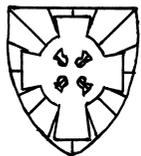
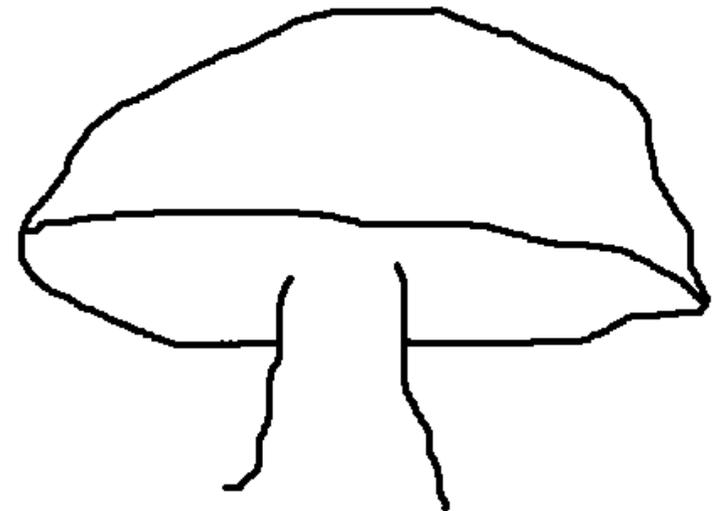


The Shadow Knows
c/o Pat Mullins
1811D Potomac Place
College Station, TX 77840

The Shadow Knows

July AS XLIV (AD 2009)



Newsletter for the Shire of the Shadowlands
The Capital of Ansteorra

Their Royal Majesties

Hrafn Olafsson &
Elizabete di Valore della Rosa

crown@ansteorra.org

Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands

Seneschal (Accepting Applications)

Sir Rhodri ap Gwythyr
Paul Foster
shadowlands.seneschal@gmail.com

Treasurer

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

Herald

OPEN
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Chronicler

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

Hospitaler

Alfrun of Shadowlands
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 Gwythyr
Paul Foster
sir.rhodri@gmail.com

Rapier Marshal

Don Conner MacGillivray
Benjamin White
benjamin.white@gmail.com
339-222-2311

Archery Marshal

OPEN
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Web minister

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

Minister of Arts and Sciences

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

CAAA Advisor

Mistress Kaitlyn McKenna
Robbin Foster
Mistresskaitlyn@gmail.com

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.

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Calendar of Events

(From the Kingdom Calendar)

July 2009 (AS XLIV)

3-5Fourth of July Weekend (OPEN)
10-12 Ansteorran 30th Year Celebration and Crown Tournament - Kingdom (Canton, TX)
Note: **Event begins on Thursday**
17-19King's Round Table - TBD
24-26Westgate Winter Collegium - Westgate (Houston, TX)
24-26Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVIII
31-2Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVIII

August 2009 (AS XLIV)

7-9Out of Kingdom: Pennsic XXXVIII
14-16 ...Steppes Artisan/Elfsea Baronial College – Multi-group Event (Dallas/Ft Worth TX)
21-23OPEN
28-30Jägermeister - Ffynnon Gath (San Marcos, TX)

Populace Meetings

July 14..... Isabelot's House 7:30 PM

Aug 4..... Location TBA

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
Archery	Sun 6:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Lord Bastian jed.tressler@gmail.com
Chivalric	Sun 1:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Sir Rhodri sir.rhodri@gmail.com
Rapier	Sun 1:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Don Conner benjamin.white@gmail.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	Mon 7:30 PM	Kaitlyn's house	Luciana pchanjeni@sbcglobal.net

Music/Dance Rooms

NO ROOMS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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The Shadow Notes

Thanks to all who came out and helped with the Demo at the library.

Thanks to all who helped with preparations for the Champion of Champions Tournament the Shire is hosting at Ansteorra's xXx Celebration, and to all who will help with the tournament itself.

Kudos to Lady Catan, who taught a couple of classes at King's College. If you missed them, she will be teaching them again at Ansteorra's xXx Year Celebration.

This just in... Faolán did not win any archery competitions this month (that I know of).

If anyone has any heraldic submissions, they may be sent to the Orbis (Southern Regional) Herald, Coblaithe Muimnech, at southern@herald.ansteorra.org or mailed to the address given for her in the back of the Black Star under "Regional Kingdom Officers"

Thanks and Credits

Noble Falconguard by Orazio da Assissi, (Richard D. Fink), *Mushroom* and *History of the Shadowlands*, by Lord Pædric OMullan (William P. Mullins) – all rights reserved. All items used with permission from the original creators.

Officer Reports

From the Seneschal

The summer has brought several changes. The usual things: heat, the slowdown in some activities, heat, and some officer changes.

I am now the acting seneschal. Anyone who is interested in the position should send their application to the regional seneschal.

Thanks to all those who came out in June for the demo at the library. It went great and we strutted our stuff to a variety of young people and their parents. Not sure if we will get any recruits, but we are hopeful.

A lot of work is going into preparing for the tournament Shadowlands is sponsoring at Ansteorra xXx in July. Many thanks to all those who have come out to paint shields and prepare prizes and other tasks needed to make this a grand tournament to remember. If you are coming to 30th year, please come over to the Chivalric Tournament of Champions and work with us to make it great. Our Champion will be one of our alumni, Duke Ulsted. Come out and help cheer him on to victory.

We are still looking for a new venue for dance and music practice. With the closing of the MSC, we are in need of a new place. While the University may be able to provide another location, we need to be prepared to have it somewhere else.

There are still activities going on all summer long. Fighter practices, archery, charter painting, and other activities happen almost every week. Come on out and join your shire members in enjoying the SCA in all its forms.

Rhodri

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

June practices have been sparsely attended but I've been drawing in people from surrounding areas. A word of Thanks to Bastian and Jelly for helping to put on a show for the demo on the 15th of the month.

Sunday Practices will continue through the rest of the Summer months. In July, The First (7/5) and Second (7/12) Sundays there will be NO Rapier Practice due to July 4th and Ansteorra 30th year celebration, respectively. Practices will resume on Sunday, July 19th.

Don Connor MacGillivray

From the Web minister

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

From the Chronicler

Not much to write this month. I'm still plugging along. Included in this month's issue is the much-anticipated poem by Orazio, the winner of the War Correspondence competition, as well as the last installment of the Shire history. No *Pryess the Unexpected* or Shadow Reader this month, I'll try to do better next month.

Padric

From the Historian

The shire history is finished! It is published elsewhere in this newsletter. See the Shire display at Ansteorra xXx.

Lord Padric

History of the Shadowlands

Compiled by Lord Padric O'Mullan

Part 7 – A few Years Ago

AS XXXV (00-01)

It was around this time that the Shire of the Shadowlands entered the Information Age, as *The Shadow Knows* began to be published on the internet. Ironically, this led to a reduction in the amount of historical information included. What follows comes in part from the online newsletter, in part from the Shire list archives, and in part from my own, sometimes faulty, memory.

In September of AS XXXV did the Shire hold an Open House demo on the drill field.

Also in this month many members of the Shire did take a Newcomers Trip to Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

In October the Shadowlands did co-host a weekend at Texas Renaissance Festival with Raven's Fort.

In December the Shire entered a float in the Bryan/College Station Holiday Parade.

And another year ended.

AS XXXVI (01-02)

In August of the new year the shire did hold an A&S Collegium, but it was not on the Kingdom calendar.

In that same month Lord Diego Quintana became the Seneschal of the Shadowlands, and Master Jin Liu Chiang became the Chronicler.

In September the Shire held an Open House demo, this one at the Regent's Fountain at the MSC.

And again, many members of the Shire took a Newcomers Trip to Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

In November of that same year the Shadowlands did host the Kingdom A&S competition. The following day King Duncan and his herald did participate in the SCA demo at the Texas Renaissance Festival, where Lady Katla Olafsdottir and Lord Rabert Stewart, both of the Shadowlands, became the first and only people ever to receive their AoAs by the hand of the King in open court at TRF. (They had been read into law the previous day.)

So ended the year AS XXXVI.

AS XXXVII (02-03)

In August of this year did the Shadowlands host our 25th Year Celebration.

In September the Shire did hold an Open House Demo on the Drill field, followed once more by a Newcomers trip to Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

In October and November many from the Shire did participate in the SCA demo at Texas Renaissance Festival, and, alas, this was the last time, as the SCA's holdings at TRF were seized by King George (the owner of TRF.)

In March of the same year the Shadowlands did host Roguefest III. No record was published of the results, but it is known that Lord Pædric OMullan won the title Artisan of the Shadowlands, and Lord Madog of Glastonbury became Bard of the Shadowlands.

And another year was passed.

AS XXXVIII (03-04)

By Sept of the new year Lord Thomas O'Toole had become the Seneschal of the Shadowlands, and Lady Abigail Pinel was the Chronicler.

In September the Shire once again held an Open House demo on the Drill Field, followed by a Newcomers Trip to defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

In April did the Shadowlands host a Shadowlands Champions event, at which it is believed Mistress Clara von Ulm became Artisan of the Shadowlands, and Lord Alden Drake was named Bard of the Shadowlands but no results were published. Thus ended the year AS XXXVIII.

AS XXXIX(04-05)

In September the Shadowlands held an Open House Demo on the list field, followed once more by a Newcomers trip Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort. In April of that same year the Shire hosted another Shadowlands Champions event, at which Mistress Clara von Ulm defended her title as Artisan, but no other results are known.

So passed another year.

Part 8 – The Last Few Years

AS XL (05-06)

In July of the new year the Shadowlands co-hosted the Kingdom for the Coronation of Jason II & Sereide II, along with the Shire of Emerald Keep.

In September the Shire once more held an Open House Demo on the Drill Field, followed by a Newcomer's Trip to defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

In November of that same year did the Shadowlands co-host the first Defenders of the Rose Tournament, again with Emerald Keep.

In February of that year did Lord Bastian Eisengart Become the Seneschal of the Shadowlands.

And another year ended.

AS XLI (06-07)

In September of this year, the Shire once more held an Open house demo on the drill field.

In October did the Shire take a Newcomer's trip to Drachenstitch in Gate's Edge.

In November of that year the Shadowlands did co-host Defenders of the Rose II, again with Emerald Keep.

And the year ended.

AS XLII (07-08)

By June of the new year Elizabeth Somerset was the Chronicler of the Shadowlands.

In July the Shadowlands hosted the Kings Round Table Meeting.

In September of that year the Shadowlands celebrated its 30th Anniversary with Third Tenth Year.

Also in September the Shire held an Open House Demo on the Drill Field.

In November The Shire co-hosted Defenders of the Rose III, once more with Emerald Keep.

And it was around this time that Juan Francisco Aranzazu Ramirez became the Seneschal of the Shadowlands.

In April of that same year the Shadowlands hosted an overnight lock-in event called Siege the Day.

So ended another year.

AS XLIII (08-09)

In September of the new year the Shire of the Shadowlands was proclaimed to be the Capital of Ansteorra by his Majesty, King Ulsted IV, as Lord Bastian Eisengart and Sir Rhodri ap Gwythyr received Sable Comets which read, in part, "...in recognition of especial endeavors of service to our Shire of the Shadowlands, Capital of Ansteorra...". Also in September the Shire once more held an Open House demo on the Drill Field, but the Newcomer's Trip to Defender of the fort in Raven's fort was cancelled due to Hurricane Ike.

In November many members from the Shadowlands participated in a demo for Candlelighters.

In January of that same year the Shadowlands held a Fall Ball in a small hall.

In February the shire finally (after 32 years) designed a Shire Achievement of Arms.

In March did Lord Pædric OMullan return as Chronicler of the Shadowlands, and he was the first to fulfill a two-year warrant in that office and come back for more.

In April of that same year the Shadowlands co-hosted Defenders of the Rose IV, this time with the Shire of Tir Medoin.

Thus ended the year AS XLIII.

AS XLIV (09-10)

In June of the new year did the Shire put on a demo at Larry Ringer Library in College Station, in conjunction with the library's summer reading program.

In July the Shire hosted (or will host, depending on when you read this) a Tournament of Champions, to determine the Champion of Champions at Ansteorra's xXx Celebration, and did (will) enter Duke Ulsted the Unsteady, a former Shadowlander, as their own champion.

Epilogue

This concludes the History of the Shire of the Shadowlands, from its earliest days until the present time, compiled by the hand of Lord Pædric OMullan, a labor that has spanned three months and more. It is done, it is done, and thank God, it is finally done!

Poetry Corner

Noble Falconguard

By Orazio da Assissi

Angels of verse, attend to me
May my voice not be marred
So that my song may pay its fee
To noble Falconguard

Give heed to me, good gentles all
And hear what I may say
About the unwav'ring shield wall
And Crowley 'mongst the fray

The Sun shone down upon the slopes
Both armies called their blades
For glory every warrior hopes
Before the bright sun fades

The sable star marched from the west
To face the ocean's lord
Each land's warriors upon a quest
To overcome the horde

Order's given, the lines are drawn
They hear the war horns ring
Falconguard, a sable pawn
To overthrow a king

Histr'y forgets their shadowed home
The shire is small, tis true
But none ignore where their blades
roam
And many fell to few

For now they dwell at kingdom's
heart
The capitol it's called
But even when they must depart
They'll heed the falcon's call

Now let me tell of this cohort
When all first heard their name
Within the vale where many sport
A dark and bloody game

A final hush blankets the field
Gen'ral's whisper commands
To the fighters the line does yield
Feet race across the lands

To chaos much is gone and lost
Of what transpired that day
My mind is dazed and tempest tossed
But hear me yet, I pray

For I will speak of six kinsmen
Who compose Falconguard
Their feats, courage, valor, and then
The enemies they scarred

Just like a falcon in the air
Orazio did fly
The enemy line, he did bear
Alone, the first to die

But death could not restrain his soul
Till glory he had earned
In this vict'ry he played a role
To battle he returned

Glenn Abhann came upon them
thrice
And twice were sent away
But when, again, they threw the dice
They were not held at bay

But there Tuathal made his lone
stand
A stand to bring him fame
He held the line, greatly outmanned
Till Orazio came

A Scotsman moved across that field
Black as the moonless night
Two blades he did, from great range,
wield
To every foe a blight

And when he fell, stabbed through
the thigh
Propped up behind a tree
Great Conn Mcfarlane did not die
A threat that few could see

All those who strove to break our line
Elias drove away
If not for misfortune's great fine
More would have died that day

A wand'ring blade laid low his sword
And left him just his shield
But he became his kinsman's ward
And kept their flank concealed

Leading men from the ocean East
With Conner Crowley rode
And then, alone, his blades did feast
Great prowess there he showed

"Who is this man, dressed all in
black,
Save for his blood red hands?
Whole lines we send, he throws them
back
And there, defiant, stands"

And to the rear stood Lord Diedric
In our land's black and gold
Commanding all, reacting quick
A marvel to behold

"Stand and deny, now press the line!"
His voice was heard by all
Till to defeat they did resign
Beneath the falcon's call

The battle won, largesse received
From Her Majesty's hand
And all the world knew they'd
achieved
glory for their homeland

Each warrior fights for his own goal
Reasons concealed to most
But these stood for an absent soul
An angel 'mongst the host

Six kinsmen's blades a deadly row
An honor guard to serve
Rest in peace, Don Cristoforo
Your mem'ry they preserve

Now heed, strangers, and armies too
Who'd dare to harm a rose
For Falconguard fears not from you
But your fear shall expose

So ladies, still your quaking hand
Loose babes into the yard
For peace is kept for crown and land
By noble Falconguard