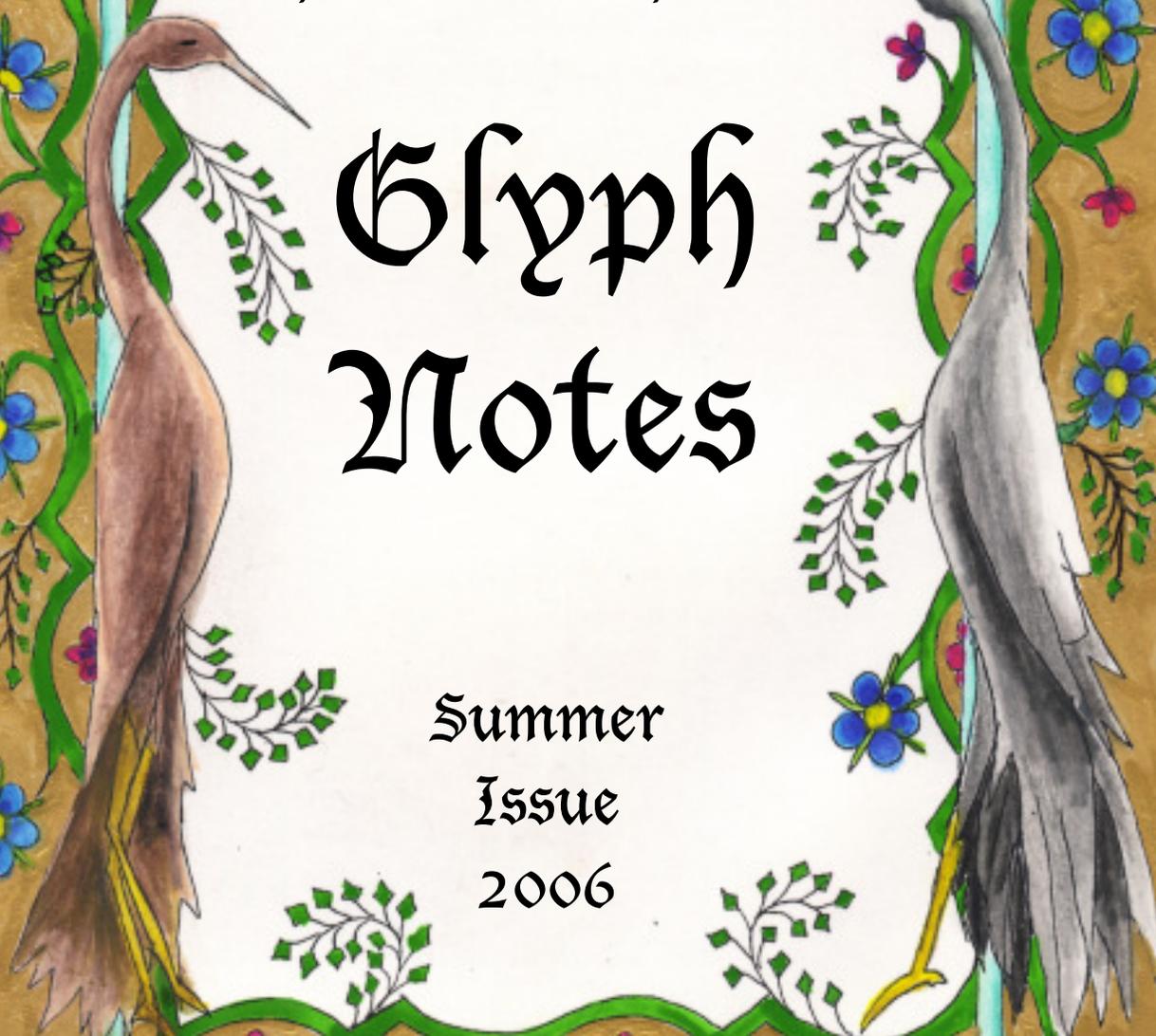


The Newsletter
of the
Shire of Kokkehealdan

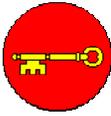


Glyph Notes

Summer
Issue
2006

Shire of Rokkehealdan

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Disclaimer

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Oyez! Oyez!

Regularly Scheduled Shire Events

Social Gathering/Monthly Moots/A&S Nights

The Oak Brook Library hosts our twice-monthly meetings. Usually, A&S is on the first Thursday of each month and the Moot is on the fourth Thursday, excepting exceptions, of course!! Contact either the Minister of Arts and Sciences (svalentine_98@yahoo.com) or the Chatelaine (otterbourne@comcast.net) to confirm meeting dates.

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

Greetings Unto the Shire, Fighters and Friends.

After much discussion The House of Chadwyck is offering to host Fighter Practice on the following Wednesdays: **July 25; August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.**

Note: The August 23rd practice will need a warranted marshal or practice will be canceled.

The plan is to start around 6:30-ish. For directions and other information see <http://www.midrealm.org/rokkehealden/> and go to the "Meetings and Gatherings" Button.

If you still have questions, contact the Knight Marshal THL Austin Chadwyck (chadwick@notwires.com)

In Service,
House of Chadwyck

Additional Practices

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

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

Arts and Sciences / Calligraphy & Illumination

First and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm, at the Oak Brook Library. *See 'Weekly Shire Gatherings/Moots' above.*

Contact Fiona (svalentine_98@yahoo.com) for more information.

Archery A message from Louis Xavier:

On the Thursdays that there isn't a Rokkehealdan meeting in Oakbrook, I'll be practicing archery at the Blackwell Forest Preserve off of Butterfield Road (Rt 56) in Warrenville. I'll be getting there about 7PM, and will stick around until it's too dark to shoot. Anyone who's interested is welcome to join in. I have some loaner equipment that I'll be bringing as well.

How to write Award Recommendations

by Akiko Catherine O'Brien

This article is written for the benefit of new members and youth. I hope this clears up recent confusion. Standard reminder: The following is my opinion only and is listed step by step.

“He” is meant for both he and she.

The Order of Precedence

First, go to The Order of Precedence, often called the OP (<http://www.midrealm.org/op/>). The Order of Precedence (OP) is a listing of all the awards given by the Crown of the Middle Kingdom as well as many out-of-kingdom awards reported by recipients.

There are options you can use to look up a recipient. You can check by the name of the award, date of award, or their name. This is where spelling of names count. You can also try part of the name.

If you get results, then you can see if the person already has that award and when he received it. Note: some awards may be given more than once. If they don't have any awards, then usually you would start with an Award of Arms. *Note: you don't have to have heraldry passed to get this award. But it's really nice from a scribal point of view.*

I just want to stress that you should not assume someone has or does not have an award. Look it up. You can also check on the shire's web site. But I know not everyone is listed there and that's why I suggested the OP.

What kinds of awards are there?

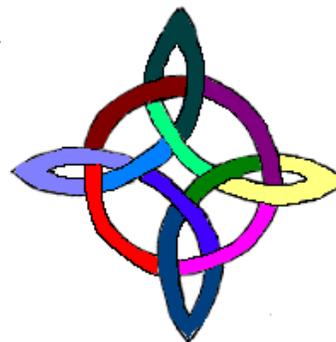
Basically there are three most common types of awards. This applies to children's awards also. These awards are for fighting, skills in the arts/sciences, and service.

For details about the award go to Awards, Titles, and Styles of the Middle Kingdom

(<http://members.aol.com/thorvaldr/awards.html>). The site gives an excellent explanation for the awards of the Middle Kingdom. Also under the section labeled *Awards Listing*, the reason the award is usually given is listed. Read through the awards and it will help with deciding what type of award to recommend.

How to recommend someone for an award?

Anyone can recommend anyone for an award. Recommendations can be done through mail, email or the on-line award recommendations. The on-line award forms are, to the best of my knowledge, the most preferred way to do recommendations. The link



can be found by going to <http://www.midrealm.org/op/> Just follow the steps. It's easy!

Why are you recommending this person?

You need to be specific with your reasons. Stating, Joe is all around cool guy is nice but not specific. Give examples. State facts that **you** know. Don't use sentences like, Lady B said... State what you know to be true. Keep it as current as possible. Something that happened 10 years ago could matter but something that happened within the last few months would have a much stronger impact.

If it's an art award, tell about the skill. For example, if it's a dress: Joe sews 14thc. clothing using period methods. Or that Joe's techniques, although modern, give a medieval look to the dress and enhance the look of the society. Even better - provide pictures. A web site reference works well, too.

If it's a service award, tell about his service. Joe served as feast-o-crat at the ZZZ event. Joe went out of his way to help clean at ABC event and left without telling anyone. Joe rolled up his sleeves and washed dishes at the BBB event held on 2/11/06.

If it's a fighting award, tell about his skill, leadership, and training. Be specific and factual. Joe trains new fighters in melee tactics. Joe teaches basic pole arm.

Pay attention to grammar, punctuation and spelling. If the Crown can't easily read a letter they will move on to the next letter. Include special details about the potential candidate. For example, Joe likes green and yellow griffins. This is not a requirement, but a nice extra to include.

You will also need to try and guess some of the events "Joe" will be at. List several choices, if possible. Usually, it's not too hard to find out. A simple question such as, "Joe, are you going to Simple Day?" or whatever event will get you those answers.

Also tell other people that you're recommending him for the award. Encourage friends to write the Crown if they are in agreement with your award recommendation. Make sure everyone spells the name exactly the way it was submitted by you. Of course, don't tell the person that you're recommending them.

Keep in mind this doesn't guarantee an award. Awards are given at the discretion of the Crown. But if you don't give a recommendation, you can most certainly guarantee your opinion will never be heard.

If you are still confused, please contact me and I'll do my best to help you.



Moot Minutes

Moot 3/22/06

Called to order at 7:32 pm.

Old business: Fox Vale would like to do another event on September 30th. Xavier had asked at last moot if Rokkehealden would sponsor event. Motion to sponsor Fox Vale's event moved and passed. Johannes will advise Joanne and Xavier will advise Elaine, co-autocrats.

Johannes asked if all would continue to search for possible new weekly site. Ottokar had spoken to the Brookfield Library and they have rooms available. Ottokar has not seen them. Deposit would be \$15 and they do permit craft materials.

Bridget confirmed the details of the April 7th Demo at Roosevelt Middle School and passed out flyers.

Per Ambr, White Waters' Swine & Roses event is looking for someone to do lunch. The event is July 14 – 16. Ambr is feastocrat and can supply information and kitchen space.

Xavier reminded everyone that there is a demo April 27th (Thursday) in Joliet

Officers' Reports: Chatelaine: We have two visitors tonight, Bree from the Outlands and Onnen from Vanished Wood. She also reports a request for a demo in West Chicago in late April, details to follow.

Knights Marshall: "No fighting occurreth."

Archery Marshall: Events are starting up again, but there is still no local archery. There was a good turnout for archers at Better War through Archery – about 100 – marking the official beginning of the Archery Season. Next major event is War Faire on April 8th.

Pursuivant: There are a number of names and devices in process but as yet no feedback. Thorvald Redhair will be taking on the post of Dragon Herald at Coronation. The Shire device has been drawn but Aelfreda still needs a number of officers' signatures. She needs the Seneschal plus three-quarters of the officers. There was some discussion about deleting Guy Valenta as Fencing Marshall as he is no longer in the Shire and we don't have fencing now anyway, and the decision was made to remove his name from the list of Officers.

Chronicler: Glyph Notes for March – April is in process. She will remove Guy Valenta from list of Officers. Standard plea for articles and artwork.

Web Ministers: Trying to get new stuff on web, including pictures of current and ongoing projects. Contribute!! Have also added a "What's New" link to show what changes have been made to the web site.

MoAS: Upcoming events and possibilities:

- Saturday, April 8, there is a Scribal Day at Jocelyn's for local scribes
- Robin Goldman of Grey Gargoyles has floated the possibilities of scribal workshops at the Grey Gargoyles practices on Sundays or on Saturdays
- There will be a Scribes' School at RUM, as well as many, many other classes, including many youth-oriented classes
- Katarina, chamberlaine to Felix and Madalena, has requested contributions for Pennsic Gifts
- Midlands Regional A&S is April 29th
- Sorcha O'Branigan is coordinating the donations of blanks to send to Gleann Abhann

Seneschal: Reminder of April 7th Demo and review of other items brought up in moot.

Moot adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Moot 4/27/06

Called to order at 7:47 pm.

Old Business: Fox Vale has confirmed date of September 30 for the next Fox Hunt; the contract has been signed by Johannes and forwarded. This is the same weekend as RUM.

The demo at Roosevelt Middle School on April 7th was a great success and everyone was very happy with the results.

Fiona of Fox Vale thanked Kellee and her children for their assistance at the demo held in Joliet earlier today.

Officers' Reports: Pursuivant: Badge is still being fine-tuned and should be ready for submission shortly. Noted that the Shire's official name is spelled "Rokkehealdan" in the registration papers, but has been spelled "Rokkehealden" since. The original device was registered in 2000 under "Rokkehealden," but the documentation was corrected in 2002 to "Rokkehealdan." Do we want to consider making the "e" spelling

official?

Archery: Practice still has not begun locally. The usual start date is in May, but there is no official date.

Chronicler: May-June Glyph Notes should be up next week.

Chatelaine: Nothing to report.

MoAS: Report going in this weekend. Reminder about Midlands Regional A&S on the 29th.

Web Ministers: The pictures from the Demo on the 7th have been posted. Akiko threatened that if contributions are not forthcoming, embarrassing pictures of all and sundry will be posted instead.

Knights Marshall: "No fighting occurreth."

Moot adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Moot 5/25/06

Called to order at 7:31 pm.

Old business: FoxVale's demo last month was successful and a portion of the proceeds will be given to Rokkehealdan as some of our people participated.

New business: Kellee advises that Grey Gargoyles is doing a demo June 5th and would like all youth fighters to attend.

Officers' Reports: Chronicler requests any articles or materials on the Ayreton issue for an upcoming... er, Ayreton Issue. Elaine kindly explained to those not in the know what "Ayreton" is and why.

Chatelaine: Several new people have expressed interest in the SCA, with three or four of them just moving into the area.

MoAS: Quarterly Reports filed on time with lots of information regarding shire activities.

Web Ministers: Despite some tech problems a couple of weeks ago (NOT Akiko's bailiwick!!) the Site is back up and functioning. The Kingdom Web Minister wants to go from HTML to XML. And Akiko wants more content for the Site.

Pursuivant: Not much going on. The Dragon Herald is looking for deputies, including the Escutcheon Herald, who handles the Letters of Intent.

Knights Marshall: No fighting occurreth.

Seneschal: Quarterly Report submitted. FoxVale's Fox Hunt II event will be September 30th. Seneschal and MoAS will have to curtail some of their summer activities due to moving, but may be able to host an A&S night later. Aelfreda asked what the cost of the Downers Grove Library was per night; and discussion went on to Lisle, either the Library or the Meadows Center. Johannes requested that everyone continue to look into spaces for a weekly meeting/fighter practice.

Elaine is looking for a second person to help with Children's Activities at the FoxVale event (someone not related to the primary children's coordinator). Cedric requested an update on the event. Elaine advised that it would be at the Kendall County Fairgrounds again, 50-person limit for feast. They plan on fighting, archery, merchants, boffer and classes, and possibly a forge. There will be a scribal display and many other activities.

Kellee advised that there will be boffer at her house during the summer. Dates to be announced.

Adjourned 7:59 pm.

Moot held 6/29/06

Called to order at 7:56 pm.

Johannes announced that although it is not official yet, there has been a changing of the guard at the Lisle Park District, and there may be a possibility of us returning to the Meadows Center. He will check into that.

Re: FoxVale's event:

Serafina, though Fiona of FoxVale, inquires whether FoxVale would be interested in putting in a bid for Coronation, to be held in place of Fox Hunt II. FoxVale is discussing the possibility. Per Elaine, they are continuing to plan Fox Hunt while the bid is being considered. Issues include

1. Site is primitive, but we can probably work around that
2. Limited shelter, mostly unheated; we would probably have to use pavilions for Royalty, Scribes, etc.

FoxVale will have a major meeting July 2nd to discuss. They calculate that they would need a dedicated staff of at least 40 people to handle the expected 300-400 guests.

If Fox Hunt goes through instead, they are expecting about 100 people.

Officers' Reports: MoAS: Mary Buchanan is the new Dragon Signet. Minister will be sending requests for reports.

Chatelaine: Two new guests tonight: Sibeal & Guenevere. Welcome!!

Chronicler: Due to an attack of life, the Glyph Notes is now a 4-month Summer Issue. We hope.

Minister of Youth: Who has had the job about 1 hour now... There has been a good response to the Boffer Practice. Eight or nine kids have been showing up to fight. Heavy fighters brought kids and helped out. Boffer is being held at Kellee's from 6:30 to dark.

Knights Marshall: Quarterly Report has been submitted.

Archery: Ongoing Mondays and Thursdays in Bedford Park.

Pursuivant: Badge Submission has finally been sent in. Heraldry still being processed. Midrealm level has not been posted, but Laurel level has been.

Web Ministers: Broder Skirmish pictures will be up shortly. Also, from their jaunt to the Known World Heraldic & Scribal Symposium, Akiko brings back word of an effort to collect blanks for Glen Abheann, which was badly hit by Katrina last year. According to Akiko, the area looks like it just happened. Akiko will let us know if they need anything else.

Seneschal: We would like to put together a gift for the new King & Queen of some of the arts and crafts of Rokkehealdan. Johannes and Fiona will be hosting an A&S event in early fall (after they've finished moving into their new house!) and this will be focus.

Adjourned... oh, somewhere around 8:15...

Moot held 7/29/06

OKAY!! Mea culpa... Philippa very kindly took minutes for this moot but Your Humble Editor lost them someplace. Hey! You think it's easy dragging this issue out for four months?? You'll never know all the other stuff I've managed to "put someplace for safekeeping..."



Live Dangerously

No – Don't Live Dangerously...!!!

Summer Events And Camping

by Lady Akiko Catherine O'Brien

This article is being written for the youth and new people in our group who have aren't familiar with SCA summer events and camping. Seasoned members feel free to write an article and add to or even disagree with my opinion.

Take care of yourself!

It's a wonderful time to experience the splendor and grandeur of SCA events. It can also be a horrible nightmare if you don't take care to avoid overexposure to the sun and heat. This article is NOT meant to preach. It's being written in hopes that I don't have to see a friend become sick when health issues like this can be easily prevented.

This applies to overcast days, too. Even if it's raining (hopefully we won't see too many of those), you still need to put fluid into your body. Fighters, youth, scribes, wood-workers, water-bearers, cooks and I think you get the idea. In short, I mean everyone. If you take medications, be aware of how the temperature might affect you.

When at events, make sure you drink **WATER!** The best time to do this is before you are thirsty. By the time you are thirsty your body is already dehydrated. From my experience it's best to drink regularly. Avoid Pepsi, Coke, alcohol and other caffeine-type drinks while in the sun and heat. The reason to avoid them is because they dehydrate the body.

Remember to eat light, little meals. Your body will tend to shut down and not be hungry but it's still important to put nutrition into your body. Be careful with meats and things like mayonnaise. These spoil when exposed to too much heat or an improperly iced cooler. Store your cooler in the shade. (Drape a blanket or cover over it to hide its mundane features.) Keep the lid shut tightly when not in use. Open it as little as possible to ensure things stay cooler longer. Don't keep it in the car even if it's packed with ice. The car is like an oven and will eventually ruin everything in your cooler.

Take breaks and stay in the shade. Wear a hat and sunscreen. If you can't wear sunscreen, take care to keep arms and other parts of your body covered. This will hopefully avoid sunburn. Sunburn is not your friend! Wear loose, light colored, light weight garb. Yes, your Black Velvet Elizabethan gown looks beautiful but when it's 90° plus temperature. It's a ticket to going down from too much heat. Trust me wearing pretty garb won't make you look any better if you have collapsed from too much heat.

Also; while pouring water over your head might feel good, it does not have any affect on the body's core temperature. The best way to is to just drink plenty of water. I will once in a while still do the water because it feels good but I still drink the water.

There is no excuse for not taking care of yourself. Even youth can take care of themselves. Drink water, wear a hat and exercise common sense. Adults, you should be able to set the example. If you have health issues take care of them. If you have heat issues take care of them. Youth of our group have been amazing. Keep up the good job of staying healthy and being great examples for others to follow.

Day Events

What to pack for Outside Events?

Start by making a check list of things you want to take with you. Don't think about it, just list items. After that's done you can go back, organize and edit as it fits each event. Later in this article, I'll talk about camping. I'm only talking about a day trip event for this section.

Once you finalize your list, make copies. Use a new one every event. When packing the car make sure you check off the item after it's in the car. Remember, last in, first out. So things like sun-shade, hammer and stakes should go in last. Nothing is worse than having the shade cover and no stakes. It's much easier to set up a day camp when one has shade above. Also; if it happens to rain, too. It makes it a whole bunch nicer.

This list is by no means complete. It's was made to get your brain thinking. If you still need more ideas, feel free to contact me or any of the shire members. Throw out a question or two on the Shire's e-group.

Day Trip Check-List

Mundane Stuff	SCA Stuff	At the Event Stuff:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone. Make sure it is charged or have a charger in the car. <input type="checkbox"/> Camera for memories, plus batteries. <input type="checkbox"/> Map and directions. <input type="checkbox"/> Contact numbers in case of problems. <input type="checkbox"/> Something to read. <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's License <input type="checkbox"/> Cash. <input type="checkbox"/> Full tank of gas to start. <input type="checkbox"/> Munchies <input type="checkbox"/> Something to drink. <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-bacterial wipes for bathroom breaks. <input type="checkbox"/> Medications 	<p><i>Just arriving stuff.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Membership card. <input type="checkbox"/> ID (driver's license works for this). <input type="checkbox"/> Cash or check for troll. <p><i>Setting Up Stuff.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sun-shade <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer <input type="checkbox"/> Stakes and guide ropes. <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Chairs <input type="checkbox"/> Small table. <input type="checkbox"/> Cooler cover <input type="checkbox"/> Cooler <input type="checkbox"/> Food <input type="checkbox"/> Banners <input type="checkbox"/> Friends to help. <input type="checkbox"/> Put on hat. <input type="checkbox"/> Put on sunscreen. <input type="checkbox"/> Drink water as setting up. <input type="checkbox"/> Plates/Goblets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Garb for the event. <input type="checkbox"/> Stuff to sit and do, particularly if you don't feel like being sociable. Book, needlework, art supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> Garbage bags, hang or put on far end of camp. <input type="checkbox"/> Cover for water/drink to keep insects or other yuckier things out. <input type="checkbox"/> Hand wipes for eating and cleaning hands. <input type="checkbox"/> Grill, if cooking on fire. Make sure site allows it. <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bags <input type="checkbox"/> Extra change of garb. <input type="checkbox"/> Extra street clothes in case you decide to go out.

So there you have it! Outdoor Event ideas and packing ideas. Still unsure? That's ok. Ask around. Keep in mind: everyone will have their own idea of what to take. Fighters have their own special lists. (At the very least, fighter authorization card!) Hey, any fighters care to write up a what to take list? Anyone with kids? Kids, what would you take? Boffer stuff? Anyone? C'mon there's no right or wrong. Just opinions of what works for you.



Camping Events

Okay, so you want to camp at an SCA event. Probably, Pennsic War. After all, that's what you've been hearing everyone talk about. Isn't it? Pennsic is a wonderful event. I've made great friends, near and far. I've done some great shopping and taken great classes.

But be forewarned – Pennsic can be taxing on your body and mind. It's lots of walking with the potential for extreme weather conditions. If you get in good health habits now, none of that should be an overwhelming problem. At Pennsic or any camping event for that fact, you can do as little or a lot depending on what you want to get out of it. Pace yourself and recognize there's no way you can see or do all in a few days.

First, if you've never been camping start out with overnight/weekend events such as Border Skirmish. This takes place at the end of June. You can find out more about this event at <http://caeranterth.northshield.org/Calendar/BorderSkirmish/index.html> The thing about this event is that you're not too far from home should you decide this is not for you. Always good to have a back-up plan. So, if you liked camping over the weekend, take the next step to try a bigger event such as Warrior and Warlords. You can find out more about Warrior and Warlords at <http://www.warriorsandwarlords.org/>. It's not as big as Pennsic but it will give you a flavor of what it's like to camp for a week or so. And lastly, the one most people are working up towards is Pennsic. See <http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn35/index.html> Keep in mind, there are other camping events; go to the Midrealm calendar for details. Also remember that some of these events have registration deadlines!

Second, take your car in and have it checked. Brakes, fluids, everything. Better to get it fixed than be 8 hours on the expressway and get stranded. If renting a vehicle, make sure the company certifies it in working order. Get it in writing. Also, find out who is responsible should it break down?

Camping Stuff!

Camp near friends but do it with caution and tolerance, particularly if you know one of them has a habit that will make you nuts. For example, you've got a friend who loves to drink to the point of no return, and you can't stand the end result of moaning and the other nasty stuff. Then don't camp with that person. It will lead to hurt feelings and being miserable. Not worth it for what you're spending on your "vacation." And when the event is done you will still have to interact with your friend when you get back home.

Next **plan, plan, plan**. Make lists, even if it seems obvious. When rushing to pack, it's easy to forget things.

What to eat?

We'll start with the most talked about subject first. FOOD. I've listed some questions to get you thinking about what you're getting into.

- What will you eat? Be specific and plan out the days and meals.
- Are you going to have a meal plan? A meal plan is where a group of people pay into a community fund so that they will have at least one regular meal per night. Some groups even do breakfast and lunch.
- Who will be part of the meal plan?
- Can you have guests on the meal plan?
- Will they pay up front or at the end?
- Who will do the shopping?
- How will you divide the costs?

- ❑ What if you don't like the meal that day? Then do you still have to pay?
- ❑ What if you have a different commitment? Do you still have to pay?
- ❑ Who will do the cooking? Take turns or one person?
- ❑ Who will do the clean up? Clean up should be done immediately after having dinner. This avoids letting things grow and the possibility of getting sick from a dirty camp.

I have heard friends say, "it won't matter. We're all friends. We'll work it out when it's dinner time." WRONG! I've heard that line and people end up being very grumpy and nasty. If you choose to do a meal plan then do just that – PLAN IT!

I personally have gotten spoiled by the food courts. No clean-up or cooking. I order and it's there. Lots of variety, if you're at Pennsic. You can also put on mundane clothing and go into town, too. More on that later.

I will be happy to go into meal plans and cooking but I'm hoping that some of those who like to cook at camping events will write some articles about cooking on a camp fire. It's very different from backyard barbecuing. It can also be sort of decadent if you have someone who knows how to cook when camping! I've had the pleasure of seeing dishes like shrimp scampi and have enjoyed dishes like steak and baked potatoes. Anything is possible depending on your level of commitment and enthusiasm for cooking. Personally, it's not high on my list.

But I want to stress that's it very important you eat. Do your best to stay on a schedule. Even if you're not hungry, eat something small. Try to stay healthy and low on sugars. Remember drink water. Take time to rest in the shade and relax. Everything in moderation and you should be able to come back with some wonderful stories.

If you still insist on cooking a couple of quick suggestions. Pre-cook things like rice and keep it on ice. Put the pre-cooked rice in a zip lock bag. Heat water and you can warm the rice in the bag. Another thing is chop veggies and bag them. Cut meat up into small chunks if doing a stew. Put in a zip lock bag. Meat that you don't want to cut up, like steak. Put steak in bag and pour in marinade like teriyaki and freeze. Freezer bags are best. Freeze everything and put it in a sealed cooler. Put in ice and make sure you keep your ice levels up so food stays fresh. Do not put butter or fruit directly into the ice. If you bring eggs, put them in a break-proof, waterproof container. Drain your cooler everyday (just before adding the fresh ice). Do NOT drink your cooler water.

Water Cooler just for drinking water: Take a water jug and fill with ice. Then pour in water. Keep this in the shade and you will have a nice supply of cold water. Just keep ice levels up. If you use this method get a cooler with a spout so you never have to open the lid.

Replacing Electrolytes: Get powdered Gatorade for an occasional drink to replace lost electrolytes. If possible, keep a separate cooler for sports drinks (replace electrolytes), pop, water and things for which you will go into the cooler a lot. There is also the use of dry ice. But unless you truly understand how to handle dry ice, Do NOT use it!

Get little packets of sugar, salt and pepper. They're easier to use. If you bring shakers put a couple of pieces of rice into the shaker. It will keep it from clumping. Also cover the tops with plastic and store in a plastic bag. Put those in a sealed Tupperware container. After using them put them away. This will help keep bugs away from your food.

Cookware: Coat the bottom of your pans with a thin layer of soap. This will help get the soot off when it comes to cleaning them. Also; don't bring good kitchenware. It won't come back the same. If you want to lessen your dishes, paper plates work. Nope, not period, just easier. If you're feeding your camp, this

might be a nice option. Of course if royalty drops by, pull out the dishes. ;-)

Washing dishes: Have at least two to three Rubbermaid tubs for washing dishes, one for washing with soap and two for rinsing dishes. Change water if it looks dirty. Yes, this requires extra effort but it all goes back to prevention. Air-dry dishes and put them away in a covered container. If you choose to towel-dry make sure the towel is clean. That way you don't end up with soot and other stuff on them in the morning. *(And remember that cloth dishtowels are the single greatest source of dangerous bacteria in the home, worse than anyplace in your bathroom! Use paper towels whenever possible! – Ed.)*

Garbage bags: Clean up immediately and throw away garbage every day. This will keep down the bugs and other plagues that would be happy to enter your camp. Bring a Coleman stove or something similar for a back-up plan. Just in case, everything gets so soaked that starting a fire won't work. At the very least it will be great for heating water for tea. Sorry, my bias!

If you don't like well water, bring water from home or the store. As stated earlier, I'm a water snob and I won't drink most waters. Wash your hands a lot and keep anti-bacterial wipes handy. I wholeheartedly will say I'm not into being perfect and avoiding the germ monster. Some germs are good. But when you're camping, your system does get thrown off, and people around you aren't taking normal home precautions. So, I can't stress enough that taking a couple of extra steps will make all the difference in the world.

Feet and Foot Wear : Take care to keep your feet cool and comfy. Cornstarch will help keep them dry. Wear shoes, especially when walking around and using port-a-castles and showers. Foot rot is not your friend. It's not a bad idea even in camp. It will keep dirt out of your tent and no one really knows what is in the ground from years gone by. I remember a friend cutting their foot open in their own camp. Nothing broken, just something that was in the ground from years past. It was an old bent tent stake (barely showed) and roughly \$500.00 for a trip to the hospital, stitches and an early trip back home.

Garb: What you pack depends on how much you change clothes. Personally plan at least 2 to 3 changes for each day you camp. Check the weather forecast. Bring everything from really warm weather garb to frost garb. Pennsic weather can be extreme. Bring lots of socks and several pairs of shoes. A rain poncho. Head gear. Hat, veil, headwrap. Put your clothes in plastic zip lock bags. Pack in a Rubbermaid container with a sealed lid. If you get water in your tent, you will at least have dry clothes. Pack a cloak. If you don't have a cloak, a blanket or piece of Polarfleece will work too.

Put an extra set of clothes (mundane) in your car. Don't leave anything visible in your car. Make sure it's covered up. Note: Get a hotel for the day you leave Pennsic unless you're lucky enough to live near the event site. A nice hot shower and being back in the "real" world will make a for a nice clean ride home. "Pensic body" is noticeable to the rest of the world. LOL

Tent Stuff: Close tent flaps toward the sun starting to set or slightly sooner. This will help keep the dampness out of your tent. Do not spray any of the following inside your tent: hairspray, perfume, or bug spray. These have a chemical effect on the waterproofing of your tent and will let moisture and rain in. I've seen problems with those that spray bug spray.

Don't have open flames in your tent. Open flames cause fires. And **no** propane heater in your tent, **ever**. People have died from the fumes from propane heaters in tents, even in canvas ones!

Ground cloth will help take some of the dampness away. Also dig a shallow trench around your tent in case of heavy rain. Keep in mind these things are no guarantee but an ounce of prevention can sure go a long way.

Tie some red scraps or other brightly colored material on your guide ropes. This will hopefully keep people from tripping or falling over them. Rain fly are good things, if you have one put it up. (*Pennsic requires white or yellow flags on all tent ropes; white and yellow are the only colors that can be seen at night. Check with the autocrats of any camping events you attend to see what their policies are. – Ed.*)

Blankets or sleeping bags: Have lots of them. It's always easier to remove layers and cool down than it is to warm up. Make your bed after you get up, even if you just throw the blankets loosely over the bed. It will help keep the dampness away from the sheets when it comes time to go to sleep.

Carpet for the floor on top of the ground cloth is nice to put feet onto when getting up in the morning, and adds to a period look. Note: if you know rain is headed in that night, roll up the carpet just in case.

Don't lean anything against your tent walls. This will let in rain and ruin whatever is against the tent wall.

Lighting: Camp lights that run on batteries are good inside a tent. Be warned your shadow is cast upon your tent wall so if you don't want comments later put the light lower to the ground. ;-) Pack extra batteries.

Ear plugs if you use them or an iPod. Yes, it's not even close to period but when trying to sleep, it can make all the difference in the world. Especially if you're camped near drummers or party people. There is a quiet camp area and I highly recommend it. It's easy to find a party and nice to be able to go home to quiet.

Tiki Torches: Keep your kerosene in a place out of the sun. Do not store it in your tent. When filling torches, try to do it when it starting to become dark. That way you can still see what you're doing. Filling them once dark has fallen can be messy and dangerous. Make sure your sleeves are rolled up and away from the torches. The torches have lots of black soot and kerosene is stinky messy. Wipe off any spillage from poles and yourself. Wash hands completely before attempting to light. Never leave them burning unattended and keep children away from them. Make sure you put the pole deep into the ground. This way if a strong wind comes up they stay upright and not blown down to make a mess and a potential fire if they blow over when lit.

Money: Keep money and identification on you at all times. While we want to think the very best of our SCAdian friends, not everyone of your 10,000 camp mates are going to be honest. Yes, I speak from personal experience. Two words: "Common Sense."

Set a budget and stick to it. Especially if going to Pennsic. You can put yourself in debt with little or no effort. Think Shopping Mall with everything you want to expand your SCAdian life. Remember, earlier I said pace yourself. This counts for shopping too!

Medications: Check to see what effects the outdoors can have on your medications. Let your doctor know you're traveling and camping, so you can get copies of your prescriptions, just in case you might need to get a refill at a local pharmacy. If he's aware it will make it a lot easier and less hassle. I'm always for simplicity.

Make a list of what you take, how much you take and when you need to take it. Put it someplace safe and let a friend know. Hopefully you will never need them to get it but just in case there's a back-up plan in place.

Allergies: This not only goes for medications but allergies too. What allergies do you have? What reaction comes of it? If you have a med-alert bracelet or necklace, wear it! Again, prevention, prevention, prevention. Murphy has a warped sense of humor and if you're not ready he seems to take advantage of it.

Camping Packing List in general:

This is by no means complete. It a general list to get you thinking about what will work for you. Everyone's lists will end up being slightly different. Brainstorm with experienced campers when making your lists. Throw the questions out on the shire e-group. Keep in mind that everyone will have their own take. Use what works for you.

Take safe measures to stay healthy and you will continue to enjoy your hobby for a long time.

Remember: Last in, First out!

<input type="checkbox"/> Directions <input type="checkbox"/> Contact list of numbers, just in case. <input type="checkbox"/> Medications <input type="checkbox"/> Stop your mail and newspapers or arrange for pick up. Thieves look for these kind of opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Cards <input type="checkbox"/> Identification <input type="checkbox"/> Munchies <input type="checkbox"/> Drinks <input type="checkbox"/> Money for tolls. <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone. <input type="checkbox"/> Car charger. <input type="checkbox"/> Camera <input type="checkbox"/> Camera batteries. <input type="checkbox"/> Small battery alarm clock to make it to early morning classes, should you want to take some. Note: well worth getting up for some of them. ;-) <input type="checkbox"/> Check out newcomers point, if Pennsic war. <input type="checkbox"/> Shovel for digging fire-pit and putting mud back when you leave.	<input type="checkbox"/> Tent poles <input type="checkbox"/> Guide ropes <input type="checkbox"/> Tent <input type="checkbox"/> Sun-shade <input type="checkbox"/> Ground cloth <input type="checkbox"/> Tent stakes <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape <input type="checkbox"/> Water sealant for tent. <input type="checkbox"/> Banners <input type="checkbox"/> Table <input type="checkbox"/> Bed <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries <input type="checkbox"/> Zip lock baggies <input type="checkbox"/> Lanterns <input type="checkbox"/> Flash lights <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Towels <input type="checkbox"/> Bag or container for dirty clothes. <input type="checkbox"/> Torches <input type="checkbox"/> List of things to buy once camp is set up, like kerosene, fire wood. <input type="checkbox"/> Fire extinguisher. <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing stuff for small repairs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Advil or other headache stuff. <input type="checkbox"/> Stuff to do during downtime. This will vary from person to person. <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit for little boo-boo's <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer <input type="checkbox"/> Garb (again depends on you.) <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes several pairs <input type="checkbox"/> Socks <input type="checkbox"/> Corn starch or powder avoid the perfumes. It attracts bugs. <input type="checkbox"/> Garbage bags <input type="checkbox"/> Grill/Coleman stove <input type="checkbox"/> Propane if needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Matches, stick matches are good. <input type="checkbox"/> Wash cloth. <input type="checkbox"/> Hair brush or comb. <input type="checkbox"/> Tooth brush. <input type="checkbox"/> Tooth paste. <input type="checkbox"/> Extra roll of toilet paper. <input type="checkbox"/> Coolers <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input type="checkbox"/> Water <input type="checkbox"/> Food
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Places to look for camping equipment: Period camps are awesome but if this is your first time, go slow. Make sure you really like camping before investing lots of funds into it. These are places I've shopped for basic camping supplies. I'm not endorsing any of the places mentioned. If you don't like the suggestions, that's ok too. Some of these have web-sites and you can request catalogues for little or no cost.

☞ **Wal-Mart** (lots of localities)

☞ **Camper's World** <http://www.campingworld.com/> (near Louis Joliet Mall - on Frontage Road, just off of Rt. 53 and I-55) –more serious camping equipment. Like port-a-privies in your camp.

☞ **Farm and Fleet** (one on Rt. 30; they have many locations)

☞ **R.E.I.** <http://www.rei.com/> There's one in Oak Brook.

☞ **Campmor** <http://www.campmor.com> This on line.

☞ **The Sportsman's** <http://www.sportsmansguide.com/browse/browse.asp?c=85> I liked this one. But gives way too many things for camping comfort. ;-)

☞ **Military Supply Stores** are good places and usually inexpensive. Just do a Google search.

Again, I stress this is my opinion based on trial and error and dumb things done at different events. How many people remember when Pennsic was a weekend event? I wrote this **to help** new people and youth who have never been camping and to help make summer events enjoyable. Maybe cooks who like to make stuff on a fire could send some recipes and cooking tips.

Hope everyone has a wonderful and fun summer going to events. I look forward to posting pictures and stories to share with our shire members. Hint! Hint! ;-)

For other camping lists and ideas, just do a Google search for camping, SCA camping, and so on. Also the Pennsic web site listed earlier has great information. Start out small with over-nighters and slowly work up to Pennsic.

Happy Eventing and Camping!!!

This is your reminder that Ayreton Announcements can be found at the Ayreton News and Announcements Yahoo! group.

If you, your friends or your group have an activity, demo, event or just something Sca'dian you want to invite others to just drop me a line and I'll put it in my weekly announcements. If you want to know what is going on in the area this is your one stop shop for a lot of the activities in the greater Chicago area.

1 - I will only make full announcements to the Ayreton Discussion Group. Its web address is:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton/>

2- The only other list I make announcements to is Fighting in the Neighborhood for the Arts Martial in the Area. After all that is exactly what that list was created for!

3 - E-mails to you personal e-mail account can be done and happily so. Simply send me an e-mail requesting the announcements you want to receive.

What is the Ayreton Yahoo! group?

The Ayreton Yahoo! group was the brain child of Lord Tedesco. He created it so that anyone could make announcements from any of the 6 Ayreton SCA groups. And ANYONE can make announcements there not just the Ayreton Towne Cryer.

Okay, so what ISN'T the Ayreton Yahoo! group?

Well it isn't designed to be a discussion group. While discussion is discourage it is NOT forbidden. After all this is about us playing together better right?

What if I don't have a Yahoo! e-mail account? Can I still get on the list?

Absolutely! Simply subscribe by sending a message to ayreton-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com The list is open to everyone without any need for moderator approval. The owners of the list do reserve the right to change that should there ever be some kind of abuse... yeah... we can't imagine what but okay.

Also if you do choose to post an announcement to the list that is great! In order to stop the list from being Spammed to heck and back your first AND ONLY YOUR FIRST post must be approved. After that you will never have to have a post approved. Again we're doing this to cut down on SPAMBOT invasion.

So if I can get the announcements in my e-mail box are there any advantages to actually joining the list?

Yes. Besides being able to make announcements yourself about activities that are of interest to you there are other advantages as well.

The Calendar.

You can find the calendar by logging into the Yahoo! group or visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ayreton/cal/>

Lord Tedesco also went out of his way to build a links area that includes many midlands SCA groups not just Ayreton Groups. This also includes the discussion groups for a variety of midlands groups including Ayreton Groups.

Photos

People are already populating the photo gallery! Add your photos of activities as well. Pictures of arts martial are great but so are A&S projects done or in the process!

Lord Ian the Green
Ayreton Towne Cryer

This is an e-mail announcement from the Ayreton Towne Cryer. If you wish to have an activity, demo, event or other type of SCA get together announced feel free to contact me and request an announcement be made. After all the more people playing nice together, the more fun it is for everyone! Corrections can also be made but only if you help me find them.

The Cryer can be contacted at AyretonTowneCryer@yahoo.com