



Photo by Patrick Mulvihill

KNIGHTS BATTLE with bamboo-like rattan swords at the Society for Creative Anachronism's medieval tournament, hosted last weekend at the Hood River County Fairgrounds.

ARMED AND CHIVALROUS

Medieval tournament graces fairgrounds

By **PATRICK MULVIHILL**
News staff writer

Before a backdrop of modern houses and irrigated orchards, an ancient battle raged at the Hood River County fairgrounds last weekend. Knights and maidens from the Society of Creative Anachronism took over the site to host a grand scale tournament — nearly 800 people attended over the weekend, said local coordinator Jeremy Tate.

This year marked the first time the Columbia Gorge shire, Hauksgardr, hosted an SCA tournament. Members of the Northwest Kingdom, An

Tir, traveled from as far as British Columbia and Southern Oregon.

Tate, known as Marco Valentino by his medieval colleagues, leads the local shire of 15 people. The group meets at the Hood River County Library every first Thursday of the month, and practices combat at May Street Elementary — though they hope to relocate to the waterfront park in the near future.

Tate described the Society for Creative Anachronism as a combined social event and creative outlet. “You get to do anything you want, that you can think of in the middle

ages, and you get to share your artistry with as many people as you would like to.”

The international medieval society boasts 100,000 members in the U.S., Canada, Australia and several countries in Asia.

Urhdal explained that the SCA requires “an attempt” at pre-1700s garb and etiquette, which could span from ancient Roman times to the Renaissance. However, it's less about strictly adhering to history and more about joining in social camaraderie. “There aren't any stocks or gallows...we're in it for the fun,” said Uhrdal.

Soroptimist honors trio

Women of Distinction:
Ann Frodel, Allyson Pate and Tami Swanson



Allyson Pate Ann Frodel Tami Swanson

Allyson Pate, Ann Frodel and Tami Swanson are winners of Soroptimist International of Hood River's 2015 Women of Distinction Award.

The three women will be introduced at an awards luncheon in their honor on May 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn Gorge Room. Due to hotel parking lot construction, guests are encouraged to car pool. Tickets are \$24 and available at Waucoma Bookstore until noon on May 26.

“Ann has participated in the community for over 25 years and in 2006 became one of the founders of the Waterfront Community Park Association (WCPA), with the goal to fund and build a new park on the Columbia River. To this day, Ann still serves as WCPA chair,” wrote Jacquie Brown Barone in her nomination.

Allyson Pate's nominator, Karon Peterson, said, “Allyson served seven years as chair of the Commission on Children & Families, on the Citizens' Review Board for Foster Children and assisted in the formation of our area's warming shelter. What really makes her deserving of this award, however, is her develop-

ment eight years ago of the Give Them WINGS program. Through her other work, she realized that young men who were formerly in foster care, homeless and unemployed and with little hope of success needed a place to live, learn life skills, job skills and make the life-altering changes needed to become self-confident, healthy, responsible members of society.”

Tami Swanson's nominator, Nancy Johanson Paul, said, “In 1990, young mother Tami (Russell) Swanson volunteered to organize a New Parent Services play group in Cascade Locks. Twenty-three years later, it is still meeting every Tuesday, and Tami is still coordinating it. Tami has facilitated parenting classes in Cascade Locks, Hood River and The Dalles. In 2000, Tami was hired by New Parent Services as a Healthy Start Home Visitor, meeting with young parents having their first baby, many who are at risk for child abuse or neglect. She has mentored over 150 families, many who were raised in abusive and neglectful homes.”

living with alzheimer's
an education program by the alzheimer's association

Living with Alzheimer's: For Caregivers – Late Stage

June 5 | 1:30 to 4 p.m.
Hood River Valley Adult Center
Multipurpose Room
2010 Sterling Place, Hood River, OR 97031

In the late stage of Alzheimer's disease, caregiving typically involves new ways of connecting and interacting with the person with the disease. Join the Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter for this class to hear from caregivers and professionals about resources, monitoring care and providing meaningful connection for individuals with late-stage Alzheimer's and their families.

This class is free, but registration is required. To register, call **800-272-3900**.

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UPSTAIRS AT THE
RUDDY DUCK
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Gorge Restaurant Guide

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