

CURRENTS

The Newsleffer of Aiviere Constelle A Shire of the Middle Kingdom Of the Society for Creative Anachronism



~ October - December ~ Anno Societatis LVIII (2024) Issue #134



In memory of Lady Isabeau des Chesney (Vickie Snodgrass)
Photo with permission of Vickie's family

This is the October - December 2023 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 ©2023 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.

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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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Letters and Announcements

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



From the Seneschal:

Unto the populace and friends of the Shire of Riviere Constelle from Master Accolon Shadowhawk.

My thanks to each of you for your hard work to make our annual Event, Rendezvous at the Bridge, yet another success! Lord Oscar and Lady Caterina were both excellent autocrats, but I know they depended on you to make sure the necessary tasks at hand were completed. I would also commend you, because you welcomed our Royal Majesties and many guests, and you made everyone feel welcome! Your hospitality is excellent!

Many of you received well deserved awards, but there are remaining gentles who may deserve recognition as well. Remember, anyone can recommend someone for an award, and the Christmas Tournament at our neighboring Barony of the Flame will be forthcoming in early December.

Consider Rendezvous at the Bridge a victory. Sadly, it is the nature of life and the wheel of fortune that with good there invariably will be bad. We mourn for the loss of our very dear friend, Lady Isabeau. Vickie Snodgrass passed away on the same Saturday evening of our event, October 14, 2023. Lady Isabeau helped run the gate and was a talented cook for our event. Her welcoming nature, grace and wit will be sorely missed.

Please take heed of the frailty of life, and be sure to enjoy each other's company while we share in the gift of our friendship.

Before close, mark your calendars. Riviere Constelle will celebrate 12th Night at Bethel United Church of Christ on January 13. Everyone is welcome, including guests!

I remain yours,

Accolon, Master of the Pelican and Baron of the Court. Seneschal and Esquire.



From the Chatelaine:

Greetings unto the Shire!

We have had a very BUSY last few months! Our pageantry demo was a tremendous success, with more people showing up than any of us thought would. It was well attended and appreciated, enough so that we've had several of those join our meetings and event. Our fighter practices have swelled to great numbers due to the park demo, with one practice having 32 people present, participating and watching both armored and rapier.

Our local event Rendezvous was a rewarding success on many levels. Thanks once again to everyone that stepped up and helped with the event, it was much appreciated. I am so very happy to see the level of participation and willingness to pitch in and make this happen for all.

Gold key has been active as well, outfitting 12 gentles for Rendezvous.

Winter is around the corner, time to look at armor that needs some attention or perhaps learn a new Arts & Sciences skill. Be well my friends, enjoy the upcoming days!

YIS, Oscar von Lindau

From the Mistress of Arts & Sciences:

Greetings!

Another Rendezvous at the Bridge has come and gone. I would like to thank the populace for the amazing amount of voting for the Rendezvous at the Bridge A&S contest. There were several unique and beautiful pieces that were submitted by talented artisans, from hand woven trim to a decorated ostrich egg. Thank you to all who participated! I would like to congratulate the winner Caristonia Ainslie who submitted a delicious chocolate infused Cherry Port. I'm excited to see what is in store for next year.

I would also like to give a special thank you to Diedre Hina for assisting over the past year in facilitating our monthly A&S classes. If anyone is interested in teaching any monthly A&S classes or what type of projects they would like to participate in, please let me know.

In your service, Lady Magdalena



From the Exchequer:

Warm summer greetings,

The group is in good financial condition and I think that the Rendezvous finances are almost complete.

My sincere thanks to Lady Errenach for doing her (as-usual) excellent job as Rendezvous Troll and handling the finances and paperwork so well. It makes my post-Rendezvous job so much easier!

We have heard that we need to have a fairly comprehensive inventory, so I ask that all officers list what shire property that they have, so that we can include it into one master list.

In Service, Kirsten



From the Chronicler:

Greetings!

My thanks for your patience in waiting for the 4th quarter newsletter so that we can include Rendezvous updates and pictures. Thank you to Lady Thorfridhr and Lord Tighernan for their willingness to share their photographs in the newsletter.

The end of the year brings our Domesday Book! I will be reaching out shortly to get name / address / etc. updates so that it is available at 12th Night. PLEASE don't make me hunt you down for updates. Around the holidays, I don't have the time to track everyone down and run the very real risk of missing your updates with last-minute changes.

I remain yours in service, Kirsten

From the Knight Marshal:



Greetings friends!

I am happy to report that the armored combat activities held at Rendezvous At The Bridge went extremely well. The fights were clean and exciting, with all combatants retiring from the field happy and tired. Additionally, Sgt. Dietrich Bauer was made a companion of the Order of the Gold Maces and so is advanced to the rank of Captain. Congratulations Captain Dietrich! Not to mention our own Adrian Harper successfully authorized in single handed weapon! HUZZAH!

This closes my third year as your Knight's Marshal. When I accepted the office, I made known my plan to focus on the following goals:

Goal: Regular, dependable armored practices.

Results: Successful & ongoing. We had very few weeks this year without practice being held. Most were due to holidays.

Goal: Rehabilitation of the shire's stock of loaner armor.

Results: Progress made & ongoing. We are currently taking an inventory of loaner gear for the Exchequer.

Goal: Revival of a melee team program in the shire.

Result: I have not made much progress with this. It has been a long slow climb out of the pandemic. It has heartened me to see the large number of local combatants attending wars and battle events earlier this year. That, combined with our recent growth has convinced me that there is still a need and desire for a local melee force that regularly trains and fights together and that it is time to begin working towards that goal in earnest. I believe that this is a valuable service to the local armored combat community, as it greatly enhances the potential for fun on the melee field. Moving forward, I will start organizing separate melee training practices for our fighters.

Goal: Recruitment and retention.

Result: I believe we continue to have good success with this. I have been working to make armored combat practices in the area welcoming, productive, and fun for all. I have had a lot of help from people in our area with this and my thanks go out to all who have attended practices in the last year. Special thanks to Captain Dietrich for his sizable contributions to this effort.

By the time you read this, we will have moved practices indoors for the winter, and it is my sincere hope that the dire spirit of the Wesselman will have been quelled for the winter and unable to plague our hearths.

Yours in joyous service, Sir Bran Atte Rowan



From the Dance Minister:

Practice will be held on the 1st Thursday of December. This will be a good chance to brush up on those dance steps before 12th Night in January!

In service, Lady Amadeus



As Rapier Marshal, I send warmest welcome and felicitations to our growing community of rapier combatants. Thanks for your support of the recent Pageantry in the Park demo and kudos to our newly authorized Faustus Einhorn. Finally, I would like to recognize the creation of the Bande of Saint Crispin as a focal point for excellence in the rapier field as well as with crossing-over to include skills in the arena of heavy weapons combat.

I would like to add a note of thanks to THL Gregory Bryant for running rapier activities at this year's Rendezvous at the Bridge. Thanks for stepping up while I was committed to the kitchen for this year's feast.

Please note that as our days grow shorter, and the weather becomes less benign, we move to our inside fighting site. That is the gym at Bethel United Church of Christ (3029 North Green River Road, Evansville, IN). The move becomes official on the first Sunday in November, and practices will run from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please remember when you attend to wear footwear that does not leave streaks on the gym floor. I have a pair of sneakers with white soles for this...

I look forward to crossing blades with you. And remain,

In service to Shire & Kingdom, Sir Ragnarr Arnbjornsson



From the Herald, Social Media & Web Minister

Greetings! The last few months have been very busy for our shire and it's exciting to see great things happening.

Herald Report: Rendezvous was my first time as Royal Court Herald. It was an honor to serve in that role. It was a great learning experience and I plan to seek opportunities to learn and grow in that role. We will have a Herald Consultation meeting on November 9th at 6:00pm to help those with name/device submissions. If anyone with artistic experience would like to volunteer their services to help design devices, it would be greatly welcomed and appreciated.

Web Minister/Social Media Officer Report: Our online presence is slowly growing. A majority of our Pageantry in the Park visitors found out about the demo from online sources so we know this is the best way to reach people. I hope to have more time over the next several months to devote time to a web page revamp. This will help with our communications and membership efforts. If anyone has website experience and wants to help please reach out. I'm happy to collaborate and share ideas.

In Service, Lady Caterina Luciano



From the Rendezvous XXXIII autocrats:

Hello friends!

Another successful year of Rendezvous at the Bridge has been completed. The event was well attended with not only Their Majesties making the trip, but many Royal Peers and Knights as well. The tournaments were well fought and enjoyed, both for the combatants and those who were able to watch. We had a Crafter's Green set up near the merchants, which made it possible for buyers to not only peruse the wares for sale but speak with and learn about the varying crafts being made as well.

The event generated quite a bit of park traffic, with a rather large number of mundanes stopping and asking questions. Our class schedule was packed with teaching going on in many places throughout the site. The feast was filled to capacity and received rave reviews from many people, Their Majesties included. Many well deserved awards were given at court, much to the delight and excitement of those watching. Our own Norman Francois was placed on his vigil for knighthood, his surprise and reaction was heartwarming and worth the watch.

The event ran smoothly, from set up to tear down and honestly the thanks and praise goes to any and all that pitched in and made this event possible. The autocrat is just one position, but it is useless without the hours of help and support we received. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you all and look forward to next year's event.

Yours in Service, Oscar and Catarina

From the Rendezvous XXXIII feast steward:

As we catch our breaths, we see that another Rendezvous is over. From the praises of Their Majesties to the sighs and groans of contentment from our feasters, we can see that this year's feast was a success. During and after the feast, as Feastocrat I get many compliments and kudos. That is nice, but the real kudos belong not to me but to the many volunteers who worked like slaves during the weekend—and often during the many cooking nights leading up to the event. I would like to specially thank and acknowledge the year-long efforts of Mistress Kirsten who finds deals, shops endlessly, and keeps us all to schedule while also working long hours in the kitchen for breakfast, lunch, and feast. In addition I wish to thank Capt. Dietrich Bauer who helped throughout the weekend. I also want to shout out to Lord Gilchrest Monaghan for baking the specialty breads for Royal lunch and the head table at feast.

During the day and evening, we had many excellent volunteers, including: Anorra Bromley, Astrid Hrothgarskona, Caterina Luciana, Robert of Sternfeld, Sir Bran Atte Rowan, Avis Wooton, and two volunteers from the Brotherhood, Sgt. Gris Ulfson and THL Charles Vaux. Prior to the event, many of the dishes were pre-prepared at cooking nights. Much hard and skillful work was done by: Bastian Farr Walker, Bran Atte Rowan, Catarina Luciano, Oscar von Lindau, Dietrich Bauer, Amadeus Emmanuel, Thorfridr Hrolfsdottir, Deirdre inghen Mhaoil Mhuire, and our newest "import," Christina. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all that you did. And, please excuse me if I forgot to mention anyone who helped out.

Thanks also to the folks who stored food so that we could do our pre-cooking well in advance of the event, including Marissa Mitchell, Adriana des Fleurs, Bastian Farr Walker and Catarina Luciano. Thanks also to Catarina and Oscar for storing our feast serving gear and the dish pre-washing crew that made sure that the dishes were clean and ready to use.

Finally, I wish to make a special note of thanks to Dietrich Bauer, who has asked to step into the role of Assistant Feastocrat for next year's Rendezvous so that we can build a set of knowledge that will allow our feast's excellence to continue on. Thank you so much!

Sincerely, Sir Ragnarr Arnbjornsson

From the Historian



Historian Report for mid-July – mid-October, 2023:

- Pennsic 50 was attended by a number of shire members and friends. Lots of fighting, learning and greeting old friends occurred.
- Pageantry in the Park at Wesselman Park, September 17, 2023; We had live demonstrations of fighting, dancing, and the opportunity for individuals to try their hand at firing a real crossbow, which was very popular. We also had displays of handmade crafts contributed by our members. This event proved to be very popular and we had close to 400 visitors over the course of four hours.
- Rendezvous at the Bridge XXXIII, October 14, 2023; This was reasonably well attended given the
 unexpected cold weather and chilly rain. Rendezvous was attended by 148 people and was quite a success.
 It was attended by Their Majesties, King Wigthegn and Queen Neassa. They gave out the following awards
 to shire members:
 - o Lord Bastion Farr Walker/Jordan Holl received a Purple Fret
 - o Lady Caterina Luciano/Christa Bennett received a Purple Fret.
 - o Lady Deirdre Inghean Mhaoil Mhuire/Deirdre Hina received a Purple Fret.
 - o Serjeant Dietrich Bauer/Derick Benigni received a Gold Mace.
 - o Thorfridhr Hrolfsdottir received an Award of Arms.
 - o Sergeant Norman Fraunceys/Travis Francis was placed on vigil for Knighthood.

Among the activities for the weekend:

- The Arts and Science display and contest was won by the cordial made by Lady Caristonia Ainslie.
- o For Rapier, we had 17 fighters, with 3 authorizations. Three of the fighters were new people.
- o The Crafters Green situated by the fighters field had 3 to 5 people over the course of the day.
- o The Armored Tournament had 26 people participating.
- o Thrown Weapons had 17 people who participated and was won by local, Milord Frank.
- o The Treasure Hunt had 10-12 people participating in it, both children and adults.
- Their Majesties enjoyed court and when they welcomed newcomers, with mugs to be filled with stories to tell, they were a few mugs short. So some Dukes very generously emptied their mugs and donated them for the newcomers to have!
- Feast was sold out and was well received by everyone, including newcomers who were experiencing Rendezvous for the first time. Multiple compliments on items being the "best ever".
- O Because of the cold and rain, the Bardic Circle was held in someone's cabin. It went quite well and was very well enjoyed by everyone.

In Service,

Lady Thofridhr Hrolfsdottir



Thrown Weapons:

Greeting to one and all,

A big thank you to Lady Calyvorri and Warder Mark for donating thrown weapons and backstops to the shire. I will set up some practice days in the spring as the days are getting too cold and dark for outdoor practices.

Sincere thanks also to Master John of Sternfeld for running the Thrown Weapons at Rendezvous this year and to Milord Frank for winning the competition for the second year in a row!

Yours in Service, Mistress Kirsten

Birthdays

Birthday	SCA Name	Birthday	SCA Name
11/08	Debbie Yoder	12/11	Christina Noëlle
11/10	Gilchrist Monaghan	12/12	Sighni Alvadottir
11/18	Astridr Hrothgarskona	12/15	Jennifer White
11/21	Tomas the Lapidary	12/19	Sophia Wells
12/06	Erennach ingen ui Ronain (Eren)	12/21	Thorfinnr Sleggja
12/06	Mark mac Kill	12/23	Norman Fraunceys
12/08	Andy Wood	12/29	Tanner Lee
12/11	Marianna Krantz		

Riviere Constelle Calendar

Please check the Riviere Constelle Facebook page for calendar changes and announcements for project days and other excuses to get together!

Oct 29	Fighting Practice, Wesselman Park, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Nov 5	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Nov 9	Heraldry Class, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6:00 PM	
Nov 12	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Nov 16	Business Meeting, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6 PM Thanksgiving theme dinner, 6:30 meeting	
Nov 19	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Nov 26	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Dec 3	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Dec 7	Dancing, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6:00 PM	
Dec 10	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Dec 14	Business Meeting, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6 PM Christmas theme dinner, 6:30 meeting	
Dec 17	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Jan 7	Fighting Practice, Bethel United Church of Christ, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	
Jan 13	12 th Night, Bethel UCC, Approximately 1:00-9:00 PM	
Jan 14	Fighting Practice cancelled	
Oct 25-27	TENTATIVE - Rendezvous at the Bridge XXXIV	









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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.

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3 - MEMBERSHIP PURCHASE