



# The Higher Word

## Barony of Ered Sul

Anno Societatis LIII

February 2018

[Words from the  
Coronet](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Event Details](#)

[Non-Fiction  
Facts](#)

[Officers](#)

[Open Positions](#)

[The Lower Word](#)

[Games](#)

[The Fine Print](#)

## Words from the Coronet

Greetings Unto the Great and Noble  
Populace of Ered Sul,

Estrella is right around the corner!  
Time to wrap up craft projects, polish  
up that armor, and head South! We  
hope to see you all there, and we  
know it will be a fantastic event. On  
A&S night this month, we'll be  
finishing up Ered Sul favors for the  
populace. Also coming up in March is  
Gaelic Games hosted by The Shire of  
Windale, and Mixed Weapons War  
hosted by the Barony of Sun Dragon.  
We're looking forward to all the new  
adventures coming our way!

In Service of the Dream,  
Robert and Kolfinna  
Baron and Baroness of Ered Sul



Photography: Dani McLarnan (Avelina Skarlet)

# Announcements

## Awards

The Honourable Lady Violet Elliott was invited to join the Order of the Pelican



Lord Chistopher of Peckingham was given an Award of Arms



## Post for Seneschal

As you may or may not know, our Scheneshal, Lady Bebinn O'Brien's warrant is set to expire in March. So, we are currently looking for someone to take over the office. Please submit your letter of interest to the Baron or Baroness in person, email or message them on the book of faces. Lady Bebinn has done an excellent job in this position and we hate to see her go. We know that whatever her next adventure is within the SCA is, she will be amazing.

(See office summary on page 11)

# Calendar

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Fall Crown bids due	2 *
3 Scriptorium	4 ●	5 Lunar New Year	6	7	8	9 *
10	11	12 ◐	13 A&S Night	14 St. Valentine's Day	15	16 *
17 ✝	18	19 ○ Estrella Starts	20	21	22	23 ✝ *
24 ✝ Estrella Ends	25	26 ◐	27	28		*

Fighter Practice - Sundays at Thorpe Park from 12pm - 2pm

## Events

### Scriptorium

Sunday Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am – 3pm

Come participate in Ered Sul's Scriptorium as we prepare scrolls for Estrella! We'll have space, supplies, other artists. To be held at the abode of Lady Sólveig At Rauðá. Come have fun making art!

### A&S Night

Wednesday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>  
6pm at Thorp Park Community Center

We'll be finishing up the Baronial favors and pennants for Estrella War. Know someone interested in the SCA? Bring them too!

Remember Christopher's Wednesday workshops  
Remember Bebinn's Thursday belly dance and drum circles

### Estrella War

Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Schnepf Farms in Queen Creek, Arizona

For 35 years the dragons have slept while fog and bracken swallows the land. Raise your swords, your harps, your arrows and charge your mugs. The dream awakens to sweep over us and shelter us from modern woes.

Bring your friends and family and prepare to make new ones while you are here, for there is no greater bond for our people than those built on our battlefields and later around our bonfires. Come drum and dance, learn, sing, run amok and find your joy.

Join us. Keep an eye out for advertisements and announcements forthcoming with greater frequency as we near the date for this, the 35th Estrella War, Pre-reg permits on-site set up Tuesday, February 19 and wile away the days doing what you love most through Monday, the 25th, 2018 at Schnepf Farms in Queen Creek, Arizona.

Pre-registration is now open! Prices for all are the same as last year.

Adult full week is \$75 (\$5 discount for members)

Registration details can be found here: <http://estrellawar.org/registration/>

Welcome one and all!

Estrella XXXV Main Coordinators: Nichelle, Slaine, Gavin and Emma

## **Gaelic Games (Shire of Windale)**

Mar 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

Details TBA

## **Mixed Weapons War (Barony of Sun Dragon)**

Mar 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>

Details TBA

## **Non-Fiction Facts**

### **Roman Baths**

In ancient Rome, *thermae* (from Greek θερμός *thermos*, "hot") and *balneae* (from Greek βαλανείον *balaneion*) were facilities for bathing. *Thermae* usually refers to the large imperial bath complexes, while *balneae* were smaller-scale facilities, public or private, that existed in great numbers throughout Rome.

Most Roman cities had at least one, if not many, such buildings, which were centers not only for bathing, but socializing, and reading as well. Roman bath-houses were also provided for private villas, town houses, and forts. They were supplied with water from an adjacent river or stream, or more normally, by an aqueduct. The water would be heated by a log fire before being channeled into the hot bathing rooms.



Mosaic bath sign from Sabratha, Libya, showing bathing sandals, three strigils, and the slogan SALVOM LAVISSE, "A bath is good for you"

### **Building Layout**

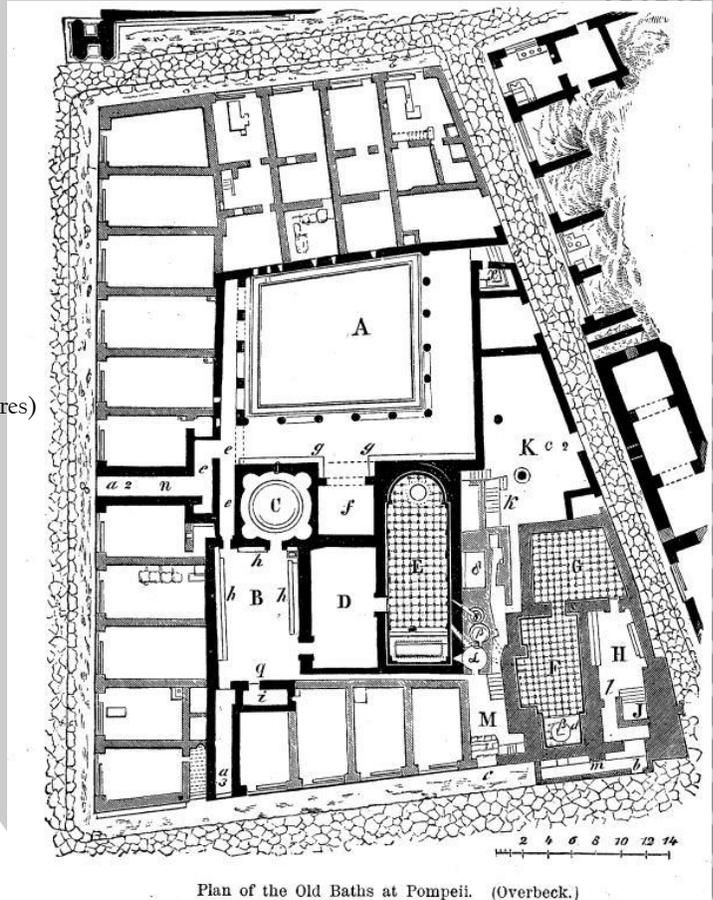
A public bath was built around three principal rooms: the *caldarium* (hot bath), the *tepidarium* (warm bath) and the *frigidarium* (cold bath). Some *thermae* also featured

Plan of the Old Baths at Pompeii (Terme del Foro).

Legend

- A — atrium
- B — apodyterium (room for undressing)
- C — frigidarium (cool bath)
- D — tepidarium (warm room)
- E — caldarium (hot bath)
- F — thermal chamber
- G — women's tepidarium
- H — women's apodyterium
- J — women's cold bath
- K — the servants' atrium
- M — chamber for fornacatores (persons in charge of the fires)

- a, a2, a3 — entrances to men's baths
- b — entrance to women's baths
- c, c2 — entrances to furnace rooms
- d — circular furnace
- e — passages
- f — probably an oecus or exedra
- g — portico
- h — walls
- i — small room
- m — small vestibule
- q — passage to the furnace room
- r — mouth of the furnace
- x — water closet (latrina)



Plan of the Old Baths at Pompeii. (Overbeck.)

Plan of the Old Baths at Pompeii (Terme del Foro).  
Overbeck, Harry Thurston Peck, *Harpers Dictionary of Classical Antiquities*, 1898.

steam baths: the sudatorium, a moist steam bath, and the laconicum, a dry hot room much like a modern sauna.

By way of illustration, this article will describe the layout of Pompeii's Old Baths adjoining the forum, which are among some of the best-preserved Roman baths. The references are to the floor plan pictured to the right.

The whole building comprises a double set of baths, one for men and the other for women. It has six different entrances from the street, one of which (b) gives admission to the smaller women's set only. Five other entrances lead to the men's department, of which two (c and c2), communicate directly with the furnaces, and the other three (a3, a2, a) with the bathing apartments.

## Atrium

Passing through the principal entrance, a (barely visible, right side, one third of the total length from above), which is removed from the street by a narrow footway surrounding the building and after descending three steps, the bather would find a small chamber on his left (x) with a water closet (latrina), and proceed into a covered portico (g, g), which





of which is a warm bath in a square recess, and at the farther extremity the labrum. The floor of this chamber is suspended, and its walls perforated for flues, like the corresponding one in the men's baths. The tepidarium in the women's baths had no brazier, but it had a hanging or suspended floor.



Side view of the thermae, in the archaeological park of the Ancient Roman town of Aeclanum. The opus reticulatum brickwork is shown in the picture. Photography: Дзя-Бояг. 2015.

### Cultural significance

In many ways, baths were the ancient Roman equivalent of community centres. Because the bathing process took so long, conversation was necessary. Many Romans would use the baths as a place to invite their friends to dinner parties, and many politicians would go to the baths to convince fellow Romans to join their causes. The thermae had many attributes in addition to the baths. There were libraries, rooms for poetry readings, and places to buy and eat food. The modern equivalent would be a combination of a library, art gallery, mall, restaurant, gym, and spa.

One important function of the baths in Roman society was their role as what we would consider a “branch library” today. Many in the general public did not have access to the grand libraries in Rome and so as a cultural institution the baths served as an important resource where the more common citizen could enjoy the luxury of books. The baths of Trajan, of Caracalla, and Diocletian all contained rooms determined to be libraries. They have been identified through the architecture of the baths themselves. The presence of niches in the walls are assumed to have been bookcases and have been shown to be sufficiently deep to have contained ancient scrolls. There is little documentation from the writers of the time that there did exist definitive public libraries maintained in the baths, but records have been found that indicated a slave from the imperial household was labelled “maintenance man of the Greek library of the baths” (*vilicus thermarum bybliothecae Graecae*). However, this may only indicate that the same slave held two positions in succession: “maintenance man of the baths (*vilicus thermarum*) and “employee in the Greek library” (*a bybliothecae Graecae*). The reason for this debate is that, although Julius Caesar and Asinius Pollio advocated for public access to books and that libraries be open to all readers, there is little evidence that public libraries existed in the modern sense as we know it. It is more likely that these reserves were maintained for the wealthy elite.

The Romans believed that good health came from bathing, eating, massages, and exercise. The baths, therefore, had all of these things in abundance. Since some citizens would be bathing multiple times a week, Roman society was surprisingly clean.

Wikipedia contributors. "Thermae." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 28 Jan. 2019. Web. 31 Jan. 2019.

## Officers of Ered Sul

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<p><b>Hardsuit Marshal</b> </p> <p>Sir Thaddeus the Legless Marshal @ baronyoferedsul.org</p>	<p><b>Deputy Hardsuit Marshal</b> </p> <p>Lord Thorn Pickjt @ yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>Rapier Marshal</b> </p> <p>Lady Gianna rapier @ baronyoferedsul.org</p>
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<p><b>Historian</b></p> <p>Master Roger Von Allenstein Allenstein49 @ hotmail.com</p>		

# Open Positions



## Seneschal



The Seneschal is a critical personal to the barony. The seneschal is responsible for signing contracts, handling financial matters, overseeing other officer warrants, and acting as a liaison to the Kingdom. Time commitment: High  
(Position posted for 3 months minimum)

## Web Minister



The Web Minister is a warranted office responsible for the upkeep and content of the baronial website. Ideal traits are experience with web development and service providers, experience writing and editing content, reliable email and internet access, and the ability to uphold web publishing SCA standards. Time commitment: Low

## 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

## 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)

## Gold Key



The 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

## Deputy Knight Marshall

Duties include knowing and understanding combat rules and to teach them to combat participants. The deputy assists the Knight Marshall in enforcing safety rules, training and authorizing combatants, and ensuring participants and spectators remain safe. Time commitment: Moderate



## 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

## 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

## Kingdom Want Ads



### KINGDOM ROYAL ARCHER

The Kingdom Royal Archer is looking for letters of intent from those interested in the position. The position duties and requirements are located in the Lex Atenveldtus, computer and email usage is required. Email letters of intent to Royalarcher@atenveldt.org; crown@atenveldt.org; marshal@atenveldt.org (Posted January 2019)

Estrella War Main Event Stewards for Estrella XXXVI, 2020

Emergency Deputy Kingdom Keeper of the Regalia

Kingdom Tournaments Illuminated Liaison

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

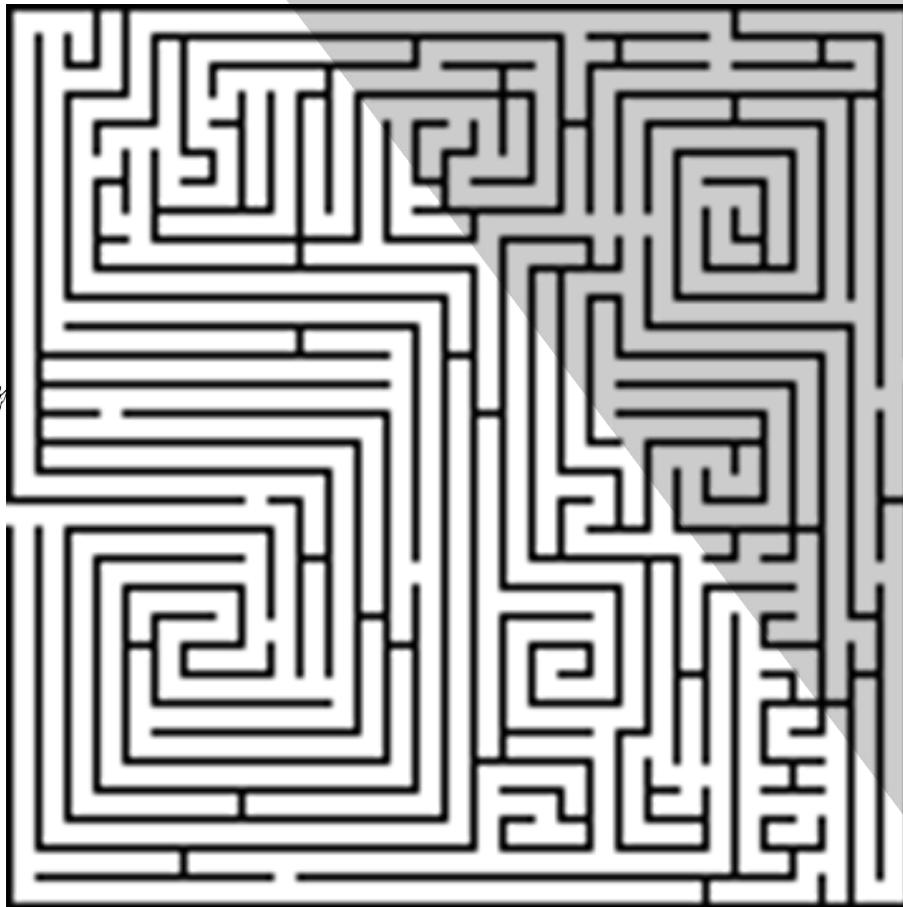
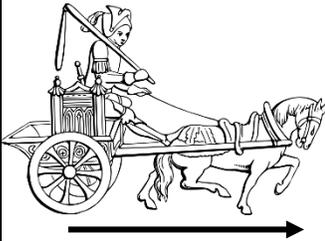
# The Higher Word

Lower

“I need access to the back end”

Overhear 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



ESTRELLA WAR



## 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: <http://www.highlandswar.org/>

## The Fine Print

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