
The Chanticleer

Monthly Newsletter of Barony Beyond the Mountain

June, 2017

AS52

Election Question and Answer Sessions

As the next step in our election process, there will be two formats for Q&A sessions with the three candidate slates. There will be one live session, to be held on June 25 at the home of Lady Leandra, 58 Alice Drive, Manchester, CT. The Q&A will begin at 2:00 pm and conclude no later than 6:00 pm, and people may arrive beginning at 1:30. Please bring something to share for pot luck, and a chair if you can.

In what may be a first for the Kingdom, there will also be an online, electronic Q&A forum available on the BBM website for those who cannot make the live session. Our webminister has established a page on our website, which will be administered by the seneschalate and baronage. Anyone who has questions to pose to the candidates may email them to any or all of the following: Felix at seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org, Mistress Elizabeth at electiondeputy@bbm.eastkingdom.org, and Baroness Eloise baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org. One of them will then add your question to the website for the candidates' consideration and reply. If you have any questions about the forum please contact Felix, Mistress Elizabeth, or Baroness Eloise. As our webminister is running for Baroness, she will not be interacting with the Q&A forum - you must go through one of those three officers. Please post your questions - not only will it provide insight into our candidates' positions, but if this format is a success, it may very well roll out to the rest of the Kingdom for future elections! All of the relevant laws and customs, the candidate Letters of Intent, and the Q&A forum may be found at <http://bbm.eastkingdom.org/baronial-elections>.



Baronial Officers:

Baron & Baroness - Baron Dorigen of Lewes, baron@bbm.eastkingdom.org, and Mistress Eloise of Coulter, baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Seneschal – Marcus Allectius Felix, Seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy – Mistress Elizabeth Vynehorn, vynehorn@gmail.com & Lady Leandra deLeon, leandrasuz@aol.com

Chatelaine – Lady Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn, chatelaine@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy – Sybill Teller, mpeckham83@gmail.com

Chronicler – Lady Johanna de Glastingburi, chronicler@bbm.eastkingdom.com

Company Captain of Archers – Rumhann MacDuibhsithe an Bhlog Seolta, archercap@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Exchequer – Lady Ciara McRobbie, exchequer@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Deputy - Lord Gwilym of Fflint, willied0296@yahoo.com

Herald – Mistress Camma an Daraich, andaraich@hotmail.com

Knight Marshal – Lord Angus Gove MacKinnon, knightmarshal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Marshal of Fence – Lord Grimolfr Skulason, rapier@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Marshal of Thrown Weapons – Vacant

Mistress of Arts & Science – Lady Alys du Bois, moas@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Minister of the List – Mark of the Red Hand

Web Minister – Lady Sisuire Butler, webminister@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Youth Marshal - Vacant

Combat Arts

NOTE: Practices are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead.

Archery

CT: BBM – The former Canton of Fennbrycg archery practice: By appointment Sundays, 3-5 at the Norwich Archery Club. Contact Siobhan 860-859-2773.

CT: BBM - Bowman's Rest: Tuesdays – 5:30 p.m. Burlington, CT - Dorigen & Eloise's at 17 Bittersweet Lane, Burlington, CT. Contact Dorigen at 860-673-2240.

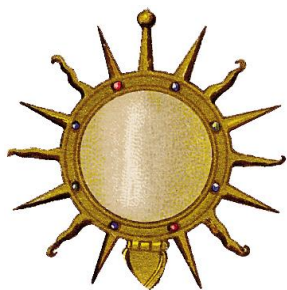
CT: Dragonship Haven: Sundays 12-3 pm (in season, weather permitting) Oxford, CT. DragonshipHaven@yahoo.com

MA: Carolingia – Carlisle, MA: Sundays from 10 am to 1 pm - Archery practice runs year round, by Master Peter the Red, at his home at 94 Laurelwood Drive, Carlisle, MA. All are welcome and loaner equipment is available. Contact Peter at peter.carmichael@comcast.net or call 978-287-0808.

MA: Quintavia - (Worcester County; Central Mass): Sunday from 1-3 pm weather permitting. Rozi and Brokk's, 472 Gleasondale Road, Stow, MA.

MA: Smoking Rocks - Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 pm and Fridays 6-8 pm – Trader Jan's, 288 Plymouth Avenue, Fall River, MA. Lane fee is \$8. Loaner gear is available.

RI: Tobyn's practice: Practice is open by appointment. Website has current information: www.baronyofthebridge.eastkingdom.org. Contact Tobyn 401-741-9130 or Radagast 401-741-9067.



Fencing

Sundays, 1-3 pm – 29 Florida Road, East Haddam, CT – Adult rapier only – Contact Grimolfr at 860-682-2526.

Mondays, 7-9 p.m. at Mary Elizabeth McGrath Educational Center, 130 Elm Street, Millbury, MA (Quintavia).

Thursdays, 7:30-10:00 p.m., Keefe Community Center, Hamden, CT (hosted by Barony of Dragonship Haven). Contact the Fencing Marshal (Christophel) @ fence@dragonshiphaven.eastkingdom.org.

Heavy-List Fighting

Tuesdays, 7-10 pm, Middlefield Federated Church, 402 Main Street, Middlefield, CT. Contact: Áine at ainethefearless@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 7 pm, Barony of Bergental at Bethesda Lutheran Church, 455 Island Pond Rd., Springfield, MA. Contact Knight Marshall of Barony of Bergental for more information.

Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., Keefe Community Center, Hamden, CT, hosted by Barony of Dragonship Haven). Contact the marshal at heavy@dragonshiphaven.eastkingdom.org.

Thrown Weapons Practice

Saturdays, 9-12 Aschehyrst, 258 Edgell Rd, Framingham, MA. Contact Symon of Barnesdale, thrown-weapons-marshal@carolingia.eastkingdom.org

Youth Fighter Practice

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm at Middlefield Federated Church, 402 Main Street, Middlefield, CT. Contact Aine at ainethefearless@gmail.com

Canton Seneschal:

Ravenhill – Michael Christian Longstryde,
michael.seneschal@yahoo.com

Baronial Champions:

Archery Champion: Lady Ciara McRobbie

Fencing Champion: Lord Grimolfr Skulason

Heavy Weapons Champion: Lord Mark the Red Hand

Thrown Weapons Champion: Lord Rumhann MacDuibhsithe an Bhlog Seolta

Meetings:

Baronial: Monday, June 12, 2017 @ 7:00 pm - 9 pm at Jo-Ann Fabrics and Crafts, 3105 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT. Contact Seneschal Marcus Allectius Felix, Seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org

Newcomers Meeting: TBD

Canton:

Ravenhill: Second Monday of the month, at the home of Seneschal Michael Christian Longstryde (Michael Intemann), 28 John Beach Rd, Newtown, CT 06470, 203-270-3670 (Before 9:00 pm), michael.seneschal@yahoo.com.

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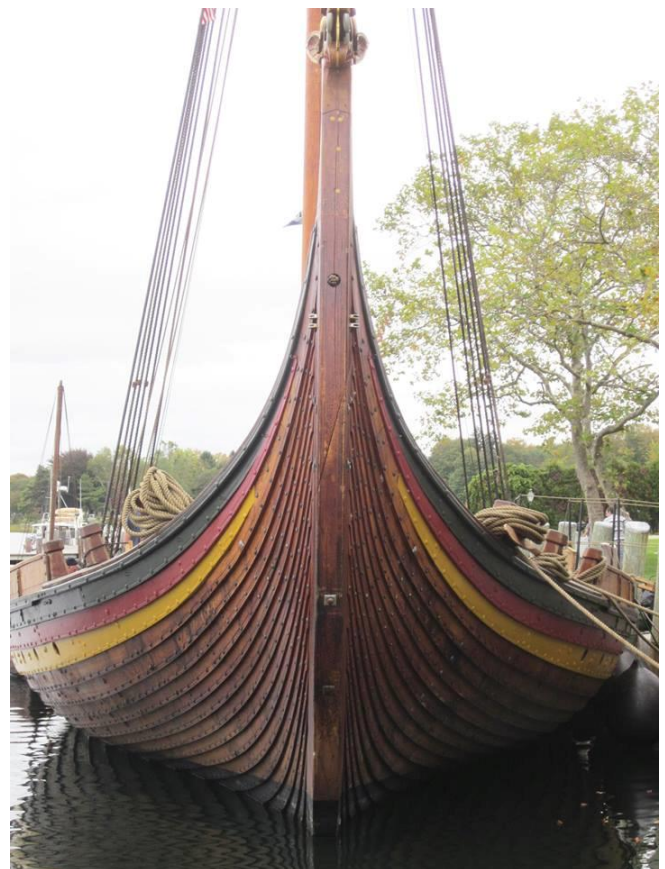
Arts & Science

Middle-Eastern Dance

Sundays, 1-4 p.m., Authur Murray Dance Studio, Glen Lochen Marketplace, 39 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT. Contact Mistress Su'ad (Nancy Barrett) at 860-228-6933 (before 10 p.m.); nancysuad@gmail.com.

Dance

First Tuesday of month – 7:30-9:30 pm - Camelot Co-Housing 46 Sawyer Hill Rd. Berlin, MA (Quintavia)



Mystic Seaport has announced that the replica Viking longship Draken Harald Hårfagre, docked at Chubb's Wharf at Mystic Seaport on Wednesday, May 31, 2017, will be open for public tours this summer beginning June 30.

Minister of Arts & Sciences Needed!

Having served the Barony for a term as our Minister of Arts & Sciences, Lady Alys du Blois is stepping down from the position. MoAS is a position required to maintain baronial status. Anyone who is interested should send an email to the Seneschal and Baron/ess at seneschal@bbm.eastkingdom.org, baron@bbm.eastkingdom.org, and baroness@bbm.eastkingdom.org. Candidates will be announced in the July newsletter. Due to the lack of a July meeting, a vote on the candidates will be taken at the August meeting.

Many thanks to Lady Alys for her service.

Summer Solstice Shoot

**June 17th, 2017
New Britain, CT**

Come celebrate the summer solstice with us. Spend the day in joyous company

- fighting
- fencing
- thrown weapons
- gaming
- feasting
- dancing
- learning
- merchanting
- and of course
- SHOOTING ARCHERY!

For ARCHERY, we will have a fabulous fun shoot, with both competition and general shooting, as well as the Barony Beyond the Mountain Baronial Archery Tournament. We invite the archers of BBM to come out and take part in a challenging but fun shoot for the honor of representing your Barony.

Fencing for the day will include the Barony Beyond the Mountain Baronial Rapier Championship. All are welcome in the regular tournament and we can't wait to see fencers from all over BBM coming to fight to become our next Baronial Champion! Pennsic is coming up shortly and this is the only way to fight in the Known World Baronial Fencing Tournament. Come represent BBM and show the Known World what kind of

fencers BBM has!

If your game is thrown weapons, it will be a day of Thrown Weapons instruction, guidance and if there is enough interest, competition. Newer people will have the opportunity to work with experienced throwers on techniques. MIT's will have the opportunity to work with experienced marshals and get some valuable range time. Royal Rounds will be available for anyone who wishes to throw them.

We have a wonderful day planned for you with many tournaments, classes, and other fun things to do.

Site is damp. Beer, wine, mead or champagne ONLY. No spirits or spirit-based cordials are allowed on site.

No smoking or vaping on site. Not even in the parking lot. You must go outside the fence to smoke or vape.

No animals are allowed on site except Service Animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (guide dogs, signal dogs, or other animals individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability).

Site Open: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: HSC Community Center, 370 Osgood Avenue, New Britain, CT 06053. The event site is accessible per the East Kingdom Accessibility Porter's [Checklist](#)

Registration: Adult Non-Members \$15.00
Adult Members (with Member Discount) \$10.00
Minors (17 years of age and under) free
Note the site will be open for set-up from Noon Friday the 23rd to 9:00pm and from 7:00am Saturday the 24th. Set-up ends at Midnight Saturday (Or, hopefully, MUCH earlier!)
Feast: There is no feast. Site fee includes dayboard.

Make Checks Payable to: Barony Beyond the Mountain, SCA Inc.

Event Steward: Mesterinde Anarra Karlsdottir, OL, (Terry Neill), 860-223-6843, t_neill@hotmail.com

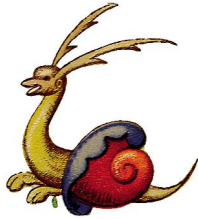
Directions:

North, East or West, take your best route to I-84, Exit 36 (Slater Road). From the exit, continue straight onto Erling Road. Sterling ends in a T with a wood straight ahead of you. At the woods, turn LEFT onto Corbin Avenue. The entrance to the site is on your RIGHT. It's a gate in a chain-link fence just before Osgood Avenue. If you get to Osgood you've just passed it.

From the South, take I-91 to Exit 22N (Route 9 North). Merge LEFT to Route 72 WEST towards Bristol. Take the Corbin Avenue exit. This is a right-hand exit off of Route 72. Turn RIGHT onto

Corbin Avenue for ~1.3 miles. The entrance to the site is on your RIGHT. It's a gate in a chain-link fence just before Osgood Avenue. If you get to Osgood you've just passed it. (If you miss the Corbin Avenue exit, then get onto I-84 East-bound and follow the directions above.)

WHEN YOU LEAVE: IF YOU CAME ON EAST-BOUND I-84 VIA THE SLATER ROAD EXIT - Note that the on ramp to West-bound I-84 from Slater Road (Exit 36) is closed for repairs. To get onto West-bound I-84 from the event site, turn LEFT out of the parking lot and go down Corbin Avenue. Pass the CVS and three gas station at the corner of Corbin and Main streets, go straight through the stop light at that corner and then, at the next stop light, take the entrance ramp to your right onto 72 West. Move over to the left lanes, which will take you to I-84 West-bound (Staying in the right lane will take you to I-84 East-bound).



A Message From the Baroness:

Greetings to the Barony during this interesting bit of early spring in June. The weather may be chilly, but I am assured that summer is just around the corner.

First, I would like to thank all the people who have been working our demos and events for the last few months - we have been a busy Barony! The Golden Seamstress event was a rousing success - while a small event, all of the staff and attendees had great fun. Many of the attendees and many, many, **many** people who were not able to attend have expressed hope that we will run it again, which we are indeed working on. Many people turned out to help that day - and night! - but I would like to express special appreciation to Mistresses Anarra and Ana Ilevna, and Ladies Gwenllian and Sisuiile who stayed overnight with the competitors. And of course also to Mistress Ciara who convinced us to hold the event and was of course on site from the very beginning to the bitter end. Brava, ladies!

Demos. My goodness has our chatelaine been working overtime fulfilling demo requests. The demo for the Connecticut Sheep and Wool Festival was its usual success. It was a beautiful day, we spoke to a large number of people, and the organizers were so happy with us that we left with a thank-you note and a donation!

Hard on the heels of that demo was the BBM sponsored weekend at the Robin Hood Faire. That was **not** as beautiful a day. In fact, I would go so far as to characterize the weather as "miserable" But having committed to our neighbors in Dragonship Haven that we would cover that weekend of the Faire to allow them to concentrate on running the Hastilude, we soldiered on. Ironically, the Hastilude ended up cancelled because of the weather, but we covered the demo nonetheless. There were people there from several baronies, but I would particularly like to extend my thanks to our folks who attended. In order to support our neighboring barony, they gave up a day of participating in the fun part of an event to sit in the rain and do the work part of a demo. And thanks also to the people who then continued to assist on the weekends that Dragonship was wrangling it on their own. Well done, all of you.

Last, but not least, there was a demo for the Federated Church in Middlefield where we hold our heavy and youth combat practices. The church held a food truck fair, and asked us if we would please come and demonstrate the things that we do in their Fellowship Hall. We had a very nice turnout of people who left work early in order to participate in showing off both our heavy list and A&S prowess - and managed to do it in the itty-bitty strip of grass between the parking lot and the street. The church was very pleased, and the fries were excellent.

I, and I'm sure our chatelaine, are tired now and would like to be done with demos for a while.

But Solstice Shoot is right around the corner, and I would encourage people to come and support the Barony in our assorted activities. We have tournaments for archery, heavy list, and fencing, and additionally the Kingdom thrown weapons champion will be coming to set up a range for any who would like to try out thrown weapons. I **highly** recommend it - throwing axes is fun!

But in addition to the regular activities, we will also be turning over three championships: archery, heavy list, and rapier. Please consider standing for

one of those positions. The requirements aren't onerous, and it would help to encourage these arts in the Barony. We heard lots of *discussion* a few years ago about how the championships are important to the martial communities. Demonstrate that value by your presence in the lists and on the line.

And finally: Pennsic. Please consider giving a little time to the Barony at Pennsic. Opening Ceremonies has yet again been scheduled by people who hate dinner, and will be held on Saturday evening. Please come out and stand for the Barony. It's only a little time, and means a lot. At this point in time, we do not know what Their Majesties will ask of us for East Kingdom Court, but it is a safe guess that they will ask Their landed baronage to sit in court with them again. If this is the case, we could use some assistance (hopefully this year I will not be as sick as last year.) Every year we are asked to have someone bring our chairs down in advance to set up court, and of course at the end of court they need to go back to our camp. Every year the good folk of An Dubhaigeainn perform that service for us. It would be nice not to have to depend on them. Hopefully I will have more details in July.

Until then, have fun, and think good weather thoughts!

Eloise



The Nina and Pinta at the Hartford Waterfront

Archaeology News

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

5/31/17 - GRAVE IN PORTUGAL YIELDS BONY TUMOR - COIMBRA, PORTUGAL—A calcified ovarian tumor measuring just under two inches wide was found by archaeologists in the abdominal cavity of a woman buried at the historic Church and Convent of Carmo in Lisbon. According to a report in Live Science, the cemetery at the site was in use between the fifteenth century and 1755, when an earthquake destroyed the church. The woman was at least 45 years old at the time of her death. Such ovarian cysts, which grow from cells that would normally become eggs, can produce teeth, hair, and bones, and can grow large enough to cause severe pain. But Sofia Wasterlain of the University of Coimbra said it is not possible to tell how this teratoma impacted the woman's life. Wasterlain added that she did not find any damage to the woman's skeleton from the bony growth. For more, go to "Off the Grid: Côa Valley, PortugalCôa Valley, Portugal." <http://www.livescience.com/59293-tumor-with-teeth-in-gothic-graveyard.html>

5/26/17 - NINTH-CENTURY CASTLE INVESTIGATED IN SLOVAKIA - PEZINOK, SLOVAKIA—Archaeologist Július Vavák of the Malokarpatské Múzeum is investigating the site of a Slavic castle dating to the Great Moravian Empire in the Little Carpathians, according to a report in The Slovak Spectator. During the ninth and tenth centuries, the strategically located castle was a military and manufacturing center connected to the castles and hillforts in Bratislava and Devín, where King Rastislav is known to have stayed. The castle also probably provided protection for valuable trade routes. So far, Vavák has recovered evidence of metalworking, ceramics, glass fragments, a knife, a spear, and a deposit of jewelry, including earrings, a pendant, and a ring. He has also found a selection of coins, including Roman and Celtic varieties, and a late ninth-century silver dirham from the Abbasid caliphate. Vavák claims this is the first Arabic silver coin to have been found in Great Moravia. To read about other discoveries including Arabic silver coins, go to "Hoard of the Vikings." <https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20542813/archaeologist-pieces-together-early-history-of-what-is-now-western-slovakia.html>

5/24/17 - TINY METAL BIRD UNEARTHED AT BAMBURGH CASTLE - NORTHUMBERLAND, ENGLAND—A tiny copper-alloy representation of a bird has been discovered at Bamburgh Castle, according to a report from the Northumberland Gazette. The discovery was made last year during ongoing excavations of the castle, which was the headquarters of the medieval Anglo-Saxon kings of Northumbria. Measuring just an inch by a half-inch, the mount is extremely detailed. Experts believe it dates to the eighth century and that its design may draw on bird-of-prey motifs from the sixth and seventh centuries. According to Graeme Young, Bamburgh research project director, the object was found on a cobbled surface, and it is so far unclear whether it was deposited inside a building or on a yard surface or a path. To read in-depth about excavations at Bamburgh Castle, go to "Letter from England: Stronghold of the Kings in the North." <http://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk/news/bamburgh-dig-uncovers-unique-find-1-8556013>

5/23/17 - UNUSUAL BURIAL FOUND IN RUSSIA'S FAR EAST - UST-IVANOVKA, RUSSIA—According to the Siberian Times, archaeologists have unearthed an unusual medieval-era burial in the Primorski Region of Russia's Far East. Dating from the seventh to ninth centuries, the remains belonged to a

man in his twenties who was buried in a manner that seemed to the team to resemble a dance pose, with his feet crossed and knees wide open. No similar examples of such an orientation are known from burials found nearby, and physical anthropologists speculate it could be the result of the man's feet having been bound prior to burial. His arms also appear to have been tied up in some way. Archaeologists recovered arrow tips that were laid on top of the body, perhaps as part of a burial ritual, although one tip might have actually penetrated the bone, and could have been the cause of the man's death. To read about the excavation of a medieval site in Siberia, go to "Fortress of Solitude." <http://siberiantimes.com/other/others/features/tied-up-in-his-grave-the-strange-dancing-skeleton-of-ust-ivanovka/>

5/22/17 - MEDIEVAL BREWERY UNEARTHED IN EAST ENGLAND - LINCOLN, ENGLAND—Lincolnshire Live reports that a possible medieval brewery has been discovered amid the rubble of several 800-year-old buildings in the path of a new highway. Church records indicate that the land was worked by the monks of Kirkstead Abbey, who farmed and raised sheep during the twelfth century. A team from Network Archaeology uncovered two rectangular structures with sloping sides and stepped-out limestones that may have supported a wooden floor. They think the buildings may have been malt kilns, since the bottom of the structures, and a gap in the stones that could have acted as a flue, had been blackened by smoke. For more, go to "Legends of Glastonbury Abbey." <http://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/medieval-brewery-used-by-monks-discovered-by-archaeologists-on-the-outskirts-of-lincoln/story-30346623-detail/story.html>

5/19/17 - MASSIVE VIKING CAMP RECREATED **TORKSEY, ENGLAND**—According to a report in Lincolnshire Live, a 135-acre Viking camp located along the River Trent in Lincolnshire has been investigated by archaeologists from the University of Sheffield and the University of York. Artisans, traders, women, and children are believed to have lived alongside the invading Viking Great Army, described in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, during the winter of A.D. 872-73. As they prepared to continue their battles against Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, the Vikings are thought to have spent the winter processing their plunder and trading in goods and possibly slaves. Evidence for metalworking includes pieces of chopped up silver and hack-gold ready to be melted down into ingots. More than 100 Arabic silver coins, and 300 gaming pieces used to pass the time, were also recovered, along with iron tools, spindle whorls, needles, and fishing weights. There's also evidence the Vikings spent time repairing their longships. The new research was compiled and used to recreate the camp through a virtual reality experience now traveling throughout England. For more, go to "Hoards of the Vikings." <http://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/melting-down-loot-and-gaming-how-viking-invaders-spent-winter-872-3-ad-at-torksey/story-30342722-detail/story.html>

5/15/17 - MEDIEVAL TEUTONIC CASTLE UNCOVERED IN POLAND - TORUŃ, POLAND—Science & Scholarship in Poland reports that a thirteenth-century castle has been unearthed in north-central Poland. The structure, built on a steep slope in Unisław overlooking the Vistula River valley, is thought to have been first built by the Teutonic Knights. "It consisted of the high castle and two wards," said team leader Bogusz Wasik of Nicolaus Copernicus University. The high castle, he explained, measured only about 100 feet long. A small courtyard was situated in front of the buildings. Ceramics, animal bones, eggshells, and fish bones and scales were found in a kitchen area. Other artifacts include a knife and armor plates. The castle was captured and destroyed during the Thirteen Years' War, when the Teutonic Knights were eventually defeated by Poland and the Prussian

Confederation. The castle was annexed to Poland and rebuilt, but was destroyed again in the seventeenth century during the Polish-Swedish wars. For more, go to "Off the Grid: Krakow, Poland."

<http://scienceinpoland.pap.pl/en/news/news,414093,archaeologists-discovered-the-ruins-of-the-13th-century-teutonic-castle-in-unislaw.html>

5/12/17 - 15TH-CENTURY PRINTED PAGE DISCOVERED IN ARCHIVE

READING, ENGLAND—Live Science reports that librarian Erika Delbecque found a page from a Latin text of instructions for priests known as the Sarum Ordinal or Sarum Pye in an archive at the University of Reading. The book was printed in late 1476 or early 1477 by William Caxton, who introduced the printing press to England, with black text, red paragraph marks, and double-sided pages. Delbecque said that the page is one of only two surviving fragments of the medieval book, which fell out of use after the Reformation. The rare leaf had been pasted into another book to reinforce its spine for about 300 years, until it was recovered at the University of Cambridge around 1820. The University of Reading purchased the page 20 years ago as part of a collection belonging to a typographer. To read in-depth about the search for medieval manuscripts, go to "Recovering Hidden Texts."

<http://www.livescience.com/59087-page-from-medieval-priests-handbook-discovered.html>

5/10/17 - MEDIEVAL FASTING RULES MAY HAVE

ALTERED CHICKEN EVOLUTION - OXFORD, ENGLAND—News.com.au reports that Christian religious beliefs and increased urbanization may have shaped the domestication of the chicken during the medieval period. Liisa Loog of Oxford University said that chickens were first domesticated about 6,000 years ago. The new study combined DNA data from chicken bones recovered at archaeological sites in Europe with statistical modeling, and found that some of the features of modern chickens, such as the ability to live in close proximity to one another, rapid egg laying, and a reduced fear of humans arose about 1,000 years ago, when religious fasting rules excluded the consumption of four-legged animals, but allowed the devout to eat chickens and their eggs. Loog explained that selection pressures, including different preferences and ecological factors, can change over time. For more on human consumption of animals, go to "The Rabbit Farms of Teotihuacán." <http://www.news.com.au/world/breaking-news/religion-helped-make-modern-chicken-study/news-story/65bdcda2576a29ff43b927af93cf9397>

5/11/17 - VIKINGS MAY HAVE GROWN THEIR OWN

GRAPES - COPEHAGEN, DENMARK—It had been thought that grapes were not grown in Denmark before the medieval period, but The Local, Denmark, reports that strontium isotope analysis of two grape seeds recovered at the site of the Viking settlement at Tissø suggests they may have been grown on the main Danish island of Zealand. One of the pips has been dated to the Iron Age, the other to the late Viking period. "We do not know how [the grapes] were used—it may have been just to have a pretty bunch of grapes decorating a table, for example—but it is reasonable to believe that they made wine," said archaeological botanist Peter Steen Henriksen of Denmark's National Museum. The Vikings probably first encountered grapes and wine in their travels. For more, go to "Hoards of the Vikings."

<https://www.thelocal.dk/20170426/danish-vikings-may-have-made-their-own-wine>

4/20/17 - 16TH-CENTURY ENGLISH GARRISON WALLS TRACED IN IRISH TOWN - PORTLAOISE, IRELAND

—A survey of Portlaoise, the capital of County Laois, has identified English sixteenth-century garrison walls in many of the town's buildings, according to a report in the Leinster Express. "It's

surprisingly intact," said Laois Heritage Officer Catherine Casey. "Seventy-five percent of the walls are still there. They form the front of the vocational school, they run down the back of Main Street, as some backyard walls, and some are inside O'Loughlin's Hotel." A school sits on top of the original main garrison building. The team of researchers is laser scanning the garrison's stone walls and taking high-resolution photographs of them in order to create a digital model for the new Portlaoise library. To read about a surprising discovery in Ireland, go to "Irish Roots."

<http://www.leinsterexpress.ie/news/arts-culture-entertainment/245596/historic-fort-walls-discovered-intact-in-portlaoise-hotel.html>

4/18/17 - MEDIEVAL PRIEST'S REMAINS UNEARTHED AT THORNTON ABBEY - LINCOLNSHIRE, ENGLAND—

Lincolnshire Today reports that the remains of a medieval priest have been found near a hospital chapel altar at Thornton Abbey in the east of England by a team from the University of Sheffield. A gravestone identified him as Richard de W'Peton, who died on April 17, 1317. "After taking Richard's skeleton back to the laboratory, despite poor preservation, we were able to establish Richard was around 35-45 years old at the time of his death and that he had stood around 5 feet, 4 inches tall," said Emma Hook. Examination of his skeleton revealed that he had performed strenuous physical labor, and marks on his teeth suggest that he had experienced a period of malnutrition or illness during childhood. The research team also produced a 3-D scan of the priest's skull, which detected a slight depression that may represent a well-healed wound from blunt-force trauma. Hugh Willmott added that the priest may have died of hunger during the Great Famine, which struck Europe between 1315 and 1317, after a period of heavy rains that caused widespread crop failures. To read more about medieval English archaeology, go to "Stronghold of the Kings in the North." <http://lincolnshiretoday.net/mag/medieval-priest-uneearthed-thornton-abbey/>

4/18/17 - ARCHBISHOPS' REMAINS DISCOVERED IN

LONDON - LONDON, ENGLAND—The Telegraph reports that 30 lead coffins were found in a hidden chamber beneath the altar of the deconsecrated church located next to Lambeth Palace, the thirteenth-century London residence of the leader of the Church of England. It had been thought that all of the burials under the 1,000-year-old church were removed in the nineteenth century when the structure was refurbished, but scholars now know that the remains of the archbishops were not disturbed. A gilded funerary miter found resting on a coffin was the first clue to the identity of the deceased. Metal name plates on two of the coffins revealed that they indeed held the remains of former Archbishops of Canterbury: Richard Bancroft, who served as archbishop from 1604 to 1610 and oversaw the publication of the King James Bible; and John Moore, who served from 1783 to 1805. Church records have revealed that three additional Archbishops of Canterbury were probably buried in the vault during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Although the coffins will be left undisturbed, a glazed, manhole-sized panel has placed over the entrance to the tomb in the chancel so that museum visitors can see the steps leading to the vault. To read more about the archaeology of English churches, go to "Writing on the Church Wall." <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/men/thinking-man/remains-five-missing-archbishops-canterbury-found-accident/>

4/13/17 - ARTIFACTS FROM TURKIK WOMAN'S GRAVE

ANALYZED - KHOVD CITY, MONGOLIA—Researchers from the Khovd Museum and The Center of Cultural Heritage of Mongolia have been analyzing and conserving the remains of a Turkik woman and her grave goods excavated last year in the Altai Mountains. The Siberian Times reports that it had

been thought that the woman died of a head injury in the sixth century A.D., but experts now say she lived in the tenth century. They are awaiting the results of radiocarbon dating and DNA testing. The woman was buried with more than 50 items, including a pair of leather boots decorated with red- and black-striped embroidery, a mirror and comb, an embroidered bag containing a sewing kit, a horse that had been sacrificed, a saddle, and four changes of clothing. A tar-like substance called shilajit, applied to the body, may have helped to preserve it. The woman's body and the horse's remains were also covered with felt. "As the grave was buried in a cool environment, fabric and the felt did not undergo a biological reaction," said Galbadrakh Enkhbat, director of the Center of Cultural Heritage of Mongolia. "They appeared as if they had been used only yesterday."

<http://siberiantimes.com/science/casestudy/features/ancient-mummy-with-1100-year-old-adidas-boots-died-after-she-was-struck-on-the-head/>

4/12/17 - SOME VIKING SWORDS MAY HAVE BEEN DECORATIVE

KONGENS LYNGBY, DENMARK—Three Viking Age swords from the National Museum of Denmark have been examined with neutron scans, according to a report in Live Science. "This is the first study which allowed us to virtually 'slice' Viking swords, showing how different materials have been combined together," said materials scientist Anna Fedrigo of the Technical University of Denmark. All three swords date to the ninth or tenth century A.D., and came from the Central Jutland area of Denmark. And, all three swords were crafted with the pattern-welding technique, which folds, twists, and forges together thin strips of different kinds of iron and steel. But Fedrigo said that these kinds of swords may not have been designed for combat, since an iron core edged with harder steel would have made a better weapon. The high temperatures of the pattern-welding technique could also have left the weapons vulnerable to rust. She suggests that swords may have become symbols of power and status to elite Vikings, while more affordable axes, spears, and lances may have been used by seafaring raiders. For more, go to "Hoards of the Vikings." <http://www.livescience.com/58654-viking-sword-scans-reveal-norse-culture.html>

4/3/17 - MEDIEVAL VILLAGE YIELDS MUTILATED BONES -

SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND—According to a report in The Guardian, a team of researchers from Historic England and the University of Southampton studied a collection of human bones from at least ten individuals excavated from a medieval site in North Yorkshire more than 50 years ago. The remains were recovered from overlapping pits between houses in the village, and not near the church or in its graveyard. Scholars originally thought the burials were older than the medieval village. But the new research reveals that the broken bones, which belonged to adults, teenagers, and children, bear cut marks and evidence that some of the body parts had been burned. Isotopic analysis of the individuals' teeth indicates that they had lived in the village where they had been buried, and so were not invaders. And, the cut marks are in unlikely places for butchery, such as the skulls and upper body. "The idea that the Wharham Percy bones are the remains of corpses burnt and dismembered to stop them walking from their graves seems to fit the evidence best," said skeletal biologist Simon Mays of Historic England. "If we are right, then this is the first good archaeological evidence we have for this practice." To read more about medieval archaeology in northern England, go to "Stronghold of the Kings in the North."

Congratulations to:
Lady Sitt al-Gharb ha niqret
Khazariyya
who was inducted into
the Order of the Silver Wheel
at Balfar's Challenge

and

Siobhan Inghean Cormaic
who was named
King's Archery Champion
at Panteria



.....
Jane Brezzo
146 Prospect Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033
