THE VIGILANCE

MAY - JUNE 2010 C.E. - A.S. XLV



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THE SHIRE OF HERONTER WWW.HERONTER.ORG

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SHIRE NEWS

The Shire of Heronter was well represented at Ice Dragon. THL Antonio de Luna was inducted into the Order of the White Horn for martial prowess. Aaron the Swift was created one of three principals of the Order of the Silver Stirrup, for martial authenticity for youth. Finally, Aaron the Swift and Lord Ian Kennovan won the Adult/Youth tag team tournament!

The Shire of Heronter congratulates the cast and crew of Southwestern School's Beauty and the Beast, including our own Aaron the Swift (Quinn White)

The Barony of the Rhydderich Hael is holding a very large demo at the Walden Galleria Mall (http://waldengalleria.com) on Saturday, May 1st. This will not be a repetition of Heronter's "Demo that would never end." Lady Biotta has broken the event down into distinct time slots, 9AM – 12 noon, 12 noon – 3PM and 3PM – 6PM. They can use all the artisans, fencers and fighters that they can get. If you are interested in volunteering, contact her at ef-fex.b@worldnet.att.net. The mall does not open to the public until 10AM, but we will be allowed in early to set up.

The other large Rhydderich Hael demo this summer is the annual Brass Ring Thing in North Tonawanda. This is their 10th anniversary. If you've never been before, go. It's a gorgeous site and it's more of a free event than a demo. Contact the autocrats in advance, and they'll help you set up an area to demonstrate your interests. Read the article in this newsletter.

There will not be a Pirate Demo this summer. The date conflicts with Thescorre's Baronial Investiture. The new Baron and Baroness of Thescorre will be Aquila d'Athos and Bronwyn nic Gregor, former residents of the Rhydderich Hael. A large number of Haelies want to attend the investiture, so the party has been cancelled for this year.

Birthdays this month include: THL Laurette Montsalvy on May 5th and Duchess Dorinda Courtenay on May 18th. If you'd

like your birthday included in the newsletter and in the online calendar, submit it to Dagonell at chronicler@heronter.org

Photographs of Ice Dragon will be posted shortly to Dagonell's Flickr webpage. These were taken by Constantinia the Wandering Warbler using Dagonell's camera. No other photos were submitted from this event.

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May's Game of the Month: Maypole and Morris Dancing by Dagonell the Juggler

The ancient druids of Britain celebrated Beltane around May first. It was actually celebrated on the cross-quarter day, which is the day exactly between Spring Equinox, the day when day and night are exactly equal, and Summer Soltice, the longest day and shortest night of the year. When the Romans occupied the British Isles, they celebrated the five-day feast of Floralia, from April twenty-eighth to May second, in honor of Flora, the Roman goddess of flowers.

By the fourteenth century, various aspects of the two celebrations have combined and villages in Southern England are celebrating a spring festival on May first and dancing around the tallest tree in the village or a pole festooned with flowers and ribbons in the village square. Chaucer makes mention of a maypole in his writings. Scotland and Ireland also celebrated May festivals but had village bonfires rather than maypoles.

Maypole dancing was outlawed during the Reformation. The festivals were un-Godly with mixed gender dancing, flirting, drinking of alcohol and general merry-making. They were reinstated during the Restoration by Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, who both liked them.

While the dancing around the May pole was usually a countrystyle dance with men and women weaving in and out among each other, the concept of holding ribbons and winding them around the pole while dancing is actually post-period. A playwright named J.T.Harris wrote "Richard Plantagenet" in 1836. One of the scenes had a maypole with long ribbons on stage and the dancers wove the ribbons as they danced. The fad caught on and soon every village was dancing with ribbons around the maypole. The maypole dance was usually done by adults. It isn't until the 1930's that it becomes known as a children's activity.

Morris dancing was often done on May Day celebrations. The actual origins of the dance are lost in antiquity, however the most common theory is that it was based on the Morisco dance of the Spanish Moors and brought to England around 1360 A.D by John of Gaunt, the brother of Edward the Black Prince. Another theory is that it's from the 12th century Italian Moresca dance. The earliest known reference is a 1458 will which bequeaths 'a silver cup sculpted with morris dance'. This is not the only such cup known to be in existence. William Shakespeare had a morris dance in "Henry V". The dance was performed before Henry VIII and Elizabeth I and was referred to as an "ancient country dance" then.

The dance varies from village to village, each town doing their own unique rendition of the dance with little in common between them save for a similarity in costumes and props. In some villages, it's an exhibition only with only a handful of dancers. In other villages, it's participatory with literally hundreds of dancers joining in.

Traditional costumes include men dressed in white with colorful ribbons on their shoulders and bells on their legs and arms to emphasize the movement of their limbs with the ringing. They would dance with swords and pantomime a battle against men whose faces were blackened with burnt cork, lending some credence to the theory that the dance originally commemorated Charlemagne's battles against the Spanish Moors. Some dancers wore wire frameworks around their waist, decorated to suggest horses. The children's toy hobby-horse of a wooden horse head on the end of stick was patterned after this traditional Morris costume.

In Elizabethan times, Robin Hood tales were popular and the characters of Robin Hood, Maid Marian, Little John, Friar Tuck, Tom the Piper, (a musician with pipe and tabor) would be participants of the dance. The traditional fool's costume was often seen as well as multiple dancers portraying a dragon which would often be ritually slaughtered by the dancers.

Traditional music for Morris dancing was pipe and tabor (a small drum), fiddle, squeezebox, tambourine and rhythm sticks with bells. Modern performances have been known to have virtually any instrument including saxophones and guitars.

Morris dancing started dying out during the Industrial Revolution. Rural traditions were abandoned as people started moving to larger cities for economic opportunity. Today the participatory versions of Morris dancing are all but extinct and the dance survives today only as an exhibition dance.

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May's Game of the Month: Sans-Vert by Dagonell the Juggler

"Je vous prends sans vert" [I am caught without green] is not a game in the traditional sense of the word, but it was played during the month of May in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in France, which is why I'm mentioning it in this month's column. Members of the "Sans-Vert" (Without Green) society pledge on May 1st to have a green bough with them at all times during the entire month of May. Any member can challenge any other member of the society to show his bough at any time and any place at any hour of the day or night. If a member cannot produce his bough, he must hold still while his challenger empties a pail of water over his head, and then he must pay a fine to the society's treasury. At the end of May, the money is used to pay for a feast for the society's members.

From "The Good Huswifes Jewell" by Thomas Dawson (1596)

To farse Egges

Take eight or ten eggs and boyle them hard, pill of the shelles, and cutte every eg in the middle then take out the yolkes and make your farsing stuffe as you do for flesh, saving only you must put butter into it insteade of suet, and that a little so doon fill your Egges where the yolkes were, and then binde them and seeth them a little, and so serve them to the table.

To Farse all things

Take a good handfull of tyme, Isope, Parselye, and three or foure yolkes of Egges hard rosted, and choppe them withhearbes small, then take white bread grated and raw egs with sweet butter, a few small Raisons, or Barberies, seasoning it with Pepper, Cloves, Mace, Sinamon and Ginger, working it altogether as paste, and then may you stuffe with it what you will.

Farsed Eggs: A Redaction by Dagonell

1/8 teaspoon ground pepper 6 eggs 2 Tablespoons butter 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves 2 oz. pasteurized egg-1/8 teaspoon ground mace substitute 1/8 teaspoon ground

1 Tablespoon breadcrumbs cinnamon

1 Tablespoon parsley 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger

½ teaspoon thyme

Hard boil six eggs, peel them, cut in half the long way, and remove the yolk. Place the egg-whites on a plate in an attractive arrangement. In a bowl, combine egg yolks, butter, egg substitute, breadcrumbs, herbs and spices. I used pasteurized egg-substitute instead of raw eggs for health reasons. Mash everything together into a paste. Stuff the mash into the hollows in the egg-whites. Refrigerate until served. Being used to traditional 'deviled eggs' with mustard and mayonnaise, I found these to be pleasantly savory. The raisins actually took something away from the taste. It's cheap, simple to make and tasty. I would highly recommend this as a feast side-dish.

It is time once again to prepare for the prospect of War, and to properly prepare, the Canton of Steltonwald would like to invite all to join us for **War Practice XXI**. We will be mustering once again at Cooper's Lake Campground, 205 Currie Road, Slippery Rock, PA



Canton of Stelton Wald

16057. The event will run from noon on Thursday May 20, 2010 through Sunday May 23 at 3:00 PM. **Troll will close on Saturday at 3:00 PM**; all participants must be registered before that time or access to the site will not be granted. The weekend will include many types of marshal activities, including Heavy Weapons, Combat Archery, Fencing Thrown Weapons, Archery and Youth fighting. Among the peaceful pursuits we will include Classes, Meetings, Shopping and More. If you would like to teach a class or schedule a meeting, please contact the Class Coordinator **THLady Hilderun Hugelmann** at hilderun@yahoo.com.

All merchants must register with the Merchant Liaison **Mistress Alessandra d'Avignon** at <u>kardasl@pitt.edu</u>. (As per Cooper's Insurance, all merchants must have insurance to participate at the event.)

No animals please, assist animals must contact the Autocrat prior to arrival. Participants for hound coursing (this activity is dependent upon securing a qualified volunteer) may only have the dogs on site for the Coursing Activities.

Information concerning Marshal Activities will be scheduled and coordinated through our Field Marshal whose contact info will be available here. Please watch for any updates.

The Autocrat for this event is **THLady Ysabell Graver** (Jane Cummins) 120 Kyle Rd. New Castle, PA 16102 ysabell_graver@yahoo.com, 727-667-9727. There is no prereservation for this event. Waivers and more information will be

available here. Please watch for updates. Volunteers are needed at Troll and Water Bearing on the Field. If you have some spare time, it is a great way to meet new people, please come and join us.

Cost				
	3 nights	2 nights	1 night	Day Fee
Adult	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$13.00	\$12.00
Children 6 – 17	\$ 9.00	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$4.00
Children under 5	free	free	free	free
There will be a \$3.00 non member surcharge.				

Very important:

Troll will close at 3 pm on Saturday, May 22, NO-ONE will be admitted to the site without a receipt after this time.

If you do not have a Blue Card, you will be required to sign the standard SCA waiver. Please feel free to download and print a copy to bring with you to ease your way through troll.

ADULTS: http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/ad \

MINORS: http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/chldwaiv.pdfltwaiv.pdf

All RVs will be required to camp on the Serengetti.

Wooden Pin Competition - Saturday May 22, Noon - 2 pm

Greetings Friends of Æthelmearc and Noble Cousins from lands beyond, It is with great pleasure to announce the Wooden Pin Competition at Æthelmearc's 21st War Practice again this year. So, please read the following announcement and prepare to enter whether you are an experienced cook or a newcomer.

How to enter the Wooden Pin Competition:

The requirements for entering a Wooden Pin Competition are actually rather simple. Just bring an entry, (including documentation that has a list of all ingredients for the entry); you

have prepared yourself to the barn no later than noon on Saturday, May 22nd to have it entered into the competition. These are the only requirements. However, the entries are judged on the following criteria, so it may be beneficial to you to familiarize yourself with these criteria so you understand how your entry is being judged.

Authenticity

Judges determine how well the recipe is as an interpretation of the recipe or style of the competition.

Documentation

Judges look at the documentation to note how the recipe was researched. Items they tend to look for are the inclusion of the original recipe, the identification of the source of the recipe, and what if any substitutions were made. A list of ingredients is necessary because judges may have food allergies.

Appearance

Judges look at the appearance of the food itself, if it looks like the image they get in mind from reading the recipe provided in the documentation and if it looks appetizing.

Presentation

Judges look at how the food is presented, if the dish that it is served upon is appropriate for the time and place of the recipe. They also look to see if the presentation interferes with the appearance of the taste of the food or if it enhances it.

Taste

This is a cooking competition, and taste is the prime consideration that is given in the competition. Simply put, judges determine whether or not the food tastes good.

Remember, entering a competition is more than just trying to win the Wooden Pin. It is an opportunity for you to learn from the experience. Judges are encouraged to give lots of feedback, and the judging form has been modified to aid in this endeavor. If after entering a competition and you have questions about the comments made, please speak to the judge who made the comments. Their name is provided on the judging sheet specifically for that purpose.

This year's competition is meant to bring out the creativity in everyone who enters as this is our fifth year for running it. So without delay, this years theme is: THE FOUR SEASONS

Some things to keep in mind:

- 1. This is completely up the imagination of the entrant, however you decide to present it, the Four Seasons must be represented and obviously it should be made of food items.
- 2. Documentation is still required. For example if you prepare a soltie from a period inspiration, please include that inspiration in your documentation.
- **3.** Download your entry form (http://warpractice.steltonwald.org/pinentryform.pdf)
- 4. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at maestratomasia@yahoo.com

We look forward to seeing as many talented cooks as we can. ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE. The competition will begin at 12 Noon on Saturday May 22, in the barn. You may drop off your entries between 11am and Noon. The competition will end at 2 pm and you may pick up your entry then.

Let the cooking begin! Ciao,

Mæstra Tomasia da Collivento

The Vigilance: We don't delineate policy for Heronter or the SCA. It's too much like actual work and we try to avoid that as much as possible.

Arts and Sciences Champion – Saturday, May 22

Their Majesties, Malcolm and Tessa invite and encourage all artisans of this fair Sylvan Kingdom of AEthelmearc to attend and participate in a competition to select their Arts and Sciences Champion to be held at War Practice on May 22. Their Majesties have selected largesse as the theme of this competition. Artisans are requested to bring an entry item (or items) that will be donated to the Kingdom. These items can be anything ranging from a contribution to a gift basket, scroll blank, award tokens to Kingdom regalia. In addition, this year AEthelmearc will be giving a gift basket to the Kingdom of the Outlands, therefore anything appropriate for this purpose is also welcome.

A brief explanation of the item is requested, but need not be more than a 3x5 card. The competition will be held on Saturday from 11am to 4pm in the barn, along side the artisan's forum. Attendance by the entrant is not required and entries may be sent via proxy. The populace is encouraged to drop by and examine the entries.

If you have any questions, please contact me at fredeburg@gmail.com



Brass Ring Thing X

(Carrousel Museum Demo)
The Canton of Beau Fleuve
and
Barony of the Rhydderich
Hael
Saturday, June 5, 2010

Yes, it is time once more to grab the brass ring!! Come join us for the Tenth Annual Brass Ring Thing;

celebrating the medieval origins of the carrousel and promoting Western New York's very own Herschell Carrousel Museum.

As always this is a FREE event to all SCAdians who attend in garb and troll in. The day will be full of entertainment, pageantry, arts, games, food and tournaments in Heavy Weapons, Archery, Thrown Weapons and Fencing.

It is a day of grand Tournaments. Fighters, fencers, archers and throwers, come prepared to show your skill and be cheered on by the crowd!

It is a day of grand Art. We will be hosting our renowned Artisan's Tents and we invite one and all to come and share their skills. Work on projects, demonstrate your skills, display your art and visit with fellow artisans.

It is a day of grand Entertainment. Musicians, Gamers, Dancers, Singers, Thespians, Jesters, Drummers, Jugglers and more are invited to come and share their talents. We encourage all who enjoy performing to come and celebrate the day.

It is a day of Knowledge. Please come and display your collections, books, games or those items of which you are most proud. You will have the chance to talk about what you love most about the Middle Ages and share your knowledge with others. It is a day to show who we are. We ask that you bring your good spirit, pageantry and good will. There is room for banners, so please show your personal and group devices proudly. This is a day to display all that is good in the SCA to the general public. It is a chance to share our hobby and invite new people to try our activities. The Brass Ring Thing is an opportunity to share the joy of our events and our activities with those that know little about us. The site is open to the public from 11AM to 6PM. Gentles are welcome to set up Friday evening after 6PM and Saturday morning after 8AM. There is no sideboard or feast, but the concession stand will have basic picnic-style food available for sale.

Location: Herschell Carrousel Museum, 180 Thompson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120. The Autocrats are Lady Morwenna Everdon - J. Human (MorwennaEverdon@aol.com), PO Box 607, Lockport NY 14095. (716) 622-4680 and Lady Edith of Winterton - Caroline Elliot (edithofwinterton@yahoo.com) This event is free to SCA members in garb. There is no Non-member surcharge.

Directions: Take the I-90 E/New York State Thruway E (portions toll). Merge onto I-290 W/Youngman Expressway via Exit 50 toward Niagara Falls. Take the Rt-425/Colvin Blvd. - Exit 2. Turn right onto Colvin Blvd/NY 425/Twin City Highway/CR-118N. Continue to follow NY 425 N/Twin City Highway. Turn left onto Christiana Street. Turn right onto Payne Avenue. Turn left onto Thompson Street. End at 180 Thompson Street, N Tonawanda NY 14120-5420.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH:

The Armour Archive (www.armourarchive.org) – The site was established in Dec 1997 by John Thompson as an online gathering place for armorers, both in and out of the SCA. It includes an extensive pattern library along with many well-written how-to articles. There is an advertising section for Want Ad/For Sale postings, a growing list of online links to armorers, supply stores, other construction sites, etc. The most popular features are the chat rooms where you can talk in real time with other armorers and the discussion boards where discussions can take place over several days or weeks. There's even an "Ask Paul of Bellatrix" column. The site is easy to navigate and allows for posters to upload pictures to illustrate discussion points.



Upcoming Calendar – includes non-SCA events of interest

MAY

May 1 – SCA New Year XLV

May 1 – Galleria Mall Demo in Rhydderich Hael

May 5 – Cinco de Mayo

May 5 – THL Laurette Montsalvy's Birthday

May 8 – Crown Tournament in BMDL

(http://debatablelands.org/events/crown_tournament)

May 9 – Mothers Day

May 15 – A Medieval Horse Faire in Stormsport (http://www.stormsport.org/subpages/Events.html)

May 18 - Duchess Dorinda Courtenay's Birthday

May 20-23 AE War Practice XXI in Steltonwald (http://warpractice.steltonwald.org)

JUNE

June 5 – Brass Ring Thing X in Beau Fleuve (http://www.carrouselmuseum.org/events.html)

June 14 – Flag Day

June 17-July 11 <u>Much Ado About Nothing</u> in Delaware Park (http://www.shakespeareindelawarepark.org)

June 19 – Baronial Championship in Rhydderich Hael

June 19 – Tournaments Through the Ages in Stormsport (http://www.stormsport.org/subpages/Events.html)

June 20 – Fathers Day

June 21 – Summer Soltice

JULY

July 1 – Canadian Independence Day

July 2-4 Great Blue Heron Festival (http://greatblueheron.com)

July 4 – American Independence Day

July 10-11 – Taste of Buffalo (http://www.tasteofbuffalo.com)

July 16-18 – Viking Village Demo in Heronter

July 22-Aug 15 – MacBeth in Delaware Park (an all-female cast!) (http://www.shakespeareindelawarepark.org)

July 26-Aug 1 – Chautauqua County Fair

(http://www.chautauquacountyfair.org)

July 31-Aug 15 – Pennsic War XXXIX (http://www.pennsicwar.net)

The Vigilance: A Publication of Heronter c/o Dagonell the Juggler mka David P. Salley 5294 Webster Road, Fredomia NY 14063