

Chronicles by the River's Edge

The Quarterly Newsletter of The Shire of the March of St. Martin

Summer (July) 2006



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Visit the group web site at www.geocities.com/marchofstmartin for a link to archived copies of this publication.

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Announcements



Greetings,

Please send contributions (articles, artwork, ideas or announcements) to my e-mail address (above) or to my mailing address (on the cover page).

Throughout the summer months **photos** are being taken **for the March of St. Martin member directory**. If you would like to be included in the directory but have not yet signed up to do so, please see me at any meeting or event. The directory will be available to March of St. Martin members and approved guests. If you don't attend the meetings, please contact me about getting a copy.

**Anne Fairamay (Lynn Smith),
Chronicler**

Greetings, One and All:

We have recently had a change of **Exchequer**. Stepping up into the position is **Alieana of the March** (Nikki McNaughton). She was warranted at the last Coronation along with **Sionaed de Cowes** (your new **Seneschal**) and **Anne Fairamay** (Lynn Smith) as our **Chronicler**. We are still **seeking a full time Herald**. (Hint hint to Aohdan of Greensleeves).

Lord Gerrard Capentarius was awarded **Thorjborn's Hammer** not too long ago and is now **The Honourable Lord Gerrard**. **Lord Aodhan of Greensleeves** is our **Thrown Weapons Marshal**.

As of July 1st, **the March of St. Martin will have a new Seneschal**. **Sionead de Cowes** has stepped up to take my place.

I have enjoyed the last few years as your Seneschal. During my term I have seen our numbers increase and I know that they will continue to grow. With all the help of the members of the March we have seen our yearly event grow to the point that one day we might have to look for a bigger site.

I'd like to thank all the officers I have worked with for their support and help. It's been a pleasure to serve as your Seneschal.

In the Service of the Shire and Kingdom,

Lady Cassandra Cresswell

March of St. Martin Calendar Of Events

(items in bold are local events)

DATE(S)	EVENT	LOCATION
July 06 - 09	Warriors and Warlords XIII	Black River Falls, WI (Kingdom of the Middle)
July 08	Storming of the Gate X	London, ON (Shire of Trinovantia Nova)
July 15	Baronial Champions Tourney	St. Catharines, ON (Barony of Rising Waters)
July 16	(Sarnia) Hobbyfest	Centennial Park (March of St. Martin)
July 21 - 23	Equestrian Emprise & Tourneys	Fenton, MI (Barony of Roaring Wastes)
Aug 04 - 20	Pennsic XXXV	Cooper's Lake, PA
Sept 01 - 04	Tournament at Baron's Howe	Bonfield, ON (Barony of Skraeling Althing)
Sept 23	Coronation	Alvinston, ON (March of St. Martin)
Oct 06 - 09	Known World Bardic College and Cooks Collegium 4	Blue Springs Scout Camp, Acton ON (sponsored by the Kingdom of Ealdormere)
Oct 14	Barbarians at the Gate	Sault Ste. Marie, ON (Shire of Noergate)
Oct 21	Autumn Collegium	North Bay, ON (Canton of Flaming Sky)
Oct 28	Crown Tourney XVIII	Fort Erie, ON (Barony of Rising Waters)

March of St. Martin meetings:

Wednesdays (Mid-June to Mid-September) 7:00 – dark, business meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Centennial Park, just north of Mama Rosa's restaurant, weather permitting.

Most of the above information was gathered from the Kingdom of Ealdormere web site and/or newsletter, *The Tidings*. Please refer to www.geocities.com/marchofstmartin or these publications for further information on the events listed.



Arts & Sciences

The **A&S topic/project of the month** allows us to tackle group projects, or explore and play with different methods and materials. Techniques will be demonstrated, ideas will be shared, and items will be manufactured. These monthly activities will take place at the regular Wednesday night meetings, unless otherwise advised. Participation is encouraged but not necessary. As always, you are most welcome to bring your own, possibly totally off topic, project to work on.

A&S Topic/Project of the Month

July / August – we will continue with **jewellery design** and **work on site tokens** for Coronation. **Stitch 'n B**** Banner Making** session(s) to be scheduled.

September – with **Coronation on the 23rd**, we'll leave the first and mid parts of the month open to allow us **extra preparation time** for individual or group projects.

Can you talk about a technique, lead a workshop, or perhaps there is something you'd like information or instruction on? Please offer your ideas for future A&S topics or projects of the month to Minister of Arts & Sciences, Lady Una Sewenna (contact info on page 1).

This Day in History

July 13, 1568 - Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral perfects a way to bottle beer

July 15, 1099 - 1st Crusaders capture and plunder Jerusalem

August 19, 1399 – English King Richard II surrenders to his cousin Henry

August 30, 1146 - European leaders outlaw crossbow intending to end war for all time

September 2, 1666 - Fire in London destroys 13,000 houses and kills 8

September 9, 1492 - Columbus' fleet sets sail west



Cooking with Lady Cassandra

by Lady Cassandra Cresswell

I will be submitting, for every edition, either a recipe or a little food history. This time I am sharing my bread recipe.

For those of you who cook without measuring, here is my bread recipe. I haven't a clue how much of the different ingredients to put in. I made this at Murder Melee and it was great. You use a cast iron pot with a lid. Sit it in the ashes and cover the lid with ashes. It takes about 25-30 min to cook.

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| ✦ flour | ✦ honey |
| ✦ yeast | ✦ liquid (milk or water) warmed slightly |
| ✦ baking powder | ✦ fat (butter, melted in liquid or oil) |

Place yeast to proof in warm water with some honey in it. Mix dry ingredients together. Add yeast, honey and liquid and mix with hands (I never use a spoon or mixer). Knead until it isn't sticky anymore. Set to rise in a greased bowl. Cover. When double in size, knead it again and mould into loaves/buns and set to rise again. Bake in 350° oven for 25-30 min or until it sounds hollow when tapped on bottom.



Ask Aug

Need some sage advice, or perhaps the answer to a perplexing problem? No need to look far and wide... Aug knows all... and will attempt to come up with some sort of answer. Please remember, Aug has wisdom and knowledge, but no professional credentials, so Aug's advice might be nothing more than entertaining. Send your questions (real or otherwise) to "Ask Aug, c/o the Chronicler".

Dear Aug,

I would like to attend Pennsic this year, but with the cost of equipping my campsite, unknown transportation costs, and event expenses, I'm not sure if I can afford it. What supplies do I need, and how much money will I need at Pennsic? Oh wise one, please advise me.

Aug Replies:

Fret no more, my poor fellow. You are wise to add up all your costs ahead of time. It would be most unpleasant to arrive at Pennsic only to find that you had no money left to spend at the merchants!

The Pennsic web site (www.pennsicwar.org) offers lots of useful information. You should find the section "Newcomers' Point" particularly helpful in answering your question.

Transportation: If you are driving to Pennsic, keep in mind you will have a loaded vehicle with perhaps a trailer and/or luggage carrier, so don't expect the optimum highway miles per gallon you might normally get with your vehicle. According to expedia.com it is 538 km from the Bluewater Bridge to the Pennsic site in Slippery Rock, PA. Double that figure for a return trip, and add extra for trips to and from the nearby towns. The total mileage might be close to 1500km. We can only guess what gasoline prices might be in August.

Aug's best guesstimate: US\$200 driving a newer model minivan with two passengers, no trailer or rooftop carriers (for gas *and* toll booth expenses).

Site/gate fee: Adult gate fees vary according to arrival date and membership status. Adult gate fees are in the range of US\$100-\$145. (It's too late to get the US\$10 pre-registration discount.)

Garb and gear: You'll need a place to stay (a tent), camping gear, SCA garb (lots of it). Check out the Pennsic packing list (www.pennsicwar.org/penn35/GENERAL/pack.html) for a more complete list of items you might want to take with you. Your shopping list in this area can really vary depending on what you already own and what you want to bring with you.

Food and beverages: There are different options available here – purchasing meals from the food court, cooking for yourself, or joining a meal plan with a group of fellow campers.

Classes: Pennsic University offers hundreds of classes, many are free but some have fees (mostly to cover materials). The class schedule, including fees, is posted on the Pennsic web site.

Shopping: Merchants, merchants, and more merchants... I hope you'll have money leftover for a bit of shopping!

Aug the All Knowing

On the Cover

Our youngest member, Daniel, son of Aodhan of Greensleeves and Abigail den Gutenberg, posed with tankard in hand napping in the Saturday afternoon heat at Murder Melee XXIII.

Summer

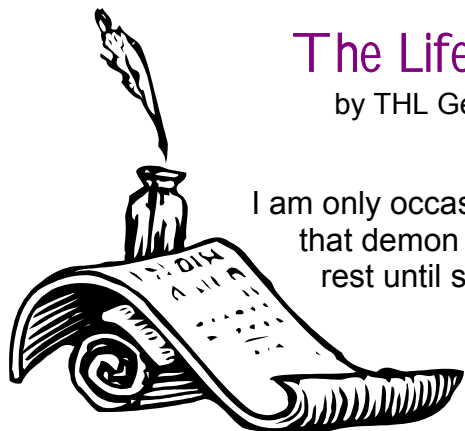
It was a soft, reposeful summer landscape, as lovely as a dream, and as lonesome as Sunday.

Mark Twain (1835 - 1910),
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court

www.litquotes.com/quote_topic_resp.php?QuoteType=Summer&Amazon=Nature

The Life of a Bard

by THL Gerrard Carpentarius



I am only occasionally driven to write a poem or story. I call them “hauntings” as that demon muse that lurks within me suddenly awakens and will not let me rest until such time as I begin whatever poem or story it has insisted I write.

In Poetry I generally compose three different “STYLES”.

Simply Rhyme — “Wherein one simply rhymes every other line “

Example:

Life sweet one is like a seed.
Nurture it with thought and deed...

Keeping the lines in similar length and cantor.

The next style is called an acrostic.

Example:

EALDORMERE

Errant with northern forged wolves and trilliums fair.
Akin to the honour and chivalry well rooted there.
Lupine thrones marked by valiant red and purest white.
Darkness has little hold in this land of dancing lights.
Oaths of fealty will well bind our future to our past.
Rings given know our greatest lineage is certain cast.
Man, woman and child prosper within its “Crowns”.
Each life enriched by lifelong friends so easily found.
Royal blood fuses its people to a most regal throne.
Ealdormere holds, sings of, and truly calls us home.

Wherein you must begin each line as it follows the title of the poem.

The next style is somewhat unusual and unfortunately I am uncertain as to what this style is called. However I would highly recommend keeping the final rhyming words in sets of two or three as any greater number can be extremely challenging. Example:

A scandalous lad met a young and beautiful woman named Briar Rose
Rose in its fullest bloom to taste of her nectar the brave lad proposed.
Proposed on bent knee and next thing he knew he had a bloody nose!
Nose ?????

One simply begins the first sentence with the last word in the previous sentence.

So as you can see two is easy, three can be challenging, and four ...well!!

So what are you waiting for! Start a simple poem. Use a persons name in an acrostic or challenge yourself to the challenge of three!!!

The following were penned by THL Gerrard Carpentarius. Gerrard writes:
The Rapier Blades of Ealdormere was a tribute "An Oath sworn on steel" to then Majesties King Edward and Queen Rylan.
Flames of Oberon was created while watching a campfire at Murder Melee.



The Rapier Blades of Ealdormere

With chivalry and honour upon the field.
Our enemy's fates are forever sealed.
Try as they may to foreshadow these lands.
With courage and skill we shall make our stand.

Our blades may bend but we will never yield.
With chivalry and honour upon the field.
Our word binds us to protect the Lupine Thrones.
We pledge our lives whether we are afar or at home.

Stalwartly we brandish the blades of Ealdormere
As long as we do "Crown" and citizen shall never fear.
With chivalry and honour upon the field.
We have sworn an oath stronger than that of finest steel.

Rapier sharp are the blades that we skilfully command.
We stand like wolf sentinels to Your trillium bound lands.
A Lethal of fencers northern forged and as true as the
blades they wield.
With chivalry and honour upon the field.

The Honourable Lord Gerrard Carpentarius

Aut Vincerī Aut Mori

Flames of Oberon



The King of Fairies doth command.

Fetch dry kindling and wood to this land.

Mark my words and by my hand.

A fire built deep in this pit of stone and sand.

By fairy magic I'll set the spark.

To ketch on fuel and air it shall deride us of the dark.

First smoke and flame shall intertwine.

Soon both a greater purpose they shall bind.

Now smoke and flame touch the moon.

Like a most intricate tapestry upon a loom.

Blood red embers dance with blue and gold.

Protecting us from both dark and cold.

Bring forth your voices into this light.

With flame and ember they shall unite.

The full moon reaches down to part earth's clouds.

To witness these wonders created by an immortal crowd.

We mortals shared this warmth and dancing light.

Our united voices and shadows thus forged into the night.

Deep inside the firelight embers intertwine the with cool night air.

In a complex rhythmic dance wherein I am compelled to stare.

Our mortal spirits and voices join the kindred flames as one.

As The Flames of Oberon seek once again the rising sun.

The Honourable Lord Gerrard Carpentarius