

Newsletter of the Barony of Politar chopolis

GRIFINTAYLE



Griffintayle is published by and for the Barony of Politar chopolis. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism and does not delineate SCA policy. Griffintayle is produced by Alexandra Rapp, 43 Kinsella St Higgins ACT 2615. Griffintayle has an email version available. Secure your postal copy by subscription - \$8.00 per year. Baronial Homepage: <http://www.sca.org.au/politar chopolis>

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY	30 St Blasius 𐌲 𐌺 𐌲 𐌺 𐌲	31	1	2 𐌲 𐌺 𐌲	3 𐌲 𐌺 𐌲	4	5
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See overleaf for legend

Other Upcoming Events:

28th – 30th January – St Blasius Weekend

4th – 6th February – Stowe Faire

11th – 16th February – Canterbury Faire

12th February – Le Crapaud Tourney & Valentine’s Day Potluck Picnic

25th – 27th February – Border War

24th – 29th March – Rowany Festival

30th April – New Years!

Please check all details are correct and contact the Chronicler to correct any errors. “Griffintayle” is published monthly, editions are printed the weekend following the Baronial Meeting. It is distributed in print and electronic forms. All submissions need to be received by the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month for general and event notices, Officers Reports by the Thursday evening of the Baronial Meeting. This is the February edition for 2005.



Politar chopolis Regnum

SCA Politar chopolis, PO Box 1294, Belconnen ACT 2617 Email politar chopolis@sca.org.au
To subscribe to the Politar chopolis email list, go to <http://www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/polit>

Please see elsewhere on this website for Regnum details

Regular Meetings

♥ **Baronial Meetings:** the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Check with the Seneschal for location.

⚔ **Fighter practice:** Sunday: from 2:00 pm at Haig Park, O'Connor near scout hall, Fencers and heavies welcome. Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm, at Mawson Oval.

⚔ **Rapier practice:** Sundays, starting at 1.30 pm at Haig Park O'Connor.

🏹 **Archery practice:** Sundays, 10:00 till 12:00 at Tuggeranong Archery Club, Western end of Soward Way, Tuggeranong. Cost 5 gold to non TAC members Range fees to TAC members. Thursday Twilight Archery from 5:30pm also at Tuggeranong Archery Club.

🎨 **Arts and Sciences:** Sundays - following fighter practice, same place. Wednesday - between 12:30 and 3:00pm at the Mummery. Contact the Seneschal for location details and to confirm the session is on.

♁ **Guild Sunday** – every 3rd Sunday of the month. Details vary – contact A&S Minister for details.

🎵 **Choir Practice:** 1st Sunday of each month, 1pm, Haig Park. Contact Crispin Sexi for details jaysen@au1.ibm.com or Ph: 6241 0919.

🏹 **Stitch and Bitch:** 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at the A&S Ministers house from 7pm (southside), 2nd Thursday at the Baroness's from 7pm (northside), the 4th Thursday will run in concert with The College A&S meeting. If there are 5 Thursdays in a month the 4th will also be at the Baroness's residence and 5th will be with The College. See Regnum and below for address details.

✂ **College A&S:** Thursdays, 6pm, Room G30 in the Copeland building, ANU.

🎨 **Baronial Dance Classes:** 2-4 pm Sundays at the Scout Hall, Haig Park, Turner

📖 **Scriptoria:** Held by the College of Scribes every 2nd Saturday of the month from 1:30-4:30pm. The site does change, so contact the local Warden, Lady Morag Freyser at Raven's Nest for details. Peynters and Limmers welcome too.

🏹 **Mid week Boffer and A&S meeting:** Every Wednesday 3.30 - 5.00pm. Room 3 of the Tuggeranong Community Centre Cowlshaw Street, Greenway. Please check the notice board on entry as meeting may have been moved to a different room - will be under House Anaticula (SCA)

Upcoming Events

St Blasius Weekend

When: 28th to 30th January 2005.

Where: Innabuanya Campsite, Majura Rd, Majura ACT

Cost: Full event – non-residential \$33, Dorm \$57 or camping \$50. Feast Only - \$19. Per day - \$16. Non-booked add \$4, Children aged 6-12 half price.

Steward: Crispin Sexi, crispin@homemail.com.au

Come to St Blasius and enjoy a weekend of singing, playing music, and dancing. There will be practical classes in all things musical, and a major choral piece to learn to sing. Friday night: singing and soup kitchen. Saturday: classes, lunch and more classes. Saturday Night: feast and ball. Sunday: classes, lunch and concert.

Le Crapaud and Valentine's Day Potluck Picnic

When: 12th February 2005.

Where: Acton District Park. Map- <http://www.parksandplaces.act.gov.au/parkslakesponds/mapofactonpark.html>

Note: Park at the carpark in front of the Boat/Bike Hire place and walk past the bridge.

Time: 2.30pm Armour inspection 3.30pm Lists open

Stewards:

Tourney- Paris Lai (bflathorn@optusnet.com.au)

Mob: 0439 624 686 (during business hours)

Potluck Picnic- Alice Balnaves-Knyvett

(alesia_chevalblanc@yahoo.com)

Mob: 0402 337 814

Come and join us for an afternoon of Chivalric combat and courtly companionship. The afternoon will consist of Le Crapaud tourney accompanied by a potluck picnic. We will not have kitchen facilities available so I would encourage dishes that are suitable for a picnic type event e.g. pastries, cold meats etc. The format of the tournament will be given at the event, but be assured there will be much entertainment for the gallery.

TBC: A Rapier tourney will also run on the day and will end with the selection of the Baronesses new Rapier Champion.

Events Elsewhere.

Stowe Faire

Who: Stowe on the Wowld (Western Sydney, NSW)

When: February 4 to 6 2005

Where: Austral Girl Guides Camp, Corner 4th and 12th Avenue, Austral, Sydney.

Cost: \$45 mem/\$50 non-mem until 1 January 05, \$55/\$60 until week before, \$70 everyone unbooked. Please contact the steward for Day and Family rates.

Stowe on the Wowld invites one and all to a 2-day Faire. Come for the tourney, collegia, merchants, dancing, feasting and any other things we can come up with. Feel free to contact the stewards with ideas for collegia – what you can run or what you would to run and if you would like to merchant on the weekend.

The event is fully catered from Friday night until Sunday lunch. Bring camping gear, some dorms are available however they are first come first served. Tent space available.

Website: http://www.geocities.com/stowe_faire.html

Caspian d'Navarre

02 9863 5868 or squire_caspin@hotmail.com

Canterbury Faire

Who: Barony of Southron Gaard (Christchurch NZ)

When: February 11 to 16 2005

Where: Waipara Riverside Park, 137 Darnley Rd, Amberley NZ.

Cost: Adult \$46, Child \$20.50 (5-12 years old ½ price, under 5 free), Single Day \$5, Single Night \$10, Feast \$15

Steward: THL Richard d'Allier (Richard Goodwin) Ph: +64 3 352 1101 email: cantyfaire@sg.sca.org.nz

Canterbury Faire 2005 is here again and will be bigger and better than ever. With more fighting, arts, sciences, archery, rapier and revelry than ever before!

Estrella War XXI

Who: The Kingdom of Atenveldt

When: February 16 to 21 2005

Where: Phoenix, Arizona USA

The sunshine and warmth of Atenveldt beckons. Royalty, fighters, families, artisans all, are invited to our annual Estrella War held on February 16-21 2005. We are proud to feature some of the best classes, fighting, shopping and fun in the Knowne Worlde and an atmosphere that is truly becoming of The Dream. The war will be at Estrella Mountain

Regional Park located in Goodyear, Arizona. Site opens February 16 at 7am for pre-registered, noon for non-registered.

All other information and a complete list of war staff can be found at our website www.estrellawar.org

Please address all other enquiries to Lady Giliana Spencer de Windermere (Jamie Heier), email:

GilianaSCA@yahoo.com, 480-614-0295 (Executive Assistant EWXXI)

Border War

Who: The Shire of Bordescros (Albury)

When: February 25th to 27th 2005

Where: Camp Nelson in Howlong (only ten minutes out of Albury). This is due to Noonameen aundergoing renovations throughout the 1st quarter of next year.

Accommodation: This will be a camping event with no dorms onsite, though if you really want you can grab a motel room in Howlong or Albury.

Price: \$35 members \$40 non-members, includes all meals from Friday night to Sunday lunch. Prices go up as of 1st of Feb. Bookings only accepted with payment.

The site itself has got ample amounts of land to fight on with some lightly wooded area. There is a small river running through the site with a couple of good swimming holes that will surely come in use over the hot weekend.

Please remember to bring a small donation for the war chest that will go to the winning side.

www.freewebs.com/bordescros

All bookings can be made through Gabriel Kalothetos (Thanatos) at bordescros@sca.org.au or (02) 6056 3969.

This year's autocrat is Mistress Cairiationa and the feastocrats are Lord Bowen and Lady Thomasina.

We hope to see you all there.

Newcomers Feast

Who: The College of St Malachy, Shire of Colles Ardorum (NSW Wollongong - South Coast)

When: 26 February 2005

Where: Korrahill Scout Hall, Railway St, Corrimal NSW 2518 (between the Princes Hwy and railway line, opposite side of road to Woolworths/Stocklands).

Cost: \$10 booked & paid, \$12 at the door.

Time: Open at 5pm for dancing and fighter demo, feasting to begin about 6.30pm (as the sunset drives us indoors).

Steward: Zanolbia Adimari (Clare Rix)

Email: colles@sca.org.au Mobile: 0408 695 103

Bookings: Newcomers Bookings 7/29 Railway St Corrimal NSW 2518 (Make cheques to University of Wollongong Medieval Society), please advise of any dietary requirements on booking.

Come one, come all! Good friends do beckon!

The College of St Malachy and the Shire of Colles Ardorum are beginning another year and would bid you to help us!

Join us for good food, friends, entertainment and a nice simple night to warm us up for another year of events! As it is the start of our eventing year, the theme is 'new', bring someone new, try something new, make and wear something new, a good way to get ready for festival!

Yours in Service,
Zanolbia Adimari.
Seneschal, Colles Ardorum

Rowany Festival

When: 24-29 March 2005

Where: Crossroads Medieval Village, Sheldrick's Lane, Yass NSW.

www.sca.org.au/rowany/festival

Bookings: Keridwen the Mouse (Janelle Heron) PO Box 603, Strathfield NSW 2135

Steward: Bliss of Teine (Narelle Griffin)
festivalsteward@sca.org.au

Known World Dance Symposium 5

Who: Barony of Rowany

When: 2nd - 5th July 2005.

Where: Sancta Sophia College, 8 Missenden Rd, Camperdown NSW

<http://www.sca.org.au/kwds/>

Note that this will incorporate next year's Bal d'Argent.

The Known World Dance and Music Symposium is the SCA's primary biennial dance and music event. Maps and details of the symposium venue will be published on the website.

Ballo Viola Duo

Who: Barony of Innilgard

When: 8th July 2005

Where: Anglican Church Hall, Corner Staffa & Galway Ave, Broadview, SA.

Costs: Memb: \$9 / Non-memb: \$13. Children: Memb: \$5 / Non-memb: \$7

Hall opens: 6.30pm. Event starts: 7.00pm

In celebration of the Coronation of our King and Queen at Midwinter XXXX, and for the enjoyment of the Dancers of Lochac and our visiting cousins, from other Kingdoms, Innilgard presents: Ballo Viola Duo.

For those who did not get enough at the Knowne World Dance and Music Symposium 5 - this is just what you are looking for!

If you are visiting Innilgard for Midwinter, come along the night before and revel in dancing and Elizabethan Desserts (main meal not provided).

For non-dancers there will be chess.

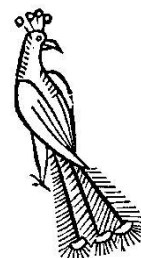
For Visitors who need accommodation, please contact the Midwinter Billoting steward.(TBC) There is limited billoting available.

Please note this is a non-smoking venue.

Steward: Lady Katerina da Brescia

Bookings (by 1st July, 2005) to Lady Blodeuwedd y Gath and Drake Morgan. (08) 8352 8586

There is a hall limit for bookings.



Officers Reports

Baron and Baroness

Greetings unto the populace of Politarchopolis, and welcome to the start of our second year as Baron & Baroness.

We must begin with congratulations to Lady Alesia, who has been appointed as Politarchopolis' new Seneschal.

Journeying to Arrowsreach for the coronation of King Stephen & Queen Mathilde was how we started January, as did a great many fellow Politarchopolians and we were delighted that her majesty was able to attend St Blasius.

We look forward to the college's first two events for the year, o-week and the newcomers Quest in February, and we anticipate an excellent spectacle at the next instalment of Le Crappaud, where we will also be changing our baronial guard and announcing our first heavy champion.

This missive is deliberately short as such things as: the Polit campsite at festival; which Baronial offices are vacant or accepting applications; the proposal of baronial day; and the demo/newcomer pack update, are covered in greater detail elsewhere in this Griffintayle.

We have scrutinised the rumoured events for 2005 (submit your event bid/proposal to Alesia) and it seems that the latter half of the year is somewhat empty. We encourage all households to sponsor or run an event this year.

As a final note the closing date for event bids for the 10th Baronial Bash is Sunday 13th February 2005.

Yours in Service,

Leta, Baroness Edmund, Baron.

Seneschal

The silly season has passed and we are now almost a month into 2005. Scary how fast it goes isn't it. I hope that you all had a great Christmas and New Year.

This year starts with a couple of changes in the Baronial Officers. Lady Darby has left us and gone to sunny Brisbane so pending the paperwork Lady Seraphina Le Dauncer will be taking up the position as List Mistress. I have accepted the position of Seneschal on a more permanent basis. The position of Hospitaller is still vacant and the positions of Knight Marshall, Chirurgeon and Chandler are being advertised in this issue of Griffintayle. Being an officer is a great way to both assist in making this game that we play run and meet lots of new people and have lots of fun in the process. If you have ever thought that you might like to be involved, but really don't know what being an officer entails feel free talk to me, or the officer currently in the role.

It should be a fun month of events, with Stowe Fair in Sydney and the Crappaud/Valentines Potluck here. I hope to see you there.

Yours in service,
Alesia de Cheval Blanc
Baronial Seneschal

Marshal

Greetings unto you all,

Thankfully it has been a relatively quiet holiday period but I do still have the following to inform you about.

Fighter Authorisation Fees

As of January 1st 2005, a fee is being charged by the Lochac Lists for all authorisations (new, renewed, upgraded, etc) to cover the cost of laminating and processing the paperwork.

To make this process as smooth as possible all fighters are required to submit their authorisation forms and fee to the Baronial Marshal (i.e. at this point in time that is me). All forms will be posted off ASAP and the collected fees will be submitted quarterly to the designated Lists account.

Baronial Marshal Change of Address

As of January 7th this year my lovely lady and I have moved in to our own home. The address is 6 Parrabel Place, Isabella Plains and our phone number has not changed.

Upcoming Events

Le Crappaud Valentines Tourney, Action District Park, Saturday February 12th 2005

Autocrat: Paris Lai

Times: Armour inspection and Lists 2.30 – 3.30

This Chivalric Tourney will be run along with a Valentines Potluck Picnic – more details are available on the Politarchopolis homepage. As this is a Chivalric Tourney only chivalric weapons will be permitted.

ANU O-Week Demo, College of St Aldhelms, Wednesday 16th of February, 2005

Autocrat: Catulla Cinaeda

Times: Around lunchtime

Any fighters able to assist with the demo part of this event should please contact Rachael Greaves on catullacinaeda@hotmail.com.

Please note there are other fighting events planned for the next 6-7 months. Details TBA.

YiS

Heinrich Maximillian von Hesse

Politarchopolis Knight Marshal

Arts & Sciences Minister

Greetings unto the populace,

A&S workshops being sponsored by the Guilds continue to be on the third Sunday of the month at Haig Park. Further details on the topics will be announced in Griffintayle.

Scriptoria will also continue to be held to support the arts scribal, calligraphy, illumination and drawing on the second Saturday of the month. Contact the Warden for the College of Scrivenors & Illuminators Morag Freyser at Raven's Nest for more details.

Stitch & Bitch is starting again for the new year. Thursday evenings after 7pm at:

1st & 3rd of the month at Raven's Nest

2nd of the month at the Baron & Baroness's
4th in concert with the Baronial Meeting.

Bring your current projects, new books, things to show and
tell or a problem to mull over. Some supper could be nice
too.

YiS

Antonia Della Scalla

aptain of Fence

Greetings.

A quiet period over Christmas, but training has resumed at
Haig Park (1:30pm each Sunday) and we are looking
forward to the Rowany Festival.

A tourney will be held at Acton Park on the 12th of
February as part of the Valentine's picnic. The tourney
will be the Baroness' opportunity to select a new rapier
Champion. Details are still being finalised by the current
Champion, and will be posted on the list.

All rapier combatants are reminded that they must produce
an authorisation card or a copy of properly completed
paperwork in order to take part in any tourney. Tales of
cards left at home, tumultuous fencing bags or even the
vouching of another fighter of good standing will not be
sufficient – no card, no play!

To those fighters who are authorised and willing to serve
as Marshals (bless you all!) please remember that you
must also have a current membership card to act as
Marshal. If you are not already a Marshal and would like
to be, talk to me at Sunday training – the more the merrier!

Most fighters by now would be aware that the Society
Marshal has suspended the Sidesword experiment in order
to evaluate the experience so and the rules that have been
applied to training and combat. This does not mean the
death of the sidesword as a form, but it does mean no
sidesword training is allowed in the Kingdom until further
notice. Dameon Greybread and Francois Henri Guyon are
collating fighters views on the experiment so please put in
your two pennies worth. I would also be happy to pass on
any opinions.

There were no injuries reported during December and
January.

Owain Cantor ap Hugh
Captain of Fence

erald

Greetings,

Herald's Report for December/January

A very quiet time over the Christmas and New Year break,
but I'm looking forward to upcoming events and hoping to
see some new faces around in 2005 (not that I don't like
the old faces)!

Events

I didn't attend the Lazy Games Day on 5 December due to
other commitments, but I hope everyone enjoyed
themselves.

The only other event in December/January is St Blasius on
29 & 30 January which had not been held at the time of
writing my report.

Device and Name Submissions

Chasing up Jonathon of Loch Swan's name and device
submission. Nothing much else happened with names and
devices over Christmas, but I'm hoping to see a few more
submissions in the new year <hint, hint>!

YiS

Lady Amelot de Akeney
Cordon Rouge Herald

aptain of Archery

Greetings Unto the populace,

Cate, James and I attended the Tuggeranong Archery Club
(TAC) AGM.

13 People attended the November IKAC and it was won
by:

Lady Ysobella in the Bowman category (150 to 200
points) with 180
Lord Alessandro in the Marksman category (100 to 150
points) with 130
Lady Isobel in the Apprentice Archer category (0 to 50
points) with 86

10 people attended the December IKAC and it was won
by:

Lady Ysobella in the Bowman category (150 to 200
points) with 159
Lord Alessandro in the Marksman category (100 to 150
points) with 116
Lady Isobel in the Apprentice Archer category (0 to 50
points) with 69

Lady Isobel also graduated to the Archer category (50 to
100 points).

We put up a pavilion and put on a fine display for the
December IKAC. Cat and I also attended the TAC
Christmas Party.

There was no IKAC held in January.

Yours in Service,
Alessandro di Falco

hronicler

Greetings and Salutations!

I can ask again just one question. Can people please please
please help me out with articles/fillers/pics/recipes/
STUFF!! As I stressed on my list posting, even I can get
bored with Archery, Siege and Ferrets.

My details are in the regnum. Thank you again to my
current responsee!!!!

Yours in Service
Alexandra

News and Notices of the Realm

Festival Site Prep

Site preps that are planned until Easter:
November 20th-21st
January 22nd-23rd
February 19th-20th

Set-up weekend is the 19th-20th of March 05

One of the main focuses this year will be combating the dust. Once again it looks to be a dry summer and as such Rowany is investing time and money to start gravelling some of the main roads to cut back on the dust. This will be an ongoing project, as well as seeing more walls on the guildhall, road markings, more signs and much more...

Innilgards next B&B

The next Baron and Baroness of Innilgard will be Baron Drake Morgan & Lady Blodeuwedd y Gath.

They will be invested on May the 21st.

Fifth Annual Best Looking Banners and Flags Campsite Competition

Unto the Populace of Lochac does John of the Hills send greetings.

The Fifth Annual Best Looking Banners and Flags Campsite competition will be judged at Rowany Festival during the Saturday and Sunday.

The idea behind the competition is to improve the overall medieval effect during festival by having many banners and flags flying throughout the campsites. The winner will be announced sometime during Sunday evening. The prize is a case of alcoholic cider and a new addition of some non-alcoholic drink as well. Last years winner was House Accipiter, who had a wonderful series of banners along the path next to their campsite. Previous winners were House Louvain from St Florian, the River Haven Barony and the household called Artisanian, also from River Haven. House Accipiter, a Politarkoplian household, broke the stranglehold that the groups up North were having on the competition.

If you don't have a registered device then please see your local herald about how to get one. Otherwise you could make household or SCA group banners. If you need ideas on how to make a good display ask a friendly herald about how to best display a device. See the Compleat Anachronist pamphlet, number 50, called Heraldic Display for ideas. Another option is do some research on medieval displays. I want to see lots of colour and movement from many banners and flags. Bunting is good too.

Good Luck.

Kingdom A&S

2005 comps are up on the A&S website
www.sca.org.au/artsandsciences

Go to the Kingdom A&S comps in the links on the left.

Rowany Mass

For those interested in singing the mass at Rowany Festival, the music is available on the Festival website:

<http://www.sca.org.au/rowany/festival/mass/>

Crispin Sexi

One online bookings for Festival

Online booking with a credit card is now available on the festival web page at:

www.sca.org.au/rowany/festival

Follow the links to the booking page.

Equipment bookings are also available.

If you have any problems or questions email festivalbookings@sca.org.au and put 'Booking Question from ' plus your name, in the subject line.

Thanks

Corin

(on behalf of the Festival Booking Team)

News and Notices From Politarchopolis

Baronial Day

There has been much talk over the past year about how to renew the feeling of community and communication that are central to SCA society and seeming to be somewhat lacking from our barony.

Everyone agrees that a regular get together is essential so that we can let each other know what's happening and those who attend less frequently can still know that if they turn up on such-and-such a day they can expect to see some people & find out what's happening around Polit.

The proposal is for one Sunday of every month to be a garbed practice at our usual meeting place of Haig Park, where all are welcome to practice new styles of combat or tournament, games and creative endeavours. The guild day will be scheduled to coincide with this Sunday and some loaner garb will be present for newcomers so that they can get eased into the society without the 'expectations' that often surround their first event.

Currently the Town Archer occurs on the first Sunday of the month and there is support for the Baronial Day to be scheduled for the same day. The idea is that archery will be held in the morning, a BYO picnic lunch at Haig Park and then unscheduled activities & the guild collegia throughout the afternoon. It is not expected that everyone would attend for the entire day, although some may, but it

is envisioned that there would be more mingling and mixing between the different practice sessions than currently is achieved.

Please discuss this and I would appreciate constructive comments and suggestions.

Leta

Blunts!

Combat blunts are available! Contact the Captain of Archers for details.

Officers needed!

Hospitaller, Chirurgeon and Chandler positions need filling. Please contact the Seneschal if you are interested in any of these positions.

Proofreading/Editing Volunteers wanted

I am looking for an additional 2-3 people who can assist with the drafts & finalisation of the Demo & Newcomer packs. I am aware that a number of people offered assistance some months ago, but circumstances change & I would not like to impose, so if you are able to help or are still able to assist please contact me. Access to email & MSWord are necessary. Please email me if you can help out. I'm intending to have these at final draft stage by the February Baronial Meeting.

Many thanks, Leta.

Officers needed!

The Knight Marshall's warrant has come up. Please contact the Seneschal if you are interested in this position.

Anniversary

The first weekend of July marks our tenth anniversary as a Barony - to celebrate this event Their Excellencies have requested a celebratory event for the last weekend of June (This will fit in with the Known World Dance Symposium and Midwinter investiture). The event would need to have Feasting, Fighting (both kinds!), Dance and inevitably Archery. Any interested event stewards? If so contact the Seneschal or the Baron and Baroness to discuss.

SCA New Years Eve!

Saturday 30th April is the day to mark in your calendar! All are welcome to come and celebrate with us the start of AS 40.

Edmund & Leta.

Authorisation Forms

Just to let you know there are new authorisation forms available online that all Marshals are now expected to use when renewing or authorising any fighter, minor or trainee.

The address at which to access these forms is as follows:

<http://www.sca.org.au/marshal/>

YiS

Heinrich Maximillian von Hesse
Politarchopolis Baronial Knight Marshal

Arts & Sciences Competitions

Greetings unto the populace,

I have a few things planned for the coming year, including some competitions. One of my goals this year, is to have the Barony better represented in Kingdom A&S Competitions, with high quality research accompanying it.

As such, the competitions within the Barony will be the same as the Kingdom competitions, only run a few months earlier. This is to give people a chance to improve paperwork or to complete the item. For the Barony comps, the item can be 'almost' completed.

So the competitions are;

1. To be judged at Newcomers:

Metalworking: jewellery or small ornamental accessories
Engineering & research: A contraption for travel
Herbal: Hygiene/ grooming products

2. To be judged at an event May/June (actual date/event to be announced)

Leatherwork: a decorated item of your choice
Textile: Paper making (minimum one page bound or unbound).

Performance: writing and performing a dance in period style.

3. To be judged at an event Sept/Oct (actual date/event to be announced)

Costuming: Textile period accessories- feet and hands (hose, stockings, gloves, shoes)

Brewing: a floral wine/ mead, liquor or cordial

Cooking: Food fit for travel

If anyone has an interest in judging these competitions please let me know.

YiS

Antonia

Politarchopolis Campsite - Rowany Festival 2005

Once again I have volunteered to be campsite coordinator for the Polit campsite.

This year we will be situated in pretty much the same area as last year, however Anaticula has decided to start their own campsite so as a consequence it is likely that there will be internal rearrangements as compared to last year.

One of the major changes that I am making is the decision to accept that inevitably there will be either a partial or complete fire ban. So, instead of leaving a space for a fire-pit & the necessary clear space around it I intend for our campsite to have a communal tent. The baronial marquee is nearing the end of it's lifespan and will not be able to withstand the wind at Festival, therefore if anyone has

something to volunteer please do so - an alternative is to hire one of the smaller marquees from festival.

Would all those who are intending to camp with Polit contact me with their details (number of people, number & size of tents) as soon as possible so that I can ensure that we have a large enough area. Do not assume that the Festival Stewards will tell me that you have put 'polit' on your festival booking form – it does not work that way. The Festival Steward allocates the space to us depending on the number of people that I tell them are going to be camping there.

Yours in Service,

Leta.

A &S Rules

The following is based on previously published guidelines, found in the Kingdom (and Pricipality) files, which seem a good starting point to think about when judging A&S competitions.

From the A&S Handbook, judging and marking, in the Kingdom A&S competitions, are in the following categories:

Documentation - max 10
Authenticity - max 10
Creativity - max 10
Presentation - max 10
Complexity/ skill - max 10

Maximum points, per judge, is 50. There are minimum 2 judges per competition. Forms give room for 3 judges. TOTAL per entrant is averaged out of 50. (Note: If you have too many judges, this will take a long time)

Documentation: If there is no documentation attached, this mark is 0 pts. Minimal documentation on an small index card 1 pt. Citing a secondary or tertiary source (bibliography!) 3 pts. Citing 2 secondary sources 5 pts. 1 primary and 1 secondary source 7 pts. 2 primary sources 9 pts. 2 primary sources (with detailed analysis 10 pts. Accompanying analysis/discussion add 1-2 pts

These are maximum recommended points for the above, and is totally at the judges discretion. The more documentation the better. A discussion and sources is better than just a picture (though this can be counted as citing a source). There is much discussion on primary, secondary and tertiary sources. This is up to the judges opinions.

Authenticity: By authenticity, it is meant the use of authentic materials and techniques. Sometimes substitutions need to be made because of cost, availability, safety and time constrictions. If explained/ detailed, don't penalize marks for these reasons. Ideally, as many authentic materials and processes are preferred, but intelligent discussion on extant items, authenticity, background and reasons for substitution should be marked accordingly. A mark of 10 would be for an item made with authentic construction and documentation to back it up.

Creativity: Highest scores should be given to items that use authentic materials and techniques to create a completely unique item, not just a carbon copy.

The other side of the coin is using modern or available techniques to recreate an authentic item. This is where discussion, in the documentation, can be very useful. Judges discretion on this one.

Presentation: How good does the item really look? Is it presented in a 'period way'? The 'Wow factor'? A period presentation (no modern paraphenalia ie. Plastic bags and containers, is always a bonus here.)

Complexity/skill: How much time was involved? How was the item actually made- the tools, individual techniques or parts to make it? How many processes taken to make the item? How much of the item was hand-made or store bought? How much is authentic? Again documentation, discussion or talking to the entrant will help in this area.

Ferrets in Period



Leonardo da Vinci's "Lady with Ermine" is one of the better-known period ferret paintings. It is located in the Czartoryski Museum in Cracow, and was painted sometime around 1485-1490. It is believed to be a portrait of Cecilia Gallerani of Milan. The white ermine is meant to be symbolic of chastity.

(extract from:

<http://www.drbeer.com/joyce/ferrets/frhistpg.htm>)

Beginning Archery in the S.C.A.



Part 5 (end)

Maintenance

Now you should have everything you need to start shooting archery. Here I would just like to give you some tips on taking care of your equipment to keep it safe and to make it last longer.

Never, ever leave your bow strung for long periods of time. It is okay to leave it strung for the day at an event but you should unstring it at the end of the day. Leaving it strung for weeks or even months will result in shortening the lifespan of the bow due to long term stresses on the bow limbs. It will lead to fatigue and cracking and also to "string follow" which is a condition where the bow limbs will remain in a strung position, even when unstrung. Without the limbs ability to snap back into their proper position when the string is released, your bow's performance will be drastically reduced.

Treat your bow with respect. Rough handling will put dents and dings into the wood or fibreglass, weakening those areas. Store it in a safe place where it cannot be accidentally damaged. Store it horizontally if you can, unless you have a case for it.

The same goes for your arrows. Don't store them bunched tightly together, this will compress the feathers badly and possibly warp the shafts as well. If your feathers start to look a little pushed down, you can breathe some new life into them by gently steaming them. If your arrow shafts do warp slightly, you might be able to straighten them gently by hand. Be careful, too much pressure will break the arrow. An arrow-straightening tool will do a much better job, but it can be expensive.

Keep your bowstring well waxed. This will lengthen its life by preventing the small amounts of fibre fraying that will lead to string breakage over time. Use a proper bowstring wax whenever the string feels dry or shows signs of small frays. Work it in well with your fingers, creating a bit of heat by friction to soften the wax.

Be prepared! If you are going to go to an event, take a few extra things with you to ensure that you will be able to participate completely. Carry a few extra arrows, you may lose or break some. Carry extra arrow tips and nocks and glue to replace any that get broken or fall off. And take an extra bowstring! Nothing ruins a day of archery faster than a broken string and no way to replace it.

Learn to inspect your own equipment for defects. Have your local archery marshal show you how and have him explain what he is doing. It really is difficult to convey this sort of knowledge by the written word. You can certainly check for obvious cracks in your bow and arrows, fraying bowstring, broken nocks and such. However, you really do need to be shown some of the finer points to be able to judge limb-twisting, string-seating, delamination, etc.

Remember, the archery marshals are there to serve YOU and to help keep everyone safe. Do not be afraid to approach them with your questions. I am more than certain they will be glad to help!

Hopefully you now know a little bit more about archery equipment for SCA use. Now get out to your nearest archery range and enjoy!

by THL Robin Arthur Kyrke, Forester

Contact: Captain of Archers, Alessandro di Falco



Beads

Beads, beads are good for your heart, the more you have the more youumm, well.... the more you have really!

Beads have been part of human desire to decorate and protect themselves since the beginnings of time. Pre-historic humans used beads to satisfy their vanity, display their prowess, protect them from evil and denote their rank and little has changed over the millennia. Beads throughout history have been one of the most basic and pervasive displays of decoration.

Beads of all types and descriptions have been used by all cultures as decoration. The Egyptians liberally used hand-carved gems beads to decorate their Pharaohs; the Phoenicians used them as a basic trade item; the Vikings took them as tokens of conquest and as souvenirs of their travels. And whilst each culture used them in their own separate ways, the common theme of using them still exists.



From beads threaded onto leather making simple jewellery, or sewn onto garments as trim, or handcrafted into extravagant concoctions of gold and silver, beads have played a great role in decoration. Throughout period beads have been used as a part of jewellery. Necklaces and strings of beads made from wood, gem, glass, pearl, stone, bone, antler, seedpod, shell and all manner of other things have been found. Along with earrings, bracelets, rings, brooches, and even decoration for trims and garments.

In the later periods, gems beads were imported from India en masse as lapidary techniques improved. These gem beads were used as standard in jewellery for adults, with children receiving replica jewellery made from coloured glass beads. The glass bead industry in Europe created and sustained entire towns, much as the gold rush did in Australia. The best sand deposits developed the best craftsmen and areas became renowned for the bead production, both quality and quantity.



Scottish and Asian pearls were both used in large quantities. Asian pearls being so numerous that it was mistakenly believed for some time that these pearls were harvested fresh from the sea with the threading holes already in place.

At many different times different rulers felt the need to legislate for who should be allowed to wear what type of gems and precious metals. The developments in “faking” gems took off fast and strong as a reaction to this sort of legislation. And there are many surviving recipes for making fake gems, beads or not. Many of the Guilds throughout Europe banned faked gems in an effort to maintain quality controls, keeping the recipes on the books for future reference of what not to do.

By Alexandra



Lucrezia Panciatichi, by Agnolo Bronzino 1540



The Birds from Bartholomaeus Anglic