

The Blue Strand

Hello and welcome to the Gentlefolk of our fair shire, I hope all of you are doing well.

http://www.sca.org.au/krae_glas/ Is the website for our shire and it is updated regularly with events and the contact information is always there.

This month I wanted to talk about the St. Monica's and Krae Glas fighter training nights held on Friday nights. There are many people who have probably never attended these because they are not interested in fighting. I personally first went because I was but now I attend just for the social aspect of it. So to give all of you a feel for the night I decided I would share some of the things that happen at these events.

For one did you know that when we have enough marshals available that besides Heavey fighting we have Rapier and Lights training with live targets?

The Rapiers thrust and parried as they learnt their techniques at quarter speed developing the skills to effectively block their opponent's strikes. The Marshall kept a keen eye on them reminding them to slow down when they got a little too fast. His Mantra to them was 'quarter speed is not about winning but working out how to protect yourself when you have no where to go.' One of the hardest things regarding training in quarter speed is overcoming your desire to win and actually learning techniques that will be useful for your longevity on the field

Lord Roland Ironbed oversaw the Lights. Everyone enjoyed shooting at a live target but afterwards several arrows had been damaged. So he taught them how to do some repairs and the reasons why he used the products he did. For example the use of fibreglass tape instead of duct tape because it lasts longer and is easier to repair. We learnt that Flights try to keep the blunts at the front of the arrow. Fights made of artificial feathers are better than solid plastic flights because they fly straighter and are less likely to injure your hands. Releasing the arrows quickly also reduces the shaft wobble making targets easier to hit. For those interested in making arrows for themselves the blunts are only available through the SCA and it is believed that River Haven have perfected a good recipe or you could contact Margie.

Baron Sir James Sinister is a left handed fighter. He put some of the Heaveys through their paces and taught some very useful skills. Getting them to practice over and over and over to cement it in their mind's, Barron Sinister is a wealth of skill. Also of note is Jay Mendoza chain mail and diamond shield. There is nothing better than skilled heavy's or heavy's who's armour is impressively complete.

The night also has a social aspect with several people attending who like to watch and chat. The topics run the gamut of what can be talked about. Some of the recent topics being questions about Heraldry, the new Herb guild and discussions about the upcoming Midwinter masked Venetian Ball.

Items to remember!

St. Monica's is also a major part of Krae Glas and they are in need of some Chemises and other clothes for their Hospitalier. If you can help them out with either some old garb or making garb for the group then please let Tiffany know.

Please remember that the Krae Glas Wednesday night gathering is on the 4th Wednesday of every

month at Gwynfor and Gwir's premises. Although we do go through some 'business' as in reports we also have time to work on our projects as well. Tiffany is currently reviewing if persons attending the Wednesday night meetings want some formal A & S events at this time. So please drop her a line privately as to what you would be interested in. The formal officers meeting section can be over faster if we stay on topic however with not much else happening it hasn't lately.

To those of you who have had their lifestyle change and cannot attend regularly, you are sorely missed and we hope that you are fit and well. Any time you want to pop in for anything you are more than welcome.

If you are new to Krae Glass then please feel free to call me on 0419327034 to ask any questions or text me a home number to call. If you have an email then please email me, lmcampbell@iprimus.com.au. If I don't know the answer then I can find out for you and get back to you. Here at Krae Glas there is a world of activities going on and sometimes as a new person to our group it is hard to work it all out but no question is too little. So welcome to our Shire and we hope you learn heaps of things and are around for a long time J

YiS

Anastasia d'A'lassio
Chronicler

Ps. Any information you wish to share would be greatly appreciated. JOr pictures...lol

I am interested in maybe having a get together with other like minded persons regarding the use of smell in the SCA is anyone else interested?? I have already made some period perfumes and I am about to make some period incense. I am looking at why they were used and how they were made and used.