



July, A.S. XXXVIII

Being the Newsletter  
of the  
Canton of Whyt Whye,  
the Manhattan Chapter  
of  
The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
Number 0307

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## By the Whey . . .

Seen and heard around the Canton –

Folks on the Whyt Whey e-mail list were pleased to receive an invitation from **Sheldon Wax** to his brewing workshop on July 18<sup>th</sup>. They'll be making a mead which will be ready in time for Pennsic. We look forward to a tasting.

**Alex MacLachlan**, a sometime attendee of the Union Square practice is the new Baronial Fencing Champion of An Dubhaigeainn. A hail and hearty Vivat! to the victor.

Our Seneschal and Chronicler recently returned from a vacation in France, where they enjoyed immersing themselves in all things medieval. Particular highlights were le Mont St. Michel, la Tapisserie de la Reine Mathilde (aka the Bayeaux Tapestry) and la Cathédrale Notre Dame at Chartres.

Here's a theatrical event you won't want to miss. Our own **Lord Ervald the Optimistic** stars in Moose Hall Theater Company's production of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. It is being performed under the stars in Inwood Hill Park, the northernmost park in Manhattan. The show opens on Wed., July 23, and will run Wednesdays through Saturdays through August 9. Curtain is at 7:30pm and admission is FREE! This production promises to be filled with adventure, drama, and swashbuckling action, so bring a blanket, some goodies to munch on and enjoy the show! For more information, directions, etc., go to <http://www.geocities.com/zorikh/treasure.html> or visit Moose Hall's site at <http://www.moosehallisf.org>.

**Derborgaill** recently wrote from Eisental suggesting we rent a cow to make our own gruyere. Who wants to volunteer to go to Switzerland to milk it?

(continued on page 10)

# July Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Union Square Practice	2	3	4	5
6 Staten Island Practice	7 Josie Wood's	8 Union Square Practice	9 Sewing Circle	10 Dance Practice	11	12
13 Staten Island Practice	14 Josie Wood's	15 Union Square Practice	16	17 Whyt Whey Commons Dance Practice	18 Østgarðr Commons	19
20 Staten Island Practice	21 Josie Wood's	22 Union Square Practice	23	24	25	26
27	28 Josie Wood's	29 Union Square Practice	30	31 Dance Practice	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>PENNSIC</b>  <b>WÆR 32</b> –                      August 1 to                      August 17                 </div>	

# August Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Staten Island Practice	4 Josie Wood's	5 Union Square Practice	6	7	8	9
10 Staten Island Practice	11 Josie Wood's	12 Union Square Practice	13	14 Dance Practice	15	16
17 Staten Island Practice	18 Josie Wood's	19 Union Square Practice	20 Sewing Circle	21	22	23
24 Staten Island Practice	25 Josie Wood's	26 Union Square Practice	27	28 Dance Practice	29	30
31 Staten Island Practice	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     Please note: There will be no Whyt Whey or Østgarðr Commons meetings in Aug. Other changes in the August calendar may occur due to Pennsic, but were not available at time of publication.                 </div>					

## Upcoming Events of Local Interest

Southern Region War Camp, <i>Shire of Eisental</i>	<b>July 25 – 27</b>
Pennsic 32, <i>Kingdoms of East/Aethelmearc/Middle</i>	<b>Aug. 1 – 17</b>
Bog Barter Day, <i>Shire of Iron Bog</i>	<b>Aug. 23</b>
John Barleycorn, <i>Canton of Northpass</i>	<b>Sept. 5 – 8</b>
St. Elegius Arts and Sciences Pentathlon, <i>Barony of Dragonship</i>	<b>Sept. 6</b>
Sangre, Sudor, y Lagrimas, <i>Shire of Rusted Woodlands</i>	<b>Sept. 6</b>
22nd Annual Lakewood Ren-Faire, <i>Barony of Carillion</i>	<b>Sept. 20</b>
A Viking Raid on Iona, <i>Shire of Rusted Woodlands</i>	<b>Sept. 22</b>
Coronation of Balfar and Luna, <i>Barony of Dragonship Haven</i>	<b>Sept. 27</b>
Kingdom Crusades, <i>Kingdom of East/Atlantia</i>	<b>Oct. 10 – 12</b>

(please visit <http://www.eastkingdom.org/event-list.html> for further information)

## Directions

Whyt Whey Commons : 7:30pm – various – for July, 113 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St. (between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Aves.), #6C, New York City (take any train to Union Square)

Østgarðr Commons : various – please see <http://www.ostgardr.org>

Union Square Practice : 6:30pm – north side of Union Square Park, New York City (take any train to Union Square)

Sewing Circle : 6:30pm – 113 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St. (between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Aves.), #6C, New York City (take any train to Union Square)

Dance Practice : 6:30pm – Belvedere Castle in Central Park, New York City (enter the Park at W. 81<sup>st</sup> St. and Central Park West and proceed to the green, open area leading up to the Castle)

Josie Wood's Pub : 6:00pm – 11 Waverly Pl. (at Mercer St. in Greenwich Village), New York City (take the N or R train to 8<sup>th</sup> St.)

## Useful URLs

Whyt Whey : <http://www.in-nyc.com/sca>

Østgarðr : <http://www.ostgardr.org>

East Kingdom : <http://www.eastkingdom.org>

Society for Creative Anachronism : <http://www.sca.org>

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This is the monthly newsletter for the Canton of Whyt Whey, the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The newsletter is available from the Chronicler, Lady Eularia Trewé (Lorree True). Yearly subscription rate is \$5. This is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. and does not delineate S.C.A. policy.

The cover illustration is by Lord Johan Gregor Wanderer (Jonathan Zanger).

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# A Useful History of Battle – Pennsic VIII

by Lord Umbar in Hashiral Daudachi Beis

On the 19th Day of August, A.S. XIV, on the Second Day of Pennsic VIII, the Armies of the East and the Armies of the Midrealm battled for the possession of the Midrealm's banner in the woods around Cooper's Lake. All authorized fighters fought in the battle, and any non-fighters who could find a spare helmet and kidney belt acted as scouts. It was to be a two-hour bout. The Midrealm had thirty minutes to deploy the banner and fortify the grounds around it. The banner had to be visible, accessible, and immobile. The definitions were, of course, subject to discussion by the Marshallate and the Royalty, Friday night before the War.

That Friday there was also a meeting of the War leaders of the East in the camp of Elandris. In the absence of the King and the Crown Prince, Prince Toejenareum presided over the meeting. It was here that Prince Toejenareum was chosen for command of the entire force. Earl Sir Gyrth and Sir Strykar were to command two columns. The Tuchucks, although not included in the meeting, were to act as a wild force to locate the banner and help us take it.

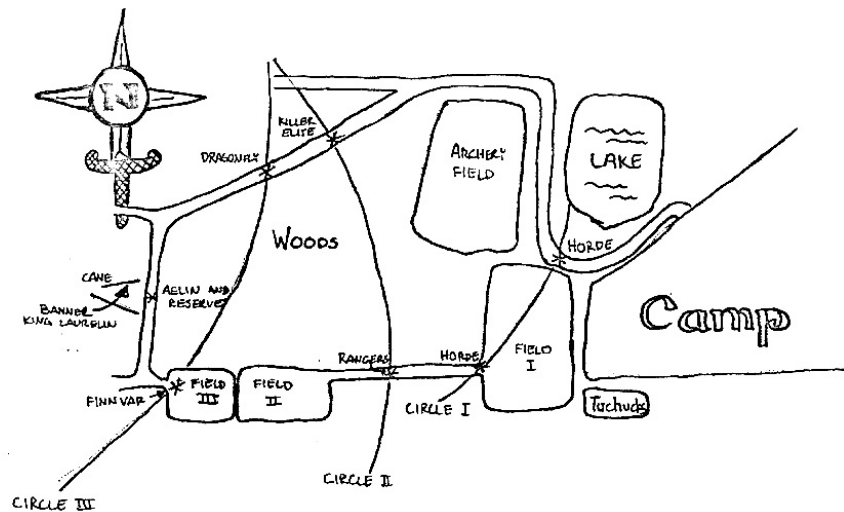
I was to command the Scouts and co-ordinate intelligence. It is from this position and from talks I have had with Sir Strykar, Earl Sir Gyrth, Andreas de Vulpes and Sigfried Von Halstern that I have constructed this history. I know of the West's plans and actions only from field intelligence and conjecture.

After the meeting, Prince Toejenareum and myself went to the Tuchuck camp to treat with them and Wolf the Mighty, their leader. While the Mighty One could not fight in the battle due to an attack of the dread Wolf Fever, he chose to have his men fight on the side of the East. They were commanded by Wolf's Lieutenants, Jubal, Boars and Puma.

The first day of Pennsic VIII it rained until about two o'clock in the afternoon, after which the woods were judged unfit to fight in and the battle was cancelled until the next day.

The second day at one o'clock in the afternoon, 180 Midrealm fighters marched bravely behind banner and King into the woods.

Their plan of defense was a series of concentric circles. The outermost circle was manned by the Dark Horde; the next circle was defended by a group called The Rangers and Killer Elite. The third and final circle was held by Sir Finnvar and a group under the banner Or, a Dragonfly gules. Sir Aelin commanded a mobile reserve, and their King commanded a group guarding the banner, and probably also in control of Aelin's floaters.



Each group was accompanied by several scouts who watched their flanks and warned of the approaching Eastern Columns. According to my scouts, their scouts were placed and then apparently remained stationary. No attempt was made to discover our battle plans or to disrupt any but our main column movement.

There were only two avenues of approach for heavy columns to the banner. The Midrealm set up road blocks, that had orders not to leave their positions, along these routes. The only attempt to break up the Tuchucks was a trip wire outside their camp. The tactic seemed to be one more of delay rather than prevention.

The East envisioned the battle in two segments: The Search and The Snatch. For the sake of the Search there were three columns. The first column, constructed of about 25 Tuchucks, was to go through the woods, find the banner, and signal for the main column to attack. They weren't supposed to try for the banner until the last half hour of the battle. The two heavy columns commanded by Earl Sir

Gyrth and Sir Stryker were to march up the road preceded by the scouts.

Sir Stryker was given the upper route, and the command of the House of Elandris, Jarnvitter, Thescorre, Rhydderich Hall and Debat-able Lands, numbering forty-eight fighters in all. After the initial muster, he was to go to the Tuchuck camp as his stepping off point.

Earl Sir Gyrth took the lower, main road. He commanded the Free Company of Østgarðr and the units from Atlantia. He was to march directly from the camp, down the fire road and into the woods.

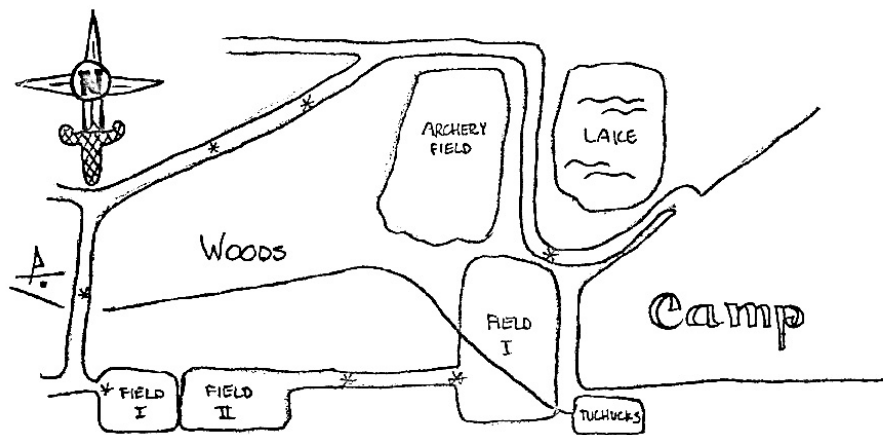
There were two groups who were not supposed to actively search for the banner. The people from the West were to seek out the Midrealm's Killer Elite and destroy it. Prince Toejenareum commanded the Snatch Squad. This was the squad who was supposed to go in behind the heavy squads, snatch the banner and run. The same "wait until the end of the battle" order applied to the regular columns as to the Tuchucks. This prohibition applied to all units, because once the banner was taken, it could be moved by whomever possessed it.

The snatch section of the plan involved creating as much confusion as possible, then sending special squads in to snatch the banner. It was assumed that the Midrealm would either form their defense around the banner with no other defenses or that by the time we found the banner and gathered for a coordinated attack, they would have created a unified defense. The two heavy columns were to attack the Midrealm army, which would then allow the Tuchucks, and the squad commanded by Prince Toejenareum to go directly for the banner.

When the East marched into the woods, the usually clear cut plans were confused somewhat by the presence of the King and Crown Prince. King Setanta went with the fighters from the West, and shared command with Sir Paul of Belletrix. The Crown Prince joined Prince Toejenareum's unit, turning into the Crown Prince's body guard.

The first Eastern Unit into the woods was the Tuchucks. They swept the woods between the two heavy columns, and saw no action until they attacked the people guarding the banner. There were about 25 of them.

At the same time the Tuchucks moved out, the Crown Prince, Prince Toejenareum and the Snatch Squad moved onto the Western Road. They marched behind the twelve-foot banner of the Crown Prince. About one hundred yards down the road the scouts reported



that a large column was moving up the road, so I sent word back to Sir Gyrrh. He and Sigfried Von Halstern ordered the Free Company of Østgarðr to double time it into the road. Sir Gyrrh and the Atlantians were right behind. Sigfried formed a road block behind the Snatch Squad and the Midrealmers set up in front of them in an area which could not be flanked because of the lake. Once it became evident that the Midrealmers' column was a roadblock, Sigfried, Andreas and the Østgarðians smashed through it with no trouble, losing only two fighters. Sir Gyrrh and the Atlantians hung back for further action.

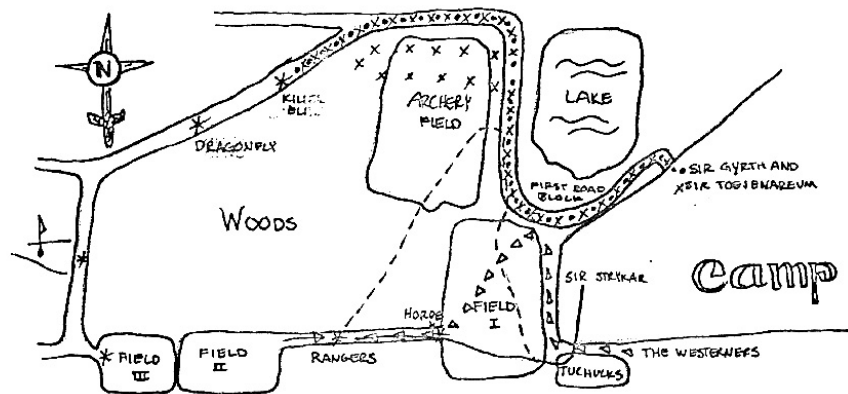
As the section under Sir Gyrrh moved onto the main road, the West moved into the ravine that divided the Tuchuck camp from the main camp. They headed west. About five minutes after the Tuchucks left their camp, Sir Stryker's section moved out onto the road to the first field. His scouts reported that the Horde had formed up at the exit to the field. He deployed his forces when he noticed fighters coming out of the woods at the north-east corner of the field. They were preparing for a new attack when he noticed that the leader was Duke Sir Paul of Belletrix.

Sir Strykar divided his forces again. Elandris, the Debatable Lands and Thescorre attacked the Horde head on, while Sir Strykar took the rest of the force out the path to the north. Elandris did such a job on the Horde that Duke Belletrix was disappointed because they didn't leave any for him.

Sir Strykar's force moved out from the path onto the main road where he met Sir Gyrrh. They exchanged pleasantries as the Østgarðians marched into the woods along the main road.

There were now three columns. First was the Tuchucks; next

came Sir Gyrrh, the Østgarðians and the Atlantians with Prince Toejenareum, the Crown Prince and the Snatch Squad. Third came Sir Strykar, Elandris, Debatable Lands, etc. and the Westerners. Elandris, Debatable Lands and the Westerners were moving down the fire



road between the first and second fields. Strykar and his unit were moving up the path between the archery field and the fire road.

To Be Continued in the September Cheese Cloth. . .

By the Whey . . . (cont.)

It is with great joy that we welcome **Johann van Antwerp** back from Crusade. We are thankful for his safe return and look forward to seeing him around the Canton once again (he was spotted at a recent Union Square practice).

Heraldic update: Mimi's submission for her name, "**Medb ingen Muiredaich**" has passed kingdom and is on its way to Laurel. Her device <vert, three garbs argent> was just listed this month for kingdom-level commentary. Excellent news!

Hey **Sean** and **Sancha**! How's it hurling?

The Provincial Fencing Championship will be held at Barleycorn in Northpass on September 5-7 – leaving plenty of time to get those authorizations in order so you can compete!

Finally, the Canton of Whyt Whey is pleased to announced that it will be hosting a Yule Event on Dec. 6. Medb and **Alexandre** signed the contract for site. Please refer to future issues of The Cheese Cloth for further developments.

What have you seen and heard around the Canton? Please submit your items to: By the Whey at [ltrue@panix.com](mailto:ltrue@panix.com).

Thanks!

# Elizabethan Shakespearean-style Sonnets

by Alexandre Lerot d'Avigné

I have for some years been writing sonnets in the Elizabethan style when the spirit moves me. This style, popularized in the modern day by Shakespeare, consists of fourteen lines with the following rhyme scheme: ABAB CDCD EFEF GG. The lines themselves are written in iambic pentameter – blank verse. In its simplest form, each line consists of ten syllables with the stress on alternate syllables beginning with the second syllable. There are a few variations, though, which are common enough to be considered part of the form. The inspiration for this sonnet was a conversation on the EK-Fencing list about forcible poetry readings. One person replied with the first line of an old poem in a non-period form. I suggested that they use a period form instead and offered this:

A fencer dwelt down in Nantucket town  
His sword was of extraordinary length,  
Without two belts his pants would soon fall down  
To raise them took extraordinary strength.

It took two arms to point it at the foe,  
Who were astonished at it's fearsome size.  
The tip was heavy and it would not go  
Where he desired, nor would it always rise.

Another fencer had a smaller sword  
That with a fluid grace he moved about.  
With it he could strike past the strongest ward  
And make his foe to leap and cry and shout.

The moral of this sonnet should be clear,  
'Tis motion not the size that should be dear.

## Call for Submissions

Please submit your articles, artwork, event and meeting notices, etc., to the Whyt Whey chronicler, Eularia Trewe (Lorree True) at [ltrue@panix.com](mailto:ltrue@panix.com).