

**The Barge**  
January 26, A.D. XXIII



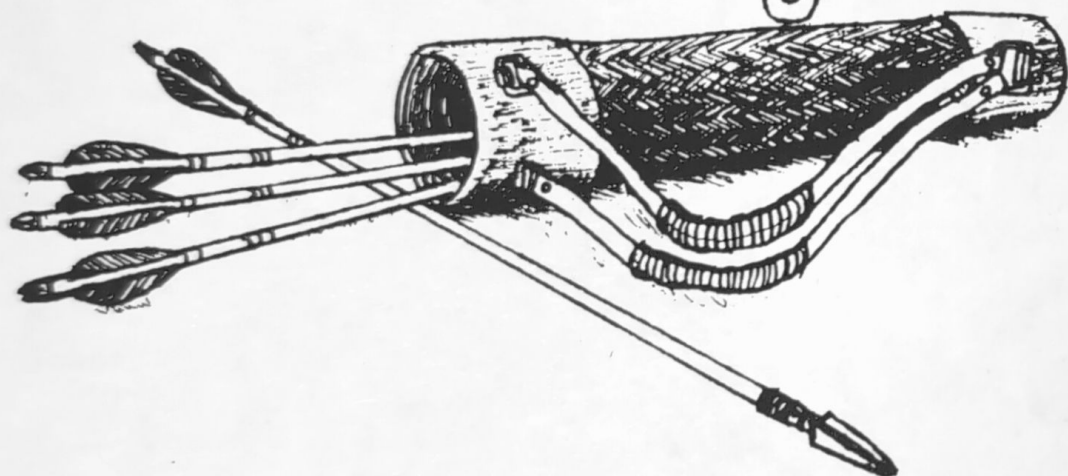
CJC

## Announcements

Lady Shadow has a Brother sewing machine for sale. The price is \$50 or negotiable. Her farspeaker number is 644-5543.

Lady Thyri is offering her services for sewing. You provide material and anything else relating to the garb. See Thyri for pricing.

Out of the bag



The existence of a Baronial Archery group may be news to a few of you. To others those same words may offer a sharp rap on the head and remind one of the activities that occur on a fairly regular basis.

My wishes are to spur the interests of people and provide them with the information that would normally be gained from the events and activities of our Barony's archers.

Let it be known that any suggestions that can aid me in my work will be very much appreciated.

Also, if there are any thoughts about this article, archery or the archers themselves, please see me or send a letter. I will be glad to talk with you and perhaps answer your questions in articles to come.

Blessings in the new year



## Information on Upcoming Events

War Maneuvers January 28, 1988 Dun Ard (Leavenworth KS)

This event looks like it will be a fighter's practice on a LARGE scale. There are other activities for those not inclined to violence. No feast, but lunch served on the day of the event. Crash space is available on site. For more information, see the January MEWS.

Costuming Seminar February 4, 1989 Forgotten Sea (Kansas City, MO)

A day of classes in costuming that include: Costuming sources at the Source, Celtic Costuming, The Bliat, Embroidery on Late Period Costume, Tudor Headwear, and Costuming Competitions. See the January MEWS for site and fee information.

Estrella War V February 18, 1989 Estrella Mountain Park (Goodyear, AZ)

Fun in the sun. The annual war between Caid and Atenveldt is on again. See flyer in December MEWS for much more detailed information.

A Day of Courtly Love February 25, 1989 Axed Root (Ames, IA)

Activities include a double elimination tourney for the fighters, competitions in poetry, calligraphy/illumination, music performance, brewing and vintning, love philtres/potions (herbalism), and loving cups in any medium. Music and dance practices will also be held, and children's activities will be available. There is a separate feast site. For site and feast fee information, see the January MEWS.

Coronation of TRH March 11, 1989 Standing Stones (Columbia, MO)  
Shadan and Alix

RUSH March 18, 1989 Mag Mor (Lincoln, NE)

A Funny Thing April 15, 1989 NoMountain (Grinnell, IA)  
Happened on the Way to Ragnarok (Tentative)

Tourney April 22, 1989 Deodar (Cedar Rapids, IA)

Beltaine April 29, 1989 Mag Mor (Lincoln, NE)



Art Credits:

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*Calendar for January 22 to March 11, AS XXIII*

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
22 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	23	24	25	26 Dance after meeting New BARGE	27	28 War Maneuvers, Dun Ard*
29 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	30	31 Filk Singing, 7:30, County Stargaard	1 March MEWS Deadline	2 Meeting at St. John's AOTM Display and Lecture Dessert Revel Dance after Meeting BARGE Deadline	3	4 Costuming Seminar IV, Forgotten Sea*
5 Baronial Championship, Noonish	6 Boy Scout Demo Lemay Fighting & Armor See Brumbärr	7 Officer's Meeting, 8:00, Cormac's	8	9 Dance after meeting	10	11
12 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	13 Birthday Bash Prospecuses Due!	14 Filk Singing, 7:30, County Stargaard	15	16 Dance after meeting	17 Scout Demo Afton Fighting & Armor See Brumbärr	18 Estrella War V, Phoenix AZ*
19 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	20	21 Boy Scout Demo Lemay Fighting & Armor See Brumbärr	22	23 Dance after meeting New BARGE	24	25 Celebration of Courtly Love, Axed Root*
26 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	27 Boy Scout Demo Afton Fighting & Armor See Brumbärr	28 Demo - Rockwood Elementary Everything See Brumbärr	1 April MEWS Deadline	2 Meeting at St. John's AOTM Display & Lecture Dessert Revel Dance after meeting BARGE Deadline	3	4
5 Archery, 12:00, Arrow Point Fighter Practice, 1:30, Wash U.	6 Demo See Brumbärr	7	8	9 Dance after meeting	10	11 Coronation of TRH Shadan and Alix, Standing Stones*



*Schedule for  
Art of the Month  
February - May*

*February  
Heraldic Arts Month  
Lecture on Herbalism*

*March  
Drama Month  
Costuming for Summer*

*April  
Bibliography Month  
Lecture on Calligraphy*

*May  
Fighter Costuming Month  
Lecture on Music*

*From the Marshallate*

Unto the populace of Three Rivers

As of immediately, everyone who has a spear authorization **MUST** reauthorize using a 9 ft fiberglass spear. Authorizations will begin at War Maneuvers at Dun Ard on January 28.

The minimum fiberglass spear length permitted in Calontir is technically 9 ft, and thrusting tips for these need to be 3" x 3". **WARNING TO FIGHTERS GOING TO ESTRELLA:** I've been told that any spear over 9 ft will be confiscated, sawn in half and the fighter thrown off the field. It has been suggested that to be safe, go to 8 ft 11 inches. I've been told that these will be allowed back in Calontir.

The next Baronial Championship will be held Sunday, February 5, at noon in Mc Millan Hall.

All new spear authorizations will be done with fiberglass..

In service to Three Rivers,

Sir Cormac O'Sullivan

*Surotoing an Arts & Sciences  
Competition-IV  
Christian d'Hiver*

What about BAD Things? Yep, include them, too. If you resort to modern techniques or out-of-period styles for decoration, drop the judges a note explaining that you know what was done in period, you know what you've done instead, and the reasons for doing so. (Be honest: if tanning your own calfskin is Just Too Ambitious for your calligraphy project, say so. Enthusing about the aesthetics of store bought parchment isn't going to fool anybody.)

There's something else to bear in mind when looking at your scores. The Criteria were designed to grade the masterworks of Laurels as well as the first-efforts of you and me. Unless we get lucky and create something spectacular, or get very generous judges, we shouldn't expect to achieve scores much higher than fifteen or twenty. It should be a challenge for even the best work of the best artisans in the kingdom to score a perfect thirty.

Remember what I said about knowing why you're entering a contest? Lady Francis originally entered the costuming competition to show off the garb she'd made. To that end, she did what she set out to do. When she got the Judges' Comments, she was dismayed because she had scored poorly, but she had forgotten that a high score wasn't her first goal.

In March, I entered a bardic contest, part of the Populace Tourney at Thorvald and Branwyn's coronation. My goal was to score well, and so I chose not to perform one of my favorite pieces, because I didn't think it would score high enough in Complexity. And that's Lord Christian's Open Secret #2: the A/S Criteria were written by mortals-indeed by mortals who might not have known as much about your art or science as you do- to be used by people who were asked to judge your piece a couple of hours beforehand, and have little time to do so. Because of this, different entries may be "best" for different purposes. You will lead a happier life as an artisan if you know why you enter competitions and keep this in mind as the contest progresses.

For instance, if you're looking to receive feedback from the judges, rather than high scores, enter your best work, even if it's simply made. And I don't think it would be too forward for you to include in your documentation a request for unusually specific or thorough comments.

If you just want to show off your work, there's nothing wrong with that. Many events in Calontir also have Arts & Sciences displays, where you can show people what you've done without worrying about competing with your friends. Some of these displays are even critiqued, so that you receive comments but not a rating.

This series of articles is from an earlier version first published in *The Shadow Knows*, the newsletter of the Shire of Shadowdale.

This series will be continued in next month's BARGE.

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