



The newsletter of the Cleftlands, Vol. 13 March, 2001

Insurance Troubles with Shore Center

Lord Nial opened last week's baronial meeting with some bad news: we are not going to be able to keep our room on a permanent basis as we had hoped. The reason for this is that the Shore Center requires permanent residents to take out a twenty-four hour insurance policy on the room which will be quite expensive and SCA Corporate will not fund it.

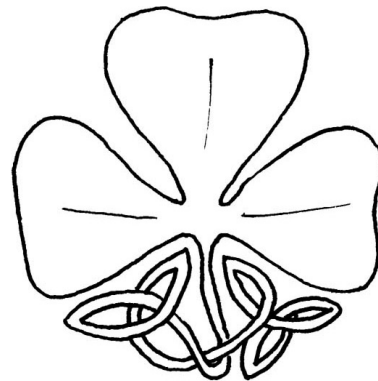
We can still use the room outside of our regular Wednesday meetings, but now it will cost \$35 per use. Each group that meets here should try to collect as close to \$35 as they can, some guilds will consolidate their meetings to have more people and raise money easier. Please direct your questions to Lord Nial or the other baronial officers.

A St. Patrick's Debut

The proposed barony of Brendoaken- consisting of the marches of Gwyntarian, Three Towers, Aldeford and Thistle- held its first official event this month in honor of St. Patrick on March 17th. Many Cleftlanders were in attendance, including Lord Edward Brackenburye who entertained all and helped with the atmosphere of the event by playing his bagpipes. Our own Lady Milesent won the scribal competition at the event, and Sir Nicholas led his team of three to victory in the 3-man melee tournament.

Also competing in the tourney were Master Calum, Lothar di Normandy, Raith, Robert de Cleftlands, Aldermoureis, Lyonnete and Donasian. The three-on-three tournament was round-robin, giving each team many opportunities to fight. Calum was inspiring upon the field with his great sword, executing some fancy moves and many opponents. Lothar also distinguished himself, holding his own upon his knees against two opponents who had yet their legs and great

weapons to boot. I had never seen two pole arms take so long to kill one flourentine fighter on his knees! But the greatest victory for Cleftlands at this tournament was by far that won by Lady Alda. Her team-mates dead on the field, she held her own against three opponents, vanquishing them all to thunderous applause.



Although lightly attended – due partially to another popular event being on the same day, and perhaps to mundane St. Patrick's commitments – the event was highly

enjoyable. The evening feast was superb, with many well-received deserts and a proper amount of fresh strawberries and raspberry sauce. The new barony made an elegant show of its new regalia, including a heraldic tablecloth for their high table and matching tabards for servers. The three couples nominated to become the first baron and baroness were introduced and an Arts and Sciences competition held with many fine entries.

What's Inside:

Calendar - Officers - Notes - Meet Your Chirurgeon - More Chivalry

Our Officers

Seneschal: Lord Nial the Wanderer of Bork (A.J. Gooch) 3735 Marvin Ave. Cleveland, OH 44109

Pursuivant: Lord Pietro Nicolo di San Tebaldo (Samuel Pearce) #23 Lexington Square Euclid, OH 44143

Exchequer: Duchess Emelyn Carithail (Gayle Nichols) 17211 Lakewood Heights Blvd. Lakewood, OH 44107

Knight Marhsal: Sgt. Conrad Schwartzwolf (Marty Bradac) 3835 W. 40th Street Cleveland, OH 44109

Marshal of Fence: Lord Edward FitzRanulf (Scott Hendrix) 2917 Brevard Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Minister of Arts and Sciences: Lord Karl Wilhelm von Koln (Don Minch) 17545 Madison Ave. #101 Lakewood, OH 44107

Chronicler: Lady Lyonnete Vibert (Marie Vibbert) 445 Richmond Park West, #328-B Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Chatelaine: Lady Alex 46545 Middle Ridge Rd. Amherst, OH 44001

Introducing Our New Chirurgeon

By Regan of House Blacksilver

As your new Baronial Chirurgeon (that's pronounced ky-UR-jen), I wanted a chance to introduce myself and explain some of the background for those who are unfamiliar with Chirurgeons. I have been in the SCA for the past 6 years and have been a chirurgeon for 4 years. I have worked many events, but few in the barony may recognize me. I wear a red baldric with a white stripe on each edge. In the center of the baldric is a circle or droplet with what looks like an upside down 2 or a stylized 7. This is the "fleen" - the symbol of the Chirurgeon in the SCA. Anyone you see wearing this baldric is a chirurgeon. The stripes indicate skill level. Apprentices accumulate hours and experience and do not display a stripe. Once they have met the minimum experience levels, they are promoted to Journeymen and allowed the white stripe. The majority of Chirurgeons you will see are journeymen. Once a Chirurgeon has accumulated a large body of experience and displayed extreme skill, they may be asked to join the class of Master Chirurgeons, who are permitted to wear gold stripes instead of white.

The Chirurgeon corps is here to help with FIRST AID. Our job is to stand by in case anyone injures himself or herself in any way during any SCA activity. All warranted Chirurgeons are required to have current certifications in CPR and in First Aid. As we can act only at the first aid level, we are not permitted to dispense medication of any kind, including over the counter basics like aspirin, so we don't generally carry it in our kits. We also do not have prescription items such as epinephrine (or Epi-) pens for bee-stings. We are happy to do what we can for you within these boundaries. We don't ask

for compensation for help we give or supplies we use, so please don't let money keep you from getting help. Any donations people wish to make to support the effort are always accepted.

Chirurgeons are separate from the waterbearers, but we work in close concert to help keep everyone healthy. We end up treating many people for simply not drinking enough or only drinking soda or alcohol on hot days. You can't drink too much water! The water carried around by waterbearers is for everyone, not just fighters. Please stop us if you need a drink. We are always looking for volunteers to help.

We are on constant guard and respond to calls as quickly as possible, but remember, it is always your right to refuse treatment as a patient. We try to get permission to treat first, but in the heat of the moment, this can get lost. If it is your choice not to be treated, just say the word.

I am trying to get a better understanding of fighters' needs and attitudes. You can do yourself a great service by letting us know what we are doing right and wrong as we treat you. Many of us are not familiar with being in armor, and do the best we can to not cause damage to your hard work. I would be happy to have volunteers for "how to get out of armor" lessons, especially if you have exotic or interesting armor. Help me help you better.

Please feel free to come ask me any questions you have about volunteering, first aid or how to use items you are unsure of. I will be happy to talk to anyone interested in becoming a chirurgeon as well.

In service to the dream, Regan

The Chivalric Oath of Fealty, with Notes by Ephraim ben Shlomo, KSCA. Part II

Presented as a handout at the Pandidactium, and with the permission of the author, we will be publishing this study of the Chivalric Oath in serial form. This third article looks at the third line of the oath. The notation numbers are in keeping with the first parts of the article. Back issues of The Forum can be found on the Clefilands Website: [HTTP:// Clefilands.cwru.edu](http://Clefilands.cwru.edu)

(Author's Note: The intended audience for this document consists of members of the Order [to spur discussion], my squires, new members sitting their vigils, those who aspire to the Order, and those who wish to know more about what Knighthood is really about. Let no one doubt: these are my opinions, and this commentary is not intended to represent the opinions of any other person or persons.)

I here swear fealty and do homage to the crown of the Middle Kingdom,
to ever be a good knight and true:

reverent⁹ and generous¹⁰,

⁹ Respectful of all religions, never offending others in the private exercise of their faith, much as our charge states.

But reverence is more. We “reverence” when dancing, whether that courtesy is shown to our consort or to the stranger who has asked us for the dance. We give our respect likewise to the Regis Curia as we pass before the Thrones, even when they are empty. The word “reverent” shares the same root as the word “revere”, which is indeed the meaning of “reverence” when used as a verb. And when we reverence toward the Thrones, we ennoble them with our respect of them. Without our acknowledgement, the most ornately carved and ornamented Siege Royal is nothing more than an empty chair. With our reverence, the meanest sheet metal folding chairs are imbued with the awesome majesty of the Crown, and of the Kingdom which the Crown serves. The duty to be reverent thus is not intended to enhance our own stature, but to elevate the importance of those things we reverence. Do not mistake this for self-importance; the thing is worthy of respect, whether or not you, Sir, show your own respect for it. To be reverent is akin to an act of submission to the greater importance of that which we reverence. It is as fortunate a coincidence as may be found that, like fealty, which burdens and strengthens

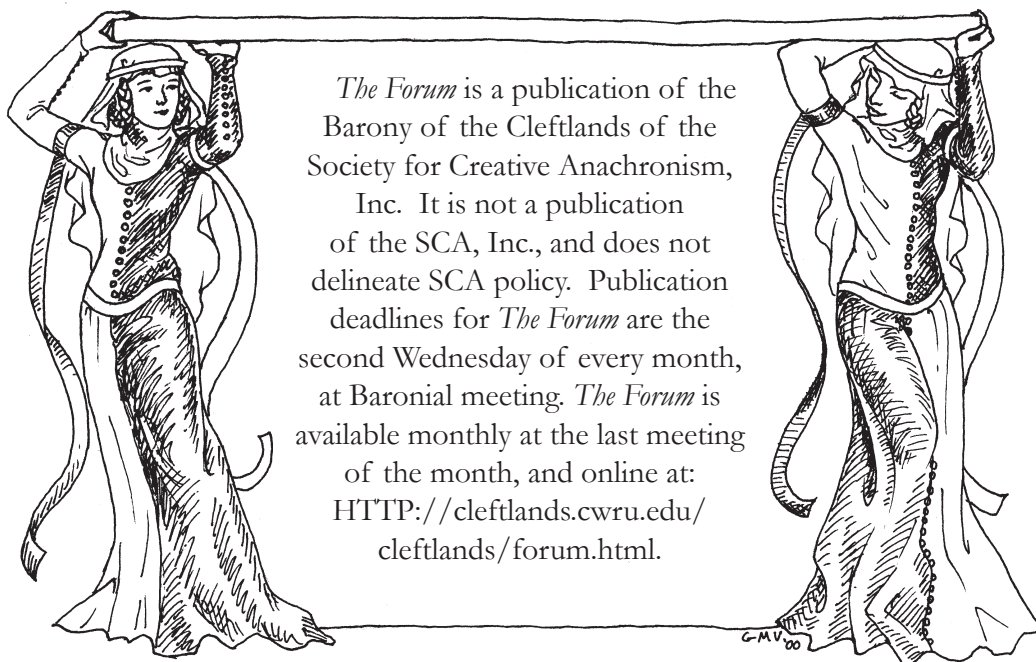
both liege and liegeman, reverence ennobles and enhances both the person paying respect, and that to which the respect is paid.

And this, of course, begs the question: what do we, as individuals, and as an Order, revere? To what do we give offering and, indeed, sacrifice? If “fighting” is all that comes quickly to mind, then let us contemplate why we are called, not Masters of the Locker Room, but the Order of Chivalry. We must revere more than prowess. And I submit that this is of sufficient moment that we should discard the description of ourselves as “a fighting Order.” Does this concept bode well for those who are charged most profoundly to exercise unceasingly our skills in the peaceful aspects of Chivalry? This is not to say that combat is unimportant: prowess at arms is an essential component of the essence of Knighthood. (Masters and Mistresses of the Pelican have demonstrated their “prowess” in service, those of the Laurel their “prowess” in arts and sciences. Likewise we have demonstrated prowess at arms.) But let us be first an Order of Peerage, and then speak of that other essential, mastery at arms (note the lower case “m”; no intrusion intended, Masters and Mistresses), secondly.

¹⁰ A knight must be generous to all, says our charge. It is often easy to be generous to the Crown, or a Great Officer, or to the Society. It is little burden to be generous to those who are influential, or when our generosity will bring us renown. More important is the generosity we show to those who are of common station, even in small things. It is a fact that Knights are accorded some leeway that others are not, and that our misdeeds, while often held under a microscope, may also be winked at. In this way, the populace “cooperates” with us to overlook our small failings, to the greater good of the concept of Knighthood itself, if not to the betterment of ourselves as Knights. “He’s only human”, they will think with some sympathy. In similar fashion, let us be most generous to those of modest station – as we all were – in small, but personal ways. Let the Knight hold a door for a stranger... and smile in the doing. Let him go out of his way to see where he may be of help. Let him ask how he may help even in those minutes of uncommitted time. Let him greet the newcomers, and enthusiastically encourage their stated interests in calligraphy and spinning. It is a small balance to how we must look as we rush off to the secrecy of our meetings, wherein we plot our iron-fisted dominion over the Kingdom.

Calendar for April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 N. Oaken Rapier Practice - 3 Towers	2	3 Archery Guild 7pm	4 Weekly Baronial Meeting	5 Armorer's Guild - West Side	6	7 Clancy Day - LaSalle, Ontario
8 Archery 1pm Lucas Archery	9 Dance Guild 7pm	10	11 Weekly Baronial Meeting	12 Armorer's Guild - West Side	13	14 Terpsichore at the Tower - Ann Arbor, Mi
15 Easter Sunday	16 Scribe's Guild 7pm	17	18 Weekly Baronial Meeting	19 Armorer's Guild - West Side	20	21 Coronation, Macomb, IL
22 Archery 1pm Lucas Archery	23	24	25 Dessert Revel	26 Armorer's Guild - West Side	27 Gwyntarian Dance Night	28 Standard Bearer's Tournament
29 Archery 1pm Lucas Archery	30					



The Forum is a publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policy. Publication deadlines for *The Forum* are the second Wednesday of every month, at Baronial meeting. *The Forum* is available monthly at the last meeting of the month, and online at: [HTTP://cleftlands.cwru.edu/cleftlands/forum.html](http://cleftlands.cwru.edu/cleftlands/forum.html).

G.M.V. '00