

“Kingdom of the Wetlands” Warfare Hits Tyler County

by Michael G. Maness

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Once again, medieval knights and ladies, swashbuckling passion, and all manner of pre-industrial chivalry found a home in Tyler County’s own Camp Niwana, Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8.

Kingdom of the Wetlands is one of many kingdoms of [Amtgard.com](#), a national organization that facilitates Live Action Role Play, or LARP, in a host of venues and adventures.

A vast array of roles and battle simulations are planned from well-crafted manuals in a range of rules for innumerable scenarios. Some can interact with monsters and sorcerers, fighting with foam swords and casting spells, and leveling up in power and skill as in several video games and role-play board games

Kingdom of the Wetlands hosted “Endreign XLVI” to several chapters of the national Amtgard.com organizations that has well over 100 chapters in the U.S. and over a dozen in southeast Texas. Some of the hosts were from the Fools Demise chapter in Vidor and those from the Barony of Granite Spyre out of Houston.

Ravenna, aka Kristina Haverkamp, at the sign-up booth helped all get organized, perhaps over 100 for the weekend. Ahmeren the Conqueror, aka Glen Jordan, a tall fighter with a magnetic smile led a group of swordsmen in sparing.

Throughout Camp Niwana, all dressed to the period, some swam in the pool, tents dotted the area, and activities ranged mostly around several kinds of scheduled battles. Between the battles there were activities in the tavern and around the drum circle.

Colorful creative outfits abounded, and the spirits of the participants conjured several days of fun and excursions limited only by their energetic imaginations.

