

The Windlore

Volume 36 Issue 5

The Newsletter of the Barony of Windmasters' Hill

May 2007

Welcome to the Windlore!



For some strange reason Medieval Twister failed to gain popularity among the Heralds.

Greetings and welcome to the May 2007 issue of the Windlore, the newsletter for the Barony of Windmasters' Hill. This newsletter is distributed primarily in an electronic format and is accessible from the web-site www.windmastershill.org. If you desire to be sent a hard copy of the windlore via mail, please submit a written request to the Barony by coming to a monthly Baronial Meeting or by contacting the Baronial Chronicler:

Dunstan LeHeryngmongere (Keith Nealon)
rangernealon at aol.com
1800 N. Harrison Ave Cary, NC 27513

Letter from Their Excellencies

Greetings to the Wonderful Populace of Windmasters' Hill!

We would like to send our hopes and best wishes for Eogans speedy recovery to Eogan and Elspeth. Please know that you are in the thoughts and hearts of the entire Barony and we hope to see you well again very soon.

It was wonderful to see so many Windmasters' contributing to the pageantry of Coronation in their lovely Roman garb. Many Windies also tested their metal against the very gods themselves in the quest and did quite well. We would especially like to congratulate Girard, Beatrice, Geoffrey, Valdemar, and Wystric, the members of Abandon All Hope, for winning the quest and the favor of the gods by returning Venus to her loving husband and the new Atlantian Sword of State to a grateful Kingdom.

We were thrilled to have the opportunity to meet interested potential new-comers at the North Carolina Renaissance Fair this month. Many wonderful fighters, artisans, and members of the populace came out to contribute to the membership drive and we would like to take a moment to thank all of them, especially Jehannette, Melrakki, and Eibhlín for working so hard on this demo which contributes potential newcomers not only to the entire Barony but also all over the southeast. These fine gentles worked hard every day often driving over an hour just to get to the demo. Jehannette and melrakki organized and ran the demo this year, organizing beautiful displays of A&S as well as a large number of fighting demos that lasted all day. Eibhlín spent her entire day talking to new-comers, getting their contact information, and distributing flyers. We don't believe we ever saw her sit down. She was also very timely in contacting the interested new-comers after the demo and sending their information on to the local cantons. Well done y'all!

With the arrival of May we begin once again to turn our eyes towards the north and approaching war between the East and the Middle. Baronial War Practice continues to be on the 3rd Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted and we are pleased to see our armies readying for battle. We encourage all our fighters of every discipline to come out to Baronial War Practice so that we can prepare ourselves for the coming battles ahead. We will again be having a Baronial Encampment at Pennsic and we hope many of you will camp with the Barony. Please contact Girard and Guenièvre with any questions about the Baronial Encampment.

Please continue to send recommendations for the hardworking and deserving members of our populace. We look forward to Buxton's Midsummer Twilight Tourney in celebration of the great Don Quixote.

May the lovely Dulcinea smile upon you all and honor you with her favor.

Gaston and Rosalind

OFFICER'S Letters

Chronicler's Quill

Greetings to the Great and Glorious Populace of Windmasters' Hill-

So here is the thing- What most Chroniclers really want for their publication (and I am completely included in this crass generalization) is stuff that people will find entertaining and/or useful.

I feel that this issue of the Windlore includes those things and I have people to thank for it. So my thanks go out to the entire Windmasters' Hill Cooks Guild for a fine and useful recipe and also to Lady Margaret Cochrane for taking the time to write and submit a good beginner's guide to Pennsic.

I welcome any and all submissions to the Windlore, including artwork, poetry, A&S and important announcements.

In service,
Dunstan leHeryngmongere

From the Chatelaine's Chair

May 2007

Greetings unto the Populace of Windmasters' Hill from Lady Eibhlin inghean ui Chiarain, Chatelaine

A perspective on the fighting arts for the newcomer:

The fighting arts are the engine of the SCA. Fighting activities are the most dramatic and recognizable parts of our demos. Participation in fighting draws in and keeps many of our members. Our events are usually structured around a program of armored or rapier combat. As a newcomer, you may not be sure if you want to participate in any of the SCA combat activities, and that's fine, but do try to understand that fighting and the culture of combat make the SCA what it is.

SCA fighters embody the chivalric ideal. I have often noticed that the gentleman most likely to jump up and hold a door for someone or help a struggling, overburdened parent is a gentleman who is a dedicated and enthusiastic fighter. SCA fighters are encouraged to learn and practice the knightly virtues of courage, justice, mercy, generosity, faith, nobility, and hope.

Safety and honor are important considerations for SCA fighters. We have marshals to act as safety inspectors and stop the fighting when something becomes hazardous, but marshals are not referees. A marshal does not determine the outcome of a bout. Each combatant must decide for himself if a given blow is fair or not. It takes some practice to develop this discernment and new fighters are coached in the art of "calibration". As a well thrown blow is the decider of many questions in the SCA it is extremely important that good hits are recognized and honored.

SCA armored and rapier combat is very exciting. Windmaster's Hill encourages newcomers to come out to fighter practices and participate. To do this is quite easy, but there are a few simple things to remember.

1. Wear appropriate attire. This means closed-toe shoes, socks, long pants, appropriate gender protection and a shirt (preferably long sleeved). For rapier combat a long sleeved, hooded sweatshirt and sturdy gloves are ideal.
2. Contact the local marshal if you need to borrow gear BEFORE practice starts. If you need to borrow armor, a weapon, a mask or a shield because you are just starting, call your local Knights' Marshal a few days before practice to let him know.
3. Practice! Attend fighter practice as often as you can. Get out and visit other groups whenever possible. Challenge yourself by sparring with different people.
4. Enjoy yourself. Fighting in the SCA is a unique experience. Friendships are forged that grow stronger as the years go by. You will take part in grand melees, desperate defenses, glorious charges and doomed last stands. And then you will walk off the field and relive your exploits in story and song. Enjoy! Be a hero!

Greetings from your Baronial MOAS

Coronation was a beautiful sight to see, including the new crowns. Thanks to everyone who helped make that day a stunning Roman affair.

Upcoming, we have [St. Anne's Guild Costumers Symposium](#), in Black Diamond (Charlottesville, VA), and Spring Crown Tournament, in Isenfir (Swope, VA). There is a Roll of Arms competitions in addition to the other arts events at Crown.

Also, on last check Tournoi des enfants (Sudentorre- Stafford, VA) on May 12th is still looking for teachers. To run a class, or to get more information on classes already scheduled, please contact Lady Cairistiona de Coueran (Laurie Clarkston, 540-582-2699, garadh@verizon.net).

In Service,
Jehanette de Provins

Minutes for the Baronial Meeting in April

*Minutes of the Barony of Windmasters'
Hill April Baronial Meeting, held at
Subway Restaurant,
Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh.*

Chow brought the meeting to order at 4:20. Approximately 20 people were in attendance.

Baronage comments: Gaston mentioned that TE would like for the cantons to consider bids for Kingdom level events. Atlantia is having difficulty getting bids and the Barony could help with the events at the Canton level.

Award recommendations are needed at both the Baronial and the Kingdom level, so if you know someone who you feel is deserving of recognition send in a recommendation!

Baronial fighter practice will be next weekend at Lake Crabtree county park.

Rosalind talked about Pennsic. She stressed that ALL people going to pennsic had to register with both the Coopers and with the stewards. Girard and Guenievre and Beatrice are still the stewards but Beatrice mentioned that since she is currently job seeking she may have an issue with going to Pennsic. Athos said he might be able to help out with land grab and said he would check with work to get time off.

Officer Reports:

Chataleine: The Ren faire was a successful demo. Ebhlin thanked Jehanette and Melrakki, among others, for all of their hard work to make it so. It had to shut down earlier that day (the 15th) than normal due to weather. The demo season is slowing down now while the event season is speeding up.

Chirurgion: Was not there. The Kingdom Chirurgion has been broadcasting a call for people to send in their certifications if they are on the chirurgion list.

Chronicler: Dunstan reminded all that, as per the last 30 or so Baronial meetings, the deadline for submissions to the Windlore is the 20th of the month. He is always happy to take submissions of art-work/poetry/A&S to the windlore and yes, he still needs a deputy.

Herald: not there.

Knight Marshal: not there.

Rapier Marshal: not there.

Archery Marshal: Archery practice is going to be Monday nights in Fuquay.

Arts & Sciences: Jehanette was not there.

MOL: Zita was not there.

Web minister: The new Windmasters' Forums are now up, but only about 40 people are signed up to them. We need to encourage more people to sign up and we need to address and comments/concerns to Malcolm so he can fix them.

Quartermaster: Beatrice said that at Midsummers' we will mark all of the pots and pans the Barony owns with Alaric's engraving tool.

Warlord: Cuan was not there. Rain and wind issues canceled the Baronial fighter practice today.

MOM: Mariana was not there.

Exchequer: Piero announced that as of the beginning of the meeting, the total in our bank account: \$15,281.63 of which \$4,110.55 is allocated, and \$11,171.08 unallocated.

Seneschal: Chow mentioned that there will be a seneschals class next Sunday at Poe Hall at 3pm. He wanted to reinforce the idea that we should all be sending in award recommendations at both Kingdom and Barony level.

The 3rd weekend of the month continues to be the Baronial Meeting and fighter practice. Subway on Lake wheeler road will continue to be the alternate inclement weather sight. It is up to the Warlord/Marshals to cancel, and Chow wanted to point out that He does not decided to cancel a practice- the Warlord/Marshall does.

There is a concern about the relationship between the cantons and the Barony and a need to begin more open communication and less exclusivity to those levels. What's up with Eogan? He seems to be doing better, Yeah! Everyone's thoughts and prayers are with him.

Canton Reports:

Attillium: Oisin was not there. Ebhlin said there's lots of stuff going on in Attillium lately. Several new fighters have recently shipped in. They are working on a new website. They are also looking at a sight as a possible bid for Fall Crown Tourney.

Buckston: Is still having very active meetings on Tuesday nights. Midsummer's Twilight tourney is gearing up. A new website is up. A cool new dance project is in the making- The Buckston group intends to film themselves doing some simple dances to use as an instructional tool for other groups.

Elvegast: Ormarr was not there. He is opening up his new Hooka Bar in Chapel Hill. Practices are the same and meetings are the same.

K-berg: Kberg is actively looking for sites to host an event at but sites are hard to come by. Fighter practices are now on Thursday at Wilson Park in Carrboro. Beatrice mentioned that there are issues with directions to Wilson park and they will be reposted. This led to a longer discussion about directions in general and how they are often not written very well. Nikulai mentioned duct tape and there was some discussion.

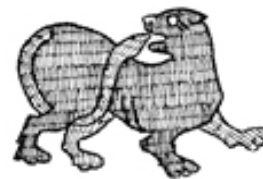
Nimenefeld: no rep from nimenfeld. Everyone wishes for Eogan to have a speedy recovery.

Old Business: Not only is there not a bid for Ymir, there is not even a site for ymir. Everyone, please start beating the bushes looking for a good ymir site!

New business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

Submitted by Dunstan LeHeryngmongere



UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are events that are in the area, nearby or that might be of interest. Any item listed with a *** is NOT an official SCA event.

May

Spring Crown Tourney will be held in Swope, VA on May 4-6.

June

Summer University will be held on June 2nd in College Park, MD.

Midsummer's Twilight Tourney will be held in Leasburg, NC on June 8-10

July

Assessment will be held in Big Island, VA on July 6-8

Pennsic War starts a week early this year, running July 27th- August 12th in Slippery Rock, PA.

String Thing is back!

String Thing officially restarts it's monthly meeting of all things fabric.

May 27th is the next meeting. Meetings typically go from 2PM to 5PM

Contact Francesca at 471 2727 for details.

Directions to get to the next Baronial Meeting:

The next Baronial fighter practice and meeting will be held at 12 and 4 respectively on June 17th. They will take place at Carolina Pines Park in Raleigh. Directions are as follows: Take Highway 40 to exit 297 (Lake Wheeler road). Turn South on Lake Wheeler Road. (So if you were traveling on I40 East you turn right. If you were traveling west turn left). Drive approximately 1 -2 miles down lake wheeler road. Turn left into the park (Carolina Pines Park, marked with a brown sign with white letters). Fighter practice usually takes place near the playing fields. Meetings are usually under the shelter near the main parking lot.

In the event of inclement weather, the Meeting will actually take place just down the street at the Subway restaurant located on Lake Wheeler road just North of Highway 40. The address to this Subway is 1709 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC 27603.

In service,
Dunstan LeHeryngmongere



The Baronial Contact List is waiting for you to make it bigger and better!

If you want to be one of the **cool people**, one of the **networkers**, one of the **people who can actually be found** in this crazy web-wise world, then go to the web-site

<http://www.sinister.net/wh/whphone.htm>

and let your info be known.
Many thanks to Master Corwyn for putting it together!

Acknowledgments for this issue:

All of the graphic images in this windlore came from the Dover books 'Medieval Illustrations'. Permission is granted to photocopy provided no more than ten images from the book are used in any one publication. The recipe on page 5 was put together by Cassandra Chambers and used with permission of the Windmasters' Hill Cooks Guild. The article 'What to expect at Pennsic' Part 1 was written by Bryn Smith and is printed here with her permission.

For details, contact Keith Nealson at rangernealson at aol.com or 919678-0118

Cook's Corner

Monthly article from the Windmasters Hill Cooks Guild

This month we would like to highlight a simple yet tasty 14th/15th century Italian recipe that Tankred Bras-de-Fer brought to our last potluck. Tankred used smoked Gouda for the cheese. Try it and enjoy!

A Tart of Onions

- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 6 eggs
- 1/2 lb. (2 cups) soft cheese, grated
- pinch saffron
- pinch salt

Beat eggs, add other ingredients, and pour into an unbaked pie crust. Bake at 350°F until lightly browned on top - about an hour.

Source [Libro di cucina/ Libro per cuoco, L. Smithson (trans.)]: *CII - Tart of scallions or of onions, etc. If you want to make a tart of these things, take that which you want and let it well boil. Take first the water out and then squeeze out the water and finally chop / mash them and take fine lard and beat well; take eggs and fresh cheese and saffron and beat all together and make the tart.*

"A Tart of Onions." Medieval Cookery. 2007. 15 Apr. 2007
<<http://www.medievalcookery.com/recipes/oniontart.shtml>>.

The Windmasters Hill Cooks Guild's next meeting will be May 20 after the Baronial Meeting. Please come and join us!

You can also join our email group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/whcooks!>

This is the Windlore, a publication of the Barony of Windmasters' Hill of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Windlore is available free of charge at the Website www.windmastershill.org.

This newsletter is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

(c) Copyright 2007, Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

For information on reprinting letters and 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."

Canton Seneschals

Canton of Attilium-

Seneschal: Oissene na gCeanne mac Bascinid (Jay Ozmont) (910) 868-9087 demento at earthlink.net. <http://www.geocities.com/canton-of-attilium>

Canton of Buckston-on-Eno-

Seneschal - Phillipa Tillinghast (Janet Kennedy) Home: 919-870-6046 Cell: 919-622-9557 e-mail: jkennedy93@yahoo.com

Canton of Elvegast-

Seneschal: Ormarr (Adam Bliss) adbliss at yahoo dot com. (919) 274 9578 <http://elvegast.atlantia.sca.org>

Canton of Kappellenberg-

Seneschal: Beatrice Villani (Heidi Klein) (919) 967 1921 (nca 10:00 pm) heidi.klein at sas dot com <http://kappellenberg.atlantia.sca.org>

Canton of Nimenfeld-

Seneschal: Steafan O'Reilly (Steve Riley) (919) 639-4531 steafan at nc.rr.com. <http://home.nc.rr.com/eogan/nimenfeld>

Baronial Champions

Champion

Lord Bjorn of Attilium

Courtier

TBD at Midsummers Tourney

Archer

TBD at Midsummers Tourney

Artisan

TBD at Midsummers Tourney

Bard

TBD at Midsummers Tourney

Brewer

TBD at Midsummers Tourney

BARONIAL REGNUM

Baron-

Gaston du Valmont
(Micheal Coty Kannon)
baron at windmastershill.org
900 Aukland Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606
(919) 859-2284

Baroness-

Rosalind de la Mer
(M. Alison Kannon)
Baroness at windmastershill.org
900 Aukland Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606
(919) 859-2284

Seneschal-

Matsuura Suetsunae (Chow)
(Adam Smith)
153 Winsor Circle
Chapel Hill, NC
seneschal at windmastershill.org
919 338 2017

Exchequer-

PieroVolpe
(Dane Madsen)
919 672 8783
dane.piero at gmail.com

Chatelaine-

Eibhlin inghean ui Chiarain
(Jennifer Kuntz)
910-875-7121
moosewinkel at hotmail dot com

Herald-

James of Middle Aston
(James Wagner)
herald at windmastershill.org
(919) 225-0129

Knight Marshall

Baron Alaric Domhnullach
(Eric Moorefield)
919-622-8835 (not after 10PM)
marshal at windmastershill.org

Warlord-

Cuan MacDaig
dukecuan@hotmail.com,
h910-693-1959,
m910-315-3741

Chirurgion-

Lord Andreas de Caunteton
(George Condon)
(919) 304-1515 (H)
(919) 619-2601 (W/C)
scadiandreas at triad.rr.com

Quartermaster

Beatrice Villani
heidi.klein at sas.com
919 967 1921

Archery Marshal-

Manus MacDhai
(Scott Dean)
1315 Castalia Dr
Cary, NC 27513
919 462 8853
archery at windmastershill.org

Rapier Marshal-

Wistric Oftun
Owen Townes
otownes at gmail.com
919-260-4147

Minister of Arts and Sciences-

Lady Jehanette de Provins
Anne Ramey
annealea at yahoo.com
919-219-5647
4097 Carbonton Rd
Sanford, NC 27330

Minister of the Lists-

Zita Dominguez
(Bobbe Herman)
7537 Newt Country Lane
Fuquay Varina, NC
919-552-4197 Home #
919-795-0827 cell #
bherman at wrightsbuiding.com

Chronicler-

Dunstan Leheringmongere
(Keith Nealson)
919 678 0118
chronicler at windmasterhill.org

Chancellor Minors-

Mariana de Salamanca,
(Hillery Brewer)
616-560-3713
fiberferret at gmail.com

Waterbearing-

Vacant

Webminister-

Malcolm Beru
(Neil McCorkle)
webminister at windmastershill.org

Windmasters' Hill Baronial Calendar for May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Elv Business 7:30 (AS) Kberg Ftr (5:30-rapier) (7:30- Heavy) (PM)	4	5
6 Attilium Practice (H) 1pm (JO) Elvegast Practice 1pm (CK)	7 Kappellenberg Meeting 7:30 pm (NS)	8 Buckston Prac (5:00) Meeting (7:30) (CC2) Nimenfeld meeting 7:30 pm (BB)	9 Nimenfeld Prac (7pm) (AR)	10 Elv Business 7:30 (AS) Kberg Ftr (5:30-rapier) (7:30- Heavy) (PM)	11	12
13 Attilium Practice (H) 1pm (JO) Elvegast Practice 1pm (CK)	14 Kappellenberg Meeting 7:30 pm (NS)	15 Buckston Prac (5:00) Meeting (7:30) (CC2)	16 Nimenfeld Prac (7pm) (AR)	17 Elv Business 7:30 (AS) Att Meeting 7:00 (JO) Kberg Ftr (5:30-rapier) (7:30- Heavy) (PM)	18	19
20 Baronial Business Meeting (3pm) Baronial Fighter Practice (Noon) (carolina Pines)	21 Kappellenberg Meeting 7:30 pm (NS)	22 Buckston Prac (5:00) Meeting (7:30) (CC2) Nimenfeld meeting 7:30 pm (BB)	23 Nimenfeld Prac (7pm) (AR)	24 Elv Business 7:30 (AS) Kberg Ftr (5:30-rapier) (7:30- Heavy) (PM)	25	26
27 String Thing 2pm- 5pm (MD) Elvegast Practice 1pm (CK) Attilium Practice (H) 1pm (JO)	28 Kappellenberg Meeting 7:30 pm (NS)	29 Buckston Prac (5:00) Meeting (7:30) (CC2)	30 Nimenfeld Prac (7pm) (AR)	31 Elv Business 7:30 (AS) Kberg Ftr (5:30-rapier) (7:30- Heavy) (PM)		

CONTACTS:

AS=Alison Stalls (chimlette at nc.rr.com)

JO=Jay Ozment 910 868-9087

BB= Beth Bonar 919 577 3913

MD= Muir Dean 919 471 2727

CC= Curtis Carrington 919 557 6222

NS=Nicholas Soucy 919 225 2343

CC2= Cassandra Chambers 919 272 7712

SR= Steve Riley 919 639 4531

CK= Coty kannon 919 859 2284

AR=April Riley 919 639 4531

PM= Paul McLamb (919 967 7809)

PLEASE NOTE: This is a very basic calendar.

A much more detailed one can be found at : <http://sca.housebayard.net/calendar.htm>

What to Expect at Pennsic Part 1 of 2

A primer by Margaret Cochrane (MKA Brynn Smith)

(This is the first half of this article, submitted for any who are new to the ways of the great war Pennsic. The second half, which includes some helpful websites, will be in next month's Windlore. Thanks, Margaret!) - Editor

Pennsic is big. I mean, really really big. The camping site is about a mile and a half north to south, and roughly half a mile east to west, shaped roughly like a half-circle. The average attendance is between ten and twelve thousand people over the entire two-week span. There is something going on every minute of every day, including pageantry, parties, dancing, classes, music, acting, shopping, church services, debauchery, court, a blood drive, shopping, AA meetings, volunteer opportunities, performances, shopping, dust, weddings, memorial services, meteors, classes, fantastic garb, ants, awful garb, children's activities, archery, arts, crafts, drinking, displays, rude people, friendly people, crime, heraldry, email, rain, gates, walking, cannons, heat, shopping, cold, books, parades, and fighting. If you're interested in it, you can probably find someone there who does it. It does not, however, have electricity.

This paper will give you some basic information about Pennsic that is more than just a packing list. Telling you what to pack for Pennsic and leaving it at that is like telling you that you might get damp when you go under Niagara Falls in a boat. By the way, Niagara Falls is only a couple of hours north of Pennsic, if you haven't ever been. You should go sometime, it's spectacular, especially from the Canadian side. But anyway, at a minimum you will need a tent, some sort of warm bedding, garb, and some method of cooking or acquiring food. You will be comforted to know that there are four Super Wal-Marts and a large outlet mall nearby, approximately 95 merchants on site, and the Cooper's store, which carries standard camping stuff and also chocolate milk. There is a post-office on site which has its own special Pennsic cancellation postmark, food merchants and a small grocery stand, and kind and generous people who will help you get what you need to get if you are well and truly stuck. You shouldn't count on them. You will need to evaluate what you will need, and either take it with you or plan on buying it there. If you want to stay in a hotel, you should have made a reservation in February, but you can try. Butler has a nice new Super 8 that wasn't absolutely full last year, and is only about 15 miles north of the site, behind the outlet mall.

First let's go over some geography. Pennsic is held at Coopers' Lake Campground, in Slippery Rock, PA, about an hour north of Pittsburgh on I-79. It is at exit 99 on I-79, literally right there. You will be able to hear the highway day and night from a good deal of the site. This is the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains, which means that it gets COLD at night. Average lows for nighttime are in the mid 50s, with drops well below that. Some years there has been frost on the ground in the early morning. This might not sound terribly cold to people who are used to living in a house with floors and solid walls and a roof, but when it is in the 50s outside your tent, it will be in the 50s inside your tent too. Air mattresses are great, but they are also heat-sinks, and they will suck the warmth out of your body and make you at least very uncomfortable. So, bring something to sleep on, but bring something to line it with, too, such as a wool blanket, a pair of sheepskins, a space blanket, or all three. You might want a sleeping cap, too. You will want warm garb for nighttime, including wool socks, a warm hat, and a cloak, coat, or cassock of some sort. On the other hand, this is August we are talking about, so it gets very warm in the daytime. You will want a sunhat (most people use straw hats), sunscreen, cool cotton or linen garb, and comfy shoes for your feet. Of course, if you don't want to wear shoes, don't. Pennsylvania has some advantages over North Carolina, though, so there are not hordes of mosquitoes, fire ants, wasps, and hornets. There are ants, and they will get into everything, but they are entirely harmless, and you will learn to ignore them in a day or two. Some people put down diatomaceous earth, ground cloves, or ant killer before they put their groundcloth and tarp down. That is up to you. It doesn't hurt the ants particularly, but it might make you feel better.

Ok, so now you have thought about what to pack. Next, you have to pick your route. This is a matter of great debate around here, because some people are very definitely mountain-route people, and some are city-route people. Every once in a while, you'll get someone who splits the difference and drives US15 the whole way. The mountain route is shorter in terms of time and distance, but, as you might guess, it goes through the mountains. This makes some people uneasy, since they like their land to be flat, so those people go the other way. Don't worry, they're leveling West Virginia right now, so in about 15 years it'll be flat too and there won't be any more mountains. Then everyone will go that way and we won't have anything to talk about in July anymore. Get an atlas and look at it, because you never know when some crucial road or exit will be blocked by a presidential visit or a UFO landing or someone's Pennsic trailer coming unhitched, and you'll have to go around.

The mountain route goes like this - take I-40 west to Winston Salem. Take US52 north to I-77. About halfway through Virginia I-77 north will merge with I-81 south. This occurs near Wytheville. Continue on I-77 north. Do not get off onto I-81, even though you will want to. Enter West Virginia. Pay a toll. Smile. Pay another toll. Grit your teeth. Just outside Beckley turn onto Highway 19 North. Stay on 19 for a while and go over the New River Gorge. Don't pay a toll, but do stop and look at the gorge, and get icecream. Turn onto I-79 north. US19 merges with the interstate (kind of like 15-501 and I-85 in Durham). Enter Pennsylvania. Pass Pittsburgh. Drive another hour. THERE WILL BE NO SIGNS FOR PENNSIC ON THE INTERSTATE!! If you go past exit 99, you will see a mile and a half of Pennsic on your left, so you should go to the next exit and turn around. Get off at exit 99 and turn left onto 422. Currie Rd. is just ahead on the right. Follow Currie Rd. down and around and over the one-lane bridge and past some more houses until you find yourself saying "Are you sure we're in the right place?" and then you will see the battlefield with the castle wall on your left, and some camping and merchant space on the right. Follow the signs or the traffic director to Troll. Read more about Troll below, after the city directions.

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

The city directions go like this - go up I-85 to I-95 (or just get on I-95 to start with) until you get to the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike west to Pittsburgh. Watch for I-79 North on the west side of Pittsburgh, and get on it. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SIGNS FOR PENNSIC ON THE INTER-STATE!! If you miss exit 99, you will see a mile and a half of Pennsic on your left. If you can't see all of those tents, this means that you're blind and you should not be driving. Turn around at the next exit, five miles up the road, and go back to exit 99. At exit 99, and turn left onto 422. Currie Rd. is just ahead on the right. Follow Currie Rd. down and around and over the one-lane bridge and past some more houses until you are saying "Where the heck are we?" and then you will see pavilions galore, and the battlefield and castle wall. Follow the signs or the traffic director to Troll. NOTE- I have not ever driven to Pennsic this way, so you should consult your atlas and also someone who has gone this way.

Now you're there, and you need to check in. You must check in at Troll before you even THINK about going to your camp. Depending on what day you get there, this might involve lots of waiting around on the battlefield with your car, trying to get through Troll. There are porta-potties on the battlefield, so look for them. We brought a baseball and two gloves for this particular wait, and were very happy we did, because it took over an hour. Once you get to the front of the car line, you will be told where to go by the guys in the blue scrubs. Obey them. They get cranky if you don't, and they have the right to refuse you entry. Get out of your car and check to make sure you have your photo ID, your SCA membership card if you have one, your license tag number, and any remaining gate fee you might need. If you have pre-registered, you might or might not have to pay a remaining fee, depending on when you arrive. You can pay with cash, and you can pay with a credit or debit card. But you CAN NOT write a check. They will laugh at you if you try, and send you away to find an ATM. You will not be allowed into the camp to find anyone who might or might not have your money. So, read the check-in procedures carefully on Coopers' website, and make sure you have the money you need. If you are under 18 years of age, you will not be admitted without at least one parent or LEGAL guardian. If you are an emancipated minor, you must be able to show that paperwork. Then you will be checked in, and you will get a medallion, a string for the medallion, a receipt, a tag for your car, and two booklets. Do not lose your medallion. Just don't. Don't lose your receipt either. Tomorrow after you have set everything up, sit down and read your Pennsic booklets. They are very useful, but you won't have time to read them now, because you need to set up.

After you have checked in and gotten your medallion, receipt, booklets, and car tag, you will have two hours to unload your vehicle and get it out of the campsite. You should know what camp you have registered with, so check at the map tent (there is also a map in the centerfold of your schedule booklet) - they'll tell you where that is. Drive to your camp site, park to the side of the road, and find your camp steward. He or she will tell you where your tent goes and possibly find helpers who will assist in unloading and setting up. Unload everything, take your vehicle to the parking lot, and walk back - it will do you good to stretch your legs after all that driving. Wear something that you don't mind getting dirty. Remember to set up your tarp and ground cloth first (don't forget the stuff for the ants), and then put up your tent. You can then spend as much time as you'd like setting up the inside of your tent, because when it rains you don't care because you already have your tent up. It will rain, by the way, at least three or four times. It probably won't rain much more than that in 2004, because this is a dry year, but if you are reading this in some other year, that won't necessarily apply. Set up your bed first, then whatever else you need, such as shelves, chairs, kitchen area (don't cook inside your tent, please), and so on. Take a shower, 'cos you are now all sweaty and dusty, then put on some garb and come sit down and chat. If you are arriving late in the day, you will probably want to eat at the food court that first night, because you'll be tired from driving all day. Don't lose your medallion.

This ends part 1. Part 2 will be in next month's Windlore.



What do you think the sculptor of this was thinking about? Freud would be so proud . . .