



Let it be Knowne

March-April-May 2021

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Monthly Shire Meetings

Monthly Shire Meetings take place on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, unless rescheduled due to conflicts. They are held on Zoom - please email Lady Cordeilla Sharpe at 223686@members.eastkingdom.org in advance to request the meeting link.

Contact Us

Website: <https://owlsherst.eastkingdom.org>

Announcements by email:

<https://groups.google.com/a/owlsherst.eastkingdom.org/g/announce>

<https://groups.google.com/a/owlsherst.eastkingdom.org/g/announce>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/owlsherst>

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Calendar of Activities

Please check the Owlsherst Website, Email List, or Facebook Group for announcements & updates regarding activities

All Wednesdays 7-9 pm: Chat/social hour on the Discord Server
Some Fridays 7-10 pm: Movie Night - check email list or FB for details
Saturdays starting April 10th 2-4:30 pm: Shire Gathering at YFCotB

March

- Wed 3/10** SCA Customs & Etiquette by Mistress Linette de Gallardon²
- Sun 3/14** Ethereal Court VII of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic - East Kingdom Livestream¹
- Sat 3/20** Mudthaw Returns (Virtual) - Settmour Swamp²
- Tues 3/23** Owlsherst Shire Meeting 7pm²
- Wed 3/24** How to learn a foreign language by Lady Cordeilla Sharpe 7 pm²
- Sat 3/27** Ad servitium somnium - a service schola - Hartshorn Dale²
- Sun 3/28** Counsel with the Consules - East Kingdom Livestream¹
- Wed 3/31** Cooking Meat Pies by Lady Orlaithe the Wanderer - 7 pm²

April

- Sat 4/10** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm - YFCotB³
- Sun 4/11** Ethereal Court VIII of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic - EK Live Stream¹
- Wed 4/14** Making rattan swords by Master Wulfgar o' the Wood - 7 pm²
- Sat 4/17** Shire Gathering - Youth Combat practice - 2-4:30pm YFCotB³
- Sat 4/24** East Kingdom Bardic Champions - Concordia of the Snows²
- Sat 4/24** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm - YFCotB³
- Tues 4/27** Owlsherst Shire Meeting 7pm²
- Wed 4/28** Topic TBA by Baroness Mariette de Bretagne - 7 pm²

May

- Sat 5/1** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm - YFCotB³
- Wed 5/5** Researching and Building a Persona by Lord Donnachadh Mac Lochlainn - 7 pm²
- Sat 5/8** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm - YFCotB³
- Sat 5/15 - Sun 5/23** The First Bardic War - East & Atlantia²
- Sat 5/15** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm YFCotB³
- Sun 5/16** Ethereal Court IX of the Eastern Consules, Tindal and Alberic - EK Live Stream¹
- Sun 5/16** Moon Dancer Winery meet-up - 1-6 pm
- Wed 5/19** Fletching arrows by Charles Wertz - 7 pm²
- Fri 5/21** Nostalgic Sing-a-long Bardic Circle - 7 pm-?? - Wulfgar and Linette's house, Eters
- Sat 5/22** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm YFCotB³
- Sat 5/22 - Sun 5/30** Online Laurels' Challenge & Exhibition - East²
- Tues 5/25** Owlsherst Shire Meeting 7pm²
- Sat 5/29** Shire Gathering - 2-4:30pm YFCotB³
- Sat 5/29** Virtual Wars of the Roses - Concordia of the Snows²

¹ <https://youtube.com/SCAEastKingdomEthereal>

² check email list, website, or Facebook for links to virtual meeting rooms

³ YFCotB - York First Church of the Brethren 2710 Kingston Rd. York PA

IN-PERSON SHIRE GATHERINGS TO RESUME APRIL 10TH!

Saturdays, 2-4:30pm, at York First Church of the Brethren, 2710 Kingston Rd., York

Due to Covid-19-related State and SCA regulations, in-person Owlsherst practices are being limited in location and scope. Masks and contact tracing information are required. Please see <https://owlsherst.eastkingdom.org/activities/covid-19-requirements/> for a full list of requirements to attend practice. At this time, rattan combat practice will allow FULL CONTACT practice, but NO melee. A&S and social gathering are allowed. We are awaiting decisions from Kingdom Officers to begin Rapier and Archery practices - check the Facebook group and email lists for announcements regarding these and all other activities. Youth Combat will start on April 17th, and then continue on every 2nd Saturday of the month.

Moon Dancer Winery, Cider House, and Tap Room Meet-up Sunday, May 16, 2021 1330 Klines Run Rd, Wrightsville, PA Some Owlsherstians will be gathering on a Sunday afternoon at a local winery and cidery for some camaraderie. **NOTE:** this activity will likely require being unmasked for some portion of the time in order to eat and drink; do not attend if you will not be comfortable with that. There is a large patio with outdoor seating and the activity is intended to be outside.

Nostalgic Sing-a-long Bardic Circle Friday, May 21st, 7pm - ?? Wulfgar and Linette's house in Etters, PA Calling all singers and lovers of old SCA music! A bardic circle full of nostalgic songs from the early years in the SCA will be held around a campfire at Wulfgar and Linette's house. Songbooks will be made available to sing from; if you have old songs you want to share, check the list of songs already provided which will be posted on Facebook, and if your song isn't included, bring at least 10 copies.

Masks will be required. Do not come if you are sick with any symptoms. Bring your own chair, drinks, small flashlight or lighting to see your music. Contact Linette (Elizabeth H. Wood) for the address if needed, and to reserve your spot. Due to space limitations, we will not be able to accommodate more than 15 people total.

Virtual Classes in Owlsherst! A series of virtual classes has been scheduled for Spring 2021. These will be held on various Wednesdays, and the scheduled classes are listed in the Calendar in the issue - but you should also check the Owlsherst website (<https://owlsherst.eastkingdom.org/events/>) for current information.

Spring topics include SCA Customs & Etiquette, How to Learn a Foreign Language, Cooking, Making Rattan Swords, Researching & Building a Persona, Fletching Arrows, and more!

A portion of these classes will be recorded and posted online for later viewing - if you do not consent to being recorded you will need to turn your microphone and camera off.

Zoom links will not be posted publicly. Please contact the Owlsherst Zoom Coordinator, Lady Cordeilla Sharpe, at 223686@members.eastkingdom.org before 5:00 p.m. Eastern, on the date of the class to request the link. [Back to Contents](#)

Current Officers List

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Deputy Chronicler Lord Marcus D'Orleans

Persona Corner

Conall na Seamar O'Conghaile

I was born on 16, February in the year of our Lord 1383 south east of the port city of Galway. My O'Conghaile clan has been serving the Clannrickarde Burkes for over 100 years. My father and his father have served as Marshals for Clannrickarde, and I have assumed this position upon my father's death in 1433, God bless his soul. In assuming this role, I have been made warden of Claregalway Castle built in 1443.

As warden, I stay at the castle for most of the year in order to supervise its functioning so it is ready for Tighearna Ulick Ruadh's arrival. However, as Marshal for the clan I need to travel to the other 3 castles during the year. I have many responsibilities, such as ensuring that all of the castles are garrisoned and supplied with victuals and armaments. To a large extent, this is dependent on our herds of cattle—the life blood of a Gaelic or Gaelicized clan—which need to be guarded day and night. The cattle provide not only meat, but also butter, milk, cheese, and whey. This along with oats form the basis of our diet. My other responsibility is to attend Ulick Ruadh into battle. I must help protect him.

Claregalway Castle is a rectangular 5 story tower. It is surrounded by a stone bawn or wall that is protected by a gatehouse. Inside the bawn there are several buildings including a stable, storehouse, workshop, and feast hall. All of these structures are built with walls of wattle and daub with a thatch roof.

This castle has many fine features. The castle entrance is by a pointed arched door of thick oak. Above the door is a machicolation to aid in protection by allowing arrows or rocks to rain down on the enemy. There opposing grooves in the door jambs to accommodate a Yett or iron grate that can be pulled up to protect the door in case of attack. After entering the lobby, there is a “murder hole” to increase protection. We can throw various missiles or hot liquids at the enemy from above. Adjacent to the lobby is a stone staircase and a guardroom where I stay. A stone vault separates the 2nd and 3rd floors. There are fireplaces on the first and second floors, and garderobes on the second and third floors. The top floor is the lord's chamber with nicely carved arches for the windows. All the other openings are mere slits or arrow loops. The roof is made of oak beams and thatch.

My clothing is made of linen and wool. My leine/tunic is knee length with buttons on the sleeve and down the front.

I have begun to wear a new style of linen tunic called the “leine croich”. Ulick Ruadh has seen that it is dyed the very best—with Saffron. This golden yellow marks a person of rank in our society. The strange thing about this garment are the voluminous sleeves that hang down to my calves—not so functional at times, but it does make a display. I will also wear an Ionar—a short jacket. To protect from cold and damp, I wear our traditional woolen cloak—the brat.

For battle many of us have adopted the battle dress of our gallowglass warriors. We wear a Bascinet helm, mail aventail, and a cotun—a type of padded coat. This kit allows freedom of movement which is so important to our mode of fighting. Unlike the gallowglass, I do not swing a large two handed axe. I have trained with a two handed sword and spear. Many of our local Kern just wear their leine and use a sword or throw javelins. The gallowglass face the brunt of the action on the field. The nobles are similarly armed as me, but ride horses and use long spears or lances along the fringes.

Ah, my wife Orlaithe is in charge of the servants—cooks, brewer, weavers, and other household staff. She wears a floor length gown over her linen leine and a head covering. The castle could not operate without her expertise.

When Ulick Ruadh is residing at Claregalway, we may host various guests. That usually will demand a feast. Unless it is a small intimate gathering—which would be held in the 3rd floor chamber—a large celebration would be held in the outside

hall. Benches would line walls with a dais table at the end of the hall. Sitting with Ulick Ruadh and his wife, would be the guests, the court filidh or poet, the Brehon, and Orlaithe and myself. Poets, historians, physicians, and harpers are held in high esteem in our culture—even in a Gaelicized Anglo-Irish clan. Clannrickarde adheres to most all of our customs including speaking Irish Gaelic and following our Brehon law system. Mead will be shared for this special occasion. Beef, pork, and fish will be the main dishes. Towards the end of the feast, a poem will be read by a bard with harp accompaniment. The nature of the poem would be to honor Ulick Ruadh, or past members of the clan. The historian may read the genealogy of Ulick Ruadh. Stories from the sagas may also be read. Other pastimes would be hunting and gaming. This is my life in the year 1450.

Persona Corner is a new feature - a place for shire members to share information and inspiration about their persona. Interested in creating an article for Persona Corner? Contact the Chronicler! [Back to Contents](#)