

# Seasons

#7 Autumn A.S. LVIII (2023)





## Greetings from the Seasons Editor

Greetings to All!

This is the seventh issue of the new SEASONS, and we hope you are enjoying the new format and content of this magazine.

We welcome Original Cover and Filler Art; Instructional/Educational Articles; Original

Poetry and Songs; Period Recipes, Photos of A&S Entries, Tourney Winners, and Vigils; and Information on Future Elevations (all with permission to reprint).

We hope to continue celebrating, in this magazine, the talents, achievements and merits of our Meridian subjects, and showcasing their creations, and we invite you to join our readership and to be a part of our efforts.

In continuing Service....

Meistres Bronwen o Gydweli  
Seasons Editor

## Upcoming Events This Season

According to the Kingdom Calendar at the time of this publication, the following Events and Virtual Gatherings will be held (in the stated formats) during the Autumn of A.S. LVIII (2023):

- ◆ **Red Tower** (Live) September 8th-10th (South Downs)
- ◆ **Daggers & Hemlock** (Live) September 15th-17th (Phoenix Glade)
- ◆ **Haustblot** (Live) September 23rd (Loch an Fhraoich)
- ◆ **MERIDIAN GRAND TOURNAMENT “MGT”** (Live) September 29th-October 1st (Meridies)
- ◆ **FALL CORONATION** (Live) October 13th-15th (Tir Briste)
- ◆ **Danelaw** (Live) October 21st (Bryn Madoc)
- ◆ **Gatalop** (Live) October 27th-29th (Osprey)
- ◆ **Silver Hammer** (Live) October 27th-29th (Thor’s Mountain)
- ◆ **Sable Swan** (Live) November 3rd-5th (Glynn Rhe)
- ◆ **FALL CROWN LIST** (Live) November 10th-12th (Arenal)
- ◆ **Magna Faire** (Live) December 1st-3rd (Iron Mountain)
- ◆ **Winter Market** (Live) December 9th (Glaedenfeld)
- ◆ **Knights' Strategic Redeployment** (not a retreat) December 16th (Chivalry)

**TUESDAY NIGHT SOCIALS** continue to be held and hosted by Mistress Ellen de Lacey on ZOOM at 7:00pm CST. These also feature **Classes, Guild Meetings, Pennon Decision Meetings,** and **Lambent Internal Commenting and Teaching Sessions.**

**FRIDAY NIGHT BARDIC** continues to be hosted on ZOOM at 9:30pm EST, and they have also posted a rather extensive calendar of Bardic Activities and Classes — to be seen at the Friday Night Bardic group on Facebook.



# Summer Event Highlights

During the Summer of A.S. LVIII the following Meridian Events were hosted and enjoyed:

- **GIANTS DANCE** (Live) was scheduled to be hosted by the Shire of Nant-Y-Derwyddon over the weekend of June 9th-11th at The Laurel Grove Event Venue in Bristol, TN, and happened slightly after the release of the last issue of SEASONS. Good event though, with lots of Fighting and Fun, and lots to do!!
- **BATTLE IN THE BORDERLAND** (Live) was scheduled as a one-day event hosted by the Shire of Redewolfdon on June 10th at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Murray, KY. This event was billed as a Totally Free Fighter's Rendezvous and A&S Gathering — No Feast — No Court — No Classes — Nothing to interrupt the Fighting. Advertisers were a William Marshall Endurance Tourney, Melees, Pick-ups, Free Hotdogs, Free Water and Sports Drinks, Free Air Conditioning, and an Air Conditioned Indoor Area for Artisans to Gather and Show Off Their Wares. We understand this went well, and hope everyone had a great time!
- The Barony of Glaedenfeld and the Shire of Easaraigh hosted a **REGIONAL FIGHTER PRACTICE** of June 17th, and this reportedly was a Hit — Pun Intended, and actually more than one hit. Fun for all!
- **1559 THE GOLDEN AGE BEGINS**  
This event was hosted by the Shire of Arenal over the weekend of June 30th-July 2nd, and was held at the Northwest Florida Fair Association in Fort Walton Beach, FL. Folks were invited to join the Shire as they celebrated the year 1559 with indoor fighting for all, classes, and merchants. This was a Tudor-themed event — billed as “the Tudor Event of the Age” — and attendees were encouraged to bring their finest late period garb for the Masque Ball. The site also offered unlimited outdoor camping, plenty of indoor camping, and also had RV Hook-ups available. None of our locals made the trip, as far as we know, but we heard that this was an enjoyable event, that also featured a Saturday night Feast, and in Royal Court they saw awarded a Meridian Order of the Blade to **Leandra Drago Forte**, Boughs of Meridies to **Juliana verch Hoell** and to **Azor Pietorvich Ryu-rik**.
- **ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF MERIDIES**  
On July 15th the Barony of the South Downs hosted this Kingdom Level Event at West Georgia College (Pafford Building) in Carrollton, GA, and was one of only two events

listed for July on the Meridian Kingdom Calendar this year. RUM traditionally includes multiple tracks of Classes on a variety of subjects, as well as rather a lot of socializing, and catching up with friends. This event also featured a Peerage Vigil and Elevation when **Omokehindegbegbon of the Opo, known as Kehinde** who was elevated to Laurel on July 15th, and the Laurel Elevation of **Brun Canutesson!!!** Congratulations to both and all of the other fine gentles recognized in Court at this event by Their Majesties Garick and Yasamin, including a Bough of Meridies to **Catina Marciano**, a Court Barony to **Seong Myeong Su**. And a Velvet Owl to **Sophia Berkeley**.

- **WARDEN'S CHALLENGE**

The Shire of Easaraigh hosted this one-day event on Saturday August 5th at the White County Fairgrounds Ag Building in Sparta, TN. Promising a Day of Archery, Live Weapons, Classes and Fun, the event was billed as an archery and live weapons-oriented skills-building event for the populace to hone their accuracy and preparedness for driving off the ruffians. While we don't know for sure that any "ruffians" were driven off, the claim was that Brigands, Poachers & Thieves were at it once again on the Northern Plateau, that that their valiant Warden had gone Missing! Would there be demands for his safe return? Where in the Known World was he? Meridians were encouraged to attend and to help in finding the missing Warden — and we understand that this was accomplished in the end with a fun event being held. Nice job, Easaraigh!!

- **PENNSIC 50**

July 28th-August 13th **PENNSIC WAR 50** was held in the Kingdom of Aethelmearc at Coopers Lake Campground in Slippery Rock, PA. FIFTY YEARS! Amazing! A goodly number of our folk made the pilgrimage to this historic War, and in (Popup) Court **Mistress Fiora Valori** was named a Herald Extraordinary, and **Master Cormac Mor** was presented with a Burning Trumpet — while in regular Court Arnora Karlsdottir was named a Court Baroness, and Constanza Consuela Ximena de Valencia was inducted into the Order of the Bough. The Meridian Army and all other Meridian participants distinguished themselves well, and represented their Kingdom in stellar fashion! Huzzah!

## **Still On The September Calendar**

### **(or held after Deadline)**

1st-3rd	<b>Vices &amp; Virtues</b> —Phoenix Rising
8th-10th	<b>Red Tower</b> —South Downs
15th-17th	<b>Daggers &amp; Hemlock</b> —Phoenix Glade
23rd	<b>Haustblot</b> —Loch an Fhraoich
29th-1st	<b>Meridian Grand Tourney</b> —Meridies



# Guilding the Lily?

So what are the Meridian Guilds, and what are those Guilds doing these days?

The Kingdom of Meridies presently has a number of active Guilds, including the: Scribal Guild, Courtesans Guild, Saltare (Dance Guild), Arachne's Web (Lace Guild), Gaming Guild, Iron Bow Guild, Painters Guild, Herbal Guild, Grand Chefs Guild, Minstrels Guild, Coursing Guild (Greyhounds), Equestrian Guild, and Foresters Guild — and possibly others.

## **Arachne's Web—Lace Guild**

<http://facebook.com/groups/434953093257836/>

## **Coursing Guild**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/236065959926266/>

## **Courtesans Guild of Meridies**

<https://courtesansofmeridies.wordpress.com/>

## **The Meridian Embroidery Guild**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/414381975319839>

## **Gaming Guild**

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/889784304857628/?ref=share\\_group\\_link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/889784304857628/?ref=share_group_link)

## **Grand Chefs of Meridies**

<https://grandchefs.meridies.org/>

## **Herbal Guild of Meridies**

<https://sites.google.com/site/scameridianherbalists/>

## **Ironbow Guild**

<https://ironbow.meridies.org/>

## **Historic Martial Arts Guild**

<https://hma.meridies.org/>

## **Meridian Moneyers**

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/MeridianMoneyers/>

## **Minstrels Guild**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/meridianminstrelsguild>

## **Painters' Guild of Meridies**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/918601828202930/>

## **Royal Foresters of Meridies**

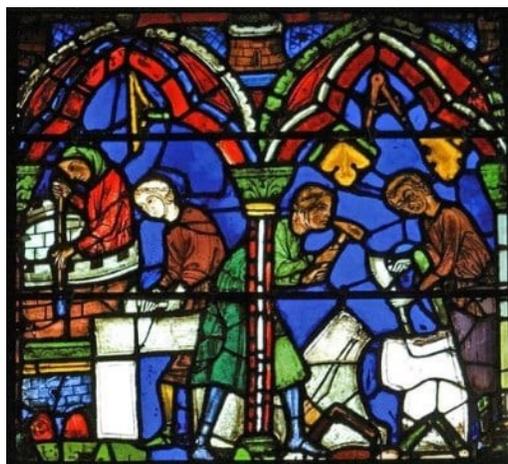
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MeridiesForesters/>

## **Saltare—Meridian Dance Guild**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/414381975319839>

## **Scribal Guild of Meridies**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/382341241966024//>



*Tradesmen Window  
Chartres Cathedral 13th Century*

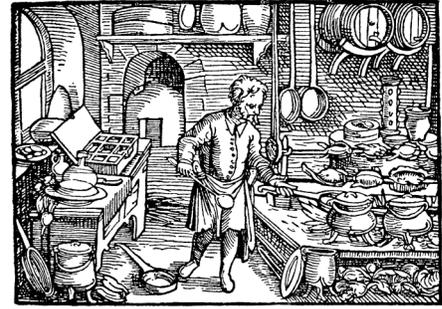
**The Meridian Herbal Guild** has recently been meeting fairly regularly on Tuesday nights in conjunction with the Tuesday Night Socials on Zoom, so if you have an interest in herbs, their cultivation and their uses, you might consider checking in on some of these and meeting some of the other members.

We will gladly mention meeting schedules for other guilds here also, on request!

# Autumn in the Kitchen

By Mistress Christiana MacGrain

## St. Martin of Tours' Feast Day / Martinmas/ Gooseday (397/400CE)



The Patron Saint of Beggars, Drunkards, Innkeepers, Equestrians, Harvests, Horses, the Military, New Wine, and Tailors.

Born in Hungary and educated in Italy, Martin of Tours was a cavalry soldier for Emperor Constantine. While stationed in Amiens, France, he gave a beggar half of his cloak, which he slashed with his sword. Dividing your feast with others, as Martin did with his cloak, is a way to ensure you will have a feast next year.

Although he never combed his hair or changed his clothes, the people of Tours demanded that he be made Bishop. He fled and hid, until a honking goose betrayed his whereabouts. A goose is among his emblems, and a roasted goose is traditionally served on “Martinmas”. His feast day coincided with harvest and wine festivals and trees bloomed (in November) at his funeral. A warm spell in November in Europe is still called “St. Martin's Summer”. Many countries celebrate this festival with bonfires, marching through the streets with lighted lanterns, and singing for cakes and other goodies. The *mal de Saint Martin* refers to the stomachache resulting in too much of a good thing on this holiday, which in many areas marks the end of Fall and the beginning of Winter. St. Martin's Horseshoes are shaped cakes to remind children of the saint.

His feast day on November 11th coincided with harvest and wine festivals and trees bloomed (in November) at his funeral.

### Rebenlichter\* - Switzerland

“The Turnip Festival” is held for Martinmas. Children hollow out turnips and carve patterns on them, then light them with candles. On the Saint's day at 8PM, the lanterns are hung along balconies and houses, and carried around by paraders.

In this recipe from *The Forme of Cury\**, herbs, fruits and aromatic vegetables are stuffed inside a cleaned goose, with the hole sewn closed so the grease will not come out. While roasting, the cook is instructed to take care to capture and reserve the drippings that do escape.

When done, the stuffing is removed and added to a sauce pan with some spices and breadcrumbs, and is thinned with wine if necessary. The cook is instructed to “smyte hem on pecys”, and those pieces are dressed’ with the sauce for service.

## Sawse Madame (Recipe)\*

Take sawge, persel, ysop and saueray, quinces and peeres, garlek and grapes, and fylle the gees therwith; and sowe the hole that no grece come out, and roost hem wel, and kepe the grece that fallith therof. Take galyntyne and grece and do in a possynet. When the gees both rosted ynowh, take hem of & smyte hem on pecys, and take that that is withinne and do it in a possynet and put therinne wyne, if it be to thyk; do therto powdour of galyngale, powdour douce, and salt and boyle the sawse, and dresse the gees in disshes & lay the sewe onoward.

- **The Forme of Cury**, from a manuscript dated 1381, included in the compilation “**Curye on Inglysch**” edited by Constance B. Heatt and Sharon Butler, c. Early English Text Society by the Oxford University Press, 1985



\*Sauce Madame



Image courtesy of Princeton University's Index of Medieval Art, Open Access Collection

# Farewell to Pennsic

*HRH Timothy of Long Bennington ·*



I'm in the truck starting our trip home from Pennsic War up In Pennsylvania. For those who don't know what Pennsic is, it is an annual Medieval themed event in which thousands of people come together for a couple weeks to camp, revel, battle, shop, and to share a wealth of medieval skills and knowledge. It is a huge undertaking of logistics and travel... but the experience is one that is difficult to place into words.

Trying to unpack all of the incredible memories from this last week has been hard. There was simply so much joy, adrenaline, camaraderie, and magic moments that it's hard to wrap my brain around it all. But here are some highlights:

- I reveled late into the night at a middle eastern Hafla that was one of the best parties I've seen my Kingdom come together to host.
- I fought in gritty, intense, and exhilarating battles.
- I saw my Kingdom's rapier fighters turn the tide of a battle.
- I saw our heavy fighters charge fearlessly into an army 5 times our size with devastating effect.
- I enjoyed the sounds of distant drums from the deck of a pirate ship.
- I saw torchlight sparkling across a still pond while enjoying the ambience and hospitali-

ty of a Roman villa.

- I dined with dear friends in their incredible feast hall, adorned with candle light, murals, and incredible medieval furniture.
- I saw bards perform a routine of songs that tugged at every emotion.
- I was literally stopped in my tracks by the sounds of a lovely maiden strumming beautifully on her harp.
- I fought a day away, then napped with my brother under the shade of a shield on the battlefield.
- I tasted masterful handmade spirits, brewed skillfully by a beacon of chivalric virtue.
- I learned how to say "I need a spanking" in Swedish, then got to practice it on a Swedish King. (Jag behöver en smisk.)
- I saw the pride in a father's eyes as he spoke of how his sons are now both grown and inspiring others as good and worthy knights.
- I stood as a champion of my Kingdom against one of best glaivemen I have ever had the joy of fighting. (I lost)
- I crossed blades with legends.
- I sang and played guitar under a torchlight with friends.
- I played tug of war while balancing on a stump.
- I danced in storms and reveled with a mermaid.
- I ate an Aussie burger, prepared by an Aussie!
- A gave a wonderful young lady a shiny gift for helping deliver our ice throughout the week.

This was indeed a week filled to the brim with joy. I am so happy to have experienced it. "For Glory, and Honor, and... Crab Rangoons!!!"

## Far-Flung Wordfame

"**Wordfame.** My old friend (**Master**) **William de Montegilt** reports that he fought 507 bouts at Pennsic 50. He's 75." Lady Victoria of Durham

*For those too new to Meridies to remember Master William, who now dwells in Aethelmearc, he was for many years a delightful subject of our Kingdom, and of the Barony of the South Downs...as was Lady Victoria who now dwells in the West.*

"**Wordfame: Mistress Christina O'Riain** is now the West Kingdom Chronicler, editing The Page. Mistress Christina formerly dwelt in the South Downs and served ably as Meridian Kingdom Chronicler during the 1980s, editing Popular Chivalry." Meistres Bronwen o Gydweli.

# Period Jewelry

For any artisan interested in trying to reproduce period accessories, the graphics below, used courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Open Access Policy [The MET Open Access Policy: As part of the Met's Open Access policy, you can freely copy, modify and distribute this image, even for commercial purposes], show some period Jewelry.



Bracelet 12th Century



Belt North Italian ca. 1330-50



Ring  
12th-13th Century



Chain with Birds and Geometric Motifs  
Kyivan Rus' 1000-1200



Ear Flares Lambayeque (Sican)  
11th-13th Century



Hair  
Ornaments  
12th-13th  
Century

# Pattern for a Roman Paenula (hooded cloak)

By Lord Gaius Nautius Maximus, Shire of Forth Castle

The paenula (*PINE-you-la*) is one of two common Roman cloaks from the classic era, the other being the sagum, which is basically a blanket pinned around one's shoulders. The paenula is better suited to cold or inclement weather, as it covers the whole body, and has a hood that can be raised over the head for warmth and shelter. These cloaks were commonly worn by men in period but they were not banned to women, so I encourage everyone to be warm Romans come wintertime :) [Please excuse a few wrinkles in the pics!]



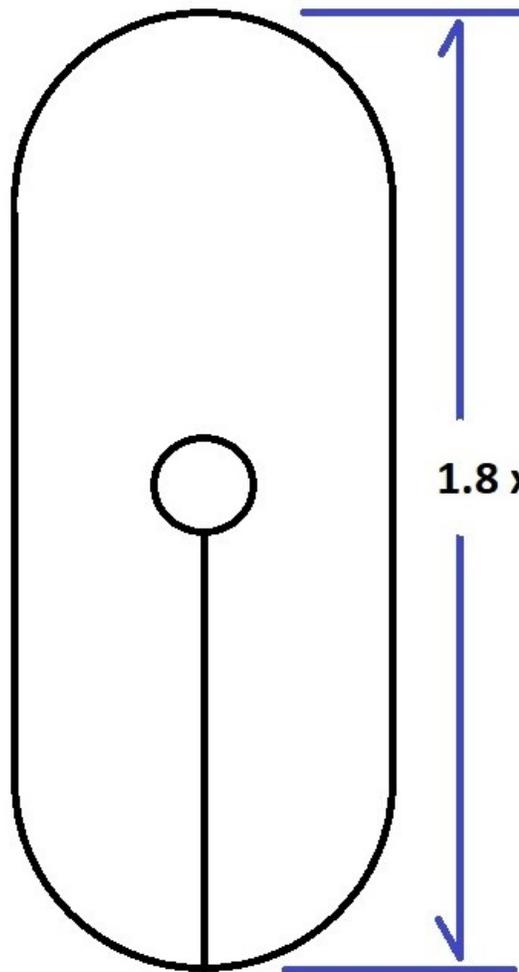
They were commonly made from a single long piece of medium to heavy wool, with a vertical slit running up the front from feet to the neck hole. They are secured around the body with 3 or 4 simple toggle clasps that are attached to the front from the collarbone area down the sternum. Other closures have been found in archaeological sites, but getting fancy with the closures is beyond the scope of this article.

The body of the paenula is made long enough to go from the ankles in front, over the shoulders, and down to the ankles in the back, and is roughly 60" wide, which works very conveniently if you are buying modern 60" wide wool. Yes, this is way wider than your shoulders. The fabric will drape down and cover your arms and all that fabric keeps you warm. This is period practice and it works so well in cold weather.

Felted wool or a melton will save you from having to sew and edge treatment all

the way around that loooong edge. Such fabric is also good at blocking wind and repelling rain. I have made a paenula from a chevron-weave wool and while it looks awesome it was many hours to sew the edges to prevent fraying. [If you go this route, blanket stitch is period appropriate, as is rolling the edge a bit and using a whipstitch.] A non-period option I like is to treat the completed paenula with Scotch-Gard for extra water repellence.

Cutting out the body is easy; cut the piece of wool to length, then cut a semicircle on each end (so for 60" wide fabric, a 30" radius). Fold the body in half at the shoulder (i.e. longways), and mark and cut your neck hole in the center. A 5" diameter neck hole will fit up to a 19.5" circumference neck, which is plenty for most people. The length in the pattern below is a rough number but will work fine. Many paenulae (plural of paenula) were mass produced and thus not exactly ankles-to-ankles in length.



### Paenula Pattern

Hood is a 12" x 24" rectangle folded in half, then sewed down the back, and sewed to the neck hole of the body of the paenula.

Neck hole to fit your neck, plus a little for ease.

**1.8 x your height**



The hood is simply a 12" x 24" piece of the same wool, folded long-ways and with the back seam sewn shut. This is then sewn to the neck hole such that the edges of the fabric are inside. If an edge treatment is needed or desired, the loose edges can then be folded upwards and sewn to the hood. The hood below shows the back seam (right side) whipstitched shut, and the open side having an edge treatment applied by rolling the edge and whipstitching it with a contrasting color thread. It is also taller than 12" x 12", as it is for a Legionary's paenula, fitted to be worn with the helmet on under the hood.

Stitches that we have archaeological evidence for in period are: the running stitch, the double running stitch (mostly on leather vice cloth), the whipstitch, and the blanket stitch. There are others, but this is not the 'Sewing in

#### Ancient Rome' article XD

The toggle closures (made from pieces of dowel) can be attached to the paenula body in most any way that seems good to you, as there are examples with them sewn to the wool, with toggles on leather thongs that simply go through holes in the wool, and the best ones have toggles on leather thongs that attach to leather reinforcement points sewn to the wool (pictured).



Lastly! If you're wearing your paenula at an event, and the day starts to warm up after a bit, the proper thing to do to stay warm but not TOO warm is to flip the outer fabric in over your shoulder, exposing your arms a bit. This is seen below:



Apologies for the rushed paenula-flipping! It was 94F outside and I was in two layers of heavy wool 😊 But you get the idea 😊

I hope that this article has encouraged some who may go Roman for Summer to stay Roman year round! The ancients really knew how to dress for the weather at all times of year. If you'd like to discuss this possibility, or anything about Roman life or clothing and fiber arts, please find me at an event, or email me to chat at [ssn706@gmail.com](mailto:ssn706@gmail.com)

Special thanks to the Legio XIII Gemina Martia Victrix for guidance and help with research! <https://legxiii.com>  
-Lord Gaius Nautius Maximus



## Orders of Meridies



### Order of the Rising Swan:

given to subjects of Meridies, age 17 and under, to recognize outstanding service and achievement above and beyond that recognized

by the Order of the Cygnet. Members of the Order may place the initials CMRS after their names. The order's badge is (fieldless), A swan roussant within and conjoined to an annulet argent.



### Order of the Rose:

presented, at the pleasure of the Crown, to past consorts of the kingdom. Companions of the order may place the initials CR after their names.



### Order of the Sable Cygnet:

The Crown may induct into this order those children who show promise and skill in the Arts and Sciences.

Companions are entitled to place after their names the initials "C.S.C."



### Order of the Quill:

given only once per reign, to those who have shown exemplary merit and skill in the authorship, publication and dissemination of articles

of scholarly interest to the Society, the kingdom and its members. Members are encouraged to continue their work, and to contribute to Seasons (the kingdom arts and sciences newsletter), the Royal University of Meridies, and Tournaments Illuminated. The Crown may call upon members to aid in the education of the kingdom by requesting, as a patron, specific articles and/or research in the recipient's areas of expertise. Members may place the initials CSQ after their names, and bear a sable feather with three argent mullets as a token. The order's badge is (Fieldless) Upon a quill pen bendwise sinister sable, a mullet argent.

### Order of the Scarlet Star:



given to those who have served the kingdom well and faithfully, above and beyond normal expectations, by consistently and successfully administrating

a number of Society events and/or feasts. Companions of the order may place the initials CSR after their names. The or-

der's badge is Sable, a mullet gules fimbriated between two pallets argent.

NO  
BADGE

**Order of the Stallion's Blood:**

given no more than twice per reign and preferably no more than once per reign to any single discipline.

The Crown of Meridies recognizes that the Kingdom of Meridies officially fields one singular army, comprised of Artisans, Support Staff, Water Bearers, Equestrians, Chivalric Fighters, Rapier Fighters, Siege Engineers, Archers, Weapons Masters, and Volunteers. The Crown wishes recognize singular moments of great valor and bravery in war; this award be open to citizens all ranks, all disciplines, and all kingdoms. The order's regalia is a brass ring, about 1/5 to 2 inches wide (wide enough to go around a typical belt) with a braid of white, black, and red strings.

NO  
BADGE

**Order of the Weapons Master:**

Given to those who show great skill in the use of real weaponry, primarily throwing axe, knife, spear, and bow. The order has the right to govern itself and to define the standard of its various rankings up to the rank of Weapons Master. Members may place the initials CW after their names.

NO  
BADGE

**Sovereign's Pleasure:**

given by the sovereign to those who have personally served him/her well, truly, and faithfully. Members may place the

initials CKP after their names. The order's token is a ring, selected by the Sovereign.



## A Newcomers Note:

Fall finally is here, and with it we finally can expect some cooler weather — later. In the meanwhile, September is still traditionally a hot month, so continue to stay hydrated and as cool as can be managed while eventing.

As you may have noticed, the cooler weather brings on an increased number of great events to attend, and you'll want to talk to people and make new friends while you're attending these4 events. Most people, when asked about things like their5 garb, their camp accoutrements, their A&S entries, and their cultures tend to be very willing to talk about them, so as long as you are polite and catch them at a time when they aren't already slammed or in the middle of an important conversation (like with the Crown) they will usually be very willing to talk to you.

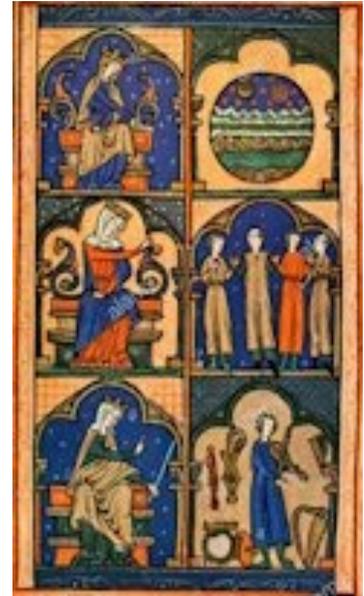
Good Eventing!



# Meet the Autumn Champions

Congratulations to all others who excelled in competition during the Summer months, whether in

- Heavy Combat
- Light Combat
- Live Weapons & Archery
- Equestrian
- Siege Weaponry
- Arts & Sciences
- Service
- Bardic or Poetic
- or at WAR!!



With that in mind, the following Meridians travelled to Lilies War for leisure and served Their Majesties Garick and Yasamin as entourage, or joining in the procession at Calontir's Grand Court on Thursday: **Dame Adelaide Colette de Monferrer** (who served as the on-site Entourage Coordinator and Chancellor for Garick & Yasamin at Lilies War 2023), **Countess Dalla Dyrfinna, Uhtred, Bram (Austin Wimberly), Countess Gwenhwyfar Mwynn, Keterlyn (Kristen Schreiber), John (John Schreiber), and Mistress Alessandra Giovanna Fioravanti.** *(List courtesy of Dame Alelaide Colette de Monferrer)*

## Courtesy of the Kingdom A&S Desk:

The Artsy half of Artsy-Crown

I want to take a moment to appreciate all of the people who participated in this year's Kingdom Art & Sciences Faire! Thank you to the artists who spent their time and resources to research, and present amazingly diverse projects! Thank you to the judges who spent their time analyzing, critiquing, and encouraging the artists!

Please join me in celebrating these projects:

Scribe That! **THL Rhowyn Alyna Nic an Chrosain**

Roman Arcuballista (crossbow) -**THL Brun Canutesson**

12th Century England Live Effigy -**TRH Ysmay**

Late period food subtlety of sleeping door mouse -**THL Luchia Del Mar**

The Astrolabe - Background, Construction, and Model -**Baroness Sara al-Garnatiyya**

10th Century Brocade Belt -**Lady Alessandra Sartor**

Coptic Sprang Hair Net -**Lady Alessandra Sartor**

"Witcher" Cross Stitch Sampler—**Lady Arnora Karlsdottir**

\*Youth\* Bardic -**Eswen the tiny bard of Meridies** (parents: Libby Guerry & Jacques de la Fontaine)

An Illustration of Medieval Chip Carving -**Syr Emrys of Gwyntarian**  
An Early Bronze Age Classical Lunula -**Baron Erik Martel**  
A Central European Bronze Age Symmetrical Spiral Armband -**Baron Erik Martel**  
Perry: A Look Into Period Pear Cider -**Lord Corwin Glollapadhreag**  
Tudor Rose Cross stitch **Lady Arnora Karlsdottir**  
Lute song: Flow my Tears (John Dowland) -**Lady Magdalena Kaufman**  
15th Century German Pater Noster -**Lady Bergthora Dafidsdottir**  
Pair of Demi-Gauntlets -**Viscount Walerick**  
Brass Fittings -**Duk Orlando Cavalcanti**

Thank you everyone!

**Duchess Thorkatla Herjolsdottir**



We likewise congratulate **Their Royal Majesties Garick and Yasamin** on the acquisition of Royal Heirs!! Praises to the Crown Prince and Princess of Meridies, **HRH Timothy and HRH Ysmay** (pictured left), on Their victory in Crown Tourney, and we congratulate the Kingdom on the proud continuation of the Royal Line!!

The Coronation of **TRHs Timothy and Ysmay** (should anything dire and *totally unexpected happen* to befall the current Crown) is scheduled for October 12th-15th at Camp Benjamin Hawkins in Byron, GA, and will be hosted by Their home Shire of Tir Briste.

We hope to see you there!!

Facebook Photo Credit: Mistress Irina Dashkova

# Autumn in the Garden

Perennial Herbs for Fall Planting

*Information Gathered by Meistres Bronwen o Gydweli*

Though I have it on good authority that the primary planting season for herbs is Spring, some perennial herbs can also be planted in the Autumn when the soil is still warm. The cooler weather, coupled with adequate moisture, can help plants to establish quickly and may provide you with a head-start on your spring garden.



WOODCUT FROM THE TITLE-PAGE OF THE "GRETE HERBALL" (1520)

However, if you plant in Fall you probably need to avoid adding fertilizer at planting time. I've been advised, instead, to add compost and to plan on fertilizing my plants in the early spring with a good herb fertilizer — though, adding nutrients late in the Fall season can apparently encourage fresh growth and help the plants to withstand any winter damages.

The following Herbs have been recommended to me as suitable for Fall planting, and most of them are already in my garden:

## **Thyme**

This is a great perennial evergreen herb/shrub to plant around edges of an herb garden, in a well-drained spot in full sun, because it's low-growing and drought resistant. Its tiny flowers are considered to be very bee-friendly, and the leaves have a wonderful fragrance and flavor. Thyme plants are easy to find in nurseries and garden centers, and come in a variety of types like English, French, lemon, and lime.

## **Lemon Balm**

Is related to mint, with lemon-scented foliage that makes it ideal for use in teas and for sprinkling over fruit salads. It can, however, be invasive, so it should be planted only in areas where it can safely spread out — or possibly in pots or planters. Suited to Autumn planting, it grows well in full sun to partial shade and loves rich, moist soil.

## **Marjoram**

This is a savory perennial herb that seems to winter well in my garden. You can plant it in Fall as long as you make sure to do so by early to mid-autumn, thus giving it time to become well-rooted before the onset of winter.

## **Greek Oregano**

This is a handy kitchen herb which can be used fresh or dried, and grows well from early summer through fall. Like Thyme, it's a low-growing plant that does well tucked around the edges of regular or raised garden beds, and it has many culinary uses. Common oregano returns reliably each year, but it doesn't have much flavor, and be warned that it self

-sows with abandon. For that reason many prefer to grow Greek oregano in tier herb garden even though it doesn't always survive through the winter.

### **Chives**

These are really easy to grow, and chives are on this list of herbs to plant in fall because they're easily dug up and divided to be shared and re-planted. The onion-flavored foliage adds nice texture to an herb garden and in late spring the plants produce round purple flowers that attract bees and other pollinators.

### **Sage**

This is a plant with gray-green leaves, but it also flowers in early summer, becoming a pollinator plant and attracting bees and butterflies to the garden. It can be susceptible to winter damage in colder regions, but in the south it seems to remain hardy in winter, and I personally have plants that are nearly a decade old. Fresh garden sage is great in soups, pastas, and stuffing.

### **Lavender**

Lavender demands a sunny site, like a raised bed, which drains well and won't leave the plants sitting in soggy soil. I haven't had much luck with Lavender, probably because I haven't found an adequately drained sunny location for it, but I'm told that when planting lavender in fall, you should aim to plant it six to eight weeks before the soil freezes so that the plants have time to settle in — and that to protect the plant during its first winter you should mulch in late autumn with evergreen boughs or with a layer of straw.

### **Mint**

Mint comes in many varieties, and is wonderful in teas, pasta dishes, salads, and sauces. It can safely be planted in the Fall, and loves full sun to partial shade, and moist soil, but it sends out underground runners and can take over the world, as well as your herb beds, if not carefully watched. As a result, it probably should (like Lemon Balm) be planted in its own bed, or grown in pots or planters.



Just as an example, the Mint shown left was cut back only a week before this photo was taken, and it already was overhanging the border and threatening to engulf a neighboring Basil plant. All varieties of mint, as far as I can tell, grow rapidly and spread out via underground shoots that spring up readily among other plants, so be careful where you plant it.



# PEERAGE Elevations in the Summer

Please join with us to congratulate the following nobles who, by virtue of their achievements, were elevated unto the Peerages during the past Season (and three earlier elevations that we missed):



**John Mailer**—To Knight (October 1st at Coronation/ Bacon Bash)

**Andriet di Pisan**—to Pelican—(January 21st at Menhir)

**Idris ibn Tariq al-magrib** —To Knight (March 13th at Gulf Wars)

**Inan Bint Sufian**—To Laurel (March 16th at Gulf Wars)

**Rondalynne Seren** — to Pelican (April 1st at Spring Coronation)

**Sean MacRory**—To Pelican (May 27th at Artsy Crown)

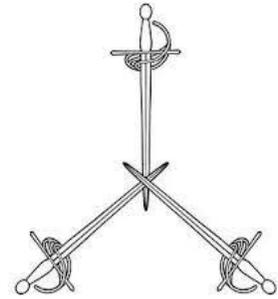
**Eleanor of Gray** — to Laurel (May 27th at Artsy Crown)

**Emelina le Norreys** - To Laurel (May 28th at Artsy Crown)

**Rohais de Ravenscroft**—to Laurel (June 4th On-Line)

**Brun Canutesson**—To Laurel (July 15th at RUM)

**Omokehindegbebon of the Opo, known as Kehinde** - To Laurel (July 15th at RUM)

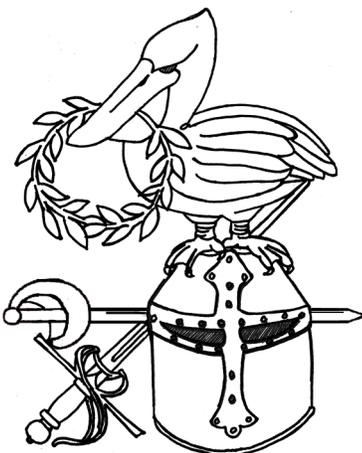


## Planned Future Elevations

**Caterina Coeur Noir**—To Laurel (October 29th at Gatalop)

## Additional Announced Writs:

(Unknown)



*Great effort is made to keep up with all Peerage elevations in our Kingdom, but if we somehow have missed mentioning any Peerage elevations and/or dates in the section above — or if we have missed notifying of any writs issued, and/or any dates set for future elevations — please feel free to notify the Editor at seasons@meridies.org so that these can be mentioned in the Winter Issue, due out at the beginning of December A.S. LVIII.*

# Newcomer Largesse Challenge



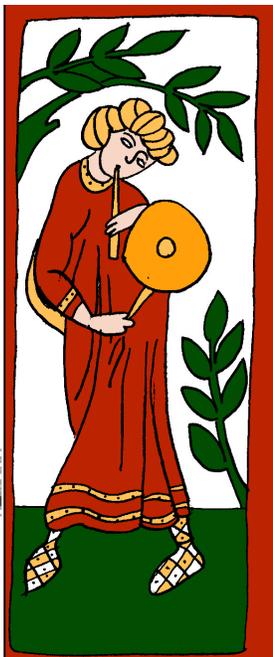
Their Royal Majesties have tasked me to collect some items for Newcomers so that they may give them out at their courts. What better idea, then to have a challenge?!

So I put forth this challenge to create or purchase a minimum of six (can be more) items that newcomers can use within the SCA. Whether it is a mug, a nice belt, or anything you can think of! Let's "challenge" ourselves and give our newcomers something nice! Rather than a tin mug, why not a fancy mug they can show off?

Whether you are an artsy person or not, I challenge you all to make our newcomers feel welcome. Create something they can show off to their friends and be proud of! All items will be accepted at any events Their Royal Majesties (or myself) attend. If you cannot attend any of the events, we can arrange something!

The challenge will end at Mid-Winter A&S so you will have plenty of time (hopefully) if you are deciding to make something. If you have any questions, please PM me. If you DO decide you are up for the challenge, PM me so I know that you are interested. If you have NO idea, PM me anyways and I'll be happy to help you with ideas!

Countess Dalla Dyrfinna



## Articles Needed

For all those aspiring, or established, Artisans and Crafters and Warriors and Servitors of Meridies, SEASONS is always on the prowl for Articles, especially those geared to create interest in a new type of endeavor, or in teaching others how to get started in a new field. If you have short to medium length articles of this sort written, or class notes burning a hole in your file box, or if you would be willing to write something of this sort, please consider sending an article (or more) in for use in this supplement. Poetry and music are also welcomed, by the way.

A Release Form will be required — the link to which can be found at <https://meridies.org/home/royaltyandofficers/chronicler/>

# One Thing Led to Another

An Original Song by Mistress Rohais de Ravenscroft

C  
I. Last month, I baked chocolate chip  
Dm  
cookies,  
G7 C  
For a friend who needed a lift.  
C Dm  
Just a few dozen chocolate chip cookies,  
G7 C  
As a kind and considerate gift  
F C  
But on seeing them fresh from the oven,  
F C  
And piled up on top of the plate,  
F C  
I found myself starting to wonder  
D D7 G  
What Clovis and Charlemagne ate.  
C G C  
And I'm not really sure how it happened;  
F C  
Each thought led me further astray.  
C G Am  
But one thing led to another,  
C F G7 C  
And I cooked my first feast yesterday.

II. I needed some garb for a tourney,  
For my clothing was looking quite grim.  
Just a plain, simple tunic of cotton,  
With maybe a snippet of trim.  
So I went to purchase some broadcloth,  
Sensible, sturdy, and sane,  
But I passed by a bolt of blue velvet,  
That must have been calling my name.  
And I'm not really sure how it hap-  
pened;

My thought process isn't quite clear.  
But one thing led to another,  
Now I'm wearing my new Landsknecht  
gear.

III. I was called in to Court by the her-  
ald,  
Where they gave me a beautiful scroll;  
And the next day I went to the craft  
store,  
Where I blew my entire bankroll.  
I shopped for a couple of hours  
For inks and calligraphy pens  
Some parchment and pigments and pa-  
per,  
And brushes and bottles, and then.  
I'm not really sure how it happened,  
The thought of it leaves me quite faint,  
But one thing led to another,  
Now I'm using gold leaf and lead paint

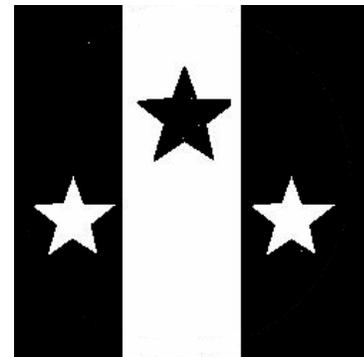
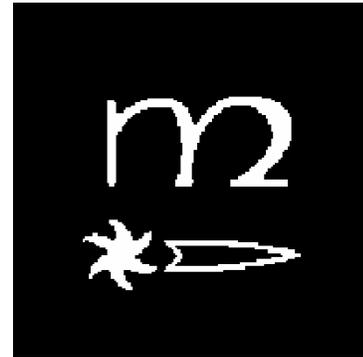
IV. I went to a party at Pennsic,  
Where they served lots of tasty brown  
beer.  
Imagine my shock and amazement,  
When I found it was brewed by a peer.  
And it sounded so simple and easy  
When he told me the steps it required.  
Just some yeast and some grain and  
some water,  
And an hour or two on the fire.  
And I'm not really sure how it happened.  
My early attempts were all flops  
But one thing led to another,  
Now I'm growing four acres of hops.

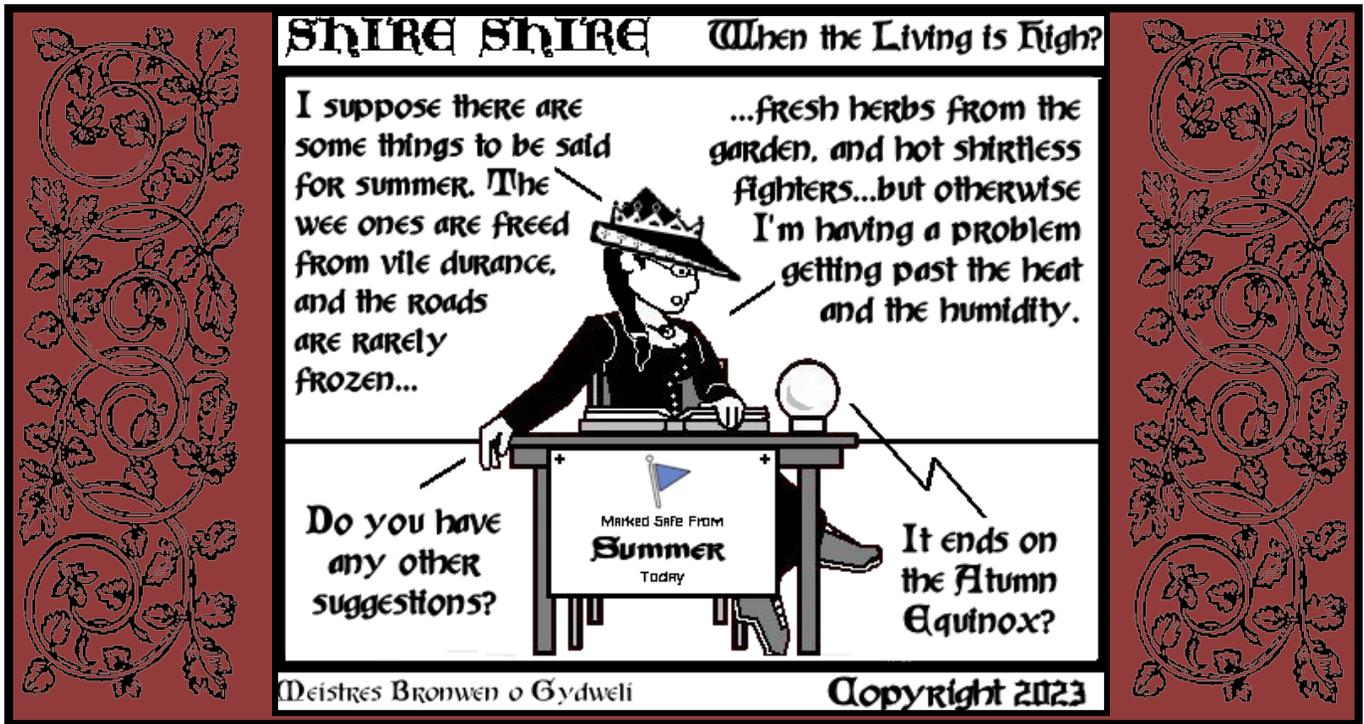
V. I bought a drop spindle to play with,  
And a small hank of Wensleydale wool,  
And some shuttles and spindles and  
twisters,  
Because fiber arts looked awfully cool

Then I sent off my letter to Santa  
To ask for a four-harness loom,  
That has more pedals than a church or-  
gan,  
And fills my entire front room.  
And I'm not really sure how it happened,  
I never thought I'd dive so deep,  
But one thing led to another,  
Now I'm raising ten heritage sheep.

VI. I went to my first bardic circle,  
Where I heard lots of marvelous songs.  
I laughed and I listened for hours  
As I sat with my friends until dawn.  
Then I purchased a small ukulele,  
And copied down lyrics and chords  
I filled up a couple of notebooks,  
To sing for the ladies and lords.  
And I'm not really sure how it happened;  
It didn't seem terribly hard,  
But one thing led to another,  
Now they've made me the new Kingdom  
Bard.

VI. I've been playing this game for three  
decades,  
My craft supplies fill every nook.  
My brain is replete with the knowledge  
From all of the classes I took.  
And the laurels all say I lack focus,  
I'm sidetracked at every turn.  
I should pick just one thing and stick to  
it,  
But there's always so much more to  
learn.  
And I'm not really sure how it happens  
Curiosity leads me astray  
But when one thing leads to another,  
I can't let common sense bar my way.





## Acknowledgements and Thanks

Thank you to **Lady Min Su Yun** for this issue's Cover Art, to **The Metropolitan Museum of Art** and to the **Princeton University's Index of Medieval Art** whose Open Access Policies allowed us freely to reprint images of objects from their Open Access Collections to this periodical, to **Mistress Rohais de Ravenscroft** for her original song "One Thing Led to Another", to **Duchess Thorkatla Herjolfsdottir** for her information of the Kingdom A&S entries, to **Dame Alelaide Colette de Monferrer** for her list of Lilies Entourage, to **HRH Timothy** for graciously allowing the reprint of his Farewell to Pennsic" post and photograph, to **Mistress Christiana MacGrain** for her article "Autumn in the Kitchen" (and recipe for Sawse Madame), and to **Lord Gaius Nautius Maximus** for his Article on "Pattern for a Roman Paenula (hooded cloak)".



Special thanks also to the new Kingdom Chronicler **Lady Albaruna Ana de Granada** for her patience and her assistance, and to my Deputies **Maestra Dianora Lizabetta di Vittori di Cellini** and **Lady Laurencia inghean ui Nuillain** for past and future contributions

In Gratitude.....

BRONWEN



*Submissions for SEASONS (and we definitely invite them) should be sent directly to the Editor at [seasons@meridies.org](mailto:seasons@meridies.org), and accompanied by any graphics (in .JPG format) and by an appropriate Creative Release Form. These forms can be found on-line at <https://meridies.org/home/resources-and-reports/> under “Chronicler Resources”. The deadline for submissions to the Winter Seasons will be (at the latest) December 1st.*

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*Articles submitted to SEASONS should be short to moderate length, and deal with topics of interest to the populace. Artwork should, ideally, be at least 300 dpi and deal with period or SCA subject matter, or be presented in a period style. The deadlines for submissions are (Spring) March 1st, (Summer) June 1st, (Autumn) September 1st, and (Winter) December 1st.*