

What do members do?

Nordskogen members enjoy an amazing variety of peaceful arts and sciences, as well as the more visible martial activities.

Our Arts and Science activities include:

- armoring
- bewing and vintning
- calligraphy
- cooking
- dancing
- drama
- Gaelic and Celtic studies
- heraldry (both names and coats of arms)
- instrumental and vocal music
- leatherworking
- metalworking
- needlecrafts (such as embroidery)
- poetry
- pottery
- sewing
- tentmaking
- weaving cloth
- woodworking
- and many others

Our martial arts include rapier combat, target archery, equestrian activities, and armored combat. Departing from the practice in period times, women participate equally at all levels of martial activities.

We have a rigorous training and authorization system for all our martial activities: trained, dedicated marshals inspect equipment for safety, enforce the rules, and encourage chivalrous conduct.

How Can I learn More about the SCA?

Web Pages

Society Main Page: www.sca.org

Northern Mid-west Region, Kingdom of Northshield:
www.northshield.org

Local Chapter, Barony of Nordskogen:
<http://www.nordskogen.northshield.org/>

Corporate Office

The central office of the SCA, Inc. can help you with membership questions,, and can help you find the nearest branch, wherever you may find yourself.

phone: (800) 789 - 7486
FAX: (408) 263 - 0641

The Barony of Nordskogen

Various interest groups meet throughout the week, but our general meetings are on Wednesday evenings. See our web page for the current location.

Gretchen Burnham (known in the Society as Baroness Marwen de la Rivere) is our Seneschal, the president of the local chapter. She can be reached at seneschal@nordskogen.northshield.org, or at (612) 306-3057

Susan Henry (known in these current middle ages as Mistress Rosanore of Redthorn) is our local Chatelaine, or new-member contact person. You can reach her at susanhenry_46@yahoo.com or at (651) 699-0714



Welcome to the Current Middle Ages

What is the SCA?

The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., (or "the SCA") is a not-for-profit, educational organization devoted to the study of the European Middle Ages and Renaissance (600 to 1600 CE). Our events are also enriched by those members who focus on Africa, the Middle East, and even the Far East in the same time period.

Our "known world" is divided into regions, called "kingdoms." You're in the kingdom of "Northshield," which includes the northern plains states and the central provinces of Canada.

Nordskog, the local chapter in the Twin Cities, is very large and active, which makes us eligible to be a Barony, with a Baron and Baroness appointed by the King and Queen of Northshield.

Who are these people?

Our members, in excess of 25,000 worldwide, and over 250 in the Twin Cities, immerse ourselves in history by holding tournaments, feasts, courts, and other recreations. We endeavor to recapture the ambiance and rekindle the ideals of the Age of Chivalry, including courtesy, honor, and grace.

We make education a priority. We teach classes, encourage one another's research, write informational articles in our Society-wide publications, and give demonstrations of our arts and martial activities.

We give presentations for schools, scout groups, or anyone else interested in our fields of research.

Not to be confused with...

The SCA isn't affiliated with any Renaissance festivals, nor are we a performance group.

We are not affiliated with any religious or political group; we allow our members their freedoms therein. (Religious crusades and persecutions are parts of the Middle Ages we're *not* trying to re-create!)

We are not a fantasy or science fiction group, so you won't find elves or Klingons at events.



Who belongs to the SCA?

Anyone! Our members come from all ages and walks of life, from college students (there are separate chapters on the U of M campus, the St. Olaf and Carleton Colleges, in St. Cloud, etc.) to families with small children, to older adults.

There are SCA chapters throughout the U.S. and Canada, Panama, Australia, Europe, the Far East and the Pacific Rim.

How can I become involved?

Contact Baroness Marwen or Mistress Rosanore. (Their contact information is on the back of this brochure.) They'll help you find meeting sites, meet interesting people, and get into the swing of things.

Business meetings, fighter practices, arts work sessions and other activities are free and you don't have to dress up, but the SCA all comes together at weekend events (feasts and tournaments).

Requirements for participation at an event are very simple: just wear an attempt at pre-1600 costume and pay the event fee (usually \$5 - \$9 per person).

You can become a member of the Society for an annual fee, which will bring you the Society-wide magazine *Tournaments Illuminated* as well as the Kingdom newsletter *The Northwatch*. Membership is not required for general participation, but in Northshield you'll need to be a member if you want to participate in martial activities or to hold office. Members also usually receive a discount for event fees.