

The Shadow Knows
c/o Pat Mullins
410 S Randolph St
Bryan, TX 77803

The Shadow Knows

December AS XLV (AD 2010)



Newsletter for the Shire of the Shadowlands
The Capital of Ansteorra



Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands

Seneschal

(Looking for Deputy)
Sir Rhodri ap Gwythyr
Paul Foster
shadowlands.seneschal@gmail.com

Treasurer

(Looking for Deputy)
Lady Kolfinna inn Kyrie
Kira Langsjoen
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

(Accepting Applications until Feb 1)
Lord Pædric OMullan
Pat Mullins
shadowlandschronicler@yahoo.com
979-492-9959

Hospitaler

Álfrún Gunnvarardóttir
Morgan Wagnon
morgan.wagnon@yahoo.com
817-526-4786

Historian

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Pat Mullins
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979-492-9959

Knight Marshal

(Accepting Applications until filled)
Lord Bastian Eisengart
Jedediah Tressler
jed.tressler@gmail.com

Rapier Marshal

Lady Kolfinna inn Kyrie
Kira Langsjoen
kolfinnakyrie@yahoo.com

Archery Marshal

Lord Ronald fitz Robert
Ron Denton
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(979) 324-2549

Web Minister

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Minister of Arts and Sciences

Lady Morina O'Donovan
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Calendar of Events **From the Kingdom Calendar)**

December 2010(A.S. XLV)

3-5 Wiesenfeuer Yule Revel - Wiesenfeuer (Oklahoma City, OK)
Stargate Yule. - Stargate (Houston, TX)
10-12 Baronial College - Elfsea (Fort Worth, TX)
17-19 OPEN
24-26 Christmas Weekend

January 2011 (A.S. XLV)

31-2 Mundane New Years Weekend
7-9 Steppes 12th Night - Steppes (Dallas, TX)
14-16 Crown Tournament – Bryn Gwlad
21-23 King's Round Table - Stargate
28-30 Coastal Invasion - Seawinds (Corpus Christi, TX)
Winterkingdom - Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)

Populace Meetings

January 4, 2011 TBA
February 1, 2011 TBA

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
Archery	Sun 3:00PM	Austin's Colony Park	Lord Ronald ronald_the_archer@yahoo.com
Chivalric	Thur 7:30PM	Spence Park	Lord Bastian jed.tressler@gmail.com
Rapier	Thur 7:00PM	Spence Park	Lady Kolfinna kolfinnakyrie@yahoo.com

Guilds

Guild	Time	Location	Contact
Brewers	2 nd &4 th Wed 6:30	Catan's House	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
Blacksmithing	1 st Wed 6:30 PM	Bastian's house	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
Cooking	3 rd Wed 7:00PM	Isabelot's House	HL Isabelot isabelotdeforess@gmail.com
Dance	Sun 7:00PM	256 G. Rollie White	Lady Morina elwenaduialloth@yahoo.com
Scribes	2 nd &4 th Mon 7:00	Kaitlyn's house	Lady Luciana pchanjeni@sbcglobal.net

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The Shadow Notes

The office of Knight Marshal will soon be vacated, and needs to be filled ASAP! Somebody step up!

AS of Coronation, the Shire of the Shadowlands is now part of the COASTAL Region and no longer part of the Southern Region. All officers should now be reporting to Coastal Regional officers.

Congratulations to Lord Ronald fitz Robert and Lord Llywelyn, who received AoAs at Coronation.

Congratulations also to Lord Josef Gustavson who received his AoA at Coronation, the first event he ever attended. (Sorry, that just seemed extra-noteworthy.)

Congratulations to Lord Pædric OMullan (hey that's me) who received a Sable Crane for service to the Kingdom, although he's a little confused as to exactly what service that was.

Congratulations to those Shadowlanders who submitted heraldry at this year's Gulf War and have gotten it registered:

September LoAR: Accepted

Álfrún Gunnvarardóttir. Name

Elizabeth Somerset. Name and device. Per saltire pean and azure, in fess two frogs Or.

Isolde die Waeyer. Name.

Luciana Pesce. Name and badge. (Fieldless) A sea-nettle gules.

Morina O'Donovan. Name and device. Per bend sinister azure and argent ermined azure, a mullet of four points argent and a wolf sejant regardant sable

Orazio d'Assisi. Name.

Solange Sarrazin. Device. Or, a vegetable lamb vert fructed argent and flowered gules, a chief indented azure.

October LoAR: Accepted

Eringr Ketilsson. Name and device. Vert, on a pile throughout between a pair of drinking horns Or, a sword inverted vert.

Thanks and Credits

Snow Warrior – Photo by Lord Paedric OMullan (Pat Mullins) – all rights reserved. The Shadow Reader – Review by Lord Pædric OMullan (Pat Mullins) – all rights reserved. All items used with permission from the original creators.

Officer Reports

From the Seneschal

Greetings Shadowlands.

Another great year is drawing to a close. Shadowlands continues to impress and amaze our kingdom with its enthusiasm, participation and the willingness to have fun.

Kolfinna has been accepted as the new Rapier Marshal for our shire. Thank you Kolfinna.

For those who would like to help the shire, we are looking for the following positions: Knight Marshal and Chronicler. Experience is not necessary or even expected. We will train you. What is needed is a desire to help others enjoy the activities we do and a willingness to work a little bit to do that. The Seneschal and Treasurer are also looking for deputies who are interested in learning these offices with an eye toward taking over in the future.

At the December populace meeting will be resurrecting and reviving some old Shadowlands traditions. Long in the past, our Shire created two awards to recognize the contributions of its members. These are the Order of the Shire of the Shadowlands (OSS) and the Meritorious Order of the Shire of the Shadowlands (MOSS). Neither carries any precedence in Ansteorra (or anywhere else) but they are heartfelt thank yous from a grateful shire for service provided, work done, and contributions made to help make the shire what it is.

Membership fees will be going up effective next year. Since I am sure everyone is planning on becoming a member (hint hint) it would be cheaper to get a membership in December (possibly as a Christmas present).

Have fun and a safe holiday season

Rhodri

From the Treasurer

Treasurer business is swollen with monies. We're still working out the details from our recently-hosted event, but should have the final count on monies spent and earned by Populace. For those interested in various guilds and activities, donations are always welcome for

the provision of gear. The Shire has a very small amount budgeted for combat and A&S activities. We've recently moved to the Coastal Region, and I'm working with the Regional Exchequer to get all our paperwork in order. That's all for now.

--Kolfinna inn Kyrie

From the Hospitaller

If you are new to the SCA and/or the Shire of the Shadowlands, or if you have demo ideas or suggestions, please contact Álfrún at: morgan.wagnon@yahoo.com or 817-526-4786 for help in getting started. Loaner garb, feast gear, and camping equipment are available.

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

All proceeds as normal. The schedule is in the newsletter. If people have activities they would like to do, they can ask me, either in person or via email.

~Morina O'Donovan

From the Knight's Marshal

Fighter practice continues at 7:30PM on Thursdays near the gazebo in Spence Park on the A&M Campus. Those interested in fighting should wear long pants, long sleeved shirts, and closed-toed shoes. Males MUST have groin protection. Watch the list for cancellations due to weather, holidays, The office of Knight's Marshal is about to be vacated, and must be filled as soon as possible. Applications should be sent to the **Coastal** Regional Knight's Marshal, with courtesy copies to Rhodri and myself For more information contact Lord Bastian at: jed.tressler@gmail.com

From the Rapier Marshal

Fighter practice continues at 7:00PM on Thursdays near the gazebo in Spence Park on the A&M Campus. Those interested in fighting

should wear long pants, long sleeved shirts, and closed-toed shoes. Males MUST have groin protection. Watch the list for cancellations due to weather or holidays. The office of Rapier Marshal has been filled. Lady Kolfinna inn Kyrie is the new Rapier Marshal. For more information contact Lady Kolfinna at: kolfinnakyrie@yahoo.com

From the Archery Marshal

Greetings to the populace!

Well, the fall tournament season is over, so now we move on to the Yule season. We only had one event this month in the area that included archery, Bordermarch Autumn Meles. Our own Lord Faolàn was marshal in charge of the target archery at BAM. I provided minor assistance to Lord Faolàn on the target archery range so that we could both shoot in the contest. In addition, Lady Catan and I participated in the melees as combat archers. Attendance was low this month at shire archery practice as we averaged only 3 archers per practice.

In an attempt to add variety to archery practice, I will be adding winter challenge targets to the range. This will allow archers to shoot at targets other than the standard 60 cm FITA targets that we use for royal rounds. I would also like to shoot a winter challenge round at least once a month until the contest ends in April. The winter challenge is an SCA wide **target archery** competition, but has had no participation from Ansteorra in the last few years. I think it appropriate that we remind the northern kingdoms that we have skilled archers in our kingdom. Also, if any Shadowlanders are interested in trying out **combat archery**, let me know and I will bring crossbows, combat bolts, and combat archery targets to archery practice. And just a reminder, if you want to participate in combat archery at Gulf War XX in March you should be starting your preparations **now**. Accumulating equipment and getting authorized takes time!

And as always, archery practice is Sundays, 3 - 5 PM, at the archery range in Austin's Colony Park. Newcomers and novices welcome. Loaner equipment will be available. Watch the list for updates!

Ronald Felix Robert

From the **Chronicler**

Thank you to everyone who gave me submissions for this month's newsletter. To those who didn't, thanks for nothing... The office of Chronicler is accepting applications, as February's issue will mark my 24th month in office. Applications should be sent to the **Coastal** Regional Chronicler, with courtesy copies to Rhodri and me. Applications must be received by February 1, 2011, or you'll have 2 more years of me begging for submissions. And special thanks once again to Lord Ronald for the printing.

Paedric

From the Historian

In November of AS XLV did the Shire of the Shadowlands host the Kingdom for the Coronation of Ulsted V and Ebergardis III. It was there that Ronald fitz Robert, Llywelyn, and Josef Gustavson received their Awards of Arms and Lord Paedric OMullan received a Sable Crane for his service to the kingdom.

Paedric

From the Web Minister

You can visit the Shire web page at:

<http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/>

If there is any information you would like to see added or updated, or anything you feel should be removed, please contact the Web Minister at:

vs.shadowlands@gmail.com

Useful Websites for Newcomers

<http://sca.org/> - SCA Inc. web page

<http://ansteorra.org/> - The Texas/Oklahoma Kingdom web page

<http://shadowlands.ansteorra.org/> - the Bryan/College Station chapter web page

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shadowlandssca/> - the Shire email list used for discussion, announcements, and activity planning

The Shadow Reader

By Lord Paedric OMullan

Title – *The Crusades: the authoritative history of the war for the Holy Land*

Author – Thomas S. Asbridge

Publisher – Ecco Press

This month I have departed slightly from my practice of reviewing historical fiction in this space, to include a history text.

The Crusades: the authoritative history of the war for the Holy Land seems to me to be just what it claims to be, an authoritative history of the Crusades in the Middle and Near East. Thomas Asbridge has done an excellent job of writing a balanced, accessible account of the Crusades. The book examines the Holy Wars from the viewpoints of both the Frankish Christians and the Muslims who opposed them. He explains the basic differences between Eastern and Western Christianity, and between Shi'a and Sunni Muslims. Further, he describes the political structures prevalent in Europe and the Middle East, as well as the evolving position of the Papacy.

Asbridge covers the causes of the Crusades, and describes the major recruiting drives organized by Popes Urban II and Eugenius III, among others, including the evolution of the canonical thinking which bred the Western doctrine of Holy War. He explains the major campaigns of the wars, as well as the political infighting on both the Frankish and Muslim sides.

The main focus of *The Crusades* is the war in the Holy Land. Minor and side crusades such as the Children's Crusade and the Albigensian Crusade are given little, if any, attention.

The text is a little dry, but that is to be expected in a history text, and I have read much worse. Several maps are included which make it much easier to track the movements of armies and the vast distances involved, not only in moving around the Middle East, but especially in getting an army there from Europe. There are also maps of several of the Middle Eastern cities involved, which help the reader grasp what was involved in their capture.

Asbridge used a large number of period sources, both Christian and Muslim, in writing his book. Many are cited in the text, others in the over 60 pages of end notes. Also included is a timeline of the major events of the Crusades. In the middle of the book there is a glossy section with sixteen pages of prints and photos. This section includes prints of a number of medieval illuminations, although unfortunately from my viewpoint as a scribe, no sources are given for most of them. There are also photos of various fortresses and religious shrines built during the time of the Crusades, and, in some cases, still in use.

All in all, Thomas Asbridge's *The Crusades* is an interesting and informative book from which I learned a great deal. I would highly recommend it for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Crusades.

This Month in the Middle Ages – December

1. In 1372 Geoffrey Chaucer left England for Rome on a Royal mission.
2. In 1431 Henry VI, King of England, crowned King of France at Paris
3. In 1564 Ivan IV, "the Terrible," and the Russian Royal family leave Moscow
4. In 771 Austrasian King Carloman dies, leaving his brother Charlemagne King of the now complete Frankish Kingdom.
5. In 1492 Christopher Columbus becomes the first European to set foot on the island of Hispaniola, now Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
6. In 1323 John of Nottingham and Robert Marshall of Leicester undertake the murder of Edward II, King of England, by witchcraft
7. In 1539 Philip, Landgrave of Hesse, in addition to his current wife, Princess Catherine of Savoy, receives a dispensation from Martin Luther to take Marguerite de Staal as his second wife
8. In 0877 Coronation of Louis II, "the Stammerer," as King of France
9. In 1315 Foundation of the Swiss Confederacy (2nd Everlasting League).
10. In 1520 Martin Luther destroys the Papal Bull written against him.
11. In 1282 Beheading of Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, considered last legitimate Prince of Wales.
12. 627 – Battle of Nineveh: A Byzantine army under Emperor Heraclius defeats Emperor Khosrau II's Persian forces, commanded by General Rhahzadh.
13. In 1476 First item printed in England, a Papal Indulgence
14. In 1247 Death of Robin Hood.
15. 1467 – Stephen III of Moldavia defeats Matthias Corvinus of Hungary, with the latter being injured thrice, at the *Battle of Baia*.
16. In 1594 Anne Balfour burned in Scotland as a witch
17. In 1223 Crusaders gathered to free Burriana, Spain, from the Moors.
18. In 1118 Saragossa taken by Alfonso "the Battler," King of Aragon.
19. In 1155 Coronation of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine as King and Queen of England.
20. In 1566 Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, tries tenderness towards the Protestants
21. In 1140 Conrad III of Germany besieged Weinsberg.
22. In 1216 The Dominican Order of Friars confirmed by the Pope
23. In 1569 Martyrdom of St. Philip of Moscow, Primate of the Russian Church killed by Czar Ivan "the Terrible"
24. In 1294 Pope Boniface VIII is elected Pope, replacing St. Celestine V, who had resigned.
25. In 1541 From this day forward, only Archery may be played on Christmas (England's Unlawful Games Act.
26. In 1144 the Citadel of Edessa falls to Zangi, Atabeg of Mosul, leading to the Second Crusade
27. In 1253 William of Rubruck and Bartholomew of Cremona arrive at the Court of Mangu Khan of the Mongols
28. In 1308 The reign of Emperor Hanazono, emperor of Japan, begins.
29. In 1170 Martyrdom of St. Thomas a Becket, by Reginald Fitzhurse, Hugh de Morville, William de Tracy, and Richard le Breton.
30. In 0961 The Japanese Emperor moved into his rebuilt Palace at Kyoto.
31. In 1225 The Ly Dynasty of Vietnam ends after 216 years by the enthronement of the boy emperor Tran Thai Tong, husband of the last Ly monarch, Ly Chieu Hoang, starting the Tran Dynasty.