



The Cataract

Winter 2020 Issue



Photo: Trudi Crumpwright

Jowan, Bera, Gelleia & Rhys @ The Dessert Revel

The newsletter of the Barony of Rising Waters, The Kingdom of Ealdormere

January 2020, A.S. LIV (54)

Facebook: [Official SCA The Barony of Rising Waters](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSCATheBaronyofRisingWaters)

Baronial Website: baronyofrisingwaters.org

The Cataract

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Any member who wishes can subscribe to receive an e-mail when the latest issue of the Cataract becomes available. In order to do so, please send an email to the chronicler: chronicler.risingwaters@gmail.com

Contribute to The Cataract

This publication is only as interesting as its content. Please consider making a contribution in the form of photographs, articles, art work, event reports, medieval recipes, items of historical interest etc.

The next issue, Spring 2020, will come out in April 2020 so please send in any submission by the end of March 2019. Thank you!

Corrections, Submissions, Suggestions, please send to the Chronicler, Lady Bera Oddsdottir chronicler.risingwaters@gmail.com

Barony of Rising Waters Online

The Barony of Rising Waters can be found online at:

<http://baronyofrisingwaters.org>

Facebook:

[Official SCA The Barony of Rising Waters](#)



Photo: Angie Gott

Missive from the Baroness

from Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig

We have had a busy first few months on the Baronial Seat of Rising Waters! Since this issue spans many events, I took care to jot down notes that I wanted to share with all of you - which you'll find below.

But first, I wanted to urge everyone to consider all of the hard work that has taken place in the past year. In order for those folks who have served, inspired, and perspired for our Barony to gain recognition at an event, we need you to let me know. In many cases, I will share your recommendation with Their Majesties, as well! There are a couple of ways you can let me know what awesomeness you've seen - send me an email to risingwaters@gmail.com or fill in the online form. The Baronial website recommendation also includes a description of our awards. If you're not sure which award you think someone might receive, but still feel that a shout-out is in order - send me an email.

Finally, I'm planning a Baronial moot in the Spring. A moot is a forum open to all residents of the Barony to allow discussion of matters of importance to the people. Any subject of the Barony may speak at the moot, without fear of recrimination, on any matter of concern to the Barony, provided they show common courtesy. This is a great opportunity for Baronial members to meet with me, your seneschal, and your officers. Let us know what you'd like to see more of in the future of Rising Waters.



Photo: Bess Mortimer

Fall Crown – Oct. 26

It was a gloriously bright Autumn day when I set out to attend Their Majesties Fall Crown Tournament. I was fortunate to provide heralding support in organizing the processional and list heraldry for the tournament. Eleven candidates entered the list, including several who are counted friends of Rising Waters. The tournament was quick, with many displays of chivalry in combat. In April, we will host the coronation of Prince Amelius Claudius Rattanicus and Princess Mistress Isabel Atwyll.

The cooking event at Crown was also fantastic, and something that I suspect many nobles of Rising Waters would appreciate - both in the participating and in the partaking. In the merchant's area, Valdr had his piccalilli and green tomato relish out for taste testing. A recipe was provided shortly afterward to your Baroness. Yum!

While it was wonderful to see our Prince and Princess take their Seats beside Their Majesties, it was a joy to witness Duke Finvarr de Taahe beg a boon of Their Majesties. Baron Richard was then brought forth, and receive his writ to the Order of Chivalry. I look forward to Wassail when he will sit vigil, and declare his response to Their Majesties.

Thank you to Lord Eustace, our Armoured Combat Champion, Sir Richard, and Lady Jowan for their efforts as part of the Schlepping Crew. I could not fulfill my role without your support, and strive to live up to your fine examples.



Photo: Christian Bernard-Brewster

Niagara Falls Humane Society Gala and Fundraiser - Nov. 2

Thanks to our fantastic Community Liaison, Lady Rúna Sólveigardóttir, the Barony and neighbouring groups (looking at folks from the Hael, and Ben Dunfirth) to support the Niagara Falls Humane Society. Rúna's hard work partnering with the NFHS paid off, and they reached their fundraising goal. I am looking forward to working with the NFHS again in the future!

Mega Practices - Oct. 18, Nov. 22

The mega practices gave our artisan community and new members the opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities - garb construction, felting, armed combat, archery, thrown weapons and rapier. I am personally grateful for the opportunity to take further steps into the fencing arts! I also appreciate the return of Lord Hamish MacLeod to the Barony, who served as rapier marshal at our practices. Thanks to Sir Richard, and Lord Michealis for helping our new fighters (Lance, Njall, Adder and Rhys) get armed and learning how to fight for our Barony.



Photo: Trudi Crumpwright

Mistress Maegwynn discusses square construction technique for garb design.

We also had a new archery MIT - congratulations, Lady Bera Oddsdottir! And finally, thank you to Lady Rúna for partnering with New Hope Church and organizing the practices. I look forward to the next mega-practice in March, 2020.

Baronial Meeting - Nov. 24

I'd like to thank Her Excellency, Annabell, for her work as Baronial Seneschal, and welcome Baroness Gema as our new Seneschal. I look forward to working with you, and our officers in the future.

Wassail - Dec. 7

At Wassail, I had the immense pleasure to speak as a companion of the Laurel at Sir Richard's knighting ceremony. I spoke of his nobility, in reference to Sir Thomas Lemuel Hawke of Cornwall, who wrote on this topic in 1483. We also saw Lord Michaelis Vilicus recognized by Their Majesties with an Award of the Scarlet Banner. Congratulations!

Dessert Revel - Dec. 15

It is clear to all that we are a generous community, and our Barony definitely has a sweet tooth. Thank you to everyone who attended, and welcome to our newest officer, Rhys of Anglesey, as our Social Media Deputy!

Looking Ahead, I am planning to attend several events, including Twelfth Night in Septentria (always a fun event), Blue Dragon (a new A&S event!), Kingdom A&S in Skraelign Althing. Locally, I hope to attend our own fight practice (and help coordinate attending nearish practices), as well as our new A&S drop-in sessions!

Ever in Service to Rising Waters and
her Nobles,
Sciath



Photo: Angie Gott

Ladies Rúna and Jowan's Christmas
cookie exchange Cookie Tree

Baronial Calendar

Baronial meetings are open to anyone, not just officers. The officers would love to have more input from the populace!

Meetings are held at: 161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines [map](#)

Baronial Calendar: http://baronyofrisingwaters.org/event_calendar/

January

Tue Jan 7 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Thu Jan 16 • 7pm • **Scribal Gathering**

161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Fri Jan 17 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Tue Jan 21 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Fri Jan 24 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Sun Jan 26 • 2pm • **Barony Meeting** 

161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

February

Tue Feb 4 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Fri Feb 7 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Tue Feb 18 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [maaap](#) [map](#)

Baronial Calendar

February (cont.)

Tue Feb 18 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Thu Feb 20 • 7pm • **Scribal Gathering**

161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Sun Feb 23 • 2pm • **Barony Meeting** 

161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Fri Feb 28 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

March

Tue Mar 3 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Fri Mar 13 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Tue Mar 17 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Sun Mar 23 • 2pm • **Barony Meeting** 

161 Russell Ave, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Fri Mar 27 • 6:30pm • **Fight Practice**

St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)

Tue Mar 31 • 3pm • **A&S Drop-in**

Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls ON [map](#)

Fight Practice

Fight practices are returning to the Barony of Rising Waters. With the number of new fighters, armour and rapier, there will be a lot of training going on to get people authorized. So please come on out and see what it is like to hit each other.

YIS, Sir Richard Larmer, Baronial Marshal

Dates:

January

17th (Evening before Event Blue Dragon)

24th

February

7th (Evening before Event Step Spritely)

28th (Evening before event Winter War)

March

13th

27th (Evening before Kingdom A&S)

April

3th

After Easter (Apr.12) fight practice will move outdoors

Details:

What: Armour and rapier combat. Also space to socialize.

Where: St. Catharines Collegiate, St. Catharines ON [map](#)
The small gym, accessible from around the building on the right.

Who: All who want to attend

When: 6:30 to 9pm on select Friday nights. Please be prompt if you wish to fight as we don't have a lot of time.

How: Please bring shoes to change into so you don't spread snow all over the gym. Also non-marking soles. If you are needing loaner armour please contact Sir Richard Larmer at alowry2002@yahoo.com. A donation of \$5 per person is requested to defer the rental cost of the gym.



Photos: Christian Bernard-Brewster

Report from the Thrown Weapons Range



Baroness Sciath with Lady Rúna, Baronial
Thrown Weapons Champion

We had great attendance at our three mega-practices this Fall. Much appreciation to Lord John Spooner who helped to marshal!

I will be working with Lady Rúna Sólveigardóttir in putting together a fundraiser to help equip the Barony with loaner gear/weapons on the Thrown Weapons range - more news on this once plans have developed further. I'd also like to welcome lord Rhys of Anglesey to the range as a Marshal in Training.

Keep your eyes open in our Facebook group - I hope to organize regular thrown

weapons practices at my home range. In this Wintery time of snow and ice, it is difficult to schedule this in advance, and practices will be organized to take advantage of days when we have good weather. I imagine that hot chocolate and tea might also be part of these practices.

Yours in Service from the Range,
Sciath

Good day fine Gentles, My name is Lady Ragnheiðr Hróaldsdóttir (pronounced Rag-na-Hey-dare Ronaldsdaughter) but please feel free to call me Canadia (of the Northerstorm) as many people do.

I am the Chatelaine for The Barony of Rising Waters. I figured I would introduce myself as I am new to this position.

It is my job to help new prospective members start their medieval journey, as well as to answer the questions any new comer may have. Now if I dont know the answer, I can direct you to someone who would know more, and be able to assist you. I can even help with networking by introducing you to people with a like minded interests inside the Society.

There have been a bunch of new faces in the past few months, and I'm very excited to meet you all, as I have already met a few of you already. I also enjoy getting to know new people, and helping people to enjoy their time at events and gatherings. So please feel free to come up and say Hello, ask questions about what's going on or why we do things. Also, dont be surprised if I see some shy new faces in the crowd and I come up and introduce myself.

As I am still considering myself new to the SCA. I may have been to 6 Pennsics, however have only played in Ealdormere for a few years. I still have questions. So trust me when I say there is no silly question coming from a newcomer. Everyone started out as a newcomer. We have probably asked the same questions ourselves at one point, sometimes I had to ask twice.

I also hold the Gold Key. Which is our Barony's own selection of loaner garb and some accessories as well. I am currently in the process of building a digital copy of the inventory so it might be easier to see what we have, with images that are categorized and organize the Gold Key, as well as including some key measurements of the garb.

There are some exciting events coming up in the new year. Like the upcoming Coronation of Prince Amelius Claudius Rattanicus and Princess Isabel Atwyll, and the Lady Mary Memorial Tournament XXXIII here in Rising Waters this upcoming spring. I hope to see all your smiling faces soon!!



Photo: Lady Ragnheiðr Hróaldsdóttir

A&S Drop-In

Starting on January 7th we'll be meeting at the Niagara Falls Library every second Tuesday for an A&S Drop-in. These will be informal, no garb required! We will be scheduling classes to happen during this drop-in time but you don't need to participate in a class to join us. Bring a project and have a little social time with us!

First Session, January 7th, we will be working on some beginners garbing. If you'd like to come work along with us you'll need the following materials:

- Queen size sheet [4 yards of 48" wide fabric]
or King if you are very large
natural fibre i.e 100% cotton, linen, etc
- 1 Spool of thread in similar colour to fabric
- Sewing machine
(if you have one, there will be one to share available)
- Sewing scissors
- Tailor's measuring tape
- Notebook
- Pencil/Pen
- Pins
- Chalk for marking

If you've got any questions, comments, suggestions for things you'd like to learn.. or do you have a class you'd like to teach and want to schedule? Please contact the drop-in's organizers rhys.of.anglesey@gmail.com or bera.oddsdottir@gmail.com

We'll be in the conference room from 3-8pm every 2nd Tuesday...
Come play with us!



Photo: Trudi Crumpwright

Needlefelting workshop from November's Mega Practice

Report from the Scribal Desk

We've had a busy Autumn, and I'm so looking forward to Spring. First, I'd like to thank lady Gelleia le Vinter for agreeing to become Deputy Signet. Since I have additional Baronial duties, I wanted to be sure that 1) focus on scribal arts is not neglected, and 2) lady Gelleia has the opportunity to learn more about the signet office.



Photo: Trudi Crumpwright

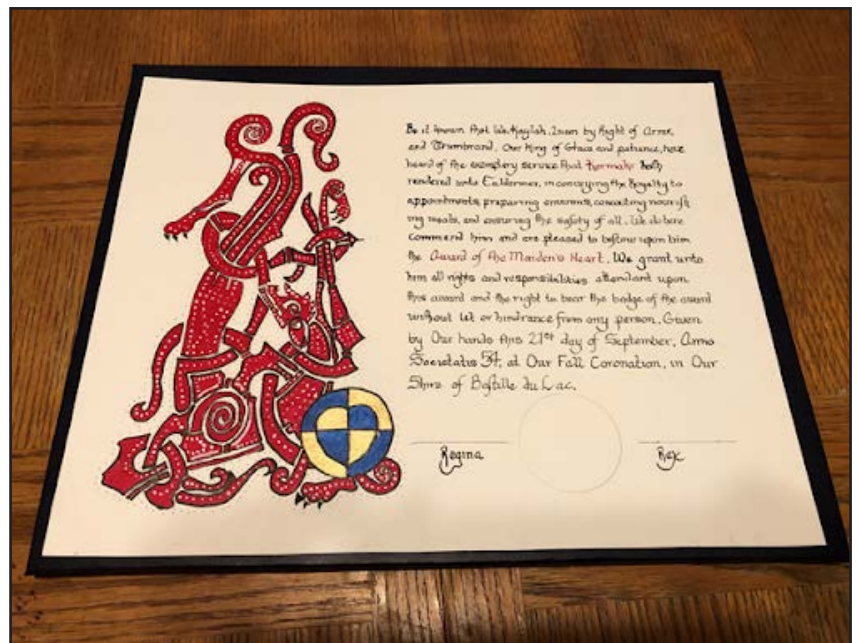
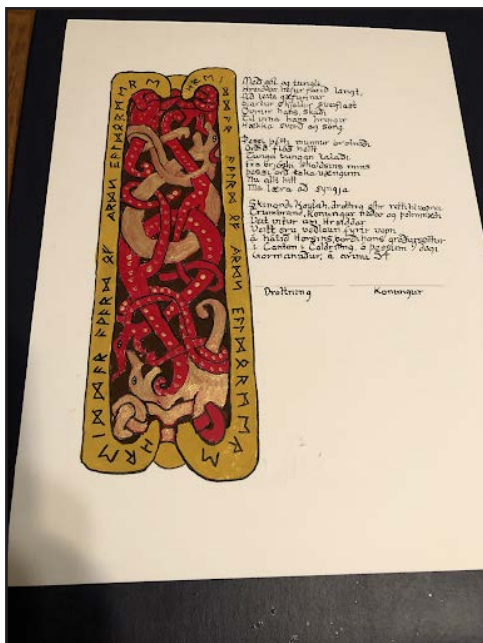
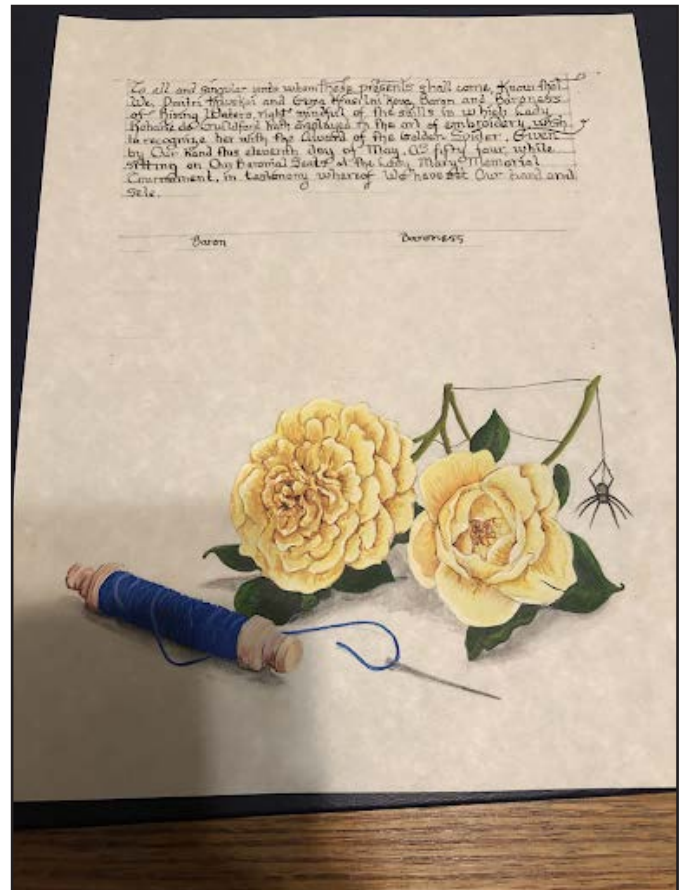
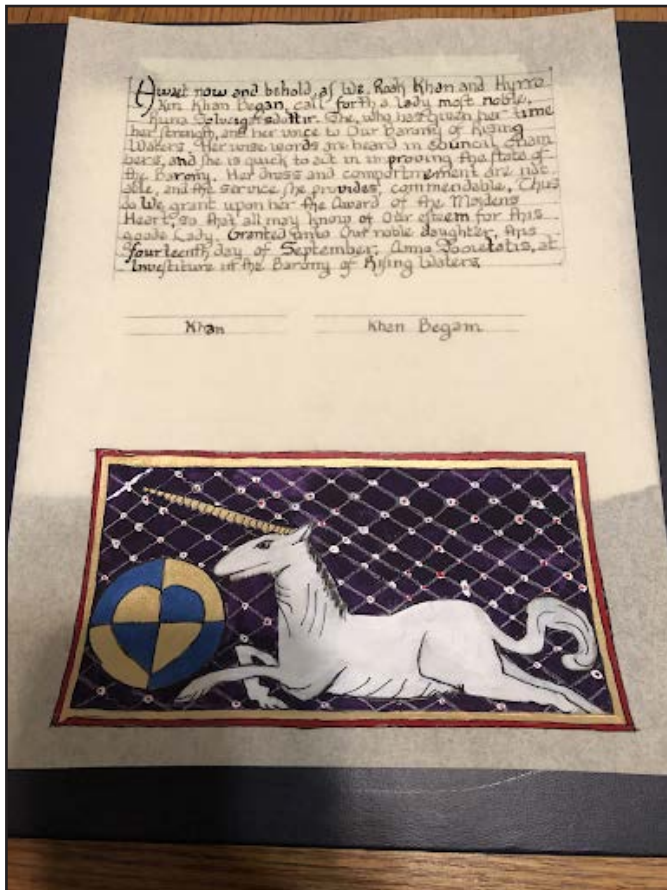
Countess Genevieve discussing her scroll log

Back in September, our first meeting involved figuring out what our scribal community wanted to do this year. Ideas included: creating scroll blanks, making pigments, making gall ink, inviting guest speakers (specifically Countess Genevieve and Mistress Rachel), work sessions before events, looking at non-scribal sources for illumination, and non-paper scrolls. To date, we have completed a couple of these items, and I've already planned for our January session to cover off a further item.

I'd like to thank Countess Genevieve for attending our meeting in November. I know that I appreciated learning more about her journey as a scribal artist, and scribal work in past days in the Barony. While scroll-work can be daunting when we see some of the amazing scrolls presented in court, it is a relief to know that we all started with the same start. Thank you!

Our next scribal gathering will be Thursday, January 23rd, when Magistra Nicolaa de Bracton will guide us through pigment making. I know that I look forward to this session!

Yours in Service at the Signet's Desk,
Sciath



Scrolls by Rising Waters Scribal Artists (photos by Trudi Crumpwright)

Sir Richard Larmer

We here in the Barony of Rising Waters are very proud of our Kingdom's newest Knight, Sir Richard Larmer.

You could say that 2019 was a banner year for Baron Richard Larmer:

On March 9th, to recognize his many years of service, Richard was inducted into the Order of the Pelican.



Photo: Kyle Andrews

My second fight practice ever he took time from his own pactice to come over and show me how to swing properly. Even though I didn't have full armour because I didn't have a gorget that fit me he still lent me some of his own gear and set me up with a dummy to hit so that I would still be able to learn something. He corrected my swings both how I was hitting and how hard, he was really helpful.

~ Rhys of Anglesey



Photo: Suzi Hedrick

On July 22nd, our SCA family came together at the Midsummer Deed of Arms... because there could not have been a better way to mark Richard's 60th than a day of combat, friends, family and cheer!

Then on October 26th at the Coronation of Kaylah the Cheerful, Queen by Right of Arms, Baron Larmer was named Armed Champion of Ealdormere.

I had the pleasure of speaking for Richard at his elevation, as a Companion of the Order of the Laurel. In my address, I spoke of his nobility, humility and charity. Richard has proven himself time and again, a fine example of nobility for any to follow.

~ Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig



Photo: Suzi Hedrick

And finally to cap the year off, on December 7th, the esteemed Squire was honoured with the white belt and welcome into the Order of the Chivalry.

This brings us to 2020 our Barony is so excited to see what the future has in store for Sir Richard.

Sir Richard is a gentleman who will go out of his way to be helpful.

~ Rohais de Guildford

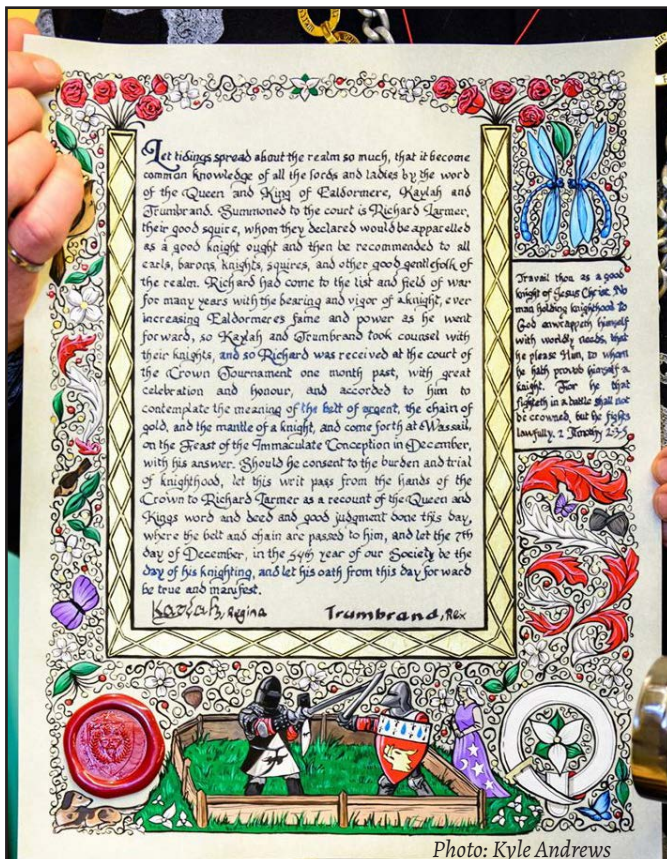


Photo: Kyle Andrews

Scroll: Baroness Augusta. Wording by Master Brand



Photo: Suzi Hedrick

Richard and Gann demo combat at the NFHS Medieval Gala

Now Seeking

The Barony of Rising Waters is seeking applications for a few positions within our growing community.

Rapier Marshal

Responsible for working with the armoured combat marshal to support the rapier community, by organizing practices, and training.

Quartermaster

Responsible for keeping inventory and arranging for use of Baronial stores and equipment.

Minster of Children

Responsible for programming activities and to support engagement with children and youth in the Barony.

Minister of Accessibility

Responsible for working with the baronial committee and event stewards to ensure baronial activities and events include accessibility concerns.

If you wish to apply please send an email application to both the Baronial Seneschal Baroness Gema Krasil'niKova seneschal.risingwaters@gmail.com and Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig risingwaters@gmail.com If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.



Photo: Angie Gott

Pop-up Court ~ Jan 2nd 2020 a first of many?

Many of our community were in attendance at our latest Mugs & Meeples gathering... where our Baroness surprised us with a pop-up court. Tristan, son of Stephan, was welcomed into our Barony, and a visiting Neala from Trinovantia Nova was honoured as well. It was a fun court during an enjoyable evening of which we will hopefully have many more of!

Arts & Sciences in the Barony and Beyond

Photos: Angie Gott



Rhys and Bera learning how to make throwing knives with Baroness Sciath



Rising Waters members on a A&S road trip up to Trinovantia Nova



Painting Ceramics with Bera Oddsdottir



Niagara Falls Humane Society Fundraising Gala

~ Rúna Sólveigardóttir



Photo: Suzi Hedrick

On November 2nd, a large number of Ealdormerians came together to assist the Niagara Falls Humane Society and The Welland SPCA host their annual fundraising gala.

During October members of Rising Waters found out that the NFHS and Welland SPCA were going to be holding a medieval themed fundraising gala.

This was a fantastic opportunity for us to show how two non-profits could work together and benefit each other.

The Medieval Gala was held at the Greg Frewin Theatre in Niagara Falls, and once our planning committee saw what we were dealing with, we quickly they called for back up from all throughout the kingdom.



Photo: Christian Bernard-Brewster



Photo: Angie Gott

Our Champion, Wonka and his escort appearing in Gala Court with our fabulous volunteers Dorothea, Deitrich, Eeva and our "Queen" for the day Nicolaa



Photo: Angie Gott

Donations and the lending of numerous items began and the SCA courier service was working at its peak. There were banners from all over the kingdom, the representation of Ealdoremere was definitely there. This was a different kind of demo then what is normally put on and it was only possible because of how many people in Ealdoremere answered the call for help.

The night of the Gala there were fencers, armoured combatants, buskers, bards, fibre artists and more. A variety of what the SCA includes was on display and the public loved it.

Since Rising Waters was able to answer the call for help, the NFHS and Welland SPCA raised over \$29,000, which exceeded all expectations and shows what can be accomplished when different groups work together.

As a not for profit group, the barony of rising waters is looking forward to getting involved with more community based groups and organizations. They all exist to help and educate, so it only makes sense to work together and assist one another.



Photo: Suzi Hedrick

Greetings from the Seneschal

Warm Greetings from your New Baronial Seneschal.

I want to thank Her Excellency Annabelle for all her hard work and diligence in her role as our previous Seneschal. I have big shoes to fill. Thank you to the Barony for your confidence in me taking on this position.

I am currently working my way through the various documents and files passed on to me and will be implementing some new changes that will hopefully streamline our officer reports. The forms will be sent before each meeting and I ask officers to fill them out even if you are planning to attend the meeting. This will ensure important information will be passed on efficiently and nothing will be forgotten. For those who know you will not be able to attend the meeting you can email me the form so I can include your report and add your information to the meeting minutes.

If you have any questions for the Seneschal please email at seneschal.risingwaters@gamil.com

In Service to the Barony
Baroness Gema Krasil ni'Kova



Greetings from the Office of the Webminister

There have been a few major updates to the website over the last few months...

1) The hosting and domain registration of our website has now been transferred to hosting that I have control over, which for the most part is an invisible change for the general population. What this means however is that I have full control to do all sorts of interesting things with the website now. So keep your eyes out for more updates in the near future!

2) Descriptions of officers positions have also been added to the website, you can see that information here:

<https://baronyofrisingwaters.org/baronial-officer-descriptions/>

3) Another new page on the website is the Awards Recommendations page. This page contains both descriptions of the awards available, and a form where people can tell us about noteworthy things that members of our Barony are doing. We hope (our Baroness especially!) that everybody will go online and nominate people to be recognized for the awesome things they've been up to.

As always, I would greatly appreciate any and all feedback you might have on the site. If you have any suggestions, or notice anything amiss please let me know at webminister.risingwaters@gmail.com

YIS,
Lady Bera Oddsdottir
webminister.risingwaters@gmail.com

THE BARONY OF RISING WATERS

WELCOME | A MEGA PRACTICES | EVENT CALENDAR | THE EXTRACT NEWSLETTER | RESOURCES | FAQ | CONTACT

Award Recommendations

Need to know who already has what? Take a look at the [Baronial Order of Precedence](#)

Baronial Award Submission

tell us about somebody who's awesome!

Your Name *

Your Email *

Recipient's Name * (SCA or Mundane)

Their Province

select...

Award *

select...

Reason *

tell us about why you'd like the recipient to receive an award

Where to recognize

select...

☐ send this to receive a copy of this email

Submit

Awards

Award of the Chalice's Crystal
Given for any manner of service rendered unto the Barony with courtesy, chivalry and graciousness.

Award of the Silver Chalice
Continued service rendered unto the Barony with courtesy, chivalry and graciousness.

Order of the Golden Chalice
Given for selfless, long term, exceptional and dedicated service unto the Barony rendered with courtesy, chivalry, loyalty and graciousness. This is a polling order and is the highest honour that is bestowed by the Baron and Baroness unto their people.

Award of the Amber Crystal
This is equal to the Chalice's Crystal. This Award shall be given at the discretion of the Baron and/or Baroness to those branches, organized groups, households, committees, or guilds that have performed exemplary service to the Barony through such efforts as running events, sponsoring lunch tables, holding rallies for the benefit of the Barony, serving as entourage, Baronial guard, etc.

Award of the Spider
Given for skill and/or support of the Arts & Sciences, while always being courteous chivalrous and gracious.

Order of the Golden Spider
Given for exceptional skill and/or support in the Arts & Sciences, with courtesy, chivalry & graciousness, as well as the willingness to teach and encourage these arts or sciences.

Award of the Warriors of the Chalice
Given for skill in medieval martial activities (fighting, archery, scouting, fencing). This award represents skill, chivalry, loyalty and bravery on and off the field of battle.

Order of the Protectors of the Chalice

[see award recommendations page](#)

My Journey Into the World of the SCA

~ Editorial by Rhys of Anglesey

Greetings and well wishes to all my brothers and sisters of Rising Waters! By now I have had the chance to meet a fair number of you and get to know you a little better. I have been involved with the SCA now for almost 6 months and I was encouraged to write down my experiences becoming part of this giant family. My story begins earlier this year [insert dream sequence sounds].

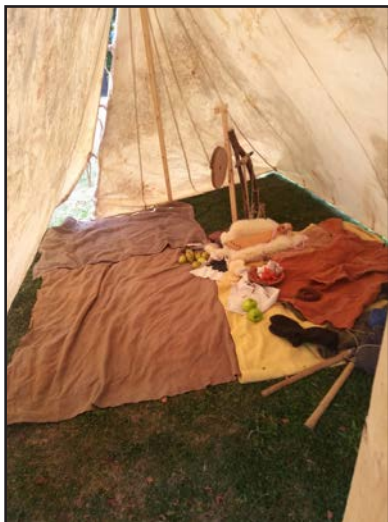
A friend of mine invited me to join him at the Fergus Medieval Faire in July 2019. At first I was very reluctant as I had not, up to this point, spent much time with this friend outside of a group situation. Ultimately, I decided to bite the bullet and join him for a day I thought would be interesting if a little tedious. Boy was I wrong!

Immediately after getting to the Faire I was greeted with a short Court demonstration by the King and Queen of the event who directed everyone to enjoy the festivities and partake of the different activities. I won't bore you with each thing we enjoyed that day as it isn't relevant however what is relevant is the tiny Viking camp reenactment that was sitting off to one side of the event. There I met a nice, long haired, young man with striking blue eyes who took the time to actually talk to me about what they were doing.

I learned a bit about the type of tent they were using and why as well as the camp food they were making. I had up to this point only really ever heard about LARPing, Civil War and War reenactments and only in the far recesses of my mind was there a tiny kernel of what I

understood to be medieval reenactment (basically Renn Faire). Obviously this young man was very busy and so couldn't spend the entire day conversing with me about this very cool activity but we did exchange Facebook information and he promised to continue my introduction online.

Over the next few weeks we spoke fairly regularly about reenactment and I learned some interesting new terms like "progressive", which he used to describe the activities he and his group participated in. Though he taught me quite a bit it started to become quite clear that I was not ready to join his group of progressive reenactors (for those who might be confused by this term, progressive reenactment refers to groups that strictly adhere



to historical accuracy). I was a little concerned that I wouldn't be able to participate in this new fascinating activity. One of the last conversations we had, he imparted me with the knowledge of a group of people who were somewhat more lenient when it came to medieval reenactment, the SCA! He explained that many within the SCA and the organization itself encouraged and supported people who wanted to be as historically accurate as possible but that they also allowed people some leniency. This sounded perfect!

I excitedly navigated to the SCA main website which guided me to the Kingdom website which in turn sent me to the Barony of Rising Waters, the place that would quickly become my new home and people who would soon become family. Now I'm sure I don't have to explain to any of you how being new can be a little....overwhelming, especially with the multiple websites, Baronies, Cantons, Kingdoms, Guilds, Groups, etc. I had no idea where to go. Enter Facebook!

Join Rising Waters Facebook Group. Click! Oh...they want to know why I want to join...oh crap, well...because FUN! Accepted? Yay! Now what?

My first post in our group was likely an introduction and then likely a nerdy plea of "I want to do this, someone HELP ME!". Luckily a saint named Lady Rúna Sólveigardóttir and a few others took pity on me and started talking to me. Very soon I was invited to my first Mega Practice! Unfortunately, the practice was a month later. Grrr, one more month to wait. Oddly enough, as I was walking around in St Catharines one day for a street sale event I was recognized by someone, the one and same Lady Rúna! How serendipitous! She encouraged me to come to the practice and meet everyone and I agreed.

My first practice. I arrived early (as I do) and got out of my car rather nervous. I was all alone at an event where everyone already knew each other, knew what they were doing and I was afraid I would either not be welcome or that I would make a fool of myself. I should never have worried. Immediately I was made welcome and people introduced themselves to me (some with names that made my eyebrows rise). By the time I left that night my head was swimming with new terms, ideas and names, so many names!

I wish to apologize to anyone who has since had to introduce themselves to me several times as my memory is not superb.

Over the next few months I jumped in eagerly, hungrily, soaking up as much information and as many experiences as I could. Our Baroness, Sciath Ingen Chaennaig, spent much time and effort making sure that I was comfortable and that any questions I had were answered. Lady Bera Oddsdottir and Lady Rúna began to feel like the sisters I never had, amazing people that I could and did talk to at any time of the day or night. As I said at the onset, since those first few practices I have come to know some of you very well and others only a little.



I have attended Baronial Meetings, I have officially joined as a member and I have even taken a post as your Social Media Deputy. I have dived into the continuously deepening pool of the SCA and while at times I feel like I will drown from the knowledge that I feel I need to play catch up on, there are always amazing SCA mermaids and mermen who come to my aid blowing air back in my lungs, providing me with the support to learn at my pace, provide guidance and at times even offer their material help.

~ Rhys of Anglesey



Trillium Exchange

Are you looking for an excuse to start a new A&S Project? Do you like getting pressies? Even better, do you love the look on somebody's face when they light up getting something awesome? Join Ealdormere's Trillium Exchange!

The next exchange will be opening up this January, so check out the website, and join the Facebook Group to get in on the action!



[TrilliumExchange.ca](https://www.TrilliumExchange.ca)



[Trillium Exchange FB Group](https://www.facebook.com/TrilliumExchangeFBGroup)

Recent Historical News

Here are some of the latest articles about historical studies and discoveries that might be of interest to our members:



[Iron Age shield found in Pocklington is "one of most important ancient finds this millennium"](#)



[Here come the sundials! Prof uncovers eight 'hidden' sundials in ancient mosaics](#)



[Burial site ties major Viking swords find to warriors from Rävåla](#)



[160,000 pages of medieval manuscripts digitized](#)



Baronial Officium

No calls before 9am or after 9pm unless by previous arrangement.

Baroness: Sciath ingen Chaennaig (Trudi Crumpwright)
risingwaters@gmail.com

Seneschal: Baroness Gema Krasil'niKova (Jennifer Etty)
seneschal.risingwaters@gmail.com

Community Liason (deputy to the Seneshal): Lady Rúna Sólveigardóttir
 (Gillian Barclay) community.risingwaters@gmail.com

Pennsic Land Agent (deputy to the Seneshal): Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig
 (Trudi Crumpwright) risingwaters@gmail.com

Exchequer: Lady Jowan nyn Ranell (Jo-anne Hillier)
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Herald: Baron Dmitri Kievskoi (Sam Hardie)
community.risingwaters@gmail.com

Signet: Baroness Siath ingen Chaennaig (Trudi Crumpwright)
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Chronicler: Lady Bera Oddsottir (Angie Gott)
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Chatelaine: Lady Ragnheiðr Hróaldsdóttir (Suzi Hedrick)
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Web Minister: Lady Bera Oddsottir (Angie Gott)
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Social Media Deputy (deputy to the Web Minister): Rhys of Anglesey
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Heavy Weapons Marshal: Baron Richard Larmer (Andrew Lowry)
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Archery Marshal: Magestra Nicolaa de Bracton (Susan Carroll-Clark)
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Thrown Weapons Marshal: Baroness Sciath ingen Chaennaig
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Quartermaster: Baroness Gema Krasil'niKova (Jennifer Etty)
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Minister of Accessibility: Vacant access.risingwaters@gmail.com

Minister of Children: Vacant ministerofchild.risingwaters@gmail.com

Minister of Horse: Vacant

Baronial Champions

Armoured Combat: Lord Eustace di Cordoba

Thrown Weapons: Rúna Sölveigardóttir

Arts and Sciences: TBD

Bardic Arts: TBD

Archery: TBD

Rapier Combat: TBD

Youth Champion: TBD



Kingdom Regnum

No calls before 9am or after 9pm unless by previous arrangement.

Their Royal Majesties:

Kaylah, Queen by Right of Arms, and Trumbrand, King of Grace and Patience
(Alisa & Tom Dymont)

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Their Royal Highnesses:

Prince Amelius Claudius Rattanicus and
Princess Isabel Atwyll

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Chamberlain

Master Kolbjorn Skattkaupandi Skattkaupandi@gmail.com

Head Retainer

Kniaginia Xristina Viacheslavova mchestley@gmail.com

Seneschal

Master Lars Eriksson (Larry Tremblay)

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Chancellor of the Exchequer

Jane Caldwell (April Rumbolt)

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Trillium Herald

Dutchess Rylyn Buchanan (Beth Patchett)

trilliumherald@gmail.com

Minister of Arts and Sciences

Kniaginia Xristina Viacheslavova (Melina Chesley)

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No calls before 9am or after 9pm unless by previous arrangement.

Chronicler

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Lord Clerk-Register

Baroness Lucia de Enzinas (Michelle Enzinas)

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Earl Marshal (Interim)

Sir Menken Brechen (Michael Cohen)

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Earl Marshal Deputies

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Rapier Marshal, Master Eyrny Ormarrsdottir (Kathleen Gormanshaw)

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Youth Rapier Marshal, Master Eyrny Ormarrsdottir (Kathleen Gormanshaw)

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Emergency Deputy Rapier Marshal, The Honourable Lord Kurushima Saborou Yoshitatsu

(Yoshi) paul4791@gmail.com

Minister of the Lists, Master Kolbjorn skattkaupandi (Jason Kingston)

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Minor Armoured Combat, Baroness Seonag nic Thomais Ban Thegn

(Sandy Benetti) sandra.benetti@sympatico.ca

Thrown Weapons Marshal, Master Gunther Wahlstadt (David Clark)

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Equestrian Marshal, Baroness Anne von Talstadt (Rowan)

(Stephanie Campbell-Heron) ealdormerequestrian@gmail.com