



# Shire of Dark River

## River Runes



March 2004 Anno Societatis XXXVIII

Year 25 of the Shire

### Guide to Shire Officers & Contact Persons



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*Vacant*



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This is the March 2004 issue of the River Runes, a publication of the Shire of Dark River of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The River Runes is available from Michele Donner-Ramsey, or at <http://www.midrealm.org/darkriver/runesmenu.html>. The Runes is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Incorporated, and does not delineate SCA policies.



# March 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>3</b> Fighter’s Practice – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>4</b> Shire Business Meeting – 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> MID-Ceilidh Dayton OH MID-Const A&S Evansville IN MID-Fighter Sch Green Bay WI MID-Equestrian Brookings SD
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>10</b> Fighter’s Practice – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>11</b> Calligraphy guild 7pm @ Guido’s Castle	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> MID-Better War- Archery Indy,IN MID-Ides o’March Morrice, MI MID- Women’s Costume 14/15 <sup>th</sup> C Springfield IN
<b>14</b> Second Sunday Sewing Circle 1pm @ Ellonyias Castle	<b>15</b>  Gulf Wars	<b>16</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport  Gulf Wars	<b>17</b> Fighter’s Practice – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline  Gulf Wars	<b>18</b> Shire Revel Mtg 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple  Gulf Wars	<b>19</b>  Gulf Wars	<b>20</b> CAL-Norman Law Lincoln, NE  Gulf Wars – Lumberton, MS
<b>21</b>  Gulf Wars	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>24</b> Fighter’s Practice – 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>25</b> Calligraphy guild 7pm @ Guido’s Castle	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> MID-Viking Affair Wisconsin Rapids,WI MID-Northshield Althing – Ashland, WI MID-Rites Spring Sparland, IL MID-TerpsichoreX Ann Arbor, MI MID-Winter War Maneuvers, Delaware OH
<b>28</b> Runes Deadline	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Middle Eastern Dance Guild – 7:30pm @ Old Johnson School, Davenport	<b>31</b> Fighter’s Practice 7pm @ Bethel Wesley Church, Moline	<b>April 1</b> Shire Business Meeting – 7pm @ Rock Island Masonic Temple	<b>April 2</b>	<b>April 3</b> MID-Melee in the Woods- Cato, IN MID-Clash4Winds Gambier, OH MID-SquirrelsTale Northfield, MN MID-This Land... Fort Wayne, IN MID-Tournament of Chivalry Maumee, OH

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**

Greetings to all Lords and Ladies,

I take keyboard in hand to speak to everyone in the shire of events and portents. Many of our Shire attended the White Knights of Russia and in my humble opinion it was a great success! Everyone involved should be proud of himself or herself and the hard work that it takes to produce such a fine event. Special thanks to Lady Annyse and Lord Erik, Jackie and Tony deserve our recognition for their efforts producing such a success. A very well done to everyone involved it was truly a memorable event.

Not only did I have the honor to stand at court, but also it was such a pleasure to see so many of our Shire recognized for their contributions to the society. As if this were not enough to make my day complete, Paula and I were very deeply touched when we were called before the King and our wedding anniversary was recognized by the crown and by our Shire. It was truly a tremendous and emotional thrill for us both. The kindness that has been shown to us by the people of this Shire was once again demonstrated that night. We have not the words to thank you all, but thank you again. (I understand that those apples had almost as much misery as love in them and for your pains I thank you as well.) One comment on standing court and meeting the King, he was a most charming individual. His manner was very relaxed and he was most gracious to everyone he spoke with. Our society has been well served with this man as our King.

Some comments on other events in and around the shire.

The new group in Dubuque, Riverwatch, is planning a demo on March 13, from 11-4pm, at Kennedy Mall in Dubuque. The purpose of this demo is to introduce the society to the locals and as a recruiting opportunity. They are asking all the area shires if we can supply people to assist in the demo. They are looking for people to man display tables for information, fighting info, (no weapons allowed) but pictures, armor, etc., A & S items, a Heraldry table and children's table. They are also looking for storytellers, bards, etc. They will also have classes on the SCA, heraldry and personas, fighting tournaments, A & S, costuming and attending events. If anyone is interested in helping our northern neighbors let me know and maybe we can arrange a caravan up to Dubuque.

It was discussed at the last meeting that the Brewers Guild will again have a Head of State, and as two heads are better than one, we will have two. James the Brewer and Erik Estridsson will each direct the guild in brewing beer and wine respectfully. James DeSchinckel and Tony Chandler will hopefully share with others in the Shire their knowledge of the brewing arts and the fruits of that knowledge.



### **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 EDAR**



### **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 Chirurgeon**

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**

No article at the time of printing.



### **From the Chronicler**

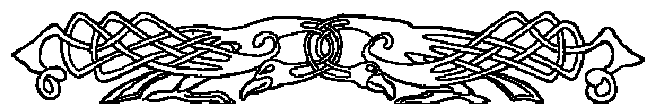
Next Runes deadline is March 28th! Officers, **please** keep this deadline in mind when preparing your reports for the Runes. If you would like a standing monthly message, please see that I get it.

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*

### **Court Report**

Award of the Dragon's Treasure:

Bowen Drydan (Andrew Shefey)

Award of Arms:

Rufus McDougal (Rich Hill)

Ates Ejderhasi (Samantha DeCrane)

Aziza um-Leyla (Valerie Thiessen)

Bashira (Samantha Hughes)

Conrad Drayton (Kenneth Sherfey)

Elisabeta Khalilah (Elisabeth DeCrane)

Estrilda le Suffleur (Lottie Trudell)

Ghazaalah (Annette Marchant)

Nisaa cea Stricata (Jessi Donalson)

Shaheena al-Nehri (Sheila Bosworth)

Sorcha Inghean Fionnghlas (Karen Dubberke)

Award of the Purple Fret

Alexandra de la Pomerai (Sandy DeSchinkel)

Mellilah al-Zarqah

Order of the Silver Oak

Eirik Estridsson (Anthony Chandler)

Award of the Grove

Dark River Scriptorium

Troupe Rakset al-Nehri



### **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). We're on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, room 35 at 7:30pm on Tuesday nights.

The Troupe performed in Iowa City and at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Russian event, and it was fun! Our candle dance was well received in Iowa City, and we really enjoyed dancing at feast this past weekend.

Seven troupe members received their Award of Arms at Court! Rakset al-Nehri also received the Award of the Grove, and Mellilah got a Purple Fret.

The Troupe did a demo at Sayyida Ghazaalah's church on weds Mar 3. In attendance were Ghazaalah, Mellilah, Alexander, Katta, Katerina, and Andrea. We demonstrated dance, drumming, and taught the kids how to properly appreciate middle eastern music and dance with a few properly placed zaghareets and oompas!

We've been invited by Duchess Angharad of the Incipient Shire of Flynthyll to perform at the feast of their very first event, Quinquatria Minervea on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Learn more about that event at their website: <http://www.calontir.org/%7Eflinthyll/event.html>

The Shire's Near Eastern Dance Guild is large and strong! We 20+ dancers in Troupe Rakset al-Nehri (Dancers of the River). 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). Mellilah's next Hafla is March 13<sup>th</sup> at the Johnson school gym! 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-Zarqah*



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

No article at the time of printing.



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

No article at the time of printing

[editor's note: Dang that feast was good!]



### **From the Brewers' & Vinters**

Summer is approaching and with it comes the warm weather for outside work. Cordial classes will be starting as soon as the weather allows for people to sit under our trees and not have to play in the mud. Our first class will be on basic honey mead. Date to be announced. Any and all are welcome to the class. When its cordial making the more the merrier. When its cordial drinking samples abound. Anyone who is interested please see me and we can talk about classes we all want to do or topics of interest for the group.

Drink sensibly, Sample cautiously, Have fun responsibly.

THL Eirik Estridsson



### **Fencing**

The White Knights of Russia event also gave me an additional treat to those I've mentioned above. I assisted our visiting Marshall's in holding the authorization of my first fencer. Drogo, Mike Trudell, authorized in single rapier at our event. Though we didn't have enough fighters for a true tournament we did have five visitors to our Shire that had the opportunity to cross blades. Additionally, I received some valuable advice both as an instructor of rapier and as a participant. What a day!

Again my reminder, anyone interested in trying the rapier may come to fighter practice on Wednesday nights. The only requirements are a long sleeve shirt, sweat pants and a protective cup for the men.



### **From the Sewing Bower**

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. 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 Report

Greetings unto the Shire of Dark River.

We have just finished our 25 Year Celebration and as autocrat I could not be happier. By and large things went smoothly, more so then I had hoped for, and I think that most of our guests had a great time.

I want to thank all of the people who helped, volunteered, donated items, and over all made this event a success. I had originally started a laundry list of who had done what, but it soon became apparent that the entire shire had participated in one form or another, with few exceptions. The teamwork and willingness to help in this event was overwhelming and I cannot express my gratitude enough. But let me try.

To that end I would like to invite the shire to participate in a Russian revel on March 18th. I will be providing cake, ice cream (okay so it isn't typical Russian food). If you made Russian costumes please wear them, so that we might appropriately appreciate them.

Now to the information that you have all been waiting to hear:

We had 169 adults and 43 children in attendance. We collected 33 non-member fees, made \$215 on the lunch, and collected \$400 on the Silent Auction for the Royal Travel Fund.

I still have to balance the books, as there are receipts still out. Our event was a grand success, and I should have a figure for the shire by revel.

I think that everyone enjoyed themselves enough to do this again next year. I already have some plans in the works and Lady Katta has agreed to be a co-autocrat. I have a new way of having people sign up at the feast seating chart, thanks to Mistress Myrra, and we will be doing more art projects to help create a more atmospheric feast hall, such as painting the wooden houses, and maybe creating new "fake" stained glass panels, like the ones we did for the 20 year celebration.

In the interim, we should all be looking to help the M&M event that is fast approaching in June.

Yours in service to  
The Shire of Dark River  
The Midlands  
And the Middle Kingdom  
*THL Amnyse 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

## Tidbits

Wylde Nept is playing RIBCO on St. Patrick's Day! If you haven't seen these guys, they are awesome! They do traditional Irish drinking/sailing songs as well as a handful of originals. The show starts at 7:30pm...no price is listed. That's on March 17<sup>th</sup>! <http://www.ribco.com/main.php/MusicCalendar?m=03&y=2004>

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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.  
Elfonyia

\*\*\*

A friend of Mellilah's is working with Playcrafter's production of "The Hobbit". They are looking for help with costuming, make-up and sword-fighting instruction. They are also looking for adults and kids under five feet tall. If you are interested, call Mellilah, who can put you directly in touch with someone who may be able to expedite getting you into the production.

.....  
**Unto all those interested:**

**You are cordially invited to attend a PartyLite Candle Party hosted by Danielle Lance. The party will be April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm at Carlos O'Kelly's in Moline (in the Wal-Mart parking lot). Everyone is welcome, no obligation to buy! Some appetizers will be provided. Just come and socialize!**

### Ancient Rhythms Studio

Interested in learning Middle Eastern Dance? New Intro classes start March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm at Johnson School! March 13<sup>th</sup> Parent/child workshop! 1pm-2:30pm Hafla at 7pm on March 13<sup>th</sup>, be ready to party! All at Johnson School, 1730 Wilkes Av in Davenport Call Michele Donner-Ramsey for more info

# 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)

## A Taste of Olde Thymes...

### Medieval Cheesecake

From the cookbook of Alexandra de la Pomerai

4 shallow pie shells  
16 oz. ricotta cheese  
8 egg whites  
1 1/3 c. sugar  
1/2 pound (2 sticks) softened butter  
1/3 c. milk  
a 2-inch piece of ginger root, peeled and minced  
dash of rosewater (or other optional flavorings listed below)

#### Optional flavorings:

2 tsp. cinnamon  
2 pinches saffron  
1/4 c. liqueur (chocolate hazelnut, Grand Marnier, especially Godiva chocolate liqueur!)  
1/4 c. jam or preserves  
1/4 c. apple butter  
2 T. honey  
1/2 c. raisins soaked in 1 c. port wine, marsala, or orange juice. Add both the raisins and liquid.

Pre-heat oven to 350°. Bake the pie shells. Mix together the ricotta and sugar until smooth and light. Blend in butter and milk then add the ginger. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into the cheese mixture. Add the dash of rosewater, mix, then fill the pie shells. Bake for approximately 45 minutes, until center is firm. Chill before serving.

## 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!

## Web bits

Interesting or fun websites for the net savvy SCAdian!

<http://www.dragonscaleconsort.com/cartography/>  
image selectable maps of Midrealm!

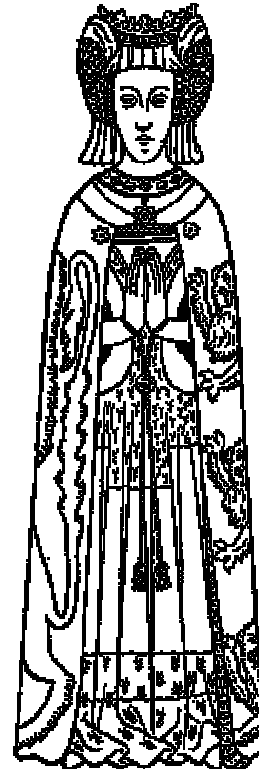
<http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/education.html>  
helpful info for researching your name and designing your device!

<http://www.draknet.com/lilinah/>

Info on period Egyptian knitting; period Maghribi, Andalusian and Persian garb; and period recipes.

<http://www.amiperiodornot.com/>

Pictures of garb and you can vote and comment on how period it all is.



...the heretics strike back...  
...at Murder & Melee III...

Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves  
Come cast your lot with the unsavory!  
Be sure to pack (in)appropriate garb.  
Bring your thirst as well.