

# HEB YR SEREN



Spring 2024 Issue

## “Quoth The Star”

From the Desk of the Mynydd Seren Seneschal:

Thank you everyone who has helped me create this first new edition of the Mynydd Seren Newsletter, *Heb Yr Seren*. I really hope this will be a robust newsletter with lots of good information and fun stories. I want it to be both helpful and informative! I encourage everyone to submit to the newsletter, whether it's art or photographs, recipes or camping tips, poetry or prose.

I'll see you next month!  
Yngerame Erskyne

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APRIL 2024  
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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# MYNYDD SEREN CALENDAR FOR APRIL

31 Su	1 M <b>HEAVY</b> 8-10pm	2 Tu	3 W <b>RAPIER</b> 6:30-9pm	4 Th <b>A&amp;S</b> 4-6pm	5 F	6 Sa
7 Su <b>BUSINESS MEETING</b> 4-6pm	8 M <b>HEAVY</b> 8-10pm <i>Eclipse</i>	9 Tu	10 W <b>RAPIER</b> 6:30-9pm	11 Th <b>DANCE</b> 6:30-8pm	12 F	13 Sa <i>Tournament of Defense</i> 8am-6pm
14 Su	15 M <b>HEAVY</b> 8-10pm	16 Tu	17 W <b>RAPIER</b> 6:30-9pm	18 Th <b>BARDIC</b> 6:30-8pm	19 F	20 Sa
21 Su <b>A&amp;S</b> 4-6pm	22 M <b>HEAVY</b> 8-10pm	23 Tu <i>Newsletter submissions due</i>	24 W <b>RAPIER</b> 6:30-9pm	25 Th <b>DANCE</b> 6:30-8pm	26 F	27 Sa
28 Su	29 M <b>HEAVY</b> 8-10pm	30 Tu <i>Newsletter day!</i> <i>Exchequer report due</i>	1	2	3	4

# **MYNYDD SEREN CALENDAR FOR APRIL**

April 1: Heavy practice: Western Skateland, 8-10pm

April 3: Rapier practice: Western Skateland, 6:30-9pm

April 4: A&S meeting: MCPL room 1B, 7-9pm

April 7: Business Meeting: [Zoom](#) (link) - go to: zoom.com/my/cesmallw

April 8: Heavy practice: Western Skateland, 8-10pm

April 10: Rapier practice: Western Skateland, 6:30-9pm

April 11: Dance practice: Place TBD

April 13: [The Tournament of Defense of Wigthegn and Neassa \(Constellation\)](#) (link):  
Etna Troy Community Center, Columbia City, IN, 8am-6pm

April 15: Heavy practice: Western Skateland, 8-10pm

April 17: Rapier practice: Western Skateland, 6:30-9pm

April 18: Bardic circle: MCPL room 1B, 6:30-8pm

April 21: A&S meeting: MCPL room 2A, 7-9pm

April 22: Heavy practice: Western Skateland, 8-10pm

April 23: May Newsletter submissions due by midnight!

April 24: Rapier practice: Western Skateland, 6:30-9pm

April 25: Dance practice: MCPL room 1C, 6:30-8pm

April 29: Heavy practice: Western Skateland, 8-10pm

April 30: Newsletter goes out, exchequer report due

# *Tributes to Audeline de Rheims*

I first met Audeline at the IU Activities Fair, where I had come, as a new freshman, to find stuff to get involved in. Actually, Audeline had arrived in Bloomington only a short time before I did. The shire was founded in January 1976. Audeline came to Bloomington in late summer of 1976, and I arrived at the start of the semester. The difference was that Audeline, unlike all but one of the shire members, had been in the SCA already. She had joined Rivenstar before it was a barony, and was one of the founders of Castle Corbeau, the original Muncie group.

Audeline was the one who taught the shire how to be Scadian. She was the one with the clothing books to show us different styles of garb. She was the one who taught us calligraphy. (For a while she was in charge of scrolls for the kingdom, before the office of Signet was established.) She was the first person to teach dance in this shire. She insisted that the SCA was supposed to be inclusive, that it was supposed to care about authenticity, that skill and service were both important. We believed her, because she was the one who was involved in the kingdom at large. I think that this small shire has produced so many Laurels is in part a result of her early influence.

- *Urraca Yriarte de Gamboa*

I have known Audeline for as long as I have been in the Society. She was one of the first people I met in our Shire, and I knew immediately I could trust her knowledge and opinion on just about anything SCA related. She was a fixture in the Shire for as long as I knew her. She will be greatly missed by both long-term SCAdians who knew her well, and the good gentles who have joined in the past few years.

- *Yngerame Erskyne*

# *Pennsic War 8 Woods Battle Midrealm*

## *Troll Booth*

*By Lord John Malkin, aMalkin, OA, OPE, OCK*

Yea, verily, no shit, it happened this way. For I was there. I was the troll.

The Pennsic 8 had the Midrealm holding the flag in the woods and the Eastern army trying to find and capture it. It was held in the woods adjacent to what they later named Runestone field and next to the lake. This was long before the field battle moved to its current location.

Agafon and I were paired up as partners for the field and woods battle, as we were both from the Shire of Mynydd Seren. I had a problem of not moving as fast as most SCA fighters. So my partner and I were lagging behind the group. We stopped at the edge of the field and just inside the woods. It was the usual hot Pennsic day, so the shade helped.

In those days, the road around the lake bordered the field. We were on a parallel road that continued into the woods instead of going around the lake shore. A small mound of dirt separated the two roads with scrub trees and bushes. You could see through it to the lake road. There was a grassy ditch to our right side as we looked out into the field. The space we had to defend was a one lane dirt road at its narrowest point.

Agafon was a new fighter. He just authorized that summer. I had a few years' experience, and I'd attended Pennsic 7, so I was the experienced fighter. Our goal was to survive long enough to slow down anyone coming around the lake. Duke Dagan Du Daragon led a group of Midrealm fighters who used us as bait for a trap to spring on whomever we managed to delay. Backup is a good thing.

Our advantage was we could doff helms and some gear and sit in the shade while we waited. Just before things happened, a solitary Marshal joined us. It was nice to have someone else to spend time with and tell war stories.

Just after that, Duke Dagan came to us and said that the East had split into two armies and the other half was coming around the other side of the lake. They could easily see where Dagan forces were hiding. The message was, they'd seen, and the trap spoiled so "See ya. Good luck on your own. We're leaving and going down the side road."

Eventually we saw a large band, which turned out to be half of the Eastern army, moving down the road towards us. We armed up and stood at the edge of the woods for them to spot us. They didn't. This was frustrating. Worse than that, they moved off sideways over the field towards another entry area to the woods, spoiling our fun.

I walked out onto the edge of the field and waved at them. Eventually, one of them spotted me and got close enough to see our helms with Midrealm red tape and ran back to tell the knight in charge we were there. This is when the fun started.

Their leader called the group together, returned to the road, and they formed up into a double column before marching towards us. This wasted time. We approved of it. Agafon and I formed into a two-man shield wall and waited about 10 feet into the woods. And waited. They weren't in a hurry. Neither were we. In a timed battle, delays aid the defenders.

When the army in front of us got close to the woods, I stepped forward, raised my sword horizontally over my head and called out, "Halt!" They stopped. I used halt because calling hold stops the fight because of something dangerous. Then I added, "This is the Midrealm Troll Booth. All Eastern fighters who pass this point must pay troll."

The knight in front told one of their scouts to go around on the other road and look for an ambush. This was the wisest thing he did. While waiting on the report, he asked me, "What is the toll?"

"One weapon for every two fighters or one death for every three who pass the troll." No, I never expected to get it, but it was fun saying it.

He replied to me, "My Lord, look behind you."

Now, this being a knight and presumably an honorable man, I decided he wouldn't attack me from behind. I took a step back, turned and down the road I saw another large group of fighters milling around wearing blue tape on their helms. The other half of the Eastern army.

I turned back to him and replied, "That's nice MiLord, but you still have to pay troll to pass this road."

He was polite and answered, "My Lord, I'm afraid we are going to have to go through you."

I stepped back and reformed our two-man shield wall.

One thing I will point out is that I had problems with overheating in the previous war, so I was not wearing the makeshift carpet armor I wore during that war. I covered my arms, legs, and head. My body armor was a black terry cloth poncho and a t-shirt. I was good enough with my shield that I almost never got hit in the body. Sword Breaker, my shield, was made from an inch thick oak table top. It had the weight of a real shield and was just as tough. Other fighters broke their swords, hitting it, thus it had the name others gave it.

One thing to our advantage was the rules only allowed three on one fights with pole arms behind. That limited the attackers. As expected, about a half minute later, I took a good blow to my unarmored side. I dove into the grassy ditch as a soft place to land and covered my body with my shield. Agafon died about the same time.

One of the Eastern fighters came to me and asked, "MiLord? Are you alright?"

"Yes. I'm just dead."

He left, and the army went down the road to meet up with their other half.

After some discussion, they went down the road directly behind us, assuming we were guarding the road to the banner. It was the long way around to where the banner was located. We watched them leave and went back to where there were picnic tables and water bearers.

We held them for about five minutes and they went the wrong way afterwards. After the battle was over, the Midrealm still held the banner with only a handful of fighters left. They would not have lasted another five minutes. As I recall, this was also the woods battle which had the flying Tuchuk, but that is someone else's story.

Later, I learned that the Prince of the East led the group we faced. Their King led the other group. I heard the prince was royally chewed out for not just going through us and wasting time.

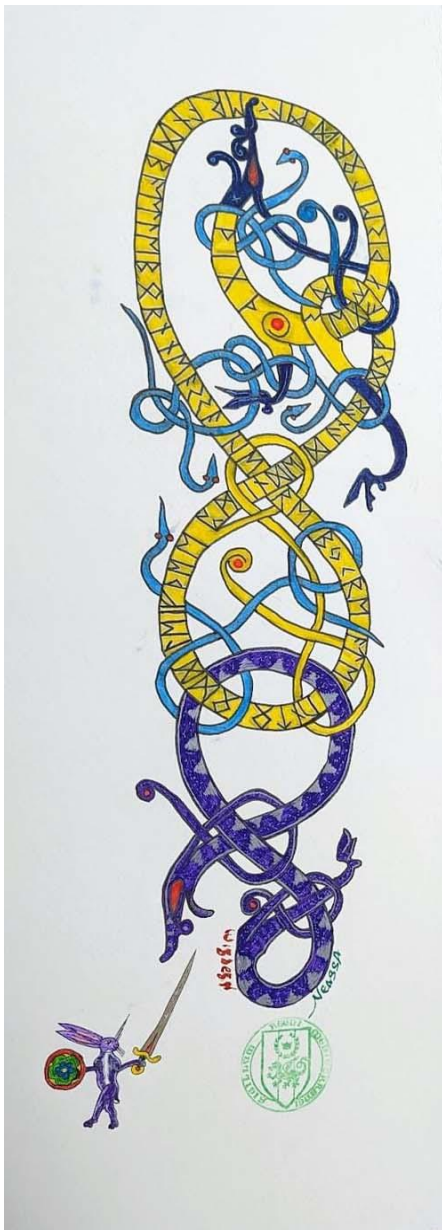
Some months later, I was awarded an Award of Arms for running the Midrealm Woods Battle Troll Booth.

# AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

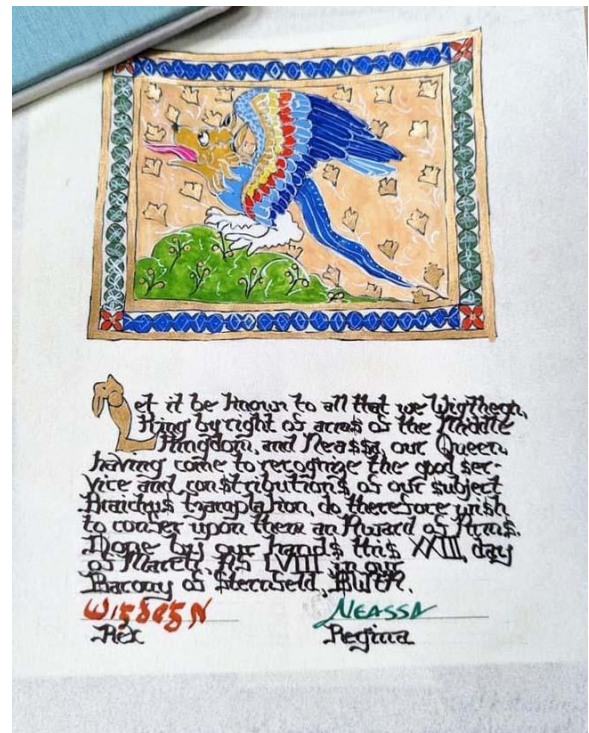
If you know someone who deserves an award, recommend them here:

<https://midrealm.org/award-recommendations/> (link)

Oddleif the Deep Minded:  
Award of Arms

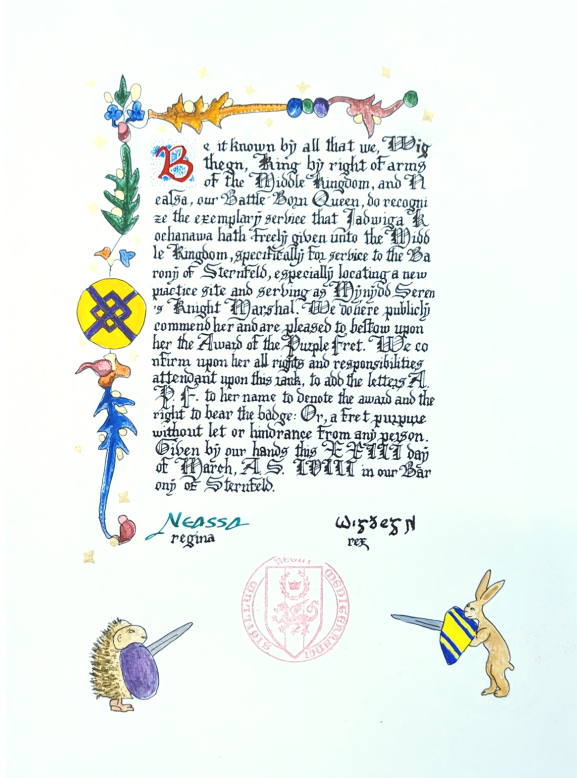


Braichus Tzemplakon: Award of Arms





# Jadwiga Kochanowa: Purple Fret



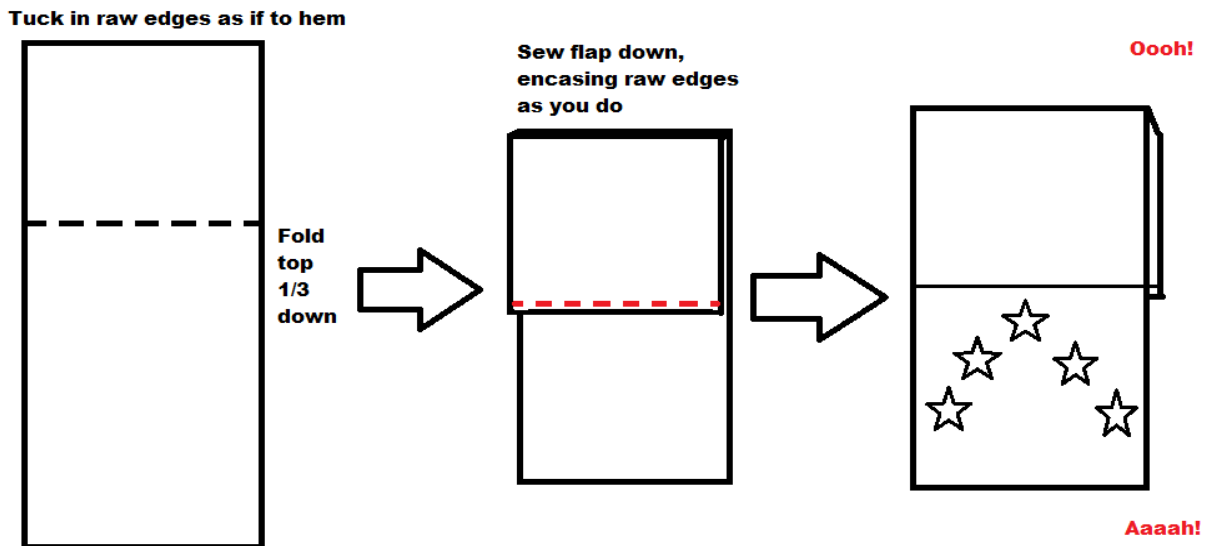
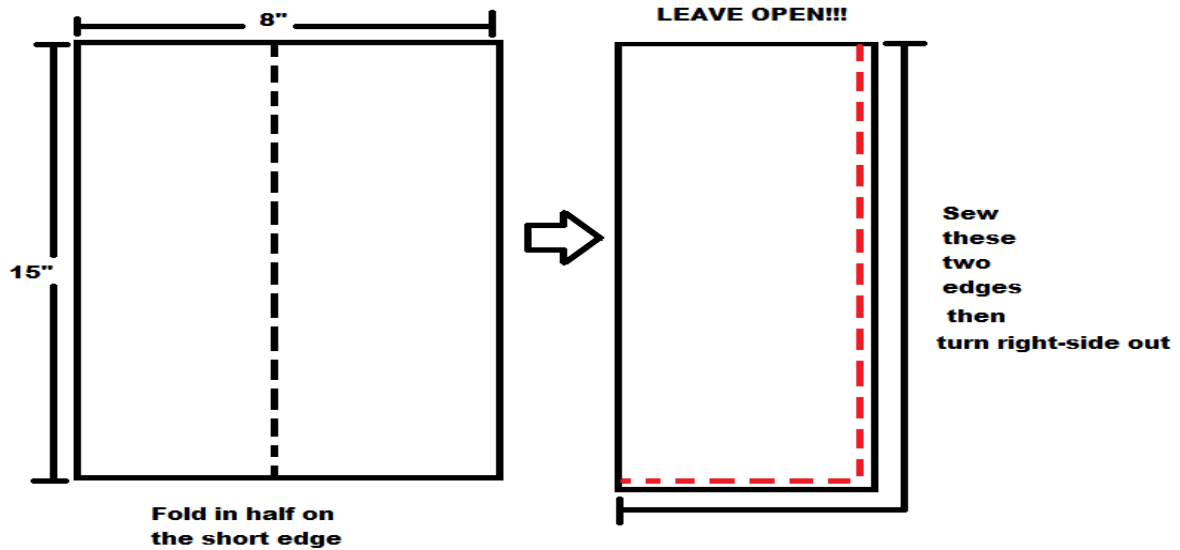
# Vita: Award of Arms



# A Good Gentle's Guide to Easy Belt Favors

*Ly Yngerame Erskyne*

An excellent use for some scrap fabric you probably have laying around. Make favors for yourself, for your friends, or any really cool people. You can embroider, stamp, or trim the front to make it as fancy as you want it.



# *CADD NEWS!*

Mynydd Seren will be hosting a garage sale and a silent auction at CADD for people to declutter all of those SCA and SCA adjacent items that we have piled up in our homes.

## *GARAGE SALE*

Shire members! Do you have fabric that you've never used, extra feast gear you keep just in case, garb that doesn't fit anymore? We'll take it! All items will be priced between \$1-\$10 dollars, and all proceeds will go back to the Shire. For shire members we ask that all donations be dropped off at the April or May business meetings, so that items can be sorted through and priced before the event.

For those outside our Shire who wish to donate, we will still accept donations at the event. If possible please get them to us on Friday May 17th, so that we can sort and price them. All items that are not sold in the garage sale will be donated, either to the Shire, the Kingdom, or Goodwill.

## *SILENT AUCTION*

Do you have nicer items you would like to donate to the Shire but feel bad about just putting in a garage sale? Are you an artisan who loves making things but now has too many crafts sitting around your house? The silent auction is for you!

Silent Auction items will start at \$10 to reflect their nicer quality or artisanal origin. There is no limit as to the type of craft, we only ask that all crafted items include a tag stating what the item is and the name of the artisan who created it, so that proper credit will be given. While silent auction items can also be handed over at the business meetings, we are primarily accepting them at the event site, either Friday evening or Saturday morning. Any items that are not sold will be given back to the artisan unless specifically requested otherwise.

In the hope that it will generate more copy, I have devised an “event chronicle Madlib”. For those of you who have never played Madlib, the idea is that one person calls for “a noun” or whatever to fill in the blanks \*without telling anyone the context\*, and the other people take turns supplying words. When the page is finished, the whole story is read aloud for the amusement of the group. In this way, event chronicles may be easily created by a carload of people on the way home from an event. They might even be more entertaining than most of the usual copy . . . or one could fill in the blanks “straight” and have the basics of a “real” event chronicle.

## EVENT CHRONICLE

One fine \_\_\_\_\_ day, we set out for the barony of \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (noun)

Haven to attend their annual \_\_\_\_\_ tourney. The weather was \_\_\_\_\_,  
(noun) (adjective)

and everyone enjoyed the \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(adjective) (noun)

The site was \_\_\_\_\_. The fighting was all very \_\_\_\_\_. The  
(adjective) (adjective)

tournament was won by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(SCA Name)

Meanwhile, some of us attended classes on \_\_\_\_\_-making, and  
(noun)

\_\_\_\_\_ -ing, while others talked or danced on the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(adjective) (noun)

\_\_\_\_\_ won the prize for the best \_\_\_\_\_.  
(SCA Name) (noun)

\_\_\_\_\_ won the \_\_\_\_\_-stuffing contest.  
(SCA Name) (noun)

The feast consisted of roast \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ soup, and  
(noun) (noun)

\_\_\_\_\_ pie. \_\_\_\_\_ entertained us by singing  
(noun) (SCA Name)

“Climb Ye Up My \_\_\_\_\_” and other period songs.  
(adjective) (noun)

Many well \_\_\_\_\_-ed awards were handed out at court. Our own \_\_\_\_\_  
(verb) (name of person in the group)

was made a member of the Order of the \_\_\_\_\_ for skill in \_\_\_\_\_-ing.  
(noun) (verb)

After court there was a \_\_\_\_\_ revel. We \_\_\_\_\_-ed until we  
(noun) (verb)

\_\_\_\_\_ ed. It was a very \_\_\_\_\_ event.  
(verb) (adjective)

# *Mynydd Seren Officers List*

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  - Dance: Ly Yngerame Erskyne | [caitatoes@gmail.com](mailto:caitatoes@gmail.com)
  - Bardic: currently open! Ask Yngerame or Thora for details if you are interested in the position.
- Webminister: Parzival Angist
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