

# The Dancing Moon

July--August, 2018



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**Laḏy Godiva**

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

## Minutes of the June and July Meetings

**June** –No business meeting because of Lilies War.

### **July**

#### **Seneschal:**

Next Business Meeting – Monday, August 13, 2018. Meetings for last two weeks will be moved. July 23 meeting will be at Waynesville Park in Waynesville, MO. The July 30 meeting will be at Ber Juan Park in Rolla, MO. Shire Swap night will be on July 30.

Officer reports are due by August 15.

#### **Arts and Sciences Minister**

Lady Margery of Penrith is acting as an unofficial deputy A & S minister to HL Aesa. Although the ‘Sewing with Fur’ class was actually taught at the first meeting in July, it will count as June’s class. . HL Paul Adler will be teaching July’s class on July 23. Topic has yet to be determined. The class went well. Queen’s Prize will be the third weekend in September, so people should be working on their projects.

#### **Knights Marshall**

No Knights Marshall report. Knights Marshall is not in attendance.

#### **Archer Marshall**

Numerous practices were held last quarter. Attendance ranged between 2 and 5 people. Baron Jon Tristram and HL Thomas Fleischhacker attended the July 1 practice. The shire only had a small showing of archers at Lilies. Archery practice start time will be moved from 2 PM to 4 PM now that Lilies War is over. Lady Margery of Penrith’s Marshal-in-Training permit has lapsed. **Future practices:** July 15, 29, and August 5. No practice on July 22 and August 12. **Upcoming archery events** include Kings Companie of Archers, Barony of Forgotten Sea, on September 8, 2018, and Crucible at the Crossroads (not Gryphon’s Fest), Barony of Three Rivers, on September 21-23. 2018.

#### **Exchequer**

Checking account balance is \$3873.06, pending a \$100 deposit. Lady Catin and HL Thomas submitted receipts for Lilies expenditures totaling 94.67. Reimbursement was motioned and approved by attending shire members.

#### **Chronicler**

Next newsletter will be published in September. Send articles and images to the Chronicler for the newsletter.

#### **Webminster**

Cut & Thrust page created. Still need a picture of Eric’s device for the website. Still need a picture of Michael.

## Old Business:

The tent finials for the shade fly worked well. The shire needs a new regulator for the camp stove. The shire is rethinking use of the kitchen box, It needs to be either lightened or no longer used. If no longer used, it should go back to HL James.

Martin received his 100 Arrows belt favor that was awarded him at Lilies. Those who help with Mistress Anne's vigil were gifted with bags of bay leaves.

## New Business:

The shire needs to get Lilies camping stuff to the storage shed. Will probably do that at the 8 July archery practice.

Calon con will be held on July 21. Several shire officers are attending, including Lady Catin of Edington, HL Paul Adler, Baron Jon Tristram, and Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien. Mistress Roselyn of Aberdeen and possibly HL Catherine de Lorraine will also be attending.

Autumn Arrows – the Shriner's Club site has been reserved. The seneschal will put out bids for an event steward. Event flyer information must be submitted to the Mews by August 15.

The shire picnic will be held on Saturday, August 18, 2018, at 1:00 PM at Lady Margery of Penrith's house, 15640 Hargrove Rd, St. Robert, MO\*. A group picture will be taken.

\*Lady Margery has given permission for her address to be published in the newsletter for this event.



## Lady Godgifu Rides for the Sake of her People

By Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien

The legend of Lady Godiva has survived for nearly a thousand years. The good lady lives today as Godiva's chocolates, as Victorian art, and, occasionally, as some schoolboy's snicker. However, Godiva's story, if true, is one of a woman's courage and dedication to the well-being of her people.

Lady Godiva (her name was more likely Godgifu or Godgyfu, meaning "God's Gift") was an Anglo-Saxon noblewoman who lived in eleventh century England, dying around 1067. She was married to Leofric, Earl of Mercia, one of the three wealthiest and most politically powerful English earls of that time. Together, they founded and richly endowed a Benedictine monastery at Coventry in 1043.

Although the historical Godgifu is mentioned in contemporary chronicles of her times, there is no mention of a nude ride until more than a century after the event. The first documentation of the event comes some hundred years or so after Godgifu's death when the monk Roger of Wendover recounts a tale of her riding naked through Coventry in his Flores Historiarum (Flowers of History), the earliest surviving source for the Godiva legend. According to Roger, Godgifu begged Leofric endlessly to reduce the heavy taxes on the townspeople of Coventry. He refused because doing so would damage his own situation. He finally became so exasperated with her that he declared that he would only reduce the taxes if she rode naked through the streets of the town. In Flores Historiarum, Roger of Wendover quotes Leofric: "Mount your horse, and ride naked, before all the people, through the market of the town, from one end to the other, and on your return you shall have your request." She did so, with her hair covering all of her body except her legs. The account states that as she rode through the town, her modesty and honor remained in-text because she was unseen by any of the townspeople.

In his fourteenth century chronicle, the Polychronicon, Ranulf Higden claims that, amazed by her courage and the respect the townspeople had paid her, Leofric rewarded his wife for her bravery and loyalty to the people of Coventry by lifting all taxes except for those on horses. However, a check of records during the reign of Edward I reveals that, at that time, no tolls were paid on anything except horses in any case.

One possibility is that the heavy taxes discussed in the chronicles were taxes levied by the king to pay for his military, in which case, Leofric could not have lifted the taxes. However, he and Godgifu could have opted to pay the royal tax out of their own coffers, lifting the burden off the people.

A later version of the legend says that Lady Godiva asked that all men remain indoors and not look at her during her famous ride. During the seventeenth century, 'Peeping Tom', the man who couldn't resist a peek, entered the legend. In most accounts of the story, Tom was struck blind or dead for disrespect and betrayal.

Some modern historians are of the opinion that the incident did not happen at all. The story was not told until a century after it was supposed to have happened. Even in the original manuscript tale, there are holes and inconsistencies in the story. For example, it seems unlikely that an earl would allow his lady to ride around the countryside nude for any reason and certainly would not challenge her to do so. One modern source suggests that the lady did complete the ride, but for religious reasons, a mixture of pagan ritual and Christian fervor, that culminated in the founding of the monastery at Coventry, but that, too, is just speculation. The centuries have added so many twists and layers to the tale that it is hard to determine what, if anything, really happened.

Thus questions remain about regarding Godgifu and the stories that have been passed down, written, rewritten, and amended through a thousand years of textual and oral history. Whether the tale of her ride is completely true, merely holds a grain of truth, or is a complete fairy tale, the heroine herself offers an example of persistent courage and dedication to helping others that demands admiration. She was willing to sacrifice herself, to face shame, ridicule, and infamy that, in her time, could have ruined her utterly for the sake of the people who looked to her for their well-being. Leaders of such caliber are rare in any age.

Sources:

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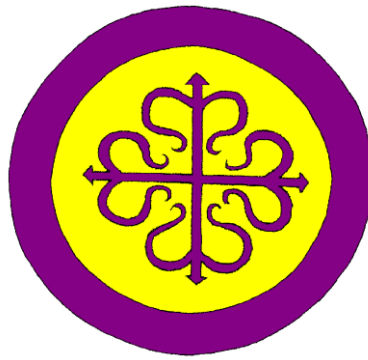
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## Shire Officers

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### CHATELAINE

Open

## SHIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS

New weekly venue for our shire meetings:

St Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church:

367 Old Highway 66, St. Robert, MO, 65584

Shire Picnic, 1 PM, August 18, 2018, at Alan and Margery's House

Please submit next issue's announcements to the Chronicler by August 25.

Officer contact information can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

The Dancing Moon is always published bimonthly (every other month) during the third week of each month (or as close to it as possible). Publication will be issued in January, March, May, July, September, and November. 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.

Visit us online at <https://www.facebook.com/ShireOfCalanaisNuadh/> or <http://www.shireofcalanaisnuadh.org/>

Send requests for membership in the closed shire Facebook Group or the Shire Yahoo List to  
[lezahnle@gmail.com](mailto:lezahnle@gmail.com)

## Shire Calendar -July, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO.	2 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Delayed June Class Night – Sewing with Fur St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	3	4	5	6	7 Battlemoor Kingdom of the Outlands Rye, CO
8 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO.	9 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Business meeting St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	10	11	12	13	14 Coronation Barony of Lonely Tower, Omaha, NE
15 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO.	16 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Project Night St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	17	18	19	20	21 CalonCon Barony of Forgotten Sea Belton, MO
22 No Archery Practice	23 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Class Night Waynesville Park, Waynesville, MO	24	25	26	27	28
29 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO.	30 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Swap Night Ber Juan Park, Rolla, MO	31				

**Shire Calendar - August, 2018**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Pennsic War, Slippery Rock, PA.
5 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO.	6 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Project Night St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	7	8	9	10	11 Pennsic War, Slippery Rock, PA.  Regional Fighter Practice, Shire of Crystal Mines, Joplin, MO
12 No Archery Practice -	13 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Business Meeting/Potluck St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	14	15	16	17	18 Annual Shire Picnic, 1 PM, HL Alan's and Lady Margery's House,
19 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO. (Tentative)	20 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting A & S Class - St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	21	22	23	24	25
26 Archery Practice 4 PM Beaver Creek Conservation Area Rolla, MO. (Tentative)	27 6:45 PM Weekly Meeting Project Night St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, St. Robert, MO	28	29	30	31	



**Driving Directions:**

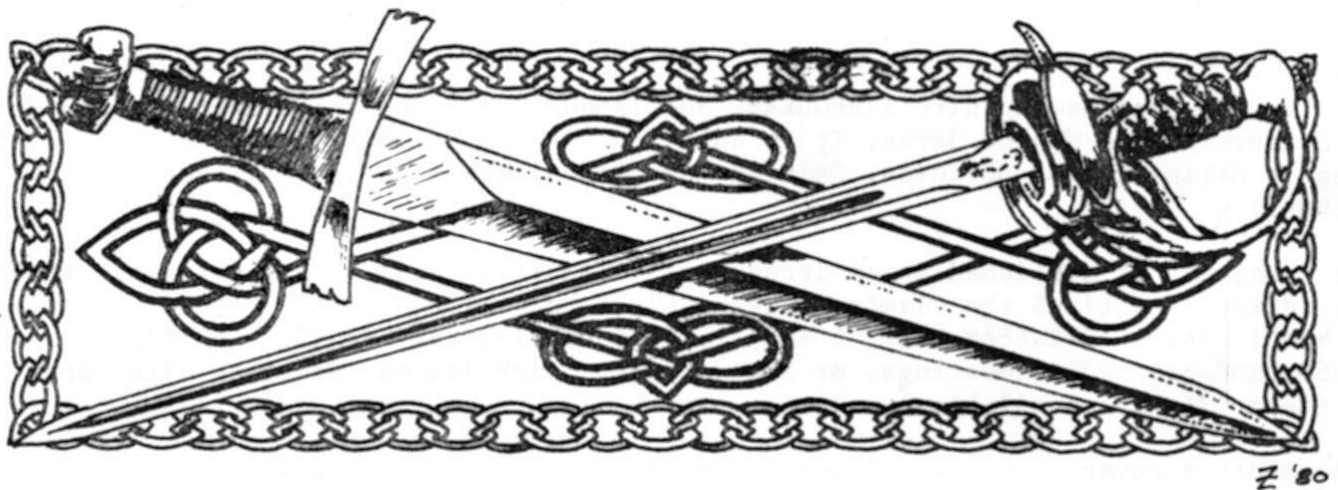
**Archery Practice - Beaver Creek Conservation Area:** No Crossbows. No Archery in freezing temperatures (32° F). From Rolla, take Highway 63 south. The range gate will be on your left, immediately across the highway from the VFW post. Drive through the gate to the top of the hill, park and take the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

**Shire Meetings - St Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church:**

367 Old Highway 66,  
St. Robert, MO, 65584

Please check calendar for changes or cancellations.

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



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