

ARDANRUNES

This is the May 2009 issue of the Ardanrunes, a publication of the Shire of Ardanroe of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). Ardanrunes is an electronic newsletter only, available on the Shire of Ardanroe website. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors. All clipart in this issue is from Microsoft Word. The photograph of leeks is from the Wikipedia Commons. The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month for the issue coming out the 1st of the next month.

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Calendar of Events

May 3	May Day – Rosenfeld (One Day)
May 16	Spring Crown List – Wyrngeist
May 30	Cracked Anvil – Smythkepe (One Day)
June 6	Live Weapons Championship – Small Gray Bear
June 12-21	Lilies War – OOK
June 27	Border Raids – OOK
July 11	Lugh – Grey Niche
July 25	Barbearian Brawl – Southtower/Small Gray Bear
July 24 – August 12	Pennsic War – OOK
August 1	Academy of Performing Arts – Iron Ox
August 8	Aphar Faire – Lagerdamm
August 29	MidSummer Knights Dream - Smythkepe
September 5	Duvant Defender – Wyrngeist
September 5	Known World Herald Symposium – OOK
September 12	War of the Pearls – Hammerhold

ARDANROE OFFICERS

Seneschal: The Honorable Lady Dana the Quarrier
Knight Marshal: Lord Johannes von Greiffenburg
Herald: Maistir Rory ua Riada
Exchequer: Mistress Sarah MacGregor
Minister of Arts & Sciences: Lady Melisant of Exmoor
Chronicler: Barun Rory ua Riada
Chirurgion: VACANT

Minister of Children: VACANT
Web Minister: Lorccán na Túaithe
Provost of RUGA: Lady Amata Quentin Motzhart
Quartermaster: Mistress Sarah MacGregor
Chatelaine: Lord Michael atte Harp
Historian: Lord Ebrahim al-Jabal
Constable: The Honorable Lord Olaf Lutherson

HARKEN YE!

Below is a tentative schedule of Shire activities for the month of May:

May 2 – Fighter Practice – TBA (Saturday)
May 9 – Fighter Practice – TBA (Saturday)
May 13 – Populace Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Aulds Library (Wednesday)
May 23 – Fighter Practice – TBA (Saturday) – Memorial Day Weekend
May 27 – A&S Workshop – 7:00 p.m. – Aulds Library (Wednesday)
May 30 – Fighter Practice – TBA (Saturday)

NOTE: Please see the Shire website and Ardanroe Yahooogroup for updates.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The following Shire offices need Deputies: ALL (Seneschal, Minister of Children, Knight Marshal, Web Minister, Herald, Provost of RUGA, Exchequer, Quartermaster, Minister of Arts & Sciences, Chatelaine, Chronicler, Historian, Chirurgeon, Constable).

The following Shire offices are Open and Need Filling: Minister of Children

The following Shire offices are Open but are in the process of being filled: Chirurgeon

The following Shire offices may be Opening in the near future: Chatelaine



SCRIPTORIUM SENDING

Their Royal Majesties need award scrolls. Below is the text to one of the many awards in the new Kingdom.

Sentry

Through the ages the knife, the axe, and the spear have been the tools with which wild lands have been tamed, homesteads defended and civilizations established. Those who possess great skill with these instruments are of immeasurable value to the Kingdom, and none more so this day than _____ who has, by besting all others in honorable competition, earned the right to be named the Queen's Thrown Weapons Champion of Gleann Abhann and to take a rightful place in Her court as Their Majesties' Sentry, and is furthermore charged to answer any challenge to display that skill that may arise. Done by Our hand on this ___ day of _____, A.S. _____.

Rex

Regina



MAY DAY CELEBRATION IN ROSENFELD

To our cousins I send Good Greetings!

The Shire of Rosenfeld would like to extend an invitation to our cousins in Ardanroe. Sunday, May 3rd, will see a birthday celebration known as May Day, once again hosted by our shire. The festivities will take place at McWhorter Park in Longview (same as last year) and all are welcome. As more information becomes available, I will be sure it reaches your ears.

In service, Sarah di Rimini



TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS II - UPDATE

Ten Qualifying Tournaments – 4 Baronies each host, 4 Peerages each sponsor, Group Champions day of ToC II, Open day of ToC II. Below are the confirmed and penciled dates of qualifying tournaments and the current qualifiers.

Seleone – Winter War Practice/30th Anniversary – February 7: Sir William FitzHugh de Cambria (Tourney winner) and Sir Caillin MacLeod.

Axemoor – Baronial Investiture – April 4: Sir Brian MacBrand (Tourney winner) and THL Geoffrey de Bradelai (Dulinn).

Grey Niche – Beltaine – April 25: Sir Rey Ribeauumont (Tourney winner) and THL Mika'il (Dex).

Small Gray Bear – Barbarian Brawl – July 25.

Roses and Diamonds – Cracked Anvil – May 30.

Pelicans – War of the Pearls – September 12.

Laurels – Swamp Romp – October 17.

Tournament of Champions II – December 5?



TOWN FAIRE

The April Shire A&S Workshop was held on Wednesday, April 22 at the Aulds Library from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. THLady Melisant of Exmoor taught Embroidery while Rory oversaw a Name Research table. Fifteen adults and five minors attended, about half of the adults working on embroidery and half with one minor researching names, at least four finding all or part of the documentation needed to submit an SCA name. One badge was also submitted at this time.

Fighter practice was held at Olaf and Melisant's Dark Horse Farm on Saturday, April 25 starting at 4:00 p.m. A demonstration of sheep shearing was also held. Those attending were able to meet the two newest members of the livestock, the baby ram born earlier this month and the baby ram born that Saturday morning.



FORTNIGHT

The Shire Populace Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at the Aulds Branch Library in Bossier City. The meeting started at 7:10 and ended at 7:55 p.m. Dana ran the meeting as Seneschal. Fifteen adults (Amata, Kathleen, Tish, Hesper, Jera, Skallagrim, Amelia, Melisant, Ebrahim, Sarah, James, Dana, Rory, Eibhlín, and Lorccán) and two children (Alexi, Lil' Rob) attended the meeting. Helmut arrived after the meeting had adjourned.

Dana went through the Kingdom calendar of events for the months of April, May, and June. The Kingdom is looking for bids for Kingdom Arts and Sciences. Anyone in Ardanroe wishing to autocrat this event are to see Sarah and James after the meeting. The date of Kingdom Arts and Sciences is September 18-20.

Bids are also needed for the autocrat for Winter Wonders, which will be Martin Luther King's holiday weekend in January at Lake Bistineau State Park. THL Avice will be the feastcrat.

Under Old Business, there was no action taken yet regarding a new shire trailer.

Officer reports were then given.

Ebrahim as Historian reported going to Axemoor's Baronial Investiture last weekend and is working on reports.

Amata as RUGA Provost reminded all that the RUGA Logo contest deadline has been extended to the end of April.

Lorccán as Web minister has put the new issue of the *Ardanrunes* up and loaded the updated versions of the Shires Armorial and OP.

Melisant as Minister of Arts and Sciences distributed copies of the drumming handout from last month's A&S Workshop. This month's A&S workshop on April 22nd will be Embroidery. Melisant will be teaching. Please bring embroidery needles; hoops are optional. Requests were made for future A&S workshops (Wednesday evenings or on a weekend) – repeat the drumming for those who could not come due to the massive storm; ask Katharine if she could teach spinning on the wheel; and sheep shearing at Avice or Melisant's house.

Rory as Herald reported updating the Shire's OP and Armorial. The Armorial is current through the December 2008 LoAR. The OP is current through the month of February 2009. Ebrahim's name/device is part of the January LoI; Johannes and Lorccán's device resubmissions are part of the February LoI; Eibhlín's name is part of the March LoI. Hesper's device needs to be redesigned and resubmitted. Those who did not have a registered name or device were asked to show hands. Based on the numbers, Rory is to bring books to the April A&S workshop. Everyone was asked to post to the Ardanroe email list the nationality/culture they were interested in so he would know which books to bring. After the meeting more consulting was done on Eibhlín's device idea.

Rory as Chronicler reported that the April issue of *Ardanrunes* was on the Shire website. The column "On This Day" is focusing on SCA history (person, event, etc) and he asked everyone to let him know of SCA things that occurred in a given month to spotlight. The April issue looks at Axemoor's Baronial Investiture and the lineage of Barons and Baronesses of that Barony. He will also be tracking the Tournament of Champions II in the newsletter.

Sarah as Exchequer reported we had money.

The Constable, Knight Marshal, and Chatelaine were not present. Sarah believes Michael may have found a new teaching job in Texas.

Dana as Seneschal reported on the Grand Council and the request for input regarding the Peerage question. The BOD is to make a decision on that issue at their next BOD meeting (which is this month).

Under New Business, Tish reported joining the SCA and getting in contact with Mistress Brigit about becoming the Shire's Chirurgeon, since she is a nurse. She has sent all of the paperwork to Mistress Brigit and now needs to attend events for the training that is involved for warranting.

Skallagrim and Jera have friends who have moved to Dallas and are interested in trying to put together a Renaissance Festival in the Shreveport area, possibly in September of next year. Possible locations were discussed (Bonnie and Clyde Trade Days, Minden's Scottish Farm, Shreveport Riverfront, etc.).

Skallagrim and Jera are going to Wichita, KS April 15-19, where there is a salvage store (The Yard Store) where they can buy metal/steel. If interested, please contact them. The link to The Yard Store's website is <http://www.yardstore.com>

Ebrahim has a 15x9 multi-room cabin tent of the Ozark Trails brand for sale in excellent condition. Contact him if interested.

The meeting was adjourned.



LESSONS IN HERALDRY

Back at the beginning of December, our new Shire member, Eibhlín, asked some questions regarding badges and devices. She thought the answers received were great and suggested these be one of the topics in 'Lessons in Heraldry'. This month I am happy to return to her questions and provide the answers for all to read.

Question:

What distinguishes a device from a badge and a badge from a fieldless badge? All in terms of appearance, usages, any importance put on one or the other, what belongings my cognizance can be put on (anything belonging to me? medieval as well as modern?), is one easier to use than the other, is one easier to register than the other, what things can a device be put on that a badge cannot (or vice versa), are there any things that can be put on a device that can't be put on a badge (or vice versa)? I think that covers my confusion! If you know of something you think would better cover my questions or just something I missed, I welcome input on that, as well.

Response:

There are a couple of articles in the Heraldry section of the SCA website, which may help answer some of the questions you have.

“What is a device?” <http://heraldry.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/whatis/device.html>

Your heraldic device (informally, your “coat of arms”) is essentially your personal “logo”, and identifies you the way a company’s logo identifies the company. On a banner, it tells everyone you’re at an event. On a shield, it tells who’s on the field fighting. On tableware, it tells whose place it’s at. On clothing, it tells who’s in the clothing.

The heraldic device originated in war. During the chaos of battle, you had to decide within seconds whether someone approaching was friend or enemy. The device evolved to allow this; painted on a shield, it told who was behind that shield. It was so helpful for identification during war that it soon spread into peacetime use as well.

“What is a badge?” <http://heraldry.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/whatis/badge.html>

In the S.C.A., any piece of heraldry which is not a personal Device is considered a “badge” for administrative purposes by the S.C.A. College of Arms. An S.C.A. “badge” can be designed to look like any one of the historical types of heraldry listed above. These uses all had their own purposes and their own distinctive designs.

The Personal Badge

This was a simple piece of heraldry used to identify one’s physical and spiritual possessions. It was used to mark material possessions as well as the clothing of servants and soldiers, to show the fact that they all belonged in some way to the owner of the badge.

Back to Rory talking:

If you were looking at clothing, you will often see ladies wearing dresses/sideless surcoats/etc. with their device on it (usually either filling the entire dress or split with one half of the dress a solid color and the other half of the dress the lady’s device). If a lady had a badge, the clothes worn by the lady’s children could possibly have the badge. Thus, you know Lady X because of her dress (having her device on it) and you know Lady X’s kids because their clothes all have her badge.

I haven't actually seen this much in the SCA. Usually it is more with households (which usually are not all related people) or with royalty (where the entourage wears the same outfits/style designs).

While the first article says a device might go on tableware, I would consider that the most fancy of the tableware. I would think the badge would more likely be on the tableware (unless again, you are the royal and your device is the arms of your land – Duchy, Barony, Kingdom, etc.).

Think of the device as announcing “I am here” and the badge as stating “This is mine” for usage.

What Distinguishes a Device from a Badge?

Usually a badge will be much simpler in design and will sometimes use the primary charge or elements of a device.

Let's say Billy Joe Bob has the device “Purple, a gold lion sleeping between three silver mice, each holding a golden needle.”

Billy Joe Bob's badge might be “Purple, a silver mouse holding a golden needle.”

Or, Billy Joe Bob may decide to have a badge that is completely different from his device. He might have a badge “Silver, a purple winged elephant” just because he wants to.

What Distinguishes a Badge from a Fieldless Badge?

The field is the background of the arms (in the Billy Joe Bob examples the field was purple for the device and first badge and silver for the second badge).

Let's say that Billy Joe Bob likes his silver mouse holding a golden needle and wants to put it on any background (purple, black, green, blue, red, polka-dots, stripes, etc.). Billy Joe Bob decides to have a Fieldless Badge.

“(fieldless) A silver mouse holding a golden needle.”

This badge is fieldless. It is just the mouse holding the needle. The background could be anything. This way Billy Joe Bob can put it on any background he wants.

The one important thing about Fieldless Badges is that if there is more than one charge (mouse and needle are 2 charges) they have to touch. You cannot have items floating in space (3 mice arranged one and two (like the corners of a triangle) but not connected to each other). The three mice would have to be connected to each other to form one single design element – not three separate pieces.

Let me know if this answers your questions (may not have actually answered all of them). And take a look at the two articles that I gave the links to, as they may help.

If you have a particular heraldry question you would like answered in “Lessons in Heraldry”, please let me know! I may not know the answer but will try to find an answer that helps.

Maistir Rory



CARRIAGE CHATTER

Gulf Wars XVIII, March 14-22, Inter-Kingdom War hosted by Gleann Abhann

Congratulations to THLady Avice of York, who received the Order of the Jeweled Ring from Her Majesty Mary Grace on Saturday night, March 21, during Gleann Abhann's Court.

Baronial Investiture, April 3-5, Barony of Axemoor

(Written by Ebrahim al-Jabal)

This event took place at the Woodsmen of the World Camp near Hattiesburg, MS., and marked the final court of Baron Ifor de Leycester and Baroness Muirgen (called Morgana) of the Mist. There was much weeping; such that souvenir packets of tissue were given out, as their Excellencies proceeded to their thrones for the final time. Because of my position, I was unable to get a final count of empty tissue _boxes_ at the conclusion of court, but believe there were many as several attendants were seen delivering them to Morgana as needed.

Taking their places as the Seventh Baron and Baroness Axemoore were Master Charles Pierre du Bourbon and The Honorable Lady Martha Effingham of Stewarts Keep.

During the time between the last court of Ifor and Morgana and the first court of Charles and Martha there took place a tournament for a placing in the Tournament of Champions. Unfortunately, as there is a nasty change of elevation from the hall down to the list field and the location of the two courts, I was unable to negotiate my way there twice in one day.

The feast was most impressive with the main course being sausage rolled within pork wrapped with bacon. All in all, I believe the event was well worth the five hour drive to get there from Ardanroe.

Spring Coronation, April 10-12, Barony of Seleone

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

King's Arrow Ranch near Lumberton, Mississippi, was the site of the Spring Coronation of Syr Loric Sylvestris and Mistress Diana of the Isles hosted by the Barony of Seleone. Lady Giovanna da Corleone and Lady Marcel Orillion were the co-autocrats, while Lady Bailey Rose Marsh was in charge of reservations. Lady Marie Kalder was the feastocrat and she prepared a feast of wild game – boar, duck, and venison. The King's Champion and Kingdom Rapier Champion tournaments were held and required that the entrants must enter or sponsor an entry in the open A&S display and competition and have heraldry to display upon the field. The final court of King Havordh and Queen Mary Grace was held Saturday morning, His Majesty leaving the Crowns in the care of Sir Caillin and Viscountess Danielle while returning to his Duchy to defend his lands. Mistress Daphne then narrated the story of the Coronation of Prince Loric and Princess Diana, the Knights guarding the thrones until Prince Loric arrived and staked his claim. Loric crowned himself King of Gleann Abhann. Then entered Princess Diana to defend her claim to the throne, which was accepted, and King Loric crowned Diana Queen of Gleann Abhann. Fealty was then sworn by the Peers and Greater Officers.

The Cooks Guild held a fundraiser lunch for the populace, while the Ladies of the Bow and Blade prepared the Queen's luncheon, and the King's Champion tourney was held. At two o'clock the Pelican's meeting took place in the Green Dragon Inn. At three o'clock the Kingdom Rapier Champion tourney was held, while at three-thirty the Kingdom Greater Officers met. The A&S competition, which had been held in Bede Hall concluded and all pieces were moved so that the hall could be prepared for the White Rose Ball and presentation court. The first court of King Loric and Queen Diana was held at five o'clock in the main hall followed by feast. The White Rose Ball concluded the evening's activities.

Sir Uther von Ziemer won the heavy weapons tourney to become the King's Champion while Baroness Osprey von Orlemunde won the light weapons tourney to become the Queen's Rapier Champion. During the evening court, Baroness Morgana of the Mist was surprised by the announcement that she was to be elevated to the Order of the Pelican at a future event. Her husband, Baron Ifor, and Collin ap Ifor (son?), rushed up to attend the court announcement following a secret call made to Ifor after the Pelican's meeting.

Several musicians entertained during feast along with Mistress Isolde in dance. A boar's head dessert subtlety made by Mistress Isabel the Mad with the assistance of Baron Morgan was presented to the high table during feast and served during the White Rose Ball.

Mistress Sarah MacGregor and THL James in le Breres attended the event for the day only. Sarah was the court herald for the departing and incoming Crown. She was surprised when during their final court that morning, TRM Havord and Mary Grace made her a Baroness of their Court.

Athenaeum II: Art Wars, April 17-19, Shire of Tor an Riogh

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

Held at Dorman Lake, a tenting only event north of Starkville, Mississippi, the second Athenaeum was 'Art Wars' sponsored by the Order of the Silver Lamp and hosted by the Shire of Tor an Riogh. Countess Kenna was in charge of the rules and formation of teams. The categories were Woodworking, Metalworking, Costuming, Textile Arts (not clothing), Calligraphy/Illumination, Cooking, Armor work, and Open Miscellaneous. Viscountess Danielle de la Roche was the event steward while Mistress Jane Beaumont handled reservations and Mistress Crystyna Hyrundo did the feast. Thirteen teams composing forty-six people from minors to adults competed in 'Art Wars' to produce completed projects entirely made on-site. The team captains, levels and categories were:

Beginning Level

Sara de la Petra – Cooking

Maire Isabel Taillour – Costuming

Master Robert von Flusswasser – Miscellaneous

Intermediate Level

Galen de More – Woodworking

Mistress Sarah MacGregor – Miscellaneous

Expert Level

Mistress Vashti al Coya – Cooking

Countess Kenna nic Ahern – Costuming

Mistress Rosalind Miramihr – Costuming

Mistress Rebecca with the Greyhounds – Calligraphy and Illumination

Master Erik of Telemark – Metalworking and Woodworking [2 categories so 2 teams?]

Mistress Arielle de Brabazon and Mistress Anyeta the Wanderer – Miscellaneous

Pol Uto – Miscellaneous

Sarah and James represented Ardanroe, both working on different teams. Based on photos, Michael atte Harp may have been there working with the forge, possibly as part of Master Erik's team. Mistress Sarah's team created a heraldic outfit for a youth combat fighter (Gabriel Bacon) which included a silk banner of his device, shield covered in leather with his device and surcote with his device. James was part of a team which made a piece of stained glass. This may have been Pol Uto's team under the category Miscellaneous. Some of the other works of art created included a ram dessert subtlety, a period feast, a trebuchet, a wheelbarrow made entire of wood, a Viking woman's outfit, outfits for three Pict males, a Coptic book, and tools made from metal.

A four-man team tourney was held with bottles of wine being the entry fee and prize. The Order of the Aries also sponsored a standard tourney with prize of brass belt fittings. The event was attended by TRM Loric and Diana.

Forest Maiden V, April 24-26, Shire of Blackmoor Keep

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

Held at Camp Wi-Ta-Wentin in Lake Charles, the fifth Forest Maiden event hosted by the Shire of Blackmoor Keep promoted a quest, A&S competition, combat archery contest, and tourneys, plus classes in metal working, belly dancing, and drumming. Miles de Warwick was the autocrat, Broddi Raudskegga the feastocrat, and Baron Nigel de Rothewelle handled reservations. The event had a Middle Eastern flair and feast would follow this theme. Sir Ryan won the Forest Maiden tourney fighting for Mistress Marion Leoncina da Susa. Lord Ebrahim al-Jabal attended the event.

Beltaine, April 24-26, Barony of Grey Niche

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

The theme the Barony of Grey Niches' annual spring event, Beltaine, was the 'Truce of Engaddi'. The event was held at Piersol Group Camp in Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park near Memphis. Uilleam MacUilleam was the autocrat, Amelia van Hemessen the feastcrat, and Mistress Alysia Gabrielle de Fougeres handled reservations. On Friday evening THLord James the Holy was placed on vigil at the field.

Saturday morning TRM Loric and Diana held court and James the Holy was elevated into the Order of the Chivalry. At the conclusion of court Baroness Genevot Villeneuve de la Fleche was placed on vigil. The Silver Torc tourney then begun. This year the Silver Torc tourney was also a qualifying tourney for the Tournament of Champions. Thirty-two fighters competed in the tournament in four fields of eight fighters each. The list was a rotating weapons form and each fighter had to use at least three different weapon forms before repeating any form. The seven forms were: (1) weapon and shield, (2) two weapons (Florentine), (3) pole arm, (4) spear, (5) hand and a half/great swords, (6) hafted weapons, (7) single handed weapon. The winners of the four fields were Sir Rey, Sir Luther, THL Mika'il, and Lord Hjelmr. These four then fought in a four-man round robin which concluded in a tie between Sir Rey and THL Mika'il, both 2-2. A best two out of three final bout was fought between these two, which was won by Sir Rey. Both Sir Rey and THL Mika'il (Dex) qualified for the Tournament of Champions at the end of the year. THL Caedmon of Jorvik was the marshal.

In the afternoon a youth combat tourney and rapier tourney were held along with an Herbal Guild meeting, and class by Mistress Anna Nikolaevna Petrakova on 'A Comparison of European and Middle Eastern Calligraphy Styles'. There were also arts and sciences displays themed around items common to both Crusaders and Islam while on campaign. During an early evening court of the Crown, Baroness Genevot Villeneuve de la Fleche was elevated to the Order of the Pelican. By chance, the previous Pelican elevation was at last year's Beltaine event on April 26 for Mistress Miriel Dubois.

A feast featuring both European and Middle Eastern cuisine followed by revel and Hafla concluded the evening's activities. Regretfully, it is believed that no one from Ardanroe was able to attend Beltaine this year.



THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS WANTS YOU!

Saturday August 1
Jackson MS
Cabot Lodge Millsaps

The Shire of Iron Ox is currently seeking instructors for the following:

European Dance
Non European Dance
Various Music Classes - Bardic and Theatre Arts

If you are interested in teaching, contact Mistress Rosalind Mihrimah.

We have 5 tracks of classes throughout the day, a Documentation Review Panel sponsored by the Order of the Laurel and the Silver Lamp (to prepare for Kingdom A&S), A bardic Circle, Hafla, and European Ball.

Did I mention the Cabot lodge has a pool, and for Hotel Guests, a full breakfast AND complimentary happy hour?

In Service
Mistress Rosalind Mihrimah



THE ARDANROE HERBARIUM
(THL Rovena of Bri Leith, Column Editor)



Leeks for sale (from the Wikipedia Commons)

LEEKs

The scientific name is *Allium porrum*. It is a member of the great family of lilies. Its siblings include onions, chives, garlic, and shallots.

While it is believed that leeks first arose in Asia they have been naturalized throughout Europe since the earliest of times. In North America, it remains largely a garden plant. This hardy biennial plant has broad leaves that measure 2" wide and up to 3' long. The flowers form dense, pink clusters. The plant has a mildly onion smell about it. While left on its own this is a biennial plant, most cooks prefer to use tender leeks in their cooking. Gardeners have the choice of two types of leeks: one to plant in the spring to harvest in the fall or the other to plant in the fall and allow the leeks to winter-over for spring harvesting.

Its modern day medicinal uses are as a diuretic and blood-building agent.

Only the fibrous roots are not used in cooking. The rest of the plant can be added to dishes such as soups, stews, and braised beef. Cooking methods include boiling, frying, and raw. In Europe, leeks are known as the "poor man's asparagus"; they are distant relatives both belonging to the Lily family. It is the main element in the Scottish national dish: cock-a-leekie. It is an essential ingredient in French cuisine.

Historically, leeks are associated with Wales. There are a couple of reasons for this. Both center on Wales' patron saint, Saint David. He was a monk (later abbot and archbishop) who was renowned for his frugal eating habits: bread, herbs, leeks and only water to drink. The date of his birth is uncertain but most agree he died about March 1, 589 CE. The second reason is that before the Battle of Heathfield (October 12, 633 CE), Saint David persuaded the Welsh army to put a leek in their cap so that they would recognize who were Welsh and who was Saxon. The Welsh won the day and on March 1 (Saint David Day) to celebrate the victory and their patron saint, the Welsh wear leeks in their caps. Wall carvings and dried specimens from archaeological sites show that the Egyptians consumed leeks as early 2000 BCE. Written texts support the use of leeks in Mesopotamia from the same period. In the book of Numbers, leeks are one of the foods that the Jews missed after leaving Egypt. It is said that

leeks were the favorite vegetables of Emperor Nero. This may be because Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, believed leeks have a beneficial effect on the throat for a clear voice. It is thought that the Romans introduced leeks to Britain.

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ON THIS DAY

May 2005

2005 – May – Crown Lists & Coronations – The Kingdom of Meridies has given birth to two sibling Kingdoms, Trimaris and Gleann Abhann. Four years ago, in May 2005, Meridies was holding its Crown List, Trimaris its Coronation, and Gleann Abhann its first Crown List in preparation for elevation to Kingdom that fall.

As Gleann Abhann prepared to become a Kingdom, sister Trimaris was celebrating her 20th Year as a Kingdom. Duke Baldar Longstrider was crowned King of Trimaris May 27 (AS XL) with Asa Flaxenhair as his Consort. Baldar was also the first King of Trimaris, crowned September 1 (AS XX) due to Hurricane Elena with Ljudmilla von Konigsberg as Trimaris' first Queen. This was his sixth time to reign as King of Trimaris.

This leads to an interesting question. As of May 2005, who held the highest records of reigns in Meridies and Trimaris as Crown, in Meridies, Trimaris, and Gleann Abhann as Coronet, and in Trimaris and Gleann Abhann as Warlord?

Trimaris - Warlords

There were only five pairs of Warlords and Ladies of the Region of Trimaris, all of them serving only once.

Gleann Abhann – Warlords

There were six pairs of Warlords and Ladies of the Region of Gleann Abhann, one pair serving twice and four pairs only once. Eric of Chester and Rondallyn Kirkyndall were the First and Third Warlord and Lady of the Region.

Meridies – Coronets

There were only three reigns of Coronets (Prince and Princess) of the Principality of Meridies, all serving only once.

Trimaris – Coronets

There were only seven reigns of Coronets (Prince and Princess) of the Principality of Trimaris, all serving only once. However, Sakura Tetsuo and Sakura Kimeniko, First Warlord and Lady of Trimaris were also the Second

Prince and Princess of Trimaris. Verron Surgroth and Wulfa Eriksdottir (the Wild), Fourth Warlord and Lady of Trimaris were also the First Coronets (Prince and Princess) of Trimaris.

Gleann Abhann – Coronets

There were fourteen reigns of Coronets (Prince and Princess) of the Principality of Gleann Abhann, of which three Princes and one Princess served twice, all others serving only once. Eric of Chester, whom had served as the First and Third Warlord also reigned as the First and Third Prince of Gleann Abhann. William FitzHugh de Cambria served as the Fifth and Thirteenth Prince of Gleann Abhann. Stephen Wolfe and Jacqueline de Lyons served as the Fifth and Fourteenth Coronets, being the last Coronets of the Principality prior to elevation to Kingdom status.

However, Rondallyn Kirkyndall had the honor of serving as the First Princess of Gleann Abhann, having served as the First and Third Lady. Kaus Eisenhand and Susannah Eisenrose, whom had served as the Sixth Warlord and Lady, had the honor of serving as the Second Prince and Princess.

Meridies – Crown

The beginning of May saw the Crown List to determine the Heirs of King Maximilian and Queen Leofwynn, the Fifty-Fourth Crown of Meridies. The Heirs were Duke Boru and Lady Deirdre, who would be the last Crown of Meridies while Gleann Abhann was a Principality. This would be Boru's third reign. With the elevation of the Principality of Gleann Abhann in the fall, the Kingdom of Meridies would lose its First King, Duke John the Bearkiller, whom had reigned six times over Meridies, as the Second Prince of the Principality of Meridies and as First Crown with Cassandra NicKraken, as Third, Seventh, and Twentieth Crown with Heather of Tyson, and as Twenty-Ninth Crown with Jane Falada of Englewood. However, Duke John did not hold the record for the most reigns as Crown of Meridies. As of May 2005 Gareth le Bruin held that record with six reigns as King of Meridies.

In the count as Crown of Meridies, one has served six times as King; one five times as King; seven had served thrice as King or Queen (if counting then-Prince Boru in this category), and thirteen twice as King or Queen (if not counting then-Prince Boru in this category). Of the Queens of Meridies, the first Duchess for reigning twice in Meridies and only in Meridies was Heather of Tyson, who served as the Third, Seventh, and Twentieth Queen with John the Bearkiller as King.

As of May 2005 Heather of Tyson, Ilissa the Nightwatcher, and Jacqueline de Lyons tied for the record for the most reigns as Queen of Meridies, at three. However in overall standings, John the Bearkiller and Gareth le Bruin were tied with six reigns, John for five as King and one as Prince of Meridies and Gareth for six as King of Meridies. Francois Duvant in the overall standings joined those who had reigned twice, once as the First Prince of Meridies and once as the Fourth King of Meridies.

Meridies: Reigns as Crown

6 Reigns

Gareth le Bruin – 32, 37, 41, 44, 49, 51

5 Reigns

John the Bearkiller – 1, 3, 7, 20, 29

3 Reigns

Orlando Cavalcanti – 2, 5, 16

Heather of Tyson – 3, 7, 20 John the Bearkiller

Illissa the Nightwatcher – 17, 19 Kane, 45 Ailgheanan

Stephen Wolfe – 24, 26, 35

Jacqueline de Lyons – 24, 26, 35 Stephen

Boru (Barrach Aelwyn the Wolfhead) – 31, 33, 55

Ailgheanan mac Sithigh – 39, 45, 53

2 Reigns

Lawrence of Ashana – 13, 15

Ana Dmitriev of Plumley – 13, 15 Lawrence

Kane Redfeather – 17, 19

John of Ean Airgead – 12, 21

Rondallyn of Golgotha – 12, 21 John of Ean Airgead

Ryan von Gunterberg – 23, 28

Caroline of Mainwaring – 31, 33 Boru
 Richard de Chinon – 34, 42
 Katrina of Iron Mountain – 34, 42 Richard
 Sabine de Rouen – 41, 44 Gareth
 Anneis le Bruin – 49, 51 Gareth
 Maximilian Racheengel – 50, 54
 Lethrenn (Leofwynn of Leodridan) – 50, 54 Maximilian

Trimaris – Crown

The end of May began the Forty-First reign of a Crown of Trimaris, Baldar Longstrider having served as the First and now the Forty-First King of Trimaris, being his sixth time upon the throne of Trimaris. Baldar reigned twice with Ljudmilla von Konigsberg, once with Elspeth Trelawney MacNaughton of Lochawe, once with Rhianna Valeria (Rhionna Valerius), and twice with Asa Flaxenhair. He had also served as the sixth Coronet of Trimaris with Ljudmilla. As of May 2005 Baldar held the record for the most reigns in Trimaris, at six as Crown and seven overall as Crown and Coronet.

In the count as Crown of Trimaris, one has served six times as King; one has served four times as Queen; three had served thrice as King, and twelve twice as King or Queen. Of the Queens of Trimaris, the first Duchess for reigning twice in Trimaris and only in Trimaris was Ljudmilla von Konigsberg, who served as the First and Fourth Queen with Baldar Langstrider as King.

As of May 2005 Anastasiya Ostromirovna Zadorova held the record for the most reigns as Queen in Trimaris, at four. However in overall standings, Ljudmilla von Konigsberg has reigned three times, Verron Wolfgang von Groth (formerly Verron Surgroth), Adriana Maria von Groth (formerly Wulfa Eriksdottir) and Seosaidh mac Seosaidh have reigned twice; Ljudmilla twice as Queen and once as the Sixth Princess of Trimaris, Seosaidh mac Seosaidh as the Sixth King and Last Prince of Trimaris, Verron as the Second King and First Prince of Trimaris under slightly different names, and Adriana as the Second Queen and First Princess of Trimaris under slightly different names, Verron and Adriana also having credit as, though not a 'reign', Trimaris' Fourth Warlord and Lady.

Trimaris: Reigns as Crown

6 Reigns

Baldar Longstrider – 1, 4, 8, 15, 21, 41

4 Reigns

Anastasiya Ostromirovna Zadorova – 11 Huan, 22 Bytor, 30, 39 Gunnar

3 Reigns

Huan Artur – 11, 14, 17

Bytor Fitz Gherald – 22, 31, 40

Mittion von Weald – 29, 32, 38

2 Reigns

Ljudmilla von Konigsberg – 1, 4 Baldar

Llewelyn ap Calwaladr ap Dafydd ap Hywel – 9, 18

Solomon Spite – 7, 23

Alianore d'Astralis – 23 Solomon, 25 Strombek

Wulphere Trollhammer – 19, 26

Gaston de Viellechamps – 27, 33

Judith Maryse – 27, 33 Gaston

Odo Fitzhugh – 34, 37

Elena de Neuham – 34, 37 Odo

Gunnar Oxnamegin – 30, 39

Brigid ni Chaillin of the Moors – 29, 38 Mittion

Asa Flaxenhair – 21, 41 Baldar

Multi-Kingdoms

Finally, if one counted multiple Kingdoms, Aaron Breck Gordon and Branwen Bean Erin have reigned twice, as the fourteenth Crown of Meridies and then as the third Crown of Trimaris. Elspeth Trelawney

MacNaughton of Lochawe also fits this category, as the tenth Queen of Meridies and then as the eighth Queen of Trimaris. This also changes the status of Verron Wolfgang von Groth, whom we know traveled to the west to claim more fame, but in just looking at Meridies and Trimaris as Kingdoms, Verron reigned once as King in both. Verron has an overall status of three reigns, as the tenth King of Meridies, first Prince and second King of Trimaris, plus the credit of being Trimaris' fourth Warlord.

The overall rankings also change for some when adding the Principality of Gleann Abhann. Tar Radu and Broinnfinn inghean uí Chatháin would have two reigns each, as the forty-seven Crown of Meridies and the eleventh Coronet of Gleann Abhann. Stephen Wolfe and Jacqueline de Lyons, whom reigned three times as Crown of Meridies add two reigns as the fifth and fourteenth Coronets of Gleann Abhann, bringing their overall number of reigns to five. And yes, technically a Principality is still part of Kingdom so both couples could have an overall ranking of two and five reigns in Meridies respectively. Likewise, Verron would have an overall ranking of two reigns in Meridies when counting Trimaris as a Principality of that Kingdom. However, I have counted Meridies, Trimaris, and Gleann Abhann each as its own separate entity, thus combining them for counting under the term 'multiple kingdoms'. As May 2005 saw the First Crown List to determine the First Crown of Gleann Abhann, won by Tar Radu fighting for Broinnfinn inghean uí Chatháin, adding their future reign, as Prince Boru's future reign was added under *Meridies – Crown*, gives them two reigns as Crown from multiple kingdoms.

Reigns as Crowns from Multiple Kingdoms

2 Reigns

Verron Wolfgang von Groth – 10 Meridies, 2 Trimaris

Aaron Breck Gordon – 14 Meridies, 3 Trimaris

Branwen Bean Aaron – 14 Meridies, 3 Trimaris Aaron

Elsbeth Trelawney MacNaughton of Lochawe – 10 Meridies Verron, 8 Trimaris Baldar

Tar Radu – 47 Meridies, 1 Gleann Abhann

Broinnfinn inghean uí Chatháin 47 Meridies, 1 Gleann Abhann Radu

Next month we might look at *Gleann Abhann – Crown* having had four years of Crown Tournaments from May 2005 to May 2009, and see what those four years have changed to Crown reign and overall reign counts under Gleann Abhann and Multiple Kingdoms.

- Maistir Rory

