

Quintavian Milestone

Second Winter 2015



Hafra featured great performers and tasty food.

Photo by Lady Bianca Anguissola)

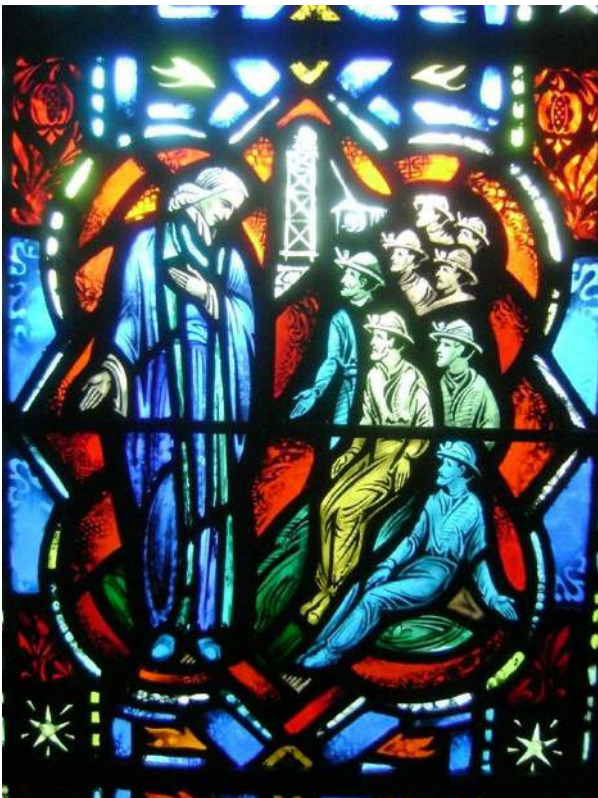
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Greetings from the Seneschal!

Greetings to the populace of Quintavia! Our Shire has been busy since the beginning of the year. We've run two very nice events—an Embroidery Schola for Athena's Thimble, and our annual Hafla—and have two more on the calendar for this summer—St. John Baptiste Tourney & Feast and the Kingdom Equestrian Championship. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and energy to run events that benefit not only our Shire but the Kingdom.

As our thoughts begin to turn to summer, camping season will soon be upon us. I encourage all Quintavians who wish to camp together at events to do so. We are working to equip the Shire with pavilions and cooking gear to create a comfortable gathering point at events. Toward that end, we will be running a lunch raffle fundraiser. Local cooks have offered their talents to each prepare a lunch for four gentles to be delivered at the Equestrian event. Tickets to enter the raffle will be for sale beginning in April until the drawing at GNEW in July. We still have room for more cooks, as well. Please support the Shire with this fundraising opportunity.

YIS,
Lord Aleksei Dmitriev, Seneschal



From The Chronicler's Quill

One digit. That's how it all started. What began as a simple year increment, from 2014 to 2015 in the required disclaimer on the banner of the cover page, has turned into a complete rebuild of the *Milestone*. Basically, I got tired of fighting MS Word to do what I wanted it to do, so rather than string up Vera and use my laptop for target practice (I just got a new laptop and I'd hate to void the warranty), I'm trying out the free version of PagePlus. Reviews said that it is basic, easy to use, and well suited for newsletters for a non-profit organization, among other things. So far, so good. It took me less than two minutes to recreate the cover page layout that Word absolutely refused to give me. It will also allow me to get more creative with layouts in future issues as I get more familiar with the software.

You may have noticed that this is **NOT** the Spring issue. No, this is not an error. I have been saying for years that people claiming to like Quintavia because we get all four seasons have consumed far too much mead. The way it really works is first we get Winter. Then, we get Second Winter. Second Winter, named in Hobbit tradition, is that time of year when the calendar says it's supposed to be Spring, yet the earth remains covered in snow, and temperatures remain cold enough to keep it there instead of allowing the crocuses to bloom. Once it does warm up, we get a couple of weeks of Mud Season – good practice for Pennsic, but not the lush flowery post-Winter paradise it is supposed to be. Then, one day, suddenly it's 90 degrees, 90% humidity, and instantly it's Summer, Summer and Fall then run their natural course, and fade into Winter once again. Considering the conditions outside my window, and that they do not, in any way, bear a resemblance to my definition of Spring, I have redefined this quarterly issue of the *Milestone* to reflect its true season, rather than the lies the calendar tells us.

YIS,
Lord Murdoch MacRae
Chronicler, Deputy Webminister, and Grumpy Old Man

...now get off my lawn.



Proposal for the Order of Valiance

by Lord Murdoch MacRae



You may have noticed this pin, or variations of it, being worn at events throughout the Known World recently. TRM Edward and Thyra were noted for wearing favors bearing this image at Dragonship Haven's Baronial Investiture. What exactly does this stylized "O" mean?

The Order of Defense was recently created to finally give the very best rapier fighters a well deserved Peer level of recognition for their talents, hard work, and other Peer-like qualities. Some suggested, during the final discussions, that the new Order should be open to all non-rattan martial arts - target and combat archery, thrown weapons, equestrian, seige weapons, etc. In the end, the original rapier only proposal was approved, and there was much rejoicing throughout the rapier community.

With no intention of raining on the fencers' parade, the last minute consideration of including other martial disciplines into the Order of Defense made many aware that these other martial disciplines suffered from the same problem that rapier has until now - no path to Peerage for their martial skills. But with the Board of Directors now willing to create such a path for rapier, many thought it was time to keep the momentum going and try to create an Omnibus Peerage, inclusive of all non-rattan, non-rapier martial activities.

Although the current discussion was certainly inspired by the success of the rapier community with their Peerage proposal, it is not a new concept. It was actually a Knight, Sir Jon Fitz Rauf, who, as the first Society Archery Marshal, realized that the lack of Peer recognition for non-rattan martial prowess was an issue that he, and others, felt needed to be addressed. Sir Jon wrote

and submitted the first Omnibus Peerage proposal to the Board in 1999.

With help from a wide variety of people from across the Known World, Sir Jon has submitted five proposals over the years. The most recent proposal was in 2010, shortly after the results of that year's census came out. The results of that census indicated that there was widespread support for an omnibus non-rattan martial Peerage, which included rapier at the time. According to the 2010 census, 22% of those who stopped participating said they did so because they felt unappreciated. The lack of a path to Peerage for non-rattan martial activities is certainly not the only reason this could happen, but is certainly a factor. Armored rattan combat had a 27% Peerage level recognition, while non-rattan combat activities had less than 1% of their participants recognized. However, the Board chose not to create a new Peerage at that time.

With the recent establishment of the Order of Defense, it was clear that the Board has changed their mind about not creating new Peerages. Before long, a Martial Peerage group was created on Facebook for current supporters of an Omnibus Peerage to meet, discuss, and create a new proposal to submit to the Board. Duchess Tessa the Huntress of Æthelmearc took charge of organizing this effort, but has solicited opinions and advice from anyone who wished to share.

With input from the group, Duchess Tessa and a steering committee - including Sir Jon Fitz Rauf - created a proposal for the Order of Valiance to provide a path to Peerage for non-rattan, non-rapier martial activities. After further review and revision, this proposal was submitted to the Board.

The proposal itself is available for review at <https://crimsonflight.com/order-of-valiance-proposal>. It is on the agenda for the April 18 Board of Directors meeting. Now is the time to write the Board to tell them what you think about the proposed Order of Valiance. You can do so by sending an email to comments@sca.org.

Hafla!

Photos by Madame Perronnelle de Croy and Lord Murdoch MacRae



Business Meeting

December 14, 2014

Officer Reports

Seneschal

Our missing equipment is still missing. Many of our serving pieces are included in this list. Please check your equipment to verify whether any of it belongs to the Shire.

Webminister

We've added some event planning resources to our website. We will be adding our event bid sheet and autocrat handbook sheets to the page. There is also a password-protected page that keeps track of past site fees, budgets, actual end numbers, menus, etc. Believe it or not, search engines and Facebook are our top two referrals for our website, followed by eastkingdom.org.

We are looking at creating a local model release database, and will probably end up getting volunteered for doing it at a higher level.

Youth Minister

Deputy needs to be warranted. We have a sample youth box to paw through. There are multiple versions of stained glass construction for different age levels. Games, catapults, and others are still in the works.

Herald

The Kickstarter book on Japanese heraldry that we backed last year has arrived.

Exchequer

We have money.

MoL

Crown Tournament is May 2 on Long Island. The local group is looking at creating a block of hotel rooms. It will be our first event where Ministers of Defense can be made.

Dance

Dance Practices got a little irregular over the winter, but they've been happening. Black Rose Ball was lovely. Walpurgisnacht is on

for the first weekend of May. Walpurgisnacht is just continuous dancing, gaming, and eating. There are cabins for sleeping. There will also be dancing at Carolingian Investiture on April 4. Dance Practice on April 7 will be at WPI.

MoAS

Please attend craft fiber day at Camelot in March. Workshop at Perronnelle's next Friday.

Chronicler

Working on a new Milestone. If you have something you would like to write up as an article – event reports, research, resources – please do so.

Archery

Thyra was going to check out the range at the new Cabela's. Turns out it is just for testing bows, so not an option for practice. As soon as the snow is off the lawn at Stow, we will be starting outdoor practices again. Meanwhile, some people are shooting on Thursday nights at Teepee in Acton.

Royalty

We had a great time at Gulf Wars. It was Pennsic weather. The East won the Diamond Tournament. The Kingdom is looking at acquiring some storage space down there, which will empower many more people to come.

Past Events

Embroidery Event

45 people attended. We made money.

Hafla

The February weather and other things created a series of challenges that impacted the event. Only 37 people were in attendance. We lost money.

Upcoming Events

Carolingian Investiture

April 4 at German Club in Walpole. Many Quintavians are showing up as the Scottish Barbarians from across the way.

Cooking Schola, formerly April 4/25, is CANCELED..

Sommer Draw

June 13. Bergental has invited us to cook the dayboard as a fundraiser. It's a new site with more space for us to cook, so we may be expanding dining options to match.

St. John Baptiste

June 20 at YMCA camp in Oxford. Site Walk when the snow melts. Aleksei and Eleanor will be running the feast. We can still set up Friday evening.

EK Equestrian Championship

August 22, Hazel Grove, Groton. Perronnelle can no longer make it, so Rosina is looking for help. We have verbal confirmation of the date, however we are still limited by the same issues as last year. We are still welcome to come set up on Friday night. We will be using a ticket raffle to fundraise by raffling off lunches cooked by local artisans. The plan is to start selling tickets at Carolingian Investiture. They will be lunches for four. The site is planning on getting a second permanent portapotty, which will hopefully be in a useful location.

Other Announcements

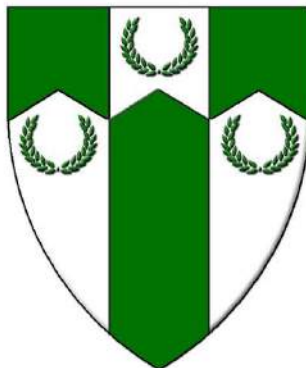
The Shakespeare Club of Grafton will be celebrating the Bard's birthday in garb on April 27. More information at <http://graftonshakespeare.org/>

Letter of Comment on the Order of Valiance Proposal

When the first new Peerage in over forty years was created as the Order of Defense, participants in other non-combat martial activities swelled with the hope that they might rally for a Peerage of their own. Like fencers and rattan fighters, we archers, throwers, siege engineers, and equestrians wish to be recognized for our prowess in our given field. While recognition as Laurels for research, study, and teaching, or as Pelicans for running tournaments, holding practices, and equipping new members are grand accomplishments, we seek acknowledgement of our dedication to prowess—acquiring, making, and maintaining the best equipment, hours of practice honing our skill, hours of physical conditioning to allow us to draw, throw, span, and ride, the mental discipline to prepare, participate, and prevail in tournaments and championships.

And now we have a proposal before the board of directors for the Order of Valiance. I, for one, believe that we should support this proposal and not rest until all martial activities are equally recognized. Like fighters and fencers, we bleed for our skill. Our sore muscles, our bruises, our injuries are no less real or painful than anyone else's. Our dedication is no less real. Our path to peerage-worth prowess has been no less long or difficult. It is time.

Lord Aleksei Dmitriev
Order of the Sagittarius
Grandmaster Bowman
Quintavia Company of Archers
Champion to Baroness Stonemarche
2007 East Kingdom Archery Champions Team



St. Jean Baptiste Tourney and Feast

Saturday, June 20, 10am-9pm

Camp Foskett

189 Daniels Rd., Charlton, MA

Unto the populace of the East Kingdom, greetings! The Shire of Quintavia bids you welcome to our tourney and feast day! This charmed festival day will include activities for all and a feast cooked by Lord Aleksei Dmitriev over an open flame!

In keeping with the earlier feast days we will be merging solstice celebrations with the early Christian traditions from around the world. We will light the St. John's fire as they throughout medieval Europe, host a market (we hope!) like they did in Italy, and have dancing, music, and singing to keep the spirits at bay as they did in Scandinavia.

There will be several tourneys going on to choose the future Defenders of Quintavia. The defenders will be chosen for Fencing, Archery, Heavy List, Thrown Weapons, and Arts & Sciences.

If you chose not to participate in the tourney a day of leisure, learning, and pleasure awaits! Merchants are welcome and there is a beach with Lifeguards at our disposal. The East Kingdom Brewer's guild will be hosting a kingdom-level competition and a panel for placement within the guild.

Feast will be a sumptuous spread that will be taught as a class by Lord Aleksei. There is no kitchen so all will be done over the fire!

Facilities:

Accessibility- The path from the parking lot to the area is crushed stone and may be difficult to traverse for some. For this we are providing valet parking assistance for those in need. Contact the Autocrat for further questions. Please let us know in your reservation if you might need this service.

Animals - Pets are welcome as long as owners are conscientious and clean up after them!

Swimming - We will have access to a beach with a dedicated lifeguard from the hours of 12-6pm. Children must be supervised by an accompanying adult at all times.



Event Fees

Site : Site (Includes Dayboard):

\$12.00 per adult

\$5.00 per child ages 4-12

\$30.00 per family of 2 adults & 2 children

Non-Member surcharge of \$5.00 will be added to above prices if no membership card is presented.

Feast:

\$8.00 per adult

\$5.00 per child ages 4-12

Make Checks Payable to: SCA MA, Inc - Shire of Quintavia

Contact Information

Event Steward:

Madame Perronnelle de Croy

774.563.0019

perrodecroy@gmail.com

Send Reservations to:

Chrystie Kilboun-Terry

412 Chestnut St.

Clinton, MA 01510

Andreiko's Guide to Pennsic

Story by Pomestnik Andreiko Eferiev, Photos by Madame Perronnelle de Croy



A number of friends have expressed an interest in going to Pennsic for the first time this year. While [the Pennsic web site](#) has a lot of great info, including facts, schedules, and packing lists, I thought I'd organize my own thoughts on some of the *concepts* involved. Besides the items on the packing lists, there are three big ticket items you need for a trip to Pennsic: Time, Money, and an Encampment.

Time

Obviously any vacation will take time, but I want to talk a little about what the general Pennsic schedule is like. First up is Zero Night. This is the Friday night when, historically, everyone camps on the Battlefield and parties because they have to be up at 9 AM on Saturday to set up their land and have nothing to do until then. The Land Office has made some changes this year, and it's a little unclear how that will affect things, but I suspect the Zero Night That Was is now over, which is probably for the best – truth be told, people would rather get setup started earlier than hang around with nothing to do. There will probably still be parties (I know I'm throwing one), but they will no longer be on top of each other.

Land Grab (or Peace Week) is what follows, and it is the most relaxing vacation I've ever taken. We set up camp, sit around the fire singing, talking, and drinking, take day trips to Pittsburgh-area entertainments, etc. The first battles, the first

classes, the first parties, the first performances, all of these things happen toward the end of Peace Week. Opening Ceremonies are on Saturday. This is when the battle lines are drawn and sides are declared. It is the largest gathering of pomp and circumstance in the Known World. Muster for the East Kingdom march is usually around 9:00 outside the East Kingdom Royal Encampment.

War Week is the most action packed vacation I've ever taken. There's so much to do, it is all happening at once, and all of it is in walking distance – which means that even though my day is packed from 8 AM to 10 PM, I still have time to sit and read a book. This is also the most important time to volunteer. Pennsic is run by volunteers, and if everyone simply volunteered eight hours of their time, then everything will be set up on time and organized. Some people will already have been volunteering on-site for over a week when zero night happens, so please take some time to ensure they get a turn to enjoy the rest of the event.

Finally is tear-down. Most groups start organizing camp in preparation for tear-down Thursday and do the full tear-down Friday or Saturday. There is a penalty for failing to leave your campsite clean and empty by noon Sunday, and most groups are pretty good about leaving site tidy.

Also, like any vacation, be prepared to make some sacrifices for your physical and mental health. Pennsic varies from hot to humid to hot *and* humid. There is also very little privacy since all the walls are canvas and nylon. Plan on spending extra alone time getting away from other people as well as time lounging about recovering from overheating.

To drive to Pennsic from Massachusetts, some people take the Northern Route, which is I-90 to I-79, which has the advantage of being mostly straight with well-lit rest areas. Others take the Southern Route, which is 90-84-81-80-79, which is hypothetically shorter and has fewer tolls, but is more likely to get jammed by construction. And others fly – pickups at PGH Airport are readily available.

Money

According to legend, you can show up with a sleeping bag, a smile, and a case of homemade mead and it's still possible everything will work out. Most, however, plan on spending between \$500 and \$1000 per person. There is no day rate for Pennsic. The simple truth is that a lot of cool stuff happens overnight and the people who own Cooper's Lake Campground ("the Coopers") don't feel it would be profitable or enforceable. Also, the relatively high cost to enter helps deter hooligans from coming on-site and messing with us.

One obvious way to save money at Pennsic is to not stay in any hotels on the way. It's a camping trip and some people happily camp on the way down and back. Another obvious way to save money is to skip Peace Week. The price drops \$40 at midnight on the middle Friday on top of the money you save on a shorter vacation.



If you further need to save money, you can work while at Pennsic. People can work their desk jobs remotely via Mystic Mail, Pennsic's own internet café, or via the McDonald's just off site. Digging ditches, taking care of children, cooking and serving, toting and hauling, or simply working for one of the many merchants are some of the myriad ways Pennsic denizens earn money from other Pennsic denizens, so some enterprising young people will just wander around site with a shovel looking for people who need a hand. You can also advertise in the *Pennsic Independent*, a biased propaganda news rag whose chief virtues lie in the facts that it prints schedule changes, battle results, and has no competition. Children can earn money wandering the site selling copies of *PI* for profit, but they have to be accompanied by an adult.

The Coopers do pay people to work the cash register, work in the camp store, and check for site medallions at the entrances, but these people are usually non-SCA Western Pennsylvania residents.

Encampment

The land distribution system of Pennsic is a unique artifact of its history. The entire campground is broken down into 100 or so blocks of varying size, the borders of which are determined by site features like forests, rivers, roads, etc. Everyone who attends gets approximately 250 ft² of land to pitch their tent. If you preregister, you have the option of registering with a group, commonly known as an Encampment. Currently, there is plenty of land available at Pennsic, so Encampments usually get land in whichever block they request, which is usually the block they were in the year before. Encampments send a Land Agent to Land Grab to sign the paperwork on how to subdivide the block, though these days most of the negotiation happens in advance.

Encampments are a great way to maximize the utility of your space and your stuff and spend time with good people. Note that you don't necessarily want to share an encampment with your best friend or with your mother. Choosing an Encampment is a lot more like choosing a roommate. You want someone who will handle their fair share of the tasks and with whom you will not get into a shouting match with when it's 100 degrees out and you're annoyed at each other. Encampments usually require some form of monetary contribution to handle the purchase and storage of camp equipment, as well as using some portion of each person's land to handle communal infrastructure and green space. In the event your encampment needs or wants more space than the aforementioned 250 ft²/person, you will need to register some Ghosts. Ghosts are people who, hypothetically, might show up to Pennsic but in reality probably won't because you registered them only for their land. Do not register children as ghosts. The [Handbook for Land Agents](#) prohibits this, since children get in for \$20 and still get the full land allotment. If you're going to spend money for more land, you should at least be spending it full freight. Note that you must have a paid preregistration in order to register land with an encampment.

Another important determining factor for your encampment is food. Many people have incompatible food restrictions or

preferences, or simply differing opinions as to how important communal dining is. Some encampments simply provide you with kitchen space to cook your meal, while others have catered parties with free flowing alcohol and pantry tents. Others make no provisions for cooking and expect each person to take care of themselves.

People who do not preregister with a group are referred to as "Singles Campers." When they arrive onsite, they choose a plot of whatever land is still available and that will be where they pitch their tent.

A case study

Time

Rosina and I usually stay with Camp Crook'd Cat. CCC usually chooses land in Block E02 with frontage on the road called The Strand. We are usually Land Agents for our Camp, so we leave Thursday night before Land Grab, arriving early Friday afternoon for Zero Night. We usually leave Saturday at the end of War so we get home Sunday and are not overly tired for work Monday morning. Two years ago, Rosina couldn't get Peace Week off and flew down on Thursday after work. She spent half an hour knitting at the Main Gate waiting for the price to drop.

Money

Rosina and I spend about \$700 each for Pennsic.

Our budget is roughly as follows.

Site Fee - \$170

Camp Fee - \$200

Hotel & Transportation Costs - \$230

Booze, Entertainment, and Souvenirs - \$100

Encampment

Our tent is 14 feet by 18 feet with walls six feet high. It's roughly house shaped and is bigger than our living room at home. The walls hang from the roof, so we orient the "doors" wherever they'll be most convenient based on the shape of our encampment. We usually put the bed a little off center, with the bins for clothing and equipment storing behind it and a little sitting area in front.

Our block is roughly square, and our encampment is usually deeper than it is wide. It's usually identifiable by the large 3 x 3 x 5 foot construction of brick and mud that is our earth oven. Every day we bake fresh bread in it, unless we're baking pies or roasting onion spiced beef rolls or something. The rest of our

frontage has little flags of our camp emblem: Argent, Per Saltire, a cat rampant Azure and a shepherd's crook Azure, which bears an uncanny resemblance to a cat that has been impaled on a shepherd's crook. What it's actually supposed to be is a cat that is being *guided by* the shepherd's crook.

The earth oven sits on a firebox, aka a pile of dirt that has been shaped and leveled, which makes for easier cooking. Behind the firebox is a large area for gathering and a GP-Medium US Army Surplus tent, which serves as our cooking and dining tent. Inside are benches, tables, snacks, and cooking, serving, and eating ware. Back behind the GP-Medium is the sink we share with a neighboring encampment, Clan Kerr. The sink water runs off into a sump pit that we dig that also supplies the dirt for the firebox and earth oven. The rest of the encampment is usually just everyone else's tents, though last year someone brought a hammock for the children to fight over.

There are propane heated showers on the far side of the block, so we have that taken care of for basic hygiene. The Coopers supply Pennsic with portapotties, which certainly sounds gross, but they get cleaned twice a day so they tend to be cleaner than most public bathroom facilities unless someone on your block is throwing a wild party.

Our Camp Fee covers the cost of the storage locker for our common equipment; ice, firewood, and other basic camp supplies; and a period meal cooked over an open fire every night of War week. We organize the time necessary for setup, tear-down, cooking, cleaning, shopping, etc. according to people's individual preference and length of stay. Rosina and I both enjoy cooking and are usually present for both setup and teardown. I also like washing dishes.



Quintavian Events

Shire Business Meeting

Sunday, April 12, 10am-12pm

Camelot Cohousing Common House

69 Village Court, Berlin, MA

Officers

Seneschal

Lord Aleksei Dmitriev
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Exchequer

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Milestone Pursuivant (Herald)

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Knight Marshal

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Marshal of Fence/Youth Combat Marshal

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