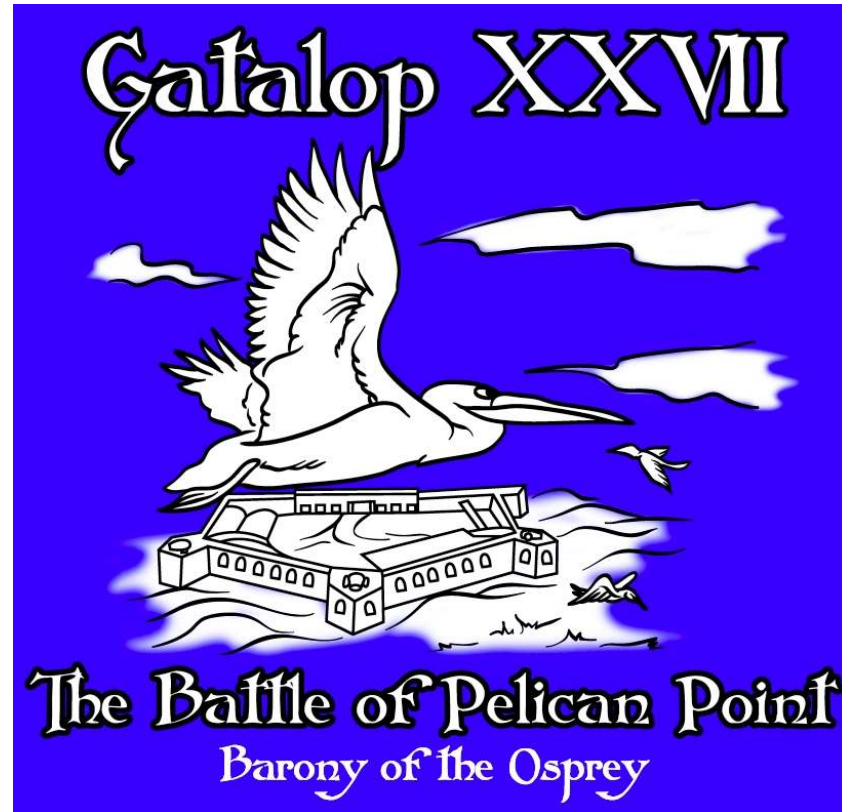




The Osprey
azette

The Monthly Newsletter
of the Barony of the Osprey



2010

NOVEMBER

A.S. XLV

Calendar of Events

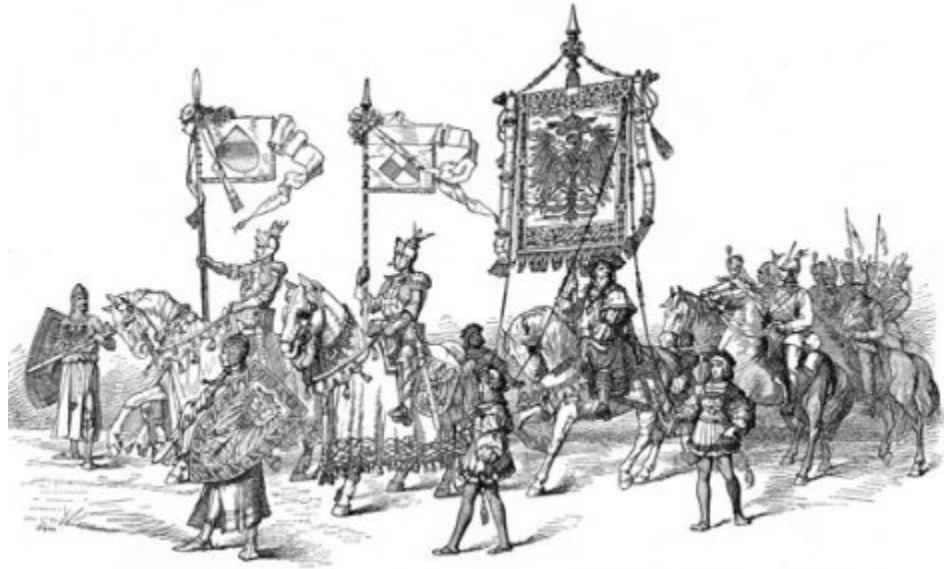
All Times, Dates, and Locations are Subject to Change

November

- 6th - Sol haven - Legends
- 13th - Okeborne Keep -
Fighter's Collegium
- 20th - South Downs - Castle Wars
- 22nd - Baronial Business Meeting
7:00pm West Regional
Library

December

- 4th - Iron Mountain - Magna Faïre
- 20th - Baronial Business Meeting
7:00pm West Regional
Library



All events listed on this calendar were drawn from Volume 33 Issue #11 of *Popular Chivalry*.

Unto the populace of the Barony of the Osprey, come these greetings from Sir Alexander Brighthelmston, Baron.

I wish to send out a big thank you to all who participated in the Coastal Garb and Grub hosted by our Canton of Terra Terminus. The event was well put together and the area of Panama City has some very talented members. There was a lot of interest generated and hopefully the group will grow even more. It was also nice to visit with members of the Canton of Sedracas and all of the other coastal groups. We are trying to make these events a quarterly occurrence that is hosted by a different group each time. This one had over sixty members in attendance. Let us shoot for over 80 next time.

Now I would like to get on my soapbox for a minute, if you will indulge me. We as a group seem to have a trust issue. There are certain segments of our Barony who cannot or will not trust the other and work together. This is most unfortunate as we are poorer as a whole for this. I have always said that you do not have to like someone in order to work with them. I still believe this to be true. I think that all of us need to look at what we enjoy about this organization and work toward making a better place for us and the new people who will follow. Personal grudges need to be placed aside for the betterment of the group. We have many strong personalities and I know most of you personally. I know how much you all love the idea of what the Society represents. I do not agree with everyone's opinion, but I respect your right to have one. I think we all believe in honor and chivalry, even if it is expressed in different ways. We must find a way to weave the differences into a cohesive whole, or we need to step aside and let the ones who do care enough to work together have the opportunity to grow this group.

It was recently brought to my attention that my opinion seemed to sway with the wind. After much thought on this, I can see how someone would think this is true. I have tried to stay active in the group with whichever faction was in charge at the time. I have always tried to maintain contact with people from all of the different cliques that make up our Barony. The point I am trying to make is that I do actively support whoever is in charge even if I do not agree with them. When you are in charge, be in charge. When you are not in charge, learn to follow. I think a lot of us have a problem with that one. It is ok to have a different opinion and to state it, but in the end we need to support our leadership unless they do something illegal or immoral. If that is swaying in the wind then I am guilty. Change is a by-product of growth. This is not the same Barony it was 15 years ago. As we grow, there will be changes

made to how we operate. Things will not always go the way everyone wants it too. If that was the case we would not have any issues and we would live in a utopian society.

I love this Barony and all of her people. I do not agree with everyone all the time. I am willing to agree to disagree and I would like to see more of us do the same. Catalop is right around the corner and we all need to pitch in to ensure its success. We need to work together or we will fall apart.

Soon I will be departing from my homelands to fight the infidels abroad. While on crusade, THL Yesugai Naran called Ucla will serve as protector of the Coronet and manage the lands that the Crown has seen fit to let me tend. At this time, I release the current guard from their duties and am allowing a new guard to be formed for the protection of Yesugai and the Baronial lands. Because of new dangers from our west, the new guard must be familiar with the art of war and willing to defend the Holdings of Meridies with great fervor. Those who choose to fight in this tournament must be willing to fight, not just with, but as, the Barony. The new guard must be willing to promote the training of the baronial levy and help promote growth of new lances within the levy. They must also be willing to help with the growth of an archer core. These members must be willing to abide by the decisions that have been made for the baronial levy and changes that might occur. Finally, they must be in fealty to the Crown of Meridies.

The Baronial Christmas Party will be the last function I will serve as Baron and the first Yesugai will serve as Vicar. The Barony and her Cantons are encouraged to attend and all may participate. It is my sincere hope to return to my fair Barony and hear tales of great deeds performed in service to the Barony and the Kingdom.

I will accept letters of intent to fight until the second week of December. We will hold the new tourney at our Baronial Christmas Party.

In Service,

Alexander

Unto the illustrious assemblage of the Barony of the Osprey come these greetings from Yesugai Naran called Ucla, Knight Marshal.

I am looking forward to the warm fires of winter and the relaxed companionship of friends in front of it. I want to thank everyone who came to Panhandle Skirmishes for making this such a great event. Our Levy made this group very proud. Even outnumbered as we were, we managed to hold our own. I am very proud of you guys. Gatalop will be upon us next. Please remember this is our event and we need to make the Crown and our brothers and sisters of Meridies feel at home.

At the moment it looks as if the weekend before Christmas will be our Hogmanay. There will be a Baronial guard tourney to replace the current guard. His Excellency Alexander will be presenting details of what he wants in this list very soon. At that time I will turn over the office of Knight Marshal to Lord Azrack. At that time all of my deputies are excused and Lord Azrack will select a new crew to help him.

Please keep in mind that Turf Wars is not too far away. I do believe we will be outnumbered like we were at Panhandle. However with some work we can field 10 archers and 15 heavy fighters from the Barony proper. As well as 5 heavys from each of the cantons and 3 archers. Giving us 25 heavys and 16 archers for Turf Wars. We learned this weekend that one Meridian was worth 10 of any other Kingdom. I would like to see us focus toward this task after Gatalop. I would love to see our forces take the field with banners, drums and with everyone sporting Osprey blue. We currently have enough war doors to make another war door unit and have enough of the smaller versions for a light unit. We have several new fighters we could have ready by then. So I implore every noble heart of Osprey and her Cantons to take up the cause and gird your loins for defense of the Crowns lands.

In Service,
Yesugai Naran called Ucla

Greetings All....

I hope your October was a blast, I heard wonderful things about Panhandle and as always Gatalop will be awesome!

I am also looking forward to the Ren Faire. I understand it is on the same weekend as Fighters Collegium. Well poo! Not all of you fighters will attend the collegium so come to the Faire instead, you won't be disappointed. Because....you get to see me!

Heres the info on the Faire...see you there!

The Mobile Renaissance Faire! Held each year in Mobile for the past 9 years! The 9th Annual Mobile Renaissance Faire will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 13-14, 2010, at ABBA SHRINERS TEMPLE GROUNDS, 7701 Hitt Road, Mobile, Alabama 36695. Faire will be held from 10 am to 5 pm each day.

The faire will feature Jousting Knights, Magical Wizards, Falconry, Jesters, Jugglers, Arabian Dancers, Pirates, Sword Swallowers, Fire Breathers, Puppetry, Sword Fighters, Horse & Pony Rides, Renaissance themed Food and Drink, Merchants with thousands of crafts & wares and much more!

Admission: \$10 adult (13 and up), \$5 child (12 and under) and Free for infants and toddlers 4 and under.

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN AT THE BOX OFFICE GATE ON THE DAYS OF EVENT. Dont forget SCA with current memberships get in free as long as you are in garb.

COME OUT AND GET MEDIEVAL!!!!

See you at the Faire...
Your Constable
Inga the Viking Crone

Greetings Barony of the Osprey!

Gatalop is upon us! I look forward to seeing you all there and thank you all in advance for your hard work. It is truly a group effort and I applaud the Barony for “stepping up to the plate” as it were and doing the things that need to be done to continue the Barony’s long-standing tradition of “legendary hospitality.” Many of our guests who have written the staff about reservations and other matters have spoken of Osprey’s “legendary hospitality.” I think that speaks volumes about us as a group and every single individual in it.

I digress... (I get it honestly, I know.)

Thank you Lokotes for the great Panhandle song! You never fail to answer my call for submissions and for that I commend you!

Please send letters, artwork, articles, poems, recipes, persona stories, and any other creative work for the December Gazette by **November 15th** to me at ospreychronicler@yahoo.com.

In Service,
Nuala

Greetings unto the Good People of the Barony of the Osprey and her several Cantons from Countess Rhiannon of the Isle on behalf of the Autocratting Staff of Gatalop XXVII,

We trust this missive finds you and yours well and prosperous and gearing up for the fun that is Gatalop in no time at all! Wow! Sometimes it feels like it will never get here and then we wake up one morning and voila! It's here! And there is SO much to do! :-) It can be quite overwhelming. . .but it is always, without a doubt, a total blast!

I have the advantage (well. . .maybe that isn't the best word!) of looking at this with 25 Gatalops under my belt. . .I think that His Lordship Ilya is the only person in the group that has more - and he's been to them all. . .but then, he's been in the SCA longer :-). Suffice it to say that between the 2 of us there are as many Gatalops as we've had birthdays. And when I said this is an advantage, I guess it's all a matter of perspective and how you use it. We've both seen a lot of changes in the event over the years, but there are a couple of constants. . .Gatalop has always been Osprey's signature event and it's always been known as an event where folks could come for as much fighting and fun as was humanly possible. And I can't think of any way that either of these things can't be seen as in any way other than absolute positives!

There are also a core number of folks active in the Barony that have seen more than their fair share of Gatalops, and here too we have a wealth of experience and knowledge. Most of these folks have been around since Gatalop became a BIG DEAL and an event that has historically seen not only a large number of Meridians from throughout the Kingdom in attendance, but also good representation from our neighboring Kingdoms (and remember - Gleann Abhann for the majority of Gatalops, was part of Meridies) and visitors from more far-flung Realms, Ansteorra and Calontir have had folks in attendance, as has Atlantia.

The event is tradition-rich and has a healthy annual following. . .for very good reason. . .it's an awesome event in an even more awesome setting! How many other groups get to host events in anything nearly as close to a medieval fortress as we do? Well, outside of Drachenwald anyway. . .We are very fortunate to have had such a wonderful working relationship with Ft. Gaines for a number of years, and we look forward to continuing that tradition and even expanding it where possible. In addition to Gatalop we've hosted both Meridian Coronation and Crown Lists in the fortress by the sea and also a Hit List. While the fort has some logistics issues that must be dealt with, it has always been more than worth the effort.

But as usual, I digress. . .back to that statement I made about having an 'advantage' from years of being part of this. Yes, in many respects I do consider it an advantage. However, the flip side to that is that in some way, I take a lot of things for granted, as do, more than likely, many of us who have been around for a long time. While I won't say familiarity breeds contempt, I do think that there is a possibility it breeds complacency. . .and we don't need that. Yes, we have a good formula, that has worked for a long time, and I think that many aspects of that don't need to be changed. However, it is very refreshing to see some of the new things that have been incorporated into the event. Of course, a lot of this has been made possible by the 3-day event format - and we have had overwhelmingly positive response to that specific change. . .as evidenced by the fact that so many of the folks that traditionally attend Gatalop have, since the first incarnation of the 3-day Gatalops with the 25th anniversary edition, done what it takes to be there for the whole 3 days. And for most folks this means arranging to take a day off work. To me this speaks louder than words that our guests are betting that the event is going to be worth whatever it takes to be there for the 'duration'. . .and with the state of the economy, we can count ourselves fortunate indeed that so many folks mark their calendar for Gatalop way in advance every year.

What is very different about Gatalop this year is the number of folks without the 'history' some of us have who are taking such an active part in working toward the success of the event. There have been many who have answered the call to 'step up' and own more active role in the running of the event, and they've worked very hard to do whatever it takes to assure the success of the event. There are not words to adequately express my sincere appreciation for their efforts. And another advantage of their involvement has been giving us 'old-timers' the advantage of being able to see the event through young eyes. . .to reinforce for us that this is not 'old hat' to everyone who attends the event and that we all need to be more mindful of what it is that makes Gatalop so very unique.

There is something very magical about seeing the fort in the evening, with all the pavilions up, flags, banners, standards and gonfalons whipping in the wind. The smell of wood smoke from fireplaces and braziers, of meat on grills and voices, whether it be the more indistinct 'hum' of various conversations, or voices raised in song, all observed/heard from the walls as night envelopes the fortress, and with the darkness, things mundane fade and it is so much easier to imagine yourself truly transported.

There is indeed a kind of 'magic' about Gatalop. It is very unique and I believe this mystique is one of the main things that draws people back time and again. And yes, the setting contributes tremendously to the aura that surrounds Gatalop, but for it to 'happen' requires

the effort of a lot of people. I can imagine that many of you are sick to death of hearing me say that many hands make light work. . .but it's true. It requires the joint effort of every member of the Barony and always has, to make this a successful event. We have also, for a number of years, been assisted greatly by the members of the various treaty households in seeing to it that all the shifts in various departments have been covered adequately. This year, however, we have every indication that a lions share of the load has been taken up by the members of our Canton of Sedracus. The populace of Sedracus has answered the Barony's call for assistance in overwhelming numbers, signing up for a staggering number of volunteer hours, actively working with the staff to produce unique site tokens, answering the call to provide artwork for consideration for the t-shirts, talking up the event and by their enthusiasm infusing a much needed shot in the arm, at least to me (and doubtless others). We are truly blessed to have their support and again, mere words are completely inadequate to express my gratitude.

The event is almost upon us folks, and there are still shifts that need to be filled, and there is ample opportunity to step up and contribute towards what has the potential to be the best Gatalop yet! And please, do not take that as critical of past Gatalops. . .it is certainly not meant that way. With each passing event we should learn what we can do to make the next one better. While the 'formula' hasn't changed all that drastically as the event has evolved, we should be mindful of what has worked well, and what has not worked as well. We should use this to make it easier, not more difficult with each successive event.

The staff has said from the beginning that while we may be the folks who are listed on the flyer, this is not our event.. it is the Barony's event and as such it requires the efforts of everyone in the barony. We have been open, from the get-go, to suggestions from members of the populace, and are grateful to those who have come forward with their ideas and suggestions. However, we are now to the point where we have formulated a battle plan based on the intelligence we have received, and it is now up to the Baronial army and her worthy allies to put it into action and do all we can to assure our resounding victory!!!!!!!!!!!! :-)

If, for whatever reason, you have yet to sign up for shifts, please take the time to inquire as to where your help is most needed and commit now. If you are in a position to be on site early for set up on Thursday, please come forward and say so. As with anything, preparation is the key. In the best possible world, we will have more than enough folks able and willing to assist with set up on Thursday. We have a 'plan' and should we have sufficient assistance, it is entirely possible that we can have things ready to go well in advance of Troll opening, thus

freeing us all up to have time prior to the event to get our personal stuff set up and be ready and waiting to meet, greet and assist our guests in getting moved in to the fort so that we can all get to the business of having a great time. Yes, all of us! While certainly our primary concern is the enjoyment of our guests, if we all do our part, there is certainly no reason why we can't, each and every one of us, have time to pursue those activities at the event that are most important to our enjoyment of it.

Well, as usual, I have gone on for a long time. . .and I appreciate those of you who have waded through this entire missive. Again, I encourage those who have not signed up for volunteer shifts, or for contributions to both baronial buffets/travelers' fares to do so at this time. Feel free to contact me with any questions you have for the staff. . .I will see to it that your comments/concerns are shared with our staff e-list.

Thank you all in advance for what I am sure will be your best efforts to make this a wonderful event.

Pray know I remain,

Ever in Service,

Countess Rhiannon of the Isle

14th Century Finger Foods

by THL Kateryn de Develyn
(reprinted with permission from www.florilegium.org)

Recipes from 14th century sources which have been redacted and used as finger foods. While not originally intended as finger foods, I have found that they were easily converted. These recipes have been redacted by Her Ladyship Kateryn de Develyn, of the Kingdom of Calontir.

Confiture de Noiz ~ Sugared Nuts Menagier de Paris from Early French Cookery

Prenez avant la saint Jehan noiz nouvelles et les pelez et perciez et mettez en eaue freshce tremper par .ix. jour, et chacun jour renoivellez l'eaue, puis les laisser secer et emplez les pertuiz de cloz de giroffle et de gingembre et mettez boullir en miel et illec les laissez en conserve.

1 cup liquid honey
2 Tbsp. finely sliced slivers of fresh ginger
10 - 15 whole cloves
8 oz whole or halved (or large pieces) walnuts or filberts

Combine honey and spices over low heat for 5 - 10 minutes. Add walnuts and bring to a boil. Cook, stirring occasionally until honey reaches soft ball stage. Spoon out nuts (include some cloves & ginger), and set them to cool and harden on oiled marble or a greased sheet. Store in tightly sealed container.

The Panhandle Song

by Lokotes

Hark! Hark! A tale have I for thee...
of adventure, misadventure, battles and things.
Friday began as any other day.
The wagon was loaded with everything but hay.
Our oxen "Ford" was well fed in the dawn
so we pointed him east and got underway...
We pointed him east and got underway! HEY!!!

We picked up an archer in Arenal,
and with magic she played us some tunes...
to pass the time as the miles did go,
the singing was loud and the soda did flow,
though our little brown "Ford" was only an ox,
his legs sure did know how to move...
those big legs did know how to move! HEY!!!

Toward midday we stopped to gather some food
The Ryans was where our Ox chose to "mooooooo"
We sat at the table, the 6 stalwart friends
and ate of the chicken and plentiful fixins.
Ucla had pie much to Loko's chagrin
so Loko settled for the nana puddinnn...
Yep! O'Loko ate the nana pudding! HEY!!!

Once more east we got on the road,
our bellies now nearly as full as our load,
when the wagon we pulled had something AMIS!
A wheel had been broken, Malcolm was pissed!
We sent forth a rider to send out a call
and then came Leofric with wheel, rim and all!
YES! Then came Leofric with wheel, rim and all! HEY!!!

The caravan continued and got to our spot
in the Land of Trimaris where the day was quite hot.
The sand in our shoes and the bugs in the cabin
did nothing to slow the fun we were havin'.
We unpacked our stuff and started a fire.
We got out our fine black and white kingdom ATTIRE!
Meridians in black and white fight attire! HEY!!!

We taped up our arrows and strapped all our gear.
Checked and rechecked all the stuff we would wear.
We walked all around our enemies proud lands,
looked them in the eyes and shook all their hands,
and drank by the fire and had some fine words
but the night came too quick so we dove for the furs!
Asleep in fur blankets, we slept in our Furs! HEY!!!

We awoke with the dawn and had @#\$\$ on a shingle.
We strapped on our gear and prepared for the battle.
The field was laid out with rope colored barriers.
Inspections were quick as we gathered our warriors
and all was quite fine till Jochi told me the Lie!
Trimarians it seemed had stolen my PIE!!!
I'd kick Trimarian ass to get back my PIE! HEY!!!

So we went to war with these southerly neighbors,
the war was a skirmish with several great labors.
We fought in the fort and held on the bridges,
ducked from the arrows and dodged the ballista.
That war on the fields was hard and well fought
and our boys in the black gave better than we got!
Yes those Meridian warriors gave better than they got! HEY!!!

Our Archers were true and deadly to their mark.
Our shieldmen were strong and left their own marks.
Our spearmen were tough and killed many men.
Our generals were brave and fought to the end!
I've never been prouder of our women and men
then I was on that field with my axe in my hand.
I fought by my kingdom with my axe in my hand! HEY!!!

To wind out the day from our heavy combat
we sat at the fire, drank, ate and relaxed.
We talked of the past and the days yet to come.
Drank a little more and watched the setting sun
as our neighbors and friends came from all around
we bid them all welcome to come, drink, sit down!
We made them all welcome, even their Crown! HEY!!!

The night it seemed a never ending surprise.
We feasted and Malcolm got egg in his eyes.
We slept well earned sleep of Vikings and men,
and along with the sun we rose yet again.
We packed down our gear and loaded our wagon
and that old oxen Ford left the site like a dragon.
The old oxen Ford took wing like a dragon! HEY!!!

We headed for home, this well trusted crew.
Our experience and heart had both been shown true.
We spoke and we slept as Malcolm guided our way
from the Trimarian lands back to our bay...
But they didn't know Loko took trophies of war;
A site token and Trimarian sand on boots he had worn
those boots worn in war in far lands before! HEY!!!



Barony of the Osprey Gazette



Volume 3 Issue 11

Acknowledgements and References:

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Cover Art: Gatalop 27 T-shirt Design by Greg Owens, Matt Owens, and
Erin O'Shea from Big Rhino Screenprinting & Embroidery

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Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Gazette is available from
Carolyn Owens at 2905 Woodline Drive East, Mobile, AL 36693. It is not a
corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.,
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<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/baronyoftheosprey>

Baronial Website: <http://www.baronyosprey.org>

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