

The Ramshaven Herald



Anno Societatis LIV

Barony of Ramshaven

Winter 2020

Handmade Fencing Spears



I'm one of the spear ambassadors, and I can't wait to practice fencing with spears, and share that enthusiasm safely with our fencing community! These spears weigh about the same or even less than our swords, but have amazing reach. They are thrust-only (no cuts or slashes) so it is a very interesting game of geometry, range, and tempo. They are utterly delightful to fence with and are super fast! They feel great for getting hit, also - lots of flex in the head, but not too wobbly in the shaft (though I imagine the 8-9 foot spears will be more wobbly). Looking forward to meeting you at a practice session when it is safe to do so.

~Lord Beathán MacFinnon



Photos by Lord Beathán MacFinnon

Upcoming Online Events

Virtu-L 12th Night

Barony of Castel Rouge and Barony of Montengarde, Kingdom of Avacal
January 15-17, 2021
<https://sites.google.com/view/virtu-12thnight>

Known World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium

January 22-24, 2021
<https://heraldry.sca.org/kwhss/>

Blue Dragon Studium

Saturday February 6, 2021
Canton of Ardchreag
<https://www.bluedragonstudium.com/>
*need to sign up now for class kits

University of Atlantia: Session #106

Saturday February 13, 2021
<https://university.atlantia.sca.org/>

Virtual Practicum

Saturday February 20, 2021
Canton of Caldrihtig
<https://caldrihtigpracticum.weebly.com/>

For More Events Check the Ealdormere Calendar:

<http://www.ealdormere.ca/event-calendar.html>

All photographs and articles, with the exception of those labelled otherwise, in this issue of the Ramshaven Herald, were taken and submitted by your Chronicler, Asleif of Ramshaven. If there are questions please feel free to contact me at ramshavenchronicler@gmail.com

Announcement from the B.O.D.

Resolution to Suspend In-Person SCA Activity until May 31, 2021

December 4, 2020

Greetings: At the end of July, the Board of Directors issued a proclamation suspending most in-person SCA activities in North America until January 31, 2021, due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. In November, we asked the Kingdom Seneschals and Crowns of the Known World to give us their counsel on how to proceed in the first part of 2021. We received very thoughtful responses from nearly all Crowns and Kingdom Seneschals as well as many other concerned people. We wish to thank everyone who responded for taking the time to do so, and for putting such effort into your responses. After reading and discussing the feedback received, the Board decided at their conference called meeting on 12/01/2020 to continue the suspension of in-person activities in North America through May 31, 2021. That action reads as follows:

Motion by Ross Roegner to extend the Resolution to Suspend In-Person SCA Activity until January 31, 2021, originally issued by the Board of Directors on July 28, 2020, for a period of four (4) months, until May 31, 2021. Second by Gigi Coulson. Opposed: none. Absent: Jennifer Krochmal. Motion carried.

The original document can be found here:

<https://www.sca.org/news/resolution-to-suspend-in-person-sca-activity-until-january31st-2021/>

While there is good news on the horizon regarding effective vaccines and other ways to treat and manage COVID, implementation of those treatments is still in the future. The current situation shows that infection rates are continuing to increase in many places throughout North America. The most important concern at this time must be the safety of all participants.

Please remember that federal, state, provincial, and local health directives and guidelines must continue to be followed whenever Kingdoms decide to authorize smaller local In-person meetings and local fighter practices. These local activities remain under the discretion of the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal. Kingdom Earl Marshals are welcome to give advice to the Crowns and Kingdom Seneschals when approving local practices.

Virtual events, as have been happening in many kingdoms, are of course allowed and encouraged to continue. If a Kingdom believes that the circumstances in their area allow for an in-person event, beyond approved local practices and meetings, to be held safely before May 31, 2021, the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal are welcome to discuss a variance with the Society Seneschal.

Such variances for events beyond local practices and meetings will be considered, but please keep in mind that limits on participants, mask requirements, local government approval, insurance questions, vaccine availability, and actual conditions regarding the 4 epidemic in the Kingdom requesting the variance are all important issues that will be considered and discussed for any requested variances prior to the May 31, 2021 date.

Further, as stated in the original Resolution, if a Crown or Coronet feels the need to step down without heirs, a regent may be installed according to the laws of the kingdom or principality. If those laws are not adequate for the situation, the kingdom is invited to work with the Society Seneschal to create a solution that will be in the best interests of the kingdom or principality.

Do Try This at Home

Ralebinding:

The oldest found piece of nalbound fabric came from Nehal Hemar cave in Israel. It dates to approximately 6500 B.C., but this type of fabric has been found from Peru to Scandinavia.

It is made using short lengths of spun wool, a blunt needle, and loops. If you don't have a specialized needle a regular darning needle will work.

Instruction video: <https://youtu.be/UEJywXlUuhk>

Historical Fencing Footwork:

This video shows you some very basic footwork from a German fencing system popularized by a man by the name of Joachim Meyer around the year 1570.

Instruction video: <https://youtu.be/VgI0x7TmWbc>

The Chronicles of Japan Podcast:

A chronological history of Japan through story, starting from pre-history to the Meiji Period.

Introductory Episode: <https://sengokudaimyo.com/podcast/episode-0-introduction>

American Sign Language in the SCA:

Around 15 million Canadians (or 5% of the population) have some sort of hearing limitation, and as the population ages that will increase. In the SCA a person who does sign language interpretation during court is called a Silent Herald. There are some signs that are particular to the SCA. Why not check the sign dictionary for our kingdoms sign?

Informational Webpage: <https://heraldry.sca.org/signheraldry.html>

And of course...

The Caldormere at Home YouTube

Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/KingdomofEaldormere/playlists>

Recipe for the Season~ Genestada: a Rice Pudding for Lent

This recipe comes from the Catalan region of Spain and originated in the 14th century. Lent (from the Old English word *lencten*, or 'spring season') is a time of fasting for Christians. It is called other things in other languages. Lent begins 40 days before Easter, and depending on some interesting calculations it can start as early as February 4th. During this time in the middle ages people would give up eating meat or dairy. Often this was making a virtue out of necessity, as these items would be very sparse at this time of year in any case. Check out the link to the original article at the bottom as it's full of great historical information.

- 2 cups almond milk
- 1/2 cup rice flour
- 1/2 tsp saffron
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 3 cloves
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 1 Tbsp olive oil (optional)
- Pinch of salt
- Sugar (not defined in the translated recipe, but probably not more than 1/8 cup, or to taste)



You can use store bought almond milk or make your own (instructions for this in the original recipe on the blog).

- Roast the pine nuts, and wash and dry the raisins
- Pour the almond milk into a pan with sugar and spices,
- Add rice flour and whisk until well combined
- Bring to a low boil and continue whisking so it doesn't stick to the pan
- Boil until thickened and take off the heat
- Crush saffron in small bowl with 1 Tbsp of hot water, then add to pudding
- Stir in raisins and sprinkle with roasted pine nuts
- Serve warm or room temperature

Source: <https://coquinaria.nl/en/rice-pudding-for-lent/>

Here is a modern recipe with excellent instructions, and is even relatively medieval in flavour:
<https://feelgoodfoodie.net/recipe/almond-milk-rice-pudding/>



Picture Source: <http://www.cobaltjade.com/2018/04/medieval-feast/>

Announcement from the B.C.D. contd...

Live events and personal interactions are a large part of the way the Society has continued over the last fifty-plus years. These restrictions on live events in the SCA are painful, but the state of the world, and the well-being of everyone involved, currently require we be as careful as possible.

It does look like there will be vaccines available soon and once the epidemic is under some semblance of control, we can have live events again and celebrate all our interests and community safely.

If there are any questions, or further concerns or comments, please send them to us.

Lis Schraer, Society Seneschal
Seneschal@sca.org

Or
John Fulton, Society President
President@sca.org

If you would prefer to send something directly to the Board as a whole that can be done using
sca-comments@lists.sca.org

You may also contact your Kingdom's Board Ombudsman. The list of the Board members and the Kingdoms each represents can be found here:
<https://www.sca.org/about/officers/#board>

In service, respect, and the sincere desire to see everyone safely again.

John and Lis



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Canton of Der Welfengau



In December of A.S 16, Lord Tsvetan ~ having seen a vision of a great silvery griffon of ruby eyes and flaming tongue ~ gathered together with four other

gentles to form the Canton. The device of Der Welfengau was registered in A.S 20.

Currently, A&S as well as meetings, rapier practice, and armoured combat are being held from 10-12 at Riverside Park by the fire station on Speedvale. Summer gatherings and practices are planned for June 16, July 7, July 21, August 18, and September 10. Please come join us!

For more information please consult sca-guelph@yahoo.com or see us on the gathering page (Facebook) Canton of Der Welfengau unofficial <https://www.facebook.com/groups/266085027122/>

Their Excellencies, Baron Penn and Baroness Lucia host:

Craft and Gaming Day

A monthly gathering held on the first Sunday of the month (usually)



Canton of Bryniau Tywynnog



The name "Bryniau Tywynnog" (pr. BRIN'-ee-aw Te-WIN'-og) means "Sandy Hill" in Welsh. It is a name rooted in local history.

Fight practices

take place every Thursday evening from 7 - 10 pm at Scholar's Hall in Kitchener.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the business meeting and share their thoughts. Meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 7:10 pm until the business is taken care of, at Scholar's Hall in Kitchener. These happen at the same time as Fight Practice.

Armouring Nights offer a chance to get access to tools, materials, and help in regard to building of armour and other projects. Armouring Nights happen *approximately* every other Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:30 pm at the home of Edward, Rylyn, & Jobjorn in Waterloo near Columbia & Fischer-Hallman. Contact Edward for directions and to confirm the schedule and meeting agendas.

News and group plans are shared on the Barony of Ramshaven gathering pages (Facebook) For more information please contact Seneschal Eyrmy at: bryniau.tywynnog@gmail.com

Middle Ages on the Green

An annual event usually held on the third weekend of August,



Canton of Northgeatham



A little easier to say than most can comprehend but when written in this form, North-geat-ham, it becomes clear.

"The northern hamlet."

Gatherings are generally held every Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm unless otherwise posted on the gathering notification page (Facebook) which also includes plans for the day, ideas, and armouring intentions. Meetings include the arts and sciences, discussion of group activities, and socializing while taking in refreshments of tea and sometimes, cake. Did I mention cake? If you wish to be included on the Northgeatham notification page please send a request and you shall be added. Regularly anticipated events for the group include the annual Museum Demonstration held at the Bruce County Museum and Archives and Barons' Brouhaha, a bi-annual event, which is usually held in mid-July unless the calendar leaves us too close to War of the Trillium and Pennsic War. In this case, Baron's Brouhaha is pushed to a time in August. For further information about Northgeatham please feel free to contact the Chatelaine, Wulfwynne of the Blackwoods

at northgaedhamchatelaine@gmail.com

Baron's Brouhaha

Usually an annual event held in July or August depending on the calendar





Margaret Trainor-Cook: Chatelaine
 Email: ramshavenseschal@gmail.com
 term: December 2018 - December 2020
If you need me, just contact me anytime.



Christiana du Mundegumry: Exchequer
 Email: ramshavenexchequer@gmail.com
 term: Oct 2016 - 2020
Have been in the counting house, counting out the money and dusting out the coffers. Happy to report that it is all there.



Sibylla of Glyndmere: A&S Minister
 Email: ramshavenas@gmail.com
 term: October 2019 - 2021
Arts and Sciences are strong in our barony. Please remember to share your photos and your enthusiasm on the gathering pages- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1518968168395297/>



Asleif of Ramshaven: Chronicler
 Email: ramshavenchronicler@gmail.com
 term: February 2020~ 2022
I look forward to sharing knowledge and remembrance of times in the near and further past, and celebrating our present.



Wulfric of the Blackwoods: Armoured Combat Marshal
 Email: trweirmeir@gmail.com
 term: July 2016 - 2020
Armoured combat is alive and well. Enjoyed Family Day Fight Practice in Bryniau Tywynnog. Northgeatham has been braving the cold with some great bear pits up in the Great Hall.



Penda of Glindemere: Lord Clerk-Register (Web minister)
 Email: webminister.ramshaven@gmail.com
 term: October 2017 - 2019
Please send any suggestions you may have and please remember to check the Ramshaven website and OP to ensure information is correct. Thank you



Guoillauc filius Branch: Herald
 Email: ramshavenherald@gmail.com
 term: February 2018 - 2020
I'm extremely grateful to Their Excellencies Ramshaven for this chance to serve the Barony, and live out their "call to Adventure."

Ramshaven's Baronial Champions



Rapier
 Dawn Galbraith
Photo: Cesare de Salvase



Armoured Combat
 Sibylla of Glyndmere
Photo: Dorothea of Holm



Ranged
 Catriona inghean Ragnail



Bardic Arts
 Guoillauc filius Branch
Photo: Dorothea of Holm



Arts and Science
 who will it be?



Word from Your Baron and Baroness,
 Penn and Lucia de Mornaza ...



Email: pennandlucia@gmail.com
 term: May 2017 to Present



Greetings unto the populace of
 Ramshaven,

Greetings unto the populace of Ramshaven. In this darkest part of the year, it gladdens us to see all the lights of Ramshaven's people remaining active and hopeful. In the holiday season just past there were many connections made and maintained through the ether, and we have been watching as celebrations were documented, if differently from most years. Coming into the spring with preventative for our current plague being distributed we hope that as the heat of the sun returns, so too will our ability to see each other in person. Our word of this year is Connection and we hope that all who choose can keep their connections to each other active, if at a distance for now. We miss you all terribly, the long dark nights of winter are made longer without your presences. In all our socially distanced places, we hope you will always remember to have fun and stay safe.

Yours in service,
 Penn and Lucia,
 Baron and Baroness of Ramshaven



Colouring Page— Forest Animals

