

# Plague & Pox Submissions

Opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the contributing authors and do not necessarily represent those of the editor, staff, or Markland, Ltd. The **Plague/Pox** is published for communications to all Markland members and as an official corporate record. A policy of fair access and niceness of demeanor will be upheld by the Editor, staff, and members of the Witan. The **Plague/Pox** Staff determines if and when a submission is published. Due dates are always the last Friday of each month and are for receipt by the Editor. Please send all submissions to:

Patricia M. Dennis (Shakira)  
404 Dragon Lane  
Bear, Delaware 19701  
302-325-1327 (all day - before 10 PM)  
e-mail: shakira@dca.net

The preferred method of submission is electronically: either by e-mail or on an IBM disk, double or high density, 3.5 inch only. We can read most Windows or DOS based file formats. When in doubt, use a simple text format for articles. Alternately, hard copy camera ready art and typewritten or computer generated articles, double spaced are acceptable. And as a last resort, legible hand-written articles will be accepted. The due date for all Pox submissions (event announcements, official notices, etc.) is the last Friday of each month - In this case May 29, 1998.

The **Plague/Pox** is a monthly publication (2 **Plagues/10 Poxes**) for subscribing members of the Markland Medieval Mercenary Militia, Ltd. (a non-profit corporation in the State of Maryland), PO Box 715, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0715.

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Markland, Ltd., PO Box 715, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0715.**

## Markland Contact List (as of May 1, 1998)

Please send any updated CONTACT information to the Editor, as well as the Bocman. Regular address changes go to the Bailiff.

<p><b>The Witan</b></p> <p><b>The Aeldorman</b> Eric Dennis (Spothead) 404 Dragon Lane Bear, DE 19701 302-325-1327 shakira@dca.net</p> <p><b>The Shire Reeve</b> Bill Bauer 7712 Holmes Run Drive Falls Church, VA 22042 703-846-9707 (before 10 PM) lordwart@access.digex.net</p> <p><b>The Bocman</b> Mary Marlow (Arduinna) 120 Bonnie View Road Glen Burnie, MD 21060 410-760-6788</p> <p><b>The Bailiff</b> Fred Bauer 5408 Lakeford Lane Bowie, MD 20720-4864 301-262-3495 (before 10 PM) fbauer@access.digex.net</p> <p><b>AKA Knights Errant</b> John Stewart 454 Stemmers Run Rd Baltimore, MD 21221 410-780-3687 aka@JHU.edu</p> <p><b>Caer Edgemere</b> Ray Lloyd 829 Brunswick Road, 2B Baltimore, MD 21221 410-391-5897 (After noon, let it ring) edgemere@geocities.com</p>	<p><b>Companions of the Cross</b> Chester Karasinski (Cheslov Rex) 212 Woodpecker Lane Mount Holly, NJ 08060 609-267-9675</p> <p><b>Dalriada</b> Don Donovan (Abbott Domonal) 601 Buttonwood Ave. Apt. C-9 Maple Shade, NJ 08052 609-667-2951 GRNBRT@aol.com (Bill Coe)</p> <p><b>Drunken Mercenary Scum</b> Chuck Abbott 54 Holcomb Court Baltimore, MD 21220 410-780-0705 abbottcw@erols.com</p> <p><b>The Duchy of Mar</b> Terry &amp; Raffaella Marr 7 Devonshire Drive Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234-7111 609-926-1297 1.marr@worldnet.att.net</p> <p><b>Galacia</b> Dan Callagiron 9469 Kilamanjaro Rd. Columbia, MD 21045 410-995-0546 EMPIRDOG@aol.com</p> <p><b>Head Clan</b> Eric Dennis (Spothead) 404 Dragon Lane Bear, DE 19701 302-325-1327 shakira@dca.net</p>	<p><b>Henchmark</b> James Peterson (Erkon Mordred) 4 W. Brookhaven Road Wallingford, PA 19066 610-892-9787</p> <p><b>House Von Draken</b> John Smith (Duke Kyrin Baroosa Edred) 538A Coffel Street Hatfield, PA 19440 215-362-5229 kyrin@netcamier.com</p> <p><b>Longship Company</b> Fred Blonder 15900 Pinecroft Lane Bowie, MD 20716 301-390-4089 longshipco@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Marche de la Warre</b> David Lawrence 730 Colgate Lane Newark, DE 19713 302-731-5264 David.J.Lawrence@usa.dupont.com</p> <p><b>Maryland Medieval Mercenary Militia</b> Nikki Privé 7902 Flower Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-587-8441 (Before 10 PM) nprive@wam.umd.edu</p> <p><b>Order of the Golden Lion</b> Jamie Diamante 119 Langner Place Westwood, NJ 07676 201-772-8648 goldlion@tcnj.edu</p>	<p><b>The Order of Lost Boys</b> Matthew K. Cardwell (Angus O'Kelly) 8135 Grayhaven Road Baltimore, MD 21222 410-285-6775</p> <p><b>Order of St. Michael</b> Gary Hyatt 535 Saratoga Drive Lexington, MD 20653 301-862-5068 HYATTCG%AMS@mtnawcad.navy.mil</p> <p><b>Østvik Vikings</b> Janice Bauer 5408 Lakeford Lane Bowie, MD 20720-4864 301-262-3495 (before 10 PM) fbauer@access.digex.net</p> <p><b>The Principality of Antioch</b> Aaron Traas 155 Summit St., Rm 208 Newark, NJ 07102 973-643-7397 antioch@megahertz.njit.edu</p> <p><b>Scarlet Cross</b> Nick Santella, CPO 359 New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0700 908-745-0890 santella@eden.rutgers.edu</p> <p><b>Vairgard</b> Brian D. Thomas (Sir Bryin Blackcross) 3740 Lukens Lane Hatsboro, PA 19040 215-441-5254 knyaz@netaxs.com</p>	<p><b>Viking Camp</b> Terese Scott (Thyri Thorirwif) 12313 Sleepy Lake Ct. Fairfax, VA 22033-2838 703-359-7081 (before 9:30PM) thyri@tiac.net</p> <p><b>White Company</b> Bill Marlow (Wilhelm Greycloake) 120 Bonnie View Road Glen Burnie, MD 21060 410-760-6788</p> <p><b>Special Activity Groups</b></p> <p><b>Bowling Green Anglo-Saxons</b> Jim Comer 419-353-3416</p> <p><b>Celtic Camp</b> Melusine 301-WAR-LORD</p> <p><b>Clan Cambion</b> Wayne Dionne (Rorik) 301-BOCK-ALE</p> <p><b>Educational Fund</b> Gwynyth 703-503-7841</p> <p><b>Horse Guild</b> Bill Page 410-658-2147</p> <p><b>Irish Camp</b> Kass McGann lady13@juno.com</p> <p><b>Land Council</b> Steiner 302-456-1238</p> <p><b>Markland Fencing (non-SCA style)</b> Baron Heathcliff 908-830-4901</p> <p><b>Markland Period Fencing (SCA style)</b> Cheslov 609-267-9675</p> <p><b>Needle Arts Guild (Slutte Needleorium)</b> Sheree Krasley 610-495-0867</p> <p><b>Reeves Guild</b> Gary Hyatt 301-862-5068</p> <p><b>Saxon Camp</b> Garth of Wessex 302-731-1892</p> <p><b>Steel Qualifiers Guild</b> Andrew Mychalus (Drey) 717-456-7024</p> <p><b>Thir Venstri Foetr (Dance Troupe)</b> Caelyn 301-990-0019</p> <p><b>Longship Hotline</b> 301-390-4089</p> <p><b>Longship Webpage URL</b> http://www.wam.umd.edu/~eowyn/Longship</p> <p><b>Markland Webpage URL</b> http://www.markland.org</p>
---	---	--	--	---

## Markland, Ltd. Membership Information

Markland, Ltd. is recognized by the state of Maryland as a non-profit educational corporation, whose primary goal is the study and reenactment of the Middle Ages.

Annual membership dues are \$15.00 and include a subscription to **The Plague/Pox** (the monthly publications), group liability insurance, and full rights and voting privileges. A family membership (2 votes, 1 **Plague/Pox**) is \$23. A non-voting child's (under 16) membership is available for \$8 and does not include a copy of **The Plague/Pox**. Personal accident insurance (for official Markland events) can be purchased separately for \$4.50. Contributor's memberships are \$25, and include personal accident insurance.

To join, send a check to the following address (payable to Markland, Ltd.):

Markland, Ltd.  
P.O. Box 715  
Greenbelt, MD 20768-0715

Your contribution (excluding \$4 group insurance premium) is tax deductible. The additional \$4.50 personal accident insurance premium is not deductible.

# Calendar of Events

As of May 1, 1998

A note about event status - Every event is assumed to be official, unless the staff knows otherwise. Questions? Contact the Bocman.

## Ongoing Meetings and Fighter Practices

Note: These are the events I could confirm. If your group has a regular meeting or practice, please let me know! *Shakira*

**Sun:** Viking Camp monthly meetings/workshops. VA & MD. Contact Thyri for directions and times. 703-359-7081  
**Head Clan, Frat Practice** 2-4 PM (Markland Style) 4-6 PM (SCA Style). Iron Hill Park, Newark, DE. Contact Kelly for more information. 302-456-1238

**Mon:** Caer Edgemere, 7-10 PM. Chesapeake Terrace Elem. School Gym. Call Anna for directions and to verify times. 410-477-1895

**Tues:** UMCP Fyrdmoot, Reckord Armory, College Park Campus. Many different workshops (frat, steel, etc.) and conversation. Contact Nikki Privé at nprive@wam.umd.edu or 301-587-8441

**Thurs:** Østvik Vikings, Viking Sewing Nights, at Janice Bauer's place: 5408 Lakeford Lane, Bowie, Maryland. Contact Janice for more information: 301-262-3495 or fbauer@access.digex.net.

**May 15, 16, 17 - Easy Living War/Mount Holly Day** sponsored by Companions of the Cross. Contact Joan or Chet (609-267-9675) for info. Dancers and entertainers of all kinds are welcome. Merchants: If you have not yet gotten a merchant package, contact Joan immediately. Directions: Take New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 5. Follow the Markland signs.

**May 23-25 - 4 day co-event with the SCA, Boy Scout camp** near Nottingham State Park, PA. Sponsored by Vaigard. Features all kinds of fighting, merchants, medieval wedding, and other entertainments. (A mini-Pennsic) \$20 site fee includes feast on Saturday night, wedding buffet on Sunday. Limited to 200 total. Contact Brian Thomas at 215-441-5254 for information or to reserve a spot.

**May 29, 1998 - Due Date for June Pox**

**May 30, 1998 - Play in the Clay**, 3501 Carrol Avenue, Randallstown, MD - Call for details: 410-496-5229. See announcement last Pox.

**June 6, 1998 - Irish and Highland Dress Workshop**; Sponsored by Reconstructing History; Starts at 1 PM. Contact Kass at (908) 431-0131 or lady13@juno.com for more information. Also see advertisement this Pox.

### Directions:

**From the South:** Take 95 North to exit 7B (206 North - Lawrenceville - Princeton). Go North on 206 for a total of 14 1/2 miles. At the tenth traffic light, Rt. 27 will meet up with Route 206 in Princeton. Bear left to stay on 206 North. At the 21st light (which as I write this, is not yet working), make a right into Pike Run development (if you go over a sharply curved bridge with yellow lights on it, you just passed it). Continue from \*.

**From the North:** Find your best way to Route 206 South. From the Sommerville Circle, it is 9 miles south and 19 lights. Just before the 19th light, you will go over a sharply curved overpass with yellow lights on it. Stay to the left and follow 206 South over the bridge. The next light (not yet operational as I write this) is Pike Run. Make a left. Continue from \*.

\*Make the first right onto Cook Drive. You are now in Pike Run Village. Make the first left into Cain Court. The 500 building is the last one on the right. 526 is on the far side of the building. Park wherever you can and come around.

**June 26-28 - Camp Fenby**, Oakley Farm (So. MD) Sponsored by the Longship Company. Camping, workshops, and more. If there's something you want to TEACH OR LEARN, please contact Thyri (Terese) at 703-359-7081 before 10 PM evenings, or at thyri@tiac.net.

**June 26, 1998 - Due Date for July Pox AND Summer Plague**

**July 11, 1998 - Demo**, Corbett-Calloway Library, Odessa, DE - Sponsored by Marche de la Warre, Small demo geared for kids. Contact Shakira (302-325-1327)

**July 18, 1998 - Summer Althyng and the Feast of the Saracen**, St. David's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, DE. Sponsored by Marche de la Warre. Doors for Althyng open at noon. Althyng starts at 1:00 PM. Fully provided Middle Eastern themed feast starts at 6:00 PM and includes: Moroccan salads, bastilla (a chicken and phyllo pie), spanikopita (spinach and cheese pie), falafels (a vegetarian entre - was served at the 1996 Althyng Feast at Ft. Howard), a variety of roasted meats with assorted sauces, rice, couscous, hummus, pita bread, an assortment of beverages, and fresh fruit and Shakira's Baklava for dessert.

Tickets for the feast (no tickets needed for the Althyng, naturally): \$12 until June 30 (\$6 kids 12 and under); \$15 July 1 and after (regardless of

age). Tickets are available from Shakira (302-325-1327), Anna (410-477-1895) and at UM Fyrdmoots), and Kass McGann (908 431-0131). Also available by mail (see contact page) or by e-mail (shakira@dca.net).



Middle Eastern or crusader garb is strongly encouraged, but not required. Contact Kass McGann for more info on garb. We will have a belly dancing contest and an Iron in the Hat event as well. Musicians are needed for the belly dancing contest. For info on feast "activities" contact Pete Lindbergh at 610-274-0136. For more general info contact Shakira. Directions: See next Pox or contact Shakira!

**July 31, 1998 - Due Date for August Pox**

**September, 1998 - Queen's Challenge and Feast**. Competition to see which challenger & army will go for the crown at the Fall War.

**October 10 & 11, 1998 - Hastings Faire and Battle**, Marietta Mansion, Glen Dale, Maryland. Hold the Date! Details TBA. Contact Eric Dennis at 302-325-1327 or shakira@dca.net for info.

**October 10, 1998 - Hastings Feast**, Glen Dale Fire Hall (same site as last year, two blocks from the faire site.) Sponsored by DMS. Details TBA. Contact Chuck at 410-780-0705 or abbottcw@erols.com for info.

**October 24, 1998 - Feast of St. Goar**. Sponsored by the Order of the Golden Lion.

**October 31-Nov 1, 1998 - Caer Edgemere event** at Rocks 4H Camp in Bel Air, MD.

**November 7, 1998 - Feast of Plenty**. Sponsored by House Von Draken.

**December 19, 1998 - Winter Solstice Feast**. Sponsored by Viking Camp.

## ADVERTISING IN THE PLAGUE & THE POX

- Each Event is limited to a single free half-page ad (or two quarter-page ads), provided it is an official Markland event. Any larger or additional ads will cost the difference between the basic half-page allowance and the total submitted. This applies to ads only, not to articles concerning official events.
- The Editor will determine the difference between an ad and an article.
- Ads for the purpose of making a profit (i.e. commercial ads), or to announce events/services not strictly related to Markland, will be charged a fee. The Editor will make the final decision regarding the application of fees for ads. The editor also reserves the right to accept or reject ads, and to determine the timing of their publication. Rates subject to change with notice to the person placing the ad.
- Four copies of "camera-ready" copy must be submitted, PER issue. Allow .75 inch margins all around. The Plague staff must usually scan or re-set ads to meet publication requirements. Only very clean copy can be accepted. Note: electronic copies are also acceptable. Call for details and acceptable formats.
- Notices of lost or found property are considered ads, and will be charged.
- Only Marklanders get the Markland rates. (One of the perks of membership!) No third party submissions accepted. Payment in full, in advance, only, by check or money order. Payments should be made out to Markland, Ltd.

	Markland Member	Non-Member
Two (2) facing pages	\$100	\$200
Full page	\$ 50	\$100
Half page (approx. 4.6" h x 7" w)	\$ 25	\$ 50
Quarter page (approx. 4.6" h x 3.25" w)	\$ 13	\$ 30
Business Card (life-size)	\$ 5	\$ 15
One column inch (approx. 1" h x 3.25" w)	\$ 5	\$ 10

If you have questions about ad rates or how your ad will be considered, contact the Bailiff (Fred Bauer), or the Plague editor. Discounts may be available for multiple ad purchases. Send checks to the Editor, made payable to Markland, Ltd. Witan may change rates without prior notice, subject to posting in the next Plague OR Pox.

### Aeldorman's Hammer

Eric Dennis, Spothead



Ut and hello!

Why is the May schedule always so full and the June schedule so empty?

Well, the first Crown War has come and gone with a narrow victory for the

challenger. I hope that this is only the first of many wars to come in a fine new Markland tradition. Remember, the monarch is obliged to face a challenger after six months (if one has come forward), so don't let the Markland crown sit easy on anyone's head if you can avoid it.

I was also pleased to see a number of people re-upping as members just to participate in the Crown War. Most gratifying. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Skeletonhead (Charlie Brooks) for insisting that the succession take place in this manner, and also to thank Brynn and Bev (former queen and challenger, respectively) for the amount of energy they put into the contest. A fine example for all to follow. Special thanks also go to Nannyfodder for her hard work checking the roster and making sure that every fighter was a paid Marklander.

A happy spring and summer to all!

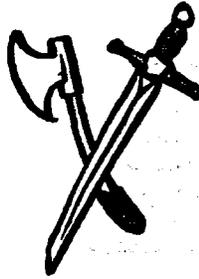
### Greetings from the Bocman

Mary Marlow, Arduinna



Remember your event forms...and to send them in early!

Bill Bauer, Oakstaf Babyeater



UT!

We have had the first few wars, the spring is under way (someone tell the weather that, BTW), and the new Markland season blooms. The fighters are out bashing each other, the "War for the

Crown" has been accomplished, and the... attitudes have not improved one bit. The immaturity levels have not improved - on the individual or the group levels.

Folks, this is a hobby. We are out there to have fun. We are not out there to "win our household honor", to "gloriously win the day", or any of that stuff (If you believe this crap, please look up the difference between "fantasy" and "reality"). This is a martial sport, true - but it is a sport. After every event I am getting complaints of "rhinohiding", of "blowing off shots", of "people hitting so hard it hurt". These feed on each other - if folks are blowing off shots, well, others will hit harder to compensate - and the next thing you know, you have to have full plate to walk away from the battle without a full set of bruises.

THIS IS WHERE WE ARE AT NOW. The next step is people getting hurt; not to mention the new kids not fighting because their lighter armor (chain, leather, etc.) doesn't stop the shots of the "tanks" who have to crank off on each other just to feel it... and who seem incapable of gauging the swing to the target - either because they are

unable to do so or don't want to. Note that most college students can not afford full plate...

These complaints worry me. Not because this means we have whiners in the crowd (we do have some; you can't have large groups of people without having a few around), but because some of the people who are complaining have been in Markland over 10 years, and one can safely assume that they know what they are talking about. You, as individuals, need to police yourselves - my reeves can not do it all. If someone is rhinohiding, well, take them off to the side and tell them.

WHEN IT HAPPENS. Everybody forgets details as the adrenaline wears off, and will immediately deny any wrongdoing. If they have been told twice, tell the reeve. If someone is cranking off on the lights, well, call him on it RIGHT THEN. (Are you gonna wait until after the battle, when a light or ultralight gets their heads taken off?) If you complain the reeve, we are gonna have to do something about it - sit the person out - and then that person will come after you in the next battle looking for blood - even if he was wrong. (Note last sentence of 1st paragraph!)

Please, people, let's remember that we are adults, recreating history.

We are not the romanticized blood-crazed barbarians of the books you've read, the movies you've seen, and the stories the SCA tells of us...

"Let's be careful out there..."



## This Was Then: A Labor-Saving Device

"Among the craft innovations of the central Middle Ages was the drawplate, a device that aided blacksmiths in fabricating wire for chain mail, until then laboriously hammered out at the forge. The piece of heated iron was drawn through successively smaller holes, a process that remained only to be mechanized. Another innovation took place as soap became an article of commerce, by the substitution of olive oil for animal fats. As a result the industry migrated south from its early center in Scandinavia to Marseilles, Venice, and Castile.[footnote deleted]"

— quoted from *Cathedral, Forge, and Waterwheel: Technology and Invention in the Middle Ages* by Frances and Joseph Gies  
HarperCollins Publishers, New York: (c) 1994

# Spring Council Meeting - April 26, 1998

Mary Marlow, Arduinna



With all but two groups (Henchmark, who arrived after the meeting, and OSM) in attendance, a quorum was reached and the meeting was called

to order at 12:40 PM. After it was announced that House Adderton had disbanded, the first order of business was the calendar of events:

July 18 - musicians are needed for the Althyng. Contact Pete Lindbergh. Donations are also needed for the Iron in the Hat. (Last year's made \$300 for Markland). Contact Pete for details. If anyone wants information on Middle-Eastern garb, they can contact Kass McGann. She and Anna also have tickets.

September - Queen's Challenge and Feast - a competition to decide which challenger and army will go for the crown at the Fall War.

September - Newark Community Day Demo - University of Delaware, mid-month.

October 24 - Feast of St. Goar. Sponsored by the Order of the Golden Lion.

October 31- November 1 - Caer Edgemere will hold an event at the Rocks 4H Club in Bel Air, MD.

November 7 - Feast of Plenty sponsored by House Von Drakën.

Discussion of the calendar then ended.

## Maldon

It was agreed by a vote that Markland and the Longship Company would share the \$300 A&E fee equally. The money is for footage from Maldon that was used in an A&E program.

## Crown of Markland

A transfer tax needed to be paid due to the challenger's (Bev Thomas) win at the war for the crown. As this is an arbitrary fee set by the Witan, it was set at \$10 and paid by Brian Thomas.

## Scarlet Cross

There has been a major turnover in membership and leadership in Scarlet Cross. They wanted to be reconsidered as an "official" group. (Note: That status was withdrawn from the group at the Fall '97 Council.)

There was much rehash on the responsibility of having someone represent them at each Council. Because the Fyrd had reaffirmed the decision to withdraw the group's official status, Bill Bauer felt that this was a matter for the Fyrd at Althyng. This was said to be an undue burden. Scarlet Cross did get a representative to the Council Meeting and their group is crippled by not having official status. Their college, Rutgers, will not allow them to hold events or fighter practices unless they are an official sub-group of Markland. The possibility of a waiver was brought up and discarded. Rutgers will not accept anything except official status. The point was made that we should give Scarlet Cross some slack as we give Maryland a lot of leeway. After determining that they have the requisite ten (10) paid members, Scarlet Cross was reinstated as an official group by a majority vote.

## Gray Order

Drey and Brian brought up the proposed Gray Order guidelines and rubric. It was suggested and affirmed by majority vote that we print them in the Pox first and then vote on them at the Summer Althyng. This will be a simple vote to determine whether Markland implements the program and whether there will be any amendments. (The text of the proposal appears elsewhere in this Pox. The rubric will be printed in the next Pox due to space constraints.)

## Gas Guns

Cheslov presented "gas gun" rules to the Shire Reeve for review at the Shire Reeve's request. They will be published before the Fall Council Meeting so that the entire Fyrd can look them over prior to discussion at that meeting.

## Viking Camp

By Council vote, "Markland" was supposed to have been dropped from their name, but the group continues to advertise themselves as the "Markland" Viking Camp. Cedric, who was representing them at the meeting, was asked to advise the group that they CANNOT use "Markland" in their name. Group organizers had been previously informed, but have not made the change.

## Bailiff Report

### Membership Cards

Membership cards, which were to be sent out in the Winter Plague, were not sent. Fred hopes to get them out in a month.

Fred read the "lost lambs" list and Poxes were given to friends or the person whose address was incorrect. Dan Twisler is still lost.

### Shire Reeve Report

#### Markland Fencing

While Markland fencing is still under experimental status, it was determined that all fencing issues will go through Terry Marr. This is necessary to get control over fencing. The rules will start to follow the SCA guidelines.

There will be a Steel Qualifiers' meeting at 11:00 AM on Sunday, May 17 at the Easy Living War in Mt. Holly, NJ.

#### Land

Markland could not satisfy the insurance requirements of Atli's sisters and the land offer fell through.

#### Lack of Reeves at Events

There was some discussion of the lack of reeves at recent events. The Head Reeve of any event is responsible for asking fighters to stand out and reeve if necessary. Group organizers and Head Reeves are empowered to do this.

#### Mailing Costs

Ty brought up a way to save Markland \$.24 in postage per issue. This topic will continue to be discussed by the Bailiff and Ty to iron out the details.

#### History Lesson - Venice

To ribald laughter and comments, our Aeldorman Eric read a passage on how they picked the Doge in Venice. The moral of the story is that we all have it good!

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

# The Gray Order

Andrew I. Mychalus & Brian Thomas

A proposal to Markland for an honorific fraternity

The Gray Order is a proposed award for meritorious service to the organization of the Markland Medieval Mercenary Militia, Ltd.

My purpose in wishing the creation of this order is three-fold:

1. Membership in this order acts as recognition for deeds done for our organization.
2. The Order serves as an incentive to keep talented members active in Markland and act as a small token of appreciation for their continued presence.
3. The Order confers an honorific title (Thane, Huscarl, etc.). Exact title is at the discretion of the award bearer. (Note: the "title" given is purely honorific. No privilege is conferred for use of the title and the recognition it brings.)

How members are nominated for this honor:

1. A nomination committee will be created of delegates from all of the official Markland groups.
2. Each group will be responsible for submitting one delegate who is a member of Markland. The delegate does not have to be an official member of the group nominating them. If a group declines to submit a delegate, they may do so.
3. The nomination committee meets privately as needed to look at potential members of the Gray Order during the year following the Winter Althyng.
4. The nomination committee will apply an evaluative criterion to screen potential new members of the order.
5. A maximum of ten (10) new members of the Gray Council will be nominated yearly.
6. A list of nominees will be published before the Winter Althyng. This list will include a brief resume of the accomplishments of each individual that makes the committee feel this person is worthy of membership in the Gray Order.
7. Members of the nomination committee are not eligible for being nominated to the order themselves. However, Gray Order members may serve on that committee.

8. The awarding of membership in the Gray Order will only be done at the Winter Althyng.
9. The Fyrd at the Althyng will conduct a simple voice vote of each nominee to the Gray Order. There will be no discussion at the Althyng of a candidate's relative merits before the vote. Individuals to be voted upon will be asked to leave the assembly until after the vote is taken.

- a. For the first ten individuals nominated for the Gray Order, attendees of a Fall Council (not necessarily the Frat Rules Council) will be asked to nominate ten individuals based on past contributions to Markland.



Individuals so nominated will be discussed for no more than ten (10) minutes each before a voice vote is taken to put them on the list for review in the newsletter and vote by the Fyrd at the following Winter Althyng.

10. The Witan may make the final decision if a formal count is taken and results in a tie.
11. The individuals granted the accolade of membership in the Gray Order would be listed in the official newsletter along with the title honored, field of achievement, and contact information to reach them. Individuals honored will be listed in the official newsletter for two years following the accolade. The membership roster will list them in a separate appendix as long as they remain members in good standing.

## Who is eligible:

The award is open to all members of the Markland Medieval Mercenary Militia, Ltd. who meet the following criteria:

1. The individual must have been a member in good standing for five (5) or more years.
2. The individual shows documentable service to Markland in the form of sponsoring events, sustaining a craft or activity area (active in craft or reenactment as teacher, editor, living history camp, etc.). Other positive contributions would include Markland officership, or being active in promoting Markland in a positive manner by giving of themselves.

3. A Rubric of relative contribution by this member will be applied to measure the suitability of potential members to the order.
4. The individual must be willing to have their address and phone number published in the official newsletter so they may be contacted.

Note: This accolade may be declined by any member, for any reason.

## Responsibilities of Gray Order Members:

1. Continue to remain a paid member and active in Markland.
2. Demonstrate, by their model, behavior worthy of the honor.
3. Be available to teach, to lead, and to participate in Markland as a resource to the membership.

## Removal from the Gray Order:

1. Allowing Markland membership to lapse for more than a year will result in an automatic loss of membership in this fraternity.
2. If an individual awarded the accolade of membership into the Gray Order is accused of behavior or actions that are detrimental to Markland, they may be brought up for censure by official vote. The Due Process required is a written complaint brought up at either a Council Meeting or Althyng. The written complaint must be brought by at least three witnesses. The complaint is then to be brought to the Fyrd at Althyng. There, after due discussion, the individual may either be censured in the form of a written reprimand or expelled. A three-quarters majority vote of the Fyrd is required for either action.

What would Gray members get from all this?

The would get these tangible rewards:

1. They would get a "title" to use as part of their persona (Thane, Huscarl, etc.).
2. They would be listed in the official newsletter and membership roster as having this accolade and noting what their recognition is for.
3. Markland would provide them with a small token that could be worn as a personal ornament to show their status. (My suggestion is that a fundraiser be held or that the Fyrd vote to allocate money (if available) to have a run of cloak pins or medallions made with the Markland insignia or something like it to award to members as a gift.)

# Have You Heard . . . ?

Lydia



... is much about CLOSINGS this time: Plan your visit soon, or hope they're traveling to somewhere close by.

... Rutgers professor Rudolph Bell was mentioned in an April *Washington Post* article

concerning Medieval Sticker Shock, and that a CD-ROM he developed contains his medieval price list. I did not read where the CD is available, however.

... about "Silver for Sacred Spaces," on display at the *Washington National Cathedral*, through June 8? Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenues NW, DC. 202/537-6200.

... "Lavinia Fontana of Bologna (1552-1614)," on display at *National Museum of Women in the Arts* closes June 7. Suggested contribution \$3, children \$2. Open Monday-Saturday 10 to 5, Sunday noon to 5. 1250 New York Ave. NW, DC. Gallery Place Metro stop. 202/783-5000.

... about the exhibit "The Tale of the Genji: The Everlasting Mirror," at the *Walters Gallery* through June 28? Open Friday 10 to 4, Saturday and Sunday 11 to 5, Tuesday-Thursday 10 to 4 (until 8 on the first Thursday of each month). Adults \$6, seniors \$4, students 18 and

older \$3, ages 6 to 17 \$2, under 6 free. The *Walters Gallery*, 600 N. Charles St., Baltimore. 410/547-9000.

... about *Dumbarton Oaks'* display of "Stained Glass, Ceramics, and Mosaics: Materials for the Study of Byzantine Constantinople"? Open until October 4. Open Tues.-Sun., 2 to 5pm. \$1 donation. While you're there, see their permanent collection of pre-Columbian and Byzantine art and their 10 acres of formal gardens. Gardens open 2 to 6 daily; \$4, seniors and ages under 12 \$3. *Dumbarton Oaks*, 1703 32nd St. NW, DC. (202)339-6400

... that the *Sackler Gallery* just opened an exhibit on "Ikats: Splendid Silks of Central Asia from the Guido Goldman Collection"? Through September 7. Open daily 10 to 5:30. Near the Smithsonian or L'Enfant Plaza metro stops. 1050 Independence Ave., SW, DC (202)357-2700.

... that you can still see the *Lorenzo Lotto* exhibit—on line? Visit the *National Gallery of Art's* Tours on the Web at <http://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/ontour.htm>

... that you will have to hurry to catch "Mapping Early Modern Worlds," at the *Folger Shakespeare Library*? It closes July 1. Open Monday-Saturday 10 to 4. *Folger Shakespeare Library*, 201 East Capitol St. SE, DC. Metro stop: Capital South Green line, 202/544-4600.

... about "A Collector's Cabinet," opening at the *National Gallery of Art* on May 17th? The curiously named exhibit revolves around a modest middle class piece of Netherlandish furniture of the 17th century—and objects to be placed in it. Open Friday-Saturday and Monday-Thursday 10 to 5, Sunday 11 to 6. 202/737-4215 (TDD: 202/842-6176). Archives Metro stop.

... that the *Metropolitan Museum of Art* has installed "Sculpture and Decorative Arts of the Quattrocento" (15th c. Italy) in their first floor Italian Renaissance Decorative Arts Galleries. 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City, NY 10028.

... that the *Met* will celebrate the death centennial of Sir Edward Burne Jones with the first American retrospective of his work, starting June 1? Featuring Paintings, furniture, decorative arts, tapestries and more. Read more about it at <http://www.metmuseum.org>

... that "Treasures of the Chinese Scholar" and "Roman Glass: Reflections on Cultural Change" are currently displayed at the *University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology* in Philadelphia.

... about the "Nicholas and Alexandra" exhibit of items from the *Hermitage Museum* in Russia? It opens August 1, 1998 at the brand new *Wilmington Cultural Center* in Wilmington, DE. Details TBA.

## From the Candidates, pt. III

Dion Smallwood, Hawthorne

UT... I am Hawthorne (a.k.a. Dion Smallwood) and I too am running, or at least staggering, for Bocman. After being in Markland, on and off, for almost 15 years, I foolishly mentioned the notion of running for Bocman, and found myself quickly being talked into it. I enjoy the "behind the scenes" kind of work (i.e. setup/takedown, event organization, etc.). Why am I running you may ask. It's for the fame, the glory, the fortune (snerk, snerk). In the saying "There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit, the first has less competition", I fall into the first category, this is a hobby, I do it because I want to. The big push at the Winter Althyn was for members to become more active,

and this is a chance for me to do just that and "give back" to Markland. As for those who have mentioned that you must have a head injury to run for the Witan, well, I married into House Du-vin, that should count. I guess you would like something like a platform, and I am not talking stacked bodies:

- ✦ This gives me a good reason to not find any excuses to get out of going to meetings.
- ✦ I've got a micro recorder and a laptop for accurate (unless paid off) note taking.

- ✦ I have e-mail ([hawthorn@erols.com](mailto:hawthorn@erols.com)) and a web site ([www.erols.com/hawthorn](http://www.erols.com/hawthorn))
- ✦ I've got a separate phone line at home with answering machine, fax capability and would also like to create an electronic event form (to be available on my homepage as well as Markland's), to give groups one more way of turning in forms ON-TIME.
- ✦ And the ever popular "Other duties as indicated" ...that I feel like doing.

If you made it this far thanks for reading the above and vote for Hawthorne.

It's that time of year again!  
**Frat War!**  
**Steel Demo!**  
**Camping Fun!**  
**Zambi on a Spit!**

sponsored by  
**Companions of the Cross**

**Camping**  
**May 15-17, 1998**

**Especially Welcome:**

All vendors are welcome! Horses are VERY welcome. Please contact Chet or Joan at least a week before the event to let them know the horses are coming. (That way, everyone (horses and humans) will be more comfortable.)

**Mundane Stuff:**

Parking on site. Ninety acres. Site is discretely damp. Camp fires are permitted. Water on site. Porta Johns on site. Firewood will be cut and on camp grounds.

**Directions:**

Take New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 5.  
 Follow the Markland signs.

**Contact Chet or Joan at:**  
**609-267-9675**

**Easy  
 Living  
 War**

**May 16 & 17, 1998**  
**Mill Dam Park**  
**Mount Holly, NJ**



The Markland Pox

**From the Candidates, pt IV**

Anna Kueberth

Greetings to the populace of Markland,

My name is Anna Kueberth, and after much thought and deliberation, I have decided to offer my services as Bocman of Markland. I've been in Markland for about 14 years, so most of you know me (and some of you even like me!) I am an artisan, a dance mistress, a frat fighter, a member of Østvik Vikings, and a founding member of Caer Edgemere.



I am part of the team that runs Dungeon Wars a couple of times every year. I run and cook the Caer Edgemere feasts and run the Caer Edgemere camp at the Pennsic War.

So, OK, I do a lot of stuff, why do I want to be Bocman? I want to be Bocman because the Fyrd has a right to have accurate, timely minutes, to have access to its communications officer, and to have its insurance paperwork handled in a timely fashion and followed up with a trip to the insurance agent's office if necessary. These comments are by no means intended to comment on the past performances of ANY of the former Bocmen, or the supposed performances of any of the other candidates. They are merely what I, personally, want for Markland.

If I get the job, I intend to attempt to make it easier for groups to file their event forms, and I expect to be available online or by phone to walk new people through the forms, if necessary. Regardless of who gets the job, members of my household and I plan to automate the Pox/Plague so that, hopefully, we can mail it more cheaply and most importantly, it gets to you faster. I am in Baltimore, and do not work during the day, so I have no problem getting to the Greenbelt Post Office (where our mailing permit is housed.) I feel it is essential that the Annual be updated yearly, and as it is the Bocman's duty, would see to its timely updating.

One other task that my household and I intend to take on, regardless of who's the Bocman, is the committing of the Plague archives to electronic media. To that end, we will need people who have ancient Plagues, Markland publications and newspaper articles regarding Markland (and Longship Co.) to share them with us. Watch the Pox for further announcements regarding this project.

What are my qualifications? Well, aside from having a desire to facilitate Markland's disbursement of information, I can read, write and take good notes, (don't laugh, it's not as silly as it sounds.) I own a Pentium 100Mhz and have access to Word Perfect 3.1 through 7.0, so I'm compatible with just about everyone's version. I am home the majority of the day and have a stable e-mail account, so am easy to reach. I get along fairly well with the current officers and Plague editor, as well as the candidates who have announced, and believe I can treat everyone fairly and impartially. I have access to a mailing shop, which will CASS certify our mailing list and print out the bar-coded labels that we need to automate the publications. I already attend every Council Meeting and Althyng.

In conclusion, I'd like to point out that the Fyrd has a choice this year. There are now 3 candidates for the office of Bocman. Talk to them, examine their qualifications, and experience, then make your choice. Vote early and often!

## ARE YOU:

Trying to research Irish or Scottish clothing  
and running into a brick wall?

Know what you're wearing isn't right  
but don't know what's wrong with it?

Want to make a kilt but know better than  
to use **Braveheart** as a reference?

Have we got a workshop for you!

*Reconstructing History*  
announces the first

## IRISH AND HIGHLAND DRESS WORKSHOP

Saturday, June 6, 1998

starting at 1:00 PM

526 Cain Court

Belle Mead, NJ

Hosted by *Kass McGann & Sheree Krasley*

See the Calendar of Events for contact information  
and directions to the event.



# Reconstructing History

historically accurate patterns  
ready-to-wear goods  
costumes by commission

middle eastern clothing  
now available

ORDER NOW FOR THE  
summer althyng!

Kass McGann

Sheree Krasley

610.384.1013

historian@reconstructinghistory.com

www.reconstructinghistory.com



## Thank You!

To all who attended the North Penn  
Renaissance Fête and Crown War –

On behalf of the House Von Drakën, I  
extend a very hearty and deeply felt THANK  
YOU. I hope you all enjoyed yourself at our  
first major event.

I do apologize for the long dinner and the  
cold food. The weather wasn't exactly on  
our side, either. But even taking that into  
consideration, the event was a success!  
We've already got next year's fete in the  
planning stages.

I appreciate all the extra effort that was put  
into making everything look normal. You  
know those evil, ever-present Jaycee and  
township eyes...but most of the township  
did pay us a few visits and they were  
pleased with what they saw. We've actually  
talked them into allowing us to use the  
grounds for meetings and fighter practices  
(should I ever get fighters together). The  
general public (all six of them – haha) was  
very pleased with the event as well. Next  
year we plan on a later date with the same

John Smith, Kyrin  
hopes and better ideas than this year had.  
And a bigger, hotter feast.

All kidding aside and putting aside the main  
reason for Markland participation (the  
crown) I really was glad to see all that came  
out to this event, whether for the household,  
or for Bev or Brynn. You really made this  
happen for us. This is what Markland should  
really be about.

Our next event will be the second annual  
Feast of Plenty in November. Those who  
weren't at the last one missed plenty of  
food. And those who were — alright, I seem  
to have a problem getting my entertainment  
to show up at my events – but there was still  
plenty to eat. And this year's will outdo the  
last.

So once again, a big THANKYOU from the  
House Von Drakën and myself.

## Feast of the Saracen

6PM - 10PM  
July 18, 1998

St. David's Episcopal Church  
Wilmington, Delaware



See Calendar of Events or contact Shakira (302-325-1327 or  
shakira@dca.net) for details and tickets

# Thoughts and Ramblings

Patricia M. Dennis, Shakira

*History is Philosophy teaching by examples.*

Thucydides



No real reason for the quote. Came across it and liked it, so I added it here. Another month, another Pox. But finally, a different cover

artist! Thank you to Dame Kate of the Order of the Golden Lion for her great artwork. If you'd like to see your artwork on the cover of the *Plague* or *Pox*, keep the following in mind:

1. I can't print what I don't have.
2. The size of the artwork should roughly be the size of the cover. I can always add the title and issue information, so it doesn't necessarily need to be part of the artwork.
3. Contrast is the key – black and white artwork is best. If you're planning on using photography in your artwork, or you're not sure if your artwork will copy well, by all means, bring it to a copier (preferably the worst one available) and see how it copies.
4. If at all possible, do NOT send me your originals. I cannot guarantee they'll get back to you. Send a few copies to allow for error.

We've got two new candidates announcing in this *Pox* – both for Bocman. I applaud them for both their guts and their desire to help Markland. If you'd like to run for an office, please send in an announcement. There's still one more issue that will definitely be in people's hands before the *Althyng*!

Thinking of that next issue, there will be a few important things in it. There will be more information on upcoming events, as always, but also the rubric for the Gray Order proposal, proposed rec weapon standards, and most importantly – the proxy form for the Summer *Althyng*. Theoretically, there will be another *Pox* prior to the meeting, but I'm not willing to take any chances. Our luck with the USPS hasn't been great. (If you know of any god or patron saint of the mails (perhaps Mercury – but he's a little early for our time period) start saying a few prayers, okay?)

Also thinking of the next issue and future issues: Are you a merchant? Are you planning on being at Hastings as a vendor? Why not consider advertising in the *Pox* and *Plague* beforehand? We're offering a 10% discount on all ads in the Summer *Plague* and the September *Pox* for all registered Hastings merchants. There will be more information in the merchant packets.

The deadline for the Summer *Plague* is fast approaching. That date is June 26, 1998.

This is the deadline for all of the "fun stuff" – historical and how-to articles, cartoons, poems, etc. The deadline for the official stuff (not fun) is July 31, 1998. Send in any event information, official announcements, etc. or ads by that date. Thus far, the issue is shaping up nicely. While digging through the "stuff" that gets passed from one editor to another, I've found a few great articles, a little artwork, and a lot of inspiration. Start thinking about that article you wanted to write for Markland or maybe that idea you had for a funny cartoon. I would love to lighten things up a bit – but I just haven't gotten the materials together. And remember, we're all adults here, but keep it clean and civil. That makes my job a whole lot easier!

And as I've gotten into the habit of telling you guys this stuff, this month's guest font is called CAC Valiant which comes with the *American Greetings Create A Card* software. Just another neat program I'm fond of – my 72-year-old father has gotten into it, as well. (No, I'm not getting paid to endorse it, but I have saved a lot of money in greeting cards since I got it AND I can remember important dates and addresses, too.)

Until next time, I wish everyone peace, prosperity and good health.



EMBRACE THE MOON!  
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH  
**DANCINMAN WEBLINK!**

BRING YOUR ONLINE ADVERTISING TO LIFE!



FIND DANCINMAN WEBLINK ON THE WEB AT

<http://www.dancinman.com/>



DANCINMAN WEBLINK IS THE HOME OF  
THE OFFICIAL MARKLAND WEB SITE!

CHECK IT OUT AT

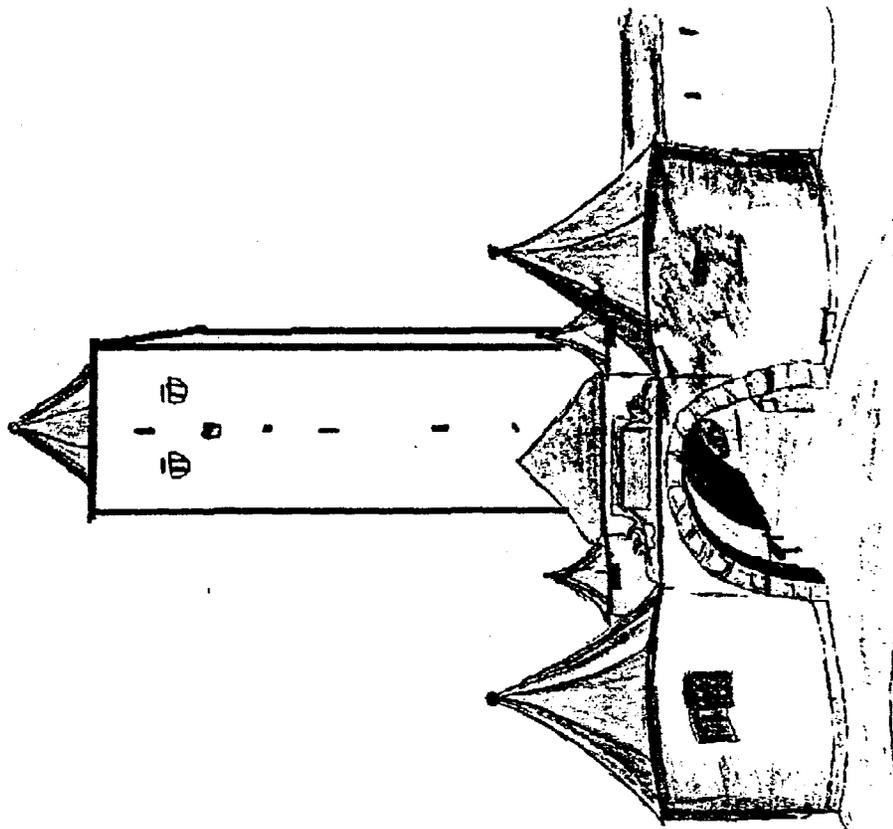
<http://www.markland.org>

## The Plague/Pox Staff

The Old One .....	Editor Emeritus
Shakira .....	Editor
Amy Bauer .....	Assistant Editor
Leslie Plummer .....	Assistant Editor
Lydia .....	Features Editor
Bill Bauer .....	Computer Guy
<b>Contributor Credits</b>	
Cover Art .....	Dame Kate
Art Contributors incl. ....	Shakira, Arduinna
.....	Some guy called "Clip"

Printing by.....?

# The Pox



May 1998<sup>th</sup>

Vol. 27, No. 5

**Deadline for June Pox is Friday, May 29, 1998**

**Markland Medieval Mercenary Militia, Ltd.**  
Post Office Box 715  
Greenbelt, MD 20768-0715

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENBELT, MD  
PERMIT NO. 5463

## **Time Dependent Mailing!**

This publication was mailed  
by May 9, 1998

3725 Basic Exp:Aug 98

Bear, DE 19701