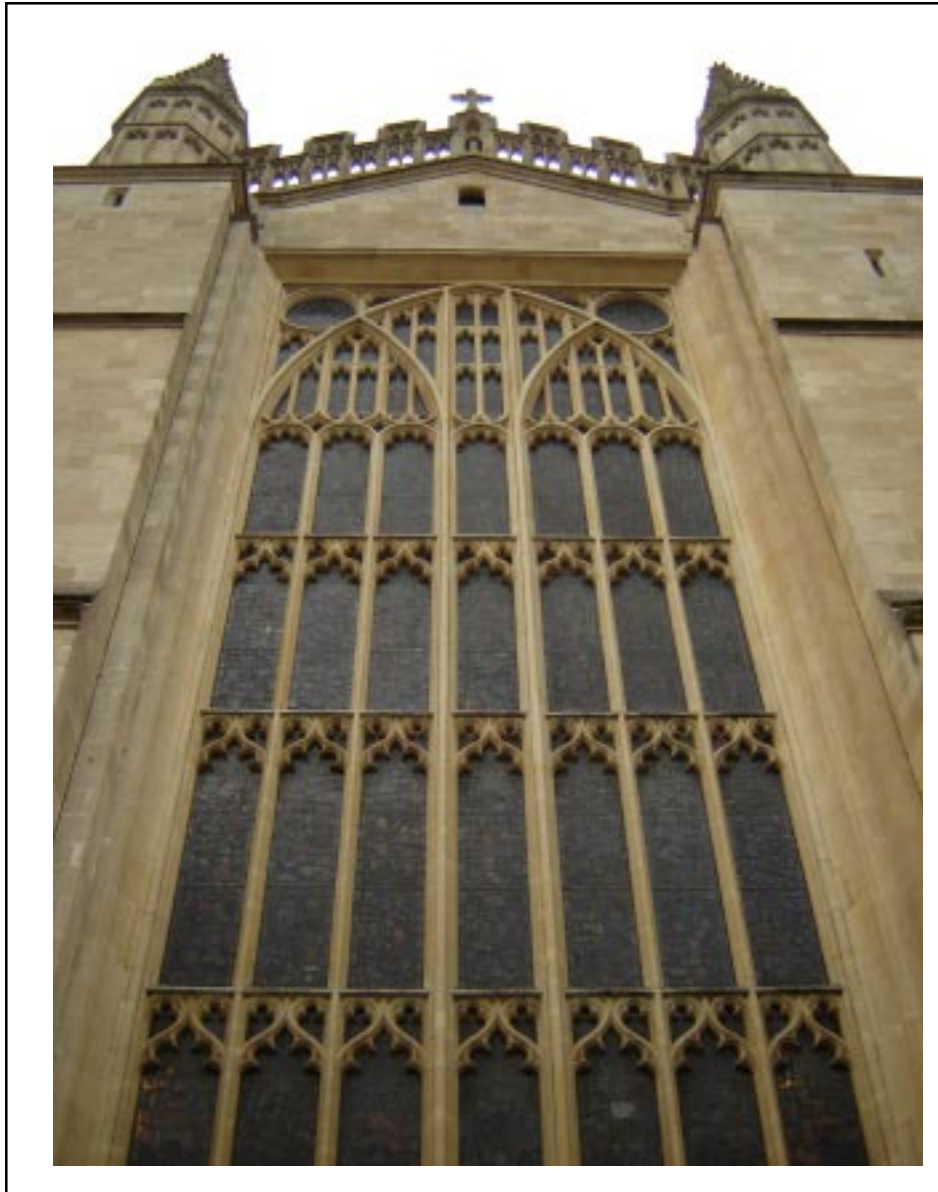


# The Scarlet Letter

Shire of Loch Ruadh



November/December  
(A.S. XLII) (CE 2007)

# Officers

## Seneschal

Lady Brighid Nic Seward  
(Sarah Rozell)  
1113 Lake Whitney Dr  
Wylie, TX 75098  
469-323-4269  
seneschal@lochruadh.org

## Hospitaler

Lady Aingeal Mac an Ghabhann  
(Angelia Myers)  
2604 Creekwood Ln  
Fort Worth, TX 76123  
817-295-5198  
hospitaler@lochruadh.org

## Archery Marshal

Lord Gruffydd Vawr ap Rhodri  
(Don McKinnon)  
1820 McCully Street  
White Settlement, TX 76108  
817-367-7727  
archerymarshal@lochruadh.org

## Chronicler

Floria Blackdragon  
(Crystal Dozier)  
5832 Lyle Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76114  
817-738-7720  
chronicler@lochruadh.org

## Minister of Arts & Sciences

Lord Terrance adte Syke  
4116 South Carrier Pkwy  
Ste. 280, PMB 702  
Grand Prairie, TX 75052  
moas@lochruadh.org

## Knight Marshal

Lord Kazimierz Zlosciwy  
(Dennis Polley)  
8762 Gray Fox Court  
Fort Worth, TX 76123  
817-263-2969  
knightmarshal@lochruadh.org

## Exchequer

Lady Antonia Visconte  
(Michelle Polley)  
8762 Gray Fox Court  
Fort Worth, TX 76123  
817-263-2969  
exchequer@lochruadh.org

## Herald

Lord Robartach O'Sluaghain  
(Robert Singleton)  
817-538-2286  
sluggyy9912@swbell.net  
herald@lochruadh.org

## Virtual Scribe

Office Open  
virtualscribe@lochruadh.org

**Loch Ruadh Web Page:**  
<http://www.lochruadh.org>

Cover Art: "Cathedral in Bath" by Brighid Nic Seward

## Subscription and Submission Information

*The Scarlet Letter* is a bi-monthly publication available free online at [www.lochruadh.org](http://www.lochruadh.org). Printed copies will be available free of charge at populace meetings. Please let the Chronicler know if you want a printed copy so there will be enough available. If you would like a printed copy mailed to you, you must pay for postage. Postage is 0.41 x number of issues left in the year.

Submissions must include a written statement (email is fine) stating that permission is granted to publish in electronic and print format the article, photograph, poem, artwork, etc.

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**Note:** All Loch Ruadh meetings, practices, and gatherings are posted on the Loch Ruadh online calendar at [www.lochruadh.org](http://www.lochruadh.org), and reminders are sent out on the 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 computer or email access, please contact the Seneschal or any other Officer for directions.

*"Speaking Forsoothly Part Seven" by Padraig Ruad O'Maolagain (Sam Milligan), "Rambling Bits of Useless Information" by Bice'di Pietro (Chris Harper), "Cathedral in Bath" by Brighid Nic Seward (Sarah Rozell) - All Rights Reserved. All items used with permission from the original creator. All clip art images taken from [www.hasslefreeclipart.com](http://www.hasslefreeclipart.com). Permission to use on Terms of Service page which can be found at [www.hasslefreeclipart.com/pages\\_terms.html](http://www.hasslefreeclipart.com/pages_terms.html)*

## Seneschal

Greetings Loch Ruadh,

We have two offices currently open for bids – the Knight Marshall and the Chronicler. Bids for these offices will close at December Populace. If you need help putting a bid together or have questions feel free to contact myself or the current holders of these offices for assistance. Also, bids for Autocrat(s) for Lughnasad 2008 opened at October officers meeting and will close at December officers meeting. Again, if you need help putting a bid together or just have questions about being an Autocrat feel free to contact me. If I do not know the answer to your question(s) I can find the answer or point you in the direction of someone who knows.

The Holiday Season is upon us and I want to wish everyone the very best. Remember to take the time out from the hustle and bustle of the Holidays to enjoy the moments with friends and family. Be safe; take care of each other and Happy Celebrating!

In Service,  
Brigid Nic Seward

## A&S Minister

Greetings! Although the planned Arts and Sciences events don't have firm dates as of this missive, there are several November-December events in our area. November 2-4 is Battle of Three Kings in Rosenfeld (Tyler) at which a war point will be given for the A&S winner and Glasyln(Denton) will be holding it's Artisan of the Flame event on November 24th. Blacklake's Western Sentinel will be in Sweetwater and Defenders of the Rose will be held by the Shire of Shadowlands and Emerald Keep in Rockdale, TX, both Nov. 9-11.

Loch Ruadh's monthly Scribes and Illuminators will be Nov. 19th at Alric and Fiona's house. Currently a Bardic and Beer Tasting is planned for November 24th but the location isn't definite, so please check the calendar.

Currently I am trying to bring together an A&S on card-weaving and another on nallbinding, but I don't have solid dates or locations yet.

As usual, don't hesitate to contact me if I can help with anything.

Terrence  
MoAS

## Archery Marshal

Archery practices have been going very well in the last two months. We have averaged between 5 and 15 shooters per practice. During this period, we have had 9 guest archers participate and several new archers from the Shire.

I am very proud of our children's participation. They are very enthusiastic and determined. I would like to especially take note of Bryan Floyd. I have watched him go from not even being able to reach the 10 yard target to hitting 5 out of 6 scoring points each round. Vivat to all our young shooters.

Gruffed Mawr Ap Rodri,  
Loch Ruadh Archery Marshal

## Chamberlain

Notes and News from the Chamberlain:

Lady Bice has finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kneeling Pillow and brought it to the storage shed. It is a master piece in appliqué.

Lady Gwennlian returned the wooden bowls from the Feast Container. She restored the finish and they are beautiful and ready for use.

Lord Domhnall packed "ALL" of the Shire Library at his house and sent it to its new resting place. It is sitting on the floor at Lord Caerell and Lady Aingal's house waiting on bookshelves. I will post a complete listing of available material as soon as I get an inventory. (Note to self...take the books, Laird Sean donated, that are sitting in your sewing room and add them to the library.) I will post/publish a complete listing of material available for check out as soon as I get it completed.

I want to thank everyone that contacted me to let me know they were in possession of Shire property. Thank you for returning it to the storage shed or for continuing to sign and take responsibility for said items. Please join me in thanking these fine folks for their dedication to the preservation of property for the Shire of Loch Ruadh.

If you have Shire property that you have not returned to the storage shed or have not signed it out in your name please contact me so we can make arrangements to get it back to the shed or have you sign it out.

Yours in service,

Dana, keeper of the stuff

# Chronicler

Greetings Loch Ruadh!

The time has come for the Chronicler's Office to open up for bids. Bids opened at October Populace and will close at December Populace.

The duties of the Chronicler's Office are: collecting material for, creating, publishing, and distributing the *Scarlet Letter*, maintain and update Shire webpages and webpage email accounts, and the Loch Ruadh email list administer. If you would like more information on these duties, please contact either me, or the Seneschal. I will send out an email detailing these duties soon.

Forms for bids can be found at:

<http://seneschal.ansteorra.org/forms/Application.pdf>

Please send the form, along with a copy of your current SCA membership card, and a copy of your driver's licence to me, our Seneschal, and the Central Regional Chronicler, Lord Padraig Ruad O'Maolagain at:

[central\\_chronicler@ansteorra.org](mailto:central_chronicler@ansteorra.org)

I know the holidays are coming up, but please don't forget to send in your submissions for the Jan/Feb *Scarlet Letter* by December 20.

Happy Holidays!

YIS,

Floria Blackdragon

# Hospitaler

Greetings Loch Ruadh,

We have been contacted by several Newcomers. Please welcome them with open arms at activities and meetings. I am hopeful to start the New Year with new faces and ones we have not seen recently. We have had donations to the Hospitaler from various members. One of the items we now have to loan is the Known World Handbook. If you would like read it please contact me. I am still seeking a Deputy or two to help with the office. Everyone enjoy the holidays.

In Service,  
Aingeal

# Rambling Bits of Useless Information

from Bicé di Pietro

As some of you know, I love books of all kinds but especially cookbooks, both old and new. The following is some of those useless bits of info I found while looking for a beer recipe.

This particular book contains everything you can think of for living in the country with a large family. In the food categories there are such things as Pinto Bean Cake, Doghead Bread, Kalakukko (fish cock), Fried Armadillo and how to cook Possum.

The things that caught my eye today was how to make your own Cleansing Cream, how to bait a pond, and best of all, how to make your wishes come true. If you see a white horse, make your wish, stamp one palm with the other fist 3 times. If you knock a chair over, pick it up before counting to 7. And, the first time you sleep under a new quilt, close your eyes and make a wish – guaranteed to come true.

Some of the cure-alls are really different. For chest colds and croup you were given a mixture of kerosene and sugar. To cure a sprained ankle, they would wet brown paper sacks in vinegar and wrap several layers around the sprain. Change 3 times a day. The best one was the cure for warts. You were to sneak out your neighbor's dishrag and bury it without ever telling them about it. When the dishrag rotted, the warts were gone.

In looking back at all of this, I truly believe our diets have improved a lot over the years, we can now buy our cosmetics (much easier) and the medical care we have is almost miraculous in comparison. I believe this gives us all something to be thankful for this Thanksgiving; I know I am.

As for the wishes, we all still believe in them I think. We daily say wishes for a Happy Birthday, God's speed, safe trip and good luck. To carry on this belief, on Christmas Eve, I will be sleeping under a new Christmas throw and I will hold it, close my eyes and wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Bicé



The SCA According to Padraig  
Speaking Forsoothly  
Part Seven

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Pádraig Ruad Ó Maolagáin

Good tidings, good friends!

I do present unto you lessons 29 through 32. In the course of our daily lives, we must necessarily deal with a myriad of folk, in our own households, in the marketplace, any number of craftsmen, merchants, servants, and so forth. Most of these people have a title that befits his or her trade or skill and station in life. Knowing one's place and social order in life was very important; even servants could consider themselves a bit above the common tenant farmer, and the freeman would think himself much better off than a serf, bound to a lord and his land.

Note also that many of these designations for professions or trades over time became surnames; John the Fletcher, who made arrows, became John Fletcher, while the barrel-maker, William, became William Cooper, as just two examples.

**Lesson 29**

Services and Occupations - 1

<b>You get</b>	<b>From the</b>
Books	Stationer or Bookseller
Cloth	Mercer
Hats	Milliner or Hatter
Suit of Clothes	Tailor
Shirts/Smocks	Seamstress
Ready made clothes	Draper
Arrows	Fletcher
Bows	Bowyer
Horseshoes	Farrier
Other iron work	Blacksmith
Armor	Armorer
A Portrait	Limner
Legal Service	Lawyer
Drugs/Medicines	Apothecary
Dentistry	Barber Surgeon

**Lesson 30**

Services and Occupations - 2

**In town**

A Stapler      Buys and sells raw wool; also silk and linen.

A Draper      Deals in cloth (wholesale), plus some ready-made garments and dry goods.  
A Mercer      Is the cloth retailer: the local fabric store is a mercer's shop. One may be a silk mercer or a wool mercer, for example.

**Among your own servants and workers, the**

Man of Business      Is your accountant, who looks after your investments  
Steward      Oversees the running of your estates.  
Factor      Does business for you in London, or in another country.  
Nurse      Takes care of infants and young children.  
Wet Nurse      Breast feeds the baby (as long as the first two years).  
Tutor      Educates your children

**Lesson 31**

Services and Occupations - 3

More Services and Occupations  
(Notice how many of these are also modern surnames)

<b>You get</b>	<b>From the</b>
Barrels	Cooper
Candles	Chandler
Gloves	Glover
Glass Windows	Glazier
Tile for the roof	Tiler
Saddles, bridles, etc.	Saddler
Knives	Cutler
Furniture	Joiner

**Lesson 32**

Services and Occupations - 4

<b>The</b>	<b>Is</b>
Landlord	The man who runs the tavern
Ostler	The man who runs the inn (with rooms and stabling as well as food and drink)
Fuller	The "laundry service", if you send you

- clothes out for cleaning.
- Acater The agent you hire to order and buy food or goods you do not supply from your own estates. (This root word gives us the modern term “caterer”.)
- Warrener The man who catches rabbits on your land. (Rabbits live in warrens.)
- Fowler The man who supplies game birds for your table.
- Cocker The man who handles the birds at cock fighting.
- Sawyer The man you contract with for sawn wooden planks (and so on) for building.
- Turner The person the joiner buys lathe-turned items from, such as table legs, finials, etc.



**Shakespearian Words/Phrases to use:**

Minikin – shrill or petty  
 “God save us from that minikin tone he doth use to trumpet his own virtues.”

Passing – extremely or exceedingly  
 “Saw you her garb? I’truth, what some will wear is passing strange.”

Vile – Low, cheap or worthless  
 “My purse be so near to empty that I must content myself with vile ale.”

Barm – The froth or foam on fermenting ale or beer, containing yeasts  
 “Betake the barm and use it to leaven the bread.”



## Loch Ruadh's Meeting Places

**Archery & Fighter Practice**  
 Park Road  
 Dutch Branch Park  
 Benbrook, TX 76126

**Fian Ruadh Fighter Practice**  
 Casino Beach Park  
 N Surfside and  
 Jacksboro Hwy  
 Lake Worth, TX

**Officer’s Meeting**  
 IHOP  
 3700 Alta Mesa  
 Fort Worth, TX 76133

**Populace Meeting**  
 IHOP  
 5920 Quebec Street  
 Fort Worth, TX 76135

**Lord Alric & Lady Fiona’s**  
 108 NE Rosamond Street  
 Burleson, TX 76028  
 817-426-4631

**Lady Catrin and Lord Tegward’s**  
 1016 McKavett Dr  
 Burleson, TX 76028  
 817-295-5198

**Lord Padraig Ruad O’Maolagain**  
 3808 Arroyo Dr  
 Weatherford, TX  
 76087  
 817-599-4192

# November

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Archery Practice Dutch Branch Park 1:30 pm	5	6	7 Populace Meeting Quebec St. IHOP 7:30 pm	8	9	10
11 Fian Ruadh Fighter Practice Casino Park 1:00 pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Archery Practice Dutch Branch Park 1:30 pm	19 Scribes & Illuminator's Alric & Fiona's 7:30 pm	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24 Bardic Padraig's
25	26	27	28 Officer's Meeting Alta Mesa IHOP 8:00 pm	29	30	

# December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Archery & Fighter Practice Dutch Branch Park 1:30 pm	3	4	5 Populace Meeting Quebec St. IHOP 7:30 pm	6	7	8
9 Fian Ruadh Fighter Practice Casino Park 2:00 pm	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Archery & Fighter Practice Dutch Branch Park 1:30 pm	17	18	19 Officer's Meeting Catrin & Tegward's 8:00 pm	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve	Christmas				

# Kingdom Calendar

## November 2007 (A.S. XLII)

- 2-4 Battle of Three Kings - Rosenfeld (Tyler, TX)  
9-11 Defenders of the Rose - Shadowlands and Emerald  
Keep (Rockdale, TX)  
Western Sentinel - Blacklake (Odessa/Midland, TX)  
Fair of the Harvest - Chemin Noir  
(Bartlesville/Tulsa, OK)  
16-18 Autumn Melees - Bordermarch (Beaumont, TX)  
23-25

## December 2007 (A.S. XLII)

- 30-2 Stargate Yule - Stargate (Houston, TX)  
Weisenfeuer Yule Revel - Wiesenfeuer  
(Oklahoma City, OK)  
7-9 Winter Kingdom - Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)  
14-16 Dragonsfire Tor Yule Revel and Eisteddfod -  
Dragonsfire Tor (Stephenville, TX)  
21-23  
28-30

## January 2008 (A.S. XLII)

- 4-6 Central Region 12th Night - Steppes (Dallas, TX)  
Bonwicke's 12th Night - Bonwicke (Lubbock, TX)  
11-13 Coronation - TBA  
18-20 King's Round Table - TBA  
25-27 Queen's Champion - TBA

## February 2008 (A.S. XLII)

- 1-3 Candlemas - Bryn Gwlad (Austin, TX)  
8-10 Kingdon A&S - Northkeep (Tulsa, OK)  
15-17 A Day at the Grand Melees - Raven's Fort (Huntsville, TX)  
22-24 Coastal Invasion - Seawinds/Stonebridge Keep (Corpus  
Christi/Victoria, TX)  
Winter War Maneuvers - Moonshadowe (Stillwater, OK)

**For more information:**

**[www.ansteorra.org](http://www.ansteorra.org) or [www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)**



Floria Blackdragon  
(Crystal Dozier)  
5832 Lyle St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76114

