



Wyrn Words

*The official newsletter of the Barony of l'Ile du Dragon Dormant
Le journal officiel de la Baronnie de l'Ile du Dragon Dormant*

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Words from Their Excellencies

Greetings to the People of l'Ile du Dragon Dormant and all who read these words,

Summer is now in full bloom and we look forward to the coming gatherings that will allow us to test our skills and to grow friendships both near and far. Our horizons point to Great North Eastern War this July 13-15. This year the Barony of L'Ile du Dragon Dormant stands strong as the official opposition against the warring hordes of Malagentia. Along with our allies we will prove the mettle of those who stand as Dragon Dormant. As in years past we will again be organizing a meal plan for the people of Dragon Dormant and House Al-Karakal. Please ensure that you let us know if you will be attending GNEW for we will be reserving camp space for those who notify us of their attendance. We would also like to take a moment to reflect upon the glorious event that was Border Spat.

To the people of Skrealing Althing,

While we met on the field of battle we are sure that the friendships made between our two groups will be that of the legends in the years to come. We would like to recognize and thank all of the people who worked so hard to ensure the event was a success. Lady Gina and Lady Emelote, thank you for your gifts of service (Please feel free to move about 45 minutes east.....) Unto all who helped make this event so memorable, we were inspired by your work ethic and humbled by the friendship extended to all of the people of Dragon Dormant. Our greatest desire is to do it all over again!

To our beloved populace,

You rose beautifully to the challenge extended to us. I saw much talent on the marshal lists and even more camaraderie and friendship off. Thank you so much for volunteering to help in different areas at the event. While we watched you run, fetch, clean and serve our hearts swelled with pride in the legacy you establish every time you rise to the challenge.

Finally, we end this missive with encouragement. We still have favor kits for anyone wishing to make their own dress favor. Please feel free to contact us should you like one.

In Service,
Angus and Tadea
Baron and Baroness of L'Ile du Dragon Dormant

Words from the Seneschal

As requested, here is a little blurb for y'all. See you at Pennsic.

Recently I was called to help conduct a test of fencing prowess at Border Spat for a friend of mine, the Baron Giovanni d'Enzinas, the Baron of Skraeling Althing. The array of fencers in attendance was spectacular, many of the finest blades in the known world. I was the least of an extremely high level of combatant. It was the best of all worlds, and an opportunity to gauge each other's strength. It gave me a great joy to participate in something so thorough - any one of the participants could have taught a fascinating class all would have learned from. My hope is that the next time there will be such classes.

And, in true Skraeling fashion, there was a feast to end all feasts. I can remember, perhaps, 20 of 30 dishes. That says it all, doesn't it? I can't ever remember eating so much at a feast and enjoying it so completely.

I left this event exhausted but very happy. It was an intense day, a day that will stay in my memory for a very long time. I hope this is the first of many Border Spats of similar quality, where we shall meet to improve ourselves together.

Congratulations to all involved, perhaps the best event I've been to in years. And, most especially, congratulations to our new friends at Harrowgate Heath. Next time we invade, we'll bring larger forces...

John Radburne, IDD Seneschal

Words from the Chronicler

Hello,

This is my first issue of Wyrn words. Sorry that it took so long for me to get going. I understand that many people suggested taking articles from outside sources. The difficulty I faced with this however is pressure based on following copyright laws. Much material available on sources like Stephan's Florilegium don't often provide mundane names of the sources and it seems difficult to contact the writers or the manager of the site. Furthermore I ask myself "why reprint things that have already been printed?" Instead my goal is to provide fresh articles, written locally as long as I can. If anyone has any submission please do not be shy. Anything you think is worth sharing probably is. You may have noticed the series I started "people of the dragon" I started with a fighter, I'll be looking for an artisan, bard, archer, rapier fighter, officer, cook, lurker etc... in the future. If you'd like to be interviewed, let me know! If you'd like to conduct your own interview, let me know. I also want to start another series based on "persona fiction" People can write dramatic fictional stories about their persona or about other people's personas (with their permission). Another, potentially interesting idea is semi fiction based on dramatized versions of events that really happened in the SCA. Also if you have any article of any sort you'd like to show case, do let me know!

Thank you for reading, and please be merciful! It's my first time doing this!

Cynan ap Rhys

The People of the Dragon

by Lord Cynan ap Rhys

This is the first installment in a planned series of interviews where members of the barony who do diverse activities share their experiences for the entertainment and enrichment of others. This time I interviewed a long time fighter, David Ip, also known to you as Lord Mathew. We spoke about his early experiences in heavy armored rattan combat. I hope this gives non-fighters a glimpse into maybe what starting fighting might be like.

Q: What made you decide to do Rattan Combat in the SCA?

A: When I was 10 I went to a museum in LA with my family. In front was an SCA tournament. I saw the fighters fight and my parents spoke to a warrior and he showed me his rattan sword and armor. From that moment forward it sparked the dream that re-enactment battles were really cool. After a while I forgot about it I thought that I might have dreamt it and that it never really happened. When I was 21 however a friend from Karate told me about SCA fighting and it all came back. I realized that it was not a dream after all.

Q: How long did it take you to start fighting?

A: I was offered a chance to fight when I first went to practice. I was about 200 pounds, and the knight whose armor I got to use was about 160 pounds. I was stuffed into this armor like a sausage and they pushed me onto the field to fight other knights.

Q: How did that go?

A: <laughs> It was wild. I was afraid I would get hurt. They were all knights, expert warriors. And we were fighting at night. I was scared out of my mind. I used to get butterflies before practice in the early days. It was a potent cocktail of adrenaline and fear.

Q: Did it hurt when you got hit?

A: No – Until I fought Sir William Skyler. He wrapped me in the back so hard I wanted to cry.

Q: Did you?

A: No. But I remember how majestic he looked. Polished Silver helm, polished 14th century breast plate and leggings, with a chain mail skirt. He looked every part the knight.

Q: how long were you practicing before this memorable fight?

A: Weeks. In the old days I practiced with an old rattan stick against a tree and rarely did I get the chance to put on armor and fight a real opponent. It took me time to get my armor. In time I traded service for my armor. I pledged to fight all battles for a house called “The Bloody Harlequins” in return for my own suit of armor.

Q: How did your first suit of armor look?

A: Awful. Piecemeal. Not all of it fit well. I was using a loaner helmet that looked like a fruit salad bowl. It was so ugly that not even a mother could love it.

Q: Can you describe your first battle?

A: Yah... it was in Caid in a battle called “Patraeo War”. There were a couple of hundred at least. It wasn’t the biggest battle but it was the biggest I’d ever been in. it was hot and dusty.

Q: how did you do?

A: I chased down a spearman and he drew a side arm sword. He hit my shield and the strap broke. Then my basket hilt came loose and then as I harried him the cup fell out of my jock strap , almost all simultaneously.

Q: did you escape intact?

A: Yes... so I'm standing there at spear's length. In Caid you can kill from behind and someone killed the spearman from behind.

Q: What happened next?

A: I didn't want to tell my team mates that I was not combat effective but the unit commander ordered us back to the castle made of hay bales. I stood there shoulder to shoulder with my mercenary brothers hoping no one would storm the castle.

Q: So you were standing cup near your ankles, basket hilt loose and hardly protecting your hand, shield flopping around with no strap, praying not to get hurt? How did it end?

A: A giant army emerged out of the woods and was heading straight at us. They got closer and closer – and then I thought “Oh my god here they come” They stopped briefly in front of the castle door and only then decided we were not worth taking and passed us by.

Q: so you got your cup on right?

A: I tried. I worked it up to my knee. But by the time they passed us the horn was blown and the battle was over.

Local Martial Practices / Pratiques martiales locales

Practices take place weekly. There is a single \$5.00 weekly admission fee for fencing and archery, whether you attend one or several nights. Please note there is an additional cost of \$1.00 if you attend archery equipment rental. There is no admission fee charged for outdoor practices. Everyone is welcome!

Loaner gear may be available for rent on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please contact the officer in charge for more details. For heavy & rapier combat, a jockstrap is required.

Nos pratiques ont lieu toutes les semaines. Le droit d'admission est de 5,00 \$ par semaine pour l'escrime et le tir à l'arc, peu importe le nombre de pratiques auxquelles vous assistez. Veuillez noter que des frais supplémentaires de 1,00 \$ s'appliquent si vous emprunter de l'équipement de tir à l'arc. Il n'y a aucuns frais pour les pratiques extérieures. Vous êtes tous les bienvenus!

Vous pouvez louer de l'équipement, selon le principe du premier arrivé, premier servi. Veuillez communiquer avec l'officier en charge pour plus de détails. Vous devez avoir un support athlétique (Jockstrap) pour participer aux pratiques d'escrime et de combat lourd.



Fencing / Escrime

Mondays 7 pm to 10 pm / Lundi 19h à 22h

Summer: Girouard Park (corner Girouard and Sherbrooke West)

Winter and rainy weather: St-Mathias Church, 131 Cote St. Antoine, Westmount.

Été : Parc Girouard (coin Girouard et Sherbrooke Ouest)

Hiver ou par temps pluvieux : Église St-Mathias, 131 Cote St. Antoine, Westmount.



Archery / Tir à l'arc

Tuesdays 7 pm to 10 pm / Mardi 19h à 22h

Wesley United Church (basement / sous-sol)

5964 Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Blvd., Montreal



Fighting / Combat en armure

Mondays 7 pm to 10 pm / Lundi 20h à 21h30

Summer: Girouard Park (corner Girouard and Sherbrooke West)

Été : Parc Girouard (coin Girouard et Sherbrooke Ouest)

Please note outdoor practices are not official, and are not endorsed by the SCA. / Veuillez noter que les pratiques à l'extérieur ne sont pas des pratiques officielles de la SCA et que nous n'en assumons pas la responsabilité.

Contact Information / Coordonnées



Baron: His Excellency Angus McHaleybaron@dragon-dormant.org



Baroness: Her Excellency Tadea Isabetta di Brunobaroness@dragon-dormant.org



Seneschal: Don John Radburn.....seneschal@dragon-dormant.org



Exchequer: Dame Éliane de Lorraine.....exchequer@dragon-dormant.org



Poursuivant: Lord Cairn MacAllisterpoursuivant@dragon-dormant.org



Knight Marshal: Lord Péllandres, dit le frère.....marshal@dragon-dormant.org



Captain of Fencers: Lord Olanfencers@dragon-dormant.org



Captain of Archers: Lord Daffydarchers@dragon-dormant.org



Mistress of the Lists: Lady Wulfwyn Air Iriosol.....lists@dragon-dormant.org



Mistress of Arts & Sciences: Borujin Acilaldaiarts-sciences@dragon-dormant.org



Historian: Laurie of the Bow.....historian@dragon-dormant.org



Chatelaine: Lord Menhard the Guardsmen.....chatelaine@dragon-dormant.org



Chronicler: Lord Cynan ap Rhys chronicler@dragon-dormant.org



Webminister: Dominus Gnaeus Aurelius Andronicuswebmaster@dragon-dormant.org

