



Blackfeather News



News for the month of July, 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, Mooneshadowe, 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.

Let's start off with some society level news this month.

The Board of directors has posted notices on all kingdom lists about a proposed change in society law that will directly affect water bearers.

The following is the original letter in full.

From the President, Patrick Anderson:

Earlier this year, I was asked by several people in the water bearing community to examine the various laws of states and countries related to waterbearing as an organized and official activity of the SCA, Inc. Various states have informed officers of the SCA, Inc. that while our activity does not directly violate the food codes or health regulations of their states, if there were to be an outbreak of illness, the SCA, Inc. could be held liable for that outbreak. Several health care professionals and attorneys have reviewed this topic and agree with this assessment.

I was asked to examine the best way to both ensure a safe fighting environment for our fighters, and to comply with the various state and country laws. The relevant laws vary from state by state, county by county and country by country. I determined that the best way to do this would be to make "waterbearing" unofficial and unsanctioned by the SCA, Inc. and proposed this change to the Board. The only other option would be to regulate waterbearing, and to regulate it such that it follows the various food safety codes of the various states and countries the SCA participates in. This would be unwieldy, impractical and expensive for the SCA to do. Further, it is likely that waterbearers would not be able to continue to serve our fighters using any of the current methods of water bearing.

The proposal put before the membership for comment would stop waterbearing by any SCA branch or other official group. The SCA would not have an office of waterbearer at any level. Marshals would still be permitted to allow waterbearers on the field, but any waterbearing must not be done by any officially sanctioned or regulated groups of the SCA. Households are welcome to provide water to fighters, as are unofficial and unrecognized "guilds". This does not bar groups from putting out the "serve yourself water coolers" at events. (In my Kingdom they are usually the big orange cylinders.)

The Board and Corporate officers understand that many people have spent time waterbearing within the official framework, and now hope that you continue to volunteer unofficially. This proposal has been brought to enable fighters to continue to have a waterbearing service provided to them, without the extremely strict governance that official water bearing will require.

The actual text of the proposed rule is below. This rule has not yet been approved by the Board, and is being sent out for comment here. The Directors request comments from the membership regarding this proposed revision no later than October 1st, 2008. Please send them to:

Corpora Revision
SCA Inc.
Box 360789
Milpitas CA, 95036
email: comments@sca.org

Thank you for commenting.

Patrick Anderson
President, Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

Proposed language to be added to Corpora:

The activity of providing beverages to combatants and spectators at SCA Combat activities is not regulated, warranted, organized, controlled, or sanctioned by the SCA, Inc. or any affiliate or subsidiary entity. All warrants, authorizations, or other formal recognition of this activity are by publication of this change revoked. This document does not either address or restrict such volunteer activity or the methods by which it occurs.

Patrick Anderson
President
Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

Moving on to some kingdom news,

Last month I managed to travel south to two collegium events, and sample the hospitality and skill of good people from across the kingdom.

June 14th saw King's College held in Steppes, and despite a punishing summer sun, the attendees managed to find shade and a cool breeze through most of the day as everything from coin making to weaving, to belly dancing, to drumming, to sword fighting was taught to any willing student. The afternoon contained a brief royal court, where several notable figures in the north were recognized.

Chiara Francesca Arianna d' Onofrio was presented with a Court Barony in recognition of her service to the crown and kingdom. Lord Miles Grey received a Sable Crane. It was noted during the court that Lord Miles will gladly throw his full effort towards helping any group he is near, without hesitation or reservation; a noble trait indeed. And finally, the good lady Ahlanna -known for her belly dancing more often than not- was finally presented with her Sable Talon for Combat Archery after a lethal showing at Gulf Wars this year.

The second event to draw my attention south was none other than the Ansteorran Heraldic and Scribal Symposium, held in the Canton of Westgate, way down south in Houston. However, the event did not disappoint, and the ten hour drive south was rewarded with a breathtaking array of classes that did truly span the heraldic and scribal arts.

No court was held, but the event was still kept moving by a steady flow of classes, and a sideboard of good food that kept eager students and instructors going into the afternoon.

Many congratulations to the Barony of the Steppes, and the Canton of Wastage for their hospitality and success at these two events, and best wishes to them both for equally successful future endeavors.

Some other news that came my way while I was down in Westgate, Master Modius is evidently looking to put out an A&S edition of the Blackstar, something that hasn't been done in over a decade. An announcement to instructors was made at the symposium, and everyone was told to look at submitting articles or documentations from their work. Now I have not been able to get more details before I cut the show, but I will make sure to find something out soon.

Moving a little closer to home, with regional news.

While there has been no official word set down as of yet, the Barony of Bonwicke is evidently making a earnest effort to host a Regional Fighter practice. His Excellency Ainar, in his capacity as the Northern Regional Seneschal, is asking all of the groups of the north to make an effort to attend, both to support the region, and to strengthen ties with the Barony of Bonwicke itself. No dates have been set just yet, but if your a heavy weapons fighter, or know someone who is, keep an ear open

Now, while not technically a regional bit of news, to call the Barony of Northkeep's Grub and Garb a local activity would be to understate one of the Barony's successes by several orders of magnitude. Now, please note that I myself did not make it to June's Grub and Garb, but the Wednesday night activity was such a success that only a deaf man could have totally missed all news of it.

According to word from the members of Northrop, the monthly fighter practice / demo / feast was attended by no less than fifteen fighters, including three knights and six centurions. All of whom met in a tournament format managed by heralds and list mistresses in training. Furthermore, other activities included bardic, an A&S display, Heraldry of the activities, and even a court to hand out awards to some of the Northrop populace. Overall, attendance was recorded at over sixty-five people, with guests coming from all over the north.

On a related note, the standing fighter practices for Northkeep at the VFW post in Tulsa are evidently growing in their own right, including not only heavy and rapier fighters with and indoor or outdoor practice option, but also now many non-combatants are taking advantage of the halls' tables and chairs for various activities. According to Baron Ian, the practices are now of such a level that fighters from as far away as the forth Worth area are talking favorably about trying to make it up every once and a while, a true testament to the collection of skill, and the amount of fun that Northkeep is having on a weekly basis. Grub and Garb, and the Weekly Fighter practices are held on Wednesdays at 7.00 p.m. inside of VFW Post 577 located at 1109 E 6th St, near the intersection of 6th street and Peoria in Tulsa.

And again in the Northkeep area, but of a slightly different flavor, The first annual Tulsa Medieval Fair is scheduled to be held on Saturday, August 16th from ten AM to 8 pm, and Sunday the 17th, from 10 am to 5 pm. Members of the SCA from all locations are welcomed and encouraged come and help Northrop show the public our best in all arts, as well as to show the crowd how much fun we have. Their will be venders, activities and demonstrations from all manor of SCA and medieval fair performers and professionals during the time.

People working with the event--and that means the SCA--will be given permission to camp on sight under the Tulsa County parks department allowances for venders to watch over their equipment. The fee to camp will be \$2.00 per person per night, and that is the Tulsa Parks and Rec's department fee. Also, the site will be wet, with a 3.2 limit on alcohol. And, a plan has been clearly laid out for Saturday night. The Police will help to clear the park around 8 PM of all visitors, and at 8:15 the SCA festivities and revelry will begin.

In other words, work all day and they Party all night if you want.

So again, the First annual Tulsa Medieval Fair will be on for August the 16th and 17th, and the Northkeep is welcoming any and all from the north to come and help show the city of Tulsa how wonderful we are.

Now, for more information, you can look at the Event web page at <http://www.kingschampion.com>. And from there, if you go to the contact's link you will be able to find e-mail addresses for the various coordinators.

And Last on the Regional news, the Canton of Skorragnarðr will be hosting a regional Fighter practice on Saturday August 2nd. If you have any questions, contact a local Knight marshal or the Skorragnarðr Seneschal with questions about location or time.

So, with a lot of things happening across the north and the kingdom, lets go ahead and move on to local news as well.

With the first day of the month being a Tuesday, the week was started off with Northkeep's populace meeting.

Baron Ian Stood before the populace that Monday night and spoke with tears in his eyes as he described true heroism in the face of real adversity and danger at Castilin as the members of Northkeep banded together in the face of heavy wind, pouring rains and other adverse conditions. He spoke of being truly inspired by acts of integrity, courage, bravery and selflessness that he saw with his own eyes, and thanked the members of his barony for letting him live amongst legends.

The Baronial Reave is looking for a deputy, with the possibility of turing over the position in the near future. If you live in Northkeep and are interested, please contact the Reave, Lord Randal Lee and speak with him on the subject.

Not that anyone needed to really be told the following, but according to a number of officers Castillan was a roaring success, with a healthy income, excellent attendance and a great showing by all in the barony. The herald, Lord Kevin Keary, showered praise on the many people who helped manage the site and list heraldry for the event, and thanked them for their hard work despite the weather that weekend.

Moving on to other officers,

The Minister of children is accepting applications for office at this time, as well as the office of Chirurgeon.

The youth boffer marshal reports that children are interested in youth combat, though the final steps in the society mandated background checks are taking longer than anticipated.

The Knight marshal spoke about the baronial practices already covered earlier in the show, and thanks the barony for helping to make the practice a true regional level activity.

The Historian reports that the online Library will be ready for public use in the next month or two.

The Archery marshal reported that the Sunday practices are looking well, and invites everyone to come out and enjoy the time together, whether they shoot or not.

Also... and this was only discussed briefly, some members of the populace were openly talking about renting large capacity passenger vans to help offset the cost of gasoline for major activities like regional fighter practices and events in areas like Bonwick and Camp Eh-Ko-Ah. No decisions were made, but the idea was not met unfavorably by the members of the populace.

Now, moving west to the Province of Mooneschadowe.

Mooneschadowe is still gearing up for three events in three months, starting off with Crown Tournament later on this month, so much of the meeting was dealing with the mechanics and logistics related that those three endeavors.

However, others things were talked about.

Heraldry nights are now officially multi-faceted, with Lady Sabine teaching garb making while the heraldry books are made available for name and device research while the children play in the room while the rest of Mooneschadowe sings rounds and songs from the Redwulf song book.

Needless to say, the second Tuesday of each month is has quickly become a fun time for all in Mooneschadowe.

The Rapier Marshall's office is open for applications.

The Archery marshal will not be holding practices this month due to life catching up with her, but she is optimistic about resuming archery practice in August.

The Chronicler's office is open for applications, as she is looking forward to stepping down after her two years there is concluded.

The minister of children is pleased to report that their are active efforts to include the children in more activities, and the Minister of Arts and Sciences commented at the outstanding success with the children's painting element of last month's activity night.

The Virtual Scribe reported that the current Mooneschadowe webpage us up to date and functional and that examples of the new page to be built will be available for the populace to comment on in the next month or two.

The Relay for life was discussed again in some more detail. It was pointed out that the event will be taking place the Friday before Mooneschadowe hosts King's Roundtable the following Saturday, meaning that anyone who participates will likely do so at the expense of some good measure of sleep. However, this didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirits and the majority of the province was still upbeat about making a good showing.

I will make sure to keep everyone informed about the relay for life as it gets closer, even if I have to put a special show out for it.

And lastly, Mooneschadowe did something a little different as it included some help from his children with the closing vivats of the meeting.

Now, moving south to Namron for this monthly meeting.

The Senechal announced that bids are now open for autocrat and feast steward for Namron protectorate in the fall. He also added that the group is tentatively penciled in for Will Rogers Boy Scout camp in Cleveland. All bids will be due by next populace meeting.

Her Ladyship Adena is looking for help with water bearing at Crown Tourney this month, so anyone who wants to help her out with is encouraged to contact her, I believe she can be reached on the Mooneschadowe and Namron lists.

The Baronial Herald is putting out the call for any and all voice heralds to come and show their skills at Protectorate with the traditional variety of court, list and site heraldry that always needs doing.

The Chronicler's office is now open for applications.

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The archery Marshal reports that their meetings on Sunday are averaging 18 people and are something of a social event in and to themselves. He spoke highly of the time they spend together and welcomes others to come and enjoy the art of archery, or to just come and enjoy the art of conversation.

The Knight's marshal reported that Namron has fighters, a lot of them, and a lot of them are new recruits from Medfair... However now they need armor so that people can fight. Evidently demand has outstripped supply. He's asking people who don't fight but still have armor to consider loaning their armor over so that more people can take the field and practice.

The Minister of Arts and Sciences was collecting the names of teachers and classes as well as suggestions for what some of the populace might want to learn.

Lord Wolfgangem is starting up a pike drill team for traditional, later-period, close order drill demonstrations and parades. He emphasized that this is not a marshal combat activity and that all interested adults were welcome to come and learn some of the marching and maneuver tactics involved with classic pikes of the later middle ages. For more information, Contact Lord Wolfgangem at wolfgangvonsachsenhausen@yahoo.com for location and times.

The Virtual Scribe talked about updating contact information on the Baronial Web page.

And lastly, members of the barony decided to "adopt" a squad of soldiers to support the troops currently deployed over in Iraq.

Finally, moving north to Wiesenfeuer for the last of my four regular stops each month.

The Barony was happy to welcome a new seneschal this month, after two and a half years in office, the former Seneschal was glad to sit in the back row and make good-natured faces at his successor while Lady Caterina took up the mantle of officership and presided over her first populace meeting.

Details of the meeting included:

The Archery Marshal office is open for applications

Officers meetings are now on the 3rd Monday of each month.

And the Barony was discussing a baronial get-together type event based on a "water-wars" theme, and this year they are looking at having it in conjunction with Skorragnar's regional Fighter practice.

The herald is looking to update the Baronial Order of Precedence, and published the first in several articles he wanted to put out to cover awards and OPs and the like.

The Minister of Children is open for applications and the current MOC is looking to step down in December but would like to have some time to make the transition smooth and easy for the next person to take the office.

And as always, if you have any questions about any of the activities talked about, you can contact the appropriate officer at the group in question. Their names and contact information are available at the officer webpage for each group. And if you have any trouble locating the web page for a group in the north, you can go to the northern regional webpage, linked off of the kingdom page at northern.ansteorra.org. And if you have any trouble there, or have any questions for me, you can e-mail me at Ivo@hailmog.org

Now, lets move to the kingdom Calendar for the next two months and see what is going happening across Ansteorra.

July 18th through the 20th will be Queen's Champion. The event is being held 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!

It will be held at the Payne County Fair grounds, in Stillwater, as a non-camping event. And just to be clear, yes, I am one of the autocrats for the event, and if you e-mail the event address looking for an autocrat, you will reach me as well as several others.

Now July 25th, through August 10th will see the largest regular event in the SCA take place; the 37th Pennsic war. I'm hoping that that is all I have to say on the subject, but if not, call a friend who's been playing longer than you and ask them what Pennsic is.

Next, August 1st through the 3rd is Lady of the Lake in Adlersruhe, Amarillo, TX.

Lady of the Lake IV

The Shire of Adlersruhe invites you to attend Am Loch's Lady of the Lake.

The challenges include Chivalric Combat, Rapier, Bardic, Brewing, Arts and Sciences, Thrown Weapons, Archery, and Cooking. Titles and prizes will be presented to all victors, but the greatest prizes are reserved for the women who inspire the greatest victory, or who emerges triumphant by their own hand.

A delicious feast for 100 souls will be served by Ld Wilhelm von Koln and Ani.

RSVP feast at (806) 220-0593.

Now Google maps clocks that as 258 mi – about 3 hours 50 mins from Oklahoma city.

The following weekend, August 8th through the 10th, is Lughnasad, the celtic festival of the harvest, held in Canton TX.

Lughnasad is a family oriented event, there is fun for all ages...very few activities overlap, so if you wish to Fight in the Chivalric, Rapier and Compete for the Titled Bard you can.

And that event shows to be 263 mi – about 4 hours 11 mins from OKC.

August 15th through the 17th will be Steppes Artisan

Baroness Katheryn Cunninghame

invites all artisans of Ansteorra to compete for the title of

STEPPES ARTISAN XXI

THE COMPETITION FOR STEPPES ARTISAN IS A BODY OF WORK COMPETITION!

Pre-registration is requested. Table space will be limited to one five- or six-foot table per artisan; persons with small displays may be asked to share. A separate area and tables will be provided for those wishing only to display their works and not competing for Steppes Artisan. There will be no feast so please plan accordingly. Site is dry. Please contact the Steward if you plan on displaying alcohol.

That will be held in Allen Tx, 209 miles, about 3 hours 20 minutes from OKC

August 23rd Will be King's Round table, held in Mooneschadowe at the Stillwater community center. At 315 West 8th Ave. Directions are available on the

event web site liked off of the kingdom calendar.

And finally this episode, on August 29th through September 1st, the forces of Baron Chiang ti and Baron Gavin will collide at Gothic War XVII.

Come join these stalwart combatants to seek glory both individually and collectively. Baron Gavin calls for aid from all loyal Ansteorran, be they North or South (Central or Coastal)! Let not this villian Baron Chiang divide our great Kingdom. Already has he begun a wall crafted of gifts presented at his investiture court. If this seeming custom of his people is allowed to grow and continue - the Great Wall of Chiang could cleave our Kingdom in twain.

And I am pleased to say that this regional rumble will be held in Sweetwater TX, 304 mi – about 5 hours 10 mins from Oklahoma city.

Before closing, I would like to take a step slightly outside the SCA and make a modest suggestion of two other shows that you might consider for your listing enjoyment.

The first is a show started by the man who helped get me into podcasting and helped get this very show off the ground. While Not an SCA topic, I dare say that his interests might overlap yours more than you think.

Sturgeon's Law

<http://www.sturgeonslaw.com/>

And the Second show is a little father a field, but still one that I enjoy immensely. Coming out of Manly Australia, these guys just recently came back on the air after a long time off, but I am looking forward to hearing more of their five minute shows as the weeks go on

In Latte Veritas

<http://www.breakawaycontent.com/ilv/wordpress/>

Well, that about rounds out this show. I know I promiced you a newsletter review, but it just wasn't in the cards this month, time is not on my side it seems. I would say to hope for more this month, but its all I can do to get the show out on schedule as is.

I hope you enjoyed the show, and 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.

Thanks again.

Lord Ivo Blackhawk

“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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