

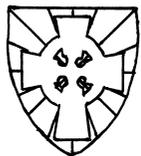
The Shadow Knows
c/o Pat Mullins
1811D Potomac Place
College Station, TX 77840

The Shadow Knows

October 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
Traci and Curtis Baker
crown@ansteorra.org

Their Royal Highnesses

Owen ap Aedden & Genevria de Bette
Eric and Jennifer Jackson
coronet@ansteorra.org

Calendar of Events

(From the Kingdom Calendar)

Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands

Seneschal

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

Treasurer

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

Herald

The Shire of the Shadowlands does not currently have a branch herald. If you need assistance with heraldry please contact the Orbis Herald (Southern Regional Herald) at: southern@herald.ansteorra.org

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

Lord Bastian Eisengart
Jedediah Tressler
jed.tressler@gmail.com

Rapier Marshal

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

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
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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October 2009 (A.S. XLIV)

2-4.....**The Battle of Three Queens II: In the Name of the Rose** – Rosenfeld (Tyler, TX)
9-11.....**Namron Protectorate** – Namron (Norman, OK)
 Harvest Faire - Gate's Edge (Houston, TX)
16-18.....**Ursae-Lyons** – Bjornsborg (San Antonio, TX)
 Battle of the Pines - Graywood (Lufkin, TX)
 Elfsea Fall Harvest Festival - Elfsea (Fort Worth, TX)
23-25.....**Samhain Celebration** - Eldern Hills (Lawton/Ft. Sill, OK)
 Bryn Gwlad 30th Year Anniversary - Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)
30-1.....**Lochtoberfest** - Loch Soilleir (Friendswood, TX)
 Harvest of the Axe, Heroes Vs. Monsters – Chemin Noir/Skorragadr (Bartlesville/Shawnee, OK)
 Emerald Tourney - Emerald Keep (Waco, TX)

November 2009 (AS XLIV)

6-8.....**Coronation/King's Champion** - Eldern Hills/Brad Leah (Duncan, OK)
13-15.....**Queen's Champion** - Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)
19-22.....**Bordermarch Autumn Melees/Kingdom Middle Eastern Dance Champions**
 – Bordermarch (Beaumont, TX)
27-29.....**Thanksgiving Weekend**

Populace Meetings

November 3.....707 Rudder Tower
December 1.....504 Rudder Tower

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
Archery	Sun 4:00PM	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	Conner benjamin.white@gmail.com

Guilds

Guild	Time	Location	Contact
Cooking	3 rd Wed 7:00PM	Isabelot's House	HL Isabelot isabelotdeforess@gmail.com
Dance	Sun 6:30PM	See below	Lady Morina elwenadualloth@yahoo.com
Musicians	Sun 7:00PM	See below	Lady Brigid sarah.gray.88@gmail.com
Scribes	2 nd & 4 th Mon 7:30PM	Kaitlyn's house	Luciana pchanjeni@sbcglobal.net

Dance Rooms

Dance is on Sunday nights at the General Services Complex. It usually starts at 7, except on the days we do Italian.

Events Passed, And Events Yet to Come

By Lord Pædric OMullan

Defender of the Fort, Barony of Ravens Fort

Raven's Fort started cloudy, and not too warm, then got warmer. Many from the Shire were in attendance, including Kim, one of our newcomers (who will wind up being Squiggles forever if she doesn't soon find a name. Lord Stephen Crowley won the rapier competition to become Cavalier of the Fort. Catan, Pædric and Orin had exciting adventures on the way home.

The Battle of Three Queens II, In the Name of the Rose, Shire of Rosenfeld

Three Queen's II was a lot of fun, with nearly 30 people camping in the Shire's serial encampment, including three newcomers attending their first or second event. We were all resplendent in our new Shire livery. Lord Stephen Crowley became squire to Duke Sigmund and Duke Ulsted. Thanks to HL Isabelot, who did a great job cooking! Good fighting, good fun, good friends, and good gosh, did it rain! A toast: To getting toasted in the rain! Yay!

Harvest Faire, Shire of Gate's Edge

Gate's Edge Harvest Faire will be held Oct. 9-11 at Camp Camwood near Magnolia. It is about an hour drive and a nice site. And Gate's Edge events are fun.

Bryn Gwlad 30th Year Anniversary, Barony of Bryn Gwlad

Bryn Gwlad will be celebrating 30 years as a Barony on Oct 23-25. The site is Castleton, on the banks of Lake Austin, (about 90 minutes drive) which is truly the most amazing SCA event site I have ever been to. The theme is the SCA as it was 30 years ago, when Bryn Gwlad and the Kingdom of Ansteorra were both in their infancy, which should be interesting...

Lochterfest, Barony of Loch Soilleir

Lochterfest will be held October 30-November 1, also at Camp Camwood. Still only an hour away.

Emerald Tourney, Shire of Emerald Keep

I have attended Emerald Tourney a couple of times in the past, and always had fun, but I know nothing about this year's event or the site, except that it is about a 90 minute drive.

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The Shadow Notes

The Open House Demo went very well, with many interested Aggies signing up for more info. Many thanks to all who helped out.

Our Drum Revel was a big success, with good food, good music, and good times. Keep watching for another Shire Revel coming soon (hopefully).

Thanks to all who have helped out in the Shadowlands Refrigerated Sweatshop, making tabards and livery so the Shire can turn out in style for **Three Queens**.

Shadowlands **Fall Ball (Take 2, They're Small)** is coming up in January. Check with Lady Catan, the event steward, to find out how you can help.

Start thinking now about who you think might be deserving of an award, so we can get recommendations sent to the Crown in time for Fall Ball, or sooner. Anyone can recommend anyone else in the SCA for an award.

Congratulations to Lord Steven Crowley, who won the Rapier competition at Defender of the Fort in Raven's Fort, to win the title "Cavalier of the Fort". And more congratulations for getting squired to Duke Sigmund and Duke Ulsted at 3 Queens.

The Benders Guild (Brewers and Blacksmithing) had its first meeting on September 30. Watch for more info about upcoming meetings on the Shire email list.

Sign up for the Shadowlands group email list at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shadowlandssca>

Visit the Shire webpage at:
shadowlands.ansteorra.org

Thanks and Credits

Save the Queen('s Battle Flag)! Photo by Lady Catan ingen Míchl (Kristin Denton) – all rights reserved. So you want to Be Somebody, 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 RECEIVED

From the Treasurer

Hello,

I hope everyone had a good summer. I look forward to seeing everyone again.

We currently have \$5157.74 in our account as of the end of August. This puts us in pretty good shape to host the Fall Ball - Take II (they're small!) and a Kingdom-level event next fall (to be discussed at the October Populace meeting). So try to think of what Kingdom event you would like to host.

Thank you and see you next month!

Calan

From the Hospitaller

NO REPORT RECEIVED

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

NO REPORT RECEIVED

From the Chivalric Marshal

NO REPORT RECEIVED

From the Rapier Marshal

Rapier practice has seen a large increase in participation from the Summer months to the School year. Welcome to all the new fighters who wish to learn the arte of defense. Beginner classes will be held every Thursday. New fighters should wear comfortable clothing (no shorts) and be prepared to work. Men should wear a cup if they wish to participate. Gloves are in short supply, but they are easily obtained, any gloves with cuffs will do.

We have also started our fall event season, there are rapier activities every weekend throughout the month of October, even if you are not yet authorized to fight at events / tournaments, new members are encouraged to attend the events, it'll give you a good idea of what's going on and they'll be a lot of fun. We will work to arrange rides for those who wish to go so they need not travel alone if they do not wish to.

Europe during the Renaissance. But it depends on your definition of "fancy". It might be a good idea to look through some costuming or art books and find what you like. But remember, just because your persona is from 16th century Florence doesn't mean you can't have an 11th century Viking apron dress.

Once you have determined a time and place to be from, you may, or may not, want to develop your persona a little bit more. There are a few things to remember here. You **CANNOT** be a fairy, elf, or wizard, as these things did not exist in period. Druids were pretty much wiped out by the Romans (pre-period), and witches were often hung or burned at the stake. If you want an esoteric persona, you might consider : herbalist, village wise woman, or alchemist.

The overt practice of religion is prohibited in the SCA, and overtly religious personas are somewhat discouraged. You can be a monk, or a nun, but you cannot do many of the things monks and nuns did. Unless you are a priest or bishop mundanely, you cannot claim to be one in the SCA, nor may you wear the garments generally reserved for priests and bishops, such as stole, chasuble, cope, and miter. Presumably this applies to leaders of other faiths as well.

One final note on personas. I know that many early period peoples were not what we would call "refined". Vikings, Mongols, even Picts, Celts, and Early Anglo-Saxons, came from rather primitive cultures, and tended to behave rather crudely, by more recent standards. Taking on a persona from one of these cultures is not a license to behave in a socially unacceptable manner. Remember that we are all presumed to be from the nobility class, Lords and Ladies, or at least worthy to be Lords and Ladies, and act like it. If you want to be a Viking or a Mongol, by all means do so, but please be a Viking or Mongol with manners.

So You Want to Be Somebody:

How to Choose a Persona

By Lord Pádric O'Mullan

One of the first decisions most people are faced with after joining the SCA is choosing a persona. Don't panic, it's not as hard as it sounds.

The first thing you must decide on is a place and time to be from. Is there a specific historical event, place, or group that is especially interesting to you? Maybe you are interested in the Norman Conquest of England, or the Mongol Invasion, or the German Reformation, or Italian Renaissance costuming or the Crusades. If so, great! Just decide to be from that place and time. If not, maybe you'll have to dig a little harder.

Think about what activities in the SCA you are most interested in participating in. Wars were fought by armored men with swords and shields from the beginning of our period to its end, and from England to the Far East, so if you want to be a chivalric fighter, I don't guess that helps you narrow it down much.

Want to be a rapier fighter? You probably want to be from Western Europe in the 1400s or 1500s. You won't see many rapier fighters with a 7th century Japanese persona. Want to be an archer? What kind? The best longbowmen came from England and Wales during the 14th and 15th centuries. The best with a recurve bow were the Mongols and Magyars. Crossbowmen from Genoa were employed as mercenaries in many European armies.

Maybe you are more interested in making and wearing fancy clothes. The fanciest clothes came from Western

As always, questions / comments / concerns about rapier fighting in Ansteorra and/or the SCA can be addressed to me privately.

In Service,

-Don Connor MacGillivray

From the Web Minister

Greetings!

If you will be leading any guilds or practices in the coming months and would like your own web page, please contact me and we can make the appropriate arrangements. If you would like any meetings posted on the various group calendars, please contact me (vs.shadowlands@gmail.com) and I will make sure that they are posted. Please send me the information at least 24 hours in advance to ensure I have time to post before your event.

If you have any pictures that you would like posted on the Shire's photo gallery, send them to me with a signed permission form (<http://chronicler.ansteorra.org/Forms/PubPerm.pdf>).

We have transitioned to a new calendar format. We are now using a Google calendar that will make updating much faster and easier.

Catan

From the Chronicler

Woohoo! I actually got a submission this month! Thanks to Catan, who took the picture on the front cover. As always, I would love to get some submissions from other people to publish. Photos, drawings, informational articles, stories, poems, and songs are all cheerfully accepted! Sorry there's no Poetry Corner this month. Special thanks to Don Conner, who is the ONLY officer to send me a report for publication every month he has been in office, well, except for the Chronicler/Historian.

Lord Pádric

From the Historian

In September of AS XLIV did the Shire of the Shadowlands once more hold an Open House Demo, this time in front of the Rec Center. In that same month did the Shire hold a Drum Circle/Revel, and it was well attended. Congratulations to Lord Steven Crowley, who became the Cavalier of the Fort in Raven's Fort.

Lord Pádric

This Month in History – October

- 1 In 1189 Gerard de Ridefort, grandmaster of the Knights Templar since 1184, is killed in the Siege of Acre.
- 2 In 1187 End of the Siege of Jerusalem: Saladin captures Jerusalem after 88 years of Crusader rule.
- 3 In 1283 Dafydd ap Gruffydd, prince of Gwynedd in Wales, becomes the first person executed by being hanged, drawn and quartered.
- 4 In 1511 Formation of the Holy League of Ferdinand II of Aragon, the Papal States and the Republic of Venice against France.
- 5 In 1143 King Alfonso VII of Leon recognizes Portugal as a Kingdom.
- 6 In 1536, English theologian and scholar William Tyndale, who was the first to translate the Bible into Early Modern English, was executed for heresy.
- 7 In 1513 LA MOTTA (Spanish troops under Ramón de Cardona defeat the Venetians.)
- 8 In 1573 End of the Spanish siege of ALKMAAR, (first Dutch victory in Eighty Years War.)
- 9 In 1003 Leif Erikson lands in L'Anse aux Meadows, Canada, becoming the first known European to reach North America.
- 10 In 1555 The Elector Augustus of Saxony bans firearms. The ban is cheerfully ignored
- 11 In 1347 Death of Louis IV, Holy Roman Emperor
- 12 In 1492 Christopher Columbus lands in the New World
- 13 In 1307 Phillip the Fair orders the arrest of the Templars
- 14 In 1066 HASTINGS (William of Normandy defeats King Harold of England)

- 15 In 1522 Cortes promoted to Captain-General and Governor of New Spain
- 16 In 1291 Zurich joined the Swiss Confederation
- 17 In 1346 NEVILLE'S CROSS (King David II of Scotland is captured by Edward III of England at Calais)
- 18 In 1009 The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was completely destroyed by the Fatimid caliph Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, who hacked the Church's foundations down to bedrock.
- 19 In 1469 Ferdinand II of Aragon marries Isabella I of Castile, a marriage that paves the way to the unification of Aragon and Castile into a single country, Spain.
- 20 In 1314 Coronation of Louis IV, King of Germany
- 21 In 1096 NICAIA (French and German members of the 1st Crusade defeated by the Turks)
- 22 In 1685 Two giant pandas presented to the Emperor of Japan by the Emperor of China
- 23 In 1157 GRATHE HEATH (Victory of Valdemar I, King of Denmark, over his rival, Sweyn III)
- 24 In 1260 Saif ad-Din Qutuz, Mamluk sultan of Egypt, is assassinated by Baibars, who seizes power for himself.
- 25 In 1415 AGINCOURT (defeat of France by Henry V of England)
- 26 In 1595 Elizabeth I, Queen of England, approves the conversion of archers into musketeers
- 27 In 1275 Traditional founding of the city of Amsterdam.
- 28 In 901 Death of Alfred I "the Great," King of England
- 29 In 1390 First trial for witchcraft in Paris.
- 30 In 1485 Henry VII of England is crowned.
- 31 In 1517 Martin Luther pins his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Castle church.