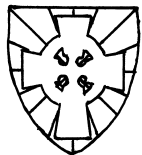


The Shadow Knows
c/o Pat Mullins
1811D Potomac Place
College Station, TX 77840

The Shadow Knows

May AS XLIV (AD 2009)

This is What the Cover Might Look Like If No One Submits Any Cover Art



Newsletter for the Shire of the Shadowlands

Their Royal Majesties

Gunther Jonsson & Elizabeth Seale

Michael Gunter and April Page
crown@ansteorra.org

Their Royal Highnesses

Hrafn Olafsson &
Elizabeth di Valore della Rosa

coronet@ansteorra.org

Calendar of Events

(From the Kingdom Calendar)

May 2009 (AS XLIV)

1-3.....Loch Guardian - Loch Soilleir (Clear Lake, TX)
 Eldern XXXI - Eldern Hills (Lawton/ Ft. Sill, OK)
 Guardian of the Tor XVII - Dragonsfire Tor (Stephenville, TX)
 8-10.....Bordermarch Champions XXXII - Bordermarch (Beaumont, TX)
 Machiavelli's Revenge II - Blacklake (Midland, TX)
 Beltane - Namron (Norman, OK)
 15-17.....Coronation/King's Champion - Rosenfeld (Tyler, TX)
 22-24.....Steppes Warlord - Steppes (Dallas, TX)
 29-31.....Queen's Champion - Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)

June 2009 (AS XLIV)

5-7.....Castellan - Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)
 12-14.....King's College - Bjornsborg (San Antonio, TX)
 19-21.....Passa de Arms - Adlersruhe (Amarillo, TX)
 26-28.....Midsummer Festival - Mooneschadowe (Stillwater, OK)

Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands

Seneschal (Accepting Applications)

Lord Juan Francisco Aranzazu Ramirez
John Ramirez
shadowlands.seneschal@gmail.com
361-742-9927

Treasurer

Lady Catan ingen Míchl
Kristin Denton
shadowlands.treasurer@gmail.com

Herald

OPEN
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Chronicler

Lord Pædríc OMullan (Acting)
Pat Mullins
shadowlandschronicler@yahoo.com
979-492-9959

Hospitaler

Alfrun of Shadowlands (Pending)
Morgan Wagnon
morgan.wagnon@yahoo.com
817-526-4786

Historian

Lord Pædríc OMullan
Pat Mullins
shadowlandschronicler@yahoo.com
979-492-9959

Knight Marshal (Accepting Applications)

Sir Rhodri ap Gwthyr
Paul Foster
sir.rhodri@gmail.com

Rapier Marshal

Lord Diederíc Andrieszen
Peter Rucker
gesegnet@yahoo.com
979-777-6703

Archery Marshal

OPEN
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Web minister

Lady Catan ingen Míchl
Kristin Denton
vs.shadowlands@gmail.com

Minister of Arts and Sciences

Lady Brigid Cunningham (Acting)
Sarah Gray
sarah.gray.88@gmail.com

CAAA Advisor

Mistress Kaitlyn McKenna
Robbin Foster
Mistresskaitlyn@gmail.com

Populace Meetings

May 5.....Rudder Tower 507
June 2.....Location TBA

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
Archery	Sun 1:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Lord Bastian jed.tressler@gmail.com
Chivalric	Thur 7:30PM	TAMU Main Drill Field	Sir Rhodri sir.rhodri@gmail.com
Rapier	Thur 7:00PM	TAMU Main Drill field	Lord Diederíc gesegnet@yahoo.com

Guilds

Guild	Time	Location	Contact
Cooking	2 nd Tues 7:00PM	Isabelot's House	HL Isabelot isabelotdeforess@gmail.com
Dance	Sun 6:30PM	See below	Lady Morina elwenaduialloth@yahoo.com
Musicians	Sun 5:30PM	See below	Lady Brigid sarah.gray.88@gmail.com
Scribes	watch the list	Kaitlyn's house	Luciana pchanjeni@sbcglobal.net

Music/Dance Rooms

Sun May 3.....MSC 212
 Sun May 10.....MSC 212
 Sun May 17.....MSC 212
 Sun May 24.....MSC 212

This is *The Shadow Knows*, a publication of the Shire of the Shadowlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA). *The Shadow Knows* is available from Pat Mullins, 1811D Potomac Place, College Station, TX, 77840 or online at <http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/>. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA) and does not delineate SCA policies.

Copyright © 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting articles and artwork from this publication, please contact the editor, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

The Shadow Reader

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Title – *The Pillars of the Earth*

Author – Ken Follett

Publisher – New American Library

The Pillars of the Earth is a work of historical fiction. Very little of its content ever actually took place. It tells the story of a fictional cathedral in a fictional town in England in the middle of the 12th Century. Almost all of the characters are fictional. That being said, *The Pillars of the Earth* is one of the most interesting, entertaining, and informative books I have ever read.

Set during the Anarchy, the period of disputed rule in England when Matilda, daughter of Henry I, and Stephen of Blois, Henry's nephew, fought for the English crown, *The Pillars of the Earth* tells the story of Tom Builder and his family, living in the town of Kingsbridge. Tom, and later his adopted son Jack, are hired to rebuild the local cathedral which had been destroyed by fire. Building a cathedral is a time consuming and expensive process, reflected by the book spanning approximately fifty years. Although most of the characters are common folk and craftsmen, they cannot help but be involved in the civil war between Matilda and Stephen, at least indirectly. The local nobility and the Church are involved as well.

The plots and subplots are believable, the characters are complex and interesting. I learned a great deal about cathedral architecture and how it evolved during this time, which was the period when heavy, Romanesque architecture with rounded arches and few windows gave way to soaring Gothic architecture with pointed arches and stained glass. The book includes six illustrations, at the beginning of each of its six parts, and these help a great deal in understanding the evolution of Gothic architecture. Other interesting storylines include the growth of the English wool trade and the political intrigues, of the Anarchy and within the Church. Towards the end is told the story of the murder of (Saint) Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and King Henry II's penance for having caused it.

Filled with interesting characters and fast-paced action, *The Pillars of the Earth* makes for fascinating reading, and, at almost 1000 pages, will keep you going for at least a few days (and/or nights).

Table of Contents

Cover - Blank Space – Art by NO ONE.....	1
Officers Contact Information.....	2
The Fine Print.....	2
Table of Contents.....	3
The Shadow Notes.....	3
Thanks and Credits.....	4
Officer Reports.....	4
New Branch Herald Sought.....by Coblaithe Muimnech.....	6
Poetry Corner..... <i>The Yellow Streak a Mile Wide</i> ...by Lord Pædric O'Mullan.....	7
History of the Shadowlands...by Lord Pædric O'Mullan.....	8
Prayss the Unexpected.....by Lord Pædric O'Mullan.....	11
War Story.....by Lord Bastian Eisengart.....	12
The Shadow Reader... <i>The Pillars of the Earth</i>Review by Lord Pædric O'Mullan.....	14
Calendar of Events...from the Kingdom Calendar.....	15
Upcoming Populace Meeting Times.....	15
Practice and Guild Meeting Times.....	15

The Shadow Notes

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Congratulations to Honorable Lady Isabelot di Firenz, who became a Companion to the Order of the Star of Merit at Defenders of the Rose. Congratulations also to Lord Juan Francisco Aranzazu Ramirez and Lady Morina Ó Donnábhain, who received their AoAs, also at Roses, as well as Lady Brigid Cunningham, who received her AoA at Conflict at the Faire, and Lord Charles Crowley, who received a Talon, also at Conflict at the Faire. Vivat!

Congratulations to our own Faolán of the Shadowlands, who is the Archery Defender of the Rose, having outscored all competitors, and Mistress Kaitlyn, the Roses' Choice honoree. Other new Defenders of the Rose include Don Robert McPharlan, Defender for Rapier Fighting, Centurian Lochlan Dunn, Defender for Chivalric Fighting, Baroness Alys Durivau, Defender for Performing Arts, and Mistress Hanna van Dahl, Defender for Static Arts.

Due to a breakdown in communications, Tuathal O'Shields, who has been listed in the last 2 issues of *The Shadow Knows* as the Herald, is NOT currently the Herald. Any questions or submissions of a heraldic nature should be directed to Coblaithe Muimnech, Orbis Herald, at southern@herald.ansteorra.org. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Several good gentles from the Shadowlands received thanks for their heroic service in the "Brute Squad" helping fellow travelers remove their wagons from the mire at Conflict at the Faire in Stargate. Specifically, they were Orazio de Assisi, Lord Stephen Crowley, and Lord Bastian Eisengart. If I have omitted anyone they have my sincere apologies, as I was unable to attend, and heard about it second hand. Great job, guys!

The Shire will be doing a Demo at Larry J. Ringer Library in College Station on Monday, June 15th from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. More details to follow. Many of our student members will be gone, hopefully some can come in to town to help out. I suspect crash space can be arranged, if needed.

The Shire of Greywood is challenging our claim to being the oldest Shire in the Kingdom. It seems that, while the Shadowlands was founded MANY months before Greywood, they attained full Shire status a few months before we did. Are we going to allow them to usurp our claim as the oldest Shire, or shall we gather an army and go to Battle of the Pines in October to teach them what's what?

The office of Rapier Marshal has been filled, but several offices are accepting applications, for those with a desire to serve. As mentioned, the Herald's Office is still open and accepting applications, as is the office of Archery Marshal. The office of Seneschal is accepting applications until August 1, by which time it **MUST** be filled. New this month is the position of Chivalric Marshal, which is now accepting applications. Sir Rhodri has held this position for a loong time, and he is old and tired. (Just kidding, Rhodri) If you are interested in any of these positions, send an application for office, available at <http://seneschal.ansteorra.org/forms/ApplicationJan08.pdf> to the Regional officer for that position, as well as the local seneschal and the current holder of the office. If you are applying for the office of seneschal, you only need to send Juan one copy (and one to the Regional Seneschal).

Thanks and Credits

New Branch Herald Sought by Coblaithe Muimnech (Misty D. Blagg), *War Story* by Bastian Eisengart (Jedediah Tressler), *The Yellow Streak a Mile Wide, Pryess the Unexpected, History of the Shadowlands*, and *The Shadow Reader*, by Lord Pædric OMullan (William P. Mullins) – all rights reserved. All items used with permission from the original creators.

Officer Reports

From the Seneschal

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the Treasurer

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the hospitaler

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the Chivalric Marshal

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the Rapier Marshal

Greetings Shadowlanders!

As you know, my tenure as the local rapier marshal is drawing to a close. I have certainly learned a great deal about the society and about rapier combat over the last couple of years, and I hope that everyone who has been interested in giving rapier combat a first try or in honing skills they have already begun to develop has found the opportunity to do so at our fighter practice and has enjoyed every minute of it.

My successor as rapier marshal is Don Connor MacGillivray. I am certain he will appreciate feedback regarding preferred practice times and locations for the summer from those who will be in town or interested in coming to town for rapier practice. Please share with him also any ideas you may have for improving the accessibility, productivity, and fun of fighter practice.

Wednesday, March 18th

Fighting broke out today over control of 3 bridges that grant easy access to the contested fortifications. The army of Ansteorra performed superbly today, showing a level of discipline previously unknown. For the majority of the battle, the shieldmen maintained a deep defensive pocket at the foot of the bridges, while elite spearmen sowed destruction on the enemy forces that were bottled up on the bridge. When enemy attrition had reached critical mass, the combined allied force was able to sweep the enemy from the field in a stunning display of force. The cries of unlucky foes falling from the bridge could be heard to underscore the victory chants.

Thursday, March 19th

It was bloody carnage today when both armies happened upon each other during maneuvers in the nearby woodlands. The site of fiercest contention was a ravine 50 yards wide, marking the easiest path through the surrounding swamps. The Ansteorran forces were outnumbered, which made for another day of bitter, grueling work for the brave soldiers who made the field. The air hung heavy in the earthen recess, where no breeze penetrated to clear the air of sweat smell, dust, and pollen. The shields of Ansteorra were forced to throw themselves again and again against the Trimaran wall in a desperate attempt to gain the crucial points for control of the ravine. Despite the tenacious effort, and many momentary successes, the army lacked the numbers to hold and was forced to retreat to better ground.

Friday, March 20th

For the first time this conflict the two armies met in proper continental style today. On the open field the two forces clashed in 3 passes. In each pass the armies of Trimaris were victorious, besting all of their opponents. There was much debate amongst commanders and enlisted over whether Ansteorra was again outnumbered, but it appeared as if they were simply bested this day on the field. Spirits of the fighting men remain resolute and high, though there is considerable doubt as to the potential success of this war.

Saturday, March 21st

The final battle of this conflict took place over possession of a permanent fortification. For what seemed like hours rocks, ballista bolts, and arrows rained on the Ansteorrans inside the fort, who sought to hold the better position against what seemed to be an equal sized force. The constant bombardment took its toll, and as the casualties rose, the final assault began. The charge came both through the main gate, as well as the sally gate. Breaching ramps allowed additional men to cross into the walls and widen the breach made by the main charge. In the end, Ansteorra was forced to quit the fort. A heroic attempt was made to re-take the structure, and for a brief while the armies of black and gold once more stood inside the fort. But sadly, the charge was too costly, and there were insufficient reserves to support the opening. Ultimately, control of the fort remained solidly in Trimaran hands.

With the final defeat of the Ansteorran armies, most packed their belongings and retreated to their homelands. Surprisingly, the moral of the defeated army remained high, and many were heard to note that if they were going to be beat, they were glad it was an honorable and tough opponent that defeated them.

War Story

By Lord Bastian Eisengart

Date Line Glenn Abheann

Report of Embedded Correspondent Bastian Eisengart

Sunday, March 15th

Despite the hours spent in cramped transports and the physical exhaustion brought on by setting up the army's "tent city," spirits are high tonight around the forward staging encampment. The rain has kept people indoors, where sounds of merriment can be heard. I'm told that most of the army will spend this time enjoying the company of both their comrades and the camp followers who are always present on such long deployments. The evening has spent playing games, telling jokes, eating, sleeping, and catching up with comrades from distant parts of the homelands. The striking contrast of these light-hearted, even festive, activities with the grim reality of this army's purpose is underscored by the presence at the gaming table of swords and armor being mended by fighting men, their task never completely put out of mind.

Monday, March 16th

The sub-tropical rains continue to pelt the encampment today, and most spend their time trying to keep themselves and their equipment dry. I'm told there is little chance of fighting today; even the sparing fields where the soldiers practice their crafts have been abandoned. The enemy has been spotted, however, and it seems that fighting may break out as early as tomorrow.

Tuesday, March 17th

The army of Ansteorra was called to muster in the morning hours today. In a clear act of aggression, the forces of Trimaris have seized a small village previously loyal to the crown. A march was ordered, and the king sought to dislodge the invaders from their position within the town. The fighting was fierce and grueling, described by many as "a meat grinder." The two forces surged back and forth into each other, fighting both in the streets and within the buildings themselves. The king ordered his shieldmen, who were outnumbered heavily by their counterparts, to charge in repeated waves into the left flank of the enemy. The men followed their orders with courage and tenacity, but ultimately the struggle proved futile. The army was forced to withdrawal with heavy losses. Talk around camp that night was divided. Many of the officer corps could be heard to blame the day's defeat on a lack of discipline in the noncoms, where the rank-and-file coured a lack of shieldmen and an apparent breakdown in command and control. There were also grumblings from throughout the ranks that the battle plan was doomed from the start by an improper balance of arms amongst the army. "Too many spears, too few shields to just punch our way through" could be heard around the fires in many camps. Despite the defeat, spirits remain high, and there is a cautious optimism that the overall engagement may yet be a success.

It has been quite a joy serving, training, and learning with you all, and I look forward to discovering what the future holds for each of us.

Lord Diederic Andrieszen

From an Archery Marshal at Large

Archery practice will continue through the summer. There has been some discussion on changing the day/time of practice, but no decisions have been made yet. Keep your eye on the list-serve for any changes. If you have opinions please let me know. As a reminder, applications are still open for the shire archery marshal. Have fun, and keep shooting.

Bastian Eisengart

From the Web minister

Hello everyone. I'm still trying to get the pictures up on Flickr. There have been some technical difficulties that I still need to overcome, but I am working on it. However, there is now a page for Shadowlander's badges and devices! The only ones I have are for those who are on the list field, but anyone can send me a picture of their badge and I will post it there. The address is: <http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/devices.html>. If you notice that your name is spelled wrong, or you would like a different picture of your device displayed, please feel free to contact me and I will take care of it as soon as possible.

Thank you, and have a happy and safe summer!

Catan ingen Michil

From the Chronicler

Another month, another newsletter. As of this writing I have received no new entries for the War Correspondent Competition, so I guess the three submissions from last month will likely in some order, be the top 3 finishers. I also have officer reports from only half the officers. If ya'll would like for me to continue publishing an interesting informative newsletter, I will need more help than that. Otherwise, I guess I can go back to the useless, minimal effort product we've had off and on for the last 10 years. In service to the Dream (and dreaming of a quality newsletter),

Lord Pædic

From the Historian

Included in this issue is the second installment of the History of the Shadowlands. Congratulations to everyone who won awards in the last month, hopefully all are listed in the Shadow Notes elsewhere in this newsletter. If anybody got left out please contact me so you can be included in the Historian's records.

Lord Pædic

New Branch Herald Sought

--Coblaith Muimnech, Orbis Herald

The branch herald is responsible for ensuring that heraldic submissions from the shire and its residents get to the right place, that local events are adequately staffed with field and court heralds, that heraldic education happens in the shire, and that any other heraldic needs the shire may have are met. It is preferred that applicants have some basic knowledge of how heraldry is used in the S.C.A., but it is not necessary that they be heraldic experts. The position is largely administrative. The emphasis is on keeping good, up-to-date records, filing complete and timely reports with Orbis Herald (the herald for the Southern Region of Ansteorra), and observing and coordinating the efforts of local heralds to ensure nothing is left undone. More information on the duties of the position can be found

in Part III.B. of the Ansteorran College of Herald's Administrative Handbook, which can be downloaded from the College of Herald's website at <http://herald.ansteorra.org/publications.php>.

The Shire of the Shadowlands has been without a branch herald since last November. Applications for the post are being accepted now.

Application packets should be e-mailed to Orbis Herald at southern@herald.ansteorra.org or mailed to the address given for her in the back of the Black Star under "Regional Kingdom Officers". Each packet should include a fully completed Application for Office form and photocopies or electronic scans of the applicant's current S.C.A. membership card and a photo I.D. The blank form can be downloaded from <http://ansteorra.org/publications/forms>.

A courtesy copy of the completed application form should be delivered to the shire seneschal. The successful applicant will be required to take a branch herald's warranting class within three months of appointment, if (s)he has not already had one. Arrangements to do so can be made with Orbis, or you may take advantage of classes offered by other regional heralds at events you attend.

If you have any questions about the submissions process, the application process, or what a branch herald needs to know and do, please send them to Orbis.

In January of that same year the Shadowlands did host the coronation of their Majesties Patrick Michael III and Julia III, and they were the 26th to take the Stellar Throne.

Also in January did Lady Renate Johanna Wilhelmina Warnecke become the new Chronicler.

In February the shire did hold a Twelfth Candle Revel.

In April the Shadowlands did host the Tournament of the Round Table X. The winner of the chivalric list and Defender of the Roundtable was Richard de Chinon. The winner of the rapier list was Don Tivar Moondragon. Lord Amos MacAlpin won the archery list, and David van den Storm the heraldry competition. The games competition was won by Cedric the Star-Crossed and the dance competition by Corinne Elizabeth Drake and Valentyn Drake. Jalali of Salamis won the bardic competition and became the Bard of the Shadowlands. Lord Jin Liu Ch'ang won the A&S competition and became the Artisan of the Shadowlands. And the year drew to a close.

AS XXVII (92-93)

In June of the new year did the forces of Ansteorra march east to war against the army of Trimaris. And this was rather unimaginatively called "The War Against Trimaris", but would later come to be called Gulf War. By September AS XXVII Lord Geoffrey Charles Scrymger was the Seneschal of the Shadowlands. In September the Shire held a Newcomer's Revel, followed the next day by a Newcomer's Day Trip to Defenders of the Fort in Raven's Fort. In October the Shadowlands hosted its 15th Year Celebration, and this was reckoned from the date the Shire was founded.

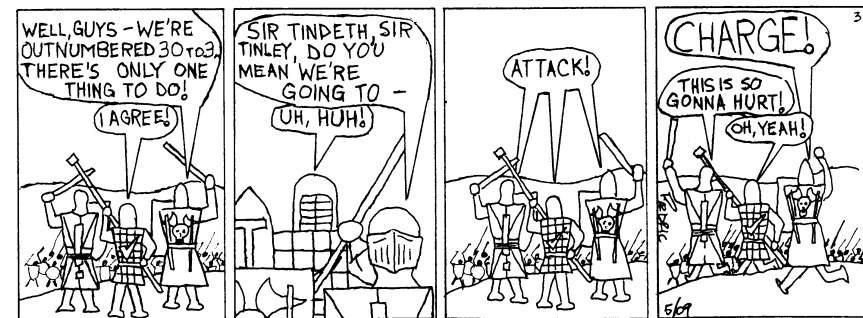
And the annals fell silent for many months.

Sometime in here was held the Tournament of the Round Table XI, but no record of it was made.

Eventually the year ended.

Press the Unexpected

By Daedric



Shadowlands, and Lady Karina des Penses became the Bard of the Shadowlands. Fiacra, now a Lord, returned as Chronicler that month. And Lady Sorka ni Faolan, who was the same Starwolf with a new name, became the Seneschal of the Shadowlands.

In January the Shire held a Yule Revel one Month Late, and many of the ladies did dye their hair red for Earnan.

In March of that same year the Shadowlands did host the 8th Round Table Tournament. Duchess Rowen Beatrice von Kampfir won the chivalric list and overall Championship and Don Christian Richard Dupre won the rapier list. Lord David the Smith became the Artisan of the Shadowlands and Lord Robyn Solarius became the Bard of the Shadowlands. Lady Rhiannon o Goed Niwlog won the heraldry competition, lord Siegfried von der Waldet Bergen won the games, and lord Amos MacAlpin won the dance competition. And the Chronicler became Lord Geoffrey Charles Scrymger, for that was Fiacra MacMunna's new name. And so did the year end.

AS XXV (90-91)

In June of the new year the Shire held an Otisburg Revival Festival at Loch Otismere.

Also in June did Lord Caradoc ap Owain become the new Chronicler.

In July of that year did the Shadowlands host the Kingdom Heraldic symposium, and that was the second time.

In that same month did Patrick Michael II and Julia II become the 23rd pair to wear the Sable Crown.

In August of that year, by command of Queen Julia, the Shadowlands did host another Queen's Champion Tourney, which was the second of these we hosted. In September the Shire did hold a Newcomers Revel.

In January of the same year did the Shadowlands hold a Twelfth Candle Revel. Also in January did Duchess Rowen Beatrice von Kampfir, former Shadowlander and reigning Champion of the Round Table, become the Known World's first Queen BY RIGHT OF ARMS.

In April the Shadowlands hosted the Tournament of the Dining Room Table, which was an April Fool's joke, and it was really the 9th Tournament of the Round Table. It was here that Gaspard du Lac received a White Scarf, and became the second Don from the Shadowlands. And this was the last event I attended for some years. Thus ended AS XXV.

AS XXVI (91-92)

By August of AS XXVI HL Sorcha had stepped down as seneschal, and returned as Chronicler. And Lord Amos MacAlpin then was the Seneschal. That September the Shire did hold a Newcomers Revel, followed the next day by a Newcomer's Day Trip to Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

Poetry Corner

The Yellow Streak a Mile Wide

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Commemorating the events of Gulf Wars IX

Yellow is for cowards, or so it has been said,
But the last person who said it crossed my blade, and now he's dead.
For I have come to spread the news, to tell it out with pride,
I'm here to say this kingdom has a yellow streak a mile wide.

The Trimarans and their allies took the field that fateful day.
They thought they were invincible, their foes the price would pay.
Then a sea of warriors, clad in gold, marched to the other side,
It was the Ansteorran army, a yellow streak a mile wide.

The Trimarans and their gallant friends at "Lay on" did advance,
They knew they could defeat us, if they only got the chance.
Their chivalry, and honor, strength, these cannot be denied,
Alas for them, they fought against a yellow streak a mile wide.

The Ansteorran battle drums up on the ridge did pound.
Every Ansteorran heart was thrilled to hear that fearsome sound.
But in the valley far below, their foes were terrified
To hear the throbbing pulse beat of a yellow streak a mile wide.

Then, at the order to advance, the yellow swept the field,
Leaving dead Trimarans in their wake, though one or two did yield.
Out on the field of battle, so many of them died,
Our noble foes were vanquished by the yellow streak a mile wide.

And when the battles all were fought, and when the war was done,
We told them that it was a tie, but we all know who won.
Hear the Blackstar kingdom shouting, as our voices swell with pride:
"VIVAT for Ansteorra, and the yellow streak a mile wide."

History of the Shadowlands

Compiled by Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Part 3 – The Later Early Years

AS XX (85-86)

In May of AS XX did Lady Jeheane of Winter Hills become the acting Seneschal.

In July of that year the shire hosted the Shadowlands Lakeside Eisteddfod, at which was chosen the second Title bard of the Shadowlands, and the winner of that competition was not recorded.

In September was scheduled a Saint Michaelmas event to be hosted by the Shadowlands, but of details there are none.

By October of the same year did Freiherr Falke von Rhienfels become the Seneschal of the Shadowlands. Also in October was held a Halloween party sponsored by the Ladies Sewing and Terrorist Guild.

In December was there a great unrest within the Shadowlands, but that is outside the scope of my work.

And in April of that year did the Shadowlands host the Round Table Tournament, and that was the fourth. It was here that the title “Artisan of the Shadowlands” was first awarded. And the winner was Lady (now Mistress) Alisandre Oliphant. And it was she who designed and registered the badge for the Artisan of the Shadowlands. Thus did another year end.

AS XXI (86-87)

In June of the new year AS XXI did Lord Albrek Ice Axe become the Seneschal of the Shadowlands.

In July of that year did HL Jeheane McRobb become Chronicler.

In August did the Shadowlands, in conjunction with Stargate, host Elfstomp and Eisteddfod, and a new Bard of the Shadowlands was chosen, and that was Rebekah. Here the record fell silent for a time.

In February of that year the Shadowlands hosted a return visit of King’s College. This have I verified from other sources.

And sometime in this period was held the fifth tournament of the Round Table, to which I found passing reference in later annals. And Mistress Alisandre defended her title as Artisan of the Shadowlands. And so ended the year AS XXI.

AS XXII (87-88)

In August of the new year did the Shadowlands host the second Eisteddstomp. Presumably a new Bard of the Shadowlands was chosen, but no record remains.

In September was there a Newcomer’s Revel.

Also in September did the Shadowlands host another King’s College.

In October did Lady Antoinette Louise become the Shadowlands Chronicler.

In January was there a Twelfth Night Feast and Revel. And the year AS XXII did draw to a close.

AS XXIII (88-89)

In June of the new year the Shadowlands hosted the Roundtable Tournament, and that was the sixth of them.

In September of that year did HL Doyel Mor-Ser return to the office of Seneschal, and he was the only one to hold that office twice.

In December the Shire hosted the Kingdom Heraldic Symposium.

In January Fiacra MacMunna became the new Shire Chronicler.

In February of that same year the Shadowlands hosted the Kingdom Dance Workshop.

And it was around this time that I, Lord Pædric O'Mullan, first came to the Knowne Worlde, and the Shire of the Shadowlands. And the old year passed.

Part 4 – The Early Middle Years

AS XXIV (89-90)

In May of AS XXIV the Shadowlands hosted Roundtable Tournament for the seventh time, and there is no record of the outcome. And this was my first event. That summer did Lady Realtatana Faol, who was commonly called Starwolf, serve as the temporary Chronicler, until Fiacra returned.

The 21st King and Queen of Ansteorra were Patrick Michael Gordonne and Julia de Montoya.

In July of that year did the Shire of the Shadowlands host the tournament of the Queen’s Champion, and that was the first time we hosted it.

And the winner was Don Galen Nicolli.

In September the Shire did hold a Newcomer’s Revel, and the next day did host its Tenth Year Celebration, for in those days they were reckoning the anniversary, not from the date the Shire was first founded, but from the date the Shire achieved full and official Shire status.

It was here that King Patrick Michael was murdered by a careless assassin, who sought to deprive Lord Kiyama Akaji of life, and succeeded. King Patrick Michael was an unforeseen complication. And it was one Antoine who did this foul and dastardly deed, as I saw with my own eyes. Fortunately, Queen Julia was able to revive both with a kiss. That night at court Lord Kiyama became the first ever to receive a new award, the Award of the Queen’s Rapier (AQR). Duchess Rowen Beatrice von Kampfir, a former denizen of the Shadowlands, won the Chivalric list, and the Queen’s Champion, Don Galen Nicolli, won the Rapier list. Lady Corinne O’Daugherty that day became the Artisan of the