

# Caw Estee

# Shin



Barony of An Crosaire Newsletter

May 2010

Volume I, Issue 2

## DISCLAIMERS

This is the May 2010, issue of the Caw Ees Fee Shin, a publication of the Barony of An Crosaire of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). Caw Ees Fee Shin is available from Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire [Kurt Macholeth] via email at ragnar@ragnar.net. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2010 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

Caw Ees Fee Shin proudly serves the Barony of An Crosaire and its populace with the dissemination of information of both interest and importance to the Barony and its populace. An extreme effort is put forth to neither discriminate nor slight any given sector of the populace, the society, events or sights used. That said, if such a slight or discrimination is perceived in any form, please immediately contact the Barony of An Crosaire Chronicler, Lord Ragnar, via email or phone, so that the issue may be resolved immediately and, if required, an apology to the offended parties may be entered into the next issue.

Please feel free to forward any content requests or submissions via email or hard copy to the Baronial Chronicler so that this publication may better suit your needs, interests or to assist others with the skills and knowledge you may have acquired over your tenure within the SCA. The Chronicler reserves the right to edit submissions for spelling and grammar as well as for inappropriate content and for space considerations.

Please note that even though distributed electronically, this document shall contain no dynamic content therefore hyperlinks are not associated with emails or URL addresses. I apologize for the inconvenience, but this document, even electronically, must adhere to hard copy publishing content for exact replication on paper.



## From the Chronicler

### Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire

Good gentles of An Crosaire, I bid you welcome. It has been a while but the newsletter is back and will stay back. At Spring Coronation, we Croniclars were informed that the newsletter is now able to be distributed solely by electronic means and no hard copies need be sent to the kingdom. This makes us happy.

I am happy to announce that Kyna inghean Ui Chennselaig has decided to be kind and become the Deputy Chronicler and I am glad of her help. She assisted with this newsletter and will be instrumental in all that follow as well. The intent is to get back on track and produce a quality newsletter to enlighten and entertain on a monthly basis.

Again, as you all know, please send any items for inclusion into the newsletter to me and I will ensure it makes it into our lovely periodical.

Great thanks goes out to Baroness Natalija Varvara Stoianova OP for her awesome article on medieval power sources, to Lady Thalassa Hellas for her wonderful crossword puzzle, and to Baron Simon Maurus for his article on Successful Event Stewardship.

Yours in service,  
Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire  
Baronial Chronicler

#### Contact Information

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire  
2777 SW Archer Rd Apt AD279  
Gainesville, Florida 32608-1313  
ragnar@ragnar.net  
Cell: 813-786-6820

[Kurt Macholeth]

## Barony of An Crosaire Officers



**Baron**

Master Rurik Petovich Stoianov  
Rurikps@cox.net



**Baroness**

Mistress Ceridwen o Cahercommaun  
Keridwen@cox.net



**Seneschal**

Lord Ivan 'Vanya' Volkovich  
seneschal@ancrosaire.org



**Exchequer**

Lady Thalassa Knossos Hellas  
exchequer@ancrosaire.org



**Herald**

Aibhilin inghean Daibhidh  
herald@ancrosaire.org



**Hospitaller**

Lady Ysabeau J L Durant  
hospitaller@ancrosaire.org



**Chamberlain**

Mu'allim Ibrahim ibn Abih al Thaalibi  
chamberlain@ancrosaire.org



**Minister of Arts & Sciences**

Lady Madhavi of Jaisalmer  
artsci@ancrosaire.org



**Chronicler**

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire  
ragnar@ragnar.net



**Minister of Youth**



**Librarian**

Catiana Devannes

librarian@ancrosaire.org



**Constable**

Lord Hallr Dunkr

constable@ancrosaire.org



**Combat Arts Marshal**

Lady Caitriona inghean Ui Loinsigh

marshall@ancrosaire.org



**Rapier Marshal**

Maistir Roibeard mac Sluaghadhim

rapier@ancrosaire.org



**Webminister**

Sebastian von Meintze

webminister@ancrosaire.org



**Historian**

Mistress Natalija Varvara Stoianova

historian@ancrosaire.org

## Calendar of Upcoming Events – Kingdom of Trimaris (Complete events listing at Trimaris.org)

May 2010			
28-31	TMT – War Practice		Kingdom (Marcaster) Camp Ocala

June 2010			
4-6	Cattle Raids – War Practice		Starhaven
12	Kingdom Equestrian Practice		Kingdom Springdale Farms, Longwood
25-27	Trimarian Olympics IV		Amurgorod Norse Horse Arena

July 2010			
10	Squire's Revolt		Wyvernwoode Christian Church, St Petersburg
17	Res Servitas		Marcaster UU Church, St Petersburg
17	Norri Academy		Sea March Pine Jog Environmental Education Ctr, West Palm Beach
30-15	Pennsic War		Æthelmearc Coopers Lake, PA

Information listed on the calendar is gathered from the Kingdom of Trimaris web page and from our own Barony. Errors in information, changes in dates or locations or any other inaccuracies are apologized for. If some information listed is incorrect, please contact the Baronial Chronicler so the information may be corrected as quickly as possible.

 Indicates that the current reigning King and Queen of Trimaris will be in attendance as the noted event.



**Seneschal**

Lord Ivan 'Vanya' Volkovich  
seneschal@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Lady Thalassa Knossos Hellas

Honorable Lady Fionnuala MacLeod

The Seneschal is essentially the local administrator for the Society. The Seneschal enforces the Corpora, the By-Laws, Corporate Policies and the Articles of Incorporation and tries to ensure the conduct of those in the Barony meets with these rules and that the populace understands them as needed and does not do things to negatively reflect on the SCA in the mundane eye. The Seneschal deals with the running of the meetings, event bids, many reports and any other issues that require Kingdom or Society interaction here in the Barony.

Being the Seneschal is a demanding task, requiring a strong familiarization with our governing rules and laws and a political savvy that allows smooth cooperation at all levels of administration. The Seneschal runs most of the Baronial meetings and has the unpleasant task of making decisions for the Barony on issues where there is no way to make everyone happy.

If you have questions about the rules that we in the SCA operate under, the Seneschal is your point of contact. If there are legal questions dealing with the Barony or some outside organization wishes information, the Seneschal is again the point of contact.

This is a very intense and demanding office to fulfill. It requires dedication, discretion and a lot of effort and time. Much of what a Seneschal does is done out of sight of the populace, on their own time, away from events and as such can have an impact on your mundane life far more frequently than many other offices.

The Seneschal also has say over who can and can't hold an office provided they meet any Corpora or other SCA requirements.

If you wish to learn about this office, please feel free to contact the Seneschal or a deputy, but you should also peruse the downloadable documents and policies on the SCA website in the download section. You can find the most current Corpora there as well as the other rules and regulations that we operate under.



***Exchequer***

Lady Thalassa Knossos Hellas  
exchequer@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Lady Emer ni Maebdh

The Exchequer is a very important office in many ways. This office is responsible for the money aspects of the Barony and thus has many very specific guidelines to follow with the handling, gathering and distribution of funds. Good math skills, accounting skills and computer skills help make this office a bit less stressful.

This office handles the Barony money. The Exchequer writes checks for new item acquisitions, repairs/upgrades/maintenance of existing items, expenses incurred for the barony and funds for Barony run events. There are forms and receipts and many other aspects of the office that are more mundane than aspects of other offices, but, money comes with laws and we have to abide by them and keep our books clean.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Exchequer office, please feel free to contact the Exchequer or the deputy, they will be glad to assist you.

Please understand this office has a lot of rules and responsibility attached to it. This can be a stressful office to hold so please talk at length with the Exchequer before deciding you want to learn about this office or be a deputy.



**Herald**

Lady Aibhilin inghean Daibhidh  
herald@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Baron Koppel

Sebastion von Meintze

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire

The office of the Herald is a very important and active one. It is responsible for aiding with the submittal of names, devices and badges as well as recording court information and submitting it to the Kingdom Herald. It also calls open meetings and courts and reads award scrolls and other items as directed by the Baron and/or Baroness. Heralds also roam the sites at events and cry out the schedule or other needed messages. The Herald is also called upon to assist the Kingdom Herald in court when they need the assistance. All of this work leads to a periodic need for several deputies and anyone wishing to become a deputy is more than welcome to come and learn about heralding.

The science/art/skill of actual heraldry itself can be overwhelming and take a long time to master. For this reason, you may hear some heralds refer to themselves as 'voice' heralds, meaning they do announcements and courts, but do not consider themselves up to speed on the actually heraldry end.

For those wishing to enter their name, device or badge for approval by the Society officially, the submittal process is online at the Kingdom website under the Herald area. The submittal form is at the bottom of the Herald page. There is a fee to officially register your name, device or badge and often documentation is required and a submittal may need to have adjustments made before the Society will approve it.

Please feel free to contact the Herald or any of the deputies if you wish to learn heralding or if you wish some assistance in submitting your information for official approval, we are all here to help and do so gladly.



## **Hospitaller**

Lady Ysabeau J L Durant

[hospitaller@ancrosaire.org](mailto:hospitaller@ancrosaire.org)

### Deputies:

Lady Amalie Von Thungen

Honorable Lord Qaratai Kereyid

The office of the Hospitaller acts a bit like our link between the SCA and the mundane world, helping those wishing to get into our dream transition from the mundane to the SCA. It is like recruiting, mentoring and tour guiding all rolled into one. The Hospitaller introduces new folks to existing members, directs them to who might best aid them with their specific interests, assist with loaner garb and help them understand what is expected of members of the SCA and what they might need to acquire to enjoy their time spend pursuing the dream.

The Hospitaller also acts as a liaison between the local SCA group and educational facilities and organizations that may wish the SCA to assist with some aspect of what they do, like a demo at a school or assisting with Hoggetowne Medieval Faire.

If you are new or interested in some new aspect of the SCA, please seek out your Hospitaller and inquire as to traditions, customs, practices and other rules and respect issues that might be of interest or importance to you. Many aspects of the game we enjoy are not readily intuitive and many an embarrassing blunder could easily be avoided with a small amount of research or mentoring.

Please feel free to contact the Hospitaller or any of their deputies if you wish to know more about the office, wish to help or need help relevant to the office. They are wonderful people and very approachable, a quality highly desirable in a Hospitaller.



## **Chamberlain**

Mu'allim Ibrahim ibn Abih al Thaalibi  
chamberlain@ancrosaire.org

### Deputies:

None – Currently Actively Seeking.

Well, someone has to take care of the Baronial property. It requires storage, inventorying, maintenance, replacement as necessary, and basically control as well. This can be a trying task at times. Our Barony has many tents and pop-ups along with tables, thrones, portable holes, spears, banners, table and serving wear and a lot more. The Chamberlain knows where it all is, what its condition is and how to maintain it. It is a large task.

Tents need to be set up after events often to be cleaned and/or dried, ropes checked and sorted into correct containers corresponding to said tents, poles checked for damage or warping and an untold number of other little things. These are not truly one person tasks. Setting up a 20' x 20' period pavilion takes effort and several people to do safely and timely. We go home after an event and put our stuff away. The Chamberlain goes home, puts their stuff away, and then still has to deal with the Barony's things as well.

Currently, our Chamberlain is actively seeking a deputy. The workload often needs that extra set of hands or even multiple and our current Chamberlain has been doing this for a while and deserves the help if not someone to turn the office over to.

If you are interested or want to know more about the office, please seek out our Chamberlain. He isn't hard to find and would be more than happy to help you help him.



**Minister of Arts & Sciences**

Lady Madhavi of Jaisalmer  
artsci@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

None

Arts & Sciences are a critical part of our dream. Wonderous items, foods, drinks and even performances grace our events and are often the results of our own skilled artisans. See a wonderful piece of garb? Hear about an awesome mead? Overhear a bardic performance that riveted your attention? Wonder at all the delicious food at the feast you had at the last event? If it is period, it is associated with the Arts & Sciences and our A&S Officer can show you were to get started on learning about your own desires with respect to period research and items.

This is also a large part of what allows the SCA to be an educational and not for profit organization. Anything you study or work on should be reported to the A&S Officer so they can record it and report it to the Kingdom in their quarterly reports.

Want to make our A&S Officer smile? Ask about entering an Art/Sci competition. Many events have them and there are 2 kingdom level Art/Sci events a year. You don't need to be an exceptional craftsman to enter, you don't have to be the living authority on a given period subject, just have an interest and enter at whichever of the 4 levels fits your skill and experience.

Even if you don't enter, stop by, view the presentations at the Art/Sci competitions and cast your vote for the populace award. The people that make the truly impressive items love to hear how much you loved it and see the look on your face when you find something that just takes your breath away.

Our Arts & Sciences Officer has all the information you need, including forms for registration in competitions, and will gladly assist you in understanding what is needed and helping you classify your entry or even just help you understand the whole concept of arts and sciences in the SCA.

If you wish to help or become a deputy, please contact our current A&S Officer.



**Chronicler**

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire  
ragnar@ragnar.net

Deputies:

Kyna inghean Ui Chennselaig

It is the job of the Chronicler to keep the populace of the Barony of An Crosaire up to date with relevant and accurate (as can be in the SCA) information pertinent to the SCA and the Barony. The Chronicler is responsible for ensuring copyright protection of submitted works, distribution of the newsletter as dictated by the Barony, and ensuring the content of the newsletter is appropriate and reflects positively upon the Barony, its members and the SCA at large. The Chronicler is warranted by and reports to the Kingdom Chronicler.

At this time, newsletter submittals to the Kingdom Chronicler are via electronic means. Distribution of Caw Esfee Shin, the An Crosaire newsletter, is via electronic means to the populace unless specifically requested in hard copy to the Chronicler.

The Chronicler gladly accepts, proofs and, if content is acceptable, adds the content to the newsletter. The Chronicler does reserve the right to proof submittals based on spelling and grammar or to edit for length if needed, but will not change the information contained within the submitted works. The Chronicler will also not add commentary to works. The work is that of the submitter and will only have the minor alterations listed above conducted on it.

That said, the Chronicler greatly admires those that create and will gladly give a published platform to the works, be they research type works, creative works of poetry, song or even puzzle, or artwork, and ensure that proper credit is given to the creator.

Please, send your submittals to the Chronicler at the contact email address listed in the Baronial Officer list towards the front of the newsletter.



**Webminister**

Sebastian von Meintze

webminister@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Lady Stefanina da Lucca

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire

It is the job of the Webminister of An Crosaire to maintain the Baronial website current and functional. It is the responsibility of the Webminister to ensure the information on the website is as accurate and timely as reasonably possible and that no copyrights are violated. Information submitted for posting on the website will be screened for content, grammar and spelling and will be altered in format to match the theme of the section of the website the information will be displayed upon.

The Webminister is a technical position, not necessarily a creative one. Designing websites is a logic/science type of process and as such, a Webminister can always use help with content generation. If you have information you feel would benefit others and would be good for our Baronial web page, please contact the Webminister or one of his/her deputies to see where to forward that content. Building the web page for our Barony can be a barony wide undertaking and give everyone a sense of ownership and participation so please, lend the Webminister your creative hands.

Also, if you know web design or just want to help with the website, see the Webminister about becoming a deputy.

NOTE FROM THE CHRONICLER:

To assist the Webminister with content, the newsletter will not only be distributed via the An Crosaire Yahoo Group, it will be on the web site as a .pdf file for ease of access to our Barony and others beyond our borders.



**Librarian**

Catiana Devannes

librarian@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Rebecca Mathews

Caemgen Caithaisagh

The librarian is responsible for maintaining the books that are property of the Barony. These are maintained by the librarian and, within reason, available for use or possibly loan by members of the Barony. Books of the nature that are used for reference and accurate historical data are usually of a fair cost so it is requested that great care be taken with the baronial library contents to ensure others in the future may also enjoy them. Also, some books become very hard if not impossible to replace. Donations to the library are also gladly accepted.

We would like to thank Baron Koppel for the donation of the book *The Past is a Foreign Country* by David Lowenthal. Contributions of this nature only help us all grow in strength and knowledge and show the generous spirit of our membership.

If you wish to access some of the books from the library, please feel free to approach the Librarian or a deputy. They can direct you to the list of books our library contains as well as make arrangements for you to use or borrow books from the library.

Please always remember that the library is a Barony resource and as such others may also want to use some of the books you desire to use. Please return them to the library within reasonable time frames so that we can all share in the wealth of knowledge stored there.



**Historian**

Mistress Natalija Varvara Stoianova  
historian@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Honorable Lady Fionnuala MacLeod

The office of Historian is responsible for archiving for Baronial records events and information relevant to the Barony. The Historian, as any historian would, keeps the history, in this case, of the Barony and maintains said history for the benefit of the populace. The Historian takes the minutes at business meetings of the Barony, submits the minutes to various individuals and is a great source of information for other officers needing to complete reports or gain insight into an issue relevant to the populace or the Barony.

This office is not one that gets a lot of visibility, but is essential to the long term health and welfare of the Barony. We learn from our past and hope to not repeat the blunders of our predecessors. The Historian is one who helps guide us on a safe path and aids the healthy growth of the Barony and allows us an excellent window into our past and our proud and defining moments therein.

If you wish to learn of the history of our Barony or assist in recording it for posterity, please see the Historian or a deputy.



**Combat Arts Marshal**

Lady Caitriona inghean Ui Loinsigh  
marshall@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

None

The office of the Knight Marshal over sees all martial (fighting),related activities in the barony, such as heavy armored combat, combat archery, period fencing, and live weapons.

The marshal specifically is in charge of facilitating the training of new fighters at the Baronial practices, supervising fighting activities at Baronial events, and helping with fighting demonstrations. A Knight Marshal conducts inspections of all armor and weapons before they are allowed on the field, and must be conscientious of the overall safety of the fighters and spectators.

If you would like learn how to become a marshal, or become a deputy to a Knight Marshal, please feel free to contact me.

Fighter practices are open to anyone who wishes to come out, whether that be to learn to fight, or enjoy the sunshine. Practice is held Sundays at Squirrel Ridge Park on Williston Rd. at 12:00 p.m.



***Rapier Marshal***

Maistir Roibeard mac Sluaghadhim  
rapier@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

None

It is the job of all marshals to promote their art, expose their combat styles to the populace, recruit more fighters and promote tournaments and events. That said, it is also and far more importantly the mission of a Marshal to train our warriors to be safe both with respect to their foes and themselves. In order to authorize, you must be tested. This is to ensure you are not a danger on the field to anyone involved, including Marshals. This is the bread and butter of the Marshal's office.

Marshals often have gear for loan to help new fighters become interested and get started with a minimum of anguish although new fighters will need to procure their own fighting gear in a timely manner to allow such loaner gear to be used to help others get started as well.

The Rapier Marshal is specific to what the SCA terms 'light weapons' combat. This includes a variety of styles dealing with fencing type weapons and an odd assortment of off-hand defensive items. This fighting style is often thought of as Musketeer-like. Do not be fooled, this fighting style requires as much skill as any other and often due to the light armor used, fighters of this type are often extremely quick, agile and accurate.

Light weapons fighters love to spar and would be happy to add more members to their ranks so if you are interested, please contact the Rapier Marshal and if you are already a skilled light weapons individual and wish to assist the Rapier Marshal, see the Marshal about becoming a deputy.



**Constable**

Lord Hallr Dunkr

constable@ancrosaire.org

Deputies:

Lord Draco

Angus Graham

Morgan Graham

The Constable is responsible for maintaining order at events, is tasked with patrolling during events and is responsible for the lost and found after events. It is often a position not noticed and that usually means it is a job well done. A Constable carries out his or her duty with no pomp and circumstance. Issues that require the Constable are often sensitive and need to be handled with discretion, understanding and diplomacy.

In our Barony, the Constable and deputies often are seen assisting at gate for events or, more often, as 'Nasty Crat' for events. We gladly accept and applaud their efforts in this arena, but please remember, they do that out of kindness, not out of office responsibility.

Constable is similar to a limited jurisdiction police officer. They are the SCA 'police' and do a fine job. Cooperate with them and respect the tough job they have volunteered to do so that we may enjoy our events in safety and peace.

If you wish to learn more about the office or become a deputy, please contact the Constable or one of the deputies, they are always glad for more help.

## Successful Event Stewardship (or “Autocratting 101”)

By Baron Simon Maurus “The Argent Quill”, OP



### THE DECISION TO BID

- Figure out why you want to do it
- Assess yourself for the task, and seek a co-Steward if needed
- Decide on theme (or no theme)
  - Theme: easier activity planning, great for memories, but limits choices
  - No-theme: harder to organize, harder to remember, but less limited
- Identify good staff candidates PRIVATELY
- Prepare a compelling but TRUTHFUL bid

### PLANNING

There are many things to consider when planning an event:

#### *What You Should Know*

- Size and location of site
- Site facilities & hazards
- Calendar conflicts
- Event history
- Site security
- Food and lodging in the vicinity
- Royal presence
- Child care
- Food preparation and serving
- Merchant contact
- Activity needs and supplies
- Kingdom and modern/mundane law
- Finances and recordkeeping
- Site directions



#### *What You Should Consider*

- Tastes of prospective guests & hospitality
- Inclement weather plans
- Personality conflicts
- Information updates/internet
- Older child/teen activities
- Disabled/special needs guests
- Onsite organization, signage

**If you have any additional questions or would like feedback on your plans for an event bid, feel free to contact me at [mewnknight@hotmail.com](mailto:mewnknight@hotmail.com)**

- Recognizing staff fatigue

## **EXECUTION**

- Making sure that staff follows through
- Site cleanup and security
- Lost and found inventory
- Event financial closeout

## **FINAL TIPS**

- Ask questions
- Ask for help
- Relax and breathe

The Chronicler would like to thank good Baron Simon Maurus for his work and authorization to utilize said work here in our Baronial Newsletter. Some small format changes were made to suit space constraints of this newsletter. Content remained unchanged.

## Barony of An Crosaire Meeting Minutes

Minutes from Business Meeting on 5-25-10

(Courtesy of Honorable Lady Fionnuala MacLeod)

### **Officer's Reports:**

**Marshall:** No fighter practice or rapier practice Sunday 5-30-10 due to TMT. Archery practice Thurs. evening at Sir Erica's, provided weather remains clear.

**Hospitaller:** The Red Sox (Boston) won the baseball game last night.

We continue to have newcomers attend meetings. Newcomers have been welcomed and members have volunteered to mentor our new people. Ldy. Thaalassa is making garb for newcomers, as well as garb availability from the Hospitaller for loaner purposes. Please see Ldy. Ysabeau for more information, needs for upcoming event attendance regarding feast gear, what they will need for camping, etc. The quarterly report has been turned in to Kingdom.

**Herald:** Ld. Ragnar is the deputy for the office and by the end of this summer, additional deputies will be needed, or a replacement for the Herald, as she will be leaving to seek employment after graduation. Please talk to Ld. Ragnar regarding name and device submissions. If members of the Barony have passed Arms, please ask the Baron/ess for blank shields and paints to add populace Arms to the Baronial banner. Ld. Vanya, Seneschal, added that it's something special to have your own, unique identifier, and to be able to use Arms to identify yourself, your presence at events, etc. Having a device passed is similar to your own trademark, or logo.

**Arts/Sci:** Unable to attend due to family obligations.

**Librarian:** Late to mtg, missed report.

**Historian:** Mistress Natasha unable to attend, deputy filling in & working.

**Constable:** Absent. From Ld. Angus, Deputy: "No one's dead yet, even if they were, I don't know it."

**Exchequer:** Ldy. Thaalasa. We have approx. \$9,000.00 in bank, first quarter report is complete and available for perusal by populace. If anyone needs reimbursement for expenses for events, officer's expenses, etc. please have receipts in hand, she will give you Check Request form to fill out.

**Web Minister:** Deadline to renew website is approaching quickly. Ldy. Stefanina, as payment must be made by credit card, will pay the fee by 6/18/10 and submit Check Request, as she did last year, for reimbursement. Fee anticipated to be approx. \$200.00.

**Chamberlain:** Master Thaalabi has escaped to Italy.

**Coronets:** Payment has been received for new thrones, delivery will be Friday, 5/28/10 at TMT. New thrones will be on display at Lyst field under Baronial pavilion for populace to approve & enjoy. To date, 29 people have signed up for Baronial potluck dinner Sat. evening at TMT, 12 folks

have registered needed tent space w/Ld. Ragnar, ragnar@ragnar.net. Ld. Ragnar, and the Baron/ess have early on approval by Autocrat & will set up encampment w/eric, banners, etc. for Baronial Heraldic display.

***Other Business:***

Announcement of successors to Baronies of Wyvernwoode & Marcaster will be at Saturday's Court. Wyvernwood's Baronial Investiture will be 7/10/10 at Squire's Revolt day event to be held in St. Pete. Marcaster's Investiture will be in December, at Long Night's Gathering. Please prepare gifts for baskets for the new Coronets, as well as gift basket for Pennsic and incoming Crowns at Fall Coronation.

Summer Arts/Sci. competition will be held Sunday at TMT. Please pre-register entries, all entries need to be at the feast hall by 7:30 a.m. Sunday morning. Everyone is encouraged to enter; it isn't scary. Take the judging class, where you will be mentored one-on-one in the judging process; it's a great educational tool to learn what judges look for & how to improve your entries, documentation, etc.

The Kingdom Officer's meeting will be Monday morning at TMT. Everyone is encouraged to attend, it's a great way to learn how the Kingdom functions, where the corporation meets the medieval, and just how the structure of the Society works. Ldy. Thaalasa will bring snacks to the meeting.

Mistress Dulcia, Sir Terrell and several Kingdom officers have been searching for new sites. Saturday & Sunday they toured 4 different sites. The site outside Inglis/Dunnellon isn't SCA friendly, as there isn't enough open areas for camping; all of the areas like the dining hall, lyst field, etc. are approx. 1 mile from each other. Very large site, with the problems we experienced at La No Che.

The Conservation camp next to Ocala 4-H can't guarantee availability, as it is used by law enforcement personnel and they have first priority. This site is on State lands, meaning no alcohol and is not ADA/handicapped accessible.

Camp Kiwanis, outside Ocala on St.Rd. 40 just over the Ocklawaha river bridge, is very promising. The price per event is variable according to event attendance. The site is wet, as long as we don't do something stupid. There are at least 2 75' dorms with separate boys & girls bathrooms accessible from the outside. The bunks are full size with foam mattresses. All septic fields have been marked off; there is no irrigation anywhere. There are soccer, baseball fields and an archery range that is fenced. The dining hall seats 200 people; a long hallway that connects the kitchen to the seating area. The dining hall is screened & has ceiling fans, with 2 fireplaces, one at each end. Horses, camping, swimming in the lake are all OK. There are several areas suitable for classes, meetings etc. An infirmary with small kitchenette & bathroom as well as some smaller cabins are included. The site is suitable for local events, possibly 2 day Kingdom events, but is small for 3 day event weekends. Parking is available & can accommodate our needs.

The Lion's camp in Lake Wales was examined the first weekend of potential camp tours and is wonderful. They  
Caw Esfee Shin

looked at Camp Thunderbird, which was used in the past by several SCA groups. The downside to Thunderbird is parking is limited and the beds are very small, although the cabins do have air conditioning. The Kingdom has decided to re-open the office of Site Liaison Deputy, which Mistress Grania has volunteered to tackle. She is receiving bids from the camps examined, as well as La No Che, Kateri, and Winona. Camp Winona wants to contract out off site parking should we decide to use the camp again. The Kingdom Officer's meeting Monday at TMT will decide on which camps the kingdom wishes to use.

Reminder, Their Majesties are hosting a party Saturday evening at the lyst field with food, live music, beverages, etc. It is Their Majesties desire to try to break down some of the cliquishness that exists within the Kingdom and to bring the populace together as we begin our 25th year as the kingdom of Trimaris.

Master Roibeard decided to 'keep his mouth shut'.

Seneschal's Report: Discussion ensued prior to the vote to continue selling soda at Hoggetowne. The reasons to keep selling soda included: disregard the last 3 recession years to calculate profit from the soda sales as this isn't a true reflection of profitability; Mathom Trove works at the soda booths & are major contributors to sales of soda; we do have exclusivity regarding Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Sprite, Coke, & Diet Coke; it has been tradition that the Barony sells soda as a way to keep increase operating capital; during the past quarter we purchased a new field pavilion to use for the soda booth at Hoggetowne.

The reasons to discontinue sales: Kingdom events bring us more profit than soda sales; corporate sponsors such as Domino's are able to sell any soda brands they like; when fair attendees stand in long lines for food, they will purchase beverages with food rather than stand in yet another line; when soda manufacturers changed to 18 pack from 24 pack we lost our profit margin; prices for soda have quadrupled & our price has remained the same; soda will be taxed & we will have to pay sales taxes to the state. In addition, the original contract with the City of Gainesville granting exclusive soda vending to us has been lost.

Paid members voting to drop soda sales: 15, to keep soda sales: 9. Ld. Vanya will approach Mathom Trove to ask if they would like to have complete control and responsibility for soda sales at Hoggetowne.

Both the Coronets and Ld. Vanya stressed the hard work done by all of the folk who have run the soda booths and worked very hard selling, stocking, barking for customers, etc. is very much appreciated. Everyone understands the work, planning, organization, staffing needs, etc. of the booth. The decision to stop selling soda is NOT a political but a financial one only.

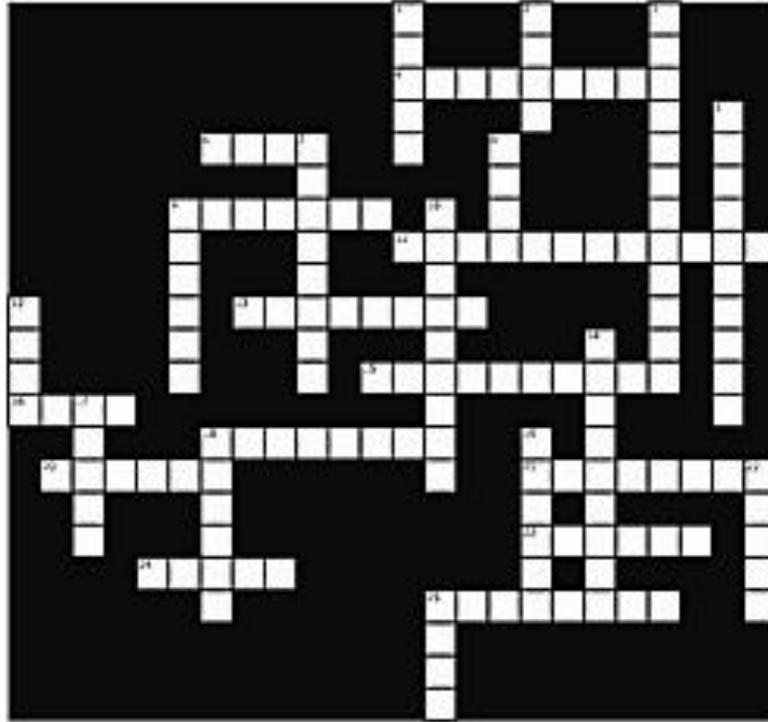
In order to maintain our non-profit status, and the reason for the SCA to begin with, is education. In order to maintain popularity at Hoggetowne and to meed our federal obligation, we need to stay fresh, come up with something new and different in the skills and crafts we present to the public. We should be able to pull the public into the demo areas and entertain them as educators for at least 10 minutes.

If anyone has new ideas to raise funds for the Barony at the fair, please let's hear them at Curia and/or business meetings.

# Beginning in the SCA

## Thalassa Hellas

How well do you know the basic terms for our fun social club?



**Across**

- 4 The treasurer for a group, principality or kingdom.
- 6 The area where fighting is held, usually marked off with ropes. Do not enter unless you are fighting or marshaling.
- 9 A slang term for an SCA member
- 11 It is the place to check in or buy at-the-door admission to an event.
- 13 Current Baroness of local group
- 15 Barony we live in
- 16 Clothing based on medieval or renaissance design. The SCA required an attempt at such attire to participate at events.
- 18 The people of the SCA. generic term.
- 20 Heir to the Throne of the Kingdom, and the person who will be the next King. They are addresses as "Your Highness".
- 21 The person in charge of an event.
- 23 A sleeveless, serape-like garment worn over clothes or armor.
- 24 What the king wears upon his head
- 25 Heir to the Throne of the Kingdom, and the person who will be the next Queen. They are addresses as "Your Highness".

**Down**

- 1 The female ruler of a Kingdom. They are address as "Your Majesty".
- 2 It is a term meaning "Please listen, I am going to announce something of importance and/or interest." When you hear someone saying this, stop talking and listen. Even if the announcement is not for you, please be quiet to allow others to hear it.
- 3 <two words>An informal gathering for singing and storytelling.
- 5 An officer who publishes a local, Kingdom or Society newsletter
- 7 Kingdom we live in
- 8 The place where the event is held.
- 9 A person who does illumination and/or calligraphy on scrolls to be given as awards.
- 10 The head of the local SCA group. Equivalent to a club's President.
- 12 The male ruler of a Kingdom. They are address as "Your Majesty".
- 14 <two words>The table reserved at feasts for the presiding royalty and honored guests.
- 17 Current Baron of our local group
- 18 Refers to something that deals with the Middle Ages or Renaissance.
- 19 A type of wood that is used to make replica weapons for combat. Because of its long fibrous "grain", it is safer to use in combat than any other wood as it will "mush and bend" rather than "break off into pieces".
- 22 First check-in point at an event. You write your tag number here.
- 25 A target for fighting practice, usually a wooden pole.

## MEDIEVAL POWER PLANTS

By Baroness Natalija Varvara Stoianova OP

### WATERWHEELS

It has been proven numerous times that every invention has a base on something in the past and will itself be the base for something in the future. This is the case of many of the inventions, devices, and machines of the middle ages. The classic world and the Far East had the beginnings of the devices used by Europeans during the Middle Ages; however, these devices were not used to any great extent for one reason or another. One of the first, and probably most important adaptation, was the use of mechanical means to produce power instead of using human physical strength. This was the use of water wheels and windmills.

The Romans had water wheels and grain mills in selected locations. There was an imperial grain mill at Barbegal, near Arles in southern France. It was erected in the third century A.D. and may have been the largest industrial complex in the Roman Empire. The mill consisted of eight pairs of waterwheels, set at intervals down the side of a 65 ft slope. The wheels were powered by water falling from a reservoir at the top, which in turn was fed by an aqueduct built for that purpose. The mill ground flour from as far away as Egypt and produced enough flour to have a surplus for export and to provision the legions garrisoned in Gaul. However, the Roman Engineer, Vitruvius, while writing about the Hellenistic gearing system employed by the mills referred to water wheels as “machines that are rarely used.” There are several reasons given for the lack of water wheels in the Mediterranean areas. One is, with the abundant slave population it was not necessary to use labor saving devices. Another is that with a centralized imperial administration, large areas of the country could be supplied from few central sources such as the mill at Barbegal. It was only when communities became separated and needed to survive that each one built machinery to run their mills. There was also a documented lack of manpower to supply the need for workers.

There were several events which led to the labor shortage in Western Europe. Rome recalled her legions leaving the area to the Romanized Franks or Burgundian tribes to defend. The invasions of the fifth and sixth centuries wiped out a good portion of the population as the locals had been forbidden to carry weapons for so long they didn't know how to defend themselves. Then the plagues of the sixth and seventh centuries halved the population of Europe. Since there was no vast reserves of slave power such as the Empire had, and with the great decline of the native population, it became necessary to increase the use of mechanical power. The water wheel appealed to Western Europeans and the adaption of the waterwheel to diverse industries was rapid and widespread.

The wheels we are more accustomed seeing are the overshot wheels, powered by water falling on the wheel paddles from above, and the undershot wheel, driven by a current moving against the paddles at the bottom of the wheel. There is another, a horizontal shaft with the wheels immersed in the stream that spun like a rotor, which was used in fast moving northern streams. The gearing system gave the water mill its immense flexibility. With gears the mill could operate on a vertical wheel, which could be placed in or under a water source little wider than the wheel itself. The narrowest streams would provide enough water. Gearing also allowed manipulation of the ratio between the speed of the wheel and the rate at which the grindstones turned, so that the rate of water flow was not a limiting factor in the siting of a mill. A fast flowing river could be slowed by means of the gears or a slow stream could be accelerated.

The mills prior to the ninth century were little different from those described by Vitruvius, but in the ninth century a breakthrough occurred. The first reference appears in 890 A.D. in the monastery of St. Gall, Switzerland where it was being used to make beer for the monks. This device was the cam. Now the cam was known in the second or third century B.C. but it had not been adapted to the waterwheel. In its simplest form it is a piece of wood set on the side of a shaft so that when the shaft turns the protruding piece of wood strikes against anything placed in its way. It is believed that a monk translating from a Greek manuscript came across the description of the cam and used this idea on the monastery waterwheel. This is not surprising as it was the monasteries, especially the Cistercian order, who were the leaders in the use of new ideas and technology. The monasteries were the only organized group who had reliable communications between each other so ideas were transferred fairly rapidly. The Cistercians, by attempting to become independent of the outside world created an economic empire based on a highly centralized administration and an up to date technological expertise. All over Europe the Cistercians played a major role in spreading technology, industrialization and agricultural reform and improvement.

There are constant references to mills and water power from the fifth to the tenth century. Most of these references are found in law, such as that passed by Theodoric the Goth in the sixth century northern Italy, to prevent the diverting of water supplies "for private milling." The extent to which the mills were used during this time was also related to the profit that could be made by a mill owner. In many cases the owners were churchmen, since it was they who had the knowledge to construct the mills and the literacy to work out an accounting system to run them as a business. They would lease the mills for a given period to farmers, taking the profit in flour rather than coin, since flour was then a commodity few people saw in a lifetime.

The grain mill was already known in Gaul during the Roman Empire. By the end of the tenth century it was widely used all over Europe. In 1089 the Domesday Book showed that in England there were 5,624 watermills or approximately one mill for every 50 households and in over 3,000 locations. The mills were not limited to grinding grain. The Domesday Book recorded that some of the mills were paying rent with iron. This required a different configuration of the cams from what was used to grind grain. Therefore, the use of the camshaft had to be in place in England at this time.

What followed between the tenth and the fourteenth centuries has come to be known as the Medieval Industrial Revolution. From the beer making mill at St. Gall which used the cam driven hammer to crush malt for beer, every possible industry which used a repetitive motion was adapted to water power. By 990 A.D. there were hemp mills in southern France hammering the flax stalks or hemp in preparation for making cord or linen. By the eleventh century there were forge hammers in Bavaria and oil and silk mills in Italy. By the twelfth century there were sugar cane crushers in Sicily, tanning mills pounding leather in France; water powered grinding stones for sharpening and polishing arms in Normandy and ore crushing mills in Austria. From then on the use of water power spread to almost every conceivable craft: lathes, wire making, coin producing, metal slitting, sawmills and perhaps the most important of all, in Liege France in 1348, the first water powered bellows providing the draught for a blast furnace.

Of all the medieval industries that adopted machinery fitted with a camshaft, none underwent a greater transformation than the textile industry. Fulling is the term used to pound alum and other astringent materials needed to clean and take the grease out of newly woven cloth, then pound the cloth itself to soften it and intermix the fibers giving it a “fuller” appearance. This was originally done by men tramping the cloth in a trough. By the thirteenth century fulling mills were turning out ever increasing amounts of cloth in northern Italy, Flanders, along the banks of the Rhine in Germany and in England. This now allowed the lower classes to afford linen cloth. The widespread and increasing use of linen in the later fourteenth century assisted in another industry – the paper makers.

The paper mills used the same basic technology as the fulling mills. Rotten linen rags and glue were pounded in water by trip hammers until a white pulp was produced. Paper making techniques originally came to Europe with the Arabs who learned how to make paper when they overran Samarkand in 751 A.D. just after the Chinese had sent a team of paper makers to set up a factory. By 1050 A.D. the Byzantine Empire was importing Arab paper and in Europe paper was made in Xativa near Valencia Spain in 1238. Seven water driven paper mills were in active service in 1268 in Fabriano Italy. The first known French paper mill was the Moulin Richard-de-Bas on the River Dore near Ambert. It was manufacturing paper in 1326 and today

linen and cotton rags are still being pulped by a battery of long wooden hammers which are lifted and dropped by the horizontal camshaft.

Owning and running a mill was quite profitable. Once the initial investment was made, and this was very expensive, the mill brought in a considerable amount of money. Since mills were financially valuable they were protected commercially. An owner had the right to prevent the erection of any new mill that would be in competition to his own, or he was entitled to compensation for his loss of business. This custom existed well into the nineteenth century. Lords of the manor not only built mills they made it obligatory for their tenants to use the manorial mill whether it be for grinding corn, fulling cloth or pressing grapes.

Not all of this was greeted with enthusiasm by the common people. There were many violent altercations between workers and mill owners, which sometimes led to outright insurrections and strikes. Not only did the workers fight the mill owners and the increased mechanization but so did the tenants who were forced to use the mills. There is a famous case, which took place in 1326, in which the Abbot of Saint Albans had all the houses searched and seized the peasants hand mill stones. The Abbot was exercising his right to demand that his mill be the only one in existence in his area. The stones were brought to the monastery and the courtyard was paved with them. This meant that everyone bringing their grain to the Abbot's mill had to walk over their own millstones. In 1381 during the Peasants' Revolt, the people of St. Albans rushed to the monastery to break up the millstone courtyard, the symbol of their humiliation.

Other technology followed which was originally intended to increase the output of the floating mills by the use of dams. So many dams were built that elaborate engineering methods had to be implemented so that one mill didn't slow the water for the next and that navigation and fishing would not be hindered. Dam building became an art and the engineers so skilled that the dam at le Bazacle, which was built just prior to 1177, was used (with repairs and upgrades) until it was destroyed in a flood in 1709. It was rebuilt on the same site. In 1945 contemporary French engineers built their new dam in Bazacle again on the exact site of the twelfth century dam.

## TIDAL MILLS

In the eleventh century additional sources of power were created in the form of tidal mills. Tidal mills were generally built in low lying areas where the gradients of the rivers were too slight to provide a sufficient power flow to drive the water mills. Dams were built along shallow tidal creeks which created ponds, sometimes as large as 13 acres. Swinging gates were built into the dam to allow the incoming tide to flow into the ponds. As the tide turned the pressure of the water closed the gates. When the level of the water below the mill had

dropped sufficiently the miller opened the gates which allowed the dammed water to drive the water wheels. In 1044 a tidal mill was operating in the lagoons at the head of the Adriatic. About 1066 another mill was built at the entrance of the port of Dover. There were disadvantages to tidal mills for they could only be worked a limited number of hours per day and only with the tide. But this allowed people who lived on marshy estuaries or small harbors to have their mills. The tidal mills remained fairly common throughout the later middle ages.

## WINDMILLS

In flat areas where the rivers ran too slowly and where building a dam would flood too much good farm land another solution to the lack of power had to be found. In the twelfth century engineers began to build windmills. They adapted the mechanism of the water wheel by mounting the framed wooden body, which contained the machinery and carried the sails. On a massive upright oak post that could freely turn with the wind. These were called "post-mills" and apparently were an independent Western invention. The windmills used from the 7th century onward on the plains of Iran, Afghanistan and in parts of China were called "horizontal windmills" and are mounted on a vertical axel. This design was not as efficient as the "post mill." At the time of the Third Crusade (1189-92) post mills were actually exported to the Middle East where they had previously been unknown. Windmills became very important wherever there was a lack of fast flowing streams or where the water froze in the winter. From 1180 onward there were innumerable documents relating to windmills. There were so many windmills, bringing in such high profits, that Pope Celestine III (1191-98) imposed a tax on them. Existing mill owners tried to suppress the new windmills and protect their monopolies, sometimes with quite desperate means. One documented event was when the Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds, in 1191, sent his carpenters to pull down his neighbor's windmill. By the 13th century windmills had spread throughout most of Europe. It was most popular in Holland where it was used for pumping water and draining the land.

Whole new trades opened up due to the mills. Water and wind mills needed to be constructed and then serviced. The trade of Millwrights came into being and they went about the country making and mending mills. These were the first mechanics in the modern sense of the word. They understood how gears could be made and how they worked, as well as the management of dams and sluices. This made them hydraulic as well as mechanical engineers.

The role of wind and water power in the Middle Ages has often been underrated. Until the invention of steam power, these were the power plants of the Middle Ages. They had a great effect on the science of mechanical engineering and inspired inventors to new machines and uses of power.

## Bibliography

Gimpel, Jean. The Medieval Machine. New York. Rinehart and Winston. 1976

Beedell, Suzanne. Windmills. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1975

Gies, Joseph & Frances. Cathedral, Forge and Waterwheel; Technology and Invention in the Middle Ages. Harper Collins. New York. 1994

Harvy, John Medieval Craftsmen. Batsford. 1975

Bernal, J.D. Science in History Vol1, the Emergence of Science. Cambridge Mass. C.A. Walls & Co. 1954

This article can be reprinted and used in any SCA publication without seeking authorization by the author.

The staff would like to thank Baroness Natasha for her kind contribution to the newsletter and the blanket authorization for copy and use throughout the SCA.

If any information contained in this newsletter is inaccurate or if a name is misspelled or a person left out as a deputy or some other such oversight, please forward such information to Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire, the Chronicler, at [Ragnar@ragnar.net](mailto:Ragnar@ragnar.net) so that the information can be correct for future newsletters and so that all parties get credit for their efforts and contributions.

It has been and always will be a pleasure to bring these newsletters to you and I look forward to more changes coming up in the near future.

Thank you for your patience and contributions, you all help bring the dream alive for us.

Yours in Service,

Lord Ragnar of An Crosaire