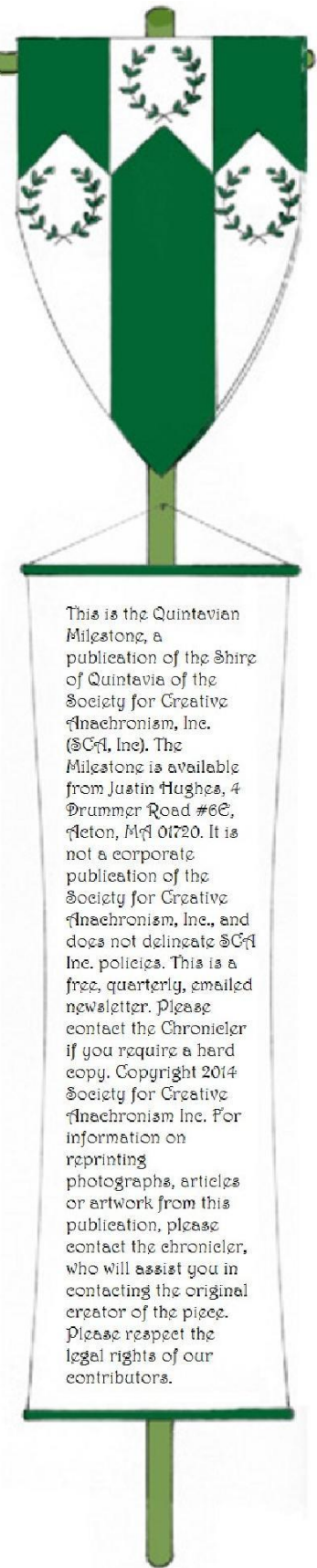


Quintavian Milestone

Winter 2014



King Edward and Queen Thyra at BBM/Bergental Yule. Photo by Lord Simon Gwyn.



Greetings from the Seneschal!

Greetings, Shirelings, and Happy Yule!

This fall, Quintavia was asked to assist Bergental in throwing a Coronation for Their Majesties Edward and Thyra. The event was wondrous, full of pageantry and fellowship. In November, Quintavia held the first Simply Allegorical Masque, featuring a day of feasting, dancing, and costumes. We are hoping this will become an annual event.

Our plans for polling on Baronial status are being pushed back a bit as everyone is so busy during the holidays. We'll be scheduling town hall meetings this winter to gauge the interest of the populace and plan the official polling, if that is the outcome, for late spring.

The schedule of events continues to be very full in the Shire. Stitchers including Athena's Thimble will enjoy an Embroidery Schola in February. And in March, dancers and drummers will bring the Middle East to our ever-popular annual Hafla. Stay tuned for more in the spring and summer in the works as well.

YIS,

Lord Aleksei Dmitriev



From the Chronicler's Quill

Thanks to our Webminister's hard work, the new Quintavia web site is up and running! I'll let her elaborate on the specifics in her column. I mention it here because the web site is now the official source of the *Milestone* and *Waypost*, rather than sending it to the Quintavia email list (which is also working again) and our group on the Book of Faces. I will post to them when a new issue is available, but will include a link back to the web site instead of attaching or uploading the file separately. You are, of course, welcome to download and distribute these newsletters freely.

Additionally, there is now a [Publications Archive](#) available on the web site. Here I have compiled all of the back issues of the *Milestone* I have been able to find. If you have copies of any issue that is not in this archive, please let me know – I would like to get a copy from you. If it is a printed newsletter, I can borrow it, scan it, and then return the original to you. My job as Chronicler is not only to provide this newsletter, but also to keep a chronicle of happenings in the Shire. We are a historical society, and our Shire's history is important as well. I would like to gather as many old newsletters as possible to preserve them, as well as make them available to the populace.

YIS,

Lord Murdoch MacRae



Want to see your photos on the web site?

We need permission!

Fill out these forms and email to the [webminister](#) if you would like to see your pictures on the web site! If you would like to make things easier, put "all" in what pictures we can use!

Photographers: [Here](#)

Models: [Here](#)



Simply Allegorical

A Masque in Venice

Story and photos by Lady Bianca Anguissola

What a wonderful, colorful pageant, brought together by many helping hands! Never have I seen so much amusement on others' faces for an entire event.



Dancing was taught and led by Lord Hermankyn and Her Majesty, Queen Thrya. I had walked up to the gallery surrounding the dance floor and just watched the dancers swirling around below me for a while.



The people were kept nourished by Lady Fionnghualla and her hardworking band of helpers. I've been dreaming of the leek and bacon pie since.



I was in awe over the subtlety made by Lady Toi Poisson de Mortagne. Her subtleties are always a sight to behold and this has topped the ones I've seen. It really looked like a plate of fish with lemon instead of marzipan. Best and sweetest "fish" I've ever eaten...



My favorite part of the event was the costume contest. There were 27 entrants and all of them were so creative! Winners of the costume contest were Lady Ella de Calais of Quintavia for the recreation of an illumination of Cleanliness, who won Judge's Choice; Astrid Elfvinsdottir of Carolingia, as the Phoenix who won Populace Choice; and the Galea family, portraying Venus, Vulcan, Cupid and Temptation, who won best group costume.

Seeing others' costumes has made me more confident to create something really outrageous. I, for one, cannot wait until the next masquerade!

Gate Logistics

By Lady Teresa Giani

During this past year, transitioning from being Seneschal to Exchequer, along with life changes with my physical abilities, I've been looking for new and different ways to be of service within the society. I can no longer assist as much physically working at events, but I can help plan, organize, and sit and run the Gate at events to allow others to do things I cannot. Since becoming Exchequer, I now realize just how much easier reporting is if the event gate is organized and the paperwork is streamlined.

Nobody likes to wait in line, so I made it my goal to have a gate for Coronation with little to no wait time. The first place that can bottleneck the line is the waivers for non-members and youth. Having fewer forms and more stations to fill out paperwork can help with this. Also, I had seen Bergental use the cashier system in the past for gate, but with receipt slips, I wanted to utilize the separate cashier, but not create more paperwork and potential bottlenecks of another piece of paper to fill out.

I utilize a streamlined gate sheet, with as few fields as possible. I ask for only SCA name, Mundane Name, and then have check boxes for the Adult Fee(s), Youth Fee(s) and Family if applicable. I have two gate sheets, one for members and one for non-members in order to have the applicable fee boxes. Everyone must be checked in on my gate sheets, including youth and babies, in order to have a correct count of the individuals who gated in. However, I do NOT have the member number on my gate sheets. It takes extra time at the gate, and it is NOT necessary for the event report or the Exchequer reports at all. Your member number is really only necessary to be able to manage your membership and for officer reporting.

My plan was to have two gates. One was specifically for the Royals and retainers, which ran like other smaller event gates. with all of the forms and its own cash box. The main gate, for everyone else, had five stations to allow the larger number of guests to gate in more

quickly. We had multiple clipboards at each station with gate sheets and forms so that multiple people can be filling in forms at the same time.

1. Youth Waiver Table – This was the first stop for family check-ins, even preregistered, to fill out the youth waivers to be taken to the next table that applied to the adults.
2. Pre-Registration Check-in – Those who pre-registered for the event could go here directly.
3. Member Check-in – Members only need to fill out a very simple gate sheet and show their Blue Card.
4. Non-Member Check-in – Non-members need to fill out both the waiver and the check.in sheet. This takes extra time, so by having a separate table it keeps all of the lines moving quickly.
5. Cashier – After filling out all applicable forms and waivers, go directly to pay. I had a separate area to the side with pens and the check writing information. People writing checks could fill them out to the side, while the cashier could still take those paying cash. This kept the cashier line down to less than two people at a time. Events in Quintavia are even simpler, as we have a stamp that check writers can use instead of writing out the entire “Pay to the Order.”

I've created a Gate cash-out sheet that allows me to tally up the gate sheets, waiver forms, and cash box, and fill in all the necessary information that will be necessary for the Exchequer to do the event report and the NMS fee reports.

Crawling the Web

Greetings from your local Webminister! If you have visited our website recently, you will have noticed a few changes. A few are minor, and some are pretty big news, so I've been asked to talk about them.

Let's start with the home page or front page. The first noticeable change is the layout and overall look. It was decided that while our header banner (the pretty Quintavia arms and name up top) is awesome, but the rest was hard to read and not very ADA compliant, so I have redesigned the overall look and feel of the site. This layout is also super friendly for all mobile devices. Try it, I dare you! I know I personally use my tablet and phone to look up things, so this seemed like something fairly important and easy to implement. If you look beneath our oh-so-nifty header, you will see what is called a "scroller," with some pictures and recent blog posts going by. Rather than just make a list of things that have been written or posted on the site that can easily be missed, this is an in your face, "Hey, look at what's going on!" This is a great place for photos from events and short write ups of what's going on so people can see them right away.

If you take a look at the boxes flanking the main page content and fancy scroller, you should see a search box, email list subscription box, a Facebook box with "Like" option, and a Newcomers' Resources menu. These are all tools to make life easier when using the site. As it is our goal to reach as many people as possible with our social media outlets, it only makes sense that they are all on the front page. As for the search box and Newcomers menu, those seemed like common sense choices to round out our homepage.

If you take the time to go through the menu bar, which has options like Calendar, Events & Practices, Shire Officers, etc. you will notice that not only have we kept what we had before, but I've taken the opportunity to expand on it. Officers of the Shire have their own pages and, while some are simply place holders for now, others are adding content and really making the site shine. I'm very excited about this. As it stands, Lord Murdoch MacRae, our Chronicler and my new Deputy

Webminister, has already uploaded the previous copies of the *Milestone* and the *Waypost* to the [Publications Archive](#) page. I've also taken the liberty to add the [Keeper Awards](#) under the Herald page.

There's something else important that I would like to point out, Under the [Events & Practices](#) tab you will notice that there are separate pages for our regular practices as well as directions. In addition to these there is a page for Events. Guess what? We can now make our own pages for our events and maintain them, separately from the East Kingdom site. I've made a Yule page and a Hafla page. Take a look at the Hafla page, because it's pretty neat. We have a separate menu that takes us to different pages listing performers and the menu. These are yearly events, so I can keep these up and simply fill in new information each year.

This is big, huge even. This not only will help people find these pages easily but I can make sure that we are following the policies and such which makes everyone above me happy. Not to mention that these individual event pages can be linked to directly from the East Kingdom calendar site, something that would not be allowed otherwise under the new policies.

So these are the things you *can* see. There's a lot that I've been working on behind the scenes. Our server was loaded with files that were no longer necessary since the installation of WordPress, so I'm in the process of wading through that and being rather merciless in the clean-out. I have found some interesting gems that I'm thinking of putting up as a Throwback Thursday post in our blog though, so keep an eye out for those!

What's in the future? Right now there are a lot of things I would like to see happen to the page. Pictures added, separate articles from the *Milestone* published as blog posts for easy archiving, all kind of things are possible! I also look forward to your input and questions. Feel free to speak with me at events and practices.

YIS,
Madame Perronnelle de Croy



Business Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2014

Attendees: Aleksei, Murdoch, Sarah, Teresa, Andreiko, Rosina, Fiona, Perronnelle, Fortune, Bianca

Officer reports

Exchequer: We have money.

Chronicler: Need Seneschal report for next *Milestone*. Will be out this week with a variety of articles and photos. *Waypost* is working out well.

MoAS: Did stuff at fighter practice last week. Will continue to show up and work on A&S stuff there. Will be at Yule.

Chatelain: Inviting new people to Yule is good. Invited WPI kids to Birka. Hosting potluck lunch to get to know them. Also helping with dance demo at Arisia the week before with Hermankyn.

MoL: Tourney looking for volunteers to help enter results. 10-3. Need computers – anyone willing to loan laptops? East and Middle Kingdoms have declared war on Aethelmarc.

Herald: Gave presentation for WPI, helped create coats of arms. Been tracking submissions. Will look into registering Keeper badges – only known conflict may be Golden Arrow. Make it red instead? Will have consulting table at Yule part of the time. Internet access would help – will borrow hotspots.

Youth Minister: At Bergantal Yule, four children completed Youth Initiative. About ten children bashed a pineapple piñata, then presented the carcass to the Queen. Building a games library, adding games to it. Want to buy bins to organize crafts, Make laminated instructions for each project. Fiona will make felt mice to play Plague. Make booklet with games that older kids can run for younger kids. Want paper grocery bags for calligraphy projects. Need new color markers.

Webminister: New web site! Backs up to Dropbox automatically each night. Admin logins created for Murdoch and Teresa. Can grant author logins for other officers to contribute material to site. Murdoch is new deputy. We love pictures, but we need release forms from contributors and subjects. Blanket permissions are possible. Bring forms to events! Murdoch to print them for Yule. Email aliases are still not working right. Everything is OK on our end, and we have submitted a support ticket. We have new email lists for populace and officers.

Seneschal: Has report due Jan 15. Joined a new Facebook group for local Seneschals to coordinate non-conflicting event dates. Seeking a new deputy, possibly to become Seneschal in the future. We hosted a regional fighter practice last week. Well attended, youth fighting too. Want to do it again, possibly once a month in Millbury.

Old business

Simply Allegorical: Went well. About 120 people attended. Site was thrilled with us. There is interest in running it again in the future. Many more rooms we could utilize. Perhaps add a murder mystery for non-dancers? Would be a good site for other events as well.

Yule: Next week. Pot luck – we will provide turkey and ham. Discretely damp. Passing along Keeper awards. Still need recommendations for heavy, archery, and youth. Viking swap, \$10 SCA related gift for adults, \$5 non-SCA gift for youth. Feel free to run other activities. Help with setup at 11:30 would be good.

Embroidery Schola: Feb 21 at Camelot. No site fee, take donations. Day board pot luck.

Hafla. Talk to Aleksei if you would like to help cook. Perronelle is coordinating performances. There's a web page – take a look. Recruiting performers, dancers, drummers. Donation only, pay for feast. Need help with setup.

St. John Baptiste. BBM running Solstice Shoot the same day. Need to check on tables. Will contact Brewer's Guild and Athena's Thimble to see if they want to run panels, brewing competition, etc. Bardic? Fire pit cooking. Pet friendly. Murdoch will provide valet parking for those who need it. Moon will be almost new so lighting would help.

New business

K&Q Equestrian. We are the most central location for them. Will contact champions and site, and if all are interested we will submit a bid. Perronelle and Rosina to co-autocrat.

Cooking Schola. Pondering date in April or May to run again, including Iron Chef competition.

New Shire member: Abigail Pettigrew.

Baronial question. Putting off polling, but want to generate interest and see what people think. Poster at Yule with relevant info.

Putting off Hrim Schola until fall. Still seeking a site, and we have plenty of spring events.

Still looking for deputy MoL.

Next meeting, January 11 at 11am

Nu Café

335 Chandler Street

Worcester



Dispatching the Evil Pineapple

By Lord Murdoch MacRae

In chatting with my fellow Queen's Guards, I learned that the largest pineapple any of us have ever seen was recently captured attempting to infiltrate our fair Kingdom, in direct defiance of Queen Thyra's Writ Against Pineapples. In her great wisdom, she wished to get the children involved in the defense of our fair Kingdom, which we then arranged.



With the assistance of our Youth Minister, Madame Perronelle de Croy, and Lord Harkin Mac Tighearnan of Bergental, we strung up this foul intruder to our lands at BBM/Bergental Yule, and invited the children to take their best shots at it with a rattan. This was a tough fruit to crack, requiring two hits from nearly all the children to finally break. Inside was not the juicy fruit that we are used to, but candy! We rewarded the children by encouraging them to plunder the non-fruits of their labors. Madame Perronelle presented the carcass of the dismembered fruit to Her Majesty in court, where she congratulated the children on protecting the Kingdom from this most foul menace.

Quintavian Events

Yule

Saturday, December 20
First Parish of Bolton
673 Main Street, Bolton

Embroidery Schola

Saturday, February 21
Camelot Cohousing
69 Village Court, Berlin

Hafla

Saturday, March 7
First Parish of Bolton
673 Main Street, Bolton

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Marshal of Fence/Youth Combat Marshal

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