

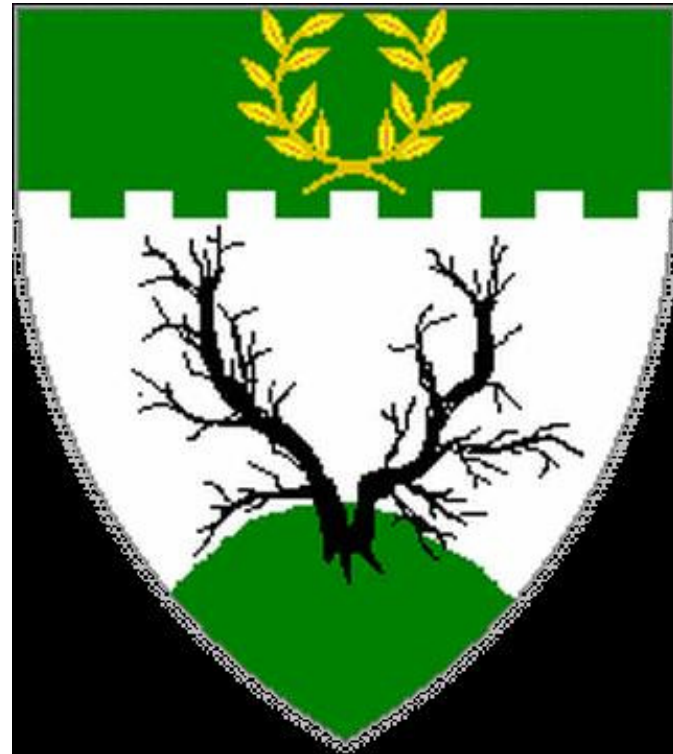


Melissa Carpenter
103 Maharg Street
Butler, Pa 16001

At Branches Reach

Newsletter for the Shire of
Sunderoak Jan. 2016, A.S.

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Shire of Sunderoak

Royalty of Aethelmearc

His Majesty King Magnus
Tindal and Her Majesty Queen
Etain ingin Dalaig

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

Their Royal Highnesses

[Prince Thomas Byron of
Haverford](#) and [Princess Ariella of Thornbury](#)

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The Kingdom Of Aethelmearc



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Term ends October 2017

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Chatelaine

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Term expires October 2017

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Knight Marshal

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Term expires October, 2017

Chronicler

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Term expires Oct.2017

Webpage: sunderoak.aethelmearc.org

Next Meeting: Tuesday Jan. 26, 2015

Butler Area Library 218 N McKean St, Butler, PA 16001
(724) 287-1715

7:00 pm downstairs

Welcome to the mundane New Year! Around this time of the year, I am always keenly aware of the diverse cultures around me. My Jewish friends are celebrating Hanukkah, Christians are celebrating Christmas, Pagans observe the winter solstice, some of my friends observe Kwanzaa, and others just enjoy the season for being a time of reflection and renewal. All of these different celebrations and traditions got me thinking: What would my persona be doing?

Christmas

In the western/Catholic tradition, Holy Days or Feast Days are very carefully observed and revered. The fact of the matter, however, is that many of the Catholic feast days were adopted from the local customs. Early Catholic missionaries to the various regions of the world believed that conversion to Christianity was best conducted by illustrating that the non-Christians were actually worshipping the God of Christ. You can see evidence of this in a lot of places, but the modern Christmas Holiday is a great example of the Christianization of formerly "heathen" celebrations. I've even heard arguments that Easter is a Christianization of a spring-time celebration of the goddess Ishtar.

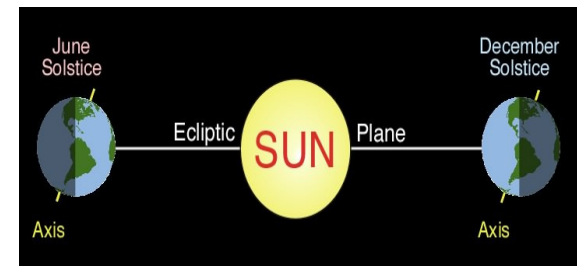


All of this to challenge you in the new year. What would your persona celebrate, when would the celebrate it, and what might be some traditions your persona would follow? Are there any celebrations that have been lost to the mundane world? Renew the celebrations of your heritage, and share the joy of your history with the rest of the shire. I'll look forward to hearing and reading about your traditions soon.



philmarin.info

*Peace be with you, until it is not.
Fenna Rioux*



- **Greetings SunderOak,**
- **Last month we had new teachers and subjects. Lady Rue came and taught poisons, while Weasel had a surprise (to him) group very interested in his masks. Lady Raven lead Largess Night, Baroness Betha taught Brief, Painless, Documentation, and Mistress Elsbeth came up for Heraldry Consult and Submissions.**



- **The new year has begun and there is all kinds of activity planned.**
- **Jan 4 Lady Luceta taught Russian Tales**
- **Jan 11 Master Remus will bring several kinds of medieval musical instruments.**
- **Jan 18 Lady Raven will lead Largess Night at Fena and Jarngurd's house. Directions will be forthcoming.**
- **Jan 25 Baroness Betha will teach Sprang**
- **Due to extreme popularity, there will be another Heraldry Consult and Submission Night in the spring. Is there something you wish to learn? Something you can teach? Let me know. We will find a way.**
- **A&S is held at Mahin's house, 110 Pine St, Butler, PA 16001. Doors open at 6, we start about 630.**

• **Hope to see you soon!**

• **Mahin**



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- To the gentlefolk of Æthelmearc, greetings!

On April 23rd, the Kingdom A&S Office, with the great help & generosity of the Shire of Hartstone, will hold the first Æthelmearc Arts & Sciences Faire. You can find the announcement here:

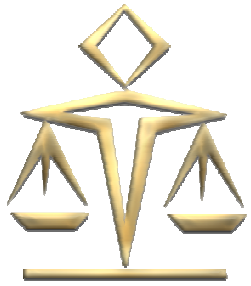
<<http://www.aethelmearc.org/eventinfo.php?event=1110>>.

As part of the event, we will be holding an A&S Prize Tourney. As this type of tourney is new to Æthelmearc, we would like to briefly explain how it is designed to work.

First, the name “tourney” is a bit misleading. The tourney is actually an exhibition, open only to gentles who have a Sycamore or no kingdom A&S award. The purpose is to display the talents of these gentles.

Second, there will an evaluation of the displays that are entered. We intend to have teams of 3-4 evaluators, each of which will look at and comment on one or two displays per hour. The evaluations will consist of viewing the exhibit and the documentation provided, then discussing the exhibit with the entrant. If you were at Kingdom A&S Champions last October, then you will be familiar with the process we'll using





Third, we are asking companions of the Fleur and the Laurel to do two things: first, to sponsor entrants in the tourney. This means to provide guidance, advice, and moral support to the entrants sponsored, and to provide a small token or present which will be given to an entrant of the Tourney. For every entrant a Fleur or Laurel sponsors, that Fleur or Laurel should also provide a present. Second, we are asking the Fleurs and Laurels to attend the event and act as evaluators. This is anticipated to be an all-day task, or least take as long as there are exhibitions that have not been evaluated. We encourage the evaluators to look at all the exhibitions, even those they are not evaluating. After the tourney has finished, the evaluators will meet to discuss what they saw during the day.

At the end of the day, during court, the presents will be presented to the entrants by the Fleurs and Laurels. We also hope that the sitting Barons & Baronesses and the Royalty who are present will bring tokens to present to their favorite displays of the day.

Further details on the Prize Tourney and other A&S activities during the day will be forthcoming.

Thanks for reading this rather long message. We hope that you will be able to attend the A&S Faire!



**In service,
Fridrikr & Orianna, Kingdom Ministers of Arts and Sciences**

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.

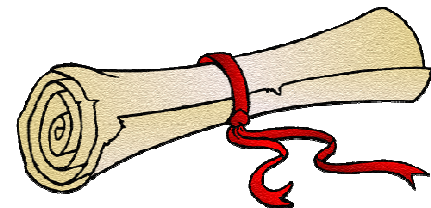
Please use your Membership Number as your User ID and the beginning password is the word start. We would advise you to change your password to one of your choosing upon entry.

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



- **check our Facebook page, yahoo page, and **Our Website** (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

www.sca.org

Butler, Armstrong, and
Northern Indiana Counties