

The Forum

The Cleftland's Newsletter, January 2009



Spring Coronation- Official!

Officially announced at business meeting on January 21st- the Barony's bid for Coronation has been accepted. The event will be held Saturday, May 2nd at St Stanislaus Church in Cleveland. Information regarding the site may be found at its website: <http://www.ststanislaus.org>

Autocrating for the event are Edward fitzRanulf and Juliane Bechaumpe, who are actively seeking people willing to volunteer their time and energy to help make this event a success.

Pennsic Dates

Mark your calendars now- the dates for Pennsic 38 are July 24th- August 9th, 2009.

Mail-in pre-reg begins January 1st and runs though May 15th. Mail-in registrations must arrive by the May 15th deadline. Online and group registration begins the same day and runs until June 15th.

Chivalric Virtues

Written by: Lyonnete

A friend asked me for a list of the knightly virtues, as I was pontificating on them, and so I rushed off to that font of all wisdom, Wikipedia, to see if I could find a quick list.

I couldn't.

The Order of St. John lists: **Prudence, Temperance, Justice, Fortitude, Humility, Compassion, Courtesy, Devotion, Mercy, Purity, Peace and Endurance.** Heh. 12.

The Order of the Golden Fleece reportedly had these 12 virtues listed: **faith, charity, justice, sagacity, prudence, temperance, resolution, truth, liberality, diligence, hope and valor.**

(Got the St. John list from the Wikipedia search for "Knightly Virtues". The Order of St. John claims its roots in the Knights Hospitaller. The Fleece list came from a Google

search for the Golden Fleece.)

In the "Quest for the Holy Grail" a hermit gives a list of virtues to Lancelot: **Virginity, humility, long-suffering, rectitude, and charity.** (Kind of a cleric-ish list, and I hope he really meant "Chastity" because, let's face it, virginity was a goner for Lancelot already...)

The Lady of the Lake gives this list in "Lancelot": **courteous, gracious, compassionate, generous, protecting the weak and poor, justice.**

If we take each of the symbolic acts in the "Ordine de Chevalrie" as a virtue - and they are explicitly stated as such, we are given (among others) **Chastity, Loyalty, Prowess, Largess, Nobility.**

Dear Geoffry de Charney listed among knightly virtues **Reason!** (Which maybe should be on Lancelot's list too, because the Lady of the Lake admonishes him when making judgments to "neither love nor hate". Is stoicism then a knightly virtue?)

The Middle Kingdom's knightly oath gives us some of the same virtues: To be True, foremost in battle, Reverent, Generous, a shield to the weak, champion of the right and good. Many medieval texts talk about protecting widows and orphans and clerics, and of championing "the good" (usually seen for them in a Christian theological context.)



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Fólcvið

Written by: Höskuldr

Din of the Ranks the Doom-ed are
Dress'd for Battle, the Restless Bringers
of Death Hopes of the Halls of the High
one awaiting, across the Bifrost Bridge
of Heimdall

Commanders and Generals Gauging
their Troops Weighing in Mind, odds,
Makers of War Charge led in
Confidence 'Cross killing Fields
Horns sounding, Ground quaking Great-
Armour'd footfall

Under the Wings of the Dragon they
Fight Realm of the Middle Kingdom of
Might no Tempest from Eastward nor
Tyger's claw'd Fury will Stave off
assault from the Serpent's Steel-Breath

Draco Invictus! the Deafening Roar
Instill in friends Bravery Fear in thy Foe
Heard for Miles Heralded by Winds
Echoing their War-cry Waving their
Banners

Helm and Bone-Crown Crush'd under
axe Mail, shield and Blade, by Blood, be
Rusted thru Thunderous Steelstorm
comes Honour and Glory Names of our
Heroes new Legends shall Make

After the Dust clears in Dining hall
Gather'd Mead and ale Floweth in Mug,
Horn and Cup Toasts to the Oaths
upheld Honour thy Dead Boasts of deeds
Valorous Victory brought home

Under the Wings of the Dragon they
Fought Realm of the Middle o'er
Kingdoms of Naught their Names ever
Onward shall Etched in page Be
Eternal Reminders Reknown, after
death, even

The Dance Challenge

Sibylla of Amasya, Dance Guild Mistress

In October, a challenge was set upon the populace to learn ten common period dances over the course of the fall and then perform the dances at the December Yule Revel. Following eleven weeks of practice, ten dancers completed the challenge: Crispin dela Rochefoucauld, Ginevra Boscoli, Nicole, Abel Frolicher, Elise, Thomasina, Katherin verch Rhys, Sibylla of Amasya, Angharad ferch Tangwystl, and Rhydderch ap Morgan. Notably, half of the dancers who completed the challenge were new to SCA dance, and had not learned any of the dances prior to starting the challenge. These ten were joined on the dance floor by no less than fifteen other members of the populace charming onlookers with a grand display of elegance, courtesy and good old-fashioned flirting.

Local Happenings:

Scribal Meeting: Every 1st Monday at Master Aiden's home

Armorer's Guild: Ever Thursday evening, Eldread and Clairiel's home

Needleworkers' Guild: Every Tuesday evening. Meetings move weekly; location posted to Cleftlist.

January Event Court

Award of the Purple Fret: Bernhard Stürmære, Birna Gunnlaugsdottir, Cynwrig ap Llywelyn, Farþegn Rinkson, Ivan the Mongrel, Thomasina, Vasilii Volchago Zuba Syn

Award of Arms: Yllaria bas Levi, Kari Garanhirson

Order of the Silver Oak: Caius Mac An Bhaird

Cavendish Knot: Cherise

Greenwood Company: Christopher Bathory

Order of the Dragon's Heart: Sarah of the Erie Sea

Award of the Sapphire: Wulfgar Hlotharius Von Aachen

Chronicler:

This issue of the Forum has been brought to you by Gail Mc Kay, one of the three candidates for the position. For the other candidates' offerings, see the December issue written by Abel Frolicher, and the upcoming February issue written by Zsof.

The Forum is a publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policy. Publication deadline for The Forum is the second Wednesday of every month, at Baronial meeting. The Forum is available periodically at the last meeting of the month, and online at

<http://cleftlands.cwru.edu/archive/forum/issues.asp>.