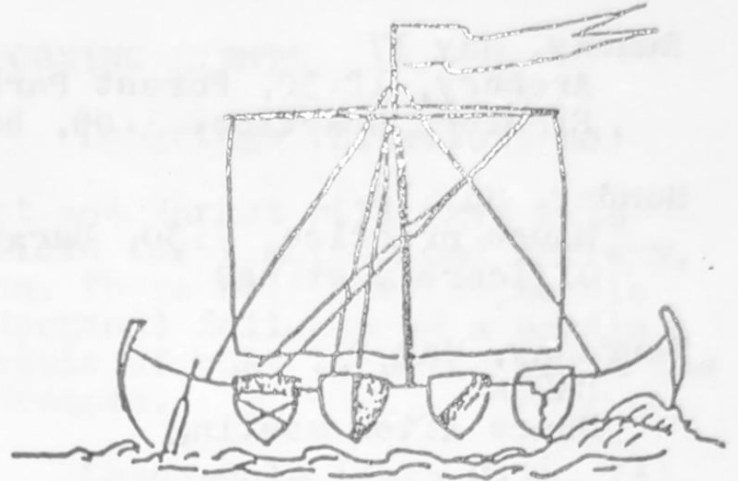


The Barge



APRIL 30, AS XXI (1987)

CALENDAR

Friday, May 1

Happy New Year!
Deadline for June NEWS
Country of the Month: Spain

Saturday, May 2

Mayfest and Market, Longridge (Sikeston, MO) *
Riots of Spring, Shadowdale (Iowa City, IA) *

Sunday, May 3

Baronial Championship Tourney, 1:00, McMillen Courtyard
Historians Guild, 7:30, Elin Redlock's

Monday, May 4

Officers meeting, 7:30, Harald and Aleta's
Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath Hall

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)*

Sunday, May 10

Archery, 12:30, Forest Park Archery Range

Monday, May 11

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Wednesday, May 13

Canton Riverhold meeting, 8:00, Jefferson College

Thursday, May 14

BARGE deadline

Saturday, May 16

Crown Tourney, Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE) *

Sunday, May 17

Archery, 12:30, Forest Park Archery Range
Fighters practice, 1:00, between McMillen and Womens Building

Monday, May 18

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath
Officers meeting?

Thursday, May 21

DARGE
Dance after meeting

Sunday, May 24

Archery, 12:30, Forest Park Archery Range
Fighters practice, 1:00, between McMillen and Womens Building

Wednesday, May 27

Canton Riverhold meeting, 8:00, Jefferson College

Saturday, May 30

War of the Illies, Forgotten Son (Kansas City, MO) *
Midrealm Crown, Cymunbar (Ann Arbor, MI)

Sunday, May 31

Archery, 12:30, Forest Park Archery Range

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

Wednesday, June 3

Canton Riverhold meeting, 8:00, Jefferson College

Thursday, June 4

DARGE deadline
Dance after meeting

Saturday, June 6

Shriner's Hospital demo, 1:00 - 3:30 *
Area Fighting Practice, Dark River (Moline, IL)

Sunday, June 7

Archery, 12:30, Forest Park Archery Range
Fighters practice, 1:00, between McMillen and Womens Building

Monday, June 8

Dance practice, 7:30, Umrath

Thursday, June 11

DARGE

Saturday, June 13

Forest Park Forever demo, 10 - 5 *
Memorial Event/Stoutheart Tourney, Couer d'Ennu (Des Moines)*
Tournament of Dragon's Lake, Swordcliff (Springfield, IL)

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

Mayfest and Market

May 2 Longridge (Sikeston, MO)

Longridge's first annual Mayfest and Market will have lots of merchants (it is a market!), a field for fighting and archery, games, and a playground for children. There will also be bardic trials (presided over by Mistress Morgana) followed by a bardic circle. Feast will be potluck, schedule of what to bring is in the May MEWS. So are directions and addresses.

Riots of Spring

May 2 Shadowdale (Iowa City, IA)

This event commemorates "town - gown" confrontations throughout history. There will be several melees, archery, a cobble-stone throwing contest, a rabble-raising competition, arts and sciences display, best costume on day's theme competition, and a bardic circle with a best day's events story competition. Lunch will be available on site, but no feast is planned. Map, etc. are in the May MEWS.

St. George and the Dragon May 9

Oakheart (Springfield, MO)

The site for this event is Camp Mission Point (where November Crown was held); there is dormitory space for 100 and lots of camping space. There will be a theme competition for graphic arts and fiber arts, workshops in beginning spinning and weaving and in cooking, arts and sciences displays, archery, and a double-elim tourney. Lunch will be available at no charge for those with feast tickets. A four-remove feast is available for the first 100 who sign up. See the May MEWS for more details.

Midrealm Coronation

May 9 Illiton (Peoria, IL)

Surprisingly, the May MEWS has better information on this event than does the May PALE. Talyar and Eislinn will ascend the dragon thrones, and the Barony of Illiton will celebrate its 10th birthday. In addition to the coronation, there will be a 2-man moloo tourney, a Winter-Summer melee, a scroll contest, and a story-telling contest on the theme of the Great Stag and the Mermaid. Dance instruction will be available throughout the day, and there will be babysitting during the afternoon and feast. More details are in the May MEWS.

Crown Tourney

May 16 Lonely Tower (Lincoln, NE)

Because this is a camping event at a remote site, it is possible to pay one fee to cover site fee, camping, and 3 meals on Saturday as well as breakfast on Sunday. There are also prices listed for site and feast, or for site only.

In addition to the tourney, there will be an archery range and an indoor arts and sciences competition. If the weather is nice, there will be a Bardic Circle/Poetry competition around a campfire; there is a swimming pool on site if the weather is really nice.

Competitions include miniature period pavilion making contest (rules in the May MEWS), calligraphy, illumination, costuming, lace making, miscellaneous needlework, poetry, costume design, painting and drawing, spinning and dyeing, wood working, herbalism, and non-armor metal working. Decathlon rules will be used for judging.

Maps and further information are in the May MEWS.

Site for this war is Perry Lake State Park; fees will vary depending on length of stay and number of people in your party. An archery war point will be contested Saturday morning, and there will be a contest for most period campsite. Division of forces for the war on Saturday is as follows:

ROYALISTS

LOYAL OPPOSITION

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Commander | HRH ?? |
| HRM William II | |
| Royal Peers | |
| Count Chepe L'Oragero | Earl Edward Ciro of Groy Moor |
| Graf Thoman Shadan Secarius | Earl Asgeirr Gunnarsson |
| Earl Gabriel ap Morgan | Viscount Drunabär von Schwarzberg |
| Viscount Ternon de Cabr Liant | |
| Chivalry | |
| Sir Lars Vilhjalmsson | Master Ivar Battleskald |
| Sir Cormac O'Sullivan | Sir Andrew Lyon of Wolvenwood |
| Sir Stephen du Norfolk | Baron Sir Thomas de Chateaufort |
| Sir Roger de Bayeaux | Barony of Lonely Tower |
| Sir Valens of Flatrock | Sir Erich Hlodowechsson |
| Sir Conn MacNeill | Sir Thorvald |
| Sir Lorell of Shrewsbury | Sir Nathan Adelaar |
| Barony | |
| Baron Guillaume of Fairskye | Baron Stephen Ironhand |
| Barony of Couer d'Ennui | Barony of Three Rivers |
| Canton of Axed Root | Canton of Riverhold |
| | Canton of Whispering Hills |
| | Baron Davro son of Davril |
| | Barony of Forgotten Sea |
| | Canton of Lost Moor |
| | Canton of Marais des Cygnes |
| Shire | |
| Bois d'Arc | Crescent Moon |
| Carlsby | Deodar |
| Grimfells | Elkshire |
| Hag Hor | Longridge |
| Standing Stones | No Mountain |
| Carrefour | Oakheart |
| Moonstone | Shadowdale |
| Shallow Waters | Spinning Winds |
| Warrior's Rest | Thousand Hills |
| Riverwatch | Dun Ard |
| | Flaming Pillars |
| | Neverlands |
| State | |
| Iowa | Arkansas |
| Nebraska | Kansas |
| | Missouri |

See the May NEWS for the most recent information, and the January NEWS for information that has not changed since then.

Our demo at the hospital last October was so successful that we have been invited back. The actual demo will run from 1:30 - 3:30, but between 1:00 and 1:30, we will be able to walk around the hospital and visit those who will be unable to come watch us. We will be doing our usual arts and sciences displays, dancing, and fighting; Mistress Morgana will also be telling a story. A more detailed schedule should be available in the next DARGE.

Lauranne is coordinating this event. If you haven't signed up, or if you have ideas, catch her at meeting, or call her at work between 7:30 and 4:00 (567-0056; ask for Lara), or use the postal service (her address is in the phone list). One of the things Lauranne would really like to have available is a camcorder. Other reminders: ABSOLUTELY NO STEEL; children under 14 are not allowed, but there will be babysitting available if you have no other choice.

Forest Park Forever demo June 13, 14 Forest Park

Remember Canterbury Days? This will be similar. A group called Forest Park Forever is staging a big two-day event in Forest Park, and we will be participating. The weekend starts with a parade Saturday morning; after that, we will be located near the bandstand by the Mummy Box Office for our standard fighting, dancing, displays, etc. Sign up sheets are available now. If you have any questions, Aleta is the ~~xxx~~ coordinator for this demo.

Memorial/Stoutheart Tourney June 13 Couer d'Ennui (Des Moines, IA)

The annual event to remember those from the barony who have died. There will be a double-olim tourney for the Stoutheart Knife, a contest for period ways to keep the rain off, a feast, maybe a computerized songbook compilation. Frequently there is needlework at this event, too, but the flyer in the May NEWS doesn't mention anything about it. Hopefully there will be more information in June.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SIGN UP FOR THE SHRINERS HOSPITAL AND FOREST PARK DEMOS!

The after-meeting gathering place is no longer Chances Are/O'Reilly's. It is now The Brentwood Inn on the south side of Manchester west of Hanley.

October 17 is the date for the Orc Wars in Memphis. Grey Nicho would like Three Rivers to join them in opposing the rest of Meridies.

There is a new Calontir Endowment Fund fundraiser. See the letter elsewhere in this DARGE.

There WILL BE a Birthday Bash this summer; it will be July 13 at Greensfelder Park, and it WILL BE a small little local event. It WILL NOT be official, so it won't be listed in the NEWS anymore. Master Harald is autocrafting. If you or your household want to do anything, talk to him. Watch for more details later.

Remember the Baronial Championship Tourney on May 3 at Wash. U.

NEWS FROM THE WAR FOR ALL THE COOKIES!

The Baroncy of Forgotten Sea won the war, but His Majesty William II was so greatly pleased by the "opunk" shown by the Canton of Crescent Moon that he freed them to become an independent shire anyway. At Royal Court, Nathan Adolnar was created a Knight of the SCA, Lord Idris the Wise was elevated to the Saethar Fyrd, and it was announced that Earl Sir Edward Giro of Grey Moor will enter the ranks of the Order of the Pelican at some future date.

There are no more designated Countries of the Month after June. If you would like this series to continue, if you feel that your country has been slighted, if you want a rerun of some country, or if you really don't like this idea at all, please share your ideas with one of the Baronial officers.

Lady Caitlin would like to remind everyone that the crossword puzzle perpetrated by the Historians Guild has not been solved. It can be found in the January 15, 1987 issue of the DARGE. There is one correction to the grid -- 8 down should be one square shorter (square 18 should have a black square next to it.). Lady Caitlin says the puzzle can be solved with the aid of one particular book.

Calontir Endowment Fund

ANNOUNCING!

The Second Calontir Endowment Fundraiser!

The First Fundraiser was a Smashing Success, helping to raise almost \$2,500 for the Kingdom. This big Second C.E.F. Fundraiser promises to be even more successful, thanks to suggestions and advice given by the populace.

Now you or your group can "hire" the services of a volunteer expert to learn a special skill or craft. Help out the Kingdom with a donation to the CEF, and get special in-depth instruction on any of a variety of topics. Get your household, guild, or local group to sponsor a workshop at an event or in your area.

Workshops are a minimum of two hours long. The list of volunteers will be available at Crown Tourney.

COST: Nothing! A donation of any amount (suggested minimum of \$25.00) to the Calontir Endowment Fund will be heartily welcomed. (If your volunteer must travel to your group to hold a workshop, offers of crash space, meals and/or gas money would be appropriate (and appreciated).)

Volunteers are still being sought. If you have a skill or craft that others would be willing to donate for, let the CEF Director know.

FOR INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

CEF Patches are again available for all donations of \$10.00 or more.

Lord Peregrine Frijonds has made 10 matched sets of walnut napkin rings as premiums for donations of \$15.00/set.

Mistress Kyrieth has offered to make a matched set of embroidered feast napkins worked on the edges in a Holbein stitch for anyone donating \$40.00 to the CEF.

SUI WEN TI

The Chinese emperor Sui Wen Ti (original name Yang Chien) was responsible for unifying China after it had been badly divided for hundreds of years. Though his accomplishments occur slightly before period, I feel that the direct results his actions had following his death, during period time, is worth writing about.

The political unity that he established has persisted throughout most of the centuries since his death, and as a result, China has been at times one of the most powerful countries in the world. The other important result is that the population of China, which comprises one fifth of the total world population, was brought together to form a great empire. To lay the proper foundation for Sui Wen Ti's story we must reach back to the reign of Emperor Shih Huang Ti, who founded the Ch'in dynasty. He too had succeeded in unifying China. This consolidation lasted only until his death, and was destroyed shortly thereafter. The Han dynasty which soon followed ruled China from 206 B.C. to 220 A.D. After the fall of the Han dynasty China entered a long period of disunity, roughly equal to the Dark Ages of Europe.

Yang Chien was born in 541 into one of the powerful families of northern China. He received his first military appointment when he was only 14 years of age. Yang Chien was very capable and rose rapidly in the service of his ruler, the emperor of the northern Chou dynasty. His assistance in helping that emperor gain control of northern China did not go unrewarded. In 573, Yang Chien's daughter was married to the crown prince. Five years later the emperor died, the crown prince appears to have been mentally unbalanced, and a struggle for power soon ensued. Yang Chien was the final victor and in 581 became emperor, at the age of forty. Not being content as emperor of northern China, he began making careful plans to invade the south. The invasion took place in 588. By 589 he was ruler of all China. During his reign, Sui Wen Ti built a spacious new capitol city for the reunited empire. He also constructed a Grand Canal, which connects China's two greatest rivers, the Yangtze in central China and the Huang Ho (or Yellow River) in the north. This canal, completed during his son's reign, helped to unify north and south China. One of the emperor's most important reforms was the institution of selecting government officials by means of civil service exams. For many centuries, that system provided China with a highly capable corps of administrators by constantly bringing highly talented men from all classes and all over the country into government service. The emperor also enforced the so-called "rule of avoidance", the principle that provincial governors could not serve in the province in which they had been born. This was a precautionary measure preventing favoritism and at the same time preventing any provincial governor from acquiring too strong a power base. Though capable of bold action when necessary, the emperor was generally a cautious man. He avoided extravagance and he appears to have lightened the tax burden on his subjects. His foreign policy was, on the whole, successful.

His able wife, though dominating, was of great assistance to him, both in his rule and in his rise to power. Sui Wen Ti died in 604 at the age of 63. He was succeeded by his second son.

Music: Leslie Fish
Lyrics: Jackie Watkins

BANNED FROM CALONTIR

When we pulled into Three Rivers, a-spoiling for the war,
We found their idea of events was really quite bizarre.
We had high expectations of their hospitality;
But found too late they weren't geared for Niche's such as we.

(Chorus)

And we're banned from Cal'ntir everyone,
Banned from Cal'ntir just for having a little fun.
We spent a jolly event there for just three days not four.
But Cal'ntir doesn't want us anymore.

Duke John's songs are infamous for the words they all are rude.
And at a drunken party he wrote one to fuel the feud,
Sent back with Bar'ness Genvieve his own lyrical sneer
In tribute to their kingdom- Fighting Fags of Calontir. (chorus)

King Kane's intents were noble when he loaned his gloves with grace
Only to find in bridge battle they were thrust back in his face.
A sturdy, rugged fighting man- no battle would he miss-
But when told to drink Gatorade, he said it tastes like piss. (chorus)

Loren Blackthorne was on the field in shining armor plate
In red and green with wenkle shield- no doubt he looked first rate;
But fell early in battle as our major casualty
When he slipped on a persimmon, went down wrenching his knee. (chorus)

Well all the Grey Niche ladies watched the war without a care-
We had them so outnumbered it really wasn't fair.
And in the major battle that would now decide the day,
We had so much advantage, fighters turned and walked away. (chorus)

L'dy Arielle took all this in with her usual quiet air
Seated beneath our pavillion in her baronial chair;
But then at court that night with all the Niche did she prove that
It's hard to look real dignified when munching gummy rats. (chorus)

When night had fallen o'er the camp and bonfire flames leaped high,
A bardic circle was enjoined and performers did vie
With rev'lers on the beer truck rolling merrily on its way
Shouting Zulu war cries and We're Meridians, We're O.K. (chorus)

As hours passed to morning and the revel going strong,
Calontir's Bard Morgana asked to hear the Gang Bang Song;
So then we heard a version nearly twenty minutes long
By the Eagles and Ilissa while Thorik danced along. (chorus)

The Niche is SCA-dom's finest and our record is our pride
And when we play we tend to leave a trail a mile wide.
We're sorry 'bout the crude songs, your lost war, and the mess,
And we know who has Asgeer's hat but we never will confess. (chorus)



Destruction of Babylon. From Dover's Middle Ages Coloring Book.

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