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













# Shire of Al-Sahid Newsletter

# Scorpion Tales

## Around the Shire

### April Shire Meeting and Craft Day

Note the date change: The April meeting will be on **April 15** at Lady Shehira's. The Shire meeting begins at 3:00. Lady Shehira's address is        

Directions:                                  

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The date is April 16, a Monday night at 6:30 pm at THL Teka's. My thanks to THL Teka and Lady Jane, who stepped in when I had to forgo teaching my Persona workshop this month (pesky business trips).

### Fighter Practice

Fighter Practice is at 6:30 pm Monday nights at Sir Killian's.

"All the world's a  
stage,

And all the men  
and women merely  
players.

They have their  
exits and their  
entrances,

And one man in his  
time plays many  
parts,

His acts being  
seven ages."

—Shakespeare

### Costuming Guild

For information on Garb Gathers, contact Lady Jane.

### Projects and Plans

The Banner project is continuing, and will usually be an activity at the Shire Craft meetings.

### Shire News

- Holly and Nathan are getting married April 14. The Shire is in-

vited, please wear your best garb for the occasion.

- Congratulations to Lady Jane, our new Seneschal!
- THL Caitlin was honored with Apprentice and Artisan places at Pentathlon. Also, she did not pay Baroness Robyn for saying something. ;>

## Seneschal's Corner



Lady Jane de Sealynn

### Unto the populace

The change of office is complete. I hope the grieving for Ryan doesn't last long.

Thank you for all your support, I will try to do my best as your new seneschal. Please keep me on my toes and if there is a problem come to me, I will try to take all criticism easily and if I don't remind me too. The best way to remind me of something is to write it down and staple it to my forehead (e-mail).

To the future is where I am looking. Highland War is just around the corner. Camping walls, business cards, banners, and a new pavilion — whether it is EZ-Ups or another

Dragonwing that we can add to the present Dragonwing — are some of the things we are working on. I hope to hear from everyone at the next meeting as to where we stand on these items since I missed the last meeting.

All business aside, let's have fun the next two years, that will be my goal.

Your Seneschal,

Lady Jane de Sealynn

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**Arts & Sciences:** Need to work on banners at all A&S meetings, even if something else is going on.

Apr. 29 would be THL Caitlin on Personas (Shire meeting is to be changed to April 15 and Caitlin cannot make it. Will work on banners at THL Teka's the following night on Apr. 16.

May 20 would be at Blase and Ryan's.

**Chatelaine:** NTR, Lord Gregor to take over at Anniversary.

**Chronicler:** NTR, other than needs submissions as always. She greatly appreciates those who take the time to do this.

**Constable:** NTR, William Bell to take over at Anniversary.

**Exchequer:** Year end report submitted.

Still awaiting District Attorney action on bad check.

Jane to be added to signature card.

Lady Magdalene will remain as Exchequer, Lord Davi to be added as Deputy, but not on signature card.

**Herald:** Shire Heraldic Library returned to Lord Ryan along with Herald's tabard and book. Ryan will take over at Anniversary.

**List:** NTR, other than ready for Anniversary.

**Marshal:** Just had questions about setting up the eric at Anniversary. Ryan to assist.

**Childrens:** Lady Marina to take over at Anniversary.

**Presentations:** Necklace to be presented at Anniversary. to the Queen.

Blase feels Jane may want to assign this to someone else, but will continue if she has at least a week's notice to prepare a presentation.

**Chirurgion:** NTR, ready for Anniversary.

**Webwright:** Website switched over to Kingdom server. Lady Valdis is willing to continue after Anniversary.

"We are such stuff  
As dreams are  
made on and our  
little life  
Is rounded with a  
sleep..."  
—Shakespeare

## Shire Birthdays



*From the Chronicler: quick note on birthdays.*

*This is Lord Gregor's second "happy birthday" this year because I think I got the first one wrong! So let's try this again. PLEASE if I've got your birthday wrong or not at all, let me know! You can reach me at [chrislynnnet@gmail.com](mailto:chrislynnnet@gmail.com).*

Lord Gregor	4/14
Lady Jane	4/18
Vasilissa	4/21

Happy birthday!!



## Blase's Kitchen: Ćevapčići (Bosnia, Serbia, Croatia)



### By Lady Blase

The Turkish defeat of Serbia at the Battle of Kosovo in 1389 made the country a tributary state to the Ottoman Empire. But by 1459 the Ottomans annexed Serbia outright, although Belgrade did not fall until 1521. Ottoman rule in Serbia was oppressive and there were many Serbian revolts, but the last Turkish garrison did not leave Belgrade until 1867.

The Turks left vestiges in the culinary realm such as these delicious skinless sausages called Ćevapčići (pronounced keva-APP-cheekee or chev-APP-cheechee) in Serbo-Croatian, a language shared by all Yugoslavs but spelled with a Cyrillic alphabet by the Serbs.

They are small crepinettes, skinless veal-and-lamb sausages, and there are many different ways of making them.

Sometimes they're made only with beef or lamb or pork, but the secret to all the recipes is grinding the meat at least three times or processing it to a paste.

- 4 garlic cloves, peeled
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 ¾ pounds slightly fatty veal cut from the shoulder or rump
- 1 ¾ pounds slightly fatty lamb cut from the shoulder
- 1 tablespoon freshly ground cumin seeds
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 large onion, grated
- Several sprigs of fresh curly parsley for garnish

1. In a mortar, mash the garlic together with the salt until it forms a paste, then add the water and continue pounding until homogeneous.

2. In a large bowl, knead tighter the veal, lamb,

cumin, and garlic past, wetting your hands to keep the meat from sticking to them, then season with pepper. Process the meat mixture in a food processor in batches until it forms a paste, or push through a meat grinder three times. Cover and leave in the refrigerator for 2 hours. With wet hands, form the meat in to small sausage-shaped croquettes the size of a large thumb. Set aside on a baking tray, covered in the refrigerator for another 2 hours.

3. Preheat a gas grill on high for 20 minutes or prepare a hot charcoal fire. Grill the cevapcici until springy to the touch, about 15 minutes, turning with tongs or a spatula, not a fork—make sure you do not prick them. Remove from the grill and arrange on serving platter surrounded with parsley. Serve with the grated onions on the side.



## William's Gate: Your Eye to the SCA



By William Bell

More on names, here:  
[http://www.sca.org/  
 heraldry/titles.html](http://www.sca.org/heraldry/titles.html)

### King/Queen/Crown:

Rulers of a kingdom.

### Crown Prince/Crown Princess/(Royal)

**Coronet:** Heirs to the

Crown.

### Prince/Princess/

**Coronet:** Rulers of a principality.

**Duke/Duchess:** Persons who have reigned over a kingdom 2 or more times. The title is assumed at the end of the second complete reign.

**Count/Countess:** Persons who have once reigned over a kingdom. The title is assumed at the end of the first complete reign.

**Viscount/Viscountess:** Persons who have reigned over a principality. The

*(Continued on page 6)*

## The Boy in Rags



By Alexis Anderson

A boy in rags is carrying a plain large round wooden box down a dirty and busy open market. He stares around at all the merchants, resting his eyes upon a woman eating her newly bought, hot, buttered French bread. He licks his lips, but catches himself and goes back to staring around at the merchants. He smiles after spotting a merchant to his left and walks purposefully towards being jostled by the crowd who do not even spare him a glance. He walks straight up to the merchant who had just finished with a customer.

"How much would you give me for this sword?" The boy said in a loudly polite voice for the street was full of chattering people. The merchant turned to face him, looking at his bare feet and torn filthy clothing. He gave the boy a scathing look as though this boy was wasting his time and went back to helping his customers. The boy waited patiently and after the fourth customer the boy spoke up again.

"Sir, if you please." He said just as politely as the previous time. The merchant spun around ready to shout at the boy that he was scaring away customers and to go beg else-

where when he spotted, for the first time, the box the boy was trying to sell. He had glimpsed the box he was holding earlier, but then it had been a plain box. It must have been a trick of the light. It had a large cross upon it with amber inlaid at the top half and the ends were pointed. He looked warily at the cross and then up at the boy. The merchant thought to himself that if the boy asked for handouts in the name of God he could not refuse for he was a very religious man.

"Don't worry," said the boy, "I would never use

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"I am constant as  
 the northern star,  
 Of whose true-  
 fix'd and resting  
 quality  
 There is no fellow  
 in the firmament."

—from *Julius  
 Caesar*

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title is assumed at the end of the first complete reign.

**Master/Mistress:** Members of the Order of the Laurel, the Pelican, and Mastery of Arms.

**Sir/Sir:** Members of the Order of Knighthood. Note that most women who are members of the order have chosen to use "Sir".

**Baron (of Placename)/ Baroness (of placename):** Ceremonial heads of a barony.

**(Court) Baron/(Court)**

**Baroness:** Armigerous titles awarded at the discretion of the Crown. The word "Court" is often left out when referring to this title.

**Lord/Lady:** Basic title for persons who hold Arms by Award or Grant.

**"My lord"/"My**

**lady"/"Good gentles":**

These are general forms of address rather than titles. They are properly used informally, or any time the speaker does not know another form that would be more appropriate for

the listener.

**Master of (jobname)/ Mistress of (jobname):**

Alternates for "Minister of (jobname)". As with the standard designations for an office, these are not personal titles, and should in no case be abbreviated or prefixed to the officer's personal name.

In addition to the standard titles listed in Appendix C, the title Dame may be used instead of Mistress by any female member of the Orders of the Laurel, Pelican, or Chivalry.

"When beggars  
die there are no  
comets seen;

The heavens  
themselves blaze

forth the death of  
princes."

— from Julius  
Caesar

## Shire Anniversary



By THL Caitlin

On March 31, the Shire of al-Sahid proudly held its Anniversary. The day was warm and bright but very beautiful. Her Majesty along with Their Excellencies from three different baronies came to help us honor the founding of our Shire.

Lady Blase and her helpers put on a superb Middle Eastern feast for Her Majesty, landed barons, and honored guests.

There were over 20 fighters in the Heavy Weapons list while Rapier was represented by skilled fighters from Dun Or.

Lord Ryan reports that 20 people tried their hands at Thrown Weapons including Her Majesty, the Baron of Starkhafn, and the Baron and Baroness of Dreiburgen.

Several people participated in the Archery Championship and the champion was THL Paganus Grimlove. Our chil-

dren fought bravely and honorably in Youth Combat, and we are so proud of them. They also enjoyed the just-for-fun pistol dueling contest.

Miranda and THL Caitlin presented a poem for Her Majesty. Miranda went on to perform a wonderful original story for the honor of winning the Bardic Competition of al-Sahid.

# Pictures from Shire Anniversary



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*(Continued from page 5)*

that on you. An honorable knight such as myself would not lay sword edge on the innocent, much less a virtuous merchant such as yourself."

"Boy, that is a cross, not a sword, and you are no knight," the merchant said forcefully.

"I am sorry good sir, but I am a knight of the kingdom of Goodchester and I am intending on selling my sword," he said simply.

The merchant consid-

ered the boy and finally agreed to sell the box, for it would fetch a good price. He gave the boy twenty shillings when he knew very well it should have been thirty.

"Thank you kindly good merchant, for now I can feed the other children. Take good care of my sword for me."

The merchant had opened his mouth to say something, but the boy had already gotten onto his pretend white charger and galloped out of sight.

Years later the merchant became wealthy and put his sons in charge of his business so that he could retire. Oddly enough he never got rid of or sold that box with the cross on it. He wasn't even sure why himself. But sometimes as he was sitting in a chair with the box watching the sunset he could see a boy on a white charger galloping into the sunset.



*Note from THL Caitlin: the below is a very small selection from The Voluspa, itself a part of the great Icelandic sage The Elder Edda. A strange seeress is telling the god Odin what she sees will happen after the Day of Ragnarok.*

She sees arise,  
The second time,  
From the sea, the earth  
Completely green:  
Cascades do fall;

The eagle soars,  
That on the hills  
Pursues his prey.

The gods convene  
On Ida's plains,  
And talk of man,  
The worm of dust:  
They call to mind  
Their former might,  
And the ancient runes  
Of Fimbultyr.

The fields unsown  
Shall yield their growth;  
All ills shall cease;  
Balder shall come,  
And dwell with Hauthr  
In Hropt's abodes.  
Say, warrior-gods,  
Conceive ye yet?

A hall she sees  
Outshine the sun,  
Of gold its roof,  
It stands in heaven:

