



The Barony of Nottinghamhill Coill

The Nottinghamhill Quill

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COVER PHOTO BY
M'LORD DUNCAN MACMICHAEL

BARONIAL AND CANTON SILK
BANNER AT WAR OF THE WINGS 2018

SILK BANNERS CREATED BY
MISTRESS BRIG INGEN ERENNAIGH



BARONIAL REGNUM

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* denotes an office with a deputy vacancy

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Marshal	Lord Carrick Mac Manus	mka Louis Morris

A Note from Their Excellencies...



Photo credit: Magistra Etain of Sutherland

We are soon to enter the third year of the Plague. It is hard to maintain enthusiasm as events are cancelled left and right, but the most important thing is the health and safety of our members. This too shall pass... .. eventually. Rather like a kidney stone. Meanwhile we must do what we can to keep our spirits up and the Dream alive. I am truly impressed by the lovely works that many of our artisans have accomplished during this time and challenge you all to take these down times to work on your kit, your persona and your passions. Even for the fighters there are lots of videos showing good fighting techniques to absorb.

By the time this is published University of Atlantia will be in full swing. Her Excellency has signed up for a full day of instruction, as there were so many

interesting topics to choose from and is really looking forward to it. We hope all of you are enjoying your classes too.

Elphin and I are looking forward to the Tournament of Ymir in Windmasters' Hill, assuming it happens. Not only will it give Us a chance to see old friends and Our Populace but a chance to see how everyone does in the various competitions. The rest of February is quiet, but March more than makes up for that. We have at least one event every weekend the entire month. We both plan to attend KASF and of course Our Baronial Birthday.

Nottingham Coill's Birthday will be out of this world! The Barony's Forty Second Birthday is quite obviously the Answer to Everything. This will be a Hitchhiker's Guide themed Birthday, so don't forget where your towel is.

The following weekend We plan to attend Raven's Cove's Birthday and the weekend after that We temporarily part ways. Her Excellency will be going to the Fiber Arts Workshop while His Excellency attends the Interbaronial Practice in Chester.

Sir Feargus and his family are opening their home in Chester, SC for an interbaronial practice on Saturday March 26th. We have fighters coming from Sacred Stone as well as Nottingham Coill to practice our long unused martial skills. We will have Armored, Rapier and Archery, a full panoply of Murderous Practice.

As of this writing we are not sure the moratorium on in person events and practices will be pushed out. If that is the case, we will be bitterly disappointed but fully understanding of the kingdom's need to protect all Its citizens. No matter what happens we shall persevere. We wish you all well and will hopefully be seeing you soon!

Delia, Baroness

Elphin, Baron

Baronial Progress:

February

Feb. 5: Online Winter University

Feb. 12: 47th Tournament of Ymir (Elphín)

March

March 5: Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival

March 11: Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday

March 18: Raven's Cove Baronial Birthday

March 26: Fiber Arts Workshop (Delia)

Interbaronial Fighter Practice (Elphín)

From the Seneschal's Pen...



Photo credit: Lady Virginia of Wolfholt

Some good news to report - the Kingdom has reopened! Duchess Simone, the Kingdom Seneschal, just announced that effective February 5, we are back open and in business! This means that Ymir can happen this month and puts Nottingham Coill Baronial Birthday back on track for March 11-13.

In the past 2 years, we've had a lot of events have to get cancelled and moved to virtual. It's been frustrating for all of us. The Kingdom Seneschal and Their Majesties have had to make the tough decisions that they didn't want to make but felt that they had to so as to protect the populace, many of whom are not getting any younger. I've spoken with the KS about how they monitor the Kingdom and the data to determine what the best course of action is. Believe me, they are being very methodical about it, and certainly aren't making these decisions to close things down on a whim. Shutting the Kingdom down is not an easy decision and is in fact pretty painful for those who have to

make that call, so please have some patience and understanding when it happens.

We lost another family member recently, as many of you may have seen. Lady Thomas Merrystone, mundanely known as Susan Bush from the Shire of Border Vale Keep passed away last month. Folks, it's been a rough couple of years for losing members of our chosen family. Check in with your friends, and make sure you tell them that you love them!

So, we've got Baronial Birthday coming up in just over a month, March 11-13 at Camp Sandy Ridge. Make your reservations now. The Kingdom may be open, but we are still using the CovidSafe rules - pre-registrations only, no walk-ups, must show proof of vaccination or negative Covid test done within 72 hours of the start of the event, etc. Please make sure you follow all the requirements; we'd hate to have to turn you away. Lady Guilia is autocrating the event, this will be her first in Nottingham Coill, and I expect it will be a great event!

On January 24, we held a populace meeting online to discuss the updated Financial Policy. It had to be rewritten to conform with Kingdom requirements. Our new Baronial Exchequer, Vani, did an excellent job getting that taken care of, and was kept busy during the meeting answering questions about why something was written the way it was, or discussing some minor changes that people felt needed to be made. The new financial policy was put to a vote, and passed. I just realized I don't have a copy of the final version on my computer (or if I do, I can't find it), but as soon as I get it, I will ask Merewyn to publish a special version of the Quill with the policy in it to make it official.

Finally, we are in need of a new Chronicler. Lady Merewyn has done a FANTASTIC job on the newsletter, but it is time for her to step down and move on to other projects. This is a MANDATORY office for the Barony, so we need

someone to step up ASAP to take it on. Please give it some thought. Contact Merewyn or myself if you have any questions.

That's all I have this month. Please stay safe out there, be well, check on your friends and family, and reach out if you need help of any kind. We are a family, we are in this together, and together we will emerge from this pandemic.

Love to each and every one of you.

Maistir Cian

Baronial Seneschal

URGENT - Officers Needed!

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

Baronial Chronicler

The Barony of Nottingham Coill is in need of someone to step up and take on the position of Baronial Chronicler. This officer is responsible for creating and publishing The Quill, the monthly newsletter for the Barony.

This office is a REQUIRED one by Corpora, and it is important to have a person holding the office who can be counted on to publish every month on a regular basis.

Part of the job also involves tracking down the Seneschal and beating him over the head until he gets his letters for the Quill written!

If you have any questions, please contact Lady Merewyn or myself!

Baronial Social Media Officer

The Barony of Nottingham Coill is still 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!

How To Be Of Service In The SCA

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

The SCA is a volunteer organization almost exclusively. There are a couple of people in Milpitas at the HQ of the SCA who get paid, but by and large, everything done in the SCA is by volunteers. Without the hard work of the volunteers, we wouldn't have an SCA.

The next time you go to an event, look at the schedule and see if there is a listing of staff. If not, check the website for the event. All of the people on that list have volunteered their time to work at the event. Everyone from the autocrat who has spent months planning and preparing to the person who takes on the job of keeping the bathrooms cleaned and stocked are all volunteers. They are giving up their enjoyment of attending the event to work at it. Most of them are actually paying for the privilege of working at the event, because generally only the autocrat and the head cook get in free.

Take a look at your local group's officers. Some positions, such as Seneschal and Exchequer, are required offices to be filled, and if they go vacant, the group is suspended and becomes inactive. Other positions are not required, but are still essential. Many of those offices, if not filled, must be handled by the Seneschal of the group, adding to their paperwork.

In most groups, when it's time to change officers, what often happens is they just pass job titles to the person next to them, because there aren't a lot of people clamoring to fill the spot. You end up with a few people doing all of the work.

It's important that we get new, fresh people into service positions within the SCA. Many of the people running events and serving as officers have been

doing it for a long time. We love what we do, and honestly for many of us, taking a break is tough. But the Society can't grow if we don't have new people with fresh ideas rotating into the service spots.

So how can you help? First of all, understand that none of the SCA office positions are necessarily hard. Yeah, there's some paperwork to do and people to talk with, but overall, they are relatively easy to do. Most importantly, you won't be alone. There will be a support system of people that you can go to for help, for advice, or just to vent. We WANT you to succeed! When I was about to step up as Kingdom Herald 6 years ago, I was worried, because it was a big job and I didn't want to screw it up. The heralds and scribes all came together and told me that they wouldn't let me fail. And they meant it. They gave me all the support I needed to do my job.

That's how it will be with any job in the SCA. All of us will be there to support you, to help you, to advise you, and to encourage you.

So, look around at your local group, at the Canton or Baronial level. See what jobs might interest you and offer to be the deputy for that officer. That gets you involved and learning the job, without having the responsibility thrust on you. It also doesn't mean that you are automatically the next person to fill that office, though if you want to when the officer steps down, you'll have a head start. It's the same with event staff. Offer to be the deputy autocrat, or deputy troll, or deputy herald. You'll learn the job from someone who is experienced. Then if you feel like it, you can do the job at a future event.

Please consider giving of some of your time to help grow the SCA and keep it vivid and fresh. Volunteer to be an officer, or a deputy officer. Volunteer to work at an event, or even run an event. You won't be alone. We will all be there to support and help you.

We believe in you. You can do this!

Maistir Cian mac Ceallachain h'Uí Dubhlaich, OP

Anvils Part 2

...by Baron Lucien de La Rochelle, OP

With a very short history in the previous article, let's get into anvil styles. While most anvils share similar qualities, specific industries used the tools that worked best for them. A traveling smith's needs were different than one permanently in a town or Lord's employ; a red smith's equipment was specialized for copper houseware, while a white smith's tools were smaller for fine engraving and forming of precious metals.



Tools from the Mastermyr Find

The Mastermyr find gave much insight into what a Norse traveling blacksmith's equipment would look like. For such a small kit, many tools were included such as anvils, hammers, tongs, drifting tools, a saw, drifting plate, and many other tools. The anvil, in particular, is shown to have a face and a horn, which is unusual in an anvil so small; especially in a kit that has a bickern as well. This kit would have been invaluable to a smith on a ship, or with a small group hoping to establish a new village. From such a small kit, a full smithy could be made and a thriving business would grow. Such a smithy would need a larger forge (which we'll get into in another article), more tools, and a larger anvil. While to be effective, an anvil only needs to be slightly larger

than the hammers that strike the material. However, as the use of iron became more and more common in everyday society, larger tooling was needed, including larger anvils to handle larger products. For example, the ironwork on the doors of Notre Dame in Paris would be too large for a small anvil to handle.



My personal period anvil, bickern, and hammer

As society progressed and towns grew into thriving cities, the blacksmith shop grew as business increased. This necessitated a need for more blacksmiths and in period the only way to create new blacksmiths was training new ones, and so apprentices were taken on. Multiple apprentices and journeymen meant more equipment.



Master Armourer and Apprentices. Note the specialized anvils.

In this image you can see anvils of different types. In a larger shop, more anvils were used for the all of the different needs of various items created by the shop. In conjunction with the proper tooling, an anvil can create anything that the smith can imagine.



Examples of anvils in the Middle Ages that resemble modern anvils

From stone, to bronze, to iron, to steel, the anvil has been indispensable to a blacksmith's craft and has been so since mankind has started shaping materials.

Next article will focus on the forge.

Regards,

Baron Lucien de La Rochelle, OP



The Baronies of Nottingham Coill and Sacred Stone
Cordially invite you to
Spring InterBaronial Practice
Hosted by
Sir Fearghus MacAirt and Magnifica Sylvie la Chardonniere

Spring is in the air and as we start to plant the seeds for the summer harvest, so too must Atlantia plant seeds for the harvest on the fields of Pennsic! Whether rust needs to be knocked off armor, bow strings replaced, or blades sharpened all are invited to come out and join for a day of training and camaraderie.

When: 3/26/2022

Where: 1558 Well Ridge Road, Chester SC

Disciplines: Armored, Rapier, Target Archery, and hopefully more!

Contacts:

Armored Marshal: Lord Cyriac Grymsdale

Rapier Marshal: Baron Elphin Ap Daffyd

Target Archery Marshal: Lord Robert Shockley

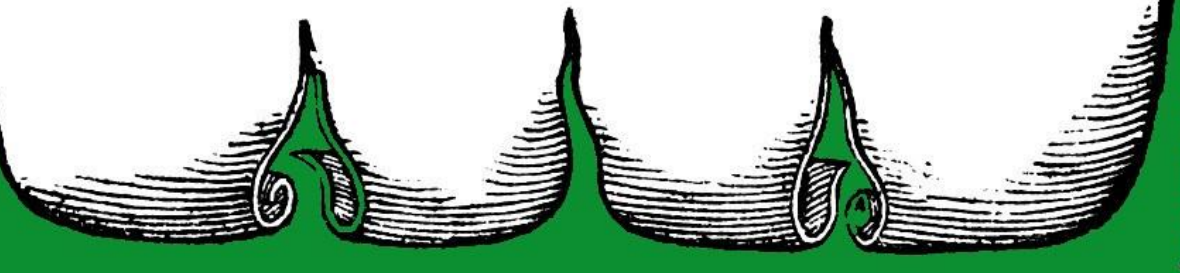


Photo: Spoorphoto.com

Upcoming Events in the Kingdom

February - 2022

02-05 - 02-06 : [ONLINE Winter University of Atlantia](#) :Atlantia City DC (Atlantia)

02-11 - 02-13 : [47th Tournament of Ymir - Defenders of Dubhlinn](#) :Ellerbe NC (Windmasters' Hill) (Q K Pr P)

02-12 - 02-12 : [Bright Hills Baronial Birthday](#) :Manchester MD (Bright Hills)

02-19 - 02-20 : [AEduft Swim 2022](#) : (Aethelmearc) (K P)

02-26 - 02-26 : [Day of Love II](#) :Virginia Beach VA (Marinus) (Q K)

02-26 - 02-26 : [Tournament of Love and Beauty](#) :Manassas VA (Ponte Alto)

March - 2022

03-05 - 03-05 : [Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival](#) :Mebane NC (Atlantia) (Q K Pr)

03-11 - 03-13 : [Nottinghamhill Coill Baronial Birthday XLII](#) :Bennettsville SC (Nottinghamhill Coill)

03-12 - 03-20 : [Gulf Wars XXX](#) : (Gleann Abhann) (Q K Pr P)

03-18 - 03-20 : [Raven's Cove Baronial Birthday!!](#) :Beulaville NC (Raven's Cove)

03-26 - 03-26 : [Defending the Gate 2022](#) :Spotsylvania VA (Sudentorre)

April - 2022

04-01 - 04-03 : [Coronation of Cuan and Adelhait](#) :Boonville NC (Atlantia) (Q K Pr P)

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 : [Revenge of the Stitch VII](#) :Chestertown Road MD (Spiaggia Levantina)

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

May - 2022

05-07 - 05-07 : [Atlantian Spring Crown Tourney](#) :Leesburg VA (Stierbach) (Q K)

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)

05-21 - 05-21 : [Not Quite Quarterly Braggin' Rights Tourney](#) :Aiken SC (Ritterwald)

June - 2022

06-02 - 06-04 : [BAWT II](#) :Myrtle Beach SC (Moorhaven)

06-23 - 06-26 : [Tournoi de la Rapiere Blade-](#) :Bryson City NC (Stormwall)

September - 2022

09-09 - 09-11 : [Trial by Fire and Royal Archery](#) :Glen Arm MD (Bright Hills)

09-16 - 09-18 : [Midnight at the Oasis](#) :Apex NC (Nimenefeld)

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 folks. As Maister Cian mentioned in his letters earlier, I will be stepping down as Baronial Chronicler to step into another role. I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work on this newsletter for the past several years, and look forward to seeing the contributions of the next Chronicler. Although we don't have a volunteer yet, I hope someone will step up soon so that I can pass on the knowledge and experience I have gained in the role, and to help them make a smooth transition.

I hope this issue of the Quill finds you all well and excited about upcoming events. There are many coming up with the promise of comraderie and fun. I'm particularly looking forward to our Baronial Birthday next month.

Please keep the Quill in mind and consider writing an article about your experiences, a new-found craft or a recounting of an event. All of these and many more topics are welcome submissions for our Baronial newsletter! Please remember that the newsletter belongs to us all and it is only great because of all of YOU amazing people!

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@nottinghillcoill.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*