



The Nottingham Quill

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COVER PHOTO BY
VROUWE MACHTELD CLEINE
"THE TIME ALEXANDRE DE LA
ROCHELLE BROKE COURT"



BARONIAL REGNUM

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His Excellency currently works third shift and Her Excellency typically works 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Please time any phone calls accordingly.



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A Note from Their Excellencies...

Joyous holiday greetings unto the populace from Lucien and Brig, Baron and Baroness of Nottingham Coill,

As we write this, We travel home from Yule Toy Tourney laden with the generosity of the people of the Barony and their gifts to Country Santa. While enroute to deliver the toys, we have used the time to reflect on and speak of Our first year as Baronage. While the toys are just objects.... Things.... They represent the greatest attribute Our Barony contains: the spirit of generosity. Whether it is time, knowledge, wisdom, or love, We have the honor of being the Baron and Baroness of the most giving and loving populace in the Knowne Worlde. With a smile on Our lips and joy in Our hearts, We discuss and think on how your participation makes the Barony, Kingdom and indeed the Knowne Worlde a better place because you take part in the Dream.

Though they were met with trials and tribulations and a word on fire, Mistress Etain and her amazing staff quite literally moved a mountain when We were displaced from Table Rock to Sandy Ridge. Mistress Etain's exquisitely executed event elicited excitement from everyone! (Baroness claims no responsibility for silly alliteration) The level of Arts and Sciences displayed was phenomenal! The archers, though few, were stalwart and despite the cold, loosed their arrows with gusto. The multitude of fighting competitions left the combatants exhausted and happy. Our Armored and Rapier Champions did take their respective fields in a Deed of Arms, bringing honor to themselves and to their Barony. We are honored that Yule Toy Tourney was Her Highness's first event as Princess Signy. The smile never left Her face whether competing in the tourney lists, perusing the A&S or being entertained by the Heavy Fighter's Belly Dance. (Her first time seeing this) The sumptuous feast, with the exception of one dish, was purely redacted from period Roman recipes by

Lady Milicent and her amazing team. The food was amazing, with each remove more delicious than the one preceding. Surely all of the Gods of Old Rome smiled upon Us at Yule Toy, Saturnalia.

As it is the end of Our first year, We will make into a tradition what we began last year. We bid any and all who have joined the Barony in 2016, whether you be newcomers or relocating from other lands, please send Us your names! We will be having a drawing for two paid, on board, on site spots for Baronial Birthday. Please do so no later than January 15. (yep, We changed it) This is just a small way that We can give back to the Barony that gives so much to Us.

As is tradition, the current Baronial Champions, who have served Us so well, will be stepping down at Baronial Birthday. Who will challenge for their places? We have already received one letter of intent from a young man who is 5-0 years old! Baronial champion is a chance to not only serve your Barony, but to spread word of your deeds, skill and prowess in your chosen field. Our Champions have been tasked with devising suitable competitions to be held at Birthday to aid Us in the selection of their successors. While competing to win is highly encouraged, there are many factors upon which Our decision is made, primarily the passion and determination to strive for excellence in your field. The Champions We seek will be in Armored Combat, Rapier, Archery, Thrown Weapon, Arts and Sciences, Bardic/Poetry, and Youth. Letters of Intent should be sent in to Us no later than February 11th.

As a final thought for this month, take some time to write a letter for that Lady who sat all weekend at troll, or that lord who washed dishes for two hours straight or even that Lady who displayed her beautiful embroidered hula-hoop cozies! (just kidding) The fact is, We should all be writing letters and using the Electronic Award Recommendation System. Their Highnesses have expressed their concern on the lack of award recommendations coming from the southern regions of the kingdom. It takes less than five minutes to send an award recommendation. Get together with friends,

have a letter writing party over drinks or good food. Share your thoughts with others in your area, encourage them to write too. We know you do not follow your passion for Kingdom or Baronial award recognitions, but good works should be recognized. While your endeavors are not to receive recognition via awards, when you wear the medallions of the awards, orders or peerages you have received, you stand as a beacon to guide others to follow their own passions. It also lets others know who they can come to for guidance and advice.

We look forward to reading the letters of intent of Champion candidates and to seeing you all at Baronial Birthday!

Humbly,

*Lucien de La Rochelle and Brig ingen Erennaigh,
Baron and Baroness of Nottingham Coill*

January

13-15 Kingdom 12th Night

27-29 Mannanan Mac Lir

February

4 Winter University

17-19 Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday

24-26 Ymir

March

8 KASF

24-26 Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday

April

1 Spring Coronation

14-16 Crusades:Portugal

28-30 Costal Raids (?)

May

6 Spring Crown

12-14 Return to Camelot

20 Spring Fling for Siege (Lucien)

19-21 Hawkwood Baronial Birthday (Brig)

From the Seneschal's Pen

My wish to each of you at this start of another new year: may the worst day of the year ahead be even better than the best day of the year just ended!

Unlike my typical postings, this one is going to be almost entirely business-related: my notes from both the Seneschals' and the Exchequers'/Seneschals' meetings at Unevent.

First up is what transpired at the Exchequers'/Seneschals' meeting:

- The Doomsday Report (end-of-the-year financial report) is due to the Kingdom Exchequer no later than January 31, 2017! No excuses will be accepted. If the report is submitted late, there will be a MANDATORY suspension for the group.
- The NMS (non-member surcharge) now is the NMR (non-member registration). The focus is on rewarding people who have become members.
- The NMR must be collected at all events that are official SCA events. This does not include meetings, demos, or Yule Toy Tourney (where the attendance 'fee' is non-monetary.)
- You (the exchequer) have 10 business days after the end of the event to submit the event's financial report and the money for the NMR.
- If the event's fee structure provides a discount for minors, this exempts them from having to pay the NMR.
- An event without an attendance fee (such as University) cannot list a 'suggested donation': either the donation amount is entirely voluntary OR it's a fee (with the associated need to collect the NMR.)
- PayPal now can be used in Atlantia. It must be requested at least 3 months ahead of your event, and preference is given to Kingdom/Inter-kingdom events and those historically with an attendance over 300 people. (e.g. Ruby Joust, War of the Wings, etc.)
- Class fees (e.g. for many fiber arts classes, wire weaving, etc.) cannot be paid via PayPal; they are paid by cash directly to the instructor.
- You can't use a personal or business PayPal account for an event. Doing so WILL result in suspension, and potential legal action by the Board of Directors.
- Troll MUST collect waivers, and submit them timely, along with NMR.
- SCA fund can't be used to purchase alcohol, including alcohol for cooking! (This means any alcohol for which you might legally be carded.)

- If alcohol is to be used, it must be donated or purchased out of individual pockets. These purchases can't be reimbursed.
- Background checks: the kingdom pays for these, for Youth Officers and Adults working with youth. These background checks are valid for two (2) years.

Here are the notes from the Seneschals' meeting:

- Reports are due no later than the 5th of the month, following the end of a calendar quarter. i.e. no later than January 5, April 5, July 5, and October 5.
- Warrants are automatically suspended (no separate notification is needed) if a person's membership lapses. Having valid current membership is a condition of holding the office.
- The new Kingdom Webminister is Master Connor Levingestoune.
- The Insurance Policy for 2017 will not be put on the Seneschal's website. It must be requested, by email, from the Kingdom Seneschal: Seneschal@atlantia.sca.org
- Equestrian events & practices need their own distinct waivers.
- Alcohol onsite at DRY events: we CANNOT allow that! Either a site is DRY or it is wet. There is no in-between / discreetly damp.
- If a site is Dry, keep all alcohol out of sight in your vehicle.
- This applies to everyone, including Dukes and Reigning Monarchs. They are our role models.
- Problems? Call Duchess Simone (the Kingdom Seneschal.)
- An Autocrat warrant is required for each Autocrat. While he/she serves as Autocrat, he/she is serving as a Deputy to the Seneschal. Go to <http://atlantia.sca.org/offices/seneschal/seneschal-forms-procedures> and click on Autocrat Warrant Form.
- Keep an electronic copy in the event files.
- Seneschals must review and sign every legal contract.
- If you're the Seneschal AND the Autocrat, you don't need a separate warrant.
- Signatories on a financial account cannot live together, even if not married to each other.
- Curia will be held during the current reign; date as yet undetermined. Proposed changes include moving various items from Law to Policy and vice-versa.
- All hardcopy waivers must be mailed to the Kingdom Waiver Deputy. The Seneschal does NOT have to keep a copy.
- Make sure you have extra waiver copies at events, just in case.

- If you're holding an indoor fighter practice (especially in the winter): use a Roster Waiver to CYA. This will document who is there for the practice, and aware of the potential hazards, and who is not.
- Social Media: Atlantia now has a Twitter page.
- We cannot publish the majority of our information on Facebook: we cannot require a person to have a Facebook account in order to received information.
- Post as much as possible about your activities (meetings, A&S, demos, etc.) online, but not just on Facebook.
- To communicate with the Kingdom Seneschal (Duchess Simone), use email, NOT Facebook! Seneschal@atlantia.sca.org

And finally, here's a Vivant to the barony's members who have received awards recently. At Nottingham Coill's Baronial Court at War of the Wings, the Baroness' Award of Courtesy was bestowed on Lord Draco of Brockore, Lord Coenred aet Rauenesdale, Lord Jon Bjarnarson, Lord Axum O'Neal, Lord Vincent D'orleans, Baroness Ariel Benne Douw, and Lady Kaete MacDavid; Lady Virginia of Wolfholt received the Award of the Golden Cord; and Lady Caitriona inghean Ghiolla Phadraig and Milord Theodred aet Rauenesdale received the Baron's Award of Excellence. Two days later, at Atlantia's Royal Court, Milord Theodred became Lord Theodred, newest member of Atlantia's nobility, when he received his Award of Arms.

Take a few minutes to look up some of your friends and acquaintances in <http://op.atlantia.sca.org/> and see what awards they have . . . or, more accurately, what awards they DON'T have but probably should. Then send in a recommendation via <http://award.atlantia.sca.org/>. It's very quick and easy to do.

*Yours in service to The Dream and the barony,
Dame Morwenna Trevethan
Baronial Seneschal*

MoAS Unevent Meeting notes:

Greetings to the Barony from Meadhbh inghean Thaidgh ui Dohmnaill!

With Unevent being so far from our borders, Baroness Elizabeth and I found lodgings, and braved the backroads that our trusty cartographer Lord Google saw fit to send us down. (And they were some *very* very backroads we trod on our journey.) Since we arrived early enough, I was able to attend the Arts and Sciences meeting that morning.

Signeur Etienne had a number of interesting topics that we discussed, amongst them: He has several Deputy Positions open. He needs both Northern and Southern Regional Deputies. These deputies are responsible for keeping up with the warranting of the MOAS officers in their region and usually only takes 10-15 minutes per quarter. He also needs a Training Deputy who will be responsible for overhauling the MOAS Handbook, and ensuring that training classes are taught at Collegiums and University. (The Deputy does NOT have to teach the class themselves, but must see someone provides the instruction) Finally he has 2 Discipline-specific deputy positions opening up: he needs a Textile Arts Deputy, and a Manuscript Arts Deputy. He made it clear that the Manuscript Arts Deputy is NOT part of, or interfering with the Clerk Signet office. The Discipline-specific deputies are responsible for maintaining a roster of Judges and Instructors for their particular branch of A&S and encouraging A&S entries at KASF for their discipline.

Arts and Sciences competitions may be judged in any manner that the sponsor feels appropriate including Coronet choice, Populace choice, or by using the A&S judging forms. There are no "official" judging forms for competitions, with the exception of Tempore Atlantia. There may be some changes in the works for the current 1-6 point judge's form, so it will emphasize Commentary for entrants. It is *highly* recommended, however, if there are going to be very specific judging criteria for an event, advise the populace and event staff early and often regarding the specifics. (One MOAS mentioned that an entrant contacted an Autocrat regarding the rules for a garb competition, and worked on the project for 3 months before discovering the rules the Autocrat had were from a previous year and would NOT be the criteria that would be used at the event.)

Crash Space for KASF 2017, that Nottingham Coill is hosting, was mentioned and a request was immediately sent on to the Autocrats. There is a motion by Signeur Etienne to make the MOAS Unevent meeting an optional meeting, but there is going to be more discussion of this idea. The meeting ended

all too quickly as there was much that the branch A&S officers would like to discuss, but Signeur Etienne reminded everyone that the MOAS list on Yahoo lists was available.

In Service to Nottinghill Coill,
Lady Meadhbh

Marshal's Unevent report:

Having not been able to go to Unevent myself, but having spoken to the deputy earl marshal training, the following are the main things that came out of the marshal's meeting:

- The launching of the marshals' database, and from what I have seen so far I like it.
- The stressing of helm inspections, specifically the off-the-head inspections, which is checking for 2" padding, both that it exists and it isn't old.
- They want to have marshals reporting the number of helms inspected by pass/fail on the event reports.

These are the main things I was able to ascertain, if I find out other things will report later.

Lord Wilhelm der Schwartz Leopard
Baronial Knights Marshall

Clerk Signet Unevent meeting notes:

Greetings fellow Scribes!

I had the pleasure of attending the Clerk Signet meeting as representative for Our Barony at Unevent. I bring to you a report of the discussion held there.

Triton Herald sent along his admiration and thanks to everyone and would remind all scribes to please, whenever possible, to provide a sheet of clear text on the back of your scrolls. This serves two purposes. It allows the heralds a non-calligraphy text to read out with ease in court, and it allows the herald to hold up the scroll to be shown and admired while it is being read. Secondly, he stresses the importance of signing your work. You all should be getting credit for your work, and the recipients can know who put forth labors to provide them with lovely artwork to commemorate their achievement. I would add that it's also a good idea to put some form of contact information on the back along with your signature. Should the recipient wish to send you thanks or, as has happened before, the scroll befall an accident, they will know who to contact for help!

There are currently over 2000 scrolls in the Kingdom Backlog! The Office of the Clerk Signet has been sifting through these backlog listings to insure that they are all needed scrolls to be done. The Backlog Deputy would remind all scribes to please be sure to contact her FIRST for an assignment. backlog_deputy@scribe.atlantia.sca.org Please don't just choose one from the Backlog list and begin work. The Backlog list is currently extremely inaccurate and is in the process of being completely overhauled. Same goes for commission work. If you are approached to do a commission, be sure to contact the Backlog Deputy to secure the assignment. If the scroll has already been assigned, she is very happy to work with you and whomever the scroll is assigned to. Once you have finished a Backlog or a commission, please be sure to let the Backlog Deputy know that you have finished and it has been delivered.

A change is being made to how some Award of Arms BLANKS are being done. It was requested that scribes no longer use the phrase, "to wit: Arms to be determined". These will not be promissories, but actual scrolls, so space should be left to fill in the arms and blazons at a later date when appropriate arms have been passed. Again, contact information for the scribe on the back of the scroll will help to have the calligraphy match when filling in the blazon later.

In regards to the massive Backlog, remember that there is an ongoing drawing for prizes! You get your name in the hat for each Backlog scroll that you complete and either turn in to the Backlog

Deputy or confirm delivered to the recipient. I am assured that the prizes are fabulous and you won't want to miss a chance to win! <https://www.facebook.com/events/598792246970692/>

The Office of the Clerk Signet will no longer be issuing blocks of backlogged scrolls to guilds or scriptoriums. They can only be assigned to individuals. If the Guild wishes to obtain a block of scrolls, they will need to all be assigned to one person who will be responsible for these scrolls. If they are assigned out to other scribes in the guild, it is the responsibility of the person to whom they were initially assigned to let the Backlog Deputy know.

Well, that's how the meeting went to the best of My recollection. I would like to put forth a challenge to everyone in the Scribal Guild to do at least two backlog scrolls this year if not more. I'm looking forward to working with all of you!

In Service,
Baroness Brig ingen Erennaigh

MoL Unevent Notes from the Acorn:

The Kingdom MOLs office and the Kingdom Exchequer's office are excited to announce an end to authorization fees! We are able to do this for you thanks to hard work by both offices especially the reduction in costs due to the new electronic authorization system. In return, we ask you to continue to support the financial health of the Kingdom by attending Kingdom events and supporting Kingdom fundraisers. Below are updates to the Kingdom MOL policies required to support this change.

In service,

Pomestnik Nikolai Ivanovich,

OP Minister of the Lists,

Kingdom of Atlantia

mol@atlantia.sca.org

4.2.2.1.1 Old: The Intern must submit, in writing, their desire to take on the office, legal name, SCA name, address, phone number, home branch, email (if available), membership number, and membership expiration date. To support the KMoL office's electronic publication efforts, the candidate must also indicate whether they want quarterly packets in print (receive hardcopy packet) or electronic form (download from the Worldwide Web). The trainee must also confirm or deny 'permission to publish' their contact information in print and/or on-line.

New: The Intern must submit, in writing, their desire to take on the office, legal name, SCA name, address, phone number, home branch, email, membership number, membership expiration date, and AEL login name. The trainee must also confirm or deny 'permission to publish' their contact information in print and/or on-line.

4.3.3.2 - Strike

4.5.1 Old: Authorization requirements are issued and administrated by the Kingdom Marshal's office. For an authorization or renewal to be officially recorded the following forms must be completed, signed, and accompanied by the \$5 fee or the authorization/ renewal will be void.

New: Authorization requirements are issued and administrated by the Kingdom Marshal's office. For an authorization or renewal to be officially recorded the following forms must be completed and signed, or the authorization/renewal will be void.

4.5.1.1 Old: Verification of Authorization form. One of these forms must be completed any time the MoL processes an authorization, add-on weapons form, transfer of authorizations from another Kingdom, renewal of an expired card, or a lost card.

New: Combined Verification of Authorization and Temporary Authorization Card. This form must be completed any time the MoL processes an authorization, add-on weapons form, transfer of authorizations from another Kingdom, renewal of an expired card, or a lost card. Three copies are required. (One card goes to the KMoL with the tournament report, one card remains with the MoL-in-Charge's records, and the third card goes to the fighter to serve as their temporary authorization card.) This temporary card will be valid for three months. For example, if the authorization takes place on 1/00, the expiration date will be 4/00.

4.5.1.1.1 Old:

New: For an authorization, add-on weapons form, or transfer of authorizations from another kingdom, the marshals, MoL, and fighter must sign the temporary card.

4.5.1.1.2 Old:

New: For a renewal or lost card, the MoL and the fighter must sign the temporary card.

4.5.1.2/4.5.1.2.1/4.5.1.2.2 - Strike

4.6.1.3 – Strike (redundant with 4.6.2)

4.7.2 Old: When a fighter from another Kingdom moves to Atlantia, they must obtain an Atlantian authorization card within three months of their first Atlantian event. During this three-month grace period, they may fight using their previous Kingdom's authorization card. To transfer authorization, the MoL should have the fighter and marshals complete a Verification of Authorization, and pay the fee. Then, the MoL should issue the fighter a temporary card.

New: When a fighter from another Kingdom moves to Atlantia, they must obtain an Atlantian authorization card within three months of their first Atlantian event. During this three-month grace period, they may fight using their previous Kingdom's authorization card. To transfer authorization, the MoL should have the fighter and marshals complete and sign a combined Verification of Authorization and Temporary Authorization Card.

Dear Delia.....responses by Delia Flammen

Greetings, gentle reader! As no one has sent me questions this month, I'm going to pull up my soap box.

Autocrats are very important- events wouldn't happen without them. It can also be a daunting job. There is so much to schedule and coordinate within a limited time frame and varying amounts of available space. I have seen a trend through the years (this is nothing new) of people requiring space, time, or both for activities like classes, consult tables, fund raisers and the like at an event who do not bother to contact the autocrat in advance to coordinate. All these activities greatly enrich our events but this practice sometimes leaves the person in charge pulling their hair out as they desperately attempt to accommodate everyone. It generally works out because SCAdians are awesome and willing to compromise, but everything would run more smoothly if the autocrat knows your needs in advance. Be kind and don't throw them another plate while they already have six balanced and spinning.

To avoid another appearance of the dreaded soap box, please write and ask me your burning questions!

Yours in service,

Delia

Tasting from the Wooden Spoon....

by Lady Marie H el ene of the New Forest

SPICES - Most of you don't know much beyond the "usual" (depending on your cultural heritage, of course): Salt, Pepper, the various Italian herb blends, maybe Chili powder, and, perhaps, Garlic and Onion powders. We have expanded our palate further in recent years than that of our grandparents and great-grandparents; Yet most of you still don't utilize the spices to their fullest degree - to the Medieval degree. Spices in the medieval times, contrary to common belief, were not used to hide the taste of rotten food. Spices were a commodity, an expensive treasure, more than even gold, in several cases, and the search for spices drove the exploration of our world more than legendary fountains of youth or cities of gold. I don't know about you, but something so expensive would not be put on rotted anything that would be found in my kitchen (controlled spoilage is another thing, and a subject perhaps for another article). Let me define "spice". In the classical sense, it is any part of the root, seed, bud, essence, or bark of a plant. The leaves and the whole plant was considered an "herb", if it could be used as such. Many things we modern folk consider "spices" are actually herbs, and sadly, are so desiccated that there is little taste or benefit to be acquired from it. Salt is one of the few minerals we consider a spice. Salt. As well as silver, gold, potassium and nitrates, more on those later, maybe. The study of spices is a vast and complex topic. I do not have the space in this article to describe all the spices and their possible uses; so, I'll mention a few of my favorites.

CINNAMON - What we call 'cinnamon' is most commonly the inner bark of the cassia tree (Cinnamomum cassia), instead of the whole bark of the Cinnamomum verum. True cinnamon (C.Verum), is lighter, more floral in taste, than cassia; but it is cassia, that most of us have been exposed to, the strong flavor in cinnamon rolls or mulled cider. Most of us think that cinnamon is a "sweet" spice - a spice used for

pastries and “breakfast foods”, often paired with Sugar. Originally, cinnamon was a savory spice; it was used on meat, all sorts of meat – the redder the better. Try a sprinkle of cinnamon on your next steak, and you’ll be pleasantly surprised. It is also a main component in many Garam Marsalas.

SUGAR - What? You thought sugar was a staple, like flour? Not to the medieval cook, and it really is in overuse today. Sugar is one of those “essences” – the boiled-down juice of a reed (grass) stalk from India. Sugar was very expensive and often doled out as toppings on savory cheese dishes, like Ravielles (Ravioli). According to Kenneth Hodges at Berkeley’s webpage *List of Price of Medieval Items* (<http://medieval.ucdavis.edu/120D/Money.html>), the cost of a pound of sugar around the 14th century was 1-3 shillings; this was at a time when the common man made 1-20 shillings a year. Per the same source, you could rent a cottage for a year for only a couple more shillings (5). A page boy would only get a shilling a year, so no running to the market to buy sugar – not on his wages. It wouldn’t be for a couple hundred more years until sugar would be grown in the abundance we see today.

NUTMEG- Eggnog has a lot of this spice in it and it is commonly thought as a holiday spice. I can’t say this enough – PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE – use it whole and freshly grated, not the pre-grated stuff. Nutmeg is an interesting spice – it can be used in sweet and savory dishes, there is a bit of heat to it, but not like it’s outer covering, Mace. Nutmeg pairs well with eggs, mushrooms, “humbles” (fabulous in liver paté), and all sorts of dairy (milk, cheese, yogurt, etc.). You also want to be careful with this particular spice –As per many sources, like *Drugs.com*: nutmeg, in large dosages, is a (legal) narcotic, and can cause “CNS excitation with anxiety/fear, cutaneous flushing, decreased salivation, GI symptoms, and tachycardia. Acute psychosis and anticholinergic-like episodes have been documented; death has rarely been reported following the ingestion of large doses of nutmeg.” General rule of thumb – don’t use more and 1 whole nutmeg, a few gratings (¼-½ teaspoon) is more than enough to flavor

a large dish to feed 4-8 people. I have several whole nutmeg in my cabinet in a jar. When I want some nutmeg, I whip out the microplane grater, run the nutmeg over it a few times and put it back in the jar. Stuff lasts for years! Like I said, these are a few of my favorites - there are several more that I may touch on in later articles, depending on interest.

If you have any topics you wish me to discuss in future articles, shoot me anemail at feozmouse@yahoo.com.

Wilhelm's Wanderweg...

by Lord Wilhelm der Schwartze Leopard

Well, a certain person's questionnaire has gotten me nostalgic, so this month's Wander will take us to Gotland Medieval Week, (I thought it was called Visby Medieval Week, but I was incorrect). Now GMW is a festival held since 1984 on island of Gotland; Sweden's largest island off their east coast in the Baltic Sea. The festival is specifically held in and around the medieval city of Visby which still has a castle wall surrounding it. The festival runners invite all sorts of re-enactment and recreation historical groups, the SCA just being one of these.

I believe the year was 1990 when I went to this event. It came about when a fellow SCAdian (whose name I have forgotten, shame on me!) asked if I was willing to help with gas money for a trip up to Sweden for this event. I should give some background: I was stationed in Wildflecken, Germany and my job kept me busy, but every once in a while, I did hang out with other SCA orphans in the area (it was very remote there). One was the aforementioned gentleman, a former soldier that decided to stay in Germany once he left the military and apprenticed to become a blacksmith. Well, I had plenty of time off owed to me, so I put in for it and was approved, so I definitely wanted to go.

We drove up to I what I believe was the Swedish coastal city of Västervik, where we got on a ferry to shuttle us over to Visby. Once we got there, the SCA was housed in what I believe was a school building. Basically, you had a plot of floor to put equipment and sleeping gear.

The next day was the big tournament the SCA was holding at the base of the Castle wall and I was excited! Went to the tournament, most of the entries were the Nordmark SCAdians (the Swedes). I don't remember all the details of the tourney, though it was the one I did one of my best in as I made 7th round in a double

elimination tourney, which had a large number of entrants. There are two fights I remember: my 3rd and my 5th, and the 6th and 7th where my losses. In the third, I was fighting this lord who wore a heavy chain hauberk and used a round shield. I took his legs quickly, but after that my cross shots were too weak for him to acknowledge, so I had to change tactics. I came in sword shoulder high, then quickly flipped my sword under his shield right into his armpit, I heard him gasp, "Gut" and the crowd roared. It had been a hard fought battle. My other memorable fight was fighting this 6'2" fighter with a Scottish persona (he wore a kilt over his leggings) who was fighting with a Claymore. I should have had the advantage, with a shield and though defense-wise I had no problem, the fellow's skill kept me from killing him. Finally, I did a body fake and threw a wrap around his sword, which contacted his head about a second before his sword took my arm.

Afterwards he came over and spoke to me as he really enjoyed the fight and wanted to discuss it more. When he took off his helm, he looked like the classic Viking: long braided hair and that classic beard. We watched the rest of the tourney together after I was eliminated (I had eliminated him), and during conversation I found out his mundane name was Frederick, which I told him my middle name was also Frederick. Then we exchanged ages and we were the same age. It became really freaky when we told each other our birthdays; we both shared 9 July 1966! We worked out with time differential that he was my elder by a couple hours and he proclaimed me his soul brother.

Well this has grown long and I haven't even talked about that night and the next day, so I will leave that for the next article.

Till next time, tschüß!

Kingdom Arts & Sciences Festival Tips

Salve Citizens! As many of you know, Kingdom Arts & Science Festival (KASF) is rapidly approaching, March 4th. If you are like me, you have been preparing for this event for the last several weeks, if not months. I wanted to share with you some of the things that I have found helpful with my A&S entries. The basics of what you would need for documentation are: What, Who, Where, Why, and How.

- ***What:** What is this item you are making? Is it a leather bag, a woman's shoe, a battle axe, what? Sometimes what is obvious to us may not be obvious to the judge.*
- ***Who:** Who created this item? Is it Roman, Frankish, Byzantine, Muslim? Even within their sphere of control, an era has many distinct periods.*
- ***Where:** Where was it created? Was it made in Northern France in a large fortified town by a blacksmith or was it created in a small village in Southern France by the local warlord?*
- ***Why:** Why was this object created? Was it intended for use by military forces? To be used by the government or was it created by a local artisan at the request of a nobleman?*
- ***How:** How was it created? Was it sewn together by a "machine" or done by hand and a one of a kind masterpiece? Was the leather tanned or dye a certain color? What type of wood and type of joints were used?*

For me this was never enough! I was an active member in a living history group long before I became a member of the SCA and the research I had to do for my persona went into more detail. When I have presented my research, I have always included where it was found as the archeological piece we know, where the object is on display today, who was the person credited for its discovery, when it was discovered, why was it discovered (sometimes things are found by digging a

foundation for a building or dredging a river for bigger ships, just a fun/cool fact), and a picture of the item today (this is usually the first thing I find, even before I start to attempt to make it).

The more and more I have participated and the more and more complex, not to mention long, my documentation has gotten, I have found that judges enjoy hearing some of my discoveries and personal tidbits about my entries. For example, two years ago, at Yule Toy I did Globi, a deep-fried bread dessert served with honey. I had put in my research that it was the first time I had ever tried to deep fry anything, how I thought they turned out, and the different sizes and temperatures I tried to get them to come out right. Every judge and everyone that read my documentation loved reading that part, telling me "it showed me how you felt. Your "trial and error" to make your dish. You have put your heart, blood, sweat, and tears into making this piece, so let the judges know!

Depending on what you are presenting and how lengthy your documentation is, you might want to consider a summary page. One of my first competitions I did was for A&S Champion, and the category was "Science: Any median with extra points if it was green and gold and/or related to Japan". I wrote a small paper on comparing Buddhism and Science, without the title page, index, and references, it was fifteen pages long. I can hear a Laurel now telling me "No way am I going to read all of that!" So, if your documentation is going to be more than two or three pages, you might want to consider a summary page 😊.

Now for a word on presentation! You can staple your paper together, place it next to your item, and you may even win the category, but you have put too much time into your project for that. I have always put my documentation in a clear cover folder and printed it on fine parchment paper (from Walmart, not the expensive scribal parchment). I have always tried to make my item stand out as well. The first entry that I did was a leather pouch made to carry wax tablets, so when I put it out

for display I put wax tablets in the bag. Every single judge was impressed that I displayed the pouch as it was intended. Make it seem as if it was just taken off after a long day of use and not on display in a museum. Depending on the space you have, you can even go as far as placing a cloth, a fur, or something to show everyone that this is your entry! Just my opinion.

Here is the Kingdom of Atlantia Arts & Science page if you have any judging questions: <http://moas.atlantia.sca.org/>. I hope this helps and look forward to seeing everyone at KASF!

Yours in Service!

Marius Agorius Donatus Minius Germanicus

Aka Dominus Maximus

From the Baronial Webminister:

I am trying to put together a Nottingham Coill historical timeline for the website. I am looking for folks with a historical bent or folks who may simply be hoarders of baronial artifacts who may have information they would be willing to share. I have it covered from 1976 to 1983, and I have all the baronial investitures, but I need lists of important events and other instances that may be of historical significance. I am looking for old event flyers, newspaper or magazine articles, or anything that would tell our readers what we have been up to over the years. You will be given credit on the website for your contribution. Please email anything you may have to webminister@nottinghamcoill.atlantia.sca.org. Thanks so much for your help.

Master Gavin

Baronial Webminister

The Nottingham Quill Questionnaire

Mundane name: Becca Huck

Mundane occupation: Laboratory Scientist

Tell us about your experience with the SCA:

When did you first hear about the SCA? I first heard about the SCA when I was 16. My older brother (who is also in the SCA) came home from college and told me about the club he joined. We didn't have a local chapter in my home town at that time, so I didn't do anything for a couple of years. When I went to college at 18 in Montana, I looked to see if there was a local chapter of SCA, and fortunately for me there was.

What/who brought you into it? Count Ivan Petrovitch of Atenveldt (AKA my older brother).

What was your first event, and what was your first impression? I don't actually remember the name of the event, but it was a late fall event in Artemisia. My mom made me a "medieval" dress from a theater pattern book before I went off to college, so I had garb that was passable. I remember seeing all sorts of amazing things that I wanted to try doing. There were period board games and I learned to play a few of them that day. There was fighting and lots of activities during the day, and feast and dancing that evening. I think the thing that most caught my attention was how friendly everyone was.

What do you love the most about the SCA? My favorite thing is the friends I've made. Even when we've moved to other parts of the country the friendships are still there. I meet people at a large event that I haven't seen in years, and we have a conversation like we saw each other yesterday. My second favorite is seeing people grow in an art/fighting/activity. (For example when you see a friend start scribal arts, and a

year or two later they are producing the amazing scrolls given in court. Or the new fighter you helped throw their first flat snap is now a knight)

What has been your most memorable moment thus far? There are a lot to choose from, so that's a pretty tough question. I have participated in and been on the sidelines watching some pretty cool stuff. I think if I have to pick just one I would have to go with the Coronation of the first King and Queen of Northshield. Seeing a kingdom come into existence is pretty amazing.

How many years have you been in the SCA? 23

What is your favorite SCA event activity to participate in? ALL THE THINGS! Seriously, I love every A&S I've ever tried (except armor making), Armored fighting, Rapier Fighting, Archery, Camping, Dancing, Cooking/Serving/Eating feast, Water bearing, and even site set up and tear down can be fun.

Have you held any offices or positions within the Barony? Since moving to Nottingham Coill, only Falcon Cree A&S minister, and Autocrating a few events (Which is technically a short-term deputy to the Seneschal)

Were you voluntold or did you come down with a case of helium hand? Totally had a helium hand for every office I've ever held (both here and in other kingdoms)

Have you received any awards, and if so, which would you say is your favorite or means the most to you? I've received a few awards over the years. It's really tough to pick a favorite. I think the awards that mean the most to me are the ones where the person giving the award has made me tear up or outright cry in court.

When did you become interested in bardic? I know this question wasn't for me, but since I actually do bardic I'm going to answer it. I became interested in bardic when someone performed a song at feast the very first event I went to. It was about 7 or 8 years later that I performed my first bardic piece around a campfire. I was super nervous, and still get a little nervous before singing in public. I don't get to perform

at bardic often these days because I have little kids and they usually turn into a pumpkin before bardic starts.

What was your first song performed at a feast or court? Strangely enough the first song I ever sang at Court was at the Tourney of Erewhon in the Shire of Rudivale in Northshield. I was one third of the "Royal Herald/Scribes" and we sang the Smurf theme song in three-part harmony. And even odder, everyone involved was sober at that point. I don't remember the first feast I ever performed at, but the most recent one was at Yule Toy 2015, and I recited *The Fufumal*. I usually do Norse/Skaldic style stuff.

How did you become interested in martial activities? What do you enjoy most? I saw my first tournament and wanted to fight. Then someone put a rapier in my hand and, yeah, I just had to do that. I'm not sure what aspect of fighting I enjoy the most. I think my favorite days fighting have been those rare occasions when I fight Armored, Rapier, and Archery in the same day. I'm pretty exhausted at the end, but it's amazing! Currently thanks to an injury (not fighting related) I'm on the injured list till January or Feb.

How many Kingdoms and Baronies have you lived in? 4 Kingdoms: Atenveldt (back when Montana was still part of Atenveldt), Middle Kingdom, Northshield, and Atlantia. 2 Principalities: Artemisia (I moved to Northshield about 6 months before Artemisia became its own kingdom) and Northshield (Part of Middle). 2 Shires: Silver Keep in Artemisia/Atenveldt and Border Downs in Northshield. 1 Barony: Nottingham Quill. 1 Canton: Falcon Cree.

Newcomer advice/guidance? Try everything. It is amazing what activities are fun (Who knew feast cleanup could be so fun? I hate doing dishes at home, but after a feast with friends can be great) Also, try it out before you invest more money than a collegium/university class fee in supplies/equipment. Most of us will let you try out our equipment or teach you the basics of an art/science to see if you really like it. I

can't count the number of times on the archery range I've let someone else shoot a few rounds with my horse bow because the person had seen one and wanted one, but wasn't sure if they'd enjoy shooting a horse bow after shooting recurves. (Draw feels very different between the two types of bow). Last, if it's gear/equipment you are thinking of making/purchasing/using (particularly for martial activities), ask the why something is made the way it is. People will usually tell you the advantages/disadvantages of a particular piece of armor/equipment. They will also often tell you of any alternatives they are familiar with.

What is something you don't mind sharing that people may not know about you? I speak 2 languages other than English: Japanese and Latin. Both of which I am very rusty in since I never get to practice. But I can do (and have done) translations for scroll text among other things.

Tell us a bit about your Middle-aged self:

What is your SCA Name? Ceara of Novgorod (though I am actually working on passing a version of that name). Ceara is pronounced "Key-are-a"

How did you pick your name? I started out early period Irish, and I thought it sounded pretty. I liked it's meaning "fiery in regard to temperament", and at that time I'd never met another Ceara. I didn't have a last name for the longest time, since in 7th century Ireland, I wouldn't unless there was another Ceara in my village.

What is your SCA device? Not yet passed, but I finally came up with something I like, so it's in the works.

How did you pick your device? Is it tied to your persona? I picked it based on some of my personality traits. It's not really tied to my persona, either the early period Irish one I started with or the early-mid Russian one that is current. Neither persona is from a time/place that did formal heraldry like we do in the SCA. In effect heraldry isn't period for me, so I've never been in a huge hurry to pick a device.

Describe your persona:

Why did you pick that persona? I started early period Irish because I was interested in the culture. About 16 years ago, I became Russian because of a hat. (It's a pretty epic fur hat, by the way.) Then I discovered Viking age Russia (specifically Novgorod) and I "fell down the rabbit hole of research". I kept finding things about the culture that were interesting and artifacts that I wanted to make, and the next thing I knew I was solidly a Rus persona.

Do you have any titles? The funny thing about titles is they are not uniform across the SCA. In some kingdoms, my proper title is Her Ladyship or The Honorable Lady. In Atlantia my proper title is simply Lady. Honestly though, I'm happy if people remember my SCA name. Bonus points for pronouncing it correctly.

Upcoming Events in the Kingdom

January 2017

7	<u>Inter-Baronial 12th night</u> (R)	Marinus	
13-15	<u>Kingdom of Atlantia 12th Night</u> (R)	Sacred Stone	Greensboro, NC
21	<u>Spanish Inquisition - Torquemada's Trans-Iberian Tour</u>	Lochmere	Severna Park, MD
27-29	<u>Tourney of Mannanan Mac Lir XXVI</u>	Tear-Seas Shore	Ridgeville, SC
28	<u>Ice Castles</u> (R)	Black Diamond	Blacksburg, VA

February 2017

4	<u>Feast of Fools</u>	Roxbury Mill	Rockville, MD
4	<u>Winter University 2017</u>	Raven's Cove	Kenansville, NC
11	<u>Tournament of Love and Beauty - Ponte Alto Baronial Birthday</u>	Ponte Alto	Leesburg, VA
11	<u>Giita of the Stone</u>	Middlegate	Winston Salem, NC
17-19	<u>Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday</u>	Nottingham Coill	Bennettsville, SC
18	<u>Bright Hills Baronial Birthday</u> (R)	Bright Hills	Manchester, MD
24-26	<u>Tournament of Ymir and Baronial Investiture</u> (R)	Windmasters' Hill	Reidsville, NC

March 2017

4	<u>Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival</u> (H)	Falconcree	Greenville, SC
11-19	<u>Gulf Wars XXVI</u> (R,H)	Gleann Abhann	
17-19	<u>Bacon Wars III</u>	Tir-y-Don	Hayes, VA
24-26	<u>Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday and Investiture</u> (R)	Hidden Mountain	Bennettsville, SC
25	<u>Defending the Gate XVI</u>	Sudentorre	Spotsylvania, VA
31-2	<u>Academy of St. Clare of Assisi: MORE Stitches in Time!</u>	Aethelmearc	

April 2017

1	<u>Spring Coronation</u> (R,H)	Atlantia	
7-9	<u>Gemutlichplatz</u> (R)	Isenfir	Charlottesville, VA
8	<u>Rose Carnivale</u>	Atlantia	Clarksville, VA
14-16	<u>Night on the Town: Night of the Tartan</u> (R)	Lochmere	Annapolis, MD
14-16	<u>Crusades:Portugal</u>	Saint Georges	Easley, SC
21-23	<u>MAAD 3</u>	Marinus	Clarksville, VA
22	<u>Queen's Rapier Champion Tournament</u> (R)	Isenfir	Weyers Cave, VA
28-30	<u>Coastal Raids II</u>	Raven's Cove	Willard, NC
28-30	<u>Revenge of the Stitch IV</u> (R)	Spiaggia Levantina	Denton, MD

May 2017

6	<i>Spring Crown Tournament (R)</i>	<i>Atlantia</i>	
12-14	<u><i>Return to Camelot-An Arthurian Deed (R)</i></u>	<i>Raven's Cove</i>	<i>Apex, NC</i>
13	<u><i>Royal Archer</i></u>	<i>Stierbach</i>	<i>Midland, VA</i>
19-21	<u><i>Spring Fling for Siege III</i></u>	<i>Border Vale Keep</i>	<i>Augusta, GA</i>
19-21	<u><i>Hawkwood Baronial Birthday (R)</i></u>	<i>Hawkwood</i>	<i>Arden, NC</i>
23-26	<u><i>Ruby Joust VI</i></u>	<i>Caer Mear</i>	

The Back Page

Just a few brief words from your Baronial Chronicler...

Happy New Year, good people of Nottingham Coill! I hope that everyone had a fun, peaceful holiday season. Attend any SCA holiday gatherings or events? Have any stories to tell from them? Create a gorgeous holiday piece that you wouldn't mind sharing a picture and your notes on? Please feel free to send in a submission for the Quill!

Many thanks to everyone who submitted to the Quill for this issue and previous issues, and please continue to send in submissions to Labyrinthineone@gmail.com

Yours in Service to the Dream,

Merewyn Scharp