

Flammeus Alles

Autumn 2021, A.S. LVI



Baron Angus von Atzinger and Baroness Melisande de Canonwald at Harvest Days 2021

Photo taken by Roisin de Burgh



The Barony of Fenix



Newsletter for the Barony of Fenix

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Baronial Officers Page



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Equestrian Marshal

Officer Needed



Captain of Archers

Officer Needed



Thrown Weapons Marshal

Officer Needed



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Baronial Calendar

Business Meeting – 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm

Rapier practice – Wednesdays 7pm

Armored practice – Mondays 7pm

Practices and meeting will be held at the Evendale Cultural Arts Center at
10428 Reading Rd. Cincinnati, Ohio 45241

There will be a southern practice occasionally held at Pioneer Park in Kentucky.

Upcoming Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
CLOWN TOURNEY	02 - 03 Oct	Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds, Constellation
RED DRAGON	2-Oct	Madison County Fairgrounds, N Oaken
RENDEZVOUS AT THE BRIDGE XXXI	08 - 10 Oct	Lincoln State Park, Constellation
FALL CROWN, CONSTELLATION	16-Oct	Hendricks County 4H Fairgrounds, Constellation
A QUEST FOR REGULAR EVENT	23-Oct	Woodside Event Center, N Oaken
VIRTUALLY BARDIC MADNESS XXIII	6-Nov	Virtual
ROAD TO POMPEII	6-Nov	Grace United Church of Christ, N Oaken
HAMMER & ANNVILLE IX	6-Nov	J. M. Feltner Memorial 4H Camp, S Oaken
MINI GULF EQUESTRIAN CLINIC	12 - 14 Nov	Kentucky Cowtown Arena, S Oaken
FALL UNIVERSITY OF THE MIDREALM	13-Nov	Merritt Academy, Pentamere
CHRISTMAS TOURNEY	4-Dec	The Jeffersonian, S Oaken

Letter from the Baron and Baroness

Unto the noble Barony of Fenix do Angus and Melisande, Baron and Baroness, send fond greetings.

First, we would like to thank everyone who came out for our Welcome Back gathering and Baronial Championships. It was a great day! Even with the restrictions we have to face to keep one another safe, it was an amazing day of competition and sharing fun and stories. Thanks especially to Zelimir and Gertrude for their hospitality and to the stewards and marshals who made the day run so smoothly. Congratulations to our new champions. We look forward to spending time with you over the next year.

Speaking of Champions, the time for 12th Night and our peaceful championships is fast approaching. We need bids from anyone interested in running this event. For someone new to event stewardship, this is not a bad one to cut your teeth on. We are also looking for ideas on bringing back May Day.

As we look forward, we are hopeful and excited at the prospect of returning to our traditional pre-Thanksgiving gathering at Molly Malone's. This is always a good time – good food and drink and lots of laughter.

Finally, congratulations to our members who received awards at Harvest Day. Roisin de Burgh received her AoA and Baroness Hypathia was named a companion of the Dragon's Heart. Well deserved both of you!

Fenix we are proud of the way we have hung together through a difficult time. Things are different, but we are still here.

Let Fenix Rise!

Angus & Melisande



Letter from the Chronicler

Greetings Barony!

It seems the puzzle in the last newsletter was well received. Hopefully you will enjoy this newsletter's puzzle as well.

With events happening again, I would love to include photos of members of our barony at these events. If you have some photos, let me know and I will send you the release forms needed so I can share them on our newsletter.

A topic that was mentioned to be of interest was showcasing members of the barony as a reintroduction of who is who. I think this is a wonderful idea. If you are a member of our barony, new or old, and are willing to be interviewed/featured for this, please email me and let me know!

Also, please think about sending in articles. How-to articles, event reviews, etiquette for new members, etc. We have a lot of wonderful knowledge to share as a barony.

In service,

Roisin de Burgh



Letter from the Rapier Marshal

Hello, Fenix Fencers! As the days have gotten shorter, we have moved back to the regular practice site at the Evendale Cultural Arts Center, where we may enjoy a flat, level, floor, electric lighting, and modern climate control! Huzzah! No more sweating in 90 degree heat! Now we may sweat in room temperature heat! But enough about that.

I am, as many of you know, a student of the Iberian tradition of Fencing. I have attempted to break down and explain some of the techniques and nuances of the style in a simplified manner, drawing from both my own experiences, as well as the knowledge of masters of the art, both modern and historic. Please check out my first article on it: [Breaking Down Destreza: The Stance](#)

Hopefully this will help explain some of the differences within Spanish fencing, and perhaps even inspire new thoughts about your own approach to fencing.

In service

Lord Gabriel de Burgh



Announcements

The new Barony of Fenix champions:

Armored Champion – Lord Alexander

Rapier Champion – Lord Alexander

Archery Champion – James Ashburn

Equestrian Champion – Deor Leodgar

Thrown Weapons Champion – Baron Hengist Hawardessune (continued from prior championship)

Division I Youth Champion – Hayley von Glier

Division II Youth Champion – Jonathan von Glier

Huzzah to our new king and queen of Midrealm: King Ullr and Queen Annelyse

Awards & **R**ecognition

Onund Ullrson was inducted into the Order of Chivalry during the Crown Tournament by Their Majesties Felix and Madeleina on the 17th of July 2021 Anno Societatis LVI

Reinhold von Glier was the overall winner of the Ransom Rapier Tournament at the Crown Tournament on 17th of July 2021 Anno Societatis LVI

Roisin de Burgh received her Award of Arms during Harvest Days by Their Majesties Felix and Madeleina on the 18th of September 2021 Anno Societatis LVI

Hypathia of Inish mor was made a member of the Order of the Dragon's Heart during Harvest Days by Their Majesties Felix and Madeleina on the 18th of September 2021 Anno Societatis LVI

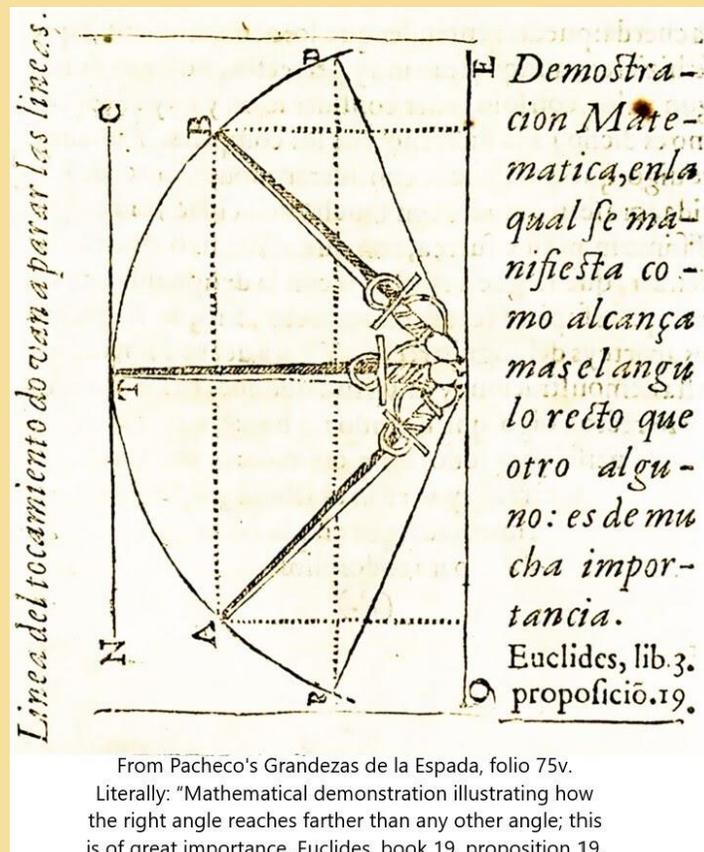
If I missed anyone, please email me at Fenix.chronicler@midrealm.org and I will be sure to include it in the next newsletter.

Breaking Down Destreza: The Stance

Written by Lord Gabriel de Burgh

The Spanish stance is arguably its most noticeable trait: upright posture, shoulders relaxed, body in profile to the opponent, and arm fully extended at a ninety degree angle from the body. It is radically different from what you usually see in the SCA, which is more heavily influenced by the Italian and French traditions of fencing than anything else.

So why is this? The more crouched positions of Italian fencing present a much more obviously defensive guard, obscures your full reach, and leaves you primed for a lunge; strong on defense and offence. However, the Spanish stance at a glance leaves your entire flank open to attack, severely restricts the length of a lunge, and openly telegraphs your full reach. Well, for one, the Right Angle stance is not a guard, and shouldn't be thought of as one. The blade is presented as a direct threat that if not somehow dealt with before an attack is made, the attacker will likely skewer themselves on it. In addition to this, the right angle presents an advantage in reach over a more obtuse or acute positioning of the arm and blade. All other factors being equal, a combatant presenting their blade at a right angle will hit an opponent presenting their blade at any other angle before being hit themselves.



From Pacheco's *Grandezas de la Espada*, folio 75v.

Literally: "Mathematical demonstration illustrating how the right angle reaches farther than any other angle; this is of great importance. Euclides, book 19, proposition 19.

None of this is done in a vacuum, naturally, and the combatants are not static. Ideally, as part of the presentation of the blade, one is also closing the most direct lines of attack from their opponent, but that is related to the topic of bladework more than to the topic of the stance itself. Also, you cannot separate any martial technique from its footwork, and while this article is not about footwork either, it still bears mentioning. Spanish footwork never moves in a straight line towards or away from the opponent. Instead, it moves in circles, opening and closing distance while constantly stepping offline from the opponent, forcing them to change their position as well. The crouched stances common in the SCA, and more relevantly to Italian fencing, are not good for this type of movement, while the upright stance of the Spanish results in this type of movement being much more similar to simply walking around instead of a shuffle, and is overall much less taxing on the muscles in your legs, letting you stay in the fight longer than someone who has been doing half a squat for the duration of the bout.

Hopefully this has helped explain some of the reasoning behind the right angle stance of Spanish fencing, and perhaps even inspired new thoughts about your own approach to fencing. If not, that's okay, you'll get to read me ramble on about another facet of Iberian swordplay next time.

Puzzles

Answer to the Summer Newsletter Word Search:

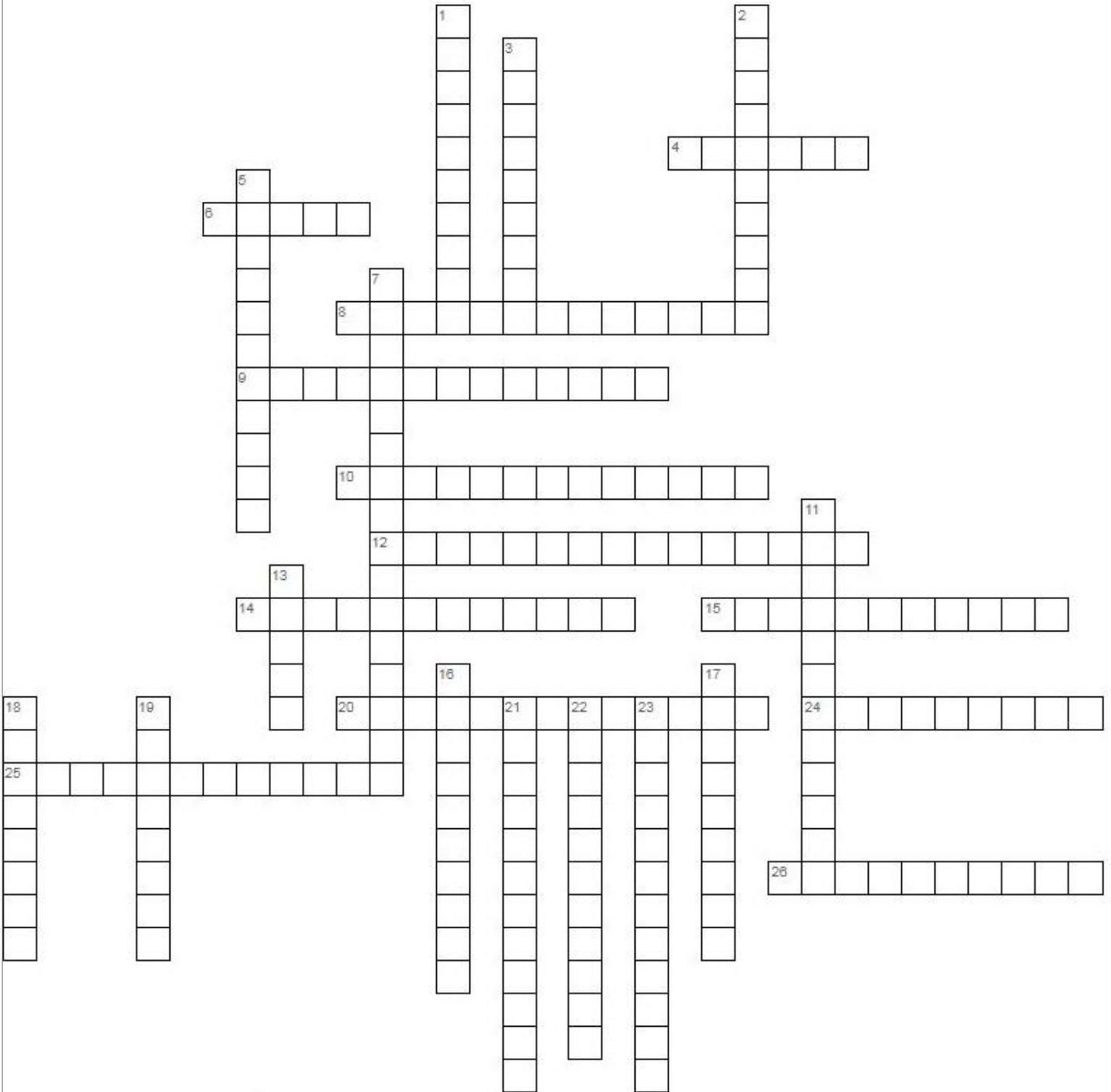
N	A	X	C	S	H	X	A	E	L	E	A	D	V
R	A	I	O	R	A	I	M	E	R	A	E	B	T
M	R	N	M	E	B	N	A	E	V	A	R	A	B
X	T	E	P	N	A	E	R	I	S	R	I	R	A
N	S	F	A	R	E	C	T	F	R	E	X	O	R
R	V	R	N	R	F	I	I	E	F	Y	E	N	O
A	Y	E	Y	C	N	V	A	R	R	M	O	E	N
S	A	D	F	N	E	R	L	N	F	E	T	S	Y
A	W	R	E	A	O	E	A	I	E	O	R	S	C
A	A	O	N	N	E	S	A	X	V	L	O	F	A
E	R	R	I	S	E	N	F	E	N	I	X	A	B
D	D	N	X	Y	O	L	A	C	F	Y	Y	V	D
E	Y	M	O	V	R	M	O	L	T	L	N	O	S
G	O	L	D	E	N	F	E	A	T	H	E	R	N

Made using <https://thewordsearch.com>.

Usage terms found here: <https://thewordsearch.com/user/faq/>.

Puzzles

Middle Kingdom Awards Crossword



Answers will be printed in the Winter newsletter.

Across

- 4 AoA level award given for proficiency in the arts
- 6 Given to youths for chivalry and enthusiasm in the martial arts
- 8 Given to groups for excellence in archery
- 9 AoA level award given for proficiency or exemplary service in equestrian activities
- 10 Given to those who have served the Crown as a King's or Queen's Champion
- 12 Given to youths for exemplary service to the kingdom
- 14 Grant level award given for service above and beyond that normally expected
- 15 AoA level award given for proficiency or exemplary service in archery
- 20 AoA level award given for proficiency or exemplary service in rapier fighting
- 24 AoA level award given for proficiency in science or research
- 25 Given to groups for service
- 26 Grant level award given for excellence in equestrian activities

Down

- 1 Grant level award given for excellence and leadership in rapier combat, and who have trained others in these skills
- 2 AoA level award given for long and devoted service to the kingdom
- 3 Grant level award given for excellence in one or more of the Arts, Sciences, or in research.
- 5 AoA level award that was given to those who suffered an injury on the field of combat that required surgery or other hospital care. This award was no longer given after 1975.
- 7 Grant level award given for excellence in archery
- 11 Given to groups for martial excellence
- 13 Given to groups for proficiency or exemplary service in the arts & sciences
- 16 AoA level award given for proficiency and leadership in armored combat. Members are known as Sergeants.
- 17 AoA level award given to those who have demonstrated courtesy and chivalry on or off the field
- 18 Given to those who exhibit courtesy, grace, and honor to people of all ranks, and who are an example of an 'embodiment of the dream'
- 19 Grant level award given for excellence and leadership in armored combat and who have trained others in those skills. Members are known as Captains
- 21 AoA level award for dramatic martial deeds
- 22 Given to youths for enthusiasm and efforts in the arts and sciences
- 23 AoA level award given to those who have displayed excellence and authenticity in their chosen field.