

THE FOREST WATCH

Northshield Calendar

February

- 4 Hertzkrieg XVII—
College of Svatý Sebesta (Vermillion, SD)
- 4 Cecil's Freeze—
Kingdom of the Middle (Moline, IL)
- 4 Early Period Symposium—Canton of Blachemere (Coon Rapids, MN)
- 11 Tournament of Chivalry—Shire of Shattered Oak (Eau Claire, WI)
- 18 Lupercalia—Shire of Rivenwood Tower (Niccollet, MN)
- 25 Fighter School XVII—Barony of Windhaven (Kewaunee, WI)

* bold indicates an event in our Barony.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- The Backyard** 2
- Blacksmith**
- Moose Calls** 2
- Canton Calendar** 3
- Meeting Minutes** 3
- Chronicler's Missive** 3
- Canton on the Web** 3

FEBRUARY 2012

A.S. XLVI

Their Royal Highnesses:
Petranella Fitzallen of Weston
And Vladimir Radescu



Their Excellencies:
Æsa Gilsdottir and
Kitakaze Tatsu Raito

Canton Officers:



Ld. Br. Matthias of Rolling Oaks
(Matt Schwall)
23149 State Hwy. 21
Tomah, WI 54660
(608) 372-5445
limos1960@gmail.com



Lady Seonag Sorensdottir
(Sue Schwall)
23149 State Hwy. 21
Tomah, WI 54660
(608) 372-5445
goddess_b@hotmail.com



Lady Annabeau
(Molly Shields)
126 Railroad Street
Wyeville, WI 54660
(608) 372-2186
mollycutes@yahoo.com



Edmund
(Shane Braund)
(608) 406-4228
edmund1473@gmail.com



Lady Annabeau
(Molly Shields)
Same contact info as above

A word from your Seneschal:

Greetings to all who peruse these words of...certainly not wisdom!

Now that mother nature has seen fit to give our lands a blanket of white to match the calendar, it actually seems like winter! It is my hope that all our members are cozy-warm and as healthy as possible.

I would like to put out a call for donations for a silent auction at TMT. I have a brand new portable, collapsible fire ring and a brown leather belt pouch, to start with. I think that most, if not all, of the leftovers from previous silent auctions will go into the garage sale that we are having in either late March or early April to benefit the Canton.

A full feast menu for TMT will be up on the Canton website before the end of the month.

Seeing as I cannot think of anything else to say, I will close before I insert a lower extremity in my oral cavity.

As always,
Your Moose

Disclaimer:

This is "The Forest Watch" a publication of the Canton of Coille Stoirmeil of the Society for Creative Anachronism. "The Forest Watch" is available from Molly Shields, 126 Railroad Street, Wyeville, WI, 54660. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

The Backyard Blacksmith

By Master Sven Odin Eye

I am often questioned about Blacksmithing and how one gets into it. I tell you true, it's not terribly difficult to find out.

The Vikings (and many elemental cultures) often used large smooth stones as anvils. You can use that or many other options. Take a splitting wedge and drive it into a knot bound piece of firewood. Get a cheap Chinese anvil from Harbor Freight Tools in Portland. Get an old piece of railroad track.

My first attempt used the Chinese anvil, a Hibachi and a hair dryer. I used a pair of channel lock pliers as my tongs and an old engineers hammer. I filled the hibachi with charcoal briquettes and used the hair dryer (my wife's OLD one) to blow air in through the bottom vent. This gave me enough forced air to forge a railroad spike into a knife. It's really that

easy folks. If you do that and aren't hooked, offer your anvil for sale to the next person that wants to try it out, I bet that anvil won't go through more than two sets of hands!

For fuel, good hardwood charcoal works best, and it's been showing up on super-market shelves lately! You can also get it in 20# and 40# bags at Albina Fuel in Portland. This is PERIOD fuel, from the Bronze Age through the steel age. They didn't start using coal till the 1600's. The British were running out of trees and this forced the experimentation with coal. And the best part is that charcoal just smells like another BBQ so you can use it in residential areas as I do!! The coal stinks bad of sulphur and other impurities, though it is a bit easier to reach a welding heat with the coal.

If you try it and find that

you are hooked, then it'll be time to step up to a real forge. I used my kid's old fort. You really need only a lean-to to do this; it really is an outdoor activity. A friend of mine makes forges out of old water tanks, cuts off the bottom and the top and he has the bowels of two forges.

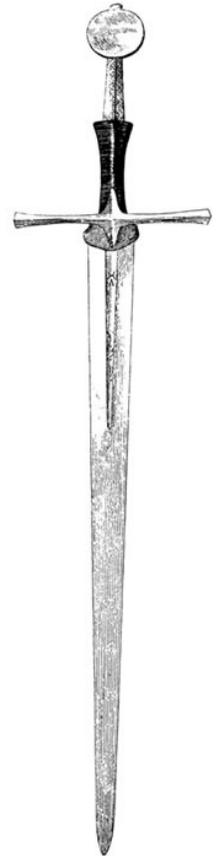
Grendel also makes forges to order. The blowers are a bit harder to come by, but you can get by with an old squirrel cage fan or such.

The web has tons of blacksmith sites, if you don't have web connection go to your local Library; they have public terminals you can use.

"The Backyard Blacksmith"
© 2007 by Master Sven Odin Eye. Permission is granted for republication in SCA-related publications.

This article was found at Stefan's Florilegium

www.florilegium.org



14th Century
English Knight's
Sword



"The Vikings often used large smooth stones as anvils."



Moose Calls

Otherwise known as announcements.

TMT is nearly upon us and the flyer for such will be including in next month's edition.



As our illustrious Seneschal has requested, please consider donating various and sundry items for the Silent Auction. Especially sundry items as they seem to be very popular. The

dates for the event are March 16-18 A.S. XLVI. It will be held at the Wilton Community Center, a lovely venue, located at 400 East Street in Wilton, WI.

Canton Calendar

February

12 Meeting at The Nest, 1:00 PM (subject to change, please see Canton e-list for most up-to-date information).

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2012

Exchequer: Domesday report is good and will be submitted by the deadline.

Webminister: Moose has website access now for adding TMT info as it comes in.

TMT: Feast menu is being finalized. It will be a buffet. Rokeclif may not be able to do lunch. Feast fees as follows: 0-5 free; 6-12 \$7.50; 13 + \$10.00. Kira will be doing breakfast.

In the process of replenishing game supplies.

Other: Canton has received several totes of feast items and garb from the former Shire of Rockwall.

A hearty thank you to Edmund for providing us with the meet-

Chronicler's Missive

Greetings to all, both far and near.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor for all of the hard work he put into The Forest Watch. Let's all raise a glass to Lord David of Spinning Winds (I got your name right this time!).

Now I'd like to discuss my vision for the newsletter. I envision a publication that provides our beloved Canton with interesting articles, timely information, beautiful artwork, a few chuckles now and then, something to think about, and a free castle for everyone. Might not be able to deliver on that castle part, at least not without winning ye olde

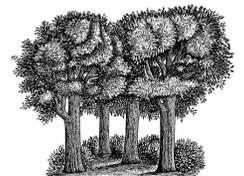
lottery. I am open to ideas about the form and function of the newsletter and would appreciate feedback from the populace. What would you like to see or read within these hallowed pages? Is there a particular A&S topic that has caught your interest? A fighting technique about which you desire more knowledge? Let me know what you want in your Forest Watch.

Submissions are, as always, most welcome. Contact me for a publication permission form. And while light bulb jokes are not period, I would be interested in knowing how many Vikings it takes to change a sputtering torch.

Yours in Service,
Annabeau



All art courtesy of Dover publications.

The Canton of Coille Stoirmeil Online

Please join us on our e-list:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CoilleStoirmeilOnline/>

Or Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Coille-Stoirmeil/178071295550814>



www.coillestoirmeil.org

