96, turn north onto 10th St., go 2 blocks. Site is on SE corner of 10th and Laurel, Country Mart is across the street to the west.

From Hwy 75 (or Penn Ave) - If coming in on Hwy 75, follow the signs through town. The Hwy goes right past the church.

**Event Steward** 

HL Genevieve Penrose Sharon Arndt 8000 Halsey Lenexa, KS 66215

Site Steward HL Rigela la Placida Nancy Belcher 1010 N 6th Street Independence, KS 316-331-8230 sharndt@gw.kckps.k12.ks.us belchfam@horizon.hit.net

Judging Steward Mistress Alina Meruad Bryte Patricia Hoge 1627 Center Point Rd NE Cedar Rapids IA 52402 319-362-2725 (please ask for Pat) hoge@inav.net



Canton of Cum an Iolair Presents Feast of The Eagle VI August 7, 1999



Come join in the eagle's journey to its cousin's home in Italy where there will be soaring and playing enough for everyone!!

> Fighters bring your armour and enjoy a day of battles and tournaments!

All players come and join in our Italian Murder Mystery quest. Ferret out the culprit and reap your reward! Pall Mall and Bocce Ball Tourneys will be held! There will be a boffer list field for the voungsters and other activities to keep them happy.

Site opens at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 10:00 p.m. (A dry site.) Site fee is \$3.00 and feast will be \$7.00. The feast will be Italian and yummy! There will be a limit of 60 for feast so get your reservations in with checks made payable to SCA. Inc., Canton of Cum an Iolair.

Merchants are welcome and will need to call the autocrat to reserve a space.

Our site location will be published in the August Mews.

Autocrat Ly. Lucia di Giardino 14801 So. Arapaho Dr. Olathe, KS 66062 (913) 782-7141

Feastocrat Ly. Jadwiga Marina Majewska 9112 W. 78th St. **Overland Park, KS 66204** (913) 642-7139

Updated information and site will be published on our web site: www2.kumc.edu/instruction/academicsupport/itc/staff/rknight/Canton.htm The Barony of Vatavia invites you to:

### The Clans on Crusade

In the year of our Lord 1592, the Clans have decided to reclaim the lholy Land in honor of the 21st Birthday of Vatavia. With the blessing of Pope Constantine, we shall engage in Blorious Battle with the lheathens, and pillage and plunder all the way to Persia...

... and perhaps a wee bit beyond ...

The Celts hit the holy Lands 100 years too late. The Pope has decided to bless the recalcitrant Scots with a crusade to the Holy Lands. When they arrive and find out th fruitlessness of their travels, they decide to seek out what fighting is to be found, and have a Ceilidh on the shores of the Dead Sea with the fruits of their forays.

### Date and Time:

7:00p.m. Friday, July 23rd until 4:00p.m. Sunday, July25
Location: Cheney Lake — East Shore—Heimermann Point
Site Fee: \$5.00 • Children: 5-12=1/2price
Children 4 and under are Free • \$20 family cap
(When arriving at Cheney Lake, inform the front gate that you are with the SCA to waive the usual Lake Entry Fee.)

Make Check Payable to: Barony of Vatavia, SCA Inc.

This sum includes FEAST, full use of the Lake End of Heimermann Point, Toadstool Loop for Archery, the Swimming Beach, and Shower Facilities with flush toilets. Bathroom facilities are ample for the event Additional Showers and Toilets are available on the West Shore of the Park which is available for us to use. Pets are allowed on site with proof of Appropriate Vaccinations if they are kept on a PHYSICAL leash.

### The SITE IS WET and surrounded on 3 sides by water.

### Contests with Prizes

Double Elimination Tourney • 5-man Bushkazi • Archery Heraldic Archery Shoot • Selkie Water Games Children's Selkie games • Dance with 2 Competitions Belly Dancing to Bagpipes and Shedding to Doumbeks Best Art or Science with a Scottish or Middle Eastern theme. (Judged according to Kingdom Criteria. Documentation important) Best Art or Science begun on site (Need not be completed, no documentation necessary) Best Dragonfly in any medium Best Subtlety (Judged by surprise judges at the end of feast)

### Just for yun

Dance • Bardic Camp Fire Heraldic Consultation by Caltrop Staff

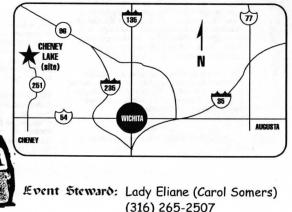
### Potluck Feast

Persian Chicken provided by the Barony Feast Steward: Lady Cerridwyn Please bring a side dish according to the first letter

of your SCA name: A-D Salad or Cheese E-L Bread or Condiments M-R Fruit or Vegetables S-Z Desserts

Soup Kitchen Provided

Directions Find best way to wichita, then take HW 54 West to 251. Turn North, and follow signs.



### THE BARONN OF VATAMA PRESENTS

The Tournament of



### *NEARKENBACK TO THE FIRST TOURNAMENT OF*

#### STE

ACTIMIES FIONTINO

Valor XX will once again be held at Lake Afton Park in Goddard, Kansas. The lake offers such emenities as swimming, and air conditioned building, showers and an on site store for your convenience. Site is pet friendly, please keep them leashed.

The site will open at 6 pm Priday and will close at 12 pm on Monday.

#### Site is 3.2 wet.

Quiet Hours are from 10 pm to 6 am (However, the building will be open for those wishing to be noisy ... )

#### Site fees

\$8 for members se for non members \$1 per night per tent for camping (Shade files are free, please bring yours!) \$25 family cap (immediate family only, please)

#### Taven

Friday 6 pm to Midnight Saturday 6:30 am to 10 pm Sunday 6:30 am to 10 pm Monday 6:30 am to 9 am

#### Directions to site:

From the Kansas Tumpike (1-35) Get off at Exit 42, 47th Street. Get in the left lane and take 1-235 North. Take Edt 7B. Highway 54 West (Kellogg Blvd). Go 9 miles west on 54 to the stoplight at 199th Street West. Turn left on 199th and go 3 miles on 199th to 39th Street South. Turn right at the stop sign on 39th and go 3 miles to Lake Afton. Go left on the 4th and last Afton entrance on the south side of 39th.

The wedding of Nazir al-Tawi and Marina Stavros will be held on Saturday of the event, reception following. They will be hosting a Torchlight Tourney and a Middle Eastern dance contest on Saturday.

WEDOTE http://www.feist.com/-cymtic/valor/

Saturday: 10 am: Bastard Sword authorizations ONIY 11 am: Valor Tourney, Bastard sword only. Sunday: 11am: 6 Foot Tourney. Any combo, up to

Afterwards: Melees till you drop!

Annew Saturday: Please see website of contact E.S. Sunday: 11am: Velor Archery Tourney

ARTS AND SCIENCES Saturday: Please see website or contact E.S.

Sunday: Please see website or contact E.S.

CHIORENS ACTIVITIES Saturday: Please see website or contact E.S. Sunday: 10 am: Children's Archery Toumey

Please Make Checks Payable to: Barony of Vatavia · SCA. Inc.

Event Steward (B.S.): Branguen of Clan Anrias Holly Howold 1414 S. Pershing Wichita, KS 67218 (316) 684-6558 (before 10 pm CST plea email: cymric@feist.com

Tavorn Steward: Cilian Neil MacAoidh Troy Liput 8704 Anthur Circle Wichita, KS 67207 (316) 684 4730 email: trovilout@eol.com



# **Hpcoming Local Zvents**

The Salligraphy and Illumination Interest Group is hosting a cook-out at North Linwood Park, at 2:00 p.m. on August 1st, with the intention of introducing the populace to the new series of classes planned over the next six month. We would like to invite everyone to come out, learn a little about calligraphy and illumination, have some food, and get together with your friends.



Burgers, chips and soda will be provided, and if you wish to add to this with other items, please do. We hope to see you out there. For further information, contact Lady Elspeth at 785-2722, or Lord Corrigan or milady Vanora at 945-1536.

Eladdagh Ring will be having a concert on August 7th at Lady Kasamira's Stargate Tower. It starts at 7:00 p.m. The performance is a donation benefit for the chapel to be built and it is also Shannon's (of Claddagh Ring) farewell performance. We will miss her. Please come and enjoy the evening at the Tower with us. Bring chairs or blankets to sit on. Parking on Kellogg Drive.

The address: 436 S. Vassar, Wichita.

		ust –	E	Senesch	Comment	Recommended	SCA name		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDN	a ا	s I				
Regional Fighter Practice (in Salina) Calligraphy &Illumination Cookout 2:00 p.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	Officers Meeting 2 7:00 p.m.	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	ini eve lace to	hal/Champion rec			of nominee	Date of	T BARONIAL
Fighter Practice 8 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	General Dance Practice <b>g</b> 7:00 p.m.	Armoring <b>JO</b> 6:30 p.m.	Penr	О В В о л л с , у		Ĭ		f recommendation	AWARDS
Fighter Practice 15 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	General Dance Practice <b>16</b> 7:00 p.m.	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	Populace Mr 7:00 p.m. Penn					tion	Y OF VATAVIA RECOMMENDATION
Fighter Practice 22 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m. Pennsic War	General Dance Practice 23 7:00 p.m.	Armoring 24 6:30 p.m.	Story period the-of Story	Date				ļ	FORM
Fighter Practice 29 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	Bardic Practice <b>30</b> 7:00 p.m. General Dance Practice 7:00 p.m.	Armoring 31 6:30 p.m.	Tľ						

•12•

Award: Society Name: Modern Name: Address: Address: Group:
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# Penance in the Middle Ages

One the great themes of the Middle Ages is the influence of the Christian church on all aspects of life. While the teachings of the church were often not followed, they informed the ideals by which people were judged. During the period there were two parallel systems of judgment and punishment. There was the civil system of kings and nobles concerned with maintaining the social order. Then there was that of the church concerned with the salvation of people's souls. So important was this activity that it became the sacrament of confession and penance. This essay will explore the nature of penances imposed.

The nature of penance differs between the Orthodox and Catholic churches. The result of differing views on the nature of the church itself. The Orthodox church sees itself as a manifestation of the community man has with God, which is his natural state. Sin is a sort of illness by which of penance a person could be healed. The Catholic church holds itself as the mediator between man and God. Though which God's grace can be received to purge away a person's sin. In this scheme, penance becomes the way to earn this grace. This obviously leaves itself open to possible abuse. And it was these sort of abuses which lead to the Protestant Reformation. But that is another story.

In the early days of the church, confession and penance was done in public as part of the church services. Penance was not much more then being relegated to the back of the church, or for the gravest of sins outside, and the wearing of sackcloth and ashes. The catch was that penance could be done only once or twice. As this lead to people putting off confession till near the time of their death, this was gradually relaxed after the seventh century. While there is some argument as to when the practice of private confession arose, by the sixth century it was not unknown and gradually supplanted public confession.

These two developments drove the development of the penitential handbooks. They were used as aids to what should be the appropriate punishment for various sins, but also what sort of sins need to be confessed. The first penitentials came from the Celtic Church around 500 AD, and migrated to the continent with the Celtic missionaries. They were not initially well received. They were not in accordance with canonical tradition (public penance), they came from no established authority, and wildly inconsistent. Nevertheless, public acceptance overcame official opposition, and in the middle ninth century out came several official penitentials.

Initially the penitentials were little more then lists of sins followed by the appropriate penance. But as time went on, the penitentials began to elucidate the sinner's intent. The act itself became neutral. If it occurred by accident or by innocence it was no sin. Only if the person knew the act was a sin and yet still committed it, does the act become a sin. How grave a sin then depended on the motive behind the sin. Confession takes on the tone of an interrogation, for only knowing the circumstances and the motives surrounding the sin could the father confessor apply the proper penance.

Once the severity of the sin has been found, the confessor then probes the penitent's contrition or remorse. For without sorrow and a resolve to do better, the confession and the associated penance was for not. Even then, in the early part of the period, the absolution of the sin did not occurred until after the penance was completed. But over the course of the period this changed as penances became protracted to the point they could not done in a lifetime. Two solutions arose for this problem. The first was to get others to help perform the penances. This was a major source of business for monasteries.

The second was the system of indulgences. Strictly speaking, an indulgence is a remission of some portion of a penance. But in practice, they were usually given in compensates for some other act, which was presumably easier to accomplice then the original penance. Originally they were granted to just the crusaders, but later was extended to acts of charity, and eventually for sums of money. Note that they did not remove the necessary for confession and penance. But merely were a way to buy down the penance. Though often look at in that way, they were not a "Get of Jail Free" card.

As for the act of penance itself, what it all entailed is a bit obscured. No doubt because it was another one of those items too common to set down. Outside of the canonical public penance of the ancient church, it appears to be at its heart a set of vigils to be performed for a given length of time. Added to this were fasts, or restrictions to bread and water, restrictions of conjugal relations with one's spouse, prayers, pilgrimages, genuflexions, almsgiving, and "discipline" or scourging. The length of time could stretch from a day to a lifetime. Periods of forty days or seven years were quite common.

After the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation the concept of penance faded into the background of cultural conscience, a product of the abuses of indulgences. The Protestants did away with it altogether, while the Catholic church held on to it but de-emphasized it. Even so, it is still with us for it greatly influenced the secular justice system that grew with it. Its great contribution is the notion of intent as perquisite to guilt. Penance emerged was a way guide society by first by means of public shame then by private guilt. While it did not always succeed, it did no worse then anything used supersede it.

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The Medieval Sinner, Mary Braswell, Associated University Presses, London, 1983

The Western Church in the Later Middles Ages, Francis Oakley, Cornell University, Ithaca, 1979





There are responses to last months question, which was: What are your opinions on the Tournament of Valor? After Valor 20, should the event continue or should this be the last one? Should it simply be moved to a different date?

"In the waiting line during HE Rhianwen's vigil for the Order of the Pelican at Lilies, in the dark of the late, late night, this issue came up between some Vatavians and some gentles of the far north. The northerners held that Valor was one of the most successful and honored of all the Baronial events in the Kingdom, perhaps the Known World. When 700 people come to an event sponsored by a barony, complainers who say it is loosing its popularity should be listened to, but not taken without some salt.

The Tournament of Valor is built around the oneon-one, great sword and shield contest. This was the essence of the first vision of fighting in the SCA...Valor is a living link to the early days of the Kingdom and the SCA, one that people remember and appreciate and go to some trouble in coming to 'The Lands that Burn" to renew...I am just reporting what I have heard earnestly spoken from outside the borders of our own lands.

And we may decide as a group that it's just too much work for us—that we don't want to do it anymore. I think that would be a valid decision, if we make it. Let someone else have the Labor Day weekend, and maybe the Tournament of Valor, too. That the Barony would loose much is an understatement, but if we don't want to do it, we should not. But we should not try to find an excuse in a few complaints the hundreds who come to us every year to renew a great tradition belie that."

63

### Vox Populix The Doice of the Decole

"The Valor Tournament is one of the oldest in the Kingdom of Calontir. It is a prominent event on a 3day weekend. This tournament is often the pinnacle of the Vatavian calendar...there is a lot of prestige connected to winning the tournament...the major criticism of the event that I have heard about the event is occasionally the lack of a spot to cool down, such as a swimming pool or air conditioned building.

This has been the jewel in the crown of Vatavia for twenty years, I see no reason for Vatavia to abandon it or try and change it in almost any way. I see that the group is in the process of evolution, and trying to define itself as it enters a new period, with a new baronage, and new people. Let's not throw the baby out with the bath water. This is not a reflection of the current Valor but an analysis of the event in general. Let's make this the greatest Valor ever!!!"

### -

"Valor is the largest, most important demo events that Vatavia has...this is also a very large event that is strictly Vatavia...we invite everyone from Kingdom. I think we should continue with Valor, but the date should be changed a bit, possible even into October."

### 8

"Change the day of the tournament to the first day, with a melee on the second day, so people are more willing to fight in the melees. Some fighters won't fight in the melee because the tournament is the next day."

### 6

"I think Valor should continue; I have pretty strong feelings toward it, It's been an ongoing event for 20 years. We've got it reserved. The date's not an issue. Why kill something that's been good 20 years...some things that were a turn-off last year were the heat, no potable water, and the site wasn't the greatest. I understand that there were other things contributing to that. All in all, it was a fun and enjoyable event for a lot of people."

### 8

"I've been to two Valors, and i enjoyed it, so a don't think anything needs to be changed."

"We've had it for 20 years... I think we could do as a weekend event. I don't think we should give up the tradition...maybe host it at a different time. I've been to so many Valors, it doesn't really make any difference to me, as long as we still have it, whether we have it on Labor Day weekend or not."

### 6

"The first thing I'd like to see is what is going to happen this year. Granted, this is the 20th year, and we should expect a larger turnout; but I want to see what kind of turnout, what kind of response we have, before we make a final decision whatever is going to happen.

Having been in other Kingdoms where we've had ongoing events where you see the numbers steadily declining, that usually means you either need to kill the event or completely change the theme.

The format is great, but if numbers do start dropping again but we want to continue, maybe we need to look at giving up the long weekend. Moving to a smaller weekend we would have less tavern and site costs, and we could do it smaller, but keep the feel and flavor that it has now."

### •

"I see Valor as a real way for this group to bring

itself together... I think that by completely dropping it we might really upset some people. But we have to evaluate, is angering one or two people worth having larger events in the future that draw more people?"

### 63

"I think if we do Valor again, it should be changed to a different date. In Coeur d'Ennui, we've tried to have good relations with Vatavia, and they would really like to have an event that weekend. We've had it now for 20 years on the same weekend, and it's time we let others have that weekend.

The numbers prove that Valor is dying at a slow rate; we just don't pull in the numbers anymore...a weekend event instead of a three-day weekend, would be better."

### 8

"I would hate to see Valor disappear; if the attendance keeps dropping, we should adapt to it. If Valor ends up being nothing but a Baronial event, I still think it should be kept as a tradition. It would be a shame to have a tournament that's lasted this long, end just because we don't think it's going anywhere."

### 

"Valor through the ages has not evolved with the kingdom; Valor has come to the point where it needs a serious mutation. This kingdom wants melee battles, and there's a handful of die-hards that want to do Valor Bastard Sword Tournament. Maybe you don't have to kill the tournament altogether...you're going to need some heavy melee fighting. It needs to change to fit the mood of the kingdom...we should keep the weekend, it's an awesome weekend for an event.

Our big attendance Valors, for other reasons than the Tournament, we were doing other things that weekend, like coronations, investitures. You have to stop and look at that when you look at attendance records."

#### C

"You're bound by traditions...but I could see it changing, going to a one-day event. This Barony has always been bound by tradition, but this Barony has always been changing, doing things that were different. Moving to another weekend and changing the format would not be out of the premises of what we do."

#### 8

"It didn't do what it was supposed to do. It hasn't grown in 20 years, it's not going to continue to grow' it isn't going to take off now. If it were going to work it would be the size of Lilies by now. I would say scuttle it, come up with a new concept, revamp it and try it again, and up off that weekend."

e

"I've only been to two Valors...the first one I had a great time at and worked my butt of. It was fun, I had a wonderful time. I think more than the site, the atmosphere was better than at my next one. It [the second Valor] was a horrible site...it was badly planned, in my opinion; the attitude of of people was not nearly what it was the year before. It was not a fun event. If I don't have fun at this one, I'll never go to another one.

A lot of friends from out of the kingdom that were at Valor were extremely disappointed, on a number of things—especially the ones that that was their first Valor...the attitude of the local people needs to be a hell of a lot better than it was last year.

### C

"I think it should continue. It's something everybody looks forward to every year...possible changing the weekend, so others can get something in on that weekend. It's something that we've done for so long, we should probably continue with it."

### 6

"I've been to two Valors, but yes I'd like to see it continue. As far as changes, if attendance is down, something needs to be done to change that."

### ÷,

"Yes, I'd like to see Valor continue. I haven't had a chance to fight in it yet."

### 8

"The date and the site can make or break Valor. First, let's change the date to a cooler time, such as Memorial Day weekend (Valor has become an event to endured, not enjoyed, because of the Kansas heat). Second, let's find a site that's worthy of this areat event-not just whatever is cheap and affordable. Last year's site was terrible: all the flies, no drinking water, no kitchen, no air conditioned buildina or water source to cool off in. I liked Hiawatha as a site, but people tell me it's too expensive. Get a site that meets people's needs, promote it, and enough people will come to offset the cost. Keep holding our big Kingdom-level events at substandard sites in the heat of the summer (with nowhere to cool off & no feast) and Vatavia won't have to worry about Valor's future-it won't have one."

8

The question to ponder for next month: What can we, as a Barony and as individuals, do to promote the group and bring in new people? How can we make this group a more inclusive and welcoming to those new people?



### The Wanderings of Godric Lord Godric of Blaxonbury

### The Wanderings of Godric A Saxon of Blaxonbury in Aorthumbria Part the First

The Danes were too much for us. They were always too much - not always that they were too many, for it was our land and not theirs, but they were too much here on our land for us to drive off, too much were they here for some of our own lords to oppose, so that after a time some even of our kings let them be. King Alfred of Wessex spent most of his time fighting the Danes, and in the end he let them, he gave them leave to fill our land and stay.

My father opposed them as all his fathers had done, as I was raised to do, until in the end it seemed the cause was lost to us: when all the lords of England twice betrayed King Ethelred and gave the Kingdom to Danish Cnut, Sweyn's son. I was born in my father's house at Klaxonbury which stood between the Ure and the Nidd, above the City of York toward the Monastery of Ripon, in the year that Ethelred recovered his senses enough to call slaughter on all the Danes in the land. He had been kina twenty-four years, and had heaped shame upon his own head and us all, buying peace with silver Danegeld, each time more and yet more as the heathens mocked and bled us. Perhaps he thought he was buying time until the end of the millennial age. when Christ would come and judge us all and the Devil and his imps would be cast into the eternal fires - but the fateful year came and went, and the next, and when the terror had passed the King knew his enemies were still Danish, so he ordered all those who could wield a sword to be slain by stealth. I was born into this world in the midst of that carnage of St. Brice's Day.

My father, being the King's thean, was in the south at the time of the slaughter, and with the war remained there while Sweyn filled his implacable vengeance. In my tenth year, in the 1012th year of our Lord, Ethelred again paid Danegeld, 48,000 pounds of silver, as much as the whole nation might have produced in five years. Still the Danes went in companies everywhere, and sacked and slew. The next year Sweyn coming north to Yorkshire annexed it as his own, and the weary English nobles proclaimed him king. Ethelred fled to the Duke of Normandy, and my father with him. In the next year, when Sweyn had died, my father and the King returned and all England rallied. At twelve years I went to serve my father in the south and lived with the King and then Edmund his son, whom they called Ironside, as they fought the Danes and Sweyn's son Cnut.

Edmund was only ten years my senior, but he showed before he was twenty that he had the heart of a Saxon king - he defied his father's weakness and with his sword won a place to stand against the Danes. But he died and the English lords again by one assent gave the kingdom to Cnut, and forswore the House of Wessex. My father was also known to this new king: he was taken and slain and none defended him, so much was England changed.

I fled to the channel and to Normandy, where also lay hidden my lord Edward, son of Ethelred by his second wife Emma sister of Duke Richard. But soon word came that Cnute, to bind the English closer to his rule, had taken Queen Emma to wife and so neutralized Duke Richard who had been our strong friend. Henceforth life became more difficult for the hundreds of Saxon exiles in Normandy, for although we were still protected we could not be preferred against the will of the Duke's powerful brother-in-law. Although my father's name was known there, instead of having a place at some noble's table and being taught the arts of war I was given a place with a merchant. One of Richard's vassals, a greedy half tamed northman named Guilliam,

who since I had learned numbers and letters from the monks at Ripon, set me to counting sheep and casks and coins on the guays of Lisieux.

Still Normandy was an exciting place, for all the Normans have the vigor of their heathen kin, of which they are noblest the part, and yet che young Godric had thev taken as a prize one of the richest lands of Christendom and reveled in it not as a plunder for rapine but as a well dowered and beautiful bride. While the Franks strugaled to replace the fallen house of Charles the Great the Normans embraced everything that was Frankish, Christian, and noble, and for the most part turned their raiding companies

into civilized courts and their thievery by the sword into profitable trade. Duke Richard's father had searched to find a town where his son could learn Norse, and great lords vied to become bishops, abbots, and priests. I chafed at my downfall but learned my trade well, and by the time I was sixteen years old my master (for I was as his apprentice in the merchanting - Duke Richard the Good saw that we were not enslaved) let me deal on my own account, and I

made a good profit for him in English woolens and leather, and wine from the south by exchange. Great lords will have their wars, as is always true, and so while I was in my nineteenth year, and wondering how I would break from this Norman's yoke, Duke Richard (he was the second of that name) brought guarrel against his liege lord, Robert the King of the Franks. My master conceived that he could make great profit by supplying the Duke's army on this short expedition, but then being sick, sent me to see to his business.

### End Part the First

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# From the Editor of T.I.

 $\mathbf{J}$ Fond Greetings to the Good Gentles of the Known World,

Spring is really here! Many of you have spent the winter researching and re-creating some special project, and now it's time to prepare for summer's activities.

It's also a good time to consider writing an article about HOW you researched and re-created that special project, and submit it to Tournaments Illuminated!

A version of the Wish List that follows will appear in the upcoming issue of TI. The list is not allinclusive; rather, it is intended to give you a general idea of the kinds of articles I'd like to see. If you have an idea for an article and you don't see it here, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'd be happy to discuss your ideas.

Instructions on how to submit articles and artwork to TI follow the Wish List. Again, if you have any questions or comments, I'd love to hear from you.

Your Servant,

Betty Rittmeyer, Editor Tournaments Illuminated (Bettina von Haschenfeld) (414) 962-1392 betty@execpc.com

### Wish List

Articles on reproducing carved wooden dishes; making wooden furniture; making armor; beeswax or tallow candlemaking; soapmaking; making lotions and ointments; how to shear sheep; carting wool; spinning wool, flax, hemp, or nettles; finishing leather and furs; making baskets and nets; making shoes, hats, and garb.

Essays on Whitsun, Yuletide, Midsummer's Day, or other medieval festivals; period music and dance; falconry or beekeeping; courting and wedding customs; gambling and games of chance; medieval children's games; football or other period outdoor games.

Period recipes for fresh (springtime) foods; porridge; bread; poultry; making cheese or butter; making salt; salting, drying, or smoking meat; making sausage; fruit preserves or dried fruit; making ale from grain; making cider or spiced drinks.

Please remember that artwork, illustrations, and photography help to convey to the reader your ideas. Have a friend take a photograph while you are making a basket or tending your bees. Contact the Art Director concerning cover art or other artwork.

How to Submit Articles and Artwork to Tournaments Illuminated

### Step 1:

Photocopy and complete a Release Form, available in any back issue of TI. This form is required for both articles and artwork. A letter or e-mail message giving permission to print is not sufficient. Do not retype or rewrite the release form.

### Step 2:

Enclose a clear, typed or laser-printed copy of your article. Please resist the temptation to print your submission in an interesting typeface. Courier is one of the easiest typefaces to scan. Print on one side of the page only, and do not staple the pages together. Be sure to enclose any artwork or illustrations for your article.

Hard-Copy Articles: TI cheerfully welcomes submissions from those who do not require a computer to re-create the Middle Ages and Renaissance. We do ask, however, that such submissions be clearly typed on white paper.

**Diskettes:** If your article is available electronically, please enclose a computer diskette labeled with your modern name and phone number, as well as the file name and format of each file. TI accepts word-processor and desktop publishing files on standard 3 1/2" diskettes (Mac or IBM). Compatible formats include Microsoft Word, Corel Word Perfect, Rich Text Format and ASCII text. Please don't use automatic bullets, tables, or other formatting features as they do not convert well. If you send a submission on disk, please include a hard copy (printout) in case your disk is damaged in transit.

E-mail: Electronic submissions may be sent to TI in care of the Editor, but a hard copy of the article and release form must still be sent via regular mail.

Artwork: Artwork should be submitted in dense, black ink on opaque white paper. Clear photocopies of original material are also acceptable. Contact the Art Director if you are interested in producing a cover or interior color art. Please indicate the source of any illustrations which have been previously published.

Computer-generated artwork should be submitted as separate files, not graphics placed within the text of a file. Acceptable formats include TIFF, EPS, PICT, PCX and a variety of others. More detailed guidelines for electronic artwork are available from the Art Director upon request. As with text submissions, please include a hard copy. This serves as a backup in case your disk is damaged, and also tells us what your computer thinks it looks like.

### Step 3:

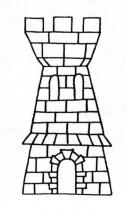
Mail your submission(s) and Release Form(s) to: Tournaments Illuminated 3453 N. Frederick Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53211

If you want your submission returned, enclose a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage. Remember: a diskette is worth less than a stamp.

### Editor:

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# Officers' Minutes

June 7, 1999 - 22 members attended: 16 officers/deputies/champions; 2 members of the populace; 4 children

 ${\mathfrak A}$  A brief "post mortem" on the Champions' event at Beaumont was held. Vatavian contributions and supplies for the Lilies event were finalized. Troll sign up for both Friday shifts of the event was mentioned. The Dragonfly Dancers volunteered to do one shift. With the assigned Vatavian shift this means the group will be doing 24 hours of troll service for the event. The Baronial Birthday Bash will be held July 23rd-25th at Lake Cheney. July 31st Bois d'Arc will be hosting the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Championship and Tri-Level competitions. Claddagh Ring has offered to do a concert at Valor this year to mark the 10th anniversary of the group who met at a Valor Bardic Circle. The fall calendar of potential activities and events was covered. It will be a very full and busy fall.

A presentation request from the 20th Century Club for October 11th was approved. The possibility of hosting a Pennsic pity party in August two weeks before Valor was discussed at length. There was concern expressed that this would be a month after a 3day local event and two weeks before a major kingdom event celebrating its 20 anniversary. It was questioned whether it was worth the investment in time, money, and manpower for the anticipated benefits. Some alternatives were suggested.

The Vatavian website has changed address. It now can be found at www.vatavia.net. The Census is available through this website. Questions and answers on the legal obligations involved in listing this information were discussed. There will be no populace meeting this June due to Lilies. It was proposed that the July meeting be a picnic in the park with only a brief business meeting.

The Chatelaine, along with the other Kingdom Chatelaines, is sponsoring a new comers arts and sciences competition at Lilies. She will also be participating in the guided tours being offered. The Herald advised people not to use computer-generated artwork on their proposals. Why this was being asked and the problems related to the question of computer artwork. There will be a consultation held at Annys's June 10th. It will be for a small number due to the space limitations. The new Minister of Arts and Sciences plans to visit all the interest groups during at least one of their meetings.

The arts and sciences champion, Genevieve, is working on an arts and sciences resource book for Kingdom. It will contain the names of contact people, books, supply sources, etc. Also the new criteria is available. It is 70 pages. Ten dollars per copy is requested to help cover the printing costs.

Scheduling a property workday after Lilies and before Valor was discussed. Items need to be located, repaired and cleaned. Modifications to the storage shed to deal with water problems and wasps were proposed. The officers' Census copies will be available next month. The financial results of the Beaumont event were presented. Currently there is \$2324.48 in the account. After Lilies financial planning for the remainder of the year will be done.

Fighter Practice will continue to be at South Linwood Park near the swimming pool. It was proposed on the first Sunday of the month to move the official practice to Salina for the regional practice. This would promote traveling and increase authorization opportunities. The new Calontir handbook is available on line, version 7.0. Archery practice will be held on those Sundays that the marshals are in town. It was recommended to call and check before

### going to the site.

The muster for Pennsic is being compiled by Eleanor and Ebhan. The Baronage noted that travel passes would need to be issued by them under Mongolian tradition. There was a discussion about

July 5, 1999 - 20 members attended: 14 officers/deputies/champions; 5 members of the populace: 1 child

The Baronial Birthday Bash will be held at Lake Cheney July23rd- 25th. The Kingdom Arts and Sciences Championship and Tri-Level competition will be held in Bois d'Arc July 31st. It difference between the two competitions was clarified and the requirements and standards for each presented. The Calligraphy and Illumination interest group will have a picnic August 1st at North Linwood Park at 2:00 p.m. for those interested in attending. Contact Corrigan for more information.

Requests for the Society's participation in Night of the Living Zoo, October 22nd-24th, and "Home for the Holidays" at Century II, October 29th-31st were approved. The opportunity to work with the new Indoor Football League team here in Wichita is being looked into. Other public relations and publicity ideas were shared. Recruitment ideas were made. The need for goals and follow through was brought up.

July populace will be a bring your own picnic meal get together with only a brief business meeting. It was announced the there were more College of the Kestral graduates. Mentors for these graduates would be appreciated. It was noted that newer members needed mentoring also. Local activities to promote participation and retain members were recommended. Several possibilities were suggested.

The Arts and Sciences champion is continuing to work on the arts and sciences resource book. Information on references, resources, supplies and

encouraging members to travel and ways to achieve this. Officers were asked to help remind others to help and include our newer members to make them feel part of the group. The meeting adjourned.

contact people would be appreciated. The Minister of Arts and Sciences requested a copy of the Census. There has been interest in forming a new interest group. Others have been reorganizing to better meet the current needs of those involved. The Calligraphy and Illumination group will be holding a series of classes to teach calligraphy and illumination. The Lilies new corners arts and sciences had 12 entrants. There will be a similar competition held at this year's Valor. It was proposed and approved to have a new comers resource night held at the Wichita State Library July14th from 7-9 p.m.

Fighter practice July 18th will be cancelled due to lack of marshals who all will be out of Barony that day. Fighter practice has changed to 10a.m. on Sundays to avoid to summer heat. The first Sunday of the month practice will officially be at Salina at the regional practice. This is an opportunity for fighters to get authorizations.

Award recommendations need to be sent in for Kingdom level awards. Valor will be an opportunity to get local individuals recognized. Courtesy copies to Their Excellencies are appreciated, especially when the Crown asks for advice on certain recommendations. Officers were reminded that courtesy copies of quarterly reports are needed by the Baronage. Copies are required to be sent to the Seneschal by Kingdom Law. Officers were reminded to request applications for their successors enough in advance to allow the candidate time to familiarize themselves with the office and do two guarterly reports.

The meeting adjourned.

# Their Majesties' Calontir

**Eringlin and Alethea** 

Jim and Alethea Meyers 1810 N. Garth • Columbia, MO 65202 (573) 875-0640 • ksca@socketis.net

# Their Highnesses' Salontir

Joe Angus and Phaedra

Joe and Phaedra Wilson 976 S. Hill Ave. • Fayetteville, AR 72701 (501) 582-1825 • his: jdwilso@comp.uark.edu • hers: pmwilli@comp.uark.edu



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www.vatavia.com Run by Lord Connor M'Adwry

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