



The

Quosting

Quill



VOL. I ISSUE II

NOVEMBER, A.S. XII

THE QUESTING QUILT

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EVENTS OUTSIDE OUR SHIRE

November 12-13----ATENVELDT CROWN TOURNEY--Border March,
Ansteorra, ~~November 12-13~~

January 7----ATENVELDT TWELFTH NIGHT FESTIVITIES/
CORONATION--no further details as yet

May 26-28----GRAND OUTLANDISH V--autocrat Morgan
Tiercel the Outsider, contact at 294-4741. Another
great Grand Outlandish being planned again this
next May, so start planning now for another fun-
filled weekend.



EVENTS OF PROMINENCE

(All events until February will be held at the Transient Novel Park (Trailer Park) in the club house at 2815 South 2580 West)

November 12----Winter's Eve Revel and Class

Because of the events planned for this particular Revel please arrive precisely at or before 7:30 p.m. See article for further information.

December 10----Beast Feast

This event will be our first served dinner. It will be previously planned as to who will bring what. So if you intend to come please let the Autocrat (for this event it is Rhonwen y Llysieuidd) know so you can be assigned something to bring. Festivities will begin at 7:30. Also note that you must bring your own goblet and spoon or go really period and use thy fingers!

January 14----Twelfth Night Revel

Autocrats of this Festivity will be the De Spencers of Hold Tyte. As of yet we have no more information. Be looking for it in the next issue of the Questing Quill.

February 11----Court of Love

This will be Autocrated by our fair Seneschale. More information to be published later.

WINTER'S EVE REVEL AND CLASS

Upon the night of November 12 at precisely 7:30 we will begin a procession. This will be just the beginning in a night filled with revel and learning experiences.

For those of you not yet possessing a device or persona, instructions in such will be forthcoming. Materials to build a device will be furnished for a fee of \$3 or bring your own. You are also requested to bring sissors, glue, thread and needle.


It has come to our sad attention that we are all much lacking in the courtly graces. So upon this night we shall begin to practice and understand some of the gestures and courtesies practiced at Court. None of us wish to appear the country bumpkin when presented to royalty.

Also to refresh ourselves at half-time ye are all requested to bring potluck munchies. As of the new ruling set forth "thou shalt bring or go hungry" or we will accept a donation of \$1 per person (children under 12 50¢).

The favor given to the lady for most courtly behavior, known as the List of Grace and the favor given to the lord for most courtly behavior, the List of Gallantry, will be presented this night for the first time. So be upon thy most courtly behavior so that thou mayst receive thy due.

One last reminder to please arrive shortly before or precisely at 7:30 so that thou mayst be in the opening procession and presented to the throne.

This Revel will be held at the Transient Novel Park at 2815 South 2580 West. Remember to dress in period. If you don't have a costume be sure to get in touch with Leah De Spencer our Hospitater.



MILORDSI MILADIESI Hear Ye!

The Seneschale, Herald, Knight Marshall and Hospitaller of this Shire did journey to the Barony of Caerthe to witness the Prince Coronet Tourney to determine who will be the next Prince of The Outlands. The victor was Sir Heinrich Der Jaegar. Robert de Spencer, your Knight Marshall did fight in a challenge match and a melee and did acquit himself most honorably. He also did display an articulated gauntlet made by his own hand and this article was judged by Her Majesty Elizabeth Karien, Queen of Atenveldt, to be the best piece of armour submitted for consideration. Rhonwen y Llysteydd did also demonstrate her Field Heraldry. As representatives of the newest Shire, we were privileged to be presented to His Majesty, Sir Tom the Traveller, King of all Atenveldt and his gracious queen, Her Majesty Elizabeth Karien. Hospitality was provided by Dona Ketiavia Segovia de la Noche and Sir Theodric, Lord Broken Beaken and his wife, Lady Judith de Beaumont. Many thanks are for their kindness.

Many things did we learn upon our travels to Caerthe. Much kindly advice and wisdom was shared with us by others more experienced in the ways of the Society. After discussing this information with the other officers of this Shire, it is my duty as a representative of the Crown here in am Mor Salann Fasach to make clear some necessary changes in the way some thins have been going here in the Shire.

First of all, starting NOW, there will be NO talk of science fiction, Star Trek or mundane matters at an SCA event. It is impossible to maintain the spirit of the SCA when mundane matters are allowed to creep into the affair. It is very necessary that we begin IMMEDIATELY to address people correctly and to practice proper behavior for a court function. (This is to protect any of us from making fools of ourselves when we go out of our little Shire or when we have visitors who know how it should be done.) Stay within your persona! There is no way to really get involved in the fun without maintaining your medieval persona. We're all learning together and will inevitably make many mistakes, but we're not going to improve as a group unless we make a real effort to do it right!

Secondly, there is a very unfortunate tendency that has been showing up to let a very small group of people do

all of the work and provide all the food. We have found that other shires who let this sort of a situation develop have actually folded because of this attitude problem. This will not happen to am Mor Salann Fasacht! Therefore, the following measures will be taken to keep this from happening:

1. When an event is specified as "pot luck" people will be tagged as they come in if they either bring food or contribute \$1.00 to the Shire coffers. (More about money later.) While the eating is going on, other activities such as chess matches and other games will be provided for the amusement of those who don't care to share in the food. This will also allow those who want to come to the event but don't choose to eat there a graceful way out. Hopefully this will be only a temporary measure until we all get used to working together on things. It will also be possible to arrange an IOU arrangement, if necessary.

2. Everyone should be taking a turn with clean-ups. Most often it has been left to the officers, but if more people stayed it would shorten the clean-up time considerably. So, to ensure that enough people will be available, the autocrat of an event has the option of calling members of the Shire and requesting their help with clean-up or preparations for an event. Please help out. It is a big responsibility these people are taking on when they agree to autocrat an event. And, remember, YOUR turn to autocrat is coming up and you will certainly want help.

3. It is now standard practice to bring your OWN plate, goblet (glass) and silverware. Now that we've grown, it is now longer practical to provide everything for everybody. It is standard SCA practice, so we might as well get used to it here in our own Shire.

Now we come to a very important subject: MONEY. There are no regular dues for SCA, unless you choose to become a subscribing member and receive the kingdom newsletter, etc., but there still are very definite expenses in running the Society and the Shire. For example, it takes money to get out The QUESTING QUILL and get it mailed. Also, we must look forward to a future time when we are going to have to pay the fees to get the SCA properly incorporated in the state. From now on at all events we are going to institute a quaint old SCA tradition called "passing the helm". This is a simple way of

raising money where the bravest fighter or the prettiest girl in a low-cut gown is sent among the populace to get people to throw their spare change (or folding money) into the helm. If you want to get fancy, contributions are tax deductible. Don't panic and be afraid to come if you don't have any money to contribute that time. There is no pressure involved (aside from the fighter looming over you and possibly waving his weapon in a threatening manner).... We'll just figure that if you can't contribute this time, you'll dump in extra next time. So please come prepared to dig into your pocket or pouch. It's all for the glory of the Crown and the Shire.



If all of this sounds very authoritarian....you're right. The Society for Creative Anachronisms, Inc., is set up to recapture the feel of the Middle Ages. And blessed few medieval kings were known for asking a popular vote before making decisions. Bear this in mind and take it in good spirit.

Incidentally, if the name "Ferelith MacDonald" doesn't sound at all familiar to you in the Society, let me explain. My persona has been going through a vast identity crisis and when things settled down I found myself Scottish instead of Irish. I could have kept the Sorchu from "Sorchu O'Melachlin", but after spending the weekend in Caerthe being called "Scort-cna", I called it quits with the name. So, your seneschale is the same person with a different name.

Things are really coming together for the Shire and events should be getting more and more exciting. I'll look forward to seeing you at the next revel.

Your servant in the Society,

Ferelith MacDonald
Seneschale, an Mor Salann Fasach



BECOMING "SOMEBODY" IN THE
SHIRE OF AN NOR SALANN FASACH




Newcomers to the Shire--and even some of you who have been part of us for some time--must needs choose a name and persona to be known by others in the Shire and in the records of the Society.

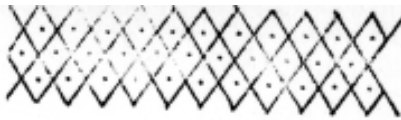
This is an important part of your activity in the SCA but should not be rushed into--it's all right to change your persona after having one established, but those who do this often may find themselves addressed as "Anonymous the Undecided" for want of the current personal

To begin with, choose a time period and nationality with which you are familiar or in which you have an interest. (Unless you are already a medieval scholar you may not be too familiar with any period, but most of us know something about the middle ages!) Remember that you are not limited to Europe--Asian, American Indian, even Hawaiian personas are possible! So far in our Shire we have Vikings, other assorted barbarians, and persons of Welsh, Scottish, French, English, and Russian extraction. So be creative! Make your name and persona fit you!

For example, I have been interested in early Welsh literature for some time, specifically the Mabinogian, so I wanted a Welsh persona. Also, as a botany major with a real interest in edible/medicinal plants, I wanted somehow to work "herbalist" into my name. I sat down with my Welsh dictionary, translated "herbalist" into Welsh, picked a pretty Welsh first name, and Voila! Rhonwen y Llysiouydd was born! To complete my persona I then chose the time period and did a little research into appropriate costume, customs and the like, when you have done this you are ready to stand proudly with the rest of the Lords and Ladies of the Society.

A few cautions and rules on the use of persona. Firstly, no historical or mythical names are allowed. So you cannot be Robin Hood or Gandalf the Grey. Nor can you take the name of one of your own ancestors of an appropriate time and place. A persona in the SCA is not meant to act out some part, but you become the person you could have been in this time and place (and with all the conveniences of the Twentieth Century!) Don't





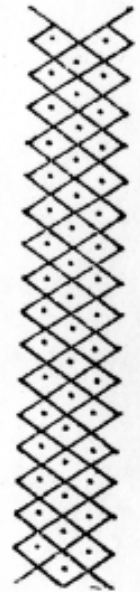
try to get cute and translate the name into some other language and figure you can get away with it that way-- when joining the Society all names are requested to be translated into English and someone will catch on!

Another thing that will make it easier on friends, heralds, and yourself is to get a name that is fairly pronounceable by modern standards. I know from experience! I have been called "Rhonwen the Unpronounceable" at times. This of course is not a rule; if you want to be Kxyzptik the Mad, that's up to you!

Please do not get too mundane with your name. If you work mundanely as a forklift operator, and want to be "John the Forklift Operator" you don't have the true spirit of the Society! A Society persona should take you out of the mundane world, not remind you of it!

When you have chosen your persona, please let me know. As Herald of Am Nor Salann Fasach I am in charge of keeping track of such things as this, as well as submitting your devices (I will exhort thee upon these at another time). It's easier to catch me at revels or write; I have a 60 hour mundane work week and am never at home! But farspeaker number is 355-3986, Address: Seren Hold, 156 Third Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

Creatively,
Rhonwen y Llysieuydd



THE HARPER'S ARTS

At our last revel we worked awhile on spinning. For those of you who did it but can't remember from one day to the next how you did it here are a few reminders.

- 1) The fibers have to be carded. This is done by brushing them all the same direction using two carding brushes. If you don't have carding brushes two doggie brushes will work.
- 2) To begin spinning twist one end of your carded piece and tie it onto your spindle with a string.
- 3) Twist the spindle counterclockwise with your right hand while you control the flow of fibers with your left. Spin the flow of fibers with your left. Spin each section twice to give it strength and be sure you don't let the spindle backspin.
- 4) When adding one carded piece to what you have already spun spread one end of the fibers and wrap them around the end of your yarn. Then continue with step three.

I hope you enjoy spinning and I also hope we can weave our own yarn in the near future.

Elaine of the Lion's Tale

