

# ARDANRUNES

This is the May 2013 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 2013 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 deadline for submissions is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for the issue coming out the 1<sup>st</sup> of the next month.

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## Calendar of Events

May 4	Investiture of Small Gray Bear - Lagerdamm
May 18	Spring Crown List – Loch Bais
June 1	Gleann Abhann Symposium – Ardanroe
July 13	Candlelight Camp – Small Gray Bear
July 27	Academy of Performing Arts – Iron Ox
September 7	Slay the Dragon – Vogelburg
September 14	Rook's Haven Event
September 21	Kingdom Arts & Sciences – TBA
October 5	Fall Coronation – TBA
June 7-16	Lilies War XXVII – Calontir
June 28-30	Known World Heraldic & Scribal Symposium

## ARDANROE OFFICERS

Seneschal: The Honorable Lady Kendra Dey  
Knight Marshal: Lord Akimoro of Ardanroe  
Herald: The Honorable Lady Evlaliia Sveneivicha  
Exchequer: Lady Joya la Normande  
Minister of Arts & Sciences: THLady Melisant of Exmoor  
Chronicler: Barun Rory ua Riada  
Chirurgion: (Soon to be filled...)

Chatelaine: THLord Skallagrímur Bárðarson  
Constable: Lord Jurgis Bebra  
Historian: Lord Ebrahim al-Jabal{i-}  
Quartermaster: Lady Joya la Normande  
Minister of Children: Lady Bride O Sullivan  
Web Minister: Lord Akimoro of Ardanroe

## WANT TO HOST GUESTS FOR THE SYMPOSIUM ON 6/1? SIGN UP HERE!

Please sign up at the link below if you have crash space that you are willing to offer to populace members traveling to Ardanroe for the symposium on June 1. It is assumed that crash space is being offered for Friday (May 31) and Saturday (June 1). As guests sign up with requests for crash space, I will attempt to match them to those offering space and contact you first to make sure that you are agreeable to the arrangement before notifying the event attendees of the spaces being offered. Please sign up no later than 5/10/13, and let me know if your plans change after you sign up.

This sign-up sheet and participation therein is strictly voluntary, and is not under the official auspices of the SCA. Any questions may be directed to Mistress Sarah MacGregor or asked here on the list [Ardanroe yahoo group] and I'll do my best to answer them!

<http://tinyurl.com/ardanroe-crash-space>

Sarah



## HARKEN YE!

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

- May 2 – Fighter Practice – 6:00 p.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Thursday)
- May 4 – Church Clean-Up Day [Tentative] – 9:00 a.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Saturday)
- May 5 – Fighter Practice – 2:00 p.m. – A. C. Steer off Youree Drive (Sunday)
- May 6 – Project Night – 6:00 p.m. – Skallagrímr & Evlalii's House (Monday)
- May 8 – Shire Populace Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Aulds Library (Wednesday)
- May 9 – Fighter Practice – 6:00 p.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Thursday)
- May 11 – Church Clean-Up Day [Tentative] – 9:00 a.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Saturday)
- May 12 – Fighter Practice – 2:00 p.m. – A.C. Steer off Youree Drive (Sunday)
- May 13 – Project Night – 6:00 p.m. – Skallagrímr & Evlalii's House (Monday)
- May 16 – Fighter Practice – 6:00 p.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Thursday)
- May 19 – Fighter Practice – 2:00 p.m. – A.C. Steer off Youree Drive (Sunday)
- May 20 – Project Night – 6:00 p.m. – Skallagrímr & Evlalii's House (Monday)
- May 22 – Shire A&S Night – 7:00 p.m. – Aulds Library (Wednesday)
- May 23 – Fighter Practice – 6:00 p.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Thursday)
- May 26 – Fighter Practice – 2:00 p.m. – A.C. Steer off Youree Drive (Sunday) [Memorial Day weekend]
- May 27 – Garage Cleaning – **AFTER 12 Noon** – Skallagrímr & Evlalii's House (Monday) [Memorial Day observed]
- May 30 – Fighter Practice – 6:00 p.m. – Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church (3939 Pines Road, Shreveport, LA 71119) (Thursday)

**NOTE:** Fighter practice held at Duck Pond off King's Highway on Sundays when raining. Please see the Shire website and Ardanroe Yahooogroup for updates.



## WANTED: SUCCESSOR DEPUTY TO LOCAL CHRONICLER'S OFFICER

Having held the Local Chronicler officer since March 2006 (7 years 3 months) and having had the honor of being editor of a local group newsletter to be nominated and to receive recognition in the William Blackfox Awards, it is time to give someone else the chance to hold this illustrious office, create a newsletter of their own vision, and bring glory and honor to our great Shire and Kingdom.

Base Requirements: Be able to create an electronic newsletter that can be uploaded to the Shire's website.

From the Kingdom Chronicler's Web Page of the Kingdom of Gleann Abhann:

### **Newsletter Requirements**

Group newsletters may be distributed in either printed or electronic format, or both. Local newsletters may be published monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly as the local officer wishes, however they must be published quarterly at the very least. The published newsletter (electronic or hardcopy) is considered the report for the local chronicler. Electronic publications are acceptable, however, if the local groups newsletter is not published electronically, a hard copy must be sent to the address posted in the Ambassador for the Kingdom Chronicler.

Additional information can be found in the Society Chronicler's Policy Handbook (October 2011; effective January 1, 2012) <http://www.sca.org/officers/chronicler/ChronPolicy.pdf> and under the Library for the Kingdom Chronicler of Gleann Abhann <http://gleannabhann.net/library/chronicler/#wpfb-cat-7>. There are also several FAQs regarding electronic newsletters on the Society Chronicler's web page <http://www.sca.org/officers/chronicler/>.

If interested in becoming the next Local Chronicler of the Shire of Ardanroe, please apply by May 31<sup>st</sup>. I would really like my successor to start July 1, 2013 (being the start of the second half of the 2013 calendar year).

Please submit applications to the Shire Seneschal, THL Kendra Dey. The Kingdom Chronicler will make final approval ([GA Local Chronicler Information Form](#) in GA Chronicler Library and Warrant <http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/Warrant-other.pdf> from Society Chronicler web page).

**Again, please apply by May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Thanks!

Barun Rory ua Riada  
Local Chronicler, Shire of Ardanroe





## TOWN FAIRE

**CORRECTION:** *The Fifth Sunday Tourney Demo was postponed and instead a regular fighter practice was held on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> starting at two o'clock at Betty Virginia Park. Skallagrímr, Álfráðr, and Symon fought, while Marguerite, Ysabel, Evlaliia, and Jason and Paula with Minion Dylan watched.*

Project night on April 1<sup>st</sup> was attended by Skallagrímr, Evlaliia, Kendra, Amata, Kert, Álfráðr, and Marguerite. There was armor work as well as work on Volunteer Point entry. Kert worked on garb for himself. The night ended early (about 8:30) due to everyone being tired.

The Prescotts, Pooles, Álfráðr, and Gilbert attended the Thursday night, April 4<sup>th</sup> fighter practice at Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church. Álfráðr, Gilbert, and Jason took the field. Lucas (youth fighter) was tutored by Álfráðr.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottish Tartan Festival was held on Saturday, April 6, from 10 am – 6 pm at Scotland Farms just northeast of Minden, Louisiana; US 79 & LA 518. The Shire did a demo at the festival. Members participating in the demo included Gilbert and Skallagrímr as the fighters, with two Ansteorrans participating in the fighting at the end of the day; Kendra, Evlaliia, Amata, Marguerite and Ysabel, and Marsilla. All were invited to Avice and Symon's for dinner after the festival.

The Fifth Sunday Tourney Demo was postponed from March due to holidays and weather and held instead in the afternoon of the first Sunday of April, the 7<sup>th</sup>, at Betty Virginia Park. There was a huge local turnout with Kert, Evlalia, Skallagrímr, Runa, Luc Minion, Symon, Akimoro, Eida, Baby Daphne, Jay, Paula, Baby Dylan, Tralin, Johannes, Amata, Asa, Harp and two strings, Godric, Thorgrim, Garrett, Branwyn, Aneya, Bride, Mateo, Aiden, Ariel, Marguerite, Ysabel, Drust, Álfráðr, Aedan, Kendra, Paul, and Harmony. There were several walk ups including a videographer who filmed most of the fights and promised to send the Shire the footage. The day had seven fighters in the tourney; three youth fighters; thirty-five attendants total. Akimoro won the Fifth Sunday champion and Skallagrímr got best death for tumbling down the hill while his shield cart wheeled in a different direction.

Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> Project Night starting at 6:00 p.m. at Skallagrímr & Evlaliia's house was also huge. Those present included Skallagrímr, Evlaliia, Kendra, Álfráðr, Marguerite, Kert, Amata, Marcella, Gilbert, Branwen and Godric and their two boys, and the Prescotts (Jason, Paula, Dylan). Projects actually got done as well. I covered my new shield with appliqué, Jason got a plastic breastplate cut out, Kert got his new tunic pattern cut out and surged, with Carol's help. Tyler and Garret stripped tape off rattan, Amata and Bert oiled a belt. Marcella worked on embroidery; Matt got ideas for a coat of plates. It was a very productive night.

Thursday fighter practice at the Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church on April 11<sup>th</sup> had 13 attendees with Gilbert, Skallagrímr, Álfráðr, Symon, Paul the Small, and Jason fighting. One youth combatant also practiced. Observers included the rest of the Prescott family, Garrison family, Kendra, and Rory. Practice went from six o'clock to eight-thirty.

Sunday fighter practice the weekend of Spring Coronation was rescheduled to begin at 12 noon so that out-of-towners attending Coronation might have the chance to fight before heading home. Practice was held on April 14<sup>th</sup> at A.C. Steer Park and lasted until three-thirty or four o'clock. Attendees included Kert, Evlalia, Skallagrímr, Runa, Luc Minion, Symon, Akimoro, Eida, Jason, Paula, Baby Dylan, Amata, Aedan, Rory, and Aedan's friend James. Aki reported that his name has been mailed off to Ruby and his device is being double-checked within the Shire.

Aedan has decided on a name and is working on a device concept. Those practicing today were Jason, Akimoro, and Luc Minion. Symon showed Luc some pell techniques.

Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> was Project Night at Skallagrímr and Evlaliia's house. Attendees included Kendra, Rory, Gilbert and Marcella, Branwen and Godric and their two boys, Kert, Álfráðr, Jurgis and Joya, Skallagrímr, and Evlaliia. Many projects were worked on.

Thursday fighter practice at the Church on April 18<sup>th</sup> was canceled because of a church event.

The first Church Clean-Up Day, held Saturday, April 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Mangum Memorial United Methodist Church, was attended by 15 people. These included Gilbert, Marcilla, Skallagrímr, Evlaliia, Jurgis, Joya, Branwen, Godric, their two boys, Ebrahim, Avalina, Rory, Medb, and Aedan.

Sunday fighter practice at A.C. Steer on April 21 had 24 people. Cricket, Aidan, Thorgrim, and Garrett were the youth combatants. Aki, Symon, Godric, Tralin, Paul, Álfráðr, and Fumitaka Sato were the heavy weapons. Mateo, Álfráðr, Paul, and Aki worked with the youths. Bride held belly dance lessons with Marguerite, Glynn (Thorgrim's girlfriend), and Bride's daughter. Crowd observers of the fighting included Amata, Branwen, Kert, Aedan, Rory, Ysabel, Rhonda and Lynn.

Project night, Monday, April 22, had a great meal cooked by Kert with sides provided by others. Attendees were Gilbert and Marcilla, Kert, Amata, Clan Prescott, Jurgis and Joya, Kendra, Skallagrímr and Evlaliia, Marguerite, Rory, with quick visits by Mateo and Jonathan. There was finger braiding, tunic cutting out, and the garage floor was found by two brave souls.

Shire A&S Night at Aulds Library, Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, was Dance Night. The dances covered were Single (Tangle) Branles, Clog Branles, Washerwomans Branles, Horse Branles, and Angus Reel. I think we may have Single Branles, Horse Branles, and Angus Reel at Friday's demo. Attendance had Kendra, Branwen, Godric, the 2 boys (Garrett and Thorgrim), Glynn (Thorgrim's 'girlfriend'), Marguerite, Amata, Skallagrímr, Symon, Kert, Joya, Jurgis, and Rory. Rory taught the class. Jurgis watched. Everyone else danced. This lasted from just past seven to just past eight o'clock.

Thursday fighter practice at the Church on April 25<sup>th</sup> was canceled due to schedule conflicts.

Friday afternoon, April 26<sup>th</sup> was a demo at Caddo Middle Magnet School. The Shire folk arrived around 12 noon and were demo-ing from 12:30 – 2:30 as part of the School's Renn Faire. There are high hopes and desires from the teachers for the Shire folk to come back next year for the full day doing morning hands-on and viewing by specific classroom groups of various areas and then participation in the afternoon Renn Faire for the entire school. Shire folk attending on Friday included Skallagrímr, Melisant and Olaf, and Godric. The sheep that Melisant and Olaf brought were a somewhat bigger hit than Skallagrímr and Godric demo-ing fighting.

Sunday fighter practice, April 28<sup>th</sup> at A.C. Steer Park off Youree Drive was well attended on a sunny day with plenty of shade and mild temperatures. Held from two o'clock to four-thirty, there were five heavy weapons fighters, one youth fighter, and plenty of spectators. Heavy weapons fighters included Skallagrímr, Paul, Jason, Symon, and Álfráðr. The youth combatant was Cricket. The fourteen spectators included Amata, Kert, Aedan, Rory, the Prescotts, the Pooles, Godric, Trina and son, Michael atte Harp, Paul's cousin Eli, and Cricket's mom.

The last Project Night of April, Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> was large in attendance and full of activity. There was food, sewing, armor work, and weaving. Ebrahim brought his completed slope – a wooden box that would go on a table to use for letter-writing, illumination, etc.; with storage inside. Kendra provided information about Beltaine in Grey Niche on Saturday. Those present at Skallagrímr and Evlaliia's house included Skallagrímr, Evlaliia, Kert, Kendra, Amata, Gilbert, Marcilla, Joya, Jurgis, Ebrahim, Symon, Jason P, Janna and Lucas Poole, Marguerite, Álfráðr, and Rory.



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

*HORSERADISH*

Horesradish (*Armoracia rusticana*) belongs to the Cruciferae (mustard) family. Horseradish is a fairly modern name. In the 1500s, the English called it Red Cole. Its planetary rule is Mars.

The origins are unknown and it is thought that it could be a hybrid of two other species. It could be native to Western Asia and Eastern Europe though it is widely cultivated in North America. This perennial herb prefers a rich, heavy, moist soil and is hardy to Zone 5. While it hates wet it can withstand minor drought conditions. Water stress increases the bitterness of the roots. It prefers full sun and flowers in midsummer. The small, white, four petal flowers and one foot oblong leaves appear on stalks that can grow up to three feet tall. It can be very invasive and extremely difficult to eliminate once it is established. Container growing is highly recommended. You propagate it by division. You can harvest the roots annually by lifting up the crown, removing the lateral roots, and then replanting the main root in the existing hole.

Too much horseradish can cause night sweats or diarrhea because of the mustard oil it contains.

It has been used to treat water retention and pain management. For a wide variety of pain, you create a poultice of water and grated root. The root has both antibiotic and Vitamin C. Proper storage of the root will prolong the shelf life of its Vitamin C.

It is highly valued for skin treatment against irritation and pain by using it in salves, lotions, and baths.

While it's longest historical use is as a medicinal herb, its use today is mainly culinary. During the Middle Ages, only the Germans and Danes ate it. In fact the French word for it meant German mustard since they used it where other cuisines used mustard. John Gerard noted that the English only used it for medicine; the Germans would stamp it with a little vinegar for a sauce with fish or any meats that paired with mustard. Soon the English country folk took a liking to it though it was thought too harsh for the delicate gentry. During the mid-1800s, it gained great popularity in America. It is now important in Russian cuisine. It is a Middle Eastern snack that is sliced and pickled. To keep low salt cucumber pickles crispy, add 2" batons of horseradish to the jar. Like most herbs, it is best used fresh and most commercially available horseradish is dehydrated.

Many companion plant it with potatoes to increase disease resistance. Many gardeners like to plant horseradish in their garden borders. Apollo, while at the Oracle of Delphi, was told that "the radish was worth its weight in lead, the beet was worth its weight in silver, and the horseradish was worth its weight in gold."

**References:**

- Beyerl, Paul. *The Master Book of Herbalism*. Custer, Washington: Phoenix Publishing Co., 1984.  
Gabriel, Ingrid. *Herb Identifier & Handbook*. New York: Sterling Publishing Co., 1979.  
Huson, Paul. *Mastering Herbalism: a Practical Guide*. Lanham, Md.: Madison Books, 2001, 1974.  
Kowalchik, Claire, Hylton, William H., and Anna Carr. *Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Herbs*. Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press, 1987.  
Tucker, Arthur O. and Thomas DeBaggio. *The Big Book of Herbs: a Comprehensive Illustrated Reference to Herbs of Flavor and Fragrance*. Loveland, Colo.: Interweave Press, 2000.







## FORTNIGHT

The April Populace Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at Aulds Library (3950 Wayne Avenue, Bossier City, LA 71112). The meeting began at seven o'clock and ended at eight o'clock. Thirteen adults and one child attended.

Attendees: Kendra, Joya, Jurgis, Marsilla, Skallagrímr, Akimoro, Eida, Evlaliia, Kert, Gilbert, Rory, Amata, and Ebrahim, and one child.

### Officer Reports

#### Seneschal

- No outstanding reports thru the end of April!
- Remember to keep count of attendance at Shire functions
- Working on getting warrants/status of warrants for all local officers

#### Knight's Marshal

- Fighter practices were all good!
- Record turnout for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fighter Practice held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of April. There were 35 people at Betty Virginia Park. It was amazing! Over 100 photos were taken.
- Thursday night fighter practices are going fine.
- There is someone interested in rapier practice.
- Need to shop for fabric for making the Shire 'rapier loaner armor'.

#### Herald

- Aki has a name and possible device at Evlaliia's to go over.
- Asa's name and device paperwork on hold due to the new baby.
- Álfráðr's minion, Luc, has a possible name in development.

#### Exhequer

- First Quarter report is done!

#### A&S – not here but sent message

- Please send a list of completed projects to Melisant for her report
- Rory to teach some European dances at the April A&S Night.
- Consider what you would like to do at the May A&S Night.
  - Kert is willing to teach the Byzantine wire class in the future
  - Set of Shire banners could be made in the future
  - Need to make the sashes for Shire offices (ideally before GA Symposium)

#### Chronicler

- April newsletter is done

- Remember to fill out the Release Information for Personal contact information and for Photos and other creative works. This must be done before this information can be included in the Shire or Kingdom newsletters.
  - Seneschal strongly encourages everyone to fill out Release Forms so these will be on file with the Kingdom Release Deputy for any flyers, etc. that need to be published in newsletters.

#### Chirurgion

- Marsilla hopes to have a new warranted Chirurgion at Coronation, which would give the Shire a local Chirurgion. She also has another possible local Chirurgion in the works.

#### Chatelaine

- Demo for Friday, April 26 at Caddo Middle Magnet as part of a mini-Renaissance Fair. Skallagrímr will post more information about this demo to the list.

#### Constable

- Is ALIVE!!
- Has received waivers from the demo at the Scottish Tartan Festival.

#### Historian

- Please send photos for Historian files.
- Reports are due in May.

#### Quartermaster

- Need to look at Shire trailer before the GA Symposium to see what items need restocking.

#### Webminister

- April Ardanrunes has been posted.
- Working on officers pages.
- GA Symposium flyer has been posted.

#### Minister of Children – Not able to attend

- Any Ardanroe member wishing to have the paperwork done to become an authorized MoC needs to contact the Kingdom Seneschal. The Kingdom Seneschal initiates the process.

#### Old Business

##### GA Symposium (6/1/13)

- The autocrat is working on lining up classes
- The event flyer has been updated to note this is a DRY site.
- Gilbert has okayed an area of A&S displaying
- Please contact Mistress Sarah if you are willing and able to provide crash space for event attendees

#### Church Clean-Up

- Four dates for this to occur – April 20 and 27; May 4 and 11
- April 20<sup>th</sup> will be a major cutting day of branches and logs. Please bring chainsaws and reciprocating saws.
- Starting time to be announced on the list

#### Scottish Tartan Festival - April 6, 2013

- This was a really big hit and a lot of fun.
- The SCA demo was well received by the Festival organizers and attendees.
- Some photos of SCA (flag and tent) made the news
- The festival had between 500 – 1000 people attending this year
- Feedback on the Festival Demo
  - Have a tournament
  - Do a shield tree with or without real shields (real or not real devices)



- The flashy visual stuff drew a lot of attention
- Attendees wanted to know if they could touch or hold stuff – find a way to let them know this is okay and actually desired
- Consider take-away items – not simply business cards about the SCA/Shire – possibly things attendees can make at the demo – do it yourself scrolls, coats of arms, coloring books, bookmarks, etc.
- Have dancing
- Need a binder of things to bring to demos – handouts, waivers, sign-up for more information sheets, etc
- Need new business cards for the Shire as the Kingdom website has changed. Also include an email to contact for more information – like [chatelaine@ardanroe.org](mailto:chatelaine@ardanroe.org)
- Free entry passes for Demo participants was not a problem to the organizers and the organizers want the Shire to come back next year.
- Put out a Schedule Board so attendees know when different activities will occur at the Shire Demo area
- Build in a break-time for Demo participants to rest
- Make sure to get attendees involved in the activities occurring at the list field (tourneys, dancing, kid games, etc)
- Add a second tent for a changing area and to store mundane stuff. Could also be a place for kids to take a nap in

### New Business

#### Schedule

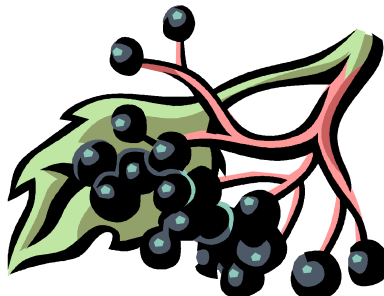
- Memorial Day Monday (May 27) will be “Clean the Garage Day” instead of Project Night at Skallagrímur & Evlaliia’s
- Melisande of Loch Bais will be taking reservations for Crown List at Coronation
- Kendra went over the upcoming events on the Kingdom Calendar in April, May, and June.

#### Announcements

- Do not forget to fill out the survey about the Online Order of Precedence in the April issue of The Ambassador!

Notes from the Populace Meeting provided by Barun Rory, Chronicler





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

*ELDERBERRY*

Sambucus is of the Caprifoliaceae family (honeysuckle family). Elderberry is often simply called elder or elder tree. There are 13 species of Sambucus that are native to North America. The scientific name is probably derived from a Greek musical instrument called a sambuke. Its planetary ruler is Venus. Elderberry was used to heal the soul as well as the body.

The original range for elderberries was Europe, western Asia, and North Africa but several European shrubs followed the settlers to North America. The white terminal clusters of flowers open during summer. The leaves are toothed and growing opposing each other. Just as height varies between species from 12 feet to 50 feet so varies the color of the berries ranging from amber, red, black, purple, to blue. Elderberry prefers a fertile, moist soil with full sun to partial shade. Finding elderberries in some Stone Age sites in Switzerland and Italy makes this plant one of man's earliest plant companions. The easiest propagation is by suckers. Due to the massive number of suckers it produces, this is a high maintenance plant.

Novice herbalist should take great care when experimenting with it. Leaves and roots of some species contain cyanogenic glucosides which releases cyanide while the ripe, cooked berries are safe. There is no evidence that leaves are dangerous. The roots and stalks can be dangerous as has been shown by children sicken from using elderberry blowguns or whistles.

Elderberry has been used to treat most everything though modern science does not support most of these uses. John Evelyn, a 17<sup>th</sup> century herbalist, called it a remedy "against all infirmities whatever."

One of its cosmetic uses is for dyeing hair black and could be an early Grecian formula. The flowers have an astrigent quality. For softer skin and calmer nerves, add the flowers to your bath water.

During the Middle Ages the juice was added to port to make a cheap port pass for a more costly port. The culinary uses include chutneys, jams, jellies, preserves, and wines. Dried blossoms have been used in tea blends. When you need a substitute for elderberries, try black currants or serviceberries (also known as June-berries). Tender green shoots can be boiled to produce an effective spinach substitute. The dried flowers can be steeped in vinegar to produce a caper-like flavor.

This plant had a reputation for great powers for both good and for evil. Fear of harming the infant prevented carpenters from making cradles of elderberry wood. See it in a dream then illness is on the way. If it is gathered on the last day of April and put up around the house's windows and doors, it would protect against witches. Because it was inhabited by spirits, many will not cut it down or burn it, as well as many avoid it after dark. Freya's home is said to have been made of it. Jesus' cross is said to have been made of elderberry wood. Practical uses include making needles for net mending, the appearance of the berries signaled the time to sow wheat, and the leaves and berries were used to make yellow and violet dyes. If used in landscaping, they are best when viewed at a distance so they are not recommended for small properties. Makers of mathematical instruments highly prized old stems because they were hard and fine grained.

**References:**

- Beyerl, Paul. *The Master Book of Herbalism*. Custer, Washington: Phoenix Publishing Co., 1984.
- Huson, Paul. *Mastering Herbalism: a Practical Guide*. Lanham, Md.: Madison Books, 2001, 1974.
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**CARRIAGE CHATTER****Gleann Abhann Spring Coronation, Barony of the Small Gray Bear, April 12-14, 2013 AS XLVII**

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

The Barony of Small Gray Bear hosted the Kingdom of Gleann Abhann's Spring Coronation the second weekend of April at Lake Bistineau State Park, Group Camp One, near Doyline, Louisiana. The event steward was THL Brendan mac Sionnac. The feastocrat was Lord Giacomo Fornerigo. THL Fronicka von Wieduwilt was in charge of reservations. THL Katryne MacIntosh the Strange was the meetings coordinator.

The event began Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> with the site opening at five o'clock that afternoon. The event ended Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> with the site closing at ten o'clock that morning. As of the first of April the event was sold out in beds and feast seating. Feast had been sold out just days after Gulf Wars concluded in March.

Friday night traveller's fare was made available in the great hall. Troll was also set up near the kitchen's buffet counter for attendees to sign-in as they arrived. A two-table pictorial display of the history of Gleann Abhann on tri-fold boards was brought by the Kingdom Historian, Mistress Barbara Sterling. It included photos of each member of the Chivalry, Laurel, and Pelican, and all of the past royals of Gleann Abhann – Coronets and Crowns. Recent photos from Fighters Collegium and Gulf Wars were added to the display thanks to the photographic efforts of Viscountess Danielle, Lady Sara de la Vale and Garv Weldon.

Breakfast was served from seven-thirty to nine o'clock Saturday morning in the great hall. Hot fluffy biscuits and egg casseroles and coffee were just a few of the items laid out for the populace to partake.

Troll table had schedules for the event and flyers for Beltaine. There was also a handout - Norse Mythology Glossary of Terms. This would become relevant as the morning progressed. Those whom had pre-reserved received an envelope containing a receipt and a site token. The token, a baked clay figure of a King, possibly from a period chess set, was on a black string of yarn. Those who were spending the weekend at the event received a red Norse

chess figure. Those who were only there for the day received a natural-colored (sort of sandy in color) Norse chess figure. I am not sure if there was anything to designate if a person was eating feast Saturday night or not.

Lady Isabel Winterbourne, Amethyst Herald, with prior request from the Diamond Herald, laid out a display of the Kingdom's award regalia with directions in one corner of the great hall. THL Brendan said that this was sneakily done; right under his nose!

Lady Jorhildr Hrafnkelsdottir, Topaze Signet, coordinated a contest of Kingdom award scrolls, which began just after eight-thirty in the great hall. The competition ended at two forty-five and all scrolls were to be picked up by three-thirty. The categories at the Scribal Competition included Best Novice Calligraphy, Best Novice Illumination, Best Calligraphy, Best Illumination, King's Choice, and Queen's Choice. A separate category for scribes under the age of 16 - Best Youth Calligraphy and Best Youth Illumination would also be offered. Each scroll could only be entered for one aspect, illumination or calligraphy, not both. All scrolls would become the property of the Crown to go into the Kingdom's scroll case for future use. Documentation was encouraged but not required.

The Great Officers Meeting was held at eight-thirty under the gold pavilion. Two white pavilions were set up near the C and D cabins. The one closest to the bath house was designated the gold pavilion with a duct-taped signage. The one closest to the royal cabin was designated the silver pavilion with duct-tape signage. The meeting included Their Royal Highnesses and the Kingdom Seneschal, Earl Marshal, Diamond Herald, Minister of Arts and Sciences, Exchequer, Chirurgion, Chronicler, and Chatelaine. So, yes, not all were "Great Officers" but all were Kingdom Officers. Their meeting concluded just as the Crown prepared to make Their procession to Their final court.

Mistress Daphne of Colchester was the court herald for Their Royal Majesties Rey and Miriel and announced their entrance to the populace. Court was held to the side of the great hall, the Crown's thrones under the royal pavilion. When all were seated the Kingdom Seneschal, Prior Gilbert des Moulins, was summoned. He announced changes to Kingdom Law and Herald Law which would be read at the back of the court. These included the creation of the Red Guard (Section 12.13) and Black Company (Section 12.12) as the date change for Spring Coronation 2014 due to the SCA Board of Directors Meeting to be in Memphis, Tennessee the same weekend as Spring Coronation 2014.

Philip of Wyrnggeist was then awarded arms. Maistre Rory ua Riada, Diamond Herald was summoned. He asked that the gemstone heralds of Gleann Abhann all be called forth. Baroness Judith Wilkinson, Ruby, Lady Isabel, Amethyst, and Lady Jorhildr, Topaze, were all escorted forth. Others would be onsite later that day. Rory had several goodies and had his Deputies hold these items as he quickly ran through a list of topics.

Rory announced the results of the "Spy on the Crown" contest held during and after Gulf Wars. The purpose was to get reports on recognition by the Crown during this week-long event. Reports had been received from four people, all court baronesses. These four were announced and asked to come forth. They were Baroness Barbara of the Crossroads (from Trimaris), Baroness Barbara Sterling, Baroness Daphne of Colchester, and Baroness Judith Wilkinson. The three Gleann Abhann baronesses were present and each received a prize, each a different book about ceramics. As one of the Crown's entourage commented, "The Kingdom Historian is good! She won and she was not even at the War!"

Rory then reminded all that he was looking for Heraldic Bling Judges for Crown List. He needed two more judges. Help was also needed for Crown List with the procession and tournament. All were encouraged to see the Emerald and Obsidian Heralds. A display of Kingdom award regalia was inside the great hall thanks to the efforts of Lady Isabel, Amethyst. The deadline for the survey about the Online Order of Precedence appearing in the April issue of The Ambassador was April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please fill it out and send it in. Applicants were being sought as Diamond Herald Successor Deputy. The deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>. And finally that Gulf Wars Heralds Point was a great success. 37% of submissions received at Gulf Wars were from Gleann Abhann and 35% of the individuals requesting help on submissions were from Gleann Abhann. Only six kingdoms accepted submissions at Gulf Wars – Gleann Abhann, Meridies, Ansteorra, Trimaris, Calontir, and Northshield. The winner of the Most Helpful Herald was a tie between Genevieve d'Estelle (formerly of Axemoor) and Gunnvôr silfrahárr, the Viking Answer Lady. Second place was Groza Novgorodskaia from Dragoun's Weal.

Sir Martin von Augsburg and Mistress Gwyneth Cerr were now summoned. Their Majesties announced that a polling for the next Baron and Baroness of Small Gray Bear had been held. They were pleased at this time to announce the new Baron and Baroness of Small Gray Bear would be Sir Martin and Mistress Gwyneth. The couple was asked to go forth and plan their future investiture.

Kendra Dey, Avice of York, and Skallagrímur Bárðarson were now summoned. Skallagrímur was the only one present at the time. He had volunteered and coordinated the Royal Reception at Gulf Wars, including the fundraisers to cover the costs. All of the visiting royalty had enjoyed the reception. Avice and Kendra were now present and escorted up. Both ladies had helped coordinate the Gleann Abhann Social at Gulf Wars before the event

and at the event. At this time King Rey presented the King's Order of Condatis to all three of them. It should be noted that Avice and Skallagrím's awards had been read into court at Gleann Abhann's court during Gulf Wars on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Marie Isabelle Callora(?) was now awarded arms. Astrid of the Holy, a teenage lass, was then presented to the Crown. Sir James the Holy explained to the populace that Astrid had entered a Viking apron in the arts and sciences contest (I believe during Fighters Collegium?). The judges, not knowing this was an entry by a child, judged it as a regular adult entry. The piece scored higher than any other entry in the contest. Astrid received applause from the populace for this display of artistic talent. The Crown now awarded Astrid the Order of the Silver Ram and an award of arms.

Aron Harcourt now was inducted into the Order of the Combattant Rams. The members of the Order of the Silver Lamp were summoned. At least eleven members of the Order were present. Egil Haraldsson was asked to come up at this time and join the Silver Lamp.

Sarah MacGregor, Orlun Elidasdottir, and one other lady were now summoned. For their service to the Queen, they each received a Jewelled Ring from Miriel. Sir James the Holy was now summoned. King Rey declared that Sir James as Gleann Abhann's National Treasure, and received a scroll stating that he was a relic of Gleann Abhann to be treasured always.

Inga (?), who was unable to attend the event, at this time was awarded arms with the scroll being read into court. Grace, the daughter of Sir Brian and Baroness Osprey, was summoned. She received the Order of the Lamb. Helmut der Adler, Sir James' squire and member of Ardanroe, was embarking on a journey outside the environs of Gleann Abhann (off to military school). As he was a valiant warrior of Gleann Abhann, he would always be a citizen. As such, Helmut was declared a Citizen of Gleann Abhann.

Sir James the Holy now serving as narrator, announced the arrival of soldiers from Jerusalem. King Rey was called to retake Jerusalem. His Majesty called forth his Black Company, his personal guard, whom had helped conquer the Trimarians during Gulf Wars. The King led his company away.

Sir James now narrated that the King had been very sad in leaving, for he knew that the Queen was pregnant.

Joan of Ooc was summoned to attend the Queen. She was made a Baroness of the Court. The Kingdom Exchequer, Marcel Orillion, was granted arms. Abraham al-Saleem(?) was granted arms. Sir Drogo of Axbridge was made a Baron of the Court.

Sir James now narrated again, as the King's crown was carried back into court. *As the months passed, Her Majesty Miriel never gave up hope of His return, but hearing that He had perished in the Holy Land, and seeing the return of His Crown it was too much of a shock.* At this time the Queen's water broke and the midwife was called! There was much consternation behind the thrones under the royal pavilion. Alas, the Queen died in childbirth, but her baby, a son, lived! The baby was named Jon and Chivalry were summoned to protect the Crowns and the baby Prince Jon. The baby was very large, and Sir Wernherus was seen to stagger under the burden of carrying the four to five foot tall baby out of court as court closed.

While I was unable to tell how many of the Knights of Gleann Abhann came forth to guard the royal crowns and the Prince, I believe them to have included Syr Loric Silvestris, Sir William FitzHugh de Cambria, Sir Caillin Mac Leoid, Sir Wernherus Rudemann, Sir Uther von Ziemer, Sir Drogo of Axbridge, Sir Ashikaga Hiromoto, Sir James the Holy, Sir Geoffrey de Bradelei, Sir Grimbaldus Bacon, Sir Martin von Augsburg, and Sir Óláfr bristle-beard.

There was now a break before the coronation of Jon and Emma. The event steward, Brendan announced that there was a sewer line break between the bath house and the B cabins. The area had been roped off and the park rangers summoned. The bath house was still useable.

At roughly a quarter past eleven Duke Uther announced the entrance of Jon, Heir to the Rams thrones and Champion of Midgard. He was preceded by four Norse men bearing burning torches. Mistress Brigit followed announcing the entrance of Emma, Mother of Midgard. Standing upon a small wooden bench Jon claimed the crown of Gleann Abhann and placed it upon his head. Emma then stood on top of the small wooden bench, whereby she was now the same height as Jon. Jon, as King of Gleann Abhann, now crowned Emma Queen. The bench was now removed and all bid to sit.

The Oath of Fealty was now given. What was neat was the small change in the Oath – *as long as they live, die, or the time of Ragnarok comes.* The Greater Officers and Landed Baronies were called up first to swear the Oath. The Peers – Chivalry, Laurels, and Pelicans – were called up second to swear the Oath. The Grant Orders – the Aries, Diamond Chalice, Silver Lamp, Queen's Silver Blade, and Sable Banner – were the third group to be called to come forth and swear the Oath. And finally the populace was called up to swear the Oath.



As the court herald, Mistress Brigit now called Rey Ribeauumont and Miriel Dubois to come before the Crown. Rey received the title of Count. Miriel received the title of Countess. King Jon placed the coronet upon Rey's head and Queen Emma placed the coronet upon Miriel's head. The members of the Rose and the Diamond were called forth. Six were present –Duchess Onóra, Duchess Kenna, Countess Diana, Countess Kimiko, Viscountess Danielle, and another lady whom I believe has moved to Gleann Abhann from another Kingdom. Countess Miriel was inducted into the Order of the Rose. A coat was presented to Miriel with the rose embroidered on the back.

It was now announced that the second court and presentation court of Their Majesties would be held after feast in their mead hall. Nicholas L'Anguille was then summoned and made a Baron of the Court. Two gentlemen held for viewing the scroll made for him. It was four pages in length arranged in a rectangle from left to right and had been done by Nicholas' friends in Calontir, whom were here in a side gallery (under a day pavilion). Court was then closed. All of the scrolls said "Jon II and Emma".

The Gleann Abhann Herbal Guild sponsored the fundraiser lunch at Coronation. This was coordinated by THLady Morin, head of the Gleann Abhann Herbal Guild. Proceeds would go to Their Majesties Discretionary Fund. A donation of five dollars (\$5) was requested for the meal, which included chicken and rice, marinated cucumbers, salad, spring fruits, and desert – being chocolate and vanilla pudding. Water and sweetened tea were served as drinks. All attending were asked to bring feast gear for lunch.

During the morning Avice and Symon of the Shire of Ardanroe with the help of Kert Blackleaf and others set up a tent near the D Cabins and the "silver" meeting pavilion to hold a SCA yard sale. There were over twenty tubs of stuff including fabric, feast gear, camping supplies, and research materials. In fact, as feast gear was required for lunch, there was "a run on feast gear" as anyone who had not brought any quickly came to the tent to purchase a bowl or plate or mug or utensils to use for the lunch fundraiser and take home with them. The yard sale was a success with roughly five tubs of stuff not sold.

During the lunch period, roughly a quarter past noon to a quarter past one, while the yard sale was occurring outside and the lunch was served inside the great hall, lunch meetings were also taking place. The Kingdom Herald's Staff Lunch meeting was held in the silver pavilion. This was attended by all of the Gemstone heralds of Gleann Abhann, except for the Ruby; Mistress Brigit serving as entourage to Queen Emma. The riverbed of gemstones dining and talking under the silver pavilion included Miastre Rory ua Riada, Diamond and Principal Herald, THL Ambrielle Llewellyn, Obsidian, Mistress Bethany Bacon, Emerald, Lady Isabel Winterbourne, Amethyst, Lady Jorhildr Hrafnkelsdottir, Topaze, Baroness Judith Wilkinson, Blue Saphyre, and Lord Jam Recarediz, Sardonyx. Also in attendance was Isabel's deputy assistant, Mistress Daphne of Colchester.

During the break between the final court of Rey and Miriel and coronation of Jon II and Emma, the gold pavilion had been moved closer to the C Cabins for greater privacy, and another pavilion with sides had been set up near the great hall and bath house. This pavilion was loosely enclosed with tapestry sides, allowing air circulation and light. Two tables and many chairs had been placed within. This, and not the gold pavilion, would be used for the Order of the Rose luncheon. Lord Giacomo Fornango handled the food for the Rose Luncheon while THL Katryne MacIntosh the Strange coordinated the arrangements for the Rose Luncheon. Her Majesty proclaimed, "It was perfect. All the Roses had nothing but wonderful things to say. It far exceeded expectations." The Rose Luncheon included the newest Rose, Countess Miriel.

At the conclusion of the morning courts, area was cleared so that a list field could be set up for the tournaments that afternoon. Armor inspection was held during or just after lunch with a heavy and a light tournament to be held after one o'clock. Sir Martin served as marshal for the heavy tournament. THL Binn was marshal for the rapier tournament. Baroness Ceara and Lord Connor, possibly both from Smythkepe, organized the lists. THL Lorccan won the rapier tournament and was proclaimed the Queen's Champion. Baron Max won the heavy tournament and was named the King's Champion.

Mistress Barbara reported that, "*Because evening court followed feast, announcing the winner of the guessing game took place during the tournament and the winner only needed to be on site, not within earshot. The number of coffee beans in the container (between 300 and 600) was 546. Yes, really that many -- and was won by Mistress Diana of the Isles with a guess of 543.*" Mistress Barbara also took at this time her first protégés, Mateo Lopez and Bride O Sullivan. While Mateo was before the Crown, THL Marcilla, Kingdom Chirurgeon, announced that he was now a fully warranted Chirurgeon.

The scribal competition had several entries. Judging and prizes were able to be done in many of the categories. The categories, winners, and prizes bestowed were:

- Youth - Best Illumination - Oren Holtzklaun - received gouache kit and pallet
- Best Calligraphy - Jam Recardiz - Calligraphy supplies
- Best Illumination - Conall - Pergamenta

Best Novice Illumination and King's Choice - Emma de Davyntre - Pergamenta,  
gold gouache, gouache kit, pallet

Honorable Mention Novice Illumination - Rivka bat David - gouache kit and  
brushes (Oren's mom)

Queen's Choice - Jane Beaumont - Purple vellum

As the afternoon progressed the Order of the Laurel met in the gold pavilion at three o'clock. They were followed by the Order of the Pelican at four o'clock. The Order of the Silver Lamp met in the silver pavilion at four o'clock. The great hall having been cleared, tables and chair were set up for feast and the hall opened to the populace to set their feast gear upon the tables.

At five-thirty the great hall was closed to the populace. The hall reopened at six o'clock as Their Royal Majesties processed in for feast. Sir Martin was the hall steward. Signore Giacomo Fornerigo prepared a three course feast at the request of Her Majesty. Assorted desserts will be provided by several members of the populace as a sideboard following feast, during the bardic festival in the mead hall.

The first course was fresh lemon and herb cheese, assorted relishes, pickles, and preserves, assorted flavored butters, and crusty rye bread. The second course was roast hen with prunes and Rosemary, coney stuffed with caramelized onion custard, millet and buckwheat polenta, stewed cabbage, spiced turnips and apples, and braided loaves. The third course was beef with mushrooms, pearl onions, and salt pork, fresh pork belly braised in mead, barley pudding, roasted root vegetables, and crusty loaves in the French style. Feast was limited to 80 seats in the great hall.

After feast the great hall was transformed into the mead hall. This incorporated the gold pavilion, now moved back to be closer to the great hall. The hall was decorated by THL Kat the Black. The refreshment table during the mead hall after feast was arranged by THL Myra of the Glen, current Seneschal of the Barony of Small Gray Bear, Lady Sula, and Baron Liam Devlin.

Having come for the day, I departed for home as the call for feast was made. I hear that the evening went well and much fun was had.





## **Beltaine, Barony of Grey Niche, April 26-28, 2013 AS XLVII**

(Written by Rory ua Riada)

The Barony of Grey Niche held their annual Beltaine event the last weekend of April at Piersol Group Camp in the Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park in Millington, Tennessee. Lady Susanna Inghean ui Caimbeul was the autocrat with Lady Sarah de Warenne her assistant. Llv Waldroncottir was the feastcrat. The theme was “It could be a Prince!” celebrating the expected birth of a son to Henry VIII and Jane Seymore. Attendees were encouraged to bring gifts for the soon to be Prince. These gifts were requested as new or gently used children’s items which would be donated to the Memphis Family Shelter.

Roughly 230 people attended the event which had a lot of rain.

THL Kendra Dey represented the Shire of Ardanroe at this event. Kendra attended the event for the day only, on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. She attended the Embroidery Workshop and gave an impromptu class on Finger-braiding.

The event began Friday with the site opening at five o’clock that afternoon. There was traveler’s fare and a tavern with games in the hall including a Hazard board game tournament (no idea what that is!). At nine o’clock that evening was round robin storytelling at the bonfire circle followed by a bardic competition at ten o’clock.

Saturday brought the breaking of the fast at seven in the morning. This was followed by armor inspection at the field and an A&S competition in the hall. The A&S competition had three categories – SCA Life, SCA General, and SCA Early Period. The SCA Early Period category was judged by each of the Peerage Orders. 87 populace votes were cast in the SCA Life and/or SCA General categories. Winners of these three categories were:

SCA Life – Alaine, wife of Sir Caedmon of Jorvik

SCA General – Theodorada

SCA Early Period – Cinaed of Eden

The prize for given for SCA Early Period was a pretty goblet.

The morning activities were outside by the field. Henry’s tournament was the heavy weapons tournament (a theme for the Silver Torc tourney), which counted to the TOC. A Ladies Solar was set up beside the field and had workshops, each two hours in length. These workshops offered were Knitting by Mistress Alysia, Tablet Weaving by Lady Theodorada, Weaving by Lady Brenna, Embroidery by Lady Sarah, and Illumination by THL Llew. As mentioned, Kendra attended the Embroidery workshop and then gave an impromptu class on finger-braiding.

For the children a mock hunt and other activities were held during the morning on the field by Cabin B.

THL Lorccán was the winner of Henry’s tournament, aka the Silver Torc tourney.

Meat pies were served for lunch in the hall. The Baronial Rapier Championship was held in the afternoon. THL Binn was the winner. A youth TOC was also held in the afternoon. Nick was the winner.

Several classes were held in the afternoon in cabins or the hall. Tudor Succession was taught by Mistress Anna-Nikki, Archery: It’s Medieval Use and Theory by Lord Kenneth, Tudor Dances by Sir Caedmon, and the Secret History of the SCA by THL Brendan. A riddle hunt for the children was held in the afternoon. The children met at the hall to begin the hunt. Archery was also held on the field in the late afternoon.

As Baroness Linnet was not able to stay for the full day, the Baronial court was held immediately after the tournaments were completed, roughly around three o’clock. The court of Their Royal Majesties was held in the hall at five o’clock. Feast was at seven o’clock with a separate children’s feast and movie night in one of the cabins. A ball and more storytelling at the bonfire circle followed feast.

The site closed Sunday at ten o’clock after a nice breaking of the fast in the hall.

