



THE SKALD

Upcoming Events

Populace Meeting

First Sunday of every month

6:30 pm

VFW, Shawnee, OK

Upcoming Meetings: Nov 6th, Dec 4th

Fighter Practice

Every non-populace Sunday

4:00- 6:00pm

Woodland Park, Shawnee, OK

No A&S Classes this Month due to Holiday Madness

Officers Reports:

None received.

How to act in court! (some thoughts from the gallery)

I have noticed that many of our people seem to wonder exactly what they should be doing when they are called into court, either to receive and award, or to be recognized in a different fashion.

Maybe this will help. (Maybe not).

First, you are living as a person in Europe in the period before 1601AD. Your persona may be of some rank, or of no rank at all in the SCA. When going before the Baron, or the Prince, or the King, (or the Baroness, the Princess, or the Queen) you are beneath them in status, but you are not a peasant (unless you choose to be).

Act as a free man or woman, in your society would have been expected to act before their lord in a court of their time period. If you are an Englishman or woman of the 12th century standing before your king or prince, you wouldn't just stand there with hands in your pockets. You would step

into the Royal Presence and bow or curtsy. Then you would advance to the foot of the throne, and stop and kneel on the provided cushions, with your face looking down, until a signal is given that you may look up or rise. When you leave the "royal presence" you should leave backwards, and should stop, and bow again.

One should never show their hind parts to the "royal presence"!

Bowing can be tricky, you might just be on your knees, or if you are a Islamic persona, you would be face down on the ground before the Royal presence. The same would be true of Persians or Chinese! Japanese have their own bows of reverence.

One SCA Ansteorran custom is that no female should be called into the "presence" unescorted. This comes from the usage and customs of the period of time which we are recreating, and is a mark of honor to women, not anything anti-female. If a woman from our group who has no "significant other" is called into court, one of our gentlemen should accompany her to the "royal presence" bow while she curtsies, help her to the kneeling cushion, then step back and maintain a reverent pose until the award or recognition has been received, then (if necessary) help the woman to her feet and escort her from the "royal presence".

As a group, we should all bow to the "presence" when we go forward. This may mean first bowing to a King to Prince, and then to the Baron, when we have a petition for the Baron. When standing in support of a presenter, we should be remain as reverent supplicants, paying attention to the goings on.

It is rude to be talking loudly or laughing at some non-court joke while court is on-going, and one should not fall asleep,

or distract others from the business of the court, which may be to grant recognition and favor to you or your friends!

While many cultures did not bow to kings, sometimes it is best to observe the custom if physically possible. It is known that Romans and some other cultures did not observe this custom, and if you wish to properly act your persona, in a polite way, you usually can get along without offending people.

I hope this helps people get more into the live action role-playing of a Royal court. See you in Stillwater!!!

Caius Fabius

Or, issuant from chief a chevron inverted and in base two unicorn's heads, couped and addorsed, azure.



Fun In The Parade

Well, the Shawnee parade has come and gone. It was very cold, but Very Very fun! A big thanks goes out to all those that helped make it happen (you know who you are).

***** All submissions for The Skald are due by the last Sunday of the preceding month. Ideas welcome.**

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