



Agreton – Cooperation in Action

The Newsletter of the Shire of Rokkehealden

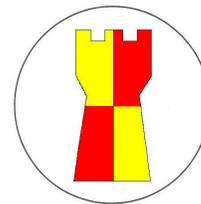
Glyph Notes

May – June 2008

Summer Issue



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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:

Thursday, July 10 Thursday, July 24 (moot)

There will be no August A&S Night due to Pennsic

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). Closed for the holidays; will reopen on January 13th.

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 - Should be resuming soon. Check with Ottokar for details.

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



Moot Minutes, May 22, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm.

Seneschal's report: At present there are unusual issues afoot in the kingdom, as we don't currently have sitting royalty. Palymar and Aislinn are acting as regents until the matter is resolved at Crown Tourney.

A vote was taken regarding disposition of Rokkehealden's profits from the Ayreton Carnivale; said profits are to be donated to the Proto-Incipient Barony of Ayreton by unanimous consent.

Officers' Reports: Chatelaine: Geneva's Swedish Days are to be held June 15th (Father's Day). Members are encouraged to show up in garb (Norse preferred) in support of the Raven longship which is looking for funding.

Webmistress: Glyph Notes have been added to the website and a link will be posted.

Chronicler: March-April Glyph Notes are done and words and pictures are needed for the May-June issue.

Minister of Arts and Sciences: the paperwork to transfer the position from Fiona to Johannes hasn't been completed yet. Border Skirmish is looking for teachers. The first meeting of the proposed Ayreton Scribal Guild is planned for June 28th, tentatively at the Ayreton Arts Academy at an as-yet-undisclosed site in Vanished Wood. The next meeting of the Ayreton Brewing Guild will be at Goose Island sometime in June. On June 5th at the Oak Brook Library Xavier and Elaine will do the first part of the pewter casting class, showing how to prepare and carve the soapstone molds. Melting and pouring the pewter will be done later.

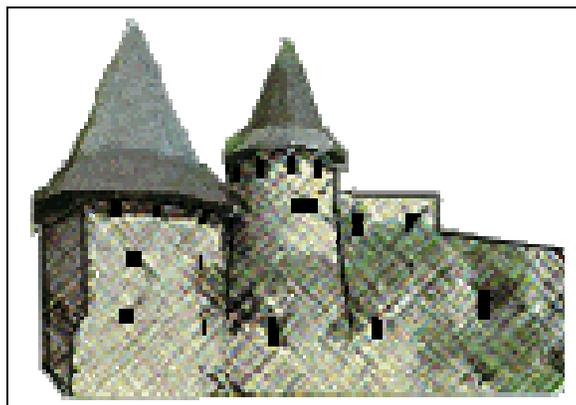
Pursuivant: Nothing new.

Knights Marshall: there is fighting in Ayreton, just not in Rokkehealden. Still looking for local site as a push to rotate Ayreton practices throughout the area. Johannes volunteered to do some searching. On June 8th, William of Fairhaven will be in from Dayton to provide classes at the Grey Gargoyles practice. The last time he was in his classes proved very popular.

Per Xavier, Fox Vale is attempting to set up outdoor fighter practices on Tuesday nights.

Elaine asked the Silken Petals Scribal Household to sponsor a roundtable at Fox Vale's Fox Hunt again this year. The Petals will probably offer another scribal challenge as they have in the past. Also, the site for Fox Hunt is right across the street from an apple orchard; local brewers may find the cider offered there to be of interest.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.



Thanks to...

Dougal for the photo of Henry and Sir Cellach... Henry for the article on Crown Tournament
Elianora for the story and for the article on ink.... Mark Twain for his excerpt from Huck Finn

The cover photo ended up in my hands from an anonymous source - if anyone has any information as to its provenance, please let me know so I can credit the appropriate parties. It was far too apropos to waste.

It's Called A Tavern

“Where do you go to get drunk around here?” Charlie glared around the renaissance faire’s main square, past princesses and tourists and dukes and ladies and little kids for a beer tap somewhere, anywhere.

“Don’t you want to meet the queen?” His date, Veronica, touched his arm tentatively.

Charlie shook her hand off. “Give me a break. She’s just some old broad in dress-up clothes.” He sneered at the jester juggling on a stump in the center green. “See, the problem with these weirdoes is, they think this is all real, or they wish it was. You’ve gotta really have no life to get into this kind of thing.”

Veronica looked past him at the crowd moving down the lane toward the pavilion. “I want to meet the queen.”

Charlie sighed. “Fine. You go – I’ll be at the bar.” He pointed across the way at a slant-roofed little building with benches out front and beer logos posted behind the counter.

Veronica started down the path, giggling as a gallant courtier bowed and offered her his arm.

Charlie spat on the street and stared after her. He had anticipated an afternoon of laughing at the freaks, but she actually seemed to think this place was cool. Some blind date she had turned out to be. He headed toward the beer.

Behind the counter of the bar, a college girl in a puffy low-cut blouse and a blue skirt asked, “What’s your pleasure?” gesturing to the beer tap with a flourish.

Charlie leered at her and leaned up against the counter. “I can think of plenty,” he said, “but give me a beer.” She had a trendy haircut and was wearing makeup; maybe she wasn’t as far gone as the women in braids and veils. Maybe she was just working here for the money and saw through these nerds the way he did. He leaned in and said, “I knew there had to be a bar somewhere in this freak show.”

She tilted her head to the side. “A ‘bar,’ my lord? This be the finest tavern in all of England.”

Charlie sighed; apparently, he really was the only normal person here. He slapped his cash onto the counter. “It’s a bar. And this is Wisconsin. Look, I don’t feel like playing this stupid game anymore. You people may think it’s cute, but I think it’s creepy.”

She made change for his twenty and handed him a paper cup with foam spilling over the rim. “My lord speaks wondrous strange,” she said. “Wherefore is this Wisconsin?”

Charlie slurped a mouthful of beer. “This is a group of time-warped freaks who think it’s, like, the Middle Ages, or something. And you probably wish you were a real princess, but you’ve got dyed hair, and your teeth are straight. I’m sorry to have to point this out, but they didn’t have braces back in ‘olden times.’” He guzzled half the beer. “And this,” he said, “is a bar.”

Her polite gaze never wavered. “This,” she said, “is a tavern.”

“Look, I said I didn’t want to play!” Charlie swished the beer around in the cup. “You know what? I wish I could make your dream come true, send you back in time, to live with no cars and no plumbing and no cell phones. That’s what you deserve.” He tilted his head back and gulped the rest of the beer.

A sudden wave of dizziness struck him. He staggered, catching himself on the counter and putting the empty paper cup back down. It clinked against the surface, and his eyes snapped open.

The paper cup was gone, and he was holding a battered metal tankard. He looked up at the barmaid. She smiled with crooked teeth and gestured to a row of brown bottles on a shelf behind the counter. “Another, my lord?”

Charlie stumbled backward and turned around. Outside in the square, a peasant in rags drove a row of pigs through the muddy street as villagers rushed by. A man unloaded a bale of straw from a donkey’s back, and a vendor with a wooden cart haggled with an old woman over a loaf of bread.

Shaking, Charlie turned back to the counter. The barmaid grinned at him with her awful teeth and said, “Welcome, my lord, to the finest tavern in all of England.”

The End... ?

Elianora Saunfayle

The English dandy Wilfred Gowers-Round (1845-1950) tabulated the traditional (Edwardian) significance of various writing-ink colors:

- BLACK • the ink of gentlemen
- DARK BLUE • the ink of schoolchildren
- LIGHT BLUE • the ink of ladies of quality
- BURGUNDY • the ink of country squires and clergymen
- SCARLET • the ink of stock market and city men
- TURQUOISE • the ink of ingenious and creative minds
- GREEN • the ink of knaves and the insane
- BROWN • the ink of tradesmen and clerks

Contributed by Elianora



On Kingship...

My, you ought to seen old Henry the Eight when he was in bloom. He *was* a blossom. He used to marry a new wife every day, and chop off her head next morning. And he would do it just as indifferent as if he was ordering up eggs. 'Fetch up Nell Gwynn,' he says. They fetch her up. Next morning, 'Chop off her head!' And they chop it off. 'Fetch up Jane Shore,' he says; and up she comes. Next morning, 'Chop off her head' - and they chop it off. 'Ring up Fair Rosamun.' Fair Rosamun answers the bell. Next morning, 'Chop off her head.' And he made every one of them tell him a tale every night; and he kept that up till he had hogged a thousand and one tales that way, and then he put them all in a book, and called it Domesday Book - which was a good name and stated the case. You don't know kings, Jim, but I know them; and this old rip of ourn is one of the cleanest I've struck in history. Well, Henry he takes a notion he wants to get up some trouble with this country. How does he go at it - give notice? - give the country a show? No. All of a sudden he heaves all the tea in Boston Harbor overboard, and whacks out a declaration of independence, and dares them to come on. That was *his* style - he never give anybody a chance. He had suspicions of his father, the Duke of Wellington. Well, what did he do? - ask him to show up? No - drowned him in a butt of mamsey, like a cat. Spose people left money laying around where he was - what did he do? He collared it. Spose he contracted to do a thing; and you paid him, and didn't set down there and see that he done it - what did he do? He always done the other thing. Spose he opened his mouth - what then? If he didn't shut it up powerful quick, he'd loose a lie, every time. That's the kind of a bug Henry was....

All I say is, kings is kings, and you got to make allowances. Take them all around, they're a mighty ornery lot. It's the way they're raised.

from Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*



Crown Tourney of Spring 2008

Reported by Henry of Exeter, Seneschal

This should really be entitled "Crown Tourneys of Spring 2008" as we had to have two on the same day. If you somehow hadn't heard, due to complications Sir Lutr and his wife's membership lapsed for three days and this meant the automatic ending of their time on the thrones. To complicate matters more, this happened between their coronation and crown tourney, meaning no Royal Heir was available and so left a one week period where we had a Regent rather than a King/Queen. To resolve the matter, Duke Palymar, the Regent, declared there would be two Crown Tourneys, the first to crown an immediate King/Queen, and the second to give the Kingdom a Prince/Princess. Both tourneys to be held on the same day, one right after the other.

The site was a medieval-style hotel in Kentucky, basically at the point that Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky meet. Saturday was the Kingdom A&S competition and Sunday would be the Crown Tournaments. The number of merchants was disappointing (about 4) but two were very fun to shop at. The first was a fabric merchant and the other was a woodworker. Between the two I believe everyone I knew found something they wanted, even if they didn't actually buy it.

I did not see any of the A&S displays, unfortunately. I did get to sit with some other scribes and see their portfolios, however. It is always a mix of emotions to see other people's work. Part of you is amazed and awed by the talent on display and the other part of you is disgusted because you feel your own stuff will never be at that level. This goes for all scribes, not just me.

Saturday night a large group of us (about 20-25) went to an authentic German Brauhaus for dinner. The weather was nice so we sat outside. The brats were plentiful and the beer came in VERY large glasses. Definitely a place to go again.

Sunday saw a lot more people at the event than Saturday. Day camps were set up to watch the list area and the nicer garb was put on. It is my opinion that there are two groups during crown tourney, those that are participating and those who are watching.

Those that are participating are serious and yet there is this sense of camaraderie that is hard to explain unless you have experienced it. As a bout begins you are very serious and give it your all to win, but the second it is over, you and your opponent embrace and exchange some of the kindest, sincerest words.

The first tourney went fast. The finals were between Duke Sir Dag and Sir Lutr. The finals are always fought best 2 out of 3 matches with the highest ranking participant choosing the round's matched weapon style, the other participant choosing the second bout's weapons, and the third bout is fought with whatever each participant wants. His



Henry and Sir Cellach Mac Cormaic locked in mortal combat

Grace chose Florentine style (two swords) for the first match. The bout lasted for some time with Sir Lutr eventually winning. The second bout Sir Lutr chose sword and shield style. Before the bout could begin Duke Sir Dag removed his helmet and began to speak. I cannot do his words justice but as he spoke many eyes were seen to shed tears. When he finished a great roar of joy was heard from the populace as Sir Lutr was declared the victor. An immediate coronation ceremony was held. Instead of the Peers or Great Officers being called to first swear fealty, King Lutr and Queen Tessa asked the populace to come forth and be the first to swear fealty.

The second tournament did not go as fast as the first but it did go just as smoothly. Again I say that the chivalry and honor shown on the list was of the highest caliber. In the end, Sir Ullr defeated Duke Sir Edmund to crown his wife, AnneLyse, Princess of the Midrealm.

Court was held about an hour after the second tourney was completed. The artisans of the Midlands presented a stack of scroll cases higher than the thrones themselves. The Ayreton Brewers Guild presented some samples to their Majesties (as well as to the visiting Royalty from Meridies and Ansteorra).

Editor's note: a video clip of Dag's speech yielding to King Lutr is on YouTube with the title "Dag Yields."

May and June in History...

May 20, 325 A.D. - The Council of Nicaea, the first ecumenical council of Catholic Church was called by Constantine I, first Christian Emperor of the Roman Empire. With nearly 300 bishops in attendance at Nicaea in Asia Minor, the council condemned Arianism which denied Christ's divinity, formulated the Nicene Creed and fixed the date of Easter.

June 15, 1215 - King John set his seal to Magna Carta, the first charter of English liberties, guaranteeing basic rights that have since become the foundation of modern democracies around the world.

May 29, 1453 - The city of Constantinople was captured by the Turks, who renamed it Istanbul. This marked the end of the Byzantine Empire as Istanbul became the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

May 6, 1527 - The Renaissance ended with the Sack of Rome by German troops as part of an ongoing conflict between the Hapsburg Empire and the French Monarchy. German troops killed over 4,000 Romans, imprisoned the Pope, and looted works of art and libraries. An entire year passed before order could be restored in Rome.

June 28, 1577 - Flemish painter and diplomat Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) was born in Siegen, Westphalia, Germany. Regarded as the greatest of Flemish painters, he was considered the master artist of his day. He was also skilled in science and politics and spoke seven languages. Among his masterpieces; *Le Coup de Lance* and *The Descent from the Cross*.