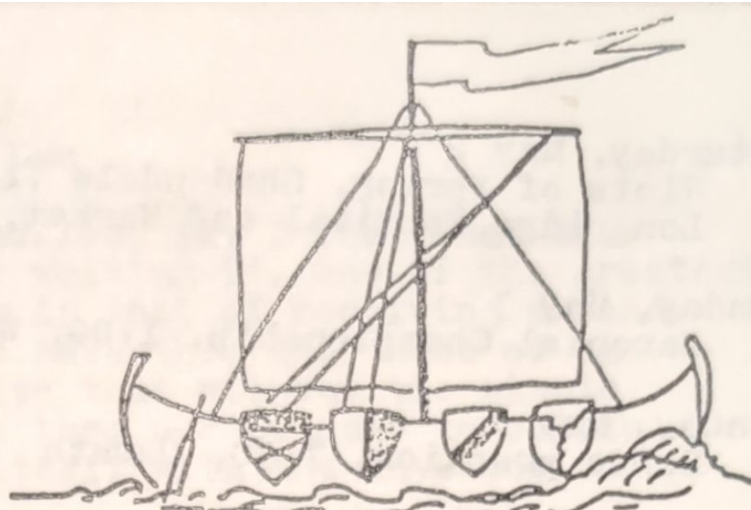


The Barge



APRIL 9, 1987

CALENDAR

Saturday, April 11

RUSH, Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE) *

Lenten Feast, WurmWald (Champaign/Urbana, IL) *

Feast of the Return of the Dragon, Far Reaches (Carbondale, IL) *

The Devil Made Me Do It, Deodar (Mt. Vernon, IA) *

Monday, April 13

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, April 16

Dance after meeting

Saturday, April 18

War for All the Cookies, Crescent Moon (Topeka, KS) *

Arthurian Event, Grey Gargoyles (Chicago, IL) *

Monday, April 20

Officers meeting, 7:30, Harald and Aleta's. Scheduled business:
Belz Mall demo, Ministry of Children, Baronial cooking
paraphernalia.

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, April 23

BARGE deadline

Saturday, April 25

Belz Outlet Mall demo, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

Beltane, Mag Mor (Lincoln, NE) *

Sunday, April 26

Fighters practice, 1:00, between McMillen and Women's Building

Monday, April 27

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, April 30

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

BARGE

Friday, May 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR! AS XXII

Deadline for June Mews

Country of the Month: Spain

Saturday, May 2
 Riots of Spring, Shadowdale (Iowa City, IA) *
 Longridge Festival and Market, Longridge (Sikeston, MO) *

Sunday, May 3
 Baronial Championship, 1:00, Wash. U. campus (tentative)

Monday, May 4
 Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Tuesday, May 5
 Metalworkers guild, 7:30, Stargaard

Thursday, May 7
 Dance after meeting

Saturday, May 9
 St. George and the Dragon, Oakheart (Springfield, MO) *
 MidRealm Coronation and Illiton Decennial, Illiton (Peoria, IL)*

Monday, May 11
 Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, May 14
 BARGE deadline

Saturday, May 16
 Crown Tournament, Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE) *

Sunday, May 17
 Historians Guild, 7:30, Elin Redlock's

Monday, May 18
 Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, May 21
 BARGE

Saturday, May 23
 Woodland Tourney, Flaming Pillars (Moberly, MO) (tentative)
 Mid-summer Fair, Carrefour (Joplin, MO) (tentative)

Saturday, May 30
 War of the lilies, Forgotten Sea (Kansas City, MO) *
 MidRealm Coronation, Cynnabar (Ann Arbor, MI) *

Monday, June 1
 Deadline for July MEWS
 Country of the Month, Italy
 Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Tuesday, June 2
 Metalworkers guild, 7:30, Stargaard

Thursday, June 4
 BARGE deadline

Saturday, June 6
 Shriners Hospital demo, 1 - 3:30 p.m. *
 Rites of Spring, Bois d'Arc (tentative)
 Camping Event, Dark River (Moline, IL)

Ts'Al Lun

This article is 500 years pre-period, yet I feel that the contents will explain my reason for writing it. One of the greatest joys one can receive in the Society is that of receiving a hand-done award scroll. Those of us that have them and those of us who look forward to them must realize that without the simple item of paper we would neither have them nor be able to obtain them. Hence this article concerns itself with the inventor of paper.

Ts'Al Lun, the inventor of paper, is a man whose name is probably unfamiliar to most of us. Considering the importance of his invention, the extent to which he has been ignored (with the exception of China) is surprising. Research makes it absolutely clear that Ts'Al Lun was a real man, an official at the Chinese imperial court, who in or about the year 105 presented Emperor Ho Ti with samples of paper. The Chinese account of Ts'Al Lun's invention (which appears in the official history of the Han dynasty) is entirely straightforward and believable, without the least hint of magic or legend about it.

Not a great deal is known about Ts'Al Lun's life. Chinese records do mention that he was a eunuch. And it is also recorded that the Emperor was greatly pleased by Ts'Al's invention, and as a result, Ts'Al Lun was promoted, received an aristocratic title, and became wealthy. Later on, however, he became involved in palace intrigue and this led to his downfall. The Chinese records tell us that after Ts'Al Lun became disgraced, he bathed with great care, dressed in his finest silks, and drank poison.

The use of paper was already widespread in China by the second century. By the third century China was exporting paper to other parts of Asia. The Chinese kept the process of making paper a secret, until around 751, (period time), when several Chinese papermakers were captured by the Arabs, and not long afterwards paper was being produced in both Samarkand and Bagdad. The art gradually spread throughout the Arab world, and by the 12th century the Europeans had learned the art from the Arabs. In China before Ts'Al Lun most books were made of bamboo. Such books were written on silk, were very heavy and clumsy. Writing on silk was an expensive process and therefore books were not made for general use. In the west before paper most books were written on parchment or vellum.

Ts'Al Lun's invention allowed large amounts of paper to be processed at a time, therefore cutting down on the expense involved in the process. Cut bamboo was washed and steeped in a water pit to begin its preparation for paper. A slow fire was then allowed to burn under the water pit, slowly breaking the plant down. The fiber, once broken down, was molded into large sheets which were then hand-pressed, to give them firmness, and to press out any remaining water. The sheets were then hung to dry in the sun. These large sheets could then be cut into whatever size was needed. There is no doubt that man's progress towards greater learning and understanding was helped by the invention of paper, and as such we owe a great debt to Ts'Al Lun.

The Lord Philippe du Anolia, GOA, OT

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

R.U.S.H.

Apr. 11 Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE)

This is the spring session of the Royal University. It will be held on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.; the last class ends at 5:00 p.m. There is no feast planned, but arrangements have been made for a group to eat at the Mongolian Barbecue, which is becoming famed throughout Calontir. There are lots of courses in fiber arts, and others in costuming, drama, art and architecture, history, chirogeonry, tent-making, brewing, wars, and cooking. Brief synopses and materials fees are listed in the April MEWS (just beyond the centerfold!).

Lenten Feast

Apr. 11 WurmWald (Champaign, IL)

A former resident of Three Rivers, Lord Caradwg Emrys Phelan, is one of three autocrats for this event. The main feature of the day is a vegetarian feast celebrating the last week of Lent. (The flyer promises copious quantities of alcohol to drown the sorrows of the season). Other activities are merchanting, dancing, music, novice and prize tourneys, and the Niall Muinechan Memorial Bowling Tournament. Further details are in the April PALE.

Return of the Dragon

Apr. 11 Far Reaches (Carbondale, IL)

An archery tourney, a dragon theme competition, a chess tourney, a dragon calling contest (Be careful -- you may get what you ask for!), a novice tourney, a period trivia contest, open gaming, dance instruction, and a feast for 60. If you need more information, see the April PALE.

The Devil Made Me Do It

Apr. 11 Deodar (Mt. Vernon, IA)

This sounds like a fun event. The flyer is addressed to the sinners of the known world, and invites all who wish to out-sin the devil in an attempt to redeem Talbot McTaggart's soul (he sold it to the devil for four years of education). Each hour of the day will be devoted to one of the seven sins - gluttony, sloth, lechery, envy, covetousness, wrath, and pride. There will be a competition for most sinful each hour, a two man melee tourney, a "Gates of Hell" sideless surcoat competition for the ladies, and a most devilish grin contest for the lords. The group of sinners that amasses the greatest amount of points during the day will have the chance to talk the devil out of claiming Talbot's soul. All of this will be followed by a performance of Doctor Faustus and a feast. There is only seating for 40 at the play and feast, however, so you may not be able to enjoy them. Directions, etc. are in the April MEWS.

War for All the Cookies

Apr. 18 Crescent Moon (Topeka, KS)

A canton rebels against a Barony, all because of a yearly cookie tax. The Barony of Three Rivers is maintaining its neutrality in this matter, so choose your own side. Camping is available on site. Details and a map are in the April MEWS.

Arthurian Event

Apr. 18 Grey Gargoyles (Chicago, IL)

This event has a novice tourney, a warlord tourney, contests for heraldic device and best grail, seminars, gaming and tale-telling, and a feast. The flyer in the April PALE refers to the March PALE or seneschal's flyer for details.

Belz Outlet Mall demo

Apr. 25 Belz Mall (Wentzville, MO)

This is a recruiting demo for the canton of Whispering Hills. Because of insurance problems, there will be NO fighting. Instead there will be a videotape showing some fighting, and displays of weaponry. We will also be displaying arts and sciences, and doing some dancing. If you have not already signed up, please do so NOW! If you cannot attend, please think about (and then do something about it) loaning tables or chairs or items for display. We MUST BE set up when the mall opens at 10:00. If you cannot arrive until later, please come in garb and ready to participate. More information will be available at meetings, or from Daen MacPherson (Dean Eubanks) at (314) 456-4022.

Beltane

Apr. 25 Mag Mor (Lincoln, NE)

Celebrate the return of spring! This event will have fighting, archery, exhibition horse events, critiqued displays in arts and sciences, special contests, a Middle Eastern dance workshop led by Queen Mammara, a May Pole dance, a bardic circle, a drawing for a Celtic quilt, childrens activities, a babysitting co-op, merchants, and a feast. The arts and sciences displays will be poetry, needlework, costuming, brewing and vinning, and spinning and dying. The special contests will be for best May basket with most edible contents, and for best wearable animal or bird mask in any medium. Maps, etc. are in the March MEWS.

Riots of Spring

May 2 Shadowdale (Iowa City, IA)

The flyer states "In the spring, a student's fancy lightly turns to love, drink, and ... Civil disturbance!" The riots are in commemoration of "town-gown" confrontations throughout history. There will be several melees (including a boundary stone dispute), archery, cobble-stone throwing contests, rabble-raising competition, arts and sciences display, best costume on day's theme, a bardic circle with a best day's events story competition. Lunch will be available on site, but there will be no feast. More info in the April MEWS.

Mayfest and Market

May 2 Longridge (Sikeston, MO)

It sounds like this will be a loosely structured event; a field will be available for archery and fighting, merchants will be displaying, and the potluck feast will be available "at leisure." The April MEWS has addresses for the autocrat, reservations, crash space and merchants' space.

St. George and the Dragon May 9 Oakheart (Springfield, MO)

This is Oakheart's fifth event of the same name. The site is Camp Mission Point, where fall Crown was held. There is camping space, and dorm space for 100. Day's events include a theme competition in fiber arts and graphic arts, workshops on beginning spinning and weaving and on cooking, archery, a double elim tourney, and a feast. Lunch will be available at no charge for those with feast reservations. See the April NEWS for details.

MidRealm Coronation May 9 Illiton (Peoria, IL)

The coronation of Talywar and Eislinn will be celebrated at the same time as the decennial of the Barony of Illiton. The flyer in the April PALE has an address for reservations, but says to see the February PALE or seneschal's flyer for details. I can't find anything in the PALE, so see the flyer that Lady Swietoslawa has received.

CAN I SEE IT. WE WILL LEAVE SOON.

Calontir Crown Tourney May 16 Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE)

This is a camping event at a site quite a way from the nearest town. Because of this, one price buys site, camping, 3 meals on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. It is also possible to pay only for the site, or for site and feast. Some dorm rooms are available; there is an extra charge for these. In addition to the food and the tourney (which is the reason for the event, after all!), there will be contests in miniature period pavilion making, calligraphy, illumination, costuming, lace making, miscellaneous needlework, poetry, costume design, painting and drawing, spinning and dyeing, woodworking, herbalism, and non-armor metalworking. Prices go up after April 12. Fee schedule and maps are in the April NEWS.

War of the Lilies May 30 Forgotten Sea (KC, MO)

All of Calontir is divided into Royalists and Loyal Opposition for this event. Fighters will fight on the side of the knight to whom they are squired, or on the side of Baron Stephen if they do not have a knight. I do not remember who fights on which side; I will try to have the list for another DARGE. The site is Perry Lake State Park; there is a contest for most period campsite. More information is in the April NEWS.

Midrealm Crown Tourney May 30 Cynnabar (Ann Arbor, MI)

The tournament is the main feature of the day. There will also be a dragon contest (any medium) and a scroll contest. Feast will serve 200 and includes a whole roast pig. Reservation info is in the April PALE; more details will be in the May PALE.

Shriners Hospital demo June 6 Shriners Hospital (Lindbergh Blvd)

Our demo last fall was so successful that we have been invited back. In addition to a 2 and 1/2 hour fighting and dancing demo, we will have 1/2 hour before the demo to walk through the hospital and visit those who will not be able to attend the demo. Last fall, several fighters (communicating through a window) compared their armor to some of the braces children in isolation were wearing and really made their day! This year we can do that close up! This will also be good preparation for the big demo we're doing the next weekend in Forest Park. PLEASE SIGN UP!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the February meeting of the Board of Directors, the Barony's letter of concern about arbitration proceedings was discussed. The board issued the following clarification:

Arbitration was introduced because it is in the interest of every member of the SCA to settle disputes short of involvement in the civil legal system. Arbitration provides an alternative to legal action. If members agree not to sue each other, they also assure themselves that they will not be sued. In practice, this means that when a problem arises, it should be worked out if possible among those directly concerned with it. Failing that, it should be resolved with the assistance of others within the existing kingdom and corporate structure. If all else fails and it becomes apparent that no resolution is possible within the SCA, we will turn to outside arbitration - mutually acceptable to all parties, not chosen by one to the exclusion of others - for a binding settlement.

Lord Robert FitzHugh, now resident in Swordcliff, has written proposing that several groups meet together once a month. Most of the shires in western Illinois are very small, and this monthly meeting would allow for greater sharing of ideas and expertise. The letter also asks the Barony to participate in the meetings. The officers felt that, since that would involve crossing kingdom lines, the Barony will not formally participate. Individual members are encouraged to join in if they are interested. Lady Swietoslawa has the letter, if anyone would like Lord Robert's address.

SIGN UP FOR THE BELZ MALL AND SHRINERS HOSPITAL DEMOS!

The date for the April historians' guild meeting will be announced at a baronial meeting.

The incipient canton of Riverhold is currently meeting on odd-dated Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. at Jefferson College in the Student Center, Room 206.

PHONE LIST ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS:
Add:

Lord Thomas of Hudd's Path, Thomas Hudspeth, 201 W. 14th St.
Lot 27, Lynn Haven, FL 32444

Changes:

Baron Stephen Ironhand - new work phone numbers 362-8298 or 362-8289

James Ernest - delete St. Louis address. Use only the Rolla address.

The Baronial Championship Tourney will be a standard tourney. Next spring it will be warlord tourney.

Margaret de Falkland has kittens for adoption. If you want one, call Bonnie at 531-2075.

Welcome to Lord Sovány Bárcsi János, formerly of Anstorra, who will be here for 4 years!

Lady Swietoslawa has flyers for Return of the Dragon, Ram's Mound/Deodar Devil Made Me Do It, WurmWald's Lenten Event, A Funny Thing ... (Carrefour), Midrealm Coronation, Calontir Crown

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