



The newsletter of the Cleftlands, Vol. 9 November, 2000

A Fun, Educational and Successful Event

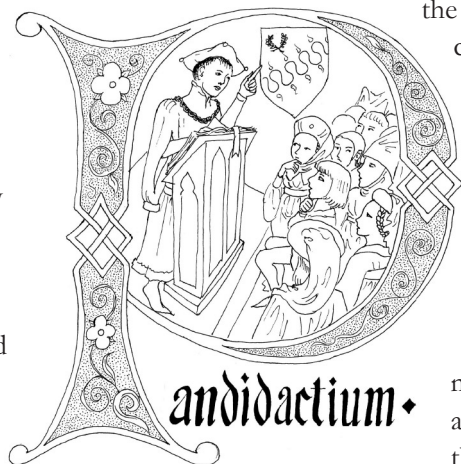
Sporadic flurries of snow did little to prevent around 300 people from arriving at the Bohemian National Hall to attend the first Pandidactium- an event devoted to all the arts and sciences. Over 80 classes were taught on subjects ranging from Anglo Saxon language to tablet weaving to dagger fighting. A full rapier combat academy was held, as well as practices and authorizations. Heavy weapons fighters found plenty to do on the practice lists as well, with two class tracts just for them.

Dance, sewing and lecture classes ran from 11am to 4:50pm; it was difficult to decide between classes with such an array of interesting topics presented.

The site was magnificent, with plenty of room for all the activities, and for attendees to find quiet places to sit and relax between classes. There

were two kitchens available for cooking classes, a tavern-style room for brewing classes, a magnificent hall upstairs and an enormous gymnasium for combat activities. Children's activities had their own space on the balcony above

the gymnasium, where all the combative activities could be watched, and there was ample space for the merchants, who had their own hall on the first floor. The shopping was superb; I heard many talking animatedly about their purchases.



Feast tickets included a buffet style lunch, which was well received. From noon until 4pm, students and lecturers alike could take a quick break to head down to the basement cafeteria and enjoy stew, bread, salad, and other delectable luncheon fare. Wash water was set out throughout, so that patrons could also leave at any time and have their feast gear ready for

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Archery Update

Greetings from the Champion d'Arch, Lord Edward Brackenburye, with a general update on Baronial Archery matters. I am pleased to say that all our scores in Royal Rounds have improved over this summer. It is very heartening to see five to ten archers at every practice. Keep up the good work.

To all of those who might be interested in archery: please come to practice. We have been meeting every Sunday at Lucas Archery. We do have loaner equipment so you can try your hand and everyone is encouraging to new archers. I will always be willing to help any archers with pointers.

Finally, I will be stepping down from this post. I have had the great honor of serving our Barony and our Baron for three years. This has been a great time of growth in archery and it is time for a new champion to take up the mantle of office. I have accepted the responsibility of running the archery championship at the Baronial Standard Bearer's event this spring, so archers, take up your bows and practice this winter. Thank you all for your support over these past three years.

What's Inside:
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Our Officers

Seneschal: Lord Nial the Wanderer of Bork (A.J. Gooch) 3735 Marvin Ave. Cleveland, OH 44109

Pursuivant: Lord Pietro Nicolo di San Tebaldo (Samuel Pearce) #23 Lexington Square Euclid, OH 44143

Exchequer: Duchess Emelyn Carithail (Gayle Nichols) 17211 Lakewood Heights Blvd. Lakewood, OH 44107

Knight Marhsal: Sgt. Conrad Schwartzwolf (Marty Bradac) 3835 W. 40th Street Cleveland, OH 44109

Marshal of Fence: Lord Edward FitzRanulf (Scott Hendrix) 2917 Brevard Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Minister of Arts and Sciences: Lord Karl Wilhelm von Kohn (Don Minch) 17545 Madison Ave. #101 Lakewood, OH 44107

Chronicler: Lady Lyonnete Vibert (Marie Vibbert) 445 Richmond Park West, #328-B Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Chatelaine: Lady Sarra Bossard (Quasar Morris) 46545 Middle Ridge Rd. Amherst, OH 44001

Pandidactium, Con't

dinner.

The queen was in attendance, and was always seen smiling. She attended classes throughout the day, and gifted some of her instructors with necklaces from around her neck. At court she presented awards to the populace. Steffan von Lubek, Katrine de Val, James Barkley, Bastian Echner and Annabell of MacLeigh (from Aldeford) were awarded arms. Lady Myfanwy received a purple fret for her service, including organizing all the classes for this event. Also honored with a purple fret was Ceinwen ferch Elidure Oi Denbeigh, for her steadfast service in event kitchens. Lord Rutgar was inducted into the Red Company, and Lord Nigel fitzMaurice of Gwyntarian was awarded a Silver Oak for his cordials.

After court, the servers set forth a magnificent feast from the culinary mastery of Angharad, Katherine, Ealdred, Clariel, Drw, and all the usual suspects. The outpouring of food was beyond the fondest dreams of gluttons. Chicken, pork, stew, salad, pasta, fritters, apple pie... there was something for every taste, and a magnificent desert table at the end of it all with stained-glass sugar towers, candied walnuts and more. While the populace gorged themselves, Lord Aethelstan lead the storyteller's guild in a rousing tale of honor and loyalty in Anglo-Saxon, with Lords Timothy and Darius providing translation. Lord Aethelstan's performance in particular was very animated and engaging. Several others entertained during feast, including a young man at his first event, who played the violin for us.

After feast, the tables and over-stuffed populace were rolled away and the dancers took over in a fine finish to a fine event. Congratulations to the autocrats, Darius and Nial, to the teachers, the servers, and to everyone who helped make this event a fun time for all.

Dramatis Personae:

Celeste Aylene Dougherty

As we draw to toward the end of my first year as Chronicler, I thought it fitting to interview the lady who gave me the job, our former Chronicler and quite a local character, Celeste. She exhibited her understanding of the Chronicler's chief pressures by submitting a long and ready list of answers to my questions.

When did you first get involved with the Cleftlands? Well, I first got involved in the Society in November

of 1987. I was a senior in high school and working on a term paper for my English class. We could write about anything that we wanted and, due to my long-standing fascination with all things Medieval, I decided to write about the origins of chivalry and its consequent death. I was quite convinced that chivalry was dead in modern society. Jenny (Guenhwyvar) convinced otherwise and told me that I needed to meet the people in this group that she had joined. I interviewed Sir Theodric

(at the time, not yet a knight) for the paper and got a quote from Duke Sir Laurelen. At the time, however, I mainly attended meetings in Eastwatch since I lived in Painesville. Only on rare occasions did I make it up to Cleftlands meetings. It wasn't until the summer of 1991 that I started attending meetings in Cleftlands regularly. I then went back to graduate school and did not start attending Cleftlands meetings again until the summer of 1994. Oh, and by the way, I got an "A" on that term paper. My interest in all things Medieval brought me to the group and the very nice people that I met (such as Alda and Theo) kept me coming back.

How have your interests changed since then? I wouldn't say that my interests have changed, just grown over the years. My primary interest when I first joined the group was English country dancing and Russian dancing. My interests have since expanded to include Middle Eastern dancing and drumming and archery, among other things.

What offices have you held in the group? The only office that I've held in the Cleftlands is that of Chronicler. The most that I can say about my experience as Chronicler is that it takes a lot of help and cooperation from other members of the Barony to put out a good newsletter on a regular basis and I appreciate all of you who helped me out, such as Grace, Marie, Gaffer, Conrad, Ephraim, and Calum, just to name a few.

How did you join up with the Goat Clan? My membership in the Goat Clan is again thanks in part to Jenny. They took her under their wing at Pennsic 18. I did not meet them until Pennsic 19, my first Pennsic, and they adopted me into the "family tree" at Pennsic 20. They decided to adopt me after I showed up five days in

a row wearing the exact same color garb as one of the men in the household. This probably would not have been so odd had the colors not been light turquoise, screaming fuchsia, bright purple, gray, and black. Once they saw that, they decided that I was clearly Neal's hermaphroditic twin and MUST be added to the family roster.

Who are these Goat people, anyway? The "Goat Clan" started camping together at Pennsic 14, but did not acquire the name Goat Clan until Pennsic 15. They received their moniker after a lord Orion introduced them to



Celebrator beer, a German double bock that comes with a plastic "Celebrator" goat dangling from each bottle. Wearing these little plastic goats dangling off their ears, belts, and glasses seemed like a really good idea at the time, thus, the name. The core of the household is located in Columbus, Ohio, but the household in its entirety stretches from Ottawa, Ontario down to Orlando, Florida and over to Chicago, Illinois. Notable Goats from outside of Cleftlands include Tofi, Baron of Barony March Debatable Lands (BMDL) and Countess Elina,

first queen of Ealdormere.

When I think of you, I think of Middle Eastern dance, costume, and drumming . . . when did you start exploring Middle Eastern things?

I'm actually surprised to hear that, since my Middle Eastern persona — Maysuun as-shemsh — has been around for a lot less time than my Western persona. I got interested in all things Middle Eastern when I took my first belly dance class in college. Baron Durr al-jabal introduced me to the doumbek at Pennsic 21. He was actually very irritated that I could play karsilama (a 9/8 rhythm) immediately since it took him about three months to master it. But, as I pointed out to him, I had an unfair advantage since I studied classical music for 12 years. Durr's also the one who gave me my Middle Eastern name which means, "she who outshines the sun." If you'd ever like me to explain the private joke involved in my name, come see me sometime.

How has your experience with Middle Eastern culture changed your experience with the SCA? I would say, if anything, it has opened up a whole new world of culture and history to me. The customs, societal norms, and modes of dressing of Middle Eastern people are quite different from our Western society and make for fascinating study.

What one thing would you like to tell the Barony now that you have their attention? Volunteer at Pennsic! In fact, I know this nice air-conditioned trailer where you can go to volunteer to get out of the steamy afternoon heat . . .

Thank you to everyone who has consented to be interviewed for *Dramatis Personae* this year. If there is someone you would like to read more about, just mention them to me, your friendly neighborhood chronicler. Ideas for questions would also be appreciated.

Calendar

12-3-2000 Archery
Guild meeting. 1:30
Lucus Archery.

12-6-2000 Weekly
Baronial Meeting, Shore
Center

12-11-2000 Dance
Guild Meeting 7pm
Euclid Public Library

12-13-2000 Weekly
Baronial Meeting,
deadline for January
Forum.

12-20-2000 Desert
Revel -no meeting 12-27

1-20-2001 The January
Event

2-2-2001 Demo at Vally
Forge HS.

Notes

Lady Myfanwy is updating the Baronial Directory. If she cannot verify your information is correct, she may have to drop your listing from the directory. Please see her or email her to verify your information. She prefers to receive info via email. myfanwy_r@hotmail.com

The web ministry is undergoing re-design, look for changes to the baronial website soon. We've added some articles to the Arts and Sciences page and added a page to help new people with their first event.

Everyone congratulate Milesent on assuming the duties of assistant Chronicler! I know I'm happy!

Pandidactum instructors! *The Forum* would love to publish your class notes as articles. 700-word length limit, please.

Who's the cutest couple in Cleftlands? Cast your votes with me, the chronicler, or my assistant and

twin sister, Milesent. We'll be doing something with this for the February *Forum*!

Chiurgeons and chiurgeon wanna-be's: your Baronial Chirurgeon wants to see you.

Fighters of all flavors, don't forget that after January 1st only the new 'uber' card authorization cards will be accepted. Be sure and get yours!

Everyone who submits a domesday report- you need to give a copy of your report to Nial so he can file it with his Domesday. Don't forget!

Chardon Schools are looking for people to do hands-on Medieval demonstrations throughout the year. See Darius for details.

The January event is coming up fast! See Lady Sarra or Lord Timothy to volunteer to help out. This year's theme is the New World.



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