

# The RivenSTAR

*Quarterly*

**Moonwulf  
welcomes you  
to another  
annual  
Pun Party  
Friday  
10-27-06**



## Heraldic Reports

**2nd Quarter Heraldic Report for the Barony of Rivenstar**, respectfully submitted this 10 July, Anno Societatis XLI (being 2006 C.E.) by Lord Janusz Zawisza, Rivenstar Pursuivant.

Master Sigulf Karlnar was elevated to the Order of the Laurel on April 1 at This Land is Our Land/ ToC in Their Majesties' Shire of Shadowed Stars.



**3rd Quarter Heraldic Report for the Barony of Rivenstar**, respectfully submitted this 30 September, Anno Societatis XLI (being 2006 C.E.) by Lord Janusz Zawisza, Rivenstar Pursuivant.

At the Coronation of TRM Bardolph and Brigh (6 Sept. 2006):

- Aendru of Rivenstar received an Award of Arms
- Enkara of Rivenstar received an Award of Arms
- Emil Allzuwissender received a Purple Fret

Yours in Service,  
Lord Janusz Zawisza, Rivenstar Pursuivant

## Rivenstar Reaches Out to the Students of Purdue University

By Katalena Izmaragd Ivanova

Purdue University provides a home for the Barony of Rivenstar and allows us to meet on a weekly basis. The Medieval Society of Purdue is the academic organization on campus that allows us (SCA) to provide a unique extracurricular activity for Purdue students to enjoy while they are earning their degrees. The Barony also benefits by continually getting fresh new blood each year to add to its ever growing population.

This fresh blood doesn't come without hard work. Each year we participate in many campus recruitment activities including: Boiler Gold Rush Activities Fair, PSUB Activities Bonanza, and Club Callouts. During these activities, students can participate in fighting and weapon demos, be entertained by our various performers, and peruse the work of our artisans.

This year's blitz of recruitment activities served to educate a large number of new students. Our hope is that many of those new students will stay and make Rivenstar a regular part of their University experience.

### ***Inside this issue:***

<b>Newsletter Information &amp; Officer Contact Info</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Regular Weekly Activities</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>A Brief History of Chinese Knotting</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Word Search &amp; Announcements</b>	<b>4</b>

**Important information about this publication:**

This is the Autumn 2006, issue of the RivenSTAR, a publication of the Barony of Rivenstar of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The RivenSTAR is available from Kathleen Hill, 3023-3 Pemberly Court, West Lafayette, IN 47906. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2005 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

The RivenSTAR gratefully accepts submissions of articles and artwork. These must be copyright free and of interest to the SCA community. The editor reserves the right to edit material before publication due to content or space constraints. Artwork should be submitted in electronic format (gif or jpg files, please.) Use simple fonts like Times New Roman or Arial for text submissions. Please e-mail artwork, text submissions, and corrections to the RivenSTAR editor Lady Katalena Izmaragd Ivanova email: izmaragd@yahoo.com.

**Credits:** A portion of the images in this publication are protected by U.S. and Worldwide Copyright laws, and are owned by Microsoft® Publisher 2000. The Rivenstar shield was provided by Mistress Heirusalem Crystoma. Pdf conversion provided by Warder Gallien Le Cavalier de l'Île. Officer badges can be found at the MK Chronicler's website in the clip art section <http://www.midrealm.org/chronicler/>

**Regular Weekly Activities Info**

**Mondays**

8:00 pm - Baronial Business Meetings  
Held in the Stewart Center, PMU South Tower or PMU 118  
See Purdue schedule for room location (subject to change)

**Tuesdays**

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Archery Practice  
Held at the Purdue Practice fields by the Airport  
Contact Lady Arnora Snorradottir  
email: midnite\_louie1@yahoo.com

**Wednesdays**

8:00 pm - Heavy and Rapier Fighter Practice  
Held at the Armory on Purdue campus.  
Contact Lady Marina da Fiore  
email: cantwell@purdue.edu

**More Activities!**

**Equestrian Practices** start in the Spring, weather permitting, and are usually held twice a month on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 pm. Contact Sir Pieter at: sirpieter@juno.com

**Drum Practices** will be held on either Tuesday or Thursday evenings. Check the Rivenstar website and email list for updates. Contact Kat at: izmaragd@yahoo.com

**Officers of the Barony of Rivenstar**



**Baron** - Duke Moonwulf Starkaardheresson,  
Master of Arms, OP (Michael Longcor)

**Baroness** - Countess Takaya Mereleone, OP (Vickie Poole)  
email: takaya@purdue.edu

**Seneschal** - Warder Gallien Le Cavalier de l'Île (Lyle H Janney)  
email: gallien@nlci.com

**Knight's Marshal** - Sitheag inghean Lochloinn (Laura Ollier)  
email: lollier@purdue.edu

**Rapier Marshal** - Lady Marina da Fiore (Elizabeth Cantwell)  
email: marinadafiore@gmail.com

**Archery Marshal** - Lady Arnora Snorradottin (Amanda Meadows)  
email: midnite\_louie1@yahoo.com

**Equestrian Marshal** - (Contact Seneschal for further info)  
email:

**Herald** - Lord Janusz Zawisza (Paul Radecki)  
email: lordjanusz@juno.com

**Chronicler** - Lady Katalena Izmaragd Ivanova (Kathleen Hill)  
email: izmaragd@yahoo.com

**MoAS** - Lady Daniila of Dacia (Dana Mosher)  
email: danajoy@gmail.com

**Chirurgion** - Lady Daniila of Dacia (Dana Mosher)  
email: danajoy@gmail.com

**Exchequer** - Lady Angelina Tracy (Tracy Funkhouser)  
email: Tracy-Funkhouser@insightbb.com

**Chatelaine** - Lady Marilynde of the Rocks (Mary Rusek)  
email: mary.rusek@swiftenterprises.net

**Web Minister** - THL Arrantxa Idazle Iruñekoa (Heather Bungard Janney)  
email: arrantxa@nlci.com

**Dance Master** - (Vacant)  
email:

**Medieval Society of Purdue President** - Sitheag inghean Lochloinn (Laura Ollier)  
email: lollier@purdue.edu

## A Brief History of Chinese Knotting

by Lady Katalena Izmaragd Ivanova (Kathleen Hill)

The use of knots in Chinese culture dates back over one hundred thousand years ago. In those prehistoric times, events were recorded by tying knots. The Chinese used large knots to chronicle large events and smaller knots to record less important events. As the events became more complex, knots were replaced with pictures and eventually a written language.

In the early 5th century, we begin to see more evidence of knots being as much more than a means of tying two cords together. The various knot motifs found on pottery indicate that the knots were being used in a more decorative fashion. The Tang Dynasty (618-907) represented a time in Chinese History where high fashion and beauty were held in the highest regard. Evidence of knotting has been found in paintings, sculptures, tapestries, and even referenced in poetry. In the Yuan Dynasty (1276 - 1368), we begin to see knots used less often for functional purposes and more often as decoration. (See image at the right.)

Although very little evidence of the early knots remain, one of the most common materials used in early China was silk. Silk is a very strong and durable material, however, it does rot over time. Due to the delicate nature of the silk, there are very few remaining specimens of traditional Chinese knotting still in existence prior to the Ching Dynasty (1644-1900). Silk, cotton, and linen cording is still used today to make knots.

The art of knotting also played an important role in early Chinese Society. Chinese knotting was considered a necessary skill for all unmarried women to master. The techniques of knotting were passed down orally from grandmother to mother to daughter. This oral tradition also accounts for the difficulty historians have faced when researching the early knotting techniques. Since knotting was considered a folk art, written instructions were not considered necessary, so there are no written records to track the evolution of Chinese knotting. As historians, we must rely heavily on the artifacts left behind by the early Chinese to rediscover this fine art.

Each Knot has a specific pattern that must be followed in order to achieve the same knot design on both the front and back of the knot. There is an element of Zen required to successfully master Chinese knotting. If you are patient and willing to take your time while working with these knots, this art form can be very rewarding.

### Sources for Knotting History:

Pendant Ming Dynasty. Photo. Cleveland Museum of Art. Accession Number: 1994.20.

Chen, Lydia. Chinese Knotting. Taiwan: Echo Craft Books, 1981.

Hua, Hai-Yen. "The Art of Chinese Knotting of Lydia Chen." HICA. Sep. 1995. The Hai Yen Institute for Conservation of Works of Art. 29 Mar. 2005 <<http://home.ivx.de/602222/en/knot.html>>.

Hui, Xin. "Five Thousands Years of Culture from Heaven: Chinese Dress through the Ages." Pure Insight. Translated from Zhengjian Organization. 02 Feb. 2005 <<http://www.pureinsight.org/pi/articles/2003/1/13/1342.html>>.

Schafer, Edward H. Ancient China. New York: Time-Life Books, 1967.

Turner, JC and P van de Griend, ed. History of Science and Knots - Series on Knots and Everything Volume 11. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing, 1996.

Wang, Carol. "A Perspective on the History of Chinese Knotting." 10 Sep. 2004. Chinese Knotting Home Page. 06 Jan. 2005 <<http://www.chineseknotting.org>>

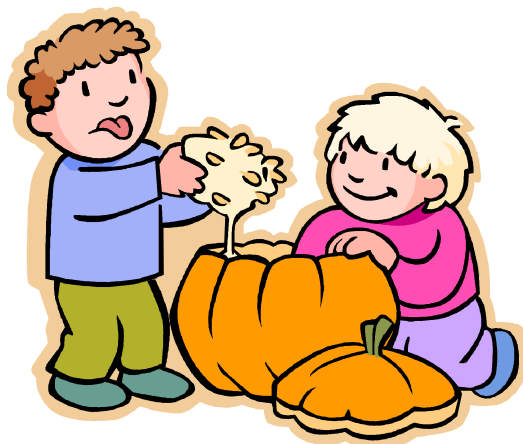


#### Pendant

14th Century China  
 Medium: needleloom embroidery and knotting; silk, silvered paper, gilded paper and gold thread  
 Measurements: 84.5cm x 21.7cm  
 Photo Credit: [www.clevelandart.org](http://www.clevelandart.org)

### Word Search

ARCHERY	S C A S R T Y U I O P L E I
BALLISTA	T I L L U M I N A T I O N Y
BEADING	W S N Q H B I D W S F B J P
BREWING	D C X G I H P D J U H L C D
CALLIGRAPHY	N A O W I V E A R Y E B O O
COOKING	G L C O P N T A I E R P S K
COSTUMING	N L V E K S G Q V D A G T E
DANCING	I I B R I I R H E Y L L U U
DRUMMING	D G N L X E N V N M D L M F
EMBROIDERY	A R L T D F J G S A R B I I
EQUESTRIAN	E A M Y V G E H T K Y O N R
FENCING	B P L U B Y S W A Z A J G F
HEAVY	R H E Q U E S T R I A N U R
HERALDRY	E Y D R U M M I N G D F Y O
ILLUMINATION	W J I F Y B Q D V B M R I G
MIDREALM	I H J D T R R B H M E U N N
RIVENSTAR	N G S S T O E T Y H U I P I
SCA	G F E N C I N G C X H F N C
SEWING	I F W A G D T R K T C V K N
SINGING	O D I Z W E A V I N G P L A
SMITHING	P S N X G R L M P H L N M D
WEAVING	T A G C V Y S T Y U I O P L



**Uh Oh!**  
**An empty space!**

**You could fill this space  
with a short story picture  
or artwork. Please submit  
ideas to the chronicler at  
izmaragd@yahoo.com**

### Be on the lookout for Rivenstar's upcoming events!

Come one come all!

### Rivenstar's Annual Christmas Court

Check the website for date & location



Baronial members near and far are welcome to return home for this auspicious occasion. Bring your favorite covered dish and or beverage to share with the barony. Court & entertainment will follow the feast. Dancing and revelry will follow Court. Don't forget to bring your feast gear and your boogie shoes!