

Skraeling Atching Chronicle

Vol 2 / June 2026 / A.S. LXI

The Baronial Investiture Issue



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihtig (MKA Chris Jodoin)

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To contribute to the *Chronicle*, either articles, artwork, photography, or otherwise, please contact the Chronicler at: skrael.chronicler@gmail.com

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/

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 pluralism 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/>.)

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Upcoming Events



Baroness's Bunny Ball

June 20th

Tanglewood Hillsdale Community Centre
30 Woodfield Dr, Nepean, ON K2G 3Y5

ealdormere.ca/caldrithig/baroness-bunny-ball-2026/

Baronial candidates will be announced at this event.



Ealdormerean Exhibition

August 22nd

Marionville Community Centre
4629 Gregoire Road
Marionville, ON

ealdormere.ca/ealdormerean-exhibition/

This event will provide a networking opportunity for the Kingdom's various artisans. Think Trade Fair, or County Fair. No judging, just geeking.

The Baronial Investiture of Skraeling Althing will also take place at this event.

Elsewhere in Ealdormere (and beyond)

- **Murder Melee** in the Barony of Ben Dunfirth (Wellandport), June 4-7
- **Beltaines XXXVI** hosted by the Barony of Havre des Glaces in the Kingdom of the East (Biccoline), June 11-14
- **Lady Mary Memorial Tournament** in the Barony of Rising Waters (Lincoln), June 20
- **War of the Trillium** hosted by the Cantons of Ard Chreag and Petrea Thule (Hastings), June 30-July 5
- **Baron's Brouhaha IX** hosted by the Canton of Northgeatham (Tiverton), July 17-19
- **Torwyn Hill Encampment**, Canton of Bryniau Twynnog (Drumbo), July 30-August 9
- **The Queen's Marque** in the Canton of Petrea Thule (Codrington), August 15

Event Reports

8 MARCH 2026: Many friends in the Barony gathered together for a visiting, smacking, stabbing, and pricking session in Smiths Falls. On this rainy day in March, there were 8 fighters, 6 fencers, and 11 A&Sers enjoying the hospitality of Rosedale Hall.

21 MARCH 2026: SOCKBURNER was a roaring success, with 115 attendees (96 adult members, 7 minors under 18, and 12 adult non-members). While the weather was not quite ready for us to dispense with our socks, we were kept warm in the Court of TEs Dubhesa and Joffr of the Althing. Here the Order of the Tantony was awarded to **Odin**, signifying that even the smallest voice contributes to the harmony of the Barony. Carrots of Excellence were presented to **THL Brennait la Belle Fluor** and **Sir Laurenz Tonnemacher**. Wassail to all for their accomplishments.



*Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrithig
(mka Chris Jodoin)*

It was also announced that the Baronial Signet, **HE porfinna gráfeldr**, is seeking a successor.

In the following court of TRMs Tristam and Anneke, **Randall of Skyridge** received a well-deserved Award of Arms, **Lady May of ye Wolde** and **Noble Philomena Lancione** were awarded Maiden's Hearts, and her esteemed **Excellency Pesha of Little Egypt** was elevated to the Order of the Laurel. A hearty wassail for you all!



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldriithig (mka Chris Jodoin)

28 March 2026: KINGDOM A&S was a wondrous affair, with artisans from across the Kingdom sharing their remarkable works. The Althing was well-represented by **Baroness Eleanor of Bonwicke**, whose calligraphy entry was recognized with largesse of gold leaf by the Court. **Lady Lorette de Chasteauneuf** also entered her knitted reliquary bag and **Rebbah Ya'el bat Shilo mibeit haMaayan** entered her research paper on the Black Death. This being my first Kingdom A&S, I was very impressed by the variety and of crafts on display, and the thought of judging them was disheartening. Fortunately, **Sir Ælfwyn of Longwood**, **Mistress Marina Anastasia Ozorowska**, **Baroness Eleanor of Bonwicke**, and **Baroness Constance of Caldriithig** stepped up to the task, applying their expert knowledge to judging and offering feedback.



Photo by Lady Naomi the Bard

Another important milestone occurred during the Court of Their Majesties: The Foresters Guild received a Royal Charter “to protect the Royal Forests and all the life that makes them whole.” Special thanks are due to **Lady Naomi the Bard** and **Lord Andre Dubois**, who together have shepherded this group into existence and nurtured a community for the “Friends of the Green.” We look forward to future reports from our newest Guild.

18 April 2026: At the **SPRING CORONATION**, a large contingent from the Althing gathered to witness the brutal betrayal of King Tristam by his own retinue, followed by the untimely shoeing of Queen Annika and coronation of King Crispin II and Queen Laura I. **Mistress Elsebeth Ffarberyn** was inducted into the Order of the Wain and **Lord Nicola Canis** was inducted into the Order of the Crucible. Wassail! There was dancing, there was fighting, there was dancing while fighting (congratulations, **Magister Rigel**, on your rapier victory!), and a wonderful day was had by all.

15-18 May 2026: FRUITS OF OUR LABOURS always opens our Kingdom's camping season with an explosion of creativity, and this year was no exception. The Althing arrived at Camp Impresa with learners and teachers in droves. For those who weren't able to attend, as well as readers from the future, here's a tiny glimpse at what you missed:



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihig
(mka Chris Jodoin)

Noble Ceallach Aisteach na Snag Breac

Making Chainmail Balls: Basic European 4-in-1 chainmail with decreases to make your own chainmail ball!

Improving Trans Ally-ship in the SCA: A VERY brief introduction to the experience of trans and gender-diverse people and some ways cisgender SCAdians can continue to improve their allyship to make events more welcoming.

Baroness Constance of Caldrihig

Cord, 4 Ways: Basics 101 class for four techniques: Lucet, fingerloop braiding, whip cording, kumihimo.

Stylin' Series: Elizabethan Polychrome: Discuss features and uses of extant Elizabethan polychrome (i.e., not blackwork) embroideries and begin a small sample piece to practice the techniques characteristic of the style.

Baroness Eleanor of Bonwicke

How to Paint with Gouache: Modern gouache is a popular paint for illuminating scrolls and is close in composition to historical paints. Learn to use it along with embellishment ideas.

Lady Lorette de Chasteauneuf

Introduction to Medieval Coffee: Explore a brief overview of coffee from the 5th Century to the 16th Century. Coffee will be brewed and served during the class.

OCoffee After Dark – A Dark Introduction to the History of Coffee: Darker versions of the origin stories and more of the sordid history of coffee.



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihig (mka Chris Jodoin)

Lady Lydia of Tyldenre & Rebbah Ya’el bat Shilo

Citation Needed: An Introduction to Research Papers and Documentation: Finding and reviewing resources, how citations work (and why they’re important!), turning your pile of notes into a working draft, dealing with writer’s block, finding proofreaders, and how to turn that draft into a final document.

Lady Sadb ingen Uí Fhaoladh

Get Your Flirt On – 15th Century Italian Dance: Learn some flirtatious dances for couples and threesomes: Gelosia, Anello, Rostiboli and more.

Dancing With Shakespeare: Learn English country dances that were mentioned in his plays (or those of other contemporary authors) including Heart’s Ease, Gathering Peasecods, the Shaking of the Sheets, and more.

Rebbah Ya’el bat Shilo & Lady Sadb Ingen Uí Fhaoladh

Crazy as a Loom: A hands-on exploration of different types of looms and what you can do with them.



Photo by Lady Lydia of Tyldenre

The Line of the North



Photo by Baron Alexander

Duke Trumbrand the Wanderer & Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful
Wassail the new Heirs to the Trillium Throne

An Interview with Their Excellencies

Over the next few months, a new baronial team will be selected to rule over the Althing. (More on that below.) As our beloved Baron Joffr and Baroness Dubhesa prepare to depart the Althing's thrones, they graciously agreed to answer my questions about their reign and the days to come. Here's what they said:

Chronicler: *Why did You want to become the Baron and Baroness of the Althing? Do You remember the first time You thought, "We should (could) do that"?*

His Excellency: The answers for these two questions happened at very different points in time. When I was still in Ramshaven, I was Herald to Their Excellencies Penda and Syblla and it was there I thought: I could do this! I had quite a bit of fun speaking publicly and praising my fellows that it stayed with me. Shortly after we moved to the Barony, Baroness Catherine and Baron Shahid held a Great Baronial Bead challenge which was inspiring and helped allow us to get to know the Barony better. We met with and discussed the candidates for their succession and welcomed Avelyn and Daffyd to the Lapine seats.

But it was during the Plague Times when we were far apart that we saw the Barony needing new leadership that we placed our names forward. We wanted to continue the Harmony that our predecessors wrought and ensure there was a safe space for our people to rebound after being apart for nearly 2 years. Additionally, we had often heard talk about the name of the Barony, inside and outside the SCA, and we felt this needed to come out in the open.



Photo by Lady Lydia of Tyldenre

Her Excellency: We had talked about becoming Baron and Baroness when we first moved here, although I think we were just kind of joking about it at first. I believe I remember it being Joffr's idea and me going, "Well yeah, I could do that as long as I have you with me." For those who may or may not know us well, Joffr has been the instigator of many large but rewarding life changes for us, including the



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihig
(mka Chris Jodoin)

move back to our Barony from Ramshaven 11 years ago, and he is one of the guiding stars of my life, so when our predecessors stepped down and he said, “How about now?” I was like, “Yes, we will do this together.” The plague years were upon us and I knew we would be facing some unique challenges but I was determined to stay connected to our SCA community and I wanted to set an example for how that could be done.

Chronicler: *At the outset of Your reign, how did you learn to go beyond being gentles of the populace to ruling as Baron and Baroness?*

Her Excellency: We had some great advice about this from our forebears. They said, “When people offer to help, take it.” Being Baron and Baroness is a lot of

work, and you will need to have people around you. If you try to do it all yourself you will burn out, but not only that, you won’t really embody your role. People want to do service, and part of that is serving Royalty. That is a big part of what makes our game work. It will satisfy the people aiding you, and make their SCA experience fulfilling, and it will do the same for you and make you feel fulfilled in your role. Furthermore, you are the Crown’s representative in these lands, you should be treated with the same respect and dignity.

His Excellency: Initially, we had split the duties into coordination (including scrolls, lists, wrangling, etc.) and outreach (including addressing the populace, plots, schemes, and other mischievousness). I would do the outreach while the Baroness completed the coordination. Interestingly, I had a job where public speaking was constant and my Love, Baroness Dubhesa, had a more private employment. Our first court was shaky and we received some useful feedback. However, after our first time on the seats, Baroness Dubhesa excelled in addressing the populace and so we switched positions for the most part. I was a bit nervous while addressing foreign royalty but I eventually made good friends far from home as well as close by. We grew into the seats and, about a year after our Investiture someone said to me that we seemed natural on the Lapine seats. The stumbling block I think we all have is self confidence.



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihig
(mka Chris Jodoin)

Chronicler: *Ascending to the Baronial thrones at any time must be a big adjustment, but You managed it during the Great Plague. What was the most challenging part of this for You?*

His Excellency: Initially it was the back and forth. We were invested in 2021, right before a government request to self isolate during the Delta strain. So we lost some momentum in that period and worked hard to gain it back. We also struggled at times keeping officers motivated and moving forward on their work. We are all volunteers and often a task comes up for which you did not sign up for. These events can strain relationships and cause some to say things they do not truly mean, or do things you regret. These challenges were difficult but perseverance got us through to the end.

Her Excellency: I was actually looking forward to the challenge of bringing people together and making people feel included in our community during the Plague. I ran several online events and participated in the “Ealdormere At Home” activities. I really love some of the things and events that came out of that time, like the virtual paint nights run by the Painters Guild. I did and still do feel strongly about accessibility in the SCA and I saw my position as an opportunity to explore new ways to make that happen.



*Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihtig
(mka Chris Jodoin)*

Chronicler: *Is there anything You know now that You wish You had known at the start?*



*Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrihtig
(mka Chris Jodoin)*

Her Excellency: I learned a couple of fun things! One thing I learned almost right away is that I really enjoy speaking in court. I didn’t think I would, because in past stage performance situations I’ve really struggled, but somehow this just clicked for me. I still struggled to find my voice behind the scenes until later in my term, and I do somewhat wish I had my current confidence at the outset. However I think this might be a common theme, I know I’ve spoken to other Baronials who also said they didn’t feel like they knew what they were doing until their last year or so.

His Excellency: I did not know the true WEALTH and DEPTH of Baronial tradition in the Althing. I’ve done my best to document it for future generations and hopefully more will be added in time.

I also wish I knew how motivated and imaginative the populace were. Our initial taxes were about helping each other, giving each other grace, or helping a particular officer. While nice in context, I was surprised by asking the populace for the Stars. You all amazed and delighted us. I don't think I will ever feel that magic again in my life so I will treasure its memory until the sun winks from existence.

Chronicler: *Looking back over Your time on the throne, what are some of the moments that will stay with You?*

Her Excellency: The moment or day that will stay with me always is the Hare of Stars. I set "Bring Me the stars!" as our taxes as something simple and lighthearted and a personal thing that makes me happy, and the entire Barony turned out to make it happen. I could never have imagined such a response and I am still blown away by it. Everyone's contribution was unique and enchanting and I have never felt so honoured.

His Excellency: Certainly the aforementioned Hare of Stars. My first time at a foreign Crown tourney or at Les Beltaines as Baron was interesting. Inter-kingdom anthropology is now a keen interest of mine. When Lord Nicola swore fealty to Us to become Our Champion. The looks of surprise, thanks and heartfelt joy on people's faces as they were recognised by Us for their many good works. You have all moved me to tears of joy more than once. Those thoughts will always stay with me.



Photo by Lady Lydia of Tyldenne

His Excellency: Our greatest accomplishment would be the good memories you have of our courts. We have attempted to bring more theatre back to our courts when we can, with props, shenanigans, and other delights. Someone told me recently that in all their time in the SCA, they have never laughed so hard as when I brought out a list of rules about giving largesse. I could not be more pleased.

Done differently? We have a small problem. Baroness Gina and Dame Helen are the only two persons donating largesse on a regular basis. This has kept us well stocked. But it would be good to foster new streams of largesse so that the burden is shared by more than two cherished Noble Ladies of our Court. This is why we set Largesse as the taxes for this coming Hare. And we will do our best to contribute as well.

Her Excellency: I'm not sure I can point to a specific deed or accomplishment but the thing I love most as Baroness is giving bunny tails. Being the person to say "I see you, you're here, you're one of us now" is so meaningful to me, and many have told me of its meaning to them.

Chronicler: *Have You laid the groundwork for anything that the next Baronials might take up?*

Her Excellency: I'm not sure we've specifically set out any intentions that our successors might follow. Every Baronial team brings their own aspirations and priorities to the role, and I am looking forward to seeing how the next people will shape it for themselves.

I think one of the wonderful things about the length of term for the Baronial Seat is that one can pursue a long-term goal in this role, and you can set intentions for yourself through your term. One of my simplest was to dance more! And to encourage and support the dancers in our Barony. Something that got somewhat squashed by recurring injuries, so I didn't end up able to actually do the dancing things as much as I had originally intended. But I did create an event that I hope will recur now and then; The Baroness's Bunny Ball! Much joy and creativity stemmed from that event and I'm thrilled that it got picked up again by the dancers this year.

His Excellency: While two groups did close down during our time (Harrowgate Heath and Tor Brant), the flame has been lit for a group near Smiths Falls/Carleton Place. Hopefully their Nexcellencies will foster this spark and it will grow as well.

We also hope to grow Greyfells further and continue our successful recruitment efforts in Caldritchig. We also leave the next Baronials with a need for Feast Gear. Some of our older items were given when Genevieve was a Lady of the Court and not Viscountess from across the Sea. A refresh is much needed.

Chronicler: *The thrones have a different view of the Barony than the rest of the populace. How do You think the Althing has changed or grown over the time of Your reign?*

His Excellency: Certainly, the Althing has grown. We have more members than ever before and new people in officer positions. Going to Les Beltaines, we hope, has become a tradition for many in the Barony and that event continues to grow. We were one of the first baronies in Ealdormere to include pronoun pins (this was before my time) and we are/were also implementing a pronunciation to names for Heralds for Court items. We continue the tradition of recognising our people as who they are, where they are, for we strongest together, undaunted, unbroken, unyielding - we are the Great Althing.

Her Excellency: I am thrilled to have watched our Barony become a place that is consciously and conscientiously inclusive. It's also been a trend in the SCA as a whole, and other Baronies have done the same. I would also be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the

efforts of our predecessors in that regard as well.

All that said, I am really happy to see that social progress continues. The SCA continues to provide a space where strangers and strangelings can make unique and diverse friendships, and creatively create their own joyful community. I feel honoured to be counted as part of that, and I hope that our successors will continue to work towards making our Barony a safe place for people to call home.



Photo by Lord Kit of Caldrithig (mka Chris Jodoin)

Chronicler: *Finally, I'd like you to describe the Althing in 3 words.*

His Excellency: Talented Hares Together.

Colouring Page



Art by Noble Philomena Lancione

From the Quill of the Seneschal

Greetings,

As was mentioned by Their Excellencies Joffr and Dubhesa at Feast of the Hare last fall, they intend to pass on the seats of the Barony to successors this year. King Crispin and Queen Laura have announced at FOOL the start of the selection of the Lapin seats during their reign with the intent of celebrating the investiture at the Ealdormerean Exhibition on August 22, 2026.

As such we will be following the timeline below:

May 16, 2026 - Announcement of the selection period at Fruits of Our Labours.

June 13, 2026 (midnight) - Deadline for submitting Letters of Intent to the Baronial Seneschal and the Kingdom Seneschal by midnight on Friday June 12, 2026.

June 20, 2026 - Candidates announced at Bunny Ball. Letters of Intent to be shared with the populace.

June 21 - July 17th - Candidate Meetings and Polling - Dates currently to be determined but will aim to align with already occurring activities within the Barony.

July 17th, 2026 - Completion of Polling.

Torwyn Hill - Successful candidates announced.

August 22, 2026 - Baronial Investiture at the Ealdormerean Exhibition

The Requirements to be considered for the Baronial seats:

- **Member is in good standing with the SCA**
- **Reside within the boundaries of the Barony**
- **18 years of age and above**

If you have questions regarding the selection process, please feel free to contact the Baronial Seneschal at skraeling.seneschal@gmail.com

In service,

Ætuned verch Angor, OL

Amendments to Barony of Skraeling Althing Bylaws

Baronial Council is taking some administrative steps to update our By-Laws so that they adhere to the laws of the Kingdom. Please review the proposed updated Section and feel free to **provide commentary to the Baronial Seneschal before July 11, 2026.**

The details are posted on the Baronial website:

<https://skraelingalthing.com/wp/proposed-amended-by-laws/>

In Service,

Ætuned verch Anġor, OL

Chronicler's Corner

It is with a heavy heart that I must report the official dissolution of the Stronghold of Tor Brant.

According to Lord Sven Gunnolfr Ragnaldson in the Skraeling Althing Chronicles, *"The first proof of our existence is found in the form of receipts dated September of 1989, then a report stating "The incipient canton of Tor Brant" held their first meeting on the "20th day of January 1990". In its first year of existence the group held 2 feast[sic], 2 fight practices, 2 demos, 4 garb workshops, 2 cooking guild meetings, 2 film festivals, 1 medieval picnic and 4 potlucks along with regular meetings every Sunday. On the 23rd day of September 1991, the seneschal Adela of the Fiery Woods put forward the application for branch advancement to full status. Tor Brant was granted full status in May of 1992."*



By liftarn at openclipart

I am sure that those who have been around will remember many happy days in Tor Brant, from marking the return of spring with the Dandelion Festival to indulging at the Feast of the Beast, country days out at the Vandergragt farm, and perhaps some of you will even remember camping on an island overrun with poison ivy (thanks Viscountess Ælflæda FitzAlain for the memory).

We bid a sad farewell to Tor Brant and hope that those who remain in the vicinity will be embraced by the surrounding communities.

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/>

Discord: <https://discord.gg/snzvKxGr>

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/>

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

Discord:

Caldrithig: <https://discord.gg/hnBfs2DSqT>

Greyfells: <https://discord.gg/XBVec4eM>

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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.)