



The Nottingham Quill

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COVER PHOTO BY
BARONES MACHTELD CLEINE

SACRED STONE
BARONIAL BIRTHDAY COURT
SEPTEMBER 4, 2021



BARONIAL REGNUM

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A Note from Their Excellencies...



Photo credit: Barones Machteld Cleine

Greetings, ghouls and goblins! The air is getting crisper, leaves are falling and Halloween, our most favored of holidays, is almost upon Us. Even if this cursed plague will curtail Our usual activities We can still look forward to some spooky fun.

Rumor has reached Our ears of a change in the Kingdom covid policy, but as of this writing We have no specifics. We will do our best to follow these policies as Our seneschals explain them. There are some strong opinions on this, so please remember to always be kind.

Yule Toy Tourney is on! We are so thankful to Lady Mizuno and her staff for stepping up to ensure one of Our most beloved events takes place. Colorful characters from Christmas lore will be making an appearance. The Mari

Lwydd is coming back for Our snacks and won't take no for an answer this year! As always there will be a great snowball battle. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

We realize these times can be exceedingly rough. We had thought to be through the worst earlier this year but alas, that was not how things turned out. If this has you down, you are not alone. If you feel the need, please reach out, if not to Us, to someone. As We said, you are not alone.

Delia, Baroness

Elphín, Baron

Baronial Progress:

December

Virtual Unevent 12/4 - 12/5

Yule Toy Tourney 12/11

From the Seneschal's Pen...



Photo credit: Lord Patris de Terra Lepori

October! Hopefully some cooler weather to move in and stay! I hope everyone is doing ok. Unfortunately, the pandemic is still among us, so please be careful out there.

I had the pleasant opportunity to visit in Hidden Mountain last month for Silver Chalice. It was warm, but not too bad, and it was a fun, relaxing event. It's nice just sitting and talking with everyone again.

So, some bits of news. As you've probably seen, the SCA Board of Directors has come out with a new variance that Kingdoms have the ability to choose to require proof of vaccination or proof of negative Covid test (within 3 days of the start of the event) to allow people on site. Some Kingdoms have implemented

it, some have not. It is my understanding that the Kingdom of Atlantia is intending to implement this variance. However, as of right now, it is NOT in effect. The Kingdom Seneschal is consulting with Their Majesties and the Great Officers of State, and on Sunday, Oct 3 there will be a Zoom meeting with Their Majesties, the Landed Baronage, and the Group Seneschals to discuss this topic. I will report to the Barony the results of that meeting.

Yule Toy Tourney is still on at this time and has been spiked and registrations are open on SCA-rs. Lady Mizuno is working hard on planning not only a fun Yule Toy Tourney, but a SAFE one. I hope we can still have it, it's one of my favorite events of the year.

Baronial Birthday still needs an autocrat. As of this writing, no bid has been submitted, but I do know of one that is in progress.

For the last few months, I've been calling for someone to step up as Baronial Exchequer. I'm pleased to announce that Vani ka Bhediya has stepped up to fill this critical position. She has taken the Exchequer classes, submitted paperwork for her warrant, and the changeover is expected to occur later this month. Thank you, Vani, for taking this role on!

Speaking of stepping up...take a look around you at your local group and see who the officers are. Ask them if they've got a deputy. If they don't (and most don't), offer to be their deputy. It doesn't mean that when they step down, you automatically get put in the job. It does mean that you are there to assist them, to learn from them, and be their backup if they have an attack of life or something. Being a deputy is a great way to learn the position, and it gives peace of mind to everyone knowing that there is an emergency backup if needed. When the primary steps down, you can apply for the job, or not. Your choice. But every officer position needs a deputy, so if you've got the time, look to the officer of a position you might be interested in and offer to be their deputy.

Life moves on. We're not out of the woods yet with this pandemic. Take care of yourself, be mindful of others, and stay safe out there.

Be well.

Maistir Cian

Baronial Seneschal

URGENT - Baronial Social Media Officer needed!

...by Maister Cian mac Cellacháin h'Uí Dublaich

Baronial Social Media Officer

The Barony of Nottingham Coill is looking for someone to serve as Baronial Social Media Deputy.

The Social Media deputy will be warranted as a deputy seneschal and will work closely with the Kingdom Social Media Deputy to ensure that all relevant Society Social Media Policies are followed. Persons interested in serving in this capacity will need to be familiar with the Social Media platforms that the Barony uses (currently only Facebook at this time), familiar with the Society Social Media guidelines, have tact, and be assertive in the application of their duties.

Anyone interested in this position, please send a Letter of Intent to Their Excellencies and myself as soon as possible!

URGENT! Autocrat Needed!

...by Maister Cian mac Cellacháin h'Uí Dublaich

We are in urgent need for people to step up to autocrat Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday in February 2022! We do have the Girl Scout Camp in Bennettsville reserved for the weekend of March 12. We need to get this one spiked soon as well before other events pop up on the calendar.

Please let Their Excellencies and myself know if you are interested in autocrating this event!

Blacksmithing in the Current Middle Ages

...by Master Lucien de La Rochelle



Fire, steel, hammers, anvils, tongs, and creation. Yes, blacksmithing really is the coolest, and hottest, art in the Known World. For centuries, blacksmiths were viewed as having magic, or even gaining skills from demonic sources. This arose from the secrets of metallurgy that smiths held close and rarely, if ever, shared. From the early Iron Age on, smiths worked tirelessly to unlock the secrets of steel. Even today, Metallurgists strive to make the new, perfect metal to improve technologies in our everyday life.

Those first smiths also had to develop the techniques that we take for granted today. They didn't just know that that iron could be developed from ore, they discovered it by accident from working with copper, brass, and bronze. Early iron ore was mixed in with the other elements, and it was discovered through refining the non-ferrous metals. Once the qualities, and potential, of iron were discovered, then a concentrated effort to refine the iron began in earnest. The transition from iron to steel was discovered in a similar manner. Refineries that used charcoal as a fuel source found their iron had absorbed the carbon that was released through burning, and transformed the iron into steel. Even in the early days of iron/steel use, the metal was

hoarded by the metal workers for their tools. Iron and steel tools predate iron or steel weapons. Hammers, tongs, files, punches, and anvils were all in the blacksmith's repertoire long before weapons came on the scene.

The importance of the smith in the ancient world is best described in a tale of Solomon. When the Temple was finished, Solomon invited all of the master artisans to a great feast. Cunning artificers in silver and gold, wood and ivory, stone and slate came in their finery and sat with Solomon at the tables. A pounding came at the door, and a large, dirty, rude man came into the hall. Solomon asked who was this person to intrude upon this feast. The man responded that he was invited, for didn't Lord Solomon call for the Craftsmen of the Temple to attend him? The artisans cried that this blacksmith made not one piece of the temple, and that he had no place among them. The smith replied that when people wish to honor him, they called him the "Son of Vulcan", and to insult him, they call him blacksmith. Then the smith turned and asked each artisan who had made their tools. With shame, each artisan answered "the blacksmith", at which point the smith turned and told Solomon "It is true I am not their equal, for I am their master". Solomon bade the smith to go and wash himself and sit at Solomon's right hand, the proper place of honor for one who makes it possible for all of the other craftsmen to create their works.

In the next article, we will continue with the basic tools of the trade.

Lucien de La Rochelle, OP

Upcoming Events in the Kingdom

October - 2021

- 10-01 - 10-03 : [Trial by Fire and Royal Archer](#) :Glem Arm MD (Bright Hills) (Q K)
- 10-09 - 10-10 : [The Wild Hunt](#) :Virtual VA (Ponte Alto)
- 10-10 - 10-17 : [POSTPONED UNTIL 2022 - War of the Wings XV](#) :Boonville NC (Atlantia) (Q K)
- 10-22 - 10-24 : [Revenge of the Stitch VII POSTPONED](#) :Chestertown Road MD (Spiaggia Levantina)

November - 2021

- 11-06 - 11-06 : [Fall Crown Tournament](#) :Port Tobacco MD (Dun Carraig) (Q K)
- 11-12 - 11-14 : [Celebration at Silverleaf: POSTPONED](#) :Clarksville VA (Marinus)
- 11-12 - 11-14 : [Highland Havoc](#) :Ijamsville MD (Highland Foorde)
- 11-13 - 11-14 : [Optimistic Pandemic Party](#) :Apex NC (Buckston-on-Eno)
- 11-20 - 11-20 : [Holiday Faire](#) :Manassas VA (Stierbach)

December - 2021

- 12-04 - 12-05 : [Unevent - Virtual](#) :Simpsonville MD (Atlantia)
- 12-10 - 12-12 : [Yule Toy Tourney](#) :Pickens SC (Nottinghamhill Coill)
- 12-11 - 12-11 : [Dun Carraig's Baronial Birthday](#) :Waldorf MD (Dun Carraig)

January - 2022

- 01-08 - 01-08 : [Atlantian 12th Night \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)
- 01-29 - 01-29 : [Tourney of Manannan mac Lir](#) :Harleyville SC (Tear-Seas Shore)
- 01-29 - 01-29 : [Midwinter's 2022](#) :Lothian MD (Lochmere)

February - 2022

- 02-05 - 02-05 : [Atlantia University TBD](#) : (Atlantia)
- 02-12 - 02-12 : [Bright Hills Baronial Birthday](#) :Manchester MD (Bright Hills)

March - 2022

- 03-05 - 03-05 : [Kingdom Arts & Science Festival \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)
- 03-26 - 03-26 : [Defending the Gate 2022](#) :Spotsylvania VA (Sudentorre)

April - 2022

04-01 - 04-01 : [Spring Coronation \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)

04-09 - 04-09 : [Dragon's Fire - A Celebration of St. George's Day](#) :Easley SC
(Saint Georges)

04-09 - 04-09 : [Festival of Elvegast: Journey to Avallon](#) :Hillsborough NC
(Elvegast)

04-15 - 04-17 : [Night Under a Faie Moon](#) :Annapolis MD (Lochmere)

04-22 - 04-24 : [Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday](#) :Bennettsville SC (Hidden
Mountain)

May - 2022

05-07 - 05-07 : [Spring Crown Tourney \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)

05-13 - 05-15 : [Gardens of Thyme & Oakwood](#) :Boonville NC (Middlegate)

05-14 - 05-14 : [Highland River Melees](#) :Frederick MD (Highland Foorde)

05-21 - 05-21 : [On Target](#) :Annapolis MD (Lochmere)

October - 2022

10-01 - 10-01 : [Fall Coronation \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)

10-11 - 10-16 : [War of the Wings 2022 \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)

November - 2022

11-05 - 11-05 : [Fall Crown Tourney \(TBD\)](#) : (Atlantia)

The Back Page...



Photo credit: Barones Machteld Cleine

Hello everyone! Happy October! I hope everyone is enjoying the slightly cooler weather. I know I am! I'm also really excited about Yule Toy Tourney being spiked! Hopefully NCBB will be soon too!

What have you been up to? Attend any good events lately, virtual or in person? See something that inspired you? Learned a new skill/trade or started a project using a skill that's new to you? We'd love to hear about it. Articles about martial activities, A&S or service are all welcome and greatly appreciated by our readership. Please consider sharing with the Barony by writing an article for the next issue of the Quill. I'm very happy to answer questions or to help in any way.

Should you choose to submit an article or work for the Quill, please include the appropriate release form (release forms can be found here: <http://chronicler.atlantia.sca.org/Releases.php>). Please send submissions to me at (chronicler@nottinghillcoil.atlantia.sca.org). If you have any questions or need help with the forms, please let me know.

*Yours in Service to the Dream,
Lady Merewyn Scharp, Baronial Chronicler*