

# FROM THE QUILL OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF SKRAELING ALTHING



Greetings unto the Noble Barony of Skraeling Althing from your proud Baron and Baroness, Giovanni and Lucia.

As most of you have no doubt heard, We announced that We would be stepping

down in Ealdormere Court at Pennsic War, and We are now seeking heirs. This job has been so much more than We ever imagined. We wanted to share with you what We saw as our role is as your Baron and Baroness; the obligations and expectations for those who sit the high seats of the Barony of Skraeling Althing.

- Witness. We attend local and Kingdom events to witness the various activities and successes of the members of the Barony, the passing of heirs of the kingdom, and baronial officer change overs. We have sponsored contests and tournaments and We have been there when Our people experience joy and sadness.
- Promote. In Our Baronial Court We are able to bring people forward to be recognized. This is done in consultation with people of the Barony. We also write letters (or emails) to the whole Barony singing the praises of Our people. We also are able to more directly promote Our people to their Majesties for kingdom level

- awards, and are able to give their Majesties more specific information about Our people. Finally We promote Our Barony's events to people throughout the known world.
- Assist. We assist their Royal Majesties by representing Our Barony to them and representing them to Our Barony. They consult Us on matters of award recommendations, activities, or shenanigans they need help with, especially if those things are to take place in Skraeling Althing. We know more people in the Barony than the visiting Royalty know and We share that knowledge.
- Educate. As holders of Baronial knowledge, We are responsible for sharing it with others. Some of that, We do with our previous tasks of Promotion and Assistance. However, We also help people find what they need, either by answering their questions Ourselves or relying on the tried and true answer: "I don't know, but I am pretty sure I know someone who does."
- Council. The questions We are asked are not just for information, We are also looked to for wisdom. We sit on the Baronial Council, but only vote in the case of a tie. We work closely with the Seneshal but are not their boss. We encourage people to join the Council or help those officers when you can. We are also blessed with the opportunity to provide Our council to many.



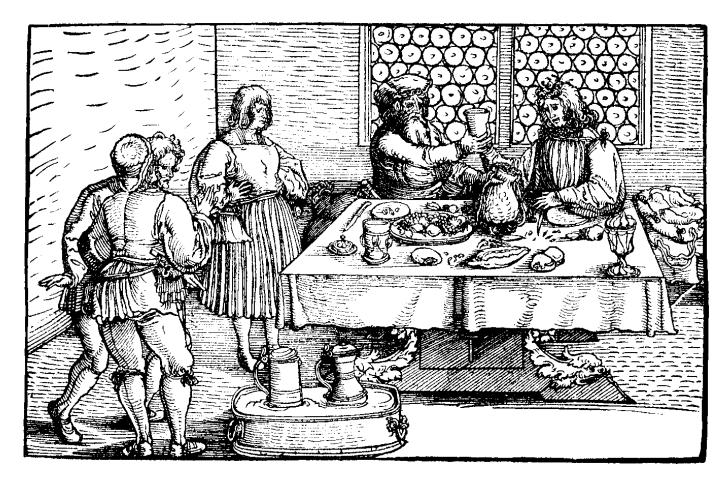
These have been what We saw as Our responsibilities since We were appointed and We hope that We were able to meet them. However, Our Barony is a living thing and living things change. Our successors will likely find that the Barony needs them to be something that was never required of Us. In the end, the most important things is that you love our game and all of the activities within it and do what you can to help make our Society better for all of them.

Should you wish to be considered for this position you must be a full member of SCA Inc and a

resident of the Barony of Skraeling Althing. You must send a letter of intent to Our King and Queen, Prince and Princess, Kingdom Seneschal, Baronial Seneschal and Ourselves by the morning of Fall Coronation. Letters of intent must include SCA Inc membership information and should include some details about your SCA career and what you feel you bring to the position.

If you have any questions about applying or the job in general, please feel free to ask Us.

In your service Baron Giovanni and Baroness Lucia





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# FROM THE SENESCHAL

Unto my fellow Skraels, I your Seneschal, Nathaniel, send greetings during these somber and difficult times.

The summer has been hard for many of us. Things left undone are regretted, time which should be spent with friends is lost, and smiles and laughter during our busy summer have been turned to tears.

Amongst the unwanted and ill favoured news this summer is the temporary loss of status of Skrael's Stronghold to the North, Tor Brant. With the Stronghold's Seneschal stepping down due to mundane commitments the status has slipped into what is known as Dormant Status. What is that you cry? Have we lost our shield kin to the North? No, it is not that drastic, and I am here to help illuminate the situation.

If a group within the SCA fall below what is considered minimum requirements then the group is usually disbanded<sup>1</sup>. However, if a group has been granted a particular status, such as College or Stronghold, then the group, if it does not meet with the standards that define a group, will go Dormant until such time as those standards are met.

Thanks to Her Excellency Posadnitsa Xristina Viacheslavova, Tor Brant was changed from a

Canton to a Stronghold, just in case such a situation should arise.

So, what does all this mean? It basically means that Tor Brant needs to fulfill its obligations to be reinstated, namely it needs a Seneschal (currently vacant) and an Exchequer (currently held by His Excellency Raimond). Once a Seneschal is found and warranted, and the proper paperwork is incurred, then Tor Brant will no longer be dormant.

What can you do? If you know of anyone within the Tor Brant area that plays regularly, encourage them to step forward and speak with His Excellency Raimond about the position. The sooner it is filled, the better for us as a Barony on whole.

While we are on the subject of vacancies, the Baronial Council is in need of interested individuals to step forward for the soon to be vacated positions:

- Pursuivant
- Chatelaine
- Web Minister

The current incumbents are coming to the end of their term and will be stepping down.

Eligible applicants should be a member in good standing of the SCA Inc. as well as of the Barony of Skraeling Althing. Applicant letters should be in by no later than Feast of the Hare, AS 48 (November 9,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> see Section III: Branches; C: Branch Designations; of the "SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC. ORGANIZATIONAL HANDBOOK 2001 Edition August 8, 2012 Revision"; <a href="http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/govdocs.pdf">http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/govdocs.pdf</a>



2013). Any questions please contact me or the current officer within said position.<sup>2</sup>

I appreciate the service that our current officers have given onto the Barony and look forward to meeting those who step into the rewarding role of Officer of the Baronial Council.

With all said and done, I hope that each of you finds the rest of the summer safe, and the fall full of better news and greater tidings.

In Service, Lord Nathaniel Jonessone (the Dane)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuivant: Lord Galfrid the Tiny -<u>Pursuivant@skraelingalthing.com</u>
Web Minister: Lord Aurik Burnsson -<u>webminister@skraelingalthing.com</u>
Chatelaine: Lady Eluned verch Angor -<u>Chatelaine@skraelingalthing.com</u>



# From the Chatelaine

Greetings to the people of Skraeling Althing,

This year at Feast of the Hare I will be stepping down from my 2 year term as Baronial Chatelaine. Therefore the Baronial Council is seeking applications from members of the Barony who are interested in taking on this position. You are required to be a paid member and look forward to working with all of the Cantons and our Stronghold in organizing activities that will help expand our populace and help introduce those interested in participating in the SCA.

The Chatelaine is responsible for promoting the recruitment and retention of newcomers, and the administrative functions involved thereof. At times the office is also expected to coordinate with the Kingdom Media Deputy of the Seneschal's Office in dealing with the media. A Chatelaine's guidance and leadership can influence attitudes or initiate policies that will strongly impact the growth and well-being of the Barony.

The Barony in the past year has in addition to the continuing educational demos at Upper Canada Village and the Osgoode Medieval Festival (which are organized by a dedicated team) we took part in a wonderful weekend at Ottawa ComicCon. On October 19 & 20th we have also been invited to take part in the Ottawa Geek Market. I hope that applicants for the position will be willing to continue with these activities, particularly the wonderful relationship we have begun with the Geek Market.

If interested please submit a letter of intent and your SCA resume to the Baronial Senechal seneschal@skraelingalthing.com and myself skraeling.chatelaine@gmail.com by October 25th, 2013.

Yours in service Lady Eluned verch Angor



# OTTAWA GEEK MARKET

The Barony has been invited to participate in this fall's event the weekend of October 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> at the Carleton University Field House. If anyone is interested in helping out with the planning for that weekend or being present at the Market please feel free to contact: <a href="mailto:Skraeling.Chatelaine@gmail.com">Skraeling.Chatelaine@gmail.com</a>

# WHAT IS THE OTTAWA GEEK MARKET?

The Ottawa Geek Market is a non-profit company devoted to creating amazing geeky shopping experiences in the Ottawa region.

The event was established with three main goals in mind:

- 1. To provide local geeky artisans, vendors and shopkeepers with an opportunity to sell their awesome items
- 2. To celebrate the thriving geeky community in Ottawa in a fun and safe environment, and
- 3. To donate as much money as we can to local charities

This year, the Ottawa Geek Market will be donating proceeds (divided equally) to the Kids Help Phone, Jer's Vision and the Ottawa Distress Center.

Check out their website at <a href="http://geekmarket.ca/">http://geekmarket.ca/</a>

Yours in service, Lady Eluned verch Angor Baronial Chatelaine





# SUMMER SIEGE: CHAMPIONS CHOSEN



**Archery Champion**Lady Selewyn the Chased (Lauren Kenobie), at Summer Siege



Rapier Champion Tristan of Caldrithig (Nathan Schut), at Summer Siege

# Our other current champions are:

- Armoured: Lord Ulric the Lawless
- Thrown Weapons: Merrigan of Greyfells
- Boffer Champions: Christoffe Baldricsson and Nickolai Baldricsson
- Chalice: Lord Nathaniel Jonessone

# PENNSIC MEMORIES – 2013

# WELCOME TO PENNSIC







**Field Battle** 







# LADY AEVIANNA



# IN THE SCA

Aevianna was married to Lord Dragul Maksimov Vodnikov, and was a protege to Mistress TSivia bas Tamara v'Amberview. She was a member of House Addis.

Aevianna resided in the Canton of Harrowgate Heath in the Barony of Skraeling Althing.

# TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN FRIEND

The events of this past summer, leading up to the untimely death of our friend Aevia, have left their mark on the Barony, and the whole Kingdom.

That fateful Thursday, when we all learned that Aevia was missing, many of us were hundreds of kilometers away at Pennsic.

We watched, and waited, as our friends and loved ones at home began the search. And we saw dozens of people from across the Barony

volunteering to help. Some knew Aevia well. Others knew her only in passing or not at all. But they were all united in wanting to bring her home, united by the bonds that the SCA helps to create between us.

As a community, we banded together and provided each other support.

For those of us at Pennsic, we watched, and we waited, and we hoped. At Pennsic, so far away from where our hearts wanted to be, we tried to continue, as we knew Aevia would have wanted.



Even there, you could see the community that the SCA helps to form. People from other kingdoms were touched by what was happening at home in Ealdormere. We supported each other as best we could, sharing what we knew of events back home.

Obviously, nothing turned out as any of us would have hoped. And yet, that sense of community and support will need to continue to carry us through the days ahead.

At Pennsic, Aevia's winged chalice flew proudly above the battlefield, inspiring our Kingdom to even greater feats. Now that we're home, part of that banner still flies in all of us. It inspires us to continue, and brings us together.



Banner painted and prepared by Lady Morag, and wielded in battle by Lord Michael and Lady Morag.

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# FALL CORONATION, SEPTEMBER 28



# THE CORONATION OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES NIGEL MACFARLANE AND ADRIELLE KERREC

Greetings Good Gentles, nobility of the Realm and honored visitors from other Kingdoms in the Knowne World,

The Canton of Harrowgate Heath is pleased to present the Coronation of Nigel II and Adrielle II. Step back with us into the 14th century; enjoy fighting and feasting, display your art and science projects, and bear witness as Nigel II and Adrielle II are crowned King and Queen of Ealdormere.

Harrowgate Heath has been working hard to prepare this event, but we would also like to recognize the help we have received from friends throughout the Barony of Skraeling Althing and beyond.

This event has truly been a group effort, and for that we are thankful.

The site has a firm closing time of 9:30pm. We are required to be off-site and the security alarms set by that time. Please be aware of this when planning your day.

Feast MUST be pre-registered. Please see feast page. Registration questions can also be forwarded to Lord Richard's e-mail address rpcook@pobox.com

The site is dry.

For those wishing to purchase drinks (pop or water), there are vending machines on site. Otherwise, please prepare accordingly and bring your own.

There are a number of restaurants and some grocery stores within 5 minutes of the event site. The school is close to downtown Cornwall and a number of places to eat or shop can be found on Brookdale Avenue.

For all other inquiries please e-mail Posadnitsa Xristina Viacheslavova, our autocrat, at <a href="mailto:xristina@rowanhall.org">xristina@rowanhall.org</a>.



# **ARTISANS**

For Fall Coronation Her Highness has requested a display of skills by the artisans of Ealdormere at her and her Lord's Coronation on September 28th.

To that end we are going to have 2 Displays and 3 Competitions.

# We will have a room set aside for the two displays:

- 1) There will be a display of the A&S 50 Challenge participants.
- 2) There will be a display of White Wolf Fian members and their projects.

We ask everyone who wishes to display at either of these to contact me ASAP to make sure we have enough room set up for everyone to Sprawl out as much as they need.

# There will be two People's Choice A&S Competitions:

- 1) Beginners, Intermediates, and Advanced.
- 2) Crafted Items that will be gifted to the Lupine Crown to be used as gifts throughout their reign. Her Highness is providing the gifts for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

There will also be a Royals/ Barons / Baronesses Choice Competition. This competition will include both the Largesse and the normal competition entrants. All attendants who are current Royals, Barons, or Baronesses will be given special tickets for them to vote for their favorite item of both competitions. A special prize will be awarded the item with the most votes.

Please contact me in advance so I can make sure you have plenty of room for your displays.

Kaðlín of Harrowgate Heath





# **FENCING**

Rapier at Fall Coronation in Harrowgate Heath. There will also probably be space and time for pick-ups.

# **All-Day Ransom Contest:**

Throughout the fencing during the day, any time a fencer is incapacitated (both arms lost without having been killed) they are considered "captured" and will have to pay a "ransom" to continue fencing. Each fencer will have a number of tokens to start the day, and the fencer with the most "ransom" tokens at the end of the day will win a really good prize that I've been saving for a special occasion.

# **Pick-Your-Opponent Challenge Tournament:**

This tournament is a chance to meet new fencers and get some bouts in without having to pick a "winner". Call it the dating game for fencing opponents.

Everyone's names will be put in a bowl and names will be drawn. The person drawn will get to issue a challenge to any other fencer. We'll go through the list of names at least once so that everyone is assured of getting a bit of fencing in.

#### Roll-of-the-dice Bear Pit:

Each time a combatant enters the list they will role a die to determine the weapons form they will use. If they are not authorized in the form rolled, they reroll. (If only authorized in single, no need to roll).

Combatants will fight, winner stays in and will keep the same form as long as they are winning. Once they lose, they will re-roll when they re-enter the list.

Matching forms isn't necessary as it's up to lady luck to determine the advantage/disadvantage. However, some consideration when fighting new fencers (particularly if you roll "Open Choice" is encouraged since we're all here to have fun.

## Rolling Chart:

- 1-3 Single Sword
- 4 Sword and Parry
- 5 Sword and Weapon
- 6 Open Choice



# BORDER SPAT: INFESTATION – OCTOBER 19

Rumors of plague have been heard across the Known World! Their Excellencies of l'Ile du Dragon Dormant and of Skraeling Althing invite each Shire, Barony, Principality and Kingdom to send their best and brightest to join together in a festival of contests of skill and prowess.

Rapier and heavy fighters will compete with their cunning and fortitude; artists and scientists will display their work and share their skills; all of the populace (including the children!) will compete for the favour of their Excellencies, that they may lend their support and patronage to the alchemists of our fair lands and determine whether Barony of l'Ile du Dragon Dormant of the East Kingdom or Barony of Skraeling Althing of the Kingdom of Eldormere has the greatest skills to rid our land of this mysterious plague.

The Barony which succeeds in saving us from this blight will be feted as we join in a great feast at the close of our harvest festival. A hearty day board will be provided for all.

Site Opens: 10amSite Closes: 10pm

• Event Website: <u>www.dragon</u>

dormant.org





# THE ANCIENT GAME OF GO



Many believe the game was created as a teaching tool after the ancient Chinese Emperor Yao (2337 - 2258 BC) designed it for his son, Danzhu to learn discipline, concentration, and balance. Others believe it was the invention of Chinese warlords and generals, who used pieces of stone to map attacking positions. Some believe it was used for astrological divination.

The game is played on one of 3 board sizes: 9x9, 13x13 and 19x19. Unlike many board games, the pieces are played on the intersecting lines rather than is the squares. So a 9x9 board is 9 points long and 9 points wide, for a total of 81 points to place stones on. The largest board, 19x19 has 361 total points

(including the sides). Which also happens to be the same number of days as the ancient Chinese calendar. A 19x19 game takes about 1 hour to play, a 13x13 takes 30 minutes and a 9x9 is about 15 minutes.

The objective is to surround more empty points (Territory) on the board than your opponent. 2 players take turns placing black and white stones on the intersecting points on the board. Black always goes first. A stone is "captured" when it has no empty spaces (Liberties) next to it. Two or more stones of the same color share their liberties when they are connected. Captive stones are removed and kept by the opponent. Each prisoner is worth 1 point. Each empty point of surrounded territory is worth 1 point.

A stone cannot be placed on a point where it has no liberties, unless doing so captures enemy stones. A stone cannot be placed on point that repeats the same move infinitely. A stone must be played elsewhere before repeating the previous move. Since Black always plays first, White gets extra points to offset the advantage called "Komi" points. Komi is a recent change to the game, less than 2 centuries ago. At first it was 4.5 points, but increased over time. Before then, White received nothing and was always at a disadvantage.

By Magnus Strykewind



# SEND ME YOUR CONTENT!

The Skraeling Althing Chronicle is the newsletter for the Barony of Skraeling Althing.

Published quarterly, the Chronicle is a source of information about news and activities from across the Barony.

We're always looking for stories and content for upcoming issues of the Chronicle. Ideas for stories could include:

- Historical pieces about people or events from the early days of Skraeling Althing and our groups
- Details on A&S projects you've been working on or research you're doing
- Persona profiles
- Reports from events and demos you've attended
- Artwork (illumination, etc.)
- Photos from events or of SCA activities

The ideal article length is between 200 and 400 words, although for special issues longer articles may also be needed.

Send it all in!

Giana Gabriella di Milano, Baronial Chronicler, Barony of Skraeling Althing

#### **Getting the Chronicle**

There are many ways you can get a copy of the Chronicle.

In addition to the PDF posted on the Baronial web page, (starting with the May 2010 issue), you can subscribe to receive an e-mail when the latest issue of the Chronicle becomes available. All you have to do is send an e-mail to the Chronicler.

You can join our Facebook group - Skraeling Althing Chronicle - to stay in touch and find out when new issues are published.

A limited number of hard copies are also available at events - just ask the <u>Chronicler</u>.







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# CHOIR OF CALDRITHIG PRODUCES ALBUM

May 2013 - "Reflections"

This recording was produced as a keepsake before some choir members moved away. It was recorded on a laptop in a friend's living room, and mixed in his basement, with occasional assistance from the household pets.

Check it out at: http://choral.anonymuse.ca/recordings.shtml

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# **UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS**

September 14	Ealdormere Academy of Rapier Township of Tyendinaga Recreation Hall
September 28	<b>Fall Coronation</b> , hosted by the Canton of Harrowgate Heath Details can be found at <a href="http://coronation.harrowgateheath.com">http://coronation.harrowgateheath.com</a>
October 5	Huntsman's Harvest Hosted by the Barony of Ben Dunfirth Details can be found at <a href="http://bendunfirth.wolfium.com/NextEvent.htm">http://bendunfirth.wolfium.com/NextEvent.htm</a>
October 19	Border Spat: Infestation! Hosted by the Barony of Ile du Dragon Dormant
October 26	Fall Crown Tournament Hosted by the Shire of March of St. Martin Details can be found at <a href="http://stmartin.ealdormere.ca/crown-tournament-fall-2013/">http://stmartin.ealdormere.ca/crown-tournament-fall-2013/</a>
November 2 NEW DATE!	Feast of the Hare Hosted by the Barony of Skraeling Althing
November 16	Kingdom Arts and Sciences Hosted by the Barony of Septentria
November 30	Jo and Ed's Excellent Event Hosted by the Canton of Bryniau Tywynnog

More details on Kingdom events can be found on the Kingdom of Ealdormere web page at <a href="http://www.ealdormere.ca/">http://www.ealdormere.ca/</a>



# BARONIAL GATHERINGS

# **Practices and Meetings**

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

# **Harrowgate Heath**

**Canton Meetings** 

First Sunday of the month

Scribal nights

7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of every month 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of every month

**Sewing Nights** 

7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of every month 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month

**Armouring & General A&S** 

7:30 to 9:30 pm every Monday

**Armoured Combat Practice** 

Thursdays at 7 pm

**Archery** 

Schedule varies month to month

#### **Tor Brant**

Gatherings vary from month to month. Please contact the group to confirm the next scheduled activity.

# **Caldrithig**

**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 of the month at 4 pm

**Instrumental Practices** 

Sundays at 12:00 pm

# <u>Greyfells</u>

# **Canton Meetings**

Held at the Canton Fight Practice and A&S Day, monthly on the following dates: September 15<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup>, and November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Canton Fight Practice and A&S Day** 

Sunday 2:00-6:00pm

**Rapier Practice** 

Tuesdays at 7 pm

#### In this issue:

Photos from Summer Siege 2013 provided by David Gotlieb Photos from Pennsic provided by David Gotlieb

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