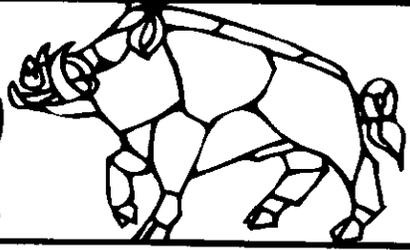


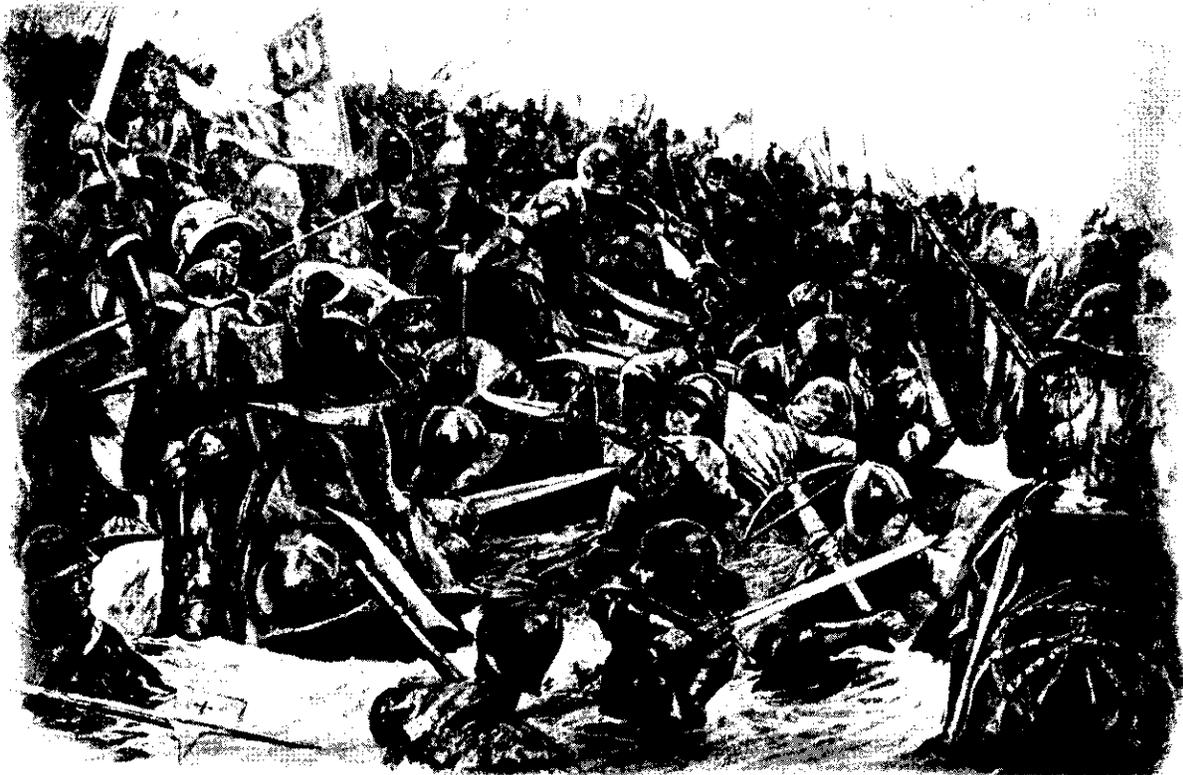
Richardian REGISTER



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THE BONES OF TOWTON

Geoffrey Richardson

—Photos by Geoffrey Wheeler

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ANSWER TO GOOD ACTING!

"I'll play the orator as well as Nestor. . . I can add colors to the chameleon, change shapes with Proteus for advantages, and set the murderous Machiavel to school. Can I do this and cannot get a crown? Tut, were it further off, I'll pluck it down."
 Comment: This is part of Richard III's monologue from Shakespeare's Henry VI, Part 3, Act III, Scene II. Though purists may be startled at the beginning of Olivier's movie version of Richard III, it's understandable that Sir Larry just couldn't resist the opportunity to record this speech for posterity — he probably would never have a chance to make a movie of Henry VII, Part 3.

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EDITORIAL LICENSE

Carole M. Rike

Your editor missed all her deadlines so thoroughly and so repeatedly on this issue you will barely have time to peruse the Fall **Register** before the Winter, 1998 issue arrives. I could offer a number of explanations, but none of them would change the basic facts: late, late.

Our feature article this month is **The Bones of Towton** from that wonderful and erudite Yorkshireman, Geoffrey Richardson; also the author of three books on Richard III.

Happily, Geoffrey will return in the Winter issue with a featured article on the friends of Richard III (Lovell, Catsby and Ratcliffe). Only when I read Geoffrey's final copy did I realize my concept of friendship is a 20th century idealism. Lovell, Catsby and Ratcliffe were **associates** or — perhaps more accurately — **alliances**. Whether a real friendship was involved -who knows?

I continue to be taken with the concept, and hope to feature Friends of Richard who appear in the 20th century in a later issue. Member thoughts or contributions would be especially appreciated in this area.

Thanks also to Peggy Allen for the informative article on Ricardian Fervor, the Crossword and her other articles relating to membership.

Kirsten E. Moorhead sent cover art which, alas, arrived after this cover had been prepared. Her Autumn Boar is below, and thanks, Kirsten.

Reminder: Myrna is looking for book reviews and I need contributions to this newsletter, both formal and informal. One need not be a professional historian or writer; the majority of us are not.



THE BONES OF TOWTON

Geoffrey Richardson

Some months ago, a new grave-pit was discovered at Towton, which contained the skeletons of 37 men slain in the greatest battle ever fought on English soil. The discovery was an accidental finding during excavations for the foundations of an extension to one wing of Towton Hall and a "fast-rescue" dig had to be organized by the archaeological department of Bradford University in West Yorkshire to recover and record as much information as could be extracted from the find.

The essential preliminary work had to be completed in a week — which did in fact incorporate a small 'stolen' gain on the original five-day deadline the archaeologists were given by the building contractors — and it is much to the credit of the team involved that so much was so successfully achieved in so short a time-span. Having been disinterred, the remains were taken to the University's Pathology Department for detailed examination and preliminary results; from this were recounted at a day-long seminar in the University lecture theatre to which members of the Yorkshire Branch of the Society were fortunate enough to be invited.

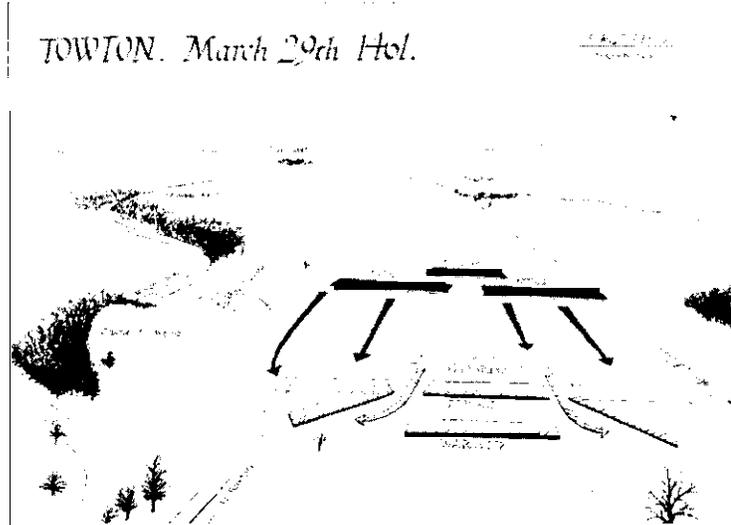
The main initial findings are that the bodies were — predictably — all male, aged on average between 30 and 35, apparently in good health (there was little evidence of chronic disease in any of them) and generally around 5 feet 7 inches tall. They all seem to have been killed with considerable savagery, one of the skeletons, at first glance, appearing to have had its arms secured behind the body, giving rise to a possible hypothesis of a general killing of prisoners after the battle. On closer inspection this was found not to be the case and it seems most likely, judging by the location of the grave-pit, that the men were slain in the general rout after the Lancastrian line broke. The presumption is that the dead had formed part of the Lancastrian army, but, as the learned Professor (visiting from America) pointed out there could be no certainty on this, since no remnants of weapons or clothing were found in the grave. Indeed, apart from a silver, tri-stranded finger ring, obviously hidden in blood and mud from the burial party, there was nothing other than the bones themselves. However, it was from the results of the close examination of the bones that a single pointer emerged as to one

peculiarity common to most of the bodies which may give a clue to their origin and, from that, on whose side and under whose immediate leadership the men had fought.

The sequence of events leading to the formation of the two largest armies ever to contend with each other in England started in October of 1460. The Lancastrian had been decisively beaten at Northampton in June of that year by a force led by Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, and Edward, then Earl of March. King Henry VI had been taken into protective custody by his Yorkist Lords. Richard Duke of York had returned from exile in Dublin and re-assumed the Protectorship, and the Queen, Margaret of Anjou, had taken refuge in Wales — ever a safe Lancastrian haven — to plot and scheme for another day, a different ending.

Margaret's scheming became even more critical to her family's fortunes when news came from London that York had finally claimed his right to occupy the throne of England and that her weak husband had agreed that he would stay as King for his own lifetime and be succeeded by Richard of York on his death.

Thus, Henry effectively disinherited his only son, Edward, Prince of Wales, which was not a course likely to recommend itself to that young man's mother, Margaret of Anjou, the second "She-wolf of France" who would bring battle, rapine and sudden death to the fields of England.



By the end of the year, Margaret commanded a force over 30,000 strong, including many thousands of Scots -Border reivers as they were known — rough clansmen, ever-ready for a raiding foray into the northern English counties.

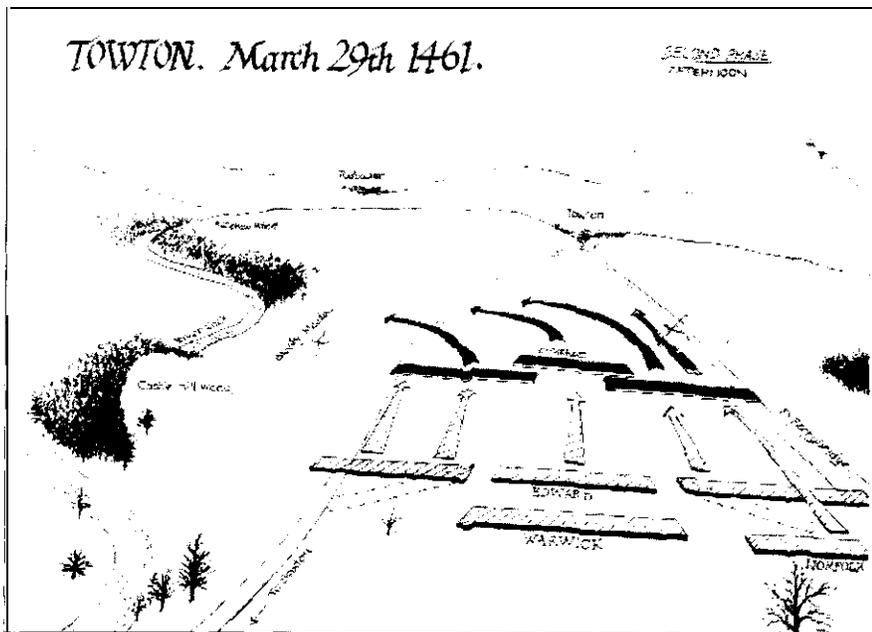
Encouraged to live off the land (which was owned largely by the Duke of York and his brother-in-law, Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury) the Lancastrian pillagers had a fine time of it and caused such loss and destruction that, towards the end of December, York and Salisbury led 2,500 men north to drive out the invaders.

Hopelessly outnumbered, and out-maneuvred, the Yorkists were defeated and butchered outside the walls of York's great castle at Sandal, near Wakefield, on December 30th, 1460, with Duke Richard himself, his second son, the Earl of Rutland, and the Earl of Salisbury among the slain.

Triumphantly, Queen Margaret led her ever-growing host southwards to London, to free her husband and reclaim her power and, on February 17th was successful in defeating another, larger, Yorkist army under the Earl of Warwick at Second St Albans. Critically for her cause, she was unable to take London and, for lack of supplies, had to turn again north for friendlier territory.

Warwick had been able to hold London for the Yorkist cause, thanks to reinforcements brought from the Welsh Marches by Edward, eldest son of the late Duke of York. Edward was very tall, handsome, young and strong — and a natural-born fighting-man, who had just defeated a superior Lancastrian force at Mortimer's Cross in the Welsh border country. Warwick saw in this young Earl of March a Heaven-sent saviour for the Yorkist cause, and within a fortnight, Edward was proclaimed King of England and France and Lord of Ireland and was busily recruiting a new army to pursue Margaret and her generals, Somerset and Clifford, and to square accounts for his father and brother.

By the 25th of March, Edward, with 35,000 men, was at Pontefract in south Yorkshire and probing northwards for the Lancastrian army. Warwick found it for him when he ran into a strong force of mounted archers, led by "Bloody" Lord Clifford, waiting in ambush at the Ferrybridge crossing of the



River Aire. Warwick's cavalry was repulsed and the Earl, slightly wounded, wasted little time in fleeing back to the main column. The new King sent a strong force under Lord Fauconberg — William Neville, Warwick's uncle — to find another crossing and this he did at Castleford, a few miles up-stream of the waiting Lancastrian. He then marched quickly along the northern bank and took Clifford in the flank as Edward himself led the main force in a renewed attack on the ford. The Lancastrian force fled, but not quickly enough to save Clifford, who took an arrow in the neck between Ferrybridge and Dintingdale, a small hamlet just south of another tiny village on the road to York, which would give its name to the greatest battle ever fought on English soil: **Towton**.

Edward reached **Towton** in the late afternoon of March 28th, 1461 and from a low ridge south of the village, he saw an enormous mass of more than 40,000 fighting men lining the ridge opposite, with the banners of Somerset, **Dacre**, Northumberland Westmoreland, and many, many more flaunting above.

He had found Margaret's army and quickly arrayed his own battle-line to face his enemy as the evening turned to night. The battle would be fought on the following morning, Palm Sunday, 1461.

The night before the battle was bitterly cold and there was no shelter for men or captains, who lay in their lines awaiting the onset they sensed would come with the morning light. A cold southerly wind bringing snow and sleet showers added to the misery of the two waiting armies and, when dawn broke, the men stood, eager to get to hand-strokes, to restore some feeling in their frozen bodies. But, for a time,

The Bones of Town *(continued)*

each side stood firm in its strong defensive position, awaiting the other's attack, until another blizzard roared across the field into the faces of the Lancastrian lines.

Fauconberg, who commanded Edward's archers, moved his bowmen forward and ordered them to fire a single volley into the waiting Lancastrian ranks and then to retire a few dozen paces. This ploy — learned in the French Wars — brought the expected response, with the Lancastrian archers despatching flight after flight of arrows into the wind and all of them falling short of the intended target. As the stocks of missiles ran down and the volleys thinned, Fauconberg ordered his men forward again and they fired their own, and the enemies' arrows, again and again into the opposing lines.

Unable to respond in kind, and unwilling to continue standing their ground under this barrage, the Lancastrian lines ploughed forward off their ridge and through the dip — Towton Dale — beyond, up to the foot of Edward's ridge, and struggled to climb the sharp, ice-clad rise before them, which quickly became slippier yet from the blood which ran down from the dead and dying.

Their attack began in the late morning and went on for hour after bloody hour, until evening shades started to reappear. Bodies piled in heaps between the two sides and were pushed aside, out of the way, to permit the killing to continue.

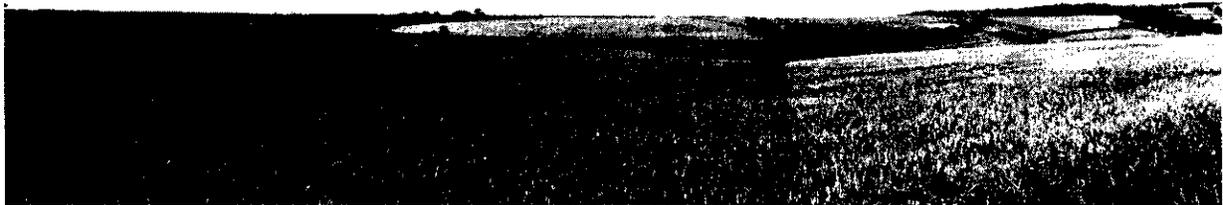
Men wounded or too exhausted to continue would fall back behind the cutting edge of the battle, their

places filled from the seemingly inexhaustible ranks of those behind pressing to get to the front.

And gradually, the superior numbers of Lancaster began to have their inevitable effect in the slogging match which the fight had become. Edward was lacking a whole division — the East Anglians under the Duke of Norfolk — who were bringing up the rear of the column and had been delayed by the illness of their commander. Now, they were sorely needed as the wings of the Yorkist army were pressed back and back towards the inevitable break and flight — and there was no refuge in flight for either side; whichever army broke first must go down to a terrible defeat.

And then Edward heard renewed shouting from his far right flank, where the Ferrybridge road came into the battle ground, and Mowbray's banners were forcing their way forward into Lancaster's flank and their army was turning, twisting away from this onslaught of fresh, eager assailants.

Down from the terrible ridge, from the ground so recently and so hardly won, and pivoting on its centre to try to face the new attack. From the centre of his line, Edward knew the critical moment of the battle was come and he led his division forward in a renewed assault on what had been Lancaster's centre and the enemy, taken in flank and rear, hampered by their ranks being crushed together, could sustain their battle no longer and they turned from the fight and ran.



Photos by Roy Blanchard — July 14, 1998

Panoramic View of the Yorkist Lines from Lancastrian Vantage According to Geoffrey Richardson, the Yorkist line stretched along the ridge in the distance, "all the way to the hawthorne tree" (barely visible on the horizon, at the extreme left). Richardson also comments: "To the right of picture, just out of shot, is the increasingly sharp drop down to the Cock Beck. The hawthorn tree also marks the point where Norfolk and his division arrived in the late afternoon, just in time to save the day for York. The two small clumps of bushes in the middle ground mark the beginning of the drop down into Towton Dale, through which the Lancastrian army had to march to avoid the arrow-storm from Fauconberg's archers before climbing the rise at the other side to "clinch" with Edward's front line." This is a composite of three photographs. Edward's command post is marked by the small clump of trees almost on the horizon, just to the right of the joining of the first (left) and second photos. Note also the line of four medium trees and a few small ones leading down into Tow-ton Dale, toward the center of the third photo. These trees are also visible in the next image, which is taken somewhat to the right of this panoramic view, showing the sharp drop into the ravine and the Cock Beck.



The Cock Beck, Towton Moor Yorkshire. Here hundreds of Lancastrian fugitives died during the Battle of Towton, 1461, when the river became blocked with the bodies over which the pursuers are said to have passed.

— Geoffrey Wheeler

Some, in the rearmost ranks, were able to make off across level ground towards Towton village and on to Tadcaster and York. Others, the majority, tired from a long day's battle, having had little sleep or food during their two-day vigil above Towton Dale, took the easy route to safety, downhill, away from the killing swords of York, into the ravine of the Cock Beck. This normally, tiny stream was in full spate, with rain and snow water from the downpours of the previous week raising it many feet above its normal height, and the fugitives plunged into it and drowned, until the level of their corpses rose above the flood and their following comrades used them as bridges to cross over and away from pursuers, who maintained their chase and their execution far into the night.

One small band must have been caught soon after crossing the Cock and they were killed, as they had almost certainly fought, in a group. When their remains were found and examined in the Pathology Department at Bradford University early this year, among the many interesting points to emerge is that a majority of them had been left-handed — a most unusual trait among medieval fighting-men, who were almost always trained to fight right-handed to ensure the uniformity essential to an effective battle-line.

Following this clue, and adding it to the apparently uncaring interment of the bodies, the particularly vicious way in which the men were killed — one

had no less than five killing blows to the head, few had less than two — and the sure knowledge that there were many thousands of Scots in the Lancastrian army, we may reasonably surmise that the bones are all that remains of a party of Kerrs, who traveled and fought and died together, far from their clan's glens to the south and west of Hawick. For their nick-name in the Borders is "the Cack-handed Kerrs," from their inherited tendency to left-handedness.

Whoever they may be, they now have final rest in the consecrated

ground of Saxton churchyard, not far from one of their leaders, Lord Dacre, and his charger, and — perhaps — his cousin, John, Lord Clifford, whose bones have no known resting place, or so *it is said*.

Geoffrey Richardson, after 40 years spent promoting the exports of the British wool textile industry, for which the Queen presented him with the Order of the British Empire, retired early to care for his disabled wife. This enabled him to return to an early love — the military history of his native England—a subject which badfascinated him from the time when, at eight years of age, he first heard the story of Harold's fight at Hastings.

Much of his professional working life was spent in reading obscure Government tracts and relaying these to plain-spoken mill managers in Yorkshire and Scotland, in clearer language and a more attractive style of prose. This experience he has put to good use in writing his first, historical work, The Hollow Crown, a most readable account of the battles of the Wars of the Roses, in which he has avoided what he regards as the major faults of too many history books: plethora of footnotes and unwieldily quotations in Olde English.

His only axiom in writing about battles which took place more than 500 years ago is to "read everything you can find, digest it all, go and see for yourself and then tell it as you believe it was. Above all, remember to put the story into history."

SENIOR PROJECT

Shari M. Perkins

Hello All!

About 14 months ago, I first wrote to Laura [Blanchard] about my senior project on Richard III. Now it's officially over. I thought I'd report on it a little. My contract involved turning in a journal, a thesis paper, and performing a 10 minute speech + 10 minute dramatic presentation. My topic: *The Propagandistic Nature of Shakespeare's Richard III*.

I am very glad that I picked this topic, which proved to be both interesting and frustrating. I love the topic, and truly enjoyed researching it. The negative part was that by 8 or 9 months into the project, it finally really *bit* me that the mystery/myth simply cannot be solved ... at least not by a high school student during a one year school project. For awhile, when I realized this, I felt like I'd walked into a wall and it was difficult to stay motivated. By the time April and my presentation/thesis deadline approached, though, I was able to become engaged.

I looked at the prospect of a 20 minute presentation on Shakespeare and War of the Roses era research with a great deal of trepidation. Normally, high school students are not at all receptive to either topic, and I was going to face nearly 200 of them at 8:20 in-the-sleepy-morning.

My presentation was comprised of a 7-9 minute speech explaining the basic history behind the War of the Roses, and why Shakespeare's version of the story would be biased. Then followed an 11 minute excerpt from Shakespeare's play, illustrating my speech and showing the mythical Richard; I chose the Act I, Scene II seduction, taking the role of Anne myself, and assisted by a very talented local actor who portrayed Shakespeare's Richard to the utmost.

Much to my surprise and joy, the presentation was a hit with my classmates. I got many comments which made me very happy at different levels. They ranged from interest in Richard III to "I love Shakespeare" — I liked hearing both, and I loved convincing people that Bill's Richard is not the only story out there.

Today was our high school's award ceremony, and I am pleased to say that I received the award for best presentation, as well as the highest overall grade (A+ journal, A+ paper, A+ presentation).

After all these months, I am left feeling rather ambivalent about Richard III. My heart says he was innocent of all the crimes he was accused of, and my mind knows he certainly was of most; some of the charges, though, I cannot dismiss totally. There is no proof either way.

GIVE A MEMBERSHIP

For the person who has everything — especially if "everything" includes a lively interest in history. Give a friend, associate, or loved one a membership in the Richard III Society this holiday season, or for any other special occasion.

Those who are lucky enough to receive a Society membership as a gift will first receive a new member packet with samples of Society publications, a Ricardian primer bibliography, guidance for using the Society libraries and for joining the on-line discussion list, and other goodies. Of course, we include a special card announcing that you have given the membership.

Thereafter, they will receive the next four quarterly mailings of the regular publications. To make a gift, you can copy the application on the back cover of this *Register*, or just write a letter. Be sure to include the recipient's name and address, your name and address, and instructions as to whether this is to be a Christmas gift or whatever. You can also include a short personal greeting, which we will faithfully inscribe on the gift card included with the membership packet.

Send it all, together with a check for the annual dues (\$30-individual or \$35-family, add \$5 if the recipient lives outside the U.S.) to: Peggy Allen, Membership Chair, 1421 Wisteria Dr., Metairie LA 70005. Call (504) 837-0974 or e-mail peggyall@accesscom.net if you have any questions.

Since I can never know the truth, one way or the other, I will continue to believe he was innocent.

I want to thank everyone on this list for their help during my project. It's been a joy. I apologize for running on for so long ... and if you made it this far, congratulations! I'm done.

(From e-mail sent to the Ricardian list)

S T A T E S O F F E R V O R

Peggy Allen

Did you ever read one of those magazine articles purporting to reveal The Best Places to Live in the U.S.? Those articles made me wonder about the best places for Ricardians to live. Ofcourse, being close to other Ricardians would make life more interesting. Finding out where the Ricardians are comprised several tasks best described by the fashionable computer buzzword “drilling down.” Accordingly, I drilled down into the Society’s membership database.

The first task was to count the number of Ricardians in each state.

Table 1 shows this. The left-hand column has the state’s postal code. Skip the second and fourth columns for now. The third column shows the number of current Society members in the state. The total membership, 739, only counts members in the U.S. Our American Branch is especially proud to have members in Canada, Chile, and even-across both the Atlantic and Pacific — in England and Singapore, but we have no fair way to count them in this little demographic study.

The number of members in a state can be called Absolute Ricardian Fervor, or Raw Ricardian Fervor. As we shall see, it’s a very raw measure indeed.

To see how your state ranks, see Table 2. Here, California leads, with 112 members, followed by New York with 64. At the bottom, we see that we should give a round of thanks to anyone who recruits a new member from (or moves to) one of the states with zero Absolute Ricardian Fervor — Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii, Nevada, and South Dakota. One can only speculate on the reasons why these are Ricardian black holes. It was not always so.

In the quest for Ricardian fervor bragging rights, however, those from less populous states will quickly cry, “Unfair! Of course California has the most members — it has the most population from which to recruit!” So, the next task was to measure how well a state’s membership stacked up when compared to its population.

This is the reason for those other columns in Table 1. The second column contains the state’s population, in millions of people. The last column on the right shows the number of members in the state divided by the state’s population in millions, that is, the third column divided by the second. The term Relative Ricardian Fervor is appropriate for this number.

Here’s another way to look at Relative Ricardian Fervor, taking the states of Alaska and Arizona as

TABLE 1 - Basic Data

State	State Population, in Millions*	Number of Members	Relative Ricardian Fervor**
AL	4.3	0	0.0
AK	0.6	5	8.2
AZ	4.6	17	3.7
AR	2.5	0	0.0
CA	32.3	112	3.5
co	3.9	16	4.1
CN	3.3	8	2.4
DE	0.7	8	10.9
DC	0.5	3	5.7
FL	14.7	35	2.4
GA	7.5	12	1.6
HI	1.2	0	0.0
ID	1.2	3	2.5
IL	11.9	38	3.2
IN	5.9	6	1.0
IA	2.9	2	0.7
KS	2.6	2	0.8
KY	3.9	6	1.5
LA	4.4	14	3.2
ME	1.2	13	10.5
MD	5.1	18	3.5
MA	6.1	33	5.4
MI	9.8	32	3.3
MN	4.7	12	2.6
MS	2.7	4	1.5
MO	5.4	5	0.9
MT	0.9	1	1.1
NE	1.7	2	1.2
NV	1.7	0	0.0
NH	1.2	13	11.1
NJ	8.1	38	4.7
NM	1.7	2	1.2
NY	18.1	64	3.5
NC	7.4	12	1.6
ND	0.6	1	1.6
OH	11.2	30	2.7
OK	3.3	3	0.9
OR	3.2	11	3.4
PA	12.0	37	3.1
RI	1.0	4	4.1
SC	3.8	8	2.1
SD	0.7	0	0.0
TN	5.4	4	0.7
TX	19.4	35	1.8
UT	2.1	1	0.5
VT	0.6	4	6.8
VA	6.7	31	4.6
WA	5.6	25	4.5
WV	1.8	2	1.1
WI	5.2	6	1.2
WY	0.5	1	2.1
Totals/ Avg.:	267.6	739	2.8

*Population figures from:
www.census.gov/population/estimates/+state/ST9097T1.txt

Web site hosted by the U.S. Census Bureau. These are estimated population figures for 7/1/97.

**Relative Ricardian Fervor is the number of members per million population.

Ricardian Fervor

State	State Name	Number of Members
CA	California	112
NY	New York	64
IL	Illinois	38
NJ	New Jersey	38
PA	Pennsylvania	37
FL	Florida	35
TX	Texas	35
MA	Massachusetts	33
MI	Michigan	32
VA	Virginia	31
OH	Ohio	30
WA	Washington	25
MD	Maryland	18
AZ	Arizona	17
CO	Colorado	16
LA	Louisiana	14
ME	Maine	13
NH	New Hampshire	13
GA	Georgia	12
MN	Minnesota	12
NC	North Carolina	12
OR	Oregon	11
CN	Connecticut	8
DE	Delaware	8
SC	South Carolina	8
IN	Indiana	6
KY	Kentucky	6
WI	Wisconsin	6
AK	Alaska	5
MO	Missouri	5
MS	Mississippi	4
RI	Rhode Island	4
TN	Tennessee	4
VT	Vermont	4
DC	District of Columbia	3
ID	Idaho	3
OK	Oklahoma	3
IA	Iowa	2
KS	Kansas	2
NE	Nebraska	2
NM	New Mexico	2
WV	West Virginia	2
MT	Montana	1
ND	North Dakota	1
UT	Utah	1
WY	Wyoming	1
AL	Alabama	0
AR	Arkansas	0
HI	Hawaii	0
NV	Nevada	0
SD	South Dakota	0

State	State Name	Relative Ricardian Fervor
NH	New Hampshire	11.1
DE	Delaware	10.9
ME	Maine	10.5
AU	Alaska	a.2
VT	Vermont	6.8
DC	District of Columbia	5.7
MA	Massachusetts	5.4
NJ	New Jersey	4.7
VA	Virginia	4.6
WA	Washington	4.5
CO	Colorado	4.1
RI	Rhode Island	4.1
AZ	Arizona	3.7
MD	Maryland	3.5
NY	New York	3.5
CA	California	3.5
OR	Oregon	3.4
MI	Michigan	3.3
LA	Louisiana	3.2
IL	Illinois	3.2
PA	Pennsylvania*	3.1
OH	Ohio	2.7
MN	Minnesota	2.6
ID	Idaho	2.5
CN	Connecticut	2.4
FL	Florida**	2.4
SC	South Carolina	2.1
WY	Wyoming	2.1
TX	Texas	1.8
NC	North Carolina	1.6
GA	Georgia	1.6
ND	North Dakota	1.6
KY	Kentucky	1.5
MS	Mississippi	1.5
NE	Nebraska	1.2
WI	Wisconsin	1.2
NM	New Mexico	1.2
MT	Montana	1.1
WV	West Virginia	1.1
IN	Indiana	1.0
MO	Missouri	0.9
OK	Oklahoma	0.9
KS	Kansas	0.8
TN	Tennessee	0.7
IA	Iowa	0.7
UT	Utah	0.5
AL	Alabama	0.0
AR	Arkansas	0.0
HI	Hawaii	0.0
NV	Nevada	0.0
SD	South Dakota	0.0
*The MEAN Relative Fervor is members per million population		2.4
**The MEDIAN Relative Fervor is members per million population		

examples. If you go to Alaska and meet a million people at random, it's likely that 8.2 of them will be Ricardians. If you go to Arizona and do the same, it's likely that only 3.7 of the people you meet will be Ricardians. (In the same way that the average American family has 2.3 children.) To see how your state ranks in Relative Ricardian Fervor, see Table 3. To receive a small lesson in statistics, read on.

Def: *mean* - the sum of a group of numbers, divided by the total number of items in the group. The *mean* is what people commonly call the "average". In our case, when we add up the 51 values — 50 states plus D.C. — of Relative Ricardian Fervor and then divide by 51, we get 2.8. The line drawn under Pennsylvania shows where the mean for this group of data is. Every state from Pennsylvania and above is above average in Relative Ricardian Fervor.

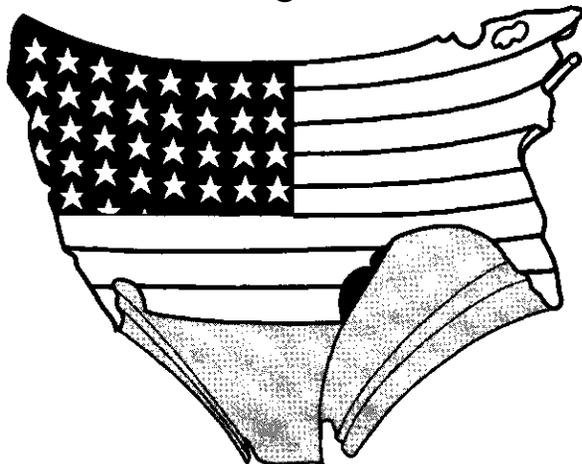
There is another statistically meaningful average, however, the *median*. In many cases, it is a more meaningful number than the mean.

Def: *median* - in a group of numbers, that value such that exactly half the numbers in the group fall above it and half below it. In Table 3, you can see that Florida is the state with the *median* Relative Ricardian Fervor. Twenty-five states have higher Fervor and twenty-five, lower.

In terms of Table 2, Number of Members, or, Absolute Ricardian Fervor, the *mean* number of Ricardians in a state would be 739 divided by 51, or 14.5. The *median* number is 6, with Indiana, Kentucky, and Wisconsin tied at the median.

I hope this article and future ones like it will give you some insights into our membership demographics. If it inspires anyone to give a gift membership to someone in Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Nevada, or South Dakota, I'd be eternally grateful.

Still Looking for Richard!



NEW MEMBERS 06/01/98 - 08/31/98

- Helene Androski
- John F. Ballard & Thomas Gladden
- Nancy E. Bauer
- Judith S. Currie
- Michael C. Eby
- Katherine Elliott
- Anne L. Gatland
- Fran and Jay Jones-Lory
- Charlie Jordan
- Anne P. Lehr
- Frances Lindennan
- Laura A. Masi
- Margaret L. Mitchell
- Nanette Y. Mollere
- Lisa Monroe
- Valerie Morgan
- Jeffrey Novak
- Sherry! O'Neill
- Karen A. M. Patterson
- Mrs. E. A. & Mr. Joshua Paulin
- Darita-Rose Pendragon
- James L. Reynolds
- Harrison L. Richardson, Esq.
- Scott Burdine Richmond
- C. Douglass Sise
- Mary Lee Smith
- Laurie J. Stein
- Peggy Stobb
- Karla Thomas
- Barnard Turner
- Tracy E. Uhnak
- Marsha Vaughan
- Christina Wilder

MONMOUTH THEATERGOERS GET ENTERTAINMENT, TRUTH

Here's a great example of grass-roots member activism.

The Theater at Monmouth, officially designated "The Shakespearean Theater of Maine" by the Maine legislature, included Shakespeare's most-performed play in its Summer 1998 Schedule. Thanks to long-time member Lois Griffiths, and knowledgeable director Bob Colonna, audiences were able to learn that, yes, alternative opinions about Richard III do exist.

Lois requested Society literature a few months before the play's opening. She stocked a "Take One" box in the theater gift shop with Society bookmarks and photocopies of the Society brochure. After the summer season, she reported as follows:

"The Ricardian literature was a great success — all of the bookmarks are gone, and out of 150 brochures I photocopied, there are only 10 left, which I will put in the focal library. Watch for a surge of membership applications from Maine!"

"I am enclosing a couple of reviews, and a program — notice the director's remarks in the center of the program, printed well before I even requested a box in the gift shop. I even wore my 'Ask me about the real Richard III' T-shirt to the play, and received several knowing smiles and remarks."

Director Colonna's remarks in the program to Lois were :

*"Richard III-A Crime Fiction, To any members of the Richard III Society: sorry, but there will be no reclamation of Richard tonight. Shakespeare wrote a great piece of melodramatic propaganda, and that's the text we're working with. Scholarly researchers of the last few decades have painted a much more favorable picture of Richard, of course, but there's not much of a play in that (although Josephine Tey got a great book out of it in *The Daughter of Time*).*

"Shakespeare was (and is) the world's greatest entertainer, and be understood that unrepentant villainy can be irresistible. Richard III, true or not, is a terrific story, and with this production we try to do it justice."

A serendipitous delight from the program was the literate quality of the advertisements. Sprinkled among the traditional tombstone business card ads



were attorneys quoting references to the law from *Taming of the Shrew* and *King Lear*, a funeral home recalling "To Die, to sleep . . ." and so forth. And special mention must go to Fantasies, which advertised, "Flowers for all Occasions — mistaken identities, adultery, regicide, beheadings, revolutions, weddings, or just because"!

The reviews Lois included, from the *Sun Journal*, Lewiston, Maine, and the *Kennebec Journal*, praised the acting of Michael O'Brien (as Richard) and Mark Carter (Buckingham). They were less enthusiastic about setting the play in 1917. In contrast, Lois writes, "The time period worked." She continues, "They used large sheets with family trees and individual names on them, tearing them off as people were killed."

It would be interesting — to this naive writer, at least — to know the history of performances of *Richard III* that have changed the time setting. Until now, McKellen's movie is the only example I can adduce, though I suspect changing the time setting is an old tradition.

Lois and her family have many associations with the Theater at Monmouth. She and her daughters, whom she calls "closet Ricardians," have been volunteers and ushers at the theater, and she and her husband are in the current program's patrons list of Barons and Baronesses.

Members, can you emulate Lois? Is there a library or theater company near you? We can support you with bookmarks, brochures, and membership application cards — just e-mail, write, or call: Peggy G. Allen, 1421 Wisteria Dr., Metairie LA 70005, (504) 837-0974.

And, wear your T-shirts, if you dare!

— Peggy Allen

MIDDLEHAM REVISITED

Judie Gall, AGM
'98 Co-Chairman

On Friday, October 2nd, the long-awaited event finally commenced. In the early afternoon, Ohio Chapter members began assembling in the hospitality room assigned to us at the Hilton, to set up the registration table, sales tables, and put finishing touches on a conference which had been the focal point of our attention for over eighteen months. After all that time, it seemed almost impossible we were actually getting underway. At first, it even seemed as if we were only holding another planning meeting. That impression was quickly dispelled, though, with the arrival of Jenn and Bob Reed (NH), who came in the night before. Just recently appointed to fill the Sales Officer vacancy created by John McMillan's resignation, they were on hand to take up their duties with regard to that office, even before transforming themselves into Burgundian royalty for the still eagerly anticipated medieval banquet. As of early Friday afternoon, though, all you would have seen is boxes, boxes, and more boxes...seven cartons from the Sales Office for the Reeds, many more holding the 300+ volumes for the Used Book Sale, another for the registration materials, and still more with the raffle prizes...more than enough to keep all of us busy. And, there were lots of helping hands...Tina & Greg Cooper, Nancy Detrick, Janet Harris, the Reeds, Bruce Gall and myself. This group was soon augmented by the arrival of Pat & Tom Coles and several national members not affiliated with the Chapter, but willing to lend a helping hand.

Ricardians being Ricardians, the conversation was almost non-stop as we worked, making it seem far less onerous than it might have, and giving everyone a chance to get to know one another under genuinely informal circumstances, a situation which continued for most of the afternoon. Late in the day, when the setup was done, a few of us wandered off to change for the evening's reception.

From that moment on, the special *esprit de corps* that predominates any Ricardian gathering and the often boisterous greetings of friends we hadn't seen since the '97 AGM in Chicago, or people we were actually meeting face-to-face for the first time, took over and it seemed more like a family reunion than a meeting of knowledgeable medievalists who could point to some impressive Society achievements during the past year as a more serious topic of

conversation. None of us were in a particularly serious frame of mind, though, or so it seemed. For myself, the highpoint of the first evening was the reunion of a quartet who first bonded quite firmly at the Fifteenth-Century Conference in Illinois last spring—Nanette Mollere, Maria Torres, Tina Cooper, and myself. We're somewhat of a giggly bunch and soon it was as if we'd only parted days ago, not the previous May. It's that way with Ricardians, though, and there were similar reunions going on all around the room where the reception was held.

This year's AGM drew attendees from all across the U.S. and from Canada. Bonnie Battaglia and her mother, Mary Jane, came from northern California. Bev Weston and her friend, Jan Jangarde, came from Washington state, while Stephen Thursby represented the Canadian Branch. We had large groups from both the Michigan and Illinois Chapters; two members from near New Orleans (the site of AGM '99)—Nanette Mollere and Membership Chairman, Peggy Allen. Roxane Murph and her husband, Frank, represented the Lone Star State; Maria Torres and Elizabeth Greene were there from the new New York/Metro Chapter; Ohio's Janet Harris now represents two states, her former home and Arizona, where she and her sister are trying to get a new Chapter started. Nancy Northcott, an Ohioan by Chapter affiliation, actually hales from North Carolina. Last, but definitely not least, the Blanchards — Laura and "the reluctant Ricardian," her husband, Roy — were there from Philadelphia; all of which should give you some idea of the geographic diversity indigenous to an AGM.

On Saturday, which dawned drizzly and cold, the AGM actually got underway. First, we were treated to an introduction to the basics of paleology by Compton Reeves, who provided several hand-outs, briefly explained the styles of writing in the Middle English manuscript excerpts he'd selected (along with an abbreviated guide to some of the intricacies of medieval penmanship and scribal writing), and told us to "Go for it!" and start translating, it being his theory that was the best way to learn. I don't know how we stacked up when compared to his regular students, but we did manage to struggle through several sentences of both texts and thoroughly enjoy ourselves in the process. Next, Nancy Northcott (who also acted as our M.C. for the meeting) took the podium and

1998 AGM

presented a fascinating analysis of the marriage of Edward IV and the legality of the alleged precontract with Eleanor Butler. She left us to draw our own conclusions, but I, for one, am more convinced than ever that the bachelor Edward was a past master when it came to using the “I’ll marry you...” line to have his way with a lady who struck his fancy and, if he did that with the Shrewsbury heiress, then legally contracted to her he most certainly was, witnesses or no. Following Nancy’s presentation, John Moosmiller took us on a photographic tour of Richard’s England and although I’d enjoyed similar presentations by John at our Chapter meetings, this one outdid all of those. John is a photographer/ narrator who literally takes you atop castle walls and even cathedral spires to gain a desired perspective of the view or general lay of the land. The effect is spellbinding, especially to one who has a fear of heights that would preclude my enjoying those “bird’s eye views” in person.

John’s photographic tour set the tone for our gradual journey back in time, but we still had the luncheon, keynote address, business meeting, and raffle to enjoy before contemplating our -“return to Middleham,” as it were. Compton Reeves’ address on John Gunthorpe, Richard’s Keeper of the Privy Seal, introduced us to a man too long in the shadows of history; an upstanding, decent man whose public career spanned the reigns of three monarchs. It can truly be said of him, as Compton pointed out, that if one is known by the company one chooses to keep, then we need have few doubts about the good qualities in Richard’s own character. While doing his research on Gunthorpe this past summer in England, Compton compiled so much more material than he’d expected, that this keynote will evolve into a monograph on Gunthorpe to be published at an as yet undetermined date. Those of us who heard the address will be eagerly awaiting its appearance, and it is highly recommended to those who were unable to be there.

As usual, American Branch Chairman Compton Reeves conducted a short and “to the point” business meeting, uncluttered by the reading of the various reports, all of which were printed in the AGM Programs included in the registration packets. The results the election were announced by Nominating Committee Chairman, Laura Blanchard, as follows: Sharon Michalove, Chairman; Dawn Benedetto, Vice-Chairman; Peggy Allen, Membership Chairman; Diane Batch, Secretary; and Bonnie Battaglia, Treasurer.

Peggy then introduced us to the several new members there and all those attending an AGM for the first time.

Laura Blanchard and Compton proudly explained the Society’s involvement with the restoration of the Edward IV genealogy scroll belonging to the Philadelphia Free Library (which many of us had seen, thanks to the special arrangements Laura had made for its show when we were in Philadelphia for the ‘96 AGM). Compton also read a letter from the Director of the library thanking the American Branch for its generosity.

A bit of new business was introduced concerning the payment for additional web services before Roxane Murph stepped up to the podium to award this year’s Dickon to the absent Myrna Smith (TX), longtime Society member and current *Ricardian Reading* Editor of the *Ricardian Register*. Shortly thereafter, the meeting was adjourned and we moved on to the distribution of the plethora of raffle prizes. The grand prize, a specially commissioned teak replica of the boar on the front of *The Ricardian* mounted on a white granite base with bronze plaque bearing Richard’s motto, was won by Nita Musgrave of Illinois.

There was one more prize to be given before that phase of the AGM was over. Bruce Gall, Ohio Chapter Chairman, on behalf of the Chapter, presented Compton Reeves with a framed print of Graham Turner’s “Richard, Duke of Gloucester, at Middleham” in appreciation of all he has done for the Society during his tenure as Chairman, as an expression of our collective pride in that achievement, and by way of wishing him well as he steps down from that position into semi-retirement from teaching at Ohio University to further pursue his research and writing.

The business over and prizes awarded, we drifted off in small groups to enjoy the leisure time before the banquet. Unfortunately, the weather remained dreary, with a cold and constant drizzle, making even an afternoon stroll around the hotel grounds an unattractive prospect for all but the heartiest souls, a circumstance which no doubt increased sales in the hospitality room, where all the tables remained open. There was also ample room to sit and visit with fellow Ricardians in there and in the several, comfortably appointed conversation areas scattered around the hotel’s main floor. Eventually, though, everyone disappeared to prepare for the *pique de résistance*, the highpoint of the AGM, the medieval banquet.

By 6:00 p.m. the lobby in front of the banquet room began to fill with Ricardians of another era...lords and ladies and a cleric or two who seemed to have materialized right out of the paintings and costume books and were awaiting admission to the banner-decked “Great Hall of Middleham.” I would venture well over half the attendees were beautifully costumed, but none surpassed the regal splendor of

our Duke and Duchess of Burgundy (the Reeds of NH), who could have stepped right out of portraits of Charles the Bold and Margaret of York. Indeed, her necklace was a copy of one that can be seen in the picture of Margaret now hanging in the Louvre.

At a call from our "Master of Revels," Tom Coles (master planner of the banquet and evening's entertainment), we lined up and entered the candlelit "hall," stopping one by one to wash our hands in a bowl of warm water scented with white rose petals before proceeding to our assigned places. After everyone was seated at long tables extending away from the "high table" at which Society dignitaries joined the Duke and Duchess, the "Master of Revels" announced the first in a long procession of courses, each explained in the lovely parchment menu booklets provided for each guest (written by Tom Coles; illustrated and printed by Tina Cooper).

In between courses we were wonderfully entertained by John ap Wynne (Michael Wright), the same Welsh bard who memorably performed the same duty at the Cleveland AGM in '89. This year, though, he had assistants working with him. Kasey Cooper, daughter of Greg & Tina Cooper of Ohio, and Kristen Moosmiller, daughter of John & Bobbie Moosmiller, also of Ohio, held his music.

As the banquet drew to a close, two surprise awards were presented, both to Roxane Murph, who was retiring after a record-setting twelve years as Immediate Past Chairman of the American Branch. The first, the text of which was read in ringing tones by the "Master of Revels," made her honorary "Deane of Middleham Collage in perpetuitie," a title dreamt up for her by Compton Reeves and myself when working on the preparation of the Statutes of Middleham Collage for the American Branch's Online Library of primary sources. The "appointment" was accompanied by a parchment "scroll," written the terminology of the original statutes and the scribal hand we'd been introduced to earlier in the day, and bearing replicas of Richard's sign manual from the original document and of his Great Seal. The second, a delicate and lovely crystal boar, was a gift from the Board of the American Branch in recognition of her many years of service. For once, we caught that charming, but secretive "mistress of the Dickon Award" as unaware as she has annually caught the recipients of the Dickon, although I'm not sure she was quite as speechless as either Compton or I were when receiving our Dickons last year.

Dessert and a few more songs from the bard and the banquet drew to a close, but that was far from the end of the medieval evening.

Many of us gathered in the lounge overlooking the indoor pool, where we were further entertained by the bard, whose fine tenor was soon accompanied by Laura Blanchard's stellar soprano. On the sidelines, Bonnie Battaglia began doing a little Celtic dance to the music and was soon joined by Nanette Mollere. Although many Ricardians stayed for the duration of the bard's "after hours show," several others chose to simply drift in and out of the area as whim dictated. Before long, we were joined in our post-banquet revels by Carol Downey (the friendly, exceptionally efficient and cooperative Catering Manager at the hotel), who had gotten as much into the spirit of the occasion as any staunch Ricardian and even attended the banquet in appropriate costume.

Nor was the evening quite over when the bard finally packed up his instruments. Five of us—Laura Blanchard, Maria Torres, Bonnie Battaglia, and yours truly and my "other half" (a Greyfriar abbot for the evening)—enjoyed a nightcap and more conversation in another part of the hotel's lobby before going off to our respective rooms.

Sunday morning, the 4th, we were back to our twentieth-century selves again, wide awake and ready for the Schallek Breakfast, the proceeds of which go to the American Branch's graduate fellowship endowment. This year's speaker was L. Robert Brightman, a doctoral candidate at the University of Cincinnati who had pursued his previous graduate studies under Compton Reeves at Ohio University. He gave a thoughtful presentation on William Berkeley, Earl of Nottingham, a title granted him by Richard III.

Breakfast and presentation over, we bid reluctant farewells to those who had early planes to catch or especially long drives home. For all of us in the Ohio Chapter who could make the comparison, AGM '98 had proven to be just as enjoyable as AGM '89 in Cleveland, thanks in no small measure to an enthusiastic, experienced, and hardworking planning committee, who had kept the ball rolling despite some major setbacks in the form of very serious health crises suffered by some key members between the time we started the planning process and the AGM itself.

The event also wouldn't have been nearly as enjoyable had it not been for all those we dubbed "AGM Angels," members from all over the country whose contributions of used books, raffle prizes and cash were both generous and profuse.



RICARDIAN POST

New member Marie Lutzinger wrote before she *joined*:

I just returned from a trip to England (a 'War of the Roses' theme trip). Jim and Nancy Boyd were traveling with my party on this tour, and they told me about the Richard III Society. I have had a lifelong interest in Richard III but was unaware that so many others shared that interest. I didn't even know about the Richard III Society.

I would like very much to have information on the society, along with a membership application.

Thanks,
Marie Lutzinger

And new member Elaine Marney wrote:

A recent trip to England on a Lord Addison Tour (War of the Roses) opened my eyes to Richard III. They Boyd's from Northwood [NH] gave us your address. I have since bought several books pertaining to Richard III.

Very fascinating! We visited many places associated with him, including the Bosworth Battlefield.

Elaine Marney

Membership Chair's note: thanks very much to Jim and Nancy Boyd for spreading the good word about the Society!

From The Ricardian Online List:

June 08, 1998

Hi Carole. I finally remembered to check Weir and Croyland. I'd thrown out all my research notes so I had to recreate some of it.

Let me start with a quote from Croyland:

"However, a great cause of anxiety, which was growing, was the detention in prison of the king's relatives and servants and the fact that the protector did not show sufficient consideration for the dignity and peace of mind of the queen." p. 159 Croyland Chronicle Continuation, 1459-1486 (ed. N. Pronay & J. Cox, 1986)

Weir uses this several times in several ways. She quotes some of it as "The Protector did not, with sufficient degree of considerateness, take fitting care for the preservation of the dignity and **safety** of the Queen," (emphasis mine) p. 91. Quite a difference between peace of mind and safety!

Later Weir quotes Croyland within a sentence of her own: "The continued imprisonment of the Queen's relatives and servants" who had been confined 'without judgement or justice' was 'a circumstance that caused the gravest doubts' in the minds of the councillors." (p.91) Of course, Croyland says the "King's relatives and servants" but the phrase "without judgement or justice" was used by Croyland when referring to the arrest of Thomas, archbishop of York, Morton, and Hastings. I couldn't find where Croyland uses the last phrase that Weir quotes in that sentence.

She quotes Croyland again when talking of Hasting's arrest. "'and in this way, without justice or judgement, the 3 strongest supporters of the new king were removed.' He was referring also to Rivers and Grey'" says Weir (p. 105) but of course, as noted above, he **wasn't!!**

I'm sure she changes words, and moves around phrases elsewhere; these are the ones I found. She was, incidently, using the standard edition of Croyland and I saw nothing to indicate that she was doing any translating from the Latin herself, which means she really has no excuse.

Is this all clear? It is hard to illustrate what she has done without quoting whole swatches of paragraphs.

My opinions are my own, of course!

Sheilah O'Connor

CHAPTER COORDINATOR REPORT

Active Chapters

As of Spring, 1998, there were 10 Chapters listing Contacts in the *Ricardian Register*.

Of these, 5 report regular meetings and/or events: the Illinois, Michigan, Northwest, Ohio, and Southwest Chapters. Four of those 5 publish regular newsletters, their content varying from simply recounting Chapter business to the publication of detailed articles of interest, such as Michigan's *Ragged Staff* (edited by Janet Trimbath) or Ohio's *Crown & Helm* (edited by Judie Gall, with assistance from David Treybig).

At least 3, Northwest, Ohio, and Southwest have been active 10 years or longer.

Two, Northwest and Ohio, annually, participate in major medieval events in their respective areas. Two others, Illinois and Michigan, sponsor annual memorial services for King Richard. One, Michigan, stages a full-scale "Coronation Banquet" in July.

Library displays, presentations in schools, donation of Ricardian educational, reading materials, and various other forms of audio/visual outreach are also popular Chapter activities.

All of 5 of the most active Chapters have hosted AGMs, with Ohio repeating this year.

At least 3, Michigan, the re-emerging New England Chapter, and Ohio maintain homepages at the American Branch website, with Ohio reporting about half their new members for this year joining via the homepage.

Membership in these 5 Chapters ranges from 10-12 persons to around 40. The active Chapters report between 3 and 5 business meetings a year, with attendance averaging about half the dues-paying members, overall.

New and Re-Forming Chapters

Since sending out a letter of introduction in early June, with updated lists of national members in each Chapter area enclosed, efforts have begun to form new Chapters in the New York City/Metro area and in Arizona. An attempt to revive the New England

Chapter has also commenced. A small group, under the leadership of Jennifer Reed (NH) met in early July to lay the groundwork for that effort, while the first meeting of the fledgling NY/Metro Chapter is scheduled for 8/22 under the leadership of Maria Torres. Janet Harris (formerly Ohio) and her sister, Joan Marshall (formerly Illinois), are spearheading the efforts in Arizona and hope to hold their first meeting later this fall.

Potential Chapter Areas

Several other areas could easily support Chapters: Florida, as many as 2-3 groups; New York state; New Jersey; and western Pennsylvania. Southern California boasts the highest concentration of Ricardians, but there's no current Chapter activity there, while Northern California lists a Chapter Contact, but reports no activity. Southeastern Pennsylvania reports no Chapter activity although there is still a sizable concentration of Ricardians in that area. The status of the Rocky Mountain Chapter is unknown, as no report was received.

Goals

11 the Chapters have been urged to make use of the Society's website by adding their own homepages to those already online. They are also encouraged to send regular reports for *The Register*, as a means of sharing news with one another and a useful method of introducing themselves to new Ricardians in their respective areas.

Otherwise, the primary emphasis at present is on establishing effective communications between myself and the Chapters, as well as directly between the Chapters, the latter as a means of networking and capitalizing on the expertise and experience of the individual Chapters for the benefit of all the others. In addition, every effort is being made to encourage the formation of Chapters in the area where viable groups could be sustained or re-established.

Respectfully submitted,
Judie C. Gall,
Chapter Coordinator

GOOD ACTING

Z 1	F 2	U 3		K 4	R 5	I 6	Y 7		L 8	B 9	W 10		M
S 12	F 13	N 14	W 15	U 16		Z 17	A 18		V 19	R 20	F 21	B 22	
K 23	B 24		Z 25	H 26	T 27	E 28	G 29	H 30		K 31		C 32	Q
ZA 34		O 35	T 36	H 37		P 38	F 39	P 40	N 41	W 42	A 43		S
C 45		Q 46	Y 47	G 48		J 49	E 50	R 51	J 52	N 53	Q 54	V 55	S
B 57		ZA 58	R 59	V 60	X 61	A 62	W 63		D 64	J 65	R 66	F 67	ZA
I 69		L 70	D 71	W 72	U 73		Q 74	S 75	B 76	Z 77	X 78	M 79	W
	O 81	S 82	G 83		Z 84	J 85	ZA 86	Q 87	N 88	D 89	ZA 90	Y 91	K
F 93		U 94	Q 95	V 96		F 97	A 98	R 99		ZA 100	B 101	U 102	
H 103	C 104	M 105	P 106	O 107	L 108	A 109	Q 110		K 111	P 112	C 113	D 114	B 1
P 116	Z 117	Q 118	A 119		T 120	H 121		R 122	K 123	B 124	T 125	I 126	B 1
	D 128	X 129	C 130		J 131		B 132	X 133		R 134	K 135	ZA 136	M 1
	C 138	W 139	U 140		P 141	B 142	J 143	Q 144	J 145	Q 146		Q 147	E 1
K 149		H 150		I 151	T 152	P 153	W 154	R 155		I 156	G 157	O 158	
X 159	B 160	J 161	Q 162		ZA 163	P 164		A 165	T 166	V 167	A 168	M 169	S 1
X 171		Y 172	W 173	G 174		N 175	G 176	H 177		G 178	B 179	P 180	Z 1
D 182		F 183	C 184		V 185	F 186	G 187	N 188					

◆ 1998 Peggy G. Allen

Directions: As you fill in the answers to the clues, copy each letter to the same-numbered square in the puzzle block. When the puzzle block is filled in, it contains a quotation. The first letters of the answers, read from top to bottom, spell out the author of the quotation and the work from which it is taken.

Answer key on page 2

A.	<u>43</u> <u>119</u> <u>109</u> <u>62</u> <u>165</u> <u>98</u> <u>18</u> <u>168</u> -----	The worst sort of garden party.
B.	<u>124</u> <u>76</u> <u>179</u> <u>115</u> <u>57</u> <u>24</u> <u>9</u> <u>180</u> <u>132</u> / <u>101</u> <u>142</u> <u>127</u> <u>22</u> -----	Two of Shakespeare's sources.
C.	<u>138</u> <u>32</u> <u>113</u> <u>46</u> <u>104</u> <u>130</u> <u>184</u> -----	Reckon, a tale
D.	<u>182</u> <u>71</u> <u>89</u> <u>64</u> <u>128</u> <u>114</u> -----	Tasteless art
E.	<u>148</u> <u>28</u> <u>50</u> -----	Ash part of "oak, ash, and thorn" (var)
F.	<u>95</u> <u>2</u> <u>186</u> <u>39</u> <u>67</u> <u>97</u> <u>13</u> <u>135</u> <u>21</u> -----	Windcatcher on a certain craft
G.	<u>178</u> <u>29</u> <u>187</u> <u>48</u> <u>83</u> <u>174</u> <u>157</u> <u>176</u> -----	Word much-used for describing Marcher lords.
K.	<u>26</u> <u>150</u> <u>30</u> <u>177</u> <u>37</u> <u>121</u> <u>103</u> -----	Henry Tudor had one (See Word J)
I.	<u>89</u> <u>151</u> <u>126</u> <u>186</u> -----	Race place
J.	<u>163</u> <u>131</u> <u>49</u> <u>65</u> <u>82</u> <u>148</u> <u>145</u> <u>85</u> -----	The one that Henry Tudor had. (See Word H.)
K.	<u>92</u> <u>111</u> <u>4</u> <u>23</u> <u>149</u> <u>135</u> <u>31</u> <u>123</u> -----	Participating in another's state of mind.
L.	<u>8</u> <u>70</u> <u>106</u> -----	Number of Charles' s, so far
I.	<u>169</u> <u>11</u> <u>78</u> <u>105</u> <u>137</u> -----	Medieval devotional book.
M.	<u>175</u> <u>188</u> <u>14</u> <u>41</u> <u>88</u> <u>53</u> -----	Chant
J.	<u>107</u> <u>35</u> <u>81</u> <u>158</u> -----	Difficult way to cross the Irish Sea.
P.	<u>106</u> <u>180</u> <u>141</u> <u>112</u> <u>40</u> <u>38</u> <u>153</u> <u>118</u> <u>164</u> -----	Garment for a high noble
J.	<u>74</u> <u>54</u> <u>87</u> <u>95</u> <u>148</u> <u>33</u> <u>147</u> <u>162</u> <u>144</u> <u>118</u> <u>46</u> <u>110</u> -----	Henry II and Richard III, et al
R.	<u>66</u> <u>99</u> <u>59</u> <u>20</u> <u>5</u> <u>122</u> <u>134</u> <u>51</u> <u>185</u> -----	King of England, circa 924-940.
S.	<u>78</u> <u>82</u> <u>56</u> <u>44</u> <u>170</u> <u>12</u> -----	Boar, when getting food
R.	<u>120</u> <u>166</u> <u>36</u> <u>125</u> <u>152</u> <u>27</u> -----	Henry VII and Elizabeth I, et al
J.	<u>73</u> <u>102</u> <u>16</u> <u>94</u> <u>3</u> <u>140</u> -----	Medieval Walter Cronkite-type
F.	<u>55</u> <u>96</u> <u>19</u> <u>60</u> <u>167</u> <u>185</u> -----	The eighth was the last
P.	<u>139</u> <u>10</u> <u>154</u> <u>175</u> <u>15</u> <u>42</u> <u>63</u> <u>80</u> <u>72</u> -----	Like the Pont Neuf, it's pretty old
C.	<u>171</u> <u>133</u> <u>159</u> <u>78</u> <u>61</u> <u>129</u> -----	Heroine of Scott novel.
T.	<u>7</u> <u>172</u> <u>91</u> <u>47</u> -----	Oak part of "oak, ash, and thorn".
S.	<u>117</u> <u>84</u> <u>77</u> <u>1</u> <u>181</u> <u>17</u> <u>25</u> -----	Innocent VIII lived here when the battle of Bosworth occurred
LA.	<u>136</u> <u>34</u> <u>90</u> <u>56</u> <u>100</u> <u>163</u> <u>86</u> <u>68</u> -----	Condition of one chained in a dungeon.

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On with the dance! Let joy be unconfined ...
Childe Harold, Lord Byron

 **Dancing Through Time: Western Social Dance in Literature, 1400-1918:** Selections- Compiled by Allison Thompson - ISBN 0-7864-0480-9, McFarland, Box 611, Jefferson NC. 28640 \$38.50

Dancing is still a popular pastime, but it was a more important part of the lives of our ancestors, as Ms. Thompson points out. "Confined by bad roads, no night-time illumination save the moon, and... a limited social circle, a ball was an important social event for all generations." (Also no movies, no radio, no TV.) So it's no wonder that many great and lesser authors have made a dancing party a pivotal event in their stories, or have expressed their opinions on the subject, starting with Chaucer, "Sir Mirthe's' Carole," going on through Shakespeare, Moliere, Cervantes, Jane Austen, etc. The author has arranged the selections in orderly chronological fashion: Middle Ages and Renaissance, Restoration, Age of Reason, Regency, Victorian, etc., with a sufficient, but not over-long introduction to each. Not all items included are fiction. There are essays on ballroom manners, "How to polka" instructions — as if one could learn out of a book. The antics are heard from also, maintaining that the dance floor was a slippery slide to Hades. And those of us who are bisinistripedalians are catered to, as well, with P. G. Wodehouse's short story "The Man With Two Left Feet."

This is an very good source for those with a serious interest in the subject, but you don't need a serious interest. With excerpts from Louisa May Alcott, Goethe, Dickens, and many others, besides those named above, it's a book for readers as well as dancers.

NB. The quotations in this column were used as chapter headings or otherwise cited by Ms Thompson

-m. s.

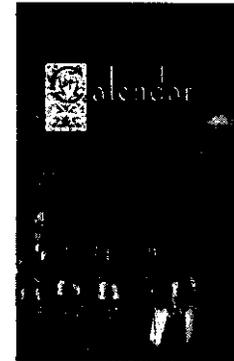
 **CALENDAR - David Ewing Duncan, Avon Books, NY, 1998**

Also having to do with time, on a more long-term basis, this covers ground (and heavens) from Stonehenge to Stephen Hawking. With many illustrations and a handsome Medieval dust jacket, it relates the struggles of humankind to measure their days, nights, and seasons —

R I C A R D I A N R E A D I N G

Myrna Smith

and there's the problem. It seems natural to follow the moon through its cycles, and many agricultural societies do so, or have done so. But these cycles do not coordinate with the yearly circuit of the sun, necessitating the addition of leap days, weeks, even months. Often this would be done at the command of the priests who kept the ceremonial dates, or the kings emperors, who could indulge their whims, even adding their names to the calendar. No wonder that common folk did not observe their birthdays until fairly recently in history. With no printed calendars, they would have difficulty in remembering them, and even if they did, never knew when someone might start tinkering with the months. The Julian calendar went through several permutations before settling down. Conservative Christian opinion did not favor monkeying around with time in this fashion, so it stayed that way for centuries, in spite of the warnings of such as the Venerable Bede and Roger Bacon that things were getting out of **whack**. It was not until the late 16th century that Pope Gregory XIII spearheaded a commission to reform the calendar. He did not do it himself — the chief astronomers were named Clavius and Dante — but was the driving force behind it. The Protestant nations of Europe, and later, America, were slow to accept. This was not so much bigotry as the fact that Pope Gregory's backing of the St. Bartholomew's day massacre had put them off any bright ideas he might have.



Whatever the faults of the man for whom it was made, the Gregorian calendar is certainly the best to date, but it can stand more tinkering, of course. How would you go about improving it?

The book is well-researched, with footnotes below the text, obviating the need to turn back and forth in the book — a great time-saver. However, there is a strange blooper. On the dust jacket and again in the preface, the author informs us that 'What we call the year 2000 will be the year . . . e.g. 2753 according to the old Roman calendar . . . 5700 according to the Jewish calendar . . .' and so forth, but the year 2000 is equated with "1997 reckoning from Christ's birth

in c. 4 BC.” Doesn’t that mean that 2000 is already past? If so, I’m glad to know the Y2K problem has been solved, but dismayed to think of all the deadlines I have missed!

—m.s.

*... They were like, unto my sight,
As angels, winged bright. .
Geoffrey Chaucer. The Romaunt of the Rose*

📖 **A VISION OF LIGHT** -Judith Markle Riley,
Delacorte Press, 1989

📖 **IN PURSUIT OF THE GREEN LION** -Judith
Markle Riley, Delacorte Press, 1990

Set circa 1395, these books are not strictly Ricardian reading, but well worth the time. They present a colorful look at life in the Middle Ages, as well as an interesting story. The characters are delightful, from the heroine, Margaret the midwife, a simple woman whose Inner Voice has told her to write a book telling of her varied life, to the irascible Brother Gregory, the only scribe hungry enough to take her commission. And, of course, Margaret’s indulgent husband, the merchant Master Kendall, has a name to endear him to many Ricardians.

The books encompass many of the most fascinating aspects of the Middle Ages seamlessly stitched together; pilgrims and jongleurs jostle each other on the dusty roads, whit changelings, alchemists and midwives. There are supernatural aspects, in keeping with the beliefs of the era, violence and tenderness in proportion. The author is careful not to sanitize or romanticize the time; she leaves in the warts, but doesn’t dwell on them. Highly recommended. While *In Pursuit of the Green Lion* is a sequel, it may be read on its own without the reader becoming too lost to enjoy it.

—Siobhan M. Burke, ME

(My deepest appreciation to Ms Burke, and I will say no more about the lack of review contributions. Maybe silence will be productive.)

“There is nothing like dancing after all...I consider it as one of the first refinements of polished societies.”

“Certainly, Sir — and it has the advantage also of being in vogue amongst the less polished societies of the world - Every savage can dance.”
Jane Austin, *Pride and Prejudice*

📖 **WITCH OF THE PALO DURO** - Mardi
Oakley Medawar, St. Martin’s Press, 1997

Also a long way from Ricardian, both in time and space, but perhaps not altogether in spirit. This is the second in Ms Medwar’s series featuring the Kiowa healer, Tay-Bodal. The previous volume, *Death at Rainy Mountain*, was reviewed in an earlier issue. The display of shields around the lodge, the elaborate and sometimes self-made rules of chivalry — one warrior shoots an arrow through his long sash to pin himself in place on the battlefield — all are reminiscent of the medieval period in Europe. Again, there are lovers to be reunited, a woman to be saved from death as a witch, mysteries to be solved. Tay-bodal uses common sense, his powers of observation, and his little gray cells to solve them, but one important clue can only be significant in an Indian context - and he almost misses that! There are some interesting sidelights on relations between different Indian nations. The Kiowas, for example, have a Navajo captive/slave in their camp, and one of the Kiowa characters, in disgust at a turn of events, threatens to “go live among the white-man-clothes-wearing Cherokees and change my name.” Tay-bodal replies, “The Cherokees wouldn’t have you.” A little bit of an in-joke on the author’s part, as she is a Cherokee.

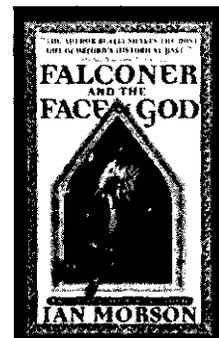
In an epilogue, we see the hero as an old man, being interviewed by a white folklorist. Apparently, he has remained friends with the Army doctor, Haw-wee-son, and, although bent by time and circumstance, is not broken. A likable hero, a compelling mystery, and an exotic setting. What more could one ask for in a historical mystery? Historical accuracy, perhaps? That’s here, too. I hope to hear more from the Cadfael of the plains in the near future.

—m.s.

*Is not this fine, I trow, to see the gambols,
To bear the jigs, observe the frisks, be enchanted. -
John Ford, Perkin Warbeck*

📖 **FALCONER AND THE FACE OF GOD** -
Ian Morson, St. Martin’s Press, NY, 1996

Why is it that, although murder mysteries may be set in any period, the Medieval and Victorian eras seem to provide the most fertile ground? Is it because, being periods of supposed great ignorance (compared with ours), they allow the clever detective (with whom we identify, of course) to shine all the more? Or maybe it’s just the costuming. Be that as it may, this book, part of a series about William Falconer, instructor at Oxford and friend of Roger Bacon, is an



Ricardian Reading

excellent sample of the genre. If you are a follower of Elizabethan theater mysteries, pick these up and see how you like them. I did.

The mystery concerns the killing on stage of a much, and deservedly, hated leading man. This often happens in books; it's almost inevitable in any mystery that features a theatrical performance, amateur or professional. But does this ever happen in real life? How often does an actor even die a natural death on stage? Literally, I mean, not figuratively. Never mind. Suspend your disbelief and enjoy.

—*m.s.*

No sleep *till morn, when Youth and Pleasure meet, To chase the glowing Hours with flying feet.* - Lord Byron, *again*

📖 MIDSUMMERS KNIGHT - Tori Phillips - Harlequin, NY 1998

Tori Phillips is our own Mary Schaller, a loyal Ricardian. Why then does she place her stories in the period of Henry VIII's reign? Perhaps because they are light-hearted romances, and there was little that was light-hearted about Richard's brief reign.

The plot is this, briefly: Lady Katherine, merry widow and heiress, and her cousin Miranda Paige, "the oldest virgin at Court" (late **20s**) are enjoying their summer in the country at



Bodiam Castle. Fate, and King Henry, have other ideas. He arranges a match for her with Brandon Cavendish, without asking anyone, and sends Brandon and his friend Jack off to woo the lady. The two men decide to change identities in order to scope out the situation, at the same time that the ladies are also pretending to be each other. Everyone falls in love with the wrong persons, only of course they *aren't* the wrong persons. Then, unbeknownst to the gentlemen, the ladies discover the deception being played on them, and decide to have some fun. Then, unbeknownst to Katherine and Miranda, the men discover that the ladies are not who they have pretended to be . . . Anyway, from here the plot begins to thicken. "I know that they know, but do they know that I know that they know?" Just to complicate things, there is a villainous villain: Katherine's grown-up nephew and heir, Sir Fenton Scantling. (Ms Phillips does have a gift for names.) He could spill the beans, but he would just as soon that Katherine married nobody, and in fact needs that inheritance soon.

Okay, these plot themes have been around for a long time, but Ms Phillips handles them with wit, verve and freshness. The author obviously had a blast writing this book, and you will have fun reading it, especially if you have an appreciation for puns. Not that she loads the book with them, but she is fond of punning titles. A previous title was *Silent Knight*, and an upcoming one will be *Three Dog Knight*. Like the cat who ate a wedge of cheese and sat down by the mousehole, I am waiting with baited breath. (See, I can pun, too, if not well.)

- *m.s.*

The following article was on Page 6 of today's New **York Post** (the etext is at www.nypostonline.com, under the category of Gossip).

The book is listed in Amazon.com.

KING PERP

LAWYER-to-the-stars Bert Fields is defending a new celebrity client. Fields has just completed *Royal Blood: Richard III and the Mystery of the Princes*, in which the legal eagle examines the case against the most ruthless monarch in British history. Fields, who in the past has represented such high-profile figures as Dustin Hoffman, Warren Beatty and Tom Cruise, has turned

up new evidence in his book, due out next month from HarperCollins. In studying various historical accounts, Fields feels he can disprove the public perception of King Richard as a notoriously ambitious, cold-blooded murderer. Maybe he should write about O.J. Simpson next.

Pat Gallaghe

Editor's Note: *Royal Blood is now available. Both the Research Librarian and the Reading Editor have complimentary copies. Mr. Fields, who is a member, has generated much favorable publicity for Richard III amongst talk shows and the press.*

WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG TO CASH MY CHECK?

Peggy Allen

A very good question. A perfectly reasonable question. You mail in your annual dues renewal check and it hangs around on your outstanding check list, a reconciliation nuisance for one, two, or — horrors — three months. In fact, it's a question I spent many hours pondering.

Before, that is, I became first the Society's Treasurer and more lately the Membership Chair. Now I know.

Here's how the process goes, in a Society staffed entirely by volunteers, and those most often at far ends of the country from one another and from the Society's financial institutions. First, you mail in your check to the membership Chair. Average time to reach the Society: 2 days.

On most days, two renewals arrive. It's not cost-effective or time-effective to process just two renewals at a time, so they sit in the to-be-processed file until a good-sized batch is accumulated. Then, the whole batch is processed — membership records are updated, and the batch of checks is mailed to the Treasurer. So, average time from arrival to sending to the Treasurer: 25 days (less in September and October, when most of the renewals come.) Total time so far: 27 days.

Average time in the mail from the Membership Chair to the Treasurer: 3 days. Total time so far: 30 days.

The Treasurer must update her records and prepare the batch to mail to the Society's financial institution for deposit. Remember, the Treasurer is an unpaid volunteer, as are all the officers and committee chairs of the Society, and she does have a life apart from the Society. (Shocking, I know, but true.) Let's estimate an average of four days to carve out a few hours in which to do this. Total time so far: **34** days.

When the Treasurer mails in the deposit, add another three days for it to arrive at our financial institution. Then, add two for the banking system to route it back to your bank. That's five more days, for a total of 39 days.

Example: if you mail your renewal on the 28th of September, of course your check won't clear on your month-end statement for September. There's a small possibility that it will clear on your month-end statement for October, **33** days later. More likely, though, it will clear in early November and thus appear on your November bank statement.

Thanks for your patience. Your check *will* clear, eventually.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE 1998 AGM

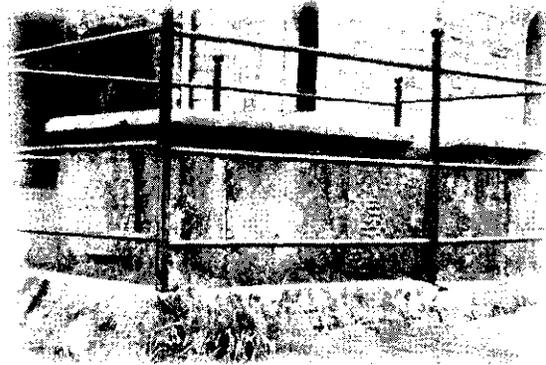
As of today, the Society has 749 paid members. This includes 86 family memberships of two or more; the rest are individual memberships. As was the case for the last Ricardian year, the Society's Web site has generated more new members than any other single source.

Referrals from existing members are an important source of new members for the Society, too: please spread the word to people you know who may be interested. You can give them a photocopy of the membership application that appears perennially on the back page of the *Ricardian Register*. As an alternative, you could give someone a gift membership.

Thanks to the initiative of Webmaster Laura Blanchard, a program started that makes joining via the Internet even easier. New members submit an application on-line and receive their new member packet together with a bill for dues by mail.

I respectfully request that anyone with membership concerns write, call, or e-mail me at the addresses/numbers shown in the *Register*. Notifications of address changes are especially helpful.

*Respectfully,
Peggy G. Allen,
Membership Secretary*



Saxton churchyard contains the altar tomb of Ralph, Lord **Dacre**, who — according to local tradition — was buried here together with his horse after the Battle of **Towton**.

— Geoffrey Wheeler

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Mr. Mrs. Miss

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Country:

Phone:

Fax:

E-Mail:

Individual Membership	\$30.00
Individual Membership Non-US	\$35.00
Family Membership	\$
Contributing & Sponsoring Memberships:	
Honorary Fotheringay Member	\$ 75.00
Honorary Middleham Member	\$180.00
Honorary Bosworth Member	\$300.00
Plantagenet Angel	\$500.00
Plantagenet Family Member	\$500+ \$

Contributions:

Schallek Fellowship Awards:	\$ _____
General Fund (publicity, mailings, etc)	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____

Family Membership \$30 for yourself, plus \$5 for each additional family member residing at same address.

*Make all checks payable to Richard III Society, Inc.
Mail to Peggy Allen, 1421 Wisteria, Metairie, LA 70005*