

The Dancing Moon  
January, 2017

January  
Miscellany



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Dusk landscape at Kyle of Lochalsh, United Kingdom

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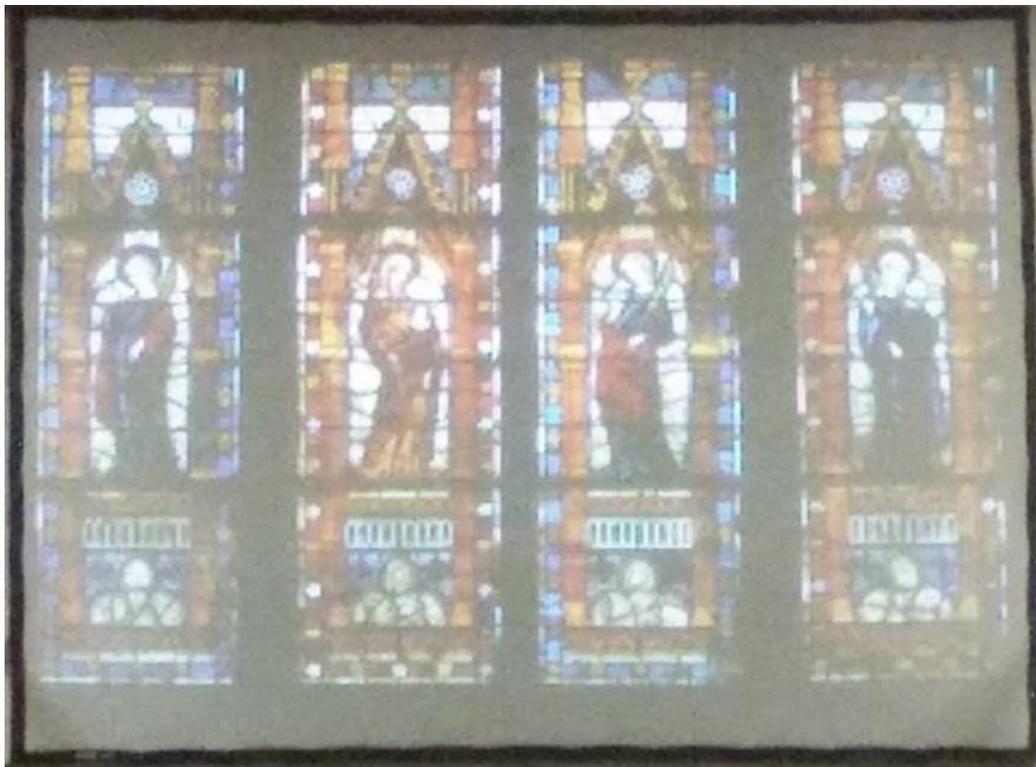


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## Stained Glass Windows

**ART, ARTICLE, AND PHOTO CREDITS**

Cover Page Image, *Dusk landscape at Kyle of Lochalsh, United Kingdom* Image ©2017 Stainless Images. Used with permission

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Page 3 Image, *Grumpy HL Paul at Coronation* Image ©2016 Lucy E. Zahnle. Used with permission.

Page 4 Image, *HL Paul Adler and Mistress Roselyn at Coronation* Image ©2016 Lucy E. Zahnle. Used with permission.

Pages 6-7 Article. *Shaping the SCA's Future: Children and Respect*, ©2014, 2017 Lucy E. Zahnle. Used with permission.

Pages 6 Image. *Holy Kinship*, Free Use Image courtesy of Europeana

([http://www.europeana.eu/portal/en/record/90402/SK\\_A\\_500.html?q=medieval](http://www.europeana.eu/portal/en/record/90402/SK_A_500.html?q=medieval) ). Used with permission.

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**Grumpy HL Paul at Coronation, July 2016**

## SHIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Dancing Moon is always published during the second week of each month (or as close to it as possible) rather than on the first of the month.

If you find an error that needs correcting in the shire newsletter or on the shire website, please inform your web minister or chronicler ASAP. It may make her grumpy, but she needs to know.

Please submit next month's announcements to the Chronicler by February 15.

Several of our officers are at or nearing the expiration of their warrants and are seeking deputies to train

Please contact the appropriate officers if you have any interest in learning the intricacies of and taking responsibility for any of the following positions:

**Seneschal Fighter Marshal Minister of Arts and Sciences Exchequer**

Officer contact information can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.



Photo by Lucy E. Zahnle (SKA Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien) ©2016 Used with permission.

**HL Paul Adler and Mistress Roselyn at Coronation, July 2016**

## Minutes of the December Meeting

### *Officer Reports*

**Arts and Sciences:** HL Paul will teach a to-be-determined class in January. Lady Margery will teach a to-be-determined class in February. In lieu of a class in March, the shire will hold a Gulf Wars review.

**Fighter Marshal:** No practice in January because of weather and lack of fighters

**Cut and Thrust:** Waiting for volunteers for a practice.

**Herald:** No Report.

**Archery:** Been no practices for awhile. Weather has been the major factor. See Newsletter for weather restrictions. January 8 meeting at Alan's was primarily focused on Arts and Sciences because of the weather. Next archery practice at Beaver Creek Conservation Area on January 29, weather permitting.

**Exchequer:** \$3,813.34 on hand.

Owe: tithe [to be determined].

Have paid: \$100 deposit to St Robert Community Center for Spring Spears [March 31- April 2]. Will need to pay remainder of \$450 total bill before the date. This is both new policy and a greater fee.

**Web Minister:** Dulcie is new webminister.

**Chronicler:** Dulcie is new Chronicler.

### *Old Business*

Reminder: **Chieftains** is in late February.

~ Tithe amount has usually been half of the Autumn Arrows Auction.

~ HL Paul has volunteered to provide a number of medallions for the tithe.

~ Please be thinking of what we can do as largess.

**Spring Spears date** [March 31- April 2] **has been confirmed** on the Kingdom Calendar. Site. St. Robert Community Center has been secured.

Room currently being used as our **meeting room has been confirmed** for the first half of 2017.

Alan will be attending a **B3R meeting in January** to take advantage of the Cut and Thrust Practice. Anyone wishing to ride-along is welcome.

### *New Business*

**Spring Spears:** Looking for event steward volunteer and helpers. If you have an idea for an event, speak up!

## SHAPING THE SCA'S FUTURE: CHILDREN AND RESPECT

By Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien

As the debate over our problem of aging membership rages throughout the kingdom; indeed, throughout all of the SCA, I thought I would talk a little about the potential future members we already have among us: our children. I would like to relate an learning experience I had with children that is worth bearing in mind – that treating our children well now will make them more likely to remain members in adulthood.

Standing in my merchant booth at an SCA event one Saturday afternoon, I watched a fellow vendor shoo a group of five little girls out of his space, his hands fluttering in irritation as he turned his back on them to attend an adult customer. He was the sixth vendor they'd visited that day and not a single one had had the patience to answer their questions.

The children, all around twelve years old, huddled together for a moment, talking and looking down merchant row at the prospects left to them. Finally, five pairs of bright eyes lit on my jewelry table, sparkling with rhinestones, silver, and gold.

They strolled over to my booth and began to shop, trying on overlong necklaces and holding massive earrings up to their pretty, little ears. While her friends debated the merits of bangle bracelets, gold or silver, narrow or wide, one little girl started to ask questions about both the inexpensive costume jewelry and the pricey hand-cast, very period pieces that are my husband's specialty.



'Holy Kinship'. Free Use Image Courtesy of <http://www.europeana.eu/>

I fielded her queries patiently, waiting on other customers between answers. From several different pieces, she eventually narrowed her interest down to one hand-cast piece, a sterling silver Celtic Spiral with amber stones that cost eighty dollars. Although I was certain she couldn't afford it, I told her all about the piece; how it was based on Norse archaeological finds; how the mold was hand-carved; how the piece was hand-cast and hand-finished. In short, I treated her as if she were an adult customer.

Finally, after a half an hour of questions, she fell silent, studying the swirls of silver and the amber's honeyed glow. Then she looked up and smiled. "I'll take it!" she said, opening her pouch. She whipped out two fifty dollar bills, confiding that this was birthday money and that she had just turned thirteen.

The other girls gathered around to examine her purchase and I grinned, masking my surprise as I counted out her change. Before she left, she smiled at me again and said, "Thanks for telling me all about your stuff. The other merchants wouldn't even talk to us!"

The children strolled away, chatting and giggling. I watched them go, realizing that I had made that sale because I had taken the time to wait on little customers who might not actually buy, choosing to treat them as persons of consequence instead of ignoring them.

Little customers and SCA members grow up to be adult customers and members and they remember who treated them well, who respected them and made them feel that they were important, and who didn't. They will reward adults who value them, whether as customers or SCA members, with mutual esteem. If they remember their childhood years in the SCA fondly, remember that they were viewed as people of value and insight rather than as pests, they will be more inclined to continue as members in their teen and adult years. Everyone, regardless of age, deserves respect and courtesy, two qualities that cost nothing to give, but return uncounted benefits.

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**C**oncerning the **M**edieval **M**eal

BY LADY DULCIBELLA DE CHATEAURIEN

One of the most persistent myths about food served in the Middle Ages is that most dishes were extremely rich, over-spiced, and swimming in heavy, exotic sauces. However, the truth is that much of the food prepared in medieval times was quite bland by modern standards.

Surviving household records of the period suggest, in fact, that because spices were expensive and hard to find, they were used very frugally. In medieval cookbooks, recipes occasionally call for “a great deal of” a given seasoning. Therefore, it is logical to assume that, unless the directions specified “a great deal,” the precious spices in question would have normally been doled out in pinches and smidges.

The other argument for constant, heavy spicing - that the seasonings were used to mask the taste of salted meat - is equally unlikely. Salted meat or fish was routinely soaked or parboiled to remove the salt. These practices are even specified in some period recipes.

Although some rich, highly seasoned and sauced dishes were prepared, usually for great feasts, most of the dishes served at such fetes were of a simpler variety. Roasts and parboiled meats or fish combined with “pot-tages” of vegetables ruled the banquet tables. Feasts were loosely organized as far as what foods were served when. On days when religious laws forbade eating meat, fish dishes were substituted.

Although not usually mentioned on the feasting bill of fare, perhaps because its presence was a given, bread was always on the table. After the dessert remove, English banquets always finished with fruits, nuts, and wafers although, again, this remove was rarely mentioned on the bill of fare, perhaps because it was so routine.

During both English and French feasts, the early removes consisted of plainer foods like roasts, boiled meats, meat pies, or pasties and as the meal progressed to subsequent removes, the fancier, more exotic dishes were presented.

Although the English always started their feasts with meat dishes, the French often relegated them to the second course, opting, instead, to serve a first remove of pastries and other light, elegant dishes, a sort of precursor to the modern appetizer.

Of course, not every day was a feast day. For normal English meals, the middle and upper classes served one or two removes. The food was usually simple fare simply prepared. The lower classes ate an extremely humble diet – coarse brown bread, cheese, eggs, fresh herbs and greens, and, very occasionally, some bacon or game meat – and they had much less food to eat than graced their betters' tables.

Whether one was a great lord, able to host lavish feasts or a humble peasant, barely able to put a loaf of bread on the table, most of the food served was seasonal, and plain with little or no spicing. Most spices were a precious luxury, available only to the wealthy, who indulged in their use sparingly.

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Open

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Group List: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/calanaisnuadh/>

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShireOfCalanaisNuadh>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShireCalanaisNuadh/>

**Shire Calendar – January, 2017**

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday   |
|---|--|---------|-----------|----------|--------|--|
| 15<br>No Archery Practice.  | 16<br>6:45 PM<br>Weekly Meeting<br>Project Night St. Robert<br>Municipal Center,<br>St. Robert, MO.                    | 17      | 18        | 19       | 20     | 21<br>Winter Coronation,<br>Kansas City,<br>Missouri |
| 22<br>No Archery Practice   | 23<br>6:45 PM<br>Weekly Meeting<br>Project Night<br>St. Robert<br>Municipal Center,<br>St. Robert, MO                  | 24      | 25        | 26       | 27     | 28   |
| 29<br>Archery Practice<br>2 PM<br>Beaver Creek<br>Conservation Area<br>Rolla, MO. | 30<br>6:45 PM<br>Weekly Meeting<br>A & S Class -<br>Button-Making<br>St. Robert<br>Municipal Center,<br>St. Robert, MO | 31      |           |          |        |  |

**Shire Calendar – February, 2017**

|   |  |    |    |    |    |  |
|---|--|----|----|----|----|--|
|   |  |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4<br>Clothier's<br>Seminar XXXII<br>Gardner,<br>Kansas |
| 5<br>No Archery Practice (This may change)  | 6<br>6:45 PM<br>Weekly Meeting<br>Project Night St. Robert<br>Municipal Center,<br>St. Robert, MO                | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11   |
| 12<br>No Archery Practice (This may change) | 13<br>6:45 PM<br>Weekly Meeting<br>Business Meeting/Potluck<br>St. Robert<br>Municipal Center,<br>St. Robert, MO | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18<br>Winter War<br>Maneuvers<br>Lincoln,<br>Nebraska  |

**LIST OF SHIRE EVENTS****January/February, 2017**

|    |     |          |   |
|----|-----|----------|---|
| 1  | Jan | 2:00 PM  | No Archery Practice   |
| 2  | Jan | 6:45 PM  | No Shire Meeting  |
| 8  | Jan | 2:00 PM  | No Archery Practice   |
| 9  | Jan | 6:45 PM  | Shire Meeting – Project Night, St. Robert, MO                               |
| 15 | Jan | 2:00 PM  | Archery Practice, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, Rolla, MO                 |
| 16 | Jan | 6: 45 PM | Shire Meeting –Business Meeting/Potluck, St. Robert, MO                     |
| 21 | Jan |          | Winter Coronation, Kansas City, MO  |
| 22 | Jan | 2:00 PM  | Archery Practice, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, Rolla, MO                 |
| 23 | Jan | 6:45 PM  | Shire Meeting – Project Night, St. Robert, MO                               |
| 29 | Jan | 2:00 PM  | Archery Practice, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, Rolla, MO                 |
| 30 | Jan | 6:45 PM  | Shire Meeting – A& S Class, St. Robert, MO                                  |
| 4  | Feb |          | Clothiers Seminar XXXII, Gardner, Kansas                                    |
| 5  | Feb | 2:00 PM  | Archery Practice, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, Rolla, MO<br>(May change) |
| 6  | Feb | 6:45     | Shire Meeting – Project Night, St. Robert, MO                               |
| 12 | Feb | 2:00 PM  | Archery Practice, Beaver Creek Conservation Area, Rolla, MO<br>(May change) |
| 13 | Feb | 6:45 PM  | Shire Meeting – Business Meeting/Potluck, St. Robert, MO                    |
| 18 | Feb |          | Winter War Maneuvers, Lincoln, NE   |

**Driving Directions:**

**Archery Practice - Beaver Creek Conservation Area:** No Crossbows. No Archery in freezing temperatures (32° F). From Rolla, take Highway 63 south for several miles. The range gate will be on your left, immediately across the highway from the VFW post. Drive through the gate to the top of the hill, park and take the line!

**Shire Meetings - St Robert Municipal Center: Driving directions:** If you are traveling south on Missouri Ave. after coming into St. Robert on Exit 161, turn left at the first stoplight onto Eastlawn Ave. (look for the Arby's). After passing Paul's Furniture and the Dollar Store, take the first right to turn into the parking lot of the municipal center.

**Room Directions:** Our meeting space is Room H of the St. Robert Municipal Center (aka City Hall). When you enter the building from the main doors, walk down the central atrium toward the police station. Take the first hallway on your right, immediately after the VA office, and follow it to the end. This is the same room that is used for driver license testing during the week.

**Fighter Practice:** Held in conjunction with archery practice unless otherwise announced via Facebook or shire Yahoo email list.

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