

Melissa Carpenter  
103 Maharg Street  
Butler, Pa 16001

# At Branches Reach

Newsletter for the Shire of  
Sunderoak May 2015, A.S.

L

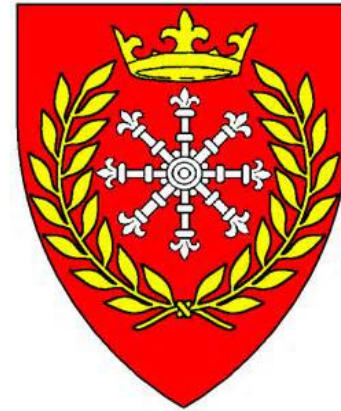


Shire of Sunderoak

## Royalty of Aethelmearc

His Majesty Timothy of Arindale and Her Majesty Gabrielle van Nijenrode

•<http://www.aethelmearc.org/royalty/AE35/index.php>



## Their Royal Highnesses

Prince Tinal And Princess Etain ingen Dalaig

This is the At Branches Reach, a publication of the Shire of Sunderoak of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.) At Branches Reach is available from Melissa Carpenter 103 Maharg St., Butler, PA 16001. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies Copyright © 2015 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For Information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors. At Branches Reach is printed each month that a shire meeting is held.



## Seneschal

Mistress Katla Ulfhedinn (Kate Gurnsey)  
112 Pine St., Butler, PA 16001  
Phone: 724-923-3808 no calls after 9 pm  
[katla@zoominternet.net](mailto:katla@zoominternet.net)  
Term expires October 2015



## Deputy Seneschal

Sir Thorgrim Skullsplitter (James Gurnsey)  
112 Pine St., Butler, PA 16001  
Phone: 724-923-3808 no calls after 9 pm  
[thorgrim@zoominternet.net](mailto:thorgrim@zoominternet.net)  
Term expires October 2015

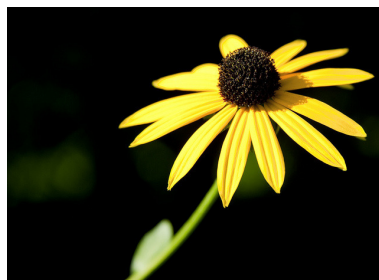
## Chatelaine

Sir Thorgrim Skullsplitter (James Gurnsey)  
112 Pine St., Butler, PA 16001  
Phone: 724-923-3808 no calls after 9 pm  
[thorgrim@zoominternet.net](mailto:thorgrim@zoominternet.net)  
Term expires October 2015



## Exchequer

Lady Raven Whitehart (Valarie Kelly)  
160 Bullcreek Rd., Butler, PA 16002  
Phone: 724-360-3100 no calls after 10 pm  
[ravenwhitehart@gmail.com](mailto:ravenwhitehart@gmail.com)  
Term expires July 2015



## Herald

Beatrix of Anglesey (Crystal Witt)  
(724) 856-9076  
[crystallynnwitt@gmail.com](mailto:crystallynnwitt@gmail.com)

## Knight Marshal

Lord Eoin MacPadraig  
160 Bullcreek Rd., Butler, PA 16002  
Phone: 724-360-3100 no calls after 10 pm  
[grimeir@gmail.com](mailto:grimeir@gmail.com)  
Term expires October, 2015



## Chronicler

Lady Tommasa Isolana (Melissa Carpenter)  
103 Maharg St  
Butler, PA 16001  
Phone 910-547-0883 Leave VM  
[tommassa@me.com](mailto:tommassa@me.com)  
Term expires June 2015

## Webminister

Lord Thomas Dyne (Charles Hood)  
724-525-5501  
[ThomasDyne13@gmail.com](mailto:ThomasDyne13@gmail.com)  
Term expires July 2015

## Arts & Sciences

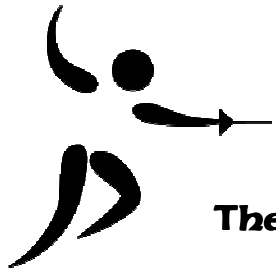
Baroness Mahin Banu Tabrizi (Selena Kaplan)  
110 Pine Street  
Butler, PA 16001  
Phone (724)602-8111  
[Skaplan418@gmail.com](mailto:Skaplan418@gmail.com)  
Term expires Oct.2017



Webpage: [sunderoak.aethelmearc.org](http://sunderoak.aethelmearc.org)

Next Meeting:

May 26 , 7:00pm at Butler Memorial Park.  
Butler, PA 16001



**Happy New Year Sunderoak! Our great Society has turned 50!**



**The shire is buzzing with activity now that the weather has finally turned to spring, for real spring not that weather we had in April.....snow - yuk!**

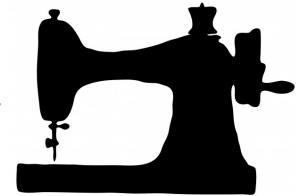
**Check out the calendar our website for all the details, equestrian, archery, arts & sciences, fencing and heavy weapons are all flourishing!**

**We are now using Google Calendar which means you can copy from the shire's calendar direct into your own private calendar.**

**Just a brief reminder - Shire meetings are open to everyone, they are on the 4th Tuesday of the month.**



**Winter October - May we are at the [Butler Library](#).  
Summer June - Sept we meet in [Butler Memorial park](#).**

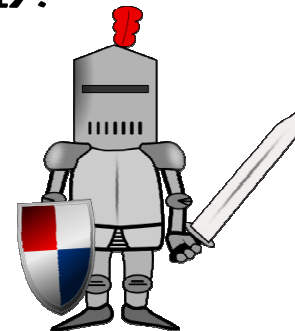


**Finally, I have announced that I will be stepping down as Seneschal at the last several meetings. I will happily mentor anyone interested in taking the position either this year, October 2015 or at the end of the next term October 2017.**

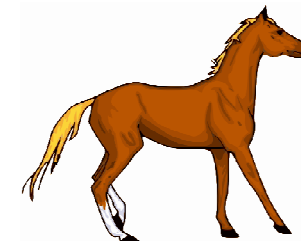


**Best,**

**Katla**



- Spring is finally here, and the Aethelmearc equestrian world is full of changes, events, and new ways of having fun!
- I am proud and happy to be serving a term or two as Kingdom Equestrian Officer, having taken on the office at Ice Dragon in March. I have a lot of ideas and hopes for the program, and there are a lot of things already in the works that I hope to see implemented in full by the time I leave the office of KEO. Lady Aaliz de Gant of Steltonwald has agreed to sign on as my deputy.
- By the time you are reading this, equestrian practices will hopefully be in full swing. Practices are being held at my farm on Wednesday evenings and Sundays, by arrangement.
- There are several experimental programs approved in Aethelmearc now. Mistress Gozen will be Experimental Deputy in charge of these programs. These include: mounted to ground combat, cut & thrust, and wooden lance jousting. The mounted to ground, especially, has been VERY well received whenever demonstrated, and we have high hopes of this being a good way of bringing the horses into the mainstream of SCA events.
- 
- Lady Gesa hosted a jousting clinic early this year that was quite well attended. We may well see a few more faces from among the attendees at that clinic.
- 
- There will be equestrian activities again at Aethelwald Proving Grounds. Since this event will be two weeks before the Equestrian Championship in Stormsport, we plan on using the morning as a “warm-up” event, with a lot of the same obstacles/games that we will be using at Champs, and the afternoon as a training session.
- 
- The Aethelmearc Equestrian Championship will be held in Stormsport on July 4. Mistress Gozen will be the EqMIC, and I will be running the Champs portion of the day. There will be equestrian classes offered in the afternoon for anyone who is interested.
- 
- There are also rumors of other equestrian events happening nearby! I’ll keep you posted as things develop there.
- 
- Ride safe, and keep the dirty side down!
- 
- Meadhbh inghean ui Bhaighill



**Greetings SunderOak,  
Happy New Year!**



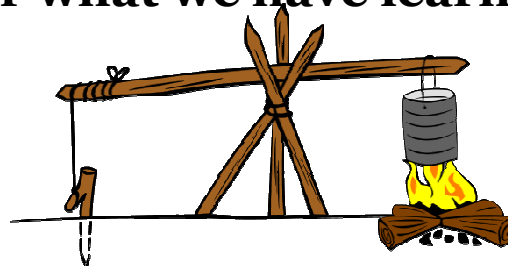
**It has been a busy few months. Mistress Alea Baggah taught us to make frogs, Baron Janos came and taught sausages, THL Fiora taught Illuminated Letters, Lady Cassandra taught us to make our own bacon, Mistress Irene lead us through altering a period pattern to fit us, Duke Titus came up to discuss tourney focus, and Lady Raven lead the Shire in creating more largess for the Kingdom.**

**All of that is awesome, but do you know what else all those things are? They are part of the 50 things we learned at Shire for the A&S 50 Year celebration.**

**Plans are in the works for a photo gallery on the webpage, watch for details.**

**Is there something you want to learn? Is there anything you can teach? A&S is about trying different and new things and teaching each other what we have learned.**

**Come join us!  
Mahin**



- **Beginning Blacksmithing –Making a Forge. By Ruari!**
- **A while back, I had the notion of learning how to blacksmith- the art of working iron and steel. At Pennsic XIII, I had the privilege of being able to be taught by Danr and Valdr of Irontree Works, who had a shop set up for those two weeks. These two showed me the very basics, and set me in the right direction to setting up my own forge. With this endeavor, I needed more than just a hammer or a campfire- I needed a forge! So, with their help, and some plans on the internet, this is how I built a basic brake drum forge!**
- **A basic forge requires something to hold the fire, a source of air, and pipes to lead the air to the fire. While putting it all together is extremely simple, finding all the parts can be quite interesting.**
- **As the name suggests, I found an old brake drum to hold my coals in. It's thick enough to take the heat, but not too heavy. Junk yards sell these for very cheap.**
- **Trader Horn had iron pipes, in which I was able to create a small system to get air from my blower to the coals. All together the pipes cost around ten dollars.**
- **As for my air source, I bought an old crank blower at Pennsic that I refinished, and it works great! Hairdryers are a great option also, because you don't have to tend to your air then. While the blower I got was a bit expensive, hairdryers can be as cheap as fifteen dollars.**
- **I also made a mix of concrete and fireclay to line my brake drum with- this helps with further insulating your fire. I found the concrete at Lowe's, but fireclay must be found elsewhere, such as a professional construction outlet.**
- **Putting the forge together was simple and easy- I set it on some concrete blocks to keep it off the ground. For the moment, this DIY forge holds a great fire, and was easy to make!  
Thank you very much for reading!**



Until next time,

- **Ruari**

- We are pleased to let you know that the 2015 Kingdom Newsletters are now available to all current Sustaining and International members for your review.

- Are you a New Member?

No Registration is Required - to visit the newsletter site, please go

to <http://enewsletter.sca.org> to access.

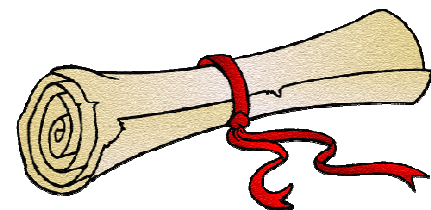
Please use your Membership Number as your User ID and the beginning password is the word start. We would advise you to change your password to one of your choosing upon entry.

- If you have any questions or difficulties, please contact Member Services.

- Kind Regards,  
The Membership Staff  
SCA, Inc.

(800) 789-7486

email: [membership@sca.org](mailto:membership@sca.org)



- **check our Facebook page, yahoo page, and **Our Website** ([www.sunderoak.aethelmearc.org](http://www.sunderoak.aethelmearc.org))**
- **for updates on **Fight practice**, **Fencing practice**, **Thrown weapons practice**, **Future events**, and **A&S meetings**..**

# Business Cards for General use...



## **Shire Of Sunderoak**

[www.sunderoak.aethelmearc.org](http://www.sunderoak.aethelmearc.org)

[www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)

Butler, Armstrong, and  
Northern Indiana Counties