



# Shire of Dark River

## River Runes



February 2004 Anno Societatis XXXVIII

Year 25 of the Shire

### Guide to Shire Officers & Contact Persons



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# February 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day	<b>3</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>4</b> Fighter’s Practice & 25 <sup>th</sup> Yr Event Meeting – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>5</b> Shire Business Meeting – 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple	<b>6</b> Full Moon	<b>7</b> MID-Candlemas, Lexington KY MID-Cooks Sym Jackson MI CAL-Clothiers Johnson City KS
<b>8</b> Second Sunday Sewing Circle 1pm @ Ellonyias Castle	<b>9</b> Newcomer’s “What to expect” Meeting – 6pm @ Norelle’s Castle	<b>10</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>11</b> Fighter’s Practice & 25 <sup>th</sup> Yr Event Meeting – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline  Estrella War-AZ	<b>12</b> Calligraphy guild 7pm @ Guido’s Castle  Estrella War-AZ	<b>13</b>  Estrella War-AZ	<b>14</b> MID-Bardic Mad Winipeg,Manitob MID-Hertz Krieg Vermillion SD MID-Val Day Kalamazoo MI Estrella War-AZ Rakset al-Nehri perf in Iowa City Valentine’s Day
<b>15</b>  Estrella War-AZ	<b>16</b> Basket Making – 6pm @ Norelle’s Castle  Estrella War-AZ Presidents Day	<b>17</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>18</b> Fighter’s Practice & 25 <sup>th</sup> Yr Event Meeting – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>19</b> Shire Revel Mtg 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple	<b>20</b>  New Moon	<b>21</b> MID-Mid. A&S Charleston IL MID-Masque N. Canton OH MID-V. Carnival St Cloud MN CAL-Chieftans St Louis MO
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Basket Making – 6pm @ Norelle’s Castle	<b>24</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport  Mardi Gras	<b>25</b> Fighter’s Practice & 25 <sup>th</sup> Yr Event Meeting – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>26</b> Calligraphy guild 7pm @ Guido’s Castle	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Shire of Dark River 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniv Event – White Knights @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline
<b>29</b> Runes Deadline	<b>March 1</b> Basket Making – 6pm @ Norelle’s Castle	<b>March 2</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>March 3</b> Fighter’s Practice 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline  Demo – See Mellilah or Ghazalaah	<b>March 4</b> Shire Business Meeting – 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple	<b>March 5</b>	<b>March 6</b> MID-Ceilidh Dayton OH MID-Const A&S Evansville IN MID-Fighter Sch Green Bay WI MID-New Group Findlay OH MID-Equestrian Brookings SD

For more information on Midrealm (MID) Kingdom events, see a Pale newsletter, seneschal flyers or the Midrealm website at <http://www.midrealm.org>

For more information on our neighbors, Calontir (CAL) and their events, see a Calontir newsletter, seneschal flyers (if available) or the Calontir website at <http://calontir.sca.org/>



### **From the Seneschal**

The Seneschal is still here!



### **From the Herald**

Those in need of Names or Devices please see me. Get the forms and instruction sheets before working on your Name or Device, then follow the forms and instructions in drafting something. Get this draft to me for a two or three-week review and I'll get back to you with suggestions for a final submission to me, which I will complete and copy for sending up the line. Stay somewhat flexible on your Name and Device until you finalize it for submission. This will give you the best chance for approval on the first try.

Also, please drop me a note regarding the particulars whenever you receive an Award. I need to maintain records on all awards. Information should include the following: Type of Award, Recipients Name (as listed on scroll), Reason for Award (as listed on scroll) and Date of Presentation (as listed on scroll).

Lord Eðar



### **From the Exchequer**

No article at the time of printing.



### **From the Marshal**

Fighter practice is held Wednesday nights at 7pm – 8:30 p.m. The location is: Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church 1201 13<sup>th</sup> Street Moline, IL 61265. For more information see Daffyd.



### **From the Arts & Sciences Minister**

No article at the time of printing.



### **From the Chirurgion**

This position seems to be vacant! If you are interested in this position, please see the Seneschal. If you currently hold this position, please see the Chronicler!



### **From the Archery Marshal**

No article at the time of printing.



### **From the Chatelain**

I have been talking about having some kind of class for new people to prepare for our upcoming event. Here's what I've come up with.

Part One: I spoke with Ellie and she has agreed to use the February 8th sewing circle as a "get your garb ready" day. If you have no garb, or some garb but you are not sure if it is completely appropriate, or want to make something new for the event, this is your chance.

Part Two The following day (Monday Feb 9th starting around 6ish) I'm inviting folks to come chat about what to expect at an event. This will include what to bring, and basics that apply to every event as well as protocol for people in fancy hats and court. I hope that by offering two days, everyone will get their questions answered.

Lady Norelle



### **From the Chronicler**

Next Runes deadline is Feb 29th! Officers, **please** keep this deadline in mind when preparing your reports for the Runes. If you would like a standing monthly message, please see that I get it.

**Runes Format Update** – I made a few changes to the Runes format. I wanted the cover page to be an "easy reference page", reducing the 3 separate calendars to one, taking up less space & making it easier to read. It did mean I had to reduce the amount of Kingdom event info, but really all that extra info doesn't need to be in the Runes, as it can be found elsewhere easily. The rest of the changes were minor ones that really only make it easier for me to publish the Runes, and have little effect on it's appearance.

If you cannot regularly make it to the Shire business meeting, or you know you are going to miss it, feel free to contact me via email or phone to arrange something so you always get the Runes. If you would like it mailed to you, I can do that if you give me stamps.

The Shire of Dark River also has a Yahoo Groups list on the Internet at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shireofdarkriver>. Anyone interested can sign up and get email announcements and reminders. You can be in charge of keeping your own account information correct so you will always be assured of receiving any important shire related information.

Sayyida Mellilah al-Zargah



### **From the Web Mistress**

When checking your list for the upcoming event - please add "Take the Camera!" then, while attending or working our events - please try to grab some pictures. Last year - all I had to put on the web page were shots of archery and a couple of feast - Please try to get candid shots, as opposed to the "line up and take a group picture" variety - action pictures are so much more entertaining. Don't worry if they're not digital - I can scan them and return the original prints to you.

Lady Lia



### **From the Blacksmiths' Forge**

No article at the time of printing.



### **From the Cooks' Kitchen**

The Cook's Guild is going strong! Recipes are being tested and tasted in preparation for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. Everyone is welcome to join us at our next meeting, call Lady Annysse for the next meeting.



### **From the Brewers' Vats**

This position seems to be vacant! If you are interested in this position, please see the Seneschal. If you currently hold this position, please see the Chronicler.



### **From the Caravan**

The Near Eastern Dance Guild practice site has moved. The new site is in the old Johnson School, which is now the Institute of Therapeutic Massage & Wellness. The address is 1730 Wilkes Ave in Davenport (that's on the corner of Locust St and Wilkes, 2 blocks west of Division and Locust). This time we'll be practicing in a private room on the third floor.

The Troupe will be performing in Iowa City on February 14<sup>th</sup> at a Hafla at the Old Brick Auditorium. See Mellilah for more info.

We will also be performing new dances at the Shire's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on February 28<sup>th</sup>!

The Troupe has been asked to do a demo at Ghazalaah's church for the kids on Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be demonstrating dance, drumming and other medieval Middle Eastern cultural tidbits. If you are interested in joining us for the demo, we'd love to have you! Especially if you have a drum or other instrument (riq or tambourine, finger cymbals). See Mellilah or Ghazalaah for more info.

The Shire's Near Eastern Dance Guild is large and strong! We currently have 15+ dancers in Troupe Rakset al-Nehri (Dancers of the River). If you wish to dance with us, we usually hold our practices every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm, at the Pierce School Mall in December, and then Johnson School in January. Don't try to come to just watch though, or we'll make you dance! If you want to see Troupe dancers perform, catch us at one of our scheduled performances or at a Hafla (it means PARTY, talk to Mellilah for more info). If you are interested in learning Near Eastern dance, talk to Mellilah about her scheduled classes or getting a primer class before joining the Troupe.

*Sayyida Mellilah al-Zargah*



### **Fencing**

Lord Corkeran would like to inform everyone that Rapier Fencing practice is happening at the weekly Fighter's Practice every Wednesday at 7pm at Bethel Wesley Church in Moline. Minimal armor is needed to get started learning, so contact Lord Corkeran if you are interested, to find out what you need!



### **From the Sewing Bower**

"Oh my, Two shire events coming-up... what on earth will I wear!"

Well, the Second Sunday Sewing Circle is here to help. Bring your questions, ideas, irritations etc to Ellie's house. Join others who are merrily working on garb, planning garb or just chatting. Remember, we need to "spiff" up the gym for our event, so feel free to bring banner projects as well. Second Sunday Sewing Circle starts at 1:00 and a big pot of soup will be ready. If you need more information, call Ellie at 563-322-5436.

### **25 Year Event News**

Well the event is coming along nicely, we have made quite a bit of progress in our plans and development. Here are some of the updates:

We have the use of the entire site, including the chapel for court. There are two classrooms that we will be using as changing rooms, two classrooms where we will hold classes, and we have the use of the upstairs nursery. We will be allowed to come in on Friday night, and either simply drop things off, OR if they are done cleaning the floors we can also do set up. We won't know if we can set up until that evening. There will be a third class offered, this one by a new SCA person on Russian Black Lacquered Boxes. The boxes depict folk and fairy tales, including one that shows a picture of the famous old crone, Baba Yaga.

The banner poles are being built, and will be fitted with inside supports and also spikes for when the shire needs to use them outside next summer.

We have sold over half the feast, so if you are planning on sitting feast now would be the time to get me your money. Pre-cook on the Zakuska Table, the Feast, and the Lunch have started. We have offered ten merchant spots (2 tables each) and of those we have seven confirmed merchants. I have e-mails nightly from all over the place, from Detroit, Michigan to NE Nebraska, the web site has been generating a lot of interest. Several people asked if they could add our web page link to their web servers, which are Slavic interest pages, to which we replied, "But of course" and "Thank you."

I would like to thank everyone who has pitched in so far, the shire has really answered the call and I think this will be a great 25 Year Celebration.

Yours in service to

The Shire of Dark River,

*THA Annyse Lionstone*



### **From the Scriptorium**

Dark River Scriptorium is looking for strong backs and weak minds to lift extremely dangerous bird feathers that have been magically transformed into instruments of communication.

If you think that you have the necessary qualifications apply at the Inn of the Gilded Serpent any 2nd or 4th Thursday of the month. 768 25th Ave Ct. in the Shire of Moline. (309) 797-4134

Hot chocolate complete with seasonal ingredients is served at the Inn. Small children, well behaved spouses and over-laden money bags always welcome.

Lord Guido

### **Murder & Melee III**

Ok, so we're a little busy right now with the 25 year event, but please keep M&M in the back of your mind. I am slowly amassing a list of volunteers. If there is something you would like to see at M&M this year, now is the time to bring it up. We are planning an A&S display this year, so think about what you've been working on this winter what you might want to enter.

*Lady Norelle*



## Basket making.

People have been asking me if I am going to start having basket nights again. Yes! Monday nights starting after the "what to expect at an event" night I will start hosting basket-making again. So the first night will be February 16th. Things usually start around six and go until 9/9:30ish. You do not need any experience or materials, but I do ask that you reimburse me for any reed you use. Please be aware that as soon as our 25 year event is over, some basket making nights might get bumped for M&M event meetings.

Lady Norelle

## Tidbits

For those who might be interested, the Irish Rovers will be playing at the Adler theater on 02/27/04. Tickets are available and are \$22, \$27 & \$33.

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Keelin helps with the summer reading program at her local library. She has requested that people save for her any of the following (I guess she needs lots of them):

Pringles cans (or cans like them)  
Small plastic containers with lids (like cottage cheese and chip dip)  
coffee cans

If anyone could save these, she would appreciate it.  
Ellenya

## Dark River Caravan

Drums, Dance Accessories,  
Jewelry, Costume items & Décor  
One stop shopping for YOUR Caravan!



<http://www.darkrivercaravan.com/>  
[info@darkrivercaravan.com](mailto:info@darkrivercaravan.com)



Unpaid Ads (contact Mellilah to place your own ad)

## Classifieds

ADVERTISE HERE! For free!

In need of something particular, an item or a service? Do you have something that you just know someone could use? Or perhaps you have a skill you would like make available? Call or email Mellilah about putting your classified ad in this space. It's free and easy!

## Costume Corner

By *Samiya Mellilah al-Zargah*

### A Cote by any other name...

How do you say it?

- o Cote 14th-17th (Middle English, Old French)
- o Coete 14th
- o Coot(e) 14th-16th
- o Kote 14th-16th
- o Cot 16th (early Modern English, Old French, Provençal, Catalan)
- o Cott(e) 16th (early Modern English, Modern French)
- o Cootte 16th
- o Coate 16th-17th
- o Coat 17th-
- o Coit 16th (Scottish)
- o Cut ?
- o Cota (Provençal, Spanish, Portuguese)
- o Cotta (Italian, 9th Medieval Latin)
- o Cottus (Medieval Latin)
- o Kyrte (-scandinavian-)

Possibly derives from the Old High German *Chozzo* for 'coarse shaggy woolen stuff, and the garment made from it'

A garment, an outer garment, usually of cloth with sleeves. (from c1300-)

Used to translate the ancient terms (Latin) *Tunica*; (Greek) *Xitwn*, or *Chiton*; (Hebrew) *K'thoneth/Kuttoneth* (from c1380-)

'Old English and French for the men's and women's outer garment. The masculine cote was a tunic varying in length halfway between waist and knee. The feminine cotte was a complete dress fitted at the waist and reaching to the floor. The word has remained in English as coat.' [Wilcox, 1969]

'Cote, Cotte: O.E. OF. Masc: Outer garment. Fem: Long dress or petticoat, 12th-15th centuries.' [Davies, 1994]

'The basis of the wardrobe was the **cotte** (German **rock**), a long sleeved shift, slightly blousing over the girdle and widening from the hips down to the seam. In the earlier decades, the sleeves were so tight that every movement of the arm drew the cotte into a sunburst of pleats at the inset of the sleeves. In the second half of the century, the sleeves were usually wider at the inset, tapering to a close fit towards the wrist.' [Zylstra-Zeems, 1988]

'tunic or gown' [Medieval Timeline in Fashion and Events  
(<http://romancereaderatheart.com/medieval/timeline/>)]

Excerpted from "A Glossary of Some Medieval Clothing Terms" compiled by:  
I. Marc Carlson

See the rest of this Glossary at:  
<http://www.personal.utulsa.edu/%7Emarc-carlson/cloth/glossary.html>

See "Web Bits" for a website on making a Cote without a pattern, that will also support without a brassiere!

## A Taste of Olde Thymes...

Editor's note: I will be using this column to feature recipes that have been given to me for inclusion in the future Shire cookbook. If you have a recipe that you'd like specifically printed in the River Runes, by all means send it to me!

*~Sanyia Mellah al-Zarqah*

### Robin Hood's Ribs

One day Robin got really hungry for barbecued back ribs and sent his men out for wild boar. While they were out they came across Friar Tuck, who was bringing a fresh load of wine back to camp. Everybody sat down to rest and refresh them-selves and by the time they were done they were so far gone that they could no longer shoot straight. When a hapless farmer, Simon the Simple by name, came along with a fresh killed pig to give to his landlord they decided it would be easier to relieve him of the pig than to catch a boar. They were at least gracious enough to invite him to dinner. You should be that gracious too. This can be a social event unto itself. Get some good wine, invite some good friends, put on some good music. Start about 4 or 5 pm. Get some Italian bread and make some honey butter. Roll on through the night.

#### Ingredients:

2 cups catsup  
½ cup dark karo syrup  
2 tbs worcestershire  
2 tbs soy sauce  
1 tsp dry mustard  
1 tsp curry powder  
1 tsp basil  
½ tsp chili powder  
1 huge clove of garlic  
1 whole large onion, chopped  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
¼ cup red wine or beer, ale, stout, porter, etc.

Simmer all together on low heat for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Use now or freeze for later.

Precook spare ribs in the oven at 350 F for 30 minutes and drain off fat. Turn oven up to 400. Baste ribs with Robin Hood's sauce and bake for 2 hours, turning and basting every half hour or so. Make sure these are done before eating and then.... oh, wow. I am speechless. These are the best ribs I ever ate.

### From the cookbook of The Inn of the Gilded Serpent



Oh ho! This be one big pot o' bar-b-cue sauce, Guido!

### Web bits

Interesting or fun websites for the net savvy SCAdian!

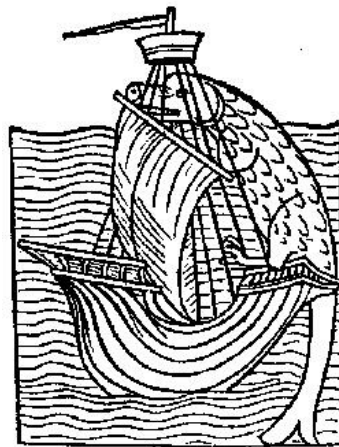
<http://www.armorarchive.org/> For the fighters!

<http://www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/news/cyber-e.htm>  
13<sup>th</sup> Century Abby virtual tour!

<http://www.adgame-wonderland.de/type/bayeux.php>  
Do it yourself Bayeux Tapestry!

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/vikings/runes.html>  
<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/vikings/write.html>  
Write your name in Viking Runes at both sites!  
(Icelandic Runes, the closest to medieval runes)

<http://www.cottesimple.com/>  
14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> c Cotte without a pattern and made to create a more period looking figure (support without a brassiere). Check out the step by step dressmaking!



### A Pirate's Treasure

A pirate captain was on the look out for buried treasure. After months of hard sailing, his ship caught site of land, the land to which his treasure map had been leading. He and his first mate disembarked on the island to search out the buried treasure, which was supposed to lie hidden deep within a swamp at the center of the island.

Sure enough, at the center of the island was a swamp, and the Captain and his first mate bravely entered the swamp. Soon the swamp began to get deeper, and the pirate's feet, then ankles, and finally entire leg below the knees was covered in swamp. It was at that time that the Captain banged his shin against something hard. He reached down, searched around, and pulled up a treasure chest. Prying the lock open, the chest revealed gold and jewels beyond imagination!

The Captain turned to his first mate and said, "Arrrr, matey, that just goes to show ye, that booty is only shin deep!"