

AURORA

RUMOR TABLE (DUCK)

Kicking off this set. Ursula the Bar Wench is seeking applications for winter warmer. Must be wealthy secure and have large castle. Send photo of castle.

Next a murder? mystery. Snitches oops Reliable Responsible Persons inform me a certain resident of Karnac was discovered to be missing at the Ithra Feast at Montengarde.

When the last person to be seen with him was sought for

questioning her distinctive Celtic laugh had mysteriously vanished along with her person. Well Sherlock of Holmes can you figure it out.

Again John Macleod found himself in it up to his a**/buttocks when two bar wenches applied the grips of death to his non-front. MacLeod was heard to exclaim DON'T STOP DON'T

STOP over and over again.....or was that
DON'T.....STOP.....DON'T.....STOP?
Well I'll leave it to you to make up your own mind. After all I wouldn't want to be responsible for starting tales would I!?

Again from my sources in Montengarde. I heard that while the remainder of a course were saddling horses and jousting a certain trio were off bareback riding. As I can't confirm this rumor I refuse to print Wulphere's, Valentine's, or Arel'nath's name. I run a honest rumor mill here.

If you suspect who set you up feel free to write in revenges of your own. If it doesn't reek of maliciousness I'll twist it and print it. Anonymity guaranteed.

FIGHTER'S CORNER

FIGHTER'S CORNER (from afar but not for long - 1 1/2 months to go)

As you may recall, in a previous issue (September to be exact), I experienced a 7 lb weight loss on a rather hot & humid day. This made me think:

- 1) good thing I drank lots of water before fighting,
- 2) I did not drink any beer during or immediately after fighting (as beer causes dehydration),
- 3) my surcoat is good for a hot, dry climate but not for what I experienced.

Therefore, I hope all fighters remember not only their archers mesh but as well remember to plan for your events. You should consider the following:

- a) typical climate changes for that specific time of year;
- b) is your armour compatible to the climate? If not, make necessary changes;
- c) adequate number of water bearers;
- d) be familiar with heat stroke, heat

exhaustion;

e) types of insects or other pests, ie racoons, etc;

f) extra clothing to change into or add onto during those cold mountain nights;

g) carry your medical card, and get extra insurance if going to the States;

h) make sure armour, weapons & shields are up to standards;

i) most of all, bring along your BRAIN and know when to QUIT - there is always another day to fight - enjoy yourself! Take in an Ithra class.

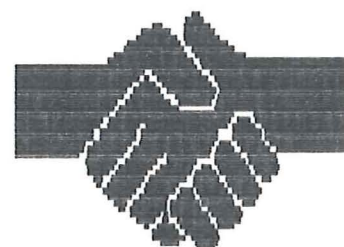
These are not all items you should plan for, but from my travels, I would say these are the most frequently forgotten. Remember - during the current middle ages, you can always get up and fight again!

Immortally yours,

Sgt. Edward Bolden

P.S. Magnus & de Wolf, we have one year til the big 30 - I sense a PARTY

*** Note: Address Change!**



Secret Teutonic Handshake

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE:

Nov 17, 1990

Have all information, submissions, ect. to me BEFORE the above date.

Send To:

MAGNUS

9340-85 St.

Edmonton AB



COOKING WITH ERNA

As we roll into November, cabbage seems to be tops for cheap vegetables.

Before everyone gags on childhood memories of boiled cabbage, try this month's recipe for **Scalloped Cabbage**.

The milk in this casserole dish makes the cabbage sweet and tender, and generally very much a "oomfy" side dish. I might mention it got rave reviews at last year's St. Nicholas feast, as well as this year's Literacy Convention.

SCALLOPED CABBAGE (Pottage)

3 1/2 cups coarsely chopped cabbage

1 or 2 onions, chopped

1/4 cups butter

1/4 cups flour

1 cup milk

1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese

dry breadorumbs (optional)

Parmesan cheese (optional)

Steam cabbage and onions for 5 to 8 minutes over boiling water. Melt butter, stir in flour (use a whisk) and blend to make a smooth paste. Add milk gradually, stirring constantly. Remove from heat when thickened. Add cheddar cheese and cabbage mixture, blending thoroughly. Pour into a greased casserole dish and top with orumbs & Parmesan (if desired). Bake, uncovered, for 25 minutes at 350 degrees.

Serves 4 to 6.

ERNA

UNPAID FOR SCROUNGED ANNOUNCEMENT

Hi once again Rorik here to steal control of the Aurora for a minute. Recently I found myself over in Ramsgaard and happened to see some very excellent work done in blades. I managed to steer this lord over to the bar where I managed to liquid persuade him to pass on his address. Owaine lives under the mundane name:

Justin Huxely at 1087 Calmar Place Kamloops B.C. V2B4T2 (604)554-1060.

If you are interested in quality work look him up.

BARONIAL OFFICERS LIST

BARON AND BARONESS His Excellency, Baron Sir Conrad von Graz and Her Excellency, Baroness Christiona of Ulidia..Wilf and Christine Backhaus 6607 - Enevold Drive Camrose, AB T4V 3J7 Phone: 672 - 3795

BARONIAL SENESCHAL Her Ladyship, Erna Kajadotter..Karin Thirlwell 10670 - Beaumaris Rd. Edmonton, AB T5X 3N4 Phone: 457-7585

HERALD William the Boisterous Mark Henry 3021, 3007-56 Ave. Lloydminster, AB T9V 1Z6 Phone:

EXCHEQUER Lady Sunniva Ragnvald..Kym Banks #1 10173 - 117 St. Edmonton, AB T5X 1X5 Phone: 482-1884

MASTER OF STABLES His Lordship, Sargent Colin Ironwolf..Larry Sutherland 9017 A - 85 St. T6C 3C6 Phone: 466-6848

BARONIAL ARCHER Lady Yeoman, Joan the Just Joan Reader Box 765, 4308 - 48 St. Beaumont, AB T0C 0H0 Phone: 929-2054

MASTER OF ARTS His Lordship, Sgt. Cennet ap Llangollen Ken Reader Box 765, 4308 - 48 St. Beaumont, AB T0C 0H0 Phone: 929-2054

MASTER OF SCIENCE (See Above)

CHIRURGEON (See Baronial Archer)

CONSTABLE Lord Haakon Draken Chris Argall 6352 - 10 Ave. Edmonton, AB T6L 5S2 Phone: 461-8502

MASTER(MISTRESS) OF THE LISTS (Insert HERE)

GOLD KEY Anne of Montengarde Anne Robertson Simms 143 Marlborough Place, Edmonton, AB T5T 1Y6 Phone: 481-5473

CHATELAINE Her Ladyship, Sigrit Rabenfelds Chris Argall 6352 - 10 Ave. Edmonton, AB T6L 5S2 Phone: 461-8502



His Lordship Sargeant Cennet ap Llangollen

has the pleasure to announce his forth coming wedding to ***Lady Yeoman Joan the Just of Lismore Isle.***

Baron Sir Conrad Von Graz has given permission for the wedding to take place at the Saint Nicholas Feast, December 8, 1990.

This will be a 1550 wedding service in Tudor costume to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Cennet and Joan.

All are welcome to attend

The wedding will be at 4:30 pm at The Holy Trinity Anglican Church 10037-84 ave Edmonton, Alberta.

Dancing will be at the church hall from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm and the

Saint Nicholas Feast will start at 7:30 pm.

The feast cost is \$12.00, \$8.00 for smalls

Three final important notes;

1) Llangollen is pronounced H'lang glook' olan

2) Rorik the Wendol will be there!!!

3) A local fighting practice will be on the following day Dec 9 at 1 pm.

To find out the details of this please feel free to call:

Joan the Just

at 929-2054. Incidentally she is also the person to see regarding feast reservations.

They have set a **December 2** deadline.

CANTON SENESCHALS

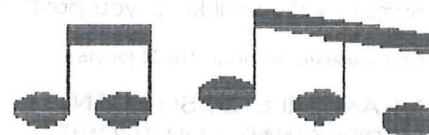
AQUILON - Ulf Ingbrandsson Daryl Haaland 7308 -152 A AVE
Edmonton, AB T5C 2Z4

Phone: 476 - 6468

SCHWANSTEIN - Lord Brian von Schawanstein Brian L. Nelson R.R. #1 Ohaton, AB T0B 3P0 Phone: 672 - 6374

LAKELAND - Massuke-No-Tasashi Matsu Greg Dorrington #38, 5612 - 53 Ave. Grand Centre, AB T0A 1T1 Phone: 594 - 2510

BORDER GATE - William the Boisterous Mark Henry 302 I, 3007-56 ave. Lloydminster, Alberta, T9V 1Z6 Phone:



Late Period Calligraphy

To Anonymus,

What is Chivalry? What is a sergeants' or yeomans' oath? To begin all occur from within, they are a belief

As one matures through the SCA, so does your beliefs. It is quite true Chivalry does not always live up to your expectations or mine at a particular moment, however, this can and will change.

I firmly believe chivalry and oaths should begin at home. I disagree that

the local group is "at the bottom", rather we are "at the top". Local chapters create kingdoms! Kingdoms do not create local chapters!

Part of Chivalry is to speak openly and honestly. If you are not satisfied, then you must discuss face to face your concerns with the person(s) involved. We all become better individuals by listening to and receiving criticism. Please give Chivalry and the Baronies Sergeants and Yeoman this opportunity. Sergeants and Yeomen, please welcome the

opportunity.

Please write to me and explain your concerns. I will be more than willing to give direction as to how you or we (Sergeants and Yeomen) can resolve your concerns.

Treat others as you wish to be treated.

Sgt. Edward Bolden

P.S. My address is available from Her Ladyship Erna Kajadotter.

SENESCHAL'S GRIPE

Once again, I am [temporarily] at a loss for a gripe.

Oh well, I'm sure **THAT SOMEBODY WILL FORGET TO REPORT** and will give me AMMO!

Meanwhile, I'd like to say that the Literacy Convention Demo was (literally) a roaring success. All of the banquet guests enjoyed themselves - the consensus was that this was the best convention banquet ever attended. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it that good for the people! I certainly enjoyed myself - especially the danoing. I am quite sure that we will be doing it again - isn't fun when somebody else does the cooking & cleaning up?

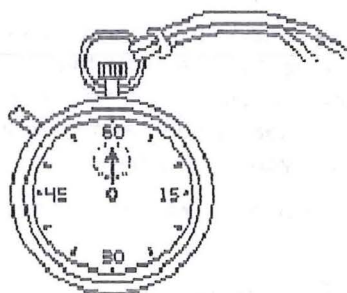
I would like to warn everyone that by next month's deadline, the Baronial Chronicler and I will be at a new address:

9340 - 85 St., Edmonton AB... I don't know the postal code or phone number yet - we'll keep you posted!

Did everyone find the 2 puns?

MEANWHILE GOSH I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THOSE GREAT REPORTS...

Lady Erna (aka Erna the Hag)(or just The Hag maybe)(or Erna)



Time's Running Out !

CALENDAR

November 10 ----- Cavalier Tavern - Myrganwood
 November 17&18 -- Borealis Costumer's Guild Workshop
 November 18 ----- Regional Fighter Practice
 November 24 ----- Renaissance Ball - Montengard
 December 1 ----- St. Nicolas - Borealis
 December 15 ----- Christmas Feast - BitterEnd
 January 19 ----- 12 th Night - Montengarde
 February 2 ----- Feast of Evergreens - Lakeland
 February 16 & 17 ----- Winter War - Schwanstein

The Twelve Days of Fighting was written by Valgard(mka Maxwell Garrison) and myself (Dagmar - mka Shelly Ann Jensen) at NonCon 13 during the SCA room party.

Are you going to Dragonwood Fair? was written at said event by Carolus Mediovrus (mka - Charles Fodchuk, but I am not sure of the spelling of either of his names) of the Barony of Montengarde with some help from me. There was a little kibitzing from a few others sitting around the fire. What else is there to do when you're drying out a foam mattress?

Dagmar

The Twelve Days of Fighting

On the twelfth day of fighting, my sergeant gained for me Twelve autocrats freaking, Eleven removes aroasting, Ten lords afeasting, Nine ladies sewing, Eight archers aiming, Seven battles winning, Six fighters slaying, FIVE COLD BEERS, Four javelins, Three extra rats, Two leather gloves, and a peerage in a barony.

Are You Going to Dragonwood Fair?

Are you going to Dragonwood Fair?
 Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer.

Remember me to one you'll find there; He once was a sergeant of mine.

Tell him to make me an axe of ratten. Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer. With no hose clamps, duct tape nor foam. Then he'll be a sergeant of mine.

Tell him to find me a clean gambeson. Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer. With no sweat staid, loose threads nor tears. Then he'll be a sergeant of mine.

Tell him to find me a castle to hold. Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer. Without any rats, bed bugs or mold. Then he'll be a sergeant of mine.

Tell him to cook me a period feast. Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer. Without a Coleman or Teflon pans. Then he'll be a sergeant of mine.

Tell him to dance me a stately pavan. Muskol, smoke, rainwater and beer. Without tripping over his fair lady's feet. Then he'll be a sergeant of mine.

(Repeat first verse.)

Robin Hood

The following is the oldest known and therefore original ballad about Robin Hood. The manuscript copy that is taken from, itself dates to as early as 1492 or may be as late as 1534. The language is obviously Middle English and is therefore difficult to understand in parts of it. As a result when I chose to present it I was faced with the decision of either modernizing all the language, grammar and spelling, or leaving it as is. Instead I chose a middle ground of copying is as is, but in parts that need explaining I will add glosses to it to avoid taking away from the original poetry and rhyme of it. The Gest is an epic ballad composed from several ballads, so is very long which makes it necessary to present it in a series which I hope everyone will enjoy.

Eadwulf MacRuthven

A Gest of Robyn Hode

Lythe and listen, gentlemen, That be of frebore blode²; I shall tell of a gade yeman, His name was Robyn Hode.

Robyn was a prude³ outlaw, Wyles he walked on ground; So curteyse an outlaw as he was one Was never

none found.

Robyn stode in Bernsdale, And lenyd hym to a tre; And by hym stode Litell Johnn, A gade yeman was he.

And also dyd gade Scarlok, And Much, the miller's son; There was none ynch of his bodi But it was worth a grame.

Than bespake Lytell Johnn All unto Robyn Hode: Maister, and ye wolde dyne betyme It wolde do you moch gade.

Than bespade hym gade Robyn: To dyne have I no lust, Till that I have som bolde baron, or some unkouth gest.

That may pay for the best, or some knyght or som squyer, That dwelleth here bi west.

A gade moner than had Robyn; In londe where that he were, Every day or he wold dyne Thre messis wolde be here.

The one in the worship of the Fader, And another of the Holy Gost, The thude⁴ of Our dere lady, That he loved alther moste.

Robyn loved Oure dere lady; For

clout of dydly synne, Wolde he never do componi harme That any woman was in.

"Maister", than sayde Lytil Johnn, And we our horde shal sprede, Til us wheder that we shal go, And what life that we shall lede.

"Where we shall take, where we shall leve, Where we shall abide behynde; where we shall robbe where we shall reve, Where we shall bete and bynde." ⁶

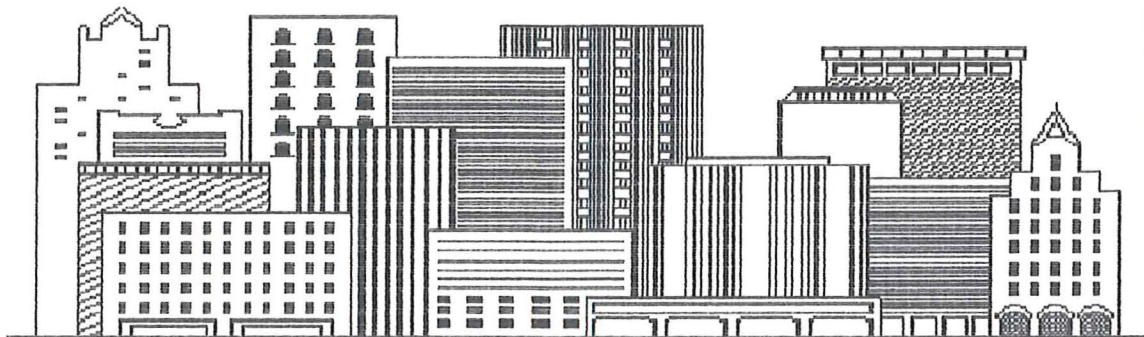
"Therof no farce", than sayde Robyn; "we shall do well inoure; But loke ye do no husbonde⁵ harme, That tilleth with his ploughe.

"No more ye shall no gade yeman. That walketh by grene-wode shawe; Ne no knyght ne no squyer. That wol be a gade felawe.

These bisshoppes and these archebishoppes, Ye shall then bete and bynde; The hye sherif of Notyngham, Hym holde ye in your mynde."

"This worde shalbe holde" "And this lesson we shall lere; It is fer dayes; God sende us a gest, That we were at cure dynere!"

- 1 - life
- 2 - freeborn blood
- 3 - proud
- 4 - thought
- 5 - husband men
- 6 - beat and bind



Modern Viking Longhouses

BESOM MAKING

THE MAKING OF BESOMS, OR "witches' brooms", was greatly simplified with the invention of wire. Or at least, when wire became cheap enough for broom squires, as besom makers are called, to afford it.

I watched a besom maker in the south of England. He sat at the end of a shaving-horse in the open right next to a huge stack of birch trimmings which he had cut the previous winter. On a peg stuck into a post near the far end of the horse hung a roll of soft galvanized wire. He quite simply bound up the butt ends of double handfuls of birch using three turns of the wire, each hauled tight against the grip of the horse.

FITTING THE HANDLE

The squire had a stack of handles which he had cut from young ash coppice, selecting them for straightness, and roughly trimming them with the draw-knife to a point. He shoved the point of one of these into the butt end of the wired birch bundle and rammed it hard home. This has the effect of even further tightening the bundle. The broom was done. I think the whole operation took 10 minutes to complete.

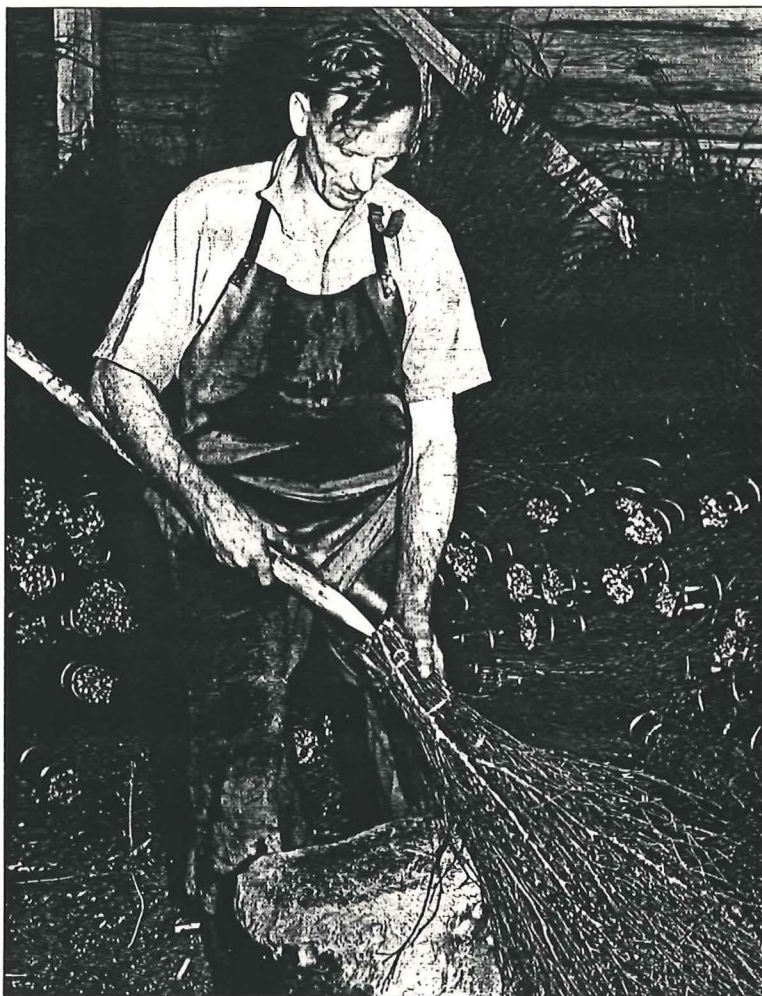
OLDER BINDING METHODS

Before the days of cheap wire, *withies* (see p. 156) or hazel wands were used for binding the broom head materials. A heavy clamp with a circular mouth called a *besom-grip* was used, the closing joints crushing the twigs together while the binding was applied. The *bond-poker* was a curved concave blade which was pushed under the binding and allowed the final tying off. As a boy I remember watching an old man using the leg bone of a goose as a bond-poker.



WITHY BONDS

The traditional besom bond of hazel wands or willow rods does not clamp the broom handle quite so tightly as wire. Some squires pre-drill the handle and drive in a retaining peg through the bundle of birch twigs.



FITTING THE HANDLE

If the squire has made a good job of binding the birch twigs, thrusting the point of an ash handle into the middle of the butt ends tightens the bundle to perfection.



BINDING WITH WIRE

The squire I watched had a roll of wire hanging close to the end of his horse with one end passing through the jaws of the clamp. As he closed the jaws with his feet, he hauled backwards to tighten the bonds around the birch bundle.