
The Chanticleer

The Monthly Newsletter of the Barony Beyond the Mountain

www.bbm.eastkingdom.org

April 2020 – February 2021

Anno Societatis 55

*“Half your wood and half your hay, you should have on Candlemas Day.”
~Traditional adage*

A Note from the Chronicler

It’s been a while, and both a lot has happened, and nothing has happened. Since the last time I produced an issue of The Chanticleer, COVID-19 has ravaged the landscape. Almost half a million Americans have died, including some with ties to the SCA, to the East Kingdom, to the Barony. COVID has touched us all in one way or the other – we have lost friends and loved ones, or jobs, or had our jobs transformed. We have gone for almost a year without the physical presence of our friends. Without events. Without any certainty about what comes next.

Everyone has weathered this storm differently. Some have buckled down and carried on. Some have risen to the occasion, and been the force that brings us together and drives us forward. Some have only been able to just hang on. Sadly for the Barony, I have found myself in the last category.

My family has fared better than most for the past year – we have each been exposed to COVID and come out of it unscathed, our employment situation has improved, we... prosper in all the ways that matter in day to day life. But life in the age of COVID has taken one toll, and the victim of that has been the SCA. I have been having “a moment” for the last ten months, and have left the Barony unserved.

For that I most sincerely apologize.

But there is no time like the present to regroup. I still have Ideas, and Plans. And today is a good day to put them back in motion. So here we are again. One more time. With feeling!

New Baronial Minister of Arts and Sciences Sought for BBM

Greetings, all.

After years of service to the Barony, we would like to send our thanks to Dyrfinna for her service to Barony Beyond the Mountain, and to Severin, her deputy, for serving as our Interim Minister of Arts and Sciences until such time as a new MOAS is appointed. As Dyrfinna has retired from her position, we wish her well, and we are currently accepting applications for the position of Minister of Arts and Sciences for the Barony.

(from the Seneschal, con't from Page 1)

Responsibilities for this position include:

- Encourage the Baronial populace in their pursuit and study of Arts and Sciences
- Attend monthly Baronial Business Meetings whenever possible.
- Submit Monthly reports to the Baronial Seneschal and Their Excellencies on activities and projects by the Baronial populace
- Submit Quarterly reports to the Regional MOAS (cc: Baronial Seneschal) on A&S projects and activities by the Baronial populace
- Occasionally organize or lead classes, find teachers or resources, organize displays and competitions at events (or online) as available.
- If selected, the incoming MOAS must immediately provide proof of current SCA membership for the duration of their term in office.

Applications are due by 11:59 PM Friday, February 12, 2021.

Please email letters of intent to: seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org, baron@bbm.eastkingdom.org, and baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org

A vote on the candidates for this position will take place online at the February Baronial Business Meeting on Monday, February 15, 2021. All officers who can attend are encouraged to please do so.

Yours in Service,

Kay Leigh Mac Whyte
Seneschal, Barony Beyond the Mountain





Baronial Officers

Baron & Baroness

Baron Mark Red Hand: baron@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Baroness Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn: baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Seneschal: Mistress Kay Leigh MacWhyte: seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy Seneschals:

Lady Leandra de Leon: leandrasuz@aol.com

Mistress Anarra Karlsdottir

Chatelaine: Baroness Aurelia di Stellari: chatelaine@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Chronicler: Mistress Eloise of Coulter: chronicler@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Captain of Archers: Lord Rumhann MacDuibhsithe an Bhlog Seolta:
archercap@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Exchequer: Mistress Ciara McRobbie: exchequer@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy Exchequer: Lord Gwilym of Fflint: willied0296@yahoo.com

Herald: Mistress Camma an Daraich: herald@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Knight Marshal: Baron Angus Gove MacKinnon:
knightmarshal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences: Dyrfinna Sigurdardóttir
moas@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Minister of the List: Lady Cordelia MacDougall:
mol@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Web Minister: Mistress Eloise of Coulter:
webminister@bbm.eastkingdom.org



Baronial Champions

Heavy Weapons Champion:
Baron Angus Gove McKinnon

Fencing Champion:
Lady Agnes de Leon

Archery Champion:
Vacant

Thrown Weapons Champion:
Lord Gwilym of Flint

Baronial Meeting

The date and location for the February Baronial meeting is: February 15, online, 7:00pm

Ongoing Practices

Baronial practices are currently on hiatus due to COVID-19 protocols. Please see the listings below for more information for the future.

Archery Practice

Burlington, CT

Archery practice is on hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At such time as COVID-19 allows, archery practice will re-open on Tuesday evenings in Burlington CT Contact Dorian at bob.schlain@gmail.com with any questions about the Burlington archery practice

Heavy Fighting Practice

Norwich, CT

Our armored fighting practice is on hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At such time as circumstances allow, information will be posted. There is also a Facebook discussion page for armored combat in the Barony.

Thrown Weapons Practice

Ellington, CT

Thrown weapons practice is currently on hiatus.

Watch this space for more information.

Other Practices in the Area

Other groups in the local area have practices that are open, subject to COVID-19 attendance limitations. Please see the bottom of the activities page on the Baronial website.

Baronial Meeting Minutes

BBM meeting notes 1/18/21

Meeting comes to order 7:17pm.

Attendance: Kay Leigh Mac Whyte, Gwilym of Fflint, Gwenlian ferch Llewellyn, Quinton Johonson, Rumhann Macduibhsithe, Cordelia, Elizabeth Vynehorn, Carllien, Sisuile, Ryan, Ciara, Angus, Leandra

Officer reports.

Herald: not present no report

Exchequer – no change, reports are in! We still have money.

Seneschal – no changes events still suspended until 5/31/2021

New seneschal's handbook coming

A&S stepped down

- Letter needed
- Need volunteers or deputy

KM: No changes

Archery: Present, no change

Chatelaine: no report, not present.

Chronicler – no report not present

Web – no report not present

Deputy web – Ethereal Seamstress website is up, fixing the logins for various people

Events:

Golden seamstress

- Rules and Events page set up
- 12 teams showing interest (maybe 13)
- Ciara contacting entrants for what they're working on.
- Ciara needs to send Sisuile team names
- Need judges
- Judges will judge throughout the month
- - Several hours commitment on final decision day.
- Send rules to gazette when page is set up.
- court will happen

Yule 2021: Check in with usual locations

Demos: - Anarra
Sheep and wool April
No other demos

Signet backlogs – There are scrolls available, if you got an award but are missing the scroll, please check in with Faelinn, Acting Signet at signet@eastkingdom.org
Next meeting 3rd Monday of February.
Meeting Closed 7:46

Help Wanted

BARONIAL MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES

See the note from the Seneschal on Page 1!

YULE CEREMONIES COORDINATOR

Good people Beyond the Mountain – let's talk about Yule for next year.

I have coordinated the Yule Ceremonies for over ten years now – many of them with the able assistance of Baroness Gwennlian. Last year was the last year I will be running them. I will continue to provide the ring subtlety, but I need to hand the presentations off to someone else. Twelve years is long enough.

Therefore, if people would like the Yule presentations to continue, someone needs to step up. If they do, I will be more than willing to walk them through this coming year, or they can jump in cold if they prefer. It is their choice.

It is also possible that I am the only person left who loves them, and that their time has passed. That will make me sad, but is also okay.

Either way, I will not be in charge of them next year. Whether that is because someone else has taken over, or because they are not being done – time will tell.

I intend to put all the information I have onto the baronial website at www.bbm.eastkingdom.org for people to peruse. If you are interested in taking this on

and taking it into its next evolution, please let me know. You may contact me via either chronicler@bbm.eastkingdom.org, or webminister@eastkingdom.org.
~Eloise

ARTIFACTS OF A LIFE EVENT COORDINATOR

If Artifacts of a Live V is to happen in 2022, the Barony will need someone to plan and coordinate the event. That someone could be you!

After eight years and four events, Mistress Elizabeth no longer wishes to be in charge of the event. She is creating a “how to” manual and is willing to advise a prospective event steward, but has no desire to continue running it.

If the idea of running an arts and sciences event that is unique in the Kingdom appeals to you, come to a Baronial meeting and tell us about it!

Museum News

(All exhibit descriptions from the museums' websites)

Current Exhibitions:

Metropolitan Museum of Art

www.metmuseum.org

Relative Values: The Cost of Art in the Northern Renaissance

Through February 28, 2021

Bringing together sixty-two masterpieces of sixteenth-century northern European art from The Met collection and one important loan, this exhibition revolves around questions of historical worth, exploring relative value systems in the Renaissance era. Organized in six sections—raw materials, virtuosity, technological advances, fame, market, and paragone—tapestry, stained and vessel glass, sculpture, paintings, precious metal-work, and enamels are juxtaposed with

pricing data from sixteenth-century documents. What did a tapestry cost in the sixteenth century? Goldsmiths' work? Stained glass? How did variables like raw materials, work hours, levels of expertise and artistry, geography, and rarity, affect this? Did production cost necessarily align with perceived market valuation in inventoried collections? Who assigned these values? By exploring different sixteenth-century yardsticks of gauging worth, by probing extrinsic versus intrinsic value, and by presenting works of different media and function side-by-side, the exhibition captures a sense of the splendor and excitement of this era.

Art and Peoples of the Kharga Oasis

October 11, 2017 – May 23, 2021

In 1908, The Metropolitan Museum of Art began to excavate late-antique sites in the Kharga Oasis, located in Egypt's Western Desert. The Museum's archaeologists uncovered two-story houses, painted tombs, and a church. They also retrieved objects that reveal the multiple cultural and religious identities of the people who lived in the region. The finds represent a society between the third and seventh centuries A.D., a time of transition between the Roman and early Byzantine periods, which integrated Egyptian, Greek, and Roman culture and art.

This exhibition features some thirty works from these excavations. By grouping objects according to the archaeological context in which they were discovered, the exhibition explores the interpretation of ancient identities and artifacts and shows how archaeological documentation can assist in understanding an object's original function. On view are ceramics, ostraca (pottery shards used as writing surfaces), jewelry from burials, glassware, coins, copies of frescoes with early Christian images, and early twentieth-century site photography.

Chinese Painting and Calligraphy Up Close

December 21, 202 – June 27, 2021

Close looking is at the heart of Chinese painting and calligraphy. In premodern China, painters and calligraphers learned by copying, a practice that required heightened observation of details. In the process, they also learned how to look—how to detect fine distinctions of ink tone, saturation, and line. Only after years of this type of intense looking could a person be considered a true expert.

This exhibition will encourage such looking by displaying original artworks alongside photographic enlargements of their details. The magnified details draw attention to subtleties of brushwork, texture, and line that may escape a viewer at first glance. Ultimately, the enlargements draw us back to the original, revealing the rewards that close looking can offer.

On view in two rotations will be some of the most celebrated works of Chinese painting and calligraphy from the Museum's collection.

The Pierpont Morgan Library

www.themorgan.org

Poetry and Patronage: The Laubespine-Villeroi Library Rediscovered

October 16, 2020 – May 16, 2021

Young, handsome, and highborn, Claude III de Laubespine lived in luxury after marrying an heiress and obtaining the favor of King Charles IX. His brilliant career at court was cut short in 1570, when he died at the age of 25. He left behind a splendid library, which was dispersed, and only recently have his books been identified and properly appreciated for their superb quality and fine bindings. Laubespine now ranks among the great collectors of the French Renaissance.

For the first time in more than 400 years, this exhibition brings together some of the most spectacular bindings in that collection, exquisite examples of Renaissance ornamental design. They will be shown along with related artwork and literary memorials of Laubespine. He left his books to his sister, a patron of the poet Pierre de Ronsard, who praised her country estate, the library, and its perfumed bindings, which, he said, “smells as good as your orange trees.” This exhibition will evoke the sensual pleasure and literary connoisseurship implicit in a noble library of that era.

Upcoming Exhibitions:

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

www.metmuseum.org

Bodhisattavas of Wisdom, Compassion and Power

March 27, 2021 – October 16, 2022

Within the Buddhist traditions of the Himalayas, three bodhisattvas emerge as personifications of Buddhist ideals. Manjushri, who cuts through ignorance and personifies correct knowledge; Avalokiteshvara, a compassionate protector of the devout that helps reveal the true nature of reality; and Vajrapani as the embodiment of the energy of enlightenment. Focusing on dramatic images, a worshipper could first evoke the subtle knowledge that Manjushri personifies, then with Avalokiteshvara’s aid, it is possible to proceed in a way free from self-imposed delusions, while Vajrapani’s transcendent power aids in destroying jealousy and hatred that stand in the way of enlightenment. Venerating these three bodhisattvas together has a long history, and they play an essential role in the introduction of Buddhism to Tibet. This exhibition draws together a dramatic group of paintings, sculptures, ritual objects, and illustrated

manuscripts from the 11th to 18th centuries, made primarily for Nepal and Tibet’s monastic institutions. Beautifully cast sculptures and accessible paintings showing peaceful manifestations of the bodhisattvas intended for the public are juxtaposed with complex tantric images of the highest quality done in portable media made for monastic elites. Vajrayana images offered powerful ways to access these bodhisattvas as a personal path to enlightenment, though often undertaking such rituals was done with a ruler’s sponsorship for the people’s benefit. This exhibition presents some of the sublime representations of these three bodhisattvas at the center of this great devotional tradition embraced across the Himalayas.

Archaeology News

<http://www.archaeology.org/news/>

Five Longswords Discovered in Sardis

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS—Live Science reports that five Roman-style longswords were discovered in a 1,500-year-old house located in central Sardis, western Turkey’s ancient capital of the kingdom of Lydia, by Harvard University’s Archaeological Expedition of Sardis under the direction of Nicholas Cahill of the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Only three swords had previously been found in the city. Buckles and a lead seal also recovered from the house suggest the residents may have been connected to the military or the city’s civil authorities, according to Vanessa Rousseau of the University of St. Thomas. She noted that the house had been furnished with wall paintings that mimic draped curtains and polychrome marble, and terracotta floor tiles that were imprinted before firing with a dog’s paw prints and finger-drawn outlines of birds resembling chickens or ducks. The house had been occupied for approximately 200 years before it was destroyed by an earthquake in the early seventh century, she concluded.

Three Byzantine Gold Coins Discovered in Bulgaria

LOM, BULGARIA—Archaeology in Bulgaria reports that three gold coins have been discovered in northwestern Bulgaria, at the site of the ancient city of Almus on the Danube River. The coins were minted during the reign of Emperor Michael VII Ducas, who gained control of the Byzantine Empire in A.D. 1071 after Emperor Romanus IV Diogenes was captured by the Seljuk Turks at the Battle of Manzikert. Michael VII Ducas was nicknamed “Parapinakes,” which translates to “minus a quarter,” because Byzantine coins lost value during his rule. He was deposed in 1078 and became bishop of Ephesus.

Early Anglo-Saxon Cemetery Uncovered in England

CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND—According to a report in The Guardian, an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery made up of more than 60 graves was discovered in eastern England when several buildings constructed in the 1930s were demolished at King’s College. The cemetery was surrounded by ditches dug before the Romans withdrew from England in the fifth century. “We already know that Cambridge wasn’t fully abandoned,” said medieval historian Caroline Goodson. “But what we’re seeing now is a greater and clearer picture of life in the post-Roman settlements.” Some 200 artifacts, including bronze brooches, bead necklaces, swords, short blades, pottery, and glass flasks recovered from the cemetery, have been dated to between A.D. 400 and 650. “They are no longer living as the Romans did,” Goodson explained, although some of the bodies had been buried with what appear to be late Roman objects. The researchers will attempt to recover DNA from the remains and analyze the chemical composition of the bones in order to investigate family relationships, past migrations, and health status, including possible infection with the Justinianic plague in the 540s, she added.

Traces of Elizabethan Garden Found in England

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND—Yahoo News reports that traces of a previously undocumented ornamental garden have been discovered in the West Midlands at the site where Coleshill Manor once stood. Archaeologists were documenting the remains of the house, which was damaged by fire and torn down in the 1950s, and an octagonal moat, ahead of the construction of a high-speed rail line in the area. The seventeenth-century garden featured gravel paths, planting beds, a garden pavilion, and ornaments arranged in a geometric pattern. Pipes, coins, and musket balls were also recovered.

Purple-Dyed Iron Age Textiles Discovered in Israel

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL—According to a statement released by Tel Aviv University, researchers Naama Sukenik and Orit Shamir of the Israel Antiquities Authority, Erez Ben-Yosef of Tel Aviv University, and David Iluz and Alexander Varvak of Bar-Ilan University have recovered and identified a 3,000-year-old fragment of purple-dyed woven wool fabric and a tassel at a copper smelting site in southern Israel’s dry Timna Valley. Made from a substance found in three Mediterranean species of mollusk, archaeologists had previously found evidence of the purple dye industry in the form of mollusk shell waste and pottery stained with dye. Sukenik said purple dye often cost more than gold, and was reserved for attire worn by royalty, nobility, and priests. Timna Valley elites, living in what was the nomadic Edomite kingdom, must have had trade relations with the coast, located some 180 miles away, Ben-Yosef added. Analysis of one of the fabric fragments suggests that the purple color was produced through a process described by the first-century A.D. Roman historian Pliny the Elder, with materials from two species of mollusk

The Chanticleer is always looking for articles, art, and photography! If you would like to contribute, please contact Mistress Eloise at chronicler@bbm.eastkingdom.org. We would love to showcase your work.

Manuscript art courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Page 2: Book of Hours, 1530-35, Simon Bening, Netherlandish, Ghent

Page 10: January and February from “The Peasants’ Feast or the Twelve Months,” 1546, Sebald Beham, German



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