



From the Quill of their Excellencies of Skraeling Althing

Greetings unto the most noble populace of Skraeling Althing
from Baron and Baroness Shahid and Catherine.

Did you know that all of our activities, from the events and feasts, to the local fighter practices, business meetings, and workshops and classes, are all run by volunteers? Service is an integral part of Honour and Chivalry in the Society. For every job/task that one takes on, there is a very personal impact for someone else.

Our Barony is made up of many individuals who hold offices to ensure things happen in accordance with the rules. Several of these offices are now seeking applications for their replacement.

Baronial Seneschal
Baronial Chatelaine
Greyfells Clerk-Register (Webminister)
Greyfells Pursuivant (Herald)
Tor Brant Arts & Sciences Minister
Tor Brant Clerk-Register (Webminister)
Tor Brant Pursuivant (Herald)

We would encourage members of Our barony to take a look at the following listing of open positions, and consider applying.

In Service,
Shahid and Catherine
Baron and Baroness of Skraeling Althing



Order of Information

	<i>page</i>
From the Quill	1
Order of information	2
Alienor's A & S Adventure	3
Upcoming Events: Kingdom and Baronial	4
Baronial Gatherings	5
Officers of the Barony	6
Submission Request	7

To receive the Chronicle:

There will be a PDF posted on the Baronial web page, 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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This is the final part of a series of articles that will be appearing in the Chronicle this year describing the experiments I have been conducting as part of a White Wolf Fian challenge to quantify their performance characteristics, which means that this article will describe my conclusions. I confirmed three of my hypotheses – that lighter spindles are good for making thinner yarn, that supported spinning is good for making thinner yarn, and that heavier spindles spin for longer per flick. I did not find any evidence one way or the other on whether smaller (centre-weighted) spindles spin for longer per flick. I had expected to find that the rim-weighted and Turkish spindles are very slow; I did end up finding that the Turkish spindle rotates slowly, but I was just as productive on it as on the others, and I was most productive on the rim-weighted spindle.

For a beginner, I would recommend choosing a spindle that rotates for a long time on one flick, so that they have lots of time to focus on drafting without worrying about backspin. Any of the wooden spindles would work well for this purpose. To work well as warp for weaving (or thread for embroidery or handsewing), yarn needs to be strong, which means that it needs to have lots of twist. I usually find that the limiting factor to the rate at which I can spin warp is the rate of twist insertion, not my drafting rate. To spin as much acceptable warp as possible as quickly as possible, I would want to choose a spindle which I was able to produce lots of yarn on, from amongst the spindles with the highest rotation speeds. Next time I spin warp, I will be using either a medium weight soapstone spindle or the rim-weighted spindle.

Other types of yarn, including weft and nalbinding yarn, don't need to be as strong. To produce as much weft as possible I would want to choose the spindle with which I was able to produce the most yarn in the 20 minutes. Next time I want to produce a lot of yarn quickly, I will definitely choose the rim-weighted spindle. To spin thin yarn, I would recommend spinning supported. Using a lighter spindle (but not so light that you can't keep it moving) may also help. To spin thick yarn, I would recommend spinning suspended, using a heavier spindle.

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:

Trillium War: runs from Thursday June 29th– to July 3rd, 2017. Hosted by the Canton of Archdreag, the site is at Tom and Larissa's farm, 3421 Concession Road 5, Orono. Please consult their event website for further information.

Baron's Brouhaha: runs from Friday July 14th– Sunday July 16th, 2017. Hosted by the Canton of Nortgeatham, the Barony of Ramshaven. The event is located at 973 Concession Road 8, Tiverton, Ontario. Consult their event website or the Ealdormere Event calendar for further details.

Midsummer Feast of Lughnasa: Saturday, August 5th, 2017. Hosted by the Barony of Ben Dunfirth in Brantford Ontario. Located at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Brantford, Ontario. Come on out and support the incipient Canton of Westbellford. See the Ealdormere event calendar for details.

Dance Revel: Sunday, August 20th, 2017. Hosted by the Canton of Vest Yorvik, at St. Simon's Anglican Church of Oakville. Site is at 1450 Litchfield Road, Oakville, Ontario. See Ealdormere Event Calendar for further details.

Summer Siege: August 25th– 27th, 2017. Hosted by the Canton of Harrowgate Heath in Chesterville, Ontario. Details TBA. See the Ealdormere Events Calendar for more details.

Middle Ages on the Green: Saturday, August 26th, 2017. Hosted by Bryniau Tywynog. See Ealdormere Event Calendar for more details.

Baron's Howe: Friday September 1st– Monday September 4th, 2017. Hosted by the Shire of Brennestein Vatn (The Ubershire of Ealdormere). Located at the Old Ravenhill Farm, 364 Development Road, Bonfield Ontario. Please see the Ealdormere Event Calendar for detailed directions and for further information.

Althing in Holmgaror: Held September 8th –10th, 2017. Hosted by the Canton of Eoforwic. Located in Orono, Ontario. Details TBA.

Queen's Prize Tourney: Saturday, September 16th, 2017. Hosted by the Barony of Ramshaven. Location is Kitchener Waterloo. Details TBA.

Huntsman's Harvest: Saturday, September 30th, 2017. Details TBA.

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

Landed Baroness: Her Excellency, Catherine Townson

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Web Minister: Her Excellency, Catherine Townson

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Hello I must be Going: To all things an ending, they do say. I have enjoyed my time as Chronicler for the Barony; but the time has come to allow another, fresher, hand take the wheel. My allotted term in the post is nearly over. Gianna Gabriela di Milano has graciously volunteered to take on the post. As the Baroness said in her fine words at the top of this issue, Volunteering is the life blood of the Barony, the Kingdom and the Society. So much that we depend on begins with the courage and generosity of our members. The incoming Chronicler has my thanks, as do all those who have contributed; sharing their words and encouragement for inclusion in these pages. I feel a change is just what is needed now; so I step aside and look forward to seeing what grandeur follows in the months to come.

Yours in Service

Lord Constantin Breathnach

Request for Content Submission

Our next edition of this Chronicle will be completed by our incoming Chronicler, sometime during the month of September. I feel confident that the publication will be in safe hands in the months to come. Yet again, I would invite any and all submissions you may wish to provide, for publication in the Chronicle. Do not forget our Taxes this year: we are charged by our Baroness to honour the barony with the tales and mysteries of our history. In addition, 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 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. Please keep such tales or submissions brief (perhaps 200—800 words) so as to help keep the issues at a comfortable size.