



# THE UMBRIAN MUG

## ***Greetings and Salutations!***

Welcome to this edition of the Umbrian Mug. This edition covers the month of January 2001. If you know of a Kingdom member who isn't getting the Umbrian Mug, please let the Royal Chronicler know so that the problem can be rectified.

## ***Collegiums & Demonstrations***

His Majesty, King James the Red, will be giving 2 collegiums during January:

On 10<sup>th</sup> of January, a collegium covering Courtly Etiquette will be given at Encanto Park, starting at approximately 8:30pm. This collegium has been scheduled in the past few months, but was never presented. As Courtly Etiquette dictates the mood and form of Court, We recommend that all attend this collegium, with the expectation of learning how (and how NOT to) act in Court, and around Nobility.

Additionally, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January, at 8:30pm, His Majesty will be giving a collegium on Knightly Conduct and Behavior. Due to the subjective nature of this topic, attendees will be asked for their interpretation of Knightly Conduct and Behavior, regardless of their rank, status or station. It is hoped that with the presentation of historical examples, and open discussion of Adrian values and trends, many will learn the types of behavior expected of Knights in Umbria.

On January 24, Sir Michael Sinestro will be holding a Calligraphy Collegium. He promises that there will be new information, for those who have attended one in the past.

Dame Kate and Dame Serene will be co-hosting a Foods Class on the third Wednesday of February (2/21). They will be including information on how to read Medieval recipes. If Yuke Feast was any indication of these Knights' capabilities, this should be a fabulous evening!

On February 16, a Demonstration will be held at the Estrella War, hosted by Sir Keegan and Lady Aislynne. In attendance will be 80 fascinated 12-year olds. More details to follow...

There will be a "Bards Only" Demo held for the Knox Elementary (Chandler) Drama Club. The date and time are TBA. If you would be interested, please see Lady Aislynne so that she can work with your schedules to set this up. Maps will be distributed at that time.

Dame Circe Skye O'Malley will be holding a collegium on January 20. The topic will be "Rights and Responsibilities of the Estates Per the Bylaws."

## **Kingdom Arts Tourney**

Jan 20, 2001

HUZZAH! Our Queen Justina has vowed to have an art entry in the January tourney.

We need four entries to make a list. An artisan can be well on their way to their arts knighthood if they get a tourney win. Join in the fun.

Sir Keegan and Pavo, the Gypsy King, will be entering an art with a challenge to each other. I didn't ask what the consequences were to the loser. (heh heh...) Are they to beat all contestants? Or are they only to beat each other's score? Come see.

-Dame Serene, RA&S Minister

## ***Trinacria Visits the Homeland!***

Viceroy Ivan the Forsaken of the far-away Canton of Trinacria and his family recently paid a visit to our fair lands of Umbria.

He graciously presented gifts of gratitude to the members of the Siberian Horde and to His Majesty King James.

Ivan brought with him news of our new overseas lands and conveyed the excitement felt by those eager to begin the Adrian experience, even as far away as the mundane island of Sicily, hereafter known to Umbria as the Canton of Trinacria (pronounced trin-ak'-ria).

Huzzah and Welcome to all the new members, and Thank You to Ivan and family for all your hard work getting things started! We all look forward to hearing from you.

## ***December Estates Meeting***

The December Estates meeting was not held. Quite a few Estates declared themselves absent during Roll Call. HRM Justina spoke for those estates, stating that they refused to convene with Dame Skye presiding as Chancellor. The following day, those Estates were dissolved by HRM James.

HRM Justina convened a Kingdom meeting the following week. Those present discussed how to heal the rift in the Kingdom caused by those two events.

It was determined that the Kingdom wanted both Crowns to work together in the best interest of the Kingdom. In a gesture of good faith, HRM James reinstated the Estates that were dissolved.

## **FLOCK OF SHEEP**

You hear your coworkers, family and friends talk about this hobby they have called Umbria. They explain what Umbria/Adria is about. You hear the standard line of, "Umbria is a live steel group that recreates the Middle Ages from 1150 to 1603." You like the idea of being able to wear garb, get into a suit of armor, or being given the opportunity to recreate the Middle Ages and learn about the history of a time that you only read about in history books. So you join this group called Umbria and wonder what comes next?

You determine the next step! Joining a game, such as this can be scary, overwhelming and a bit intimidating. I know what that feels like because 3 and half years ago I was exactly in the same situation. I first started going out to the park to see what it was all about. Jim (Sir James the Red) had been going out to Encanto for Wednesday night fighter practice and kept asking me to come out to see what this game was all about. I finally did. I arrive at Encanto Park with no clue or idea what I would be in for or where I would end up. All I knew was that I felt out of place and my mundane clothing screamed NEWBIE! A few months went by, still not a member, I started participating in such things like a 'Judging Collegium' or being asked to be a judge for a Arts and Sciences Tourney. Not knowing much about the game yet, but wanting a chance to fit it I accept. I had judged several items that night but the one arts entry that I well never forget was performed by this female red head. I didn't know who she was really. I had spoken with her a few times through out the first couple of months and observed her doing funny antics in court and always having to bite her tongue (her red squire's belt) for getting into all sorts of mischief. She seemed nice enough and later would make a very gracious offer of donating garb to me so I could feel more like part of the group. The beginnings of a friendship had started.

During this whole time, I mingled a bit but mostly watched and listened and came to the conclusion that I was never going to figure this game out. People were talking about the bylaws and how this and that was in violation; who was going to create another house so a barony could be formed so there could be more votes and on and on and on it went. This was born the house of Emerald Shield that August with James the Red becoming the sire of our house and I became a paid member. Not to long after that, Sir Angus had approached me with an offer of becoming the Ducal Steward. He had learned that I had a retail background and encouraged me to take

on the position because the Duchy was about to have no steward. He explained what the job entailed and I figured that it could be away for me to get involved with the game and be helpful to a group of people that had shown me kindness. The politics began!

Once you become involved with an estate or become a minister, you at some point get dragged into the political arena. Being a newbie, you will generally gravitate towards those that have been in the game for a while. I assumed that the group I associated with to be very knowledgeable and well informed about how the game was played (knowing the Adrian Bylaws and local laws) and believed what they told me. However, becoming a minister, I felt it necessary to become familiar with the Adrian Bylaws, for my own sake. I just accepted a job and wanted to make sure it was done by the book! One would think that obtaining a copy of the Adrian Bylaws would be easy. Wrong! Anytime, I would inquire about getting a copy of the bylaws, the same line would be said over and over again, "Oh, I will bring you a copy next week!" This would go on for several months. Keeping people in the dark was the name of the game. The less you knew of the actual law (how the game is played, what ministers do, what the crowns can and can't do, what subdivisions are, and what the requirements are for obtaining knighthood) the more you could be suckered and abused! By depending on those individuals I thought I could trust, I made many mistakes and made judgments based on their biased opinions. It caused hate and discontent and created an "Us versus Them" mentality in Umbria. Umbria, yet again, delved into darkness. With an approaching Crown War, there was hope and a flicker of light.

Alliances and deals were made; principles and friendships were forsaken for a chance to wear the Crown. I am a firm believer that you are only as strong and successful as those you associate and surround yourself with. Even the weakest of Crowns can shine and exude confidence with a strong base of ministers and gain popularity for having a well-run kingdom. Likewise, a Crown may gain an abundance of popularity if there are two Crowns and one of the Crowns is cast as the 'bad' Crown, the 'antisocial' Crown, the 'never there' Crown, or the 'enforcer of law and rules' Crown. A Crown should never base their success on popularity. Popularity does not equate to respect. Popularity does not equate to being deserving of a retirement title. The Crowns should not always take the easy way out, forsake their principles, or always do the most popular thing so they won't have to deal with not being liked for their decisions.

Being a minister (i.e. Crown, Chancellor, Rolls, Chronicler and etc.) is no walk in the park. You stop viewing the game as fun and see it as work. The ministers are there to serve the Crowns so the rest of the populace may enjoy the game of Adria/Umbria! Becoming a Crown or minister does not mean that person stops being human. One should still have the right to have personal opinions and feelings on a wide range of topics. Whether it is a private conversation, personal letter, or private group meeting to deal with personal matters with another individual, or expressing a personal opinion on an Adrian Law, Crowns and ministers did not sign on the dotted line to become non-thinking, non-feeling robots. It seems that some people have a hard time disassociating the many hats an individual can wear while others seem to think that a person should only wear one hat 'all the time'!

People have the capabilities to think, reason, analyze and learn. With these capabilities, people have the ability to gain knowledge about people (potential friends, mentors, allies and enemies), places (the Kingdom of Umbria), and things (Adrian/Umbrian Laws). However to gain knowledge means that the person has to make a concerted effort!

Effort is a word that seems not to exist here in Umbria. It takes effort to know people; it takes effort to learn the rules and laws of how to play in Umbria and Adria. And it takes effort to read the materials that give you the knowledge to play and interact with others intelligently!

It seems people, in general, rather enjoy being told things (perceptions, partial truths, one side of the story, out right lies, otherwise known as GOSSIP AND RUMORS) rather than taking the effort to go search for the truth, knowledge, and the knowing of people, places or things. Effort means you have to exert energy! How can one make the effort if people that are used as primary sources of their knowledge are sucking up his/her energy/desire?

Sources of knowledge aren't kept in a room with the key thrown away. Sources of knowledge are as close as a step away, a phone call away, or a page away. Being in a game for a while has its advantages and disadvantages. One advantage is that I have earned enough points to obtain a ministry knighthood. One disadvantage is that I have made enemies with people that I once considered friends. That is life. Not all friendships are meant to last nor is everyone suppose to like everyone!

To be judged and accused of things based on people's biases, perceptions, and opinions are wrong! Is it fair? Life isn't fair. I don't go around to every person that comes into the game and give him or her my views and opinions on individuals that I may have had a falling out with. Each person should draw their own opinions from first hand experience and interaction with other people. It all boils down to chemistry, making an effort to look past the book cover delve into the book itself. If you based all your knowledge of people on other people's opinions and biases and believed what was said as truth, would you have any friends? Would you be married? Would you be in any sort of relationship now?

To be judged and condemned by a group of hypocritical people is laughable! Apparently I am the only one be held up to this imaginary standard. So be it. But, you will never see me suck up a mouth full of dirt in front of an Imperial presence, or yell at someone in front of a group of people 'to get their fat butt' out of her chair, or be witness to me yelling at people that they are '%\$%# and whores', or have temper tantrum after temper tantrum after temper tantrum and throw down my belt, or out right lie to people by telling them their letters were delivered, or out right say they don't care about the laws when they are to be leading the Kingdom, or use deceitful tactics to get their way because they just can't let go of issues, or tell people at a kingdom meeting that certain people are not welcomed. A group of narrow minded people and I stress by saying a 'group of people' have made it a group effort to single individuals out in this game. They are not a group of INDIVIDUALS but one big mass of non-thinking flock of sheep. To have an individual thought takes effort to look for the truth, courage to stand up for your principles, and intelligence to figure out when someone is feeding you garbage. Everyone one has opinions and people have the right to state their opinions. Opinions should not be accepted as truth and fact but as views on people and life. Many people here in Umbria have made decisions and choices based on opinions. Opinions are a person's take, feelings, thoughts on people, places and events. Opinions are based on feelings of situations and people. There is a massive difference between someone's opinion about a person and the truth and facts about a person. Apparently, people have confused their personal opinions of me to how I handled the Chancellor position. So be it!

But know this, I never abused my position and I never used the position to intimidate people. I have accomplished more as the Chancellor than my predecessors have! Before I took the position, there had been no record of Umbrian Law ever submitted

to the Imperial Chancellor's office for review. I made that one of my primary goals. Before I took the position there was no accessible format for Umbrians to view the laws the Umbrian Estates had passed. I made that a primary goal. I was the one of the few chancellors in the Empire to fulfill my duties as chancellor with my Imperial counterpart. I gave a collegium on what charges were all about so the populace could be better informed and not be afraid or intimidated by being threatened. Has any chancellor before me done any sort of teaching of their duties and role as the chancellor to the populace? Knowledge is power and I made it a primary goal for people to understand the laws! There I have failed! Being the Chancellor is NOT that 'all powerful position', at least on the local level. People have misconstrued the power and authority of the position into something being feared by the populace. The Chancellor is supposed to uphold the laws of the Kingdom and the Imperial Government. I did that! Estates have the ability to make law and amend/change/remove any laws the Estates have passed! The Chancellor should not to be feared for he/she is there to protect the Crowns, help guide the Estates, give opinion of law, help make new law, present the Crowns with complaints which may lead to charges, chair the estate meetings, prepare agendas, and prepare the minutes (the document of what vital information was discussed and laws passed or failed by the estates). The Crowns are the only ones that may file charges not the Chancellor. The Crowns should refer to the chancellor for legal matters, advice, and do investigation work to see if the law (Imperial/local) has been violated.

Every minister has their basic job description written out in the Imperial Bylaws and the Codex Adjudicata. If the Crowns are not aware of what their ministers are allowed to do or not do, they may be taken advantage of. If the Crowns themselves, do not comprehend what the laws are Imperially and within their own Kingdom, they may be taken advantage of by the people they rule. Basically, we have a flock of sheep within the Kingdom, again, which don't read the law, can't comprehend the law, or just don't care about the law! While there is another group within the Kingdom that try to read the law, comprehend the law, and care about the law and are being persecuted for it. Welcome to Stepford Umbria! The choice is yours unless you give it away carelessly!

Dame Circe-Skye O'Malley

## Arts Knighthood Justified

It is often said by some of the populace in Adria that knighthood was only granted to combatants and maybe just maybe there was one in ministry.

This Christmas I received a two-volume set of art books. While reading through it I found information whereby Titian 1488-1576 was sent letters of patent creating Titian Count Palatine and Knight of the Golden Spur, titles that granted the painter entrance to the court and gave his sons the rank of nobility.

I followed up this information at the Library and found four more books with the same information:

1. *Titian* by Charles Hope, Harper & Row Publ. page 77-78
2. *Titian* by David Rosand, Professor, Art History Columbia University, Harry Abrams, Pub NY 1978 page 26,
3. *The World of Titian* by James Williams, Time Life Books, page III
4. *Titian*, by Antonio Morassi, N.Y. Graphic Society, 1964, page 30.

The Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V granted these titles to Titian on May 10, 1533.

You may now tell anyone who says that arts knighthood did not exist, within our time period, to put this information in their pipe and smoke it. ;)

Dame Serene

## World of Ether

The Kingdom now has an e-groups discussion site open to Umbrians only. If you are interested, please see HRM King James. He needs your email address send you an electronic invitation to join. This is the quickest way to join this group.

If you are interested in receiving the Mug in electronic format, please see the Chronicler, Lady Aislynne.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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Birthday greetings to the Members of the Kingdom for the months of ...

### January

Dame Serene – 13<sup>th</sup>  
Dame Kate – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Comtessa Roawyn – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Sir Frederick – 21<sup>st</sup>

### February

Sir Hanzel – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Sir Angus – 24<sup>th</sup>

Note: Please contact the Royal Steward, Squire Iella, or Their Royal Majesties, for entering your birth date into the Kingdom records. We will not ask which year, in case you are afraid of us knowing how ANCIENT you truly are!

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## Membership Dues are due soon for....

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This section is to announce to the Populace the memberships that are due for continuing the fine Adrian experience. There is a 30-day grace period; please get with the Royal Steward, Squire Iella, promptly and renew! If you have already settled your membership with the Steward, then just smile when you read your name! ☺

### DECEMBER:

Ruth Heines  
William Fleckenstein  
Joyce Sharp  
John Larrison  
John Agree-Ross  
Jim Phillips  
James Wall  
Anthony Garrison  
Erik Ernest

### JANUARY:

Lawrence Yanez  
David Amberson  
Joe Lee  
Cynthia Starr  
Philip Boddy, Jr  
Diane Phillips  
Sabrina Alglan

### FEBRUARY:

Frances Burns  
Brian Lehmbecker  
Michael King

## Three Huzzahs to...

...Dame Kate and all who assisted with the wonderful Yule Feast!  
...All the Participants and Winners of this month's Tourneys!



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## Ministry Update

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Sir Michael Sinestro has been appointed Royal Chancellor in place of Dame Circe Skye O'Malley.

Sir Michael has stepped aside as Crown Marshall. As a result, Sir Duncan will be filling that position.

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## NOTE FROM THE ROYAL ARTS & SCIENCE MINISTER

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This month we have shown an increase in arts being entered HUZAZH!

Dame Kate entered a Lentner, Sir Michael Sinestro a belt, Dame Serene a ceramic vase, Black Arrow a bardic and Comtessa Roawyn a bardic.

\*SUPER\*

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AUTOCRATS: Please be sure to have the artisans sign the Sign In List Sheet and fill out the Arts and Sciences Tournament sheet. This information is sent to the Rolls Minister to enter the points for arts knighthood. All Cantons who have artisans enter art in their Canton have the forms. Please ask the Viceroy for them to use.

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Artisans are not entering arts because they do not like the way I run the Arts Ministry??? Sir Michael Sinestro is our Arts Guild Master. If you feel you need to change, want to change anything in the way the arts are presented in Umbria, join his group and express what changes you would like. If it is a matter of the Imp By-Law, work with me and see if we can change that too.

The changes in ALL OF ADRIA in the Imp By-law regarding elimination of the number of classes allowed for points for D.I. was the result of a years worth of work. If it is a matter of Umbrian law, work with me and we can change that too. This one won't take as long ;)

If you have a complaint about me personally, feel free to come to me with your problem.

Dame Serene, RA&S Minister

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No reports were received from any ministers other than A&S and Rolls, nor did the Rolls Minister receive a complete list of Tourney winners. This information will be included in a future Mug as soon as the reports are received.

His Majesty would like to remind all Viceroys and Ministers that failure to present reports in a timely fashion may result in removal from office.

***Kingdom Event Report...***

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DECEMBER	COMBAT	KNIGHT'S HEAVY RENN	SIR KEEGAN
		KNIGHT'S RENN	SIR MICHAEL SINESTRO
		KNIGHT'S STEEL	SIR KEEGAN

***Kingdom Archery Tournament Report***

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No Report

***Canton of Thunar Tourney Report...***

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No Report

***Canton of Westraheim Tourney Report...***

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There was no Combat or Arts list for this Tourney.

***Canton of Valle de Luna Tourney Report...***

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No Report.

***Canton of Inverness Report...***

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DECEMBER	COMBAT	KNIGHT'S RENN	SIRE LOGAN
		KNIGHT'S HEAVY RENN	ENSIGN KONOR

The War of the Roses was won by the Army of the Black Rose, who were defending the honor of Lady Dame Kate MacPherson. Huzzah to all the combatants!

**January 2001 Events**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day (Happy "True" Millenium!!!)	2	3 Canton of Thunar Tourney Encanto Park 8 p.m.	4	5	6 Canton of Westraheim Loma Linda Park 10 a.m.
7	8	9	10 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m. Collegium 8:30 p.m.	11	12	13 Canton of Inverness Deer Valley Park 10 a.m.
14	15	16	17 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m. Collegium 8:30 p.m.	18	19	20 Kingdom Tourney Cactus Park 10 a.m. Estates Meeting Collegium
21 Canton of Valle de Luna Cactus Park Time TBA	22	23	24 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m. Collegium 8:30 p.m.	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m.			

**February 2001 Events**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Canton of Westraheim Loma Linda Park 10 a.m.
4	5	6	7 Canton of Thunar Encanto Park 8 p.m.	8	9	10 Canton of Inverness/ Kingdom Tourney Deer Valley Park 10 a.m.
11	12	13	14 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m.	15	16 Demonstration at Estrella War Time and Place TBA	17
18 Canton of Valle de Luna Cactus Park Time TBA	19	20	21 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m. Collegium 8:30 p.m.	22	23	24 Archery Tourney Time TBA
25	26	27	28 Fighter Practice Encanto Park 8 p.m.			

**Royal Ministers...**

The Queen	Dame Justina Maria Murello	bearcave@illusions.com
The King	Sir James the Red	jamesthered@yahoo.com
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Royal Minister of Arts & Sciences	Dame Serene	sire_serene@yahoo.com
Royal Minister of War & Joust	Sir Philippe Du Bois Guilbert	No Email
Royal Minister of Archery	Sir Waylon of Winchester	waylan1@aol.com
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