

Tales from the Mist



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Table of Contents

Page 1 - Words from the Baron and Baroness

Page 2 - Words from our Seneschal and Webwright

Page 3 - "From the Mists of Time" and Words from our A&S Minister

Page 4 - The Heavy Metal Experience

Page 5 - Words from the Chatelaine

Page 6 - Calendar of Events

Page 7 - Regnum and Champions

Words from the Baron and Baroness

Greetings, Wintermist!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Wintermist Art Revival. It was wonderful to see so many talented artisans sharing their work and supporting one another. A special thank you goes to Elizabeth de Avenbury for serving as our Event Steward. Your hard work and dedication made the event a success, and we appreciate everything you did to bring it together.

Special thanks to the crew who helped set up and tear down and those who donated to the silent auction. Up next is our Fire and Ice weekend co-hosted with the Barony of Nordwache. We loved this archery focused event last year and we are looking forward to it again this year. We hope to see you all as we find out who our Archery, Crossbow, and Thrown Weapons Champions will be!

As we prepare for Great Western War, we look forward to seeing many of you there. If you have ideas or questions about camp, please reach out to our Camp Master, Wihtstan. Your input helps make camp a great experience for everyone. With the hot weather continuing, please remember to stay hydrated, take breaks in the shade, and look out for one another. We hope you all have safe travels, and we'll see you at war!



***Baron Alphonsus Balthasar Von Hamer
& Baroness Sherlin Goldhammer***

Words From Our Seneschal:

Greetings! Wintermist Art Revival was such an amazing event. It was such a joy to see the skill and creativity that the populace of this barony had on display. I appreciated those who came from out of barony to join us. I enjoyed taking Kale's paint blending class. I wasn't the best at it, but the atmosphere was so welcoming, it didn't matter to me anyway. I hope to put my newfound skill to use soon. The bardic circle was a particular highlight. It was fun to improvise a tune with other musicians and communicate with them through the music. Thank you to our event steward, and to all those who volunteered to help set up and tear down. Your service did not go unnoticed. I look forward to the next Wintermist Art Revival!

Lucas Francisco Espinosa de Covarrubias



Webwright for a pre-Seventeenth Century Group? Lord have Mercia on me.

So, what is the thought process that goes into designing our Web Site?
Working with a plan in mind is better than just building something cool and hoping it works. So what are the Things I have considered in my plan for the web site so far?

First Level Goals:

- Everything on the site should be correct.
- Everything should be readable
- Everything should be easy to maintain.

Second level goals:

- It should clearly communicate all our activities in a manner that someone would understand even if it is the first time they have heard of Wintermist, Caid or the S.C.A.
- It should be the best source of what is happening in the Barony. Up to date calendars, event links, announcements, Current Officer and Champions lists, and anything else pertinent to participating in the life of the Barony.
- In addition to being accurate and readable, we want the look to have a cool factor and a vibe appropriate to our group.

Third Level:

- It should be designed so the next Webwright needs much less understanding of web design. I should be able to take someone and train them to maintain it in about one hour and show them the resources to re-design it in about two hours.

So I am through the First level, still clearing up the second, and ready to start on the third.

Next month I will discuss something just as important. What the web site should NOT be.

In Service,
Lord Wihtstan æ Hamwic.

From the Mists of Time

Mostly true tales of times passed.

So dear reader, the following tale, like any story I tell, is exactly as I remember it. I try to be as truthful and accurate as I can be, but I do not feign myself to be an unbiased narrator. There should be many more tales to follow, but for this first one, as to not appear a narcissist, let me tell a humorous tale at my own expense....

I was newish to the SCA (late 80's early 90's) and had rarely gone to events outside of my local Shire. I was under 18 without family involved in the SCA, so travel was a bit difficult.

Our Shire was hosting Coronation, which at that time was an unusual occurrence as most of the population of the Kingdom lay south on the other side of a low mountain range. So, I knew few of the people who would be attending.

I had to work that day so I arrived to help as soon as I could. Upon arriving I was assigned to guard a door and instructed to only let Royalty in. (The quicker among you might see where this is going already)...

So, I stood proudly at my post and politely turned away several with the statement "I am sorry m'lord /m'lady, this door is for Royalty only."

A small group approached, and I said my now well-rehearsed line, to which I get the simple response "I know," as a gentleman walks right past my and through the forbidden door.

Right as this transpires, I hear raucous laughter behind me from the direction of my "friends".

The last one following the gentleman who passed, patted my shoulder and said as he went through the portal, "You now have one hell of a story my friend."

So that was my introduction to Ivan the Illustrated, who was being crowned that day.

Wihstan æ Hamwic

Words from our A&S Minister

Wintermist Arts Revival was a wonderful day. There were so many lovely displays, demonstrations and classes I can't possibly thank everyone enough. We are so blessed with a diverse and generous community. I saw smiles everywhere I looked. The artist displays showed such a diversity of talents. Bardic, painting, weaving, leatherwork, and forge welding were among the many skills displayed. I wanted to give a special thank you to Ovrinka Gaylis Zelekassche for her Block Cutting Class. I know we all appreciated the many hours traveling to Wintermist. Thank you to all the artists, officers and everyone that made this event run so smoothly. I have already had people ask if they can join in next year!

I am also working with our neighboring baronies on some joint meet ups and classes. Let me know what arts you would like to try so introductions and classes can be arranged.

If a response was requested contact the person at: Griffinsgateclothing@gmail.com

Elizabeth de Avonbury

The Heavy Metal Experience

by Alphonsus Balthasar Von Hamer

This was my first event doing harnischfechten outside of practice. I've been practicing weekly recently, so the restricted vision and extra weight are things I've mostly acclimated to, though the weight and heat are still physically demanding— I believe my kit is now in excess of 100 pounds. Measure, tempo, and footwork are all familiar, yet armor changes how they're applied. Constraint is similarly recognizable, but techniques feel different when pieces flex less and almost everything is stronger because it's being wielded or opposed with two hands.

Whereas in blossfechten, rapier, or cut and thrust you're trying to ward or completely displace attacks so they never contact your body, in harnischfechten, with most weapon forms, you only need to displace attacks away from the areas not covered by plate. In some ways this is easier because the vulnerable targets are much smaller, but it also demands constant awareness of exactly where those openings are. At the same time, you're trying to exploit the less protected areas of your opponent's harness. The variety in armor styles and periods makes this especially interesting. Whether you're looking at the evolution of armor across Europe, national differences in design, or simply the tactical considerations of fighting in and against different harnesses, there's always something new to study.

The day was fought as a sort of pas d'armes, with combatants divided into two teams of roughly equal skill. I quickly learned I needed to remember the blazon of my arms, since it is announced before entering the field, and I've already committed it to memory for next time. I had a lot of help from Tiberius, who volunteered to help arm me for the day, but everyone in the harnisch community was quick to lend a hand whenever I needed an adjustment, a strap rebuckled, or simply my visor opened so I could catch some air.

The fighting itself was a tremendous amount of fun, and it was incredibly satisfying to feel my longsword practice paying dividends in harness. I also had the opportunity to pick up a spear again, something I haven't done in quite a while. I finished the day without any bruises, just a small armor bite from a vambrace that's still slightly too long even after trimming it down. More importantly, I came away with several ideas for improving parts of my kit that are still a little restrictive.

I also had a great discussion with Sir Phillip about armor minimums. While I enjoy the look and feel of a complete knightly harness, simply grabbing a saber and breastplate is an absolute blast and represents one of history's most enduring combinations of armor and weapon. The minimum entry-level kit is probably far less than most people imagine and is very accessible to rapier, cut-and-thrust, and armored fighters interested in giving harnisch a try.

After the fighting concluded, everyone gathered together and, in an open discussion, shared observations about fighters, techniques, and moments they found particularly inspiring, impressive, or simply fun to watch. That spirit of learning and encouragement was one of my favorite parts of the day.

More than anything, the event reinforced just how much there is to learn. Harnischfechten is physically demanding, technically deep, and incredibly rewarding. Every bout provided new insights into historical fencing and left me eager to continue training, refining my kit, and exploring the art further. It was an outstanding experience and has only increased my enthusiasm for incorporating armor into the many forms of steel combat I enjoy—and for helping others discover just how approachable and rewarding harnischfechten can be. If you're interested in trying it at any level, don't hesitate to reach out.



Words From the Chatelaine

Greetings! As Chatelaine of Wintermist my primary duty is to welcome new members to the SCA, the Kingdom of Caid and our fair Barony of Wintermist. Recently we have had seven new members attend events. Theodora, Evie, Becky (Marina), Nana, Brandon, Beth and Ross.

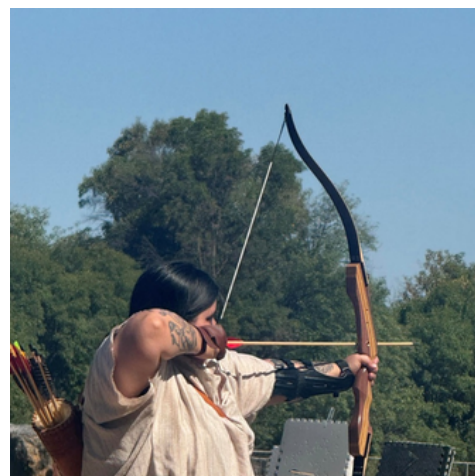
It can be a bit overwhelming when you are new to the SCA and so a few weeks ago I prepared and ran a "Creating your Persona" class. We discussed the SCA generally and specifically how to create a persona and how the choices we make affect almost everything we do in the SCA. From the clothes and jewelry we wear, to the feast ware and drinking vessels we use, to (perhaps later on in our SCA journey) the tent and cooking equipment we utilize and even the armor / fighting gear we wear.

For anyone who missed the "Creating your Persona" class, I will be running more in the future. So, if you're interested feel free to contact me. Here are some other activities I am currently running that are aimed at newcomers: introduction to leatherworking workshops and brewing & fermenting workshops. These classes / workshops are of course open to anyone. If you are interested, feel free to contact me.

Recently, one of our newcomers, Marina attended the Consorts Champion ranged event. She performed incredibly well and made it into the knockout stages which was three arrows, closest to bullseye progresses. Her opponent is an excellent archer and hit the bullseye. Marina, not expecting to be in the finals, had put her bow away. When we heard her name announced as a finalist, we rushed back and hurriedly reassembled her bow and she ran to the line. Her first two arrows were high and then wide of the mark. Niko, who was martialing, calmly stepped forward and in a low voice said, "take your time... breath" She did. Her third arrow flew true and hit the bullseye. A roar went up from the crowd! It was an awesome moment. When the archers inspected their arrows, her opponents arrow had beaten hers by just 1mm! Although she lost, Marina had shot magnificently and hopefully now has a memory to treasure forever. I certainly won't forget it. It was her fourth time ever doing archery!



Finally, I would like to mention the Gold Key wardrobe. This is a collection of clothing for newcomers to wear at events. Please consider donating old, unused clothing and accessories such as belts and pouches. A number of items have been lent out recently, and we could really do with restocking our selection. Thanks!



Yours in service,
Ivarr Mjoksiglandi, Chatelaine



Wintermist Calendar of Activities

Aug-26

16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Bardic Run by Skallagrim	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		Academia - Nordwache also Perfectly Period Feast
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			A&S Gathering at the Archery House	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		Muses Mask
30	31					

Sep-26

		1	2	3	4	5
			Bardic Run by Skallagrim	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris	Highland War - Al Sahid	Highland War - Al Sahid
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Highland War - Al Sahid			BCM Rusty's Pizza 7pm	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Archery Practice 9am			Bardic Run by Skallagrim	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			A&S Gathering at the Archery House	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		Caid Rapier Open - Lyondemere
27	28	29	30			
			Bardic Run by Skallagrim			

Oct-26

				1	2	3
				Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		Crown Tourney - Darach
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Bardic Run by Skallagrim	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Archery Practice 9am			BCM Rusty's Pizza 7pm	Fighter Practice at Fruitvale Norris		



Wintermist Regnum



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Wintermist Champions

Gideon the Genuine - Archery Champion
Sven Örfhendur - Armored Combat Champion
Æsa í lerken - Arts and Sciences Champion
Giovanna Leonetta della Quercia - Bardic Champion
Rónán de Bhál - Crossbow Champion
Diago de las Casas - Rapier Champion
Ceallach mac Uilliam - Rubber Band Gun Champion
Paganus Grimlove - Thrown Weapons Champion