



The

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THE QUESTING QUILL

Volume I

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Events and Happenings
in
Am Mor Salaan Fasach

Gentlepersons:

Upon the night of July 9 will be held a Revel for all. A time to make merry and feast. Ye are requested to bring along a medieval munchies and to fasten thy sandels for a bout of fancy footwork. It shall be held at 2815 South 2580 West at the Transient Hovel Park (Trailer Park) in the club house. The club house is immediately opposite the entrance. The Revel shall begin at eight hours past the noon day sun. The Autocrat for the Revel will be our own fair Seneschale Lady Sorscha O'Melachlin. Ye all are welcome!

We have been granted permission to have a table and a discussion on SCA at a local Star Trek Mini-con held by the local Star Trek Club----Regulus. It will be held upon the day of August 6 from the hours of 10 a.m. till 4 hours after the noon day sun. The Mini-con will be at the Granger Vault of Scripts (Granger Library) 2880 West 3650 South. All who are interested are invited to come and share the festivities of both the SCA and Regulus.

On the fair day of August 13 we shall have a Class upon the skills of chainmail making and the fair art of needlepoint. Combined with which will be a picnic. All are requested to join together at 2 hours before the noon day sun (10:00 a.m.) at the peaceful location of Memory Grove. (Just East of the Capitol and on Canyon Road.) For those who are interested in stepping onto the Field of Honor will be some beginning instruction on fighting. Also ye all are requested to bring thy basket full for thy fair stomach. All are welcome and bring along a friend!

Our next airing of SCA will be at Salt-Con Star Trek Science Fiction Convention. Since we are closely related to the Star Trek Club (some of us belong to both SCA and Regulus) we are using every opportunity to present ourselves to the unsuspecting public. Thus being we will have a table at Salt-Con and also some panel discussions. We will have visiting lords and ladies from surrounding areas to join in and be with us. Salt-Con is October 14-15 at the Newhouse Hotel. For further information see the Seneschale Lady Sorscha O'Melachlin or Jerilyn of Vert Silva.

MILORDS! MILADIES!

Those of you perusing these sheets of the first issue of The QUESTING QUILL may well be asking yourselves a question....a question like "What manner of madness hath ensorceled my bemused brain?"....or, perhaps, in a more modern vernacular, "Who are these nuts and do I really want to get mixed up with them?" Both questions, gentlebeing, are natural and normal enough for those first encountering The Current Middle Ages. As Seneschale of our Incipient Shire, let me, I prithee, explain who we are and what "manner of madness" abounds in the SCA.

First of all, the SCA (The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.) is a loosely organized group of people who enjoy things of Medieval and Renaissance periods of history on this planet. (You may find those people here in the group willing to discuss the Medieval and Renaissance periods on Arcturus IV and Rigel II, but we ask that all science fiction discussion and any other special interests be discussed elsewhere.) Special interests within our chosen period (900 A.D. to 1650 A.D.) are very much encouraged and may vary from medieval cooking to archery to calligraphy to fighting. Of the thousands of members of SCA worldwide you are certain to find some who share your special medieval interests. (You may have to spend some time looking, but you may even find one who shares your passion for the practical application of medieval instruments of torture....but it may take a LONG time, since most SCA'ers tend to be friendly and kindly folk----away from the Field of Honor.) At any rate, some people enjoy the SCA because of the costuming aspect. Others may be fascinated by medieval drama or music. And many, of course, enjoy the knightly battles on the Field of Honor. (Since noble rank within the SCA is gained through success in fighting, much interest is given over to this activity.

And, speaking of fighting, we have enough men in our Incipient Shire of Am Mor Salann Fasach to make it practical to start work on making personal armour and begin fighters' training. Right now our Master of Science, Lord Thorad Bjorgson (David Wilhite) is juggling the duties of Knight Marshall as well as his own fields. As we grow larger, a Knight Marshall will be appointed. Questions on armour and fighting can be addressed to either him or to myself, as Seneschale. Plans are being set for an armour-making session in August----details to be specified elsewhere in The QUESTING QUILL.

Right now we are awaiting work from the SCA headquarters in Los Angeles about our exact status and which "kingdom" we will be assigned to (For those of you new to the SCA set-up, the continental U.S.A. has been divided into four kingdoms with smaller political units within them. For further information on the exact set-up of the SCA, talk to Lady Elaine of the Lion's Tale--Nerissa Wilhite----about getting a copy of our Shire's INTRODUCTION TO THE CURRENT MIDDLE AGES.)

Any questions about the SCA in general or our Incipient Shire in particular I would be glad to answer, if it is within my power. My mundane name is Claire Spencer and my FarSpeaker number is 571-0375. (For the duration of the summer, I would suggest calling before 9:00 A.M. and after 9:00 P.M., due to mundane job considerations.) Please feel free to ask questions and give suggestions on how to make things work better within the Shire and the SCA as a whole. (I'll pass suggestions for SCA as a whole on up the line.) Let me know what I can do to help you enjoy the Current Middle Ages more.

I am your servant to command,
Lady Sorscha O'Malachlin
SENESCHALE

UTAH SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL COSTUME TOUR AND PROGRAM

On April 30, 1977 the kind people who bring us the Utah Shakespearean Festival afforded several members of the Shire with the opportunity to view a marvelous collection of extremely well-researched and constructed medieval costumes. These 55 costumes, the best salvaged from over 16 years of Shakespearean plays at the Festival were displayed at Trolley Square.

Lady Rhonwen, Lady Elaine and Jerilyn of Vert Silva were present to see this show. It began with an authentic Punch and Judy show (even more violent than Starbuck and Hutch) to set the mood and then related the history of clothing from the Dark Ages to 1603.

Some interesting facts came to light during the presentation--that at one time ladies kept their joints warm in winter by keeping small animals in pockets in their gowns, that all fashions were originated and worn by men first (including mini-skirts), that over the ages women legally exposed nearly every portion of their body but their elbows...a multitude of fascinating information on customs and dress in the middle ages.

The costumes were all beautiful and carefully researched for authenticity. The climax of the show was a facsimile of Queen Elizabeth's coronation gown...which weighted 75 pounds (the original was 300 lbs and had a built in chair because Elizabeth couldn't walk in it). Jerilyn of Vert Silva has some pictures of the costumes and though Lady Rhonwen took many slides, Queen Elizabeth's gown is the only one you can really see.

This was a very enjoyable show, and since it is an annual event Shire members should watch for the next time it is put on and plan to attend.

Lady Rhonwen y Llysieuydd

Milords and Ladies:

As your new Chronicler...Greetings!

My main job with this newsletter The QUESTING QUILL will be to inform the residents in our Shire of the upcoming events and happenings in the immediate area and of the SCA larger events such as Tournaments and Revels.

But in addition to this I would like to publish in the QUILL artwork, poetry, stories and anything else that you as the residents will contribute. I want to have our newsletter grow but as my imagination is being stretched in many directions at the same time I can not do all of the above on my own. I will appreciate any contributions.

Contributions to the newsletters should be on 8 1/2 x 11" paper. This can be reduced on the xerox machine to fit onto our page size. I am at the present looking for covers to put on the front of the QUILL.

I hope we have a long, joyful union.

Your faithful servant,

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