



The White Birch

The Newsletter of the Shire of Rokeclif

March xvi (2012)

Seneschal's Missive

Are we ready for more cowbell? Mistress Eithni (the provost) has toured the site, and is assigning rooms for various activities. Our job now is to encourage people to come to Bardic Madness, through Facebook, postings to bardic lists (Mistress Shava has begun that for us), word of mouth, and especially to the Northshield Great Hall.

If you're not a subscriber to the Great Hall, I recommend it as a place to find out what's going on and who's who. Go to www.northshield.org, then open the Newcomers tab. You'll find email lists for many interests, including special lists for the Orders, for Officers (these may not be public lists) and "General—The Great Hall of Northshield". Click on the link for instructions for subscribing.

THL² Kudrun

LEATHER UPDATE — The leather we stretched was brought to the meeting, but we didn't distribute it. Folks who helped stretch the deerhide can lay claim to a portion of the hide at the March populace meeting. If you can't be there, let Kudrun know how much leather you want for your project. ..

Next Meetings

- March 7 — Research Night — 6:30PM—Bronislava's — Poetic forms presented the funnest way possible.
- March 10 — **Booklet stitching** — 1 PM — Bronislava's
- March 14—A&S Night — Bardic Madness catch-up ? — Poetic practice possible!
- March 21 — Populace meeting — King Street Kitchen — 7th and King Streets, LaCrosse
- March 24 — Bardic Madness at Day's Hotel**
- April 4 — Research Night — Bronislava's
- April 11 — King Gambrinus' birthday and A&S Night
- April 18 — Populace Meeting — we'll see how King Street Kitchen works

This month's font is called "Manuscript". I used it because the **W** is exactly the same as the one in "A Handefull of pleasant delites," published in 1584. It's one of the early publications of the "new courtly sonet Greentleues".

Minutes of the Populace Meeting

February 15, 2012 — Stokke Towers and King Street Kitchen

Present: Anthony Æmma, Bronisláva, Cybele, Domaldi, Failend, Kudrun,

Kudrun read a letter from Pierre de Champagne, who encouraged the group to meet in Taylor. We can certainly consider using Taylor for the right kind of event (a very small one) but holding our populace meeting outside of shire boundaries seems unwise, especially considering the number of members who have no transportation.

Kudrun also explained the lawsuit that was brought against SCA, Inc. and the need for Northshield to call in its assets to pay its share. This amounts to 18% of each group's assets as of the 2010 Domesday. Bronislava moved and Failend seconded the motion to send \$500 to Northshield. Motion passed, and the check was signed and mailed.

The Chatelaine reported on a new paid member! Huzzah!

Bardic Madness plans are proceeding apace. Provost Eithni will be visiting the site soon. Site tokens were made. We had a "Bardic Practice" session at Lady Cybele's. March A&S and Research nights will focus on the bardic arts.

We'll gather at Bronislava's on March 11 to put booklets together. These will contain maps, challenges, and schedule for the event.

Since the meeting was slightly chaotic, and there was no A&S Minister present, we didn't pass the tally sheet around. Remember it for next month. We adjourned to King Street Kitchen for snacks, dessert, supper, more conversation. .

Here's part of a poem from probably written around 1170. It's from The Carmina Burana: Songs from Benediktbeuern, by Tariq Marshall. (CreateSpace, 2011)

The hand bearing gifts
makes pious an impious man.
Money forges alliances,
Money gives counsel;
Money softens what is harsh,
Money settles what is strifeful.
Money set in prelates' hands
is sufficient legal ground.
Ye, who adjudicate on matters of law,
grant money a seat of rank and power.

Where Money has say,
civil rights are confounded:
the pauper, on whose side is the law,
is cast to the back and dismissed,
whilst the rich man, treasured for his wealth,
is drawn to the court to be heard.¹
The arbiter adores the latter man,
and what he beseeches, the arbiter performs.
Money pleads the case on his behalf
and brings to completion what he strives to achieve.

Where Money preaches, justice slips and falls:
the court upholds a limping case.
The arrival of pelf decides
the fate of the indigent man.
Thus judged is he who gives not;
thus stripped of justice is he, who offers naught.

...



A new Courtly Sonet, of the Lady Green
fleues. To the new tune of Greensleues.

Greensleues was all my ioy,
Greensleues was my delight :
Greensleues was my hart of gold,
And who but Ladie Greensleues.

A Las my loue, ye do me wrong,
to cast me off discourteously :
And I haue loued you so long,
Delighting in your companie.
Greensleues was all my ioy,
Greensleues was my delight :
Greensleues was my heart of gold,
And who but Ladie Greensleues.
¶ I haue been readie at your hand,
to grant what euer you would craue.
I haue both waged life and land,
your loue and good will for to haue.
Greensleues was all my ioy, &c.
¶ I bought thee kerchers to thy head,
that were wrought fine and gallantly :
B ii ¶

Officers of the Shire



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A&S Minister – Radegund—pretty soon



Web Minister — Genovefa la Petit — some time soon



Chatelaine/Minister of Random Hugs – Bronislavá (Kirsta Skaff)
702 Losey Blvd. South. LaCrosse WI 54601 (608) 785-3107
zvpeyronne@yahoo.com



Chirurgion — Gavin MagAonghusa (Kevin Meyers)
2168 Denton St. LaCrosse WI 54601 (608) 797-1919



Herald —Amata Cromwell (Amy Schleeter)
Unofficial until her membership is renewed.

Upcoming Events

March 3	Fighting in the shade — Jararvellir (Madison WI)
March 16	That Moot Thingy — Coille Stoirmeil (Wilton WI)
March 24	Bardic Madness — Rokeclif
March 31	Haire Affaire — Falcons Keep (Wausau WI)
April 14	Spring Coronation — Vilku Urvas (Grand Rapids MN)
April 21	THACO3 — Nordskogen (St Paul MN)
May 12	Crown Tourney — Castel Rouge
May 19	Burn, Baby Burn — Shattered Oak (Eau Claire area)
May 19	Lamb to Loom — Turm an dem See (Sheboygan)
May 26	Castle Fever — Silfren mere (Rochester)

This list is far from complete. It's mostly events nearby, or of particular importance. Consult www.Northshield.org for a complete event schedule.

DISCLAIMER

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