the Barge

apríl a.s. xxxí (1997) speaking forsoothly



the Barony of three Rivers
s.c.a., inc., Barony of three Rivers
p.o. Box 140094
st. Louis, mo 63114
web page:
http://www.inlink.com/~jbhicks/3Rivers/

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This is The Barge, a publication of the Barony of Three Rivers, for the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Barge is available from Mary C. Haselbauer, 310 Clark Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119, (314) 918-1062. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies. All rights are those of the original contributers.

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Greetings from Fernando and Lyriel, Baron and Baronne of these lands, unto the good gentles of the Barony of Three Rivers, the Canton of Riverhold, and Pont Dragwyddol.

Though by the time you read this, The Gathering of the Chieftains will be over a month past, We would still like to take this opportunity to thank all those who worked so hard to help bring this event off with Three Rivers' usual style. While we can't begin to list all those who worked so hard, the Stewards, Sir Hyrim and Lord Aubrey, and the Head Cook, Lady Gabriella, each did a wonderful job. Their planning and coordination of the efforts of many members of Our populace were in large part responsible for making the event run smoothly. We would also like to thank Our Canton of Riverhold for their efforts in providing the onsite lunch.

Fernando's note: Master Kirk and I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all those individuals who worked to set up, coordinate, and guard our Pelican Vigils, and to those who visited us there.

We write this letter soon after returning from the Gulf Wars in Meridies. We both enjoyed this event, and are glad that so many members of the Barony could attend to support the Crown, though the 600 mile drive was long. While there are many great stories of fun and valor (Airborn Calontir), which any of those who attended We're sure will be glad to relate, we would like to mention one notable event. On Saturday, March 15th, after the second Fortress Battle, Their Majesties did make Andrew Ward Bannerbearer a Knight of the Society! We hope you will join Us in offering him your congratulations.

Preparations are now well underway for the Tournament at the Rivers at the end of May. If you are willing to volunteer your assistance before or during the event, please contact the Chief Steward, Dame Joan. She is coordinating the efforts of a number of hardworking crew chiefs and she can help direct you to the type of tasks you prefer or to those who need you most.

We hope that every member of Our Barony will take whatever steps they can to spiff up their appearance for this event. Fighters, its time to replace that duct tape you used to fix that broken strap, perhaps to polish up your helmets, and consider new fighting clothes. A heraldic paint job on a shield, or a new tabard, can add a lot of flash to a drab set of armor. Costumers might consider making new garb appropriate for a 15th century pas d'Arms, or making a banner or standard. This is great opportunity to show the known world how brightly the jewel of Three Rivers shines in the Crown of Calontir.

A mere two weeks after the Tournament at the Rivers, follows the War of the Lilies. Lady Olga has volunteered to take charge of the grand party which Three Rivers will be sponsoring on Friday evening. She will be needing a lot of help, both in preparation, and on the evening of the party. She will especially need people to volunteer to help with the cooking which must be done in advance.

The Falcon flies,

Fernando



Lyriel



diverse announcements



MOVIE SALE

Lady Jane is trying to simplify her life. So she is selling off her movie collection at \$5 and \$10 each. She has many medieval titles such as Braveheart, Highlander, Anne of the Thousand Days, Lady Jane and several Shakespeares. She also has several musicals, Disneys (Aladdin, Snow White, etc.) and favorites like Pretty Woman, Splash and Dirty Dancing. Please contact her for more information at 963-1932 (Jerilyn Winstead).

NEW BEDLAM VACANCY

New Bedlam (where Baron Stephen lives) has two to four openings now. New Bedlam is an 11-room apartment (four actual bedrooms) at 4915 Lindell Blvd. in the Central West End. We normally have 4-5 roommates living here; the \$675/mo. rent breaks down to \$135 to \$169 per person per month. Rent can be reduced to \$625/mo if everyone is willing to sign a lease. Parking is extra. Utilities (except long distance) are usually about \$70 per month per person.

You must agree to pay all bills on time, and participate in the weekly chore schedule to keep the apartment clean and livable. Talk to Stephen Ironhand (Steve Block) for further details or call 361-5806 or email to ironhand@stlnet.com and set up an interview to talk to the roommates you will be living with.

TO ARTISTS AND CALLIGRAPHERS:

If you do Celtic style artwork and/or calligraphy, and would interested in doing celtic illumination and/or celtic calligraphy for Kingdom award scrolls, please contact:

Rowenna Axelsdottir:
rowenna1@aol.com (that's a number one behind rowenna)
Kathy Burns
9107 Grand Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64114-3708
(816) 822-9836





better from the Editor...

Greetings from Lady Jane Fitzgerald,

It seems the warm weather is finally at hand! As we prepare the earth for this year's crops and get ready for the Grand Pas D'Armes, we will be learning about these subjects in the coming months:

April - Speaking Forsoothly

May - Children
June - To be decided

Many thanks for all who have and are contributing to this Barge.

There are so many who have been supportive and eager to help. This has been wonderful; pray keep it up!

Again, in submitting, any medium will do: paper, diskette or email. I use MSWord version 6 and Microsoft Publisher, but saving in Ascii should do fine as well. My deadline is the 15th of each month.

Forsoothly yours, Your Lady Jane



Thorfinnsdottir, Minister of Children of Three Rivers, Greetings! I am Tova

The Kingdom of Calontir has authorized me to provide a minimum of two hours of children's activities at Kingdom events in Three Rivers. I have no authority over children at meeting: they are the responsibility of their own parents. However, as a parent, I became concerned that the children at meeting were behaving in a manner not befitting the children of Lords and Ladies, and were in fact causing harm to one another.

Therefore, I had a meeting with as many parents as I could gather and we agreed on a list of rules for our children so that they might be safe:

- 1. Children must remain on the ground floor -- they cannot play on the stairs and ramps, and may not go upstairs at all without an adult.
- Children may play in the hall outside the meeting room, however they
 many not play past the drinking fountain (which would put them out of sight
 and earshot of adults).
- Children need to tell their parents before going to the bathroom (so that we know they're out of sight and earshot, and don't suddenly discover them missing).
- 4. Inside voices and walking feet should be used indoors. (No running or shouting).
 - 5. No pushing.
 - 6. No kicking.
 - 7. No hitting or punching.
 - 8. No biting.
 - 9. No scratching.
 - 10. No chasing games.

Since everyone knows the rules, it is okay for any parent to take any child they find disobeying these rules back to their own parents for proper consequences.

If anyone wants further discussion, I'll be happy to meet with them.

In Service, Tova Thorfinnsdottir

the tournament at three rivers . a grano passage at arms

Into the Companions of the Order of Chivalry, their squires and men-at-arms, and all those who profess a love of the arts of arms and the advancement of the ideals of Chivalry,

reetings from Sir Fernando Rodriguez de Falcon and The Lady Lyriel de la Foret, Baron and Baronne of Three Rivers.

s was customary in the times of our ancestors, it is hereby Our desire to further the honor and renown of not only the Barony of Three Rivers, but also of those preux knights and masters, squires, and men-at-arms who champion the noble chivalric arts. To that end, We seek to advance the cause of Chivalry and to demonstrate our faithfulness unto the arts of arms, seeking to ennoble both Our Barony and those that answer this declaration by our exercises. Further, We hope to bring enjoyment to the noble members of the gallery, certainly our inspiration for these feats of arms. To this end. We do declare and issue the following Challenge:

+ hat on the 31st day of May, Anno Societatis XXXII, in the Barony of Three Rivers, La Grand Pas d'Armes shall be held, to advance Our most noble cause, and do hereby challenge and charge all who would answer, be they knight, master-at-arms, squire, or man-at-arms, to assemble on the tourney fields of Our Barony, accoutred in the usual way, but with exceptional splendor and heraldic panoply.

nd, further, that this pas d'armes will be held in the manner of the Grand Tournaments of old, being contested solely for honor and renown, rather than for the base spirit of victory.

e will then, upon the fields of honor, there become better known to one another through words, that we might soon be better acquainted by deeds.

k now that all combat is to be conducted a' plaisance, that is, with weapons of peace and for the joie de combat, and using those weapons which were used in Tournament by Our glorious ancestors.

now also that reward and renown will be bestowed by Ourselves for those excelling K upon the field, both through great feats of arms and by the manner of their appearance. Additional rewards and honor will also be granted by the noble gentles of the gallery and such Great Nobles as are there assembled.

e beseech all who hear these words not to imagine that we do this thing from pride or presumption, but in order to have the honor of your company and to make acquaintance by arms all who would honor Us with their presence.

So declare we this day,

Fernando et Lyriel Baron et Baronne of Three Rivers



The Tournament at the Rivers A Grand Pas d'Arms

May 30th, 31st and June 1st Barony of Three Rivers, Camp Warren Levis, Godfrey Illinois

The Baron and Baroness of Three Rivers invite one and all to a recreation of the Chivalric tournament Pas d'Arms. We will be emphasizing the themes of honorable combat, courtly love and heraldic display and we plan a number of activities to enhance these themes.

Fighting: Don your best armor and take up the weapons of the tournement. You are invited to come as a Venant to challenge members of the Royalty and Chivalry of Calontir and Her neighboring Kingdoms, who will stand as Tenants in this Tournament. Face them a plaisance (to counted blows) or a l'outrance (standard SCA acknowledgement), for the pleasure of combat and the entertainment of the populace and the great Lords and Ladies of the gallery. Challenges may be fought upon the field, over the barrier or upon the foot bridge. As the day progresses take part in team challenges and of course in the grand melees. Prizes will be awarded by the great Lords and Ladies of the Gallery for chivalry, appearance of an individual or group, the best challenge, and the best helm/crest/mantling.

Arts & Sciences Competitions:

Best tournament scene in any medium.

Best pavilion / arming tent / encampment.

Best heraldic display - for individuals and group both on and off the field. Best roving minstrel/jongleur.

Best troubador/minnesinger - both in a documented style and for a theme given on site.

Archery: Take bow in hand and come show your skill in the archery competitions of the Tournament Fair. A variety of fun and challenging shoots will be held. Try your skill alongside some of the Known World's best archers.

Games: Try your hand at the wide variety of period games which will be available throughout the day.

Children's Activities: Numerous entertaining and educational activities are planned for our younger members.

Merchants: We have plenty of space, and you are most welcome. Please contact Lord Xenon of Grey Tower (Gerald Day) at the address of the Event Steward.

Camping: This is a camping event with a wide variety of camp sites from open fields to wooded glens, and shaded clearings. In addition there are a very small number of small 4 person cabins available. The cost for the weekend per cabin is \$32.00.

Feast: Lady Carolyn is planning a delicious feast which includes: Roast Beef; Huhn mit Nudlen (Chicken with Noodles); Cheese; Fruits of Season; Bread; Strawberry, Herb and Onion Butters; Salat; Honey Quiche; Peas Almondine; Baked Barley; and Russian Creme.

Vegetarians or gentles with dietary restrictions should please contact the Feast Steward before the event.

Or if you prefer for \$3.00 there will be a simple tavern style dinner of Beef Stew, Breads (White and Wheat) and Fresh Fruits available Saturday evening.

Fees: Children under 3 Children 4-12 \$5.00 Site: \$2.00 Free Free \$4.00 \$7.00

Sorry, paid reservations only. Make checks payable to: SCA Inc, Barony of 3 Rivers.

Event Steward Dame Joan of Caernarvon Martha Morris-Day (314) 772-7452

Feast Steward Lady Carolyn Buxton Karen Talbott (314) 994-0335 Please no calls after 9:00 PM

Send Reservations to Barony of Three Rivers P.O. Box 140094 St. Louis, MO 63114

The Tournament at the Rivers A Grand Pas d'Arms

Schedule: Friday 6:00 pm	Site opens. Set up begins. Revelry soon commences.
Saturday	
8:30 am	Armor inspections begins. Authorization begins.
10:30 am	Opening ceremonies. Royal and Baronial processions. Parade of Venants. Inspection of helms. Formal declaration of the Challenge. Introduction of Appellate Knight.
11:00 am	opening rights between ranking renants and venants. Immediately followed by field being
12:30 pm	(Approximate time.) Gallery will retire for lunch. Tournament field will remain open for practice or further authorizations.
1:30 pm	Lunch ends. Field opens for group challenges.
3:00 pm	Field opens for individual or group challenges.
4:00 pm	Grand melees end the tournament.
4:30 pm	Closing ceremonies.
6:00 pm	Feast begins
Following	Court at Their Majesties discretion.
Sunday	
1:00 pm	Site closes.

Directions to Camp Warren Levis

• Take your best route to I-270 and MO-367 (270 exit 31B) on the North side of St. Louis. This is 6 Miles East of the intersection of I-270 & I-170. See Overview Map.

• Take MO-367 North towards Alton, IL. (After several miles MO-367 joins US-67.)

• After about 4 1/2 miles you will cross the Lewis Bridge over the Missouri River.

• About 3 1/2 miles later, you will cross the Clark Bridge over the Mississippi into Alton, IL.

• At the bottom of the ramp off the Clark Bridge, turn West (left) on Landmark Blvd.

• After about 2/3 of a mile, (just past the Alton Belle Casino on your left), this street makes a hard

• Immediately after the turn, turn West (left) on Broadway (IL-100). If you reach 3rd - you have gone too far.

· After a bit, Broadway will become the Great River Road.

• After about 4 1/2 miles, turn North (right) on Clifton Terrace Road. There is a stop light and a small park at this intersection.

After about 3/4 of a mile, turn East (right) on IL-3 (which Clifton Terrace tees into).
After about 1 1/2 miles, turn North (left) on Boy Scout Road.

There is a 76 gas station at the corner.

After about 1/2 mile, Boy Scout Road tees into Rocky Ford Road.

Camp Warren Levis is directly across from Boy Scout Road.



BARONIAL ACTIVITIES:

There's something SCA-related happening almost every night here in the Barony of Three Rivers (St. Louis, Missouri). Unless indicated otherwise, all o the following are free and open to the public.

Archery Practice

Target archery practice. Some loaner equipment available with What:

advanced notice.

Lord Heinrich von Einbech (Matt 427-6869) or Archer Marshal Contact:

Lord Gareth Strengmakere (Michael 427-3693)

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm. When: Arrowpoint Archery

Where: \$3.00/hour

Cost:

Armoring

Working on SCA armor What:

Lord Sigfried von Wappenschmidt (Scott, 946-3038) Contact:

Tuesday evenings. When:

Contact Scott for directions. Where:

Bardic Nights

Singing, drama, storytelling, etc. What:

Sir Erich or The Lady Elasait ingen Diarmata (Eric & Melissa Contact:

1st Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. When:

Erich & Elasait's home, 3651 Hartford. Take Grand south to the Where: next street after Arsenal, and turn right (west) onto Hartford.

Lord Gunnar Redbeard Contact: Dates to be announced. When:

Gunnar's home, 4933 Chippewa, #1E. Call for directions (Robert Where:

Boyd 351-5121).

Baronial Meeting

Business and Social Meeting. Medieval costuming is encouraged What:

and rewarded.

The Lord Dafydd (Todd Perkins 645-3107) Contact: Thursday evenings, 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

When: Sunnen Community Center at Rainbow Village. See Baronial Where:

Meeting Site Map elsewhere in this Barge.

Fighter Practice and sometimes Dance Practice takes place before Note:

meeting, starting at 6:00 pm. Feel free to come early and take part

or socialize.

Canton of Riverhold meetings

Canton of Riverhold monthly meetings. What:

Lord David the Mythical (David Carlson 942-2175) Contact:

Normally 1st Tuesday of every month. When:

Rotating locations. Contact David or Shariya for details. Where:

Casting Interest Group Metal casting. What:

Lord Dafydd ap Owain ap Cadell ap Rhys Ap Cadfan Caer yn Ar-Contact:

fon (Todd 645-3107)

Every other Monday (4/7, 4/21), 7:00 pm. When:

Meetings are held in a variety of places. Call Dafydd for location. Where:

Dance Practice

Medieval dance instruction and practice. What:

Lady Gioletta Flamina Traversi (Jennifer Llewelyn 561-3487) Contact:

Thursdays, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm before Baronial Meeting. When:

Sunnen Community Center. See Baronial Meeting map in this Where:

Barge.

Middle Eastern Dance, below. See Also:

Fiber Arts Interest Group

Carding, dyeing, spinning, weaving, etc. What:

Lady Brockan ni Brennan (Petra 939-4655) Contact: 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm. When:

Petra's house, 100 Creek View Dr. in St. Charles. Call for directions. Where:

Fighter Practice

Note:

What: SCA combat practice and instruction.

Contact: Knight Marshal Sir Hyrim de Guillon (Rob 645-5334) When: Thursdays, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm before Baronial Meeting.

Where: Sunnen Community Center. See Baronial Meeting map in this

Barge.

While loaner equipment is often available, the 1st Thursday of each

month is dedicated to the training of new fighters.

When: Sundays, 1:00 pm. Where:

Lafayette Park United Methodist Church. Go North one block on

Jefferson from 44, turn East (right) on Lafayette. The church is

one block on the right.

Cost: There is no longer a fee. Heraldic Meeting

What: Meeting to research, discuss, and work on SCA heraldry.

Contact: Lady Shariya bint Badr (Janet 464-0548).

What: Name Research

2nd or 3rd Monday of each month, whichever does not have an When:

Officers' Meeting (see below), 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Where: St. Louis Public Library Main Branch, 1301 Olive Street,

downtown.

Note: According to Lady Shariya, the main branch of the St. Louis

Public Library has one of the better heraldic collections in the

country, especially for documenting medieval names.

What: Device Submission

When: One Sunday of each month, 1:00 pm.

Where: Fernando & Lyriel's home, 8237 Watson Road, Webster Groves

roughly midway between Elm & Laclede Station roads on the

North side of the street.

Herb Studies Interest Group

What: Get-togethers to discuss and work with herbs.

Lord Mikjal Annarbjorn (Mike 644-6537) or Dame Joan of Contact:

Caernarvon (Martha 772-7452) Ride assistance is available

through them.

Currently on hold. Contact Martha if you are interested and listen When:

for announcements.

Where: Dame Joan's house, 2904 Allen Ave.

History Nights

Education and discussion on specific historical topics related to What:

the Middle Ages.

Lord Mikjal Annarbjorn (Mike 644-6537) or Dame Joan of Contact:

Caernarvon (Martha 772-7452). Ride assistance is available

through them.

4th Tuesday of the month unless specified otherwise, 7:30 pm. When:

Dame Joan's house, 2904 Allen Ave. Where:

Topics: 04/28/97: Troubadours, Trouveres, Minstrels, and Minnesingers:

Entertainers in the Middle Ages

The Beginnings of the Renaissance: Northern Italy in the 05/26/97:

14th Century

Instrumental Music

Instrumental music practice/get together/jam session. What: Lord Jack of Tanyard (Bryan James 618-271-6746) Contact:

When:

On hold. Contact Jack if you are interested and listen for

announcements.

Middle Eastern Dance

Middle eastern dance instruction & practice. What:

Lady Gillian Warrender (Ginny 776-4077) Contact:

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm. When:

Gillian's home, 4043 Cleveland, Apt. 1W Where:

See Also: Dance Practice, above.

Needleworkers' Interest Group

Get-togethers to work on needlework and embroidery. What:

Lord Mikjal Annarbjorn (Mike 644-6537) or Dame Joan of Contact:

Caernarvon (Martha 772-7452). Ride assistance is available

through them.

Currently on hold. Contact Martha if you are interested and listen When:

for announcements.

Dame Joan's house, 2904 Allen Ave. Where:

Newcomer's Sessions

Help understanding the customs and culture of the SCA What:

Lord Mikjal Annarbjorn (Mike 644-6537) or Dame Joan of Contact:

Caernaryon (Martha 772-7452). Ride assistance is available

through them.

1st and 3rd Monday of each month unless specified otherwise, When:

7:30 pm.

Dame Joan's house, 2904 Allen Ave. Where: See also: Newcomer's Workshops (below)

Newcomer's Workshops

What: Hands on help with getting started in the SCA.

Chatelaine Lady Gillian Warrender (Ginny 776-4077) Contact:

Topics: Currently on hold. Listen for announcements.

When: Tuesdays, 7:00 pm.

Gillian's home, 4043 Cleveland, Apt. 1W Where:

See also: Newcomers Sessions (above)

Officers' Meetings

What: Detailed business planning and discussion.

His Excellency Baron Fernando Rodriguez de Falcon or Her Contact:

Excellency Baronne Lyriel de la Forêt (Fernando or Debbie Vigil,

When: Normally every other Monday nights (4/14, 4/28), 7:30 pm - 9:30

Where: Fernando and Lyriel's house, 8237 Watson Road, Webster Groves, roughly midway between Elm & Laclede Station roads on the North side of the street.

Pen & Ink Group of Scribes (PIGS)

Calligraphers getting together to work on scrolls; some What:

instruction may be available.

Isabeau de Dauphine (Christine 771-7274) Contact:

Currently on hold. Contact Dauphine if interested and When:

listen for announcements.

Where: Isabeau's house, 3009 Virginia Avenue.

Pont Dragwyddol meetings

Pont Dragwyddol monthly meetings. What:

Lady Gioletta Flamina Traversi (Jennifer Llewelyn Contact:

561-3487)

Normally third Wednesday of every month. When: Rotating locations. Contact Gioletta for details. Where:

Sewing

Researching, designing, and sewing medieval clothing What:

Volunteers needed to work on loaner garb for the Gold Note:

Key.

Mistress Corisander Seathwaite (Nancy 781-0459) Contact:

Tuesday evenings, 7:00 pm When:

Corisander's home in Maplewood. Please phone before Where:

coming.

The Lady Thyri Haraldsdottir (Maria 618-624-3530) Contact:

Tuesday evenings, 7:00 pm When:

Thyri's home in O'Fallon, IL. Please phone for directions Where:

Lady Gioletta Flamina Traversi (Jennifer 561-3487) Contact:

Call to schedule. When:

Gioletta's home, 72 Breezy Knoll, in Lake St. Louis. Where:

Three Rivers Alliance of Metalworking Practitioners (TRAMPS)

Open night for metal work and basic armoring at David What: Nightblade's shop.

The Lord David Nightblade Contact:

Currently on hold. Listen for announcements or contact When:

Lord Dafydd (Todd 645-3107) for more information.

1430 State Street, Granite City, IL. Where:

\$2.00 requested to help pay for supplies. Cost:

Welsh Language Lessons

Advanced Welsh language instruction.

What: Lord Dafydd ap Owain ap Cadell ap Rhys Ap Cadfan Contact:

Caer yn Arfon (Todd 645-3107)

If interested in basic lessons, contact Todd. Note:

Sundays 4:00 p.m. When:

Dafydd's house, 7516 Arlington, Shrewsbury. Where:

Speaking Forsoothly - Some Basics by Jerilyn Winstead, printed with permission

I know it/him/her well greetings truly good day I know not good day to you I know it/her/him not good morrow you speak truly well met you speak well I am honoured farewell the honour is mine fare thee well aye until next time nay I do indeed/it is indeed until next we meet

Tips:

Use "would" instead of "wish":

Would I were there. I would she were here. I would be drinking/sleeping/eating.

Do not contract your words:

I cannot/will not/would not/shall not/do not/am not

Invert the words of your question and eliminate "do": Have you the time? Think you so?

Use "pray" instead of "please":

Pray tell me. Pray do so. I pray you fetch it me.

Use "milord" and "milady" consistently.

Words for our anachronisms:

wagon or chariot for car chief steward for autocrat head cook for feastocrat

stylus for pen or pencil parchment for paper child for small

P.O. Box 360789 . SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC. membership application

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE AND RELEASE LIABILITY

SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC.

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Fax (408) 263-0641

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april 1997

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Concerning a Dream by David Friedman, printed with permission

The Society is, among other things, a joint fantasy, and one that is very difficult to maintain. The true magic comes when within a Society event we believe, if only for an instant, that we are truly in the Middle Ages. Take that away and what remains is only dross, no more than a gathering of twentieth century people who like to dress up and talk about history—or dress down and hit each other with rattan.

Many things can break a fantasy. A zipper cannot, if it is discreetly hidden, but talking bout zippers at an event, whether defending or attacking them, can and does. So does discussing motorcycles. So, more subtly, does every attitude and tone of voice that reflects the feelings and beliefs of the twentieth century, hidden behind a colorful disguise. For the fantasy to work we must, each and all, believe in it as best we can while it is happening.

One of the most serious temptations is the opportunity to make a joke out of the contrast between our medieval reality and the twentieth century reality surrounding it. It is always easy to get a laugh by introducing a contemporary idiom into a medieval speech or juxtaposing an armored knight and an automobile. Easy and deadly; every such joke cracks the illusion, drains a drop of life blood from the fantasy.

Even if we all make the effort, it is difficult to maintain the fantasy in the face of its own inconsistencies. An Anglo-Saxon lady could not co-exist with a courtier from Renaissance Italy or Tudor England. Here again, by making appoint of these clashes ("Perhaps you are my great-grandmother") we make it harder to integrate the inconsistent elements into a single whole. Perhaps the best solution is to imagine that, because of our personas' limited historical and geographical knowledge, we interpret different times as if they were only different places. My friend Aelfwine comes from Anglo-Saxon England, which is somewhere off that direction; Michael of York comes from over there. Anglo-Saxon England and Norman England in fact did not coexist, save briefly and bloodily, but they could have coexisted, in different places, and in the Current Middle Ages (which have, after all, no geographical location of their own in the world of the first Middle Ages) they do. Here we all are, drawn from different lands (some of which happen to have the same names but different dates, a peculiarity we would do well to ignore), met together in a land that has no particular place and time save its own.

Additional inconsistencies are forced upon us by the presence of the modern world in the middle of our fantasy. Sometimes they can be ignored, sometimes mastered by creative naming. "Dragon" for automobile is one such attempt, although not an entirely fortunate one.

It is well enough to call something a dragon when it comes roaring by, but prudent folk do not travel to a feast in the belly of a dragon. Perhaps "wagon" or "wain" would be better. "Car" would be entirely proper if we were all attuned to its archaic and not its current meaning, which alas we are not.

The quest for authenticity, while an eminently worthy part of our activities, poses dangers of its own, to which I, for one, have too often succumbed. One cannot, within persona, criticize anything—food, clothes, poetry—for inauthenticity. Being oneself a medieval person, one has no basis from which to recognize it as inauthentic. One tempting solution is to disguise the criticism as a question. "I have never seen anything like that, my lord, where does it come from?" The hearer may take the question as question (although, if he really is being inauthentic, he has no answer within the fantasy) but the questioner knows well enough what he is about. He has broken the fantasy for himself, within his own mind, if nowhere else. Better to leave all such questions for conversations the next morning, between mundane persons inhabiting those same fleshly shells that walked some hours before as lords and ladies through the enchanted lands.

In accordance to which principle, as this letter could not have been written by a medieval Moor, I must sign myself,

Sincerely Yours

David Friedman



This is my secret. I don't speak forsoothly as often as I should, but I've enjoyed "turning it on" for special occasions. I've learned to do it from reading *Le Morte D'Arthur* by Sir Thomas Malory. It took me five years to read all the way through the two volumes, because it is so dry compared to modern literature. But it has trained me to medieval words and mannerisms of speaking. I strongly recommend it to anyone who is interested in learning to speak forsoothly the fast and easy way. Go out and buy a copy and immerse yourself in it.

"And anon he rode to him. And either smote other fiercely, and at last Lucius smote Arthur thwart the visage, and gave him a large wound. And when King Arthur felt himself hurt, anon he smote him again with Excalibur that it cleft his head, from the summit of his head, and stinted not till it came to his breast. And then the emperor fell down dead and there ended his life. And when it was known that the emperor was slain, anon all the Romans with all their host put them to flight, and King Arthur with all his knights followed the chase, and slew down right all them that they might attain."

(Volume I, Book V, p. 182.)

Here are some examples of the text:

"All this espied the queen, and privily she called unto her a child of her chamber that was swiftly horsed, to whom she said, 'Go thou, when thou seest thy time, and bear this ring unto Sir Launcelot du Lake, and pray him as he loveth me that he will see me and rescue me, if ever he will have joy of me; and spare not thy horse,' said the queen, 'neither for water, neither for land.'

So the child espied his time, and lightly he took his horse with the spurs, and departed as fast as he might. And when Sir Meliagaunt saw him so flee, he understood that it was by the queen's commandment for to warn Sir Launcelot. Then they that were best horsed chased him and shot at him, but from them all the child went suddenly."

(Volume 2, Book XIX, p. 430-1.)

And for an example of conversation:

"'Alas,' she said, 'that ever he knew me or I him, for I have for his sake lost my worship, and also his life grieveth me most of all.'

'Not so, lady,' said Palomides, 'come on with me, for here is Epinogrus in this hermitage.'

'Ah! well is me,' said the lady, 'and he be alive.'

'Whither wilt thou with that lady?' said the knight with Sir Ector's shield.

'I will do with her what me list,' said Palomides.

'Wit you well,' said that knight, 'thou speakest over large, though thou seemest me to have at advantage, because thou sawest me do battle but late. Thou weenest, sir knight, to have that lady away from me so lightly? Nay, think it never not; and thou were as good a knight as is Sir Launcelot, or as is Sir Tristram, or Sir Palomides, but thou shalt win her dearer than ever did I.'

(Volume II, Book X, p. 175.)

As you can see, it wouldn't take long to pick up speaking forsoothly after immersing yourself in that for a while. Quite often, when I plan to speak well for an event, I open the book and just read several pages. This gets me into the mindset and helps me to "brush up."

You may have noticed that there are several words which we aren't familiar with anymore. The book contains an extended glossary with their meanings, as well as notes throughout the text. It doesn't take long to learn them after reading them over and over in the text, however. There are more words there than we could possible assimilate into the SCA, but many would be easy to learn, especially if most of us read *Le Morte* and began to use them. "I wot well your meaning, Lady Jane." (Wot is a form of "to wit," which means "to know.")

I might add, as a side note, that Le Morte D'Arthur is full of romantic adventures and quests. This is also the source that has inspired me to write the quests that you have enjoyed so well. If any of you would like to come up with an interesting quest, just read this book for a while and you'll soon be full of inspiration and ideas.

I purchased Le Morte D'Arthur in two paperback volumes. At the time I bought them, they were \$3.95 each. One volume would be sufficient if you just want to learn to speak forsoothly. Like I said, it took me five years to get all the way through both volumes, and by the time I finished I had forgotten most of the beginning of the story. I guess it's time for me to read through them again. So don't be surprised if you hear me practicing speaking forsoothly. You'll know I've been reading my cheat sheet.

Speaking Forsoothly: An Intermediate Lesson by Jerilyn Winstead, printed with permission

hie - to hasten: "Hie thee hence, child!" meet - suitable, useful: "It is meet, milord." fain - gladly: "Fain would I do so, milady." entreat - to negotiate, to appeal: "I entreat you, release me!" cheer - entertainment, appearance: "Be of good cheer, milady!" deem - to judge: "He deems it so." devise - to think about: "I will devise a plan." stead - place: "I will stay in his stead." wield - to possess, to control: "Wield not your power over me." shrewd - mischievous, wicked: "He is a shrewd lord." passing - exceedingly: "We were passing glad of it!" fare - to act, behave: "She fares well these days." force - strength, might: "He struck him with great force." loth - unwilling, hateful: "I am loth to do so." sooth, forsooth - true/truly: "He is, forsooth!" speed - to succeed: "God speed you on your journey." bawdy - dirty: "What a bawdy lad!" anon - at once, shortly: "And anon he sped away." alas - ah me, oh no: "Alas, I fear it so." loose - to free, let go: "He loosed his horse." heavy - hurt, depressed: "He was so hurt he was passing heavy." smite - to hit: "He smote him a heavy blow." "She has smitten me."

Some Great Adjectives:

well: "You speak well, good gentles." "Right well they rode this morn."

good: "And how may you be, this good day?"

greatly: "I have greatly offended you."

worshipfully: "She has worshipfully fought this day."

sore: "He wounded me sore." "Lightly did he ride."

sad: "You have given me many sad strokes this day."

sorrowful: "Right sorrowful was she."

Some More Tips:

- Address a knight as "Sir": Good day, Sir Knight! I will indeed, Sir.
- Use "this day" instead of "today".
- Use "even" and "morn" instead of "evening" and "morning".
- Use "upon" and "unto" instead of "on" and "to": Bring me unto this knight. Then sat he upon his horse.

The Little Things

by David Friedman, printed with permission

Staying in persona does not mean saying you are a different person. It means being a different person. One of the hardest, and most interesting, parts is getting the little things rights. Before you worry about inventing ancestors for seven generations and an elaborate personal history—things which few people tell strangers in any case—it is worth first learning as much as possible about the little things that anyone from your times and land would have known. The more such details you integrate into your medieval self, the better you can convince others (and yourself) that you are your persona.

One way of doing this would be as a group project, involving two successive gatherings a few weeks apart, both held out of persona. In the first each person tries to stump the others with questions their personae could have answered without thinking—the sort of questions that you could answer without thinking if they were asked of your twentieth century persona. The questions must be ones for which the answer can be learned; invented answers are not allowed.

I suspect that most of us, myself, included, would find that we did not know the answers to a majority of the questions. Those who were sufficiently interested could then go home, or to the library, and try to find the answers to as many as possible. In the second gathering, we would come back together to report to each other the answers we had succeeded in finding.

I have not actually participated in such gatherings, but I have spent some time thinking up questions—to some of which, for my own persona, I do not know the answers. Here they are. All are intended to apply to your persona prior to your arrival in the Current Middle Ages.

What kinds of money do you use? What are the relative values of the different kinds? How much does dinner at the inn cost? How much does a horse cost? How much does a skilled worker make per month?

What system do you use to describe what time it is? When does one day end and another begin? How do you tell time (sundial? clock?)?

What system do you use for describing dates? What is your calendar like?

Can you read? If so, what have you read? What poems, tales, etc. have you heard told?

What do you know about history? Have you heard of Alexander the Great? Julius Caesar? Charlemagne? Vergil? Saladin? What do you "know" about each?

What do you know about geography? What is the most dis

tant country you have heard of? The most distant country you have met someone from?

Who is your immediate overlord (title and/or name?)? Who is your ultimate overlord?

What is your religion? What duties (prayers, fasts, dietary restrictions, etc.) does it impose? What do you (your persona) know about its doctrines and history?

What do you eat for breakfast? Lunch? Lunch? What do you drink? Where do your food and drink come from? How is the food cooked (style, of cooking, tools, how does the oven work, etc.)?

What sorts of wild animals live in your area? Which are dangerous? Which are good to eat? How are the latter hunted?

What clothes do you wear? What are they made of? Where do they come from?

What crops are grown in your part of the world? What goods, if any, are exported, and how are they transported? What goods are imported?

What language(s) do you speak? What language(s) do other people in your town (city, barony...) speak?

If you or one of your friends wrote a poem, what form would you use? What about a song?

What "mythological" beasts do you know about? Which ones do you believe in? What do you believe about them?

Most of these questions are specific to your persona and so may seem to violate the requirement that the answers be researched instead of made up. But in most cases, although research may not tell you for certain what would be true of your persona, it will limit you to a few alternatives. A twentieth century American might plausibly have any of a number of different things for breakfast, but there are far more things that he would not have.

One final remark. Some of you, after reading the list (and perhaps making some additions of your own) will conclude that only a professional scholar can stay in persona. There are few things that must be done perfectly in order to be worth doing, and staying in persona is not one of them. The more such questions you can answer the better a job you can do. Finding the answers—recreational scholar-ship—is one of the things the Society is about. And fun.

23





Speaking Forsoothly: An Advanced Lesson by Jerilyn Winstead, printed with permission

behest - promise, an urgent request: "He went at her behest." ween - to think, suppose: "They weened he was dead." avail - advantage: "May my life avail you not." beseem - to befit, appear: "It beseemeth him full ill." betake - to entrust: "I betake her to you." brast - burst: "And his lance brast in twain." dint - blow: "Such a dint he gave me!" list - wish: "Do as ye list." stint - cease: "Ye were better for to stint, for ye shall not prevail." gramercy - many thanks: "Gramercy, Your Excellency." sith, sithen - then/since: "No force, sith I shall die this death." whither - where: "Whither lead ye that knight?" wherefore - why: "Wherefore speak you this?" hither - here: "What brought you hither?" travail - hardship: "I have had much travail, care and anguish." notforthan - Nevertheless: "Notforthan they were put to the worse." certes - certainly: "Certes, I marvel how ye came hither." espy - to catch sight of: "The king espied where she came riding." fie - for shame: "Fie on your weeping." noise - to talk of, gossip: "Of this war was noised throughout the kingdom." discover - reveal: "We will not discover you."

Some Period Phrases and Conjunctions:

Wit you well we will meet anon.

Inasmuch as he is but one knight.

Thereof am I glad. The queen heard thereof.

So forthwithal she went to her father.

And therewithal he groaned piteously. Therewith he kneeled down.

I shall be from henceforward at all times at your commandment.

Ye are two days' journey therefrom.

Some Advanced Tips:

- Use "befell" or "befallen" instead of "fell" or "fallen":
 Alas that ever this misadventure is befallen me!
- Use "tofore" instead of "before": She rode tofore him.
- Use "to wit" instead of "to know":

I shall wit what manner of knight he is. I wot well this subject. When they had wist how he sped. Now wotest thou what I am?

Use "overmuch" instead of "too much": That is overmuch said.

Fifteenth Century Display of Arms

by Luciano Giovannie, printed with permission

The beginnings of the tournament were pretty rough and tumble, with few rules, ranging over the countryside. But by the 1400's, they had become more courtly. They also had spawned a number of alternatives for the knightly class to hone their skills at combat. This was a result of a fairly stable political structure (well, comparatively), the influence of courtly literature such as the *Romance of the Rose*, and a change in the attitude in chivalry.

The tournament had become a public display, complete with viewing stands for the judges, four knights and four esquires, the ladies and nobles that had become *du rigor*. While literary and noble themes were often featured, there were still plenty of tournaments that were just held for its own sake. The tournament would last for several days, with feasting and dancing in the evening. Often the main event of the tournament, the *melee'*, was preceded by individual jousting. The actual combat was highly regulated, set down in such treatise as Rene of Anjou's book on tournament. In the *Melee'* knights fought with blunted swords and wooden clubs. Defeated opponents were taken for ransom, and a successful knight could do quite well for himself. By the 1450's, putting on a tournament had become so expensive that only very wealthy and powerful lords and kings could afford them.

Fortunately, a number of other endeavors were popular around this time. One of the most popular alternatives to the tournament was the Pas d'Armes (Passage of Arms). In the Pas, a single or group of knights would choose to hold a geographic feature, like a crossroads, against all comers, knight or squire. The combat was with weapons of courtesy (a'Plaisance), and there were no ransoms. And while the tournament would last for days, Pas often lasted weeks or months, so there really wasn't much of an audience. Nonetheless, it was a popular way for knights to gain renown and sharpen their skills.

A less popular, but nonetheless impressive outlet for martial skill was the long-running tradition of challenges a'outrance, that is, with armour and weapons of war. These sort of challenges date back to more than two centuries earlier, when knights would issue challenges during sieges and border wards. The earliest example of formal challenge dates to 1398 c.e., when seven French knights challenged an equal number of English knights. The French knights wore a diamond for three years as a badge of this pledge. The English could win the diamond by successful combat with lance, sword, ax and dagger. If the English lost, they had to give each of the knights a golden rod for their ladies. This pattern followed for the next century or so by challengers wanting to get the feel of real warfare. Another pattern was for the loser to wear a collar or bracelet until released by a particular lady or a certain amount of time passed.

Another outlet was the *Emprise*. The *emprise* was based on the Arthurian tradition of the quest. In the *Emprise*, mostly young knights would travel to see the world, get experience at arms and gain renown. These encounters were often fought *a'outrance*, but could be fought *a'plaisance*. While knights loved this romantic idea, oftentimes as not the combats were forbidden by the princes of the realm, who feared mortal injuries and hard feelings from the (relatively) impromptu nature of the combats. As the seventeenth century approached, the *emprise* became more rare. Young, hot-headed nobility turned more to the dual, where honour was at stake and a clear outcome was required.

Another longstanding tradition was the *Be'hourd*, an informal and impromptu response to a celebration. Only linen armour was worn. While many scholars have suggested the use of weapons a'plaisance, it seems to have been the medieval form of a boffer tourney. Weapons and armour were often provided by the host of the celebration, and squires were allowed to compete. Oddly, older, more experienced knights seem to have rarely taken part.

By 1520, when Henry VIII hosted Francis I at the *Field of the Cloth of Gold*, the classic tournament, with its grand *melee'*, had all but disappeared. In its place was a series of individual jousts over a barrier (the tilt) and a complex set of rules for scoring *Atteints* (hits). At this time we also see the introduction of the elimination tree, just as we use at most SCA tournaments. Only the German Emperor Maximilian I still held onto the romantic, chivalric ideals. The tourney, even so, was the province of kings. Jousting took a sudden and irrevocable downturn on 30 June, 1550, when Henry II of France was accidentally killed by Duc de Montgomeri, the constable of France and a good friend of the king. The accident happened at a celebration of Henry's daughter's wedding to Philip of Spain. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, we find the final demise of the tourney to nothing more than a bit part in a grand pageant, called a triumph, although a few romantics, like Sir Henry Lee and Sir George Clifford, still saw it as it had been.

Surprisingly, the practice of the joust and the idea of the tournament survived in Italy as descendant of the civic joust. These events, which took place only in the low countries, were for those martially inclined folks who were not of noble birth. Even today, you can find the quaint celebration of the civic joust happening in the rural area. While these celebrations are mostly mounted spear games, with very little, if any, combat, the spirit of competition and pageantry is very much in keeping with the medieval tournament. Even more surprising is that such spear games have become the official sport of the State of Maryland.

Fast and Feast: Food in Medieval Society A book review by Mark Schuldenfrei, printed with permission

Fast and Feast: Food in Medieval Society, by Bridget Ann Henisch. Published by Pennsylvania State University Press, Copyright 1976, fifth printing. ISBN 0-271-01230-7 (hardcover) 0-271-00424-X (paperback, reviewed).

So, should a Society cook read a book that doesn't have recipes? Yes, it seems we should. Fast and Feast is a well researched and indexed book covering everything about food and foodways customs from late period, except the details of redactions. It is also fun to read (I laughed out loud several times), well indexed and copiously footnoted, and reasonably priced (I paid \$14.95).

It covers everything about food except the actual recipes. It covers feast service, entertainment, the role of food in daily life and the ecumenical calendar, the role and popular opinion of the professional cook and the housewife, and their everyday tasks. It covers timing of meals, quantities, beverages, the commercial infrastructure of the time. It even covers the tools of cooking and eating. There are many reproductions of period illustrations, and the illustrations are well used by the supporting text. The text is heavily footnoted, with 930 notes in 236 pages of text.

The book does lack a glossary, and it does occasionally use terms that a truly novice cook might not know. However, the index is good enough to compensate. The bibliography is totally insufficient. Again, however, the footnotes provide a wealth of sources. Some of Henisch's citations are in original languages, and are only lightly modernized or translated; but that doesn't prevent the reader from understanding her points. A reader's knowledge of some of the generalities of history are quite useful. (For example, page 38 covers the impact of the Reformation on Lenten practices, without an explanation of the Reformation.)

Ms. Henisch's organizational ability is formidable: I was particularly impressed with her ability to discuss trends in foodways based upon the corpus of surviving recipes. I found myself wondering why I hadn't seen those trends myself. Do be warned: on a purely academic level, she can be slightly suspect. Many is the time I found her drawing broad conclusions on slender evidence, or worse, supporting narrow conclusions with references that span the centuries and nations. Read her footnotes more carefully than you read the text. (I can't say I know enough to doubt her conclusions: I quite agree with them. But the academic rigor is spotty.) She also sometimes compromises by glossing details, in order to keep the flow of her text. (For example, oversimplifying the definitions of caudle or hypocris.)

many useful deductions based upon them. She speaks well on Society has also obviously studied hundreds of period illustrations, and makes wills, period manuscripts and receipt books, and more besides. She Foodways-related quotations come from plays, household manifests,

Certainly, she has done an admirable degree of homework.

be lit or dark. She is an evocative writer; consider the pain this poor shibboleths: are forks period, who sits at high table, should feast halls

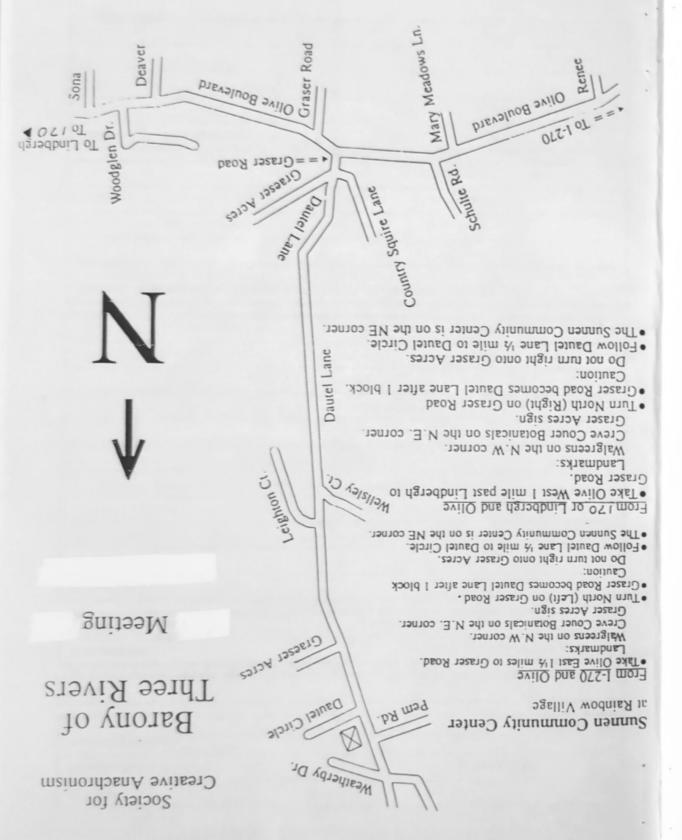
man felt:

later in the day: [...] his strength up to serve God all the more vigorously bed, coaxing the sufferer to eat a morsel just to keep Straightaway, an affable devil settled himself on the shal noght ben wel at ese tyl I have drunkyn agen.' ne bydde my beddys, for I have a badde heued...I 'I may noght faste, ne do penauns, ne go to cherch, Pale on his pillow, the reveler would murmur instead aggressive, all-around virtue was far out of reach. bing after the reresopers of the night before, such "For the Hoccleves of this world, their heads throb-

study period table service. And I want to revisit some old recipes with interested in viniculture, my wife who makes sotelties, my friends who it to my friend who does period mumming, another who brews and is This is the sort of book that begs to be shared. I want to loan

The early student of foodways will find much to benefit them new eyes.

ily, even at twice the price. cept how many onions to chop. I would recommend this volume heavwill love how this book completes your knowledge of everything exthusiasm papers over lack of evidence. The experienced Society cook in this book, although they may not spot some of the places where en-



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