

The Dancing Moon

September, 2011



Photo by Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien

In the Grand Manner

Lady Sciath in all her finery at St. George and the Dragon,
Oakheart, 2010

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Photo by Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien

Fortress Battle, Gulf Wars 2011

Art, Article and Photo Credits

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Local Announcements

Congratulations to Lord Eric upon being made a Huscarl! Huzzah!

The September Shire Business Meeting returns to the usual second Tuesday of the month (September 13).

If you find an error that needs correcting in the shire newsletter or the shire website, please let your webminister/chronicler know ASAP.

Submit September announcements to the Chronicler

Notes from Lady Nest's Sewing Class

August 23, 2011

1. What do you want to make?

Early-to-mid-period clothing is generally easiest to make. These include T-Tunics and poofy pants. Historically in this time period there was a general warming of the earth.

Later period was known as a "little ice age" and more layers of heavier clothing were worn to accommodate lower temps. Innovations in manufacturing and growing trade allowed for more elaborate fabrics and bling.

2. What will you need to make it?

Different cultures developed different styles of clothing. The fabrics used were whatever was available to them.

China had silk.

India and Egypt had cotton.

Europe had linen.

Everyone had wool and leather.

With the exception of leather, all fabrics are woven from spun materials.

The gauge of the yarn determines the number of strands per inch in the weave.

Cotton spins very thin and allows for a fine weave. Cotton is usually inexpensive, readily available, and forgiving on seams (does not fray easily).

Many fabrics come from cotton.

Gauze is a loosely-woven cotton. Unfortunately, the cut edges of gauze frays easily.

Other weaves of cotton (and there are many) have tighter weaves (more threads per inch) and the edges of a seam will fray, but not easily.

It is possible to spin linen as fine as cotton (handkerchief linen), but it is very expensive. Most linen available today is spun in a coarser thread and the weave frays easily.

Wool (depending on the type of animal) can be coarse or fine. The finer the yarn the more expensive the wool. The edges of wool can fray easily. Wool can also be felted. Felted wool does not fray easily. Wool contains lanolin which repels water.

Silk can be spun fine or thick. Either way, it is expensive, and the edges fray easily.

There are more modern fabrics (polyester, rayon, nylon, ramie and viscose, to name a few) but these do not "breathe" and can be unbearable when worn in heat. We do not use these if we can avoid them.

3. Making a pattern. Include "seam allowance."

<http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-T-Tunic-for-a-Renaissance-Fair>

<http://iollan.com/archive/rencester/new/tunic.html>

http://www.virtue.to/articles/tunic_worksheet.html

4. Various stitches.

Most of what you will use is called a "running stitch", straight over and under. Widely spaced running stitches are used for basting (temporary). More closely spaced stitches are used for actually sewing the seam or hem.

There are also specialty stitches used for hemming, attaching beads or sequins, and for making button holes.

5. A note about needles.

I have found that handsewing is time-consuming, but worth the effort. I have far more control of the thread placement and tension than when using a sewing machine. I also use far less thread. My biggest issue has always been controlling the needle. When I started beading, I discovered that bead needles, which are longer and thinner than regular sewing needles, offered me far greater control.

People tell me they are jealous of my ability to make tiny stitches; my secret is needle control. I cannot make tiny stitches using short needles.

I recommend that you try a variety of needles until you find the one size you are most comfortable with, and then stick with that one needle size. If your needle is comfortable, sewing is a breeze. With the wrong needle, sewing becomes a chore.

6. Seam differences unless otherwise defined, all seam allowances are 5/8"

Clean Seam "right" sides facing each other; sew 5/8" from edge
Straight stitch, not ironed open, but rough edges stitched together, folded to side.
Straight stitch, ironed open, with pinked, or stitched, or untreated edges.
Straight stitch, ironed open, with edges tucked under and contained.

French Seam "wrong" sides together, stitch 2/8" from edge, fold over and sew 3/8" from edge

Flat Fell Seam (aka "Jeans Seam") fold one side wrong sides together 2/8" from edge and baste. Take the other piece and place wrong sides together, align along the edge of the basting thread, and baste 2/8" from edge. Fold flat. On the "wrong" side, sew a short running stitch just inside the basting. On the "right" side, sew a short running stitch along the edge of the fold. Remove the basting threads.

This seam requires sewing four times, but contains the edges so nothing can fray, and gives double stitch strength. In the crotch area of trousers, I will add a third row of final stitching in the middle of the seam for extra strength.

7. Hems

Generally, a hem is the edge rolled under and stitched into place.

Hems can be deep (two inches or more), shallow (half an inch) or

"handkerchief" which are very tiny hems usually found on the edges of veils.

It is also possible to use trim to secure a hem. This only works on fabric that is identical on both sides. Stitch the bottom of the "wrong" side of the trim to the bottom of the inside of the garment. Fold over to the front and stitch the top of the trim to the front of the garment. Then, going over the previous stitches, stitch the lower part of the trim to the back of the fabric. This encases the rough edge of the fabric so that it won't fray.

From the Chatelaine's Desk

Lady Aesa Inn Kyrra

The Saturday demo at the library turned out quite well with an unexpected number of visitors. Several contact/Chatelaine cards were handed out to interested folk who we hope to see again. Thank you to Lady Dulcibella, Lady Lou, Lord Thomas, HL Paul, Lord Kristoph and Lord James for their assistance.

For the demo last Friday, thank you to Lady Dulcibella, HL Paul, Lord Kristoph and Lord Erik for your support. Sadly the turnout was almost non-existent but we did get one or two interested folk. Both demos got some interest which we hope will bring new recruitment.



Before the Joust, Gulf Wars, 2011

Photo by Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien



Branch Champion's Shoot for Autumn Arrows

The shoot will be organized as a Black Jack tournament.

Each archer will receive a "salary" at the beginning of the tournament. In order to compete in each round you must have 1 salary to bet. If you beat the dealer's hand (without exceeding 21) you will receive another salary. (Table limit 1 salary per round.) If you push (tie the dealer) you will retain your salary to the next round. If you lose the house takes your bet.

The archer with the most "cash" at the end of 10 rounds wins. (Alternatively: The last archer with a salary to bet wins.)

All bow types welcome.

Target will be around 20 yards.

Standard size playing cards are used.

The ten rounds will be shot as follows:

For rounds 1-7 you may shoot 5 arrows. Round 8: 4 arrows. Round 9: 3 arrows. Round 10: 2 arrows.

In round 1-2: Dealer has 17. Dealer's hand is in upper right of target.

In round 3-4: Dealer has 18.

In round 5-6: Dealer has 19.

In round 7-8: Dealer has 20.

In round 9-10: Dealer has 21. (That is correct-the best you can do is push.)

A spotter will call your shot. The spotter's call is final. No checking of the target will be allowed.

Round 1

				5
6	7	8	9	6
7	10	J	Q	7
8	K	A	Q	8
9	K	J	10	9
6	9	8	7	6
5				

Round 2

2				2
		3	3	3
		Q	K	J
		4	4	4
5				2

Round 3

A	2	3	4
5		6	7
8	9		10
J	Q	K	

Round 4

5	K	5	K
J	4	J	4
3	Q	3	10
9	2	10	2

Officers of the Shire

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OPEN! *There are many requirements for this office. Contact*
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The Royal Steed, Gulf Wars, 2011

Photo by Lady Dulcibella de Chateaurien

Shire Calendar - September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1			1	2	3 Valor Vatavia, Wichita, KS
4 4 PM: Archery Practice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	5	6 6:45 PM: Weekly Meeting Project Night Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	7	8	9	10 King's companie of Archers, Kansas, City, MO
11 4 PM: Archery Practice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	12	13 6:45 PM: Weekly Business Meeting Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	14	15	16	17 Coronation, De Moines, IA
18 4 PM: Archery Practice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	19	20 6:45 PM: Weekly Meeting Project Night Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	21	22		24 Fall Festival and Fyrd Challenge, St. Louis, MO
25 4 PM: Archery Practice Beaver Creek Conservation Area	26	27 6:45 PM: Weekly A&S Meeting Newburg United Methodist Church, Newburg, Mo.	28	29	30	

List of Shire Events - September

2-5	Sep		Valor
4	Sep	4 pm	Archery Practice
6	Sep	6:45 PM	Shire Meeting-- Project Night
11	Sep	4 pm	Archery Practice
9-11	Sep		King's Companie of Archers, KC, MO
13	Sep	6:45 pm	Shire Business Meeting
18	Sep	4 pm	Archery Practice
20	Sep	6:45 pm	Shire Meeting-- Project Night
23-25	Sep		Fall Festival and Fyrd Challenge
25	Sep	4 pm	Archery Practice
27	Sep	6:45 pm	Shire Meeting—Arts and Sciences Class

Driving Directions

Archery Practice: Beaver Creek Conservation Area: No Crossbows. No Archery in freezing temperatures (32° F). From Rolla, take Highway 63 south for several miles. The range gate will be on your left, immediately across the highway from the VFW post. Drive through the gate to the top of the hill, park and take the line!

Shire Meetings: Newburg United Methodist Church: Take I-44 to the Newburg Exit. Turn south. The church will be on your right, a little past the patrol car waiting at the bottom of the hill to catch all of you scoff-law speeders.

St Robert Community Center: Take I-44 to Exit 161. Turn towards Ft Wood (South). Immediately south of the highway, turn right. Take a quick left through the median and continue towards the Skate Board park. The Center is the big building near the radio tower.

Website: <http://www.shireofcalanaisnuadh.org>

Chat group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/calanaisnuadh/>

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Email: Free to anyone on request from: Lucy E. Zahnle at adler@fidnet.com

Electronic copies are also available on the Shire website a few days after the email version. Hard Copies are free to the first ten people who ask for one at the Shire Business Meeting. First Come, First Served.

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