Greeting Children of Meridies,

As the summer ends and all of you must return to school, I want you to know I understand and feel your pain. That is why I and all the other Ministers of Children are working hard to create exciting classes for your SCA weekends.

With that in mind let me ask you this. Do you like to be loud? What if your job at an SCA event was to be loud? What about keeping score? Are any of you good at this? If any of this sounds interesting, then you might be interested in 2 of the heraldic classes offered for kids at Coronation. One will be on Voice/Field Heraldry class taught by THL Alan Lothinlarsson fra Jorvik and Skylar Blacklach. The second will be a: How to run a list class. Taught by THL Angharat Morcant. Our Third class at Coronation will be Korean knotwork by Min Soo Yun-nim.

I also would like to put out a call to any child working on an SCA project. In December Magna Fair will host a children A&S fair. This will be your chance to show off your skills and get feedback from members of the Order of the Laurel. This A&S fair should be loads of fun. Best part is you don't have to provide documentation. That's right guys, no homework. Just show off your skills. I know I'm super excited to see what you guys can do. I look forward to seeing everyone at the next event.

YIS,

Lady Jane Wolfden, KMOC
Youth of the SCA!

Are you looking for a medieval activity? Have you considered Scribal? The Fall Coronation Scribal Challenge will host an event for scribes under 18 years of age. We look forward to seeing your works of art.
A Conversation with Two Companions of the Order of the Chalice

Mistress Stephanie of Nethyrwode

**Were you in the SCA when you were a kid?**

No. I learned about the SCA when I was in the 8th grade (about age 13). I read about it in a Smithsonian Magazine article. I didn't actually find an SCA group until I started my first year of college, when I was 18. I joined the Shire of Misty Mere in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. That group is now the Shire of Okebourne Keep.

**How do you make sure what you are doing is the right thing?**

I try to use the Golden Rule ... treat others the way I hope to be treated. So, I try to listen, and to be courteous when I speak, and I try to think about how my actions could affect other people. Most of the time, if I treat other people with respect, and I respect myself, I am probably doing things the right way. Sometimes, it can be hard to figure out what's right, especially if people you love, and respect disagree about what the right thing is. When that happens, I try to find out as many facts about the situation as I can, and I try to listen to what others say and how they feel, and I try to do what is best for the most people, based on the facts. When I can't figure it out based on the facts, I listen to my heart. If a decision makes me feel squirmy inside, or uncomfortable, or bad about myself, it's probably wrong, even if it's what everybody else is doing. If a decision makes my heart peaceful, if I can meet my own eyes in the mirror and be content, then I'm probably doing the right thing. At the end of the day, I am the one who has to live with my choices, and I do the best I can to respect others and myself.

**How did it feel to become a member of the Order?**

A little scary, and a lot determined. The other people in the Order are amazing. They are wise, and compassionate, and they work hard to make the world a better place for others. They are smart, funny, and dedicated. They inspire me. Being asked to join them is an honor, but it's also a challenge to rise to a higher standard of service, of dedication, of love. They thought I was capable of being more, and giving more, and helping them in their mission. I have a lot to live up to, a lot to learn, and a lot to give.

**How do you know you are a good person?**

I work at it every day. I'm not perfect, none of us are. I try to be kind and courteous to others, to listen to and learn from them. I try to do things, big and small, that will make the world a better place. I also know where I am weak. I get angry, and impatient, and lazy, and selfish, and mean, just like everybody else. But I work hard to find constructive ways to deal with those feelings and emotions, and I try not to take them out on others. And when I fail, I apologize, and I try to make amends. Something that helps me a lot, is every day, I write down good things that I did, or that happened around me or to my friends, or that I saw. I try to learn from hard things, and from mistakes, and to find humor in those things. I try not to take myself too seriously.

**What does it feel like to be a good person?**

I mostly feel content, and at peace. My experience has been that if I try to be good to others, other good people want to be around me. They are there to help me when I experience hard times, and I'm there for them. They give me courage and support when I need it. It also means I usually have good people to spend time with. And I also enjoy being in my own company. I like who I am, because I work on being the best "me" I can be.

**What does chivalry mean to you?**

Treating people with respect. Standing up for others when they need support. Protecting and defending people when I'm in a position to help. Listening and learning about the needs of others.
A Conversation with Two Companions of the Order of the Chalice
CONTINUED

**What is your favorite part about the SCA?**

Several years ago, my SCA group was in a Thanksgiving parade. It was cold and windy. My friend's daughter, Betsy, who was six years old, ran by us. She complained to her mom that her ears were cold. Her mom yelled after her, "Your ears wouldn't be cold if you put your wimple on!" It made me laugh, because so many times my mom told me to pull up the hood of my coat or put on a hat when I complained of being cold. In that moment, medieval people felt REAL to me. Just for a minute, I felt like I was in the Middle Ages. I love it when that happens, when I'm not just pretending, but really feeling what it was like to live back then.

**How does it feel to be with all your friends?**

Happy, and safe, and free.

**How loyal to the SCA are you?**

I love the SCA, because it's drawn together people that don't always find their place in the "mainstream". I found people I can be myself around. I found people who were interested in a lot of the same kinds of things I was, and I was accepted wholeheartedly, quirks and all. I have served the SCA at every level, from dishwasher at an event all the way up to being on the Board of Directors. I want to preserve the best parts of the SCA so other people like me can find they happy place. But I'm really and truly loyal to the people who make up the SCA.

**If you could ask anyone in history a question, who and what would you ask?**

I have so many questions, I don't know how to limit it. I want to ask the monks who created the Book of Kells to show me how they drew all those shapes and creatures. I want to ask the first person who made linen from flax, how they came up with the idea? I want to ask sailors on Columbus' ships how they found the courage to sail into the unknown. I want to ask the people who built Stonehenge, why they built it. I want to ask the first person who rode a horse, what it felt like, and how it looked to see everything going by at a speed faster than a human had ever moved. I want to ask a Viking woman to show me her apron dresses and let me see how they were made.

I want to thank the children of Meridies for asking such insightful, and really hard questions. You made me think! I hope I was able to give you answers that are as interesting as the questions.

In Service,

Mistress Stephanie of Nethyrwode
Order of the Chalice

**Were you in the SCA when you were a kid?** No, got in at 19.

**How do you make sure what you are doing is the right thing?**

Stop myself and think really hard about what happens if I do this thing.

**How did it feel to become a member of the Order?**

I'll keep this to the peerage Order I belong to the Pelican. Completely floored. I was what is called a surprise elevation.

**How do you know you are a good person?** Wow tough question. The truth is I don't. But I try each day to be a better person and treat others as I would like to be treated.

**What does it feel like to be a good person?** Feels good but with the reminder to myself to strive to be a better person each day.
What does chivalry mean to you?
It means trying to live the knightly virtues every day.

What does the SCA mean to you?
My life.

How loyal to the SCA are you?
Very loyal. I joked about it when I heard this question earlier... well I am going to Coronation and not my 40th High School Reunion.

If you could ask anyone in history a question who and what would you ask?
I would ask Henry VII how important his mother was, to his life.

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

Are you interested in how to make paints and pigments? Would you like to know how people in the past grew the food they ate? Would you like to know how to make dyes for clothes? Does the taste of sweat treats catch your interest? Well, the next issue of Penfeathers is for you. Our next issue will be all about Herbs and Gardening. Maestra Magdalena da Parma (CL) the President of the Meridian Herbalists Guild has agreed to be our next person to interview. If you have any questions for her, please feel free to contact me or any of your local Ministers of Children. **Our Deadline for submissions is OCT 10th, 2019.** Remember it can be ANYTHING form articles, pictures, pomes stories, to arts and science projects that you are working on. It does not have to be on theme!

Send in submissions to mojoryanronny1428@gmail.com

YIS, Lady Deedre Turner, Editor
Courtesy on the field starts before you ever reach the field to face your honorable opponent. Taking the time to make sure your armor and gear is in good fighting condition honors your opponents. They won't be left waiting on you while you do armor repairs field side.

*When you hear your name to "make ready", get ready for your fight promptly.

*When the marshal calls for your salutes, make them good strong salutes. Heck even hug your opponent if you think it's acceptable between you. It's even ok to salute the person your opponent is fighting for! Remember to always salute your Crown, even if they are not present.

* Give your opponent your best fight every time.

*Never aim to harm your opponent purposefully.

*Give and receive clean blows.

*If you are unsure of a blow, talk with your opponent and trust in his/her honor.

*Win or lose the fight, be gracious and thank your opponent for the bout. You may even go to your opponent’s consort and thank them for choosing a worthy combatant!

*While fighting or after, pick up your gear. Don't make folks pick up or walk over your armor droppings.

*Be courteous and truthful in all your dealings.

*Appreciate and thank those that train you, those that work in benefit of your fun, and your parents!

* Have fun and be part of the fun for others!

There is much to learn about courtesy on and off the field of honor. Thank you for allowing me to impart my views. Have fun!

Syr Bre
At Royal University of Meridies/Fighter's Collegium 2019 this year we had a total of 5 classes offered. We had 15 new students enrolled and together they earned a combined 66 credits. We now have a total of 18 students enrolled.

The classes offered this year were so much fun and spanned a variety of interests:

Lady Etain of Ulaid taught us how to Tangle in her Beginner Dance Class. She covered how common courtesy during dancing as well, we had a blast dancing with her!

Master Nikoslav Mikolaevich, with the help of his lovely assistant and our KMOC Lady Jane Wolfden gave a presentation on rapier and demonstrated both armor and weapon styles. He taught us about the history of rapiers and rules and conventions in the SCA to inspire the next generation of rapier fighters.

Her Excellency Baroness Arianne Lightheart taught us all about the basic elements of heraldry in the SCA and we even got to create our own heraldry with the rules she provided! There was some real talent on display by the time we finished.
Master Kevin caused quite the cacophony during his Introduction to Period Instruments when allowing the students to try their hand at a few of the instruments he brought to talk about. It was so great getting to know all about the wonderful instruments playing right outside our door all day!

Lord Isidas Naevius Cursor inspired future fighters with his fantastic armor demonstration, showing the children the basics of armor and fighter safety, even demonstrating the proper way to fall!

We now officially have 7 teachers able to teach Page School classes and 8 accredited classes. If you want to learn more about registering an adult class, you teach for Page School please message me on my personal page or email me at moc.dean@meridies.org

YIS,

THL Fine Dubh known as Pixie
Peace in the kingdom is not easy to come by when everyone is being rude. This was absolutely true in the kingdom of Tim Lif. Our hero Sir Chit has been summoned to Tim Lif in order to restore Honor and Courtesy to the kingdom. Sir Chit wondered, what was causing this war, what was it about, and why was everyone fighting? Sir Chit had no idea. The message he had received from the king explaining all of this had accidently been eaten by the grasshopper. Who happened to have delivered it. "Maybe next time using parchment instead of a leaf would be best," Sir Chit mused to himself. As Sir Chit entered to an eerily quiet city he heard: No birds, no dogs, no animals, and more importantly no sounds. Sir Chit’s hairs stood on end, his ears and tail twitching. He didn’t like this one bit. He walked to the busiest place in the land, the town square. Sir Chit approached the square, a buzzing sound began to grow. It grew louder and louder. As he came into the square the sound turned to shouting and arguing. As quickly as Sir Chit arrived the fighting broke up and everyone left. Everyone, but a lone bird on a sign in the middle of the square. The Sign read Honor or Courtesy: Please choose one. The bird wiped his feathered head. When he spotted Sir Chit, he let out a cry. “Alas the hero arrives. Please save my kingdom!” Sir Chit walked up to the King and bowed saying, "Your majesty as requested, I have come." Sir Chit told the king about the missing parts of the message. The king told Sir Chit what was happening. "The kingdom is at war over honor and courtesy. They think you can only have one or the other. What am I to do?” He bowed his head in sorrow. Sir Chit had an idea. “If we can show the people an example of how to use both honor and courtesy it may put this fighting to rest.” “Admirable idea Sir Chit we will start making a plan right away.” The King chirped. Suddenly a guard runs in, "Your majesty the Queen’s jewels have been stolen all the doors and windows are locked. Somehow a thief sneaked in and has made off with them.” “Oh no! How can this be?” the King fretted. Two knights came struggling in, between them was a fox crying. “Let me go! Please!” One knight salutes the King your majesty we have caught the thief already! It was odd, he was entering the castle when we heard the alarm. We knew a thief had stolen the Queen’s jewels and since foxes are all well-known thieves, we are sure that he is the culprit.” They release the fox salute the king and then leave. “Well, Fox what have you to say?” the King asks grumpily. “Please your majesty! I have no idea what is going on. I was helping a friend and came to the castle an that’s when the two knights grabbed me!” The fox pleaded. “Ho, Ho crafty fox, thinking you could sneak into the castle?” The King sneered. “I beg your pardon your majesty, but I am not like that at all!” Sir Chit chimes in, “I think this is a good time to gather the people to the square. It is time for a chat bring Master fox along.” The King looks at Sir Chit and then at the fox in confusion. “Alright Sir Chit, as you wish.” The guards were called to take away fox to the square, then everyone was called to gather.
“So, I say to this crowd here and now, we know who did this deed! It was wrong of you all to cast your vote against Master Fox. Whoever did this should do the Honorable thing and confess. The king may be lenient on you, don’t let some poor animal take the blame for what you did!” Sir Chit dramatically raises both fists to the heavens shaking them. “Confess I say! Confess right now!” He shouts. From the crowd a tiny voice squeaks out a cry “I did it! I did it! Down at the very last row of gathered animals a small mouse appears weeping and wailing and shaking his head back and forth. “Oh, I am so sorry, I only wanted to see to it that my large family had food. I only meant to take the princess’s large meal. Then I saw the jewels and knew that I would have lots of money if I sold them. I would feed my family for years. Please! Oh! Please forgive me!” As the mouse breaks down in tears Sir Chit once again speaks. “What Honor is found in one who confesses his crimes before everyone, for here there is shame and fear in doing so. Yet he pushes on through know he will be in trouble, but he feels so much better that an innocent goes free. Such courtesy he has in asking for forgiveness, when he knows that he will receive might not receive any. Here people is an example of good living. Many of you fight that one should have just honor or one should have just courtesy, but not both! See here, without honor one is only just polite and without courtesy one is only thinks of one’s self. Let this not be how it will be. Instead take after this small one do the right thing be honorable and courteous.” The crowd cheers and the King claps soon after the noise dies down the King speaks. “I will be lenient on you mouse, for your bravery and good manners. You and your family shall work at the kitchens helping to clean up after the feasts and guests that come. Thus, you will repay your debt. This will also make sure that you and your family will no longer be hungry.” The crowd cheers even louder at the news, Master Fox is released and soon the crowd disperses. The King turns to Sir Chit. “Well, do you think this will help Sir Chit?” Sir Chit looks at the King and replies “It’s a start your majesty. Change is slow, but I believe we have a good start.” Sir Chit and the King returns to the castle.
Hello Brave Adventurer, I am happy to meet you. Have you ever been on a choose your own path adventure? Let me explain to you how this works. I will start you out on the journey. At the end of the first part I will give you choices for what you can do. Go to the page as you are instructed and finish that part of the adventure. The next part of the adventure will be in each new issue of Penfeathers. Watch out however, for not all adventuring paths end successfully. Good luck let us begin.

You have woken up in the middle of somewhere. Your head hurts, your mouth is dry, your belly is grumbling, it's hot, there's bugs buzzing your head, and now it looks like... yep! As you stand up it begins to rain. This day is not fun. You look around and see your surround by forest. You see one tree with large leaves on it. You duck underneath it. Well, that takes care of the rain. Now your cool at the very least. The rain has puddled in some of the leaves, so your drink the rainwater. You are now no longer thirsty. The rains stop, so it looks like things are improving for you. The only thing left is your empty belly. There is a path that leads into the forest. There is nothing left here, you follow the trail. After a time, you come to a three-way intersection. In the center, just off the path, there is a stall with a merchant. As you approach several other people appear at the same time. Will you be courteous and let everyone go before you? Will you choose to be honorable, following the rules posted on the merchant's stall stating 1 pie per person? Will you use both honor and courtesy the choice is yours.

Now it's time to choose your path:

If you chose to use courtesy, please turn to Page 13
If you choose the path of honor, please turn to Page 14
If you chose both honor and courtesy, please turn to Page 16
This year at Dagger and Hemlock we had the theme of luck. The first half the day the kids made good luck charms, played period dice games, and painted good luck scrolls. The second half of the day the kids had a blast playing in the water. There was even an appearance by a water loving unicorn!

Lady Deedre Turner, MOC

As your approach the stall you arrive first. Wishing to be courteous you wave on a young man who is in a hurry. With “Thanks.” he passes by. Next, an older man comes up and says. “Good afternoon young one.” “Good afternoon.” you reply. Again, wishing to be courteous you wave him on. Then, up comes a mother with several children and a baby in her arms crying. Knowing how hard it is to feed so many. You again decided to be courteous and wave her on to. She smiles as she passes you. You talk and play with the other kids. Patiently waiting for your turn. Finally, it’s your turn! You the merchant is packing up and with a sad smile he apologizes and says “I’m sorry young one but I’m all out of pie. Come back tomorrow when we have more.” He packs up his money and walks down the road. “Try the castle!” He shouts over his shoulder pointing down the road. So, you set out for the castle.

“Courtesy costs nothing but buys everything.” Hazrat Ali Abu-Talbi A.S.
Honor,

“Honor is the reward of virtue.”

Cicero

As you approach the merchant you arrive first before several others. One of which is a mother with several children. Now you know you are very hungry, and one pie would stop you from being famished, but two would make you full. There is a sign above the merchant’s stall. One pie per customer. As hungry as you are you decide to do the honorable thing and follow the rules. Besides one pie is enough for you, since the mother needs all the pies to feed all her children. So, you buy the one pie. A young man buys a couple of pie’s though he is by himself, then an old man buys two pies for himself saying his wife is home and wish’s one for her, then the mother buys all the rest. You sit down with the other children and you all happily eat your pie. The Children tell you that you can get more pie at the castle they are traveling to if you go with them. You decide to travel with the kids to see the castle. They are all happy to have met a new friend and soon you are all up and walking and talking about the castle up ahead.

Don’t forget the story continues in the next issue of Penfeathers.

AN AMAZING MAZE FOR YOU!
Magna Fair will host a children A&S fair. This will be your chance to show off your skills and get feedback from members of the Order of the Laurel. This A&S fair should be loads of fun. Best part is you don't have to provide documentation. That's right no homework. Just show off your skills.

December 6-7th 2019
Honor and Courtesy

“To be humble to superiors is duty, to equals courtesy, to inferior’s nobleness.”
Benjamin Franklin

You step up to the merchant’s stall and read the sign. One pie per customer. You look about you as several others approach one of which is a mother with several children. You then count the number of pies before you. You notice that if the people that are before the mother buy the pies the children might go hungry. You say to the merchant, “Excuse me sir, but might I please buy all your pies so that all here may get an equal and just share? The merchant looks around. He does not want to deal with the large group, so he quickly agrees. He hands over all the pies, collects his money, and leaves. You then pass out all the pies cutting slices. Everyone is full and happy. The mother who was impressed by your honor and courtesy asks if you would join them on their way to the castle and you agree.

Don’t forget the story continues in the next issue of Penfeathers.

A coloring page for you! Feel free to print out and color this knight and his trusty steed.