



SUMMER QUARTER

JULY 2017 / AS LII

THE CITADEL

News from the Barony of Cynnabar, Pentamere

IN THE REIGN OF WILLIAM DUX BELLORUM ET REX, ET ISOLDE REGINA, REGNI
MEDITERRANEI, ANNO SOCIETATIS LII ...

Words from Their Excellencies Baron Ermenrich and Baroness Kasha:

Unto all who call themselves Cynnabar, Greetings!

Wise sages have foretold of the moon overpowering the sun and blocking all of its light in the days to come. Even now, We find ourselves looking to the sky for portents of what this will bring. Scholars tell that it could be Fenrir eating the sun and heralding in Ragnarok! If this is true, let us not die in our beds or alone in our study. Let us gather together, fighting, creating, eating, drinking, and laughing as one great Barony. To this end, We have instructed Our stewards to make ready the Pennsic Camp for Our annual pilgrimage. We hope that as many of you as can come will join Us there, either as campmates, or as visitors during our revels. Pennsic is a great undertaking, and We ask that all who are taking an active role, let Us know so that all can know of your deeds. We have begun to note all the events that members of the Barony are participating in. This calendar may be seen on the [Cynnabar website](#).

We plan on holding all the standard Baronial events, including our traditional meal together, followed by Baronial "Drunken" Court. This year's theme for Court is, appropriately, RAGNAROK. If anyone has business to conduct during court, please let Us know so We may add your name to the docket.

Sincerely,
Ermenrich and Kasha
Baron and Baroness

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I Godhit write this: a few words from the Chronicler. Distantly I recall my first Pennsic War: it was ONE weekend, August 12-13, 1978. No “Peace Week,” no “War Week”: we drove down on Friday night and headed home Sunday evening. The “war” lasted about 48 hours! I was well-provisioned with a foam cooler holding cheese, tinned kippers, and crackers inside (yes, all packed together). No ice — it would have swamped the crackers. The cheese had to fend for itself. Water? Gosh ... I must have had some water ... at some point ... I think ... I *do* remember the kippers, though. My one truly still-clear memory of that first War was of coming nose-to-nose with the Tara Brooch at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh the Sunday morning that the war ended. Duchess Caellyn of Northwoods had driven three of us in her tiny brown Honda Civic down to that museum from Coopers Lake. I was a real Celtophile at the time and I still get shivers thinking about how big and beautiful the brooch was ... along with other items of veneration like the Ardagh Chalice and a page from the Book of Kells. When I got back to Michigan State in September of ‘78 I felt like I had truly been on pilgrimage. I had seen a human “hands-on” artifact of the Past only because I was in the SCA and was able to attend the War, sponsored by my friends who gave me rides there and back and fed me and looked after me.

Let me look after you, Reader, and offer wise advice echoed throughout this edition of The CITADEL: mind your fluids! You’ll notice the footer includes “Hail hydrate!” as a nod to Caryn of Cynnabar’s article on Pennsic archery on p.3.

DRACO INVICTUS! HAIL HYDRATE!

Pennsic Pro-Tips, by Caryn of Cynnabar, Deputy Chronicler

Greetings! As the Deputy Chronicler for Cynnabar I have been tasked with collecting the very best Pennsic “hacks” known to the populace, tips and tricks for getting the most out of your War. I have searched far and wide and gathered up this very valuable information for your Pennsic life. So, without further ado, I present here the very best “hacks” for:

Packing and Traveling:

When preparing to leave, pack in many small containers instead of 1 big one, to make finding specific things later on easier. Try to vacuum seal as much as possible, and bring shower shoes!

For your trip out invest in an EZ Pass, or your state’s equivalent, so you don’t have to worry about bringing enough cash for tolls. Don’t waste space packing things (like bottled water) that you can easily purchase when you arrive. And for the trip back home, try to keep a spare set of clean mundane clothing; it’ll be much more comfortable than your stinky garb!

Setting up Camp:

When setting up your tent (either period or mundane) use solar-powered landscaping lights (the kind you stick in the ground) to illuminate guy-wires. You can build a quick camp kitchen out of milk-crates and plywood. You can pack in the milk crates, then stack them with the plywood when you get to where you’re camping. You can use either plastic patio mats or locking foam pieces to make up your floor. Both materials hose clean and will generally stay dry!

Use a block of ice instead of bagged ice in your cooler: it will last longer. Or you could even freeze bottles of water to cool your food and drink them when they melt. Also, if it’s a particularly hot day, don’t dump your cold (clean) water. Transfer it to a clean container instead and soak your feet.

Before you go to bed, put blankets between your air-mattress and the ground, and between you and your air mattress. This will help keep you warmer on those chilly Pennsic nights. And in the morning, put a tarp or vinyl tablecloth over your bed to keep the dew off.

And all the other fun:

Pack and wear clothing (for example, socks and underwear, etc.) that only has a few uses left, and toss it at the end of war. If you’re bringing new shoes along, remember to break them in *before* Pennsic or your feet will be sad. And if you plan on doing laundry, don’t forget to bring quarters!

Did you know that you can trade work for food? Many folks need some extra help setting up or taking down their camps, and are happy to pay in meals. Or, you can sign up to be a minion and make some extra spending cash. Speaking of food, you can pre-cook meals at home and vacuum seal them to save time and energy. Just cook those sealed meals in boiling water for “instant” food!

It gets dark at night! Tie a small flashlight to your belt so you can illuminate your steps. And if you’re making a night-time trip to the porta john, bring a package of glow sticks, leave one there when you’re done and someone else will thank you.

I want to thank all of the folks who willingly and enthusiastically contributed to this list. I was overwhelmed with responses, and had to condense and summarize quite a bit, but the important bits should all be there. Thank you all!

Yours in Service, Caryn of Cynnabar

Court Report: Court of Their Majesties William and Isolde.

Northern Oaken War Maneuvers, in Their Shire of Falcon’s Quarry, the Tenth Day of June, Anno Societatis LII:

On this day Master Midair MacCormaic, of great renown among the Populace of the Barony,

was elevated to the Order of the Chivalry. DRACO INVICTUS!

Pennsic Archery: What You Need to Know to Have Fun and Stay Safe, by Caryn of Cynnabar

With Pennsic rapidly approaching, many of us are busy prepping: packing gear, repairing garb and making endless to-do lists before War. One of the things on many people's lists will hopefully be making a first trek out to the archery range! If that's something you're planning on doing this year, then this article is for *you*! I put together some basic information about the Pennsic archery range, including information about what to expect when heading out to the range, what to know about war points and how to prepare your bow for inspection. So take a look, and hopefully this information will help you have a safe and time shooting things!

The Range:

First and foremost, there is little to no shade at the archery range, so bring and wear whatever you need to protect you from the sun. This includes, but is not limited to, sunscreen, hats and sunglasses. There is a tent for the marshals on duty, and anyone who needs some time out of the sun is welcome to sit there, but there is no shade while shooting! Also, little to no shade means that you're going to be in the sun for large stretches of time. I cannot emphasize this enough: **DRINK PLENTY OF WATER**. This is a good rule of thumb for Pennsic in general (*Hail Hydrate!*), but it especially applies to situations when you're going to be standing around in the heat, like at the archery range. Bring water with you, and drink lots of it.

Marshal Yaacov's Tip:

"If you're sitting in the shade, bring your bow into the shade too. It doesn't like the sun and heat any more than you do."

Depending on where you're leaving from, the walk to the archery range can be anything from a schlep to a loooooong walk in the hot sun. The good news is, there's a bus (and the routes can be found on the official Pennsic War website: <http://www.pennsicwar.org/images/busmap.pdf>). The bad news is, sometimes you're going to have to wait for the bus. That wait can be 5 minutes, or it could be half an hour. Please keep that in mind when planning your trip to the range.

On the way to or from the range, archers have been invited to sit and rest at Port Tortuga (in block B09). The bus *should* stop right at the gate if hailed, and the good folks of that camp have offered up their misting tent and promised a cup of water to anyone who asks for one. Thank you, Port Tortuga!

Shooting:

Pennsic *is* a war, and as such, there are War Points. Now, the War Points and schedules change every year, so don't assume that whatever times/dates you shot last year will be the best ones to shoot at this year! Luckily, the official schedule is already posted and can be found on the official Pennsic War website: <http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn46/DEPTS/MARTIAL/warpoints.html>. Open shoots take place Sunday - Friday of War Week, excluding Thursday, when Archery Champion's Shoot takes place. Double-check your Pennsic book for the day's range schedule *before* you head out — you don't want to get all the way out to the range just to discover that you can't shoot at that particular time!

(Pennsic Archery: What You Need to Know to Have Fun and Stay Safe, continued...)

Unlike other archery events that might have loaner gear, Pennsic archery is strictly BYOE (Bring Your Own Equipment). You'll need a bow and arrows, obviously, but you'll probably also want at least a glove and arm-guard. You can take a look at the SCA Archery Marshal's Handbook (available here: http://www.sca.org/officers/marshal/docs/target_archery_rules.pdf) to find out what kinds of bows and arrows are allowed to be shot at SCA events.

Inspection:

All bows being shot at Pennsic need to be inspected by a marshal on duty at the archery range. Once your bow is inspected, you'll get a sticker with your Site Token number to put on your bow. This will let other marshals know that it's been inspected, so that you don't have to do that every time you come to the range. However, if someone else is going to be using your bow, or if you are using someone else's bow, it *does* need to be inspected again. A bow needs to be inspected at least once for every archer who will be shooting it.

What should you bring to inspection?

- ⇒ Your bow, unstrung if possible (Please note, this does not apply to crossbows! **Crossbows should remain strung!**) You will be asked to string your bow and draw it back for the marshal.
- ⇒ Any arrows you plan on shooting.
- ⇒ Your Site Token - you will not be allowed to shoot without it.

Marshal Yaacov's Tip:

"Let the marshals know if your bow is new, or new to you. We get excited about new toys and will enjoy having a conversation about your new bow with you! We can also give you recommendations about where to purchase new equipment and what to look for."

Now what exactly are the marshals looking for when they inspect your bow? Good question. The marshals are looking for anything that can cause the bow to fail in a catastrophic way. They don't want you or anyone else getting hurt. Here are a few of the things they will be looking for:

- ⇒ Any cracks in the bow.
- ⇒ Strings that are in bad condition.
- ⇒ Strings that are the wrong length for the bow.

Marshals are also using inspection to give you a polite and friendly introduction to the range. They use the inspection to find out: Do you need the newbie range and advice, need the practice range, or do you just need to be left alone to have some fun? But please remember that these inspections are done for *your safety*. No one wants you to get hurt.

(Pennsic Archery: What You Need to Know to Have Fun and Stay Safe, continued...)

And the marshals are not being paranoid, for every year there *is* equipment that *does* fail inspection.

On that note, what should you do if **your** equipment fails inspection? The marshal inspecting the equipment will tell you what the issue is and they might ask the Marshal In Charge for a second opinion. The Marshal in Charge that shift at the range can either pass or fail your equipment. That decision can be appealed to the overall Marshal in Charge of Pennsic target archery (the Archery Coordinator) . That decision cannot be appealed: it is **final**.

Marshal Yaacov's Tip:

"Lost an arrow during War? Stop by the archery range before you leave and check the hay-bales! It's where found arrows are stored so they can be re-united with their owners."

That's about it. Now, there's a lot more to know about Pennsic archery, and of course, archery in general. There's how to string your bow, how to anchor, how to shoot, and the advanced concept of how to aim. But that's all information for another article. So use the tips and pointers here to make your first trek out to the Pennsic archery range, shoot some targets and have a great time! See you out there!

[Chronicler's Note: Marshal Yaacov is Lord Yaacov ben haRev Eliezer, longtime Pennsic archery veteran and frequent attendee of Cynnabar archery practices.]

Pennsic Tourism, by THL Johnnae Ilyn Lewis, CE

The annual Pennsic War, which will be number 46, will be held 28 July – 13 August 2017 at Cooper's Lake Campground in Pennsylvania. If Pennsic will be your vacation (or SCAtation), here are some updated and useful resources for exploring the nearby area when a kids' day offsite or perhaps Ladies' day offsite is warranted. I know it's almost heresy to suggest the children might like to see the dinosaurs or visit the zoo/aquarium, but sometimes it's true a day away helps break up the war or provides an alternative activity. Here are some helpful sites to check out:

Pennsylvania Tourism

<http://www.visitpa.com>

Toll Free (for tourism information): 800-VISIT-PA (847-4872)

The 2017 Pennsylvania Happy Traveler Magazine may be ordered or viewed online at: <https://visitpa.com/request-pennsylvania-happy-traveler-guide>

Don't delay if you want to order maps or guides to the area. GPS may or may not provide all the information you need. Or plan on stopping at the Visitor Welcome Center (*for example- eastbound on I-80 at mile 1*) on the way into Pennsylvania to pick up maps and guides.

(Pennsic Tourism, continued...)

To the South lies Pittsburgh and its Countryside: <http://www.visitpa.com/pittsburgh>

More Local Information: [VisitPittsburgh](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com/) <http://www.visitpittsburgh.com/>

Pittsburgh is advertising itself as “Mighty. Beautiful.” Suggestions include:

— Take the youngsters to see the dinosaurs at the **Carnegie Museum of Natural History**. <http://www.carnegiemnh.org/>
“Dinosaurs in Their Time is the first permanent exhibition in the world to feature scientifically accurate, immersive environments spanning the Mesozoic Era—the Age of Dinosaurs—arranged chronologically and filled with actively posed original fossil specimens.” A special exhibit, “the Power of Poison” has opened.

Special summer hours! (Memorial Day through Labor Day) Monday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Wednesday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Thursday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday: noon–5 p.m. Admission charged.

— Just down the street from that museum, there’s also the **Carnegie Museum of Art** at 4400 Forbes Avenue. **Web Address:** www.cmoa.org

— **Pittsburgh Zoo + PPG Aquarium**

The Pittsburgh Zoo + PPG Aquarium is the home to over 400 species, including 22 threatened or endangered species and more than 2,000 animals. The Pittsburgh Zoo is one of only five zoo and aquarium complexes in the country. <http://www.pittsburghzoo.org/>

To the North

Located just a few miles north of the campground can be found the **Grove City Premium Outlets** offering 130 shops and restaurants. **Address:**

I-79 and Rte. 208, Exit 113 or **Grove City Premium Outlets**, 1911 Leesburg Grove City Road, Grove City, PA 16127 <http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/grove-city/stores>

New Castle and Lawrence County: <http://www.visitlawrencecounty.com/>

To the East:

Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau: <http://www.visitbutlercounty.com>

To the West:

New Castle and Lawrence County: <http://www.visitlawrencecounty.com/>

Preparing for Pennsic: Online Sources, by THL Johnnae Ilyn Lewis, CE

At this time of year, all thoughts turn to Pennsic. Part one of this article covered tourism in and around the site of the War. For those seeking advice on what to take or not take, there are these helpful sites and articles:

“Pennsic” as a term *Googles* an amazing 573,00 entries in 2017, up from 413,000 entries in 2014, and up from 124,000 entries in 2009! The Wikipedia article http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pennsic_War is a good one in case you have to explain to parents or non-SCA friends where and what you will be doing.

The official site is <http://www.pennsicwar.org/penn43/>. On Facebook check out <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pennsicwar/>. If this is your first war, be sure and check out <http://www.pennsicwar.org/ANNUAL/guide.html> which provides a great deal of newcomer information and links to helpful articles such as *Bart the Bewildered's Pennsic War Guide and Checklist Campaigner's Notes*. The site is Cooper's Lake Campground. <<http://cooperslake.com/home/index.php>>

The ***Pennsic Independent*** website is at <<http://www.pennsicindependent.com/>> If you can't attend the War, a subscription to the ***Pennsic Independent*** keeps one informed at home and allows one to know in part what is happening. The website <http://www.pennsic.net/> no longer seems to be updated in any comprehensive manner, so use it for historic purposes only.

Want to see or browse through Pennsic photos? Try <http://www.flickr.com/> and search under “Pennsic.” One can also search under groups or baronies, such as “pennsic cynnabar” or ‘pennsic midrealm.”

Stefan's Florilegium has archived hundreds of posts and articles on the topic of the Pennsic War with even more posts containing valuable advice on summer camping, cookery at wars, etc. See <http://www.florilegium.org/> Check under Categories for the “Pennsic” file, but also search under “Pennsic” for other posts in other areas.

Interested in the local weather. Go to: <http://www.weather.com/> and enter “New Castle” or “Butler PA.” Or try “Slippery Rock.”

[Note: the Author writes, “BTW---my first War was Pennsic IV. Updated from articles on Pennsic created in 2009 and 2014.” —Godhit, Chronicler.]

Heat Exhaustion - A Lady's Account, by Lady Morwen the Sempstress

Hail and well met, people of Cynnabar! I take up my pen to tell a most woeful tale of sickness at Pennsic, that week of glorious battle, in the hope that others might heed my example, and so avoid the dreadful fate I was subject to.

My tale begins the fourth day of the week, and the final day of battle. My barony had feasted and reveled the night before, and I, being released from my duties as caretaker for my lady's children, joyfully partook in the free-flowing cider, lemonade, and sparkling drink remaining from the feast. I had drunk little but water the previous days, having heard of the vile disease that plagued those who drank aught else, and having little desire to suffer from it. As I ordinarily drink very little, I thought drink in quantity, no matter the type, would suffice to keep me from illness. This thought I did repent in sorrow! The day was warm.

As the hottest part of the day passed, I began to feel faint. This feeling was like to that when I have not eaten, as I indeed had not, and so I, stumbling, made my way to the nearest eatery. Once there, I felt as though I could not stomach food, though I did so, and made my way back to camp. Others there commented on the heat, yet I, amidst my faintness, felt a chill, like to a gentle breeze on a spring day, and fetched my shawl.

The great court of the Midrealm was to be held that evening, and I, never having seen such a sight, resolved to attend despite my illness. We of Cynnabar who wished to attend arrived early, that we might see the high dais from our seat, and hear the words spoken by Their Majesties and Their heralds. The heat inside the hall was oppressive, and yet I felt chilled, as though wracked by fever. It was at this time I thought, knowing that the Chirurgeon's Point was nigh, to seek help if I continued thus. Two hours passed, and I grew still worse. At the break of court, I slipped away to find aid.

Once in the Chirurgeon's tent, they lay me down with fans blowing, and desired me to drink a salt liquid to revive me. It did not suffice, and so they attempted to let fluid directly into my veins. Neither arm had any visible vein, and so they were forced to place the needle directly into the back of my hand, which too was barely possible. A time passed, during which I continued to drink, and they replenished the fluid running into my hand. I finally felt revived enough to walk, and so they brought me back to camp, with the assurance that I would reappear should I sicken again.

What I did not know was that such revival is not the end of the illness. All that night, I suffered from a disturbance of the digestion, which only wore away once there was no more left to disturb. I could hardly eat other than milk and rice, and that very little, for the following three days, and suffered the weakness corresponding. It was not until the afternoon of the Lord's Day, having returned from the war and slept for most of the day, that I was well enough to eat and be fully healed.

Take heed from my example, o people of Cynnabar, and do not neglect yourself in the days of war! Drink pure water in abundance, no matter what else you have tasted, and take care on those days of heat! Should you feel a chill, when all others complain of the sun, together with faintness and the desire to vomit, do not think that all will be well! Take yourself to the chirurgeons, and they will revive you!

Written this 30th of June, A.S. LII, by Morwen Sempstress

The Book of Archery, by “Grey Szu”

(Forester Grey Oddson)

Harmony is the basis of good archery.

Harmony occurs when the archer, bow, arrow, sky and ground all flow together.

First the archer must know self. The aware archer “finds” the bow.

This couple selects the arrows. This troika seeks both sky and ground. Having found them, the archer shoots Self. All five elements join in the dance. Harmony happens.

As with Master Sun’s work this opening induces a little cognitive dissonance to start the learning process. If you are bit confused, a bit of definition may help—

Archer: You. If you want it.

Bow:

- ◇ A big spring used to cast arrows at higher velocities than possible by hand.
- ◇ A tool to assist with meditation and prayer.
- ◇ A device for putting meat on the table, and Kings on their best behavior.

Arrow: SCA version. Wood or cane shaft, natural fletches, a nondestructive point.

Sky: The social, political and legal environment that the archery occurs in.

Ground: The physical structures and provisions that archery occurs in. Location, travel times, parking, bathrooms, water, shade, sufficient physical space to shoot, foliage (grass height, leaf cover, poison ivy), fauna (mosquitos, black flies, bees, fire ants, snakes and sheep) backstops, targets, loaner equipment, availability of emergency services, and after archery entertainment locations are all items to be considered.

Shooting self: To paraphrase a future article: You shoot you. What happens to the arrow is unimportant. If you shoot you the bow, arrow sky and ground will all come along for the dance. This will lead to...

The Dance

Harmony.

I cannot, and will not, attempt to define this one for you. If you want my version come find me. I will light the fire, pull up a couple of chairs, open a bottle or two, and we can take a poke at it.

The first step in becoming an archer is deciding you want to.

DO YOU?

Still here? OK step one. Who are you and what equipment are you walking around in?

As an example I am male, old, fat, fairly short, not as strong as I once was, not rich, loyal, just a trifle vain and living in the Barony of Cynnabar. I have a left master eye but am strongly right handed. I have a firm belief that archery is like the infinite paths to enlightenment and I act on that belief. I have a strong preference for short curvy companions and I am willing to put a little work into the relationship.

Combined, this means I am shooting a right hand 50 pound bear Kodak Magnum with a red/white/black string; (male, still fairly strong, loyal Cynnabar’s colors are red white and black). The bow is named “My Sin.” (There will be more on this later.) I put up with a temperamental sensitivity to draw length in exchange for high arrow speed and a handy little bow. (Short, curvy.)

(The Book of Archery, continued ...)

My arrows are red and white shield cut four inch feathers on black crested full length 1 1/32 diameter arrows with 125 grain steel points. (Vanity.) The arrows are high-visibility and look cool. I pay for that cool look with a lower velocity due to the large feather volume I am using. I get some of that back because of the extra stability I get from those huge feathers. My arrows are longer than I need so that others can use them. (Infinite paths.) I get away with the extra-long arrow because of the poundage of the bow I am using. I think they would look cooler with brass points on them but I can get three dozen steel points for the price of a dozen brass ones. I use a large capacity shoulder quiver cut for a right hand draw because I tend to carry loaner arrows.

What this all boils down to is “You, your body and the gear you use all need to work together.”

Just a couple of things to think about before we talk about bow selection.

Did you marry the first person you ever kissed?

Have you kissed more than one person in your life time?

If you have kissed more than one person in your life time, were all the kisses the same?

Do you think the first bow you try will be the last bow you try? Unlike spouses there are no laws about having multiple bows. I would suggest trying more than one.

One of the things to remember is that your first bow most likely not be your last. The important thing is to get the bow to match the person you currently are, not the person you want to be. I have a bow I call “My Sin.” I saw a Bear Kodiak Magnum on the wall at an archery shop. The price was \$125 for a \$575 bow. I had the money to spare so I purchased it. The problem was the draw weight was 50 pounds. I can shoot 50 pounds but I do better with a 40 pound bow. My sin is that I purchased a bow that is just too much for me to shoot well.

The test is to draw the bow to full draw and hold it for a slow count to ten. If you are shaking by the time you get to ten the bow is too strong. Come to practice and try everything you can lay your hands on. If you ask nicely most people will let you look at or even shoot their bows. At some point something will find you smiling back at it.

My first bow I purchased as an 11-year-old boy who made the money for it by pushing a lawn mower. He was a boy with a boy’s knowledge and a boy’s budget. The right and proper bow for him at that time had to be simple, rugged, and cheap. A fiberglass stick fit those characteristics. The bow happened to be a “Golden Bear.” Fiberglass sticks are immune to weather, relatively impact- and abrasion-resistant, and inexpensive. If the bows are not overdrawn they will last for generations. I still have Goldie. It is still working at Sunday practices. The downside is a slow cast and lack of center cut.

Fiberglass sticks come in sizes from 35 inch and 10 pounds @ 15 inches to 60 inch 40 pound @ 28” “bow fisher” specials. The Middle Kingdom rules for combat archery will put a lot of 30 pound sticks on the field. In my opinion the Bear Archery brand fiber glass stick bows are smoother-shooting, softer-feeling bows. The bows run from the “Goblin” for the little-littles, the Bear “Crusader” for the middle littles and the “Titan” for the littles who are getting ready to suddenly become huge.

As a person matures the budget gets a little bigger and the ability of the person to care for their equipment gets better. This is where the modern fiberglass and wood laminate recurve tends to show up. A modern recurve is the easiest bow to learn to shoot with, tends to hold its value well and if cared for properly can and will be used for generations. If you must buy to get started I think the Samick Polaris and the Samick Sage are the best beginner recurves for the money. Both bows are three part take-down bows. The bow consists of the handle part or riser and a matching set of bending parts or limbs. The Polaris is a thinner lighter riser than the massive solid block of phenolic strength that is the Sage. If you have small hands the Polaris may be a better choice for you. The Polaris limbs are white with modern lettering on them. The Sage limbs are a basic black. The limbs will interchange. I have a friend who is shooting a Polaris riser with 30 pound sage limbs. Lancaster Archery Supply is a full line Samick dealer and will sell you mix and match parts. I would limit the Polaris riser to about 40 pounds. The Sage is rated to 70 or more. The advantage to all of this is you can store you bow in a duffle bag and use multiple sets of limbs with the same riser. He looked dwarf. She looked elf. They had one riser, a set of 55 pound limbs and one set of 20 pound limbs and both used the Sage riser. Changing limbs can be done in about two minutes.

This is all my opinion. If you wish to use this note you are free to do so as long as the note is presented complete. —Forester Grey Oddson [contact information available via the Chronicler]

Baronial Officers

Baron of Cynnabar

THL Ermenrich von Duisburg

Baroness of Cynnabar

Mistress Kasha Alekseeva

Seneschal

Master Derian le Breton

Exchequer

Mistress Jadwiga Krzyanowska

Chatelaine

Lady Edonea Appleby

Knight Marshal

Master Zygmunt Nadratowski

Fencing Marshal

Lord William of Cynnabar

Minister of Arts and Sciences

THL Aeffe Torsdottir

Herald

Lord Eadraed Alforde

Chronicler

THL Godhit of Cynnabar

Webminister

Master Aaron Drummond

Barony of Cynnabar Current Weekly

Event Schedule:

Mondays (except first of month):

**Baronial Business Meeting preceded by
workshop**

Alternating Wednesday evenings:

Dance Practice

Thursday evenings:

Armored Fighter Practice

Sunday afternoons:

Rapier Practice

As Schedule Permits:

**Garb Workdays (on the Campus of Eastern
Michigan University)**

This schedule is subject to change. For the most current schedule please view the Baronial Google calendar at

<https://www.cynnabar.org/>

NOTE: due to the impending end of the world on August 21, these activities may be CANCELLED.

We apologize for any inconvenience.