

Barony of Grey Niche

A.S. XLVIII



June 2013

The Clouded Issue

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Greetings Unto the People of Grey Niche from your Baroness Linnet MacLeod.

Summer has moved into the Niche, bringing with it the usual heat and humidity. So I ask everyone to hydrate during all our outdoor activities.

Summer Muster was a great success. Thanks to everyone who attended, but especially to THL Ali for organizing the event and the yummy barbeque afterward. Also thanks to Sir James and Baroness Joan for hosting the afterparty.

Other activities this Summer include:

- ***our usual Fighter Practice on Sunday afternoons at Audubon Park***
- ***meetings every Tuesday night at Southwest Community College – business meetings are usually the first Tuesday of every month, then A & S classes the rest of the month. June will host an additional business meeting on the 25th and July's business meeting has moved to the 9th.***
- ***a possible Lugh. Baroness Teresa Berconi would autocrat with Baron Waffle assisting and THL Orlun Elidasdottir coordinating food.***
Please keep your eyes and ears open for more information.

Grey Niche now has its own Facebook page. Please join the group if you haven't. This is a great place for easy information sharing.

One of the most important issues for the group at present is the need for a new Reeve. THL Giacomo has done an amazing job, but it is time for someone else to step up and take the position. Please consider this position and speak with him if you are interested and he can tell you what the job entails. Also, many offices need deputies. Taking on a baronial office is a great way to serve your barony!

Thanks to everyone for their work to support the barony.

***In service,
Linnet***





Policy Chat Yields Pleasantly Surprised Results

In the past few weeks, our own Duke Sir John the Bearkiller sent out various group announcements and individual encouragements for the Grey Niche populace to consider a little light summer reading, with plans to subsequently meet and discuss, perhaps over a light snack.

Modeled after his idol Oprah Winfrey's most successful series of book clubs, His Grace's Baronial Policy Chats have now started, with the first one held at Garibaldi's this past Sunday (06/09/13). The initial impression of those who showed up? Pleasantly surprised.

An overall sense of satisfaction with the recently rehailed policies seemed to be the consensus of the group, with suggestions for minor changes in event rules to shift lunches from a responsibility under the feast-o-crat's budget to an opportunity for fund-raisers instead. Also suggested, correction of spelling and grammatical errors in a few places throughout the text, which was most recently examined & changed in part, just last year. There is "nothing that is huge or can't be discussed easily," His Grace was quoted as saying.

Interested in joining the discussion? Read the current Baronial Policies at www.greyniche.net and plan to show up for the next chat when announced on BGN list and at meetings.

Greetings from your Arts & Sciences officer! This article will begin a series that I hope many of you will find helpful as well as beneficial in your various pursuits. This month's article is for those of you into the fiber arts; specifically, those that need the shortcuts to make their sewing experiences a little, less, shall we say, aggravating.

I have compiled a "Cheat Sheet" (see following pages) showing some suggestions and sources to get items that will make your sewing go smoother. So please take these suggestions and use them as you see fit. And enjoy yourself!!

THL Olrun Elidasdottir



*Silver pencils
dark FAB.*

"CHEAT" SHEET!!

Ok, here it is.....the handout you all want. This has some (not all) of the "cheats" that I use every day. In it you will also find links to sources that I also use to buy fabric, thread, and all sorts of goodies.

Thread Heaven Thread Conditioner:

<http://www.123stitch.com/cgi-perl/itemdetail.pl?item=123-7420>

This is **WONDERFUL** stuff. Washes out easy, and it really helps keep your thread from knotting up. Also works really well on wool.

Sulky Iron On Transfer Pens:

<http://www.uncommonthread.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv>

This site also has a LOT of good notions to purchase as well.

<u>SULKY-40041</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Black
<u>SULKY-40042</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Yellow
<u>SULKY-40043</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Green
<u>SULKY-40044</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Red
<u>SULKY-40046</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Orange
<u>SULKY-40047</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Brown
<u>SULKY-40048</u>	Sulky Transfer Pens - Purple
<u>SULKY-40045</u>	Sulky Transfer Pen - Blue

This is a chart breakdown on the GOOD colors.....**DO NOT BUY THE WHITE PEN....IT IS THE CONSISTENCY OF LIQUID PAPER AND WILL MAKE A UNHOLY MESS OF YOUR PIECE!!!**



THREADS AND FLOSS TO USE FOR EMBROIDERY:

<http://ursulasalcove.com/yarn.html>

great source for wool threads; I use the Jaggerspun Heather, in the 2/8 size. They also have a really good color chart that has "period" colors you can use.

<https://www.reconstructinghistory.com/threads.php?c=143&w=24&r=Y>

This place has it all; silk, wool, and linen threads that are really easy to use. They also have a really large color chart to choose from, as well as "color sets" based on period colors.

FABRICS

<http://www.hamiltondrygoods.com/fabrics.html>

Good Source for wools, nice colors too.

<http://www.bblackandsons.com>

Really good place for wools and linen, a little pricey unless you are buying a LOT.

<http://www.denverfabrics.com>

good place for silks, wools, and linens. Check out the sales and you do much better on the pricing.

<http://fabric-store.com>

THE place to go for a nice linen. Good colors that can be used for almost any time frame. Stick with the 5.3 ounce and you can't go wrong.

<http://www.hancockfabrics.com/index.htm>

Either online, or in person if you have one close, this store is good for a LOT of your notions and embroidery flosses. Every now and then you can find linens, but most of them are blends and kind of pricey.



<http://hobbylobby.com>

This place I just LOVE to go and walk around.....It also has 100% linen, in the interior decorating fabric section, but unless you get the 40% off coupon and really pay attention, the prices are pretty steep on fabric. You also can get all your notions and floss here as well.

<http://www.joann.com/joann/home/home.jsp>

We don't have one close to us (WAHHHH) but you may. Check it out. It is usually a mirror of Hancock's, so see what you can find.

OTHER PLACES TO CHECK/THINK ABOUT

Any local decorator fabric store

Try these out for remnants to play with or make facings out of.

Your local thrift shop

Sometimes, these will have wool coats, drapes, all kind of things you can "recycle" and make into something else, not limited to fabric. Check them out for feast gear, knives, bed linens for sheet walls, you are only limited by your imagination.

Garage Sales/Estate Sales

They say one persons trash is someone else's treasure. It is true! Look at some of them and see, you can pick up all kinds of things from sewing machines to good fabrics. And it is always fun snooping through someone's stuff!



Message from the Grey Niche Reeve;

I'm looking for an Emergency Replacement Deputy Reeve who hopefully will want to become my replacement when my time in the Reeve's office is up in November 2013. I'm in the process of extended my financial warrant till December 31, 2013 to facilitate training. This job takes both people skills as well as the ability to be detail oriented, organized, stay up-to-date on financial data entry, be aware of deadlines and be willing to learn the job to be a successful Reeve. Also, as Master Cormac-our Seneschal, has previously stated, the Reeve's position is a Greater Officer and is a requirement {within Corpora} in order for the Barony of Grey Niche to exist as a viable Branch.

Time requirements: Like any job, it varies, but I think this is about correct:

- There is the Monthly Cash Reconciliation Report, which is getting the Bank Statement and entering data onto a small spreadsheet and the Seneschal and the Reeve signing it. This takes me maybe an hour a month. Basically, this job is "balancing the checkbook".
- During the month or so run-up to an event, I put in about 2-4 hours a week doing such activities as depositing reservation checks and keeping up with data entry in the checkbook. During the event, the Reeve's job is to check in and see if the Sheriff and Troll have enough help and that financial issues at Troll are being covered as per Financial Policies. The Reeve also works with the Sheriff to verify the event proceeds, to take possession of those funds, and to get them deposited in the bank in a timely fashion, preferably on the Monday after the event. So, during the event, maybe 3 hours of work is required. The post-event duties are the bank deposit and preparing any post-event reimbursements due as well as doing an Event Financial Report. In post-event, I spend an average of 6 hours preparing the paperwork, writing checks, entering everything in the checkbook and the electronic check register. The Event Financial Report may take another hour.
- The biggest time spent by the Reeve is the Quarterly Financial Reports. I'm averaging about 6 hours doing each of the Quarterly Reports I've done so far. I'm keeping up with everything as the Quarter unfolds, and that is a big help. If you run into problems on these Reports, the Kingdom Exchequer is as close as a phone call or e-mail away.
- Of course, as with any job, there's always a chance of something coming up that isn't listed here. I've already had that happen to me in the time I've been Reeve...I just did what I had to do and moved on.
- The Reeve works with the Quartermaster to insure that our tangible assets are accounted for and stored away between events. The Quartermaster is a Deputy of the Reeve.

Computer skills: Familiarity with Microsoft Excel is a requirement. Keeping an active backup of all computer files is a must.

Deputies of the Reeve: The Reeve's Emergency and/or Replacement Deputy and the Quartermaster

My contact information is below (next page) for those interested in further discussion.



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Yours In Service;

Giacomo

THL Giacomo Falcone – Grey Niche Reeve

Kimo.aubrey@gmail.com

901-826-2448

Financial Report for 2012

Income

Fund Raising	\$419.00
Direct Contributions/Donations – much of this money came when BGN closed out the old bank account when the Barony became part of the Tennessee Subsidiary and it was transferred in to the current bank account	\$3,593.46
Activity Related (Medieval activities to earn income-events, demos, heraldry fees	\$10,936.00
GROSS INCOME	\$14,948.46

Expenses

Advertising costs in The Ambassador	\$180.00
Bank Service Charges	\$123.32
Depreciation	\$66.98
Equipment rental & maintenance	\$1,334.35
Fees & Honoraria	\$119.50
Food	\$3,520.74
General Supplies	\$982.04
Occupancy & Site Charges	\$3,310.85
Postage & Shipping / P.O. Box Rental	\$71.62
Printing & Publications	\$24.60
Travel (Gas, Tolls, Airfare)	\$313.25
Donations to SCA Inc., subsidiaries and other 501c3 organizations	\$2,139.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,187.07

NET INCOME FOR 2012 = \$2,761.39



Peregrine's Eye View – Beltaine by Bryan Sims

To borrow from the master, Ray Bradbury, "Grey Niche is Heaven!" That's what it felt like this last weekend. From the moment we parked and saw Elvis putting up torches and Mark and Max sipping grog by their cars we felt like we had stepped back in time into the story where the astronauts arrive at the strange place and find its really home. (this time without the funky ending-grin)

For me it meant going back 33 years, to being a 15 y/o with no clue what to expect, who was accepted and embraced by a group of people who folded over me like a warm blanket of extended family. My son, Morgan, who is 14, had the same look on his face. That look that says 'This may not look like home to everyone else but it feels like home to me.'

I couldn't manage to carry anything more than 5 ft without someone taking it away from me which made it possible for me to spend much more time on site than I would have been able to otherwise. I have been ill the last year or so and that has kept me home, nursing my ego, instead of out with my friends. Its easy for an old fighter to forget that most people in the SCA do NOT fight and manage to have a great time. I was sure I would be resentful watching everyone else have fun fighting and would not enjoy myself. I could not have been more wrong.

Travelers feast and Bardic Friday were awesome, as was catching up with everyone I have missed seeing in person for so long. A message on Face Book just isn't the same as a warm hug and someone saying they missed you so much.

Breakfast Saturday was wet with continued wet all day but instead of dampening the fun it concentrated it by making it possible to enjoy all the activities held in the hall at the same time. With 250 people in a small space the event turned cozy instead of crowded, with people laughing about space issues instead of being disgruntled as it would have been so easy to become. But SCA folk make good things happen and so we all enjoyed the food and classes and fighting all rubbing elbows.

Court was enjoyable although i missed some to take a nap with my lovely wife. My son was hard to get to sit down! he was everywhere at once, helping wash dishes and helping people who daytripped get set up. I wasn't sure if he would "Get it" but HE went and volunteered without my prompt, only stopping to ask me if it was okay to go help. He Got It very well!

Feast was awesome with new and old friends. It was hard to eat we were all laughing so hard all night! Then another storytelling time , inside while the dance swept around us. Then a few minutes by the fire and Theresa and I headed for bed. Morgan crawled in later and was even cheerful getting up the next day, unheard of for a 14y/o! LOL

It was magic, and gives me hope, because when my time comes to go I had a little taste of what heaven will be like. For me Grey Niche IS Heaven!



The Barony of Grey Niche presents

Samhain: SCA-Trek The Next Generation

October 11 - 13, 2013

Piersol Group Camp, Meeman-Shelby
Forest State Park 910 Riddick Road,
Millington, TN 38053 901-876-5215 or
800-471-5293

This event will be a unique one! The youth of our
land are hosting their first event! Of course,

each child has an official mentor to deal with the legal issues, and fill key positions that must be held by an adult. However, the entirety of this event will be run by the youth. It is all about them learning the "How and Why" behind what we do, so come and see how our future generations reenact the past!

Join us on Friday night for a torchlight tournament, Friday night Filk competition, and Travelers Faire. There will be a full day of activities on Saturday, with lots of fighting for heavy and light! There will also be an amazing feast Saturday evening! Bring your aluminum can pull tabs! The youth will be collecting this "future metal" to donate to the Ronald McDonald House.

Pricing before September 15th:

Cost On Board Off Board

Adult Weekend: \$20 \$15

Child Weekend: \$10 \$8

Adult Daytrip: \$15 \$10

Child Daytrip: \$8 \$5

Pricing after September 15th and
at the door:

Cost On Board Off Board

Adult Weekend: \$23 \$18

Child Weekend: \$12 \$9

Adult Daytrip: \$18 \$13

Child Daytrip: \$9 \$7



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Feastcrat: Sofi Pepper Sophia Pepper
601-992-6553 (Call anytime)

FatCatCeramicShop@gmail.com

Knight Marshal: Lord Nikolai Burigltai
Nicholas West

870-514-3961 (No calls after 8pm)

nicoliwest@gmail.com

Reservationcrat: Ian de Gordon
Ian Goforth

901-850-8981 (No calls after 8pm)

ian.goforth@gmail.com

Make Checks payable to: SCA-TN Inc,
Barony of Grey Niche Send reservations to:
Barony of Grey Niche PO Box 11184 Memphis,
TN 38111

Preregistration closes October 1st. Only cash will be accepted at the door. Children Age 5 and under are free (with no bed or feast). Child price is for under 12 years of age. Adult Non-SCA-Members must add \$5.00. No family shall pay a site fee higher than 3 adult members, if all are paid members.

Directions to the site: Take your best route to the corner of Hwy. 51 and North Watkins St., just North of Memphis. Take North Watkins St. approximately 6 miles North, until it ends at a "T" intersection. Turn Left onto Locke Cuba Rd. and go about 1 mile to a stop sign. Turn Right at the stop sign onto Bluff Road. Go about a half mile and turn Left into the park entrance. Take the first Right, immediately past the Visitor Center, and then the first Left. Follow this to the Piersol Group Camp. SCA signs will be posted.

This is a dry site.

Merchants must speak with Park Authorities for fee information

Visit us on the web: www.greyniche.net (soon to be back up!)

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BGN_NET/

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/141682096011644/?fref=ts>

Submissions for future issues cheerfully taken: zhara8@yahoo.com



Mistress Linnett	Baroness	barony @greyniche.net
Master Cormac the Bald	Seneshal	seneschal @greyniche.net
Lord Sean Patrick O'Donnell	Herald	herald @greyniche.net
THL Giacomo Falcone	Reeve	reeve @greyniche.net
Tiernan the Red	Knight Marshall	knightmarshal @greyniche.net
Lord Richarde	Youth Marshall	youthmarshal @greyniche.net
Empty	Rapier Marshall	rapiermarshal @greyniche.net
THL Olrun Eldisdottir	Arts and Sciences	artsandsciences @greyniche.net
Lasairfhiona inghean ui Sheachnasaigh	Provost	provost @greyniche.net
THL Susanna inghean ui Caimbeul	Chatelaine	chatelaine @greyniche.net
Lord William of Glen Lyon	Chirurgion	chirurgion @greyniche.net
THL Zhara um Nikko	Historian	historian @greyniche.net
THL Zhara um Nikko	Chronicler	chronicler @greyniche.net
Turlaugh NGrannnda Fer	Sheriff	sheriff @greyniche.net
THL Elvis Montego	Minister of Children	moc @greyniche.net
Lady Sarah de Warenne	Webminister	webminister @greyniche.net
Baron Uilleam mac Uilleam "Waffle"	Quartermaster	quartermaster @greyniche.net



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What do you see in
this issue?

Uffa Cynnewulfe

provided our

masthead photo, the

dragon illustration,

and this sweet honey

and mead themed

word search. Enjoy!

(Teaser: one word is

missing from the

word list but is in the

puzzle – see if you

can guess the one

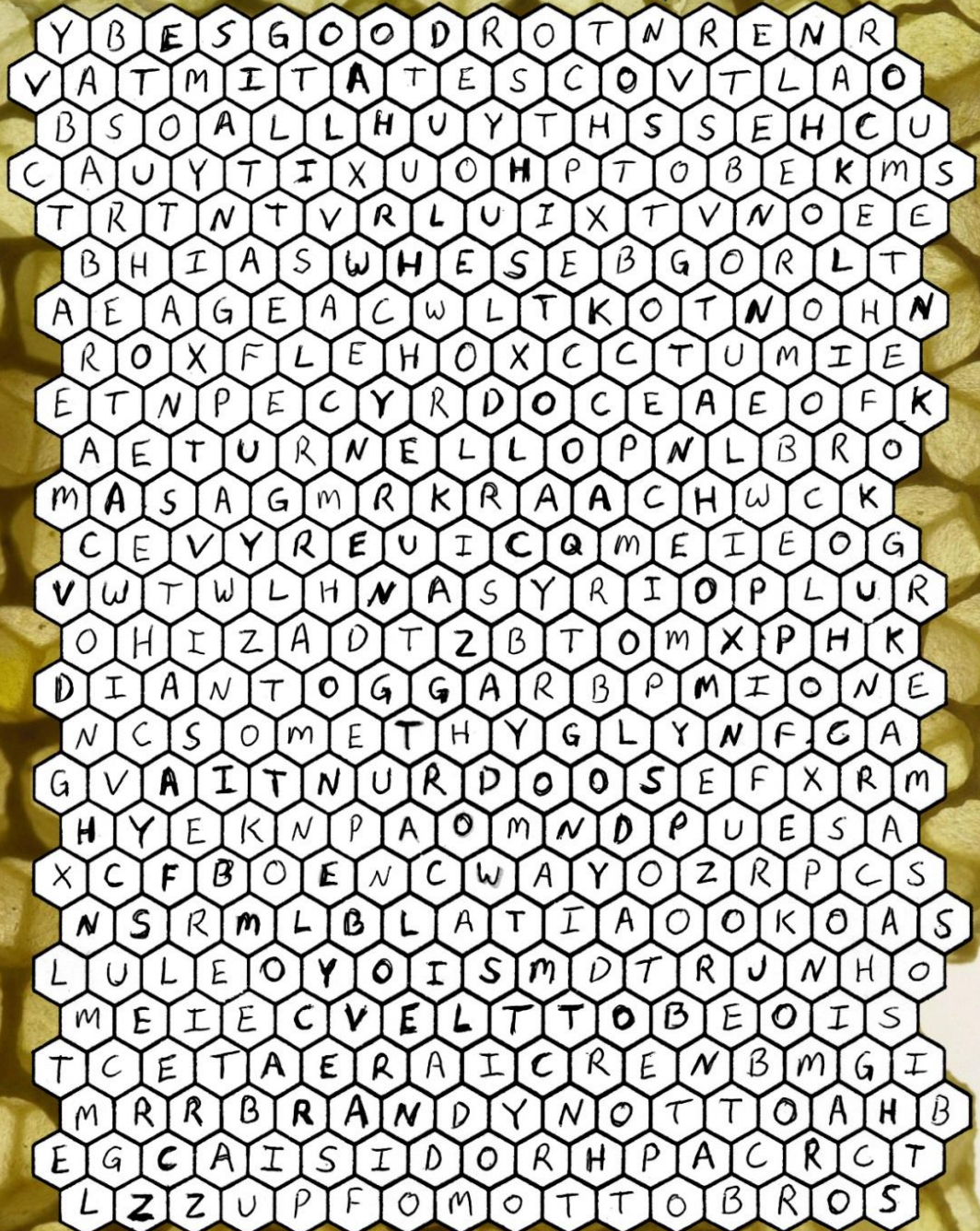
three-letter essential

item, without which

there would be no

mead at all!)

Mead



airlock, aphrodesiac, bacteria, bentonite, bottle, braggot, brandy, brew, carboy, clover, comb, cork, cyser, dry, ferment, hippocrass, honey, horilka, mazer, mead, melomel, methyglan, mold, must, pollen, pyment, rack, siphon, spice, sweet, tupelo, wort, yeast