



# Adrian Herald

NOVEMBER 2011



Greetings unto the Empire,

It has been a pleasure to serve you these first two months. Although it saddens Us, and We had hoped to avoid a situation like this during Our reign, We must address a serious matter. A few of Our officers and officials are considered administrators and it is clear that some are unfamiliar with the proper procedures concerning chattel property. There are strict rules concerning self-dealing and We cannot allow Adria to violate them even unintentionally. We, the Imperial Crowns, have consulted with Adrian members that are legal and financial professionals, current Crowns, and several Imperial family members. It has been universally stated to Us by all of these sources that the practices that occurred are unacceptable, both within Adria, and more importantly, mundanely.

Be it known, here and now, that We, the Imperial Crowns, decree that NO Adrian Crown, Steward, nor custodian of chattel shall sell that chattel to themselves, their families, or any close relation. Furthermore, all chattels no longer needed MUST be sold at a fair market value. Also, any reimbursement to a member for physical goods makes those goods or anything produced from those goods property of the Empire. Anyone who violates this order from this point forward should expect consequences. For those who may have already done this we are declaring a 30 day general amnesty. Provided that during this period an honest attempt to reverse these transactions or to set up methods to undo the damages is made, We will declare their incidences closed without punitive actions.

It grieves Us to have to pursue something that many feel is an obvious wrong. We do not wish to make this more difficult than it has to be, but We must comply with the requirements of mundane law. We will be introducing additions to our Bylaws that are more in line with modern requirements of new non-profit organizations. We fervently hope that this will no longer be an issue.

In Service,  
HIM Dame Etaine Llewyln  
HIM Sir Thomas Weimar

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Their Majesties
- ◆ IEM information
- ◆ Ministry reports
- ◆ Chapter highlights
- ◆ A Travelers Journey
- ◆ Officers lists



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*March Imperial Estates Information*

## Imperial Estates Meeting ~ March 17 & 18 2012

### **Portland International Airport (PDX)**

#### **Red Lion**

1021 NE Grand Avenue Portland, Oregon 97232

503-235-2100 (please call the hotel only NOT any 800 numbers or on line) Let them know your with the Adrian Empire for rate and block booking.

**Room Cost** ~ \$69.00 + 12.5% tax (Book as soon as possible.)

Flat rate for either King (2 people) or 2 Queens (up to 4)

**Hotel Parking:** \$12.00 per car parking overnight. (NO day fee for just the meeting)

**Max Light Rail** (train) (<http://www.trimet.org/index.htm>) runs from the Airport to the hotel for \$2.50 for an all zone pass. The hotel will refund this when you check in. Just present your receipt. You will need to be on the **Red line** train. The hotel also sits in the Free zone so if members want to go downtown they can travel for free.

**Restaurant info:** The hotel has one but it is only open for breakfast and dinner (they do offer room service as well).

Others in the area. Denny's, Red Robin, Burgerville, Subway, Wendy's, McDonald's, Starbucks, these would be the quick ones for a lunch.

#### **Autocrats:**

Gina (Dame Felicia) felicia \_ thebold @yahoo.com

Paul (Sir Dorn ) Sir \_ Dorn @yahoo.com

We can be reached at 503-283-4669



*March Imperial Estates Information*

Imperial Estates Meeting ~ March 16 & 17, 2012

Meal choices and cost are listed below..

Please mail your choices & money to:

**Dame Felicia**

**c/o Gina Roselius**

**780 NE Faloma Rd.**

**Portland, Or 97211**

Made Payable to **Adrian Empire**

**DEADLINE: March 5, 2012**

I will need....

Your name (Territory name).. choices.. Lunch &/or Dinner

Spouse name... choices

This way you get the right meal ticket when checked in.

If there are any food allergy's that we need to know of please let me know ASAP. Also if there are Vegetarians please let me know. We will do our best to be able to accommodate.

Lunch Choices (if you would like to stay on site).

Please select 1 Sandwich **\$16.00 Inclusive**

\* Ham; Cheddar, Swiss or Jack Cheese

\* Turkey; Cheddar, Swiss or Jack Cheese

\* Chicken Salad

**Choice of Bread:** Multigrain, White, Sourdough, Hoagie Roll

**Includes:** Kettle chips, Whole Fresh Fruit, Fresh Baked Cookie or Brownie

Bottled Water, Juice or Soft Drink.

**Saturday night Feast**

Please Select 1 Entrée & Salad. **\$22.00 Inclusive**

**Roasted Turkey Brest:**

Sliced Turkey Breast Served with Gravy, Apple Walnut Dressing.

**Parmesan Chicken:**

Parmesan and Herb-breaded Boneless Chicken served over Creamy orzo

**Oregon Cherry Glazed Pork:**

Roasted Pork-Loin drizzled with an Oregon Bing Cherry Demi-glaze served with Roasted Red Potatoes.

**Each Entrée is Served with:** a Garden Green Salad with house Vinaigrette or Caesar Salad, Seasonal Vegetables, Assorted Rolls with Butter; Chef's choice of Dessert; Coffee, Hot Tea and Iced Tea



*July Imperial Estates Information*

The bid for the next Imperial Estates Meeting is due by February 18th (this would be the July estates meeting).

Please send your bids to their Imperial Majesties no later than February 18th.



*Office of the Chronicler*

**Welcome to the Adrian Herald.**

The next issue will be published in March so get me your articles by March 15.

Chapter chroniclers should send to me by the 15th of each month their chapter information articles.

My email address is [sirwilhelmus@gmail.com](mailto:sirwilhelmus@gmail.com)

Please feel free to email me your articles and pictures.

Sir Wilhelmus Blizce

Imperial Chronicler



IMPERIAL  
CHRONICLER



*Office of Rolls*

Greetings Your Imperial Majesties, Your Highnesses, Your Graces, Your Excellencies & Rolls Officers,

We send greetings from the Rolls office. Hope you all had wonderful holidays and are ready for the New Year. Well we have gotten off to a great start here in the Rolls office.



Dame Kaytlyn is getting audits done with Sir Dietrich von Lubeck of Terre Neuve taking is 3<sup>rd</sup> level in Combat. We congratulate you on that great honor.

Dame Genevieve is working on conversions with completion of our 1<sup>st</sup> for this year.

IMPERIAL  
ROLLS

**Just some reminders:**

- 1) I will need your monthly reports by the 5 of each month. I will be sending my report on the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) When your inputting your rolls please put the Entry ID # (green box) on your paperwork.
- 3) I need you all to please list your territory name as part of the subject line when emailing me. This will help me to learn each of you and not confuse paperwork as there are at least 28 territories out there.
- 4) Also please remember that there is a process to getting rolls done.

**I. THE OFFICE OF ROLLS AND LISTS (Rolls & List Manual)**

**C. STANDARD FLOW OF INFORMATION**

*Line Reporting* on page 18.

- Once a month, within 30 days of the last event in that calendar month, the local Office of Rolls and Lists sends the original sign-in forms for the previous month to the Imperial Office of Rolls and Lists. The local Office should keep copies and is encouraged to do so. See *V.A.2. Physical Reporting (Sending in the Paperwork)* on page 18.
- The Imperial Office of Rolls and Lists reviews the paperwork, handles questions that arise from the paperwork, compares the paperwork to the information in the Imperial Database, and verifies the entry of each event in the Imperial Database within 90 days.

Thank you to the territories that are helping to get the old events off the database.

If there is anything I or one of my Deputies can do to help please let us know.

In Service,  
Dame Felicia  
Imp. Rolls

*Office of Archery*

**POSTAL SHOOT WINNERS  
JUL – OCT 2011**

<b>Chartered Subdivision</b>	<b>Archer</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Date shot</b>
<b><u>And Average</u></b>			
<b>1). Archduchy of Bisqaia</b>			
	<b>611/ 4 = 152.75</b>		
	<b>Lord Edward DuBois</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>7 Aug 11</b>
	<b>Master Fergus d'Onry</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>8 Oct 11</b>
	<b>Master Nathan Thomas</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>15 Oct 11</b>
	<b>Sir Mandrea Kahn</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>6 Jul 11</b>
<b>Individual</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Date shot</b>	<b>Chartered Subdivision</b>
<b>1). Lord Edward DuBois</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>7 Aug 11</b>	<b>Bisqaia</b>
<b>2). Sir Little John</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>18 Sep 11</b>	<b>Chesapeake</b>
<b>3). Admiral Rojer Jolie</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>9 Oct 11</b>	<b>Chesapeake</b>



**IMPERIAL  
ARCHERY**

Greetings to the populace of the Adrian Empire,

I have been following the thread concerning arrows and wanted to be sure that I would be able to describe my thoughts and experiences with breaking arrows before I posted into this discussion.

I sometimes intend to say one thing but it comes out quite differently. As human beings, I believe that all of us do this at one time or another. I hope this is not one of those times for me.

Since I have accepted the position of Imperial Minister of Archery, I am still trying to figure out my actual role for interjecting my thoughts and emotions into the conversations. I am not trying to "pass the buck" or ignore any issues. I am new to this type of position and I will try not to upset any of my fellow Adrians.

In regards to the current discussion concerning the issue of breaking arrows, I would like to clarify what I meant when I was speaking to Sir Thorn, whom I regard as a very influential gentleman.

Let me be clear that I am talking about TARGET archery, not combat archery.

In my own experience at an Imperial War, I saw the results of an arrow being too short for the DRAW of an archer. This particular arrow was drawn back so far that the arrow point was behind the bow riser. On release the arrow did NOT clear the bow, but instead it hit the bow and, under the pressure of the release, the arrow splintered into 3or 4 pieces and sliced into the arm of the Knight Archer. It was quite messy, painful and embarrassing for him. This archer had cut down his arrows because he felt that they were too long when he purchased them, and he could not control them.

When we cut down , or shorten, our arrows, I feel that we should take a measurement by putting an arrow in the bow and pull to your full draw. Have some one there to take a measurement and then add 3/4" to the length ( **this is a suggestion not a rule** ) .

All Range Masters or Ministers should be watching the archers and be sure that the arrow is sticking out 3/4 " past the bow when it is at full draw.

The breaking of arrows is not the fault of the bow or the string. This is simply an arrow measurement discrepancy.

I simply want all of our archery events to be fun for us, but above all else I want them to be safe for everyone. I am not saying that everyone is using the wrong arrows , but if we can prevent even one accident or painful injury, then that is what this is all about.

I have been in contact with HIM Empress Etaine , and we are gathering information to devise an Archery test that All PERSONS that might be in charge of the archery range at any Adrian event must take and pass in order to be qualified to run the archery ranges safely and knowledgeable.

These tests will become available as soon as they are approved and I will notify you as soon as possible there after.

If you should have any questions and wish to speak directly to me, please contact me at [410-272-1521](tel:410-272-1521) or at [adriaimperialarchery2011@comcast.net](mailto:adriaimperialarchery2011@comcast.net)

Thank you for your patience.

Most respectfully, IS

Sir Little John

Imperial Minister of Archery

*Office of Archery***POSTAL SHOOT SCORES**

AS OF 19 Dec 2011

<u>Chartered Subdivision</u>	<u>Archer</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Date shot</u>
<b>And Average</b>			
1). Archduchy of Bisqaia			
592 / 4 = 148			
	Lord Edward Dubois	173	20 Nov 11
	Master Nathan Thomas	153	19 Nov 11
	Sir Mandrea Kahn	141	17 Dec 11
	HRG Gilbert Ost Westley	125	13 Nov 11
	Sir Jonathon McCurry	113	19 Nov 11
	HE Fergus d'Onray	102	12 Nov 11
	Master Dragona Dugines	101	17 Dec 11



2). Kingdom of Terre Neuve			
552 / 4 = 138			
	Gemma Evangelista Borgia	184	4 Dec 11
	Carina de Jean Le Noir	131	4 Dec 11
	Loki duck Slayer	127	4 Dec 11
	Auren Helfdane	110	4 Dec 11
	Meria Leigh	106	4 Dec 11
	Fyodor Tyrsson	44	4 Dec 11
	Tim the Procrastinator	40	4 Dec 11

IMPERIAL  
ARCHERY

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Date shot</u>	<u>Chartered Subdivision</u>
1). Gemma Evangelista Borgia	184	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
2). Lord Edward Dubois	173	20 Nov 11	Bisqaia
3). Master Nathan Thomas	153	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
4). Sir Mandrea Kahn	141	17 Dec 11	Bisqaia
5). Carina de Jean Le Noir	131	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
6). Loki duck Slayer	127	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
7). HRG Gilbert Ost Westley	125	13 Nov 11	Bisqaia
8). Carina de Jean Le Noir	131	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
9). Sir Jonathon McCurry	113	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
10). Auren Helfdane	110	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
11). Meria Leigh	106	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
12). HE Fergus d'Onray	102	12 Nov 11	Bisqaia
13). Master Dragona Dugines	101	17 Dec 11	Bisqaia
14). HE Sir Eric von Stryker	100	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
15). Master Saemus McCoy	81	17 Dec 11	Bisqaia
16). HRG Alinor D'Arcy du Calais	68	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
17). Page Shelby Bowman	62	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
18). HE Dame Rhiannon Roysdotter	55	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
19). Master Alexander	51	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
20). Dame Aurore Gaudin	46	13 Nov 11	Bisqaia
21). Fyodor Tyrsson	44	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
22). Master Charles Bowman	42	13 Nov 11	Bisqaia
23). Tim the Procrastinator	40	4 Dec 11	Terre Neuve
24). Sir Greylin MacMoran	28	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
25). Squire Brian Rosen	23	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
26). Master Kenneth	20	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
27). HE Dame Shirlea Fitzedmund de Clare	17	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia
28). Mistress Sheryl	15	19 Nov 11	Bisqaia



## *News of Albion*

Albion Chronicler's report:

Albion's Yule Feast was held on December 3rd at the Sunrise Library in Las Vegas as a Masque event. Featured was a Yuletide dinner with all the trimmings, including a roast goose which was presented to the High Table. Representatives from other lands, including Dame Irene the Vicerene of the newly-formed Shire of Auroch's Fjord and Queen Elizabeth Valois of Le Troupe, were present.

The Kingdom Champions' Tournament was held, and Albion selected her Champions for all disciplines. Congratulations go to Sir Sivax Wartongue (Steel, Cut & Thrust), Sir Duncan Flynt (Knight's Rapier), Sir Robert LaCroix (Sergeant's rapier and Shinai), [Feccino Pieta de'Masi \(Huntsman's Archery\)](#), [Dame Aleigha Fyredrayk \(Bowman's Archery\)](#), HRM Mary Elizabeth (Knight's Arts), and (Lady Rebecca Chatterton and Sir Duncan Flynt (Journeyman's Arts). These champions will represent the Kingdom of Albion in any challenges which may come during the reign.



**KINGDOM  
OF  
ALBION**

Congratulations also go to Dama Antonia Lopez, who has been granted the Heraldic title of Azure Cat Pursuivant Extraordinary.

Albion Celebrated the Queen's Birthday on January 7th. Congratulations go to Sir Sivax (Steel & Rapier), Sir Kristoff (Archery Huntsman), Lady Dawn (Arts Journeymen), HRM Mary (Arts Knights) and Squire Joseph for being King (Prince Consort) for the Day.

Upcoming Events:

On January 29th, Albion will hold a Collegium at UNLV. Included are classes on Arts Judging (by Lady Dawn), Event Autocratting (by HHH Dame Ashlynn), Introductory Heraldry (by HG Sir Gregor), Household Reporting (by Lady Moira), an Introduction to Leathercraft (by Count Santo) and a discussion of general Archery topics by HRM William and Sir Kristoff.

There is also a call for all Fighters, Archers, Artisans and Ministers as Albion prepares to hold a demo at the James Bilbray Elementary School Renaissance Fair on March 28th from 4:30 to 6:45 PM.

For further information on these events, please contact the Albion Crowns at [dreye@cox.net](mailto:dreye@cox.net).

In Service,  
Lady Asa Lokabrenna of Aurochs Fjord, KR, KM  
Chronicler



## *News of Bisqaia*



**ARCHDUCY  
OF  
BISQAIA**

Greetings from, HRG Sir Gilbert Ost Westley and HRG Dame Alinor D'Arcy du Calais, Archduke and Archduchess, of the Archduchy of Bisqaia,

Life is good in Bisqaia!! At the December event Sir Mandrea Kahn had a busy day. He won the Knights List, the Huntsman list, became a Knight Forrester and was made a Court Baron. Master Seamus won the Bowman's list. After the archery tourney, additional shooting was done for the Postal Shoot. As a result Lord Edward Dubois achieved the local rank of Grand Master Bowman. Briefly, Bisqaia has a tassel ranking system to promote archery (information on this system is available on request). In Lord Edward's case it means his top three scores average 175 or better, using the Postal Shoot format. HRG Gilli had the lone A & S entry and received a Masterwork for his efforts. We also had our Pirate gift exchange after feast.

The food drive continues. The totes in front of the head table contain the food items gathered by the Estates. At the January Event we will "score" the food collected by the estates. The estate with the highest score wins. The food will be donated to the local food bank.

At the January event We will have five Knightings for four people, all in the same family! Lord Edward Dubois (Grandfather) is taking his Knights Minister and Archer, Dame Aurore Gaudin McCurry (Daughter) is taking her Knight Civil, Sir Johnathon McCurry (Son-in-law) is taking his Knight Minister and Master Charles Bowman (Grandson) is taking his Knight Minister.

Work is well underway for the Winter session of the Bisqaia University which will be held the first weekend of February. Their Imperial Majesties have allowed us to hold it as an Imperial Collegium Weekend. While the class schedule is still forming, we're expecting about 12 classes to be given. There will classes in all four paths to Knighthood.

YIS

HRG Sir Gilbert Ost Westley and HRG Dame Alinor D'Arcy du Calais, Archduke and Archduchess, of the Archduchy of Bisqaia

*News of Somerset*

News From Somerset...

In the Month of December we held our Christmas event. We had our annual desert revel and this year we had a friendly white elephant gift exchange. With the wonderful winter weather we had a fun time playing games and sampling each others deserts.

January event was collegiums held at the Columbia City Library we had 4 classes that were well received lunch and dinner were provided by Dame Elizabeth.

The Febuary event will be more collegiums to be held at the Columbia City Library. The event will be held on February 19th with a potluck supper to follow.



**DUCHY  
OF  
SOMERSET**

Submitted by Duke Wilhlemus Blizce



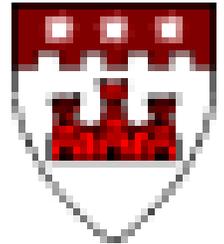
## *News of Alhambra*

another year has come and gone in our fair lands and we have been busy. Besides our regular tournaments, we also did a demo at a local museum when a Leonardo deVinci exhibit came thru last April, held our annual fundraiser of "Shoot the 'English' Knight" at our local Highland Games in August, and did a booth and demo for a new Renaissance Faire in our area one weekend in October. A few of us also made a whirlwind trip to Umbria for the Gypsy Rendezvous in April, and we received royal visitors from Terre Neuve in June.

We have settled in for a long winter and just held our annual Twelfth Night Celebration. Many awards were given this year and we held contests for the best period dish at the feast and best entertainment. Already, there is much talk of classes, camping events in the Spring, more dancing, henna experiments and the next batches of mead to be made.

I do believe we shall have a busy and fulfilling year to come as well.

Bar. Lily  
Alhambra Webmaster



**DUCHY  
OF  
ALHAMBRA**



## *News of Connacht*

News from Connacht...

Well its official we are now an Arch-Duchy... HUZDAH! This month Connacht travelled to Oyama BC to attend The Event Winters Coming autocrated by Squire Ormr Raizer. We started the day with Arts and Science, Thank you all Participants for your entries. Congratulations to Mistress Christiana for her Journeyman Win on her Drop Spindle and for the Knights List Entries Congratulations to Squire Ormr Raizer for his Tournament win on Tartys in Applis and a HUZDAH to Squire Melora for her Masterwork on Gold Leaf Applications. In Combat Congratulations to Squire Romoro Rozvardo for his Win on the Sergeants List Shinai and to Duke Reyrketill Silverhand for the win on the Knights list Rapier. In Archery Congratulations to Squire Romoro Rozvardo for his Bowmen's List Win and to Squire Ormr Raizer for the Huntsmen Win. And lastly Congratulations to Lady Scarlett Arianedale and Squire Ormr Raizer for being awarded the Cauldron on Connacht! Next Month Connacht will be attending Silent Knight on December 10th 2011 autocrated by Squire Rowan Silverhand. See you all there!



**DUCHY  
OF  
CONNACHT**

Yours in Service...

*Squire Ormr Raizer*  
*Minister of Archery*  
*Imperial Deputy of Archery for Canada*  
*Chronicler of Connacht*  
*Bearer of the Royal Star of Adria*  
*& Member of the Ducal Honour Guard of Connacht*

*"It's not what you say, but what you do that defines you."*



## *News of Connacht*

News from Connacht...

Silent Knight Results:

### Arts and Science:

Squire Melora with A Coventry Carol

Lady Christiana Elizabeth Constable with Tablet Weaving Cards

### Combat:

Sergeants List: Master Fenrir

Knights List: Squire Ormr Raizer

### Archery:

Bowmen's List: Lady Christiana Elizabeth Constable

Huntsmen List: H.R.G. Duke Reyrketill Silverhand

### Special Mention:

H.E .Viscount An-Ridire Ruaidhri Silverhand has Squired Christof Fratello Porpora and shall hence forth be given the title Squire

Squire Melora and Sir Ruger Silverhand were given the Award Cauldron of Connacht

Mistress Christiana Elizabeth Constable has been given the title Lady with the her Household Phasiani lacus Manerium.*S*

*Squire Ormr Raizer*  
*Minister of Archery*  
*Imperial Deputy of Archery for Canada*  
*Chronicler of Connacht*  
*Bearer of the Royal Star of Adria*  
*& Member of the Ducal Honour Guard of Connacht*

*"It's not what you say, but what you do that defines you"*



**DUCHY  
OF  
CONNACHT**

*News of Tyr~lynn*

Greetings unto the Empire,

We have had an interesting last month or so. We gained 2 new members. In December, we held a Fun War & held a Shinai tournament; which was won by Robyn de Kradle. His first win!

The archery was done Dame v Sirs.... The Sirs won the day with the War Champion being Sir Dorn.

Also at that event we held 4 classes. Sir Dorn gave 3 classes on archery & David of Ramsay gave one on Armor.

We rounded the whole thing out with a potluck feast.

We look forward to seeing friends & making new ones at the March IEM. Hope to see you there.

In Service to the Empire,

Sir Dorn das Schwarz Brause  
Dame Felica "the Bold" das Schwarz Brause  
Viceroy & Vicerine of Tyr~lynn



**SHIRE  
OF  
TYR~LYNN**



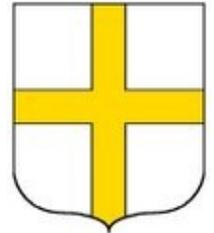
# News of Castellon de Leon

## News of Castellon de Leon

Greetings from Castellon de Leon! War is upon us, and preparations are well under way for the Great Turtle Merc War to be held in Melbourne, Florida on the week of January 27. The Duchy of Constantinople has spent last few months gathering forces to combat Lord Wright Bentwood and friends, while the Bentwood Raiders have been serving up turtle and rabbit stew in anticipation of rious battle. The war promises to be both entertaining memorable, and we expect great news in the days that ahead!



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**SHIRE  
OF  
CASTELLON DE**

Meanwhile, the great Archduchy Castellon de Leon has been active and prolific. Sir Phobos received his second level combat knighting and is now a knight banneret. An event was held at the canton of Kincora on Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, with a triple event held for steel. The list winners were as follows:

- Steel - Sir Aloysius (Nov.), Earl Boru (Dec. & Jan.)
- Knight's Ren - Lord Uther & Squire Cormock
- Sergeant's Ren - Alex
- Shinai - Moira

Their Royal Graces Sir Aloysius and Dame Isobel announced their intent to hold a grand feast in the upcoming weeks, and a crown war will be held on the weekend of January 22 to determine which crown will hold a majority (51%) vote. Word is HG Dame Isobel pays her forces well, in "beverages" and/or baked goods.

At closing court, Squire Alyena was traded from Sir Bjorn, who will be leaving the great lands of Castellon forthwith, to Earl Boru-- much to the surprise of the populace, as well as Alyena herself. The price for the trade was one rivet.

The next few months will see many of Castellon's members attend the Florida Renaissance Festival at Quiet Waters Park, which runs from February 11 - March 11. We eagerly await our events in the months ahead, and I remain--

Yours in service,

Squire Alyena





## *A Traveler's Journal of Italian Masterpieces*

### **A Traveler's Journey of Italian Masterpieces Part 2**

**By Sir Ansel de Gace**



Title: The Annunciation

Artist: Fra Angelico (1387 – 1455)

Location: Museo di San Marco (The San Marco Convent restored in 1437 by Cosimo de' Medici the Elder), Florence, Italy (specifically in a corridor of a convent – the top of the stairs where the cloister began for the monks)

To see a piece of art in its original setting was a pleasing experience. I am not sure how other experiences of artwork placed later by curators or potentates will compare. The Annunciation's purpose is such a large part of the total purpose of the monastery: to develop a deeper connection to God. Perhaps it was the circumstances of the visit: from the noise and bustle of the city to the serenity of the cloister or even my expectations of seeing a small plate from a book in its full dimension, scale, and setting, but it was a dramatic moment at the landing when I turned and saw Mary confronted with Gabriel.



Flow-wise, I remember locking eyes on Mary's face then down to her hands, across to Gabriel's crossed wrists and up to his face. The high pattern area of the garden and landscape contrasted nicely with smooth loggia. Gabriel's wings seemed to provide a bridge between the two areas in both a literal and figurative way: he is a messenger from another world as well as a physical connection between the outside and inside. He unifies human and divine when he touches down to give the announcement as Mary unifies them by being a human touched by the divine. I suppose there's the coarser reading of the angel being the metaphysical phallus being at the entrance to the womb-like loggia to deliver the news and perhaps be a channel for the Holy Spirit that will impregnate Mary – it's a little too Freudian for me, though, and it seems unlikely to be the intent of the Brother. His use of perspective makes the world seem orderly and clean -- the light and luminous colors he uses make this very realistic perspective seem almost unreal, or better said, it is otherworldly.



## *A Traveler's Journal of Italian Masterpieces*

The narrative of the figures is what excited me most though. The pained expression, as I read it, on Mary's face was surprising and added greater human dimension to the piece. Gabriel appears to be just recovering from a deep bow and his hands mirror Mary's – it seems he is doing his best to relate to her. Mary's left hand seems to define the shape of her soon to grow belly. Brother Angelico captures the moment of the announcement, Mary's shock and Gabriel's compassion and it marks the beginning of Jesus' time on earth: a wonderful reminder to his fellow monks of their devotion to the gospels. I can imagine making my way up the spiral stair, after a day of work and prayer to see the beautiful, luminous fresco, pausing to take it in and feeling refreshed.





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Deputy Chancellor (admin.) [Sir Robert LaCroix of Albion](#)  
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