PENFEATHERS GOES TO GULF WARS!
1. What is my favorite part of being a Herald.

Voice heralding is my favorite area of heraldry. Calling the fighters to the lyst and introducing them, as well as asking them to make their salutes is so much fun. Working with the card runners to make sure the winner is noted with the list mistress is my 2nd favorite part.

2. Why am I called Beacon.

Well each Kingdom in the Known World gives a special title for their heraldry offices. Each Kingdom has a theme, like Atlanta and Trimaris use sea type names, Meridies likes using "shining a light" type words for our Herald's. As the Principal Herald a Beacon sheds light for all to see clearly and as Beacon I oversee all aspects of heraldry in our Kingdom.

3. What is my least favorite thing about being a herald?

My least favorite thing is having to tell someone they can't do something the way they thought they could. There are rules in creating a name, or device, or how a ceremony is to run. I want people to have fun and do what they enjoy the most. So, I try my best to give them a way to work around the problem instead of a flat out "no."

4. What is my favorite color and why do I like it?

My favorite color is green. In herald we would call that a tincture and the name is vert. Green is spring and life going on. My eyes are green too! Purple is my second favorite color.

5. What do I like about our Kingdom?

What I love about our Kingdom is how we all come together to help each other at our events. We want to see everyone having fun and enjoying being together. I really love watching all the things our children get to do with our KMOC and the other gentles who run children's activities. I want all of you to have fun while you learn about our history and what took place in the middle ages.

6. What do I do for fun at events? My fun has always been helping others. Being of service. My first event was Dreamstone XX (20) in April of 2000. This weekend April 13 is Dreamstone XL (40) and I'm helping my friend Sigfried with voice heraldry and helping Countess Thorkatla the Feast Steward with serving the gentles at feast.
Have you ever wondered what dogs are thinking? The hounds of Meridies can answer your questions! Their owners have graciously offered to translate their answers. So, if you want to know what it’s like to be a service dog, a courser, a mascot, or even what the Royal Hound does all day.

Please send them to me, Lady Deedre Turner at mojoryanronny1428@gmail.com or give them to your local Minister of Children. They will make sure they will get them to me.

This is Aoife of the Shire of Nant y Derwyddon. She is a dainty Boxer but is sure she’s half cat. She is a service dog who spends her time making sure her Mom feels safe.

This is Koji Wartooth the Shire of Arenal’s Mascot. He is a Shiba Inu.

This is Ashur. He is named after an Assyrian god of death and is a grumpy old man. A grumpy old man who loves kitties.

Tiberius Our Royal hound. He is a Cane Corso. He loves to be loved on. His Royal Majesty Sebastianos has happily volunteered to translate for him!

Prancer is in albums on the list He is a blue Italian Greyhound A member of the Princess Pack He is a rescue and has been coursing since he was two years old. He is now eight years old. His owner is, THL Catrin Skynith Former Houndsmaster of Meridies.
Greetings,

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at Gulf Wars this year. Many of you may not realize this but that was my very first Gulf Wars. I had an amazing time. In Page School we had fantastic classes taught by some wonderful teachers. We learned Period games such as Goose, Chess, and Snakes and Ladders. We also had games like Monopoly and Candy Land with an SCA twist. Wonderful teachers helped us to learn about Kumihimo braiding, dancing, and weaving. We were able to try our hands at crafts. We learned about stained glass, metal embossing, and lanterns. We even had a Learning Court with Her Majesty and Members of the Order of the Rose. The children had a chance to learn all about the different roles and responsibilities of court. This special moment was made even more special with a visit from Their Highnesses and our Kingdoms War Hound Tiberius. My favorite part was when the Herald announced that he didn't have a script and when our Little Page School Queen gave Tiberius a flower for being a good boy. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and I cannot wait until next year.

YIS,

Lady Jane Wolfden

Kingdom Minister of Children
All the Youth enjoying the gaming tables.

Everyone was interested in taking so many classes.

Tiberius was the best boy ever.

We even had dance classes.
Dear current and future students of Page School,

I am so excited to be the new Dean of Page School! It will be my honor and pleasure to serve the brilliant young minds of Meridies!

Some of you have been to Page School at Gulf Wars, most of you have probably attended MOC activities at events, but Page School of Meridies is a little bit different. I will be seeking out teachers that will offer challenging and fun classes that are a step up from your usual MOC classes, Page School accredited classes are held to a much higher standard. You will learn new things about a variety of topics for both arts and science as well as combat and will even have a whole day of classes at RUM specifically for Page School credits!

Each level in Page School requires a certain number of Volunteer, Arts and Science, and Chivalry hours to graduate to the next level, and some will require a final project or independent study report. Don’t worry! I’m always here to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Each level will come with different regalia (something you wear that will show you are a student and what level you’ve reached), I will give these to you upon enrollment and each level you reach in Page School.

It is my dream to hand every single child in Meridies their Page School medallion!

I can’t wait to work with each and every one of you in becoming the best SCAdian you can be!

Yours in service,

THL Fíne Dubh known as Pixie
Lord Mousington didn’t get to go Gulf Wars this year. Instead, his friend Marie Mouse went and came back with lots of pictures and stories.

Marie Mouse’s favorite part of Gulf Wars was either seeing a new member inducted into the Meridian Order of the Blade during court or the grilled cheese fighter support from our friends in Gleann Ahbann.

Marie Mouse and Lord Mousington love fencing and practice as much as they can, so they know that the Meridian Order of the Blade is a huge honor for someone who has worked hard at fencing. Marie Mouse managed to hitch a ride with an order member to get a close-up view during court! As a fencer, Marie Mouse is especially grateful to people who provide snacks for busy fighters who might not otherwise take a break for lunch. Marie Mouse also visited the water-bearers. She’s too little to volunteer, but she liked saying hello to the other fighters.

Gulf Wars is known for its melee battles (big fights with lots of people on each team). Both the rapier fighters and the armored fighters have melees. Marie Mouse had a great time defending Meridies in the fencing melee even though their side was outnumbered. She watched the armored ravine battle from afar because she hasn’t gotten her armor yet. Marie Mouse loved watching the armored Rose Tournament (did you know that field mice sometimes take naps in flowers?) and the Viking Siege Battle.
When there was a break in the fighting, Marie Mouse went to Scribes Point to paint. She learned that some period scrolls had cat paw prints on them, so she was nervous about being there. Instead she went to Herald’s Point. That’s where you can learn about registering your name and device. Marie Mouse made a point to visit the horses because Lord Mousington had told her all about the horses he met a few months ago. These horses were much bigger than the ones he saw! They were very friendly. Marie Mouse hasn’t learned about equestrian activities yet, so she couldn’t ride the horses, but she was still able to say hello.

Another great thing about Gulf Wars is getting to see friends from other kingdoms. When you’re visiting with your friends, you can go to the Green Dragon for singing if you’re old enough or you can go shopping. Merchant’s Row has all sorts of interesting things like swords, toys, and pottery. Marie Mouse saved up all her coins for a new fencing sword.

Lord Mousington was sad that he didn’t get to go to the event but happy that Marie Mouse had such a good time and came back with such nice stories. He hopes they can both go to Gulf Wars next year. Maybe they’ll even see you!
Students of all ages experienced a magical trip to Warsmeade. It was an evening filled with revelry, music, dancing and games accompanied by me, Lady Deedre and Lady Heather. As you stepped onto the platform of Warsmeade station, your first stop was to the Tea Shop for some delectable sandwiches. The students then made their way to the Sweetshop for succulent looking sweets. Finally, the students got to visit the tavern for Butter Beer and Liquid Luck served by Dame Elizabeth RaeFeni! Games were played accompanied by music provided by Master Kevin, Baroness Katja, Lady Mervyn, Signy, Theo, and Johann si Pipere, as well as dance instructions from THL Runolfir Orthlokerr Ulfsson. The children had fun playing inside, while outside a teen gaming tournament went well into the night that was hosted by Master Geoffrey’s Cock and Feather Tavern. It truly was a magical experience for all.

The Youth Known World Party

Article by THL Fine
Pictures by Lady Heather and Lady
Once a year a strange door opens up somewhere in the world. The door stays open for two weeks. That is why when Sir Chit was running across the tree branch to grab the last acorn when the stupid bird crashed into him, he fell into the water. Sir Chit came to the surface to find himself in a pond with geese and in an encampment surrounded by the tall people. These people were different tall people. He didn’t know them. They dressed differently and rode in chariots with no horses they were from different places all over the world. He could tell by their garb, they were all preparing camp, readying for war.

Sir Chit climbed out of the cool water and up to the road to warm up. The many horseless carriages were passing him by, it was to dusty. Sir Chit travelled down a dirt road and came upon an open field with what looked like an old wooden castle. Sir Chit climbed to the top of the castle to dry out. When he got to the top, he saw that the castle was just one long wall. What a strange castle? It would suit him for a temporary home, So Sir Chit found a comfy spot and dried out.

The next couple of days were the strangest Sir Chit had ever experienced; men and women, in armor came to the field and fought. They carried strange swords, they fell on the ground not dying, and strange arrows flew through the air. They had rounded heads that never killed anyone. Everyone was very friendly toward one another. All were having a good time. It was as if everyone was friends and playing some sort of game.

On about the third day of Sir Chits arrival he was busy gathering food from the trees. When there came singing from a group of approaching people. With all the strange things going on Sir Chit was getting use to all of the surprises. There was an even bigger surprise waiting for him. It was a large grumbling object in middle of the singing people. It was made of wood and rolled on strange wheels from each of its flat sides came strange black arms and no top sat a small angle in silver armor. Sir Chit overheard a conversation between two ladies. They called it something like the da dinky mach een or was it da vintage yan yan. Well whatever it was Sir Chit had to know what it was. He boldly climbed up on top of the strange object when the angle was safely away to have a look.
Sir Chit easily climbed the wooden frame and up to a flag. Using the flag Sir Chit climbed up to the roof when he stood up there was a flash of light. Sir Chit froze in place not daring to move. When his eyes cleared there was a man standing under him. He introduced himself to a nearby lord as Baron Giles From the Barony of Jaravellir. The lord asked what the name of the machine Sir Chit was standing on was. Baron Giles said it was called the DaVinci cannon and that it was from the lands of North Shield. Sir Chit stayed as still as he could until the lords finished their conversation and then Sir Chit ran off back to his tree.

After some time, Sir Chit learned that all these folks were friendly towards each other and towards himself he learned that the war was called Gulf Wars and that it was play fighting. Sir Chit met lots of new people even Her Royal Majesty Gwenhwyfer of Meridies and smart young lad. While Chit was at page school, he learned it was a place that children go to learn about the middle ages The lad helped Sir Chit to travel around the War for a while. They saw Archers fight in a ravine, and merchants selling goods in long rows, even people selling food. There were classes that people took to learn of how people did things back in Sir Chits day, and more fighting and even a knighting. Sir Chit had a great time.

Soon it was time for everyone to leave, they had to go back to their homes and their normal lives. His friends offered him a new home, but Sir Chit liked the spot so much he decided to stay. So, Sir Chit bid farewell to his new friends as they left for home, then he took to a tree above the pond to build a home of his own. He stood working on a branch when all of a sudden there was a great wind and the branch broke and he fell into the water when he resurfaced. Sir Chit found himself back in his own home and his own lands Sir Chit was very happy and would always remember Gulf Wars
Greetings, unto the wonderful people that read Pen Feathers.... In this article I would like to go over rules about youth combat. I would also like to share some stories, to show how wonderful these young men and ladies are.

Let me start by saying, being involved in Youth Combat means that Marshals, combatants and parents, all need to understand that there are several rules of behavior. It's the job of the Marshal, to provide a safe environment, for which the children to have fun. It is the combatant’s and parent’s responsibility to behave, in a chivalrous manner. I understand that these are children and there will be times that require closer supervision and intervention. Even though these are children, there is an expectation of a basic understanding of the list. Meridies will follow along with society’s new rules. Whether you participate in heavy or rapier, the same level of mannerisms are expected.

Background checks are expected to be managed, by all marshals. Note: Background checks are only good for 2 years. Even, if you used to be or were a current marshal, without an active background check, you can longer be warranted. The warrant can be re-established, once a new background check has processed. This is for the safety of the children, across society.

I have seen some really good fighters come from youth combat. I hope to see lots more. Just remember, when it all comes down to it, don’t be a jerk, play nice and be kind.

With that said, let’s go into some basic rules.

Required equipment

Head protection. Can use street hockey helmets, lacrosse helmets, period SCA helms, and other rigid protection that has small enough slats, to where the sword cannot fit through.
Gorget: A rigid collar that is made to protect the small bones on the back of the neck, along with the throat area of the front.

Elbow protection. You can use baseball or street hockey pads. Must be padded on the inside and have rigid protection on the outside.

Hand protection. You can use period half gauntlets, but street hockey gloves work just as well. All divisions must have a padded glove or gauntlet on at all times.

- Kidney protection. A rigid belt or armor that covers the kidney area
- Knee protection. Like the elbow pads. Must be padded on the inside and rigid on the outside.
- Shoes have to be closed toed. Can use tennis shoes.
- The only protection that the marshals cannot provide is your own PPE. Personal Protection Equipment. Cups or rigid groin protection.

The fun of fighting in youth

Many ask if I miss fighting. The answer is yes... Most definitely yes. However; I get to do something that I feel is more important and just as fun. Teach youth combat. This kingdom and her neighbors have some of the most amazing people in the known world.

Last Fools Wars. We had the kids sparring with each other. One kid fell and the other kid stopped immediately, put his sword to the side and reached to assist the other child up. This is a move that the more chivalrous people, in the SCA, do. Yet, here was a 10-year-old doing that.

A few years ago, I was lucky enough to have 2-3 youth fighters that were the best teachers, I ever had. All three have moved on to heavy now. But, their willingness to stop to train the younger kids reminded me of then I was training.

Another true story from last Fool Wars. The kids were sparring against Earl Timothy. One kid told the other, to hit the Earl’s leg. The kid replied... Well, duh.... That’s all I can hit. Those that know the Earl, knows and understands why that was funny.

I can go until a rabbit hole of funny and inspiring stories. I just wanted to give a few examples of
Be on the lookout for all these things while you are looking through our Gulf Wars Issue.

If you get all the answers right, we will put your name in the Next issue!

Please send them to mojoryanronny1428@gmail.com

1. Rude to you I would never be. Though I show my tongue for all to see. Your best friend and full of joy. I just want to know who is a good boy?

2. A place for people I hold, where song, drink and a story is told. I am the color of forest and grass, when I fly, I attack with a fiery blast.

3. Arrows like rain fall from my heights, swords and spears flow around me like water, people win and lose me, their flags fly on my head.

4. Prancing and Dancing on the field he goes, long hair flowing on head and down to his toes. When dressed in his slivers protected, this knight likes to say NEEEEEE!

I Bet you didn’t Know...

Between 2000 and 5000 People attend Gulf Wars every year!

There were over 200 classes offered at Artisans’ Row!

Gulf wars is a yearly war between the Kingdoms of Ansteorra and Trimaris, it is presented by Gleann Abhann and Meridies. It is also known as the war without enemies.

Penfeathers Scavenger Hunt

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Here are the Children forming the Royal court of Meridies. They were telling Their Majesties about all the fun they had!

Marie Mouse and Sir Chit Say SEE YOU NEXT WAR!