



## From the Quill of their Excellencies of Skraeling Althing

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Greetings to the Barony of Skraeling Althing from Their Excellencies, Baron Shahid and Baroness Catherine,

Winter is upon us. It is a time when there are few events to attend and weather can make travel difficult. It is a time when we often focus on the home hearth and reflect upon our year in life and the SCA.

While gathered around the hearth, this is a wonderful opportunity to plan what you want to accomplish in the coming year. Perhaps this is the year you volunteer for an officer position. Perhaps this is the year you finally try the new art you saw years ago. Perhaps it is the year you focus on your fighting, or learning a new style. Perhaps this is the year you work on hall decorations or a personal presence at events. Perhaps this is the year you spend your time supporting others as they try to meet their goals. The new year brings endless opportunities, and with them allows us to draw closer together to celebrate each other's accomplishments.

We wish you all a great season, happy holidays, and may the new year bring you the opportunity to accomplish your dreams and ignite the spark within you.

In Service,  
Baron Shahid and Baroness Catherine.



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### **To receive the Chronicle:**

There will be a PDF posted on the Baronial web page, [www.skraelingalthing.com](http://www.skraelingalthing.com), ranging as far back as the May 2010 issue. Any member who wishes can subscribe to receive an e-mail when the latest issue of the Chronicle becomes available. In order to do so, please send an email to the Chronicler.

As well consider joining the Skraeling Althing Facebook group (Skraeling Althing Chronicle).

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From the Webminister:

Unto the populace of Skraeling Althing does Baroness Catherine send greetings.

As you may have noticed, we have a new Baronial website. Comments, questions, and suggestions are happily accepted. Please don't hesitate to contact me at [web.minister@skraelingalthing.com](mailto:web.minister@skraelingalthing.com).

In Service,  
Catherine.

From the Baronial Signet:

Greetings

My 2-year term as the Baronial Signet has come to an end. It is my intention at this time, with Their Excellencies' approval, to hand over the position to my current Deputy, Lady Jane Caldwell. She is fully trained, and I will arrange to give her all the files and records within the next month. I know that she will do an excellent job.

It has been an honour to serve our Barony.

YIS  
Alais de Poitiers

## Feast of the Hare 2016

There was great excitement as the Rick Mercer Report filmed a segment at the Feast of the Hare.

Thanks to all who helped to organize this, very successful, event. Watch the segment at <https://youtu.be/ZughLxTC3t0>



Thank you to Dafydd ap Alan for permission to use his wonderful pictures.

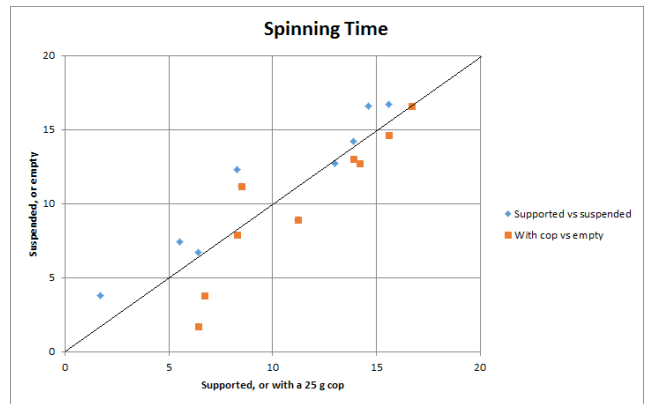
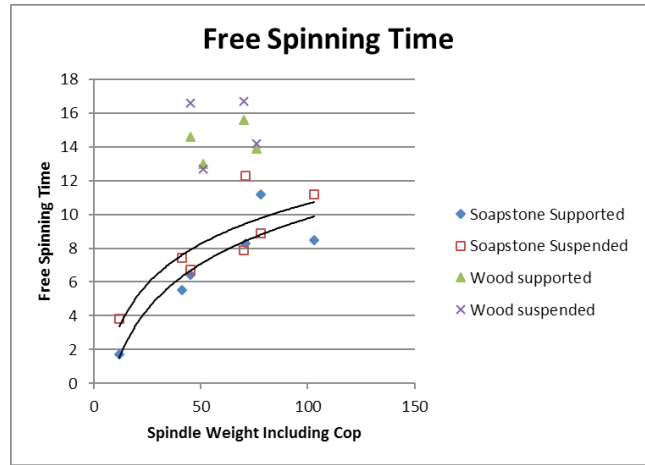
<https://dgotlieb.smugmug.com/SCA/Feast-of-the-Hare-2016/>

Alienor’s A&S Adventures

I have been working away on my spindle research, described in the last issue. I have finished producing the first set of samples (four samples from each spindle – suspended and supported; with and without a cop) and will now be measuring them all. When I’m done that, I’ll need to analyze the samples everyone else has produced, and make another set of samples that will be produced by twirling the spindle in my hand.

So far, I have the following observations:

- Several people have made yarn samples and left comments at events, especially at Feast of the Hare. This is much appreciated because it will allow me to make sure that my findings are applicable to everybody, and not just me.
- Everybody who has tried it has had trouble using the 12 g spindle. I found that it required 8 – 10 flicks per minute just to keep going; putting a 25 g cop on made a huge difference. I am hoping that it will work better when I twirl it in-hand.
- The rim-weighted spindle really did live up to its advertising, with a free spinning time of 14 – 17 seconds. A beginner spinner who chooses a modern rim-weighted spindle, a Turkish spindle (with a free spinning time of 17 – 18 seconds), or even a plain wooden one (with a free spinning time of 12 – 15 seconds) over a soapstone one (which all had free spinning times below 12 seconds) will have more time to focus on drafting fibre before needing to worry about backspin.
- For the soapstone whorls, free spinning time increases as the mass of the weight increases. Spindles with wooden whorls spin for longer than spindles with soapstone whorls, even if the soapstone whorls are much heavier. This is illustrated in the graph titled Free Spinning Time, below.
- It takes me about 20 seconds to draft an arm-length of yarn, which means I need to stop and wind on. For the spindles with very short free spinning times, I do a lot of flicks per minute when spinning. Once it gets to 3 – 4 flicks per minute, my drafting speed matters more than the free spinning time.
- In most cases, free spinning time is slightly (but only slightly) longer when suspended than when supported. This makes sense because some energy is lost to the support when spinning supported. This is illustrated in the Spinning Time graph, below.
- In most cases, free spinning time is slightly longer with a cop than empty. Except for the very lightest spindle, the effect is fairly small. This makes sense since heavier spindles spin for longer. This is illustrated in the Spinning Time graph, below.
- More flicks are required when supported than when suspended. This makes sense because it will be the inverse of the spinning time. The effect is larger and noisier than the pure spinning time, because it is affected by other factors such as the twist insertion rate.



# Events

*For all events and gatherings, please contact the local group to confirm specific information.*

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

## Around the Kingdom:

The Ealdormere 12th Night event will be held on Saturday, January 7th by the Canton of Ard Chreag. The theme: Super Heroes and Vile Villians. The site for the event is at the Claremont Community centre, 4941 Old Brock Road in Claremont Ontario. Please consult their event website for further information.

The Shire of Bastille Du Lac is holding the Tornoï du Coeur de Glace on Saturday, February 7th of 2017. The tournament will feature both armoured and rapier combat events. Please consult the Ealdormere website event page for further information.

On Saturday, February 11th the Canton of Archdreag (in Bowmanville) will host the Ealdormere Service Symposium. The details have yet to be announced as of the time of this writing. Further information may be found on the event website.

Step Spritely, the annual dance event, will take place on Saturday, February 18th. Details to be announced.

On Saturday, March 4th Trinovantia Nova will host Winter War. Further Details to be announced.

Saturday, March 11th will see Break the Back of Winter, hosted by the Canton of Greyfell. Further details to be announced at a later date.

## From our Barony:

Practicum 2017: hosted by the Canton of Caldrihtig. The Practicum: St. Eloy's Fair will be held on February 25th at Rideau Park United Church, in Ottawa. The address is 2203 Alta Vista Drive. Please consult the Event website for more information.

The Kingdom A&S will take place on Saturday, March 25th in North Gower. The site is at the Alfred Taylor Recreation Center, 2300 Community Way. Further details to follow.

# Baronial 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

## **Caldrithig**

### **Armoured Combat Practice**

Wednesdays at 7 pm

### **Rapier Practice**

Thursdays at 8 pm

### **Choir Practice**

Sundays at 2:00 pm

### **Canton Meetings**

Second and fourth Sunday of the month at 4 pm

### **Instrumental Practices**

Sundays at 12:00 pm

### **Dance Practice:**

Tuesday Nights 8-10:00 PM

McNabb Community Center

180 Percy.

## **Greyfells**

### **Canton Meetings**

Held at the Canton Fight Practice and A&S Day,  
monthly on the following dates:

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



## **Officers of the Barony of Skraeling Althing**

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## **Request for Content Submission**

Our next edition of this Chronicle will be completed and sent out sometime in the middle of March of 2017. I would be most pleased to accept all and any submissions that you may wish to provide, for publication in the Chronicle. Please, send me your tales of bravado, brags, studies in the fabric or other medieval arts; poems, drawings, memories. This new Medieval era is a nation built on doing, knowing and remembering. So share your own memories, and we will all be richer for it. Send me your upcoming events, or the lessons that living in this glorious era has taught you. If you have a new project you have been very proud of, share that as well. Send me your tales of the Society. I would only ask that you make such tales brief (perhaps 200 words) so as to help your often long winded Chronicler keep the issue of a comfortable size.

Yours in Service

Consaidin Breathnach