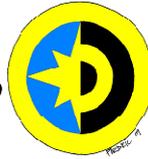
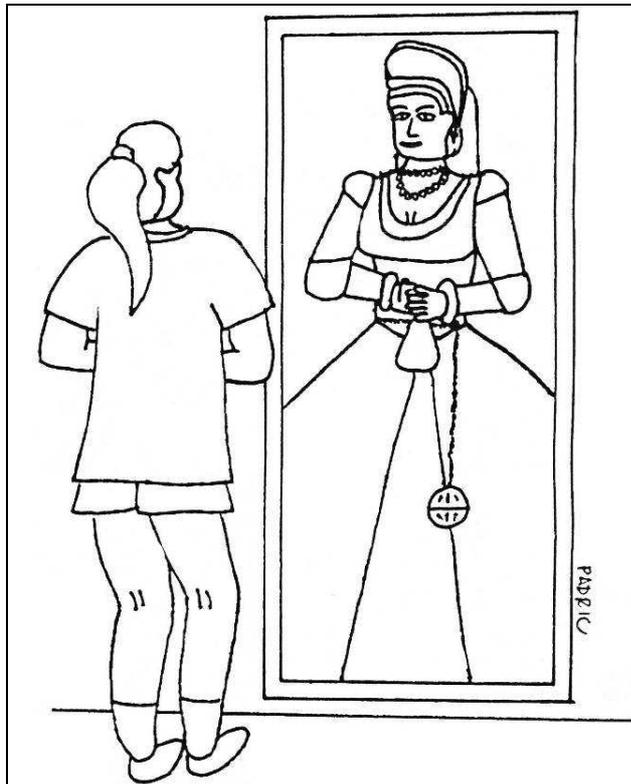


The Shadow Knows



SEPTEMBER AS XLVII (AD 2012)
Newcomer's Edition



Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!

We the denizens of the Shire of the Shadowlands greet thee, newcomers to this most excellent of Shires, capital of Ansteorra and home of A&M, university of great renown!

WELCOME!

Our hearts are gladdened by thy presence and thrilled by thy participation. Partake thee freely of our knowledge and the delights of action founded on history, chivalry and fun!

WELCOME!

Newsletter for the Shire of the Shadowlands

 Capital of Ansteorra 

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, 511 W. 15th St, Bryan, TX 77803, 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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Officers of the Shire of the Shadowlands and what they do

Seneschal: Mistress Kaitlyn McKenna

[Mundane name: Robbin Foster]

The Seneschal acts as the local business manager for the group and can help facilitate answers to SCA questions. The Seneschal schedules Shire activities and helps keep the group on course. With that in mind, please consider getting or renewing your SCA membership at www.sca.org online or via the paper membership form. The group's continued existence relies on your membership and participation. Mistress Kaitlyn may be contacted at: shadowlands.seneschal@gmail.com or 979-218-8870

Mistress (or Baroness) Kaitlyn McKenna is a 15th Century Burgundian lady trapped in marriage with an old Welsh knight. She is recognized for her many skills in the Arts and Sciences by the Order of Laurel. She is recognized for her efforts in many officer positions, but especially as an Exchequer, by the Order of the Pelican. Her interests include costuming, weaving, fiber arts, dance, archery, and anything to do with the 15th century. Kaitlyn is a master instigator, inspiring and helping others to achieve their own goals in the SCA. Look for a friendly lady with very long hair and very nice garb.

Herald

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

Hospitaler: Kinna De Lasey

[Mundane name: Lisa Dschida]

The hospitaler of a group is the demo coordinator, keeper of the loaner clothing, and the general go-to person for when you are first getting started. They greet newcomers and help them become oriented to and involved in the present middle ages. If someone needs to borrow clothing or equipment for an event, the Hospitaler helps them to check out loaner items. Contact at: shadowlands.hospitaler@gmail.com

Kinna De Lasey has only resided in the Shire for a short time but her enthusiasm is well suited to welcoming newcomers. She is an 11th century English woman who has tragically been widowed. It is rumored, however, that she can occasionally be seen spending time with a German trader who spends most of his time wandering the world in search of the finest trade goods available. Her interests lie mostly in the arts and sciences and include cooking, lampwork, and weaving. She is ever expanding her interest base and looks forward to learning many more skills.

Knight Marshal: Lord Aldred of the Shadowlands

[Mundane name: Gregory Loots]

The Knight Marshal is in charge of the Chivalric activities for the shire. This includes heavy fighting, armor, and learning about chivalry, which is after all, one of the major reasons why anyone would choose to join our society. The Knight Marshal also guides all fighters to develop good safety habits. Contact at: grloots@aol.com or 512-740-3028

Aldred of the Shadowlands is an Anglo-Saxon whose interests include chivalric combat and dancing. He has a particular interest in pole arms. He is excited to be helping new members into the SCA. He is also has limitless enthusiasm and a bizarre obsession with washing dishes.

Rapier Marshal: Lord Tristram of the Shadowlands

[Mundane name: Travis Poppenhusen]

The Rapier Marshal's job is to coordinate rapier combat activities for the local group and to ensure that fighters obey the safety rules of the Kingdom . It is recommended that everyone go to <http://rapier.ansteorra.org> and read the current Rapier Rules for Ansteorra. It is CRUCIAL that all the fighters make themselves intimately familiar with these rules. Fun must be done safely as possible! Contact at: qantravon@gmail.com or 832-274-6507

Lord Tristram of the Shadowlands hails from 16th century England.

Archery Marshal: Lord Ronald fitz Robert

[Mundane name: Ron Denton]

The Archery Marshal supervises all official shire archery activities. If you are interested in **target archery** or **combat archery** this is the person to contact. Contact at: ronald_the_archer@yahoo.com or 979-324-2549

Lord Ronald fitz Robert is the Archery Marshal of the Shire of the Shadowlands. He participates in both target and combat archery. He makes crossbows, bow strings, bolts, and arrows. Ronald does general leather working and makes leather chivalric armor. He also has a variety of other crafting skills and is generally willing to aid others with building and craft projects.

Historian: Lord Pædric OMullan

[Mundane name: Pat Mullins]

The historian keeps track of the old tales of past members, adventures and misadventures of the populace of the Shire of the Shadowlands. He keeps documents, photos, and other items of interest so they can be placed on display to illustrate the long and honorable history of this Shire. Contact at: shadowlandshistorian@yahoo.com or 979-575-7834

Lord Pædric OMullan is a late Elizabethan street performer and sometime Shakespearean actor. He can usually be identified because he'll be wearing some combination of red, blue, and/or yellow, the colors of his heraldic arms. Pædric is Historian for the Shire of the Shadowlands. His interests include (but are not limited to) Bardic (performance arts), Heraldry, calligraphy and illumination, pewter casting and drumming.

Minster of Arts and Sciences: Lady Caitlin Labouche

[Mundane name: Caitlin Wise]

Arts and Sciences encompass EVERYTHING else beyond the Combat arts. Cooking in period? Historically accurate clothing? Fiber arts, leather work, brewing, sewing, embroidery, coins, jewelry, etc. in period is part of this most essential Minister's duties. Come join the fun and discover how to take your modern favorite real life activity (like cooking or knitting) and find the period techniques and materials for them.

Contact at: caitlinlabouche@yahoo.com or 832-533-5894

Lady Caitlin Labouche has been a member of the SCA since birth as both her parents are involved. She joined the Shadowlands a year ago when she moved to College Station. Within the SCA she is particularly involved with equestrian or horse activities as the SCA has adapted jousting into the society. When she is not with the horses she loves to participate in our medieval dances especially Middle Eastern dancing or belly dancing. She has also been making her own garb or clothing for years and loves teaching new people how to sew (especially guys). If you would like to know more about the SCA, or anything she mentions at all, or just want to chat, please come find her.

Exchequer: Lady Catan ingen Míchíl

[Mundane name: Kristin Denton]

Don't let the name confuse you. The Exchequer is the local treasurer. The Exchequer keeps the ledger of our expenses up-to-date and make sure it agrees with the bank statements, then sends reports monthly, quarterly, and yearly to the Regional Exchequer. The Exchequer runs all financial committee meetings; typically, they happen after Populace meetings. The Exchequer is in charge of maintaining an up-to-date inventory list including that which is available for loaning out. Should you need to borrow inventory (usually armor or clothing) for an event, you'll need to contact the Hospitaler and then contact the Exchequer to get it signed out to you. Contact at: catan_ingen_michel@yahoo.com

Lady Catan ingen Míchíl is a 9th century Irishwoman. Her interests include most crafts concerning yarn and thread, and she will readily teach inkle weaving, knitting and Kumihimo (Japanese braiding). She is also fascinated by all the techniques used in painting charters. She plays the recorder for dance practice and will often join the dancers for a whirl about the floor (bransles and Italian are her favorite). She keeps hoping someone will move into the Shire that knows how and is willing to teach Middle Eastern Dance.

WEB Minister: His Excellency Master Francois la Flamme

[Mundane name: Wendel Bordelon]

Manages our web presence. Contact at: vs.shadowlands@gmail.com or rwbordelon@gmail.com

Master Francois la Flamme prefers to simply be called Francois.

Chronicler: Ann of Wellborn, called forgetful

[Mundane name: Ann Seeton]

It is my happy task to produce a newsletter (like this newcomer's edition but smaller!) each month to be handed out at the Populace meetings. ANYTHING you would like to contribute out of your own creativity be it song, art, article or photograph is welcome provided it is accompanied by a release form saying I am allowed to use it! I can be contacted at: shadowlandschronicler@yahoo.com or 979-218-9142

Ann of Wellborn, called forgetful is an 11th century woman from Byzantium, also known as Eastern Rome. Her family members were wealthy patrons of the Church, landowners, silk producers, loyal to the Emperor, and their daughters were educated as fully as their sons during a time of peace under the powerful Emperor Basil II (976-1025). Basil II was called the Bulgar Slayer and known for his ruthlessness in battle having broken the power of the Bulgarians on one border and the Muslims on another. The larger part of her education took place in Constantinople. Her father often entertained merchants whose intelligence and skills he admired. One in particular, a tall black haired man who had traveled to the East to earn a fortune to go with his position, convinced her parents to allow him to wed their daughter and so the flavor of Byzantium traveled (with her dowry) to Scotland where she promptly fell as in love with that place as with her husband.

TAMU Advisor: Lady Catan ingen Míchíl

[Mundane name: Kristen Denton]

The TAMU advisor is a member of the staff at TX A&M and makes possible the existence of this group on campus. Without this person, the local student body might never know the fun that can be had through the SCA. Contact at: catan_ingen_michel@yahoo.com

Lady Catan ingen Míchíl is a 9th century Irishwoman. Her interests include most crafts concerning yarn and thread, and she will readily teach inkle weaving, knitting and Kumihimo (Japanese braiding). She is also fascinated by all the techniques used in painting charters. She plays the recorder for dance practice and will often join the dancers for a whirl about the floor (bransles and Italian are her favorite). She keeps hoping someone will move into the Shire that knows how and is willing to teach Middle Eastern Dance.

OTHER SHIRE FOLK (QUITE POSSIBLY CURRENT)

Don Connor MacGillivray [Benjamin White] is a courtier in the court of Elizabeth I and has holdings in Scotland, London and Germany. He frequently travels to various courts about Europe for both personal business and in service to his Queen. He prefers the relative comfort of travel over land than by ship and tends to travel in the company of ladies who require protection against the unsavory elements that all too often reside in low places. He is skilled at arms and practices often and is frequently called upon to lecture on the both the art of defense as well as on matters of comportment, that so often serve as a noble's shield in courtly matters. He is well versed in dance and etiquette, a scholar of the arts of war and governance and considers himself to be somewhat of a philosopher of natural science.

Within the SCA, Connor originally hails from the Kingdom of the East and is a member of their Royal Majesties Order of the Golden Rapiere for his skill at instruction and his prowess with arms. He has previously served as master instructor at the Carolingian Academy of Defense and as a Lieutenant in the Gryffon Guard, before his relocation to the Kingdom of Ansteorra.

Felix of the Shadowlands is a former the Knight's Marshal for the Shire. Felix has been learning to fight for several years.

His Excellency Sir Rhodri ap Gwthyr [Paul Foster] is an 11th Century Welsh Knight. Fostered young to a Frankish noble, he had the chance to learn many different cultures and ways. He somehow survived the First Crusade, during which he was taken as squire and trained in combat by a Scottish Duke. Recognized for his efforts in many different roles by the Order of the Pelican, he has also served on the Board of Directors of the SCA. He is very big and easy to spot. He also prefers to be called Rhodri.

Honorable Lady Isabelot di Forens [Anna Lichorad] is the head of Shire's the cooking guild. She is also a churgeon at large, likes to dance, and do many forms of service with the SCA.

Honorable Lord Plachoya Sobaka [Harry C. Billings]. He can be found at the archery range. He prefers to be called Plachoya.

Josef Gustavson is an 11th Century Viking. He is our local blacksmith and brewmaster, and thus heads both branches of the Benders Guild. Josef is a Yankee, but we like him anyway...

Lady Elizabeth Sommerset [Bethany Sonnier]

Lady Isolde die Waeyer [Lauren Norman] is a wealthy young woman living in Antwerp in the early part of the 16th century. Her late husband, Heer der Waeyer, was a merchant who made his fortunes in the first economic boom of Antwerp and sought a much younger wife, in hopes of children and an eventual family business empire. Tragically, Heer der Waeyer died before these dreams could come to fruition, of causes unknown. Any assertions that Lady Isolde, the good-looking household cook or a carefully-placed bit of hemlock had anything to do with Heer der Waeyer's death are most certainly malicious falsehoods. Ahem.

Within the SCA, Lady Isolde resides in the Barony of Stargate, more commonly known as Shadowlands South. When not acting in her not-terribly-official role as a Southern Ambassador, Isolde enjoys making things in kitchens (mostly messes and noise), feeding anybody who stands still long enough, costuming, dancing, and other miscellaneous domestic arts and sciences.

Lady Morina Ó Donnábhain [Renee P.] is an Irish woman from the mid-14th century. She enjoys music, dance, cooking, garbing, and various other fibers arts. She also has a strong interest in Japanese arts, particularly early period.

Lady Renate Johanna Wilhelmina Warnecke [Susan Martin] active when middle school and high school kids activities allow.

Lady Tressa de Crauford [Tracie Lang]

Levia of the Shadowlands [Amanda Walker] is one of our more recent members.

Lorid Oringr Ketilsson [Brandon Garner] aka: Orin is a Norman Viking of the early 10th century. Never one to settle in one place for very long, Orin took to the waves, answering the call of those who would have his shield. He traveled throughout Europe, eventually down the Volga and to the famous city of Mikligaror (Constantinople), where he, like so many before him, joined the ranks of the Varangian Mercenaries. While in the East, he discovered the beauty of the women, and more specifically, the beauty of their dancing. He learned to play the darbuka, a style of dumbek, so he would be able to play for the dancers, thus affording him a better view. Orin's skill with the drum was soon evident, and those who wanted to learn came to him requesting he teach them what he knew; he was eventually recognized in court for his skills with a drum and for teaching drumming. Orin is honing his fighting skills, currently seeking out those who can teach him to be a better fighter. In addition, he has picked up brewing, believing mead to be a gift from the gods, and wishing to honor them in every way by making and drinking mead in their name as often as possible.

Although he currently lives in other lands, he still considers his original farmstead his home, and tells people that he is now and forever will be, from the Shadowlands, and returns as often as possible to keep an eye on his crops and to party.

Luciana Pesce [Jennifer Ball] aka: Jelly or Jellyfish has moved out of the Shire but still claims us from her participation in "Shadowlands South" aka Houston.

Martin Nicht ein Kleid [Kurt Dschida] is fairly new to the SCA but already well involved as are his wife and daughter.

Mistress Nina of the Lost Caverns [Kim Schreuders] is a long time SCA player, recently moved into this local group. She enjoys a variety of arts and sciences such as weaving and other fiber arts.

Vreidl von Neuben [Ben Titzer] is our acting Student Organization President as well as an avid chivalric fighter.

The Shadow Reader

By Lord Pádric O'Mullan

Title – *Falls the Shadow*

Author – Sharon Kay Penman

Publisher – Ballantine Books

Falls the Shadow is a work of biographical fiction. Spanning the years from 1237 to 1267, it tells the story of Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and his relationship with King Henry III of England.

Simon de Montfort was a younger son of a French count, also named Simon de Montfort, who inherited from his mother the English earldom of Leicester. King John stripped the title from the elder de Montfort and bestowed it on the Earl of Chester and Lincoln. Some years after King John's death the young Simon de Montfort persuaded Chester to relinquish his claim to the lands, then persuaded the young Henry III to grant him the title. A few years later Earl Simon met, fell in love with, and eventually married King Henry's sister, Eleanor, called Nell.

Henry III was not a strong king, or a wise one. King John's son came to the throne at the tender age of nine, and was abandoned by his mother, Queen Isabelle, at age thirteen, when she remarried, this time to a French count, Hugh de Lusignan. Henry was surrounded and advised by much older men, many of whom were greedy and power hungry. Later, he surrounded himself with his French de Lusignan half-brothers, raising them to positions of prestige and authority, to the dismay of Henry's English barons.

Simon de Montfort served his king well and faithfully for many years, leading armies in his name and serving as Viceroy in Gascony, an English held territory in France. He also incurred huge personal debts in his efforts to serve the King, debts that were supposed to be repaid by the Crown, but never were. As the years went by a rift developed, then widened, between Henry III and the English nobility, a rift that culminated in 1258 in the Provisions of Oxford. These provisions required Henry III to accept the advice of a council of Englishmen, half to be chosen by the King, and half by the nobility. The Oxford Provisions also limited the influence of foreign aliens, especially the de Lusignons, required Henry to repay his debts, and expanded Parliament to include representatives from the cities, and other commoners.

Henry III first accepted, then rejected the Oxford Provisions, eventually agreeing to submit to the French King for arbitration. The King of France, reluctant to recognize provisions that would limit the rights of a King, even the King of England, sided with Henry. Simon de Montfort spent the rest of his life trying to force Henry III to accept the Oxford Provisions, first by diplomacy, and later by open rebellion.

Falls the shadow is a fascinating book, filled with interesting and complex characters, and detailing a confusing and important period in English history. Sharon Kay Penman includes maps of England, France, and Wales, genealogies, and an author's note, all of which are helpful in understanding this complicated and far-reaching novel of English history.

What to Expect at Your First Event

By Lord Pádric O'Mullan

It's Friday. You made it through your last class of the week, and now it's time to go to your first SCA event. After loading up the car (don't forget your sense of adventure) and topping off the gas you're ready to hit the road.

After an hour, or two or three, and a wrong turn, or two or three (Google Maps is your friend) you arrive at the event site. Usually the first thing you'll see is a big tent or pavilion by the side of the road. If it is after dark the tent will probably be well-lit. This is the gate, where you will pay your site and/or feast fees. You should get a receipt, and you may also get a site token. Your first SCA doodad.

When you are through at gate, it is time to set up camp. If you are camping with a group, you look around to find where the earlier arrivals have set up, or if you are the first, you look for a space big enough to fit later arrivals. Pitch your tent, and then it's time for supper, unless you ate on the way.

Now it's time to put on some garb, explore, and maybe meet your neighbors. Remember, always ask permission before entering someone else's camp. Over here there's a group sitting under a pavilion drinking, talking, laughing, and having fun. It's a revel. Over there is a group around a campfire singing telling stories, reciting poems. They're having a bardic circle. In the distance you hear a drum. No wait drums. Several of them. Maybe there's Middle Eastern dancing. Maybe it's just noisy people with drums. You won't know 'til you get there. Finally, you find your way back to your camp. It's time for bed. You crawl into your tent, wishing the drums will stop. Eventually they will.

It's Oh-My-God-thirty in the morning, and some joker is standing right outside your tent yelling. "Oyez, oyez! Armor inspection is now open at the list field. Morning court will commence in thirty minutes!" Don't throw things at him. That's the site herald, announcing upcoming activities. Unless the herald says "now" take time announcements

with a grain of salt. You're on SCA time. Morning court may be in thirty minutes. It may be in an hour and thirty minutes. More likely later than sooner. There's probably time for breakfast.

As you're finishing breakfast, the site herald comes by again. Morning court is about to begin. Time to grab a chair and head for the list field, find a spot near the main pavilion and watch court.

Morning court is mostly a time for announcements about the coming day: a tentative schedule of activities (remember that everything is still on SCA time), where the activities can be found and who is in charge of them, and any other needed information. If a fighter is to be knighted that day, it is often done in morning court so he can be announced in the tournament by his new title. Sometimes a few other awards may be given as well.

During the day there will be many things going on, often several at the same time. Typically, there is a chivalric tournament at the list field, followed by a rapier tournament. There may be an arts and sciences competition, at the main hall if there is one, or under a pavilion. Often there is an archery competition, in a location separated from the other goings-on, for obvious reasons. Sometimes there is a knife, ax, and spear, or "live weapons" competition. If there is to be a bardic competition, it may be during the day, during feast, or at a bardic circle during the evening.

Try to checkout as many of the activities and competitions as you can. The fighting is fun to watch, but there is so much else to see. Be sure to check out the entries in the A&S competition, beautiful items hand-made using period materials and methods. The archery and live weapons ranges often have loaner equipment, and may let you try your hand or even compete. If there are merchants, spend some time perusing their wares. Merchants often have useful items such as cups, feast gear, belts, and pouches at reasonable prices. They often have garb as well, but remember that you can make garb, or have it made for you, at a fraction of what the merchants charge.

If you want to get more involved, there are many ways you can help out. The tournaments always need list heralds. If you have a loud voice, you are perfect for the job. Just find someone who looks like they know what they are doing and volunteer. If they're not the right person, they can probably point you to someone who will be happy to teach you the basics, then coach and support you as you go along. If you like to meet new people, volunteer to help at the waterbearers' pavilion. These are the people who try to make sure everyone stays hydrated, a vital service on a warm day. If you like to cook, check with the kitchen. They can usually use an extra pair of hands.

In the afternoon, there is usually a lull in the activities, as everyone rests or gets ready for court. Court may be held before, during, or after feast, depending on the schedule and the preference of the Crown or other presiding nobles.

During court, the winners of the day's competitions are recognized. Local members and others may be called before the assembled court to receive awards for service or awards for skill in combat or the arts and sciences. The organizers of the day's event are usually thanked for their efforts, as well. Often the crown will recognize everyone who is attending their first event (that's you). Courts can range in length from less than a half hour to several (!) hours, but most courts last about an hour or less.

Most, but not all, events include a Saturday evening feast for a reasonable price. There are usually a limited number of feast servings available. If they are sold out, or if you choose not to get the feast, you may have to drive into the nearest town to get something to eat. Or you can plan to cook for yourself.

If you do get the feast, you're likely in for a treat. Feasts vary widely, depending on the group, event, and feast steward (head cook). Feasts may be potluck, or served buffet style. More often the feast is served to you at table in several removes, each consisting of several dishes. There may be bread with cheese or flavored butters, one or more types of soup, and an assortment of meat dishes and vegetable dishes, with a final remove of one or more types of dessert. You may not like every dish you are served, but you are almost sure to find something you like.

After court and feast things usually start to wind down. People who day-tripped leave for home. Others will go to bed early. There may be assorted revels, drum circle/haflas, or bardic circles. There might be a ball, a torchlight tourney, or even a performance of a play. Some people will stay in their camps and play games, drink, or just sit and talk.

There's not usually much going on on Sunday mornings. Occasionally there are activities scheduled, or some of the fighters may do pick-up fights to improve their skills or face fighters they don't see very often. Most people will just eat breakfast, pack up and head for home, looking forward to a hot shower and a long nap.

Remember that the SCA is an educational organization. If you see anything that attracts your interest, feel free to ask questions. Don't be rude, but try not to be shy either. Everyone at every SCA event was once a newcomer and most will go out of their way to make you feel welcome, and to answer questions about what they are doing or what you have seen. The hard part is sometimes getting SCA people to stop talking about themselves and their interests.

This article describes the activities that may be found at a tournament event, probably the most common event type in the SCA. However, it is by no means the only type. There are melee events, where group combats are fought, and collegiums, where classes in arts and sciences, and sometimes combat skills are taught. There are balls, where music and dancing are the primary attraction. Most important, there are WARS, large, multi-kingdom events which general include just about every activity the SCA does.

What to Take to Your First Event

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

It is possible to show up at an SCA event with nothing but a sense of adventure, and beg or borrow everything you need to get through the weekend. I wouldn't recommend it, but it's possible. That said, you don't really need a lot of stuff to have a good time.

One of the first rules of the SCA is that everyone attending an event must make an attempt to wear period costume, so the first thing you will need is garb. This need not be a complete Elizabethan outfit, or a perfect, documentably authentic 9th century Irish costume. If you can sew, and have access to a sewing machine, you can make a simple t-tunic in just a few minutes. A t-tunic, sweatpants, and sneakers will suffice for your first event. In fact, some people never advance beyond this basic garb. Another possibility is to check with the local Hospitaller. Most groups have a Hospitaller's chest of loaner garb. You can usually make **advance arrangements** to borrow garb, either from the local Hospitaller, or from the Hospitaller of the group hosting the event.

The next thing you'll need is some kind of cup. A plain ceramic coffee cup will work, or you can check at a second hand shop for a pewter, tin, or ceramic tankard or goblet. You will also probably want to bring basic feast gear, such as a plate, bowl, and silverware. A dollar store plate and bowl and mismatched silverware will do.

Bring an ice chest if you can, stocked with bottled water and whatever else you might want to drink (please no alcohol if you are under 21). Don't forget something to eat. Many events serve a Saturday evening feast for an additional fee, but for breakfast and lunch you'll be on your own.

You will probably want something to sit on. A wood and canvas folding director's chair is period, (more or less) but if you don't have one any folding lawn or camp chair will do. A big pillow, blanket, or even a towel is better than sitting on the bare ground.

Bring sunscreen.

That covers the very basics for a day trip event in fair weather. If you plan to camp, or if the weather might not be great, you'll need some other stuff.

If you are planning to camp, you'll need camping stuff. Duh. A tent, bedding, flashlight, etc. Bring toiletries, such as soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant. If you can, find out if the site has running water. If it doesn't, bring enough water for cooking, cleaning etc. Always bring a towel. Bring toilet paper, just in case. Mosquito repellent might also come in handy.

If it is going to be cold or rainy, you will probably want a cloak. If you don't have a cloak (and I know few people do at their first event) bring a blanket to wrap up in. Bring some extra warm clothes, such as a long johns or a sweat suit, which you can wear under your garb. If nothing else, a modern mundane jacket is better than frostbite. If it might rain, bring an umbrella. It may not be period, but it will keep the rain off.

Don't forget to take any medications you might need, especially allergy meds, asthma inhaler, bee sting kit, etc. Most SCA events are held outdoors in a nature setting. Ibuprofen or Tylenol is probably a good idea.

You might want to bring something to help pass the time. Some possibilities include: an embroidery project, knitting, juggling balls or pins, musical instruments, or period games such as chess, checkers, pente or mancala.

If you like photography, take your camera. You're sure to find something to take pictures of. Plus, it will make it easier to explain the SCA to your parents and mundane friends.

Most important, be sure to take your sense of adventure. It may be hot and steamy or cold and rainy, but with a sense of adventure, you'll have fun no matter what happens.

Who's That in the Hat?

A Field Guide to Identifying Rank in the SCA

By Lord Pædric O'Mullan

Part of "playing the game" in the SCA is learning and using the "Courtly Graces", including knowing who is who and what to call them. All of these people have earned their titles, and some people take them very seriously.

The Crown	The king and queen are, for six months, the sovereign rulers of the Kingdom. One of them earned the right to rule by winning a crown tournament. They may be identified by the crowns they are wearing, large brass crowns with ten-pointed black (sable) stars. They should be addressed as "Your Majesty," "Your Grace," or "Your Majesties." When talking about the King or Queen, call them "His /Her Majesty," "Their Majesties," or simply "The Crown."
The Crown Prince and Princess	The Crown Prince and Princess are next in line for the throne. One of them was the winner of the most recent Crown Tournament. They may be identified by their coronets, which are not as tall as the King and Queen's, but have the same sable star. They will serve as Crown Prince and Princess for about three months, after which they will become King and Queen. For three months out of each reign there is no Crown Prince or Princess. They may be addressed as "Your Royal Highness," His Royal Highness," "Their Royal Highnesses."
Duke and Duchess	A duke or Duchess has reigned as Crown two or more times. They wear coronets with groups of three strawberry leaves. They may be addressed as "Your Grace," "My Lord Duke," "My Lady Duchess," Duke/Duchess (Name).
Earl or Count and Countess	Someone who has reigned as Crown once holds the title of Earl, Count, or Countess. They wear coronets with embattled or dovetailed projections. They may be called "Your Excellency," "His/Her Excellency." My Lord Earl/Count," My Lady Countess," or "Earl/Count/Countess (name).
Viscount and Viscountess	Someone who reigns as a territorial Prince or Princess becomes a Viscount or Viscountess at the end of their reign. Although there are no Principalities in Ansteorra there have been and may still be some who have received the title in another Kingdom. Their coronets have one, four or six semi-circular projections along the top. They may be called "Your Excellency," "His/Her Excellency," "My Lord Viscount," "My Lady Viscountess."
Baron and Baroness	Barons and baronesses are by far the most common nobility in the SCA. Barons and Baronesses may be Landed (ruling over a Barony) or Court (Awarded by the Crown.) Their coronets may be flat-topped or have points or pearls, or may have other distinctive shapes. There's even one shaped like a sea serpent. A landed baron or baroness will usually have the arms of the barony on their coronet. They may be addressed as "Your Excellency," "His/Her Excellency," "My Lord Baron," "My Lady Baroness," "Baron/Baroness (name)."
Knights	Knights are peers of the realm. They have shown great skill in chivalric combat, and are knowledgeable in chess, dance, and the Courtly Graces. They have sworn fealty to the Crown. Knights can be identified by the white belt, spurs, and/or gold chains that they wear. Address them as "Sir," "Sir Knight," or "Sir (name)". For a female knight, "Dame" or "Dame (name)" can be used, but almost never is.
Master-at Arms	A master-at arms is equal in every way to a knight, but for whatever reason has not sworn fealty to the crown. They wear a white baldric over the shoulder instead of the white belt. Call them "Master," Master (name)," "Mistress," or "Mistress (name)."
Master and Mistress	The other peers of the realm are Masters and Mistresses of the Laurel or of the Pelican. Laurels have shown excellence in an art or science, or, more often, several. They wear a medallion depicting a laurel wreath. Pelicans are awarded for prolonged and dedicated service to the Kingdom and the SCA in general. They wear a medallion depicting a pelican rending its breast. Both Laurels and Pelicans should also be knowledgeable in chess, dance, and the courtly graces, as are knights.
Grant of Arms	A grant of arms is a mid-level award. It may be given for service (Star of Merit), Arts and Sciences (Iris of Merit), chivalric fighting (Centurion), rapier fighter fighting (White Scarf), or archery (Arcus Majoris). Holders of an Iris or Star of Merit, or an Arcus Majoris are referred to as "Honorable Lord/Lady," or sometimes as "His/Her Lord/Ladyship." Centurions are called "Centurion (name)", and wearers of the White Scarf are called "Don/Donna (name)."
Award of arms	The award of arms is the lowest level of award which carries a title. There are many different types of award of arms, too many to name them all here. The holder of an award of arms is rightfully addressed "Lord/Lady (name)," or "My Lord/Lady."

Having said all this, most people will understand if you get confused about titles. If you have a problem keeping track of them all, just call everyone (except, hopefully, the King and Queen at least) "milord" and "milady". Most people won't take offence.

A Glossary of SCA Terms

Compiled by Lord Padric O'Mullan

Attend – listen up, be quiet and pay attention

Autocrat – see Event steward

Bard – someone who performs bardic

Bardic – Singing, storytelling, etc. (the performing arts)

Barding – what a well-dressed horse wears. Do not confuse this with bardic

Barony – a large local group headed by a Baron and/or Baroness

Canton a small local group under the supervision of a barony

Chivalric combat – combat by armored fighters, also called armored or heavy fighting

Court – a gathering at an event for the purpose of making announcements, giving recognition, etc. Usually held by the Crown, or in their absence, by another ranking noble

Crown – the King and Queen, or their hats

Crown Prince/Princess – the winner of the last crown tournament and his/her consort. After ~3 months as crown prince/princess, they will become crown

Crown Tournament – A tournament held twice a year to determine the heirs to the crown

Event steward – the person responsible for planning and organizing an event

Feast – a meal prepared by the group hosting an event. The feast fee is not usually included in the site fee

Feast gear – utensils for eating feast, usually at least a plate, bowl, cup, knife fork and spoon

Feastocrat – see feast steward

Feast steward – the person responsible for planning, organizing, and cooking a feast

Garb – period costume

Gate – where you check in and pay your fees. Sometimes called Troll

Guild – a group which gathers to study a specific aspect of medieval or SCA activity, e.g. dance, cooking, charter painting

Herald – a person responsible for disseminating information. May be speaking for the King at court, calling combatants to the list field, or making general announcements around site

Heraldry – The formalized system of colors and symbols originally used to identify fighters on the field of combat

Hold – stop what you are doing and freeze in place. There is, or may be a dangerous situation near or involving you. Most commonly heard on the list or melee field, but sometimes heard elsewhere.

Kingdom – the largest administrative group size in the SCA; kingdoms vary in size from part of one US state, to several states, to all of Europe. Each kingdom is ruled by a king and queen

Lay on – you may begin fighting now

Lists – tournaments, or the field on which they take place

Mundane – from the modern, everyday world

Naked – Not wearing garb at an event, i.e. wearing mundane clothes

Oyez – hey, listen to me, I'm about to make an announcement. Usually said by a herald

Period – generally, the time period between 400AD and 1600AD, the time periods encompassed by the SCA

Populace – the combined membership of a group. Most local groups have populace meetings once a month. Not to be confused with the homonym populous, an adjective describing how many people there were (as in 'we had a very populous populace meeting, there were thirty people there.)

Principality – an administrative group smaller than, and encompassed by, a kingdom. A principality is ruled by a prince and princess, who are still subject to the king and queen

Province – a large local group, similar to a barony, but without a baron and baroness

Rapier combat – a late period combat form similar to modern fencing; also called light fighting

Revel – Party

Seneschal – the leader of a group within the SCA; a group's legal representative

Shire – a medium-sized local group

Troll – see gate

This Month in the Middle Ages – September

1. 258 Martyrdom of St. Cyprian
2. 407 Death of St. John Chrysostom (whose sermons ticked off the Byzantine royals so much he spent a lot of time in exile!)
3. 420 Death of St. Jerome (who translated scripture into Latin from texts later burned by Islamic invaders)
4. 440 Election of Pope Leo I "the Great"
- 453 Death of St. Pulcheria, Empress of Byzantium
5. 622 Muhammad changes the name of Yathrib to Medina
6. 690 death of Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury (b. 602)
7. 929 Death of St. Wenceslaus (he was a good king...)
8. 1057 Coronation of Isaac Comnenus as Emperor of Byzantium
9. 1066 STAMFORD BRIDGE (Harold Godwinson, King of England, defeats and kills Harold "Haardrada", King of Norway, and Tostig Godwinson, Harold's traitorous brother)
10. 1066 Vikings enter York, England
11. 1122 Diet of Worms
12. 1139 Empress Matilda lands in England to claim her Crown
13. 1192 Peace signed between Richard I, "the Lionhearted," and Salah-ud-Din (Saladin)
14. 1213 MURET; Death of Peter II, King of Aragon
15. 1228, Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II landed in Acre, Palestine and started the Sixth Crusade.
16. 1237 Death of Edward II, King of England, is announced in Parliament
17. 1260 MONTAPERTI (The Sieneese Ghibellines, supported by the forces of King Manfred of Sicily, defeat the Florentine Guelphs)
18. 1297 STIRLING BRIDGE (Wallace and the Scots defeat English)
19. 1298 CURZOLA (Venice defeats Genoa; Marco Polo taken prisoner)
20. 1315 Edmund the Butler given land as reward for putting down English rebels
21. 1321 Death of Dante Alighieri
22. 1355 The English army meets the French chivalry at Poitiers
23. 1390 Geoffrey Chaucer robbed of 20 pounds belonging to the King at the "foul oak" in Kent
24. 1400 King Henry IV of England invades Wales against Owen Glyn Dwr
25. 1401 Reconstruction of the burned Japanese Imperial Palace begins
26. 1415 Henry V, King of England, challenges the Dauphin of France to personal combat
27. 1422 Sultan Murat II ends a siege of Constantinople
28. 1455 Death of St. Laurence Justinian of Venice
29. 1465 Louis XI, King of France, signs an agreement with the League of the Public Weal
30. 1485 Duke Fransez II of Brittany sets up a Breton National Assembly
31. 1498 death of Tomás de Torquemada, first Grand Inquisitor of Spain (b. 1420)
32. 1565 the Knights of Malta lift the Turkish siege of Malta that began on May 18.
33. 1513 FLODDEN (English led by Queen Catherine of Aragon defeat Scots; Death of James IV, King of Scots) / Vasco Nunez de Balboa "takes possession" of the Pacific Ocean
34. 1515 MARIGNANO (Francois I and the Venetians defeat Papal and Imperial troops)
35. 1540 The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) recognized by the Pope
36. 1546 The Royal College of Physicians in London receives a Grant of Arms
37. 1556, ex-Holy Roman Emperor Charles V returns to Spain from Vlissingen
38. 1570 Cyprus surrenders to the Turks (Islam)

SHADOW NOTES:	
WELCOME to the SHIRE OF THE SHADOWLANDS!	<p>SCA 101 will be a regular activity at the Ringer Library (on 2818 and Welsh Dr. Just across the street from A&M Consolidated High School). We shall meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7PM until 9PM. Topics will vary with Newcomer information always available and one of the many Arts and Sciences as the topic when nobody new comes along. This will be a marvelous opportunity to get together, work on projects in good company, and help interested persons become familiar with the marvelous variety of fun to be found in the SCA.</p>
<p>Over-heard at the last Populous meeting:</p> <p>“We may need a youth boffer marshal.”</p> <p>“But swords are so much cooler when you dress to match.”</p> <p>“We can always splat it.”</p> <p>“I thought you said somebody had the coconuts.”</p> <p>“Splats AND mushrooms?”</p>	

OFFICER'S REPORTS

From the Seneschal

Greetings and Welcome to the Shire of the Shadowlands, Capital of Ansteorra from the Seneschal's Office!

The Seneschal acts as the local business manager for the group and can help facilitate answers to SCA questions. The Seneschal schedules Shire activities and helps keep the group on course. With that in mind, please consider getting or renewing your SCA membership at www.sca.org online or via the paper membership form. Please contact me if you need assistance. The group's continued existence relies on your membership and participation.

This fall is planned to be an exciting, fun-filled, but busy fall. In addition to the many local activities available on the local calendar at www.shadowlands.ansteorra.org, the Shire is planning to attend as a group Bryn Gwlad Baronial on September 28-30 and possibly Loctoberfest on November 3. Almost every weekend this fall up to Thanksgiving has an event or activity that you can attend. Get your kit together and come play! The local Hospitaler, Kinna, can help get you started. Various newcomer meetings are in the works to acclimate new members to the SCA.

Join the local yahoo group to stay apprised of all the details and how you can participate. If you would like to be on the local Facebook group, please contact me. Time to gear up for a momentous fall tournament season!

In Service,
Kaitlyn

From the Hospitaler

I am excited to welcome all of our newcomers just discovering our Shire. I also welcome back those returning from their recent travels. The coming months are filled with many activities for both our Shire and our Kingdom. If you would like to attend one of these events, but require supplies (clothing, feast gear, rides, etc.) I will be happy to assist you. Please make liberal use of our email list for any questions or concerns that need to be addressed!

In Loyal Service,
Kinna De Lasey

From the Knight Marshal

Howdy! This is Aldred, your friendly local neighborhood knight marshal. I wanted to inform you that we will be moving are chivalric practice back to Thursday at Simpson Drill Field at 7:30pm. Please monitor the email lists and/or the calendar on the shire website for changes to practice times or places. For our newcomers, my mundane is Gregory, and I am food science and technology major at A&M. I am a junior so you have two more years of me whahahahahahaha. If you have any questions or need a ride you can contact me at grloots@aol.com. I hope to see some new faces. Let's make this a great year for the chivalric combat.

Aldred

From the Archery Marshal

Greetings,

First, let me introduce myself to any newcomers who may be reading this newsletter. In the SCA, I am known as Ronald fitz Robert, or if you prefer, I am mundanely known as (MKA) Ron Denton. I am the archery marshal for the Shire of the Shadowlands. As archery marshal, I supervise all official shire archery activities. If you are interested in **target archery** or **combat archery**, please feel free to contact me.

I hope all of you had a great summer. Fall tournament season is upon us, so the next three months are going to be busy! It all starts with the War of the Ages on September 7th-9th. The next weekend, September 28th-30th, the shire will be descending in mass upon Bryn Gwlad's Baronial event. Shadowlanders have held the post of Bryn Gwlad's archery champion for the last 3 years, with the current champion being Mistress Kaitlyn Mckenna. The Shire's archers should endeavor to continue this streak of victories. With these events and others in the coming months, there will be ample opportunities to show off your prowess in target and combat archery.

I know you are all awesome archers, but should you feel the need to improve your already stellar skills, archery practice, for the month of September, will be from 10 AM – 12 PM every Sunday at the Austin's Colony Park archery range. And, as a note to newcomers and/or new archers, the shire has loaner archery equipment to get you started toward your addiction to archery and archery marshals will be available to provide instruction and support. See you there.

Ronald fitz Robert

From the Rapier Marshal

Howdy!

We're always very excited to see new faces in the Shadowlands! I'm Lord Tristram of the Shadowlands, hailing from 16th century England, and I am the Shire's Rapier Marshal.

Rapier combat, also known as light weapons combat, evolved over the ages into the modern sport of fencing. It is the gentle's combat; very refined, but that doesn't mean it isn't exciting!

All are welcome to participate. We only require that you wear long sleeves, pants, and rigid groin protection for males; all else we can provide you with. I hope to see you on the field, and look forward to crossing blades with you!

-Tristram

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

Greetings one and all!!! I am Lady Caitlin Labouche, the local Arts and Sciences minister, and, as the title suggests, I am in charge of all the arts and sciences activities of our group. We have many activities including: medieval dancing, brewing, cooking, sewing, leather working, and charter painting. You can find the times and locations for these by looking at our calendar or feel free to ask me. I am also trying to start new activities so please come talk to me about what you are interested in and would like to see and I will do my best to make it happen! So talk to me, enjoy our guilds and have a great time with the Shadowlands!

Lady Caitlin

From the Historian

The Shire of the Shadowlands is one of the oldest groups in the Kingdom of Ansteorra, and one of the oldest (maybe the oldest) Shires in the Knowne Worlde. The Historian's job is to preserve the Shire's history for those who come after us. Someday the names and deeds of our current newcomers may well be added to our illustrious history. Please keep me informed of any awards received by Shire members, as well as any competitions won.

In service,
Lord Pædric OMullan

From the Web Minister

Greetings and well met! Welcome!

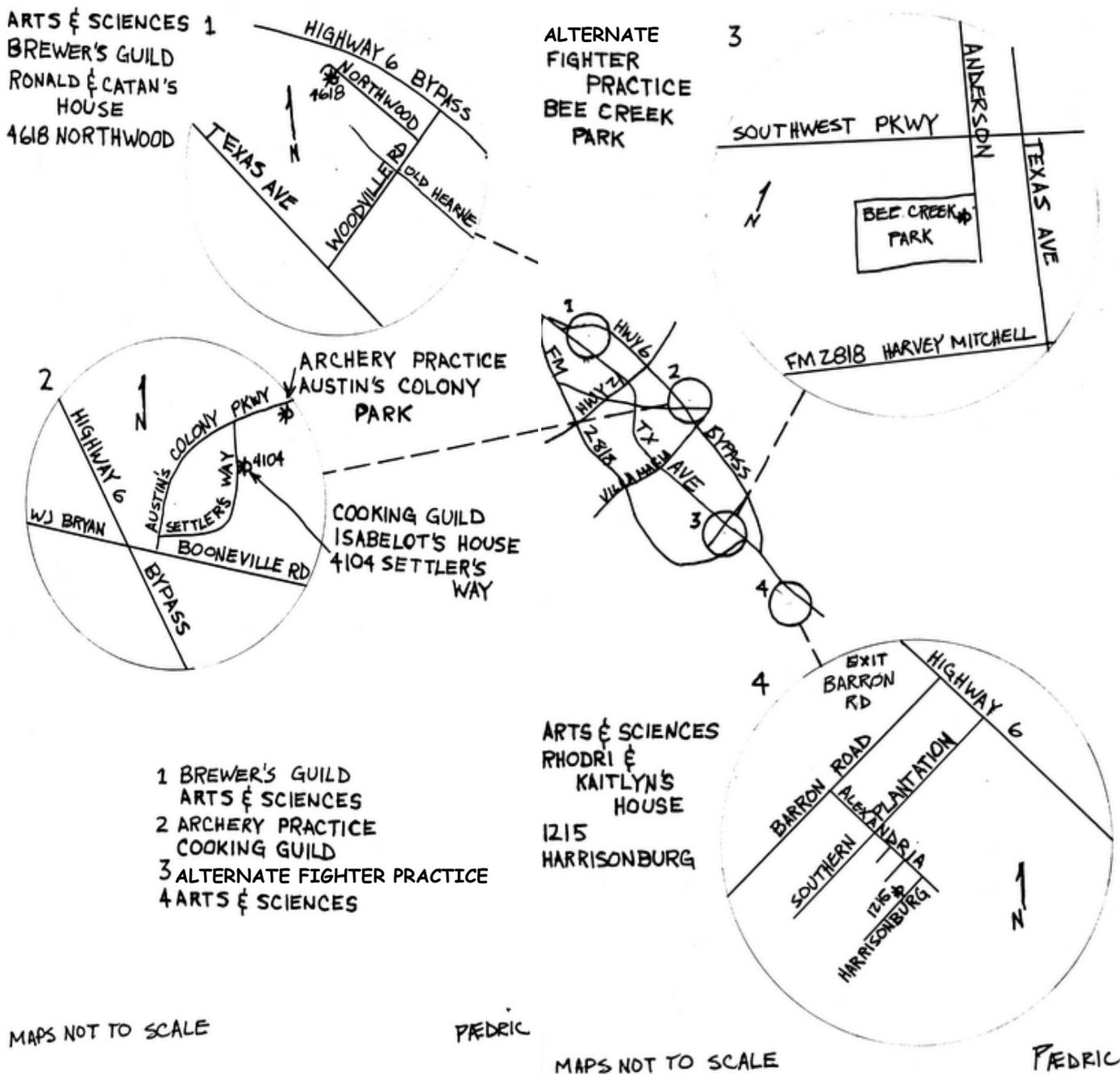
I have been in the process of updating the look and organization of the Shire's web pages. This is an ongoing project. If you are leading any activities please let me know if the meeting details need to be updated and what you would like to have

listed. Please also check your contact information and let me know any corrections, additions or removals you wish to make to your entries. I can be contacted at vs.shadowlands@gmail.com.
 Once again, welcome back to the Shadowlands! And have a great semester.
 --Francois

From the Chronicler

Greetings good people of the Shire of the Shadowlands. This is our yearly newcomers edition of the Shadow Knows, newsletter of our Shire. Anything you wish to add to our newsletter is welcome. Lord Paedric writes reviews of historical novels and provides artwork for example. Bardic would be lovely to add, which would be poems and songs in a period style. Short reports on particularly rich sources of documentation would be another marvelous bit to add.

Ann of Wellborn, called forgetful



Calendar of Events (From the Kingdom Calendar)

September 2012 (A.S. XLVII)

31-3 [Labor Day Weekend]..... Shadowlands Event – Shadowlands’ Shenanigans (College Station, TX)
 Out of Kingdom: Outlands Battlemoor III & Tournament of Valor XXXIII (29th-3rd)
 7-9 War of Ages: 1066 - Fynnon Gath (San Marco, TX)
 14-16 Defender of the Fort - Raven's Fort (Huntsville, TX) *PED*
 Triumphe of the Eclipse VII - Mooneschadowe (Stillwater, OK)
 21-23..... Coronation/King's Champion - - Namron (Norman, OK)
 28-30 Bryn Gwlad Fall Baronial - Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)
 Wiesenfeuer Baronial - Wiesenfeuer (Oklahoma City, OK)
 Unofficial Event: Wolfstar's 30th Birthday - House Wolfstar (TBD)

OCTOBER 2012 (A.S. XLVII)

5-7 Queen's Champion - TBD
 12-14 Namron Protectorate - Namron (Norman, OK) *PED*
 Out of Kingdom: Diamond Wars 2012 (11th-14th)
 19-21 Battle of Ethandune - Bjornsborg (San Antonio, TX) *PED*
 26-28 Seawinds Defender - Seawinds (Corpus Christi, TX)
 Samhain Celebration - Eldern Hills (Lawton/Ft. Sill, OK) *PED*

NOVEMBER 2012 (A.S. XLVII)

2-4 Lochtoberfest 2012 - Loch Soilleir (Clear Lake/Pasadena, TX)
 9-11 Axeman VIII - Skorragardr (Shawnee, OK)
 Out of Kingdom: Known World Academy of the Rapier & Costuming Symposium
 16-18 Bordermarch Autumn Melees (11/15-11/18) - Bordermarch (Beaumont, TX) *PED*
 23-25 Thanksgiving Weekend

🕒 Populace Meetings 🕒

[1st Tuesdays]

SEPTEMBER 4Newcomer’s/Populace meeting..... **Rudder Rm 308 at 8:30**
OCTOBER 2.....Populous Meeting.....**Zachary Rm119C at 7:00**
NOVEMBER 6.....Populous Meeting.....**Zachary Rm119C at 7:00**

Practices

Practice	Time	Location	Contact
<u>Archery</u>	Sun 10 AM	Austin’s Colony Park	Lord Ronald ronald_the_archer@yahoo.com
<u>Chivalric</u>	Thurs. 7:30PM	Simpson Drill Field, TAMU	Lord Aldred grloots@aol.com
<u>Rapier</u>	Thurs. 7:30PM	Simpson Drill Field, TAMU	Lord Tristram qantravon@gmail.com

Guilds

Guild	Time	Location	Contact
<u>Brewers</u>	2 nd & 4 th Mon 6:30PM	Ronald and Catan’s House	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
<u>Blacksmithing</u>	On Hiatus	TBA	Lord Josef cj2308@yahoo.com
<u>Cooking</u>	3 rd Tuesday 7 PM	Isabelot’s House	HL Isabelot isabelotdeforens@gmail.com
<u>Dance</u>	Sun 7:00PM	G. Rollie White, Rm 256	Lady Caitlin caitlinlabouche@yahoo.com
<u>Leatherworking</u>	1st & 3 rd Mon 7:00PM	Ronald and Catan’s House	Lord Ronald ronald_the_archer@yahoo.com
<u>Scribes</u>	TBA	TBA	HL Catherine barb@tamu.edu

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Useful Websites for Newcomers

<http://sca.org/> - SCA Inc. web page: the place to go to join the Society, the place to find publications put out by the society, the place to go to find your kingdom. Great place to begin!

<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

<http://calendar.ansteorra.org/> Ansteorra planning Calendar of Events

<http://lists.ansteorra.org/listinfo.cgi> Ansteorra listserves for various interests

The Shadowlands also has a closed group on Facebook.com. Just register as a Facebook user, type in Shadowlands, and ask to join. Or friend Robbin Foster (Mistress Kaitlyn), and ask her to include you.

<http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/Collections-Research/>

<http://www.metmuseum.org/collections/search-the-collections>

Two museums whose online

collections allow for searches—oh the fun of documentation!

Thanks and Credits

Shadowlands Lady In Mirror, Badge of the Shire of the Shadowlands, Shadowlands Warrior, A Glossary of SCA Terms, What to Take to Your First Event, The Shadow Reader, What to Expect at Your First Event, This Month in History, Shire Maps, & Who's That in the Hat? by Lord Pædríc OMullan (William P. Mullins) – all rights reserved. All items used with permission from the original creators.

