

Camelot revisited; student recreates armour, weapons

Apple Thacker
The Print

Knighthood and chivalry are dead. At least as far as Oliver and the Society for Anachronisms (S.C.A.) are concerned. Oliver is a nursing student at Eugene Community College who spends his spare time making armour, chain mail, and other implements used during the Middle Ages. "I always had an interest in weapons," Oliver said. "I learned how to make armour basically and how it works. It took me four months to make a full suit and most of that

was spent making patterns. When it was done it was light and flexible enough to do an Irish jig in."

Although Oliver first started making armour ten years ago he has only been involved with S.C.A. for six years.

"I learned about the society through newspaper articles and television and it took two years to find the society after I heard about it," he said.

The basic idea of the S.C.A. is to recreate knighthood, chivalry and the courts of medieval days, according to Oliver.

The S.C.A. is a non-profit educational corporation, founded in Berkeley in 1966, with the purpose of studying and romantically recreating the Middle Ages. The S.C.A. has branches around the United States, and in Germany, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

"Everybody in the society adopts character and a name other than their own," Oliver said. "Their goal is to get so deeply into this persona that



Jim Oliver
... creating anachronisms

they could be transported into that time and place and fit right in."

The S.C.A. has divided the United States into four kingdoms; The Kingdom of the East, the Middle Kingdom, Adenvaldt, and the Kingdom of the West.

The kingdoms are divided

into principalities and baronies. Society members in this area belong to the Barony of Three Mountains, a part of the Principality of AnTir, in the Kingdom of the West.

Oliver is the Master of Science for the Three Mountains and his job is to provide technical aid for society members who want to mix authentic inks, build a loom, outfit their horses with authentic bits and harnesses and to make swords, daggers and, of course, armour.

In order to make these things as authentic as possible, Oliver spends a great deal of time doing research work. He gets his basic information from books, libraries and old manuscripts and from people who have an item similar to the ones he wants to make.

"I do it as a hobby and to make a buck or two," Oliver said. "A full suit of plate (armour) sells for about \$1,200 and takes about six months to build in my spare time."

He also sells daggers for \$25 to \$150, swords from \$50 to \$300 and helms which come in various styles, sizes and prices.

Most of his work is done with a hammer like it was in the Middle Ages and he can turn out anything anyone desires, from brooches and belt buckles to pots and pans. Three-quarters of his work is making cutlery of various types.

He considers blacksmithing an art that is being revived and is now doing research on pattern-welded knife blades, learning the exact process of combining hard and soft metals to get a desired effect.

"My workbench is an anachronism itself," Oliver said. "At one end there is a suit of armour and at the other end a firearm."

For anyone interested in learning more about the S.C.A. Oliver recommends that they attend a few events.

"Once you've attended three events you're hooked," he said. "The society has 15,000 to 20,000 subscribing members and is always looking for new ones."

It costs \$10 per year to become a subscribing member and receive the monthly publications. However, according to Oliver, just showing up is enough to become a member at the local level.

"We have three non-paying members for every one that pays," he said.

During the summer S.C.A. holds monthly events such as the annual Renaissance Fair in Eugene. They also host the Reed College Mayfaire. In the winter S.C.A. activities usually consist of parties, or revels, held at places like the Medieval Inn in Portland.

The next society event is Egil's Tourney in Eugene May 27. There will be jousting, booths, exhibits and other activities in keeping with the spirit of the Middle Ages.

On June 17 the 2nd Annual Baron Sir Fred Men Adiantum Reclamation Project and Possible Peasant Uprising (War) will be held at McIver Park, near Estacada.

These events are open to the public. For more information on the S.C.A. or on Oliver's work call him at 282-1351 after 6 p.m. or Rod Cook at 282-1834.

Media competition winners revealed

High school journalists nab CCC scholarships

Student journalists from schools in the Clackamas Community College district were awarded scholarships last Friday at the 1978 Clackamas Journalism Conference.

Stine Lally, Gladstone; Kelly

Laughlin, Clackamas; Michael Koller, Milwaukie; Greg Kienzle, Oregon City; and Rick Hofstetter, West Linn, will receive scholarship money to apply towards their tuition at the College next year. The recipients will also

participate in Student Publications for the 1978-79 academic year.

Nearly 100 persons attended the conference which featured journalism workshops applying towards the students' learning experiences in that field.

Ben Hansen, editor of the Oregon City Enterprise-Courier, was the speaker during the main session. Hansen warned the students that they face a cramped field when looking toward a career in journalism.

Hansen urged students who were serious about becoming journalists to get as much experience as possible throughout their college career.

Also during the main session, Randy Clark, a journalism instructor and Student Publications adviser at the College, announced the winners of the media competition held in conjunction with the conference.

Entries were received in nine separate categories and judged by professionals in the journalism field.

The categories and their winners were:

Reporting/Spot News: Randy Cook, Clackamas, first; Doug Nash, Oregon City, second (tie); Doug Fick, West Linn, second (tie); and Kevin Drew, Oregon City, third.

Reporting/Sports: Greg Johnson, Gladstone, first; Scott Sayre, West Linn, second; Randy Cook, Clackamas, third (tie); and Jim Thompson, Gladstone, third (tie).

Reporting/Editorials: Steve

Wisoker, Gladstone, first; Kelly Laughlin, Clackamas, second; Leslie Steptoe, Clackamas third.

Reporting/Features: Brent Walth, Milwaukie, first; Jim Burkhead, West Linn, second; and Leslie Steptoe, Clackamas, third.

Photography/Spot News: Marv Hennig, Oregon City, first.

Photography/Sports: Kelly Laughlin, Clackamas, first; Don Megrath, Gladstone, second; Peter Jantz, Milwaukie, third.

Photography/Feature: Dean Gibbons, Oregon City, first;

Rick Hofstetter, West Linn, second; Kelly Laughlin, Clackamas, third.

Photography/General: Kelly Laughlin, Clackamas, first; Monte Benson, Clackamas, second; David Griffiths, Gladstone, third (tie); John Tate, Gladstone, third (tie).

All-Around Newspaper: Clackamas High School, Marilyn Hager, adviser, first; La Salle High School, Hope Stalker, adviser, second; Gladstone High School, Linda Vogt, adviser, third.

Chief raids art department;

Expensive pot wheels stolen

A substantial amount of pottery equipment has been stolen from Smucker's art center which brought about special investigation from the Oregon City Department, said Nancy Johnson, college ceramics instructor.

Two Skutt and Sons brand pottery wheels, valued at \$100, were reported missing from the ceramics department Wednesday, April 26, said Johnson, college security

They were apparently stolen over the weekends ago," he said.

Johnson said that there were signs of forcible entry that could see and that the wheels were probably stolen during weekend class time.

Many students need to work on projects over the weekend and leaves the ceramics department vulnerable to outsiders," Johnson said.

According to Travers, there are no classes scheduled to be held for students over that weekend and that no supervisors were on the premises at the time.

Wednesday, May 3, 1978

"Although it appears that no forcible entry occurred, I believe that there was no other way to get in the room without forcible breaking in," Travers said. "There were no supervisors available in the art center to let students in."

Travers said that the culprit(s) would have had to know something about the building in order to get in.

"There are a lot of places for a person to hide inside the building," Travers said.

This is not the first time ceramics equipment has been stolen from the art department, Johnson said.

"One pottery wheel and various ceramics textbooks were stolen last year but were returned after an anonymous phone call reported that the party knew of the whereabouts of the equipment," he said.

Johnson said that Oregon City detectives have been investigating the incident because the material stolen amounts over \$100 which makes it a felony.

Women's rights

Employment, finances, relationships and property will be the areas for discussion in "Legal Rights of Women", a program being offered at the College.

Judy Peabody, a Clackamas County Hearings Officer for the District Attorney's Night Prosecutors Program, will lead the

program which is to be held Thursday, May 18, from 7 to 10 p.m. in the College's Community Center room 117.

The cost will be \$1. Pre-registration is advised and can be done by contacting 656-2631, ext. 232.



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