

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

ragonflyre



September A.S. -xxxiv- (1999)



Baronial Officers

Baronage

Cherbi & Cherbin

Khulan & Kerare (316) 265-9825

Rick & Carolyn Haddaway

(Please no calls on Fridays-contact the

Officers

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

Chatelaine

Seneschale if necessary.)

Cerridwyn Eurgledde ferch Owain ap Bychan Glyndyfrdwy
.....(316) 524-0478
Deborah Billings.... cerridwyn@terraworld.net

Minister of Children

Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

Historian

Friar Thomas Bacon •••• (316) 685-1182

Caltrop Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikings (316) 524-0917 Debbie Taylor deb 124@hotmail.com

Treasurer Maeve Kelly de Navarre (316) 682-4468 Terry McKellop

Ehan MacRuairidh (316) 686-4724 Evan Whiteebhanmac@hotmail.com

Deputy Knigh	it Marshal ••••• (316) 684-4730
Cilian Neill MacAoidh	(316) 684-4730
Troy Liput	•••••troyliput@aol.com

Archer Marshal

Roderick de Graham ••••• (316) 788-8826 Allen Graham

Minister of Arts & Sciences Isabeau d'Andrea(316) 773-3956

Tari O. Stewart ••••••mharrison@feist.com

Chirurgeon

Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

Chronicler

Corrigan MacKenzie · · · · · · · (316) 945-1536 Chris Moore · · · · · copyshop@fn.net

Web Minister

Connor M'Adwry •••••• (316) 267-3456
Warren Thomas ••••• vatavia@aeocities.com

Champions

Alan Smyth of Darkdale (316) 331-8230 Dale Belcher belchfam@horizon hit net

Archer Champion

Corrigan MacKenzie · · · · · · · (316) 945-1536 Chris Moore · · · · copyshop@fn.net

Arts & Sciences Champion

Genevieve de Chanbray · · · · · · (316) 663-7745

Kris Griffith · · · · · aeneviev@southwind.net

Bardic Champion

Ilhana MacKenzie · · · · · · · (316) 263-8452
Melisa Moore

Banner Bearer

Ruaidhri ua Ceallaigh Garv Fox

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 unto the Barony of Vatavia.

First, we would like to thank our Event Steward, Eliane, and her staff, and everyone who came out th celebrate the Barony's Birthday. It was a lot of fun.

The plains that burn so hot remind us that the 20th Tournament of Valor will soon be here. We host the Kingdom and our neighbors. This year Nazier and Marina will be married among all their friends and family. With much scurrying about to get ready, rumors abound. No, this is not the last Tournament of Valor! But, every Valor should be treated as if it was the best you've ever attended. We now have

people in charge of overseeing different activities and needs of our event. If you could help and want to, I am sure they would appreciate it.

Our treasury may be low, but we are rich in our people and artisans. I would like to extend my special thanks to Her Ladyship Genevieve and milord Blackwood for their oil lamps and wood boxes that we were able to have presented to Their Majesties Calontir to take with them to Pennsic. I hope they and others can continue to enrich us with artistry and skill

In service,

Khulan Cherbi



Kerare

Of these Lands that Burn



From the Knight Marshal

Anto the gentle populous of Vatavia, do I, Ebhan MacRuairidh, send greeting and well wishes.

Wow! What a month! We had several new fighters authorize at the Regional Practice in Salina. Then that great cookout! We had 20 fighters turn out for that. Not to mention all the populace members that came out and shared their talents and projects with us. Then we had the Tournament of Horse and Falcon up in Forgotten Sea. There was a very nice Vatavian presence there. Then Birthday Bash. A busy month indeed. And a lot of fun had by all I hope.

I would like to thank the individuals that organized and carried out the cookout. It was great having that kind of turn out at fighter practice. And I would like to let the populace know that EVERYONE is welcome at fighter practice. It's always more fun to fight for an audience. And it gives us a very low or no cost mini-event that we can go to locally.

Protecting the Dream through Service,

EBhan MacRuairidh



From the Chatelaine

Greetings Vatavia,

Birthday Bash was very enjoyable! Lady Eliane did a wonderful job. I hope everyone had a good time.

With Valor just around the corner, I would ask anyone who is a newcomer or has never entered an Arts & Sciences competition, to consider entering the Newcomer's A&S Competition on Saturday, the 4th. The competition is scheduled for 10:00 am (but may be changed if necessary). Let Calontir see your

artistic gifts in action!

Also, my term as Chatelaine is ending in December. It has been a great honor to serve Vatavia. If any are interested in the Chatelaine position, please let me know and we will begin our work together. Please submit letters of application for the position to Their Excellencies, Lady Eleanor and myself.

Yn Gwasanaeth, Lady Cerridwyn



From the Chronicler

Anto the Populace of Vatavia come greetings from Corrigan MacKenzie.

It is with a heavy heart that I announce I will be stepping down as Chronicler. This will be a rather quick change-over, as I feel the need to be away from the position as soon as possible. I have enjoyed my time working on the Dragonflyre very much, but I find that I must step away from it and the SCA for some time. This is strictly personal, and has nothing directly to do with the Society. I wish it were not necessary, but it is. I will however, be returning.

As such, I ask now for those with an interest in taking over the Office of Chronicler to please submit letters of application to myself, Their Excellencies Khulan and Kerare, and Lady Eleanor. The letter should include both modern and SCA qualification you feel you possess for the position. The deadline for submitting these will be the September Populace Meeting, at which we will also be doing interviews for the position. As Chronicler, you should have

access to a computer and printer, basic organization skills, and a good grasp of grammar, punctuation, and spelling. If you have any questions about the position, please contact me at 945-1536, and I'll be happy to assist you.

As this is the last issue I'll be doing, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped or submitted work to this publication, including Her Ladyship Marie, His Lordship Friar Thomas, Lady Cerridwyn, Lady Eliane, Lord Stephan, Lord Godric, milady Ilhana, milord Rhodri, and milord Atsumori. Without those people, the Dragonflyre would never have been as good as it has been. Finally, I especially want to thank my lady wife Vanora, for all her help and understanding, and my Deputy, Connor, for his fine work on the website, and his assistance in doing the occasional filler issue, including next month's.

In Service to the Dream,

Corrigan Mackenzie



From the A & S Minister

Anto the most gracious populace of the Barony of Vatavia doth Isabeau send warm wishes for great harvest.

I had the good fortune to attend the Kingdom A&S Championship held in our neighbor Shire of Bois d'Arc and I came away greatly impressed with the craftsmen in this Kingdom. Next year I hope to have some of Vatavia's many skills represented.

During Valor, Their Excellencies, Khulan and Kerare, have asked that we do a processional for their Majesties presenting our A & S skills to them. I am asking that each member of the populace carry (wear) something that they have made. This processional will take place on Saturday at Valor so please plan on attending. Along these same lines, I would like to request that if you having anything you would like to donate to their Majesties for largess that you contact either Their Excellencies or myself.

Lady Sibeal is concerned about Costuming and Fibers Arts. Due to mundane circumstances, it will have to move to a different night starting in September. It has also been suggested that it be combined with a proposed "Sip and Stitch" group. Please contact Lady Sybeal with your comments, ideas and what days and places work best for you.

Lastly, with the help of many wonderful people of this shire, we came up with an idea for Weekend Workshops. I envision these gatherings as groups of people getting together for 3 or 4 hours on a Saturday to do a project (or at least get a good start). The location for these Workshops will vary depending on the class.

Present schedule is as follows:

 September 18, 1998 - Regalia making. The Barony is in great need of some new regalia such as kneeling rugs, cushions and all sorts of lovely things that make this game more visually appealing. I am asking all members of the Barony to take part - either through sewing, crafting or through monetary support to offset the costs. This first Workshop will be held at Lady Sibeal's home, call 265-4643 for directions. Many of the things we will do for the Barony can be done with your personal devices to add pageantry to our many events.

- 2. October 16, 1998 Banner making. The arts and styles of banners. Meeting place TBA.
- 3. November 20, 1998 Creating Period Gifts for 12th Night. TBA
- 4. December 18, 1998 Potluck and get together.
- Next years subjects include: Italian/ Elizabethan bodice making, Sunshades, Constructing a period camp, Making a pyramid tent, Basket making, Researching research, Book binding, Oriental clothing, Card weaving, Inkle loom making, Glass bead making, Cooking, Camp cooking.

If you would like to host a class, teach a class, or suggests other classes, please let me know.

In pursuit of The Dream, Your loyal servant,

Isabeau





From the Caltrop Herald

Baroness Brialen, Caltrop Herald, sends greetings to the Vatavian populace.

The time has come for anyone interested in becoming the next Caltrop Herald to apply for the job. I will be stepping down in November, and I'm asking for all applications to be submitted by September populace meeting. Please give Their Excellencies, Lady Eleanor and myself copies of your application.

The Caltrop Herald is responsible for submissions of names and devices to the Saker Herald, as well as calling Their Excellencies courts. We are very fortunate to have a learned heraldic staff in Vatavia, so if you want to learn more about the heraldry business, this is the place to do it.

In service,
Baroness Brialen



Meetings & Announcements

The Populace Meeting is the third Wednesday of each month. August Populace will be on the 15th 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 or email her at cerridwyn@terraworld.net

Inyone 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

the 13th, 7:00 p.m., at Dawson United Methodist Church. The change is due to Valor. Please call Eleanor at 685-8510 if you need further information.

Baronial Fighter Practice is held on Sundays in S. Linwood Park, near the Tennis courts, at 10 a.m. On the first Sunday of each month, official Fighter Practice will be held at the Regional Fighter practice in Salina. For more information, contact Lord Ebhan Mac Ruairidh at 686-4724.

or those that are interested, there will be a grill available at the second Fighter Practice of the month for those who wish to bring something to cook for lunch. It would be available from about noon until whenever. If there are any questions, contact Lady Alyx at 686-4724.

Irmoring continues on Tuesday nights at Duke Gabriel's house, at 6:30 p.m. Please call Lord Cilian at 267-3456 for more information.

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.

The Middle Ages Recreation Society (MARS) meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of

• 4

the month at Wheatshocker Apartments. Please contact Lady Elspeth at 978-2722 for more information.

atavian Dance Practice (also called European dance) is held on Monday nights at Sims Park from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Whether you are a fighter working on building timing, balance and endurance, or just interested in dancing for fun and meeting people, this is the practice for you. We teach many different types of dance and have a lot of fun stepping on toes while we're doing it. No Practice will be held immediately following Valor.

ant 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.

If you are interested in Middle-Eastern Dance, please call Baroness Kerare at 265-9825, as the time and date are up for change.

ardic is held on the last Monday of each month, 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, at Lady Cerridwyn's home, 3551 S. Walnut. For more information, please call Lady Cerridwyn 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. In August, a 4-part series of classes began, focusing on

the basics of calligraphy and illumination. For further information, contact Lord Godric at 267-4152.

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.

alor still needs a Children's Activities Co-ordinator, and a Security Co-ordinator. If you are interested please contact Branguen at 684-6558.

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:

'Submit To Your Heralds'

Tord 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.

ayidda 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 iahanara@MISSOURI.EDU



Wastelands Defender VI

August 27th, 28th & 29th, 1999 c.e. Roman Nose State Park, Watonga, OK

The Shire of the Wastelands invites you to join our returning Defenders and the Populace for Wastelands Defender VI. New Defenders will be selected in the disciplines of Armored Combat, Rapier Combat, Archery, Children's Archery and Thrown Weapons. Our Arts & Sciences Competition welcomes all entries. Documentation is required.

Lord Hull's Feast Menu: bread and flavored butters, vegetables and dip, roast beef, pork ribs, turkey, potatoes, corn, melon, apple, cherry or pumpkin pie.

Feast fee is \$7.00 for persons 15 years and up, \$5.00 for children 7-14, children 6 and under are free.

Site fee is \$8.00 for persons 16 and older, \$5.00 for children 12-15, 11 and younger free. Family site fee maximum is \$25.00. Parent or adult (21 years old or older) must accompany minors with a signed notarized waiver form NO EXCEPTIONS.

Site opens 4 p.m. Friday afternoon and closes 12 noon Sunday.

Make checks payable to: SCA, Inc.-Shire of the Wastelands.

Hwy 51



Autocrat: Lady Ashlynn Blackhart of Essex

of Essex
Susan Lyda
2806 Mt. Vernon
Enid, OK 73703
(580) 242-0434
(no calls after 10 p.m.)

Feast Steward: Lord Hull the Camber, Son of Rouric Gary Don Hulsey Route 2, Box 62BB Fairview, OK 73737

(580) 227-2129 (no calls after 10 p.m.)

OKC



THE BARONY OF VATAMA PRESENTS

THE TOURNAMENT OF



HEARKETBACK TO THE FIRST TOURNAMENT OF VAIOR WHEN THE CLASH OF BASTARO SWORDS ECHOED ACROSS THE COOL WATERS OF LAKE AFTON.

SITE

Valor XX will once again be held at Lake Afton Park in Goddard, Kansas. The lake offers such amenities as swimming, and all 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 Friday 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 \$9 for non members \$1 per night per tent for camping (Shade-flies are free, please bring yours!) \$25 family cap (Immediate family only, please)

Tavem:
Friday 6 pm to Midnlight
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 (I-35):
Get off at Exit 42, 47th Street. Get in the left lane and take I-235 North. Take
Exit 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 light 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-Tawil 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.

W€B€TE

http://www.feist.com/~cymrlc/valor/

ACTIVITIES

Saturday:

10 am: Bastard Sword authorizations ONLY.11 am: Valor Tourney, Bastard sword only.

9 pm: Torchlight Tourney

Sunday:

11am: 6 Foot Tourney. Any combo, up to 6'

Afterwards: Melees till you drop and Bride and Groom Tourney.

ARCHERY

Saturday: Thrown Weapons

Sunday:

11am: Valor Archery Tourney

ARTS AND SCIENCES

Saturday:

9:30 am: Newcomer Arts and Sciences

Sunday:

10 am: Valor Arts and Sciences Competition

Crtterla - "Back to Basics" If your last entry was an art, then you need to enter a science, or

vice versa. Judging will be by Kingdom Novice Criteria.

OTROREDS ACTIVITIES

Saturday: Please see website or contact E.S.

Sunday:

10 am: Children's Archery Tourney

Please Make Checks Payable to: Barony of Vatavla - SCA, Inc.

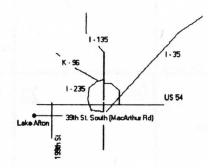
Event Steward (E.S.):
Branguen of Clan Anrias
Holly Howell
1414 S. Pershing
Wichita, KS 67218
(316) 684-6558 (before 10 pm CST

please!)

email: cymric@felst.com

Tavern Steward:
Cilian Nelli MacAoldh
Troy Liput
8704 Arthur Circle
Wichita, K\$ 67207
(316) 684-4730

email: troyliput@aol.com

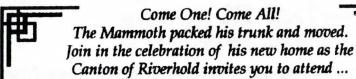




September – Calendar of Events



SUNDAY	M	ONDAY		TUESD	AY	WEDNESDA	Υ	THURSDAY	1	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Deadline for submissions and letters for this month's <i>Dragdnilyre</i>	1	Calligraphy and Illumination 7:00 p.m. Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m.	2	3 de la company	Tournament of Valor XX Barony of Vatavia Wichita, KS
Tournament of Valor XX Barony of Vatavia Wichita, KS	5		6	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	7		8	Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m.	9	10	Coronation of 1 1 Joe Angus and Phaedra Location TBA
	7:0 Vatavia	rs Meeting 10 p.m. n Dance Practice 0 p.m.	13	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	14	Populace Meeting 7:00 p.m.	15	Middle Ages Recreation Society(MARS) 7:00 p.m. Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m.	16	17	Armorgeddon Border Downs Sioux Falls, SD
Fighter Practice 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.		in Dance Practice O p.m.	20	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	21		22	Welsh Group 7:00 pm Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m.	23	24	Full Circle Deodar Cedar Rapids, IA Mammoth Faire Riverhold Jefferson County, MO Cattle Raids Mag Mor Lincoln, NE
Fighter Practice 10:00 a.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.	Vatavia	Practice O p.m. In Dance Practice O p.m.	27	Armoring 6:30 p.m.	28		29		30	the second residence	



tion of Riverhold invites you to attend ...
The Mammoth Faire

September 24-26, 1999 • Washington State Park, MO

Pennons will be flying high, will yours be there?

If performing's what you like to do, Jesters, puppets, Shakespeare too. There's a stage awaiting you.

Shows and competitions galore, enough to sate and more.

A band of fighters will be hired to take a wagon to faire. Will they make it? There are thieves everywhere.

After the wagon reaches the faire, prepare to arm in a winner take all *Torch Light Tourney*.

One winner, one prize!

But all come out with honor in the Faire Maiden's eyes.

Ah, what is this? A "wet" Bardic contest? Soaked Sagas?

Or with eloquent and flowery speech
might you attempt to win the hand of the Faire Maiden?

The Faire Maiden shall need a coat of arms.

The worst is the best, you see.

Attendez... zat sounds like ze bad heraldry to me.

Arrow, arrows everywhere, yet not one could an archer spare. Archers get your arrows ready.

Ssshhh! ...the old mammothe he's still brewing.

Bring your best meads, ciders, ales and non-alcoholic brews. We'll put them to the test. Will yours be the best?

Autocrat: James Erxleben 1961 Ronnie Dr., Arnold, MO 63010 • (636) 282-3018

Adults: \$8 Smalls (under 12): \$4 Family Maximum: \$24 Make checks payable to: SCA, Inc., Canton of Riverhold

Fee includes: Camping, Pig Roast (Chicken will be avilable),
Breads and Cheeses on Saturday evening.

Site opens at 12 noon Friday/Closes 5 pm Sunday

The Barony of Mag Mor presents a "high ambience" event:

Highlands Cattle Raids



No traffic noise. Open fields.

A barn with hand-constructed stone walls and wood beams.

Pavilions clustered around the

Modern items covered or disguised.

Come be THERE. Come be THEN.

When: Friday, Sept. 24, 7 pm through Sunday, Sept. 26, 11 am.

Theme: Gaelic Highlands & Cattle Raids through a variety of time periods.

Fighting: a "there can be only one" great sword tourney, a "defender of the stone" tourney and numerous cattle raid melees.

Archery: a 36 arrow shoot (12 each at 20, 30 ε_1 40 yards), a clout shoot (100 yards) and a silhouette shoot (60, 80 ε_1 100 yards). IKAC and/or CAP shoots if time allows.

Games: caber toss, hammer toss, rock throw for distance, foot races, board games.

Dancing: taught during the day, dance that evening. Jigs and reels to your hearts content.

Bonfire: stories, songs, especially Scottish ghost stories?

A&S competitions may include woad painting, heraldic bragging, entries made of "cow," best kilt (the whole nine yards, Celtic ornamentation, furniture, painted tapestry, disguised modern item. There will also be a contest for older children — entrants should prepare an A&S project and a separate Bardic presention.

Camping space is available. Period pavilions will be placed closest to the barn.]

Merchants are welcome, no fees, but no visible modern items, please.

Crash space in the barn will be available with an emphasis on period bedding/furniture, etc.

Mid-day & evening meals of simple but hearty foods will be provided as part of the site fee. Contact the event steward by Sept. 18 if you have any dietary concerns.

Site Filley Stone Barn just south of Filley, NE - directions in Sept. Mews. There is no running water, but drinking water & washing water will be provided. No open flames in the barn. Extra drinking water is welcome, as are sun shades, especially if the weather is hot. There will be a place to use shower bags. No alcohol on site.

Fees Site & Meal Fee: \$12, \$6 for 12 · 6 yr, under 6 yr free, maximum per family is \$42. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc · Barony of Mag Mor.

Event Steward: Isadora of Orange Woode, Opal Doerr at (402) 477-7703 or edoerr@navix.net

The Shire of Calanais Nuadh Invites one and all to attend AUTUMN ARROWS

IX Harvest Home

On October 2, 1999
Come and Join Us For All The
Archery You Want To Do
Camping, Feasting, Auctioning, Children
Activites, Reveling, And Anything Else
We Can Possibly Come Up With!
(Regional Fighter Practice Sunday)

At the Gasconade Hills Resort In Hazelgreen, MO Contact the Resort Directly for Cabin Reservations (1-800-869-6861) Map & Directions to Follow

For More Information Contact: Evangeline Verch David ab Otho Mka Evangeline Bays, 21055 Hwy 28 Lot 17,Dixon MO 65459, (573) 336-4470 - Ebays01@hotmail.com

Make Checks Payable to "SCA Inc.- Shire of Calanais Nuadh" - Site Opens at 9 AM Saturday and C loses at 12 Noon Sunday



Vox Populix

The Voice of the People

which was: 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?

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"It seems to me that many of our good Lords and Ladies have forgotten that we are supposed to represent the BEST of the Middles Ages instead of the WORST of the Borgian Court. We cannot push people into doing things they are not ready for, and we cannot keep forgetting that others have both ears and feelings. A lot of people need to start watching what they say, and quit trying to create factions in the Barony. I know too many new folks who have been chased off by both the politics and the outright rudeness they have encountered."

*

"A lot of times when you come out, people say 'hi' and everything and then there's never anybody there for the new people. So the new people we get, we tend to lose...We do [have a Chatelaine] and she's good, but she's not always around. When new people come in we lose fifty percent after a short time, because there was nobody there. When new people come in, they're unsure...some of them are too scared to ask, and then they don't get enough of what they want back from us."

"Get [new people] addicted to calligraphy or fighting or arts and sciences; it's the addiction that keeps people in." "They have to experience and event...go to an event as a participant, not working behind the scenes. Otherwise you're not going to get the full feel of it."

"Events are good...demos are good. Then they don't necessarily come in garb...because that is a scary thing, not being able to look like everyone else."

[#

"I think we need to make sure that any new person who comes to our events or meetings always feel welcome...that they are treated as a valuable person. We need to sometimes break away from our own immediate needs, as far as conversation or socializing to make sure we bring these people in, and help them to feel a part of this group...that they will feel a part of the Vatavian family.

The other thing is helping them identify a roll that they will be happy in; whether a fighter, archer, artisan or the person who runs troll."

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"More of these kind of events [gatherings at fighter practice], in the guise of getting people out and giving them something to that they don't have to have armor or experience for; they just have to come out and socialize. I think socializing is one of the things that got me into the group and has kept me in it."

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"Getting people out to investigate what we are

doing, advertising, like for Valor. Get one of the news channels out to do interviews with the key people...Once we've got their attention, show them something other than the fighting. We need to have more Arts and Science stuff in the park while we're fighting."

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"A lot of what we need to do in order to promote ourselves and grow is a sense of community. If we don't act like a group and do things together it's harder to keep people about, because they don't see where they fit in."

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"We had forty people show up at the Newcomers 101, and we've got maybe three of them that have held in. Our loss rates are too high; we need to find out why we're losing people we do attract."

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"Do more of the demo type things, like River Fest or Big Boys Toy Show...any public demo to get people to see that we're here, because most people don't have any clue we're here."

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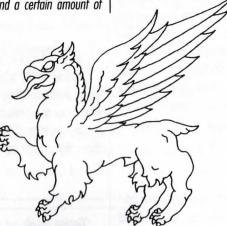
"You're only going to find a certain amount of

people that are interested...this isn't in the interest of everybody. But the people that do show interest, the main thing to do is to get them into the group, where they feel welcomed.

This group has been bad in the past about new people showing up, and they want to get involved but they stand on the edges, and nobody ever comes and talks to them. You've got to break that ice. You've got to remember that they're stepping into our world and they need help and I think it's everybody's responsibility to make them feel welcome.

When I started in the SCA, I got a lot of help. We're talking seventeen years ago...I kept saying 'what can I do to repay you for all your help?' And they said, 'the only thing you can do to repay me, when someone needs your help when they start, is you help them. And I've helped a lot of people get started in the SCA or in doing another activity. I may not know how to do something, but I can find somebody that knows how to do it."

ince there will be another Chronicler soon, this is the question to ponder for next month: What does the populace feel the Dragonflyre should be? What should be in the newsletter, and what should not?





Heretics

His Lordship Friar Thomas Bacon

Throughout history every group has had its outsiders. Every system of thought has its gainsayers. The system supported by the majority is the orthodoxy. Everything else is heresy. The Christian church during the Middle Ages was no different. Throughout the period the church fought heresies of all sizes, from small local movements easily suppressed, to the Albigenians, who had the potential to overthrow it across a large region and was only suppressed by a massive bloody military campaign. This essay will explore the beliefs of some of the more interesting heresies.

The word heresy comes from the Greek word 'hairesis', which meant: to take a belief. It was a synonym for cult or sect. It was only later when the Christian church tried to suppress all but the official dogma that the word acquired its negative connotations. In this later sense, what is a heresy is a set of beliefs that contradict or otherwise present an alternate viewpoint to the officially sanctioned one. While strictly speaking, the pagans, Jews, and Moslems are heretics from the Christian viewpoint, they are usually not classified as such because of their existence independent of Christian church. That is to say that the members of these religions were never seen as nominally Christian. The only reason they were treated only a little less harshly then the usual heretics is because they were not guilty of the addition sin of apostasy.

Theoretically the difference the church had with the heretics was theological. All too often it was of a more 'practical' nature. Such is the case with the Waldensians. Founded by a merchant turned preacher in 1176, the central tenet of this sect was the belief that renouncing wealth and power and living the simple life was the key to salvation. And there are many passages in the Bible to support this. The difficulty was that the upper echelons of the church were avidly pursuing said wealth and power. The contrast was most embarrassing. So the church strenuously attempted to suppress the Waldensians. It was against the Waldensians, and the similar group the Cathars, that the Inquisition and the Dominicans, and to a lesser extent the Franciscans, were formed to fight.

The Cathars went farther. Not only did they renounce wealth and power, they believed that the material world itself was the creation of the evil Satanael who was God's eternal enemy. While the Waldensians merely embarrassed the church, the Cathars challenged it dogma. Souls were angels trapped within bodies made by Satan. Only by abjuring the world could salvation be obtained. Women could just as easily join the priestly class—the 'perfecti'—as men. Also known as the Albigenians, named after the city Albi which became the center of the movement, they openly operated throughout southern France and parts of Italy. It took the horrific Albigensian Crusade to suppress this heresy.

Sometimes the heretics are just ahead of their time. So it was with the Lollards. Formed in England at the end of the fourteenth century, inspired by the teachings of John Wycliffe, they essentially held what now label Protestant views. There are two central tenets to Lollardy. The first is that the believer could achieve salvation from their own reading of the Bible. In effect bypassing the church. The second follows from the first in that there exist an essential equality between priest and layperson. The anticlericalism that this engendered by the more radical adherents is reminiscent of the later Puritans.

Also inspired by Wyciffe were the Hussites, went so far as to take over Bohemia. The Hussites are an interesting case as it combined a sense of nationalism to the theological differences. Part of the Hussite movement was a Czech reaction to the German domination of Bohemia. While Hussite doctrine greatly resemble Lollard doctrine, they differed in symbolic 'cause celebre'. While the Lollard cause centered on the vernacular Bible, the Hussite cause centered on administering the Eucharist chalice to the laity. Also notable about the Hussite movement was the tolerance for doctrinal differences within its ranks.

Sometimes the so called heretics had nothing to do with the church, but were the victims of the envy and greed of powerful authorities. One such set of victims were the Templars. The true target was the great wealth that the Templars had built up. The fall of the last Christian lands in the Holy Lands in 1291 open the window of opportunity. A bruising fight that left the papacy compromised, gave Philip, King of France, the opening he needed to begin his assault on the Templars. Aided by the inveterate secrecy of the Templars, Philip spun a line of accusations that included just about every possible blasphemy. Zealous use of the Inquisition produced confessions that fed the accusations. Eventually the order collapsed, and the king reaped the bounties of it's wealth.

This was just a sampling of the diversity of the heresies that arose during the Middle Ages, these being only the most notable. Not all were stamped out violently. The church managed to find a way to absorb some of them. Some of them provided the impetus for the church to reform, for the major theme running though most of the heresies of the Middle Ages was the discrepancy between the ideals of the church and its worldly activities. There is one last significant heresy that has been deliberately left

out; the Protestant heresy. From the Catholic stand-

it is very much a heresy, but by the sheer numbers of adherents, it has become an orthodoxy of its own. Such is the way religions are born. Heresy is in the eve of the beholder.

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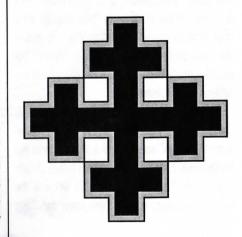
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From the Dance Mistress

Lady Eliane Marie Razaire d'Avignon

Treetings to all good Gentles in Vatavia from Lady Eliane with hopes that this brief missive finds you avoiding the heat on these dog days of summer.

A good Lord came to me the other day, and asked why we no longer held Vatavian Dance Practice. I replied to this Lord (with a certain degree of astonishment) "But we DO have dance practice...whatever gave you that idea?" Needless to say, after speaking with this good Lord, I felt a brief explanation of Dance Doings was necessary for this month's Dragonflyer.

VATAVIAN DANCE PRACTICE (also called European dance) is held on Monday nights at Sims Park from 7 to 9 pm. This is also called the 'Open Dance Practice' to distinguish it from any private practices that are being held elsewhere. Vatavian Dance Practice encompasses everything you will probably ever need to know to participate in a ball or dance at kingdom or local level. Besides working with beginners in teaching the very basics, we work on English Country Dance, SCA constructed dances, Folk Dances, Court Dances (pavanes, bransles etc....) and out of period dances like Hole-in-the-Wall and Korobuska. Being strictly for FUN, this dance practice is usually done in order of request, with teaching as

needed. Newcomers and rusty Old Timers are encouraged to join in with this group of dancers as a lot of time is always taken with teaching, and a large number of people are available to help teach. Whether you are just wanting to dance for fun, or are interested in maybe getting together with a few other people to entertain by dancing at feasts, this practice is for you.

DRAGONFLY DANCER PRACTICE is on temporary sabbatical for the rest of the summer, as the dancers are learning a number of other SCA pastimes at the moment. This is one of the private practices that was mentioned earlier in this missive, and therefore is not commonly referred to in the Dragonflyre. It is NOT the official Vatavian Dance Practice that is sponsored by our Barony and is only mentioned now because of the obvious misunderstanding about what practices are or are not currently being held.

I hope this clears up any miscommunication you may have received, and we will all look forward to seeing you at Vatavian Dance Practices on Monday Nights.

Lady Eliane

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Officers' Minutes

August 2, 1999 - 23 members attended: 17 officers/deputies/champions; 5 members of the populace; one very small small

'post mortem' for the Birthday Bash at Lake Cheney was held. It was requested that members be reminded to police their areas for trash, especially bottles and cans, since several individuals go bare footed during events. Safety concerns and requirements for events held in public areas were also discussed. There was a good turn out of Vatavians at the Tournament of the Horse and Falcon; a few made it to the Kingdom arts and sciences competition. Locally there was a good turn out for the fighter practice barbecue and the C and I picnic, which

had 8 new individuals interested in the classes to be given.

The regional fighter practice in Salina will be on the 15th of this month. Vatavia has been invited to attend the Wastelands event August 21st-22nd in Ansteorra. Master Leif and Lord Otoshi will be defending their titles won last year. Genevieve announced an event in Hoisington November 13th on arts and sciences. It is to cover how to enter QPT and Kinadom Arts and Sciences Championship and Tri-Level Competition, who to go to for documentation help, etc. Valor plans were presented. Deputy positions for troll, security, and children's activities still remain open. The event steward is coordinating with Nasir and Marina and their feast-o-crat on their wedding plans. A new company for sanitation services has been found that is more economical. Specific details were requested on the newcomers' arts and sciences competition sponsored by Lady Cerridwyn. This is open to any individuals who have never entered a competition before. The Crown has decreed that an arts and sciences processional be held by the local members at events they attend. Valor is the grand finale of this decree. ALL artisans are asked to participate since everyone in Vatavia does some type of art or science.

The Chatelaine has been working on promoting the new comers competition and encouraging interested individuals to enter. Currently there is one item locally in process with the herald's office. A property workday will be scheduled to work on the shade flies and direction signs in preparation for Valor. The Chronicler announced that he would be stepping down in September for modern reasons. The deadline for applications is the September 15th populace meeting. Interviews will be held at that time. Letters of application are to be sent to Lord Corrigan, Lady Eleanor, and the Baronage listing both SCA and modern qualifications.

Lady Isabeau, the Arts and Sciences Minister announced the beginning of monthly workshops

each to highlight a specific art or science. It is planned to schedule 3 to 4 hours to allow time to work on projects. She also wants to encourage more Kingdom level involvement by our artisans to show what talented and gifted individuals we have in Vatavia. The first workshop will be September 18th at Lady Sibeal's on the subject of Regalia for Vatavia. The C and I interest group has begun it's series of classes. People may still come and start at with the first class. Genevieve announced that it is planned for Lilies next year for each group to present their arts and sciences champion in competition.

Fighter practice continues to begin at 10 a.m. in deference to the summer heat. There are still individuals meeting Wednesday evenings at Linwood. Contact Vlad for information. Twenty-five fighters and a large portion of the populace attended the barbecue. It was recommended to repeat this activity. Her Excellency announced that she would be sponsoring a children's archery competition at the next Lilies.

The Baronage has no email access at this time. Hard copy of reports, messages, or other information is requested until this situation changes. Recently it has been suggested Vatavia look into the possibility of participating in the Wichita River Festival. It was pointed out that any such inquiries and/or planning needs to start now.

The meeting adjourned.





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www.vatavia.net

Run by Lord Connor M'Adwry

Credits

Chronicler: Lord Corrigan MacKenzie Proof-reader and Assistant: Milady Vanora lan Locke Officers Minutes: Her Ladyship Marie Chantal Delaire

Art

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