



the dancing moon

WINTER 2025–2026

Being the official newsletter of
the Shire of Calanais Nuadh in the Kingdom of Calontir,
a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

in this issue:

- Calanais Nuadh Meetings
- Business Report
- Call for Largesse Contributions
- Outreach Ideas
- Autumn Arrows Report
- Recipe: Mushroom & Cheese Tart
- Online and Nearby SCA Events
- And More!



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Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShireCalanaisNuadh/>

submissions:

The Dancing Moon is published quarterly. Submissions are due on the Second Mondays of February, May, August, and November for publication on the Last Monday of that month.

Please submit your items to the Shire Chronicler by email or post, or in writing at a Calanais Nuadh meeting. Submissions may be edited, delayed, or declined by the Chronicler.

Signed release forms may be required for publication.

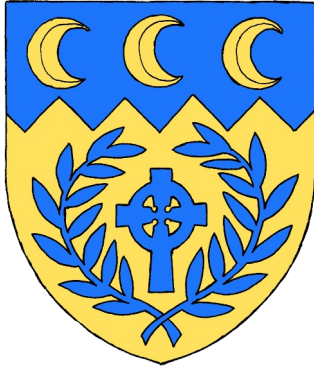
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this month's cover

A bow rack and targets stand ready on the field at dawn on the day of Autumn Arrows XXXIII. Many thanks to all our members, volunteers, archers, and attendees who helped make the event a success!

calanais nuadh meetings

The Shire of Calanais Nuadh meets on most Monday evenings at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in the Fellowship Hall, 367 Old Route 66 in St. Robert, Missouri.

Meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Garb is optional.

Regular Schedule:

1st Monday: Project Night
2nd Monday: Business Meeting & Potluck
3rd Monday: Project Night
4th Monday: Arts & Sciences Class Night
5th Monday (if any): Swap Meet

Holiday Party: Sunday, December 21st at Alan & Margery's home; doors open at 1 pm, potluck meal at 2 pm, followed by book exchange (bring a gift-wrapped book to participate). Garb encouraged!

Winter Break December 22nd-29th (No Meetings)

For details of upcoming meetings, check our website, and for the latest news find us on Facebook; see inside front cover.

ARCHERY PRACTICE

Our Archery Practices are held some Sunday afternoons at the Beaver Creek Conservation Area on US-63 in Rolla, Missouri. There is a driveway across from the VFW Post which leads to the archery range.

If you plan to attend archery practice, please contact our Seneschal, Catin of Edington, by Saturday evening; she can tell you the start time, which varies by season. Also let Catin know if you will need the Shire's loaner equipment.

FIGHTER PRACTICE

For information on Fighter Practices, contact our Knights Marshal, James Inn Dansk.

autumn business report

Autumn Arrows was of course a major order of business this fall, but we covered many other topics as well.

At our September meeting, we decided not to rush the Queen's Prize bid we were considering, and to aim for 2027 rather than 2026.

James made a new carrier for our Shire's throwing spears, and he received reimbursement and appreciation. Thanks, James!

We are also looking forward to Chieftains next February, where we will give our tithe and largesse to the Kingdom (see "Largesse" below and "Chieftains" page 7).

Complete meeting minutes are available in the Files of our Facebook group or by request from the Chronicler.

largesse

Coming February 28th, Chieftains is our annual time to contribute to Their Majesties' largesse – their cache of gifts with which to grace the populace. Not sure what to give? There are plenty of resources, including an "SCA Largesse" Facebook group and Pinterest boards, plus a past article in our own newsletter, available through our website:

shireofcalanaisnuadh.org/DM/Dec2024.pdf

chieftains calls FOR artisan teamwork

Also at Chieftains, the Arts & Sciences competitions include a team event, calling for entries made by at least three artisans working together and bringing at least three skill-sets to the final piece. Some of our members have already expressed interest, so if you want to join a team, come to our meetings with your ideas!

thanks to catalina

Many thanks to Duchess Catalina de Arazuri for teaching our October class night! Her Grace traveled to our Shire to share information about silk banner painting, bringing sample supplies and many inspiring examples. The class was well-attended and much appreciated!

coming soon: FIRE ARTS symposium

Next year, a special "Fire Arts" event is coming up just over the border at the Barony of Shattered Crystal in Midrealm (greater St. Louis area). This is a rare opportunity to learn blacksmithing, bronze and pewter casting, glass lampwork, soapmaking, fiber processing and dyeing, baking, brewing, cooking, and more.

The event itself is April 10th-12th, but **pre-registration opens January 12th**. The site's cabins are available via pre-registration only and are likely to go fast, so be ready if you want one! Unlimited camping is also available.

Thanks to Margery for keeping her eyes on this event!

More information:

shatteredcrystal.midrealm.org/fire-arts-symposium/

outreach

At several of our recent meetings, we have discussed outreach, ways to let our community know we're here and invite interested people to join us. Some ideas we have shared include letting ourselves be seen in garb more often, having business cards ready to give to interested people, creating a monthly time to meet in garb in public places, and participating in community events like parades and farmers markets.

If you would like to head up our outreach efforts, the office of Shire Chatelaine is open.



Shire Archery Champion James (right) receives the champion's favor from last year's champion Disa (left).

AUTUMN ARROWS XXXIII REPORT

By Lady Hildegard the Clever

On the first weekend of October, we held our annual Autumn Arrows event, with Archery, Feast, Auction, and more! The weather was somewhat hot but clear, good conditions for shooting (and throwing!).

Friday afternoon, we held our Shire archery championship. This year's winner: His Lordship James Inn Danski. He received the champion's favor from last year's winner, Lady Disa of Calanais (photo above).

Then Saturday saw the bulk of the activities, with Archery and Arts & Sciences contests.

Winners:

- *Overall, Hirth, and Thrown Weapons:* Master Lief of Crescent Moon
- *Fyrd:* His Lordship Bero von Wustenbrunner
- *Unranked:* Lord Charles von Bayrreuth
- *Branch Champion:* Her Excellency Anne Renarde
- *Youth:* Endlein Cachel
- *Arts & Sciences Any Medium:* Lady Hildegard the Clever

The Dancing Moon Inn was open for lunch, coordinated by Hildegard, with dishes volunteered potluck-style by our shire members.

Saturday evening wrapped up with a Hungarian-themed feast courtesy of Margery, plus our annual auction.

All told, we had 59 attendees, including 2 youth, 35 archers, and 36 feastgoers.

After subtracting expenses, our profit from gate and feast plus proceeds from our Inn and Auction came close to \$1500. We also received a very generous donation from a friend of the Shire who was unable to attend but wanted to show their support. With everyone's help, we are well-positioned to meet our expected expenses for the coming year and make a respectable tithe to support the Kingdom.

Special thanks to our Event Steward, Rose, our Feast Steward, Margery, and our chief Archery Marshal for the event, James. Thanks also to our other marshals and scorekeepers; to Dulcie for sponsoring the Arts & Sciences competitions; to Łukasz, who once again provided handsome cast pewter event tokens; to Inn Steward Hildegard and everyone who brought Inn dishes; to all our volunteers at gate, feast, and elsewhere; to everyone who donated auction items; and to everyone who attended and made the event a success.

We hope to see everyone again next year!

RECIPE OF THE ISSUE: MUSHROOM & CHEESE TART

by Margery of Penrith

A feast dish from Autumn Arrows XXXIII:

- 1 pre-baked pie crust
- 8 ounces sliced white mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup onion, minced
- 5 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup water

(continued, page 6)

CART RECIPE (continued)

4 ounces smoked Gouda cheese
1 tablespoon fresh chives
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon black pepper

Preparation: Preheat oven to 375° and place rack to the middle position. Mince the onion. Snip the chives. Grate the cheese.

Method: Heat a sauté pan over medium heat and when hot, add 2 tablespoons butter and the sliced mushrooms and minced onions. Stir to coat. Sauté for two minutes, then stir and sauté 1-2 minutes more or until some of the moisture has been removed from the mushrooms and the onions are softened.

Add the eggs, heavy cream, water, salt and pepper to a medium bowl. Beat at high speed until combined and frothy.

Layer: Add ⅓ of the cheese to the bottom of the pie crust, spreading it so that it is even. Arrange ½ of the onion and mushroom mix, and ½ of the chives evenly over the cheese. Add another layer of cheese, followed by the rest of the onions, mushrooms and chives. Slowly pour the custard over the ingredients. Top with the remaining cheese.

Bake: Bake for 15 minutes at 375°, then for 15 minutes at 350° or until the top is browned and the middle is just set. It may puff up a bit, and you may need to cover the pie crust edge with foil to prevent over-browning. Baking time may vary based on your oven. Let cool to room temperature before serving or cover (after cooling) and refrigerate until needed.

around the kingdom and the known world

Events nearby with our neighbors in the Kingdom of Calontir and marvellous means of connecting with SCA fellows near and far:

online classes & events

Known World Heraldic & Scribal Symposium

January 23rd - 25th

Virtual symposium, hosted this year by the Kingdom of the Outlands. Registration and class proposals are now open. More information:
facebook.com/share/19au2xGFK7

Kingdom University Online Sessions

February 6th-8th

Coincidentally, the same weekend sees online sessions from the Kingdom Universities of Atlantia, Drachenwald, and Lochac. Pre-registration required; class proposals welcome. More information:

university.atlantia.sca.org
ku-online.drachenwald.sca.org
artsandsciences.lochac.sca.org/lochac-university-landing-page/

Thursday Night RUSH

Some Thursdays

Online classes from Calontir's own Royal University of Scir Hafoc, usually one Thursday per month. For more information, join the "Kingdom of Calontir Arts and Sciences" Facebook group.

Sunday Night with the Scribes

Sundays, Zoom opens at 6 pm, class at 7 pm

Spend the evening with Scribal Arts folk from around the Known World. Open to anyone interested or involved in scribal arts in the SCA. For connection information and class schedule, visit the website at scribal.art.

For more online events, check out
Ellen DeLacey's unofficial list:
tinyurl.com/Virtual-SCA

(continued, page 7)

around the kingdom... *(continued)*

WITHIN A FAIR DAY'S RIDE

Kris Kinder

December 13th, Kansas City, MO

The Barony of Forgotten Sea hosts their annual winter Merchant Market.

12th Night

January 3rd, Carthage, MO

The Shire of Crystal Mynes invites us to their free holiday event. Potluck dinner (including "best soup" competition) and white elephant gift exchange, plus Fighting and Arts & Sciences.

Festival of Fools

January 10th, Springfield, MO

Our neighbors at the Shire of Oakheart host "a joyous revel where queer delight meets medieval mischief" and "all identities, genders, and expressions of joy are welcome." Feast, Dancing, and Games.

Clothiers' Seminar

January 24th, Independence, MO

The Shire of Cúm an Iolair hosts their annual Garb-focused event with classes, "Walk Through History" fashion show, and more.

Chieftains

February 28th, St. Louis, MO

The Barony of Three Rivers hosts their annual event, this year with a focus on dance, music, and revelry. Rattan, Cut & Thrust, and Youth combat; Arts & Sciences competitions; Dance classes; Dancing Ball in the evening; Feast with multicultural dance performances; Grand Masquerade with live music; and more.

This is also our Shire's annual occasion to contribute tithe and largesse to the Kingdom, so don't let it catch you unawares!

More information on page 4.

For more information and more events,
visit the Calontir Kingdom Calendar:
calontir.org/calendar.

this moon brought to
you by the letter...



This is character G3 of the Byblos script, an ancient writing system that appears on artifacts from the second millennium BCE, mostly from Byblos in present-day Lebanon. Examples have also been found in Egypt, Italy, and Israel.

Byblos script is an undeciphered writing system. Scholars have so far been unable to determine what it means or sounds like.

There are many of these undeciphered scripts, most of them ancient, but some are medieval or even modern. They can be difficult to decipher because there are too few examples, or because they don't seem to be related to other languages which could offer clues. Sometimes it's unclear whether the marks are even writing at all.

In the case of Byblos script, that last question is clear. These characters mean something, but no one alive today knows what.

'til the next moon,
hildegarð, chronicler

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Photo front cover: Archery field at dawn, Autumn Arrows XXXIII.

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