

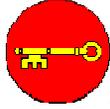
The Newsletter of
the Shire of Rokkehealden

Glyph Notes

January - February 2008

Is it Spring Yet?

OFFICER List



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Pursuivant

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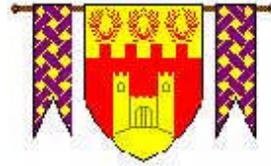
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Marshal of Fence

Vacant



Web Minister

Akiko Catherine O'Brien
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Chronicler

Isabel of Kenniston
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If you have any interest in any of the Officer positions, please contact that officer. The Officers are always looking for deputies to learn the position, so that they have some familiarity with it when they are ready to move up! All Officer positions require that the officer be a paid member of the SCA; Marshal positions require that the officer be a warranted marshal.



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Disclaimer

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Oyez! Oyez!

Regularly Scheduled Shire Events

Social Gathering / Monthly Moots / A&S Nights

Arts and Sciences / Calligraphy & Illumination

The following dates have been reserved for the shire's social gatherings, A&S nights, and moots - All these dates are on Thursdays except where noted:

WEDNESDAY, February 13 (note: 2nd week)

Thursday, February 28 (moot)

WED. March. 5 (Note: NOT the 1st Thursday of the month)

WED. March 26 (moot) (Note: NOT the 4th Thursday of the month)

WED. April 2 (Note: NOT the 1st Thursday of the month)

WED. April 30 (moot) (Note: NOT the 4th Thursday of the month)

Thurs. May 1

Thurs. May 22 (moot)

The room at the library is available for our use from 6:30-8:45 pm. Moots are now beginning at 7:30 pm.

The library is located on Oak Brook Road (31st Street) between York Road and Route 83. Very easy to find!

Oak Brook Library
600 Oak Brook Road
Oak Brook, Illinois
630-990-2222

Fighter Practice

Fox Vale - Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Aurora Community Center

Ayreton - Sundays, 2:00 - 5:00 pm, sponsored by Grey Gargoyles, Ida Noyes Hall, University of Chicago Campus (near the Museum of Science & Industry).

Youth Boffer - Alternate Mondays, Hope Presbyterian Church, Wheaton. Next dates are January 7th and 21st. Contact Anna Rakel (kcmalone3@aol.com) for more information.

Archery

Bedford Park - is done for the season. Should resume in Spring.

Ayreton - Wednesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, at the Archery Custom Shop in Forest Park (www.archerycustomshop.com).

Music

Baron's Noyse - Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 pm, Robbyan & Fern's: (773) 764-1920

The Pippins - Thursdays, 7:45 - 10:00 pm, Chicago (Andersonville) : (312) 259-6688

Needle Arts

The Silver Thimble Guild for Conspicuous Consumption - Mondays at Mistress Juliana's: (773) 750-2180

Needlework/Fiber Arts Night - Third Fridays, 6:00 - 10:00 pm at Gretchen's in Des Plaines: gshneid@oakton.edu.

Calligraphy & Illumination

Rokkehealden Scriptorium - (see above)

Tree-Girt-Sea Scribal Night - First, Third and Fifth Wednesdays, 7:30 - 10:00 pm, at THL Jocelyn's (847) 824-3814

Heraldry

Heralds at Home - Last Sunday of the month at Phoebe & Kevin's, (773) 286-5952

If you are interested in keeping up with the activities in the Ayreton area, we recommend you subscribe to the email announcements of the Ayreton Towne Cryer, at ayretontownecryer@yahoo.com



Food for Thought...

Baby, it's cold outside. And since calories are really a unit of heat, this page is going to focus on that all important heating element – food.

Talking Turkey

contributed by Philippa of Otterbourne

OK, so last night when I got home, I watched an episode I'd taped of *Dinner Impossible*. Don't know if you've seen or heard of this but chef Robert Irvine, who has worked for the Queen (that being the REAL one in England) and then gone on to cook for Heads of State and Presidents, resorts, cruises, etc., takes on challenges where he's given an assignment, set times to cook, and often has to overcome roadblocks to complete the assigned task.

The episode I watched was him at the Maryland Renaissance Fest where his challenge was to cook a Royal Feast for 30 people using only 16th century tools, food, and equipment. He had something like 5 hours to do it and had to go from shop to shop first to get all the food and ingredients. One of the ingredients was Turkey and I was disappointed in the show since they were making him be so true to the Tudor period and yet they had Turkey which I've heard so many times "isn't period, it's a New World food brought back by the Pilgrims."



So today I decided to do some research and see what was what. Maybe it's new only to me, but apparently there were turkeys in Europe after 1530. The Portuguese and Spanish conquistadors brought them back from Mexico. They made their way across Europe and into England in just a few years. They were at first mostly an exotic or luxury dish but became more popular as the turkey numbers increased over the years and by the 1700s they became popular enough for large flocks of them to be raised in East Anglia. These flocks were herded, on foot and causing large "traffic jams," to London in the weeks before Christmas, their feet being protected in small, leather boots that were made expressly for the purpose.

It turns out, that unlike what I've heard numerous times, the Pilgrims did not get to the New World and discover the Turkey and send it back to England. They actually had domestic turkeys aboard the ships going to the New World and were surprised to see the wild variety so prevalent when they arrived.

Turkey for feast, anyone?

And what would turkey be without taters? Believe it or not, potatoes too are period.



Interestingly, Europeans were introduced first to sweet potatoes, not the ubiquitous white variety we think of when we hear the word "potato." Sweet potatoes – which, despite common referential practice, are not yams, and in fact are only distantly related to white potatoes – are native to the tropical regions of the New World. Columbus encountered sweet potatoes on his first voyage to the Caribbean and brought back the local version in 1493. A sweeter varietal was introduced to Europe in about 1495. By 1550 the Portuguese had brought the sweet potato to its colonies as far east as China, which today produces 80% of the world's sweet potato crop.

White potatoes – several thousand varieties of them – are from the Andean highlands on the western side of South America, and were brought back to Spain much later by the conquistadores. By 1573, potatoes were being eaten in Seville, indicating some degree of local cultivation. The 1597 edition of John Gerard's *Herball* shows the well-known English herbalist with a potato flower in his hand. - Isabel

At Pots and Pens this past December, one of the lunch items was an absolutely delicious Onion and Leek Tart.

Thank you to Philippa for providing the recipe!

Preheat oven to 425.

Sauté equal parts of onion and leeks together in butter and olive oil. Line a pie pan with crust (own recipe or store bought). Fill the pie crust about half way up with the onion/leek mixture. Blend 4 eggs, 2 cups cream, and 1 cup of shredded swiss cheese together and pour over the onions and into the pie crust.

Place pie in 425 preheated oven for 15 minutes. Drop temperature down to 325 and bake for another 35-40 minutes until pie is set.

Moot Minutes January 31, 2008

Moot began 7:50 PM

Seneschal: Ayreton Yahoo list has had a lot of activity regarding the Barony formation. At 12th Night the seneschals of the area groups presented her Majesty with a letter of intent that basically was an informal petition to form a barony. The letter has been posted to the Ayreton list. The next step is waiting for approval from Crown and Kingdom.

Rokkehealden is sponsoring the Ayreton event but we have no update on that since Johannes was unable to attend the moot.

Henry announced the Knights Marshal is stepping down and if anyone is interested to let him know.

Chronicler: Isabel needs art and needs articles. She has nothing for February. Ottokar said he would give her the recipe for the carrot and parsnip pancakes he brought to the holiday party and she could publish that in the Glyph Notes.

Chatelaine: Philippa said she's had a few emails showing interest but not sure if they'll show up to a meeting. Henry said he'd gotten an email from 2 people who used to be in the SCA and are looking to get active again but he hasn't heard anything from them since. Philippa again mentioned

that she has flyers and bookmarks so if anyone is able to take some and request that their library post them, let her know. Xavier said he'd take some to Capricorn and Henry volunteered Lynda to take some to the Reenactors Fest.

Webministers: Akiko said the site is up still but needs updating if anyone has anything to add.

Archery Marshal: Ottokar said that there is no Rokkehealden archery practice because we only have an outdoor site but that there is archery happening in Forest Park at the Custom Shop on Wednesdays if anyone is interested.

Knights Marshal: No fighting occurred

MOY: We have one youth who received an Award of the Baton at 12th Night this past weekend. Illario is 13 and enjoys fighting and practicing with our youth fighters at local events and youth practice. But, alas, he was unable to attend the event this weekend due to a heavy homework load from his honors classes. Acelina has been kind enough to take his scroll to Val Day so that we can get the King's signature as he did not attend 12th night.

Pursuivant: In heraldic news: No news!

No Old Business

No New Business

Moot adjourned 8:00 PM

Moot Minutes February 28, 2008

Moot called to order at 7:35 pm.

Seneschal's Report: Per meeting at Stone Dog Inn with the Kingdom representative, the five prospective members of the proposed Barony can call themselves the "proto-incipient Barony" and can begin to have regular meetings and elect proto-incipient officers. Petitions are being circulated by the area seneschals for those in favor to sign. The seneschals are taking suggestions for Names and Devices; there will be drawing materials at Carnival and the submission process will close at end of Carnival.

Chatelaine: Nothing to report.

Webmistress: Nothing to report.

Chronicler: Nothing to report.

Archery Marshal: Nothing to report.

Knights Marshal: Nothing to report.

MoAS: Nothing to report.

Pursuivant: There were awards given out at Twelfth Night: Akiko: Evergreen; Henry: Willow; Ilario: Baton. At Festival of Maidens, Household Silken Petals named to the Order of the Grove for scribal activities. Fiona of Foxvale is stepping down as Escutcheon Herald; the new one is THL Genivive Rose D'Glendalough, from the Barony of Andelcrag. The information is up on the Herald's page of the Midrealm website.

Old Business: Johannes reports that the Ayreton Carnival is going swimmingly and everyone should come and have fun.

Fiona of Foxvale provided a proposal and budget for their September 20th event to review and vote on next moot; everything is pretty much the same as the last few years.

Per Angus, Science Night is starting up again on March 3rd and will continue every other Sunday.

Moot adjourned at 7:47 pm.

From the editor...

Thanks to the usual suspects for contributions to this issue, particularly Philippa for her foodie articles and Henry for his piece on fighting. And a big extra-special shout-out to Elianora for her great short story! I'd love to see more of this kind of stuff – poems, prose, jokes, recipes, anything that can be linked to the Middle Ages. Doesn't have to be egghead stuff! We have lots of talented people in the Shire, which should translate into at least one A&S article per issue... if you don't volunteer, I will hunt you down... And if you're not sure of your writing skills, don't let that stop you; we're all happy to help you polish your work.

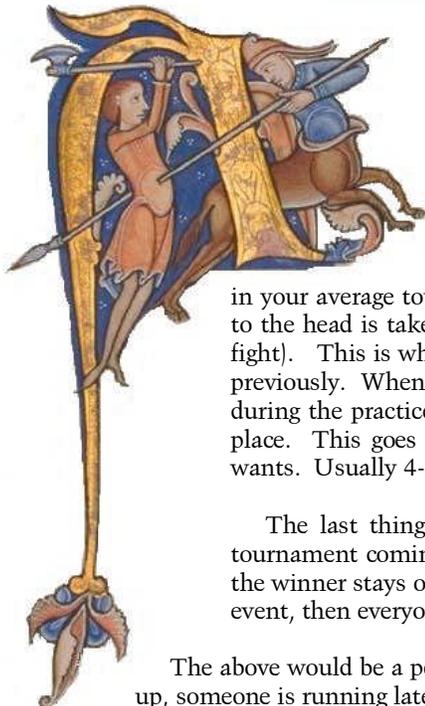
Adam Trent, who edits TGS's newsletter, is also always looking for stuff. We've talked about exchanging articles. So there's a good possibility that your work will reach a wider audience than just the Shire of Rokkehealden.

So my usual cry: NEED ART!!! NEED ARTICLES!!!

Greetings!

I was asked if I could write an article on heavy fighting and I said 'sure, why not?' Some time later I started thinking what am I actually going to put on paper? I am hardly qualified to pen some great treatise on how to fight. After giving it some thought I decided to make this more of an update on what we actually do or try to do at a fighter practice. This is based on what Sir William of Fairhaven taught at a practice in early December.

Like any physical exercise we begin by warming up. This includes stretching and possibly even some slow movements with sword and shield. This is not a group exercise but done individually. There is some conversation going on during this about certain blows or combination of blows, various stances, and observations on armor. Anything that was taught in a previous practice is up for review or if someone attended a class/practice somewhere else they pass on anything they learned from it. An example of this was at the Vanished Woods All Souls Day event last fall: Duke Sir Bardolph taught a class on a specific blow. Variations of this blow are discussed and reviewed almost every week.



Armor is then put on and often a little time is then taken for more slow work or again for the review of specific blows or stances. A drill is then practiced that is called "up downs." This involves pairing off and alternating fighting against your opponent on his knees and fighting from your knees against a standing opponent. This is done 5 times each and a score is kept for victories. The score does nothing but provide incentive for the next practice and to let one know what they need to work on.

Next is what is referred to as sparring. This is very similar to what you would see in your average tournament with the blows being called out rather than acted upon (for instance, a blow to the head is taken and the recipient would yell "Good" rather than fall over and then they continue to fight). This is where a person tries to do the things they reviewed during the slow work and discussions previously. When breaks are taken during this, more discussion takes place based on observations made during the practice bouts. Then a different opponent is found and another round of practice bouts take place. This goes on (practice bout, break, change opponent and another practice bout) as long as one wants. Usually 4-5 different opponents is sufficient.

The last thing varies depending on what events are coming up in the near future. If there is a tournament coming up, a Bear Pit may be in order (this is where the bouts are done as in a tourney and the winner stays on the field to take on the next person and the loser gets in line). If it is close to a melee event, then everyone splits into two teams and melee bouts are done.

The above would be a perfect practice. Unfortunately, this does not always happen. If only a few people show up, someone is running late, if space is restricted, are all things that can affect how a practice flows.

In service,
Henry of Exeter

The Artisans of Ayreton Invite You to Join Us on Saturday, April 12th, 2008, 1pm – 6pm

AN AYRETON ARTS ACADEMY II



Site: Ida Noyes Hall, University of Chicago. Admission is **free**. Site is DRY. No pets except for assistance animals. Also, please be respectful to the other student groups who are also using our building.

Steward: M. Philip White (Craig W. Shupeć)
817-313-7575, philipwhite@hotmail.com

Activities

❖ **Craft Fair:** Visit with each other during the day to share your arts and sciences. Bring your latest project to display or work on in the company of friends. Or, bring something to teach on a one-on-one basis.

❖ **Entertainment:** Performers please come! Stroll the event and busk for favors, or claim the entire hall's attention in between classes.

❖ **Classes:** We have two rooms this time so formal classes are on the schedule. Time and space is limited so contact Mistress Gianetta (jenrsmall@yahoo.com) for more information.

❖ **Food:** Bring something savory or sweet to share for our pot-luck side board. Lunch and dinner are not being served, so plan accordingly. If you know what you are bringing, or if you need suggestions on what to bring, please contact our pot-luck coordinator Lady Tacit (snhagge@yahoo.com).

The Peasant Revolt

by Elianora Saunfayle

Every guard on the battlement saw the peasants coming. The moonlight on the flat, grassy landscape revealed the amateur army's approach.

The captain of the guard stood in the drum tower and looked between the crenellations at the approaching mob. He glanced at the tense face of the guard beside him and said, "Stay at your post."

The captain strode down the catwalk to the narrow steps. Two guards met him at the gate. He told them, "Stand back. Don't alarm them." He turned to the group as they approached the portcullis.

"Captain Drake." A tall man, unshod and dressed in rags, pushed to the front and leaned against the grating. Drake nodded. "Andrew."

Andrew withdrew a pouch from his shirt and worked it through the gap in the iron gate.

Drake shook it open and peered at the coins. "The baron is in the stables," he said, looking up. "The baroness is still in the tower. Couldn't be helped. But she'll be easy prey once you're done with the baron." He looked back at the other guards. "All is in order. Open it."

Drake and Andrew stood back as the portcullis rose. As the mob swelled through the gap and into the bailey, Andrew clasped Drake's shoulder and whispered, "May God the Father bless your name!"

Drake ducked into the stairwell and watched the peasants stream by, their shouts rising to a steady roar.

Andrew ran with the crowd, storming through the nighttime yard, scattering startled dogs that had been sleeping in doorways. Tradesmen who worked and lived within the castle walls shrank back or picked up pitchforks to join in the riot.

Andrew helped them tear the stable door off its hinges. Two strong boys dragged a writhing creature from the haystacks along one wall. The peasants jeered and screamed their laughter at their weeping baron. They flung dirt and animal dung at him as they dragged him out into the night. Horses ran from the stable and then circled back at a distance.

Andrew planted his feet and crossed his arms, watching as they held the baron down on the butcher's block.

Harlan, one of Andrew's kin, joined him. Andrew squeezed his shoulder. "We've done it! Just look at him. He and his vain wife will never harm us again."

Harlan leaned close to his face. "What about the king?" His eyes were bright with anxiety. "How can we be sure the next landholders he sends will be any better to us than these two?"

"They will be. After seeing what we can do, they will be."

Harlan wiped his sweaty face with his palm. "Are you sure they can't punish us?"

Andrew seized his shoulder again. "It's the guard that makes all the difference! If the guard weren't for us, we'd never have come this far. How will the king punish us, or how could the new baron? They'll have to treat us as fellow men from now on, or we'll just do it all again, and the guard won't do a thing to help them. No, Harlan. Our victory is secure now."

The baron screamed, the ax fell, and the cheers rose. Andrew and Harlan joined in the chants of the baroness' name.

The baroness gripped a handful of her silk skirt in one hand and pressed the other hand to her throat. The crowd moved toward the keep in the moonlight, and she breathed faster. Someone near the front of the crowd was hefting a head up and down on a pitchfork, in time with the chants of her name.

The baroness looked over her shoulder and smiled at Captain Drake and his men. "Between their pay and mine, you've earned a fortune tonight," she said.

Drake smiled back at her. "A lady's ransom."

She stepped back so that the guards could take aim with their crossbows at the peasants nearing the keep.

"They'll soon realize we've betrayed them and run back to their huts," Drake told her. "Without the guard on their side, they'll never try it again. Then you'll have what you always wanted – your own barony."

The baroness gazed out at the body beside the chopping block and smiled in the darkness.

THE END