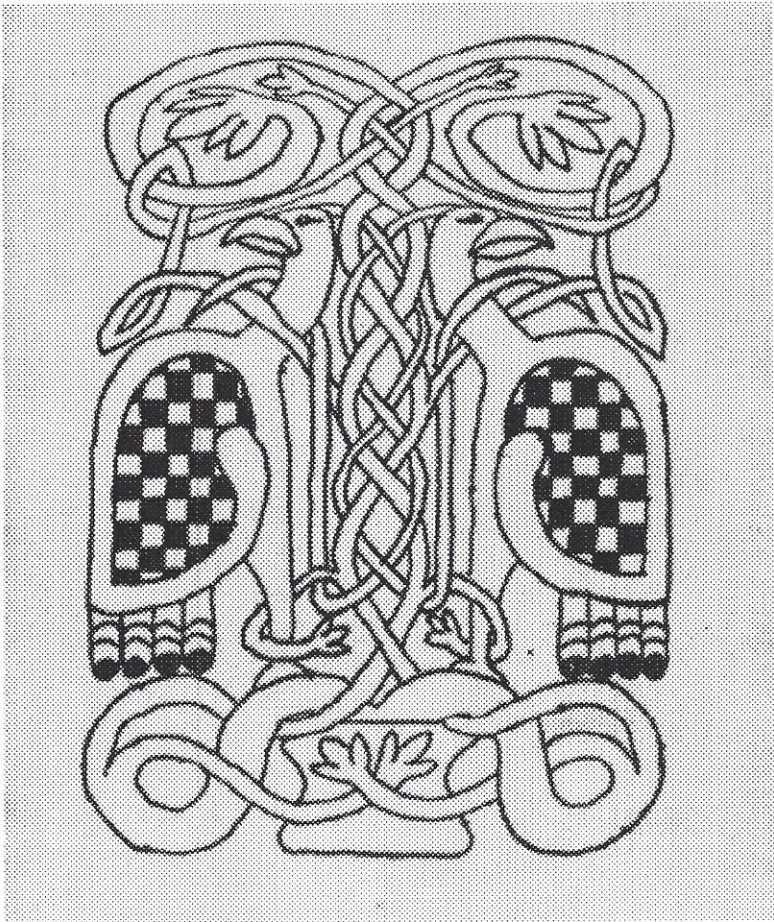


The Wind Swept

The Official Newsletter of the Shire of Windkeep,
in the Kingdom of the Outlands.
May A.S. XXXIII (1998)



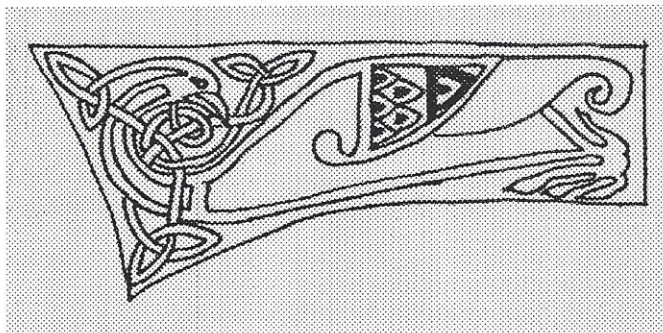
Kingdom Calendar of Events

| Date | Event | Page |
|-------|--|------|
| MAY | | |
| 1 | Games Revel (Caerthe) Wyndylyn (303) 680-1583 | |
| 1-3 | Scorpion's Hollow Defender (Scorpion's Hollow) Edrick (505) 763-3528 | |
| 2 | Caerthen Fiber/Visual/Functional Arts & Sciences Competition and Collegium (Caerthe) Meghan (303) 727-9709 | |
| 2 | Hinterland 3-man Team Heavy Weapons Tourney (Hinterlands) Hiro (308) 632-4418 | 7 |
| 2 | Northwolde Demo (Northwolde) Lady Liadain ni Mhorda (307) 686-1254 | 8 |
| 2 | Mayday Melees (Drygestan) Bela (505) 481-8524 | |
| 8-10 | Outlands Coronation (Duthaich Beinne Aird) Weltschin (307) 742-6512 | 9 m |
| 15-17 | The Archery Weekend (Citadel of the Southern Pass) James (915) 988-2406 | |
| 21-25 | Grand Outlandish (al-Barran) Rowanne (505) 262-1208 | 11 |
| 22-24 | Brigand's Bizarre (Dragonsspine) Haroun (719) 444-0194 | 13 |
| 31 | Royal Archer Tournament (al-Barran/Dragonsspine) Cavalier Holiday (Caerthe) Cecelia (303) 433-0132 | 15 |
| JUNE | | |
| 6-7 | Crusade in the Citadel (Citadel of the Southern Pass) Konrad (915) 856-7919 | |
| 13 | Outlands StagsCon II (Aarquelle) Catelin (719) 544-5492 | |
| 13-21 | <i>Lillies War (Calontir)</i> | |
| 19-21 | Cattle Raid III (Bofharrach) Moyra (970) 352-9017 | |
| 27 | Banner Tourney (Windkeep) Rhys (307) 632-1133 | |

The intended progress of TRM's is indicated by an 'm' next to the page number.
Italicized text indicates the event is in a different Kingdom.

May/June Windkeep Events

- May 5: Worknight at Master Rhys' and Mistress Aldyth's
- May 7: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- May 12: Research Night at the Library (Laramie County Library)
- May 14: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- May 19: Worknight at Lord M'lodn's and Lady Renate's
- May 21: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- May 26: Taster's Revel (Lion's Park Community House)
- May 28: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- June 2: Worknight at Master Rhys' and Mistress Aldyth's
- June 4: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- June 9: Research Night at the Library (Laramie County Library)
- June 11: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- June 16: Worknight at Lord M'lodn's and Lady Renate's
- June 18: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- June 23: Taster's Revel (Lion's Park Community House)
- June 25: Fighter Practice (Central Park)
- June 30: Worknight at Master Rhys' and Mistress Aldyth's



Seneschal's Report:

The summer season is fast approaching which means that the shire and surrounding areas have lots of fun things going on. Please consider attending some of these.

Our newsletter is being done by a newsletter guild now. This is going to be done for about 4 or 5 issues for now. If you are interested please let the group know what you would like.

Lord Mavrikii has done several of the newsletters for us the last 6 or so months and I do thank him for taking it over for that time.

One other item I would really like to stress is that we have been asked to do a dancing demo for Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming. It is at the Terry Bison Ranch and we have been asked to dance for about 30 minutes and they are going to encourage the audience to participate. Windkeep will get a donation of \$150 to participate. Please attend this as this is really a good fast way to make money for the shire without a lot of work or fuss.

Lady Renate

Hospitaller's Report

The summer is upon us and there are many mundanes to recruit. The first thing is that everyone is a Hospitaller. Don't depend on others to recruit either. If we all do that, we won't have and newcomers.

We have a school demo coming up at Bain Elementary on May 8th. After that, we have our major recruitment demo, Banner Tourney. There will be fighting and dancing and many mundanes running around to recruit. Don't be shy, walk around and be sociable to everyone.

This is my last report as Hospitaller. Lord Gareth will be taking over the office at masque ball.

I wish to thank Master Rhys, Mistress Aldyth, Lady Renate, and Lord M'lodn for being at every or almost every demo that we have held for the schools. We couldn't have done it without them.

In service to Windkeep and the Outlands

Lord Bjarki

Knight Marshal's Report:

Greetings unto Windkeep and to all others who read this missive. By now, fighter practice has been going again for a month. Knowing those in Windkeep as I do, I am certain that we have been doing well. Fighters, I would take up a grave matter. It seems that our friends to the south in the Canton of Bofharrach have been wrongly accused of stealing the lands of the Canton of Hawks Hollow. To that end, Hawks Hollow has chosen Bofharrach's Cattle Raid as the time to strike. I would rally the troops of Windkeep to Bofharrach's side. We have many friends there, and their dairy products are unparalleled in the Outlands, and losing them would be a serious blow to Bofharrach. They have offered to pay us in the best way possible....fruits of their dairy labor. They will provide their finest cheesecakes and ice creams in the Knowne World in exchange for our good swords arms. As the Windkeep Defender, I say we stand at Bofharrach's side and beat back the hordes from Hawks Hollow and keep the northern reaches safe once again.

In service,

Laird Duncan MacAllister

Exchequer's Report:

The Shire of Windkeep presently has a balance of \$2980.57 on Deposits of \$222.00 and expenditures of \$167.49. The net increase for March/April is \$54.51.

The numbers for the first quarter of 1998 went as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Total Income: | \$463.00 |
| Total Expense: | \$341.37 |
| Net Income/(loss): | \$121.63 |
| | ===== |

In service,

Laird Duncan MacAllister

Arts and Sciences Report:

Greetings!

The first calligraphy and illumination class was quite a success. The next class will be at the next Windkeep Worknight at Master Rhys and Mistress Aldyth's on May 5th. Another classes after that will depend on my work schedule, which will be changing again at the end of May.

For those with Internet access I would like to recommend a web site that I have found.

<http://www.pbm.com/~lindah1/carlson/SHOEHOME.HTM>

This is an excellent site on making period shoes that provides directions and patterns. For those who are interested in learning more about shoemaking this is an excellent site.

Good crafting to everyone and keep me posted on what arts you are working on.

In service,

Fekete Hollo Noemi Asszoncs

Windkeep happenings

- Lord Peredur ap Lyr completed training to become a patrol officer. Congratulations on finally getting out of detention.
- M'lady Jaelle finally had her baby. Little Brigitte was born at 2:00 a.m. at United Medical Center - West. She weighed in at approximately 7 lbs. 8 ozs. Our congratulations to the proud parents.
- Lord Duncan and Lord Mavrikii have been busy moving their mundane offices back downtown. The Barrett Building has completed enough renovations to allow occupants back in. It's been tiring work, but worth it for the new space.

Officer's listing

Seneschale-Lady Renate Koven

Patricia Hansen
10205 Powderhouse Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009
(307)-635-1320

Marshall of Fence-Lord Peredur ap Llyr

Cory Jacobsen
751 Avenue C #28
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007
(307)-778-3132

Herald-Lord Mlodn the Mercheant Zupan

Frederick G. Hansen
10205 Powderhouse Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009
(307)-635-1320

Treasurer-Lord Duncan MacAllister

Eric Schooley
900 East 6th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-637-5293

Hospitaller-Lord Bjarki Gullbjornsson

Justin Hammons
1316 East 19th Street #6
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-778-1804

Minister of the Lists-M'lady Asta Olafsdottir

Kari Hammons
1316 East 19th Street #6
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-778-1804

Knight Marshall- Lord Duncan MacAllister

Eric Schooley
900 East 6th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-637-5293

Archery Marshall-M'lord James the Small

Jimmy J. Inmon
610 1/2 West 10th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007
(307)-635-3214

Deputy Herald- M'lady Gwenyth ferch Morgan Penros

Angela Doherty
1314 West 18th Street #14
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-634-2730

Minister of Arts & Science-Lady Fekete Hollo Noemi

Becky Schooley
900 East 6th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307)-637-5293

Deputy Hospitaller-Lord Gareth of Grich

Dave Clark
5287 Fishing Bridge
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009
(307)-634-2217

Acting Chronicler-The Shire

c/o Patricia L.Hansen
10205 Powderhouse Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009
(307)-635-1320

Hinterland 3-man Team Heavy Weapons Tourney

Hinterland, May 2, AS XXXIII (1998)

In ancient Outlands history, there was a tradition on team tournaments. Join us in Hinterland for this unique test of your small unit tactics. Choose your companions carefully and assemble your most formidable team. No team members? Fear not! Impromptu team assembly is encouraged. This will be a double elimination. No weapons over six feet long will be allowed.

There will be a simple feast in classic Hinterland tradition after the tourney.

The site opens at 10:00 a.m., armor inspections start at noon, and the tourney starts PROMPTLY at 1:00 p.m. The site closes at 10:00 p.m.

Fees: Site is \$3.00, feast is \$5.00. Please make checks payable to Shire of Hinterland. Reservations are requested by April 25, but are not absolutely mandatory. If we know you are coming, it would help our planning a lot.

Site: Camp Kiwanis, located in Scottsbluff, NE, between the Riverside Zoo and the North Platte River. Find your way to Scottsbluff, and the zoo entrance is roughly 1/4 mile west of the intersection of Highway 71 (north-south) and South Beltline in Scottsbluff. It is the same site we have used for the last few Dragons' Quests. It is discreetly wet.

Autocrat: Ashikaga no Toshihiro [known as Hiro] (Steven Trickler), 1106 Ave F, Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 632-4418, strickle@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us

Co-Autocrat: Dubhghall MacCracken (Paul MacCracken), 1261 W. 14th, Apt. 2, Alliance, NE 69301 (308) 762-5581

Feast Coordinator: Sorcha ni Ghlais (Mary Wise), 1733 East C Street, Torrington, WY 82240, (307) 532-3917

Coronation

Duthaich Beinne Aird, May 8-10 A.S. XXXIII (1998)

Unto the gentle folk of the Outlands and all others who come by this missive, the fair Shire of Duthaich Beinne Aird wishes to extend a most cordial invitation to attend the coronation of Their Highnesses Hrothgar and Madigan heirs to the throne of the mighty Outlands. This event of pageantry and ceremony will be held at the Albany County Fairgrounds (please note is a new site) in Laramie Wyoming from 12pm on Friday May 8 until 6pm on Sunday May 10. Please, gather with us to salute the just and vigilant reign of Their Majesties Cameron and AnnAliz and to celebrate the ascension of Their Heirs.

Both the Protector and Defender Tourneys will be held Saturday. Childrens activities will be available both days. Please contact the Childrens coordinator for details. Our Shire is sponsoring an A0A promissory scroll competition for the incoming reign. Contact our A&S Minister for details.

Circles will be held Sunday morning. Details at the site. This is a camping site on the edge of town. The site allows the consumption of alcohol by all those of legal age. Fires are not allowed. Limited crash space is available in town and sleeping is allowed in the feast hall. The feast hall has only a cement floor please pack accordingly. Due to University graduation, hotel rooms are full, and restaurants will be very busy. Merchants are welcome there is no fee. Please call merchant coordinator if interested.

Fees for the weekend are as followed: Site Fee is \$10 with a family cap of \$25. There is an additional charge of \$2 a tent. Feast Fee is \$5. Then additional meals including breakfasts, and lunches is \$10 (for those 11 and under it is half, and for those under 5 it is free). Send all reservations to Weltschin with check made payable to "SCA Ard Thir". Feast reservations close May 4 please call the Chef d'Cuisine for availability there after. We prefer paying by mail, however due to the short notice, please do not mail your reservations after May 1st. We don't want your reservations lost in the mail. Call the Autocrat with your reservations, and pay at the troll.

Directions: From Windkeep: take Interstate 80 west from Cheyenne to Laramie. At Laramie you will need to take the 3rd Street exit (#313). There you will need to turn left or south onto Highway 287 for about a mile. The Albany County Fairgrounds are on the right or west side of the road there is a large brick entryway. We will be using the main

yellow building.

Directions: From Unser Hafen and points south: Go north for Fort Collins on Highway 287 to just outside Laramie where the Albany County Fairgrounds will be on the left or west side of the road, across from the port of entry. There is a large brick entryway and we will be using the main yellow building.

Autocrat:

Lord Weltschin von Wertheim (William Vaughn) (307)745-0832, 407 South 6th Street Laramie, WY. 82070 Weltschin@juno.com or Weltschin@aol.com.

Chef d'Cuisine:

Lady Sara Beauchamp (Sara Vaughn) (307)742-6512
Vaughnsa@uwyo.edu
Please contact for any food allergies.

Kitchen Coordinator:

Lia of Lynnesse (Lisa George) (307)745-4422 meerkat@uwyo.edu

Marshal in Charge:

Duke Olaf Bjornson (Martin Emmons) mjemmons@aol.com

Merchant Coordinator:

Adrian Hawkins (Josh Books) (307)745-0832,
adrian-hawkins@juno.com

Children's Coordinators:

Lady Christina McCarty (Tina McCarty) (307)721-2097
mccarty@vcn.com
Sabia Books (307)745-0832 sabia@uwyo.edu

Arts and Sciences Coordinators:

Sabia Books (307)745-0832 sabia@uwyo.edu
Lady Christina McCarty (Tina McCarty) (307)721-2097
mccarty@vcn.com

Crash Space Coordinator:

Adrian Hawkins (Josh Books) (307)745-0832
adrian-hawkins@juno.com

Grand Outlandish XXX

al-Barran, May 21-25, A.S. XXXIII (1998)

Their Most Noble Excellencies, Kragon and Sarah, offer warm greetings and bid you to join them as they prepare to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of Grand Outlandish in the Barony of al-Barran. Come and raise a toast to 25 years of Outlandish behavior. The site opens at noon on Thursday and closes on Monday by 4:00 p.m. The site is the same as last year, private land outside of Manzano, New Mexico.

The one and only Lord of Outlandish Tournament will again take place as well as the Banneret Tournament, hosted by the College of Blaiddwyn. Sir Hakon promises to provide woods battles and melees galore. The Outlandish Blade Tournament and a host of others will be provided for the rapier fighters. Archery will also flourish as once again the Royal Archer of the Outlands is chosen. There will be some equestrian activities. The site offers a horse camp, away from the main camping area.

Site Amenities: There may be some food merchants, no feasts will be arranged. This is a camping event. There will be no showers, potable water will be on site for drinking and cooking, and there will be porta-potties. The site is wet. Dogs will need to be on leashes. The trees are not very tall, bring shade. The days can be hot, the evenings can be moderate, and expect rain, so pack accordingly.

Site Fee: \$15.00 per member for the entire event, \$20.00 per non-member, kids 12 and under \$10.00, kids 5 and under free. There will be a day pass of \$10.00 for Saturday or Sunday. There is a family cap of \$50.00. Members may sponsor people for the event and are asked to either accompany their guest to the gate, or provide written authorization of their sponsorship. Everyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian with notarized proof of guardianship. No exceptions. Checks will be accepted, made out to: SCA -al-Barran. No reservations are necessary.

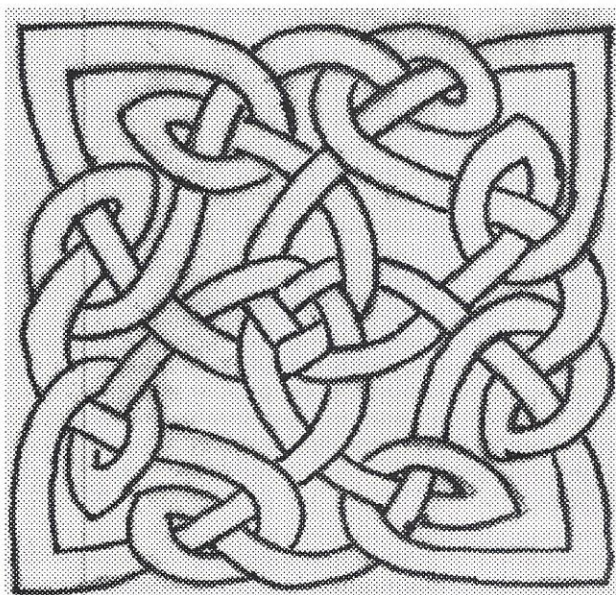
Anyone wishing to merchant at Outlandish should contact Kathryn of Iveragh, 11100 Gibson SE I-193, Albuquerque, NM 87123, (505) 298-9032, kballar@unm.edu. Deadline to register is May 10, 1998.

Check our website at: <http://www.unm.edu/~kballar/got/grandout.htm>

It answers many questions about the area and offers an excellent guide for enjoying Grand Outlandish.

Directions: Take best route to Manzano, NM, which is southeast of Albuquerque. Turn west at the only church in town, and go up the county road (dirt) towards New Canyon Campground for 2/10 miles. Go North (right) at the fork in the road and continue towards New Canyon Campground for another 8/10 miles. The site is on the right, a large yellow gate marks the land.

Autocrat: THLady Rowanne of Hamilton (Gail Howell), 405 Sierra Dr, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108, (505) 262-1208



Brigands Bizarre 10

Dragonsspine, May 22-24, A.S. XXXIII (1998)

T minus 10 and counting backwards to the LAST Brigands Bizarre. Come celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Memorial weekend event May 22nd through May 24th.

The site [T minus 9 and counting] is Pawnee National Grasslands. The site has excellent drinking water, permanent non-flush toilets, abundant camping/fighting space, and shade. Fires must be contained above ground and a fire extinguisher is always a good idea. Dogs must remain leashed at all times. The site is wet (period containers preferred) - be prepared for any and all types of weather. Make checks payable to: SCA-Dragonsspine. Site fee is \$3.50 for children 6-14 years and adults are \$7. You do not need a reservation.

T minus 8 and counting battle scenarios are planned for each day to liven your heart and your blade. Heavy weapons contests will include combat archery and missile/siege weaponry. Fencers, be prepared to run the same gauntlet as the heavy fighters. Archers remember, rounds will be shot and scored for Kingdom Royal Archer.

To honor this momentous occasion, some of your old favorites will return to the Bizarre. Their Excellencies, Sir Haroun and Lady Dovita will be your Autocrats for the [T minus] 7th time. Embrace the bizarreness of this event by making your own stick beast. Slog through swamps, battle through tunnels, and wreak havoc on your opponents from chariots.

A pot luck feast will be served in the picnic area on Saturday eve. The main dish will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share which will feed [T minus] 6 and counting starving fighters. **Feast fee** is a mere \$3.

The Barony of Dragonsspine will celebrate its milestone of hosting this auspicious event for the [T minus] 5th time. Court will be held at His Excellency Master Maelmarden's whim. Join our barony for Happy Hour on Friday eve where we will toast and spin yarns of Brigands past glories.

Site will open Friday, May 22nd at T minus 4 (p.m.) And counting. Anyone arriving on-site prior to the autocrats will be tithed one bottle

for the barony's Happy Hour and will be enslaved by the Autocrats for site set-up to include their personal pavilion!!!

T minus 3 lucky SCAians will be chosen for their displays of chivalry, acts of courage, and best use and inspiration of their hand-crafted stick beast - you do not have to be a combatant to participate in this contest. Drag out your remnant material and let your imagination run Bizarre. The judges identities will be kept secret until Sunday, however, time spent astride your stick beast will be watched closely!!!

For the [T minus] 2nd year, Brigands and Merchants teams will be chosen in a manner that allows households/ships to fight together. There will be new battles, as well as some of the old favorite fighting scenarios. Fighting, fencing, and archery will all be integral components for determining the weekend's victor. Bring your combat archery and other missles. Fighting will start at 10:00 a.m. Saturday.

To commemorate this renegade event's last HUZDAH, a Brigands Bizarre book is being compiled. The [T minus 1] book will be available at the troll booth and everyone is invited to contribute stories for publication. Also, due to mass pressure, we are currently investigating a commemorative T-shirt which will be for sale (prices as yet determined).

Tons of prizes will be bestowed on our guests. Stay tuned to your local newsletter and subscribe to the Outlands List for more details on contests and battle scenarios.

Directions: Take I-25 to Exit 269-A (near the Barony of Unser Hafen). Go east on Highway 14 (past Ault) to mile marker 176 and turn left. Hang another left at the camel crossing.

Autocrats: Baron Sir Haroun and Baroness Dovita (Chuck and Debbie Hacking), 114 N. 7th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80905, (719) 444-0194, SirHaroun@aol.com

Royal Archer Tournament

May 23-25, A.S. XXXIII (1998)

The Fifth Royal Archer Tournament will once again be held concurrently at Brigand's Bizarre and Grand Outlandish to accommodate the maximum possible number of entrants.

In order to compete, an archer must:

1. Be a current paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism in the Kingdom of the Outlands, and provide proof of membership at the time of the tournament.
2. Be a Kingdom ranked archer (Yeoman, Forester, or Bowmaster), OR if recognized and recorded as an Outlands Bowman, may shoot in a Qualifying Round held prior to the Royal Archer Tournament. New or Novice archers are not allowed to compete for the position of Royal Archer.
3. Use SCA legal archery equipment.

Any archer ranked Yeoman, Forester, or Bowmaster may compete in the SUNDAY Tournament without shooting in the Qualifying Round to be held on SATURDAY at each location.

Any archer ranked Bowman may shoot in the Qualifying Round on SATURDAY to achieve the Kingdom rank of Yeoman or above (a Royal Round score of 45 or over). This is the only opportunity for an archer to become a Kingdom ranked (Yeoman) archer with only one qualifying score.

The position has been established by tradition to be held for one year, thus providing an excellent opportunity for the Royal Archer to be in court through all of the major events where the Outlands is represented.

In service to the Outlands,

TCRL Peregrine Elric of Courtenay
Archer General of the Outlands

Da'ud Bob's Movie Reviews

I love sequels, don't you? Of course, there are sequels, and then there are "sequels". Usually, though, the sequel just never matches up to the original. Sometimes, in fact, the sequel does not even come close to the original. (*Deathstalker II* comes immediately to mind, for some reason. I don't know why - the first one wasn't all that great. But it did make *Deathstalker III* look positively cerebral by comparison.)

Sometimes, however, as with the following movie, the studio is so sure, so certain that the original is going to be a big hit, that they start on the sequel even before the original is released to the theaters. They sign up all of the stars of the original (well, all those that didn't get killed off in the original) and start filming almost immediately. In fact, they pushed production through so quickly, that the sequel actually was released before the original. Which, of course, makes it a lot harder to tell whether *The Robe* is the original, or whether it is a prequel. In fact, the opening scene of this one is the closing scene in *The Robe*, with Richard Burton and Jean Simmons marching off to martyrdom. In any case, and before I bust a brain circuit trying to figure it out, This month Da'ud Bob reviews ***Demetrius and the Gladiators***.

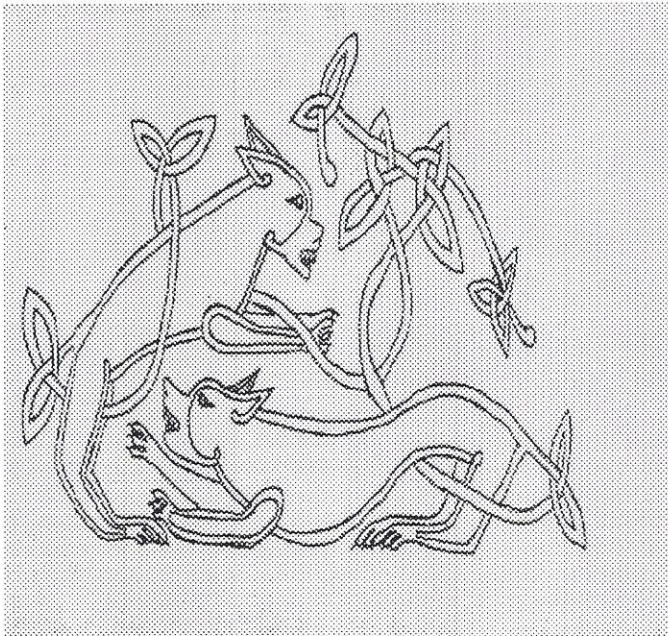
Starring Victor Mature reprising his role of Demetrius of Corinth, Susan Hayward as Messalina (wife of Claudius and Priestess of Isis), Michael Rennie as "The Big Fisherman" Peter, Debra Paget as Lucia, Richard Egan as Claudius, Ernest Borgnine as Strabo, the chief gladiator trainer for Claudius, and Jay Robinson as Caligula, this one is, as the opening credits inform you, "Based on a character created by Lloyd C. Douglas in 'The Robe'". Which, of course, makes it at least two steps removed from anything like actual history. (My general rule of thumb is its at least one step removed from actual history when it's "based on the book/story/novel by ...". If it's "based on a character created" for a book, well, that's yet another giant step away from actual history.) I think the thumbnail sketch in the TV magazine summed it up best: "Mature dallies with Royal Hayward." It is, essentially, the story on one man's fall from grace and ultimate redemption.

Good points: Victor Mature looks really good in a mini-tunic.

Bad points: Hayward's "negligee". The bound book in Claudius' library. (Looks like it was bound in the 18th or 19th Century.) Romans calling them Christians. Calling themselves Christians. I didn't know that Roman wives took their husband's byname upon marriage, but there it was on their tomb: Marcellus + Diana Gallio". Mature's studded leather

"codpiece". The dance choreography. The costuming in general. The gold Lamé and sparkly dress fabric in particular.

Zero breasts. One-half gallon of blood. Eleven dead bodies (plus three dead tigers). Gladiators roll. Tigers roll. Dagger fu. Pottery fu. Fist fu. Sword fu. Net and trident fu. Tiger fu. Gratuitous gladiator school parties. Gratuitous belly dancing. Gratuitous fig leaves on all the statuary. Dance of the vestal not-so-Virgins. Academy Award nominations to Richard Egan as Claudius for "Men to not kill what they despise, only what they fear"; and to Victor Mature as Demetrius for "We need no gods, you and I; we need only each other" and for demonstrating once again that there is nothing in all this world so dangerous as an enraged pacifist. 57 on the Vomit Meter. Two stars. Da'ub Bob says "Check it out!"



The Stew Pot

I decided to publish some recipes this month. There is no implied periodicity.

Fruited Meat Balls:

Ground Meat
Cinnamon
Raisins or Currants
Bread Crumbs

Peanut Oil for frying

Pick your favorite kind of ground meat. The leaner the better. If I don't use venison, I usually use ground turkey. Mix in enough bread crumbs to make a good meatball. Put in at least 2 tablespoons of cinnamon. It will depend on how much ground meat you use. Add some raisins or currants. Enough that the meatballs will have bunches of them. Make the meat stuff into balls. Heat peanut oil in a pan. You will need enough oil to cover the meatballs half way up. Fry the meatballs. They will be done when they turn really dark, and the raisins or currants puff up. Drain them on a paper towel. They will keep for a week in the fridge. Mine don't usually last that long.

Quick and Dirty Potato Soup

Whole Milk
Potato Flakes
Butter
Parsley
Salt
Pepper
Chives

Put how ever much milk you want into a pot big enough for soup. Put in the butter. Start heating it up slowly. When the butter melts, turn off the heat. Add salt to taste. Put in some parsley flakes. Then dump in the potato flakes, stirring constantly. When it gets thick enough for you, stop the potato flakes. Put in the pepper to taste. Chop some chives on top for garnish. This can be served hot or cold. It thickens a little more when it cools. If you have potato freaks you are serving, you can dump some frozen hash browns in just before you do the potato flakes. Gives them something to chew on.

The Soapbox

One of the great things about the SCA is having the opportunity to act differently than you would in everyday life. Part of that acting differently is the way you address those about you. I have on numerous occasions heard one gentle say to another, "Look, you don't have to call me [Sir, Master, Baron] William. Just call me Bill. In my opinion this aire of familiarity detracts from the pomp and ceremony that, for many, is what the SCA is all about. When we address each other in the same manner that we would in every day life, we are taking away a little part of the enchantment that makes the SCA different.

A person who has achieved a station beyond that point where we all start out deserves to have that added respect given him or her. Lord So-n-so should have his title added to his name the same way that Sir So-n-so, or Duke So-n-so should. Many people have worked very hard to reach the level they are at, and addressing them casually takes away much that they have worked for. By showing a small amount of formality when we are in a medieval setting we show those around us, especially the mundane world, that we are more eloquent, and refined. Not only have we uplifted the person we are addressing by recognizing their station, but we have uplifted ourselves by showing that we are made of that special stuff.

Another benefit of being more formal when in a medieval setting is that those who have not yet been recognized for their accomplishments are more easily identified. If we skip the titles then we create a situation where everyone is equal. Maybe that's not bad, but it does a real disservice to the newer people because people begin to assume that they already have awards and titles that are just not being used. We have all been surprised when someone who has been around for years is called up to receive their Award of Arms, because we assumed that they were already Lord or Lady. By remembering to use a little more formality, these people are noticed more quickly.

Of course it is not necessary to always be formal. When people are in a mundane setting, it is certainly not necessary. In a close household setting, formality only really needs to be used as an initial greeting, or when someone new enters the conversation. Close friends may not need to be formal, but they should want to for the sake of their friend. However, when in a public medieval setting, we should all remember to be as formal as possible. It will not only make those around us feel better, it will make those around us feel better about us.

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