

The Battered Blade

April AS XLIII

(2009 CE)



This is The Battered Blade, a publication of the Shire of An Dun Theine of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). It is available online; if necessary, a print copy may be obtained from Rachel Strange at 717 Versailles Drive SE, Huntsville, AL 35803.

It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., nor does it delineate SCA policies.

All items herein are strictly the opinions of the credited authors.

Copyright 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece.

Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

Letter from the Editor:

Greetings, Fellow 'Theinians!

The mighty drums of *Gulf Wars* are behind us, and *Meridies* proved victorious. Enjoy these few fair weeks of rest, for event season is about to kick into high gear. I know my calendar is already packed until November! How does that happen???

Many congratulations to Nuala for receiving her *GoA* at *Gulf Wars*.

If there is someone you feel is worthy of an award, send a letter of recommendation. If there are several people who have your same thoughts, start a campaign! Not only are the King and Queen extraordinarily busy, but They can't be around to witness the day-to-day goings on of every busy member of the populace. It's up to us to let Them know who we think is worthy, and why. It is, of course, Their final decision, but if we don't tell Them, They may never know.

YiS,
Ailleagan



April business meeting notes:

Officer's notes:

Herald - Dragonet de Lyon's device was submitted, and Axel Bohm is being trained as deputy.

Knight's Marshal - Fighter practices have resumed.

Rapier Marshal - They've had good practices.

Reeve - We have money.

Web - It's still there.

Chatelaine - There have been new people at fencing, and Hawk did an unofficial dance demo.

A&S - Nuala is teaching tablet weaving this month, and Conor will teach in May. His

class is still to be determined.

MoC - She will send out another survey since we have new people in the group since the last survey went out. Her youth marshal card has not arrived, but she's trying to track it down. Lots of people through out the Kingdom are having the same problem.

Chronicler - Send me stuff for the newsletter.

Other business:

KA&S is on track. Doom is on track, but he is welcoming ideas.

Dragonet de Lyon submitted a bid for Beggar's Rebellion. The theme is "Come As You Aren't", and will be held at BearClaw Paintball. (They have a fort and a bridge to fight on!) Ailleagan will feastcrat, preparing a cold (hey, it's August) anti-period feast. Most other activities are still in the planning stages. The bid was approved.



Shire Schedule for April and May:

Fighter practices and rapier practices continue their usual schedule: 5:30 on the lawn in front of the UAH Student Center, weather permitting. Watch the An Dun Theine Yahoo group for cancellation notices.

Meetings are held in the conference room of Scrimshire Dental Laboratory at 1200 Winner Avenue, just off Leeman Ferry. They begin at 7:00 p.m.

April 14 - class night: Tablet Weaving, by THL Nuala (the schedule change is for this month only)

April 21 - project night

April 28 -- bardic

May 5 - business meeting

May 12 - project night

May 19 - class night: TBD, Lord Conor

May 26 - bardic





photo courtesy THBaron David le Ymagour

At Gulf Wars, Queen Gwendolen told everyone just how awesome Nuala is.
Then she awarded her a Grant of Arms.



People Around the Shire: A Survey

What is your name?

Gwydion ap Lewyllen (AKA The Semi-Evil Baron, but in actuality a nice guy :-)

What is your quest?

I would say the Grail, but I think that one is already taken. How about a nice mutton, lettuce and tomato Sandwich, where the mutton is nice and lean and the tomato is ripe....and the - WAIT that one is taken too. Darn! OK could I just have a flagon of Fergusbrew while I think this one out.....

What is your favorite color?

Um...Green and Gold? Yeah...that's it! Same color as my Arms :)

When and where, in the SCA framework, would you have lived?

In the SCA Framework? Probably somewhere slightly to the left of Conan and to the right of Monty Python....

Now, if you mean the Middle Ages...well that would have been 1256 Wales, probably in a Keepe on the hills outside Nefyn, on the Lleyn peninsula.

What would you have done if you lived then?

Having recently returned from the Seventh Crusade in 1254, I would be tending to my fiefdom as a Baron in service to Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, Sovereign Prince of Wales. As one of his men, my time would be almost completely preoccupied with devising ways and means to torment, bedevil, and otherwise kill/maim/disfigure/discredit/disrupt and route the English dog invaders of my beloved Cymru.

What attracted you to this era?

My heritage. We have been able to directly trace our family tree back to 13th C Wales.

How long have you been in the SCA / when did you join?

Not as long as my good cousin Master Cathal, but probably longer than you dear reader :-). I was a dazed and confused college student who had one too many nights of Dungeons and Dragons binging under his belt when he went to a Baronial Feast event in Bryn Madoc in Feb of 1982....YES *1982*...you do the math <Grin>

How did you find out about the SCA?

Remember that Dungeons and Dragon comment above? Well one Friday night...errr early Sat morning someone in our D&D group mentioned HEY did you know that there is a group of folks in Athens that sword-fight just like our D&D characters do? They do it over at the park on Sundays! We should go there and check them out tomorrow afternoon. The rest, as they say, is history :)

What aspects of the SCA first attracted you?

You mean I can actually HIT that guy in the HEAD with this STICK...errrr SWORD? You won't call the police? Ohhhh and he gets to try to hit me back too???
COOOOOL! :)

Have your tastes changed since then?

Well too many wars and too many times laying flat on my back with my knees tucked under me and my shield covering my body have forced this fighter into semi-retirement.... DARN IT.

What aspects of the SCA interest you now?

I am still a fighter at heart :) Although service to the group and doing all the administrivia to keep it running (so that the guys with the GOOD knees CAN fight :) interest me now.

What award that you have received means the most to you?

It is ALWAYS the first one - my Companion of the Meridian Majesty - on 15 JAN 1983 from the hand of Queen Morgan (consort of King Roderick Level-lance)

What is your greatest pet peeve in the SCA?

I guess folks who take themselves too seriously (folks need to remember the inscription found in the original Crowns of Caid: "you reign because they believe")

Where do you see yourself in five years?

It is my hope that by then I would have achieved the accolade of Pelican. But, that is a accolade that searches you out, not the other way around, so I know not if that will occur.

Is there anything you would change about your SCA career?

Yeah, I wish I could have done more to help people in the SCA "Believe"

Has your SCA life/hobby impacted your mundane life in any way?

Anything one does for over a quarter of a century impacts your mundane life in many ways. If I had to choose one aspect, however, I would have to say it would be attunement to a personal sense of honor and Chivalry.

