



The Apple Press - July 2024

Up Coming Events in the Shire

August 18 - Shire Day in the Park - 12:00pm-3:00pm

It most likely will be held at one of the two parks either Sam Micheals in Harpers Ferry or Jefferson Memorial in Charlestown. Check the Shire Facebook Page for the date it is on a Sunday and you can bring your own drink and chair . Fighters and Rapiers bring your gear to practice the rest bring a project to work on or just sit and chat.

July 17, Aug, 14.- 6:00pm-9:00pm - Inks Guild meets every other Wednesday at Angelino's house in Charlestown. Bring your own paints and brushes if you want. He has the scrolls to paint and can also furnish painting supplies. He will also teach you how to paint if you want to learn. Info on Inks Guild Facebook Page and Shire Facebook page.

October 11-13 is HAUNTING IN THE HALLOW Our NEW annual event, hosted by the Shire. Electra (Sarah Burington Tawzer) is the autocrat. She could use SOME HELP! There will be a feast by Arianna, Thrown weapons, Heavy fighting, Rapier, A&S and lots of other spooky stuff. This event takes place at the 4H camp, Camp Frame (1362 Camp Frame Road Hedgesville WV 25427). IT IS OUR EVENT! TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS WE NEED VOLUNTEERS ! There Is an event page on the Shire website and a Facebook page. Contact Sarah on Facebook to help out.

The June Shire Day in The Park

Photos and writing by THL Katherine of Caithness

Our Shire day in the park went off without a hitch on 30th of June 2024, despite some last minute changes. It was supposed to be held at Sam Michaels Park in Harpers Ferry but was changed at the very last minute to Jefferson Memorial Park in Charlestown. Thanks to that wonder of modern technology the internet and Facebook, word got out and there was a large turn out. Even though the weather was supposed to be hot, humid and a chance of rain in the afternoon. But just like in Camelot (where it only rains at night) our Sylvan Shire didn't get any rain. We did get sunny, hot weather

This month the Cooks Guild made a delicious day board for everyone which featured Andalusian food consisting of pasta known as Oreechiette, sausage and pork, both with sauce. The pork was more popular than the sausage and it was finished off first. Vegetables included deviled eggs, cucumbers, rice and for dessert a cake with orange sauce. In August the menu will be Berber Cuisine brought to you by our Cooks Guild. The Berbers are inhabitants of North Africa and are now scattered across Algeria and Morocco. Their diet is quite simple. Some ingredients are corn, goat cheese, butter, and honey. They also have a dish known as pizza made from beef or lamb on flatbread with onions and various other ingredients. Perhaps our Cooks Guild will make a few for next Shire Day?

Not only was there plenty of food and drink there were other activities as well. Electra set up a table to give away some of her garb she no longer needed. There was knitting going on and of course heavy fighter and rapier practice out on the field complete with not just



spectators from the shire but from people who were out for an afternoon in the park. A Wonderful time was had by all. The next Shire Day in the Park will Be in August due to Pennsic and the yearly epidemic of PENNSIC PANIC breaking out in the middle of July.



Count Andreas engaged in battle



Cooks Guild Andalusian Day Board



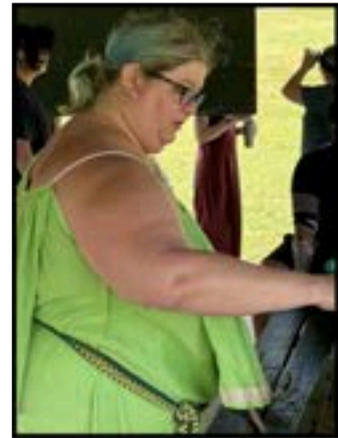
ce



Rapier Practice



Chivalry is always in style in Sylvan Glen.



Arianna cooking



The Magna Carta

Writing by THL Katherine of Caithness

When King Richard the Lionheart, king of England, died in battle in 1199, the throne passed to his youngest and last surviving brother John. Who were the sons of that well known power couple of the middle ages Eleanor of Aquitaine queen (formally queen of France) now of England and Henry III king of England.

Shortly after ascending the throne in 1204 King John had lost most of his inheritance of French lands to King Philip II of France. So, like most did when their land was taken, John went to war with Philip II to get them back. Wars cost money and unfortunately for the English Nobility King John was the not the military genius his bother Richard was. After a disaster of a war with France. It ended with no lands taken back and no new territory taken. In 1214, the war to regain the territory was begun again. Again, it ended in failure. With Englands treasury almost empty and short of funds, King John raised taxes on an over taxed population of Nobles, to continue the war. A civil war broke out and by May the rebellious nobles had control of several major cities including London.



King John had played for time by declaring himself a vassal of the pope. Even though Pope Innocent III had send letters to intervene, they arrived too late. Many Barons had defected to the rebel nobles side, King John then ordered the Archbishop of Canterbury, Steven Langton, to organize peace talks.¹

On the 10 of June 1215 both sides met at Runnymede between Windsor Castle and Staines on the south bank of the River Thames. Runnymede was considered neutral ground as it was close to the rebels base and where the King Johns forces were. It also was a place

¹ King John Presented with the Magna Carta to sign.

where neither side held a strategic advantage. An agreement was reached on 15 June 1215. While King John vowed to abide by the document he appealed to the Pope who promptly disavowed it thus letting John off. When John died his son King Henry III reissued the document in 1216. It was revised again in 1217 and 1225 with things added and subtracted from the original

The impact of the Magna Carta was that it was used as a model for all the documents for laws in the new world for English colonies. When the thirteen colonies became the United States, the founders used it as a touchstone for the writing of the Fifth and Ninth US Constitutional amendments. The US Supreme Court referred to Edward Coke's analysis of it in the right to a speedy trial. So as you roast those hot dogs and marshmallows, and watch the fireworks displays this 4th of July think of the Magna Carta and those thirteen original colonies.

Book review "1054 And All that A lighthearted History of the Catholic Church" By Karl Keating

Writing by THL Katherine of Caithness

Rarely does one find a history book on the Catholic Church that is entertaining and easy to read. "1054 And All That" is just such a book, complete with pen and ink illustrations Karl Keating has done something quite imaginative. Keating has taken what at first glance to be a rather mundane subject to some and made the history of the Catholic Church fun. So much so you just may find yourself laughing out loud, while learning something.

The book covers the usual suspects, so to speak, of the church some well known and others not so well known. Benedict, St. Thomas Aquinas, Gallieo and the popes of Avignon. Along with lesser known people and events like Theodosius, the council of Toledo (No Not the city of Ohio), the battle of Tours and Albigensian. And the even lesser known incident for which the book is named 1054 year of disaster. And my favorite The Great Western Schism. All are interesting and pithy reads with smiles and laughs included.

The book ends rather abruptly however in the mid twentieth century. Which is a bit of a disappointment. As we are in the twenty first century it seems only fair for the book to conclude at the end of the millennium but alas that was not to be. I will leave it to the reader to find out why.

Book Review: Wolves of Winter by Dan Jones

Writing by THL Katherine of Caithness

In the second book of the trilogy series of The Essex Dogs, Loveday and the rest of the Essex Dogs are fresh off their victory from the battle of Cr'cy. The year is 1346 King Edward III and Queen Philippa of Hainaut sit on the throne of England. King Philippe VI is king of France and its the hundred years war. England is doing quite well having won the battle of Cr'cy against all odds . Yet Edward III isn't leaving France until he takes the port of Calais . In order to do this Edward and his army must lay siege to the city..

Dan Jones captures all the history and suspense of the siege of Calais while seamlessly weaving in the fictional characters of the Essex Dogs with historical people. All the while giving us a vivid description of all the hardship, violence and grime of war involved in the siege.

The real surprise that I found especially helpful was the historical Note at the end of the book. Where it is revealed that a lot of the English and French characters of nobility actually lived and participated in the battle . Along with the pirates and places that were outside and within the city walls . When you finish this book you will be left wondering if indeed history is indeed stranger than fiction or is it the reverse?