

# Skraeling Althing Chronicle

Vol: 1 Spring 2024



Picture by Lord Kit of Caldrihtig (MKA Chris Jodoin)

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## THE SCA IS A WELCOMING AND DIVERSE SPACE

The Barony of Skraeling Althing fully supports the ideal of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Our membership is open to people from all backgrounds. See more at [skraelingalthing.com/wp/diversity/](https://skraelingalthing.com/wp/diversity/)

*Our Core Values, which guide us in even these darkest of times, include the following tenets: to “act in accordance with the chivalric virtues of honor and service”, to “value and respect the worth and dignity of all individuals”, and to “practice inclusiveness and respect plural-ism and diversity”.*

*If we are to live by our core values then there is only one path forward: we must both fight against systemic injustice and support those that do.*

*As the unique educational organization that we are, we have the opportunity to leverage our greatest resource: our community. It is our community that makes us who we are. That is the true value of the Society for Creative Anachronism. We treasure the rich diversity of our community as a reflection of the rich diversity of history..*

This quote is from a statement published by Baroness Zahra Tesfaye, SCA Corporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer on June 2, 2020 (Read the full statement at [https://www.sca.org/news/from-the-sca-office-of-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/.](https://www.sca.org/news/from-the-sca-office-of-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/))

# Letter from Their Excellencies

To Our Glorious and Noble Hares,

The sun has returned in our fair lands and much has happened since we last wrote you.

Taxes were raised and set at Feast of the Hare - we desire the preservation of our collective history. Tell us stories, write stories in to our newsletter, create or update your wiki page. Do not let us lose this moment in our lives but set your words to last forevermore.

The Feast of Lombardy was marked at the beginning of the year with much merriment and a few surprises.

Consideration of the name change process has moved forward and we will all soon be giving thought to what name best suits our future and honours our past.

A concerning thing was brought to Our attention before Practicum. An officer of Our Barony had yet to receive a bunnytail! This was rectified at Practicum but, indeed, some of the most noble amongst us may have been overlooked. This shook Us to our core, and thus, we need your help. We invite anyone who has not been recognised and elevated to our most glorious Orders to fill out an award recommendation (<https://skraelingalthing.com/wp/baronial-awards/award-recommendations/>). Further, if you believe a friend, companion, or person is deserving of an award, please make it known to us by that method.

If you wish Us to recognize someone, but are not sure that they suit any of our existing awards, do not hesitate to make something up. We delight in mischievousness and revelry!

We are looking forward to seeing Our Barony at Sock Burner on April 13th, Paardenbloem on April 20th, Coronation on April 27th, Fruits of our Labour on May 17th to 20th and Crown Tourney on May 25th.

Know that we intend to also attend Les Beltaine on June 13th to 16th which is in Saint-Mathieu-du-Parc, Quebec in East Kingdom.

May spring showers help your fields grow, and bring sunshine to our rolling hills and strong rivers.

Dubhessa and Joffr, Baroness and Baron of the Althing.



Photo by THL Dafydd ap Alan.



# Event Reports

**Feast at Lombardy** was a just a feast event over the afternoon of January 6. Dancing and games were had during the feasting. At Court, King Baldric II and Queen Breyla II call upon Sir Varenko to protect the Toy Bag from the children of Ealdormere. Varenko ran a very merry chase outside of the building until he realized that not all of the exterior doors were unlocked. Magdalena de l'appetit was called into the Court and received the Award of the Maiden's Heart. Dame Eleanor Cadfan then regaled the Court of her recent pilgrimage in Spain. She presented His Majesty with a scallop shell from her pilgrimage from the Bishop at the cathedral. His Majesty then asked how best to pay her back for this amazing gift. Instead of asking something for herself, Dame Eleanor begged the boon for her two apprentices THL Cristabel Wensleydale and THL Wilhelm von Pottruff to be elevated to the Order of the Laurel. THL Cristabel Wensleydale and THL Wilhelm von Pottruff were called into Court as was the Order of the Laurel. The Order was asked if they agreed to the elevations and they assented. THL Cristabel Wensleydale and THL Wilhelm von Pottruff were then given their Writs for their vigils and elevations to the Order of the Laurel. After this happy news, Newcomers were called into Court to receive their cups after attending their first event.

**Practicum 2024: Back to Basics** presented many hours of classes on a range of topics. Court was held after classes closed. First, Elliot Weaver was called into Court. Their Majesties noted the amount of work They have seen Elliot doing and asked what activities Elliot enjoys in the SCA. The Order of the Wolf's Cub was called up and Elliot was made the newest member of the Order. The children of Ealdormere were called into Court for the Running of the Toy Bag. THL Morag was charged with the bag, but not before His Majesty had the Court sing Happy Birthday. THL Morag then took the young Wolves of Ealdormere for quite the run of the site! Next, His Excellency Joffr was then invited to hold Baronial Court for The Althing.

During Baronial Court, both Philib mac Daibhídh and Naomi of Caldrithig were welcomed to the Barony with a Bunny Tail. His Excellency then announced that Their Excellencies will be seeking their new Baronial Champions at the event Sock Burner in the Stronghold of Greyfells. If you wish to be one of their Champions be prepared to compete for the honour there.

When Baronial Court closed, Their Majesties called Jeanne Raysdottir to receive an Award of Arms. Ulrick von Kues received the Award of the Orion for their work in brewing. Ceclia the Sinister received the Award of the Orion for their work in dance. Next, Boyarina Marina Anastasia Ozeroski was called into Court. Their Majesties noted the work she does and the Order of the Wain was called into Court. Marina was then created as the newest member of the Order of the Wain. Newcomers were then invited in front of Their Majesties to receive a cup to fill upon at their next event. Lastly, those who taught a class that day were presented with tokens of thanks from Their Majesties and the event staff were presented with a basket of goodies as a thank you from Their Majesties.

# Baronial Officer Vacancies

The SCA is a volunteer organization, as we all know. In order for our groups to maintain their status and to continue to do things like have Armoured Combat or Fencing Practices and hold events, we need a few officers at the helm to keep the business end on course.

The Barony is a local group unto itself, but it is also an important mid-step between the Canton/Strongholds and the Kingdom. Baronial officers offer advice and guidance to the Canton and Strongholds' officers, and offer timely reminders on reporting deadlines, in addition to filing their own reports.

The office of Chatelaine is currently vacant, and has been since August of 2023. The Chatelaine is many members' first contact with the SCA. Deemed the SCA's "welcome wagon" a Chatelaine eases a person's entry into the group. Largely an email based job, this is a good one for anyone looking for a soft introduction to working an officer position.

The Honourable Noble Estienne is on their second term as Minister of Arts and Sciences and is seeking a successor. The Minister of Arts and Sciences is a cheerleader for our artistic endeavours. The only required duty for this position is to file reports, but the person who fills this role has wide latitude to encourage A&S in the Barony.



# Articles

## What's in a Name?

Originally published February 24, 2024. Edited to update for time of publication and brevity.

As many readers will be aware, the Barony recently ran a poll, which closed on January 17, 2024, with respect to changing the Barony's name. There were 53 respondents voting, nearly 80% of which were in favour of a name change.

Concurrently, there has been much discussion about what the new name should be. The Honourable Lady Morag, the Baronial Seneschal, compiled a list of suggestions from various discussion forums and sent the preliminary list to the Ealdormere College of Heraldry to help eliminate any unregistrable options.

The following names have been reviewed by a team of Heraldry and are held to be potentially registrable options for our deliberations. This list is presented alphabetically, with no implication of merit associated with position on the list.

Alþingishóll  
Alþingis-straumur  
Aqua Aureliae  
Caerdydd Newydd  
Eldinga Alþingi  
Gasteiz Beria  
Gullin Alþingi and Gilden Alþingi  
Héragarðr  
Nafarroa Berria  
Nieuw Brussels  
Terra Aureliae  
Wabozwaaling

Submissions are now closed. All suggestions, those above and any received since the original publication of this article have been sent to the Ealdormere College of Heraldry for a "first pass" evaluation, to ensure that the populace doesn't get their hearts set on a name that isn't registrable.

## A Medieval Meadmaker in our Midst

By Nico Charron-Groulx

Originally published March 19, 2024

Most days, Kelly O’Sullivan is getting ready to take Museum Studies at Grant MacEwan university, but in his spare time he becomes Ulrich Von Kues, a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) specializing in historical alcohol. Ulrich joined the SCA as a fencer in the East Kingdom, participating more regularly after moving to Caldrihig. During the pandemic, Ulrich took up a new hobby: alcohol. Researching medieval alcohols around the world, he began brewing mead, which is “an easy one,” according to him. Ulrich paints a lively picture of his home brewing, with a “closet of fermentation” and bottles stashed in bins.



*Photo by Nico Charron-Groulx*

Ulrich usually makes batches of about 8 bottles but can reach 12 at most, using multiple 4-5 gallon fermentators. To pursue this interest, he became apprenticed to the Laurel Arwyn of Leicester, who guides his research projects. Indeed, Ulrich has written several research papers for the SCA and defended them in A&S competitions. He is currently writing a paper on gender roles in Norse mead hall traditions, as well as making his first foray away from mead by brewing apple raspberry cider. Next, he intends to research Asian alcohols, establish a library of favorite recipes, and make a second attempt at pineapple mead. He explained that this flavoring comes from adding fresh fruit to the fermentators, with results like the pink raspberry mead he once offered to Kayla to celebrate her second victory at Crown.

Ulrich has always had an interest in reenacting, but says he stayed with the SCA for its community. He finds events to be particularly valuable - and fun- experiences. Since brewing isn't transportable, he spends more event time fencing, but focuses on the casual, social aspect. He explained that the SCA brought him solid friendships and chosen family, saying that “fencing is fun, brewing is fun ... but realistically it's been the people that have kept me playing.”



# Upcoming Events



## Sock Burner

April 13, 2024

Odessa Agricultural Society

231 Main St, Odessa, ON

Gate opens 9:00 AM

The Crew of the Bleek Paard, sponsored by The Stronghold of Greyfells, invites one and all to nautical themed event. Fighting, fencing, thrown weapons, & A&S

Feast reservations: 2boldlygo@hotmail.com

Adult Registration: \$30; Member discount \$20

Feast: \$15; lunch: \$6

## Paardenbloem Festival

A celebration of spring!

April 20, 2024

Furnace Falls Farm

504 Old Briar Hill Rd, Lyndhurst, ON

Gate opens 10:00 AM

Come help us celebrate the spring, with a festival inspired by Dutch/Flemish painter Pieter Bruegel's works of peasant life and celebrations!

Adult Registration: \$45; Member discount \$35

Fees include Day board







## Coronation of Evander II and Marioun II

April 27, 2024

Victoria Park Armoury  
210 Kent St W, Lindsay, ON

Gate opens: 9:30AM

Celebrate the continuation of the Line of the North with Coronation of King Evander II and Queen Marioun II, and. witness the Investiture of the new Baronial nobles of Septentria.

Feast reservations: [checkyboy@gmail.com](mailto:checkyboy@gmail.com)

Adult Registration: \$30; Member discount \$20

Feast: \$15; lunch: \$10

## Lady Mary Memorial Tournament

11 May 2024

Bethany Family Church  
1388 Third Street Louth, St. Catharines, ON

Gate opens 9:00 AM



## FOOL XVII – Everything Old is New Again

May 17th – 20th, 2024

Camp Impeesa

827559 Township Rd 8, Drumbo, ON

Gate opens 4:00 PM Friday

Welcome to Fruits of Our Labours, or more commonly known as FOOL.

It is a fun and relaxed, long weekend event featuring arts and science classes. We often have thrown weapons, archery and martial activities as well, but it is the A&S that rules!

Adult Registration: \$50; Member discount \$40

Adult Day trip: \$30; Member discount Day: \$20

# Official Pages

Want to keep up-to-date with our current mailing lists, Facebook pages, and web pages?

You can find us at:

## **Baronial**

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2334791875/>

Web page: <http://skraelingalthing.com/wp/>

## **Cantons**

*Facebook pages:*

Caldrithig: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/caldrithig/>

Greyfells: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/225292100927968/>

*Web pages:*

Caldrithig: <http://skraelingalthing.com/wp/caldrithig/>

Tor Brant: <http://skraelingalthing.com/wp/torbrant/>

Greyfells: <http://skraelingalthing.com/wp/greyfells/>

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## **Advertising in the Chronicle**

Advertising rates are as follows:

- Quarter page: \$15 • Half page: \$25 • Full page: \$50

These are half the price of the Kingdom newsletter. All payments by cheque, payable to: SCA Barony of Skraeling Althing. Please note that all advertisement should be SCA-related goods or services, suitable for any audience, and not containing any offensive images or language. Contact the Chronicler for details.

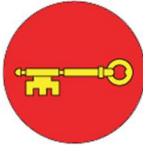
# Baronial Officers



Baroness  
Her Excellency, Dubhessa Ni Ulliam  
(she/her)  
baroness@skraelingalthing.com



Baron  
His Excellency, Joffr Rodson (he/him)  
baron@skraelingalthing.com



Seneschal  
Morag Taylor  
seneschal@skraelingalthing.com



Herald  
THL Michael Corviser (he/him)  
herald@skraelingalthing.com



Chronicler  
Constance of Caldrithig (she/her)  
skrael.chronicler@gmail.com



Exchequer  
Philib mac Daibhídh  
exchequer@skraelingalthing.com



Minister of the Arts and Sciences  
Noble Estienne de Nantes (she/her or they/them)  
moas@skraelingalthing.com



Marshal  
Sir Ælfwyn of Longwood  
marshal@skraelingalthing.com



Chatelaine  
Vacant  
skraeling.chatelaine@gmail.com



Clerk-Register (Webminister)  
Dama Antonia di Benedetto Calvo  
(she/her)  
web.minister@skraelingalthing.com



Signet  
Thorfinna gra'feldr (she/her)  
signet@skraelingalthing.com



Scribe  
Catherine Rose-Lamont  
scribe@skraelingalthing.com

## Canton Seneschals



Caldrithig  
Cecilia the Sinister (she/her or they/them)  
caldrithig@skraelingalthing.com



Greyfells  
Rodrigo Berenguer  
greyfells@skraelingalthing.com



Tor Brant  
Vargo Geden (he/him)  
tor.brant@skraelingalthing.com

Baronial Council is composed of the Baronial Seneschal, Exchequer, Chronicler, Herald, Chatelaine, MoAS, Marshal, and Clerk-Register, as well as the Seneschals of each canton within the Barony. (Bylaw 6, of baronial bylaws.)