

Group: Outlands
Quarter 1, 2015 (January-March)
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Current KMoAS Office Projects:

- The A&S handbook, the competition rules, the competition judging forms, and the A&S website (kmoas.outlands.org) have been updated.
- We are using on-line registration forms for Queen's Prize Tourney (for entrants) and for Kingdom A&S Collegium (for teachers/instructors). These forms are being pilot-tested currently.
- We are piloting the use of a shorter, 1-2 page judging form and removing the judges' guidance to a separate document (some of the old judging forms were up to 6 pages long). We piloted the new forms at al-Barran's Day of A&S, the Tri-Baronial A&S (for the Baronies of Unser Hafen, Caerthe, and Caer Galen), and Queen's Prize (where judging is not required, but can be requested). Initial feedback is positive.

Kingdom A&S Competition – Status Update:

- Due to a change in Kingdom Law, the Kingdom A&S Competition is held on the second weekend of April in even years. The next KA&S Competition will be in 2016.

Kingdom A&S Collegium – Status Update:

- Due to a change in Kingdom Law, the Kingdom A&S Collegium has been established and is held on the second weekend of April in odd years. The next KA&S Collegium will be on April 11, 2015. This is the first time that our Kingdom has put on a Kingdom-wide collegium in many years, although the Northern and Southern halves of the Kingdom have put on successful A&S collegia. The Kingdom A&S Collegium is planned for April 11, 2015, to be held in the Barony of Fontaine dans Sable (Farmington, NM). I am working with the event steward, Mistress Alamanda, to populate four learning tracts (martial arts, general A&S, fiber arts, and SCA 101).

A&S Activities of Note (events, displays, competitions, etc.):

- To get artisans more comfortable with displaying at smaller events and to prepare them, incrementally, for larger A&S competitions and Kingdom A&S and interkingdom Wars, local groups are encouraged to support artisans' displays and local competitions.
 - Artisan Displays:
 - Tribaronial A&S (January 24, 2015)
 - Queen's Prize Tourney (March 8, 2015) – 60 entrants competed.
 - General and Youth categories (the use of a youth category is new).
 - General: William Bishop
 - Youth: Kathryn of Plattefordham and Morgan of Dragonsspine
 - Competitions:
 - Tribaronial A&S (24 January 2015)

A&S Classes in Local Groups:

- Aarquelle (Shire)
 - Highlands – weekly A&S nights
 - Lowlands – weekly A&S nights: wire-wrapping jewelry, sewing circle, scribal classes
- al-Barran (Barony)
 - Norse costuming and accessories; camp furniture; brewing; silk banners; heraldry; persona development
- Blackwater Keep (Shire)
 - No classes
- Bryngolau (Shire)
 - Silk banners; kumihimo
- Caer Galen (Barony)
 - Heraldry meeting; painting class
 - A&S Champion: Baroness Signy von Velden, O.P.
- Caerthe (Barony)
 - Cooks' guild; Leather guild; candle-making
 - A&S Champion: Lady Killian MacKenzie
- Citadel (Barony)
 - Smithing; bardic circle; brewing; A&S display; leather working; lucet; inkle loom; casting; heraldry
- Draca Mor (Shire)
 - None (planning for banner workshop in April and local A&S competition in May)
- Dragonsspine (Barony)
 - Weekly A&S nights; weekly armor workshop; patterning/sewing workshops; dance practices.
- Drygestan (Shire)
 - Finishing touches on garb; Rapier for beginners; Court dancing; largesse; tee-tunic patterning and construction; Norse costuming and accessories; blacksmithing; calligraphy; ME dance and Outlands' traditions on ME dance.
- Fontaine dans Sable (Barony)
 - Heraldry (monthly); basics of garb
- Hawk's Hollow (Canton)
 - Candle-making; Viking wire embellishment
- Nahrun Kabirun (Shire)
 - Court dancing; medieval music lecture and practice; herbal infusions for beverages; overview of the SCA
- Plattefordham (Shire)
 - Weekly open-house project night; Autocratting 101
- Rio de las Animas (Shire)
 - No classes
- Unser Hafen (Barony)
 - Calligraphy guild; craftsmen's guild (soapstone molds for pewter casting); dance practice
 - A&S Champion: Lady Rosamonde Carver
- Villaleon (Shire)
 - No classes
- White Mountain (Shire)
 - No classes

- Windkeep (Shire)
 - Armoring; archery (arrow building); Cooks' guild

KMoAS Office Concerns/Issues (if any):

- There have been some complaints that the new report template does not allow for local A&S ministers to list A&S projects done by members of the populace (as had been allowed by numerous Kingdom A&S Ministers in the past). I have told locals that they may provide that information in the report, but that it would not be sent on to Society, as the report is already lengthy. One of my deputies suggested that locals post the "who has done what" list on our A&S Ministers' list-serv (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/outlandsASministers/info>), of which I am in support.
- There have been a few comments about the judging experience in the Outlands:
 - We are asking subjective people to be objective about works of art. This is the inherent problem with A&S judging and I don't know how to fix this problem. Judges bring different beliefs, different skill-sets, etc., to the judging table, and may or may not be trained in the art they are judging and may or may not understand what they are judging (judging just calligraphy vs. judging the calligraphy and illumination of a completed scroll and comparing that to the SCA's belief of what a scroll is vs. the actual scroll as done "in period").
 - We don't have a codified training for judges (as has been done in Atenveldt), although we do have a quick orientation on judging before our Kingdom A&S competition. Some questions to inform the judging process: Do you compare to the "best in show," whether it's at the competition or not or do you compare to the best item presented at the competition? How do you let the artisan know how to get "full points" in the competition, or should the judge even do this? Is it better to have group/team-judging or solo-judging?
 - I held a round-table, to discuss these issues at the Queen's Prize arts tournament (8 March 2015, Barony of Dragonsspine [Colorado Springs, CO]). This will be the first of many round-tables (the second one is planned for 11 April 2015, Barony of Fontaine dans Sable [Farmington, NM], at the Kingdom A&S Collegium).

Historical Combat Studies:

- No report was provided.

Report submitted from Outlands' KMoAS to SMoAS and Crown, with courtesy copies to Southern, Northern, Historical Combat Studies, and Website deputies.