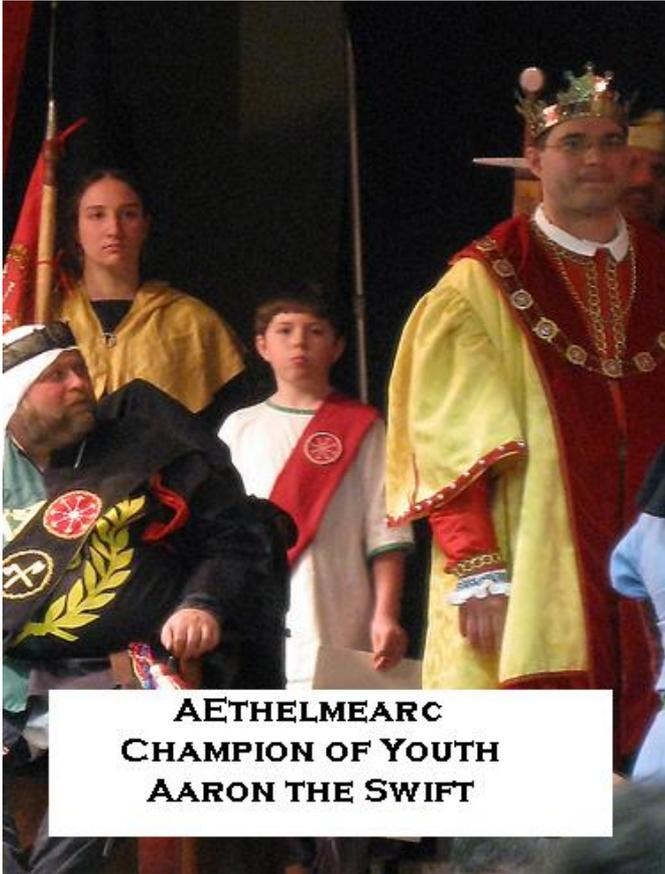


THE VIGILANCE

MAY / JUNE 2009 – A.S. XLIV



**AETHELMEARC
CHAMPION OF YOUTH
AARON THE SWIFT**

THE SHIRE OF HERONTER
WWW.HERONTER.ORG

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Position Open

Shire News:

Since the Kingdom's April Heraldry Letter came out late, it also has a later due date. April's "End of the Month" Heraldry Breakfast has been moved to May 3rd. It will be held at the Golden Griddle restaurant in Jamestown at 10AM. See <http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Griddle> for directions.

The Shire's monthly "Official Business Meeting" will be held on May 7th at the church at 7PM. Harvest Raid bids are NOT due at this meeting. See <http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Business> for directions.

May 15th is the last day to pre-register by mail for Pennsic War. June 15th is the last day to pre-register by email. If you do not pre-register, you will not be able to camp with the shire at Pennsic. See the article on Pre-Registering for Pennsic by Duchess Dorinda on page six of this issue.

The shire will begin having outdoor meetings at our new summer location on Lynne's farm starting with War Practice on May 14. Meetings will start at 7PM and end at 9:30 PM. See <http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Lynne> for directions. **Please note: *This is a working farm, fight practice and meetings will be restricted to the grass field. Do not disturb or go near the animals. Anyone trespassing in the pasture, barn or stable will be escorted off the premises.*** For the May 21 meeting, our special guest will be Sir Alexander Caithnes, the Royal Equestrian Marshal. He will be teaching us the necessary steps for having horses in the upcoming Corn Festival Parade in Youngsville, PA.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art is having an online book sale. Books are 90% off cover price. Yes, you read that correctly, not 90% of cover price, but 90% off cover price. See <http://www.metmuseum.org/home.asp> then click on The Met Store, then click Books, then click Book Sale

The Literacy Volunteers of Chautauqua County continue to hold their monthly book sale on the second Saturday of every month from 10:00 AM to 1:00PM. The location is 314 Central Avenue, Dunkirk New York, upstairs in room 204.

Congratulations to ~~Lord~~ The Honorable Lord Antonio de Luna on his elevation to the Order of the Millrind at Ice Dragon.

Congratulations to Lord Lothin Vickarsson on receiving the Order of Excellence at Spring Coronation for his work as Heronter's Mood Man Extraordinaire.

Congratulations to Aaron the Swift on becoming AEthelmearc Youth Champion at Coronation.

Happy Birthday to Lady Laurette de Montsalvy who will be celebrating on May 5th

Happy Birthday to Duchess Dorinda Courtenay who will be celebrating on May 18th

Why Join the SCA? -- Recently, there was a discussion on our Yahoo Group where various members explained why they joined the SCA. This month, it's the ladies turn...

From Duchess Dorinda Courtenay:

Why did you join the SCA?

When I went to the Midwest to go to college, and attended the "activity fair", I quickly gravitated towards a D&D group. I played D&D here at home with some great people. Some great, normal, hard working people. While at the fair, I also grabbed a flyer for some "medieval club", but figured I wouldn't have time for that. So, I went to my first night of D&D, and I met all those guys they used to write about in the magazines. The guy who collected pocket lint and empty candy wrappers in real life. The group that spend the whole night desecrating graves for no reason. The guy who used his "detect rocks and mineral" spell every 30 seconds while we were in the castle. (Yep, still made of rock). After one night, I was done. So I went to a meeting of the "Medieval Club" which was the local group's "college outreach branch". The people were great! And no pocket lint! I was hooked.

When I came back home, the SCA was something my husband and I could do together. We met Lord Paul Franz and Blackleaf and Anna, and we figured it made sense to start a group here. They told us it would never last, but it did.

Why are you still in the SCA?

The people I have met here are like family. Virtually all of my friends are in the SCA. And there is always something to do!

What are you interested in?

These days, fencing! I just love fencing. But there is much more. Watching the youth fighters. Calligraphy and Illumination. And socializing.

Is there something you would like to learn?

More fencing. Raised gilding. Who knows. There will always be more.

What is your favorite memory of the group?

There are too many to count. But some of my favorite memories are when we first started and held mini-events in my living room. We sort of danced there. I got out every table I had and put tablecloths on them, and Cygnus would cook a "feast". Random people would show up at my house with a basket of grapes and say "So and so told me to come." Sometimes I hadn't met so and so yet, but soon did.

And sometimes "so and so" wore a little purple shiny elf-like outfit and brought a purple moon banner to decorate the hall. Anyone else remember that? Those were the days.

Pennsic Pre-registration by Duchess Dorinda

After consulting with Lord Jacob, I have volunteered to at least get us through land grab at Pennsic. To start the process, I have registered the Shire of Heronter with the land office and asked for our traditional spot, so you may now register any time you would like! A few thoughts:

- Please don't forget to pre-register! Every person who registers gives the shire camp another two feet in width. This is a big deal! Our tradition has been that everyone who is camping with us **must** pre-register - even if they are staying in a tent with someone else. That is how we have enough space for the Shire pavilion, the shower, and the gate. And it allows us to make exceptions for people who are new or thought they couldn't come. Please register!

- Children - yes, please register your children - even if they are staying in your tent. Obviously, I am not asking people to register children who aren't planning to attend, but if you think they will, it is very little money, and they get the same land allowance as an adult. Often people plan to bring the kids but don't pre-register them. Please do! We need the space.

- After you register, please send me an email with who is coming and what size tent you will have. To make the map for the encampment, I need to know how big your tent is and what side the door is on (if it matters). If you want to bring a sunshade, please let me know that too. Please also know that each person is allocated 250' sq ft, but this does not mean your tent may be 10x25! The square footage includes the tent, the fire buffer around it, and your contribution to the common space. Sometimes we can let people go over a bit if other people go under, but if your tent is large, or you want a private sunshade, you may need to register more people. If you have questions, let me know - I love math.

- Our shire has always welcomed people from outside the group, but we ask that they be sponsored by someone in the group and we put out a courtesy note to the shire first. Please don't just invite people we don't know to camp with us.

- Set up weekend is an adventure, but please consider coming down for it. First, it gives you a chance to set up your tent without it being at the bottom of a packed car! Then you can drive right in the second weekend! Or are you staying? Great! I can't stay the full two weeks, so please let me know if you can. We need to have someone in the camp. But that first weekend we need as many people as we can to help get the tents up and do gate, walls and SHOWER!

- Speaking of the shower - last year we tried a new location. It worked well as far as convenience for us and the folks from Drachenwald, but the drainage seemed a bit lacking. Do we want to have it in the same spot or moved back to the old location?

- We will again be asking for a camp fee from those in camp and a smaller fee for those who just wish to use the shower. But please note this is not an open shower and I would ask that we not "sell" shower spots to people outside the Heronter and Drachenwald camps. I think we have one couple who may be grandfathered in, but let us not expand beyond that! Let me check on propane costs, but I expect costs to be similar to last year.

I am sure there will be more later, but I wanted people to know that we are registered, and they can register any time.

Please let me know if there are questions - it has been a while since I have done this! -- Dorinda

Cover photo by Lady Yasmina of Faer Haga and printed with permission. From left to right: Baron Caleb Reynolds, Baron Rhydderich Hael (seated); Dee-Dee, AÆthelmearc Equestrian Champion; Aaron the Swift of Heronter, AÆthelmearc Youth Champion; and HRM Maynard von dem Steine. The rest of her photos of Spring Coronation 2009 may be seen at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lladyyas/sets/72157617109800558>

BRASS RING THING IX
(a/k/a the Carrousel Museum demo)

Barony of the Rhydderich Hael and the Canton of Beau Fleuve
Saturday, June 6, 2009

Once again, good gentles, do we invite all that is good and great from these Sylvan Lands to celebrate the medieval origins of the carrousel and to give aid to the good gentles of the Herschell Carrousel Museum.

As always, this is a FREE event to all SCAdians who attend in garb and troll in. The day will be full of entertainment, pageantry, arts, games, food and tournaments in Heavy Weapons, Archery, Thrown Weapons and Fencing. This year we will feature the AETHlemearc Kingdom Equestrian Championship.

It is a day of grand tournaments. Fighters, fencers, archers and throwers, come prepared to show your skill and be cheered on by the crowd!

It is a day for the New King and Queen, Maynard and Liadain to choose their Equestrian Champion! So, come and compete for the honor of being their Champion or cheer on your favorite charger!

The Championship courses will be designed and run by last year's King's Champion. Be prepared for a few surprises. The arena is a temporary arena with a very solid footing. The ground here is hard with a capital H. Riding helms are recommended for adults and required for minors. In addition to Champs we will be doing mounted archery. Because of the hardness of the ground, no contact games will be permitted. There will be no equestrian authorizations at Champs, please plan accordingly.

Everyone bringing horse must provide the Equestrian Marshal with the following:

In State - Current Coggins with in two years.

Out-of State - Current Coggins with the current calendar year.
Transport papers from your state of origin.

The Equestrian coordinator will also need to know the number of horses you are bringing and the size of the trailer you are hauling in. Room is tight in both the arena and parking so we need to plan things out accordingly. Please e-mail Alexander with this information no later than May 31st. His e-mail is duane@velocity.net.

Overnight pasture boarding is available, in the area. Contact Lady Tiercelin at (716)662-2058 to make arrangements.

It is a day of grand Art. Lady Isolda will be hosting the Artisan's Tents and invites one and all to come and share their skills. Work on projects, demonstrate your skills, display your art and visit with fellow artisans.

It is a day of grand entertainment. Musicians, Gamers, Dancers, Singers, Thespians, Jesters, Drummers, Jugglers and more are invited to come and share their talents. We encourage all who enjoy performing to come and celebrate the day.

It is a day of knowledge. Please come and display your collections, books, games or those items of which you are most proud. You will have the chance to talk about what you love most about the middle ages and share your knowledge with others.

It is a day to show who we are. We ask that you bring your good spirit, pageantry and good will. There is room for banners so please show your personal and group devices proudly. This is a day to display all that is good in the SCA to the general public. It is a chance to share our hobby and invite new people to try our activities. The Brass Ring Thing is an opportunity to share the joy of our events and our activities with those that know little about us.

The site is open to the public from 11 am to 6 pm. Gentles are welcome to set up Friday evening after 6 pm and Saturday morning after 8 am. There is no sideboard or feast, but the concession stand will have basic picnic-style food available for sale.

Location: Herschell Carrousel Museum, 180 Thompson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120. The Autocrat is Lady Morwenna Everdon, J. Human, (MorwennaEverdon@aol.com), PO Box 607, Lockport, NY 14095, (716)622-4680. This event is free to SCA members in garb. There is no Non-member surcharge.

Directions: Take the I-90 E/New York State Thruway E (Portions toll). Merge onto I-290 W/Youngman Expressway via Exit 50 toward Niagara Falls. Take the Rt-425/Colvin Blvd Exit - EXIT 2. Turn right onto Colvin Blvd/NY-425 N/Twin City Highway/CR-118 N. Continue to follow NY-425 N/Twin City Highway. Turn Left onto Christiana Street. Turn Right onto Payne Avenue. Turn Left onto Thompson Street. End at 180 Thompson Street, N. Tonawanda, NY 14120-5420.



Happy New Year??? In May???

By Dagonell the Juggler

“The SCA started in 1966, when a few friends who were history buffs and science fiction/fantasy fans hosted a big outdoor party in Berkeley, California.

The invitation stated that a Tournament would be held on the first of May, summoning ‘all knights to defend in single combat the title of ‘fairest’ for their ladies.’

Everyone enjoyed the first tournament so much that they agreed a second should be run, but in a larger setting. In order to reserve one of the public parks for the gathering, the organizers needed to list a name for their group on the application. Since recreating the Middle Ages in 20th-century Berkeley was an anachronism (something ‘out of time’), and because the goal was creativity, they came up with ‘The Society for Creative Anachronism’. It was a spur-of-the-moment invention; they had no idea that the name would stay with their group into the future.” [1]

The SCA starts its numbering system for the calendar from “The First Tournament”, that first middle-ages themed backyard party. It was held on May 1, 1966, so our calendar year starts on May 1st. A.S. stands for “Anno Societatus”, or “In the Year of the Society”. There was no “Year Zero”, we started immediately with A.S. I, so the SCA won’t actually be 50 years old until A.S. 51. (2016 C.E.)

Interestingly, the Super Bowl number always matches the SCA year. In 1996, the Super Bowl numbers were changed from Roman to Arabic because computer censorship programs thought that “XXX” indicated an adult website. The SCA kept the Roman numeral system, despite the additional difficulties, because it looked less modern.

[1] www.sca.org

Upcoming Calendar – includes non-SCA events of interest

MAY

May 1st -- Happy SCA New Year A.S. XLIV

May 1st -- Wolverine: The Movie

May 3rd -- Heraldry Breakfast

<http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Griddle>

May 5th -- Cinco de Mayo

May 5th -- Laurette's Birthday

May 7th -- Shire Business Meeting

May 8th -- Star Trek: The Movie

May 9th -- Crown Tourney in Abhainn Ciach Ghlais

<http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~acg/Events/CrownTourney2009.html>

May 9th -- Chautauqua Literacy Volunteers Book Sale (see Shire News)

May 10th -- Mother's Day

May 14th -- Shire Meeting (Final meeting at the church!)

May 15th -- Pennsic War pre-registrations due by mail

May 14th-17th -- Steltonwald's War Practice XX

<http://warpractice.steltonwald.org>

May 18th -- Dorinda's Birthday

May 21st -- Shire Meeting (Summer meetings at the Lynne's farm from now on)

May 25th -- Memorial Day

May 28th -- Shire Meeting / Potluck – Harvest Raid Bids due

May 30th -- Hael Demo at Amherst Museum (<http://www.amherstmuseum.org>)

May 31st -- Heraldry Breakfast

<http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Griddle>

JUNE

June 4th -- Shire Meeting

June 6th -- Hael's Brass Ring Thing IX (<http://www.carrouselmuseum.org>)

June 11th -- Shire Meeting

June 12th -- No more analog TV, all stations broadcasting in digital

June 13th -- Hael Champs

June 13th -- Chautauqua Literacy Volunteers Book Sale (see Shire News)

June 14th -- Flag Day

June 15th -- Pennsic War pre-registrations due by email

June 18th -- Shire Meeting

June 20th -- Stormsport's Tournament Through the Ages

<http://www.stormsport.org/subpages/Events.html>

June 21th -- Father's Day

June 21th -- Summer Soltice

June 21th -- Litha

June 25th -- Shire Meeting / Potluck

June 26th -- Thescorre's Pax Interruptus

<http://www.thescorre.org/calendar/events/Pax2009.htm>

June 28th -- Heraldry Breakfast

<http://www.heronter.org/contact.shtml#Griddle>

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