

The Derneherald

Spring 2014



Cover photo: Sandro Botticelli, Primavera, 1482, oil on panel

The Chronicler's Word

Congratulations to everyone who won awards at this year's Baronial Championships:

Herr Wilhelm Salzburger, Baronial Award of the Sable Gate

Dorien of Dernehealde, Award of Arms

Megan of Dernehealde, Award of Arms

Also congratulations to:

Finche Odhinnsdottir for being new the official Baronial Webminister and authorizing as a new fighter.

Lord Padraig Tomasswn for authorizing in polearm.

The Seneschal's Podium

Greetings fellow Dernehealders!

Well, here it is my first missive as Seneschal. I am looking forward to a lot of great things in the Shire. We are blessed to have so many talented people amongst us – artisans, fighters, poets, and more – inspirations all.

As we head toward event and melee season, please remember to keep yourself and your loved ones safe and well hydrated. I do not want to have to visit anyone in the hospital. Ok?

Thanks. *smile*

Your servant,

Finche Odhinnsdottir

The Anvil's Ring

By

T.H.L. Eidiard an Gobihaimn, O.G.R. (X2), C.W., C.E., A.P.F.

Randomly Bardic Type Person, Storyteller and Standup Philosopher

Slowly placing his folded robes of state into an old trunk to await a day they may be called for again, he turns "Well, many moons have passed since you have come to visit. Sit a while and we will share stories of days gone by...."

It has been a while since we have chatted and of late I have seem much about people talking about the good old days in the Society. As usual I have a bit to say about that, like many other things. I have heard people talk about things being better then or kings being wiser or this or the other thing. I can tell you why, distance makes those days seem better.

It is a case of being able to see the past much clearer than the future. We were different then, many moons ago. Were we any nicer? No. Were we any smarter? No, but looking back we seem to focus on the best of things and the bad seems to blur away. There was a time in the past more than once everyone thought it was the end of the Society. Well, here we are. Twenty years from now, we will look back and heap all sorts of praise on how good things were or how

much better people were. Some of the newer members of the populace sit and listen to us muse about great happenings or great feats on the field. We talk about them like they were yesterday. I do it as well, but I do it with a different reason in mind. I look to inspire, to show them what can and has been done. Perhaps it is an object lesson in what not to do, as some of my antics through the years can be used for that as well.

As we spend more time in the Society we begin to view it with clouded eyes. Last year's event was so much better. They used to fight so much more honorably. But when was the last time some of us took joy in the eyes of a new person? The excitement of a first event or the first time holding a sword? Ah, now you can begin to understand my point. The only way to help put our place into perspective is to look at it through their eyes. To see with wonder and to strip away all the debris we have allowed ourselves to accumulate over time. When you speak of the old days, do you think that those listening to you will someday remember these times as the old days? Will you find in twenty years yourself deserving of a bard's remembrance? It is not always those who stand out on the field of battle nor in the A&S who make the greatest impact. Sometimes it is a simple act of kindness or an encouraging word that is remembered, just like a hurtful one. These things are the memories that last. Not who took what honor or won what award. No, sometimes it is a shared sandwich or a loaned piece of gear that makes the impression.

Remember every person you meet, someday, you could address as your Majesty. Be worthy of the smile that someday may create....

Till next time,

--Eidiard--

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences

Salvete, omnes!

I hope this letter finds you well. It's been a crazy year and a whole lot of great A&S type things are happening, including a big change. Wilhelm has stepped out of his office as MoAS and I have stepped in. He's left me some large shoes to fill so please bear with me as I muddle through this.

With that in mind, the first thing I want to do is thank Herr Wilhelm for all the wonderful help he has offered since I've taken office and all the hard work he's done to make sure the arts and sciences in Dernehealde continue to be integral to who we are and what we do. We have some amazing artisans in our shire and I hope I can be as much of an enabler...er...cheerleader as Wilhelm was for all of you. Feel free to use me as such. I am here to make sure you (the populace) are connected to artsy and sciency things that interest you.

Next, I want to take an opportunity to thank everyone who has approached me and offered to teach a class. Thank you. You make my job easier. On the heels of that thank you, I want to remind everyone that one of the great things about the SCA is that it is what you make it. That means that everyone can participate at whatever level they are comfortable with. Sometimes, though, things might start to feel a little stale. You're doing the same things over and over again with no clear idea of how to progress past that point. If you're at that point right now, don't despair. Maybe you just need to see the society through a new lens. If so, consider stepping up into an officer position or becoming the deputy of an officer. It's a whole new (and great) experience and you really don't have to do much more than you're already doing aside from file a report every so often. That's it. I promise. And guess what? I'm still looking for a deputy so you're in luck. Come see me about it if you're interested.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the barony has issued a scribal challenge that will culminate at Red Dragon. The barony has asked specifically for scrolls bearing the new baronial badges. If you're a scribe or want to become one, consider getting involved with this. Even if you're not, now's the time to get started! Anyone who has had the misfortune of seeing my artwork can tell you that I am no artist but even I've been convinced to give this one a go. As Wilhelm continues to remind me, "Tracing is period!"

With OU's classes wearing down, we are headed into a normally slow time for classes and such as our meetings become a little more informal. That doesn't mean we can't and shouldn't have classes and bardic! In fact, once we move outdoors, we should have all sorts of new opportunities for classes that can't be done indoors and in confined spaces where we normally meet. So, if you've been holding off on teaching a class because it's messy or you need more space, now's the time to teach! Nervous about teaching in front of a big group? Don't be. We want to hear from you!

Finally, I want to encourage people to continue to recommend people for awards. I see lots of great things happening in Dernehealde. There are a lot of talented people who have given of themselves so that the rest of us can enjoy the SCA. As I said, the SCA is what we make it. Awards are one way that the general populace (that's you!) gets to help shape the society and recognize all the hard work their peers have done.

You're all awesome and I am very proud to be a part of our shire, our barony and our kingdom. Please, continue being awesome. I'm cheering for you!

Yours in Service,

Pompeia Furia

P.S. Those of you making it to war, of which I am very jealous since I must miss this year, please collect and save your handouts. I would like to make copies for the shire library which has already outgrown it's box and has its own shelf in my personal library!

Tavtai morilogtun!

As I slip into the role of pursuivant, I am finding just how vast and complex is the world of heraldry. The duties of pursuivants can be far reaching and include research and design of personal heraldry, research of names, voice heraldry where one projects announcements, and even silent heraldry where one can provide services to the hard of hearing. This encompasses a large range of skills from research, art (for the drawing of devices), vocal talent (projecting your voice over distances and others can be difficult), language talent (for the pronunciation of foreign names; knowing sign language for those silent heralds), and much more.

Because heralding encompasses such a broad range of activities, it has been suggested that a pursuivant find others to form a team to help him or her in their service to others as few people are good at all of those skills. I continue to expand my knowledge as much as possible to serve effectively in every fashion that I can. However, if the above sounds like fun and you are looking for a way to serve, consider becoming my deputy where we can work as a team to work on helping others with heraldry.

I would also like to say I am very proud of our incredible shire. Recently we had three awards given at Baronial Championships. Wilhelm Salzberger received the baronial level award, the Sable Gate. His Lady, Dorien of Dernehealde, also received an award at the Baron and Baroness' regency court. She received an Award of Arms. Additionally, Megan of Dernehealde was also given an Award of Arms, to which I was very happy to present to her afterward. The honor of presenting an award makes my heart swell.

You too can share in the wonderful feeling that comes with bringing joy to others! I would like to encourage others to recommend others for awards. If you've noted someone is working hard on something or has diligently been helpful, help keep the dream alive by recommending them for either a baronial or kingdom award. It can be discouraging to work hard and feel like you're not noticed. Better yet! Get your friends involved! Seeing a good conspiracy play out at court is tremendous fun! Not sure what awards a person has? Check out the Order of Precedence, both baronial and kingdom, on Dernehealde's website which has recently been updated. Questions? I am more than happy to help!

Now go forth! Give notice to those that help create the dream!

Yours in Service,

Altani Unegen