



Gather ye rosebuds while ye may,  
Old Time is still a-flying;  
And this same flower that smiles to-day  
To-morrow will be dying.

The glorious lamp of heaven, the sun,  
The higher he 's a-getting,  
The sooner will his race be run,  
And nearer he 's to setting.

That age is best which is the first,  
When Youth and blood are warmer;  
But being spent, the worse, and worst  
Times still succeed the former.

Then be not coy, but use your time,  
And while ye may, go marry:  
For having lost but once your prime,  
You may for ever tarry.

# THE HAWK'S FLIGHT

MARCH-APRIL 2010



# THE HAWK'S FLIGHT

The official Newsletter of the  
Shire of Blackhawk,  
Middle Kingdom

MARCH-APRIL 2010



I spent a great deal of time worrying that I didn't have any large articles for this issue. It wasn't until I sat down to put it all together that I realized that this issue wasn't going to lack for anything. Sometimes, it's not the big things that matter, but the little things that can mean so much. I find this is true not only in newsletters, but friendships as well.

Thank you again, Lord Patrick, Lord Thorfinn and Lady Antine, for giving me

yet more bits of interesting information to print for our populace. I also want to thank Lady Elyse, a first time contributor, for helping me out this issue.

Looking ahead to the spring and summer seasons, I'm hopeful that I will have plenty of articles and information, as well as pictures, tips and creativity to publish in my pages. There are so many events in our future, and so much activities to report on. I even have an idea, if my Lord succeeds in convincing me to join him at War this year, for an article

about what it's like to be there for the very first time. I've also heard a rumor that a few members of our shire are headed to Gulf Wars soon, and I'm hopeful that one or two of them could report back to me about the event for the next issue.

I still have not given up hope that someone will venture forth a story about their persona. The brave gentle has yet to contact me, but I'm going to keep bringing it up whenever I can. I've always thought of our kind not as reneactors, but *recreators* of history, and it would

be fascinating to get a perspective of what it *would have been like* for one's particular persona.

As we look forward to spring, please keep in mind that the Hawk's Flight does not exist without the members of the Shire of Blackhawk. Unfortunately, I cannot be everywhere and see everything in the SCA, and I count on each and every one of you to help share your knowledge with the rest of us, and make the next edition even better than the last.

## OFFICERS OF THE SHIRE OF BLACKHAWK

**Sceneschal & Chatelaine:** *Lady Antine Andersdottir*  
(Antina Richards-Pennock)

**Light Weapons Marshal:** *Lord Michael Ashley* (Michael Pennock)

**Exchequer:** *Lady Henrikje Novella Duin* (Janna Bailey)

**Herald & Regional Youth Marshal:** *Lord Sebastian Elgar* (Peter Czyzewski)

**MOAS:** *Lady Meadhbh Winters* (Heather Czyzewski)

**Webminister:** *Lord Thorfinn* (Mark Mitchell)

**Heavy Weapons Marshal:** *Lord Erik de Nevell* (Erik Moan)

**Chirurgion:** *Baron AElfred of Chester* (Allen Reed)

**Chronicler:** *Lady Ása Farbjörnsdottir* (Tricia Reed)

YIS,

ASA



*Baroness Sofia von Brandenburg consults with the newest member of her household..*



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## Upcoming Midrealm Events



### March

- 13 - *Feast of St Patrick {Shire of Afonlyn}* [Muncie, IN]  
- *It's All Fun and Games {Canton of Rimsholt}* [Wyoming, MI]
- 14-21 - *Gulf Wars XIX {Kingdoms of Meridies and Gleann Abhann}* [Lumberton, MS]
- 20 - *Terpsichore at the Tower XVI {Barony of Cynnabar}* [Saline, MI]
- 26-28 - *Winged Hills Collegium {Winged Hills}* [Dayton, OH]
- 27 - *Cynnabar Baronial Investiture {Cynnabar}* [Dexter, MI]  
- *Rogue's Return {Shire of Swordcliff}* [Virginia, IL]

### April

- 3 - *Standard Bearers Tournament {Barony of the Cleftlands}* [Brook Park, OH]
- 10 - *Aethelmearc Coronation {Shire of Misty Highlands}* [Morgantown, WV]  
- *Grand Tournament of the Unicorn XVIII {The Marche of Unicorn}* [Oxford, OH]  
- *Norse Life and Culture Seminar {Three Hills}* [Kalamazoo, MI]  
- *Oaken Regional Cooking and Bardic Symposium {Marche of Three Towers}* [Mansfield, OH]  
- *Rites of Spring - Travels in the Known World {Canton of Athelington}* [Princeton, IL]  
- *Slavic University {Sylvan Glen}* [Shepherdstown, Out of Kingdom]  
- *Spring Training {Shire of Rivenvale}* [Lowellville, OH]
- 17 - *A Day at the Castle {Incipient Canton of Northgate}* [Stanwood, MI]  
- *Feast of Three Saints and a Honeybee with Constellation Regional A+S {Barony of Rivenstar}* [West Lafayette, IN]  
- *Mugmort Melees V: Attack of the Barbary Corsairs {Shire of Mugmort}* [Circleville, OH]  
- *North Oaken A and S Faire {Canton of Hrothgeirsfjodr}* [Toledo, OH]  
- *Qaina--A Middle Eastern Dance and Music Event {Barony of Brendoken}* [Akron, OH]
- 22-25 - *Blackstone Raid XIX {Barony of Blackstone Mountain}* [Ripley, WV]
- 24 - *Andelcrag Althing {Barony of Andelcrag}* [Grant Township, MI]  
- *Awakening - Armored Egg Hunt {Baile na Scolairi}* [Bloomington, IL]  
- *Ides and Arrow {Incipient Canton of Iron Oak}* [New Lothrop, MI]

### May

- 1-2 - *Spring Coronation {Barony of the Flame}* [Crestwood, KY]
- 7-9 - *Baron Wars XIII: Maybe It Won't Rain This Year...* [Marche of the Marshes] [Perrysburg, OH]
- 8 - *Collegium Artium Vulgarum {Barony of Donnershafen}* [Gaylord, MI]



Members of the Shire wait for court at the Festival of Maidens in January.



## patrick: Irelands Most Misunderstood Saint

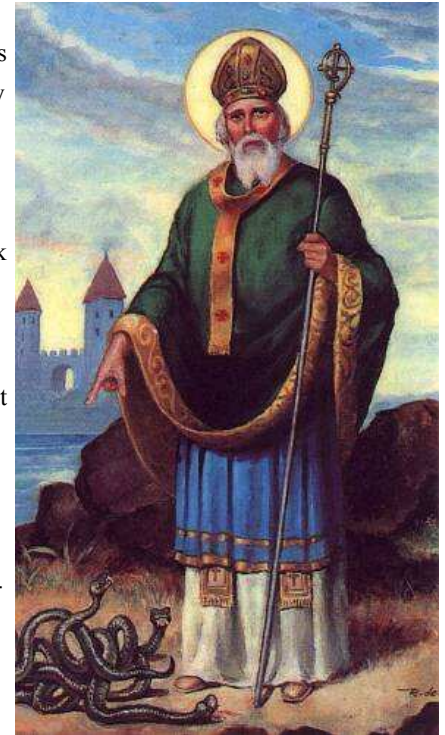
Submitted by Lady Ása Farbjörnsdóttir

Every year, thousands of Americans swill green beer, spend the day pinching wearers of any color that doesn't resemble emerald, and emblazon the phrase "Kiss me I'm Irish" on every thing imaginable, from t-shirts to e-cards (even if they aren't really Irish). Much like the Easter Bunny, the Great Pumpkin, and the Jolly Fat Man in red, Saint Patrick's existence seems like just another excuse to have a party. But how many of us really know the truth behind this most celebrated man?

First of all, he wasn't even Irish. Born in 385, probably near Kilpatrick, Scotland, Patrick was the son of two Romans, Calpurnius and Conchessa, who were living in Britain in charge of the colonies. At the tender age of fourteen, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. In Ireland at the time, the dominant religion was paganism, and it was during this captivity that Patrick turned to Christianity for salvation and reprieve. After escaping captivity, he returned to his family in Scotland and did not return until twenty-eight years later.

Secondly, I very much doubt that Patrick would approve of celebrating his birthday by drinking gallons of alcohol and making out with random strangers. He spent the whole of his twenties studying for priesthood, often had visions that he believed were sent by god, and was even ordained as a bishop. He returned to Ireland to preach the gospel, convert the pagans to Christianity, and wrote about his love for God in Confessions. He lived in poverty, traveled ceaselessly, and endured much suffering before he died in 461.

It is even believed that the shamrock, that holy weed that we associate with the holiday in his name, was used by this Saint to teach the heathens about the Christian value of "the holy trinity," that is, three spirits (the son, Jesus, the father, god, and the holy spirit) in one. The plant was already there, Patrick merely transformed it into a teaching aid to help purge the people of what he believed to be sin. The Druids, who scholars believe are the "snakes" being referred to in the legend, even had a prophecy written about the coming of this man, one that historians think showed the hostility between the traveling prophet and themselves:



*"Across the sea will come Adze-head, crazed in the head,  
His cloak with hole for the head, his stick bent in the head.  
He will chant impieties from a table in the front of his house;  
All his people will answer: 'so be it, so be it.'"*



So, the ideas behind modern-day green beer, and shamrocks are mostly made up and barely founded on actual historical facts. I say, a more proper way to celebrate this long-standing holiday would be spending the day dressed in a toga, preaching to people who believe in an idea you don't approve of in a Scottish accent and handing out little cups of symbolic fruit juice. However, drinking beer and kissing other folks seems way more fun, and who am I to dismiss a good party, just because the history is a little off? So drink up, friends, and don't come within a foot of me on March 17<sup>th</sup>, unless you're wearing something green, or there will be a mighty pinch with your name on it!



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# PATTER PATER

~ Submitted by Lady Antine Andersdottir



## SIMPLICITY COSTUMES, MISSES COSTUMES # 9891

Here is the next installment of Patter Patter. Since last issue we dealt with a man's pattern, for this issue we will deal with a women's pattern. This pattern has been part of the Simplicity Line for many years and with a few alterations can make a very well fitted gores dress. MS 9891 pattern comes in 2 groups of sizes; Size HH has 6-12 sizes and RR has sizes 14-20, and there are three views included in the envelope.

View A-is a basic gores dress with a long sleeve and neck trim. The picture shows two different materials. Use a single material (unless you are doing a in-party style dress using 2 or more colors) for the outer dress. Also if you want to use the big flowing sleeve, use a full length inner sleeve as well (not included) for a more period correct look. Oh and skip the neck trim....

View B-In my mind is an out of period style...but if you want to use it, please use a full length fitted sleeve instead of the what is shown.

View C-to me is the winner of the pattern, it also requires a full length fitted sleeve but overall the pattern is easy to alter. I would recommend cutting a lining from the upper half of the pattern and making a test fit, before cutting out and untried pattern.

You can purchase a different pattern to use a close fitting sleeve such as Simplicity 2573. Or you can try to alter the pattern on your own; here's one way to change the sleeve pattern:

**First** Take a measurement of your arm from the shoulder to the wrist and add an inch.

**Second** Measure your wrist and add an inch.

**Third** Cut the upper sleeve pattern and lay it over a sheet of newsprint/packing paper.

**Fourth** Trace the half-sleeve portion of the pattern. Take a yard stick and place it at the top of the half sleeve, be sure the yard stick is equal distant between the side pattern lines. Use your shoulder to wrist measurement and make a mark.

**Fifth** Use the above mark as a center point for the wrist measurement. For example if you have a 6 inch wrist, the measurement is 7 inches, so 3 1/2 inches should be on either side of the mark.

**Sixth** Bring down the sleeve side lines until they meet the end marks of the wrist.

**Seventh** Cut the paper pattern. You will probably have to make some alterations to the sleeve while sewing and fitting.



*This is the March/April 2010 issue of the Hawk's Flight, a publication of the Shire of Blackhawk of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Hawk's Flight is available from Tricia Reed, 10460 Pearl St., Roscoe, IL 61073. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles of artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.*



## THE HAWK'S FLIGHT

# Resource List for Historical Combat

Submitted by THL Patrick von Brandenburg CE

**Books** -- There are a number of modern translations of period fighting books which have been published recently. The most prolific publisher to date has been Chivalry Bookshelf ([www.chivalrybookshelf.com](http://www.chivalrybookshelf.com)) which has published: Secrets of German Medieval Swordsmanship by Christian Tobler, Sigmund Ringeck's 1440 fechtbuch; Fighting with the German Longsword by Christian Tobler, an introduction to German longsword; In Service to the Duke by Christian Tobler, Paulus Kal's 1270 fechtbuch; The Sword in Two Hands by Brian Price, Fiore's longsword from Fiore de Battaglia; English Swordsmanship by Stephen Hand, the true fight of George Silver; The Art of Dueling by Tom Leoni, Salvatore Fabris' rapier fighting treatise from 1606; Medieval Art of Swordsmanship by Dr. Jeffery Forgeng, translation of the I.33 fechtbuch; Arte Gladiatoria by Lucca Porzio and Greg Mele, translation of Fillippo Vadi's manuscript; and several other interesting works.

Paladin Press ([www.paladin-press.com](http://www.paladin-press.com)) has also published several works, including: Master of Defense by Paul Wagner, the True Fight of George Silver; Sigmund Ringeck's Knightly Art of Combat by Lindholm and Svard; Sigmund Ringeck's Knightly Art of the Longsword by Lindholm and Svard; and Conex Wallerstein, a medieval fighting book from the fifteenth century on the longsword, falchion, dagger, and wrestling by Grzegorz Zabinski and Bartłomiej Walczak.

Other excellent works which can be found from other publishers are: Medieval Combat by Mark Rector, a translation of Hans Talhoffer's 1467 fechtbuch; Italian Rapier Combat by Jared Kirby, a translation of Capo Ferro's rapier text Gran Simulacro; The Art of Combat by Dr. Jeffrey Forgeng, a translation of Joachim Meyer's 1570 fechtbuch; and The Martial Arts of Renaissance Europe by Dr. Sydney Anglo, a survey of fighting techniques and sources.

There are two works from the Chivalry Bookshelf which I highly recommend, though they are not direct translations of the material. These are the Duelist's Companion and the Swordsman's Companion, both by Guy Windsor. These are guides to the arts of Capo Ferro's rapier and Fiore's longsword, presented as a curriculum for the student to learn. They start with basic explanation of the material, then move to stretching and conditioning exercises, and then to solo and paired drills to master specific skill sets. Seriously, these books are very well done.

**Websites** -- There are a number of websites which present information on historical combat, some of which also contain libraries of materials. Please note that some of these sites of links to materials in museums and universities, and that the images which are hosted are usually the property of the host, and should not be used indiscriminately.

Academy of European Medieval Martial Arts ([www.aemma.org](http://www.aemma.org)): A formal school in Canada, which has an excellent online library which is available through the purchase of an online library card.

Association of Renaissance Martial Arts (<http://thearma.org/>) - Another formal school, with a good store of available texts and online articles.

The Order of the Seven Hearts ([www.salvatorefabris.com](http://www.salvatorefabris.com)) - Tom Leoni's school, which has an excellent store of material on rapier, smallsword, and Bolognese sword.

HROARR ([www.paravoid.se/hema/index.html](http://www.paravoid.se/hema/index.html)) - A resource page for Historical European Martial Arts, with links to some quality material.

Chicago Swordplay Guild ([www.chicagoswordplayguild.com](http://www.chicagoswordplayguild.com)) - A Chicago-area group which actively studies Fiore and Capo Ferro, as well as several other weapons.

Gallowglass Academy ([www.gallowglassacademy.org](http://www.gallowglassacademy.org)) - A Rockford-area group which offers seminars in several arts.

St. Martin's Academy ([www.stmartinsacademy.com](http://www.stmartinsacademy.com)) - A Madison-area school which focuses on the art of Fiore dei Liberi.

There are many groups out there - this is just a starter-list. Check out the links pages of these schools for lots more!

The author of this list can be reached at [sgtpatrickvonb@gmail.com](mailto:sgtpatrickvonb@gmail.com) with questions.





MARCH-APRIL 2010

## The Festival of Maidens

Submitted by Lady Ása Farbjörnsdottir



*Lord William le Pied welcomes his new man-at-arms to the family at the Festival of Maidens in January.*

The journey to the Shire of Würmwald for this year's Festival of Maidens XXXVII seemed like nothing when I thought of the friends I would be meeting again, and the important events that were to take place. The day did not disappoint! A member of my Lord's family, Lord Sabbah al Rasheed won the heavy tournament, bringing honor to his lady, his kingdom and his family. My Lord's brother-in-arms, Lord William Le Pied took a man at arms to make their family even stronger. Lady Henrikje Novella Duin, Lady Antine Andersdottir, and Lady Meadhbh Winters all entered their crafts in the A&S Faire, and Lady Antine taught both a class on Paternosters, as well as A Brief History of Lace in the SCA Period. Along with several surprises (and amusements), court was eventful, and a dear member of our shire, Lady Elyes Minche, received her Award of Arms. The day ended in a great celebration, with much mead and feasting for everyone. I couldn't have had more fun, and I sit in rapt anticipation for the next time we can all be together again.

## REENACTORFEST

Submitted by Lady Elyes Minche

I attended and participated in the Beginner Renaissance Dance class at Reenactorfest taught by Sharon Spanogle with assistance from Rob Hicks. I enjoyed myself and learned much. At the Ball, I danced one of the dances taught in the class. It was fun!



*Lady Elyes Minche shows off her scroll after receiving her AOA at the Festival of Maidens in January.*



### Reminder!

A&S Night is the second Tuesday of every Month. The next two will be on the 13th of April, 2010, and the 11th of May, 2010! For directions, please email [moas@shireofblackhawk.org](mailto:moas@shireofblackhawk.org).



### Reminder!

Armory Night is the every Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m. at Baron Sir Gunther von Brandenburg's house. For directions, please email [ritter996@yahoo.com](mailto:ritter996@yahoo.com).



# DATE AND WALNUT SODA BREAD

Submitted by Lady Ása Farbjörnsdóttir

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 7 oz (1 3/4 cups) strong wholemeal flour | 8 fl oz (1 cup) milk                     |
| 9 oz (2 1/2 cups) plain flour            | 1 tsp cream of tartar                    |
| 1 tsp baking soda                        | 2 oz (1/4 cup) butter, melted            |
| 1/2 tsp salt                             | 3 oz (1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp) walnut pieces |
| 4 oz (1/2 cup) soft light brown sugar    | 6 oz (3/4 cup) pitted dates, chopped     |



Place the flours, baking soda, salt and sugar into a large bowl. Mix the milk and cream of tartar in a jug. Add the melted butter and egg to the flour with the walnuts and dates. Gradually mix in the milk to make a soft dough.

Tip out on to a lightly floured surface, knead briefly then pat into a 8 inch circle. Transfer to a greased baking sheet and make a cross cut on top of the dough.

Sprinkle with a little extra flour and bake immediately in a preheated oven (425°), for 20—25 minutes until the bread is browned and sounds hollow when tapped with the fingertips. Holding the sheet with oven gloves, loosen the bread with a palette knife and transfer to a wire rack to cool.



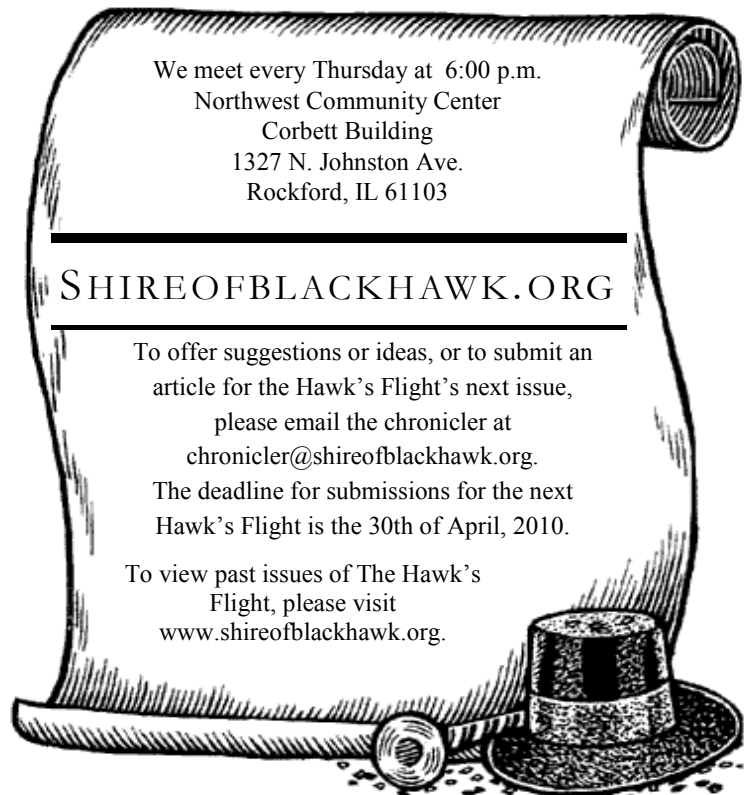
## WEAPON WORDAGE

~ Submitted by Lord Thorfinn

“Florentine was first used as a term for a weapon style within the Society for Creative Anachronism circa A.S.2 (1970 AD) to describe a fighting style involving the use of two pounds of spinach and a pair of salad forks. Later the spinach was either discarded or eaten (feasts often started late in those days) and the term came to denote any two-weapon style, or, alternatively "what medieval knights would have called fighting in tournaments with two weapons at once if they had ever done such a thing, which they didn't". The style is sometimes referred to as “too many swords.” While medieval men at arms sometimes carried a second sword in case their primary weapon was lost or broken, there is no evidence they fought in armored combat with two at one time.”

~Will McLean

(<http://willscommonplacebook.blogspot.com>)



We meet every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.  
Northwest Community Center  
Corbett Building  
1327 N. Johnston Ave.  
Rockford, IL 61103

## SHIREOFBLACKHAWK.ORG

To offer suggestions or ideas, or to submit an article for the Hawk's Flight's next issue, please email the chronicler at [chronicler@shireofblackhawk.org](mailto:chronicler@shireofblackhawk.org). The deadline for submissions for the next Hawk's Flight is the 30th of April, 2010.

To view past issues of The Hawk's Flight, please visit [www.shireofblackhawk.org](http://www.shireofblackhawk.org).