

The Flames of the Dragon



The Official Newsletter of the Barony of Dragons Laire
August AS L, 2015 Gregorian
Vol. AA, Issue VI

Contents:

Some Words from Their Excellencies	Page 3-4
Seneschal's Report	Page 4
Officers' Reports	Page 5-8
Guild Reports	Page 8-9
Event Reports	Page 9
Calendar	Page 10-11
Last Chance Copy & Schedule	Page 12-14
Young Dragon Academy	Page 14-15
Medieval History	Page 15-16
Puzzle	Page 17
Officer Contacts	Page 18
Guild Contacts	Page 19
The SCA on the Internet	Page 19

Subscriptions are available for \$15.00 per year. Single Copy price \$2,00. Checks should be made payable to "The Barony Of Dragons' Laire, SCA, Inc." The Flames is available from the chronicler as listed on back cover. Renewal dates are printed on your address label. Newcomers may receive 2 free issues upon application to the chronicler. Send change of address information to the Chronicler. Event copy may be reproduced by any SCA publication. Articles and artwork may not be reproduced without permission.

Submissions Policy: The Chronicler is anxious to print articles and artwork on SCA appropriate topics. These include, but are not limited to: persona stories, A&S topics, Marshalate topics, Historical perspectives on the Known World and our area of study. Fiction and poetry is also sought on the same themes. Pieces should fall between 200-1000 words in length (poetry excepted). Longer and shorter pieces may be considered as space dictates. Artwork for cover art and incidental pieces should be reproducible in black and white. Line drawings preferred. All works to be considered for publication may be forwarded to the Chronicler via e-mail or hard copy. (e-mail preferred)

Cover art by Kayla Robertson (age 12)

Scribbles the Scribe, drawn for the Chronicler by THL Malcolm Ian MacCallum (Mad Malcolm, m.k.a. Malcolm Uzonyi))

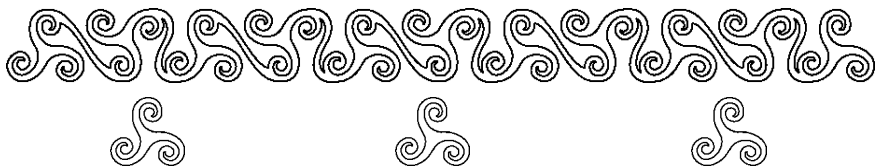
Dragon's Laire Badge and Device by Murakami Tsuruko Sensei (Deborah Strub)

Interior art by Cari Buziak at Aon Celtic Art, <http://www.aon-celtic.com/>

Medieval History overview article by Dr. K.E. Carr

Statement of Ownership:

The Flames of the Dragon is a monthly newsletter for the Barony of Dragon's Laire (Kitsap County, WA) of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. This is not a corporate publication of the SCA and does not delineate SCA policy. Copyright © Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. for information on reprinting articles, artwork of photographs, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.



Baron Conchobar Proconsul and Baroness Eilidh Proconsula of Dragon's Laire doth send greetings.

Thus far it has been a glorious summer. The fighting has been fierce. The fencers have been elegantly deadly. Archers, thrown weapons and siege weapons have rained death down on our enemies. Many things have been made beautiful by the hands of our artisans. The word fame of Dragon's Laire and its' people has flourished with the industry of our populace. Every effort, subtle or grand does us proud, and enriches the Barony. May we always learn, grow, and prosper together.

July Coronation was.... hot, "like Africa hot", even so Dragon's Laire was well represented, and so many members of the populace were recognized by the Crown for their hard work and many contributions to the greater glory of An Tir. Coronations are an exciting time. As we celebrate the coming reign of Their Majesties King Havordh and Queen Mary Grace, and look forward to new adventures, it is equally important to celebrate the efforts of those who so loyally served the reign of Count Savaric & Countess Dalla. Mistress Brighid, Sir Cedric, Master Talon, & Mistress Jenae were near constant companions for Their reign. These four individuals worked tirelessly in their service to the Crowns of An Tir. Their efforts were marked as providing great comfort and support to those who serve An Tir in the most demanding of roles as King and Queen. Their hard work and grace under pressure are inspiring.

The Baronial Picnic was simply wonderful. Emil and his staff did a fantastic job organizing this event for us. The kids were well entertained by a dragon egg hunt, dragon pinata, and dragon blow up toys for the lake. You can't go wrong with a great theme. The adults were equally entertained by good food, and baronial camaraderie. Our thanks to all those who attended.

We look forward to attending the following upcoming events, and wish to invite all members of the populace to join us at Autumn War, Sport of Kings, September Crown and Last Chance/Lord Defender. Come camp with the Barony, volunteer your time as retinue, socialize under the Baronial pavilion, and revel in all that it means to be members of the mighty Barony of Dragon's Laire.

We would like to especially encourage attendance to Last Chance/Lord Defender. The Barony's Heavy, Rapier, Thrown Weapons and Archery Champions will be chosen at that time. Come and compete for the honor of the Barony. It is also our last chance to recognize a year of service of our current Champions and thank them for their contributions to our Barony.

The June Faire Advisory Committee votes have been tallied but at the moment of this writing all of the members have not been informed or confirmed their desire to serve so formal introduction of the team will wait until the members of the committee have accepted their positions. Thank you to the populace for taking the time to both nominate and vote in this process and a special thanks to all those who accepted their nominations and were willing to serve.

In Joyful Service

Baron Conchobar Proconsul & Baroness Eilidh Proconsula of Dragon's Laire



Seneschal's Report

Words from your Seneschal,

This summer surely has been a hot one according to the surface of the sun weather we have been having, but it seems we have made it passed it and are now to enjoy some more normal weather for our area. The Baronial picnic was a great success with a decent attendance, yummy food, beautiful weather and it was certainly fun for the smalls. Thank you Lord Emil and your crew for a great event.

We now set our sites on Last Chance for the Lord Defender event. The Barony of Dragon's Laire and the Barony of Blatha an Oir will all converge at the Longbranch Improvement Club for a weekend to remember. Both branches shall be holding many of their Championships, heavy fighting, rapier fighting, thrown weapons, archery and BAO will hold their Arts and Sciences Championship in the great hall on Saturday. Camping is possible, please see the registration information on the event page.

Continuing on, we look to September Crown which will be held 4-7 September at the Bob Nix Ranch in Chehalis, come on out and support your Kingdom and behold the competition which will show you your next King and Queen.

Before I forget, let's give HL Jess and her crew of demonstators a round of cheers for all the great work they have done with a bunch of local demos. If in the future you hear Jess putting out the call for help on these, if you have the time please offer to help.

In service to the Barony,

Renart

Barony of Dragon's Laire

Seneschal

Officer Reports

Seneschal: See previous page.

Exchequer:

Current balances:

Checking: \$50,074.14

Savings: \$4,289.27

CD: \$10,216.94

I have finished the June Faire 2015 event report. Below is a summary. Please see me if you would like a copy of the full report.

June Faire 2015

Income: \$39,111.50

Expenses: \$18,462.85

NMS paid to kingdom: \$2,675.00

Final Profit: \$17,973.65

A huge thank you goes to Lord Richard Everett for all of his work at June Faire!

Finance Committee: No report by press time.

Baronial Steward:

1. Re-organization and inventory of Unheated Baronial Storage Unit still in process. My Deputy (Madrun) and I will be making this happen throughout the remainder of the year. If you need items out of the Storage Unit, please give me as much notice as possible so I can make the time to pull things out of the way as necessary to get to the items you need.

2. Due to the Storage Unit rate increases scheduled for September, we are starting to combine the contents of both into the Unheated Storage Unit and will be complete prior to August 31st. Gold Key has left the Heated Unit for extensive cleaning, repair and cataloging (post June Faire). Broken material and items not used in many years are in the process of being removed from the Unheated Unit to make more space for return of Gold Key and remaining items of Heated Unit.

3. If you need to get into the Storage Units for material at any other time, please contact the Steward at least several days prior to the need (the sooner the better), Arontius at <arontius@comcast.net> if you need access or if you have any questions. Either myself or the Steward Deputy (Dame Madrun) can meet with you at the Storage Unit depending on schedule.

Golden Dragon Pursuivant: Countess Elisabeth continues heraldry consulting at fight practice on Tuesday nights.

Updates to the OP from June Faire have been sent to Dexter Gauntlet.

Scribe: July was a quiet month, a much deserved break for our talented, yet busy scribal community. We are painting and designing new charters in preparation for Last Chance. THL Rhiannon of Eagle's Flight has turned in the inked design for our Marshal Champions' Dragon's Flame. Thank you for your beautiful work! This

will be scripted and available for painting soon. Please contact me off list if you would like copies of blank charters to paint. We continue to hold our Tuesday night paintings at our Baronial Fight Practice/Social. Please stop by, pick up a brush and join us in friendly conversation and painting!

Baronial Marshal:

Events

Dragon's Laire made their presence known (painfully) to all we faced at An Tir/ West War. Turn out was excellent and our word fame grows. We are feared and respected by foe and friend.

Heavy Armored

Heavy practice continues on Tuesday evenings at the VFW Hall in Silverdale. Practice is concurrent with the Baronial social, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Some fighters choose to optimize the time by arriving early to armor up and get ready.

Rapier

Rapier practices continue at the VFW Hall on Tuesday evenings in conjunction with the Baronial Social. Interest is good and we continue to draw new and guest fighters to our practices.

Archery

Archery last month was spectacular! At that little event we know and love, June Faire, we ran both a SCA and a Modern Range. The SCA range was filled to the brim with Archers. I saw many a seasoned Archer spend time helping our new members learn the range. So many helped as TAMs on the SCA range, and too many to list gave service on the Modern Range. The modern range saw 327 families over the course of the weekend. The modern shooters really enjoyed shooting at the dragon, thank you Thomas of Salisbury for bringing that most epic target.

We saw an influx of new shooters at Wednesday practice. The short range has grown from 4 youth archers to nearly 20 archers. The long range has been quite full as well with just as many seasoned and new archers coming out to shoot regularly. Archery Practices continue every Wednesday night at 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm (sometimes 8pm).

Thank you to all the archers in our Barony that help run the practice ranges. This gives all of us the opportunity to learn, to teach, and to shoot.

Thrown Weapons

The weather continues to be in our favor and we continue to throw. We have replaced all of the targets from last year and 2 need to be refaced currently. Turn-out fluctuates and scores continue to be entered.

Equestrian

Practice opportunities are available with some of our Baronial Neighbors. Please see me for more information.

Youth Armored

Lords Avangr and Myrik continue to manage our YAC program. Practices are in conjunction with our regular Heavy practices on Tuesday evenings at the VFW Hall.

Siege

Please welcome Lord Milo as our new Baronial Siege Marshal. Paperwork is submitted and accepted. It is now official. Dragon's Laire Siege is growing rap-

6 -The Flames of the Dragon

idly. Our first engine, Dragon's Tooth, as seen a good bit of field time at recent events and demonstrations, creating even more interest both within and external to Dragon's Lair.

Additional Practices

If you have an opportunity for additional practices you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these. Please keep me informed so that I can include this information in my reports. Also, if you need or want the Barony to be more involved, don't hesitate to talk to me.

Lists: No written report by press time.

Chirurgeon: As of August 10th, the Chirurgeonate will be disbanded.

Minister of Arts & Sciences:

During the Month of July, we had a class by THL Ella, and THL Theodoric is recruiting future speakers for the summer talks sessions.

The A&S Deputies had a meeting and we reviewed the lessons learned from June Faire. Look for some fun changes next year.

Amber is working on scheduling a Silk Painting class for the week end of Aug 29/20th. She is looking for a venue to hold the class and the A&S Deputies suggested a few locations for her. Watch your inbox for further developments.

Mrq Laurellen will be scheduling the next A&S Day Camp. We are shooting for Nov 14. Day Shade project may be a focus of the day camp.

Last Chance: We are working with THL Elizabeth Fitzwilliam of Blatha An Oir to support their A&S Championship.

Speaking of Championships, Dragons Lair Championships will be held sooner than you think, so start your preparations NOW. We will be holding a prep class on Sept. 22 during the social. We will be talking about choosing a project and how to document it. Don't worry, if you have started we can still help with documentation. I am announcing that I will be stepping down as A&S Minister. My warrant is ending sooner than I thought. It expires in September. Please submit your application to Their Excellencies and our Seneschal.

Librarian: We have books, in fact many shelves of Lonely Dragon's Lair books. Please contact me off list if you would like to peruse the shelves. I can also bring you a few tomes in the subject matter of your choice, just sent me a line. I will bring any DL Library books we may have on the subject to Tuesday's Fight Practice/ Social for you.

Chronicler: "The Flames" is now available online in .pdf via the Dragon's Lair website. It remains available in paper form to those who choose to purchase a subscription. In addition to inviting the children and youth of the barony to draw me some dragons, I would like to invite the rest of you to send me accounts of your most bizarre SCA experiences.

WebMinister: The website is being updated as usual. New things include pdf copies of the Flames. Still working on updating the backend of the website to the new protocols of html5.

If you have anything you want on the website, email me. I'll put it up as soon as I have time!

Chatelaine: Through demos for the Boy Scouts our word fame in the community is growing. The Scouts really enjoyed the two demos we did for their day camp this past month. Thanks goes to His Excellency, Fredrick the Merciful, Sir Ceri, Rehannon, Morgan, Kamar and Shalimariah for their help with the demos.

We have another demo on Monday, August 10th for a Bible Camp. Please let me know if you can help.

There are still a few Knowne World Handbooks available. The handbook is great for those who are newer to the Barony. The Handbook covers many topics and is a great starting point in your quest of learning SCA customs and etiquette. Handbooks are \$25, payable to the Barony.

Gold Key: June Faire is over, & now it is time to concentrate on the Sorting of the garb, Repairing, & Cleaning of it, & the Placement of the garb into the proper Age Categories. If it wasn't for our wonderful Donors, My Minions, & the fantastic Populace of Dragon's Laire, this wouldn't be happening right now.

The next BIG EVENT is Yule Feast. Woohoo! That should be lots of fun!

Family Activities Coordinator: An enormous "Thank You" to my new deputy, Lord Emil, who hosted a Dragon Egg hunt, and a Dragon Piñata for the youngsters of the barony at the Baronial Picnic - for which he was also the Event Steward!

For Last Chance/Lord Defender the plan is for the youth of the barony to decorate 4 or 5 banners onsite - one banner for each championship competition being held. Then the youth will choose the 4 or 5 contestants they like best to receive the "Youth Choice" banners.

Guild Reports

Bardic Guild: On hiatus until a new leader steps forward.

Costumers: There is nothing new to report. If you need help with garb, sewing or have questions please meet with me.

Do you have a machine that needs to be serviced? Let me know and I'll put you in contact with Matthew, one of our rapier fighters, who is a service manager for Quality Sewing. He did a great job repairing my serger and is eager to help fellow Baronial members.

Culinary: The July meeting was canceled due to a family emergency. August meeting will be a brewing night on Wednesday August 12, at 6:30 PM at the home of Mattuezs and Rycheza. 18447 5th Ave. Suquamish, WA 98398; e-mail for more precise directions

Scribal Guild: We are continuing our Tuesday night painting corner at Fight

Practice/Social. Please look for our scriptorium date and subject to be announced later this month. Our Guild continues to support our DL Scribe with charter designs and painting awards. My deepest thanks to our talented Guild members for all their efforts. We will meet our challenge goal of completing at least one charter design for every type of charter award in our luminous Barony of Dragon's Laire, by Last Chance.

Textile Guild: The Textile Guild will meet on Tuesday, August 18th. Please be sure that you have sent the requested information about dye equipment and supplies to Eleanor prior to the meeting. Come ready to discuss plans for the upcoming dye days, scheduled for October 4th and Oct. 17th. Also, the next meeting after August 18th will be on September 15. Mark your calendars!

Event Reports

Baronial Picnic: By all accounts, the Baronial Picnic was awesome!

Last Chance/Lord Defender: Last chance is looming right around the corner, we have made some major milestones in the event planning process and things are starting to pan out nicely for the most part.

Updates:

There will be a feast after court on the Saturday of the event, the format of the feast is as follows:

- The Baronies will be providing the Beast
- Everyone will provide sides only for their table/s so for example: if the Myrmidons are at the feast then they will as collective come up with their own sides for their group. This is not a pot luck

The amount of people you have at your table are the amount of people that you have in your group/family...etc, Now if you are coming by yourself and do not want to sit alone I am sure we can find a table for you to sit...hey who knows you might meet someone new and make a new friendship at the same time.


As it stands right now Chicken is going to be the main course of the feast...how it will be prepared and who will be preparing it is still up in the air at the moment, we will post more as we know more on this.

Camping:

You will have options this year, if you do not want to bring your whole camp and just want to bring enough for the weekend then the hall will be open to the first 100 reservations. Registration *****FOR THE HALL***** ends either on Friday, September 18th or when 100 people register, which ever happens first, However, there is a catch to sleeping in the Hall. If you sleep in the Hall then all of your belonging will have to out by 9:00 am on Saturday morning for the BAO A&S Competition and Court. Registration for RV's and Large Group camping will end on August 31st 2015. THL Andromacha Tou Lesvos will be able to help you with your reservation please email her at brandy.crane82782@gmail.com.

Yule: We are still working on a location for Yule. The Team has a meeting and walk-thru at the Silverdale Lutheran Church next week. If that goes well, and a contract can be negotiated, we can go forward with planning. The site we get will determine what we can offer at Yule.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
16	17	18 FP & Social 6 p.m. at the VFW Textile Guild 6 p.m. at Madrun's	Arche 5:30-7:30 at the Culinary
23	24	25 FP & Social 6 p.m. at the VFW	Arche 5:30-7:30 at the
30	31	1 FP & Social 6 p.m. at the VFW	Arche 5:30-7:30 at the
6 September Crown	7 September Crown	8 Business Meeting 6:30 at the VFW?	Arche 5:30-7:30 at the V
13	14	15 FP & Social 6 p.m. at the VFW Textile Guild 6 p.m. at Madrun's	Arche 5:30-7:30 at the V Culinary 7 p.m. at Ry
20 Last Chance	21		



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 Mentorship 6:30 p.m. VFW Lodge Guild	20 Boy Scout Demo	21	22
26 Mentorship 6:30 p.m. VFW	27	28 Boy Scout Demo	29
2 Mentorship 6:30 p.m. VFW	3 Business Meeting 6:30 at the VFW?	4 September Crown	5 September Crown
9 Mentorship 6:30 p.m. VFW	10	11	12
16 Mentorship 6:30 p.m. VFW Lodge Guild Mentorship Mentorship	17	18 Last Chance	19 Last Chance

**Baronial Calendar of Activities
August 16-September 21, 2015**



Lord Defenders and Last Chance Tournaments

September 18, 2015 to September 20, 2015

The Baronies of Dragon's Laire and Blatha An Oir invite you to come witness the glory of the tournaments to decide the new champions of the Baronies of Blatha An Oir and Dragon's Laire. Champions for Armored, Rapier, Archery, Thrown weapon's, and Youth Armored Combat will be decided in an epic joint event. To enter the competitions one needs simply to declare for either Barony and compete for the honor to be named a champion of Dragon's Laire or of Blatha An Oir. Blatha An Oir will also be holding their A&S Championship as well during the day.

Hosted By: Baronies of Dragon's Laire and Blatha An Oir
Tacoma-Pierce County, Wa and Kitsap & N Mason Counties, WA

Event Steward contact information:

Barony of Dragon's Laire: THL Myrick le Bear (Caleb Dodge)
Caleb.l.dodge@gmail.com; 360-941-2056 (no calls after 9:00pm please)
Barony of Blatha An Oir: THL Gabhin Mac Findleagh (Robert Blackett)
bjblackett@gmail.com

Site fee:

Adults' weekend: \$15.00

Adults' daytrip: \$10.00

Youth and Children (0-17 years old): Free

There is no family cap

\$5.00 NMS fee applies (Please bring your current Blue card or SCA approved verification of current membership)

Make all checks payable to the Barony of Blatha An Oir

Camping information:

Site opens at 12:00pm on Friday September 18, 2015 and closes at 3:00pm on Sunday September 20, 2015 (please be packed and off site)

ALL TRASH WILL BE PACKED OUT AND CAMP FIRES WILL BE BASED ON THE CURRENT BURN BAN RESTRICTIONS AT THE TIME OF THE EVENT.

Space on the site is *****HIGHLY LIMITED***** so if you have a large encampment or RV, you will need to submit the space to the site coordinator, THL Andromachou Lesvos (brandy.crane82782@gmail.com), prior to August 31st. No submissions after August 31st will be accepted. Information requested is as follows:

CAMPING IN THE HALL HAS BEEN APPROVED: If you do not want to set up camp or just want to spend the night indoors then there are 100 spaces available inside the main hall on the site, The catch is that you and your bedding have to be packed and out of the hall by 9:00 am on Saturday.

Tent Encampments:

Number of Modern Tents with dimensions

Number of Period Tents with dimensions (this includes ropes)

Number of Common Areas with dimensions

RVs: Length and Width including any outdoor awning. (NOTE: There are no RV hookups on this site)

If space is unavailable prior to the August 31st deadline, messages will be sent out.

Feast Information:

There will be a feast after evening court on Saturday, The Baronies will be providing the feast and it looks like it is going to be Pork and Chicken.

The way the feast is going to work is that within your table (who ever you choose to sit with) will bring your own sides that you want to eat, there will be no assigned seating and no this is not a potluck.

Tournament Details:

More information about the tournament formats will be disseminated as soon as it is made available.

Event Schedule: ****NOTE ALL TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

Friday 18 SEP 2015

0800: Setup crew allowed on site

2:00: Gate opens

10:00: Gate Closes

Saturday 19 SEP 2015

0800: Gate opens

0900: opening court / investiture

10:00: Armor inspection

10:00: Archery Tournament

10:00: Thrown Weapons Tournament

10:00: Rapier tournament

11:00: Heavy Tournament

2:00: Youth Armored Combat Tournament

*4:00(TBD): Evening Court

6:00 - UTC: Feast

Sunday 20 SEP 2015

0800: Gate opens

0900 – 1:00 open for any other tournaments or open shoots

*1:00: Closing Court

3:00: Site Closes

*Gate closes 15minutes prior to court.

Site Information:

Longbranch Improvement Club. 5213 Key Peninsula Highway South

Longbranch, WA 98351

Directions:

Take your best route to Purdy, Washington. Taking the Hwy 302 turn off of Hwy 16 between Port Orchard and Gig Harbor works best. Hwy 302 goes west from the center of town, crossing over Burley Lagoon directly from Purdy. Follow Hwy 302 for approximately 5 miles to Key Center. At Key Center Hwy 302 continues west but turn right onto Key Peninsula Hwy South. Continue on this road for approximately 12 miles. The Longbranch Improvement Club is at 4312 Key Peninsula Hwy South (for you MapQuest fans), directly across from the Longbranch Fire Station.

YOUNG DRAGON ACADEMY

Did you know that Dragon's Laire has a youth program? It's called the Young Dragon Academy, and is divided into the following divisions:

Hatchling Division; Age 5-8 (Grade K-3)

Dragonet Division; Age 9-12 (Grade 4-7)

Teen Dragon Division; Age 13-15 (Grade 8-10)

Questing Dragon Division; Age 16-17 (Grade 11-12)

The purpose of the Young Dragon Academy is to teach young folks about Dragon's Laire, An Tir, and the SCA as a whole. Younger children will be guided primarily by their parents/guardians, while teens will be encouraged to be both self-directed, and to seek mentors in their areas of interest.

As an example, here is a portion of the Hatchling Division Worksheet:

•Complete these four requirements:

1. Learn the names of Dragon's Laire's Coronets and Seneschal. What do these people do in the barony?
2. Research what someone your age might have done to help around her/his home during the Middle Ages. Compare that with what you do to help around your home.
3. Participate in SCA group activities on a regular basis for six months. Examples include archery, meetings, socials, fight practice, events, etc.
4. Learn how to bow/curtsey and address the Coronets of Dragon's Laire, as well as other crowned heads.

•Complete four of the following requirements:

1. Create a collage about a country of the Middle Ages.
2. Ask three fighters at an SCA event what their definition of chivalry is, and how they practice it in their lives outside of the SCA.
3. Ask three artisans/bards/scholars/scientists at an SCA event how they define Arts & Sciences, and how they create/study in their lives outside of the SCA.
4. Ask three workers at an SCA event what their definition of service is, and how they serve in their lives outside of the SCA.

5. Talk to your parents and/or other adults about how your local government today differs from that of the Middle Ages.
6. Talk to your parents and/or other adults about how the justice system today differs from that of the Middle Ages.
7. Talk to your parents about their voting choices. Could they have voted in the Middle Ages?
8. Take part in a procession with your SCA group.

If the Young Dragon Academy sounds like something you or someone you know would be interested in, please contact Dame Angharad, Dragon's Lair's Family Activities Coordinator.

MEDIEVAL HISTORY

a short overview by Dr. K.E. Carr

Professor Emerita, Department of History, Portland State University

The term Middle Ages refers mainly to the history of Christian and Jewish Europe between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance, around 400-1500 AD. Historians usually divide this into three smaller periods, the Early Middle Ages, the High Middle Ages, and the Late Middle Ages.

The Early Middle Ages begin with the collapse of the Roman Empire, starting about 400 AD. Germanic people invaded the Roman Empire - the Visigoths settled in Spain, the Vandals in North Africa, the Ostrogoths in Italy, and the Franks in France. The Huns formed a European empire and then collapsed. The Angles and Saxons invaded England (this is the time of King Arthur). The Vikings invaded northern France, and raided the Mediterranean. By 600 AD, the Lombards replaced the Ostrogoths in Italy, and the Slavs invaded Eastern Europe.

By 700 AD, new empires were beginning to form. In Spain and North Africa, the Islamic Empire took over. Further north in France and Germany, Charlemagne built the Holy Roman Empire. To the east, in Russia, the Vikings and Slavs got together to build a kingdom. But throughout the Early Medieval Period, in the Eastern Mediterranean the Roman Empire still continued.

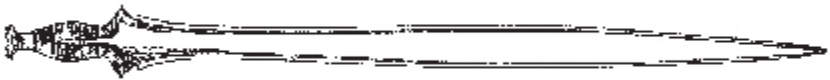
The High Middle Ages started about 1000 AD, when the modern countries of Europe began to take form. After the Norman Conquest in 1066, we can see the beginnings of England, France, and Germany. In Spain, the Reconquest begins to push out the Islamic rulers. Italy was still struggling between being part of the Holy Roman Empire and being a lot of independent cities, but kingdoms were forming further east in Poland and Russia. In the Eastern Mediterranean, the Roman Empire (or the Byzantine Empire) lost a lot of ground to the Seljuks at the Battle of Manzikert in 1071, and became much less powerful.

Throughout the High Middle Ages, many men and women of Europe were fighting against the Islamic Empire to take back the Eastern Mediterranean - especially Jerusalem - for Christianity. We call these wars the Crusades. The First Crusade did manage to capture Jerusalem, but after that the Crusades were less and less successful, until finally people stopped trying.

In the Late Middle Ages, the Mongol Empire brought peace to most of Asia, and encouraged trade along the Silk Road. Poland, Russia, and Italy profited from this trade. By the early 1300s, however, Europe suffered from both war and disease. England and France began to fight the Hundred Years' War, which made both England and France much poorer. Germany and Italy fought a long series of wars as well. The wars were made much worse by the Black Death, or bubonic plague, which spread along the Silk Road from China to Europe starting in 1328, killing millions of people and causing the collapse of the Mongol Empire.

By the 1400s, after the plague, Europe looked very different. The wars were over. The end of the Silk Road forced traders to look for other ways to get things from China and India. Explorers began to try to find a way to sail from Europe around Africa to China. In 1453, the Ottomans conquered the last traces of the Roman Empire in Constantinople. In 1492, Spain forced the last Muslim rulers out of Granada (and the Jews). Instead of Europeans depending on the Eastern Roman Empire and West Asia and Central Asia, now they were trying to grow on their own.

Article reprinted with permission from <http://quatr.us/medieval/history/history.htm>



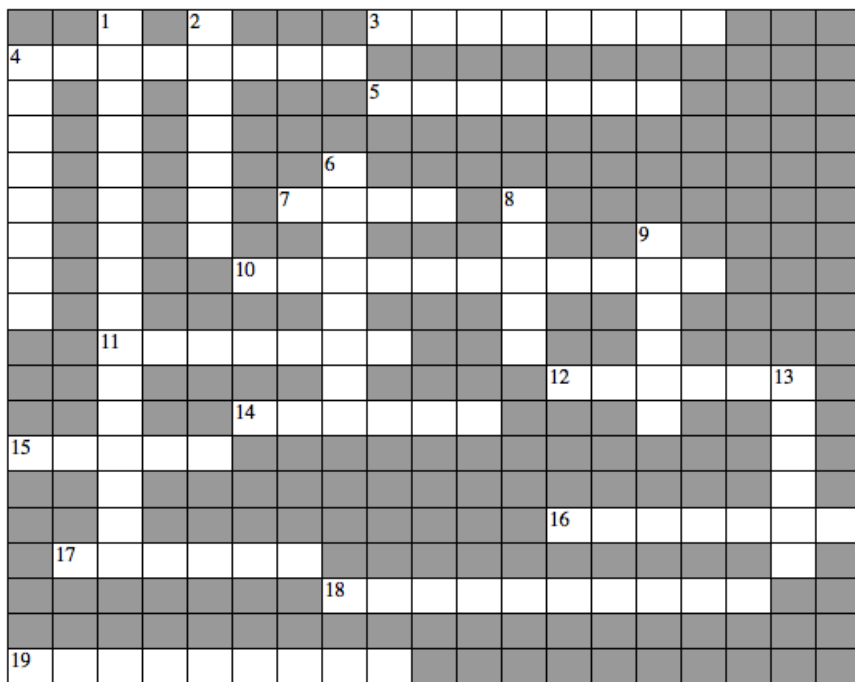
Chronicler's Corner



Many thanks to Kayla Robertson, age 11, for the dragon she drew for the cover this month! You want to be next? Well, if you're under 18 and can hold a pencil, I'm lookin' at you!

Grownups, what has been your most bizarre experience in the SCA? Care to share it with "The Flames"?

Around The Laire



ACROSS

3. They wear bleeding aquatic birds
4. Baronial crowns
5. They wear wreaths
7. Entertainer
10. Scroll writing
11. Strawberry leaves on her coronet
12. Prudent headgear
14. Protects your arm
15. Gets thrown
16. Here be...
17. Works with warps & wefts
18. Decorative stitching
19. Protect your hands

DOWN

1. They wear three crossed rapiers
2. They wear white belts
4. Crenellations on her coronet
6. A really big crossbow
8. Gets shot
9. Can block a sword
13. Royal seat

Curia

Their Royal Majesties

King Havordh Ættarbani and Queen Mary Grace of Gatland
king@antir.sca.org, queen@antir.sca.org, crown@antirsca.org



Baron and Baroness

Their Excellencies Conchobar MacEoin and Elidh Keldelth
coronets@dragonslaire.org

Baronial Officers

Seneschal: (President) THL Renart the Fox of Berwyck (Randy Wagner);
seneschal@dragonslaire.org.

Exchequer: (Treasurer) THL Gabrielle de Cameron (Brenda Lyons);
exchequer@dragonslaire.org

Finance Committee Recording Secretary: Dame Gwenllyn Potter

Baronial Steward: HE Arontius of Bygleswade; steward@dragonslaire.org

Golden Dragon Pursuivant: HE Murakami Tsuruko;
herald@dragonslaire.org

Scribe: THL Ela Pennayth; scribe@dragonslaire.org

Baronial Knight Marshal: Lord Arqai Ne'urin; marshal@dragonslaire.org

Mistress of Lists: Lady Inga Alreksdottir; lists@dragonslaire.org

Rapier Marshal: officer pending

Chief Archer: Lady Kloe of Thira archer@dragonslaire.org

Thrown Weapons: Lord Stephen of House Awry (360) 271-3307
treklord81@yahoo.com.

Equestrian Officer: officer pending

Youth Combat: Lor Avangr Bakrauf; yac@dragonslaire.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences: THL Matuesz z Plocka; (360) 598-3464
asminister@dragonslaire.org

Chronicler: Dame Angharad Albanes; chronicler@dragonslaire.org

Librarian: THL Ela Pennayth; librarian@dragonslaire.org

Web Minister: Magistra Aelianora de Wyntringham;
webminister@dragonslaire.org

Chatelaine: THL Jess Dunn of the Roving Irishmen;
chatelaine@dragonslaire.org

Gold Key: THL Anya MacLachlan; goldkey@dragonslaire.org

Family Activities Coordinator: Dame Angharad Albanes;
angharad@blackberryhollowfarm.com

Chirurgeon: THL Aileen of Dragon's Laire; chirurgeon@dragonslaire.org

Sarjentry Secretary: Dame Madrun Gwehyddes; caldera@olympus.net

Baronial Guild Contacts

Bardic: Dame Angharad Albanes; angharad@blackberryhollowfarm.com

Costumers: THL Jess Dunn of the Roving Irishmen; costumer@dragonslaire.org

Culinary/Spiritmakers: THL Rycheza z Polska/THL Matuesz z Plocka (360) 598-3464 mhenson@telebyte.com

European Dance: Abbot Siôn Dafydd; dance@dragonslaire.org

Scribal: THL Ela Pennayth; scribal@dragonslaire.org

Textile Guild: Dame Madrun Gwehyddes; (360)-373-3231 caldera@olympus.net



SCA on the Internet

The Internet is a powerful and convenient resource, but remember that not all sites have been designated as official.

SCA Homepage: www.sca.org

SCA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/currentmiddleages?fref=ts

Academy of St. Gabriel (really useful name and heraldry site):

<http://www.s-gabriel.org/>

Romans of the SCA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/romansofthesca/

Kingdom of An Tir Homepage: www.antir.sca.org

An Tir mailing List: steps@antir.sca.org

Many groups within the Kingdom maintain e-mail lists; these are listed at <http://antir.sca.org/Lists/index.php>

An Tir Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsOfAnTir/

An Tir A&S Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/469786296420688/

Barony of Dragon's Lair Home Page: www.dragonslaire.org

Baronial List: dragonslaire@antir.sca.org

Dragon's Lair Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/623379327705527/

Newcomers: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/newdragonsO4>

Culinary Guild: DLculinary_guild-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Scribal Guild: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DLScribalGuild>

Bardic Guild: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dlbards>

Dragon's Lair Bards Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/groups/205064462856567/?fref=ts

Youth Combat: DragonsLairYAC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

A&S Support Group– single_entry_support_group-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Fighters: DL-Warriors-sunscribe@yahoogroups.com

Archers DL-Archers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Rapier: dlrapierfighters@yahoogroups.com

Siege: <http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/dlsiege>

Family Activities: at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dlfamilies/>

Dragon's Lair Families Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/groups/440042572739329/?fref=ts

The Flames of the Dragon
Dame Angharad Albanes, Chronicler
C/O Laura E. White
13047 Westbrook Dr. SW
Port Orchard, WA 98367