



The Higher Word

Barony of Ered Sul

Anno Societatis LII

March 2018

Words from the Coronet

[Words from the
Coronet](#)

[Awards](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Event Details](#)

[Non-Fiction
Facts](#)

[Marketplace](#)

[Officers](#)

[Open Positions](#)

[The Lower Word](#)

[Games](#)

[The Fine Print](#)

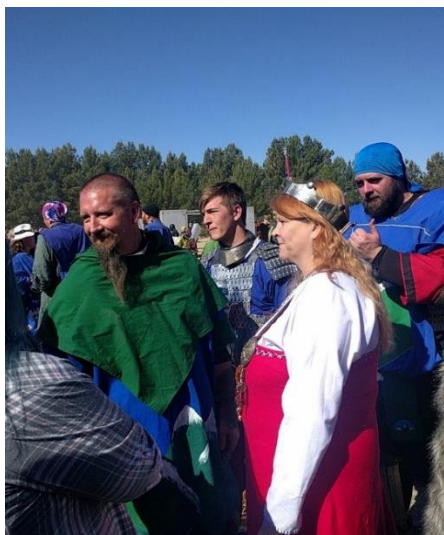
Greetings Eredsuligans,

Another Estrella War full of memories and stardust was had by all who came to war. The overall feeling of Estrella was full of optimism and hope and it seemed like a new beginning for many of us. We were all blessed to watch our fellow Eredsuligans on the battle field, archery, and with the arts and sciences. Ered Sul's pot-luck on Thursday had a really nice turn out and we plan on continuing this throughout our reign. One of the best things that I have heard about Estrella was that everyone was able to sit down and connect with friends, new and old. There are a few events coming up outside of our Barony and we would love to see you all there please look for information that is available for Gaelic Games in Windale, and Mixed Weapons in Bumble Bee.

In service of the dream,

Robert and Kolfinna

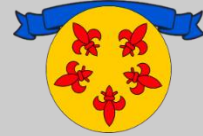
Baron and Baroness of Ered Sul



Awards

Ari Anson – Fleur de Solil

The Fleur de Solil is given by the Crown to individuals who show excellence in the teaching and practice of the Arts and Sciences.



Leofric Halfangle – Gilded Shield

Award for Populace members who show excellence in the fighting arts, including heavy weapons, fencing, light weapons, and archery.



Thorne of Ered Sul – Gilded Heart

Award for Populace members who render great service to Their Excellencies and the populace of the Barony of Ered Sul.



Christopher FitzArthur of Walland Marsh – Mountain Lily

Award for Populace members who consistently display exceptional courtesy and grace.



Miana ni Chonnagain – Mountain Lily

Award for Populace members who consistently display exceptional courtesy and grace.



Calendar

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2 ○	3 *
4	5	6	7	8	9 ●	10 *
11	12	13	14 A&S Night	15 Populace Court	16	17 ● St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 ● Spring Event (BOA)
25	26	27	28	29	30 Mixed Weapons	31 ○ Mixed Weapons

Events

BES Arts & Sciences – Scribal Beginnings

March 14th

Thorpe Park Adult Center at 6pm

Ooooooh! Ahhhhh! Pretty! Come to March A/S where Sebastian of the Titans (still of Ered Sul for a few more months) will take time from her scholarly pursuits and introduce us to the scribal arts. Hip! Hip!

A/S Calendar

March-- Scribal Beginnings

April-- Kumihimo Braiding

May--Beginning Belly Dancing

June-- Camp Kitchens

Donndúban MacEógain's has agreed to reschedule his armor repair class. We do not have a date yet.

Put them on your calendar folks! We are also working to have a banner making workshop in April or May.

Spring Event – Barony of Atenveldt

March 24th

Hear ye! Hear ye! The Barony of Atenveldt is proud to present a new and exciting event for your springtime pleasure. Thanks to the generosity of Sir Elias Loredan, we will gather on his property for a day of fun and competitions. For all of those who have wanted to test their skills in the Paladin and Duelist tournaments but could not attend on Wednesday nights, this is your opportunity! The Barony welcomes all authorized fighters to throw their hats in the ring. There is no requirement to reside in the Barony in order to participate. But the competitions do not end there! We will have an Easter Egg Hunt for our young people. Master Jean Andres will be managing a darts tournament. Field heralds will vie for their place in the sun! And last but not least, the bards will chronicle the feats of our heroes as they seek the title of Skald. Further details for each of these will be released soon.

Location: You will find the site at 4146 W Banff, Phoenix, AZ 85053. The site will open at 9 am, the site is wet. Pets must be leashed at all times as the site is home to other animals.

Gate/Registration: Site fee is \$15, with a \$5 discount for members. Young people under 18 years old accompanied by their families will be free of charge. The Barony will not be



providing a feast, but you are welcome to bring a picnic lunch. Water will be provided to all, not limited to fighters.

Of special note: We are grateful to Sir Elias for opening his property to us and wish to show our thanks by leaving his home clean and surrounded by satisfied neighbors. We are NOT to go into his residence for any reason. Portable toilets will be onsite as well as a hand-washing station. Take care not to block any driveways. The site is damp. Please dispose of all bottles, cans and trash appropriately.

Autocrat: Duchess Lyn of Whitewolfe, lindascott67@msn.com

Mixed Weapons War – Barony of SunDragon

March 30th - April 1st

Oyez! Oyez! Come and join the Barony of Sun Dragon for Mixed Weapons War! We will explore the struggles and victories of Cadmus, a Greek Hero who ventures to save his sister Europa from the clutches of mighty Zeus and witness the founding of Thebes. Join us for a mighty competition in all combat styles, performing arts, and largess. There will be a largess competition to fill the Baronial coffers with impressive treasures.

On the evening of the 30th, we will have a traveler's fare to help our populace once they have settled in for the weekend. On Saturday evening, bring your food and join us for a picnic-style dinner where we can enjoy listening to the bardic competition under the pavilion.

Gate/Registration: The site will open at noon on Friday, March 30th, and close Sunday, April 1st at 3:00 p.m. Site fee for the weekend is \$20.00 with a \$5.00 member discount. Day traveling is \$15.00 with a \$5.00 member discount. Children 17 and under are free. Parking fee for the weekend is \$15.00, Overnight is \$10.00 and day travelling is \$7.00.

Yours in Service to the Barony of Sundragon, the Kingdom, and the Dream,
Moira O'Droogan, Autocrat
Mattea Locatelli, Co-Autocrat

Gaelic Games – Shire of Windale

April 13-15th

Friendship, family and commraderie is valued and cherished by the Shire of Windale. Join the family of Windale for a weekend of friendship and family at Gaelic Games.

The shire of Windale wishes out Solar Family to join us at a place where the stardust of the Kingdom of Atenveldt was Born, Burro Creek, Arizona.



Site will open on Friday, April 13th at noon. Camping areas are abundant and covered with your site fee. You may choose to camp in the group camping area or at the several individual camp sites throughout the camp ground. RV spaces are limited, but are available.

Friday evening, we will host a torchlight tourney for the fighters of the kingdom.

Saturday will bring an opportunity for pick up fighting and a spirited competition of a variety of period games as well as our traditional sheep toss and cattle raid. There will be an opportunity for all members of the family to compete. We will also host a Largesse derby for the artisans of the kingdom, items as part of the competition will be given to TRH Atenveldt for use during their reign. Saturday evening, we will host a family dinner of stone soup after which we will gather around the fire for stories, songs and more games while we award our winners for the event games.

Site fee: \$15 for the weekend, \$5 non-member fee. children 17 and under are free. There is no day fee.

Directions: Burro Creek Campground, US Rte. 93, Wikieup, AZ 85360

Burro Creek campground is located on US 93, north of Wickenburg and south of Wikieup, AZ.

Non-Fiction Facts

The Shape of Ancient Dice Suggests Shifting Beliefs in Fate and Chance

Dice, in their standard six-sided form, seem like the simplest kind of device—almost a classic embodiment of chance. But a new study of more than 100 examples from the last 2,000 years or so unearthed in the Netherlands shows that they have not always looked exactly the way they do now. What's more, the shifts in dice's appearance may reflect people's changing sense of what exactly is behind a roll—fate, or probability.

Dice have been found all over Europe, says Jelmer Eerkens, an archaeologist at the University of California at Davis, who led the study. They haven't always been well documented, however; Eerkens measured and photographed almost twice as many dice as he and his coauthor ended up being able to use in this study, bypassing those without clear dates. It's evident that dice arrived in the Netherlands with the Romans in the first few centuries after the death of Christ. And in contrast with modern dice, they weren't always exactly cubes. Sometimes they were noticeably a bit flatter than a true cube, or a bit longer, making them more likely to fall on some faces than on others.



http://www.ancientresource.com/lots/roman/roman_dice.html



<https://regia.org/research/misc/games.htm>

Did it matter to game players that these dice were not fair? “We don’t know for sure,” Eerkens says. The way Romans wrote about dice falls suggests they were regarded as signs of supernatural favor or of a player’s fortune, however. The archaeologist Ellen Swift, in her book *Roman Artifacts and Society*, writes that high rolls had associations of benevolence and felicity, and that rolling three sixes at the same time seems to have been called a Venus. “Dice potentially played an important role in conceptualizing divine action in the world,” she writes.

If you thought that your prayers had more to do with a roll’s outcome than anything else, perhaps a perfect shape wasn’t required. Eerkens says, “Some of the non-symmetry that we

see in the earlier dice might be a by-product [of the idea] that it wasn't thought to be very important in the function of the dice—that it didn't matter too much, because other things were controlling whether you would win or lose the game.”

After the fall of the Roman Empire, dice largely disappear from the record in the Netherlands. Then, when they come back on the scene in about 1100 AD, the way the numbers are arranged around the die has changed.

Rather than using the arrangement called sevens, where one and six are on opposite sides, as are three and four, and five and two, so each set of sides adds up to seven, the dice now use an arrangement called primes. One and two are opposite, as are three and four, and five and six:

The sets each add up to a different prime number. “Suddenly, they’re all in this primes configuration,” says Eerkens. “We don’t know where that idea came from.”



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=55785418>



Gaming in Hell, the Taymouth Hours (British Library, Yates Thompson 13, fol. 149v), c. 1325-1335
<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/ILLUMIN. ASP?Size=mid&IID=29229>

At the same time, dice tend to get smaller, perhaps to make them easier to hide, as gambling was not favored by the increasingly powerful religious authorities. Some of the study's dice from this era, in fact, were found all together in a small hole in a garbage heap, including one cheater's die with an extra three. Could it be someone saw the light and forswore dice?

Still, despite official disdain, by the 13th century, at least in some parts of Europe, people begin to write in a systematic way about why dice games work the way they do, as the dice themselves grow more and more uniform. In the 17th century, even Galileo writes about why, in a game with three dice, the number 10 should come up more than the number 9. It's an observation that one would only be able to detect after thousands of rolls, but the reason behind it involves how many combinations of numbers can add up to each different option.

The dice even switch back to the sevens configuration, a move that Eerkens suggests may have something to do with a growing sense that dice must be balanced, both physically and conceptually. (Lest you think one of these orientations is somehow the default, in an earlier experiment, the researchers asked schoolchildren to number the sides of paper cubes, and showed that neither primes nor sevens was intuitive. Instead, the kids wrote one on one face, turned the cube 90 degrees to write two on the next face, and so on, resulting in a configuration the researchers call turned.)

All these changes in dice come about, says Eerkens, “as different astronomers are coming up with new ideas about the world, and mathematicians are starting to understand numbers and probability.” Which came first: Did people begin to intuitively understand what true chance felt like, and adjusted dice accordingly, or did it trickle out from what would eventually become known as the scientific community? It isn’t clear, but to Eerkens, the story told by the dice is of a rising awareness of randomness. “It’s so embedded in the way we think [now],” he says. In our current conception, even the weather, once interpreted as a foregone conclusion thanks to divine intervention, is random. The very idea that there is a 50 percent chance of rain is a radical change from the past.

And it does make you wonder: Would you know that fair dice should fall equally on each side, or that in a three-dice game, it’s better to bet on 10 than nine, if someone hadn’t told you?

GREENWOOD, VERONIQUE. “The Shape of Ancient Dice Suggests Shifting Beliefs in Fate and Chance.” *The Atlantic*, 20 Feb. 2018, www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/02/dice-dice-baby/553742/.

Marketplace

Looking to sell crafts?

Known a local vendor that provides period-appropriate wares?

Place a free advertisement in *The Higher Word*!

Contact the Chronicler

Officers of Ered Sul

Baron & Baroness  HE Robert av Bergen HE Kolfinna av Bergen Coronet @ baronyoferedsul.org	Seneschal  Lady Bebinn O'Brien seneschal @ baronyoferedsul.org	Exchequer / Reeve  Lord Vincent Blackwell Exchequer @ baronyoferedsul.org
Herald  THL Ari Anson herald @ baronyoferedsul.org	Deputy Herald  Lady Katherine Tapester Sleepcat @ yahoo.com	Hardsuit Marshal  Sir Thaddeus the Legless Marshal @ baronyoferedsul.org
Deputy Hardsuit Marshal  Lord Thorn Pickjt @ yahoo.com	Rapier Marshal  Lady Gianna rapier @ baronyoferedsul.org	Deputy Rapier Marshal  Lord Friedrich Swartzen Hut
Archery Marshal  Lord Chang Maille archery @ baronyoferedsul.org	Deputy Archery Marshal  THL Gil Greywolf	Deputy Archery Marshal  Lord Ivar of Elsinore Donfisher @ q.com
Drop Dead Arts & Sciences Minister  Lord Christopher Of Peckingham the_Kranken @ hotmail.com	Deputy Arts & Sciences Minister  Lord Curlew of Droghela Yermonger @ yahoo.com	Sheriff  Lord Caius Anthony Hortensia Sheriff @ baronyoferedsul.org
Gold Key/Chatelaine  Lady Iðunn of the Citadel chatelaine @ baronyoferedsul.org	Webmistress / Social Media Officer  THL Æsa Öngull web @ baronyoferedsul.org	Chronicler  Lord Leolin Blackwell Leofenris @ gmail.com
Regalia Officer  Lord Dhonnabhainn Mac Egoín jaycheba @ gmail.com	Historian Master Roger Von Allenstein Allenstein49 @ hotmail.com	Signet  Sebastian of Ered Sul march4tay @ sbcglobal.net

Open Positions

Deputy Exchequer



The Deputy Exchequer assists the Exchequer with baronial bookkeeping and running troll at all baronial events. This position requires being a signer on the baronial bank account. Organization and computer skills are required, and basic math or accounting knowledge is helpful. Time commitment: High

Waiver Secretary

The Waiver Secretary manages and oversees the collections of various liability waivers. This position collaborates with the Exchequer(s) and Combat Marshals on maintaining waivers for event consent forms and fighter practice liability, as examples. Time commitment: Low

Equestrian Marshal



Baronial Equestrian Marshal works with kingdom Equestrian Marshals to establish an equestrian presence in Ered Sul. A strong familiarity with equestrian events and a willingness to gain an in depth understanding of Society and local regulations is required. Time commitment: self-determined

Arts & Sciences Minister



The Minister of Arts and Sciences is responsible for fostering the study of period culture and technology. Duties include scheduling and selecting topics for monthly A&S meetings, as well as fostering A&S activities at events. Time commitment: High

List Minister



The List Minister sets up and hosts tournaments throughout the year, organizes the fighters, and keeps track of wins and losses. The list minister must be impartial in all fights. Time commitment: Low (can be high commitment during events)

Deputy Sheriff

Assists Sheriff at baronial events with organizing volunteers with tasks and shifts, performing patrols, provide general help to event attendees, and assist event autocrats as needed. Time commitment: Low (can be high commitment during events)



Deputy Chronicler

Assists with collecting information to include in the baronial newsletter. Takes photos, interviews populace members, and helps maintain release/permissions forms for creative content. Time commitment: Low



Deputy Gold Key

The Deputy Gold Key / Chatelaine welcomes newcomers to the SCA and our barony. This position is best filled by someone who is friendly and passionate about SCA and who can approach curious strangers. Time commitment: Low



Kingdom Want Ads

Kingdom Media Relations Officer

Kingdom Fireball Herald

Emergency Deputy Kingdom Keeper of the Regalia

Kingdom Social Media Officer(s) and Deputy(s)

Kingdom Tournaments Illuminated Liason

Visit <http://www.atenveldt.org/People/OfficerWantAds> for details

The Higher Word Lower

"I like it big and hard"
✧ Cris (regarding salami) ✧

"If you're gonna fart, make it interesting"
✧ Alex ✧

"Oyez! Oyez! We've got lots of sausage!"
✧ Leolin ✧

"A blumpkin in the privy"
✧ HE Kolfinna ✧

Over hear a dicey quote? Have a major foot-in-mouth moment?
Submit it to The Higher Word (or Facebook)! After all, those who laugh together stay together!

Games

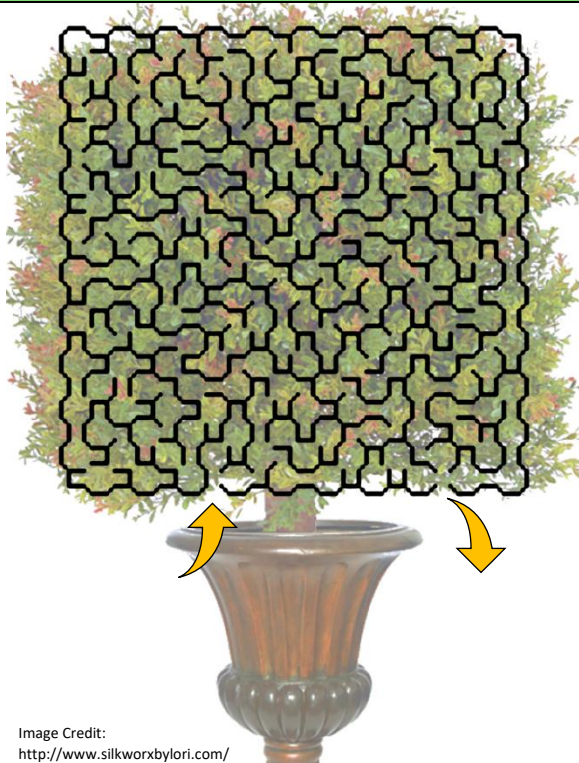


Image Credit:
http://www.silkworxbylori.com/24_18_Wintergreen_Boxwood_Square_Topiary

Welcome in the vernal equinox by winding
your way through this spring topiary

*Oft I must strive with wind and wave,
Battle them both when under the sea
I feel out the bottom, a foreign land.
In lying still I am strong in the strife;
If I fail in that they are stronger than I,
And wrenching me loose, soon put me to rout.
They wish to capture what I must keep.
I can master them both if my grip holds out,
If the rocks bring succor and lend support,
Strength in the struggle. Ask me my name!*

Excerpts from: Riddles from the Exeter Book. An Anthology of
Old English Poetry. Charles W. Kennedy, translator. New York:
Oxford University Press, 1960.



Other Ways to Contact Us

Society Website: <http://www.sca.org>

Kingdom Website: <http://www.atenveldt.org>

Barony of Ered Sul Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SCAEredSul/>

Baron of Ered Sul Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/135613726524285/>

Highlands War Website <https://www.http://highlandswar.org/>

The Fine Print

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