

# THE SHADOW PRESS

Official Newsletter for the Incipient Barony of Shadowed Stars  
Constellation Region of the Middle Kingdom



Volume 1, Issue 1

Winter Edition, 2014-2015

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## FROM THE HISTORIAN

### A Call for Information!

### Shadowed Stars History

Anyone who has any information about the Shire and its goings-on in previous years please send me the information. Events, officers, meeting places, any classes that were held, Knights, Squires, peers or demos... anything you can think of. All information will be appreciated. You may email me at historian at shadowedstars dot org.

Please send any documentation you have for previous Shire of Shadowed Stars people and happenings.

Thank you for the help,  
Lady Zoe Dukiana

## FROM THE SENESCHAL

Greetings to the (incipient) Barony of Shadowed Stars  
from your seneschal, Maggie MacKeith!!

2014 was a year of exciting growth and changes for our little corner of the Midrealm! As you all now know, we have been approved to become a Barony! The Barony of Shadowed Stars will be the 20th Barony of the Midrealm. As it stands now, we expect the first Baronial Investiture to take place at This Land Is Our Land, which will be held May 29-31 at the Whitley County 4-H Fairgrounds. Polling was completed in October and we now await confirmation of Their Majesties' selection for our first Baron and Baroness.

We've been holding planning sessions over the past several months to discuss such things as Baronial awards, banners, coronets, and so on. If you have questions about where we are with this planning, review the Baronial Transition page at <http://www.shadowedstars.org>.

Please watch for opportunities to help us prepare for this momentous occasion, including banner making, Baronial seat making, etc. **It has also been discussed that, if you'd like to join in, it would be very visually impactful if Baronial members were dressed in the Baronial colors of blue and gold during the investiture.** We are excited to show the kingdom what a great group we have become and look forward to what the future holds for all of us!!

In Service to the Dream,  
THL Maggie MacKeith

## BARONIAL CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

### JANUARY 2015

- 1 - Happy New Year!!!
- 3 - 12th Night, Aboite Township Fire Station
- 5,12,19 - Dance Practice - 7pm, Main Library
- 6,13,20,27 - Rapier Training - 6pm, Edge of the World Fencing Salon
- 7,14 - Archery Practice - 6 pm, Hook & Arrow
- 18,25 - Fighter Practice & A&S Meeting, 2pm, IPFW Dolnick Center
- 26 - Business Meeting, Aboite Township Fire Station

### FEBRUARY 2015

(to be announced - see Baronial Calendar at <http://www.shadowedstars.org>)

### MARCH 2015

(to be announced - see Baronial Calendar at <http://www.shadowedstars.org>)

# SOLVEIG'S HEARTH

by Lady Solveig Sigulfsdottir

Greetings and well met. Welcome to Solveig's Hearth. Come, sit down, and have a warm drink.

Solveig's Hearth is an idea I came up with to encourage people to get more involved in the Arts and Sciences. My goal is to introduce gentles to various projects and to encourage them to try them, too. I am willing to learn almost anything, and then teach it to others. So, if I'm not working on something that you find interesting and want to try something else, drop me a note and we'll see what I can come up with. Of course, "real life" has to come first, so I will do my best to set reasonable goals and time frames to learn and then demonstrate the crafts that I am involved in. I plan on posting pictures of my projects and to keep you updated on their progress. It make seem a little slow going at times, but again there is that "real life" stuff I am also committed to.

For those of you who don't know me well, I have been dabbling in the Arts and Sciences for almost 30 years!

My first A&S project was a torq that I made out of one quarter inch metal stock. I didn't think I would ever do any blacksmithing, but not only did I make the torq but a couple of S hooks as well.

Throughout the years I have dabbled in areas such as Music, Calligraphy and Illumination, Cooking, Costuming, Leatherworking, Dying, Spinning, Nal-Binding, Knitting and Weaving.

You can contact me through the Shadowed Stars website or through FaceBook.



The first thing I would like to talk about is tablet weaving. Tablet weaving, or card weaving, is a craft that goes all the way back to Egyptian times. Woven bands have also been found in Sweden. I find it interesting that this craft was practiced by people in such diverse areas of the world. The Barony recently held a tablet weaving workshop which was very well attended. If you missed the first workshop, don't worry! We plan on having more weaving days in the near future. We have several gentles in the Barony who weave including Branaslaw, Prudence, Aife and Broinninn. Currently I am weaving a simple trim of brown and gold for Gian our armorer. I want to be able to weave the ram's horn pattern, but I am having trouble getting it set up. Hopefully with Branaslaw's help, I will be able to conquer this complex pattern soon.

I am almost always working on some type of garb. At the moment, I am working on a couple of tunics for Sean the Lost. Poor thing doesn't have any clothing! I wonder if he lost his clothes the last time he lost his way. Making garb is a great way to barter for services you might otherwise have to pay someone to perform. I am making him a blue Renaissance-style shirt, and a nice green T-tunic. Recently, I finished a new linen fighting tunic for my Lord, Alfairin. Sewing with and wearing linen is very pleasurable. The next garb project I want to tackle is a new dress for 12<sup>th</sup> Night. I have a nice piece of green fabric I got at Pennsic that would make a very nice dress. At the moment, I can't decide if I want to make a kirtle to go under a sideless surcoat, or an Italian Renn. I guess we'll see at 12<sup>th</sup> Night what I've decided.

It's time now for me to go bank the hearth, blow out the candles, and go to bed. If there is anything you would like to learn, drop me a note and we will see what we can do to help. Until then, let the fires of your own hearth shine bright upon your creative endeavors.

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## ARMORER'S CORNER

by Lord Giovanni Di Fauro

Welcome and Well met!

I am Lord Giovanni Di Fauro or Gian of Raven Company, or affectionately known mostly by 'Armor John'.

As a member of the Incipient Barony of Shadowed Stars I have been honored with a request to share Armouring, armoring tips, tricks, what knows, and what not's and possibly weapons as well.

But first, little about me (Ya knew it was coming!) I have been crafting various bits of armor for about 12 years now. It started with maille, then a great helm; when I found the SCA, well it has gone kind of crazy from there... My passions are learning and crafting, whether a helm, chest, legs arms hands; in steel, leather, linen or plastic pretty much let my interest and the curiosity lead me.

A second, just as important, passion is to teach. I usually have an Armouring session once a week and allow anyone interested in learning how to armor, access to tools, and the opportunity to pick my brain.

In future columns, I will hopefully endeavor share some ideas on how to create, modify, maintain and use various armors; weapon construction techniques, and (hopefully) Siege weapon construction!

Until the next meet,

Gian

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## DRACO INVICTUS!

by Captain Ulrich Halfdan Ulfsson

Haila and greetings unto the Populace of the Incipient Barony of Shadowed Stars! My name is Captain Ulrich Halfdan Ulfsson and I will be giving updates on the Dragon Army and fighting in general within the Barony and the Middle Kingdom.

I have been a member of the SCA and a heavy fighter for almost twenty years. I currently am serving the Dragon as the Constellation Regional Commander and will be serving as a Hersir (Viking equivalent of the Constellation Regional Champion) for His Highness Prince Ragnvaldr when he assumes the Dragon throne. I hope that I can inform you about the happenings within the army and the preparations being made to go forth and compete with our neighbors in the multitude of events, skirmishes, and wars that are waged every year.

This year has already had some very exciting news from Their Highnesses Ragnvaldr III and Arabella III of the Midrealm and Their Highnesses Omega and Ethel Dreda of the East Kingdom. Once again the Dragon and the Tiger will take the field together against Aethelmarc and any allies that rally to their cause. Once the lands are secure and divided between the two great kingdoms, we will once again be neighbors! Now Aethelmarc is not standing idly by whilst we pick out the best spots for our new holdfasts, they will certainly take the Field at Pennsic with stout hearts and mighty allies by their side. The contest will be fierce, but should also prove to be incredibly fun and one to remember.

I look forward to seeing the Shadowed Stars banner raised among the levies of the Great Midrealm Army.

Draco Invictus!

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## EDITORIAL: THE SERVICE OF TAKING CLASSES

by Warder Philipp Reimer von Wolfenbüttel

As a member of the SCA, you're probably be aware that this is a educational organization. But, in my experience, as a fighter perpetually daydreaming about my next time out on the list field, I find it easy to forget exactly what that means, despite the fact that I regularly teach in this organization. And so it is with more than a little shame that I admit I hadn't really planned on attending Fall RUM this year, at least not until my friend, Warder Adam Carmichael, suggested I help flesh out the martial track. How could I say no?

A few short weeks later, I was on the road to the Shire of Wurmwald (mundanely known as Urbana, IL) with a couple of traveling companions and my usual case of pre-class jitters. As usual, I was reviewing and revising my class right up to the moment we arrived on the UI campus, testing out ideas on my captive audience and coming up with new insights based on their perceptive questions and unexpected responses. That was the first time that day I was keenly aware of the service an attentive audience does a teacher.

After all, many teachers in the SCA, where subjects get about as niche as they come, fear, as much as anything, that no one will attend their class. That's exactly what ended up happening to me at RUM, which wasn't terribly surprising, as I was teaching a subject of limited interest to the fencing community at an event that primarily focuses on non-martial subjects. I lucked out when two of my fellow fencers ended up wandering in and we entered into a spirited discussion on another, mutually interesting topic, which more than took the sting out of the episode.

My real revelation came much later in the day, after I'd taken classes from a Laurel, a Knight, and an esteemed Companion of the Order of the Dragon's Heart, in which my friend Rashid and I were the only audience. If I hadn't come, and if I hadn't brought along companions, then these teachers would have had much the same experience I had. It's almost painful to think of the time and energy these good gentles put into their class going to waste. More importantly, I witnessed several instances when our instructors realized new insights as they tested out fresh material on an unfamiliar audience.

To me, and to many other teachers, those insights are what make teaching the ultimate learning experience. In fact, that's the reason why in many disciplines and paths of study, at a certain point, you have to teach in order to continue progressing. For most of us, it's easy to see how teaching is a service, and I hope it's our goal as members of the SCA to learn what we can and teach what we love. But it's equally important that we never forget that one of the most important services we have to offer is that of being an attentive audience to those who wish to further their studies by teaching. I doubt I'll willingly miss another RUM.

## SHADOW SNAPS

ALL SHADOWED STARS MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO  
SUBMIT THEIR IMAGES AND CAPTIONS FOR FUTURE ISSUES!



Students learning tablet weaving at the Barony A&S class on Sunday, December 14, 2014!

In the foreground is our own Chatelaine and Equestrian Marshal Lady Gwendolyn!

Photographer Credit: Bronislawa Krawcowa

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## SHADOW SNAPS

ALL SHADOWED STARS MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT THEIR IMAGES AND CAPTIONS FOR FUTURE ISSUES!

### Mounted War Games 2014

Our own Lady Arionna of Shadowed Stars and Lady Lady Elß Glück (first and second from left respectively) waiting their turn at the Thrown Weapons field!



Photographer Credit: Warder Philipp Reimer von Wolfenbüttel



Photographer Credit: Lady Broinninn ingen Magnusa

### This Land 2014

A wonderful feast presented by Lady Solveig Sigulfsdottir!  
Nom nom!

### Baron Wars 2012

Some of Raven Company marching to battle with the King!



Photographer Credit: Captain Ulrich Halfdan Ulfsson

## EVENT REPORT

by THL Maggie MacKeith

### Toys for Tots - 12/6/2014

On the early morning of December 6, quite a few Shadowed Stars natives set out for our neighbors to the north, the Barony of White Waters, to attend Toys for Tots. This is a long standing event held by this group each year and its cause is a most worthy one! The site fee for this event is a toy donation for the US Marine Corp Toys for Tot program.

At this event, Shadowed Stars had several accolades bestowed on its populace. Bishop authorized in two sword, Alfairin came in second in the archery tournament and received the Dragon's Barb in afternoon court and our own Ulrich was asked by his Highness, Ragnvaldr, to be his King's Champion from the Constellation region. Additionally, Raven Company hosted the lunch tavern and received many compliments from those who attended.

The event itself was a great one, including the Baronial investiture of Viktor and Elspeth. All present carefully observed this part of court, as it is a good indicator of what we can expect in the near future. Their new Excellencies' received the Baronial coronets and the lovely cloaks of White Waters. The investiture was quite moving and we celebrated both with the new Baron and Baroness and our longtime friend, Zafirah, who did such a wonderful job as the previous Baroness.

The event was capped off by a delicious feast. All attendees agreed that the music played throughout courts and feast really added to the atmosphere and it was suggested that we try to duplicate this for our Baronial investiture.

Everyone who attended remarked on what a beautiful event it was and what gracious hosts our friends were. For the Barony of White Waters: HOOBAH!

Representing Shadowed Stars this year: Ulrich, Broinninn, Inabe, Shimazu, Alfairin, Solveig, Bronislawa, Ruzhko, Arionna, Sean, Cassandra, Aoife, Faelen, Bishop and Maggie

## PERSONA BIO

by Lady Marcharit

Greetings one and all: Let me introduce myself. I am Lady Margurite Gisela Mont du Chat. (commonly called Marcharit). I currently reside in the Incipient Barony of Shadowed Stars. Before then I was in Vielburgen in the Principality of Drachenwald. I have chosen the mid-1300's to explore.

My mother died in childbirth. My father is German/French. My Device Blazon is: Argent, a natural panther Couchant Sable, on a Chief Gules, A Tulip Argent.

My father was killed in a crusade. My sister and I run the family business. I am on the road selling and bartering our wares for spices and such. Lord Garth the Lost is our Caravan Master and he makes sure that the security is great. While I am on the road my sister runs the Manor. When I get home she will go back out on the trading routes. Thus I will run the Manor.

Some of Lady Marguerite's interests are Cordial making, baking and cooking.

(Out of the SCA I am an avid reader, of Science Fiction, Fantasy, History, and Metaphysics. I also am a gamer. I hope you enjoyed this peak into my Persona. I hope to see yours here soon.)



# FICTION CHALLENGE

Idea sparked by Lady Cassandra of Wyndhaven

## The Shadow Press FICTION CHALLENGE

We are presenting a Fiction Challenge Contest  
to the Shadowed Stars populace!

All submitted stories will be published  
in a Shadow Press Special Edition on June 1, 2015.

There will be a vote open to Midrealm populace held  
between June 1 and July 1, 2015.

The winning Fiction Challenge story will be announced in the  
Fall edition of The Shadow Press published on October 1, 2015.

### WHAT :

We are challenging any and all Shadowed Stars writers of medieval-based fiction to submit a story for a Fiction Challenge Contest.

### STORY GUIDELINES:

Writers are tasked with submitting a story up to 3,000 words.

The story must have a title.

The story must be able to be read by all ages (no profanity, adult-only themes, etc.).

### STORY SUBMISSION DUE DATE:

Submission due date: May 15, 2015 (4 and a half months away!).

### HOW TO SUBMIT:

Send your story via email to [chronicler@shadowedstars.org](mailto:chronicler@shadowedstars.org).

### WHEN VOTING BEGINS:

Any member of the Midrealm (not just Shadowed Stars) populace can submit their vote for their favorite story between June 1 and July 1, 2015.

Prizes to be announced.

## BARONIAL OFFICERS

### **Seneschal**

*THL Maggie MacKeith*

### **Chatelaine**

*Lady Gwendolyn of Shadowed Stars*

### **Minister of**

#### **Arts & Sciences**

*Lady Gwerith verch Albrecht*

### **Herald**

*Lady Solveig Sigulfsdottir*

### **Exchequer**

*Lord Wultgar Munchen Stern*

### **Knights' Marshal**

*Lord Fergus MacPherson*

### **Rapier Marshal**

*Warder Philipp Reimer von Wolfenbüttel*

### **Archery Marshal**

*Lord Alfairin Fani*

### **Equestrian Marshal**

*Lady Gwendolyn of Shadowed Stars*

### **Webminister**

*Warder Philipp Reimer von Wolfenbüttel*

### **Chronicler**

*Lady Broinninn ingen Magnusa*

### **Dance Coordinator**

*Lady Gwerith verch Albrecht*

### **Historian**

*Lady Zoe Dukiana*

### **Chief Armorer**

*Lord Giovanni Di Fauro*

## FROM THE CHRONICLER

### THE BARONY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- ◆ We need everyone to submit: Editorials (on any SCA or medieval topic), Shadow Snaps, Event Reports, Persona Bios, stories for the Fiction Challenge Contest!



- ◆ If you would like to create a regular or semi-regular column or have ideas of things we can include in future issues, please contact me at [chronicler@shadowedstars.org](mailto:chronicler@shadowedstars.org)!

#### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- ◆ Submit by March 15, 2015, for inclusion in Spring edition (April 1 publication).

#### RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- ◆ Release Form types:
  - \* Creative - For all articles, poems, original artwork that is not a photograph, and the like // I bring this to you and I keep on file.
  - \* Photographer - For photographs // I bring this to you and I keep on file.
  - \* Model - For the recognizable person(s) in the photograph(s) // You get signed by people in your submitted photograph and keep on file.
- ◇ **Model Release forms do NOT need to be turned in with your photo submissions!**
- ◇ Model Release Forms are available for download from the Publications page at [shadowedstars.org/publications](http://shadowedstars.org/publications) or at [midrealm.org/chronicler](http://midrealm.org/chronicler).
- ◇ **Photographers - If you are unable to print a needed Model Release form, let me know and I will make sure you have a supply of printed ones to keep with you!**
- ◆ Shadow Snaps:
  - ◇ Submit as many photos as you can of our Barony activities as well as events and happenings of the groups around us! (You must have taken the photo yourself.)
  - ◇ Need with Submission: Name of Event, date, location, SCA titles and names of those in the photo
- ◆ Images from the internet:
  - ◇ If you include an image from the internet with your submission, please make sure to include the active link to it

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