

The Wye's Mouth



February 2012

A.S. 46

Issue 128

The Shire of Wyewood

PO Box 59804

Renton, WA 98058

- Activities -

- Music - Beginner Session: Third Monday of each month from 6 - 8PM, Intermediate / Advanced Sessions - First Monday of each month from 6 - 8PM
- Knitting - Third Tuesday of each month
- Armor Workshop - The 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, usually noon - 5PM.
- Archery - most Saturdays mornings during the winter, weather & event permitting
- Scriptorium – Temporarily on hiatus for several months due to health issues. It will hopefully restart in February.

Wyewoods Scriptorium

Wyewood's Scriptorium was founded years ago, by Dame Tamlyn of Wyntersea. Even before that, HL Tamsin of Seabeck (now Eormenthryth the Northerne) hooked me on scribal arts by bringing paint and blank charters for awards to a few FCSes. I took up the Scriptorium when Dame Tam moved, though it's been on hiatus for several months due to health issues. It will hopefully restart in February. Information is on the website, and I send out email reminders, but let me tell you about being a scribe.

A scriptorium is the place where a scribe works - in period, it usually had good lighting and an angled desk - and often was a whole table of monastic scribes working in an upper room with a lot of light (and cold!) coming in. A scribe is technically anyone who's etching (inscribing) words or pictures on a surface, but it's almost always a calligrapher or illuminator. Calligraphy, most of us have been exposed to - pretty handwriting with cool pens. Illumination is when you get to put gold on things - the rest of the time it's just painting, sometimes called rubrication (making things red). We use a heavy watercolor called gouache. This has the advantage of being really forgiving about putting down your brush and running off to do something else - which can be important!

In An Tir, scribes make original "scrolls" and color / customize pre-printed "charters" for awards and other special occasions. We can do anything from what I call "colorin' for grownups" - painting charters for Awards and Grants of Arms - on up to learning how to lay gold leaf or research and design a custom scroll in a style that matches examples from the time and place of the recipient.

I can teach, and love to have new people come and try their hand at this - and besides, isn't it cool to make art that is often simple, almost always fun, and that someone else will be proud of and hang on their wall? I bring scribal projects to FCS, where we can put down background color and sketch ideas and teach, and twice a month we can do the more detailed stuff in more quiet (not a childproof house) at our place. We get together to work, swap ideas, chat and listen to music. Often others come along and work on some other art project that isn't a risk for literally jogging our elbows. We have a good library, extra supplies and good company, and a special way to serve the Kingdom and the Dream.

Respectfully submitted by Mir

Quiver Class

What: A class for making a modern style quiver or crossbow quiver

When: Sunday, February 26th and Sunday, March 4th 11 am to 5pm

Where: The Glenbrook Community Cabana (Driving instructions to be released closer to class date)

Why: There have been requests for a class on basic leather work and quiver construction. This class will give the student a chance to learn some basic leather work skills while creating a

functional end product. Quiver options are for the “standard” quiver like many Wyewood archers carry, or a crossbow bolt quiver. Students should have a basic design idea when they come to class.

Cost: \$45 for quiver, \$30 for bolt quiver (no hardware), \$20 for bracer

Site cost the instructor \$25 a day. Any donations to defray site cost above and beyond \$25 (for both days) will go to the Bubba can.

Class limit: 10 students

Please contact Dearbháil to register for the class and reserve materials for quiver. There will be limited supplies for bracers as well.

Instructors: Dearbháil ingean uí Dhonnchaidh, Tymme Lytefelow, Evrard de Valogne

Lady Simone will be coordinating a largess making get together during these times. Stay tuned to the List for further details.

When it Reigns it Pours: An Tir July Coronation A.S. 46

by Dame Esclarmonde de Porcairages

The populace of An Tir is known to sometimes rename an event based on its weather conditions. July Coronation of A.S. 46 was once o’erheard called “July Pournation” Indeed the skies did pour down upon us, but only in as great a proportion as the enthusiasm poured out from Wyewood’s citizens at the landed champion’s tournament.

Held on Saturday evening, the landed champion’s torchlight tournament pitted the champions from various baronies and shires in a heavy armored competition. Before the event, our champion, Lord Heinrich, told tale of how the previous year’s champion’s tournament had not only been a competition for the armored combatants, but a friendly competition between branches as each brought their own cheering section. Many of our populace in turn vowed to support Lord Heinrich and Wyewood in this year’s endeavor.

As the hour of the tournament approached, Lord Heinrich again sparked our actions; he suggested we process as a group in the tournament field. In order that such could be done, the good ladies Athelyna and Fionnghuala remained in camp to watch the children, a noble and much-valued effort. As we processed toward the tournament field, Lady Alianora proudly carried Wyewood’s gonfalon; another carried Lord Heinrich’s gonfalon; Dame Esclarmonde wore a Wyewood tabard and cried the merits of Lord Heinrich and the grace and beauty of Lady

Constantia; and Lord soon-to-be-Master Robert, Lord Lovell, Lady Mina, Lady Oddny, Lady Lueke, Lord Constantine, Lady Symonne, Lady Emma, Lady Lianor and others added honor and numbers to the train. Thus Wyewood and our champion proceeded to the field. Upon our arrival, we were greeted with the words of “Looks like you have a head start on the entertainment points” or some such nature. The humble reaction of Wyewood was merely, “Entertainment points? We didn’t know there were entertainment points. We just thought it was a good idea.”

Entertainment points there were. Thusly there were two prizes offered for the landed champion’s tournament. One for the most bouts won in a round-robin format; one for the champion voted most entertaining. Lord Heinrich did his part by starting every bout with a scene, bit or other small revel which brought reactions from the crowd, both from Wyewood and from branches afar. Often these involved some scheming with his honorable and worthy opponent, such as when the two came into the field “rowing” a mimed boat by using their swords as oars, or when the two combatants entertained the crowd with a few movements from a dance some say was called “The Macarena” in some far afield place.

The watchers from Wyewood wielded their voices in service to the honor of their shire. Each time Lord Heinrich took the field, the Wyewoodians in the audience made such a noise of celebration and joy that all the encampments of all the households and branches heard us. Indeed, many came to the tournament to find what caused such an enthusiastic noise. Often our cheers became a chant, whence one speaker, sometimes Lord Heinrich, would shout “WYE!” and the rest would respond “WOOD!” Similarly the chant of “HEIN – RICH!” was oft heard. So often, in fact, that it was reported later that combatants waiting to take their turn would say to each other, “Did you fight the guy from Wyewood? What’s his name” – “Oh yes, Heinrich!”

As the tournament wound down, the audience was called to come and vote for the most entertaining. Our Lady Alianora went to the judging tent and announced, “There are 20 votes for Lord Heinrich.” Apparently this number was not questioned. When the last bout of the tournament came, the winner of strength of arms was announced. Alas, memory fails as to who that was, because the great victory of the night was that of Lord Heinrich, who won the prize for most entertaining. The prize was a lovely hand-painted Tablero board, which all present signed in memory of the event, and Lord Heinrich donated to Wyewood so that this great day could be remembered for all time.

While much rain poured down on those days of July Coronation A.S. 46, dampened shoes and hems did nothing to dampen Wyewood’s spirits. The ravages of the falling skies could not compete with the soaring solidarity of Wyewood.

September Crown:

There was a lot of fun at September Crown, including the former Wyewood Court Taunter, Sir Rodrekr, making it to the finals in the crown tourney!

On the archery field, Wulfwyn was the Marshal in charge, and Tymme Lytefelow ran the main range much of Saturday and Sunday. There was a great turnout, including many competitors for the Kingdom Protector tournament. We also got to witness the effects of heat on a fiberglass laminated recurve bow, as we had one delaminate during the Kingdom Protector competition. All others were quickly moved out of direct sunlight. I am aware of at least a handful of Wyewoodians being present, but, as I was there to work (running the range), I did not wander about, so I can't give a solid count.

Respectfully submitted Tymme

"This story was written by Athelyna and inspired by a difficulty Esclarmonde had with her car"

Can any tell what a horse is worth? Mine is of great value, priceless to me. Often my steed carried me from Ross to Hay-on-the-Wye. Grandmother raised the mare from a colt, naming her Patches for the white spot over her eye and foreleg and then gave her to me when she was too frail to ride. One day on the road to June Faire, the sheriff accosted me on the way. "Your Ladyship, dismount that horse for we have a report it has been stolen." Thoughts of the gibbet entered my mind and my hands went to my throat. I raised my hands, so they were plan to see, declaring, "Honorable Sherriff, see, I've been branded no thief!"

I quickly told the tale of my grandmother's generosity gifting the horse to me. The Sherriff seemed torn for by my appearance he could plainly see, I was a lady. Yet, bound by duty he took the mare and placed me in stocks. Oh the disgrace! The town folk mocked and jeered as though I had already been found a thief.

Grandmother, oh, grandmother why did you gift this wretched nag to me? The day for court came. My accuser stood and blamed me for his ruin at June Faire. He purported I'd run off with his mare disrupting his commerce. He described her for those assembled, a sable mare with a white patch on the left eye and foreleg.

"Wait", exclaimed I... The local noble scowled furiously at me, "Speak your last for the hang man's noose stands prepared for thee." "But, my lordship," said I, "It is plain to see Patches is not marked on her left, but on her right. Pray thee, go see."

Oh grandmother, please forgive the moment I doubted thee. The entire court marched out to the stable and Patches was found to be marked not on the left, but on the right. At that moment a rider arrived, leading a horse. As the horses stood nose to nose, it appeared as though they gazed in a pool, the reflection of the two mares was so exact you see.

The noble declared, “Twins!!” “Twins mares” and released me. My accuser, swore an oath, “It was an honest mistake” but the rider declared the merchant had not tethered his horse. The feudal Lord, looked first at him and then to me, “You have suffered much at this man's hand, what will it be? Shall he pay a fine or suffer the same fate prepared for thee?”

I rode away, my purse strings taugt, and none too much worse for the wear. Rode away, Patches, Sable and me.

Fustaqiya

If you are from Wyewood, you at one point or another have had Fustaqiya - Chicken with Pistachios (Al-Baghdadi)

Take the breasts of chickens, and half-boil in water with a little salt. Drain off water, and take flesh off the bones, pulling it into threads; then put back into the saucepan, covering with water. Take pealed pistachios as required, and pound in the mortar; put into the saucepan, and stir, boiling. When almost cooked, throw in as much sugar as the pistachios. Keep stirring until set; then remove.

Redaction 10/13/98 by Robert and Celeste

4 chicken breasts, boned and skinned
2/3 cup ground pistachios
1/3 cup sugar

In medium sized pot cover chicken breasts with water, add ½ tsp salt. Simmer 15-20 minutes. Cool slightly, shred. Add 2 cups water. Add ground nuts, simmer 10 minutes, add sugar, simmer another 10 minutes.

Finoodles Presents: Soaps for Sale

Bubba Soap for \$3 per bar

Each 4 oz bar is handcrafted from blue and gold glycerin and goat's milk soap (or just glycerin if you prefer) with a lovely graphic of Bubba embedded inside. Three styles are available: the Bubba outline, the full color Bubba and the archery Bubba. Plus there are four fragrance options available: saffron honey, oatmeal milk and honey, woad man, or unscented. Production takes 2 days and I will either ship (purchaser pays shipping) or deliver for free to FCS.

Contact Finoodles at fswetz@comcast.net

Wyewood Business Meeting
January 27th, 7:30PM

On the January agenda:

New Business:

- 2012 Budget

The budget was reviewed, changes made & voted to accept.

- Branch Customary:

There was much discussion, some changes made in wording. All changes can be seen when the whole document is done being reviewed.

- Review - Section 8.2: There is much heartfelt opinion around the wording in this section. Let's see if we can iron out some consensus regarding Wyewood Champions.
- Review - Section 8.3: Responsibilities of the Champion. Not as much traffic as 8.2, but still need to develop consensus.
- Review - Section 8.1.2: We have not previously had a bardic champion - should we include a provision for a future position?
- I'm aware there are other sections needing some review, but we'll tackle them in future meetings.

- Event updates

- None at this time. Have an idea for an event?

Ithra has been moved to the Fall due to date availability.

Talk has started on this year's Revel- camping or non-camping

A possible bid for co-sponsoring this years Emprise

- Activities - other things going on around the branch. Keep an eye on the list, as these activities periodically update to confirm or cancel due to weather, etc.

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