

TASKER[®]

TIMES

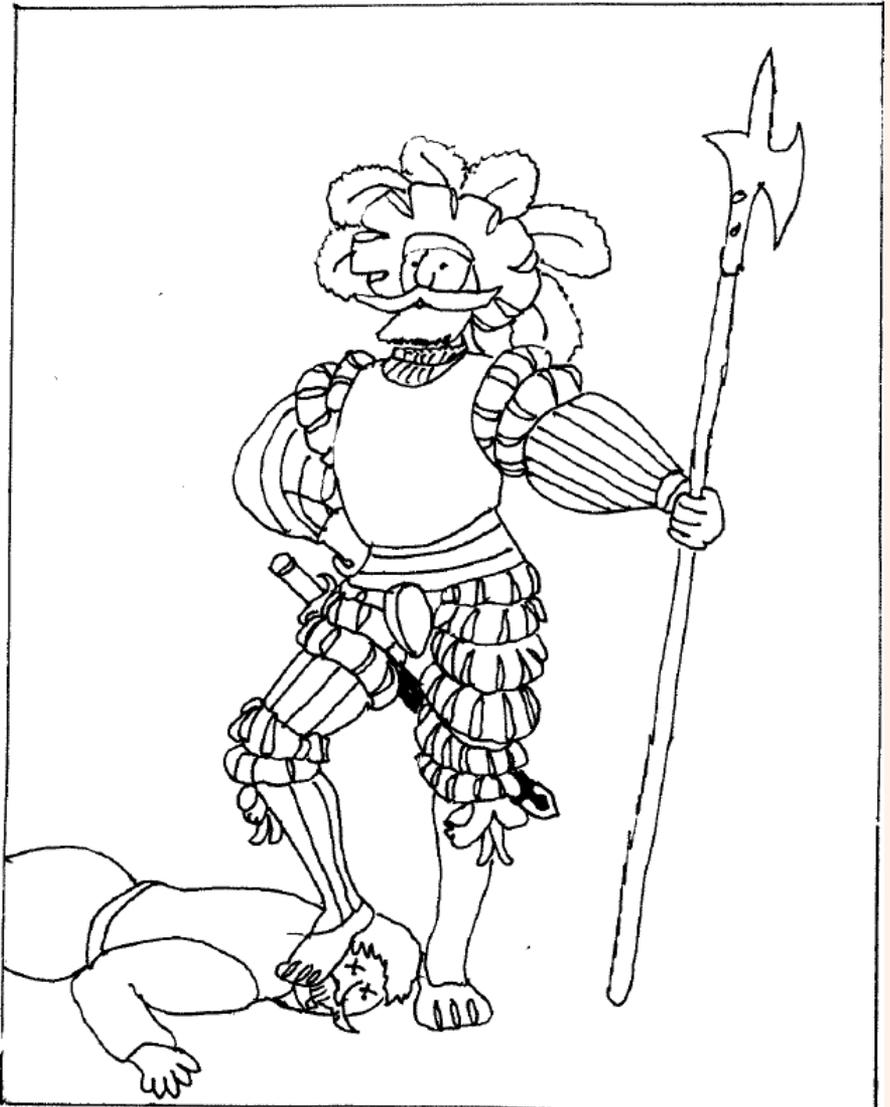


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New to the SCA?

The Society for Creative Anachronism is an international organization dedicated to researching and re-creating the arts and skills of pre-17th-century Europe. Our “Known World” consists of 20 kingdoms, with over 30,000 members residing in countries around the world. Members, dressed in clothing of the Middle Ages and Renaissance, attend events which feature tournaments, royal courts, feasts, dancing, various classes & workshops, and more.

How to Get Started

Getting Started in the SCA can be a little daunting— but it’s not as overwhelming as it seems! All you have to do is come out to an event or contact our local Chatelaine (chatelaine@btysca.org). The Chatelaine’s job is to help you navigate through the SCA! Remember, you are not required to dress up to show up to your first event! The Chatelaine has loaner garb until you can get your own, and if you join us at Fighter Practice or another event many helpful people will be there to welcome you and answer any questions!

More Information

For more information check out the Baronial Website, SCA Website, and the New Member’s Guide below. Hope to see you around!

Baronial Website: <http://www.btysca.org/>

SCA Website: <http://www.sca.org/>

New Member’s Guide: <http://www.sca.org/officers/chatelain/pdf/NewcomersGuidePages-hi.pdf>

From Their Excellencies



THE BOAR'S HEAD LEADS THE WAY

You crash against our wall!
 Our might will make you fall!
 The Boar's Head leads the way!
 Tir Ysgithr will make you pay!

Immovable, Unstoppable, Unbreakable--You Crash!
 Intimidate, Annihilate, Humiliate--We Smash!
 Immovable, Unstoppable, Unbreakable--Our Wall!
 Intimidate, Annihilate, Humiliate--You Fall!

Lord Coilean Mac An Baird, Premier Bard of the Boar
 March 2012, A.S. 45
 Known to the Modern World as Carl Hall

Sim
 Baron

Magdalen
 Baroness

Baronial Announcements

Populace Meetings

February 3rd 7pm

Tucson City Council Ward 6

3202 E 1st St, Tucson, AZ 85716

At 7:00 PM

Populace Meetings are normally the second Wednesday of each month with occasional exceptions due to conflicting events or meeting location changes. We welcome all populace members to come to the monthly meetings to share ideas, discuss projects, plan events, and stay up to date on the happenings in the barony. If you have a desire to get more involved in the barony, but you aren't sure how to go about it, we encourage you to come and listen in to learn more about volunteering opportunities.

Court Night

We will not have a Court Night in February as we will hold Court at Estrella War XXXII on Sunday morning, February 28 at 9:00 am in the Tir Ysgithr Baronial Encampment. Hope to see you all there!

Yahoo Groups

Tir Ysgithr Email List

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TirYsgithr>

Rapier Email List

<http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/tir-rapier>

Archery Email List

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TirYsgithrArchery>

Websites

Barony of Tir Ysgithr

(Tucson Chapter)

<http://www.btysca.org>

Kingdom of Atenveldt

(Arizona Chapter)

<http://www.atenveldt.org>

Society for Creative Anachronism Inc.

(Main)

<http://www.sca.org>

College of St. Felix

(UofA Chapter)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCA.CSF>

Wanted

Good Greetings Unto All to Whom these Letters Come:

We are now Seeking the Main and Site Event Steward for Southern Crusades XVIII for November 2016.

To that end, We are asking for Letters of Intent for the positions of Southern Crusades (18) Main Steward and Site Steward. We are looking for hardworking gentle lords and ladies who have the desire to run a large event from start to finish, learn new things, meet new people and to help make Southern Crusades the successful war event it has been for almost two decades.

Requirements:

- * Must be a paid member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the time you serve as Event or Site Steward.
- * Must have reliable electronic communication to include the internet, email and telephone access.
- * Must be willing to work with the Barons and Baronesses of Tir Ysgithr and Mons Tonitrus as well as the Seneschals of those respective baronies.
- * Must be able to present oneself in a professional manner to all vendors, SCA members and the general public in regard to the event.
- * Must be 18 years of age or older.
- * Must be deadline oriented and responsible for keeping all your event staff coordinators on schedule.
- * Must be willing to organize and lead a team of approximately 30 individuals to a successful event.
- * Must attend the war and remain on site from Wednesday, November 9, 2016 through Monday, November 14, 2016. :

If you are interested, please send a brief Letter of Intent to: monstonitrus@gmail.com, boarsheadbty@gmail.com, bmmtseneschal@gmail.com, seneschal@btysca.org :

Deadline for Letter of Intent is 15 March.

We would also ask that everyone start thinking about how you can help your Barony for Southern Crusades! In addition to a Main Steward and a Site Steward, there are plenty of other positions such as Volunteer Steward, Hospitality, Security shifts, and Special Events where you can make a difference.

Baron Sim of Tir Ysgithr
Baroness Magdalen of Tir Ysgithr

Baron Finnian of Mons Tonitrus
Baroness Brigit of Mons Tonitrus

Deputy Seneschal

Open until filled

The Seneschal's office is responsible for the day to day business of the Barony and monitoring adherence to SCA and mundane law. A deputy seneschal would be assigned to a particular set of tasks to assist the Seneschal in the duties of the office.

Some requirements are:

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

Must be at least 18 Years old

Need to be a Responsible Individual

Must have Internet Access and an email address

Must be a paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during your job tenure

Attend monthly Officer Meetings

If interested, contact Their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com and the Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org.

Baronial Exchequer

Open until filled

The Barony of Tir Ysgithr is looking for an individual to fill the office of Exchequer. The job entails:

- * Working directly with Their Excellencies, the Seneschal's office and event Autocrats to ensure that an event ends with a positive balance.
- * At Baronial events you will need to make sure that Troll is properly manned; be it you, a deputy, or a member of the populace designated by the autocrat and approved by the Financial Committee.
- * After events you will compile the event report and maintain the event worksheet
- * Provide a reconciled bank statement to the Baronial Seneschal and Kingdom

- * Do quarterly and annual financial reports to the Kingdom on the financial status of the Barony.
- * In even years, service as the Southern Crusades Front Gate Steward. These responsibilities include being at the event from start to finish, coordinating volunteers to work the front gate and schedule people with financial warrants to work each shift.
- * In odd years, services on the Southern Crusades Financial Committee

Some requirements are:

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

Must be at least 18 Years old

Need to be a Responsible Individual

Must have Internet Access and an email address

Must be a paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during your job tenure

Attend monthly Officer Meetings

All members of the populace interested please contact Their Excellencies

at boarsheadbty@gmail.com, the Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org, and the current Reeve, at btyreeve@gmail.com.

A & S Minister

Open until filled

We are in need of a good gentle lord or lady to fill the shoes of The Minister of Arts and Sciences (MoAS). The Baronial MoAS is responsible for:

- * Recruit, train, and maintain communication with a designated warranted Emergency Deputy.
- * Adhere to the reporting procedure issued by Atenveldt's Kingdom Minister Arts and Sciences and provide the Baronial Seneschal with a copy of said report.
- * Promote the historical accurate reproduction of pre-17th century arts and sciences through Arts and Sciences Competition, education, collegiate, publication, showcases, and demonstrations.
- * Ensure that the Baronial Arts and Sciences Competition occurs annually. Interpret and maintain the Baronial rules for the Arts and Sciences Competition. Be responsible for soliciting judges for the Arts and Sciences Competition and advising judges in competitions as to the fair judging format. Be responsible for advising the Baronial Coronets

of the fulfillment of the Baronial Champion's duties and responsibilities.

- * Be responsible for the content and accuracy of any baronial arts and science publication/article, issued by the baronial arts and science office, that appears in any official SCA, Inc. publication, i.e., baronial and kingdom newsletters and electronic communication.
- * Foster the creation and growth of guilds and other arts and sciences communities within the barony.
- * Be responsible for overseeing production, maintaining and accounting of the Baronial Arts and Sciences Regalia

Some requirements are:

Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

Be a good communicator and facilitator,

Be able to schedule A&S classes and run the administrative side of the Boaronial Arts and Sciences competition.

A working phone line, reliable internet and email access

Applicants need to be Deadline Oriented Individuals

Attend monthly Officer meetings

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org, their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com and the current A&S Minister at as@btysca.org

Chronicler

Open until filled

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the Barony but have trouble attending events regularly? Do you have great ideas for articles or the networking skills to coax articles from others? Or maybe you are able to work within a monthly deadline and wish to put your skills to use for your Barony. The Position of Chronicler is for you! The Barony is currently looking to fill the position of Chronicler to handle the production and distribution of the monthly newsletter, Tusker Times.

Some requirements are:

A working knowledge of Microsoft Publisher or the Adobe publishing program on order to create a useable hard-copy and online issue of the Tusker

A working phone line, reliable internet and email access

Applicants need to be Deadline Oriented Individuals

Applicants need to be Creative Individuals

Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org, their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com and the current Chronicler at Chronicler@btysca.org

Youth Combat Marshal

Open until filled

We are in need of youth combat marshal. This position requires you be authorized to fight in hardsuit combat and have an understanding of the youth combat rules. Weekly attendance at fighter practice in order to marshal the youth on the field and provide the loaner gear is highly encouraged.

Some requirements are:

Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

A working phone line, reliable internet and email access

Attend monthly Officer meetings

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org and their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com.

Deputy Youth Combat Marshal

Open until filled

We are in need of deputy youth combat marshals. These positions require that you be authorized to fight in hardsuit combat and have an understanding of the youth combat rules.

Some requirements are:

Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure

A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position

A working phone line, reliable internet and email access

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org and their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com.

Children's Minister

Open until filled

This is a task for someone who is energetic, organized, creative and who enjoys being around kids of all ages. Requirements include assisting with the children's supply boxes and toys and helping to organize projects and classes for baronial events.

Some requirements are:

- Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure
- A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position
- A working phone line, reliable internet and email access
- Attend monthly Officer meetings

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org and their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com.

Heavy Combat Marshal

Open until filled

Prerequisites: Authorized in heavy combat, know the rules of the list, weapon and armor standards, have a commitment to be at Duties of the Marshal: Reporting monthly to the Kingdom Marshal on activities in the Barony, working with new fighters and overseeing the loaner gear, setting up the combat fields at events/practice, authorizing fighters for combat and associated paperwork, inspecting fighters at tournaments and marshalling the combat at tournaments.

Some requirements are:

- Must be a Paid Member of the Society for Creative Anachronism during the job tenure
- A One Year (minimum) Warranted Position
- A working phone line, reliable internet and email access
- Attend monthly Officer meetings

If interested, contact The Seneschal at seneschal@btysca.org, their Excellencies at boarsheadbty@gmail.com and the current Heavy Combat Marshal at marshal@btysca.org.

Upcoming Events

Estrella War XXXII

February 23-29, 2016

Come and enjoy the warmth and Courtesy of Atenveldt and Outlands at the 32nd Estrella War!

Come to Estrella War to embrace old friends and make new ones. Enjoy the warmth of the Solar Kingdom and be ready to make new stories and tell old tales! Estrella is held at beautiful Schnepf Farms: 24810 S. Rittenhouse Rd., Queen Creek, AZ 85142

For more information please visit Estrellawar.org or contact the Main Event Stewards at Mains2016@Estrellawar.org.

Site Fee:

Member pre-registered \$70.00, At Gate \$85.00 , Non-Member : Pre-registered \$75.00 At Gate \$90 , Youth 6-17 \$25.00 and 5 and under : Free but must register.

Great Helm Tournament and Hunter's Feast

Great Helm Tournament and Hunter's Feast

Saturday, March 19th and Sunday March 20th, 2016

All heed the call to Great Helm! The Barony of Tir Ysgithr wishes to invite all who read this missive to join us in celebration to discover our new Baronial Champions! March 19th and 20th, 2016 at Himmel Park, due south of the library. Site opens at 9:00am and closes at sunset. There will be both hardsuit and rapier tournaments to determine The Captains of the Guard on Saturday, March 19th.

The hardsuit Great Helm Tournament is standard single opponent, double elimination sword and shield. The rapier Captain of the Guard tournament style will be a Round Robin, giving all fighters a chance to battle every other fighter. The final round will be fought between the two highest scoring fighters from the day. Cut and Thrust will be permitted at fighter discretion. Sunday March 20th, the traditional guardsman tournament weapon used will be glaive, the format TBD based on attendance.

The Baronial Youth Champion tournament will be on Saturday. Youth combatants may borrow gear if they do not own their own kits. We encourage all our young fighters to come out ready to be the victor of the day!

In lieu of an evening feast, a Hunter's Feast will be provided during the tournaments at the park on Saturday. A separate feast fee will apply for those interested in enjoying our modern spin on a Medieval standard.

Hunters' Feast Menu:

We plan to serve a variety of sausages including venison, pork, and chicken, roasted root vegetables with fresh bread rolls, and fruit tarts for dessert.

Bardic Champions

Calling all BARDS!!! Their Excellencies will be holding the Bard of the Boar (18+) and Tantony Bard (Youth ages 5-17) competitions during the Hunter's Feast on Saturday! The theme is Comedy and Tragedy. Each entrant must have two pieces, a story, poem or song - one to make them laugh, and one to make them cry.

Site Fee:

Adults: \$3.00

Child (5-17): \$3.00

Child (Under 5): Free

\$5.00 Non-Member surcharge will apply to site fee.

Feast Fee:

Adults: \$6.00

Child (5-17): \$3.00

Child (Under 5): Free

Please RSVP for our feast no later than 2/29/16 to our exchequer Lady Aldontza Nefaria (Renee Darling) at reeve@btysca.org.

Site is discreetly wet. Pets are allowed if leashed. All pet owners must pick up after their pets as per city ordinance. Smoking is allowed, but please be courteous of others. Court will be at Their Excellencies' discretion.

Location: Himmel Park 1000 N Tucson Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716.

Event Steward: Lady Elizabeth de Rose (Dawn Phull) 520-471-3820

Feast Steward: Lady Elizabeth de Rose (Dawn Phull) 520-471-3820

(dawnphull@gmail.com)

Co-Feast Steward: Mistress Dairine Mor O hUigin, O.L. (Gael Stirler) 520-591-1327

DIRECTIONS:

From the north, take I-10 to Speedway exit 257, proceed east and turn right at Treat Ave., one block past Tucson Blvd.

From the south, take I-10 to Alvernon exit, proceed north, and turn left on Speedway, then proceed west and turn left at Treat Ave., past Country Club.

The park is one block south of Speedway, just past the library. Parking is available on the street or in the parking lot to the west of the library. Please do not drive on the grass during set up and tear down.

Gawd Awful Grail

Sunday, April 10, 2016 9:00am - 5:00pm.

Good gentles, avert your eyes! We once again find ourselves in need of a “champion” to “guard” the Gawd Awful Grail. There will be tournaments for unbelted armored combat fighters, rapier, and youth. The brave soul that proves triumphant in their chosen fighting style will be tasked with the great burden... er, honor of housing the respective gawd awful vessel for the next year.

The Gawd Awful Grail has a storied history in Tir Ysgithr. But much like any other origin story, every culture has their own version. The Greeks have their own ideas (as they often do...) on how the Grail came to be. The populace is invited to dress in the Greek theme, but all period garb styles are welcome.

And if you’re looking for some Gawd Awful Arts, look no further than the Gawd Awful Vessel competition. No documentation needed, period materials not required. Work in any medium you choose (glass is not the only option!). Judging will be done by Populace Choice (counters and cups will be available).

Should a tie need to be broken, the winner will be chosen from the tied entries by Their Excellencies. Court will be at Their Excellencies' discretion.

Site Fee:

\$5 for adults, \$10 for non-member adults, \$1 for children

Location:

Himmel Park, (NE corner), 1035 N. Treat Ave, Tucson Please do not drive on the grass during set up and tear down. There is shade and water on site. The site is discreetly wet, smoking is allowed but please be mindful of litter, and pets are welcome, but must be leashed and picked up after. There is playground equipment nearby where parents may take their children.

Autocrats:

Celestina Winterborne (Rachel McAllister), phone: 520-260-2506 no calls after 9:00pm. alithium@gmail.com & Zoe of Alexandria (Jasmine Hungerford). Phone: 520-307-4086 no calls after 9:00pm harleyquinn520@yahoo.com.

Directions:

From the north, take I-10 to Speedway exit, proceed east and turn right at Treat Ave. One block past Tucson Blvd.

From the south, take I-10 to Alvernon exit, proceed north, and turn left on Speedway, then proceed west and turn left at Treat Ave., past Country Club.

The park is one block south of Speedway, just past the library. Parking is available on the street or in the parking lot to the west of the library

Barony of Tir Ysgithr's Boast & Toast

July 16th, 2016

Whitetail Loop, Sites 4 & 5

Mt. Lemon

The Boast and Toast is an event where members of the populace must work together in crews to win the acclaim of the day by showing their prowess of their applicable trades. Those trades include but are not limited to brewing, baking, cheese making, culinary, oratory, swashbuckling, and pageantry.

- Crew registration will be open in March and due by April. Individuals will still be required to register. Crews may represent a household, a barony, or a just a motley crew of friends with a cool badge.
- Each registered crew will be given a 10x10 area fronted by a 6-foot table to serve samples of their culinary and consumable delights. The number of crew members and the number of food and beverage items is only limited by what you can serve across the provided table. Be prepared to serve 1-3 ounce portions to 80 of your closest friends. The peak of perfection for food samples to be served at a designated hour.
- Crews may request a grill and electricity and will have access to water.
- Crews are encouraged start boasting early and share what they are planning to build excitement and incite rivalry.
- This is a day event, however, registered crews and royalty may opt to camp the night before the event and use the morning hours to prepare. Camping the night after the event will be open to the rest of the populace. Room is only available for modern tents.
- Crew members are encouraged to take shifts to sample the wares of others.
- Crew members are encouraged to bend the ears of their patrons and share their expertise and experience.
- Crews are encouraged to enlist a bard to participate in the boasting competition and a fighter to represent them on the field.
- Crews are encouraged to decorate their area and dress themselves to support their exposition of prowess giving you opportunity to include more artisans.
- Crews may bring their own ballot box. It must have a footprint of no more that 12x12 inches and accept tokens up to 2 inches in diameter.
- Parking is limited. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. Individual pre-registration will be required to get a parking permit. Pre-registration will be open in May and last until the last parking space is sold.

This is a premier event that will enable you to inspire through sample and example. Show the rest of us your passion, what you can do, and what it looks like when we show our colors.

Combat

Fighter Practice

Tuesdays 7pm-10pm

Armored Combat

Baronial fighter practice held every Tuesday at the SW corner of Reid Park near the intersection of 22nd and Country Club.

Loaner armor available for hard suit and rapier, however you must provide your own cup. In addition:

Rapier

Swashbuckling! Feats of Finesse! Deeds of Steel! Every Tuesday at the Tir Ysgithr Fighter Practice take a turn and try your hand at SCA Rapier fighting alongside the skilled men and women of the sword!

Fight with real steel blades! Learn to fight from real Period Manuals and Masters!

Fight alongside friends in games and melee competitions nearly every week!

Prepare for war!

Dress to impress!

Loaner gear is always available, teachers are always looking for new students!

You're never too old or too young to take up the sword!

Archery

February 13th 9am-Noon

Archery Practice held at PSE Archery, 2727 North Fairview Ave. Loaner equipment available \$5 range fee to shoot, children are welcome but must be supervised. Informal Archery Practices are held on the first and third Mondays at PSE at 5:00pm.



Figs. 24 and 25.—Varlet or Squire carrying a Halberd with a thick Blade; and Archer, in Fighting Dress, drawing the String of his Crossbow with a double-handed Winch.—From the Miniatures of the "Jouvencel," and the "Chroniques" of Froissart, Manuscripts of the Fifteenth Century (Imperial Library of Paris).

Varlet or Squire carrying a Halberd with a thick Blade; and Archer, in Fighting Dress, drawing the String of his Crossbow with a double-handed Winch.--From the Miniatures of the "Jouvencel", and the "Chroniques" of Froissart, Manuscripts of the Fifteenth Century (Imperial Library of Paris).

Arts and Sciences

Baronial A&S

Arts in the Park!

February 9th 7pm-10pm

At Fighter Practice- Reid Park

Bring art to display, finished or not (tables provided) or art to work on or teach. Quil-
lon will have a box of goodies to share and
try out your arts skills, so stop on by!

Scriptorium

February 3rd 7-9pm

Tucson City Council Ward 2

7575 E Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85710

February 17th 7-9pm

Lord Seamus and Lady Iuliana's at 5835
east 34th street.

Spend the night learning the skills of scribal
and illumination! If you are new, our
scribes will teach you, if you have been out
before, come on back and join us! Also -
We are in search of a name for our Baronial
scriptorium group. We need your ideas!
Send your name ideas to
boarsheadbty@gmail.com

Heraldry Hut

March 18th 7:30pm

Contact Mistress Marta for more infor-
mation at (520) 881-9492,
bagbaazai@nexiliscom.com

Cottage A&S

Cottage Arts are arts nights being held at
someone's house.

The Cooks Guild

March 23rd 7:30pm

The Cooks Guild is a gathering of those
interested in period cooking and recipes.
Each month, a different food theme is cho-
sen and participants are encouraged to pre-
pare and bring a dish following the theme to
share. Cooks Guild meets the fourth
Wednesday of every month, starting at 7:30
p.m. Site changes monthly. Contact: HE
Baroness Marta as tu Mika-Mysliwy, O.L.,
Pel., bagbaazai@nexiliscom.com,
(520) 881-9492

The College of St. Felix



February Practices: 4th, 11th,

Who: *Practice is open to students at UA or Pima AND all members and visitors to the Barony*

Members of the BTY populous are encouraged to attend, fight, teach, or simply utilize the space available for A&S.

When: Thursdays from 7:00 pm -10:00 pm*

*When UA is in session (8/24-11/20, 12/3, 1/13-3/10, 3/21-4/28)

Where: Fighters: 1224 E. Lowell St (Highland Bowl)

Arts & Sciences: 1041 E. Lowell St

There is free parking south of sixth and paid parking in the garage on 6th.

Officers:

Seneschal: Lady Arria Silvana – scacollegeofstfelix@gmail.com

Deputy Seneschal: M'Lord Dalton – collegeofstfelix_deputyseneschal@yahoo.com

Exchequer: M'Lord Arslan (Jose) – exchequer.collegeofstfelix@gmail.com

A&S Minister: M'Lady Zoë – aandsminister.stfelix@gmail.com

Chatelaine: M'Lady Hannah – thecollegeofst.felixchatelaine@gmail.com

Herald: Lady Allora – contact via the Tome of Faces

Advisor: HE Sir Zhigmin' Czypsser (Zippy) – csfadvisor@gmail.com

Bacon Bits

Tidbits about Tir Ysgithr's History!

Ah traditions, Tir Ysgithr has had many, some are still practiced today and some have faded into history. These traditions of yore were practiced throughout a very young kingdom, with this Barony participating with great enthusiasm. Here are some of my fondest (some of which would be greatly frowned upon today, making them all the more interesting)!

During HRM Richard (1971), Finking The King came into being. Master Joseph of Locksley recounts that the known incident. It involved Ozymandias the Dense and a van full of SCA populace pulling up to the Royal residence, in the middle of the night (of course) and with perfect timing, shouted out "The King is a Fink!" Thus was this tradition born. Following this, it was immortalized in song known as Imperium Compound. The chorus going something like this; Oh we think, we think, we think, the king is a fink, a fink, a figure of respectability.....The tradition was recently resurrected at EW 31, in Count Brian the Pious reign, when a road sign displayed the message "The King is a Fink!"

The second tradition, for which I am passing glad to see fade into distant memory, was the whipped cream pie assassination. We would fill a pie pan with whipped cream and at the least expected moment surprise our target with a pie to the face. Very funny, but hell on the garb.

The third that comes to mind was the game called Clench a Wench. The guys would form a line and would be given a letter of the alphabet (A-Z) opposite of them the gals would form a line and be given a number. (think red rover, red rover sendright over). A pillow would be placed in the middle. The person on the pillow would shout out one letter and one a number, and if smart roll up into a tiny ball to avoid loosing a limb, kind of like being killed on the battle field and tucking up under your shield. The object was to reach the pillow first and plant a kiss on the cheek of the person sitting on the pillow before the other person did. If you were not the first to reach the pillow and do so, you sat on the pillow next. Brutal, just brutal, but so much fun.

The Bacon Bits facts have been provided by Vicountess Victoria of the Vales of Barnsdale, O.L., O.P. They have been taken from substantiated print such as old officers reports and missives, modern world newspapers, and past Kingdom and Baronial newsletters.

Your First Mead

By Don Dehm

Making mead is fun, rewarding, and down-right delicious. The Mesopotamians loved it, the Vikings loved it, and we love it today. It isn't that difficult, either. I am going to make these instructions below as simple as I can for you to make your very first mead, but you will also need to review the basics of sanitation before you begin. Look for an article on Sanitation at DonDehm.com or in a future Tusker. After making your first mead, you can explore options to improve the process. Have fun and let me know how it turns out!

Shopping List

- 2 one-gallon glass jugs – Buy a couple of gallons of real apple cider and get a free jug to ferment your beverage in. You can use the apple juice in place of the water to create a cyser if you like.
- 1 bung & fermentation lock – If you can, take that jug into the brewing store and ask them to help you put a stopper in it. Tell them you are going to make some mead and you need that stopper and a fermentation lock.
- 3 lbs. honey – Buy this from your local brewing store or a bee keeper. Buy in bulk. You do not want to pay the full retail prices that you would have to pay in a grocery store. You also want to be wary of cheap honey at your bulk grocery warehouses. Get the best ingredients you can. If you are going to spend the time, make it the best it can be. You may also have to purchase a bucket to put it in that you can use again for your next trip to the store.
- 3 quarts of water – I like to buy filtered water. You may get by with using tap water, but filtered water is not that expensive and will help ensure quality.
- 1 Funnel – This can easily be found at the brewing store or anywhere you can get basic cooking utensils.
- Two-gallon pot – You may already have this.
- Yeast Nutrient – You can pick this up from your brewing supply shop. For this recipe, you will need only 1 teaspoon.
- Acid Blend – Pick this up at the brewing store. You will want to add 1 teaspoon to this recipe.
- Sanitizer – There are a variety of sanitizers you can get from your homebrewing store.
- Thermometer – You will also find this at the homebrewing store.
- Sweet Mead Yeast – Ask for it at the local brewing store. There are a variety of other If you are insistent upon using a dry yeast, then look for my article on Making Your Second Mead for more information.

- Small Racking Tube and hose – This will be used to siphon mead from one container to another – a process we call racking. Be sure to tell the person at the homebrew store that you will be making only one gallon at a time and that you only need a small one of these.

Instructions

Now that you have all of your equipment and ingredients laid out before you, turn on the burner and start warming your water and dissolve the honey into it. Stir it in with the yeast nutrient and the acid blend and bring it to a boil. The mixture you are creating now is called must. It is just what we call wine before it becomes wine. The next step will be to cool it down to room temperature.

Fill your sink with ice water and set the pot you have been using into it. This will cool the must rapidly. The sooner we reach our desired temperature and add the yeast, the better. It is important, however, that we do not add the yeast until it is at least below 80 degrees F. Anything higher will start to kill the yeast, and that won't do us any good. It is also important to note that anything that touches the yeast must first be sanitized. Be careful with wet hands not to drip into your pot and also keep everything away that could contaminate your otherwise perfect concoction.

Once your must has come down to at least 80 degrees F, transfer it to your sanitized glass jug. Plug it as best you can and shake it well. For this part of the process, you want oxygen in the must. It will allow those little yeasties to reproduce and create a happy healthy colony in your mead to be. Add your yeast. Fill your fermentation sanitized lock with sanitation fluid or vodka and set it in a cool dark place.

After about 24 hours, you should see the bubbles come up frequently as the yeast releases carbon dioxide. This is just a part of the process of creating alcohol. Let it sit until the bubbling stops. This may take a couple of months, so be patient. Once it reaches a stand-still, sanitize the second glass jug and the racking tube, and move the mead from one vessel to the other. There will be some sediment on the bottom of the first jug. This is the spent yeast. Do your best to leave it in the first vessel and discard it. Let the mead sit in that second vessel until you just can't stand it anymore. It will be at its best after it has aged for 1-2 years, but I will applaud you if you can wait that long. Then, bottle or share with your friends.

I hope that gives you a good overview and enough to get started. Look for my article on Your Second Mead for a few more tips and tricks to further your journey, and my Cyser article with that apple juice. You will also find great reading in the book, *Brewing Mead: Was-sail!* That will give you many more options to explore.

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Artwork Credits:

This month's cover provided by Nicholas Damocles Gerhard (Nick Shomenta) & interior art is Open Source material. The Tusker is always looking for new art for the interior, as well as guest artists for the cover. Contact: Erin Ainsheascar Ó Raghallaigh. chronicler@btysca.org.

Household devices were provided by the head of each household.

Submissions

Submission Deadline: 15th of the month before the cover date. Example: May 15th for the June issue.

Hardcopy: Articles should be typewritten in 10 point or larger font. If handwritten, please make it legible and include a telephone number. Artwork is best if the paper is 8.5" x 11" or smaller. Good quality photocopies are acceptable. Hardcopy submissions should be given directly to the Chronicler or Deputy Chronicler at events or fighter practice.

Electronic: Articles submitted electronically may be in the body of email message or MS Word. Send to the Chronicler at chronicler@btysca.org. Scanned artwork should be scanned at 600 dpi if they are printable size. They may be scanned at lower resolutions if they will be reduced.

Editing: Articles will be edited for common spelling errors and formatting style. The rest is up to you! Articles may also be edited for space restrictions. Articles reprinted from Southwind will be edited for space and per SCA rules.

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February Events

Fighter Practice.....	2 nd	Fighter Practice	16 th
Arts in the Park.....	2 nd	Scriptorium.....	17 th
Scriptorium.....	3 rd	St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	18 th
St. Felix Fighter Practice	4 th	Heraldry Hut.....	19 th
Fighter Practice.....	9 th	Fighter Practice	23 rd
Populace Meeting	10 th	Estrella War	23 rd -29 th
St. Felix Fighter Practice	11 th	St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	25 th
Archery Practice	13 th	Archery Practice.....	26 th

March Events

Fighter Practice.....	1 st	St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	17 th
Scriptorium.....	3 rd	Heraldry Hut.....	18 th
St. Felix Fighter Practice	3 rd	Great Helm	19 th
Fighter Practice.....	8 th	Fighter Practice	22 nd
Populace Meeting	9 th	A&S Class	23 rd
St. Felix Fighter Practice	10 th	Cooks Guild	23 rd
Archery Practice	12 th	St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	24 th
Fighter Practice.....	15 th	Archery Practice.....	26 th
Scriptorium.....	16 th	Fighter Practice	29 th
		St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	31 st

April Events

Archery Practice.....	2 nd	Archery Practice	16 th
Fighter Practice	5 th	Fighter Practice.....	19 th
Scriptorium.....	7 th	Scriptorium	20 th
St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	7 th	St. Felix Fighter Practice	21 st
Gawd Awful Grail	10 th	Fighter Practice.....	26 th
Fighter Practice	12 th	A&S Class.....	27 th
Populace Meeting.....	13 th	Cooks Guild	27 th
St. Felix Fighter Practice.....	14 th	St. Felix Fighter Practice	28 th
Heraldry Hut.....	15 th	Archery Practice	30 th