



APRIL 2007

THE ELFSEA TIDINGS



AS XLI

Pirate or Privateer? You Decide!

CALENDER:

Fighter Practice

Sundays at 2:00 PM at [Veteran's Park, Arlington](#)

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM at [Bedford Boys' Ranch](#)

Business Meeting Monday April 16 7:00 PM at the home of [Aislyn of Glynwyrd Fen](#)

Elfsea Moot: Monday April 23, 7:00 PM at [Coors Distribution Center](#)

A&S Meeting Tuesday April 17 7:00 PM
Tentatively scheduled for HL Rixende's Home

Bardic Guild Monday April 9 at 7:00 at [Home of HL Elanor O'Ruarck](#)

Scribes and Illuminators Monday April 9th at 7:00 at [Home of HE Armand Dragonetti & HE Ameline duBois \(Baron and Baroness\)](#)

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OFFICER REPORTS

Note : all reports in *italics* written by staff swamp trolls

BARON AND BARONESS

Greetings Elfsea,

We are so pleased to be home again in the peaceful lands of Elfsea! Following a profitable pilgrimage to the Barony of Starkhafn in the kingdom of Caid, no sooner had we arrived home than we heard the fervent Call to Arms of our King. To join with him in the lands of

Gleann Abhann to do battle with the dreaded Trimarins, to stop them before their march did threaten Ansteorra. We met up with many from Elfsea while others remained in stalwart defense of our home front. The exploits of what is now known as Gulf Wars XVI were many and Elfsea, be heartened, for your brethren have brought you honor.

A few highlights from that campaign included:

Mistress Stella Silvana was recognized on the field of battle as a Lion of Ansteorra by Their Stellar Majesties Romanus I and Deanna I. Their Majesties did also bestow a Sable Falcon on our long time friend and Azure Keystone, Lord Aradon of Falconrose. Elfsea's Captain of the Guard, Centurion Daire, won the Ansteorran sponsored tournament, hosted by the Amazon household. Centurion Louie was announced to join the Chivalry at Steppes Warlord. Centurion Louie also won his bought in the Heavy Champions Battle as did our Knight Marshal, Lord Lochlan Dunn. (Ansteorra won the Heavy Champions War Point) Lochlan also fought valiantly in the Known World Squires Tourney, finishing 2nd in an exceptional field of combatants. Lord Dirk made a valiant effort, reaching the final round of the Trimarin Rapier Tournament. Baron Crandall was named a Mentor Chiurgeon at Ansteorra's Court. HL Druinne performed magnificently as Herald for Their Majesties and also found time to prepare a splendid soup for all comers prior to Ansteorran Court. Daughter Cailyn did a wonderful job helping to invite gentles to partake of the soup and sharing Elfsea's hospitality. Master Caelin and Lady Ker Megan, once again, turned in stunning totals at volunteer point and they prepared tons of fiery hot chili that kept Ansteorra's reputation for chili well protected. We give our thanks to HL Aislyn, HL Fearghus, HL Druinne, Centurion Daire, Cailyn, Master Caelin, Lady Ker Megan, Lady Maria, Centurion Louie, Lady Coleen, Lord Lochlan, Lord Daniel Stewart and more for giving Elfsea's presence and hospitality while we were on the crown's business and unable to camp with our friends. Lady Hanna, Debbie and everyone who helped with the gift baskets, well done! Elfsea's contribution was very practical and greatly appreciated!

In the coming weeks, we look forward to hearing the tales and deeds witnessed by others, but for now our eyes



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turn to Springfaire. While our home guard has kept Elfsea safe, we have heard reports that our absence has emboldened a nefarious element. Sightings of brigands at our borders and unconfirmed reports of skullduggery have us concerned. This threat comes when many are war weary and represents a calculated effort. Avast, find your resolve and join us at Springfaire to quash this loathsome threat before it grows out of control. Do you know the Star of Elfsea? That elegant triple masted vessel, that protects the waterways of Elfsea. For the ones that demonstrate sufficient prowess and loyalty to Elfsea, we do intend to cede a Letter of Marque, to allow use of the Star of Elfsea, to vanquish and plunder those who oppose Ansteorra on any of her waterways. So sharpen your blades, swab the decks and batten down those hatches and prepare for the whirlwind of fun rising at Springfaire!

Also this month, the tournament season begins in earnest. Our travel destinations include Crown Tournament, Defender of the Flame, and Guardian of the Tor, where we hope to see *everyone* in support of our canton of Dragonsfire Tor. Until then, safe journeys to all and may many blessings flow your way!

In the service of kingdom, crown and barony, we remain,
Armand & Ameline
Baron & Baroness of Elfsea

Nec Hostium Timete Nec Amicum Recusate
Fear No Enemy, Deny No Friend

SENESCHAL

Greetings to the populace of Elfsea,

Well another Gulf War has come and gone, and as is the case in the past, it ended in a draw. Darn, just means we have to fight it again next year. I would like to thank all the gentiles that camped in the Elfsea encampment. You made the War enjoyable and memorable. I would especially like to thank HL Druine for being our camp mom, she made sure everyone got the land that was due them and made things function smoothly. It would be great if we had an even better showing next year.

Now looking forward, Springfaire is just around the corner. Let us all come out and support the Barony and the Stewards in this endeavor. This is our fun event, let's all have a great time and relax.

The office of archery marshal is still open. Anyone interested please send your applications to the Baron and Baroness, myself and the Regional Archery Marshal.

Until next month,
Aislyn
Seneschal

TREASURER'S REPORT

Your Exchequer Reports;
Elfsea is truly blessed. We have enough money to pay our bills and to think of buying things that would help the group. And we have expectations of making small amounts at Springfaire and Defender that will make us more comfortable. If you have ideas of things we should consider purchasing to make the Elfsea experience better than it is, please share them with members of the Finance committee or join us at a Finance committee meeting and tell us about them yourself.

As always if you need money for an event or for your office or whatever, please see me and fill out a check request form. Based on what it is, I'll tell you who needs to approve it and help you get it done.

Please note all check advances must be cleared within thirty days of the check issue. You can clear the advance by returning the money or by furnishing receipts. After thirty days, we send out the big guys with sticks to find you <insert smiley face here>.

In service,
Caelin on Andrede
Elfsea Exchequer



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NAUTILUS PURSUIVANT (HERALD)

Greetings! Heraldry is alive and well In Elfsea. Submissions are coming into the office sometimes faster than I know what to do with! Due to personal concerns I likely will miss Spring fire so please pitch in and help, Vocal heralds for site are needed weather I make it or not.

Any wishing to assist in this office or simply learn more about heraldry are encouraged to become Minion... er ah deputies! Yeah, yeah, Deputies and join the College of Heraldry

In service
Lucianna Maria di Boniface, Nautilus

KNIGHTS MARSHAL

So Me says to Grunk, me want go to war.. But nooo Grunk he say.. No No lets stay here, no one guard castle, we takes over! So we stays and go to castle we find there guards.. .. an one of em really mean him dressed in black had lots and lots of stuff hurt Grunk with. Keeps talking about Barby quing Troll... Me leave fast while he distracted... me go war next year without Grunk

RAPIER MARSHAL

Hic... Shaint, Parties day wash fun! Gost to member dat dose peoples wif white thngys on der arms... Dey got goood booze!

ARCHERY MARSHAL

Office Vacant

MINSTER OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Greetings!

As we all recover from Gulf War or welcome back our comrades let us salute the Ansteorran artisans.



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I hear Ansteorra won the A&S war point, but I have not heard the full details.

For the Artisans of Ansteorra, Vivat!

Now we can look towards Spring Faire. Come and compete for the honor of becoming our Titled Artisan and Bard. Come and see the great works of art and hear the songs and stories meant to make our Baroness smile. Or decorate your campsite and list field area with heraldry or maybe a pirate flag or two.

This month I hosted an informal class about canvas banner painting. Caitriana and I had a great time painting badges and learning about Heraldic display. If you want to know more about painting canvas banners, please read "Adventures in A&S."

Tentatively, April's A&S night will be glass bead making. But Elfsea needs teachers for the upcoming months. If you want to teach a class or want a class taught on a particular subject, please let me know.

Please make sure you support the A&S displays during the upcoming tournament season.

In Service,
Hanna von Dahl
Arts_Sciences@elfsea.net

CHRONICLER

As you may not my trolls had much more to write this month. Be careful they are getting bored. I think I caught one of them muttering about a "swamp rag" surely they know that was banned in perpetuity in Elfsea.

The transition to electronic format has thus far gone smoothly. This will be the second PDF copy to go out, if you know any one who is not subscribed please have them drop me a line at masterdarius@earthlink.net and I will be happy to add them to my circulation. Currently we have about 54 addresses receiving the Tidings in e-mail.

There will continue to be a limited number of print copies available for free each month at moot, and to our hospitable for new members. Thank you every one for helping make this transition pretty easy so far.



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Send submissions to me at masterdarius@earthlink.net, or contact me if you need assistance in transferring any articles or artwork into digital format. A standard release for publication is required for all articles and artwork it may be found at <http://www.ansteorra.org/publications/forms/PubPerm.pdf>

In Faith
Darius of the Bells, OL

HOSPITALER

Unto the Populace of Elfseal does Lady Adelaide send warmest greetings!
I am so very excited to be given this opportunity to serve you. I have so many ideas for increasing the number of people who can share in this dream of ours. I have already met with the Hospitaler from Steppes, as well as have visited with the Central Regional Hospitaler and they are both supportive of my ideas. So far, I have made contact with 8 new people and am attempting to contact an additional 4. The Steppes Hospitaler and I want to have Newcomer Revels each month, alternating sites between our Barony and hers. These will be low key get-togethers, where newcomers can have questions answered and learn more of what we play at. The CRH has suggested a Newcomers Breakfast at upcoming events and one is planned for Spring Faire, and Warlord; and tentatively for Glaslyn's event. I have not yet been able to discuss the possibility of a Newcomers Breakfast with the Tor for their event, but I have every hope that it will happen.
I would also like to look into updating the Doomsday, I know the copy I have is several years old and no longer accurate. Please give me your input or any ideas you might have for increasing our populace.

In service,
Lady Adelaide

VIRTUAL SCRIBE
Accepting Applications

Your Virtual Scribe does not report. He was eaten by the

Chirurgeon in the previous Tidings. The acceptance of bids for his office closes this Moot.

MINSTER OF CHILDREN

Accepting Applications

CHAMBERLAIN

Accepting Applications

Ohhh Lots of purty purty spidees in here.. taste good dipped in chocholate!

DEMO COORDINATOR

Accepting Applications

HISTORIAN

Springfaire and Guardians of the Tor are coming! People have returned from Gulf wars! Please send any pictures you are willing to share and stories of the war and our events, please submit Pictures on disk or prints no e-mail.

In Service
Rosalia di Bellavita
Historian

CHIRURGEON

Nothing to report, as all has been quiet, it is my fervent hope there will remain nothing to report from this office after Springfaire. ~Gerhart

ARTICLES

Adventures in A&S: Canvas Banner Painting

By Lady Hanna von Dahl
Elfseal A&S Minister

At Elfseal Spring Fair this year HL Druinne de Salesberie wants to start a Banner War. She is encouraging everybody to show pride and decorate with



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heraldic displays, and will reward those that impress her the most. I want to help this endeavor by encouraging people to make decorations, be they for Spring Fair or other events. One way I know how is canvas painting.

At Fall Arts 2005, I took Canvas Banner Painting with HL Amata Amati d' Arezzo. Her colorful banners were beautiful. She kept insisting that she was not a free hand artist and that anyone who could trace could paint a banner. One of her banners was someone's cote of arms. It was a simple design, I thought "I could do that. I can draw simple things with the help of graph paper."

So after listening to her lecture and reading her handout, I decided to try my hand at painting a banner. As with anything, I cannot claim to be an expert after just a few projects. However I can share the lessons I learned so others can avoid my mistakes.

How to Paint Canvas: Step-by-Step

Materials:

Plan woven canvas, white acrylic gesso – 8 oz or bigger, acrylic craft paint, paintbrushes, paint rollers, and optional trim or lining. Other people have success with house paint.

Steps prior to Painting:

Choose a design. Draw it on graph paper.

Adjust the proportions to fit the final banner's size.

Once design is finalized, trace over it with a Sharpie or thick black pin.

Enlarge design to the correct size of banner. (Copy centers are great for this)

Cut canvas material for front, back, and tabs.

Tape the design on a flat surface, preferably a window or something that allows light through it.

Center canvas front over the design and tape in place.

Trace the design onto the banner with a Sharpie. (It goes on much smoother than anything else I experimented with and can be seen under the gesso.)

If you want to make changes or are a good free-hand artist, you could use a pencil to begin the design, then trace with a Sharpie.

Steps to Painting:

- 1) Roll or brush the gesso onto the banner's front and tab strips. Try to keep the application even. The design should be clearly visible under the gesso. (Foam brushes 1"-2" work best for me.)

- 2) Let it dry overnight.
- 3) Pick a design element to being painting. It's best to begin with pale colors.
- 4) Move on to the next design element.
- 5) If the background will cover a large field, as with a cote of arms, thin out your paint with water. Work quickly in sections and try not to overlap the sections too much. (Dark colors are harder to keep even than pale ones.)
- 6) If the color is not dark enough, wait a few hours for the paint to dry. Uneven gesso or paint applications can cause the colors from being consistent.
- 7) Paint the outlines and detail lines with a fine tip brush.
(Or use a Sharpie, it passes at 6 inches to 1 foot and is easier to control.)
- 8) Paint tab strips, if using. The tabs allow you to hang a banner from poles.
- 9) Allow overnight drying once the last paint stroke is done.
- 10) Heat set it with an iron. Use a thin piece of material between your iron and the painting. This protects both.

Steps to Finishing a Lined Banner:

IF you have trim that needs to be sewn into the seems, sew first.

IF it needs to be sew on top of the banner, do so last.

Line the tabs where you want them and sew them first to the banner's back lining, or if there is no lining, sew them onto the back of the banner's front.

TIP: Sandwich tissue paper or paper towels between painted surfaces and the sewing machine.

Center the right sides together, pin, and sew three sides together.

Trim extra material away from the corners and the edges.

Turn the banner inside out. Fold down the open edge and sew in closed.

You should now have a finished period looking banner.

IF you don't want to use tabs to hang a banner from poles, create a pocket on the back with more canvas or lining material.

Observations & Lessons Learned:

Since I can't draw freehanded to save my life, I used graph paper to help me with proportions and



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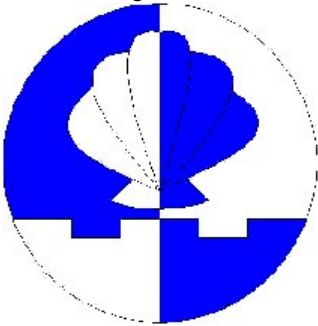
keeping the designs balanced. For heraldic shapes I trace images found with Goggle searches.

I recommend using a foam brush for the gesso, or any color that covers a large area. If the gesso is not even, it is hard to make color even. The larger the area, the harder it is to control color. Lighter colors are easier to keep even, or at least appear more even. Working fast and thinning your paint helps with color consistency, but thin your paint only a little at a time!

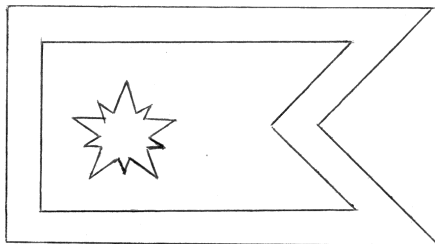
Start with something simple. My first project was a bit big (30"x38"). It would've been smarter to paint something smaller first. I could have learned such things as the importance of even gesso application and how quickly the paint dries beforehand. It took me four days of painting and one large blister on my middle finger to finish painting. Then two days of sewing, some by hand.

But now I know the amount of work a banner requires and how to make my future one's better. I hope this encourages others to try something new.

Possible Designs:



Populous Badge of Elfsea



Populous Bade of Ansteorra

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*"Have you ever
considered Piracy?"*

Please, join Elfsea at Spring Fair in celebrating a

Festival of Fools with Pirate flair.

March 30 – April 1, 2007

Honorable gentles and scoundrels alike are invited for a weekend of competitions, tavern brawls, archery, singing, children's activities, Arts & Science, and more.

For more information about the event go to:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~dmriney/>

[Elfsea_Springfaire.htm](http://home.earthlink.net/~dmriney/Elfsea_Springfaire.htm)

Gate opens 5:00 pm on Friday and at 7:30 am on Saturday. Site closes at noon on Sunday.

Site fee includes a luncheon sideboard.

Gate Fees:

Adult Member: \$10.00

Children under 12: \$5.00

Family Max: \$30.00

A three-dollar non-membership surcharge will apply per person.

Make check payable to:

SCA Inc./Barony of Elfsea

Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. They may also attend with a 21-year or older adult with a signed and notarized Minor Event Waiver Form from the parents. Site is wet in period containers.

Wagonmaster RV Park 1-888-253-7094

3926 Fm 455 W., Sanger, Texas 76266

Directions to Site: Take your best route to I-35 in Sanger, which is 9 miles north of Denton. Take exit # 478 (FM 455) go West approx. 1 mile. Wagonmaster RV Park is on the north side of the road. Camping is free with gate entry, RV spots are extra. Pets allowed with current vaccinations.

Autocrats:

Lady Hanna von Dahl

(Deana Covell)



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dmcovel79@yahoo.com
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(Shari Burnham)
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817-800-1398

No calls after 10 pm

GUARDIANS OF THE TOR

**The Canton of Dragonsfire Tor
Invites you to**

**GUARDIAN XVI
April 27 - 29, 2007**

Good gentles, the Canton of Dragonsfire Tor invite you to join us for Guardian of the Tor XVI, as we choose our new champions for **Chivalric, Rapier, Archery and Bardic.**

We will also host **youth** archery, **youth** boffer, **youth** rapier and **youth** A & S.

See our web site for details on the stocks and , morning bake sale

Troll will be open Friday 7:00pm.

If you come in before 7:00p.m. Friday April 27 there will be an additional \$5.00 that must go directly to the camp site.

Site fees:

Adults: \$10.00

Children 10-18 \$7.00

Children 9 and under: 5.00

Family cap: \$30.00

Proof of membership will be required to avoid the \$3.00 non-member surcharge.

Make checks for site payable to **SCA Inc./Canton of DFT.**

Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. They may also attend with a 21-year or older adult with a signed and **notarized** Minor Event Waiver Form from the parents.

Site tokens must be displayed at all times.

For directions and map visit our Website at
<http://dragonsfire-tor.ansteorra.org>

Autocrat:

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Archery Marshal:(Accepting Applications)

Open

Minster of Arts and Sciences

[Hanna von Dahl](#)
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Open

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Demo Coordinator(Accepting Applications)

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