

TALES FROM THE MIST

WEBSITE: WWW.SCA-WINTERMIST.ORG
ALSO LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK

From the Seneschal

Greetings Wintermistians!

Well soon war will be knocking on our door, so now is the time to start making things ready. You'd be surprised at how fast the time flies and before you know it, it'll be the week before and you'll have nothing to wear! One of the events that I have come to love is Treasure Chest hosted by Nordwache. This year the event will be on April 26 thru the 28th, and held at beautiful Kearney Park in Fresno. Most of the site is covered by large trees, and green grass, something of a rarity for a lot of events. One Friday night they have their traditional torch light tournament, and they always come up with some theme for the event. On Saturday they have thrown weapons, and heavy weapons melees going on throughout the day, as well as Arts and Science competitions, and a silent auction.

As our most loyal neighbors I feel that it is very important to support their events, and this one is a great one if you have never attended. It would be wonderful if we could have a large Wintermist encampment at this coming Treasure Chest so that we might show off some of our new amazing camp embellishments, perhaps arrange a Saturday feast, and of course a presentation for the Baron and Baroness. Muddyfoot of course will host our annual Ogre Egg Hunt on Friday night, and I'll bring our rope and logs for Pull and Ogre Off A Log contest. Let's start planning now!

THLady Kali Raqs Xahar

From the Chronicler

During last Yule I was inspired with an idea and I'm currently in the process of implementing it: a corroborative newsletter featuring articles from the four northern Caid territories, Nordwache, Naevehjem, Dun Or, and Wintermist. I've already reached out to the baronial heads, seneschals, and chroniclers of the three baronies explaining the idea and suggesting the name "News From the North". The feedback was positive, and so, I am now asking for articles!

This newsletter would be a biannual publication featuring news, histories, and traditions of each of our territories. I hope to have the first issue published by June Coronation so that it can be presented to the next king and queen. So, I ask the populace to start thinking about Wintermist traditions, or write up something pertaining to Wintermist history. I will be sending out a call for articles for this newsletter as well and the regularly scheduled Tales, but it will only be as good as the submissions I receive. Let's show the kingdom how the North can shine!

Lady A'isha al-Raqqasa

CAID CALENDAR

- Feb 9: St. Isidore Anniversary (Calafia)
- Feb 9: Chivalry Tourney (Nordwache)
- Feb 10: Festival of the Rose (Lyondemere)
- Feb 16-17: Talon Crescent Festival (Starkhafn)
- Feb 23-24: Crown Tourney/Privy Council (Altavia)
- Feb 26-Mar 4: Estrella (Atenveldt)
- Mar 9: Pentathlon (Gyldenholt)



WINTERMIST CALENDAR

- Feb 1: Brewers FM
 - Feb 7: Fiber Arts/aka String FM
 - Feb 9: Leatherworkers FM
 - Feb 11: Illuminations FM
 - **Feb 13: Shire Business Meeting Tony's Pizza on Mt. Vernon Ave 7:00 pm**
 - Feb 19: Illumination FM
 - Feb 21: Meeting of the Flourish of Heralds, 7pm
 - Feb 23: Woodworkers FM
 - Feb 27: Newsletter Articles Due
 - Feb 28: Clothiers FM—**Chair cover class**
 - Feb 28: Bardic FM
 - **Sundays at 10 am Fighter Practice at Patriot's Park**
 - **Thursdays at 5pm: Sewing Circle**
- (FM=Fellowship Meeting)

Wintermist Heraldry Report for February, 2013

By Manus leDragonier, Wintermist Pursuivant

The latest meeting of the Caidan College of Heralds was held on the 27th of January. Attending the meeting from our fair Shire was Ardhal mac Domnaill, Estrith Rasmusdatter and myself. We took seven submissions to the meeting, two new names and devices, two name and device resubmissions and three device resubmissions. Of the seven sets of items covered by the College six were passed and sent to the Laurel Queen of Arms. The last was returned for a redraw and will pass at the next meeting in March.

One note to people who are doing research especially for name documentation- **do not list Wikipedia as a source!** Much of what is listed there cannot be documented as a credible source. What may work is to check whatever information you find in Wikipedia and check that sources' bibliography for credible reference. And when in doubt ask for help from your friendly neighborhood herald.

Listed below are the items accepted by the Caidan College of Heralds; new material in bold type.

- **Alexander Hastilius Caidus: Sable a hippotamus statant within a bordure Or.**
- Atia Uxor Alexandri: **Per pale azure and argent, a tree blasted couped within a bordure embattled counter-changed.**
- **Helena Julia of Kythera: Per fess purpure and argent, three mullets in fess Or and a tree blasred and eradicated proper.**
- Matsunga Haru: **Argent, a dragonfly bendwise sinister within a bordure azure.**
- **Thorbjorg Ylva: Per bend sinister Or and purpure, issuant from the line of division a phoenix purpure enflamed gules.**
- **Verina Caelistis: Sable, in saltire a sword proper and an alicorn within a bordure embattled Or.**

The Staffordshire Treasure Hoard

In 2009, a man with a metal detector found a treasure hoard in a field outside of Hammerwich in Staffordshire, England. Most of the items were military in nature leading to belief that the treasure was booty from a battle. The items are now located in the Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery and the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery in Stoke on Trent, England. No one knows why the Treasure was buried, this is my version of what might have happened:

We knew we were being followed, but they would bide their time until they had the advantage. Even though they out numbered us two to one they knew better than to try and take two fully armed knights and their squires with out some element of surprise. What they didn't know was how badly our little group was hurt. Sir Roland was completely out, we had tied him to his horse so that he wouldn't fall off but I didn't think he would last much longer. Giles, his squire, kept a worried eye on him as he led his master's horse. My master was not in much better shape. He was awake but each step of his horse elicited a muffled groan from between his clenched teeth.

I looked at the saddle bags on each horse; in them was a treasure of gold and jewels worth a king's ransom, taken as booty from the battle. As I tried to think of what to do I spied a rock outcropping not far from the road and it came to me. We could hide the treasure in the rocks and come back for it later. I spurred my horse up next to Giles' and told him of my plan.

Suddenly my master spoke, "that is a good plan; the road here loops around the rocks. I will lead the horses around to the other side by way of the road. You two hide the saddle bags in the rocks and meet me on the other side."

Giles and I quickly dismounted and tied the horses to my master's saddle. As my master set off, Giles and I took the saddle bags into the rocks. As luck would have it we found a badger hole in the rocks, the perfect place to hide a treasure. The hole was barely big enough to fit the treasure in, some of the pieces we had to smash to get them to fit but we got it all in and covered it up. We then ran to where my master and Sir Roland were waiting with the horses.

They came for us in the morning. Giles was the first to die, an arrow through his neck. I watched a man drive his spear through Sir Roland and although Sir Roland had died in the night, I was incensed that they had defiled his body. My master and I fought them, but my master could barely swing his sword and was soon dead. An arrow knocked me off my feet, and as I lay there I had a thought that brought a smile to my dying lips. They would never find the treasure.

By Michael of Berwick upon Tweed

Wintermist Knewbie Knockabout and Rapier Tourney - April 6, 2013

Welcome one and all to the beautiful Shire of Wintermist, which nestles in the southern most vicinity of the San Joaquin Valley. We send out our challenge to all the new fighters who have been fighting for less than two years to attend our **Knewbie Knockabout**. This is the only event held specifically for new fighters in Caid, so come test your mettle against your peers! Also we will have a **Greybeard Grudge Match** for any Fighters age 40 years and older. An opportunity for the veteran SCA fighters to get together and knock a few heads. Why just let the greenhorns have all the fun, eh?

In addition to the Heavy Weapons Tourneys, this year we will also be hosting a Rapier Tourney running concurrently with the Heavy Weapons tourney. Rapier Fighters will be limited as a "**Bridesmaid Tourney**." That is, they may not have previously won a Baronial Rapier Championship or any other significant rapier tourney, such as Queen's Champion or the Rapier Open. On their Honor, entrants will self certify to the requirement.

There will also be a Pavilion contest, as well as A & S demonstrations throughout the day.

Please watch for next month's announcement for a list of A & S demonstrations and details on the Pavilion competition!

Site fee(s):

Adults \$5, non-member \$10, children 12-17 \$2, children 11 and under guests of the Shire Make check payable to: SCA Inc./SCA Inc./Shire of Wintermist

TABLE OF EVENTS:

- § Site setup 8 AM.
- § Site opens 9 AM.
- § Opening Court 10ish.
- § List closes 11 AM
- § Tournament starts 11ish
- § Closing Court 3ish
- § Site closes 4 PM

Merchant Information: no merchants allowed.

Event Steward:

Jani Shirazi - Email: knewbie@sca-wintermist.org,

Site Name: Fruitvale-Norris Park: 6221 Norris Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308

Directions to the event: Take 99 freeway to Bakersfield, turn west on Olive Drive (north end of town), turn right onto Fruitvale Avenue, then right onto Norris Road, park is to your right, Look out for SCA signs.

Fellowship of the String

If you haven't heard yet the regular meeting date and location for the Fiber Arts fellowship has changed! We are now going to make the official meeting date the first Thursday of the month in conjunction with the sewing circle. (See Facebook for event page and information) . This month I will be starting my Pentathlon entry, a card woven band in a Birka design. If you want to learn how to do cardweaving, you are more than welcome to come to the meeting and I can show you as I get the loom warped and ready for weaving.

~A'isha al-Raqqasa

The Companies and Guilds of Wintermist: How Membership is Obtained

There have been some questions lately on how one can gain membership in one of the various Companies or Guild that the Shire has. This article will try to explain what each of these groups does and how membership in each is gained. There are also Shire acknowledgements such as The Noble Touch or Heart of Wintermist that have distinct requirements separate from the Companies and Guild. Each of these will be discussed separately below.

- **Company of the Gillyflower:** this group is composed of members of the Shire who have performed in the area of service to the Shire and Kingdom above the norm. The range of service runs from serving as an officer or autocrating events to the cleanup of trash after a tourney or washing dishes or stacking chairs after a feast. And it is not doing such things once but the repetition of service that brings such people to the attention of the Company. Membership in the company is voted on by the members who nominate individuals to join their ranks. A majority of the Company must approve the nomination to be granted admission. Nomination is sent to the Company Steward, usually the active member with most seniority who then submits prospective members for a vote. Traditionally new members are invested at the Shire Anniversary. Members are known by the badge (old) of a gold field with a red gillyflower. The new badge is a white field with three red gillyflowers.
- **Guild of the Lyre Or:** this group is composed of members of the Shire whose artistry and skill exemplify the standard to which we aspire and have contributed to the enhancement of the arts in the Shire and Kingdom. Any and all forms of art are encouraged from calligraphy to illumination to costuming, cooking and dance. The range of the arts covers a myriad of fields and endeavors included in medieval times. As with the companies membership is voted on by the members who nominate individuals to join their ranks. A majority of the Guild must approve the nomination to be granted admission. Nominations are sent to the Guild master who is usually the active member with most seniority who then submits prospective members to the Guild for a vote. Investiture of new members is traditionally done at the Shire Anniversary. Members are known by the badge of a purple field with a gold lyre and a gold border.
- **Company of the Vane:** The newest company in the Shire of Wintermist is this group for the recognition of the martial arts. Membership can be gained by excelling in heavy weapons, rapier or combat archery and the approval of the Company. Guidelines follow those of their brother Guild or Company. The original six members share the Stewardship of the Company at this time. As with the other Company and Guild, membership will be offered to prospective members at the Shire Anniversary. The badge of the Company is a gold field with six red swords point to center.
- **The Noble Touch:** this is a singular award in that only one is issued each year. The choice of the new recipient is made by the current holder of the award. The award is given to the individual who most closely exhibits nobility and chivalry in their actions and demeanor. The holder of the award is known by the carrying of a white glove throughout the term of their award. Previous members wear the badge of a red field with a right handed glove in white.
- **The Heart of Wintermist:** this acknowledgement has only been awarded three times in the Shire history. It is given for the continued and unwavering service to the shire by their acts and example to others. The Holders are Master Donn, Son of Fergus; Lady Drishana the first and second seneschals of Wintermist and Mistress Eileen diPico who came from Western Seas to be the first Peer (a Pelican) in the shire. This may be awarded to an individual who has been acknowledged for prior service and for continuing the tradition of service to the shire. The badge for this is a gold heart maintaining a red snowflake.

~Manus leDragonier

Clothier's Fellowship - reprint from January

Greetings Clothiers and all interested people!

The last Thursday of the month, the 28th I will be holding the chair cover class. Learn how to cover that modern camp chair to make your encampment look less modern. Bring paper or material to draw out your pattern. 4-5 yards is plenty, and if you want a more accurate pattern bring your camp chair as well.

I hope to see lots of you there. Also, for anyone interested in working on a project we have open sewing nights on Thursdays at Stacey's house. Ask on the facebook page for the address if you don't have it.

~YIS, Estrith Rasmusdatter

Why Not Wiki, Herald?

Or

Daddy, Where Do SCA Names Come From?

If you have been playing our game in the SCA for a while, you probably have come to the point where you want to call yourself a cool name and decorate your shield (especially if you carry one into combat) with a great-looking coat of arms (or, as it is called in the Society, a 'device'). As a herald, I say, "Goeth for it!"

So, where to start? Well, the name's the thing. You need a persona, a 'character'. This persona has to come from somewhere in the real world known to Western Europe during the primary period (AD 600 – 1600)

So, you've decided on an 11th century German persona. Now, you have to think of a name. Please don't run to the baby name books. Why? Because they are filled with modern names that you may like very much because of their meanings but could never use. The same thing applies to Wikipedia. Names have to be documented (think references for a term paper). No proof, no name, so unless the Wikipedia article has good references to a scholarly web site with dated sources for the name (like a tax roll or census), it's not going to work as the proof you need. Don't do it! Run to the SCA Heraldry page at <http://heraldry.sca.org/laurel/names.html>, where you can get a starting point for almost any culture's naming practices.

An SCA name cannot be just one name. We don't have any Cher's, Liberace's or Madonna's. Everyone has to have a two (or more) part name. The first part is called a given name, the second part is called a byname. Eric the Red has a given name of Eric, and a descriptive byname. It describes him by pointing out some characteristic that stands out about him. Ellen of Mill Creek, has a given name of Ellen and a locative byname. It describes Ellen in terms of where she lives. My own registered name, Ardgal mac Domnaill, has a given name of Ardgal and a patronymic byname. It describes me as being Domnaill's son. In later period, the modern surname (continuous family name) became more common, first for royalty and nobility, then in general use, so John Smith in early period would be called that because he himself was a smith, but in later period Bill Miller could have that name without being a miller himself.

So, back to that German name. Since you have to have two parts for your name, the two parts have to have been in use in the country or region within 300 years of each other. So, if you wanted to call yourself Manfred von Nuremburg, which means Manfred of or from Nuremburg, the name Manfred has to have been in use during the time the town or city or Nuremburg was actually in existence. If Nuremburg was destroyed in a war in 1050, and Manfred can't be found in any records before 1432, you can't use the combination.

In this case, you will be sad to learn that Manfred is too modern a name, not being found even in the Medieval Names Archive (link on the main names page), so, let's start looking at some others. Oh, this looks promising – Wolffhart. Hint – put a wolf on your device. Like it? Good. Now, how about that byname? You want a descriptive byname? OK. Now, Wolffhart Dicke (the Fat) will probably not strike the necessary fear in your opponents, so let's try something else. Esel (the donkey)? No... Geizbart (Goatbeard)? No? But have you *seen* your beard? OK, OK.. (I wonder if I could find the Humorless? Oh, well). Hey, how about Landcæse (the Land-waster, the Destroyer)? Yeah? OK. Both these names came from listed articles linked to from the SCA's heraldry page, so all we have to do is give the name of the articles to prove the names were being used in real life during comparable time periods and we're good. AND, you can also use something called the Lingua Anglica allowance (it lets you use the English translation of a byname – has to be a literal translation, though) so you can call yourself Wolffhart Landwaster if you want. Fill out the form and full speed ahead.

~Ardgal Mac Domnaill, Deputy Herald

Memorable SCA Moments

Master Donn son of Fergus says:

One of mine is at a West-Caid War in the Barony of Tarmist (AS19). After a day of fighting and a night of reveling, to be awoken by Flieg (Duke Frederic of Holland) crying the camp that a large storm was approaching and that people should prepare themselves. Being a local, looking out of the Freehold's pavilion and seeing the normal morning fog bank roll in seemed to add a bit of whimsy to the event.

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Current Champion of Wintermist and Protector of the Flock



Lord Alexander Æthewulf

Photo by A'isha

Articles should be submitted to the chronicler, either in person or by e-mail (chronicler@sca-wintermist.org), and non-officer related articles should be accompanied by a media release form to allow permission to publish in Tales from the Mist.

"Tales from the Mist" is created using MS Publisher templates. This month's template is called "Radial".

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