



~ May - July ~
Anno Societatis LVII (2022)
Issue #130



Tourney fighters at Rendezvous at the Bridge XXXI
Photo by Lord Tighearnan Holedigger (Shawn Murphy)

This is the May-July 2022 issue of the *Currents*, a publication of the Shire of Riviere Constelle of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). *Currents* is available from Donna Herum, 7155 Woods Drive, Newburgh IN 47630. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Incorporated and does not delineate SCA policies. Copyright ©2022 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.

Who are we?

The Shire of Riviere Constelle is the local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) covering Southwest Indiana (DuBois, Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick counties) with activities covering much of the region. The SCA is a world-wide, non-profit organization of history minded recreationists. In the SCA we recreate the costumes, martial traditions and many of the arts and crafts of the Middle Ages and Early Renaissance. We invite you to come join us at one of our meetings, events or classes/practices. Come and “get medieval” with us for fun!

Shire Officers*

* This is a partial officer list. These gentles will be happy to put you in touch with the appropriate officer or activity coordinator. Please see our Shire's *Domesday Book* for a complete list of officers, members and friends, or contact our Seneschal. Thank you!

Seneschal

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Rapier Marshal

Vacant

Letters and Announcements

Letters signed by the officer were written by the officer, unsigned letters are announcements written by the Chronicler.



From the Seneschal:

Greetings unto the members and friends of the Shire of Riviere Constelle from THL Accolon Shadowhawk.

My Lords and Ladies, we have just celebrated May Day. More, the dreaded plague of Covid may not have fully passed, but for the time being God has given us respite. Therefore, let the season of spring serve to recharge your interest in the shire and the SCA! I would challenge you to pursue your arts and to rebuild your armor. More, to our new members, I would ask you to let us know what you would like to pursue and accomplish in the modern Middle Ages? Do not be afraid, because the fates reward bold heroism. Let us all experience a renewed passion for this shared hobby we love!

Before my close, I wish to commend Lord Michelangelo di Padua for his many excellent years of service to the shire as our Fencing Marshal. Lord Michelangelo has been an example of courtesy and an enthusiastic recruiter. His excellence in the pursuit of defense will no doubt continue.

Last, the shire pauses to remember Sir Robert Fitzhugh of Bannockburn, aka Bruce Stewart. The SCA lost Sir Robert when he passed on March 16 in the common year of 2022.

Yours in Service,
Accolon, Seneschal and Esquire



From the Chatelaine:

Greetings Shire!!

Merry Spring to you! May this find you enjoying the warmer weather and the feel of sunshine on your faces.

It has been a busy time for our shire for our newcomers as well as our tenured populace. We had two workshops recently: one for armor making and repair and one for making and maintenance of rattan weapons. Both workshops were well attended and received and further workshops are planned for later in the year.

Fighter practice is in full swing at Wessleman Park. The new location has brought curious people to every practice and it doesn't appear to slow down. A large vinyl sign is in the works to further the shire's notice and draw more attention to our group.

With summer around the corner, be mindful of other groups such as Boy Scouts, YMCA etc. that are having summer camps. If you know of such groups, this is a good chance for a possible small demo or a few of us to make a showing. Events are happening all around us, enjoy the event(s) of your choosing and tell us about it when we meet again.

Yours in Service,
Oscar



From the Mistress of Arts & Sciences:

Greetings!

May 2022's A&S class is a leather pouch making class with Kirsten. The date for the leather pouch making class is on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 6:30 pm at St Marks in Evansville, IN. She will instruct you on how to make a leather pouch and you get to take the one you make home with you! This will be a great opportunity for new members to make their own pouch!

I would also like to remind those who are making their own A&S projects individually or as a group to go to midrealm.org/kmoas/ and to fill out your info on the Individual Arts and Sciences Reports. This ensures that your hard work and creativity get reported and get the credit it deserves.

Have a wonderful spring season!

Lady Magdalena



From the Chronicler:

Greetings!

My apologies for the late newsletter, but as activities had been few and far between, there wasn't much to report. Now as activities are picking up, I hope to get back to regular quarterly publications! I am seeking a deputy, if anyone is interested in learning about the Chronicler's office.

I remain yours in service,

Kirsten



From the Exchequer:

Warm greetings,

I went through an overdue (due to Covid) audit of our Exchequer books and records with the Constellation Regional Exchequer with no significant findings. The only area that will need some effort is to create a Financial Policy for the Shire. We already have some financial guidelines in our By-Laws, so I will endeavor to pull together a potential draft copy (based on what I've seen in other group's Financial Policies) for a future meeting to hash through sometime later this summer.

In Service, Kirsten

From the presumptive Rendezvous XXXII Autocrat:

Please mark your calendars for Sept. 30-October 2 for Rendezvous! I'm not sure if we need to vote on who will be Rendezvous Autocrat, but I have volunteered since this is such an odd year coming back from the Pandemic. Lady Amadeus has volunteered to be my deputy and if anyone else wants to dig into the planning/execution, let me know.

As they say, many hands make light work. If we are to host three meals, classes, contests and tourneys, we will need LOTS of hands. An event planning meeting is set for Sunday at 1 PM at Wesselman Park to kick things off. I hope that you can make it! We will be setting up cooking nights in August and September!

Yours in service, Kirsten



From the Dance Minister:

Greetings unto you all, fine and noble folks of the shire!

I write to you as the life-giving spring rains gently patter down on the roof of my cottage and hope that you are all enjoying the beauty of spring as am I. I would like to take a moment to remind you all of -and invite those new to our company to -- our monthly dance practice. This is held the first Thursday of every month at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Washington Ave. at 6 pm. Our practices are relaxed, casual, and lots of fun. Though many enjoy the excuse to dress up, wearing garb is optional. Additionally, if any of you have a particular dance you would like to try, feel free to message me and I will do my best to add it into our line-up. See you there!

Your Minister of Dance,
Annora Bromley

Riviere Constelle Calendar

May 19	Food tasting (Italian) and Business Meeting, St. Mark's UCC, 6:00 PM setup, 6:30 eat
May 22	Event Planning Meeting, Wesselman Park, 1:00 PM
May 22	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
May 26	A&S – Pouch Making, St. Mark's UCC, 6:30 PM
May 28-29	Kingdom A&S and Crown Tourney, Xenia, OH
May 29	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM (Tentative)
June 2	Dance Practice, St. Mark's UCC, 6:00 PM
June 4	Three Saints and a Rapier, Lafayette, IN
June 5	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
June 12	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
June 17	Food tasting (English) and Business Meeting, St. Mark's UCC, 6:30 PM
June 19	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
June 26	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM, Event Planning Meeting at ~ 5 PM
July 2	Simple Day in the Country, Sternfeld
July 3	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
July 7	Dance Practice, St. Mark's UCC, 6:00 PM
July 10	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
July 15	Food tasting (theme TBD) and Business Meeting, St. Mark's UCC, 6:30 PM
July 17	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
July 24	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM
July 29-Aug 14	Pennsic War 49, Cooper's Lake, PA
July 31	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 PM (Tentative, depending on Pennsic)
Sept 30-Oct 2	Rendezvous at the Bridge XXXII

All other meetings, project days and other excuses to get together and bond in-person are being rescheduled!

Birthdays

<u>Birthday</u>	<u>SCA Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>SCA Name</u>
04/09	Niniane de L'Eau Azurée	05/27	Thorfridhr Hrolfsdottir
04/15	Tzigane the Wanderer	05/27	Bran Atte Rowan
04/22	Floki Hamar	06/06	Deirdre inghean Mhaoil Mhuire
04/25	Adriana de Fleurs	06/15	Avis Wootton
05/05	Amren ap Garanwyn	06/15	Accolon Shadowhawk
05/08	Ragnarr Arnbjornsson	07/02	Kirsten Thorsteinsdóttir
05/11	Malissa	07/30	Mackenzie
05/18	Cyrus		

Modern Stained Glass*

The Northman (2022)

By Sir Ragnarr Arnbjornsson



April finally saw the release of the Viking Era movie, *The Northman*. Video clips released before the film showed stunning costumes and visuals that were very accurate in many small details. With this in mind, your humble reviewer was eager to experience a period piece. Once the film was over, however, I found the film hard to describe and evaluate.

The plot is simple enough--and familiar. A Viking king is killed by his jealous brother and his only son sets off to come of age and bring vengeance upon his murderous uncle. Such vengeance/blood feud plots are common in the Icelandic sagas, and this one, taken from the *Gesta Danorum (History of the Danes)* is the story used by Shakespeare in the play Hamlet. Although this "Hamlet" (Amlath) is NOT as diffident and cerebral as Shakespeare's anti-hero.

The director is Robert Eggers, and his crew succeed in making the film feel real with gorgeous Icelandic and Irish scenery and often accurate Norse costumes, jewelry and accoutrements. The cast features a number of high-end actors like Willem Dafoe and Nicole Kidman in minor roles, as well as the famous singer Bjork. However, the main cast are "second stringers" like Alexander Skarsgard (Amlath), Claes Blang (Fjolnir the Botherless) and Anya Taylor-Joy (Olga of the Birch Forest). While the ambiance sometimes is astounding, the film is both dark and unrewarding. Movie credits attribute "historical accuracy" to historical consultant Neil Price, author of *The Viking Way: Religion and War in Late Iron Age Scandinavia*. Unfortunately, this book is filled with "interpretations" of archaeological digs and obscure language found in many sagas that may be accurate—or may not be so. The result is a dark fixation with blood rights, groups of naked men stoned on hallucinogens, and blood sacrifices. While this dark introspection is in line with Eggers' other films about insanity and desperate people marginalized by social rules, in the end the brutality and dark visions of this story's "heroes" leave the average viewer unable to sympathize with the cast or care much about their fates.

If you do set out to watch this film, please note that it has an R rating based on violence, some nudity, and some sexually charged scenes.

For this reviewer, a fair rating is a "2—I'd rather be visited by plundering Vikings."

*The Modern Stained Glass (MSG) rating scale is as follows (from worst to best):

- Less fun than a trip to the Inquisition's Interrogation room;
- I'd rather be visited by plundering Vikings;
- Worth a small pittance;
- As fun as a successful Crusade;
- A religious experience



SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC. (SCA)

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U.S. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(For addresses served by the U.S. Postal Service only)

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- **Sustaining (\$45.00)** - Includes immediate access to SCA electronic newsletters and publications. Sustaining members may purchase printed publications for an additional cost.
- **Associate (\$30.00)** - Membership only. Associate members may not purchase printed or electronic subscriptions.
- **Family (\$10.00 each)** - One additional adult and any children age 21 and under, residing at the same address as a Sustaining Member. Family Members have the privileges of Associate Membership. A maximum of \$30 will be collected for family members. *NOTE: Submit a separate form for each Family Member. Complete sections 1, 2, and 3 of each form.*

1 - MEMBER INFORMATION

Print or type clearly

APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY OR IT WILL BE RETURNED

Legal Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Email address _____

(Email address must be supplied in order to access e-newsletters)

Birthdate (mm/dd/yyyy) _____ (Required)

Your SCA Name _____

(Optional—if you list your SCA Name it will be printed on your membership card, but the SCA College of Heralds handles the actual registration of Society names.)

Personal information collected is used for internal administrative purposes and shall not be sold or otherwise distributed absent permission or court order.

2 - CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE AND RELEASE LIABILITY

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I wish to participate in activities sponsored by the international organization known as the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., a California not-for-profit corporation (hereafter "SCA").

The SCA has rules which govern and may restrict the activities in which I can participate. These rules include, but are not limited to: Corpora, the By-laws, the various kingdom laws and rules for combat related activities.

The SCA makes no representation or claims as to the condition or safety of the land, structures or surroundings, whether owned, leased, operated or maintained by the SCA.

I understand that all activities are VOLUNTARY and that I do not have to participate unless I choose to do so. I understand that these activities are potentially dangerous or harmful to my person or my property. I acknowledge that I am responsible for my safety and my own health care needs, and for the protection of my property.

In exchange for allowing me to participate in these SCA activities and events, I agree to release from liability, agree to indemnify, and hold harmless the SCA, and any SCA agent, officer or SCA employee acting within the scope of their duties, for any injury to my person or damage to my property.

This Release shall be binding upon myself, successors in interest, and/or any person(s) suing on my behalf.

I have read the statements in this document. I agree with its terms and have voluntarily signed it. I understand that this document is complete unto itself and that any oral promises or representations made to me concerning this document and/or its terms are not binding upon the SCA, its officers, agents and/or employees.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT. I HAVE UNDERSTOOD THIS RELEASE AND I UNDERSTAND ALL ITS TERMS. I EXECUTE IT VOLUNTARILY AND WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS MEANING AND SIGNIFICANCE.

Legal Name (PRINT) _____

Legal Name (SIGN) _____

Parent/Guardian (SIGN) _____

Date _____

3 - MEMBERSHIP PURCHASE

New Membership Replacement Card

Renewal (Member # if known) _____

Check only ONE Membership type: Annual

Sustaining \$45.00

Associate \$30.00

Family (no charge after 3 family members) \$10.00

Additional Donation (Tax-Deductible) \$ _____

Membership Total \$ _____

4 - ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS (OPTIONAL)

Monthly Printed Kingdom Newsletter Subscriptions

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Æthelmearc | <input type="checkbox"/> Caid | <input type="checkbox"/> Meridies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An Tir | <input type="checkbox"/> Calontir | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ansteorra | <input type="checkbox"/> Drachenwald | <input type="checkbox"/> Northshield |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artemisia | <input type="checkbox"/> Ealdormere | <input type="checkbox"/> Outlands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atenveldt | <input type="checkbox"/> East | <input type="checkbox"/> Trimaris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantia | <input type="checkbox"/> Gleann Abhann | <input type="checkbox"/> West |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avacal | <input type="checkbox"/> Lochac | |

Check off each subscription, and total below:

_____ Kingdom newsletters at \$35 each = \$ _____

Quarterly Printed Publications:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tournaments Illuminated | \$25.00 |
| <i>The magazine of the SCA, featuring articles about life in the SCA, as well as research, columns, and reviews.</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors Meeting Minutes | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compleat Anachronist | \$30.00 |
| <i>A series of 50-60 page booklets, each focusing on a topic relevant to pre-17th century life.</i> | |
| Total Optional Publications \$ _____ | |

5 - TOTAL AND PAYMENT METHOD (U.S. Funds)

Total of Membership and Publications: \$ _____

for Two-Year Renewal: Total Payment x 2 \$ _____

for Three-Year Renewal: Total Payment x 3 \$ _____

Check or Money order payable to SCA, Inc.

Visa Mastercard

Card Expiration Date / CVV

_____ Signature

Memberships are effective immediately upon receipt of properly completed applications and payment. Paper subscriptions may take 4-7 weeks for processing. For confirmation of membership, send a self-addressed envelope. We cannot send fax confirmation.

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