



Spring 2017

## Regular Features

Officer Letters

Shire Schedule

Dear Abbot

A View from the  
Broch

The Anvil's Ring

## Special Features

Heraldic Achievements

Werewolves: A Short  
History

Librarian's Corner

Celtic Coloring Page

# The Derneherald

## Spring Schedule for Shire of Dernehealde

### Meetings:

Tuesdays, 7pm-10pm

**Room:** Grover 305W

### Meeting A&S Classes:

**Feb 7** - Period Games

**Feb 21** - Making Chain Maille

**Feb 28** - Bardic Night

**Mar 14** - Pewter casting pt. 1

**Mar 21** - Pewter casting pt. 2

**Mar 28** - Bardic Night & Pewter casting pt. 3

**Apr 4** - Shire Auction!!

### Craft Nights:

Alternating Thursdays

starting Jan 12, 2017, 7pm-10pm

**Room:** Grover 119W

### Fighter Practice:

Sundays, 1pm-5pm

**Room:** Morton Hall 201

**Need information?** Check out our website!

[Dernehealde.middlemarches.org](http://Dernehealde.middlemarches.org)



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## Words from Your Webminister:

With the New Year came a new design for our Shire's website. Please folks, this is \*YOUR\* website, not mine. As such, it is meant to be used. I have tried to make it as user-friendly as possible, and keep it up-to-date. But a website is only as useful as it is used. Yes, it is also a means of communication as an outreach to new people and prospective members, but it is also meant to be used by current members as well.

Please, please, please... explore the website. Kick the tires, look in the horses' mouth, check it from your smartphone, on your tablet, and if you find a problem, or you can think of something that should be on the website – something that will make you keep coming back to check it periodically, please do let me know!

Your servant to the Dream,

Finche



## From The Seneschal

Greetings! We're opening another year in Dernehealde with some very exciting things!

To our south, we have gained some new friends. A new group is forming in Portsmouth which we will be helping to sponsor into a new group! I can't wait to see what kinds of awesome things come from there and it will be fun to help them grow! Hoobah for the new group!

As the spring event season will be here soon, we're looking at a year of lots of fun! Already, we're looking at Dernehealde's Haunted Tower IV: The Four Horsemen in October this year. We're looking at something bigger and have actual horses in an equestrian event! With the extra time we're giving ourselves, this will give us plenty of opportunity to put together some amazing things and advertise!

Looking to score some gear for the new season at VERY reasonable prices? Do you have excess craft items or maybe update something last year and no longer need that old tunic? Dernehealde's Shire Auction is April 4<sup>th</sup>. If you're able to donate, these items help us pay for things like our events, the summer cookout we did last year, and all kinds of fun things. It also helps younger members get on their feet. If you can't donate an item, IOUs have also been donated for everything from moving help to cookies. If you don't have anything to donate or are new (or newer) we usually have TONS of stuff for auction from clothes to feast gear. It's always fun to watch, too!

I'm really looking forward to seeing what fun things we can get into for the year! Thank you to everyone who puts in all their hard work and efforts to making these things happen!

In Service to The Dream,

Lady Altani Unegen



## From your Chronicler:

Hello, everyone! I've returned as your chronicler, and my plan is to make sure that we have a full quarterly newsletter. If we can have it published more frequently than that, I would be thrilled! Keeping in line with this goal, I hope to ask you over the coming weeks if there is anything you would like to see more of in the newsletter, be it silly articles, informative content, or artwork! Don't be afraid to make your preference known. I want to produce a newsletter that people want to read.

This issue, I've tried to redesign the newsletter to make it look appealing, loosely based on the issue that our last chronicler released. I've taken class notes and put them in, as well as a book review written by one of our members. Along with this, you'll find the regular articles you may expect from The Derneherald. Let me know if you have any questions, and email any submissions for the newsletter to [dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org) – we appreciate anything you send!

I also want to thank our regular contributors, who provide a great deal of our content, as well as those of you who submitted feature stuff.

Yours in service,

Edith de Brereton



## From your Minister of Arts and Sciences:

Felicitations! For the benefit of anyone who doesn't know me, I am Fíne (FEEN-yah) of Dernehealde (CJ Queitzsch in "real life"), and I recently stepped into the position of Minister of Arts and Sciences here in the shire. It is my first office in the SCA, but since I absolutely LOVE to speak, teach, and network, I am very excited. I have a dedicated interest (read: obsession) in learning pretty much any and all period skills, especially as would have pertained to daily life, such as leatherwork, blacksmithing, fibercrafts, and gardening, so I can't wait to see what we come up with for classes this year!

We're diving right into a very busy season for our little shire, with A&S classes and special activities almost every week of the next three months, so make sure you keep an eye on the website calendar for a reminder of what's coming up. Here is a detailed list of what we have scheduled so far:

Feb. 21: Chain maille class with Padraig - making rings and 4-in-1 weave. Interested participants bring: pliers (preferably needlenose), a coil of approximately 12 gauge aluminum (or other malleable) wire, and wire cutters (optional). Bringing extra equipment to share would be appreciated, if you have it.

Feb. 28: Bardic night. No excuses, guys; you have hereby been warned! Bring bardic things!

March 14: Pewter-casting part 1 with Lucina: Developing Your Design. Bring your imagination, if you have one!

March 21: Pewter-casting part 2: Carving Your Mold.

March 28: Bardic night (again, you have plenty of warning!), and Pewter-casting part 3: Casting the Pewter! Bring bardic things and your mold from the previous week.

April: No classes. Auctions and events and potlucks and finals and stuff.  
Summer: TBD.

If anyone has suggestions, concerns, ideas, or would like to teach or request a class, do please get in touch with me at one of the meetings or via the MoAS email: [dernehealde.moas@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.moas@midrealm.org)!

Faithfully,

Fíne



## From your Minister of Arts and Sciences (cont)

P.S. Keep an eye out on the shire website and at upcoming meetings; an updated survey of A&S interests is in the works. When it appears, I encourage everyone to participate, as this will give me a much better idea of what classes you would like to see happen, and will allow me to correlate that information with our recent survey of A&S skills in order to find (\*coughbullycough\*) the appropriate

victims! ...I mean teachers!



# From the Social Earl Martian, Deputy for extremely silly combat weapons.

Syr Barf Ap Sparkles of The Shambles

As is required we are updating the populace as to the latest developments in very silly combat weapon experiments.

-The Locahc “Spirit Throwing Banana Boomerang” is no longer being tested due to the tests coming back to haunt us.

-Rubber chickens are a separate authorization, nuggets as throwing weapons have been banned.

-Coconut cream pies have been transferred to the Thrown Weapons Marshall for further experiments.

-Squeak toys are no longer permitted as thrusting tips.

-“Water” balloons are required to be filled with liquid water at room temperature. You may not use, ice, boiling water, snow, oil, lard, low-fat milk, 2% milk, whole milk, cream, half and half or any other dairy products.

-Clarification of “In helmet” inspections: The marshal does not need to wear a helmet during the inspection, his own or the persons being inspected.

-Thumbtacks are no longer acceptable to secure padding in a helmet.

-Coffin shields shall not include the entire coffin, just the lid

-Catapults will not under any circumstances use any member of the feline family as ammunition. No decision has yet been made about hedgehogs or echidnas.

Also the following has been clarified in the pending edition of “The Society Martian handbook for extremely silly combat weapons:

Section 17:15:1:54:90 (After 5 pm 17:10:15:90:54)

“All persons entering the list, either under their own power or with assistance, regardless of status or state shall be a living breathing biological entity in a state generally recognized as being alive”

This is the official response to the “Weekend at Bernie’s” event held in North Putney.

Yours in-service to the cream pie,

Syr Barf Ap Sparkles of The Shambles



## From the Orifice of the Herald

The vaguely honorable Lord Johann Gambolputty de von Ausfern-schplenden-schlitter-crassrenbon-fried-digger-dingle-dangle- dongle-dungle-burstein-von-knacker-thrasher-apple-banger-horowitz- ticolensic-grander-knotty-spelltinkle-grandlich-grumblemeyer- spelterwasser-kurstlich-himbleeisen-bahnwagen-gutenabend-bitte-ein- nurnburger-bratwustle-gernspurten-mitz-weimache-luber-hundsful- gumberaber-shonedanker-kalbsfleisch-mittler-aucher von Hautkopft of Ulm

Greetings!

As the kingdom traveling rogue herald I am pleased to bring you the most current letter of tolerance:

To all the College of Arms, legs and other body parts and all others who may read this missive, Greetings!

The January Laurel decisions were made at the Pelican meeting and fish dinner held on Sunday, January 32, 2016 and the Wreath meeting held on Sunday, January 24, 2016 where the holiday decorations were officially removed. All commentary, responses, and rebuttals should have been entered into OSCAR-THE-GROUCH by Thursday, December 31, 2015. If you need to comment, activate your time machine and do it on time.

To wit: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS HAVE BEEN REGISTERED:

Johann Gambolputty de von Ausfern-schplenden-schlitter-crassrenbon-fried-digger-dingle-dangle- dongle-dungle-burstein-von-knacker-thrasher-apple-banger-horowitz- ticolensic-grander-knotty-spelltinkle-grandlich-grumblemeyer-spelterwasser-kurstlich-himbleeisen-bahnwagen-gutenabend-bitte-ein-nurnburger-bratwustle-gernspurten-mitz-weimache-luber-hundsful-gumberaber-shonedanker-kalbsfleisch-mittler-aucher von Hautkopft of Ulm.

Name and the eternal hatred of all heralds involved. Documentation to be published as a 2 volume set next year.

I will unavailable for consultation as I will be in seclusion to avoid a number of threats to my well-being for some time.



## Other Officer Reports:



“We have money!”

*-Mikjall Sauthamathr, Exchequer*



“We have people!”

*-Morgan of Dernehalde, Chatelaine*



Dear Abbot!

By the Abbot of The Abbey of Saint Leibowitz

Greetings my good gentile folk. I set pen to paper to give sage advice to any and all that may need it.

Pray send your questions to [dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org) and she will forward them on to the Abbey.

**DEAR ABBOT: I joined the Royal Navy to see the world. I've seen it. Now, how do I get out? - Ivo**

DEAR Ivo- Go ashore...and keep going!

**DEAR ABBOT: Do you think about dying much? — Curious**

DEAR Curious: No, it's the last thing I want to do.

**DEAR ABBOT: What's the difference between a wife and a mistress? — Golde**

DEAR Golde: Night and Day.

**DEAR ABBOT: When you are being introduced, is it all right to say, "I've heard a lot about you"?  
Isabella**

DEAR Isabella: It depends on what you've heard.

**Dear ABBOT: Is it possible for a man to be in love with two women at the same time? —Wulsi**

Dear Wulsi: Yes, and also hazardous.



## A View from the Broch

by Finche Odhinnsdottir

Hello there! Welcome to my humble abode. Please excuse the mess, with Spring coming soon I've been busy trying to plan what to plant, and where in the fields everything is going to get planted this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to chime in with them, and I'll do my best to answer them for you. \*smile\*

Oh, you're not sure just what a "broch" is? Well, I'll try my best to explain it as fully as possible. \*chuckle\* You may come to regret having asked that question.

A broch or brough as they say it down south, is at its simplest, a round, stone tower. They are often called "Pictish towers" but that is a bit of a misnomer. For one thing, most of them were built before the Pictish tribes. From what I understand, and have been told by traders, brochs are most common in Caledonia. Most of the time, they were built where they would have a commanding view of the surrounding countryside, rivers, lochs, and ocean approaches. This allowed the inhabitants of the broch to keep an eye toward their fields and be aware of anyone approaching.

The brochs themselves were, as stated before, made of stone. The technique used in building them, as you can see, is drystone, which does not use any mortar between the stones. The walls were made thick and are double-walled, with a winding staircase between the inner and outer walls. Various rooms were built off the staircase, and we used timber for the upper stories – even though you will not find any trees here in Orkney. We do get driftwood, and we can also trade for timber by selling some of our grain harvests.

My home here, in this broch, was built by people I never met, a long time ago. It is said (but not by me) that the gods made the broch for me and my people to live here. I don't know for certain, but it doesn't do to question the gods too much. They just might answer. I do know that the uppermost rampart has a wonderful view of the fields in the immediate area, and you can see the seas in the distance. So, as long as someone is on watch, we won't be surprised by visitors.



## The Anvil's Ring

By T.H.L. Eidiard an Gobihainn,

O.G.R. (X2), C.W., C.E., A.P.F., C.R.C

Randomly Bardic Type Person, Storyteller and Standup Philosopher

“For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne’s day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate,”

Geoffrey Chaucer, do you know him? Geoff to his friends. Lovely speaking voice, was speaking about St. Valentine’s day. I find the whole thing a little confusing to tell the truth. A single day a year set aside to express ones true feeling for another? Seems a bit silly to me. I make sure my Finche knows every day! Happy wife, happy life the saying goes.

You see, and here is the problem, there were at least 12 of them, St. Valentines not Geoff Chaucer, one being a Pope. I shudder to think about a dozen Geoff Chaucer loose on the country side. We would be up to our necks in books within a fortnight! Again, Geoff was never Pope long as you don’t count that night in Ipswich with the duck and the hat, but that is another story. Granted Valentine was Pope for only about 45 days, but still a Pope none the less. Heck, we have had kings rule for less time.

So seriously there is a point to all this.

Always be willing to investigate things you “know”. Occasionally when I am absolutely sure of a fact, I go and check it. As smart as we may be, there are always those smarter and who have more up to date information we may not have. Listen, even if you think someone is wrong. Not all of us are infallible and even a complete fool occasionally spouts wisdom. If you do not believe it go back and re-read my writings. Even I cringe at times having learned more and more as time goes on.

I once heard “We have two ears and one mouth. This is so we can listen twice as much as we speak.” A good bit there. Any good line commander will tell you the same thing, listen to what is going on, then issue your orders. Same is true of artisans. The more they listen the more they can do.

So back to where we started. Do not wait for a certain day on the calendar to tell someone you love them. Tell them every day or whenever you can. You



## The Anvil's Ring (continued)

By T.H.L. Eidiard an Gobihainn,

O.G.R. (X2), C.W., C.E., A.P.F., C.R.C

Randomly Bardic Type Person, Storyteller and Standup Philosopher

never know then Death will arrive and whisk one of you away. Do not give regret a fertile field to grow in for it is a noxious weed that once started is hard to rip out by the roots.

Till next time,

Eidiard

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**BONUS!** This issue's One-Liner:

"When I am dead and gone, bury me with an apple...Binky loves apples."

# Heraldic Achievement Diagrams

Nathan Arnold

Gentle (With registered Device)	Armiger (Award of Arms)	Grant of Arms	Peers	Royal Peers	Sovereign/Consort
"Device"	Arms	Arms	Arms	Arms	Arms
Mantling & Torse	Mantling & Torse	Mantling & Torse	Mantling & Torse	Mantling & Torse	Mantling & Torse
Steel Helm	Helm	Helm	Helm ornamented in Gold	Helm ornamented in Gold	Gold Helm
Personal Crest	Personal Crest	Personal Crest	Personal Crest	Personal Crest	Personal Crest
	1 supporter & compartment	2 supporters & compartment	2 supporters & compartment	2 supporters & compartment (1 may be a dragon)	2 supporters & compartment (Both Dragons)
	Armigerous award/order badge(s) displayed by supporter				
			Appropriate symbols of order(s)	Coronet	Crown





# Werewolves: A Short History

By Pompeia Furia

Werewolves date back thousands of years in myth. One of the oldest myths is about King Lycaon of Arcadia who appears in Greek myth. Lycaon had what we'd call today a crisis of faith. He didn't believe Zeus was all-seeing and all-knowing. To test this, he invited Zeus to dinner and decided he would murder and roast his own son, Nymictus, and feed him to Zeus. Why he thought murdering and cannibalizing his own child was a good way to test Zeus' omniscience, the world may never know. Anyway, it turns out Zeus was onto Lycaon and, as punishment for his dastardly deeds, he transformed Lycaon into a wolf. That's where we get the word "lycanthropy".

Other ancient writers talk about werewolves. Ovid's *Metamorphosis* is all about people and things changing into other things so werewolf stories naturally fit there. This is one place the myth of Lycaon can be found, though the story is also present in the *Bibliotheca*, dated to the first or second century BC. Virgil had a go, too. He wrote in his *Eclogues* (*Eclogues* 8, to be exact) of Moeris who he claims to have seen, "change/to a wolf's form, and hide him in the woods,/oft summon spirits from the tomb's recess,/and to new fields transport the standing corn."

*The Satyricon* by Gaius Petronius, probably written in the 1st century AD, also mentions werewolves. In section 62, he writes that he and a soldier go for a midnight walk in a graveyard under a full moon. While he sits and counts the graves, his soldier friend strips, urinates in a circle around himself, and promptly turns into a wolf. The wolf then runs off and terrifies his love's sheep, to which one of the household slaves responds by wounding the wolf in the neck. Upon returning home, Petronius writes, "my soldier was lying in bed like an ox, with a doctor looking after his neck. I realized that he was a werewolf, and I never could sit down to a meal with him afterwards, not if you had killed me first."

The Norse had a type of werewolf in their sagas that were types of berserkers. They wore the skins of wolves and were feared warriors. Harold I of Norway is rumored to have been one such warrior, the word for which seems to have been *úlfhednar*. They were closely associated with Odin and supposedly channeled the wolf spirit in battle to gain a trance-like state that allowed them to ignore pain. Over time the Norse took their stories into Novgorod, Russia and



## Werewolves: A Short History (continued)

By Pompeia Furia

became known as the Rus. Now, the eastern traditions about werewolves are significantly different—and older—than those that developed in the west.

You with me so far? We're only at about the year 850 and the most interesting stuff is yet to come. In fact, the werewolf you know and love today hasn't been invented yet. In fact, the term werewolf hasn't even been written yet for the first time.

In the later middle ages, mentions of werewolves became quite scarce for a time. Marie de France wrote a poem titled "Bisclavret" about a werewolf, but there wasn't much literature to be had about werewolves.

About the same time, however, the word werewolf is recorded for the first time by Burchard von Worms in German. Bertold of Regensburg recorded the word again in the 13th century, but the spread of Christendom seems to have drowned out any real mention of these monsters.

Fast forward to 1550s Germany and France. The witch trials of Europe are at their height and people are going crazy, accusing anyone and everyone of being a witch. There are trials of all kinds and people are being executed for consorting with the devil. But not all of them are witches. In fact, a good many, specifically the men who were accused, were actually accused of being werewolves. There were a series of werewolf trials held about the same time. Most of the accused were burned alive or otherwise executed in some very disturbing ways.

One case, however, stands out as unusual and that is the case of Livonian werewolf Thiess of Kaltenbrun who claimed to be able to take the form of a wolf and travel to hell to battle the devil three times a year. He still got flogged and banished for life, but how neat is that? Imagine the stories circulating at the time of a werewolf fighting Satan in hell thrice a year. This is the stuff comic books are made of nowadays.

By the mid-eighteen hundreds, werewolves were a popular fiction device. Alexandre Dumas (yes, that one) wrote *The Wolf Leader* and you could easily argue that Robert Lewis Stephenson's *The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is a sort of werewolf story. The first werewolf short story widely regarded as penned by a woman in 1846 (Catherine Crowe's *The Story of a Weir-Wolf*). By 1896, female werewolf seductresses were on the scene in Clemence Houseman's *The Were-Wolf*.



## Werewolves: A Short History (continued)

By Pompeia Furia

After that, werewolves exploded into pulp novels and, by the 1950s, they were in film, too. But they were still generally evil and scary, monsters that the heroes had to slay.

It wasn't really until 1978's *The Wolfen* came out that we got our first sympathetic werewolf story, and even then it wasn't quite werewolves but a race of wolf-like beings. Slowly, over time, popular TV programs like *Dr. Who* brought werewolves out of the realm of villainy and turned them into heroes. By the time *Harry Potter* rolled onto the scene in 1997, heroic werewolves were gaining steam and *Twilight* turned them into angsty shirtless underage kids.

Today, all kinds of werewolf stories exist. Werewolves have permeated our culture and stories about them are easy to find. And don't expect them to go anywhere. For more than two thousand years, humans have been fascinated by the idea of humans turning into wolves. The popularity of werewolves in entertainment may wane, but it will never die. The legacy of Lycaon lives on. Whether or not the creators of that myth would be proud of what their creation has grown into, is anyone's guess. I, for one, believe they'd be awed at our fascination with this monster.



## The Librarians' Corner

Finche Odhinnsdottir

*This is a new section for any book reviews written by the shire, whether they be for historical fiction or non-fiction books that members picked up along the way.*

Title: Plants and People in Ancient Scotland

Author(s): Dickson, Camilla & James

Publisher: Tempus Publishing, Ltd.

Pages: 320

ISBN: 0-7524-1905-6

This husband and wife team of archaeobotanists have created a very useful book for anyone looking to learn about what plants were used in Scotland from the time of its earliest inhabitants down to the 16th century. It also covers the Northern Isles of Shetland and Orkney, as well as the Hebrides. In all honesty, the authors also cover parts of northern England, down to the area of Hadrian's Wall.

Not only are the wild plants, indigenous to Scotland covered, but also they also cover plants that were cultivated – with their possible uses. Also touched on are the plant species that were introduced to the region by the Romans, and Norse. The plant uses and types include various spices, plants used in the making or flavoring of alcohol, medicinal uses, dyeing (and for what colors), food, and fuel for cooking.

The first part of the book is divided by historical epochs, with discussions of the various plant remains/finds of notable archaeological sites – the Bearsden Roman Fort (on the Antonine Wall), Oakbank Crannog, Loch Tay, Skara Brae, and the broch at Howe. The second part of the book covers 40 significant plants, such as Fig, Flax, Opium Poppy, Cloudberry, Coriander, Hemp, and the various Cereals (grain crops – barley, oat, wheat, and rye).

I originally bought this book so that I could know, with as little room for doubt, what plants the Picts might have used for dyeing their cloth and clothing. It was during the time I spent reading the book that I really started to get interested in what my persona would have eaten, and has spawned my latest experiments in growing grain crops that would have been raised by someone from my time period and location.

Celtic Coloring Page

