

The Clouded Issue

Newsletter of the Barony of Grey Niche

September XLIX
Fall 2014



It's fall, harvest time and time for the cooling temperatures. Enjoy this chilling fall poem from the medieval Persian book *The Bustan*, completed in 1257 by the famed poet Saadi:

If thou sowest thorns, thou wilt not reap jasmine.

Crowds are thre of those who, greedy of the world's pleasures,

Think that, not having scattered the grain, they can yet reap the harvest.

But Saadi tells you, only he who scattereth the seed will reap the harvest.

Contents in this issue:



A&S News from Lady Sarah

Samhain Approaches!



Fighter Practice at the New Site

Call for submissions!

*This is the Fall 2014 issue of the Clouded Issue, a publication of the Barony of Grey Niche of the Society of Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Clouded Issue is available from Clara S. Bowen-Howell at 4596 Monaco, #B Memphis, TN 38117. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2014 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. **Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.** All content is used by permission from the officer, artist, or author. Permission to Publish form available upon request.*

A&S Projects in the Works

We have been working on quite a few projects in the A&S department lately.

We have a 'history' project going on for our Anniversary at Beltane, where we are going to make the history of the group in Bayeux Tapestry form. We are working on the artwork at the moment, and when it is done we will need help with the embroidery!

The group is in need of regalia for our awards. We have put aside baronial project meetings in order to help fix this. Please join us on September 23rd to finish up before Samhain. We may also be working on any scroll work that still needs finished so we are ready in October.

Our scroll case is always in need of work for the "Booty", Estoile, Azure Estoile, Grey Pearl, and Denial awards. We have quite a few Valiant Heart Awards, but won't turn those down either.

Lady Sarah de Warenne, OJR SLE

Deputy A&S

Baronial Scrolls

I've had several people ask me about making unique scrolls for the barony, but didn't know where to start. So I thought I'd include here the wording used on Baronial scrolls, and what is required to be on them.

"B.O.O.T.Y."

Be it known that <blank for name> has been very very very helpful to the barony et people of Grey Niche... Therefore let all rise and offer the Baronial Ovation Of Thank You. Done this < blank for day> Day of < blank for month> Anno Societatus < blank for AS> By my hand <Space for signature> Baroness

Estoile

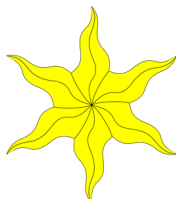
Requires at least one Yellow or Gold Estoile upon it.

Be it known that it has come to Our notice that <blank for name> has served the Barony of Grey Niche by performing countless menial tasks necessary to the function of our Barony. We are pleased to bestow the Order of the Estoile. Given by our hand this < blank for day> Day of < blank for month> Anno Societatus < blank for AS> Being < blank for Year> Gregorian. <Space for signature> Baroness

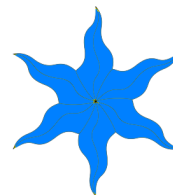
Azure Estoile

Requires at least one Blue Estoile upon it.

As our children and youth are the future of this Barony. It will not go unrecognized that <blank for name> has served the Barony of Grey Niche by performing countless menial tasks necessary to the function of our Barony. We are pleased to bestow the Order of the Azure Estoile. Given by our hand this < blank for day> Day of < blank for month> Anno Societatus < blank for AS> Being < blank for Year> Gregorian. <Space for signature> Baroness



Continued on next page....



Grey Pearl

Requires a Grey or Silver Pearl upon it.

Let all who bear witness know that you <blank for name> have contributed greatly to Our Baryon through the sharing of Arts and Sciences. We bestow upon you The Order of the Grey Pearl in recognition of skill and service in the Barony of Grey Niche. Given by our hand this < blank for day> Day of < blank for month> Anno Societatus < blank for AS> Being < blank for Year> Gregorian. <Space for signature> Baroness

Denial

Usually done in an Egyptian Nile Theme, but not necessary.

Whereas it has come to our notice that <blank for name> has contributed greatly to the grace of our Barony. We are pleased to bestow the Order of Denial in recognition of your hard work and time sacrificed in the service of the Barony of Grey Niche. Given by our hand this < blank for day> Day of < blank for month> Anno Societatus < blank for AS> Being < blank for Year> Gregorian. <Space for signature> Baroness

Valiant Heart

Needs the symbol of valiant heart upon it. (which is a sword pointing downward with a heart on either side of it.) Those interested in the text for this award please check with Sarah.

Stay tuned for part II in our next Clouded Issue!



Samhain Approaches!

Mark your calendars, gentle readers, and ready yourself for Samhain – the Dance of War. The great tradition of the Grey Niche Filking Contest will continue, and a variety of other activities will of course fill the days and nights of this fine event. Please check the flyer here:

<http://gleannabhann.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/samhain2014rev2.jpg>

Punic Wars begin at Roman Site—Grey Niche Implicated

Is there any group in this Kingdom more favored than our own sweet citizens of Grey Niche? I think not, and our ambassadorship throughout fair Gleann Abhann has only grown in stature with us having been the first SCA group allowed to make their mark on The Castrum, conveniently located in Arkansas, with easy access to Jonesboro and points beyond. Although receipts from this weekend are still being tallied (Rome wasn't billed in a day, y'know), we can safely say that it went well.

While this humble reporter was not able to attend, I heard such words from others. Oh such words! Did not the local SCA group near the site respond to my queries with enthusiasm? Did not the visitors from distant lands such as Calontir, and beyond, enjoy themselves? For the Epicurus, was there not scrumptious food, baked right there on site in the earthen oven? Indeed, that and more. Why, the Grey Niche coordinator for this activity was himself struck speechless with happiness. At first that silence Gauled me, but one must keep asking around. Three dozen fine SCAdians were present, I'm told, and even some of them were wee scamps, so that Youth Combat proceeded.

Let us not ROMANTacize the site too much tho, gentle readers, I hear that the mosquitoes were particularly vicious. This did not deter our heroes, nay. They persevered and had combat of heavy arms, and of archery. I must make note of the stalwart volunteers who attended the site in the weeks prior, clearing brush and cutting the tall grass. How did they cut it, you may ask? With a pair of Caesars, of course.

And when misfortune struck – likely those very same mosquitoes sabotaging their dinner's attempts to escape – it was the site owner himself who stepped forward to aid our visiting Calontiri's sick vehicle. After some quick repairs and a long friendly conversation, the truck was running again. A word of caution, tho - Please do not consider this to be a regular service provided by the site owner: *asistență singularis*.

I was told that the fighting was bracketed on either side of the clock by both an extensive tour of the site before hand, and a leisurely and enjoyable evening of socializing after. Nothing but positive reviews about the activities were put into my ear. As to the dinner, I heard that it was pizzas, again baked in the earthen oven, and that they were so delicious that many folks ate two, Brute.



An appeal for submissions

Gentle Readers, Grey Niche needs you – not only as a volunteer for loading trailers or scrubbing dishes, not only as an applauding member of the audience at court, not only as an important card-carrying member of the Society, but we need you as a person of word and of image.

The Clouded Issue is open to a wide variety of delights. Send us a picture, write us a poem. Tell us a story, crank out a filk. Relate to us the finest event you've ever attended, or give us an accounting of the best act of chivalry you've ever witnessed. Gimme a recipe, or scratch up a sketch. The privilege to publish your stuff will be all mine.

Email usually works: zhara8 at ya hoo dot com On facebook you can always contact Zhara um Nikko. In Yahoo Groups, if you post to either BGN net or to GreyNiche, I will see it. If none of those methods please, just tie your submission to a rock and throw it at me during the next event.

The alternative to giving me something to put into print, as you have seen in the sizzling report on the Fighter Practice in Arkansas, is to force my hand, and have me write this stuff myself. The choice really, is yours.