

The RivenSTAR

Quarterly

Benefit Concert and Hafla

By Katalena

On May 11th, Tabitha from Bloomington, IN organized a benefit hafla (Middle Eastern dance party) for the Middle Way House, the local women's shelter. The benefit took place at Max's Place in Bloomington who also donated a part of their proceeds to the shelter. Salaam, a local ethnic world music band, provided wonderful live music for the local dancers to get their shimmy on. We were also saying goodbye to one of the Salaam band members, Hakan Toker, who will be returning to Turkey at the end of May. We danced the night away and raised over \$500 in donations for the women's shelter.

Iyi yolculuklar!

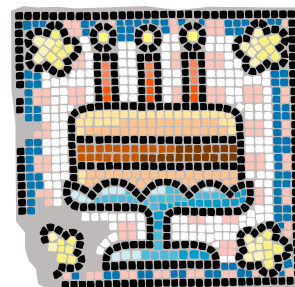
(Turkish for "Good roads" or "Have a good journey")

A&S Day & More

By Katalena

On Sunday May 7th, we had a "Welcome to Summer"/ Birthday Celebration/ A&S Day at Dani's house.

Activities included archery, fighting, classes, and a fire circle with an abundance of socializing. We celebrated Wulf, Takaya, and Giuliana's Birthdays. We hope everyone had a good time!



Vickie Lynn Poole, our beloved baroness Takaya, has successfully defended her doctoral thesis. Congratulations Takaya!

Thank you note from the organizers of the Kokomo Renaissance Faire and Demo

Lyle,
Thank you so very much for all that you did for the Faire. We are so very grateful. We don't have words to express the sheer amazement we felt with all that you did for us. Even though it was a small event, it was a great success for us and that could not have been achieved without all of your and the barony's amazing help. Heather's beautiful calligraphy was simply enchanting! The archers were wonderful! The crowds kept talking about how great the rapiers were. We are glad to see so much support for fencing! Thank you to Moonwulf for coming out and not only fighting, but singing too. A few of our committee members were very impressed and are interested in joining the SCA. We have given them contact info and we look forward to dance practices in the future!

Thank you again!
Bill and Kate Washburn *I hope you dance!*

Inside this issue:

Newsletter Information	2
Officer Contact Info	
Regular Weekly Activities	2
2nd Quarter Meeting Minutes	3-4
Letters from the Populace	4

Important information about this publication:

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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

Summer 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 Practice this summer 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 Starkaardherisson,
Master of Arms, OP (Michael Longcor)

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

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

Knight's Marshal - Victor of Rivenstar (Dave Gamble)
email: gamble@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: danajoym@gmail.com

Chirurgion - Lady Daniila of Dacia (Dana Mosher)
email: danajoym@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 - (Adrian Walker)
e-mail: walkerat@purdue.edu

Business Meeting Minutes

3-6-06 Business Meeting

Event Reports: Constellation A&S Faire

ARTS & SCIENCES

- Knotty Classes at Dani's house 3-12-06. Rocky has offered to teach crochet and Juli will be teaching lucet.
- Dance and Garb night will be next week in 118.

ARTS MARTIAL

- There will be no practice in the armory during spring break.
- Rapier Report was turned in on time!
- Equestrian practice will be held before the feast tasting on Sunday 3-19-06 at Nan and Pieter's house from 1-3 pm.

PEN & QUILL

- We are looking for a new chronicler and a drop dead seneschal.
- Herald's report is due soon, so if you have received awards this quarter, please report them to Janusz.
- We are considering creating a recruitment committee/community outreach/PR. If you would like to be involved or volunteer see Gallien.

EVENTS

- **PENNSIC:** Deadlines are coming up soon for registration.
- **Spring Event:** Final Feast Tasting meeting at 6 pm on 3-19-06. Contact Tryphina if you have items for the auction. We will baby goats at the event in a petting zoo.

4-3-06 Business Meeting

Event Reports: This Land event - Sigulf was put on vigil for Laurel

ARTS MARTIAL

- We discussed the possibility of having regular auxiliary practices on Sundays.
- The Equestrian classes are progressing nicely.

EVENTS

- **Spring Event:** We will have Siege engine authorizations. We need to tag all of the Auction items with the donors name and contact info. Should we have a men's and women's sign for the showers? Kat will make feast table place cards with the table number and feast menu printed on them. We would also like to have an ingredients list on those cards as well. We need about 200 troll handouts. The feast token will be an ear tag for sheep and the site tokens will be a black and white card like the previous years. The post rev will be held at Gallien's house.

4-10-06 Business Meeting

ARTS MARTIAL

- No Archery this week.
- No equestrian practice or horse classes.
- Gold Key will be at this Wednesday fighter practice.

PEN & QUILL

- The baronial reports are due on the 21st. Email their excellencies if you have any concerns about the barony.
- SCA.org has BOD info including a section for questions and comments from the populous about new SCA policies.
- We may need a new feast O crat for next year as Julie's duties as regional A&S officer will require her to be in charge of running the Spring A&S Faire. We are looking for volunteers for next years event.

EVENTS

- **Spring Event:** Set up is at 5 pm on Friday. We need batteries for all of the radios. Last minute details were discussed and reviewed. Kat brought in and read last years post event meeting minutes so we could be sure we had covered all of last year's issues.
- **Upcoming Events:** IU Kokomo Demo Renn Faire is 4-22-06 from 10 am - 6 pm.
- Middle Eastern Flea Market 4-22-06 in Indy.

4-17-05 Post Event Meeting

ARTS & SCIENCES

- The A&S officer is looking for teachers to teach small classes after meetings. Please see Dani for more info.

ARTS MARTIAL

- We are checking into getting the Armory as a rain site for fighting practice this summer.
- The Equestrian Master Horsemanship Class is at Nan and Pieter's house on Sunday from 1-3 pm.

PEN & QUILL

- The Seneschal reminded the populace that if anyone has any concerns about baronial business and or its members to please use the chain of command. Report to your baronial officers first. Then the officers can take any concerns to the regional officers, then kingdom, and so on.
- Newsletter deadline for submissions for the Summer issue is May 31st.

EVENTS

- Kokomo Renn Faire is this weekend.
- **PENNSIC:** We are in the process of getting Rivenstar registered as a group. People can still register online and there registration should be held temporarily until the group is registered.

EVENT Discussion

- The children's activities were great, but we should definitely have a food break for our volunteers. Perhaps next year we should have a schedule lunch break for parents to pick up their children and have NO scheduled activities during Lunch.
- We need two people to assist gentles with parking issue and directions.
- We need better and larger parking signs that clearly where people can or cannot park.

(Continued on the bottom of page 4)

- We need a water caddy and water bearers to haul water from the A-frame to the fighters and activities.
- Four water coolers were a good number.
- The Napatorium and cook tent provided much needed shade and list space.
- The circular table set up was difficult for servers to move around and clean up between courses. It was also hard for performers to know where to stand without having their backs to someone.
- The showers took a long time to heat.
- There were no reportable injuries.

4-24-06 Business Meeting

Event Reports: IU Kokomo Demo & Renn Faire, Grand Tournament of the Unicorn

ARTS & SCIENCES

- May 7th will be an A&S Bash at Dani's house. There will be classes, a cookout, archery, and pickup heavy fighting and fencing.
- The madrigals will be on hiatus for the summer.
- Drumming practices will be on Thursdays for the month of May. The schedule will change each month, so check the website for further details.

ARTS MARTIAL

- Fighter practice will be in the armory for the next three weeks.
- The Chirurgeon talked about the use of Gatorade and sunscreen during the summer.

PEN & QUILL

- The Exchequer discussed the final numbers for the event. We made a profit this year!
- Gallien read a thank you note from the organizers of the Kokomo event. There will also be weekly dance practices in Kokomo and we are welcome to attend at any time.

EVENTS

- Moonwulf will be singing 5-5-06 at the Friday Gallery walk downtown at the Renaissance Academy between 6 and 10 pm. He is also performing 5-6-06 at Barnes & Nobles at 7pm.
- **PENNSIC:** June 15th is the deadline for registering online to camp with Rivenstar. When you register, use only the name Rivenstar, not "barony of". Nan has asked Encara to organize the cook group this year.

Friends and Fellows:

During the War Practice at 3 Saints, I heard a few of our fencers comment that certain opposing fencers were not accepting valid blows. After the Practice, one of those opponents mentioned to me in the course of a different conversation that at least one of our fencers was not accepting blows. I cannot say whether either of these complaints was valid, but as the melee season is now underway we ought to revisit the rules and conventions that keep us safe on the field. This is not a lecture, and nobody is in trouble. It's just something to think about and discuss.

On the heavy list, the conventional "wisdom" is that one must hit harder in a melee than in a tournament, especially if the opponents are strangers or foreigners. This, of course, can result in a dangerous (and illegal) escalation of force. I'm sure that I don't have to remind anyone not to do that!

Nevertheless, there are significant differences between melee and tourney fighting, and these can lead to trouble if you're not careful. In a tourney, you have time to size up your opponent before the match (reach, weapon length, armor type, etc) and to discuss questionable blows as they happen or soon after. You are also likely to know your opponent well, and I (for one) tend to fight much more cleanly against a familiar foe. Finally, in a tourney your attention is focused upon a single opponent.

In a melee, there is much more potential for confusion. You are more likely to face fighters you've never met before. You must process multiple targets/threats simultaneously. Engagements develop and change very quickly, and there is little opportunity to stop and discuss things. Honest mistakes can easily be misinterpreted as cheating, and competitiveness can escalate into aggression.

There are things that we can do to minimize these problems and make sure that our melees remain safe and fun. Awareness, of course, goes a long way. So does communication. Fatigue and frustration can creep up on a fighter, so watch your friends for signs of trouble and don't be afraid to (tactfully) remind them that, in Rivenstar, we always win our fights clean and legal.

Check your fighting garb for potential issues. Those big, fluffy sleeves might look *FAB*-ulous on the tourney lists, but if they catch somebody's point in a melee he might think that you ignored an arm hit. Armor bits that are unusually padded or rigid can cause you to fail to notice a touch altogether, so try not to over-armor yourself. Simplified, close-fitting fencing garb will help your opponent to fight you more cleanly, fairly, and safely.

Most importantly, PRACTICE. A lot. Set up a target or pell at home, and use it. Lift weights. Run laps. Eat Wheaties. Come to fighter practice, and spend your time on the field, not on the sidelines. The better you are, the more control and awareness you will have and the safer you will be. And you'll win fights. A lot of them.

My goal, both for myself as an individual fighter and for the Rivenstar unit as a whole, is to be able to pound people flat and to do it with such skill and style that they enjoy every minute of their beatings and can't wait to come back and be pounded again. It won't be easy, but it's attainable, and we can get there together. Anybody want to talk about it? You know where to find me...

Draco Invictus!
Janusz