

The Scarlet Letter is a  
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[www.lochruidh.org](http://www.lochruidh.org)

January/February  
Anno Societatis XXXXV (C.E.2011)

**Happy New Year!**

# **Loch Ruadh**

**The Scarlet Letter**  
**Shire of Loch Ruadh**

# Words from the Seneschal



Greetings unto the Populace of Loch Ruadh!

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a great Yule and celebrated as much as you wanted. I'm always a bit sad to see the Holiday Season of Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Year end, but I trust that everyone is looking forward to the coming year's activities as much as I am.

First, I must report that Laird Caerell Mac Domnaill has decided to step down as our Webminister/Virtual Scribe. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say that we are sorry to see him leave this position, as he has done an incredible a very long time now, but after such service and devotion, it is only right and fitting that he should be able to devote his time to other pursuits. Vivat! to Laird Caerell for the fine job he has done! His Office officially opened for applications at the December Officer's Meeting, and will close for applications at the February Officer's Meeting. If you are interested, or think you may be interested in applying for the Office, you can speak with Caerell about what it entails – he assures me that anyone who has a sound knowledge of webpage design should be able to take over and maintain what he has created for the Shire webpages with no problem. You should also familiarize yourself with the appropriate Kingdom and Society handbooks and laws governing Webministers/Virtual Scribes. Links for these can be found on the Kingdom webpages. Please submit your Application for Office to the Central Regional Scribe, with copies to Caerell and to me. Remember that you must be a paid member of the SCA to hold this or any other official Office.

We have had our first planning meeting for our annual Gulf Wars encampment, and have decided on basic common evening meals. The next planning meeting will be after January's Populace Meeting. Lord Alric has consented to be camping coordinator once again, and Lord Kaz and Lady Sybil are the kitchen coordinators. Deadline for pre-

# Seneschal (con't)

registration to guarantee you space in the Loch Ruadh encampment is 31 January – you must provide proof of registration to Lord Alric by that date. We have between 20 and 30 people planning on attending so far, and the more the merrier. Gulf War is always more fun when we have a large group of Loch Ruadhans in attendance, and I hope to see a record-breaking number of us there this year.

We met on the first Saturday in December to work on the standing stones that will complete our Gulf Wars land gate, and while we didn't get as much done as we had hoped, we did discover a better way to complete the task of covering the frameworks with cement. As an interim measure, we will be putting up 4"x4" posts to hang the sheetwalls on either side of the gate. The date for the work trip to do this has been proposed for the weekend of 14-16 January; we will confirm that at January's Populace Meeting.

We have asked for the weekend of 14-16 October for our event this year. Lord Kaz and Lady Kat have put in a bid for the event, which does not have a firm name yet, but will be the event that sees the choosing of our Premier Chivalric Champion. While many details remain to be worked out and approved by the Populace, we hope to be able to use the Middlefaire site again, and look forward to another great and exciting event.

As always, don't hesitate to speak with me in person, call me or email me with any ideas, questions or concerns that you have about the Shire.

In Service to Loch Ruadh,

Padraig



## Herald

Greetings Good Gentles,

Now that winter is upon us and we are forced indoors to avoid the frigid Ansteorran weather, you probably find yourself wondering what to do in order to pass the long nights. Why not research your name and/or device? I am available by appointment to assist you in these endeavors. Together we can prepare your paperwork and make your persona "official." Let me know how I can help.

Keep an eye on the Shire calendar and mailing list. Catrin and I are teaming up to bring you a "Garb and Banner" day. We will be working on garb for Gulf War and banners to display around the camp. The banners we will be working on are not the painted banners we use to decorate halls. I would like to have the populace create appliquéd heraldic banners. Whether these are Ansteorran black and gold flags or personal devices, the more we have to display, the better our camp will look. Don't need a banner or garb but you know how to sew? I am sure there will be people who would greatly appreciate your help. Be sure to bring your own supplies, as the Shire will not be providing cloth for these projects.

--

Pan Kazimierz Złowieszczy  
Lordy Lord Kaz the Sinister

## Chronicler

Greetings

I have asked our Web Minister to post the new waivers on our website so they will be accessible for the populace to utilize whenever they wish to submit pictures, articles, songs, recipes or anything else they wish to have published in our Scarlet Letter.

I'm afraid our newsletter is a little bare this time and I feel sure it's because of the merriment of the holiday season. I feel sure that the next issue will be full of tips and plans for Gulf War as well as other interesting articles. This is your newsletter. Please feel free to contribute often.

In Service  
Lady Fiona inghean ui Mheadhra



# Exchequer

Greetings unto the populace of Loch Ruadh.

Greetings unto the populace of Loch Ruadh at the start of this new year. I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful Yule Tide time and Father Christmas brought what everyone wanted. The end of year report balanced and all is well. We currently have \$2635.64 in our coffers to work towards our next event. Padraig has generously doubled my salary from last year, YEA! Unfortunately double of \$0.00 is still \$0.00 (Drat).

In Service to the Dream  
Lady Vivian McKinnon

# Archery Marshall

Greetings

Because of the holiday season, and other factors, practices have been few lately. The next practice will be on January 9th. I plan to schedule another practice for either 1/23 or 1/30. If that practice is canceled, we will move it in doors, as a work day, where we will work on archery projects and repairs. Please let me know your preference for the second January practice as soon as possible, so it can be put on the calendar.

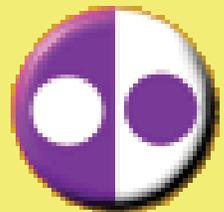
In Service

# Minister of Children

No Report

# Hospitaler

No Report



## SCA Persona Worksheet

Padraig Ruad O'Maolagin

A few questions to help you establish a reasonably authentic persona, beyond just name and country of origin. While not everyone does high persona play, having a firm idea of who your persona is and how she/he relates to the world around her/him can make the SCA much more authentic and enjoyable for everyone. This worksheet was inspired by a list of questions I found online several years ago. I modified it, changing some questions, deleting a few and adding others, to help me round out my SCA persona, and thought it might be of use. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but to help provide some of the information that we all know about our own modern lives without even thinking about it, but applied, of course, to the lives of our personas. Perhaps we could even do a persona workshop sometime in the near future.

*Note: This will probably require some historical research to find the relevant information.*

- What is your name?
- What does it mean?
- What is the year?
- Where were you born?
- Where do you live now?
- What are your parents' names?
- What is your occupation?
- Who is the king/ruler?
- To whom do you owe service/fealty?
- What kind of military service does your region require?
- To whom? (King, Duke, Baron, Knight, Other?)
- Is there a war going on?
- With whom?
- What religion do you follow?
- What church/temple is closest to your home?
- Name an important festival or celebration.
- When and how is it celebrated?

Have you ever gone on a pilgrimage?  
To where?  
If not, would you consider one in the future?  
Who is currently Pope?  
Who rules in Jerusalem?  
What is your house built of?  
What does your favorite chair look like?  
What do you sleep on?  
How do you light your house?  
Do you have a mirror?  
What does it look like?  
Name three plants in your garden.  
Where do you get your bread?  
Where is your flour milled?  
What do you drink from?  
What do you eat off of?  
What kind of utensils do you use?  
What do you eat for breakfast?  
Is beer commonly drunk?  
Does it have hops in it?  
What kind of wine is commonly available?  
Where do you get water for your household?  
What kind of clothing do you wear?  
What kind of underwear do you normally wear?  
How much does a pair of shoes cost, and what coins would you use?  
What jewelry/decorations do you wear, and what is it made from?  
How are your clothes cleaned?  
Name a piece of music common during your time and place.  
Can you read?  
If so, where did you learn?  
Do you have any pets?  
What kind/how many?  
Do you own a horse?  
What kind of dramatic performances would you see?  
What is the punishment for theft?  
What is your favorite charity?  
Describe a toy you played with as a child.

# Minister of Arts and Sciences

Greetings Loch Ruadh

The Holidays are behind us and plans for Gulf War are revving up. If you plan to enter the Kingdom A&S competition for entry into the Gulf War competition now is the time to ready your wares and seek any needed support on polishing your documentation. The competition is being hosted by Bjornsborg the weekend of February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

From the responses I received on scheduling an activity for January, we will be having a gores and gussets class. When I obtain the Teacher and date for the class you will be the first to know. January's Ceilidh will be held 01/22/11 at Pdraig's home.

In February we will hold a Garb Workshop in preparation for Gulf War and the beginning of Tourney season. We all want to look our best as we cheer our heroes on! This will be combined with a Banner Workshop on 02/12/11 at Kaz and Antonia's home. The location for February's Ceilidh on 02/26/11 has yet to be determined.

I believe I will also locate a Teacher for basic scribal skills and run a series in conjunction with our quarterly Scribes and illuminators meeting. Details will be worked out with the Guild mistress and info will be posted as the scheduled date draws nigh.

Should you have a class or activity request please speak with me at any of the Shire's gatherings or call/e-mail me. All ideas and input are greatly appreciated. I also have need of a deputy to assist with planning and organization, who might also be interested in taking over when my term of office ends.

In Service,  
Catrin  
LR MoAS



## **Ansteorra's Kingdom Arts & Sciences Competition**

**For event Information, See the  
Kingdom A&S 2011, Barony of Bjornsborg!**

**Including Static Arts and Sciences,  
Performance, and Scholarly Papers.**

**Registration for Static and Performing competition will be from 9:00 am until 10:00 am Saturday  
The DEADLINE for Scholarly Papers to reach Mistress Marguerite Dinard is January 28, 2011.**

Each entrant may enter one item in up to two categories. The three categories are:

Static Arts and Sciences  
Performing Arts  
Scholarly Paper

Two single entries in the same category are not permitted. For instance, you may enter one static item and one performance piece, but you may not enter two performance pieces or two static items. Group entries: the first entry in a category counts but you may participate in a second group entry in the same category without it counting against your entry limits. For instance, Lord Singalot may enter a solo performance and also perform with the Shire Madrigal Singers, or he may sing with the SMSs and also with the Baronial Consort. However, the SMSs as a group may only perform once.

Two entries are not mandatory.

Entries must not have previously been shown in a Kingdom A&S competition.

Written documentation for static and performance pieces is required for this competition. Please bring at least 3 copies of your written documentation.

The Static, Performance, and Scholarly Judging Forms developed by the Laurels of Ansteorra will be used to judge this competition.

Performance pieces may not be longer than 10 minutes without prior approval of the MOAS.

Those submitting scholarly papers should identify the type of paper being submitted. Categories are:  
How to/instructional, Persuasive/argumentative and Historical/expository.

Please e-mail scholarly papers to: Mistress Marguerite Dinard or mail 2 hard copies to (allowing time for post):  
Tonda Pratt  
5103 Dewey Street  
Wichita Falls, TX 76306

The DEADLINE for SCHOLARLY PAPERS is **January 28, 2011**.

Although scholarly papers will be judged prior to the event, scholars are asked to send at least 2 copies of their paper for display at the event, so that others might enjoy them.

The goal of the MOAS and the Laurels of Ansteorra is to encourage all arts and find a way to include rather than exclude artisans. If you have an unusual item or performance and aren't sure of how to include it in this competition, please contact the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences or Deputy of KA&S Competition.

# Kingdom Calendar

## January:

7-9 Steppes 12th Night—Steppes (Dallas, TX)

14-16 Crown Tournament—Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)

21-23 King's Round Table—Stargate (Katy, TX)

28-30 Winterkingdom—Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)

## February:

4-6 Candlemas—Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)

11-13 Kingdom A & S—Bjornsborg (San Antonio, TX)  
*Out of Kingdom—Estrella War (14th-21st) Atenveldt*

18-20 Bonwicke Artisans III—Bonwicke (Lubbock, TX)  
*Out of Kingdom—Estrella War (14th-21st) Atenveldt*

25-27 Jagermeister—Ffynnon Gath (San Marcos, TX)  
*Unofficial Event—Company of Wolves X—House Wolfstar*

# Loch Ruadh Calendar

## January:

**5th—Populace (7:30 pm) IHOP on Quebec  
Gulf War Meeting—immediately after populace**

**9th—Archery Practice (2:00 pm) Tegward's  
Fighter Practice (2:00 pm) Tegward's**

**10th—Scribes and Illuminator's (7:30 pm) Aingeal and Caerell's**

**14-16—Tentative Gulf War Gate/Land Trip**

**19th—Officer's Meeting (7:30 pm) Kaz and Antonia's**

**22nd—Ceilidh (7:30 pm) location TBA**

## Februrary:

**2nd—Populace (7:30 pm) IHOP**

**12th—Garb and Banner Workshop (10:00 am) Kaz and Antonia's**

**16th—Officer Meeting and mini Yule Revel (7:30 pm) location TBA**

**26th—Ceilidh (7:30 pm) location TBA**

For event locations, check the Loch Ruadh online calendar.

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**Knight Marshal**  
Office up for bid

**Web Minister**  
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webminister@lochruadh.org

**Minister of Children**  
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(Sonja Crocker)  
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Springtown, TX 76082  
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moc@lochruadh.org

# Officer Information

# Ruadh Noices

I would like to challenge all Shire members to become as active as they can in the coming months. Many hands make light work. Volunteer, even if you've never done so before. It can be rewarding.

Our Shire needs to grow, so we all need to be hospitalers. Tell your friends from outside the Shire about our group and encourage them to attend archery practice or the garb/banner workshop. We all know how little it takes to become "hooked" on the SCA. The Shire welcomes new members and needs new members if it wants to grow.

## **Please Note:**

All Loch Ruadh meetings, practices, and gatherings are posted on the Loch Ruadh online calendar at [www.lochruidh.org](http://www.lochruidh.org), and reminders are sent out on the Loch Ruadh email list. The email list is maintained on the Kingdom of Ansteorra web server and can be accessed at [www.ansteorra.org](http://www.ansteorra.org). Both of these contain address information with online map links for directions.

If you don't have a computer or email access, please contact the Seneschal or any other Officer for directions. The Scarlet Letter is available from Pamela Boles at:  
108 NE Rosamond, Burleson, TX  
76028

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[chronicler@lochruidh.org](mailto:chronicler@lochruidh.org).

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# The Scarlet Letter

## Shire of Loch Ruadh