

The Skraeling Atching Chronicle

SUMMER SIEGE ONCE AGAIN PREPARES THE SKRAEL ARMY FOR WAR SEASON

By Chronicle Staff

It was a drizzly day for a siege, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the hearty folk who made the trek down to Chesterville for this year's event.

This year, Summer Siege was held at a new location. For the first two years, the event had been run at Grant Mor farm in Monkland to great success. This year, Harrowgate Heath tried a new location at the Chesterville Farmer's Market.

In addition to archery, thrown weapons, armoured combat and rapier, this year's event had the added bonus of a full feast cooked by Herr Reinhart Von Altenburg – including a pig roast.

The venue also had the added advantage of having indoor facilities, which given the rain was a blessing.

Outside in the intermittent rain, the armoured combatants ran the traditional castle siege with a variety of scenarios taking place.

A triathlon tournament was also held, with participants taking part in three activities over the course of the day (A&S, armoured com-

bat, archery, thrown weapons and rapier).

During the day, Their Excellencies Lucia and Giovanni also oversaw

two Baronial Champions tourneys, with both a new thrown weapon's champion and a new youth boffer champion selected.



Armoured combatants besiege the castle at the Summer Siege event in the Canton of Harrowgate Heath this past June.

Photo by Lord Dafydd ap Alan

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UPCOMING GATHERINGS IN THE BARONY

Practices and Meetings

Please contact the local group to confirm details about specific scheduled gatherings.

Harrowgate Heath

Armoured Combat Practice
Thursdays at 7 pm

Archery

Schedule varies month to month

Canton Meetings

First Sunday of the month

A&S Days

Schedule varies month to month

Dance Practice

Schedule varies month to month

Greyfells

Canton Meetings

Meetings (which often include A&S and other activities) are held from 7:00 to 9:30 pm on Tuesdays each week.

Rapier Practice

Tuesdays at 7 pm

Caldriþing

Armoured Combat Practice
Wednesdays at 7 pm

Rapier Practice

Thursdays at 8 pm

Choir Practice

Sundays at 1:30 pm

Canton Meetings

Second and fourth Sunday's of the month at 4 pm

Instrumental Practices

Sundays at 12:00 pm

Tor Brant

Gatherings vary from month to month.

If you are interested in attending Tor Brant scheduled activities, please contact the group to confirm their next scheduled activity.

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FROM THE QUILL OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF SKRAELING ALTHING

Greetings unto the well armed Barony of Skraeling Althing from their deadly Baron Giovanni and the beautiful Baroness Lucia; Wassail

We are pleased to see the Baronial Army growing, including Legio V Linlithgow, as well as the Order of the Monkeys, all the various households, the ranged weapons, and the growing horse cavalry.

You set the pace for the heart of this Barony, your drum the bodies of its enemies.

We know that our troops would not be growing without the tireless

work of our Marshals, and the Marshals-in-Training.

They shape the raw enthusiasm of our new fighters, and fan the flame of discouraged experienced warriors--sometimes at the expensive of their own practice time.

It's this nurturing of the next generation of fighters that is one of the most important things that Marshals do.

We are also impressed by the interest in how martial activities intersect with Arts and Science. It is a pleasure for us to observe the in-

creased use of period fighting techniques and armour.

We also want to thank the armourers, fletchers, and leather workers who prepare our soldiers for battle. The supply train, with its provisions and equipment, is sometimes the decision maker in battle.

Trebuchets larger than our home is a fitting symbol for the prowess of a Barony united. We don't stand alone in Skrael, we stand shoulder to shoulder, Hares United.

In your service,
Baron Giovanni and Baroness Lucia

BARONIAL BUSINESS

The following awards have been given out to members of Skraeling Althing at recent events both in the Barony and at outside events.

Wassail to all of the recipients!

Summer Siege

- Bunny Tails:
- Fulke of Atholl
- John Mac Morrow
- Kanina Mac 'Am Gilverdatter
- Steven of Cornwall
- Bridget of Cornwall
- Lisa of Harrowgate Heath

- Baronial Champions named:
- Boffer Champion - Duncan Roy
- Thrown-weapons Champion - Lady Marguerite Gingraix

Baronial Muster

- Bunny Tails:
- Lord Laurenz Tonnemacher
- Lady Ilsebet Jeghersche
- Hare Salient:
- Lord Manus Stataiekanpoika
- Hare Valiant:
- Lord Manus Stataiekanpoika

Pennsic

- Award of Arms:
- Lord Robert of Skraeling Althing

Baronial Council Notes

Since the last issue of the Chronicle there has been only one brief Baronial Council meeting. The only significant piece of business was the voting in of the next Baronial Chatelaine.

Lady Eluned ferch Angor was voted in and will take over the position at Feast of the Hare.

Skraeling Althing Chronicle

AN UPDATE ON NEW ELECTRONIC KINGDOM NEWSLETTERS

By Chronicle Staff

For those who have been looking forward to switching to an electronic version of The Tidings, that time is almost here!

The Board of Directors has announced that the new Society newsletter policy for eNewsletters will come into force in January 2012 and all Kingdoms will have electronic newsletters starting with the March 2012 issue.

This means that starting in March 2012, you will be able to download the Tidings through a secure web page off the main society web site if you have an up-to-date membership.

As an extra bonus, members will also be able to download newsletters from all other Kingdoms, and stay on top of the news from our neighbours as well.

Paper copies will still be available for those who wish them, but if you wish to discontinue receiving hard copies, you will be able to do so by opting out starting in January by going to <http://www.sca.org>



His Majesty, and the armed might of Ealdormere, pause in mid-battle for high tea at Trillium War. This year's theme was the Scottish wars of independence. Photo by THL Eirik Andersen

UPCOMING EVENTS

In Skraeling Althing

Nov 12 - Feast of the Hare
Hosted by the Canton of Cal-drithig (Ottawa ON)

Nov 19 - Kingdom Arts & Sciences
Hosted by the Barony of Skraeling Althing (Kingston, ON)

Out of Barony

Sept 9-11 - Fall Frolic
Hosted by the Shire of Northern Outpost (Potsdam, NY)

Sept 17 - Icelandic Althing
Hosted by the Canton of Eoforwic (Orono, ON)

Sept 24 - Fall Coronation
Hosted by the Barony of Rising Waters (St. Catherines, ON)

Oct 15 - A most Fortunate Fall Harvest
Hosted by Barony of L'ile du Dragon Dormant (Pointe-des-Cascades, QC)

Oct 22 - Fall Crown Tournament
Hosted by the Canton of Bryniau Tywynnog (New Hamburg, ON)

The Skraeling Althing Chronicle



His Highness, Prince Quilliam, kidnapping Her Excellency Lucia during the festivities at Trillium War. (Don't worry, she was safely returned)

Photo by THL Eirik Andersen

SEARCHING FOR OUR NEXT BARONIAL CHRONICLER

It's been nearly two years since Lord Dafydd took over as Baronial Chronicler at Practicum and the Barony is now putting out the call for potential candidates to replace him at the end of his term.

Candidates should have good writing and organization skills and must be members of the SCA in good standing.

Access to a computer as well as some form of software to produce the Chronicle (anything from

basics like MS Word to full desktop publishing packages) is also important.

If you would like more information about the Chronicler's position, or are interested in putting your name forward, please contact the current Chronicler, Lord Dafydd ap Alan, at chronicler@skraelingalthing.com.

Anyone interested is asked to submit their name and a description of any relevant experience they have

by October 31st.

The next Chronicler will be selected at Feast of the Hare so that they will have an opportunity to job shadow Lord Dafydd for his last issue, to be delivered at Practicum, before taking over.

More information on the role of the Chronicler can be found in the Ealdormere Chronicler's Handbook at <http://www.ealdormere.ca/files/EaldorChronHandbookMay2007.pdf>.



SCA CENSUS RESULTS START TRICKLING IN

By Chronicle Staff

The results from the 2010 SCA census have started to be released, and while some of the most interesting sections are still pending, there is lots of important information now available.

In all, over 14,000 people participated in the survey, including 367 people from Ealdormere. This includes current participants in SCA activities (both members and non-members) as well as former participants.

The first release of data, which was published in July, covered basic demographic information such as where people are from, their education and income levels and age and gender breakdowns.

It also covered information about people's level of participation, events they attend and activities they like to do within the SCA.

There's also interesting data on what attracted people to the SCA in the first place, and where relevant, why people stopped participating. A special section on people's opinion related to eNewsletters was also included.

Down the road, additional releases will include more detailed analysis as well as data related to specific questions, such as those related to additional peage options and same

gender consorts.

For more information on the 2010 SCA census, including all of the data released so far, go to <http://www.sca.org/scacensus2010>.

A Window on the Census

Here are some key statistics from the 2010 SCA census.

83 per cent of respondents were active participants in SCA activities.

94 per cent of respondents had some form of post-secondary education

80 per cent of respondents have been active in the SCA for five or more years, with the largest single group (21 per cent) having been in the SCA for 20 to 29 years.

This is the Skraeling Althing Chronicle, the quarterly newsletter for the Barony of Skraeling Althing in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. There is no subscription fee.

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Questions or concerns may be

Of the almost 3000 former participants who responded, what would have the greatest impact on bringing them back would be better events (cheaper, closer to home, more fun etc.) and outreach from the local group inviting them back.

65 per cent of people found out about the SCA from a friend, acquaintance or family member (parents, spouse etc.)

72 per cent of people said they would be interested in receiving an electronic Kingdom newsletter, either instead of (41.3 per cent) or in addition to (31.1 per cent) hard copies. 22.8 per cent said they would not be interested in electronic newsletters.

In Ealdormere, 84.5 per cent wanted electronic newsletters in some form, while 14.6 per cent did not.

directed to the Baronial Chronicler, [Lord Dafydd ap Alan](#).

Issues of the Chronicle are posted to the Skraeling Althing web site. You can subscribe to the Chronicle by e-mailing the Chronicler.

The Chronicle also has a Facebook page. You can follow news about the Chronicle, and be notified when new issues are available, by following the Skraeling Althing Chronicle on Facebook.

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AVELYN'S BOOK NOOK

By Lady Avelyn Wexcombe of Great Bedwyn

Queen Emma and the Vikings: The Woman Who Shaped the Events of 1066

Harriet O'Brien

The formidable [Emma of Normandy](#) is not a lady that jumps to mind immediately when recalling the illustrious legacy of English queens.

However, Harriet O'Brien takes reminds us in *Queen Emma* just what kind of influence and impact this one woman had on the foundations of Norman and Scandinavian rule in England.

Brought to England from the shores of Normandy as a young girl, Emma became the second wife of the first king of England, Æthelred.

Over the years, her role transformed from silent witness of court business to become a powerful mother of two kings of England, and twice queen herself.

After the death of Æthelred, Emma was claimed as bride by the incoming Viking conqueror, Cnut of Denmark.

O'Brien narrates the warp and weft of Emma's tale of her marriages, children, a kingdom at war, and her periods of exile with a balanced perspective. She deftly surmises

rationale for the choices Emma makes in her lifetime, based on interpreting the existing extant documents available.

In doing so, Emma blooms into life as a capable woman who had no qualms using her wit, wiles and determination to navigate the tumultuous period in English history that saw the intersection and divide of a nation transitioning through three distinctive dynasties of rule.

The author doesn't skirt the fact that Emma appears to have made some hard decisions along the way, such that O'Brien describes her as "Machiavellian".

She abandons her sons from Æthelstan, including Edward the Confessor, into exile in Normandy while she marries Cnut and works with him to reign in the chaos of administration that followed his coronation.

After Cnut's death, she fights to put her son Harthacnut into the throne, only to have to later appeal to Edward to fill the void after Harthacnut's untimely demise.

Queen Emma is an interesting read beyond the facts themselves, because of the careful and methodical approach O'Brien uses to sift through the details of Emma's life. Her extensive research is inspira-



Queen Emma receives the *Encomium Emmae* from its author, while her sons Harthacnut and Edward look on.

Image from: *The Encomium Emmae Reginae*, 1041-2. London, British Library, MS. Add. 33241

tional. Refreshing too is seeing the story of a medieval woman in a position of such power unfold. Grab a glass of wine and curl up with this one. ([Bloomsbury](#), 2006)

A sneak peek is available to read in [Google Books](#).

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~Check out my library online at [Library Thing](#)