What is your favorite dance?

My favorite dance is Rostiboli Gioioso. It's a 15th century Italian dance for a single couple. It has fast parts and slow parts, has a lot of opportunities for interaction between the dancers, and the footwork is not especially difficult. Like many dances of its type, it tells the story of a relationship as the two dancers separate and reunite over the course of the dance.

How did you get so skilled at dancing?

Practice!

What is the first dance you ever learned?

The first dance I remember learning was the Earl of Salisbury Pavane, a modern creation made from elements found in period pavanes (a type of processional dance).

What is favorite music to dance to?

I am always excited when I am able to dance to live music, especially with a group of musicians who have played together a lot.

Do you know any Irish Dances?

I've done a couple of Irish dances, though there aren't any surviving sources for Irish choreography within the SCA period.

What is the hardest dance you know and why is it so hard?

There are a lot of dances that I haven't been able to do often enough to remember them or get particularly good at them. Of the ones that I know well enough to teach off the top of my head, there are two that come to mind. Gracca Amoroso is a 16th century Italian dance with a lot of steps to remember, but it has a verse/chorus structure that helps to break it down and learn it in pieces. It's also quite fast so it's a good workout. Whirligig is an English country dance for 3 couple that has some complex figures that require everyone to be going the right way at the right time. It's challenging, but very rewarding when everyone gets it right.
How many dances do you know?

If I had to guess, I would say I have done a hundred dances, could dance about 60 with a little refreshing, and could teach about 30 without having to look them up. These numbers may not be incredibly accurate.

What would be the best way to teach someone to dance?

There are two different questions here. If I'm trying to teach someone about dancing, I try to keep things simple and entertaining, and teach them that dancing is fun and easy. It's not necessary to be perfect to dance and have fun. If I'm trying to teach a particular dance, then the key is breaking it down into sections and practicing them with a lot of repetition. Live music is very helpful here because a musician can play just the part of the music for the section that I'm working on.

What inspires you?

The thing that I really like about dancing in particular is that it's something that we can do in the SCA in the same way and for the same reasons as the people we're trying to recreate would have done it. Seeing a room full of people dancing and having a good time always makes me smile.

Oyez! Oyez!
We would like to present the NEW YOUTH Arts and Sciences Award! The Swart Cygnet
If You see a person under 18 doing something great in A&S write them in!
The Youth Interview Earl Wulfstan on Metal Smithing

How do you not hit your thumb?
I am very careful not to hit with the hammer anywhere near my thumb or other fingers.

How much armor did you make this year? About 25 to 30 separate pieces of armor.

How do you shape the armor? I hit the metal into bowl shaped forms with a heavy mallet (really big hammer) and bend over a ball shape anvil with hammers.

How hot does the fire need to be to shape the metal? Zoe, I do not need fire to shape the metal. However, I need fire to make it hard, so the armor does not break or dent. How hot, Zoe? Seventeen hundred degrees hot. That is really, really, really hot, over three times hot than your Mom's oven at its highest temperature.

When did you learn how to make armor?
Aden, I learned how to make armor from my knight, Duke Ronald over 30 years ago when I was his squire.

How do you get the supplies to make things? Aden, I buy them either off the internet, or go to scrap yards and purchase them. When I go to scrap yards, hunting for supplies is a lot of fun. It is like a scavenger hunt, but one where you have to were heavy gloves to protect your hands and be very careful.

Do you make things other than armor?
What is your favorite thing to make?
Ronny, I also make furniture and game boards. My favorite things to make are helmets, knee, and elbow armor. My least favorite thing to make are clothes. I am so very bad at sewing.

How could you and would you teach me your craft? What inspires you? Morgan, I have taught lots of people how to make armor. I do it in my shop when they come by and are properly dressed in good work gloves and eye protection, so, they are safe when they learn to work with metal.
What inspires me, is the smile on someone's face when they realize that they made something really cool.
As the Editor of Penfeathers I Bring EXCITING News!

The next issue will be all about Cats! We hope you will like it. We will have not only one interviews but 3. That’s Right Three Interviews! We will have the Squire of Kittens, The MOD of Meow, and the Knight of Kittens himself! I am depending on you, the Youth of our Fair Kingdom to send in your questions! Please feel free to send in artwork, stories, photos, and articles. You can send me anything, on any subject. What projects are you working on? We would love to see what you are doing. Please tell me what you would like to see in the up coming issues.

YSI,
Lady Deedre Turner
I have a very exciting announcement to make. This year Meridies is sponsoring a Youth Combat tournament, at Gulf Wars!! The tournament will consist of 3 tournaments, one for each division. I have already arranged for 3 sticks of rattan, made for youth swords, to be offered as a prize. I would like to thank their Majesties, for allowing us to do this. To add.. (There's more!)

... I have asked our beautiful Order of the Rose, to come watch, cheer, encourage and possibly hand out little gifts. Also, a huge thank you to The Order of the Rose. The theme for the tournament is Chivalrous behavior. I think this is going to be really awesome. I am so proud and so thankful, for the support that I have and will receive with this.

The tournament is Tuesday or war. 1:00 PM.

I stand proudly,
David Duckworth

The Youth MIC approached me, for Gulf Wars. They are doing something different, this year. Instead of one person running the activities, they are having kingdoms run it for a day. Much like archery and page school, youth combat will be ran by different kingdoms. Meridies' day is Tuesday. So, if you ever wanted to learn how to be a youth marshal or are a youth marshal, please come by and help. The time donated would be paid, by each smile you see on a child's face. Please message or email me, if you need more information.

YIS,
David Duckworth

Greetings from Your Local Youth Kingdom Marshal,
10.00 - 11.00 am
Paint Making
11.00 - 12 pm
Heraldry Painting
12.00 - 1.00 pm
OUT TO LUNCH
1.00 - 3.00 pm
Beginning Beekeeping
3.30 - 4.30 pm
Teen Social
I have traveled many a long mile and in my travels people have begun to challenge me to see if I couldn’t come up with a story. Why just yesterday someone said, “I bet you can’t tell me a Sir Chit tale that has metalsmithing and dancing in it.” This is what I told him….

One morning in March Sir Chit was running along the land. When he came to an open field just outside of town. The kind used by merchants to set up their wagons. When all of a sudden one of the large folks appeared on the green. The odd looking fellow for whatever reason was dancing down the middle of the road. In fact, he just continued to dance until he fell into a nearby steam and down the bend out of sight. A very confused Sir Chit continued on into the city. When he got there the city was a buzz of excitement. The large folk were running here and running there. They were shouting “Plague it’s the plague! Run for it! Run for your lives! Bring out your sick!” What was Sir Chit to do? There was panic, screaming and crying all over. Well, Sir Chit did the only thing that I knight could do. he went to the local guards to find out what was going on. Sir Chit arrived at the guard’s office. Now the guard captain happened to be a badger and badgers have bad tempers and this badger was really upset. The badger was chewing at his nails, screaming at his underlings the ferrets, and swatting at other squirrels who kept getting under foot. Sir Chit walked up to the captain’s desk. “Hello, your lord ship, could you tell me what is going on here in the city please?” The captain replied without really seeing who Sir Chit was. “To be honest we really do not know what's going on. One day a bunch of the giants in the area for no reason just started to dance. At first everything was fine and then the mice from the whole town started to dance. Then someone from another town started crying plague, plague, and the whole towns started to go insane. We do not understand what is going on and everybody is afraid that some strange sickness has fallen.”
The captain finally turned and noticed Sir Chit. “Oh, you’re a knight! I see. So, Sir Knight I call on thee to figure out what’s going on this plague or whatever is causing this!” Sir Chit nodded solemnly and spoke. “I shall go forth and find out for the good people what was going on.” Sir Chit left the guard station and headed off to find where all the mice in the town were. Sir Chit quickly found out that all the mice were working at the local metalsmith. He ran over as fast as he could. As he got closer and closer more and more giants, mice and others were dancing in the street. There was a strange blue smoke hanging in the air. Sir Chit approached the building. When Sir Chit entered the metalsmiths building, he thought that he had entered a whole new world. There was blue smoke all over the place and giants and mice were dancing in every area that he could see. Sir Chit saw a bird fly in, threw the window and land next to the fire which was billowing out all the strange blue smoke. It hoped onto the wood pile in the corner pluck a mushroom off the pile and flew off. A giant then picked up a log and threw it on the fire and more blue smoke puffed up into the air. With that Sir Chit left knowing what was going on. Now he just needed to find someone who knew about poisoning. Sir Chit went to the local apothecary, but she was too young and inexperienced, but she said she was learning from an old herbalist that was in the menagerie that had come to town a week ago. Sir Chit quickly ran there to see the old herbalist. The menagerie was very quiet. So quite for it be normal and Sir Chit learned why when he entered the empty gate. The giants where fighting in the large field at the far end for some reason that was just as well.

For this gave Sir Chit time to quickly find the herbalist. She was not hard to miss. She was a horse with long legs, a long tail a short main, a long neck. She also had a black tongue, a small hump on her back and her coat of fir was like a leopards brown and spotted. Sir Chit looked cocked his head way up into the sky and shouted. “After noon, are you Madam Giraffe the Wise? She bent her long neck way down and looked at Sir Chit. “Why yes, I am how may I assist thee?
First archeological proof of dance comes from the 9-thousand-year-old cave paintings in India.

The oldest form of dance we know today is belly dance. It originated 6,000 years ago and was practiced by many ancient cultures.

The Ancient Greeks had a military dance called the Corybantum. The dancers had live weapons. They struck their swords against their shields. They showed war like behavior. The flute was used as the main musical instrument for this dance.

There could be up to 18 different types of dances, most were performed at Festivals:

The most common dances were:
- Podism: quick, shifting movement of feet to train for hand to hand combat
- Xiphism: mock battle, groups of boys would practice fighting in a dancelike fashion
- Homos: high leaps and vaulting to leap over high logs, boulders and to scale walls and fortresses
- Tetracomos: stately group formations with shields used in formation for protection

Sir Chit was surprised and spoke, “Madam I am surprised I can understand you so well. You being from the savanna and all.” She laughed, “It has been I was never born in the savanna my parents where, but I have been with the travels since birth.” Sir Chit asked, “I have a problem that needs your services I have seen a mushroom when burned causes people to become sick and dance like the crazed. I cannot recall its name. Do you happen to know the cure for this poison?” The giraffe thinks for a moment and then says, “Ah, yes. The cure St Johns Wart.” “Thank you so much for your help I just hope I am in time to save everyone.” “You are welcome and good luck”. After saying his parting words, Sir Chit run's out of the menagerie and out into the forest. He calls out to all the birds and squirrels in the area for aid and soon flocks and groups gather and start looking for the herb and delivering it to the local wells and fire pits. Sir Chit reports to the guard captain. He orders all those affected to be brought out to the center well for treatment and soon the town is back to normal and Sir Chit continued on his way to his next adventure.
Gulf Wars Page School Schedule
Hosted by Meridies

Tuesday

9:00-9:30am Sign in
9:30-10:30am PAINT LIKE MICHELANGELO: The children will paint on canvases with pre made period art work like you would see in a coloring book. They then can take it with them at the end of the day.
10:30-11:00am FUN TIME: twister, they can make flag fans with devices on them
11-1:00pm LUNCH
1-1:30pm Sign in
1:30-2pm ORIGAMI: The children will make paper flowers for the Rose court held on the following day, and if they would like frogs, fox, cat or dog.
2-3:00pm PERIOD GAMES AND GAMES AND GAMING: This is a Meridian Page School level class taught by Lord Kalbarðr Gyllir
4:00-5:00pm TEEN SOCIAL with chocolate bar.

Wednesday

9:00-9:30am Sign in
9:30-10:30am EPL FIELD TRIP FOR 10 & UP.
9:30-10:30am ROSE AND CHILDREN LEARNING COURT: Members of the Order of the Rose from every Kingdom are invited to join the children for a learning court. They will watch and guide as the children learn the many parts of holding court.
10:30-11am OUTDOOR GAMES
11-1:30pm LUNCH
1-1:30pm Sign in
1:30-3pm HERBS 101: The Children will learn about chamomile, lavender, comfrey, & calendula. The children will make a perfume and a bruise balm. They will be permitted to take home 1.
3pm Sign out.

In the Teen Tent aka the Crow’s Nest

Monday 10-12pm HERALDRY FOR ROLE-PLAYING CHARACTERS: Learn the significance of different tinctures, ordinaries, and charges. Then design heraldry for your role-playing characters and create miniature heraldic banners.

Tuesday 10-12pm MAKE YOUR OWN PAINT: Make egg tempera paint from egg yolks and crushed gemstones. Learn techniques for painting with egg tempera and then paint your role-playing character, their heraldry, or anything else you can imagine.
Iris Faire
Youth Activities

8:30-9:30 AM
Refreshments and games.

9:30-10:30 AM
Mardi Gras mask making.

10:30-11:30 AM
Play practice for Court.

11:30-1 PM
CLOSED FOR LUNCH.

1:00-2:00 PM
Canvas painting

2:00-3:00 PM
Play practice.

3:00-4:00 PM
Afternoon tea party and tea class with
THL Gellis Grimm
Children’s A&S Fair

Iris Fair on April 17th-19th, hosted by the Barony of Glaedenfeld.

Documentation is not necessary but appreciated. This is an opportunity for those 17 and under to demonstrate their artistic and research skills.
A blacksmith works with iron and steel
A bladesmith forges knives, swords, and other blades
A brown smith works with brass and copper
A coinsmith works strictly with coins and currency
A coppersmith works with copper
A goldsmith works with gold
A gunsmith builds and repairs firearms
A locksmith works with locks
A silversmith, or brightsmith, works with silver

Can you take these words and complete the Puzzle?

Bench pin, Jewelry saw, Bees wax
Plier, File, Pickle, Vice
Mandrel, Hammer, Chain
Wanted

Spring Coronation Servers!
Must be of Middle to High School age.
No experience necessary.

Location: Etowah County Fairgrounds, Attalla, AL
Date & Time: Saturday, April 4th. After evening Court to 9 pm.
Teen Hafla party to follow.

Contact: anabeladg@gmail.com if you are interested.
The Hussle and Bustle of Events!