

FOX TALES



The Newsletter of Vulpine Reach

JULY 1997 "ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO ENGRAVE" A.S. XXXII

Vulpine Reach Turns 19

On Sunday afternoon, June 8, the fun-loving foxes of Vulpine Reach gathered to celebrate the long life of the shire and just have, well, *fun!*

Festivities started a little after noon with the initial rounding up of members at the Tennessee River Park, just behind Chattanooga State Community College (near our fighter training and practice center). Veteran fox Lord Finlach Gwaidin showed up with his gas grill in hand and before long, the aroma of cooking Frankfurt sausages filled the air. In addition to the hot dogs, there were several choices of cake, including a choco-choco sheet cake wishing the shire a happy 19th.

The food was only a small part of the gathering, though; members of the shire brought music-makers (although it's unclear whether any noise was actually made) and toys (the shire champion's list was fought).

The editor will now interject a short statement: I did enjoy a few of the Frankfurt sausages, but missed out on the choco-choco cake. It went *that* fast. And I brought the thing!! We have some really, really food-loving foxes - particularly when it comes to chocolate. We now return to our story...

This year, the Shire Champion's List was hard-fought and hard-won from a field of four heavies: THL Richard Fenwick, Lord Ari Williamson, Alaric von Eschenbach, and Lady Kate the Green (which, if the intrepid reader remembers, was quite recently authorized). And the winner was... Alaric von Eschenbach! During the afternoon, quite a few pick-up fights took place 'twixt the heavies - including several with fledgling heavy Jeremy Saunders.

Naturally, all this banging around on

variously sized and shaped various materials brought us to the attention of a number of park attendees (not the least of which was another birthday party for a lady in the nearby pavilion...) - a few whom actually took the time and effort to visit with our happy little band and ask questions!

With plenty to eat and do, our local brand of foxes spent the somewhat threatening day in enjoying our local brand of fun.

The Kingdom Heirs

On May 3 the Shire of Seleone hosted Meridies' Spring Crown Tournament at the King's Arrow Ranch in Lumberton, Mississippi. By all accounts, the tourney ran very smoothly and ended with Sir Alanon mac Sidhe and Lady Caterina de Caleja being presented to the populace as our Kingdom's most recent Prince and Princess. The combatants for the Crown at this tourney were required to choose weapons from three different fighting styles: Florentine, single weapon, and weapon and shield in a double-elimination/rotating style competition. Prince Alanon hails from the nearby shire of Rising Stone and Lady Caterina calls the Barony of Thor's Mountain home. Our best wishes are with Meridies' newest Royalty.

Fencing Marshal Announced

The Kingdom once more has an official fencing marshal: THL Beorn of the North Sea. Those of you with questions regarding the newly instituted *schlager* fencing combat and rules should contact him at: Marcus Barber, 4121 Burks Ave., N. Little Rock, AR, 72118. (501) 771 - 0749.

CALENDAR

Weekend events are marked in bold, local activities are in normal typeface, and holidays are marked with asterisks.

JULY

- 4 **** Independence Day (U.S.) ****
- 5 **All Things Middle Eastern - Phoenix River**
- 7 Biz Mtg/Fox Tales distribution
- 9 Craft Madness Night at Lady Kate's
- 12 **July Feast - Thorngill**
Lugh - Grey Niche
Local Archery Practice at Choo-Choo
- 14 Class: Courtesy & Etiquette, THL Alexander
- 16 **DEMO:** TN River Park, noon - 2:30 p.m.
- 19 Royal University - Glynn Rhe Archery Practice/Royal Round (weather permitting) - Camp Jordan, E.R.
- 21 Class: Period Music, Laird Davoc/Fox Tales deadline
- 23 Craft Madness Night at Lady Kate's
- 26 **Shire Champion's List - Ardenroe PAX AXE - Axemoor EVENT - Glaedenfeld**
- 28 Class: The SCA & Cult Movies, Knee Byter

AUGUST

- 2 Summer A & S - Saltkeep
So You Want To Be A Peer - Glaedenfeld
- 2 - 17 **Pennsic War 26 - Aethelmarc**
- 4 Biz Mtg/Fox Tales distribution
- 9 **Beggar's Rebellion - An Dun Theine**
- 11 Class: *To Be Scheduled*/Fox Tales deadline
- 18 Final Prep Biz Mtg for Tourney
- 23 **Tourney of the Foxes - Vulpine Reach**
Slay the Dragon - Ewige Vogel
"All Archery" Event - Seleone

Meetings and Practices:

Local chapter meetings are at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hixson Pike and Hwy 153 on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Fighter practice is held at the Tennessee River Park behind Chattanooga State Technical Community College near the railroad bridge on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. Contact Lord James at 949 - 4394 for information on Archery Practices.

BEST BET:

7-19 Royal University, Camp Boothe, Green Pond, AL (appx. 165 mi.) Prices: \$29 weekend on board, \$22 weekend off board, \$20 daytrip w/feast, \$13 daytrip w/o feast - members deduct \$5. Classes in just about everything you could possibly imagine, such as: Culinary Class, History of Meridies, Islamic Heraldry, Baths & Massage Oil, Hands-on Blacksmithing, Armor Removal for Chirurgeons, and more. Cabins on site, no pets in buildings and animals must be leashed at all times, pool, air conditioned hall, **DRY SITE**.

REGNUM [Note: Change in Knight Marshal's office.]

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A & S Minister - Lady Kate the Green

Betsy O'Shee (423) 629 - 1238

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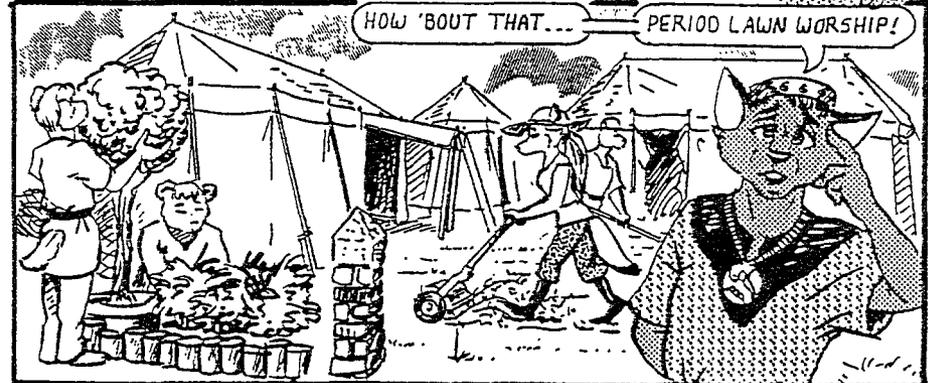
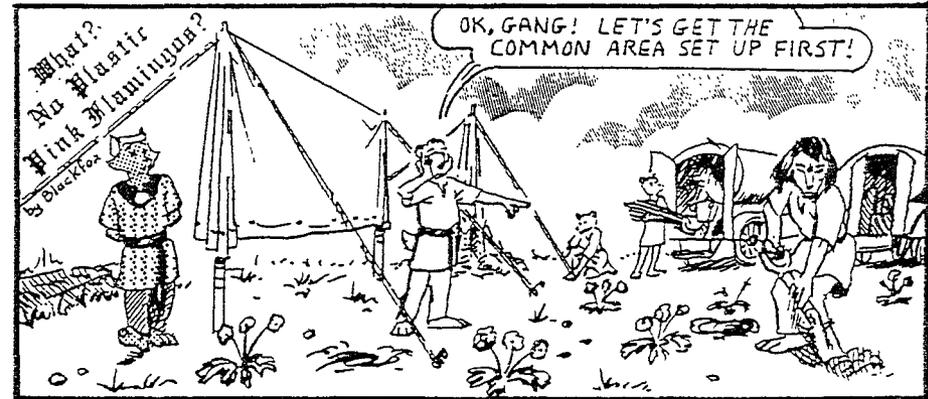
Royal University Provost - Lady Rachelle du Pied-Leger

Rachel Lightfoot (706) 965 - 7947

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Warthaben™



SCAdian Survival:

Dealing with "Lord Wrong"

To all gentle ladies,
Here is the secret phrase to deal with "Lord Wrong":

"You will deal with me in a manner befitting a lady, or you will deal with me no longer."

Yet, in order for this to work, you must be worthy of the title. You must act as a lady and not a little girl. You must not tease the boys (or men). You must not say "no" with your mouth and "yes" with your actions. Men are sometimes unable to control their emotions and actions and their ancestral instincts are only thinly veiled by 20th Century socialization. Be careful, lest you stray too far into the woods and are eaten by the "big bad wolf" - and there is no hunter to save you. Think on this...

- Kate

Herald in your Pocket



"Sumptuary Laws"

Sumptuary Laws can also be called "Laws of Good Taste" - they also have the practical advantage of allowing certain people to be distinguished by what they are wearing. Take the Royalty, for example....

Crowns are restricted to the King and Queen; the Prince and Princess wear coronets. Crowns are bigger than coronets. Dukes, Counts, Viscounts and Barons are also allowed coronets - with some restrictions. Dukes may use strawberry leaves on the coronet for decoration, Counts and Viscounts (in silver) have coronets with embattlements, and Barons' coronets can

have spheroids.

Bestowed Peers may - in addition to the regalia of their order (e.g. a laurel wreath for the Order of the Laurel) - wear a metal band one inch thick. People with Grants of Arms may wear a metal band 1/2 inch thick, and people with Awards of Arms may wear a metal band 1/4 inch thick. By learning the simple cues afforded by these pieces of metal, you can address people by their correct title - and you will impress them by knowing their rank.

In period, it was expected that each person of the court know their relative position in that court. Most courtiers in period did, including the "barbarian" tribes - where each member knew their own place in the pecking order. With the SCA as large and complicated as it is, and as often as members move around, it's difficult to know everybody. Earning rank in the Society is a difficult thing and it is good of us to recognize the work of others - and it is a simple thing to learn to address them properly.

- THL Alexander Ravenscroft

Missive



Lord James, Greetings from Baroness Katherine Maghee - I never could remember if I sent you money for my subscription to Fox Tales, so if I haven't, I apologize. If I did, have some more - it's worth the money for the enjoyment I receive reading your newsletter. I'm sure we'll see each other soon so until that time (and afterwards also), take care and keep publishing!

- Katherine

Most gracious Excellency,

It's always a pleasure to hear from you - particularly when you have good things to say and say them on such a nice card! Since Fox Tales is published as a function of the Shire's main budget, we really don't have subscriptions - we do, however, welcome such generous gifts as yours to help defer postage and printing costs. Thank you very much!

I'm also awaiting news that that "elevation" I gave you in the issue following Coronation has come about so I can say that Fox Tales scooped everybody

else...just let me know when you want me to run it! In the meantime, enjoy the newsletter. And if you have any suggestions about articles or perhaps have one lying around gathering dust, please contact me! Yours in Service,

Jas. Toxophilus

From the Seneschal



Unto the good people of the Shire of Vulpine Reach does the Laird Davoc Waikere send warm summer greetings.

Well, every time I look at the calendar I realize that the year is slipping by quickly. We are fast approaching the time for Toumey of the Foxes. I guess this would be a good time to remind everyone that Ruadhan would really appreciate knowing ahead of time that all of the major jobs will be covered. I would also like to mention that we are all responsible for keeping everything running properly. If you see something that needs to be done, do it if it is within your ability. If you see something happening that shouldn't be, speak to the person. If you don't feel confident or within your rights to ask someone to alter their behavior, call Ruadhan, Ld Ari, or me. One or more of us will be glad to handle it.

I was glad to see so many people out at the shire birthday picnic. The weather held for us, and I, at least, had a great time. Congratulations to Alaric, our new Shire Champion. The list was honorably and well fought.

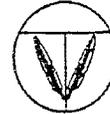
We talked at a recent meeting about work being done on a shire "web" page. I have seen a preliminary version of the page, and it looks very good. I'm looking forward to seeing how it comes together. Some concerns were raised about this by some of the populace that are not on-line. Please let me reassure you, a web page will not become the (or even a) primary means of disseminating information to the people of this shire. The primary avenues for disbursing information in this shire have always been, and will remain 1) the meetings, and 2) Fox Tales. A web page is intended to be a secondary information system, as well as a resource for people in and outside our shire. For example, it can be

a way for people outside our shire to find out about us and our local events without having to make long-distance phone calls to us.

Until next time, I remain yours in service to Meridies, the Crown, and the people of Vulpine Reach,

Davoc

From the Chronicler



Greetings and well-wishes to all you fox-types from a somewhat perturbed scribbler - but we'll get to that in a minute...

Summer has sprung (well, shoot, we really never had a *spring* - just rain) and prime toumey season has arrived. There are conflicts all over the place: Pennsic War, Border Raids, going to one event verses another...you veterans of SCA wars know what it's like.

Unfortunately, the latest big batch of newcomers don't. I'll say this once rather loudly: **THEY NEED OUR HELP!!!** The newcomers in our midst are the continuation of our shire and the SCA in general. They're our growth, our *children* in things Societal, and if our shire is to stay healthy, we need to make special efforts to welcome them and introduce our strange and wonderful world to them in as painless a manner as possible.

For example, when I say "feast gear", you veterans out there start a mental inventory ("plate, bowl, spoon, knife, fork for when the Laurels aren't looking, goblet, napkin, candles, ..."); when a newcomer hears that term, he's thinking, "Feast gear? What's feast gear?" Veterans may think the term is self-explanatory, but for a new member, it could mean anything from the veteran's mental inventory up to and including the utensils and cookware in a commercial kitchen. After all, you *do* need such "gear" to prepare a "feast." Right? Don't snort at me, good gentle - I've heard new members ask about what makes up feast gear. They don't know, and many times we don't bother to explain because it *seems so obvious!* **AND IT IS - to us.**

Keep in mind that everyone is new to the SCA - once and they don't know what we know - that the SCA is fun, that you don't rush out onto the list field without a cup,

that wearing a blue feather marks you as one desiring the intimate company of a person of similar gender, that even barbarians are expected to show good manners to others, and that working an event isn't so bad as long as everybody chips in.

Wait a minute, did I hear you say, "Well, newcomer stuff is the Hospitaller's job..." Good gentle, that job belongs to us all. Even a member who has been involved for only a year knows more than somebody who has just walked in the door - and has something to contribute! Even if the year-old does nothing more than welcome the fresh-in-the-door and introduces him to those gentles he knows, he's done something.

Lady Caoilfionn and I took milady Cassandra up to Border Raids with us to her third event, her first camping event, and her very first war and we had a lot of fun (despite some rather tightly-wound emotions on my part, having nothing to do with the event, SCA, or our guest). We answered a lot of questions she had, which enabled her to enjoy the event that much more. Yes, it was a bit more trouble in getting everything together and planning for another person coming along, but the extra planning and time was worth it - especially to milady Cassandra! It was worth it to us, too, when we saw how much fun she had.

Now, on to the perturbing topic. It may seem incredible to those of you who read and enjoy Fox Tales that there are those folks who don't see the newsletter as a tool! Fox Tales has a calendar listing events and upcoming classes, a talent directory so those needing help on a project can call on volunteer assistance, and a list of shire officers with their phone numbers. Face it: there's a whole heap of useful junk in this here rag! Don't be afraid to carry it around and refer to it occasionally! I try to make Fox Tales as entertaining and useful as I can, but it does no good if folks don't read it! Read Fox Tales early and often. 'Nuf said.

Finally, your newsletter is in need of articles; actually, it's always in need of articles. If you have fun at an event, do a "Travels" piece and tell everyone else just how good a time you had! You may have a new friend going with you next time. Know how to do something? The rest of us can

benefit from your knowledge! How-to pieces are neither hard nor need to be very long to get your point across. Done some research or taught a class recently? Great! I can publish your paper or class notes and spread your expertise a little wider - after all, members in other chapters read Fox Tales, too. Let's see what you know!

In Service to everyone that reads this,
- Jas. Tox.

Life in the SCA:

Rockin' Fighters!

Hey out there in Fox Land (that's Vulpine Reach - I'm not being a male chauvinist or anything), here's a little bit of Stick News for ya'll. FIRST, in case you don't know, the shire now has a new Champion (and trust me, I've really tried hard to avoid any bad puns with this article, but there's just TOO MANY - so bear with me on this). Anyway, at the shire birthday party three weeks ago, there were several of us fighters - commonly referred to as "stick jocks" - out on the field of battle. I arrived a little bit late as usual, but this time there was a legit reason: I had been at a wedding. I arrived, armored up while talking to mundanes who gave me some strange looks, which I presume was due to the armor, and headed to the field.

There were a few team bouts and melees and the usual sparring taking place. After a bit of fun, we decided to proceed with the Shire Champion List. There were only four fighters to compete in this list (of course, that's twice as many as last time), so we made it a round-robin tourney. We all took the field eagerly. The competitors were myself, Lady Kate the Green, Lord Alaric, and THL Richard Fenwick and the list was Harolded...er..OUCH!! Excuse me, heralded by THL Alexander Ravenscroft (Okay, Alex - I get the point! Please put the knife down!). The fighting was fierce and quick - at least for me... First, I fought Lord Alaric (I was fighting without glasses or contact lenses - long story), so all I saw was this giant blue fuzzy thing - or maybe "blurry" is a better word - and all of a sudden, the Big Blue Blur was all over me! BING!! I'm dead. Next up, THL Fenwick and Lady Kate: BING! Victory to Fenwick.

The following round was with myself

and Fenwick. Well, first off, I got his leg BUT I also blew out my leg armor (thank God for duct tape!!). The fight resumed: I went in once, no good, I went in a second time...BING!! I'm dead. Next up, Lord Alaric and Lady Kate...BING! Lady Kate, the victor! - just kidding... Then, Lord Alaric and Fenwick faced off. What a battle ensued with Alaric emerging victorious and new Shire Champion. (Actually, he's an old Shire Champion, too, and his wife is also a New Shire Champion! And one day, maybe they'll have several little new shire champions!)

The other fight of the day was between myself and Lady Kate...BING! Hey! I won! Hey, if ya'll missed the list, then you really missed out. We had a lot of fun and congratulations to out to Alaric on his victory. Also, if you missed the list, then you also missed out on THL Alexander Ravenscroft's performance as Harold! OUCH!! That HURT!! [Note: This is THL Alexander Ravenscroft, the shire HERALD. I wish to make an announcement that I will be giving a class next week entitled "Period and HERALDIC Spelling and Grammar for ILLITERATE Southerners." Attendance for all who wish to have their devices PASS is a REQUIREMENT. Thank you. Now, back to you, Airy]. Hey!! I thought that Hard...er, heralds were supposed to be unarmed! Anyway, ALEXANDER did GREAT and made us all laugh.

Since then, we have had two fighter practices. The week after the birthday picnic, four of us gathered together and traded, uh, SHOTS! Randolph The Cursed Lefty took full advantage of both his left arm talents AND his height and proved to be an extremely difficult opponent. He got in one shot on me in one of the only exposed places of my side. He asked, "Do I get to break out the Rib Sauc?" I answered, "NO. It was more like flank steak, actually." I've been getting a little toooo much flank steak lately...gonna have to go back on the diet. [Ed. Note: Maybe you should call him "Randolph The Cursed Meat Tenderizer...."] Lady Kate is becoming quite a regular sight at fighter practice and is showing quite a lot of promise. The lady's got some good tricks up her sleeve out there

and she fights with class and grace. If only she'd stop trying to block swords with her head...(just kidding, Kate! Please don't hurt me!). And for an added treat, a Brand New Fighter showed up: TINA! That's right, she showed up (late) and got in armor, and promptly fell over. But, she got back up and pressed on (the first step of any real fighter). She then got to sample a few shots - in other words, she got to do an imitation of a pell. She didn't quit - and she came back the next week!

Speaking of which...the next week, I got there early!! (Surprise, surprise) I got there and greeted Don Nicholai and Randolph. And then saw...oh my goodness...Finlach!! They had been there since 1:00 p.m. (Fighter practice is at 2:30 p.m., guys. Enthusiasm is great, but accuracy is better!). Anyway, as we started armoring up, another van pulled up and out steps...Talyn?!?! and his friend Vlad. THEN THL Richard Fenwick walks up. All that was missing was an appearance by "Uncle Bob" (Lord Owen Arbalista).

So here I am standing in the midst of all these Great Fighters...guys who have been in the SCA since, well, since Very Large Creatures roamed the Earth. And I, being the witty guy I am, just couldn't resist blurring out, "MAN! I thought the comet had killed all you guys!" No one got the joke. They all thought I meant Hale-Bopp and not the comet that killed the dinosaurs! (Having to explain your joke just takes away all the fun....) Also coming to fighter practice was Lord Stephan. Man, this was AWESOME!! The gathering of "THE 8!" Eight fighters, almost all of them EXCEPTIONAL fighters, too. Kate, where were you??? Needless to say, fighter practice ROCKED!!

Of course, with the temperature being 89° and the humidity thick enough to swim through, we not only fought a lot...we laid flat on our BACKS and sucked in MASSIVE amounts of AIR and drank lots of water - and we even managed to do a "bear-pit" I must say that this was the most enjoyable fighter practice I have ever been to! It was FUN!! I had the opportunity to fight with GREAT fighters and I learned some stuff!

Now, people, THIS is what fighter practice should be like! I want to point out

that also in attendance were many non-fighters and "newbies" and we all had fun. So I want to encourage EVERYONE to come out to fighter practice. If you're a fighter or hopeful, come out and fight, teach and/or learn. If you're not a fighter, come out and just "hang out," visit, and have fun.

- Ari Wilhelmsen

Research:

"Coffee, The Wine of Islam" (Part 2)

The "cafenets" of Constantinople and Damascus were the prototypes of the great Western European coffee houses. These Eastern establishments were devoted to enhancing in leisure the sensibilities of the men of the age ("proper women" were forbidden to frequent coffee houses, although secluded private coffee houses just for women were allowed). Simple and comfortable, with prints on the walls and rugs, they were located in cool, pleasant squares, often with a view onto water or a wide landscape and represented a welcome refuge from the scorching desert. Friends met here to talk and contemplate life. The excitement of the city was concentrated here; for patrons of the coffee house, it was opera and theatre combined. Backgammon and chess were played in coffee houses and it is said the game of bridge originated in the coffee houses of Constantinople.

Once coffee had become popularized, it also moved into the home, where the drink took on an ever-increasing importance in the lives of Near-Eastern peoples. An elaborate coffee ceremony evolved that rivaled the Japanese Tea Ceremony in complexity, beauty of implements, and decorum, if not in spiritual import. The ceremony took place in the K'hawah, or "coffee hall", which featured a charcoal-burning fireplace, decorative rugs and cushions and ornamental copper coffeepots around the place of honor. The host and his guests exchanged salaams along with the formal salutations invoking the blessings of Allah. The host then roasted the green beans, crushed them with a mortar and pestle, and ceremoniously prepared the drink. Dates dipped in butter were served as a refreshment. When the coffee was ready, the sort poured for everyone and drank the first cup himself, assuring the company there was

no "death in the pot."

Coffee touched all aspects of life in the Near-East. Arab drivers and laborers had coffee kits in their saddle bags and packs. They would build a fire by the roadside, roast their supply of green coffee beans on an iron plate, pound them in a mortar, and boil the strong, foaming brew in their ibriks. Merchants served coffee to their customers before the bargaining began. Barbers gave it to patrons waiting for haircuts. And Turkish wives could legally divorce a husband who failed to supply them with the all-important beverage.

Varieties of Coffee

According to Alexis Soyer in The Pantropheon (A History of Food and Its Preparation in Ancient Times), there were five principal kinds of coffee according to the countries from whence they came, although all derived from the same kind of coffee tree, *Coffea Arabica*. These five kinds are as follows:

1. **Mocha**, called from the city and region in Southern Arabia where it was originally cultivated. The bean of this coffee is small and round. From it is derived the most sweet and agreeable beverage; it is also the most esteemed (in ancient times), the most expensive, therefore holds first rank in trade.
2. **Bourbon**, cultivated on the Island of Bourbon; for some time it occupied the second place in quality, but the gourmets prefer to it coffee from Martinique or Guadeloupe.
3. There are several types of **Martinique** or **Guadeloupe**, distinguished by the various ways the bean is prepared for market.
4. The **Cayenne** Coffee. This kind is less-known on account of the small quantity cultivated in that place and introduced to trade. This kind is superior to the Martinique.
5. The **St. Domingo** coffee, in which is comprised that from Porto Rico and other leeward islands, is considered inferior to the four other kinds.

Other than the Mocha variety above, coffee varieties have greatly changed and proliferated since 1853 when the Pantropheon was published. Large-scale commercial cultivation of coffee in the Far-

East, under European auspices, failed due largely to a disease of the plant which plagued growing areas of the Indian Ocean. Plantations have survived on Java. Cultivation of tea replaced coffee in oriental Asia. In the early 18th Century, the introduction of coffee cultivation to Latin America was begun by Gabriel Mathieu de Clieu at the French colony of Martinique. His plants were supplied from botanical gardens in Holland, derived from seedlings stolen from Arabia and Java.

Yemen has for centuries been eclipsed commercially by the greatest producers of the New World. Yet, since Arabia's demise as a major coffee supplier to East and West, a trickle of the storied Mocha has continued to reach the cups of the most discriminating connoisseurs. Ethiopia, where mankind discovered the first coffee plants growing wild, has produced coffee for over a thousand years and is still supplying a substantial amount to the world. The domesticated coffee plant was brought to Africa by Roman Catholic missionaries in 1893 and from these plants, as well as the indigenous wild variety, commercial coffee crops began harvests in the early 1900's.

Brazil is the giant, the monarch of the coffee-growing world, whose reign began in the early part of the present century. Her export production runs between two and three times that of Columbia, the world's second-largest exporter. Latin America, in all, produces about three-fifths of the world's coffee. Coffee is grown commercially in only one place in the United States - on the slopes of the active volcano Mauna Loa in the Kona district of the island of Hawaii. Kona coffee is a rich, mellow, straightforward tasting type of Arabica. Pure Kona is difficult to obtain and blends are usually 90% something else.

Coffee types continue to be named for their place of origin and there are so many, that this can be confusing. Here follows a short list of major coffees from which blends are produced:

Robusta - the run-of-the-mill low-growth, neutral commercial coffee which is the base of mass-produced brands.

Djinnmah - originally Ethiopian, has piquant aroma, winy and acidic in flavor with light body. It has a small unattractive

bean which roasts unevenly. It is a type of Mocha.

Mocha - from Yemen, is the world's oldest, most famous, and probably most misunderstood coffee. Once the subject of myth, Mocha is justly considered greatest, uniquely delicious coffee. The Mocha grown in Haiti, Guadeloupe and other islands of the West Indies are very much the same as those from Yemen. The common usage of "mocha" has come to mean the combination of coffee and chocolate flavors. No coffee without the addition of chocolate will provide that flavor. Mocha is grandfather of most other coffee types and has tremendous character, wonderful complexity, is slightly acid and is simultaneously smooth and piquant. It possesses very heavy body, a characteristic usually lacking in its nearest cousin, the Ethiopians. This coffee is smooth with a sharpness that never wounds. **Costa Ricans** - usually go to Europe, but are now in great demand in the United States. All Costa Ricans are Arabicas. The three highest quality beans are those labeled "Strictly", "Good", and "Hard Bean." Avoid "Medium-hard Bean." "Medium," and "Low-Growth" types; these tend to be mediocre.

Kenyas - is an Arabica-type which is mild, characterized by a delicately acid flavor, has, like Colombian, wonderful smoothness and roundness. The demand has always been high in Europe for Kenya coffee. Americans are growing in their appreciation of this African-grown coffee, but it can be a bit over-priced. The "AA" and "A" quality Kenyas are excellent; the "B" is not bad but a bit sharp.

Brazilians - Good, bad, or indifferent coffee? Brazil grows all of these. Try a good hard-bean Bourbon Santos for a solidly acceptable brew. Not every Bourbon Santos lately has been its old self. Perhaps extensive crop damage has forced Brazilians to scrounge a bit. Traditionally, Bourbon Santos is an Arabica, sweet and very palatable - soft-drinking with a hint of acidity.

Columbias - The best is unsurpassed and almost all is of good quality. It is Arabica. Those from Manizales, Armenia, and Medellin are most highly respected classifications. Supremo is the top grade

and Excelso is the standard. Columbian coffee is characterized by fine body, rich mild flavor, and good acidity. It has a wonderful smoothness and roundness in the cup.

El Salvadorian - most higher grades go to Europe, with the standard grade shipped to the United States. Strictly High Grown and High Grown El Salvadors are mild of flavor but not particularly aromatic and have good acidity and body.

Guatemala - all are Arabicas like the El Salvadorian, but with a dry aroma. Those labeled Antigua and Coban are the finest with high unoffensive acid and heavy body.

Haitian - is usually very mellow, has a pleasant mild sweetness with some acidity and good body. Haitian coffee is French roasted dark. The High-Grown Haitian is best.

Hawaiian - called Kona from the district, it is very flavorful and full bodied, a rich coffee with a mellow straightforward character. It is rarely available as a fresh-roasted unblended offering in specialty shops, but worth the effort to find it. Avoid "Kona Blends" which are usually 90% something else.

Jamaican - Blue Mountain Coffee is grown on the Wallenford Estate and is the most famous West Indies coffee. It is extremely mellow, sweet-tasting and delightfully aromatic. Two other Jamaicans worth noting are High Mountain Supreme and Prime Jamaican Washed. They are soft-drinking and without any unpleasant characteristics, but are not comparable to Blue Mountain. They are like good Central American types. A tiny amount of Jamaican coffee reaches the United States, so the price is high. Blue Mountain is such a treat, one of the most interesting, finest and most mellow coffees of the world, that a premium price is warranted.

Venezuelan - coffees are all Arabicas. Those labeled Maracaibos are flavory, rich, and delicately winy in the cup. They are somewhat light-bodied, mellow and on the sweet side - delightfully aromatic, and have a smooth low acidity. The supply to the U.S.A. is plentiful.

Tanzanian & Zairean - like Kenyan and Colombian coffees, these have a rich, mellow flavor with delicate acidity. Kivus

yields a cup both rich and highly acid, favored by Europeans. Kivus is often presented in a blend containing other, more mildly flavored coffees to round it out and impart more complexity.

Indian - the Nilgiris coffee, known for its delicately acid, very rich full bodied cup, is almost matched by Tellicherry and Malabar coffees.

Indonesian - particularly Java coffee is so world-renowned that "Java" is synonymous for "coffee". Many plantations were destroyed during World War II. The finer Arabica productions have been replaced with largely Robusta. Coffee sold as Java must, by law, be Arabica - but beware, the robusta is thin and neutral. Coffee from Indonesia is known for its magnificent heavy body and almost syrupy richness. Wonderfully sturdy, direct, with fine acidity, this coffee comes from Java, Sumatra (Mandheling and Ankola near Padang), Celebes - also called Sulawesi (Kalosi, Rantepao), Bali, Flores, and Timor. These coffees can be hard to find.

- Aidan Stonepillar

End of part 2; third and final part next month.

Movie Review:

The Name of the Rose

Here's one you don't want to miss. How this movie never made a lot of news is beyond me. It should have at least been "critically acclaimed." It stars Sean Connery as a monk and Christian Slaytor as his young protégé. It is a murder mystery set in I believe Spain around the 1300's. The murder takes place in a monastery and is made to look like an accident. However, ol' Sean Connery is one sharp monk and sees right through the deception. He starts an investigation that Sherlock himself would be hard-pressed to follow (it's interesting that Sean is referred to as the *Monk from Baskerville...*).

With his young protégé in tow, "Brother Sean" (I don't remember his character's name - and WHO CARES ANYWAY! IT'S SEAN CONNERY!) starts sleuthing throughout the monastery and uncovers a very diabolical plot taking place...there's another monk who is bound and determined to destroy ALL that HE finds objectionable.

There's also a witchhunt going on and some very strange doctrine being taught...

"Brother Sean" has to watch his step so that he isn't tried for heresy himself. His young protégé is either constantly getting into trouble, having accidents, being scared or asking questions (he can be *quite* annoying at times). As the plot thickens, treachery and deception abound. The forces of darkness are summoned up by a monk who's gone over to the "other" side - and there're lots of killing taking place. There's even a beautiful woman who is also a "love interest" in the story!! (WHAT?? I thought you said these guys were MONKS!!) I *DID*, rent the movie!!!

Now, while this movie is very good, it is not without it's faults - none too bad, though. Nothing that totally detracts from the movie overall. Some people may have trouble accepting Christian Slaytor as a young monk, but I thought that he played the role well. Of course, Sean Connery was.....well, *Sean Connery*. It's like John Wayne: you either like him or you don't. I will say that in his role as an inspecting priest instructing his young protégé, Connery comes off as a combination of James Bond and Ramirez (from Highlander). Now, I'm not sayin' that's *bad*, it's just my first impression.

So, for those of you SCAdians who are into something medieval with a heck of a lot of drama and depth and NO SWORDPLAY, this movie is for you. It also helps if you used to watch Dragnet. Hey, that's "just the facts!"

In your viewing service,

-Ari

Travels: Border Raids

On June 28, our fair Kingdom of the Southlands "visited" our northern neighbors, the Mid Realm, in an exchange of culture, ideals, and sword blows at the annual Border Raid. This year marked the event's return to Beech Bend Park in Bowling Green, KY, and it's accompanying roar of many dragons late into the night!

For our journey to the northern frontier of Meridies, Lady Caoilfionn, her sister Bebhinn, milady Cassandra, and I packed and loaded Caoilfionn's large wagon for the trip. As an aside, this was one of those times

when no amount of prior planning helps! I was called in to work two hours early for a meeting where I learned my departmental supervisor of fifteen years had resigned. Having lost two hours of packing and learning of my supervisor's quitting (unfortunately) put me in what could be called "a foul mood." Also unfortunately, the mood prevailed for the better part of the weekend and definitely affected my travel-mates (to whom I now very publicly apologize - good gentles, please forgive me).

The event actually turned out to be something of a tonic for me, after a while. Since I assisted the Kingdom Archery Marshal in running the archery competition, I was very, very tired at Saturday's end. However, the wonders during the day served only to brighten my spirits: Meridies won the A & S, the Middle had won the archery (by any means measurable - believe me, I tried every way I could think of - short of cheating - to bring us up the winner). At Court, the announcement was made that both the Middle and Meridies had won an equal number of battles, resulting in Border Raids ending in a tie (alright, whose idea was it to have an even number of war points?).

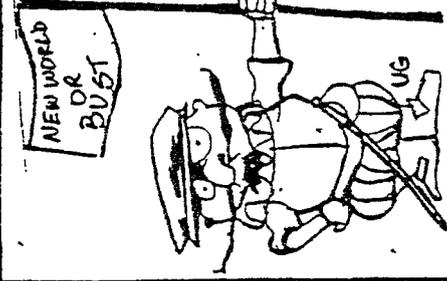
I also got to watch Lady Caoilfionn exercise her office of Kingdom Sign Herald (despite a "what do you think *you're* doing up here" look from King Edmund of the Middle) in the Courts of both kingdoms. We also discovered that we were to ally with the Middle at the upcoming Pennsic War.

Next day as we headed home, I felt relaxed (or exhausted) and the trip made me realize that the weekend with my companions was just what I'd needed.

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to the contributors to the July issue of Fox Tales:

Baron William Blackfox
Lord Ursus Grim Lady Kate the Green
Lord Ari Wilhelmson
Laird Davoc Walkere Aidan Stonepillar
Lady Caoilfionn Caomhanach
Lord Malcolm MacLochlan
Lord Owen Arbalista
Mistress Lijsbeth Tijz van Brugge



Journey Of The Foxes - Shire of Vulpine Reach Trabero Cabeza and Beviato Do the New World

August 22-24, 1997, Camp Kiwanis, 5800 Howardsville Rd., Apison TN (near Chattanooga)

Return with us to those thrilling days of yesterday as a brave duo of Spanish explorers get cut off from De Soto's band and get lost in the New World! As usual, we have the 6 - man male team tournament, famous Strolling Bard Competition and IKAC Archery Shoot. And, of course, all Aztec and Cherokee bathing beauties know where to relax on a hot August day - the infamous Camp Kiwanis POOL. Site has 130 beds in cabins with bathrooms, unlimited camping (no parking on the grass, no campfires on the ground, NO PETS), large showerhouses, and much shade. Bring electric fans, as it tends to be hot in August. Site is discreetly well, no original corkshakers, NO KEGS. Our feasterials will be THLady Julia of the Flowers and Lord Llywelyn ap Alawn, who are planning a Spanish/Navio American feast that follows the travels of our brave explorers. FEAST ATTENDANCE LIMITED TO 200. For information on the feast, please contact the reservations-cra!



Prices (Adults):	Prices (Children):	Daytrip (Children):
Weekend, until 8/1	Weekend (until 8/1)	With feast, ages 6-12
\$20.00	ages 6-12	ages 5 and under
\$23.00	ages 5 and under	\$8.00
Weekend, off board	Weekend, at door	\$3.00
\$15.00	ages 6-12	No feast, ages 6-12
Daytrip w/feast	ages 5 and under	\$3.00
\$13.00	ages 6-12	Members subtract \$3.00 from above prices
Daytrip, no feast	ages 5 and under	No family pays more than 3 adult entry fees.
\$8.00	ages 6-12	
Members subtract \$3.00 from above prices		

Send all reservations to: Leslie J. Dulin, 2641 Kell Rd., Signal Min., TN 37377. 423-866-6256 No calls after 10 p.m. EDT (NOT available during Pennsic week) Email ldulin@aol.com Make checks payable to SCA Inc/ Shire of Vulpine Reach. No reservations accepted after 8/5. No counter checks accepted. No phone reservations will be taken. Handicapped accessible beds available by prior reservation only. No merchant fee-merchants must leave hall by 5:00. Autocatal: Ruadhan Macarson, Glenn Joseph, 501 Royal Crest Dr., Hixson TN 37343, 423-870-5132 Leave messages with THLord Alexander Ravenscroft. NO calls after 11 p.m. EDT. Email brian.moore@providentcompanies.com

Directions: Take your best route to I-75 north of Chattanooga (towards Knoxville.) Take the EAST East Brainerd Road Exit (no, this is NOT a typo), Exit 3A. The site is about 15 miles from I-75. Follow East Brainerd Rd. 11.3 miles until it ends just past a railroad overpass. At the stop sign, turn right on Apison Pike and go 1.7 miles. Turn left at Howardsville Rd. and go 1.8 miles. Camp Kiwanis is on the right. Site opens at 5:00 p.m. EDT and closes at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Vulpine Reach Talent Directory

The Vulpine Reach Talent Directory is designed to help old fogey and newcomer alike in finding assistance. Keep in mind that we are all volunteers; just be patient and keep trying if you don't get hold of us on the first try.

If you have a talent or skill in a particular field and would like to help others but you aren't on the directory, contact me! It's a simple matter to add your name. If I've listed your skills incorrectly or you are unable for some reason to provide assistance in whatever capacity, contact me! It's also a simple matter to change your entry or drop your name from the directory. We're looking for a few good men (and women) - with know-how and a willingness to help out other shire members.

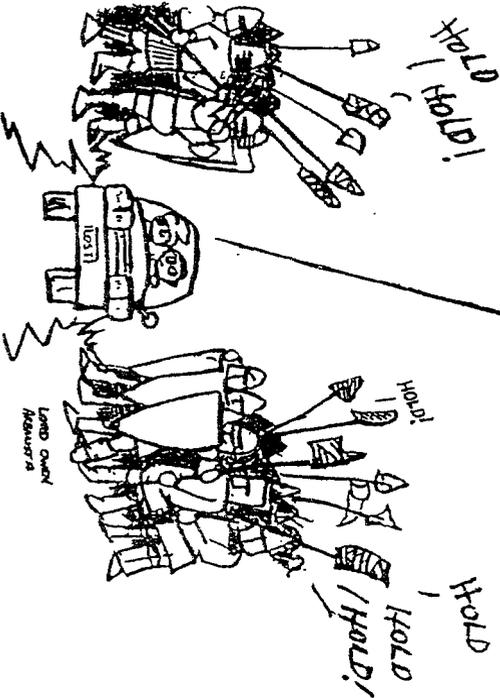
- Lady Rhiannon of Ravenswood (Mary Barkubein, 698 - 2691) Crochet
- Mellisande of Rennes (Brenda Britton, 870 - 0511) Embroidery
- Camolus of Britian (Vernon Cockereil, 375 - 6760) Engraving, Wood carving
- Mistress Lijsbeth Tijss van Brugge (Leslie Dulin, 886 - 6256) Visual Arts, Research, Documentation, Cooking, Early period Stuff
- Lord Ursus Grim (Charles Dodson, 265 - 3948) Illumination and all things scribed
- Lady Francesca d'Angelo (Teresa Ivey-Dodson, 265 - 3948) Embroidery, Spinning, Camping, Illumination, "Anything Italian"
- Lord Dorin Schwartzmitt (David Holmes, 706 - 675 - 7410) Blacksmithing, "hot iron" work, Wood working, Fencing
- Lady Egelina Rabbete (Rabbit Kadrich, 866 - 8266) Sewing, Costuming, Research, Lace-making, Camping
- Lady Rachelle du Pied-Leger (Rachel Lightfoot, 706 - 965 - 7947) Music, Period Theatre, Heraldry, Dancing, Sewing
- Lord James Toxophilus (Jim Long, 949 - 4394) Archery, Wine making, Performing Arts, Writing, Music (penny whistle and bodhran), Camping
- THL Alexander Ravenscroft (Brian Moore, 870 - 5132) "Anything Heraldic"
- Lady Kate the Green (Betsy O'Shee, 629 - 1238) Glass bead-making, Period Jewelry, Basic garbing, Enthusiasm, SCAdian Survival Tactics, Leatherwork without Pain, Documentation
- Lord Wilhelm Fixler (Steve Parker, 478 - 3129) Fighting, SCA weapons making
- Lord Llywelyn ap Alawn (Lindy Pate, 825 - 6258) Fighting, Brewing, Fencing, Brewing, Wood working, Brewing, Armoring, Brewing (but not all at the same time)
- THL Richard Fenwick (Ken Scott, 698 - 5007) Fighting, SCA weapons making, Armoring, Heraldry
- THL Julia of the Flowers (Julie Scott, 698 - 5007) Art, Cooking
- Lady Elisande de Citeaux (Diane Taylor, 877 - 3825) Bobbin lace making, Spinning, Weaving, Embroidery, Calligraphy, Illumination
- Laird Davoc Walkere (Randy Walker, 875 - 5417) Music, Bardic Arts, Performing Arts, Archery, Jewelry making
- Lady Diana Fiona O'Shera (Diane Walker, 875 - 5417) Cooking, Sewing, Costuming, Jewelry making, Pottery, Ceramics, Herbs, Gardening
- Brigid of Gaels (Tina Williams, 375 - 6760) Engraving, Wood Carving, Wood Working, Herbalism

FOX Tales

The Newsletter of the Shire of Yulpine Reach
c/o Jim Long HCR 65 Box 35, Dumlup TN 37327

KEEP DRIVING, DEAR — I THINK

WE TOOK THE WRONG TURN...



INCIDENT of "SHEEP WARS" —

LONG AEO, BUT NOT-SO FAR AWAY!

