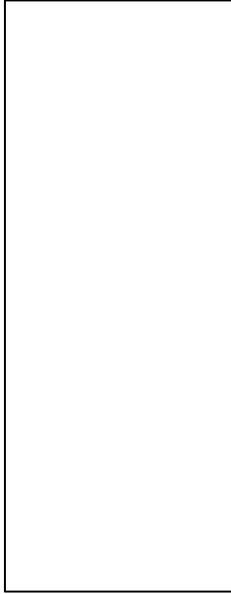


Aire Currents

Newsletter for the
Canton of Aire Faucon



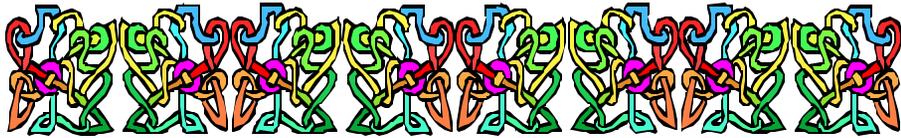
Janet Thompson
515 E. Ohio Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016

Come visit us on the web...

<http://www.shelby.net/kimbrell/sca/aireframe.htm>



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April A.S. XXXVI being 2002 Gregorian



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5 April 2002

12
18-10
19
19

University of Atlantia Courtland, VA
Tourney of Ymir Wake Forest, NC
Bright Hills Baronial Birthday Westminster, MD
Atlantian Dance Symposium III Lusby, MD

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

William April 21
Marion April 22



MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2002

Old Business: The Inn on the Road flyers have been posted to the Baronial and Canton e-lists. There will be an event staff meeting the second Tuesday of April to firm up the plans. Still working on ideas for the wench contest, discussion is ongoing over the canton egroup. The canton directory has been posted to the egroup as a file for everyone to look at his or her information. They are to email Maeve with any corrections so that the hard copy can be published as soon as possible. The hard copy will be a once a year issue, with the e-group file updated for everyone to download as changes are made.

New Business: Jonathan submitted information for a possible new event site. Both Sherra and he are going to make a site visit to check it out further.

Seneschal: Reminder to everyone to get your baronial pollings to their majesties.

Exchequer: \$1323.14 in account. Lydia is now the acting Exchequer.

Marshal: Fighter practices, including Regional rapier practices continue monthly at Biggerstaff Park. In April, they will be on April 14th and 21st. The 21st is also the Regional Rapier practice. The heavy marshals and rapier marshals are reminded that the waiver policy is officially in effect. See for all the rules pertaining.

Deputy Web Minister: Still looking for release forms from the poets for the website.

MoAS: Absent.

Herald: Absent.

Chronicler: Newsletters have been sent. Subscriptions are now \$4.50/year.

Chatelaine: The Kingdom Chatelaine has received Serafina's warranting paperwork. She is in touch with a newcomer. She and Rose are working on the gold key box.

THE SENESCHALE'S SENDING

Spring greetings! The heart of event season is upon us and activity is picking up in regard to fighting and going places.

Some important things to keep in mind: Take your blue card with you to the troll booth, or be prepared to sign a waiver to attend the event. If you have a child under 18, make sure you sign a minor's waiver for them at each event, even if they have a card. And, if you allow them to attend an event without either parent, make sure you send the signed waiver with them, or they will not be allowed to stay at the event. (It is wise to send a medical authorization form for them also.) Waiver forms and policy can be found on the kingdom webpage under the seneschal's link. Remember too that waivers are now required for fighting at practices and at demos. Make sure to have the proper cards or be prepared to sign waivers. All the above are being more strictly enforced than I can remember in times past, so be prepared.

As you know by now, our directory is moving along. Thanks Maeve (and Jonathan) for this effort. Please check your entry and send any changes to Maeve by her deadline of April 1.

Miezsko has stepped down as exchequer and we are putting forth Lydia as his suggested replacement. They are working to get all the paperwork completed.



Inn on the Road: Things are moving along and there was some great discussion at the March meeting. Keep posted (no pun intended) to the private e-list for more discussions and brainstorming.

As I mentioned last month, the canton has decided to use "Membership" as our central goal for the year. Kisaiya, Lidia, and Seraphina agreed to bring ideas to the populace on how to implement this. (For example, I know that Seraphina will be bringing samples of literature [bookmarks, etc.] to the April business meeting so that the group can advise her on them before she prints in volume.) In order to not have to wait until the next meeting to start the discussion, please be thinking about some ideas/suggestions and join in the thread I have begun on the private e-list concerning this.

Finally, we are meeting at the Gaston/Lincoln Public Library on Garrison Boulevard in Gastonia. One of the reasons we decided to do so was that several of us agreed to donate to the canton for the price of the room so that we would not deplete the canton funds. If you are one of those who has agreed to do so, please give Lydia a check or cash next time you see her. Thanks!

If I can be of any help to anyone, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,
LADY PHILLIPA SUZANNE OF ANDOVER (PICA)

THE CHRONICLER'S MUSINGS

You know that April 1st is April Fools Day, but do you know how it came to pass?

Unlike most of the other nonfoolish holidays, the history of April Fool's Day, sometimes called All Fool's Day, is not totally clear. There really wasn't a "first April Fool's Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it sort of evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time, from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this tradition was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the New Year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian calendar was introduced, and New Year's Day was moved to January 1.

However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others, the more obstinate crowd refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the New Year on April 1. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fools errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes.

This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank playing on the first day of April. The tradition eventually spread to England and Scotland in the eighteenth century. It was later introduced to the American colonies of both the English and French. April Fool's Day thus developed into an international funfest, so to speak, with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor at the expense of their friends and families.

In Scotland, for example, April Fool's Day is actually celebrated for two days. The second day is devoted to pranks involving the posterior region of the body. It is called Taily Day. The origin of the "kick me" sign can be traced to this observance.



Mexico's counterpart of April Fool's Day is actually observed on December 28. Originally, the day was a sad remembrance of the slaughter of the innocent children by King Herod. It eventually evolved into a lighter commemoration involving pranks and trickery.

Pranks performed on April Fool's Day range from the simple, (such as saying, "Your shoe's untied!"), to the elaborate. Setting a roommate's alarm clock back an hour is a common gag. Whatever the prank, the trickster usually ends it by yelling to his victim, "April Fool!"

Practical jokes are a common practice on April Fool's Day. Sometimes, elaborate practical jokes are played on friends or relatives that last the entire day. The news media even gets involved. For instance, a British short film once shown on April Fool's Day was a fairly detailed documentary about "spaghetti farmers" and how they harvest their crop from the spaghetti trees.

April Fool's Day is a "for-fun-only" observance. Nobody is expected to buy gifts or to take their "significant other" out to eat in a fancy restaurant. Nobody gets off work or school. It's simply a fun little holiday, but a holiday on which one must remain forever vigilant, for he may be the next April Fool!

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Always in Service,
LADY MAEVE

A&S LIGHT

Various workshops are continuing around the canton.

Our 6-month cycle of workshops will be completed next month. I'd like to propose that we plan only a 3 month cycle over the summer to allow more flexibility when serendipity brings us interesting opportunities like Lord Gawain's Casting Workshops we've been attending the past few weeks.

Members of the canton have expressed interest in teaching/hosting the following workshops: Bardic Circle, Calligraphy, Casting, Garb, Medieval Literature, Spinning, and Weaving. Please contact me before the April meeting if there are activities you would like to see offered.

I'm getting a real bug to do some hemstitching, pulled thread work, which is an ancient precursor to needle-made lace, punta in aria, and reticella. Anyone interested in some classes?

Thank you all, for the support you have given to A&S activities this year. I've had a wonderful time. I will continue to try to expand beyond fiber arts this next year. ☺

Respectfully submitted,
LADY SUSANNA VON SCHWEISSGUTH

Just a reminder that the A & S meeting nights are every Tuesday evening at Lady Susanna von Schweissguth (Needlezpinz@aol.com). In addition, there are Sunday afternoon fighter practices at Lineberger Park every other Sunday. There will be A&S activity at these practices, and help available for projects you may be working on or learning about.



CHATELAINE'S REPORT

Greetings to all!

The Chatelaine's report for this month is...

Three new people contacted. One I have not heard back from, but the other two, who originally located us because they wanted some input on their upcoming wedding, decided after coming to the bardic practice at Lady Fiona's and Lady Kisaiya's home, that they will be joining the SCA. They are Angela and Oscar, and they have two beautiful little girls, Krystianna (18 months) and Sierra, who's only about a month old. They are planning to try to make the fighter practice on the 17th, and I will most likely not be there, so if you spot them, please make them welcome! You're all wonderful at that.

I have not yet bought the garment rack or clothes hangars that were approved at the last business meeting, but will do so as soon as I return from GW.

Thanks to everyone that's been meeting and greeting at the park! I will strive to have all the brochures, bookmarks, and business cards I can make by the next practice. (not the one on the 17th, obviously)

That's all for old business.

New Business:

One of the items that I have discussed with several people was a way to mark loaner garb in canton colors, without them all being red/gold. What Susannah and I came up with was to inkle/tablet weave/fingerloop braid trim in canton colors. This would mark people wearing them as newcomers, and also mark the garb, should it get left behind at an event. I would ask that the weavers (and WOW do we seem to have a lot of people doing these things recently! Vivat!) in the canton start thinking of designs that we can present, in each technique, that we can use for this. Anyone willing to donate a length of trim for this, please let me know, so that I can work out getting the proper colors and supplies ready.

I hope to get started on this project after coronation.

Sincerely,
LADY SERAPHINA NETKA

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