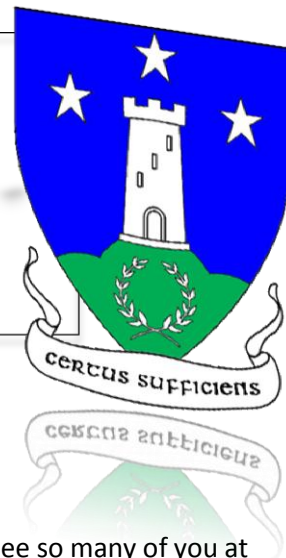


Song of the Tower

The Newsletter for the Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr in the Society for Creative Anachronism www.sca.org



May 2011

Volume No. 33

Issue No. 5

2011 CURIA DATES

MAY 17	BROOKFIELD
JUNE 21	SHOREWOOD
JULY 19	BROOKFIELD
AUGUST 17	SHOREWOOD
SEPTEMBER 20	BROOKFIELD
OCTOBER 18	SHOREWOOD
NOVEMBER 15	BROOKFIELD
DECEMBER 13	SHOREWOOD

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 1	May Day Moot
JUN 24-26	Border Skirmish VIII
AUG 27	Day of Legends

WEEKLY FIGHTER PRACTICE

Mon 7-9pm	The Annex
Sun 12-4:30pm	Cardinal Stritch

WEEKLY ARCHERY PRACTICE

Mon 6:30-8pm	West Towne
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See Baronial Website for detailed information about events and meetings.

caeranterth.northshield.org

FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

Spring Coronation was a fine, fun event. We were pleased to see so many of you at the event, and it was good to see that several members of the Barony helped with court and in other capacities at the event. We look forward to the leadership of their Majesties Morgan and Lusche.

Spring brings new opportunities. Finally the Herbal Guild will be able to begin planting outdoors! Will the Cooking Guild have a day of outdoor / camp-style cooking? We hope so! Fighter practice will be moving outdoors, with a new site for Sunday practice. And, of course, Spring begins the transition to camping and war season. There are a couple of events out of Barony of which to take note. The Shire of Turm An Dem See is hosting Lamb to Loom on May 28. This is an opportunity to learn more about textile arts, from shearing to finished product. Mermaids Retreat is June 3 – 5. Always fun, great fighting, and ALWAYS an excellent feast!

In our Barony, Border Skirmish VIII is coming up fairly soon, June 24 – 26, at Simmons Island Park, in Kenosha. We hope to see many of you there! This year the Shire of Ravenslake has the lead for the event. Also the new Barony of Aryeton from the Kingdom of the Middle are planning to be present. Please consider volunteering some of your time at Border Skirmish. If everyone helps, then no one is burdened with a huge job. Please check the CAM list, or check with Hamish regarding what help is still needed. Thanks to everyone who is on staff and who has volunteered already.

For those who have garage and outdoor shops, Spring is also the start of woodworking and blacksmithing season. If there is interest in a woodworking or blacksmithing project day, Albrecht will be happy to host one, or coordinate with others at the most suitable site.

Caer Anterth Mawr has been requested to put in a bid to host Fall Coronation in September. Please consider putting in a bid for this important event. We'll need to decide at the May Curia or sooner, regarding bids received. If you want help putting a bid together, please contact us or the Seneschal and we will get you the help you need. This is a Kingdom event, so the rules on the Kingdom website for bids must be followed.

Baron Albrecht, Baroness Eva

FROM THE SENESCHAL

Greetings Populace of CAM,

The Seneschal position is now open. I will be stepping down in September. I am not able to extend my term. We must have a Seneschal to remain a group. Please let me know if you are interested in this position. The sooner the better.

In service,
Katlin Seneschal CAM

FROM THE EXCHEQUER

Greetings to the Barony,

As mentioned in my last report the final CD from the old Tax ID has matured and we have rolled the money into the new accounts. After speaking the the Kingdom Exchequer I am pleased to announce that I will be doing the last report (as a Domesday) for the old group this month. Yay!

Here is how the Baronies money stands at this point.

Checking: \$5745.26
Money Market: \$13232.12

Total: \$18978.38

Fortunately we are moving in the right direction again.
Until next month.

YIS,
Magnus

FROM THE HERALD

Greetings,

Congratulations to Countess Guenievre du Dragon Vert, for receiving a joint cipher from King Hrodir and Queen Anne during Their last court.

When you are ready to submit your name and armory, please let me or another herald double check to make sure that everything is completed correctly. We have had some submissions delayed due do simple errors.

Please send award recommendations to Their Excellencies for Their May Day Court. Also be sure to send award recommendations to Their Majesties.

Finally, I am opening the office of herald for letters of intent a couple of months early. In my almost 17 years in the Society, I have been an officer of some kind for almost 15 of those years and I feel the need to take a break. If possible, I wish to step down no later than Michaelmas Court, at Baronial Champions. Please submit letters of Their Excellencies, Lady Katlin, and myself no later than August curia.

I want to thank everyone who helped make yesterday's event a success. Thank you to Lady Nikea and Baroness Kateryn for running check-in. Thank you to the Marquette Medieval Society for their snack sale (and thank you to those who donated items for them to sell) and for reserving the rooms. Thank you to the kingdom officers for running the officer sessions. A big thank you to everyone who stepped in at the last moment for the Newcomer Seminar:

Countess Guenievre
Baroness Kateryn
Baron Albrecht
Baroness Eva
THL Druscilla
Lady Isabella Theodora
Jean Baptiste du Chartres

Lastly, and most importantly, thank you to everyone who attended. It is for you that these events are held. We had 62 people in attendance.

In Service,
Arnbjorn

FROM THE CHRONICLER

Greetings,

This will be my last issue of the Tower for our Barony. I graduate in a few weeks from UWM and I had to make some choices of where to go. Due to family reasons I have made the decision to return to Florida in May. I know, I know, it'll be rough dealing with all that sun year round on the beach, but I think I'll manage! I will miss you all as our time together was far too short and my opportunity to socialize with you on a regular basis was too little. It has been a distinct pleasure to serve you as your Chronicler these past two years. I learned a great deal about a position I had never held and it served to give me a different perspective on our wonderful Society as well as you, my friends. I trust you'll treat my successor, Abelard, as wonderfully as you've treated me.

-----> **REPORTS FOR MAY TOWER ARE DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 24TH** <-----
PLEASE FORMAT EMAIL SUBJECT LINE AS: "TOWER [MONTH OF PUB] [OFFICER POSITION OR CONTENT]"
EXAMPLE: Tower May Chronicler

In Service,
Geffroi

FROM THE KNIGHT MARSHAL

Greetings,

There will only a few more practices indoors and then we'll be moving to outdoor practices.

On May 12, Thursday night practices will be back to KK Park (armored, rapier, and archery). Time: 7:00 pm till dark. Let me know if folks want to start at 6:30.

On May 22, Sunday practices will begin at Kletzsch Park. This year we're going to try something a little different. We are having practice at a new park, more room, better parking & family friendly.

For the May 22 practice, let us really make a public showing, and treat it as a demo - bring a couple pavilions, banners, furniture, garb and etc.

This will also be a great time to start practicing our melee tactics! W.W. and Pensic are right around the

corner.

We'll do three Sundays of each month at Kletzsch and make the fourth Sunday a "traveling" practice - we can visit Frame Park, Fort Atkinson, Jaravellier, Ayreton or Windhaven, etc. Let us make a concerted group effort to make these practices and if folks need rides, let's pool. Gas isn't getting any cheaper.

-Count Valerius

FROM THE MINISTER OF YOUTH

Greetings All,

There is a Meadowbrook Demo for May 6th. I will not be able to Dahrien so far is attending. If there are others please let Dahrien know as I am sure he'd love the company. Information is as follows:

Meadowbrook School
3130 Rolling Ridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188-1383
262-970-2000

The schedule for the afternoon is as follows:

Session 1: 12:55 - 1:35 10 Students
Session 2: 1:40 – 2:20 6 Students

There will be an announcement over the loud speaker when it is time to change sessions.

Please do not release students early.

We count on each presenter; please notify us as soon as possible if an emergency arises and you cannot make it. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your first scheduled session.

Please stop at the registration table when you arrive and we will show you to your room. Let us know if you need anything else. We are thrilled that you could join us this year. We look forward to seeing you on Friday, May 6, 2011.

I will have a youth activity at the May Moot on May 1st and I will be doing Capture the Queen followed by a children's feast at Border Skirmish.

I am working on a class series for youths ages 13-17 and hope to have more details and outline sometime in the fall. I have spoken with a few of the youths and some adults who are excited. I will give more details as I get it planned out.

In Service,
Nikea

2011 OUTDOOR ARCHERY SCHEDULE

Mondays: Rotate between:

Whitnall Park (South 92nd St, north of Rawson, Across from Whitnall Park Golf Course)

Menomonee Park (W220 N7884 Town Line Rd, Menomonee Falls, WI)

Rain Site: West Town Archery

Thursdays:

Kinnickinnic River Parkway (north of 22nd & Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee)

Start Time: 6:30 pm

No Rain Site

Monday Dates:

May 9: Whitnall Park

May 16: Menomonee Park

May 23: Whitnall Park

May 30: Menomonee Park

June 6: Whitnall Park

June 13: Menomonee Park

June 20: Whitnall Park

June 27: Menomonee Park

July 4: Whitnall Park

July 11: Menomonee Park

July 18: Whitnall Park

July 25: Menomonee Park

August 1: Whitnall Park

August 8: Menomonee Park

August 15: Whitnall Park

August 22: Menomonee Park

August 29: Whitnall Park

September 5: Menomonee Park

September 12: Menomonee Park

September 19: Return to West Town until May 2012

BOOK REVIEW

The Riddle and the Knight, In Search of Sir John Mandeville, the World's Greatest Traveller, by Giles Milton

This is an interesting and somewhat quirky book. Although being well researched, and well informed, it is anything but stuffy and stilted. There is an extensive bibliography, but not footnotes. The author blends his retracing of the travels of Sir John Mandeville, and the resulting on-site investigations, with musings on modern middle-eastern religious politics. For the adventurous, and travel minded, the book mentions monasteries and castles you probably have not heard of. At the same time, it is an interesting read on medieval history, from a different perspective. An informative, fun, fairly fast read.

Albrecht

SILK BANNERS--- PREPARING YOUR SILK By Baroness Eva

A few years back (oh has it really been so long???) many of us were inspired by Her Excellency Countess Gwyneth to get materials for making silk banners. Some of us now have a banner or pennant, but many of us, myself included, do not. Therefore, it has been suggested that there be a series of articles to encourage the making of banners and pennants, by outlining the process, and by setting times to work together to finish as many as interest allows.

My plan is to have materials available at Sunday outdoors practices this summer, but there is much you can do to be ready for the 'messy' parts that benefit from being outdoors. I will outline the first few steps in this article. Most of the information presented will be straight from the Dharma Trading website, which is also where we got our silk and dyes. My comments will be in italics.

For those of you who don't have silk or dyes, I do have plenty of dye in most colors, and resist. We may need to order or go shopping for the applicator bottles for resist. If there is an interest in getting more silk, we could also put in an order for that, so let me know what you are interested in getting. The applicator bottles are available at some art supply stores locally. Please contact me with any questions, ideas, or to borrow supplies.

Step 1: Prewashing your silk

Pre-wash your silk by hand or in the washing machine on a gentle cycle with warm water and Synthrapol. Rinse, dry and when still slightly damp, press with an iron, set to the silk setting. *I have a large bottle of Synthrapol to share. It is important to prewash your silk to remove any oils that would cause the dyes to be uneven.*

Step 2: Preparing your design

There are some stencils available, or ask for help from the many artists we have in our Barony to sketch your design onto paper, then you can trace onto the silk, which is easy to see through. Typically, a banner is rectangular, and is designed to hang vertically, while a pennant is often a long triangle, intended to fly horizontally. Silk flies and flutters in a most pleasing way! Research a bit and find a shape and size that appeals to you. Consult our Heralds on how to display elements of Kingdom, Baronial and personal devices. Have fun, be creative!!

With a pencil or vanishing marker, lightly draw your design onto the silk. The Serti Technique lends itself well to designs with enclosed areas where the color will be contained within the resist lines.

Step 3: Making a Stretching Frame

Albrecht and I have several simple frames and a large bag of heavy weight rubber bands that are available to borrow. In addition to wooden frames, I have also seen PVC pipe frames, with rubber bands and safety pins.

You will need a frame to stretch your silk and suspend it off the table. There are a variety of types of frames you can use, depending on the size of the piece you are painting and the materials that are available to you. Artist's canvas stretcher bars work very well. They are sold at most art supply stores in different lengths, in pairs. Old wooden picture frames also work well or you could build your own frame with wood. The wood that you use needs to be soft enough to allow push pins or 3-pronged tacks to be pushed into it. In a pinch, you could also cut out a frame from a cardboard box.

If you are painting a piece that has already-finished edges (such as a scarf), you will need to make sure that the inside measurements of the frame, are at least 2-3 inches larger (on each side) than the silk piece you will be painting so that the edges of the silk will not make contact with the stretcher bars (which would leave unwanted paint marks on the silk). You can create a 'trampoline' effect with [rubber bands](#) and safety pins or [silk clips](#) (see below).

Step 4: Stretching your silk

Stretch your silk onto your frame with [stainless steel push pins](#) or [silk thumb tacks](#) every 4-6 inches along each side. Another method is to use rubber bands and safety pins, [silk clips](#), or [Chinese Suspension Hooks](#): attach small safety pins, clips, or hooks connected to rubber bands to the edges of the silk, every 4-6 inches; the rubber band then goes around a push pin which pins into your frame). If need be, you can link rubber bands together for extended lengths. The advantage of the rubber bands method mentioned above is that the elasticity of the rubber bands will maintain the tension of the silk for you.

The goal when stretching your silk is to create just the right amount of tension so that the silk remains taut while you are painting but not so tight that it tears. Your piece may have a tendency to sag a bit once it becomes wet with dye or paint; you may need to adjust the pinning as you are painting.

Your frame also needs to be suspended a few inches above your table so that the silk does not have anything touching it; you can do this by placing upside down plastic cups or wood blocks underneath each corner of your frame.

If you have all these steps finished when you come to a Sunday outdoor practice, we can get started on applying the resist. If you need help with these steps, bring along what you have and work on it, or get help.

If you are super motivated and want to go further on your own, check dharmatrading.com for complete directions.

Lets get started on having a most impressive display- it is entirely possible we could be done with quite a few banners/pennants in time for Border Skirmish!

CURIA NOTES FOR JANUARY 25, 2011

Officer Reports

Baron & Baroness: Officer's Day/Project Day was great. The May Moot is coming up quickly - please submit award recommendations. (Please use the online form, and you can follow it up with an email to us if you wish.)

Chatelaine: Meet and Greet at UWM went well - we had three students, one of whom we'd never met before. They're all on the mailing list now (or will be soon). They want to learn to make their own garb, among other things. Julianna will also be in charge of Chatelaine activities at Border Skirmish, including tours. (Will need tour guides. Please volunteer!)

Minister of Youth: There's a demo at Meadowbrook Elementary School on May 6. Nikea will be unable to attend. If you're still interested in doing this demo, please let her know. She will also be running the kids activities at Border Skirmish (Capture the Queen), at the May Moot (to be announced), and is working on a series of classes (details coming in the fall). Office is open if anyone else wants to be Minister of Children...

Knights Marshal: New practice schedule! As of May 12 we'll move Thursday night practices to KK Park (armored, rapier, and archery). As of May 22 Sunday practices will begin at Kletzsch Park. We'll do three Sundays of each month at Kletzsch and make the fourth Sunday a 'travelling' practice - we can visit Frame Park or Fort Atkinson or Ayreton or Windhaven or whatever. We might be able to use

Stritch as a rain location. For the May 22 practice we should treat it as a demo - pavilions, banners, garb, the works. Until then, Thursdays at Marquette, Fridays at Leif's, Sundays at Stritch - with the exception that there's no practice this week (Thursday the students will be on break, Sunday is Easter).

Exchequer: The quarterly report is almost done. Magnus learned some things at Officer's Day.

Minister of Arts and Sciences: Lots of events coming up for people interested in Arts and Sciences: Bardic Madness, Silks and Needles, Games People Played, Quest for Camelot, Burn Baby Burn, and Lamb to Loom. Also the Pentamere Squires Tournament in the Midrealm will have an A&S component. Corin went to Officer's Day and met his regional officer, and also learned things. What kind of A&S Moots would people like? (Silk banners and metalworking were mentioned.) With the Northwatch moving from paper to electronic format, we expect to see a supplemental publication as well (possibly the North Star will return), so we'll have a new place for recipes, blueprints, and other instructional articles; people can also submit such things to the Song of the Tower. Also, take a look at the Atlantia website for their links (<http://moas.atlantia.sca.org/wsnlinks/>), and at Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com/>) - these are excellent resources.

Chronicler: Articles are due Sunday 4/24 for Geffroi's last issue of the Tower. Abelard will step in as an interim Chronicler until someone else wants the position.

Herald: Send in award recommendations to Their Excellencies for May Moot!

Webminister: Dahrien is hard at work on the Border Skirmish website.

Seneschal: Looking for a deputy. Stepping down in six months (September).

Old Business:

Officer's Day: 62 attendees. Cost for the event was under \$50. Very well done.

Border Skirmish: We have a site. We have most of the staff positions filled, except Archery Marshal (waiting for confirmation from William) and Merchants Steward. We have commitments from the Midlands Army - they'll be here despite two other events in their Kingdom and lack of royalty. The generals (Stephen and Ix) will be the Marshals in Charge, and they will use Saturday's fighting as a place to train for Pennsic. We'll also have a torchlight tournament on Friday night. We'll have a meeting with Ravenslake at the site in a few weeks. We do have someone in charge of parking, and have someone in charge of security. (We also have a certain household from Jara as a brute squad.) Security teams will have general local information and maps as well so that they can be helpful to the public. We won't have showers. Also, the autocrats are keeping a three-ring binder (Book of Knowledge) detailing everything they're doing, how much things cost, who they've talked to, and so on, so that future autocrats have this information at hand. We know that we've outgrown the site, so start looking for a new site for next year. We won't get the Northshield pavilion this year, so please bring shade flies. (Can we build a reviewing stand like the one in the Nordskogen area?)

Boar's Head: Most of the officer positions are filled. We're working on a theme. We will have a meeting soon so that we can start advertising early. Stritch students have offered to help in the kitchen. Marquette students have offered to help wherever they can. We will have archery and youth activities again. Every staff position needs volunteers to help them out. If you want to volunteer, please tell Kateryn. The places that almost always need more help are Troll, Royalty Room guards, and kitchen help. Note: You must be a member to actually handle the money.

Strategic Planning Meeting: We need to have the next Strategic Planning Meeting. This should be in May - maybe May 15? Abelard will send out the planning meeting notes again. Everyone should choose their top topics from this list and send them to Katlin and Their Excellencies, who will select the top 3 topics and make up the agenda for the meeting. We can shoot for a weeknight if we meet from 6:30-9. Maybe a Tuesday?

May Day Moot: Can Gabrielle have \$150 for the moot? Yes she can. Their Excellencies will be there and holding court. It's Sunday, May 1, at Rock River Parkway in Fort Atkinson.

May 6 Demo at Meadowbrook School: Nikea can't make it. Please confirm with her if you can.

Known World Handbooks: Magnus has them, so please talk to him if you ordered one. Also, we have extras.

Baronial Championships: We have reserved Rock River Parkway as a tentative location - if anyone has any other ideas, please tell Katlin or Their Excellencies.

New Business:

Crown Tournament/Coronation: Do we want to host either Crown Tournament or Coronation in the Fall? Bids for Coronation are due by June 1. (Event would be September 10.) We can't get Stritch. Fancy will talk to DeKoven. (We would need rooms for court, meetings, fighting, feast, and kitchens.) Other places to look at: Marion Center, Kemper Hall, Tripoli Shrine Hall, Bavarian Inn. We also need to find an event steward. We need to know by next Tuesday (4/26). Also, the officers will help put the bid together. We voted and agreed to fact-find.

Curia Locations: We can still use Stritch as a meeting space in the summer if we want. Can we move Curia to another day? Maybe Sundays?

Guilds and Groups:

Cooking: Next session will be Eastern European. People should select what they want to bring. (They need to set a date.)

Marquette: Camping at Ledge Park on April 29-30. Please let Annamarie know by Friday (April 22) if you're coming.

Stritch: May have a new advisor. They want to put in a bid for SUN - probably for next year. (FYI: SUN is the second Saturday of November.) Stritch needs to file the paperwork to become a group.

OFFICERS OF THE BARONY OF CAER ANTERTH MAWR

Baron	Albrecht of Caer Anterth	(Byron Skillings)	baron@caeranterth.org
Baroness	Eva of Greenfield	(Linda Skillings)	baroness@caeranterth.org
Seneschal	Katlin Laurana Sewall	(Katie Adkins)	seneschal@caeranterth.org
Exchequer	Magnus Vargsson	(Rob Alsten)	exchequer@caeranterth.org
Herald	Arnbjorn Karlsson	(Wesley Adams)	herald@caeranterth.org
Chronicler	OPEN		chronicler@caeranterth.org
Knight Marshal	Valerius Paencalvus	(Aaron Toman)	marshal@caeranterth.org
Webminister	Dahrien Cordell	(Carlos Vigil)	webminister@caeranterth.org
A&S Minister	Corin du Soleil	(Arthur Kathan)	moas@caeranterth.org
Chirurgion	OPEN	OPEN	
Chatelaine	Julianna DeLeon	(Marie Carlson)	chatelaine@caeranterth.org
Archery Captain	William of Mann	(William Looney)	archery@caeranterth.org
Rapier Marshal	OPEN	OPEN	
Youth Minister	Nikea deLeon	(Charvonne Kemp)	ministerofyouth@caeranterth.org
Quartermaster	Dahrien Cordell	(Carlos Vigil)	quartermaster@caeranterth.org

LEGAL

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