



DEC 98/JAN-FEB 99

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S
FIT TO ENGRAVE"

Vulpine Author Published in T.I.

Those of you who are, in fact, paid members of the Society may have noticed in the Autumn edition of the S.C.A.'s quarterly arts and sciences newsletter a work written by the Shire's own Lord Aidan Stonepillar, monk of Nitherwind Abbey. If you have Issue #128 of Tournaments Illuminated handy, look on page 18 and you'll see his research piece, Coffee: The Wine of Islam.

This fine, four-page paper not only went into the history of coffee and the wide varieties of coffee (which surprised me - of course, most of my exposure to coffee was the stuff that came out of the "ninth boiler" - the mess-deck coffee pot...), but included the historical and preferred modern methods of preparation.

Hopefully, you members didn't overlook the Autumn issue of Seasons, the Meridian A & S newsletter - which also contained the paper. Thus, Lord Aidan felled two birds with the same excellent piece of research.

See what comes of publishing your work in Fox Tales?

12th Night Celebration Set

On Saturday, January 23, Vulpine Reach will gather to

spread cheer among our members during the shortest days of the year - you guessed it, it's time for the annual 12th Night Revel!

This year, 12th Night will feature a feast rather than the traditional covered-dish affairs of the past. For more details on the food end of things, please contact Lady Diana Fiona O'Shera.

However, much of the celebration remains the same: at the gathering, Vulpine Reach will have contests for Shire Bard and Shire Artisan, so be sure to brush up on your music, storytelling, or poetry and bring those items you'd like to show off. Keep in mind, the Artisan competition will be held according to Kingdom A & S rules!

Also according to tradition we'll have the "Saxon Gift Exchange" which requires a wrapped gift suitable for either gender, price limited to \$10. Excellent gifts in the past have included nice leather, feast-gear, cardwoven trim, and costume jewelry appropriate for event use.

The venue this year is the Second Presbyterian Church on Pine Street (where indoor fighter practices are held), starting at around 2 p.m. Please bring \$4.00 to help defray the cost of the feast.

CALENDAR

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

JANUARY

- 18 **** M.L. King B'day (Observed) ****
Open Officer's Meeting
- 23 **Shire 12th Night Celebration**
Siege of Dragun's Keep - Dragon Weal
- 25 Birthday Meeting/Dance Practice
- 30 **Loki's Havoc - Loch Bals**
Menheir - Rising Stone

FEBRUARY

- 1 Biz Meeting/Burn Chronicler at Stake
- 6 **Gleann Abhann Investiture - Troll Fen**
- 8 Class: Italian Ren. - Lady Francesca
- 13 **Saltare - Iron Mountain**
- 14 **** St. Valentine's Day ****
- 15 **** President's Day ****
Class: SCA Dance - Cassandra
- 17 **** Ash Wednesday ****
- 20 **Cooking Event - Glynn Rhe**
Silver Dragon - Wyrmegeist
Event - Smythkepe
Feast at the Lord's Manor - Saltkeep
- 22 Birthday Meeting/Dance Practice
- 27 **Midwinter A & S - S. Downs**
Candlelight Camp - Small Grey Bear

MARCH

- 1 Biz Meeting/Dist. Fox Tales (hopefully)
- 6 **Tax Revolt - Owl's Nest**
Hit List - Osprey
Black Griffin - Thor's Mt.
- 8 Class: Soap making - Lady Diana

Meetings and Practices:

Local chapter meetings are at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hixson Pike and Hwy 153 on Monday evenings promptly at 7:30 p.m. Fighter practice is held at Second Presbyterian Church on Pine Street in downtown Chattanooga on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m.. For the Period Fencing practice schedule, please contact THL Llywelyn ap Alawn at (423) 622 - 5056. Contact Lord James at (423) 949 - 4394 for information on Archery Practices.

REGNUM

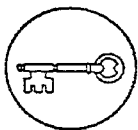
- Seneschal** - Laird Davoc Walkere
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liddavoc@aol.com
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Ken Scott (423) 698 - 5007
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Fox Tales Presents: **The Gallery** Featuring the work of Amara.





From the Seneschal

U nto the good gentles of the Shire of Vulpine Reach doth thy seneschal send warm autumn greetings.

Well, we had a bit of a rough go for a while concerning the date for Collegium Siornach, but we seem to have worked it all out now. We are scheduled for March 27, 1999. I am looking forward to the event; everything I've heard about the plans sound great. Lady Francesca and Lord Aidan seem to have "Everything Under Control", as I would expect from these talented people.

I am glad to see some new faces showing up from time to time. I bid you welcome and well-come. We are a steady group, and slowly, but surely growing.

Don't forget that our Twelfth Night revel will be here before you know it! Make your plans to attend, you don't want to miss out on the fun we have there every year.

In closing, please accept a wish from my lady wife and I that you have a healthy and happy holiday season. May we all remember the reason for the season.

Dauoc

From the Marshal



U nto the Good Folk of the Shire of Vulpine Reach, THL Richard Fenwick, knight marshal doth send greetings and good wishes for the holidays.

Just a few quick announcements to let everyone know a few things coming up:

First, Fighter Practice will move to Second Presbyterian Church downtown beginning Dec. 6. The church is located at 7th & Chestnut Sts. Parking is available on the street and across Chestnut in the church's parking lot. Time will still be 2:30pm, though I believe Lord Ari (thanks to whom we have the church's gym to practice in) will be there earlier than that. Contact him if you want to start early. All are welcome to attend.

Second, I am scheduling an Armoring Day on Saturday, Dec. 19. I know this is right before Christmas, but among the

people I've talked to about it, this date is about as good as any other. Unless I update this later, we'll start around 10am and look to wrap up about 5pm. We'll work on any armor piece you want (except helms, they take too long to make). You will have to supply your own materials, mine are nearly gone. I have many patterns, so we should be able to get you something that will work. It's very important that fighters or potential fighters who don't have their own armor either attend this workshop or otherwise obtain armor because:

Third, beginning January 11, I am recalling ALL shire loaner armor. Right now there is one near-full set of armor out there in Loaner Land as well as some individual pieces. The people who have them are not coming to Practice and it limits our ability to get new people out on the field. If you want to bring it to me before January 11, fine, but with the erratic holiday schedules and my own projects, I wanted everyone to get the full use of the armor in their possession.

Wishing all peace and safety in the coming Season, I remain,

Fenwick



From The Chronicler

O kay... would someone just shoot me now and get it over with?? As you've no doubt noticed, the letters above sound as though they came from before Christmas; it's because they did. Due to a variety of factors, I've had problems in getting out Fox Tales the last few months.

Out of fairness to you who patiently wait for and enthusiastically contribute to your newsletter, I deeply apologize. Due to these same previously-mentioned factors (primarily mundane employment), I may need to shortly step down from the office of Chronicler. In the meantime, in an effort to reduce the time-load on myself, I'm cutting Fox Tales back to a bimonthly schedule - at least temporarily.

What this means is that only six issues per year will be published (again, temporarily - I hope) covering a two-month period of meetings and events.

Speaking of events, I was asked lately

if event reports were all I wanted from the populace. In a word: NO!! Anything that you want to write from event reports and tips on polishing and maintaining your armor and weapons to research works on historical events and artifacts or poetry or (very) short fiction or just about anything else appropriate to a newsletter on our activities is more than welcome.

Some have brought works to me and said, "Well, I have a paper on (name topic) that I think will work, but it's (number in excess of 5) pages long. I'm sorry I'm so long-winded. You probably don't want it." Now, not many chroniclers would turn down a research project on (name topic), especially when it's (number in excess of 5) pages long unless it's on something distinctly out of period or inappropriate - such as the hand-weaving techniques of Klingsons in their Early-Early-Nasty Period (come to think of it, when was the time when they weren't somewhat unpleasant? But, I digress...).

The point is: go ahead and bring it to me! I DON'T bite anything other than FOOD! As an example, you might note the front-page article on Coffee - The Wine of Islam; that research paper was first published in this newsletter! Granted, it was long. Granted, it was on a topic where dispute rests in the Society. However, the original publication was done in THREE parts (neatly taking care of the length problem) and the topic was THOROUGHLY DOCUMENTED by the author (and your chronicler, being the perennial troublemaker that he is, wanted to stir up some mischief!).

In short, regardless of what YOU think may be problems in your work, that work is always welcome in the chronicler's hands and problems can almost always be worked around - unless you use the work to attack another member (never a good practice in a Society framed around courtesy, chivalry, and honor).

Give writing a try. Be creative. There're as many different topics and writing styles as there are people in the Society. Don't be afraid to experiment or show me your efforts - but have fun with it!

TOX

Real History:

'Vikings' Succeed in Epic Crossing

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The crew of modern-day Vikings who were attempting to recreate Leif Ericson's historic expedition from Greenland to mainland Canada this past summer successfully crossed the Davis and Hudson straits, effectively proving that the trip could have been accomplished in such a boat.

Before the first big crossing, the crew of the open 54-foot wooden knarr *Snorri* had been holed up in a fjord, awaiting fine weather, before a weather-routing specialist spotted a break.

"The weather windows are pretty darn short in this area of the world, so when I saw this scenario coming up I said, go, go, go!" explained Michael Carr, president of Weather Strategies on Peaks Island, Maine, who provided weather routing information. "I saw on the satellite image a ridge of high pressure that looked like it was going to be there for three days and that the next set of lows were going to be to the south of them. That meant that the winds would be blowing from the east and northeast for a couple of days. They couldn't have had it better."

Hodding Carter and his nine adventurers reached the shores of Baffin Island less than three days later but were foiled again by long periods of calms and adverse winds. The Vikings then sailed down the east coast of Labrador, across the Strait of Belle Isle and waded ashore at L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland (the site of a short-lived Viking settlement in the 11th century), on September 22.

Ari's DoughKnüt Shop

Here he comes.....Oh, no. He's smiling! No.....No.....NO! He wouldn't do it AGAIN! He wouldn't! He wouldn't! He wouldn't!

Hey there, Tox! How ya doin, Buddy-ole Boss of mine... Old Pal!

(Uh-oh) Hi, Ari.....what's in your hand there?

It's my movie review for Fox Tales.



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membership application**

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 - **International (Foreign):** - Please request International Form. Subscribing membership not served by U.S. Postal Service. International members are eligible to hold office and any other privileges designated. International members receive *Tournaments Illuminated* or their Kingdom Newsletter (Must Indicate).
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Suggested U.S. tax-deductible amounts: _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other
 - **Associate:** \$20.00 - Non-subscribing membership. Associate members are eligible to hold office and any other privileges designated, except where other membership categories are required by Corpora or the Bylaws. Associate membership does not include subscriptions to *Tournaments Illuminated* or a Kingdom Newsletter. **Receives Membership card only.**
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The SCA has rules which govern and may restrict the activities in which I can participate. These rules include, but are not limited to: Corpora, the By-Laws, the various kingdom laws and the Rules for combat related activities.

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Revised 5/1/97

What else would it be?

A court-order for psychiatric treatment?

Huh?

Nothin' Ari....Just joking (... wishful thinking actually...) Okay, what is it this time....WAIT, let me take my cholesterol medicine first.

What for, Tox?

To clear my arteries for all the CHEEZE that's about to clog them up.

Aww, Tox, now you're being unfair.....AGAIN! You are judging me without even seeing what I've done. That's being very unchivalrous. most unthoughtful, most un...

OKAY, Ari! Enough with the "wounded victim" act! You don't play it well and I'm not wearing hip-waders right now. Just hand it over.

No....I've changed my mind.

Why? What's the matter?

Tox, if I'm just causing you that much trouble and stress, then I cannot, in good conscience, continue to do these movie reviews. If they are THAT bad and painful for you to endure, then I'll QUIT!

Quit?! Now, wait a minute Ari. That's not what I was getting at!

No, Tox, there's no need to go on just for my feelings. I understand.

Understand? I only said....

That's okay, Tox! I can take a hint. I'm not THAT clueless. Ya know I love my job and all the work I put into it is a labor of love. But, if my work causes you this much trouble, then I'll just have to put it aside and do something ELSE!

Hold on a minute, Ari! You're taking this all wrong!

No, Tox. You're right! I realize what I'm doing and it will happen no more. For YOUR sake I'm gonna quit this and I'll take up something else where I'll not cause so much trouble and pain and disorder and confusion. I know! I'll just become a Harold!....I mean a Herald.....

HOLD ON, ARI! Stop right there! I don't want you to quit! I like your reviews, REALLY!! PLEASE don't quit! WAIT A MINUTE! What am I saying??

You mean that, Boss?

Humph! Yes, Ari, I guess I do.....

You're sure?

Yes, Ari.....

You're absolutely, positively, tota.....

DON'T PUSH IT, you miserable little...!

Okay, Tox. Here it is.. but only if you're sure!

GIVE IT TO ME, ARI!! Hmmmmm....

uh-huh.... wow.... Uh, Ari...this is actually pretty good. Thanks....

Sure Tox, No Prob.

Thank you, Ari.... Oh, and Ari?

Yes, Tox?

Stay out of Heralding! No telling WHAT the knights at the next Foxes would do to me if you were the Herald!Just HOW does he do this stuff...?

CHARLEMAGNE

Actually this isn't a movie, it's a mini-series. It's about Emperor Charlemagne (which I guess you figured out by the title) It is a European-made production and it shows. It doesn't have any of the Hollywood hype, pretentiousness, posturing or cool hair-dos going in it.

The series follows Charlemagne (or "Charles" as he is referred to throughout the series) from young adulthood to a fairlyseasoned age. Where the series begins, Charles is a young, arrogant man who is more concerned with his next conquest of a woman than with his duties as a crown prince. When his father dies, he discovers that he doesn't inherit as much of his father's kingdom as his younger brother does. Now, you know what this sets into play, a POWER STRUGGLE...And not the kind we have with TVA either. Anyway, Charlemagne's mother steps in and then plays a prominent role for Charles' future by "arranging" treaties, giving him advice, destroying his relationship with one woman and "arranging" a marriage for him with a more suitable woman who can be politically beneficial to Charles' political future.... In other words, Mom is a power hungry meddlesome busybody. she goes on to fix Charles up with another wife later on. Charles finally tells her to "Butt Out"!

As the Mini-series continues, we see a change in Charles. After he FINALLY becomes king of all his father's kingdom, he seeks to unite all of Europe and to Christianize the pagan tribes that inhabit the continentsometimes by the sword. He

also sets himself as defender of the church and the educator of the common man. He becomes very devout in his quest to spread Christianity and to protect and avenge the church from attacks by the pagans. BUT - his desire for being pious and spreading the faith doesn't slow down his own amorous adventures with the women. Charles chases after women all thru this series.

There's lotsa fighting with barbarian tribes and such. Charles is always off on some endeavor to wage battle somewhere. There's lotsa treachery and power plays going on to usurp Charles' rule. A plot within the church against Charles and against the Pope - ALL the things that you would expect. And Charles always rises to whatever challenge is made to him, and he overcomes it. There's also LOTSa beautiful women all thru this series.....and yes, Charles always rises to that occasion too.Nuff said.

There has been some historical.....oh, how shall I put it... Let's call it the COMPRESSING of historical facts and times of said events. I guess this was done in here have exaggerated roles for their actual role in history...the usual creative liberties that one expects of such movies. But, it is still fairly close to many of the facts. There is also a dialog correction during the series. If you watch closely, you can see that some of the voices don't quite match up to the faces or are "barely" out of sync with the movie. But it is done well. Nothing like an old Godzilla movie.

Personally, I started to get bored toward the end of this series. Especially the last hour which focused on the trial of the Pope and Charlemagne's defense of him. But this may have been due to the fact that I was getting burned out after 6 hours of watching this show. And yes, the series does have that annoying problem of breaking into the theme song of the show every time a dramatic point is taking place. BUT, overall, this is a good series. Now remember that it is a 6 hour mini-series, so be prepared. However, I am sure that most of you will enjoy it. The clothing and armor is very period too....for those of you who are persnickety about such things....and I am one of them.

The story is well written, the acting is good, the cast is good, the production is good and so is the cinematography. AND....it's not a Hollywood flick. You can see it on the History channel where it is re-run about every three months or you can order the video. The History channel also has good commentary to go along with each episode. So, I'd wait for it or borrow someone with the video. You won't be disappointed.

In your Viewing Service,
Ari Wilhelmson

You know, ARI....That was good! That was a good review of a legit, classy piece of film making! So, uh.....What are you going to review NEXT month??

It's a Japanese film called "Heaven & Earth." And it's soooo good!

Really? And the NEXT month?

I think maybe Queen Isabella....

You're doing good movies? No cheezballs? Are you sure you're feeling alright? Do I need to take you to the emergency room or something?

No, no, Tox, I'm fine....really. Now, you know that I've reviewed classy movies before. I like them, too.

It's been a while... But... Hmm ...okay. I guess I'll see you later.... Thanks again, Ari...

See ya later, Tox....

"Ari?"

GEEEEEZ!! Don't come out of the shadows like that, Alex!!

"Sorry. Does he suspect anything?"

No.... He's bluffed. TOTALLY.

"Good. It would be most unfortunate if he became suspicious...."

Business Minutes:

Meeting promptly called to order at 7:30 (7:29, actually).

Officer Reports:

Chronicler advised Fox Tales will be one week late, also, please submit things.

Constable advised not heard anything about report for Foxes. Was decided probably not needed due to lack of problems in that area.

Reeve advised one outstanding bounced check from Foxes. No response on that

from Kingdom Reporting Deputy. There is nothing else to do except make sure that, if that party shows up at another local event, he/she pays up for past event (cash only, of course) before being allowed in at current event (again, cash only). No Domesday info received yet. Mailed check to site to be used for *Sionnach*.

Herald - new forms in. Will be scanned and available after herald's trip to Spain (sounds of envy heard from the room).

RUM Provost - Nothing to report.

Media Steward (via Diana) - We will have new posters (color) for distribution. Decided to use printing alternative to Kinko's. Let Lijsbet know if any good ideas for places to put posters - Museums?

Knight Marshal - Fighter practice moved back to 2nd Pres. church for Winter Months. 2:30 Sundays for light and heavy fighting. New Marshal's handbook is out. Also available on line with some discrepancies. Check printed copy for accuracy.

A&S - If anything to report for November (or Sept pickup) let Francesca know.

Old Business:

Discussed 12th Night 1/23/98 at 2nd Pres Church. Also discussed rules of Chinese gift exchange (no food or beverages, no alcohol on site. Bring wrapped, \$10.00 limit. Planned to have feast instead of potluck, except that feastcrat now has mundane conflict. If interested in doing a remove, let Diana know. 50-60 revelers expected. Alexander volunteered use of new deep-freezer for storage. Motion made to change price to \$4.00/head with no more than price of 3 (\$12.00) per family. Motion seconded and carried.

Shire champion - Never got done at Shire Birthday party as planned. Informal list held at Ren Faire, Fenwick is Shire Champion. Malcolm still has dagger, however.

Will hold shire bardic & A&S competitions at 12th Night. Need entries!!

Discussion of Collegium Sionnach - Francesca is getting directions together for the flyer to mail by 25th. (3/27/99 is the date for the event). Feastcrat (Aidan) has outline for 3 removes - Byzantium, Danube and Kiev will be the settings. Wants to

provide a plot of intrigue to carry through the removes. Aidan also advised needs to borrow a kitchen for test run of recipes. Breakfastcrat (David the Fuzzy) advised breakfast will be a combination of 'Period' and 'Shoney's'. Sionnach classes being scheduled after Christmas. See Francesca. Main track of classes will be Rapier (surprise, surprise). Other tracks should focus on Bulgaria, Byzantium and Russia in 900's (Polish/Baltic OK) Need local people to research and teach!!

Discussion of Foxes:

Vonda is making tokens (stamps on leather). We are confirmed on Kingdom Calendar.

New Business:

Motion made by THL Fenwick to schedule officer's meeting to be held on regular basis (open to populace). Motion carried, will schedule.

THL Llewelyn advised the Shire needs a new pavilion and banners, as well as good field-marking rope & metal portable holes. Need to research prices. Will set a class night aside for discussion.

Discussion of meeting site (small and uncomfortable at present). Diana advised the scouts may be moving, in which case we will be able to use their space.

Motion made to purchase a new boom box. After Christmas, it was figured, would be a good time for bargains. Need to do research on price. Needs to be big enough to fill a hall with sound! THL Fenwick moved to allocate up to \$150 to start. Motion carried. David advised he spoke to manager of new park (Coolidge). We may be part of opening ceremonies Summer of '99.

Sean is currently making updates to talent list, etc. See him for new/corrected info. Meeting adjourned to plan calendar for next few months.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle

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

Lord Ursus Grim, Aidan Stonepillar, Lord Ari Wilhelmsen, Amara, Laird Davoc Walkere, THL Richard Fenwick, Lady Rachelle du Pied-Leger, Lady Caoilfionn Caomhanach, and especially Tim Queeney, Editor of Ocean Navigator magazine.

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 made any errors in the directory that you know of, contact me. It's a simple matter to make corrections. It's also a simple matter to change your entry or drop your name from the directory. We're always looking for more additions to the directory with the know-how and willingness to help other shire members!

Thank you,
Sean MacLeod

Camolus of Britian (Vernon Cockereil, 375 - 6760) Engraving, Wood carving.

Mistress Lijsbeth Tijz van Brugge (Leslie Dulin, 886 - 6256) Visual Arts, Research, Documentation, Cooking, Early period Stuff.

Lord Ursus Grim (Charles Dodson, 265 - 3948) Illumination, Pigments, Templars, and All things related to creation of scrolls in period and in the Society.

Lady Francesca d'Angelo (Teresa Ivey-Dodson, 265 - 3948) Embroidery, Spinning, Weaving, Natural Dyeing, Herbs, Horticulture, "Anything Italian".

Lord Aidan Stonepillar, monk of Nitherwind Abbey (Neil Robinson, 706 - 217-1917) Iconography, Calligraphy, Illumination, Pewter casting, Art History, Merchunting, Making Musical Instruments, Working with horn, metal, and wood, Cooking, Writing.

Sean MacLeod (Matt Lewandowski, 344 - 3353) Basic Leather working, Siege-Engine design and construction.

THL 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".

Lord Wilhelm Fixler (Steve Parker, 478 - 3129) Fighting, SCA weapons making.

THL Lord Llywelyn ap Alawn (Lindy Pate, 825 - 6258) Fighting, Brewing, Fencing, Wood working, Armoring

Jean-Guillaume Cheval (Jeremy Saunders, 622 - 5977) Basic Leather working, Armoring.

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 Cîteaux (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.

Fox Tales

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

