



Blackfeather News



News for the month of June, A.S. 43 (AD 2008)

During his monthly travels, Lord Ivo Blackhawk; Herald at large, enjoys the chance to sample the monthly happenings of the great lands of Northkeep, Mooneschadowe, Wiesenfeuer and Namron. During these travels, he sees and hears a great deal from the many people he knows. So now we invite you to join him for the next little bit as he talks about what is taking place this month in the north eastern end of Ansteorra.

Welcome again to the Blackfeather news, its been a busy month for me, and a lot of the people in the north as well. So lets jump into the news for the month.

Starting off, I would like to take a moment to speak to something that harkens back to my earliest days in the SCA.

I joined the Shire of Mooneschadowe only months before Gulf war 7, so the sights and sounds of that war are permanently inked into my mind as what won me over and made me love the SCA.

The first major battle of that war was where Ansteorra met Trimaris and beat them in two out of three open field engagements in what was considered to be an unexpected victory.

That night, King Jean Richard spoke words that, for better or for worse, inspired a kingdom.

“Today, we taught the Tramarians how to fight! Tonight, we’re gona teach them how to party!”

To the late Duke Jean Richard Malcolmson, whom earlier this month left this existence for the next... May God rest your sole, and keep it well on this, your latest voyage.

Without a doubt, the big news in the north this month was Northkeep’s Castellan held in Cleveland OK. Unofficial reports puts turnout at just over three hundred people, but the numbers alone don’t even begin to tell the full story.

Her Majesty set the tone for the event on Saturday morning when she summoned Her ladyship Elizaveta af Isafjord into the royal court. No sooner had Elizaveta come forward than the call went out across the camp...

Her majesty Summons all members of the order of the Pelican!

For the first time in a great while, Northkeep was going to have its very own Pelican. Under instructions from her Majesty, the elevation was to take place that night, making the announcement and the ceremony the bookend activities for a busy day of competitions and revelry.

During the day, people competed across the board against each other and to impress judges in their respective fields. By the afternoon, whether it be by sword blow or pen stroke, the victors had been clearly decided.

Thrown Weapons: Sam of Northkeep
Archery: Joshua ap gryffid ap artorius
Bardic: Lady Danielle de Marsielles
Artisan: Lady Angelique de Wolfe
Provost: Don Timothy le Corbusier
Drighon: Centurion Evangelos

But one person stepped forward and proved his worth as a champion capable of upholding Northkeep's tradition of diversity in skill.
Ulliacc MacUlliacc is now the Castellan of Northkeep, and Congratulations to him.

But recognition was not limited to contenders alone, and her majesty called several courts throughout the day to hand out awards to many of the attendants.

These included, but were not limited to the following. Please note that some people are deliberately left off of this list due to the fact that they were not there to receive their award in person, and I don't want to accidentally preempt a presentation by their local group.

Arthur Blackmoon -- Arc d'Or
Elizabeth de Calais -- Star of Merit
Keigan of Ravensfaire -- Star of Merit
Timothy le Corbusier -- Star of Merit

Jutte VonderBerg -- Sable Thistle (Costuming)
Bianca della Vittoria -- Sable Crane
Lady Megan -- Sable Crane
Montega Blackdragon -- Sable Crane
Randel Lee Smith -- Sable Crane

Zubeydah al-Badawiyya -- Compass Rose

Elisabeth Ann Herrington -- Award of Arms
Hamish MacKnochard -- Award of Arms
Katia Marie Giovanni -- Award of Arms
Rebekah of Northkeep -- Award of Arms

Kelandra Carmichael -- Queen's Rapier
Robin of Northkeep -- King's Archer

Ulrich von Budigen -- King's Archer

Allyson of Odsstead -- Rising Star

Nicol MacKnochard -- Rising Star

Luna -- Rising Star

Damon Xanthus -- Caisteal Cridhe

Elodie le Cormier -- Caisteal Cridhe

Ismet Sevdah -- Caisteal Cridhe

Also, it is with great pleasure that I also announce the appointment of Dona Therese Marie Giovanni to the position of Rapier General for the kingdom of Ansteorra.

Immediately following this, the her Majesty presented the Queen's Battle Standard to the whole of the northern region in recognition of its prowess and skill on the rapier field at Gulf War.

The day ended with the royal court calling a traditional 'al thing' where the case for her ladyship Elizaveta af Isafjord becoming a Pelican was argued. The crown found favor with the petitioner, and ordered Elizaveta elevated to the long earned rank of Pelican.

Vivat and Congratulations to everyone who helped to make this event one worthy of ledged. And Vivat to Mistress Elizaveta af Isafjord, newest member to the Order of the Pelican.

Moving on to local news.

Holiday scheduling saw Northkeep's populace meeting moved up to nearly the middle of the month of May, rather than its more traditional time near the end. I wont bother you with too many details, but suffice it to say that several people conspired to both remind me to make it to the meeting, and help me take my notes once I got there. For those who helped, and you know who you are... Thank you.

However, for the news itself.

Reports from the needle workers guild told of high spirits and wide eyes following their visit to the TU special collections library. The visit, hosted by Master Darmaid, Mistress Talaina and Lady Olivia De Calais, let interested members of the populace see first hand examples of original documents dating back well into the middle ages.

The Knights marshal, Centurion Ulf, added a small bit of inspirational news to his report this month. As was told to the populace, Ulfs father has, by now, undergone surgery for a joint problem, but has also expressed interest in SCA fighting. Well, evidently someone told him that he was too old to fight Heavy weapons, prompting the man to declare that when he was done having both knees replaced, he was going to come out to fighter practice and get in armor, and that was that.

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But the funny footnote to the whole tale was the last minute clarification from Ulf that his father was going in for shoulder surgery the next day.

So, one surgery down, two to go, and I promise you that the Blackfeather news will try and get some word of how hard Ulf's father can swing a stick when it finally armors up.

And on some closing notes from Northkeep's meeting, Their excellencies expressed their deep thanks to all the people who helped organize and run the Broken Arrow public school's demo, the Prattville Demo, and the participants in the TU special collection's tour. His Excellency Ian was very specific in pointing out the amount of work that went into each activity, and how grateful he and his wife were for the Barony's help.

Moving down to Wiesenfeuer,

It was with no small measure of amusement, and comedy, that the baronial Seneschal, Master Cais Leapus—a.k.a. Rabbit—announced that this would be his last meeting as seneschal. He was officially done, after no less than two and a half years in the office.

Congratulations Rabbit, and enjoy the time off while it lasts.

The MOC also announced that the Barony had been contacted by a girl scout troop in Edmond who were interested in some sort of presentation. Rabbit was very clear that he did NOT want this news kept in-house and was very welcoming to the idea of other players from other groups coming down to help out.

The information that I have thus far is that the audience would be about 50 or so 3rd, 4th and 5th grade girls, and that the meeting would likely be on a Wednesday or Thursday night. Unfortunately, I didn't catch the date while I was taking my notes. However, if you are at all interested in possibly helping out with this, please contact one of the baronial officers with questions.

And on a final closing note from the prairie-fire barony, Lord Dugal is happy to announce that he will be handing off the office of Knight's marshal to Centurion Orion Starshadowe. Orion, as you might recall, was the man I spoke of in last month's episode, who was submitted for the office under rather... creative circumstances.

Coming north to Mooneschadowe,

This month's meeting was relatively low key, with the majority of the discussion being local housekeeping items and some questions about the provincial webpage that needed to be answered.

Some local points, however, included these:

The Reeve is looking for a deputy.

Lord Charles the Grey, the new minister of Arts and Sciences has said that he will start using some of the monthly A&S nights to help with provincial activities and their preparation.

Mistress Rhiannon Redwulf also passed the proverbial hat by handing over the Virtual scribe's position to Lady Katrine, who voiced excitement about the opportunity to manage the provincial webpage.

Sir Jean Paul De Seans, looking towards a truly noble goal, was warmly received when he spoke about the possibility of the province taking part in the 2008, Stillwater Relay for Life. While no firm details have been decided yet on the part of Mooneschadowe, the Relay itself is a certainty. Here is an excerpt from their webpage about the upcoming Stillwater event.

Each year, across the nation, one event brings together entire communities to take part in the fight against cancer. That event is the American Cancer Society Relay For Life®. It's a time and place where people come to celebrate those who have survived cancer, remember those we've lost, and fight back against a disease that touches too many lives.

Won't you join us this year and be a part of Relay?

It's not just an opportunity to celebrate, remember, and fight back, your involvement will help the American Cancer Society work toward a mission of eliminating cancer as major health issue and will support much-needed services in your community. Thanks in part to the donations from Relay For Life and other events, the Society is saving lives, helping those touched by cancer, and empowering people to fight this disease all over the world.

If you want to be a part of the fight against cancer, Sign up today for the Relay For Life of Stillwater, OK .

Our Relay will be held on:

August 22 at 7:00 PM to August 23, 2008 at 7:00 AM at Couch Park

If you're interested in learning more or receiving an invitation to either the Kick-Off Celebration or Relay, please email us at kenm@meridian-technology.com or call (405) 612-6198.

On some other news, Mooneschadowe is also talking about helping out with the Oklahoma Celtic music festival, partly as a chance to help get our own name out there, and also partly because the province has a large number of people who just love celtic music.

Here is an excerpt from the event webpage:

The Oklahoma Music and Heritage Festival that will be held in Stillwater has been formally made a subsidiary of United Scottish Clans of Oklahoma. USCO is joined in the support of this project by the Tulsa Irish American Club and the Tulsa Gaelic Association as well as many historians, and performers from across Oklahoma. More news about the project will follow as we continue to work toward this goal.

Join with us as we celebrate our roots in Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Galacia, Brittany, Scotland, and Isle of Man with an exploration of the history, dance, culture, and music from the Celtic Nations.

The festival will be held indoors at the Payne County Expo Center. The festival will include vendors, Scottish Clans, athletics, livestock, demonstrations, workshops, history exhibits, children's area, sessions, and live music and dance to be featured on three stages.

Activities beginning Friday, June 20, 2008 with sessions at the Best Western in Stillwater. The festival will be held Saturday, June 21, 2008 and Sunday, June 22, 2008 at the Payne County Expo Center.

Finally, moving south again, we come to the Barony of Namron.

While not strictly SCA related, The Blackfeather news would like to go a bit out on a limb and offer a congratulations to Master Aethelstan and his new bride. The news was made public in a single e-mail posting to the Namron list which declared their intentions to run away and get married the next day.

IE, they eloped.

However, there was also news from the populace meeting itself.

Namron welcomed a new herald to its ranks this month, with the appointment of Lady Adelheid as successor to Lord Wolfgang.

The Baronial Knight's marshal was pleased to point out that there have been five new people showing up to fighter practices as a result of the PR efforts at the Norman Medieval fair. However this good news was tempered with the fact that loaner armor is in short supply, so he also asked that if anyone wanted to come to fighter practice and just loan out their armor, that too would be appreciated.

On a side note, and of possible interest to listeners, Lady Isobel is starting monthly sign language class in Choctaw for those interested in learning this language. As it stands now, the class is scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of each month, and costs ten dollars a class with a pay as you go arrangement with the instructor. Each class will be followed by a potluck silent lunch where students will be compelled to use what they had learned during the day without the backup of traditional spoken communication. The first class is set for June 21st, at 10:30 am. For anyone interested, or needing directions to the class, please contact Lady Isobel at her e-mail, which is: kirkbryde@yahoo.com. Or, contact a Namron officer for another way to reach her if needed.

As always, if you wish to reach an officer with any of the northern groups, you can find their contact information on the officers page of the groups main web page. And if you have trouble finding that, start with northern.ansteorra.org; that is the Northern Regional Web page and will probably take you to where you are going.

Moving on to the Kingdom Colander

June 14th will see King's College take place.

The Barony of the Steppes invites all those willing and able to teach at King's College 2008. The College will showcase classes involving the traditional arts as well as the messy side of A&S enjoyed in the SCA. Our location is outdoors, allowing for as period an event as possible as well as teaching of classes not as easily taught in doors! Note that there will be no seating provided so please bring your own chairs.

Going by the address given on the web site, and Google maps, the event lists as 155 mi, about 2 and a half hours from Oklahoma city.

The whole week of June 13th through the 22nd, however, is commanded by Calontir's Lilies war. And much like Gulf or Pensic, if you don't know what that is, I really don't know where to start telling you.

However, Google maps puts it about 370 mi, 5 and a half from Oklahoma city.

June 28th sees the Ansteorrian Heraldic and Scribal Symposium come to Westgate.

Greetings unto thee! Come join the heralds and scribes of Ansteorra in a day of teaching and learning about heraldic and scribal arts. Come learn new techniques and pass along teachings to educate others.

The site is Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2353 Rice Blvd., Houston, TX 77005. Site opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m.

If you're listening to this, chances are you are from the north, meaning that this fine event is a long ways away. From Oklahoma City, it shows to be about 450 mi, 7 hours away. But none the less, I have attended several of its predecessors and firmly believe that for the scribal or heraldic arts, it is well worth the trip.

If you have plan's on the 4th of July, keep them, because even the SCA is taking a break that weekend, at least according to the Kingdom Calendar.

July 12th, however, is clearly marked as Coronation.

The Barony of Stargate invites all to Summer Coronation, as we bid a fond farewell to Their Majesties Aaron MacGregor III and Vanessa de Verona II and celebrate the coronation of Prince Ulsted the Unsteady and Princess Ebergardis von Zell.

And the site shows to be 452 mi, or about 7 hours from Oklahoma city.

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July 18th through the 20th will be Queen's Champion. Now I could not find any event information before I had to publish this, but the event does show as being in Huston TX, 388 mi – about 6 hours south of Oklahoma City.

The Following Weekend, July 26th, is Crown Tournament, and will be hosted by the Province of Mooneschadowe.

The Province of Mooneschadowe is proud to host the first Crown Tournament of the new summer-winter schedule for this July. Please come join Their Royal Majesties Ulsted the Unsteady and Ebergardis von Zell at a day-long competition to determine who will be their new Heirs and enjoy the Northern summer for a day!

The Province of Mooneschadowe will be hosting the event at the Payne county Fair grounds, in Stillwater, as a non-camping event.

Also, so that no one can accuse me of hiding pertinent facts, I will add that I am, in fact, one of the Event Stewards, and can be contacted as such through the event webpage if needed.

And last but not least on this month's calendar, July 25th, through August 10th will see the largest regular event in the SCA take place; the 37th Pennsic war. And again, if you haven't heard of this by now, I don't know where to begin.

Well, that just about wraps it up for this month. I'm hoping to be able to sit down and do a newsletter review in two weeks, and maybe give a proper treatment to some of the fine articles that some of the good people of the north offer up of their own free time. And again, I would like to thank my wife, Her Ladyship Lillias MacGuffin for additional readings in the show.

As always, if you have any feedback, feel free to contact me at my e-mail; Ivo@hailmog.org. or call and leave a message for me on the show's voicemail, which is (405) 708-4892.

And since no one has called my voice line in a long time, I wanted to take a parting shot at everyone and ask if you could call in something interesting, or inspiring or entertaining from one of the events you have been to. Talk about the fighting, talk about the bardic, talk about the drinking... Talk about whatever it is that makes your group and your kingdom a great place to be, and share your story with of us.

Thank you for listening.

“The Mission of the Blackfeather news is to inform, entertain and connect all who listen to us such that we can further and more fully enjoy this dream in which we strive to live.” - Ivo Blackhawk

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