

Issue #7 – May 2014

The Hartbeat



Art Work done by Anne Dame

Executive Council

Seneschal: Lady Symonne du Bois seneschal@hartwood.tirrigh.org 250-731-5909

Exchequer: Lady Cunegonda dbevan@topfloor.ca or exchequer@hartwood.tirrigh.org

Deputy: HL Halima al-Rakkasa 250-703-0494

Chamberlain: HL Kjartan j_amazon@telus.net

Arts and Sciences: Sayyida (Lady) Hawa al-'Aliyya al-Shirazieh artsci@hartwood.tirrigh.org or aline_debruges@hotmail.com 250-323-7193

Master of Stables: Azemar D'Toulouse mos@hartwood.tirrigh.org or azemar117@gmail.com 778-866-5784

Chief Archer: Master John Macandrew archery@hartwood.tirrigh.org 778-438-0416

Herald: Archos Aline de Seez herald@hartwood.tirrigh.org or archerychik@gmail.com 778-428-0416

Chatelaine: Lady Prudence O'Brennon chatelaine@hartwood.tirrigh.org or awayhome123@gmail.com 250-951-9065

Chronicler: Lady Fjorlief Fjallsdottir chronicler@hartwood.tirrigh.org 250-720-6362

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ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

Archery Practice:

Thursdays at 5pm, 1765 Fern Rd, Courtenay
Sundays , 1996 Maple Dr, Black Creek

Please contact:

John and Allison Mail: [778-428-0416](tel:778-428-0416)

Arts and Sciences:

Please contact:

Sayyida (Lady) Hawa al-'Aliyya al-Shirazieh aline_debruges@hotmail.com 250-323-7193

Fighter Practice:

Please contact Azemar D'Toulouse

The Hartwood Website: <http://hartwood.tirrigh.org>

From the Editor

Greetings Everyone:

It has been sometime since we have had a new edition of the Hartbeat. It has been difficult getting submissions to make publishing one worthwhile.... but with a little extra begging we have had some wonderful articles and poems.

Now on to the newsletter... HL Halima stepped forward with an article on Spinning Long Draw on the Handspindle. She is a repeat submitter and I really appreciate her contributions... Master John MacAndrew is another repeat contributor and has contributed a poem entitled "Archers: Past and Present".

If you wish to contribute something to the newsletter it will be most welcome. It can be an article or pictures of a project you are working on, or a topic you have researched, or even your review on a book or descriptions of an event you have been to. Pictures and photos are always welcome as well. You don't need to be professional; you just need to have a willingness to share.

I hope you enjoy and please consider submitting an article or poem or piece of artwork.

YIS,

Symonne du Bois



The Insula Magna Olympic Committee is Looking for Representatives!

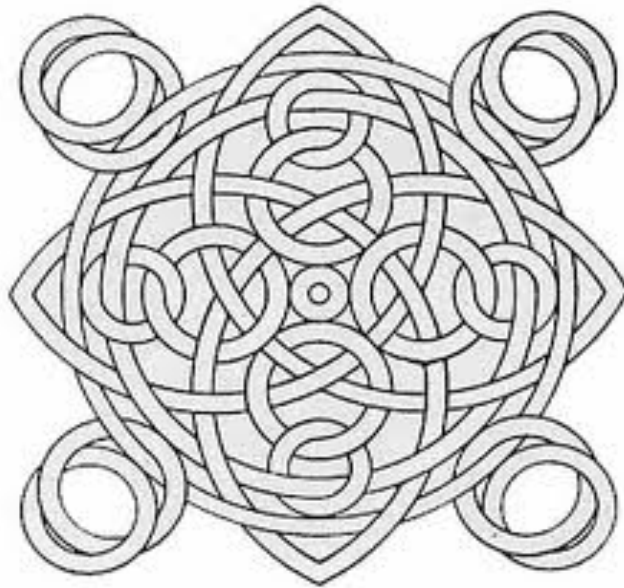
Plans are afoot, and we'd like you to be a part of them! The IMOC is proposing, every two years, the people of Insula Magna come forth and undertake friendly and honourable competition. Not everyone can compete in armoured or rapier combat, however, and the goal of the IMOC is to engage as much of the populace as possible. While target archery, armoured and rapier tourneys will play a role in the Insula Magna Olympics, so too will sports such as bocce, hunker-down, shinty, quoits, and shuttlecock.

In order to develop a profile of desired sports and an outline for the event itself, including ceremonials and awards, I propose a committee should be struck consisting of members from all communities within Insula Magna. Meetings will be held online, so internet access is a necessity.

If you aren't interested in joining the committee, but have a particularly obscure medieval sport you would like to see represented somehow, one might contact their local committee member to propose it for the Olympics.

Please send me a message of interest by June 30th, 2014.

Cunegonda van de Bossche
dbevan@topfloor.ca



Archers: Past and Present

by John Macandrew

The archers stood their ground, deeply aware
Their heads bowed, to breathe and prepare.
Then up came the bows, arrows nocked and ready
Eyes fixed on the target, heads and hearts steady.

From afar it would seem no strain at all
The archers standing, ready, at call.
The bows bent, the archers power stored
The strings loosed and arrows soared.

Far below on the valley floor
An ancient enemy at the south door.
The arrows arced and soon would find
Shield, horse, and soldier all in kind.

The arrows began their long decent
Where archers with skill had loosed and sent.
Whistling defeat, fear gripping all
The defenders stood proud, ready to fall.

Red or gold the goal this round
The arrow landing, the line between it found
No ancient enemy this day to defeat
But inner goals, self set, to meet.

A long proud history of love and lore
Of many dead on the valley's green floor.
Archers standing proud and tall
On any day welcoming the King's call.

Coming Events

June Coronet

Greetings Good Gentles of Tir Righ, We would like to invite you to experience the wonders of False Isle this June 13th to 15th at June Coronet. This event will include the tournament to determine the heirs to the Thrones of Tir Righ.

The coronet tourney will be fought in a traditional format starting with a challenge round. It will be a double elimination tournament. Pairings will be randomly done with considerations for Knights Advantage and Regional Advantage. Ties will be refought immediately.

Weapon requirements - one weapon may be used. Each fighter may only use one weapon however an additional weapon may be used in such cases as being armed.

Standard shield size conventions will apply.

Banners are welcome but not required.

We look forward to seeing all those fierce combatants and their charming inspirations on and around the tourney field. Tir Righ let's support our fighters by attending the tourney and cheering them on.

Dalla, Princess Tir Righ
Savaric, Prince Tir Righ

SITE FEES:

Adults \$20 (plus NMS)

Youth (13-18) \$10

Children 12 and under - Free

Family Cap \$50

Make checks payable to "The Shire of False Isle".

The \$5.00 NMS surcharge is applicable.

SITE INFO:

Craig Park, 8515 Craig Road, Powell River, BC V8A 4Z3

Site opens 12:00 Noon on Friday and closes at 2:00 PM. on Sunday.

Please note that **all fires must be above ground** & smoking is only in designated areas.

NOTE: Fire rules may change depending on fire hazard rating.

Merchants are welcome and will only be charged their site fee, but must contact the autocrat to reserve a space.

Pets are welcome, but **MUST** be leashed at all times and you are expected to clean up after them.

Event steward:

Stephen of Hunmanby (Stephen Fryer)

(604) 483-4642 **No phone calls after 10:00 pm.**

sjfryer@telus.net

NORDIC WINDS TUTR

June 27 – 29, 2014

Event Steward: [Letitia Talbott](#)

The North Wind blows across the stormy waters and vast expanse of An Tir, bringing with it a feeling of excitement and expectation. Something soon will happen. The need for preparation is at hand! The Vikings are coming!

Come all from far and wide to the Nordic Winds TUTR! In preparation for the Vikings are Coming exposition at the Royal British Columbia Museum, the Barony of Seagirt is holding a TUTR weekend with an array of classes to prepare those who want to participate in the Vikings Are Coming demo.

We are planning a TUTR camping event with 3 tracks of classes. There will be a Nordic set of classes, an archery set of classes, and an introductory set of classes for those who are new to the SCA.

Site opens at 5pm Friday.
Site closes at 4pm Sunday.

Classes are TBA at a later date.

Site fee will be \$20.00 for adults and youth, and children 12 and under are free.

Some classes may have additional registration fees.

Come join us for a weekend of camping and learning under the constellations that lead the Norseman to these verdant shores.

Site Info:

Name: Cobble hill Hall
3550 Watson Rd
Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L1

Directions to Site:

The site is located in Cobble Hill at the Fairground. Directions to the site:

From Duncan (driving South on the TransCanada Highway): Turn right at the Cobble Hill Road traffic light (opposite Valleyview Shopping Centre and Cowichan Bay Road). Follow Cobble Hill Road to Cobble Hill village--- then follow the signs. 3550 Watson Road Cobble Hill

From Victoria (driving North on the TransCanada Highway): Turn left at Hutchinson Road (3rd traffic light after Mill Bay Centre)--- then follow the signs.

There is water on site as well as flush toilets (yay!) Above ground fires are allowed.

Stranded Mermaid

Shire of False Isle - July 11-13, 2014; please see website for details.

Royal BC Museum Demo

Barony of Seagirt - August 9 & 10, 2014; participants are vetted; please come cheer us on!

Tir Righ Investiture

August 22nd - 24th, 2014

280 Lions Way, Qualicum Bay, BC

Event Steward: Lady Cunegonda van de Bossche (formerly 'Of Hartwood')

Co-Steward: Archos Aline de Seez

I thought I would give the populace a peek at how things are going in the planning for the event. So far, my volunteers are:

Royal Liason: Mistress Lenora di Calizzan

Head of Gate: Mistress Halima al-Rakkasa

Merchant Organizer: Archos Aline de Seez

Head Archer: Master John MacAndrew

TUTR Dean: Lady Doireann Dechti

Equestrian Organizer: Lady Symonne du Bois

Newcomer's Point (needs a better name!): Lady Yasmina Laveroc

Dayfood: Lady Elizabeth Chatfeld

Though I have had some offers of interest, I'm still looking for commitment for MiC, Family Activities, Town Crying, Scribal, Bar, Waterbearing/Constabulary, and the Pig Roast.

Aline stepping in as the organizer for Merchants is important to me, because I would really like to encourage some shopping. I hear about Kingdom events and their amazing merchant rows -- it's time we began having some of that ourselves. We'll look in, and outside of the SCA for potential vendors, and though we're debating charging a token sum for a table (some professional vendors request it), what we would like to see is some kind of online portfolio, a price range of goods, and what kind of goods they sell offered in advance, so we might promote them on the event website. If you are, or know, a vendor of crafted goods who would like a table, please contact Archos Aline de Seez forthwith!

Unfortunately my plans for the bar fell through, as the Duck and Drake cannot make it. This was something of a selling point, so if anyone in the Shire has skills (serve it right, and knowledge of how to run a bar), and is willing to do so this weekend, please contact me immediately.

Lord Tristan of Seagirt suggested back in February that, instead of having a casual meet and greet on the list field Saturday night, we have a pig roast instead. I admit I haven't followed this up (I was going to chase down some Sigis folks, who are famous for it), but I like the idea in principal. It will undoubtedly depend on the status of a fire ban, however, and need babysitting...

The Newcomer's Point isn't actually just for newcomers -- it's for anyone who wants to stop by and get to know people and make new connections. Newcomers will be urged to wander there, though, so it will be staffed by helpful, friendly individuals who are happy to answer questions and listen to the newcomer's interests before going, "I know just who to introduce you to." Some beginner's classes may take place there too. We may run a class on how to work with newcomers in advance.

I proposed to the Principality Scribe that we have a charter painting table, and she offered to supply us with practice charters -- but we still need someone local who's willing to swing by now and then and try to get something started. Perhaps we can even teach an introductory painting class? Or an introductory calligraphy class? If anyone feels they could offer this kind of instruction, please contact Doireann Dechti, or if you'd like to take charge of that table, contact me.

A long time ago, the society proposed a scouts-like badge system for children, and it's been in development for a while. I've begun pestering our Principality Family Services Coordinator for information on this, as I would -love- to debut it at our Investiture. But to have any kind of Family Services, we need two unrelated volunteers willing to wrangle them. I'd love to see many people donate an hour of their time.

These are some of the pet projects we have in the works, all of which requires volunteers. Even if you cannot devote the time to organizing something, please consider offering to help those who are -- wash dishes for dayfood, or staff the Town Crying station for an hour. Every little bit helps!

Canine War

September 12 -14, 2014

The winds of war are once again blowing toward our beautiful Shire of Hartwood. Word of our regal hunting dogs has spread across the land and many have expressed desire to have them as their own. We are calling to our allies to help defend our land against those who would try to take what is ours. Fighters come show us your strength, Archers come show us your skills. Artisans come show us your creativity and help us honor and decorate our dogs, Cooks come and help us feed the masses.

Contests to be held:

Heavy Fighting

Archery

Dog themed in any medium

Best Dog Barding: Dress up your dog (Stuff variety will also be acceptable)

Iron Cauldron: Cooks show us your skill. Mystery items will be provided and it will be up to you to use those items in your dishes. More details will be provided closer to the event....

Bardic: Bring your best Dog themed poem, story or song to entertain us around the fire.

Potluck Feast Saturday evening.

Site: Ravenskey Castle site. 5222 Kingston Road, Port Alberni, BC

Gate opens Friday 3pm and closes Sunday at 3pm

Event Steward: Symonne du Bois can be contacted at symonne.dubois@gmail.com , call or text 250-731-5909

KEEP WATCHING FOR MORE DETAILS.....



Ynsula Magna Company of Archers

is a companionship of archers dedicated to high levels of chivalry, service, courtesy, courtly behavior, accomplishment and historical research in Archery. The Company is administered by the Captain General of Archery. Separate companies may be formed based geographically in varying SCA branches included on Insula Magna (Seagirt Company, Hartwood Company, False Isle Company) each commanded by a Company Captain. Members of the Company are expected to behave in a manner that reflects honourably upon the company. Members in violation of this ideal may be removed by a Conclave of the Masters' Council comprised of all current Masters of the Company.

Individually within the Ynsula Magna Company of Archers there are three ranks: Companion, Journeyman Archer and Master Archer.

Companion: To become a Companion, an archer must have participated in an IKAC Round or a Royal Round (or any combination thereof) at least three times and at different events/practice (only one per event/practice counts) within a time period of no more than 2 years.

Journeyman Archer & Master: To become journeyman archer or master:

Scores are counted toward rankings according to the following rules:

1. All scores achieved at official archery events or practices may be counted.
2. It is possible to combine results from both competition styles and/or all weapons disciplines providing they each have sufficient scores to qualify.
3. Only one score per discipline, per competition style, per event/practice may be counted toward a ranking.
4. An exception for specially designated events may be made that allows scores from each day to be counted.
5. The three scores to be counted must be shot within a time period of no more than 2 years.
6. Once you have achieved a rank within the Company of Archers, it is permanent. Subsequent rounds will not set you back in the rankings.
7. Membership in the Company must be renewed every two years. Lack of participation may cause one to be removed as a company member.
8. A Journeyman must be a warranted Junior Target Marshal.
9. A Master must be a Senior Target Marshal.

Royal Round	Journeyman Archer	Master
	<i>FITA 60cm/Period Scoring</i>	<i>FITA 60cm/Period Scoring</i>
Period Bow	50/60	80/90
Open Bow	55	85
Period Crossbow	90/100	135/145
Open Crossbow	95	140

IKAC	Journeyman Archer	Master
	<i>FITA 60cm/Period Scoring</i>	<i>FITA 60cm/Period Scoring</i>
Period Bow	90/100	140/150
Open Bow	95	145
Period Crossbow	190/200	240/250
Open Crossbow	195	245

The members of the Ynsula Magna Company of Archers are entitled to display the badge:
Argent, within a bordure wavy azure in pale between a mullet of eight points voided and a ship, an arrow azure.
The Journeyman badge is decorated with an additional border in red and the Master badge in gold, respectively.
Expectations of the group (individuals or team):

1. run the archery lines at events
2. be an ambassador for the Company when abroad
3. continue to promote archery and the study of archery in history

Spinning Long Draw on the Handspindle

by Halima al-Rakkasa (MKA Linda J. Doerksen)

If you are new to spinning on a handspindle, you may still be on the inchworm method. Here are some hints and tips for better spinning, beginning with the basics.

- Remember that twist = strength. If it's pulling apart, add more twist.
- Remember that you cannot draft if you are holding on to both ends of the same fibre. Keep your hands a minimum of a fibre's length away from each other.
- Your fibre hand should lightly hold and release the fibre. The spindle hand moves between spinning the spindle (I'm talking low-whorl here, but should be similar with a high-whorl spindle being spun on the thigh) and softly pulling the partially spun fibre away from your fibre hand (known as drafting), controlling the amount of twist that runs up the developing yarn).
- On a handspindle, you can stop ("park") the spindle at any time to allow yourself time to draft the fibre, and to ease excess twist in the spun yarn into fresh fibre. If you don't have enough twist in the yarn, give the spindle another spin without drafting any further fibre.
- Do your drafting somewhere between waist and eye-level; this should give your shoulders a rest when your forearms can move down to your waist at some sort of regular timing.
- Stay relaxed, and remember that your body tension will be reflected in the resulting yarn.
- Drafting should be similar to the wheel, but I coil my fibre around my wrist and forearm (others may use a small stick-type distaff in their fibre hand, or a larger one tucked into a belt or standing on the floor).
- Remember that a sample is useful. Spin a little bit as perfect as you want the final yarn, and remove it from the spindle; that is your sample. I let mine ply itself, and then as I spin, I occasionally let a bit ply itself and compare it to the sample.
- Some spinners use leaders that are permanently (more or less) attached to their spindles. I don't. I draft a short bit to the proper thickness, slip it into the notch and spin snugly, then slide that bit into the slot and continue to spin; when I wind on, I slide the loop from the notch down to the base (bottom-whorl spindle) and wind as usual. (Without a notch, secure the spun length with a half-hitch around the end of the spindle.)
- When you wind on, keep a gentle tension on the yarn so it doesn't coil. Keep the windings tidy, with a spiral winding between layers to keep the yarn from burying itself.
- The Long Draw, for me, was a technique that was simple only when it was demonstrated to me. As I draw my hands apart in drafting, I let a little of the twist leak past my right hand into the drafting triangle (when it then becomes less than a triangle), just enough so that the thin bits stop spreading and the thick bits keep sliding apart until they're thin, too. When it all looks about right, I give it a little more twist, as needed, and wind on. Much faster than inchworm (short draw) drafting.
- Rolags work best for long draw, for me. If you have drum-carded fibre or sliver, you can create rolags. Break off chunks a foot long, roll them (using a rod in the center makes it easier) so the fibres run cross-wise on the roll.
- For a fluffier yarn, avoid running your fingers along the fibre as it is being twisted. Conversely, a smoother yarn will result when you slide your fingertips along the twisting yarn, causing the ends to be caught in the twist.
- And for a fluffier yarn, go for a fibre angle of 30 to 45 degrees; 45 will give a rather firm-ish yarn and 30 will be looser. Any looser than 30 will be more willing to pull apart, but that depends on the fibre used, and on whether you are plying (which can also be done on the handspindle). Remember that not enough angle on the fibres will make them slide apart, and make the spindle fall, which is embarrassing if you have witnesses.

Happy spinning!