

Le Chronique d'Esperance

January 2000, Anno Adrianus 15

Issue Number 2 of 12

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From His Majesty

Greetings and salutations
unto the populace of Esperance.

So let it be written;

We hope this day finds you
and yours happy and healthy
and that your VCRs still work.

We would like to thank all
who attended Our first event
last month.

It was a little disorganized,
but it seems that everyone in
attendance did have a good
time. It went off fairly well for
the first event under a new
Crown. No one got hurt. ☺

There has been some
concern voiced about Our
personal ideas regarding
historical accuracy and the
playing of this game. This will
serve to clarify Our position:

The Adrian Empire Inc. is
not a reenactment organization
it is a recreation organization.

As a 501(c)3 recreation
organization we are required by
the government to be 15%
historically accurate in our
displays and actions. We easily
meet this requirement.

We must be 95% accurate in
what we teach at any location
where the primary goal is
education and we are there to
represent The Adrian Empire
Inc. A demo at a school is a
perfect example.

We would say to the learner

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From Her Majesty

To the populace of
Esperance does the Queen send
greetings.

The holidays are over, and
the new year is here. By now
we have all realized the world
has not exploded. (Most of us
would agree that this is a good
thing.) I am excited about the
coming year and the potential
that it holds for Adria. My wish
for Esperance this year: May our
year not be the letdown the
Y2K explosions turned out to
be.

There was one event that
occurred during the holidays
that was a wonderful and
joyous thing. I know it is
mentioned elsewhere in this
newsletter, but it's worth
repeating. Our very own
Guinevere and Joaquino
Morone Lococo de San Filippo
had their baby on December
29th. By all I've heard,
everyone is fine. I can't wait
until they bring Alura Rose to
an event so we can greet her
properly. Please join me in
welcoming our littlest Adrian.
My wish for her parents: May
you always remember the joy of
the first few moments after her
birth.

I do wish to thank the
populace for their patience with
Us at the last event. There
seems to be much to learn, and
I promise things will flow
smoother with every event! I

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From His Majesty

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something like “I am wearing a tabard made out of a cotton/polyester blend, but historically it may have been made out of wool.”

As long as we explain history correctly and are able to prove that what we say is true, we meet the requirements of a 501(c)3 recreation organization. Without question we can always improve our performance in this regard.

A reenactment organization is required to be 85% accurate in display and action at all times. Since we are not reenactors, this requirement does not apply.

If you would like to prove this to yourself, go here: <http://www.california.gov> and <http://www.irs.gov>

There are approximately 6400 pages on the 501(c)3 organization and it's structures.

Of those 6400, less than 100 pages are the rules under which we in The Adrian Empire Inc. must operate.

The remaining information contained in this very dry site describes how we can get grants, land, monetary donations and whatnot. It makes for difficult reading at times, but it is quite enlightening and educational.

We thank Sir Thomas FitzShokes Paciafex, Earl of Esperance and Dame Allora McDonnon, Lady of Adria for their help in procuring this information. We have paraphrased and condensed their work in places, but have not changed the facts as researched.

We would also like to state that historic accuracy is a passion for some of Our citizens and We would like to encourage them to pursue their passion as enthusiastically as they wish. We can all improve our knowledge of history through their efforts. And though it is not the main reason many of us joined Adria, it can only enhance the experience of being a historical recreationist. We wholeheartedly support the effort of any Adrian to accurately teach history and share their knowledge.

Having adequately explained the requirements as outlined by the U.S. Government for a 501(3) organization, and

From Her Majesty

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never watched to see how court was conducted, or what order to say things, or any of the other pointy-hat details – why should I? I was a lowly peasant, for heaven's sakes! A word to the wise: Pay attention to the details for you never know what the Fates are planning for you.

I encourage all of you to attend the 12th night celebrations that are coming up. Aquitaine is hosting a pot-luck feast and have opened their doors to all Adrians. They always put on a great event, and I am most sorry to be missing it. Tonight! Go! Enjoy!

Terre Neuve is also hosting a 12th night celebration that also has a history of great fun and good food. That one is next week, and there is still time to RSVP (Dame Allora @ ecboyd@home.com).

I know this newsletter has much information in it, so I will not take as much of your time as I usually do. (Please keep the applause to a minimum.)

With respect and affection I remain,

Maedb Hawkins Drakonja

Queen of Esperance

having adequately expressed the fact that those requirements are being met by The Adrian Empire Inc. We shall deem this discussion closed.

Now it's time to concentrate on growing our kingdom and making it the envy of All the Adrias. We can do that easily with your help.

We have been informed that someone is privately preparing a wondrous 12th night feast to be held a short distance to the East this evening. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

We command you to enjoy yourselves! ☺

So let it be done.

Vilhelm von Seiken Uladrachen, Gottesknecht
King of Esperance

A Birth

From the Tavern:

Battaglia dell'arte is proud to announce the birth of their Sire:

Alura Rose Morone
Lococo de San Filippo

She joined us today (December 30th, 1999) at 4:44 PM, Weighs 6 pounds, .5 ounces and is 18 inches long.

Guinevere and Joaquino are both in fine spirits and proud of their new bundle of joy.

Please help us celebrate her birth!

Lenora Dominica Scott
Greyphis

Count's de Monet

Squire to Earl Galadon
Pendragon

Lady of Adria

Member Battaglia dell'arte
(house)

Collegium

At Castle Chaos, Her Majesty's residence, Lord Horatio Merriweather will be holding a collegium on how to register heraldry within the Adrian empire. He will have forms available. The collegium begins at 6:00pm on February 4th and will continue til around 8:00pm. If you have any questions, contact Lord Horatio. If you need directions, contact Castle Chaos at

Ministers' Reports

Minister of Joust and War

The December event included a sergeant's list shinai tournament, a knight's list ren tournament, and a knight's list steel tournament. A peasant shoot was also held and was well attended.

The winners of the December event were:

Shinai: Homish

Renaissance: HRM Sir Vihelm von Seiken Uladrachen

Steel: Sir Galadon Pendragon

Archery: Magnus

(Please forgive spelling errors! The only source of some names is the sign in sheet and the handwriting is difficult!)

Sir Donovan (J T. Fox) was appointed as Crown Marshall.

Minister of Physicks

If you haven't heard, our kingdom has a new Physicker. I, Sire McKinnish, have agreed to fill the position. If you have a health problem and I need to know about it, do not hesitate to call me at . If you have any questions, I will be happy to answer those as well.

I have chosen a Deputy Minister of Physicks as well. My deputy is Helena MacCoda von Seiken.

Thank you,

Sire McKinnish

Sovereign of Arms

Unto the populace of Esperance does Lord Horatio, Embattled Hope King of Arms, send his greetings and salutations,

December has been a busy month for the College of Arms. With the elevation of our king to his noble estate and an increase in the College of 100%, we've had our hands full!

To start the year off, the College of Arms has started a project named " Campaign 2000" in which we will get everyone without heraldry registered in both the Kingdom and the Imperial College of Arms. This also includes ALL estates, sees, bishoprics, abbeys, and monasteries of our local Church of Adria.

Another aspect of Campaign 2000 will be the educational programs. The first in the series will be in February in Castle Chaos, the house of Her Majesty. The class will discuss how to register arms and badges in Adria. This is a great class for you to attend if you don't have heraldry. As an added incentive, you get a demo participation and free munchies and drinks! Future classes will discuss sumptuaries, forms of address, and banner

Ministers' Reports

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sizes according to station.

For those of you who already have heraldry, you can probably add additional heraldry to what you already have. Such items as mottoes, helmets, crests, and badges for yourself and your squires or other adherents.

Now, the moment you've been waiting for:

The following people have presented arms before the college and have been granted said arms in the months of November and December:

Kingdom of Esperance (badge)
Dame Elspeth O'Neill De Glendorrin (device)
Emilia Scrappenhopper (device)
Lord Horatio Merriweather (badge)
Marquis Jamie the Red (device)
Katherine MacDomnaill (device)
Princess Katherine Marshall of London (badge)
Queen Maedb Hawkins Drakonja (device)
Sir Otto of the Wounded Eye (device)
Sir Robert de la Fonteyne (device)
Sir Robet ap Pryderi (device)
King Wilhelm von Seiken (badge)
Sir Troiano the Strong (device)

Just to finish up, I look forward to serving you, the populace of Esperance, in the months to come. Please, if you need any help, call me or email me. I don't want to have to hunt you down with heraldry forms in my hands and bloodshot eyes! Once again, thank you all!

Deo Et patriae,

Lord Horatio, Embattled Hope King of Arms

Chancellor

No news from the Chancellor this month.

Chronicler

You've got my report in your hands! I do want to thank all of those who contributed to this month's Chronique. Your contributions are appreciated.

For those of you who did not submit anything,

get it in for the month of February! It's the easiest way to get into print!

Minister of Archery

The results of the peasant shoot at the December crown event are included in the Minister of Joust and War's report.

There is no other news on the archery front.

Hospitaller

Nothing new to report this month. Things have been pretty slow due to the holidays and the non-event Y2K. I've had four different email inquiries into Adria -- two from out of state, one from the Bay area, and one from SoCal. Where possible I have directed these folks to local contacts for more information.

I've had a report from one Adrian that had problems printing a manual downloaded from the Internet. Unfortunately, they didn't say from which web site they got the manual. If anyone experiences problems getting a manual, printing, or whatever, please let me know as much information about it as possible, namely which manual, where downloaded, what the problem is, what your computer type is, etc.

The more info I can get to troubleshoot the problem, the sooner I can find a solution. As always, you can simply ask to have a paper copy postal mailed to you, or have it waiting for you at the next regular Kingdom event.

Lord Nigel has done a fine job setting up the Adrian Empire's Heraldry web site. At present however, the current Heraldry manual is only available in HTML format from the site - <http://www.geocities.com/nigelbyz/index.html> I have added a link to the manual's index page from my web site. I've also worked out a temporary deal with Lord Nigel to provide paper copies of the manual for those that do not have Internet access or would like to have it available for viewing offline. Lord Nigel is currently having a PDF version made of the manual, which will allow folks to get all of the

Aquitaine Puts on a Faire

By Sir Jamie the Red

It was intended to be a fun war and a demo. It turned into a two day event to benefit the Ronald McDonnald House in Loma Linda.

On February 26th and 27th, the Canton of Aquitaine is having both a fun war and a demo. Saturday is the day of the war. The purpose of the war is to choose the Count's new Countess for him. (It seems he can't make up his mind!)

The war will take place during the day and the new Countess will be seated beside the Count before the end of the day. Mundanes will be watching so the war scenarios are being designed to be fun to watch as well as fun to play. Count Cromar has some interesting ideas about how to run a war!

The following day the faire/demo will continue with fighting and arts for the entertainment of guests as well as participants.

The faire will take place in Riverview Park in the city of Corona (the Crossroads Faire site). Times will be from 10am to 5pm with faire hours from 10 to 4:30. Setup is scheduled to begin at noon on Friday the 25th of February.

Camping is available. For more information, call Comtessa Dame Lady Willow de'Rara at email ROSELLEN1999@aol.com.

Ministers' Meeting Notes

By Sir Jamie the Red

Their Majesties held their first minister's meeting immediately following the December event. All of the ministers gathered for a few moments and received copies of job descriptions gleaned from the bylaws and assorted other official documents of the Empire. These job descriptions are intended to ensure that each minister knows what he or she needs to do, without being forced to thumb through the hundreds of pages of documentation and assemble it themselves. Each description includes duties, rights, and responsibilities for the minister.

There was little other business at the meeting. All of the ministers were introduced to one another and encouraged to communicate amongst themselves.

An Estates' meeting has been called for the noon hour at today's event, during which (according to rumor) the estates holders will receive similar descriptions of their duties, rights, and responsibilities. Many of these offer interesting possibilities for activities at future events.

Ministers' Reports

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manual in one easy step. As soon as it is completed, I will ensure a copy is located on my Manuals page.

Until next time, stay warm and keep talking to people about the Adrian Empire!

Sir Robert de la Fonteyne

Minister of Arts and Sciences

Her Majesty, Queen Maedb Hawkins Drakonja won the arts tourney at the December event with her surcote.

The Minister of Arts and Sciences has announced the intention of holding two arts lists per month. Each month he intends to concentrate on a category of entries and run one list in that category and a combined list for the remainder of the entries. While it is too late to plan your entries for this month, next month's featured list will be fine. So bring a fine entry and something else to ensure two lists.

Remember, two lists means two chances to win the tourney!

Minister of Rolls and Lists

The Minister of Rolls and Lists has received the Rolls Database and is working with His Majesty, Sir Vilhelm von Seiken Uladrachen to get familiar with it and get all of those points entered. He should be ready to answer questions and run reports real soon now.

Steward

No news from the Steward's Office this month.

Warden

Calendar of Events

<i>January</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1 New Year's Day!
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Aquitaine 12 th Night
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Canton of Tara Event
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Special Events for January

January 8th, Aquitaine's 12th Night Feast. This is not an official Adrian event because there will be alcohol present and children under the age of 14 are not permitted. However it promises to be an event to remember. The feast is Pot Luck, so bring a dish. Contact is Comtessa Willow de'Rara .

<i>February</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Heraldry Collegium	5 Canton of Aquitaine
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Crown Event Festival of Chivalry!
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Canton of Tara Event
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Aquitaine Countess War
27 Aquitaine Countess War	28	29				

Special Events for February

February 4th, Castle Chaos Sew & Crow. This is a household event for the HMS Hedgehog. However, Lord Horatio Merriweather is conducting a Collegium on Heraldry that evening, so all are welcome. (Not that the Hedgehogs would turn anyone away, but . . .) If you have an arts project or some research you're working on, bring that too. The event starts at 6:00pm til about 9pm. This is a non-garb event.

February 12th, Festival of Chivalry! This will be a regular crown event with a special theme and some extra activities and prizes in honor of St Valentine's Day. Special activities and prizes will be awarded for the most chivalrous, most honorable, and most galant members at the event.

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February 26th and 27th, Aquitaine's Countess War. This is actually a medieval/Renaissance Faire with the Countess War to take place on Saturday. It promises to be a very special event and all proceeds from the faire go to benefit the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House.

Calendar of Events

March						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Canton of Aquitaine
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Crown Event
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Canton of Tara Event
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Special Events for March

The Poetry Corner

Contributed by Sire McKinnish

A Lover's Lament

By William Shakespeare

Come away, come away, death,
 And in sad cypress let me laid;
 Fly away, fly away, breath;
 I am slain by a fair cruel maid.
 My shroud of white, stuck all with yew,
 O, prepare it!
 My part of death, no one so true
 Did share it.
 Not a flower, not a flower sweet,
 On my black coffin let there be strown;
 Not a friend, not a friend greet
 My poor corpse, where my bones shall be
 thrown.
 A thousand thousand sighs to save,
 Lay me, O, where
 Sad true lover never find my grave,
 To weep there!

A Poem to Our Monarchs

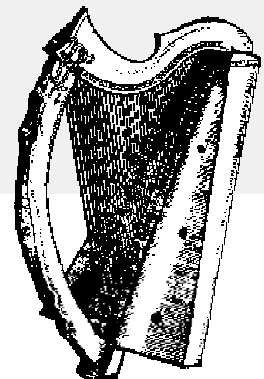
Coda and Maedb

There are new Crowns sitting the Eperancian Thrown
 Dame Maedb and Sir Coda Oh how they have grown
 Since the first time I met them they have been Noble
 They are courageous, Honorable, kind, and humble
 Sir Coda His arms are spectacular
 His honor is above reproach in any vernacular
 He has been kind and generous in all my dealings with him
 He could never have taken this road on a whim
 Dame Maedb is the best I have ever known
 She has given wings to dreams that have never flown
 She speaks with the voice of doves, but her words are of
 wisdom
 With her sitting the thrown I expect great things for her
 Kingdom

(Now to steal from the greats)

To thine own selves be true
 With love from me to you

Roawyn



Free at Last

First a bit of history: At the Friendship War, then-King Galadon married Rahja Ahmina bint Husam of Basir and Jestar (now known as Sir Robert de la Fonteyne), both of the HMS Hedgehog. Yes, it was at sword-point, but Jestar was happy to oblige because he was protecting a lady's virtue. Rahja was happy to oblige because Jestar was a captain of a grand and glorious ship, with lots of gold to share with a wife. Besides, her first husband had been lost at sea many years previously, and was presumed dead.

Fate is wickedly ironic thing. Her first husband returned from his long voyage. Magnus Ravenskull was alive and well! And part of the crew of the HMS Hedgehog. So now poor Rahja was in a bit of a quandary, what with two husbands, and neither one formally sanctioned by the Church.

Rahja found a resolution to the situation, she was required to sleep on deck, away from both husbands, with only chocolate truffles to console her. (The Hedgehog places a high value on virtue!) Apparently this new world treat of chocolate was pleasing to her palette, for it has been many months now, and she has shown no inclination to choose one husband or the other! Until now.

It is truth that the feet of a gypsy cannot remain in one place overlong. Sailing with the Hedgehog has helped to ease the itch, but Rahja feels the call of the road, and will be departing for the deserts that remind her of home. Responsive to her captains' gentle prodding, she decided it would be fair to take only one husband with her. Responsive to her captains' not-so-gentle prodding, she also decided to release the other husband from any marital oaths they shared, so that he would be free to pursue other women (I meant to say, other interests), should he so desire.

The coin was tossed, and it was decided that Magnus Ravenskull would be taking to the road with his good wife. (Let us hope they seek the sanction of the Church once they arrive at their final destination so this problem will never crop up again!) Robert de la Fonteyne will remain in Esperance, a free man. At last.

By the way, you ladies young and old. The line forms to the left.

By my hand,

Maedb Hawkins,

Retiring Protocol Captain, HMS Hedgehog

Medieval Jest

A man asked his neighbour, which was but late married to a widow, how he agreed with his wife, for he said that her first husband and she could never agree.

“By God,” quod the other, “we agree marvelous well.”

“I pray ye, how so?”

“Marry,” quod the other, “I shall tell ye. When I am merry, she is merry, and when I am sad, she is sad. For when I go out of my doors I am merry to go from her, and so is she. And when I come in again I am sad, and so is she.”

[pub. 1526]

Wardroper, John; _Jest Upon Jest_, A Selection from the Jestbooks and Collections of Merry Tales published from the Reign of Richard III to George III; London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1970.

ISBN 07100 6754 2

Debunking Myths

By Sir Jamie the Red

During demonstrations we spend a lot of time debunking myths for our visitors. Unfortunately, many of these myths are deeply ingrained and many Adrians have never heard the truth on these matters either.

I once attended a demo (okay, about six months ago, forgive me) in which a member of our populace was actually recounting a myth to some mundane listeners because he had never learned that it was a myth.

Specifically, the myth he was relating is the myth that medieval knights could not mount their horses in full armor. The myth that they had to be winched into the saddle because of the weight of their armor. A similar myth states that a knight, once knocked onto his back, was unable to get up without help.

Like so many other myths, these are silly once you know the truth. Part of what brought this to mind was the question, how heavy was the armor of the average knight in the middle ages? The answer: about 55 lbs.

In fact, a modern infantryman carries about the same amount. A Roman legionnaire carried about the same. Soldiers throughout history have carried about the same weight of gear and the medieval knight was no different.

We wear much heavier armor than our forebears did. We are more concerned with injury, while they were more concerned about getting caught alone, being helpless, and being unable to fight effectively in their own defense. Armor for them was often a matter of choice and a knight would wear no more than he found comfortable in the circumstances.

As a result, not only could he mount his horse easily, but he could also move more freely, and he could get to his feet very quickly after he had fallen. Just watch Sir Morgan McCann do a full body roll in full armor, you'll see what it's like. By the way, he did that at at least one demo and forever silenced any doubters.

Form a logical standpoint, a knight who could not mount his horse would not last long in combat. If he was ever unhorsed, if his horse was killed or injured, or even if he simply fell, he would be helpless. A knight without his horse might still be a stout fighter, but his greatest advantage was the height of his horse and the speed and strength it gave him. No knight would be willing to give up the ability to mount unaided, even if he appreciated the help when he could get it.

Again, a knight in combat would never wear so much armor that he couldn't get up. Anything that could unhorse him, could also knock him on his back, leaving him helpless and at the mercy of anyone who happened by.

Our ancestors were not stupid. Many of these myths have been promoted by Hollywood and they are commonly believed by people who simply haven't thought about it. A little reflection shows why they never could have been true.

I'm sure some of you know some good myths that need debunking. Write me and let me know what they are and what the truth is. Lets make this a regular feature, so those who don't know can go to demos armed with the truth, not some Hollywood hogwash.

Festival of Chivalry

When: February 12, 2000

Where: Eisenhower Park, Orange

Autocrats: The Crown

We will be celebrating love, romance, courtly love, and chivalry. We have some interesting twists and much fun planned for the day.

Bring your chivalric attitudes, fancy manners, and flowery speech, for we will be putting them all to good use. Rewards will be given for exceptional displays of these attributes, as well as feats of daring on the fields of combat, arts, and sciences. Don't miss an opportunity to impress your friends, scare your enemies, and increase your renown.

Their maiesties will be expecting you!

Royal Ministers for Esperance

King:

Sir Vilhelm von Seiken Uladrachen

heycoda@earthlink.net -or-
crown@kingdomofesperance.org

Queen:

Dame Maedb Hawkins Drakonja

maedb@hotmail.com -or-
queen@kingdomofesperance.org

Chancellor:

Dame Katherine Marshall of London

dnossett@earthlink.net -or-
chancellor@kingdomofesperance.org

Deputy Chancellor:

Squire Ricardo Vittorio "Vino" Fanucchi

dkeyes@jps.net

Magistrate:

***Sir Robert Jehan Alexandre Chrysostom Antoine
Michel de St. Albain Ancey von Hapsburg***

rlomasharrell@netscape.net

Deputy Magistrate:

Sir Morgan Blackthorne

mut@bigfoot.com

Chronicler:

Sir Jamie the Red

jamiethered@bigfoot.com -or-
chronicler@kingdomofesperance.org

Hospitaler:

***Sir Robert "Jestar" de la Fonteyne
Romberger***

jestar@webworldinc.com -or-
hospitaler@kingdomofesperance.org

Minister of Archery:

Lord David de Como

cominolo@hotmail.com

Minister of Arts and Sciences:

Sir William Ce'Wulf

artsandsciences@kingdomofesperance.org

Minister of Joust and War:

Sir Troiano the Strong

warandjoust@kingdomofesperance.org -or-
Troiano943@aol.com

Crown Marshall:

Sir Donovan Cadhawon

foxx_jcaldwell@earthlink.net

Minister of Physicks:

McKinnish

physicker@kingdomofesperance.org

Deputy Minister of Physicks:

Helena MacCoda von Seiken

helenamcc@aol.com

Minister of Rolls and Lists:

Baron William de Mild

Baronwmdmild@aol.com -or-
rolls@kingdomofesperance.org

Sovereign of Arms:

Lord Horatio Merriweather

H.M.S.Draconis_H@excite.com -or-
soa@kingdomofesperance.org

Deputy Sovereign of Arms:

Sir Robet ap Prydiri

rabbit@deltanet.com

Court Herald:

Lord Horatio Merriweather

See Sovereign of Arms.

Field Herald:

Sir Patrick Gullidge

markeroberts@usa.net

Steward

Erasmus Lagersuufer

Erasmus@lagersuufer.net -or-
steward@kingdomofesperance.org

Deputy Steward:

Sir Reilly Robert MacBellsche

reilly@BlackMarsh-Armoury.com

Warden (Master of the Revels):

Michel du Gard

dugard32@yahoo.com -or-
revels@kingdomofesperance.org

Viceroy, Tara:
Sir Royal MacBreaheany
evelynreed@mediaone.com

Viceroy, Aquitaine:
Sir Cromar Wolfsblot
rosellen1999@aol.com