

# Seasons

#10 Summer A.S. LVIX  
(2024)





## Greetings from the Seasons Editor

Greetings to All!

This is the tenth 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; Photos of A&S Entries, Tourney Winners, A&S Performers 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. We also very much welcome introductory articles showcasing various activities in the SCA that may be of interest, and we invite you to join our readership and to be a part of our efforts — and this season we are particularly celebrating RUM (The Royal University of Meridies)

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 Summer of A.S. LIX (2024):

- **Warden's Challenge—Easaraigh—June 22nd**
- **Known World Dance & Music Symposium—Midrealm—July 4th-7th**
- **RUM (Royal University of Meridies)—South Downs—July 19th-21st**
- **Pennsic War—Aethelmearc—July 26th-August 11th**
- **Vices & Virtues—Phoenix Rising—August 30th-September 2nd**
- **Haustblot II—Loch an Fhraoich—September 21st**

**TUESDAY NIGHT SOCIALS** continue to be held and hosted by Mistress Ellen de Lacey on ZOOM at 7:00pm CST/8:00pm EST. 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.

**HERALDRY AFTER HOURS** on-line Herald's Point is hosted by THLord Magnus von Lubeck every Tuesday at 8:00pm CST/9:00pm EST in conjunction with the ZOOM Social.



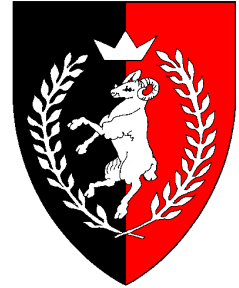
# Spring Event Highlights

During the Spring of A.S. LVIII-LIX the following Meridian Events were hosted and enjoyed:

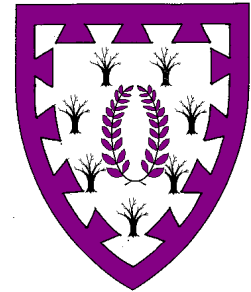
- **Gulf Wars—Gleann Abhann—March 9th-17th—King's Arrow Ranch, Lumberton, MS—**

As usual, this was a splendid event and well-attended by folk (and their Crowns) from many

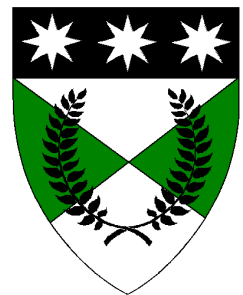
Kingdoms. Weather at Gulf Wars tends to vary, and this year's was no exception, but there were many, many excellent merchants, a wide ranch of martial activities and competitions, a plethora of classes, and revels galore!! We congratulate those in charge and the new site owners for once again hosting what was a wonderful WAR!!



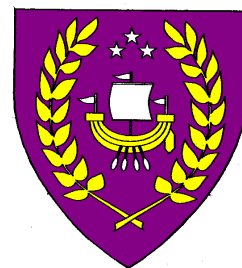
- **Spring Coronation—April 5th-7th—Depedale—Burt Adams Scout Camp, Covington, GA—**This is a gorgeous and well-maintained site, and HUGE. We had excellent weather, and among other things) THREE Peerage vigils and elevations (Sarah Duckworth to Pelican, Kurt Bogner to Pelican, and Owen Seys to Knight), and Meistres Bronwen o Gydweli received an Augmentation of Arms. The Royals Courts were, as anticipated, very entertaining — The Vampyric Reign of Their Royal Majesties Timothy and Ysmay came to an end at the hands of a colorful mob, and Their Royal Majesties Sebastianos and Morgan now reign. The feast was excellent, and we were blessed with a large number of newcomers who all, according to our sources, had a splendid time! Wonderful event!



- **Fool's War—Tir Briste—April 11th-14th—Camp Benjamin Hawkins, Byron, GA—**Beautiful weather prevailed, and while there was a smallish turnout for this event by Fool's War standards (380), much fun and socializing was had. There were a number of excellent Classes, and a whole lot of fighting. Merchants turned out, as usual, and Equestrian activities were impressive. According to one report, they had about 30 newcomers at Fools War, 16 of which made it to the Newcomers Luncheon . A few new people authorized for equestrian, and they also got together and made some newcomer favors. We had lots of good reports on this one, and congratulate Tir Briste on another foolish success



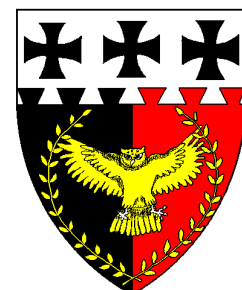
- **Dreamstone—Bryn Madoc—April 19th-21st—Hard Labor Creek State Park (Camp Daniel Morgan), Rutledge, GA**—This was a full weekend cabin event again this year, and as usual the Barony of Bryn Madoc hosted some excellent tourneys (both Heavy and Rapier), a marvelous Feast (plus Travelers' Fare and Breakfasts), Classes, and many opportunities for socializing. The weather was good through most of the weekend, and not too hot for armored combat, and a good time was reportedly had by all who were privileged to attend the event.



- **Iris Faire—Glaedenfeld—April 19th-21st—Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, TN**—Featured Tournaments (Rattan & Rapier), Live Weapons, Classes with a focus on the Americas in Period, and was wrapped up with an Aztec inspired Feast. Glaedenfeld also had their Bardic Championship competition with a theme of "Discovery", but anyone was allowed and encouraged to compete regardless of theme (per the current baronial bard). To entice performers, they decided that largesse was needed for those that stayed on theme, and this was donated. A good event, by all reports.



- **Crossroads—Owls' Nest—April 26th-28th—Wildlife Action Georgia, Acworth, GA**—This was a camping site, and dry, and it was the first time the site had been used. Owl's Nest promised thrilling combat scenarios, enriching classes, engaging youth activities, and a mouth-watering feast! All of their activities were themed around the captivating world of travel and trade throughout the ages.



- **Black Axe—Iron Mountain—May 3rd-5th—Dalwhinnie Fields, Selma, AL**—Famed for the Nine Lives Tourney and other fighting and fun, this was another rousing success for the Barony of Iron Mountain, with three Tournaments (Heavy and Rapier, and Archery), and Feasting, and a bit of Comedy as well — judging from the videos. Looks like everyone had a lot of fun!! John Imboden won the Nine Lives Charity Tournament for Rattan and Master Nikoslav Mikolaevich won for Rapier. More information on the Nine Lives Tourney specifically has been included elsewhere in this issue.

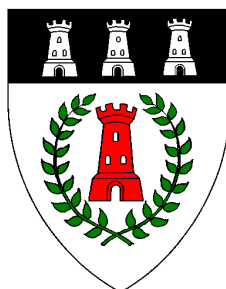




- **Golden Lily—Beau Fort—May 10th-12th—Hard Labor Creek State Park (Camp Rutledge), Rutledge, GA**—This event, at a well-known Meridian cabin site, celebrated Spring Festivals throughout the various regions of Italy, and promised two Heavy Tournaments, Fencing, and Fun & Games for young and old. It also featured a buffet style Feast at various stations, honoring different festivals, Mask-Making Classes, and a promised Masked Ball.



- **Artsy Crown —Forth Castle—May 24th-27th—Camp Benjamin Hawkins, Byron, GA**—This 4-day spectacular featured both the Kingdom Arts & Sciences Faire and Spring Crown Tourney, and both were well-supported and well-enjoyed by the subjects of our fair Kingdom — despite a bit of interesting weather on Saturday Morning when (according to reports) “It was something of a madhouse, and the storm was quite fierce. A massive thunderclap happened right over the great hall, and everybody stopped and ducked!” The Faire showcased, as always, many marvelous A&S entries, and Crown List featured fourteen (14) worthy combatants (Listed elsewhere in this issue) competing for the honor of their prospective Consorts. A well-fought Tourney despite the heat!



## Still On The June Calendar

(or held after Deadline)

- **Lilies War—Calontir—June 7th-16th—Kelsey Short Youth Camp, Smithville, MO**
- **Giant’s Dance—Nant-Y-Derwyddon—June 7th-9th—Laurel Grove Event Venue, Bristol, TN**



- **Menhir—Rising Stone—June 15th—Lane Agri-Park, Murfreesboro, TN**



- **Warden’s Challenge—Easaraigh—June 22nd—White County Fairgrounds Ag Building, Sparta, TN**





## SCA Fighting Activities: There's a Lot More to It Than You Might Think

By THLord Magnus von Lubeck

- SCA martial activities are a major part of our society. The variety goes far beyond just heavy fighting. Let us look at what this area of our society has to offer.
- The best known activity is heavy or rattan combat which is supervised by the local heavy marshal. Weapons used are made of rattan and can be sword and shield, two swords, mace, great sword, pole arm or spear. Armor is required to protect head, elbows, knees, and body. Combatants are authorized to fight after being trained in safety. Each fighter calls a shot based on an honor system. Heavy fighting is done as tournaments with two combatants. Crown List is a famous example to determine the next sovereign. Wars or melees involve many fighters and have varied scenarios including archers. Gulf War is an example.
- Rebated steel is a form of heavy combat using blunted steel weapons such as long swords. It uses heavier armor and only uses tournament style of fighting. Judges award points for scored hits to determine a victor.
- Rapier fighting is fought with rapier, dagger, buckler, cloak, and spear. Armor protection is for the face and neck with rest of body protected by layered cloth. Slashes and thrusts are allowed shots. Tournament and melee style of contests similar to heavy fighting are held.
- Cut and thrust rapier uses additional steel blades such as saber and two handed swords. Armor is heavier than rapier as percussion strikes to your opponent are allowed. Only tournament style is used.
- How would you like to shoot arrows at people! Now you can with combat archery. Bows of 35 pounds strength with rubber blunt arrows are used. This is in heavy melee fighting. Rapier melee uses rubber band guns.
- Siege weapons are used at large melees such as Gulf War. Often fortifications are in the scenario. Weapons such as ballistas (giant crossbow) and catapults with tennis balls are permitted.
- Live weapons are used in competitions (but not on people). Inter kingdom archery competitions allow modern and period bows and crossbows for target archery. Knife, axe, and spear are also practiced as thrown weapons.
- If you are interested in any of these activities where can you find them? The local marshal of your nearest group or barony is a place to begin. Royal University of Meridies this summer will offer classes on many of these martial activities. The Meridies kingdom and SCA web pages under the marshals office contain rules libraries and contacts. Check out this part of our SCA experience.

# Royal University of Meridies Event

This Kingdom Level Event is scheduled to be held on July 20th at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, GA, hosted by the Barony of the South Downs, and will feature (as always) a wide variety of classes. We were hoping to have a class schedule to include here, but at deadline they were still lining up teachers so this was not logistically possible. However, RUM Chancellor Mistress Sibella Denton has kindly provided an article on recent changes to RUM, including the new Degree. (see Below)



## A Letter from the Chancellor of RUM

*Mistress Sibella Denton*

During the last couple of years, there have been big changes afoot at Royal University of Meridies.

The scholar degree (our basic degree), has changed significantly! With the support of the RUM Provost and Registrar, and all the wonderful college deans, we have done away with all required classes. This makes the degree far more flexible than ever before, and therefore easier to achieve for the populous, with the side benefit of making the RUM event in Summer a lot more dynamic, with room for in depth, focused classes rather than the same old 10 required classes. We did this to make it easier and more transparent to figure out what to take and watch to teach, and also, to make it more fun to find new and interesting classes to take. We intended to do it to promote arts learning in the Kingdom - and I think it's working! We had HUGE numbers of degrees last year, and look forward to awarding many degrees at this summer's event, too! Will yours be one of them?

### Scholar Degree

The Scholar degree represents a broad-based general education, covering a variety of different fields of study.

- Each Scholar must take (or teach) 20 total classes.
- Of these, there must be at least three classes in each of five different Colleges.
- One of the five Colleges must be Current Middle Ages.
- The other four colleges may be chosen from any of these:
- The Deans classify classes and oversees Magister and Philosopher degree projects.

- ◇ *Animal Studies*
- ◇ *Apparel Arts & Sciences*
- ◇ *Culinary Arts & Herbalism*
- ◇ *Current Middle Ages*
- ◇ *Extra-European Studies*
- ◇ *Heraldic Studies*
- ◇ *History & Politics*
- ◇ *Literature*
- ◇ *Military & Combat Studies*
- ◇ *Performing Arts & Gaming*
- ◇ *Science & Technology: Min Soo Yun*
- ◇ *Scribal Arts*
- ◇ *Trades & Crafts*



### **Lector Degree**

The Lector degree recognizes focus on a single general area of study.

- Must already have received a Scholar degree
- Take (or teach) 10 additional classes in a single College.
- You can get multiple lector degrees!

### **Magister Degree**

The Magister degree is awarded for contributing to the education of others in a specific field.

- Each candidate must teach 5 classes in a subject from a College from which the student has already earned a Lector degree, and then complete a project (a paper, article, A&S entry, or similar), which must be approved by the Dean of the College.

*Example: Taking 10 classes from the Apparel Arts, and then write a paper on jupons or enter a jupon in A&S.*

### **Philosopher Degree**

This degree recognizes great dedication to learning and teaching.

*Complete 5 Magister degrees in 5 different Subjects.*

*Complete a project which combines at least two of these Subjects, which must be approved by the Dean of the related Colleges.*

We hope to see you at Royal University of Meridies, once again in Carrollton, Georgia on July 20, 2024.



# 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/>



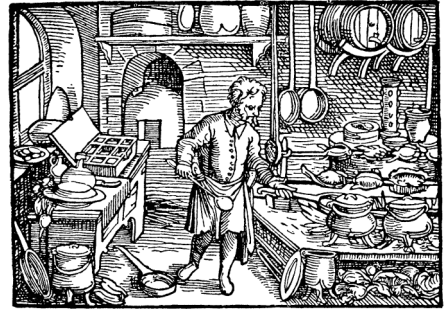
*Tradesmen Window  
Chartres Cathedral 13th Century*

**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!

# Summer in the Kitchen

*A Period Recipe for the Summer Month: Mistress Christianna MacGrain*



## **Sumer is e-Cumin In – The Bounty of the Orchard**

The summertime growing season is upon us, with large gluts of produce coming ripe at varying times, usually in amounts far too great to be consumed by the household right away. While eating as much fresh as possible, preparations in the Middle Ages (as now) would be underway to preserve all of the excess for the cold winter months.

Here are some examples of recipes for the preservation as well as the enjoyment of the bounty of summer harvests! – Mistress Christianna MacGrain

### **Bustaniya - Orchard Dish –**

Spiced Chicken and Lamb with Pears, Peaches, and Almonds

From: *In a Caliph's Kitchen*, David Waines, 1989 (Bagdad, 10<sup>th</sup> Century)

Fruit and meat cooked together is typically Near Eastern. "Bustan" means "orchard" and this dish contains pears, peaches, and almonds from the orchard.

Take small sour pears, wash and wrap in a moist cloth if they are dried pears, but if they are fresh, then macerate them in water and strain through a sieve. Then take chicken breasts, and cut them lengthwise into finger-sized strips and add to it as much meat as you wish. Next throw in peaches and boil (with the meat).

Season the pot with pepper and ma'kamakh, oil and some spices, some sugar, wine vinegar, and five almonds ground up fine; add to the pot.

Then break eggs over (the contents) and allow to settle, God willing.

Compost was a way to utilize all of the roots, fruits, vegetables and nuts of the garden, harvesting them at their peak flavor and production and adding them to the pickle with other previously harvested items.

### **COMPOST**

From: *Curye on English*, (English) 14<sup>th</sup> Century

"Take rote of persel, of pasternak, of rafens, scape hem and waische hem clene.

Take rapes & caboches, ypared and icorue.

Take an erthen panne with clene water & set it on the fire; cast alle thise therinne.

Whan they both boiled cast therto peeres, & parboile hem wel.

Take alle thise thynges vp & lat it kele on a faire cloth.

Do therto salt; whan it is colde, do hit in a vessel; take vyneger & powdour & safroun & do

therto, & lat alle thise thynges lye therin al nyyt, other al day.

Take wyne greke & hony, clarified togider; take lumbarde mustard & raisons coraunce, al hoole, & grynde powdour of canel, powdour douce & aneys hole, & fenell seed.

Take alle thise thynges & cast togyder in a pot of erthe, & take therof whan thou wilt & serue forth."

## COMPOST

Redaction from: *The Medieval Cookbook*,  
Maggie Black, British Museum Press

2 lb mixed parsley roots, carrots, turnip  
and radishes

1 lb white cabbage

1 lb hard eating pears

6 Tbsp salt

1 Tsp ground ginger

1/2 Tsp saffron threads

2 cups white wine vinegar

2oz currants

2 1/2 cups fruity white wine

6 Tbsp clear honey

1 Tsp french mustard

1/8 Tsp each cinnamon and pepper

1/4 Tsp each anise and fennel seed

2oz white sugar



Prepare the root vegetables and slice them thinly. Core and shred the cabbage. Put these vegetables into a large pan of water and bring slowly to the boil.

Peel, core and cut up the pears and add them to the pan. Cook until they start to soften.

Drain the contents of the pan and spread in a 2" layer in a shallow non-metallic dish. Sprinkle with the salt, saffron, ginger and 4 Tbsp of vinegar. Leave covered for 12 hours.

Rinse well, then add the currants.



Pack into sterilized storage jars, with at least 1" head-space.

Put the wine and honey in a pan. Bring to simmering point and skim.

Add the rest of the vinegar and all the remaining spices and sugar. Reduce the heat

and stir without boiling until the sugar dissolves. Bring back to the boil.

Pour over the vegetables, covering them with 1cm/ 1/2in liquid.

Cover with vinegar-proof seals and store.



### To Eat Figs in the French Manner

From: Rouperto de Nola, *Libro de Guisados* (Spanish, 1529)

Translation: Lady Brighid ni Chiarain (Robin Carroll-Mann)

Take dried figs, the sweetest that you can get, black and white, and remove the stems and wash them with good white wine which is sweet; and when they are very well-cleaned, take an earthenware casserole which is big enough, which has a flat bottom, and cast them inside, stirring them a little; and then put this casserole upon the coals, and well-covered in a manner that it is stewed there. And when they are stewed, and they will have absorbed all of the moisture of the wine, stir them a little, and cast fine spice on top of them; and turn them, stirring in a manner that incorporates that spice in them; and then eat this food; and it is an elegant thing; and it should be eaten at the beginning of the meal.

There are many recipes for taking fresh fruit and juicing it, mixing it with sugar and creating a long-lasting syrup. Here is a German example for peaches:

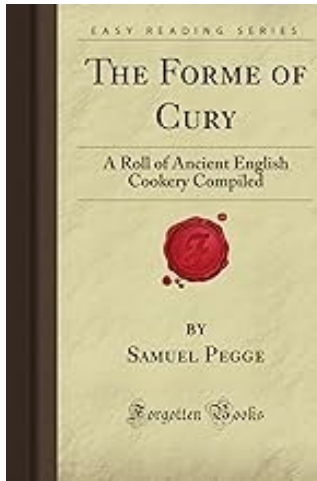
### Peach Latweg,

From: Marx Rumpolt, *Ein new Kochbuch* (German) 1581

Make peach preserve also therefore/ and press the peaches/ like this you are going to press a good juice from it/ boil it quickly away/ and take not much sugar/ like this it is also a beautiful preserve/ becomes beautiful clear juice/ good and well tasting.







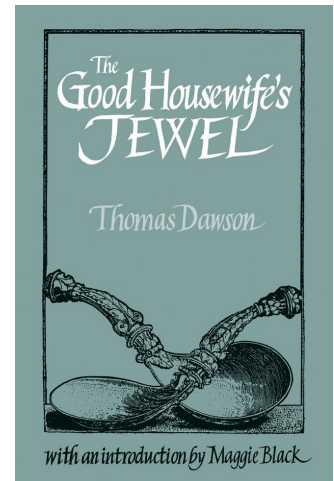
And if you just wanted to mix everything together, what could be better than a Fruit Tarte?

**To make all maner of fruit Tartes.**

From: Thomas Dawson, *The good huswifes ieuuell*. (English) 1587

You must boile your fruite, whether it be apple, cherie, peach, damson, peare, Mulberie, or codling, in faire water, and when they be boyled inough, put them into a bowle, and bruse them with a ladle, and when

they be cold, straine them, and put in red wine or claret wine, and so season it with sugar, sinamom and ginger.



## Summer's Heat

*Meistres Bronwen o Gydweli*

The summer sun can toast the skin, and  
burn the berry red,  
And brown the wheaten kernel formed to  
render daily bread.  
The summer's touch can light the pool, and  
warm the rising stones,  
And raise a shimmer o'er the lake, and  
bleach forgotten bones.

The summer's heat can drown the flesh, and  
sluice the weary brow,  
And leave us seeking such surcease as rain-  
fall might allow.  
The summer's thrust can pale the sky and  
pierce the darkest shade,  
And chase away the shadows that the  
thirsty night has made.

The summer's warmth can make us bold, to  
shed our woolen gowns  
And gaily dance upon the shores without  
our weighty crowns,

And feel the sands between our toes, and  
shield our seeking eyes,  
Until to fall we eager turn at summer's slow  
demise.

[1 September, A.S. LII, 2017]



# Period Doors

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 Doors.



French 1450-1500



Spanish mid-16th C.



European 15th-16th C.



Pair of Carven Doors 1566



Spanish 15th C.



French late 15th C.





## Spilling the Royal-Tea: An Interview with Duke Timothy

*Lord Leopold Guotman*

Our royals are the most populace-facing people in the kingdom. This article series seeks to learn more about our royals, who they are, what they love about the SCA, and what plans they have for their reign and their live post throne for the populace to get to know them better. This will encompass current, former, and future royals (heirs). It will be a mixture of hard-hitting journalism and softball questions. Please see the following interview with our most recent royal Duke Sir Timothy of Bennington below.

1. What interested you in the SCA?

A. My very first discovery of the SCA emerged from a martial arts class in which I asked if there were any sports or tournaments where we could use our weapon skills. A fellow student directed me to a fighter practice, and I was immediately drawn in by the heavy combat melees.

2. What was your first event?

A. Estrella War, 1999

3. What brought you to the glorious kingdom of Meridies?

A. I moved to Warner Robins, GA as a part of my service to the United States Air Force.

I was stationed at Robins AFB and surprisingly never left.

4. What is a “can’t miss” event in Kingdom and what about an out of kingdom event?

A. One of my personal can’t miss events is Jour D’ Amour, hosted by the shire of Drakenmere. It isn’t as busy or well attended as some of our kingdom’s larger events. However, this lends it a special intimacy where they can really lean into the theme and make it something magical. Every time I attend this event, I am simply inspired by what this group has put together.

5. You are what is colloquially known as a “super Duke”- what exactly does that mean?

A. Winning crown and serving a successful reign once made me an Earl (or Count). Doing it twice made me a Duke. But there was no new title to be earned for anyone who goes beyond the requisite 2 reigns to earn a duchy. So, I think the term Super-Duke emerged as a tongue-in-cheek nod to those who continue to win, past the promise of any titles or accolades.

6. What is the best part of being royalty?

A. Having the privilege to bestow awards and recognition upon the worthy gentles of our Kingdom. Being a part of various elevation ceremonies has been one of the most humbling and fulfilling experiences in

my SCA journey.

7. What has been the hardest part of your time on the throne?

A. Dispensing admonishments and mediating complex interpersonal conflicts. There is no joy in administering a banishment and there are no winners in petty squabbles.

8. How has your time as a royal changed your perspective on the society and the “game” we play?

A. One of the largest revelations I had as Crown was the importance of an earnest thank you. It really is our currency. It is how we award our volunteers. It is at the foundation of every rank and title. Awarding a Laurel, for example, is the most powerful way to say “Thank you for committing yourself to a lifelong journey of arts and sciences and sharing it with others in our society.”

9. What advice do you have for any aspiring royalty?

A. Remember to always put joy first, for everyone. Carefully heed the counsel of those wise friends and advisors around you. Stay grounded and be a servant leader. Maintain balance in your life.

10. You are also a knight of the kingdom. Which chivalric value resonates most with you and why?

A. Temperance is my principal virtue. It is the virtue that balances and guides the others. For too much courage can be foolhardy. Too much honesty can be rude. Too much humility can be self-abasing. Temperance is that magical virtue that reminds us that even too much of a good thing can be bad.

11. A lot of fighters look up to you. What advice do you have for fighting someone of your stature?

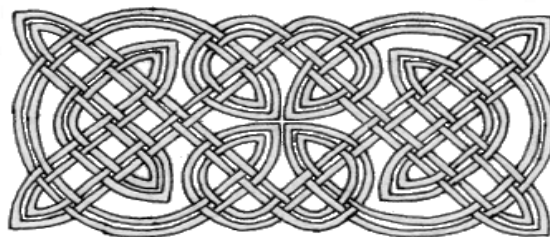
A. The first step to fighting well is simply loving to fight. If you absolutely love the process of fighting, learning, trying new things, and challenging yourself, then not a day goes by that the training feels wasted. Find the joy in the journey and stature doesn't matter. It's just another great challenge against which to test yourself and grow stronger. Also, watch the scorpion wrap.

12. You've been busy since your last “dethroning”, especially in the live weapons community. What inspired you to pick up that discipline?

A. I was encouraged and inspired by my King's Huntsman, Baroness Katarina de Soroya to go put in some time on the range. She also encouraged me to compete in the Huntsman tournament. After some great coaching by Master Fynlo and Sir Griffin, I won the tournament. Now, in an effort to pay forward the inspiration and gain a deeper insight into the role, I am starting my own journey to become a certified “Weapon Master.”

13. What other good word do you have for the populace?

A. I mentioned that the “Thank You” is the currency that drives the SCA. This doesn't mean it has to come from the Crown. Find creative ways to offer thanks and appreciation to those volunteers in your local groups, households, and kingdom. You never





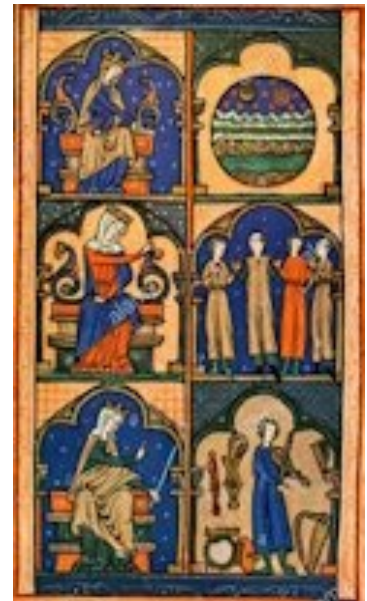
# Meet the Spring Champions

Congratulations to all Meridians who excelled in competition during the Spring months, whether in Fighting, Service or the Arts!

At **Spring Coronation** The King's Huntsman and Queen's Yeoman competitions were held. **His Grace Duke Timothy** won the Huntsman. His Excellency, **Viscount Waleric von Brederke**, won the Yeoman. Congratulations to Both!!

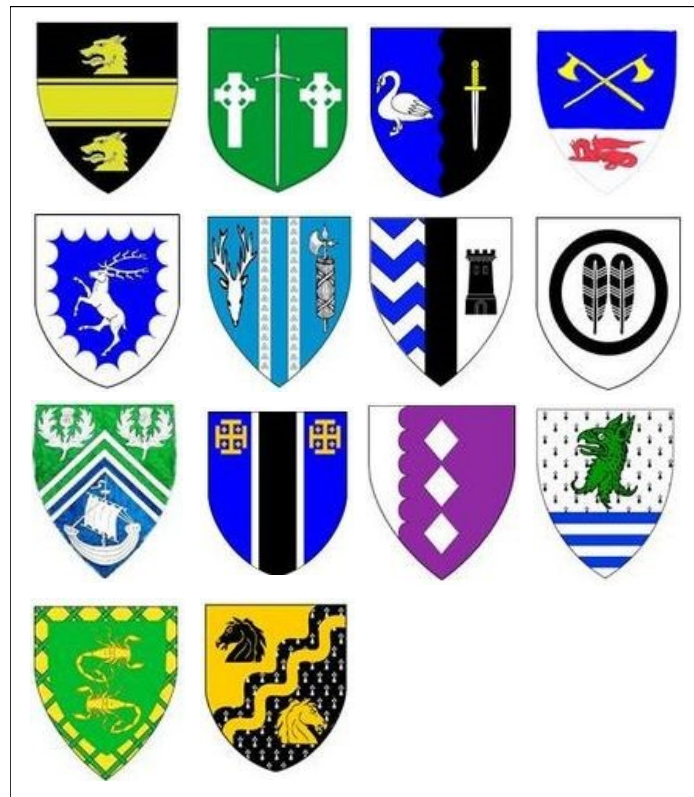
**The Kingdom Faire** was held on May 25th at Benjamin Hawkins Scout Camp in Byron, GA. At the Kingdom Arts & Sciences Faire we were privileged to see and be duly impressed by a number of truly excellent A&S entries in a number of categories.

So also was the Queen's Rapier Champion chosen, and **Master Cato di Napoli** won the Tourney, but after discussion with Her Majesty, HRM Morgan selected **THLady Leandra Drago Forte** to represent her as her Champion.



The Crown List competitors were: Combatants and Consorts. (in no order)

- Lord Eirikr Pálsson for Baroness Arnora Karlsdóttir
- Sir Emhin MacTir for Countess Gwenhwyfar Mwynn
- Sir Richard na Teanga Mhin for Mistress Heahburh aet Niwecastel
- Count Randver Brotamaðr for Count Arianne Lightheart of Whiteheld
- Sir Matthew MacTyre for Lady Margery of Canterbury
- Count Barthelemy of Illyria for Countess Oda of Austrasia
- Sir John Mailur called John Mailer for The Oloye Omokéhindégbègbón Òyó called Kéhindé
- Sir Kikuchi Kazumitsu for Lady Moira Mcbrayer
- Baroness Mairghread Wilson for Baron Piers Simmons
- Master Thomas Paumer for Mistress Adela Scrijver van Brugge
- Mistress Edila Emmadoghter for Master Thomas Paumer
- The Honorable Lord Jacques de la Fontaine for The Honorable Lady Ysabel D'Ange
- Sir Hrothgar of Mercia for THL Kata Alarsdottir
- Sir Conal MacDale for Mistress Wuenne-mon die Naehrin.



# We Also Cheerfully Hail

Their Royal Majesties Sebastianos and Morgan, Coronated on April 25th with the promise of a long and fruitful reign, and Their Royal Highnesses Barthelemy and Oda, who were named as the Meridian Heirs on May 26th, A.S. LIX following Count Barthelemy's victory in Crown List. The succession is thus well-assured!!



Photo Credit: Baroness Kathryn Spencer

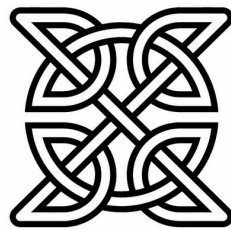


Photo Credit: Duchess Ysmay of Branston



## A Newcomers Note:

It's Summer once again, and of course that's going to mean some hot, and often sticky, weather for those of us in the South.

Some event venues are air-conditioned, but most (for the most part) are not. As a result, for those attending mainly outdoor events, please remember to stay hydrated and to dress accordingly. There are period garments (probably not Tudor, Italian Renaissance or Elizabethan) that lend themselves better than others to hot climates, so check around, and remember that linen is much more forgiving than wool or synthetics.

On site, find shaded areas for use when you aren't fighting or serving, and please don't get overheated.

Good Eventing!



# PEERAGE Elevations in the Spring

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):



**Loegaire Mac Lochlainn** (Loric) - to Pelican (March 13th at Gulf Wars)

**Richard na Teanga Mhin** - To Knight (March 14th at Gulf Wars)

**Barthelemy Illyria**—to Pelican (March 14th at Gulf Wars)

**Dalla Dyrfina** — to Pelican (March 14th at Gulf Wars)

**Catina Marciano**—to Pelican (March 15th at Gulf Wars)

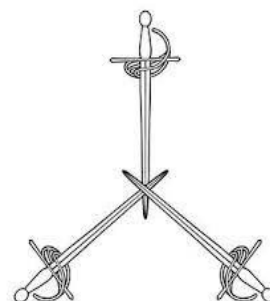
**Sarah Duckworth**— To Pelican (April 6th at Spring Coronation)

**Kurt Bogner**—To Pelican (April 6th at Spring Coronation)

**Owen Seys** (to Knight (April 6th at Spring Coronation)

**David Duckworth**—To Pelican (April 13th at Fool's War)

**Elijah Cameron of Black Isle**—To Master of Defense (May 26th at Artsy Crown)



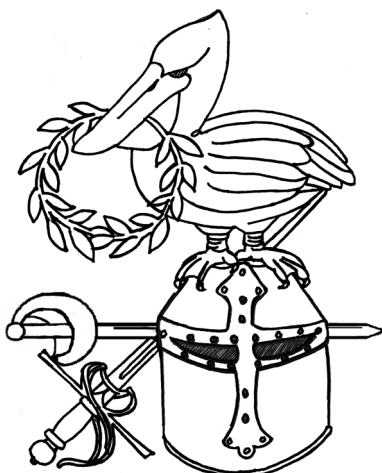
## Planned Future Elevations

**Catina Cooper** - to Pelican (Date & Event TBA)

**Stefano Roggio**—to Master of Defense (Date & Event TBA)

## Additional Announced Writs:

**Xanthe Yfantes** — Pelican Writ March 14th at Gulf Wars)



*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](mailto:seasons@meridies.org) so that these can be mentioned in the Fall Issue, due out at the beginning of September A.S. LIX.*



# Nine Lives Charity Tourney



Baron Erik Martel — Photo  
Credit THLady Rose Rennel

In preparation for this now traditional Tourney at Black Axe, Baron Erik Martel announced that he would be taking the field with many tokens. If he was defeated in combat, he promised to give a token to his victorious opponent, and he vowed that if they hit their \$2,500 fundraising goal he promised to run the Kitty Kat Haven 5k in full armor — and also to break the catsuit of infamy out of retirement for Catsuit 2: Electric Boogaloo at this falls Castle Wars.

We're certain MANY folk are interested in seeing THAT, but the photo to the left was NOT of Baron Erik in the infamous Catsuit. Rather it shows him proudly modeling a cat hood gifted to him at Black Axe by Mistress Maudeleyn Godeliva Taillour.

All donations to the Tourney were slated to go to Kitty Kat Haven, which is a no kill shelter located in the Iron Mountain Baronial area. KKH feeds, houses and provides medical care for abandoned cats and kittens, supports adopters and fosters and also provides trap, neuter and release programs in the area to help lower the need for

such services. As an all-volunteer shelter, 100% of donations go directly towards the care of the kitties.

Former winners on the rattan side of this tournament include Duke Timothy, Count Lochlann and Count Ulrich. Some of the best rattan fighters come out for this tournament and combatants were advised that this might be the only time they might to see them prior to Crown List.

The Nine Lives Tourney attracted many Entrants this year helped to raise \$2510.00 for Kitty Kat Haven & Rescue!

Congratulations to all who participated!!



Nine Lives Tourney Entrants — Photo Credit  
THLady Rose Rennel



# From the Desk of the Kingdom Minister of the Arts & Sciences

Gulf Wars A&S Champions!

The entries that the Meridian Arts Champions absolutely showed out this year!

Not only did all five entries receive incredibly high scores, Syr Emrys (for the chip carved stool) was named the Grand Champion for the competition! These artists shine a bright light on, beautiful light on Meridies! Congratulations to all of the kingdom's talented artists!

Syr Emrys



Baroness Rhonwyn

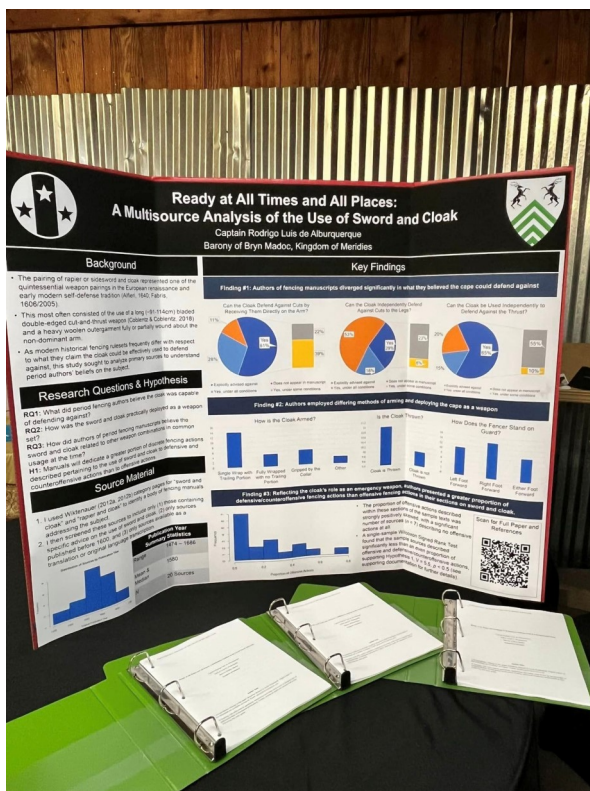


THLord Corwin





## Captain Rodrigo



## Baron Erikr



These worthies are congratulated here for their exceptional and impressive efforts:

- Iarll Emrys of Gwyntarian (Chipped Wood Table),
- Baroness Rhonwen Alyn nic an Chro-sain (Period Inks),
- THLord Corwin Giollapadhreag (Period Pear Cider),
- Captain Rodrigo Luis Albuquerque (A Multi-Source Analysis of the Use of Sword & Cloak), and
- Baron Erikr Martel (Copper Shields).

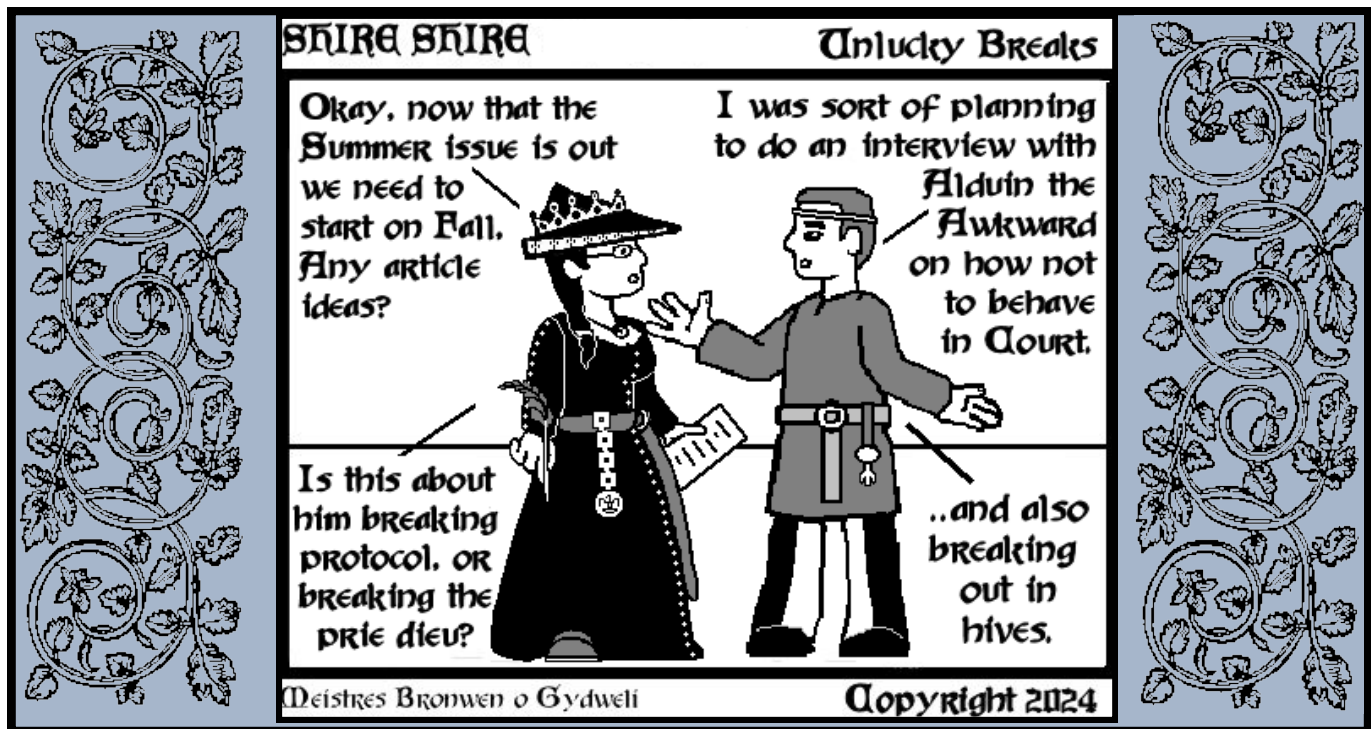
## Articles and Clover Art Needed

For all those aspiring, or established, Artists and Authors of Meridies, SEASONS is always on the prowl for Articles and Cover Art (Especially Articles), and we would very much like to showcase Original work done by our own talented Meridian Artists rather than using photographs or out-of-Kingdom sources.

If you have period-style, or period-themed, or SCA-themed drawings in your portfolios — or still waiting impatiently to be drawn — please consider submitting them for use as Cover (or Filler) Art for use in this supplement.

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





## Acknowledgements and Thanks

**T**hank you to **THLady Rúnfriðr Ópisdóttir (Runa)** for this issue's wonderful Cover Art, to **The Metropolitan Museum of Art** whose Open Access Policy allowed us freely to reprint images of objects from their Open Access Collection to this periodical, to **Baroness Kathryn Spencer** for her photographic excellence, to **Duke Timothy of Long Bennington** for agreeing to be interviewed for "Spilling the Royal-Tea", to **Mistress Christianna MacGrain** for her article "Sumer is e-Cumin In – The Bounty of the Orchard". to **THLord Magnus von Lubeck** for his article "SCA Fighting Activities: There's a Lot More to It Than You Might Think"; to Kingdom Social Media Officer **THLady Rose Rennel** for permission to use her Black Axe photos, to Kingdom A&S Minister **Duchess Thorkatla Herjolfsdottir** for her photos of Gulf Wars A&S Championship entries to **Duchess Ysmay of Branston (as well as to Their Highnesses Barthelemy and Oda)** for allowing the use of her Crown List photo, and to Royal University of Meridies Chancellor **Mistress Sibella Denton** for her article on "Changes to RUM".



**S**pecial thanks also to 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 **Lord Leopold Guotman**, and to Honorary Deputy **Mistress Christiana MacGrain**, and stand-by contributor **Sir Jean-Claude von Adlerstaat** for their ongoing assistance and their contributions to this issue, to wit: "Interview: Spilling the Royal-Tea" (Leopold).

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 Autumn Seasons will be September 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.*