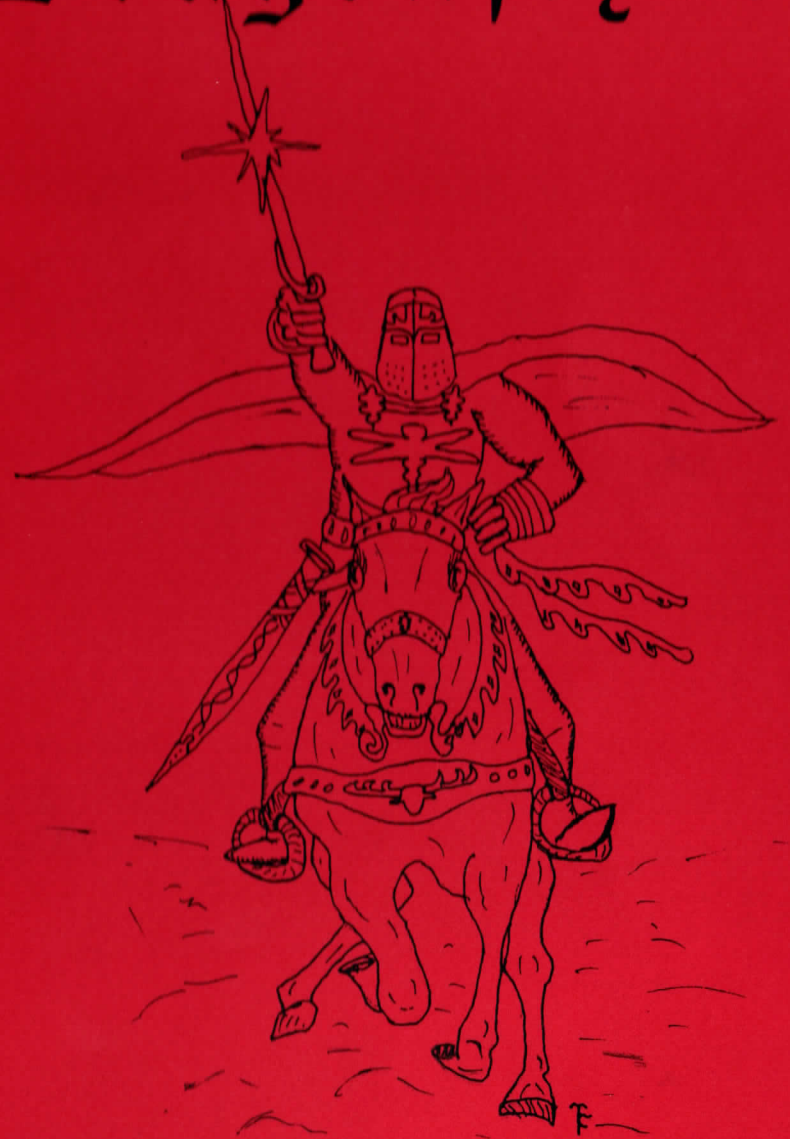


The Baroncy Of Datasia

Dragonflyre



December A.S. = xxxiv = (1999)

The Dragonflyre

c/o Warren Thomas

1622 S. Waco

Wichita, KS 67213



Baronial Officers

Baronage

Cherbi & Cherbin

Khulan & Kerare(316) 265-9825

Rick & Carolyn Haddaway

(Please no calls on Fridays - Contact the Seneschale if necessary.)

Officers

Seneschale

Eleanor ferch Rhiwallon (316) 685-8510

Wendy Donaldson winslet@feist.com

Chatelaine

Cerridwyn Eurgledde ferch Owain ap Bychan Glyndyfrdwy.....(316) 524-0478

Debora Billings ... cerridwyn@terraworld.net

Minister Of Children

Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

Historian

Friar Thomas Bacon (316) 685-1182

David Moreno

Caltrop

Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikings (316) 524-0917

Debbie Taylor deb_124@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Maeve Kelly de Navarre..... (316) 682-4468

Terry McKellop

Property Mistress

Qasar (316) 744-2260

Jennifer Chockley mongolqasar@hotmail.com

Knight Marshal

Ebhan MacRuairidh..... (316) 686-4724

Evan White ebhanmac@hotmail.com

Deputy Knight Marshal

Cilian Neill MacAoidh • (316) 744-2260

Troy Liput troyliput@aol.com

Archer Marshal

Roderick de Graham (316) 788-8826

Allen Graham

Minister of Arts and Sciences

Isabeau d'Andrea (316) 524-0917

Tari O. Stewart mharrison@feist.com

Chirurgaeon

Open, please see Seneschale to apply.

Chronicler

Connor M' Adwry (316) 269-1082

Warren Thomas vatavia@geocities.com

Deputy Chronicler

To Be Announced

Web Minister

Connor M' Adwry (316) 269-1082

Warren Thomas vatavia@geocities.com

Champions

Fighter Champion

Alan Smyth of Darkdale

Dale Belcher

Archer Champion

Corrigan Mackenzie

Chris Moore

Arts & Sciences Champion

Genevieve de Chambray

Kris Griffith

Bardic Champion

Ilhana Mackenzie

Melisa Moore

Banner Bearer

Ruaidhri ua Ceallaigh

Gary 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 Vavaria** of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Dragonflyre is available from Warren Thomas at 1622 S Waco, Wichita, KS 67213, (316) 269-1082. 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 unto the populace of the Barony of Vavavia. First, allow us to clear up a misunderstanding arising from last months populace meeting. We invited into our court the heads of a new middle ages organization known as "The House of the Sacred Dragon". It was not our intention for these individuals to sit in state. It occurred due to a lack of understanding of our ways and rules. It was our intention to allow our populace a chance to see and meet these individuals to stop further rumors and misunderstandings about them, not to add to it. Yes, some of our members have found common interests with them, and yes, we will probably run into them around Wichita at other demos. We are, however, different groups with different laws governing our organizations and we would remind all to follow kingdom law when attending SCA activities, be they monthly meetings, events, or demos.

We would like to encourage our populace to attend the following activities:

- ⇒ RUSH, November 13th in Westumbria (Great Bend).
The classes and opportunities

to learn can't be beat.
⇒ Champions, November 20th in Hutchinson.

We would encourage you to enter Champions, but would also like to take the time to remind of the duties of our champions.

- 1 Recommend persons to the Baronage for achievement in their field.
- 2 Represent the best, in our Barony, in tournament competitions and kingdom events.
- 3 Autocratting the next Champions event.
- 4 Any specific duties of the individual champions.

Next, we would like to thank all who helped out at the Kingman demo on November 6th. We are excited about having a shire forming close by and encourage the populace to help this new group get started moving in a positive direction.

Crown Tourney will be held December 4th in the Barony of Three Rivers (St. Louis, MO). This is the future of our kingdom and is history in the making. We encourage you to support our kingdom with your attendance.

Lastly, here it comes again. Mongols 2000, a seemingly bi-annual event, will be held January

29th in El dorado. Batu and Qasar are planning a wonderful event and I am sure they could use your help. We already know that Their

Majesties plan to attend, so it should be well attended. Thank you for your attention to our words.

Khulan
Cherbi



Kerare
Cherbin



From The Caltrop Herald

To Their Excelencies and the tolerant Vavavian populace. As you know I am stepping down this month. Before I depart office, I have a few things to say to the following people:

- ⇒ To Their Exelencies who have tolerated my learning on te job - thank you!
- ⇒ To Annys, thank you for being the brains in this "Pinky and the Brain" combo that we've had.
- ⇒ To Marie - God bless you!
- ⇒ To all the people whose names

I've murdered - I'm sorry!
Also, I hope that the "Guess the Arms" games we've had at populace were fun, and tat you learned something from it.

I've had fun in this office and hope you had fun also.

Protecting the Dream by
"Arming" the Barony,

Brialen

From The Minister of A&S

Unto the good gentile Populace of the magnificent Barony of Vatavia, doth Isabeau d' Andrea give warm wishes for a fruitful harvest and a mild winter.

Vatavians, I need to hear from you. I know you are creative people, now just let me hear about what you are creating. I also need to know which of our monthly meetings are working for you and what needs to be dropped or changed. Speak out and be counted.

We will be having a short "work shop" at the November Champions Tourney. The topic of discussion is 12th Night Gifts. I warmly welcome any tat would like to take part in this discussion. What we are looking for is what your persona would have given or received as a gift, or you can come and learn what others have found. If you have examples of simple period gifts, please bring them to show all.

On December 18th I would love to have the artisans of this barony come to my house between 2 p.m. and whenever at night for a 12th Night Festival. I would ask that each person bring one hand made gift to be given out that night. I also ask that you bring a dish to share. I'll put on a pot of chili. This would be a chance to mingle and get to know one another.

I'm looking forward to next year and all of the many exciting "Artisans of the Barony" get together in the future. Thank you one and all for all the help you have given to me getting me started in this position and contributing to the SCA through the Arts and Sciences.

In Service to the Dream,

Isabeau



From The Chronicler

Greetings are sent to all in these "lands that burned". As you are reading this, my deadline for letters of application for deputy have passed. If I don't have it in my hand now, it's too late. I will be talking to each who have applied and will announce at next populace who my deputies are. Thank you to all who applied.

Also, I was very pleased this month with the amount of submissions. Keep it up! I would like to keep this flyer full. I would also like to hear ideas

from the populace on ways to improve this publication. If there are things that you would like to see, then let me know. All input is welcome. If you are trying to catch me, I am at dance class on Tuesdays and I will be at Champions this month. Thank you for your time.

Protecting the dream Through
propaganda,

Lord Connor M'Adwry

From the MZK Event Stewards

Greetings! As you may have heard, Mongols 2000 is on the way. But I need your help. I hope to really put on a "show" for everyone, but I have a limited budget to work with. If you happen to have any of the following, I very thankfully will take it off your hands.

Needed for temporary use:

- ⇒ Rugs and throw pillows.
- ⇒ White Christmas lights.
- ⇒ Fabric lengths (5 yds. or longer)

Donations:

- ⇒ Yarn for tassels (any color)
 - ⇒ Tissue paper (any color)
 - ⇒ Chopsticks (free ones from restaurants)
 - ⇒ Popsicle sticks
 - ⇒ Kite string
 - ⇒ Dowel rods (pencil size)
- Call me for details or questions at 744-2260.

Thank you

Qasar and batu

Mongols 2000 Event Stewards

Tues 28th
Somers

Meetings & Announcements

The Populace Meeting is the third Wednesday of each month. December Populace will be on the 15th at 7:00 p.m., at WSU Student Union (CAC) in the Sunflower Room. Please call Lady Eleanor at 685-8510 or Their Excellencies at 265-9825 for more information.

Anyone wanting further information about the SCA, please call Lady Cerridwyn at 524-0478 or email her at Cerridwyn@terraworld.net

Anyone interested in contributing to the Kingdom Arts & Sciences Resource Book, please contact Her Ladyship Genevieve at (316) 663-7745 or genevive@southwind.net

December Officers Meeting will be held on the 6th, 7:00 p.m., at Dawson United Methodist Church. Contact Eleanor at 685-8510 or Their Excellencies at 265-9825 for more information.

Baronial Archery Practice is Sundays at 5500 N Maize Road, at 3:00 p.m. Contact Lord Michael Van Bergen at 265-5804 for directions or alternate times to shoot. Contact Lord Roderick at 788-8826 for other information.

Vatavian Dance Practice (also called European Dance) is held on Tuesday nights at First Unitarian Universalist

Church (1501 Fairmount) from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Whether you are a fighter working on building timing and balance, 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. For more info contact Lady Eliane at 265-2507.

Baronial Fighter Practice is held Sundays in South Linwood Park near the tennis courts at 1:00 p.m. and continues until interest is waning. If weather doesn't permit outside fighting, War College will be held at Lord Ebhan's home. Contact Lord Ebhan at 686-4724 for more info.

Armoring continues on Tuesdays at Duke Gabriel's house, at 6:30 p.m. Please call Lord Cilian at 684-4730 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.

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

Sayidda Jahanara bint Orianna

would like to know how many Middle and Far Eastern personas 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. She would appreciate all input. Contact Sayidda at Jahanara@MISSOURI.EDU

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 info, contact Lady Isabeau at 773-3956.

Bardic is held on the last Monday of each month at Lady Cerridwyn's home, 3551 S. Walnut. For more info, please call Lady Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

There will no longer be Welsh Group due to a lack of interest.

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 info, contact Lord Godric at 267-4152.

The heralds are challenging anyone to make and bring a new banner to Mongols 2000. Sir Gawayne's household will present a "portable hole" (to be used outdoors) to everyone who par-

ticipates.

There will be a workshop on 12th Night gifts at Champions.

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

Any interested in learning essential oils or stained glass (copper foil method), please contact Lady Cerridwyn at 524-0478.

Anyone in Newton and the surrounding towns - Lady Deirdre has opened her home as a meeting place. Please call (316) 284-2270 for information.

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

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

'Submit To Your Heralds!'

Champions

November 20, 1999

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Main and 30th St., Hutchinson Kansas

Site opens at 9 am and closes at 8 pm. There are several fast food restaurants around for luncheon possibilities. A simple Feast will be served including a Hearty Vegetable Beef Stew, a Vegetarian Soup and Bread with flavored butters. A subtlety competition is being sponsored by Her Excellency Kerare, to be judged during feast. The populace is asked to bring a desert or salad. Site fee is \$3.00 for members, \$4.00 for non-members. No pre-registration is necessary. Checks should be made payable to the SCA Inc. Barony of Vatavia. There is plenty of camping space/crash space if needed contact the steward for details. It is a dry site, however a post revel will be held at Genevieve's house, 2806 Malloy.

Fighting - Champions battle will be a Round Robin tourney. There will also be a Double Elimination Prize Tourney and Melees through out the day. Weather permitting we will fight outside, however there are indoor facilities. Fighters will need to wear tennis shoes to fight on the gym floor. Champion and Marshal in charge will be Alan Smyth of Darkdale.

Archery - Championship competition will include both an archery shoot and a thrown weapons tourney. The tournament will be held the week prior to the event at Archery Practice November 14th. Stephen O'Bannon will be the marshal in charge.

Bardic - Champions competition will be held during feast at Their Excellencies pleasure. Bring out your best bardic recitation, musical presentation or dance for this open entry competition. Register your entry at the Arts and Sciences area. We welcome anyone who wishes to perform during feast outside of the competition to please consider this opportunity.

Arts and Science - Championship entries will consist of 2 entries, one must be an art and one a science. Please provide documentation for judging by kingdom criteria. Additionally, we will have a Heraldic Banner/display competition and display area. Bring you're recent A & S projects for a show-and-tell display.

Children's - Championship competition will be an open arts and science entry of the participants choosing. No documentation required, however judging is face to face. There will also be a gaming area with boards and activities through out the day.

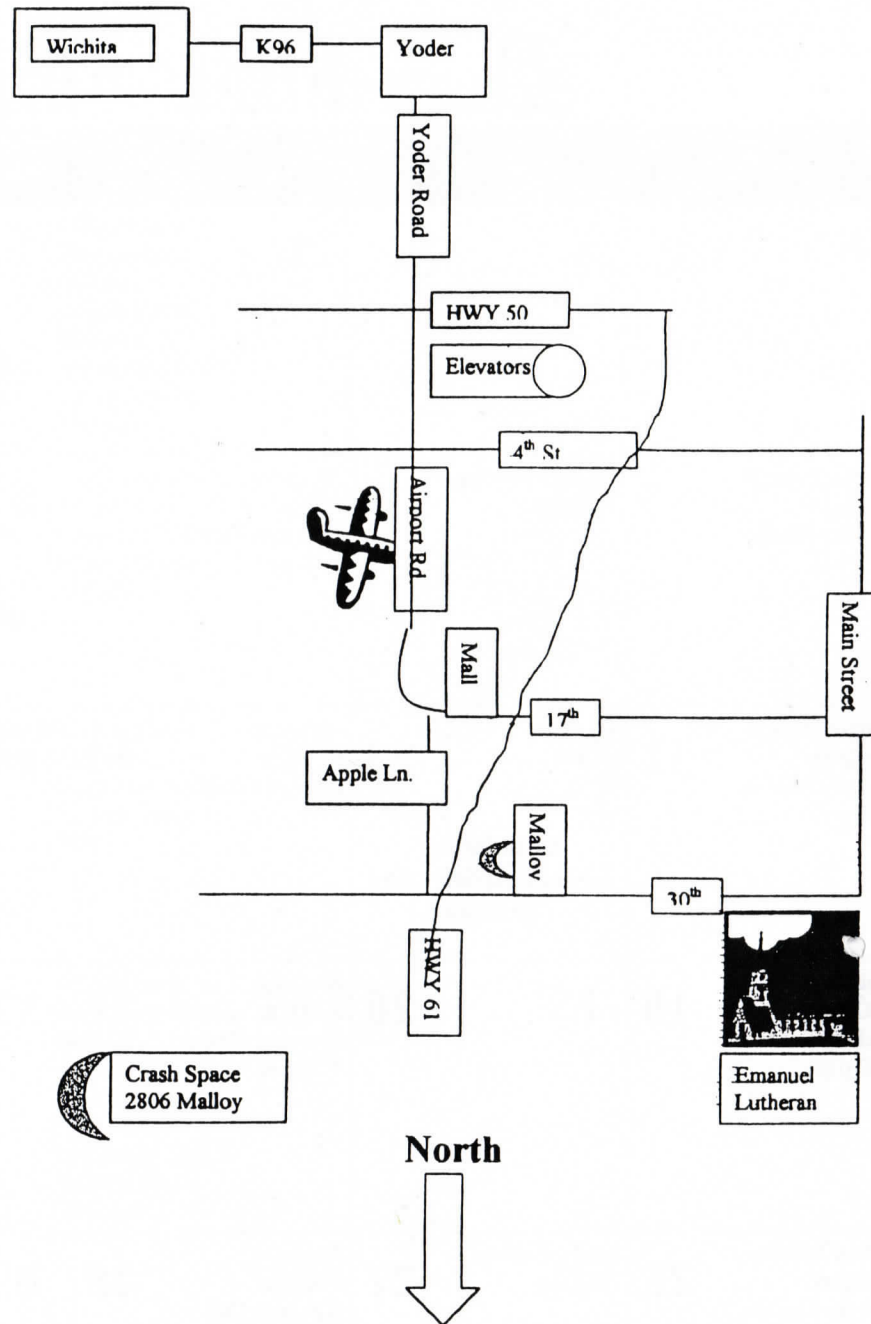
Event Steward

Genevieve de Chambery
2806 Malloy
Hutchinson, KS
(316) 663-7745
geneviev@southwind.net

Feastmaster

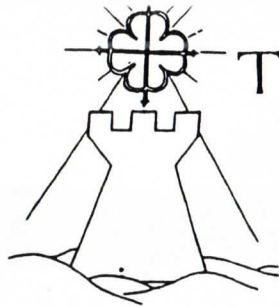
Cai Dubhghlas
612-2632
wbbrown@powwwwer.net

(Please contact Cai with special dietary needs.)



December - Calendar Of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Calligraphy and Illumination 7:00 p.m. Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m. Beginners' Middle Eastern Dance 7:00 p.m.	2	3 4
Fighter Practice 1:00 p.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.	5 Officers Meeting 7:00 p.m.	6 Armoring 6:30 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	7	8 Deadline for Officers' Letters	9 Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m. Beginners' Middle Eastern Dance 7:00 p.m.	10 11
Fighter Practice 1:00 p.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.	12	13 Deadline for General Articles And Artwork	14 Armoring 6:30 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	15 Populace Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16 Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m. Beginners' Middle Eastern Dance 7:00 p.m.	17 18
Fighter Practice 1:00 p.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.	19	20	21 Armoring 6:30 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	22	23 Middle Ages Recreation Society (MARS) 6:00 p.m. Courtly Dance 7:00 p.m. Beginners' Middle Eastern Dance 7:00 p.m.	24 25
Fighter Practice 1:00 p.m. Archery Practice 3:00 p.m.	26 Bardic Practice 7:00 p.m.	27	28 Armoring 6:30 p.m. European Dance 7:00 p.m.	29	30	31



TWELFTH NIGHT

in Lonely Tower
January 8, 2000
Scottish Rite Cathedral
202 S 20th St
Omaha, NE 68102

2000 Years Ago, in a far away land, three wise men traveled throughout the kingdoms to bring gifts to a child. They arrived twelve days after the child's birth. We invite you to travel across our fair kingdom to join us in a Twelfth Night celebration.

Activities Scheduled:

More Fighting Than You Can Swing a Stick At!!!

Tournaments:

- The Annual Combat Social Club
- The Novice Tourney
- A Malady Tournament
- Rob Roy's Platform Tourney

A Treasure Trove of Arts and Sciences!!!

A&S Displays/Contests:

The Twelve Days of Christmas (or any part thereof) in any medium-- will be judged by the populace.

The "Really Cool/Really Period" competition-- bring out your spiffiest Medieval creation and show it off! Judges will use the Kingdom Tri-Level criteria.

Sponsored by Bolarinia Tatjana.

Children's Competition--anything with a Christmas/Twelfth Night theme. Children 15 years and younger are welcome to enter this category. Age groups will be set up if necessary.

Games:

*A Competition of the Games of the East!
Many other period games available to test your skill!*

Archery:

*Indoor Archery-Type Games For All Ages
Miniature catapults welcome!*

Dance:

*Show off your fancy footwork!
(As time permits)*

Contacts and Info

Autocrat:

*HE ROISE NI UALLACHAIN
Dia Hilton (402)293-5475
1604 Thomas Dr. #2
Bellevue, NE 68005
ndhilton@probe.net*

Co Autocrats:

*Lord Duncan MacPherson
Geof Foster (402)455-2202
ddmacpherson@home.com.*

*Lord Ian MacLean
Guy Lyman (402)292-5041
ianhawk@aol.com*

Head Chef:

*Lady Onora O'Toole
Heather Blazekvk (402)738-8642
903 Dundee Ct #504
Bellevue, NE 68005
hornh@radlks.net*

Crash Coordinator:

*Lady Maria Juanita de Valencia
Tawnee Foster (402)455-2202
ddmacpherson@home.com*

*Please call Head Chef with any
questions/concerns regarding
dietary restrictions/food allergies.*

*ALL CRASH ARRANGEMENTS
NEED TO BE MADE IN
ADVANCE PLEASE!!!!*

Site Fee: \$5.00

Feast Fee: \$8.00

*Feast fee for children 12 and under
is 1/2 price!*

*Feast serves 125, and includes beef
and chicken.*

*Same gorgeous, grand, huge site as
last year!!!*

Are you M2K Compliant???

It's very easy to get that way! All you have to do is call and reserve your seat at feast and mark the date on your calendar and you're all set!

It is time once again for another round with the Mongols, and to show that we are not always 'barbarians', we would like all of you to come and celebrate the Chinese New Year with us and the Barony of Vativia on January 29, 2000. As an added bonus, Baron Khulan will be hosting a Quriltai to discuss news of unrest across the land.

There will be much to do this day for everyone!

Activities include (but are not limited to):

Fighting* (indoor melees if bad weather), A&S Competition* & Display, Chinese Dragon Kites, Paper Lanterns, Fans, Dragon Puppets, Games, Children's Activities*, Brewing Competition* (which makes this a wet site), Archery* (we are looking for indoor projectile ideas in case of bad weather). Knife & Axe will be done outside regardless of weather.

If there is an Eastern project that you would like to learn, please call Qasar with your ideas. We want to make this a wonderful day for everyone!

(*Prizes Awarded)

There will be a Soup Kitchen available during lunch, and there are many places in town to eat. For dinner we hope you will join us for the

Feast of the Millenium!!!!

A sumptuous feast of Eastern foods, entertainment, and lots of atmosphere is planned. Don't be the one who missed it!!!! Please call Kerare now. We need advance reservations. 75 seats are available now (possibly more if enough reservations are made).

When you call, please specify Eastern of European seating.

Site fee is \$5 for members, \$6 non-member with a \$20 family cap. Five & under are free. Feast is \$6 and free for children five & under. Make checks payable to: SCA, Inc, Barony of Vativia.

Unfortunately no pets are allowed on site.

(Directions and further details to come in the Mews.)

Event Stewards

Batu & Qasar
(Tom West & Jennifer Cockley)
4058 N Edgemoor, Bel Aire, KS 67220
Phone: (316) 744-2260
E-mail: mongolqasar@hotmail.com

Feast Steward

Cilian
(Troy Liput)
Phone: (316) 684-4730
E-mail: troyliput@aol.com

Reservations & Crash Space

Kerare (Carolyn Haddaway)
Phone: (316) 265-9825

The Barony of Three Rivers (St. Louis, MO) proudly presents

Crown Tournament

Saturday, December 4, 1999
Immaculate Conception Church Hall
2934 Marshall
Maplewood, Missouri 63143

Crown Tournament

At TRM's request, this tournament will be limited to 2 handed great weapons

Arts and Science Activities

Best Falcon in any medium - Judged by populace vote, documentation not needed, but appreciated.

Best Crown story or song - Best story or song from or about a past crown. A panel of judges will pick the winner. Winner will be asked to perform at feast.

Other Activities

Children's Activities

Trivia Contest - come test your Y1K knowledge

Games - It wouldn't be Three Rivers without the games.

Tournament details available on site

All games open to the populace

Merchants There is limited space, so please contact the Chief Steward for space.

SHOPPING - Do we need to say more?

Feast

The fighter friendly feast will include: Assorted breads & butters; Calontir Eggs; sugared fruit; fried cheese sticks; seasoned meatballs; roast beef; fried chicken; mashed sweet potatoes; noodles with cheese; almond green beans; pickles; baked apples; sugared nuts; and spice cake.

Please contact the Feast Steward with dietary restrictions or for the vegetarian alternative by November 25, 1999.

Fees

Site - \$4 - Adults, \$2 - Children (5-12 years old), Free-Children under 5

Feast & Site - \$9 - Adults, \$5 - Children (5-12 years old), Free-Children under 5

Merchant Fee - \$10 - some tables will be provided, please make reservations

Please make all checks payable to - **SCA Inc., Barony of Three Rivers**

The only reservation is a paid reservation - please mail paid reservations to:

Barony of Three Rivers, SCA Inc

P.O. box 140094

St. Louis, MO 63114

Contact Information

Chief Steward: Lady Rebecca of Three Rivers

MKA: Paige Rogers - (636) 940-9104

email: ldybecca@excite.com

Feast Steward: Lady Caillin O'hIDICHE

MKA: Debbie Carr-Murrey - (314) 535-0175

A Question of Fealty

Lord Thomas Foxley of the Grenewode

Recently I was afforded the opportunity to seriously consider the aspects entailed by an oath of fealty. I wish to express my opinion to the populace so that others may take time to consider their own feelings on the subject of fealty and also homage. Please keep in mind, these are my opinions and I do not claim to express any official Society tenets.

The oath of fealty is basically a swearing of allegiance. In modern terms, it can be viewed as a contract to perform a service, such as swearing fealty when accepting an office. To me, it seems to be generally accepted that when one's term of office expires, so does that particular oath of fealty. Notice too how peers and holders of office swear fealty again at each crown.

Homage on the other and is much different than fealty and I have encountered extremely varied opinions on what it means. According to the Oxford Modern English Dictionary, Second Edition, fealty is defined as "1 *hist.* a a feudal tenant's or vassal's fidelity to a lord. b an acknowledgement of this. 2 allegiance."

Homage is defined as "acknowledgement of superiority, dutiful reverence (*pay homage to*)."

Where fealty can be viewed as swearing allegiance to Kingdom and/or Society, homage could be seen as pledging your loyalty to one particular individual. Therefore homage could turn out to be a lifelong commitment for some. It is extremely important then that the person swearing homage and the one accepting it both fully understand each other's opinion on the subject.

I myself swore fealty many seasons past when I became a Baronial Archer Marshall. And though Coronets and Crowns have changed, I will not forget the feeling inside when I knelt before Their Excellencies, Gawayne and Brialen and freely pledged my oath. Though mundane commitments now take up much of my time, I'm still proud to be a Vata-vian, and I still feel the same way about my oath of fealty today as I did the day I first swore it, and I will continue to serve the Barony of Vatavia and the Kingdom of Calontir as best as I can.

In Service,

*Lord Thomas Foxley
of the Grenewode*

His Lordship Friar Thomas Baron

Recently I read a report about how one branch of Lutherans and the Catholic Church were about to sign a concordat that resolved a number of differences between them. This in of itself is not all that earthshaking. There have been many such dialogs over the past decade. What did catch my eye was that they signed it on the anniversary of Luther's posting of his 95 theses: October 31, Halloween. I though it a bit ironic that a holiday so given to things unchristian was so prominent a milestone in Christian history. That got me to thinking about what those theses were. Normally I avoid the Reformation as it informs more on modern sensibilities then those medieval. Nevertheless it plays a major role at the end of the period. So here is the fuss that started it all.

The act of Luther posting these theses is dramatic only in the light of ensuing events. What Luther posted was an invitation to an academic discussion of the 95 points listed. It was nailed to the church door because that was were notices of this nature were

posted, much like the posters found taped to the doors of the Student Union on many colleges. He posted them in response to being denounced by Johann Tetzel when Luther refused to attest to the efficacy of the indulgences he was selling. Nor was the date by chance, as the next day, "All Saints Day", featured a display of relics, and so insured a crowd. To further insure disseminating his challenge, he had the theses printed in German and circulated.

The 95 theses are not 95 separate issues. What these theses are were topic sentences of paragraphs. The central theme being the selling of indulgences. His disagreement was not with the concept of indulgences, or that the Pope could grant them. What he objected to was the extravagant claims being made about the scope the indulgences covered. Particularly about the remission of sin without penance or covering those dead. And he made it a point to indemnify the Pope from these abuses.

Indulgences are an old tradition in the church, though they first came to prominence during the First Crusade when they were

used as a recruiting aid. They were later used to raise revenue for various causes. In 1517 the cause was the expansion and repair of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Ironically the Pope who promulgated the indulgence inherited the project from his predecessor was not enamored with it. But as the old basilica was beyond repair, for the prestige of the Church he continued with it.

In practice the system of indulgences was as follows. The Pope would authorize indulgences for a set purpose. While, in theory, this was strictly an internal church matter, in practice, reality required others to be given a cut of the sales. Either so they would allow the indulgences to be sold, or for debts to be paid off. The Archbishop of Luther's region was very much in debt, and a representative of the Fuggers banking concern accompanied the Archbishop's agents to audit the proceeds. This created the circumstances that created the "hard sell" that so provoked Luther.

Initially, Luther had no intention to start a revolution. He became more radical after the Church attacked him. His interest was realigning the Church's actions with its ideals. But throughout the Middle Ages, many a group was branded

heretical for such an effort. And with its revenue stream threaten, the Church acted no differently to Luther then it did to these others. The difference in outcome was the result of Luther's time and place.

Germany was part of the Holy Roman Empire. But in reality it was a loose collection of quasi-independent principalities, each jealously guarding its privileges. The emperor was Charles V, who just ascended the throne. Charles also held the crown of Spain, and had large holdings in Italy. While a capable leader, these extensive holdings left with too many distractions and too many enemies to allow him to effectively deal with Luther's growing supporters. The source of Luther's support among the princes was that his attacks against Rome feed their sense of German nationalism.

Also helping was the invention of the printing press. With it, Luther and his compatriots could quickly and widely spread his ideas. Various other social trends resonated with Luther's ideas creating an unstoppable movement. Middle class merchants responded to Luther's ideas of self-discipline and self-reliance. Political dissidents saw a way to

reform society, while many clergy cheered the attacks on Church corruption. It was a long way from an academic disagreement about indulgences.

While Luther is the central figure in the development of the Protestant Reformation, it would be a mistake to make him the source. Even if he hadn't nailed those theses to that door, it was only a matter of time before someone else did something similar. Many of the key ideas and themes were not original to him. His genius was in putting them together elegantly and forcefully. Many of the details of Protestantism would have played out differently, but the Reformation had become inevitable. It just

needed a spark. In this case, a spark of some 95 sentences.

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Officers' Minutes

November 1, 1999 / 16 members attended: 13 officers/deputies; 3 children

Lengthy discussion was held about clarifying the distinction between Society, other organizations and individuals in the eyes of the public. This has become a concern due to the increased participation by the Society in public events in the recent years. Ways to achieve this were suggested. Strict adherence to communication through proper channels and officers will facilitate this. Educating the public will also be needed.

The Kingman 101 presentation was briefly covered. Details and times for the November 27th demo at Peabody were given. Champions will be held in Hutchinson November 20th. The Archer champion competition will be shot the preceding weekend in Maize. RUSH is November 13th. Several members of the populace are presenting classes. Members are encouraged to attend.

The Mongols event will be in January. The flier for the event was presented. Organization on the event is progressing. Depart-

ment heads are being sought in some areas. Classes are planned. There is a list of requested items for donation to help create the atmosphere for the event. The populace is asked to please check the list to see if they can help with donations.

The Herald reported two items in process at the Kingdom level. The office is waiting to hear back from the national level for the decisions on Vataavian items. The arts and sciences interest workshop will be held November at the Champions' event in Hutchinson. The subject will be what your persona would have given as a 12th Night gift in period.

The December 18th meeting will be a 12th Night gift exchange. Contact Lady Isabeau for details. The different interest groups were asked to consider any changes or schedule changed they might need to make for the coming year. The MOA/MOS would like to hear from each group to discuss their current activities.

Fighter practice continues at the same location and time. On days with inclement weather,

War College will held at Lord Ebhan's house instead.

The Baronage repeated the announcement made at October's populace meeting about the other middle ages organization. Some misconceptions have arisen. The

officers were asked to help clarify this and help alleviate the confusion.

The meeting adjourned.



Their Majesties' Calontir

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