

## The Spearpoint – October/January Issue –Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 2009

### Baronial Blathering:

Well it has been a long while since the last newsletter. Summer has come and gone, and so has our traditional winter gathering at Yule. We trust that everyone enjoyed the event, despite the frigid temperatures in the main hall. We handed out pewter red spears badges at Yule, if you didn't attend (shame on you) and would like one, please talk to either of us and we will get you one.

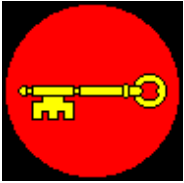
With the winter season now is the time to repair and make new armor, take on that new research project, or even start a new art. If you have always wanted to take part in the A&S faire system, this is the year to do it. Hrodgeirsfjodr is hosting the N. Oaken regional A&S symposium this April. If you have questions about entering the faire please do not hesitate to contact your local A&S minister or the Baroness with questions. We would love to see the varied talents of the artisans within our Barony represented at this springs faire. The A&S competition is a fantastic place to stretch your research and art to the next level. Remember though, that it is best to start with the research and then do the project.

There are numerous local events taking place even in the cold season, continue to travel and get out there. Upcoming at the end of January is the Regular event in the Clefflands, followed in February by Val Day in Kalamazoo (indoor heavy melee), and Rum in March. The winter events often give you the opportunity to sit and talk to people much more than the summer ones, so go travel, have fun, meet new people and learn things.

Happy new year and decade to one and all.

Porkell & Helewse  
Baron and Baroness.

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## From the Seneschal

Greetings and a warm hearth to all. Now that the cold winds of the North are starting to blow, we begin to think of Winter events. Our own Yule Feast

is coming up soon on December 12th in the Canton of Hrodgeirsfjodr, at St Marks Church. Our Fencing and A&S Champions will chosen, voted on so be sure to cheer or vote for your favorite. This years Yule Feast will ;have a German flavor/theme. The Baronial Cooks Guild, the "Silver Spoons" will be selling lunch at Yule Feast for our participants. We will provide a soup and a sack lunch featuring a meat, cheese or PB sandwich with a fruit, chips, drink and possibly a baklava. We are offering classes at Yule Feast. I currently have three scheduled but looking for more. If you would like to teach a class call 419-893-6142 or 419-419-8559 or e)Email me at [aidenalpin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aidenalpin@sbcglobal.net) to let me know what you would like to teach.

Our appointed reviewers for the Baronial Charter have finished their last review and have had the revised Charter on line for everyone to review. I trust we have all looked it over and made any changes, or suggestions to our respective Seneschals to be considered. I want to thank Lord Jarnhauss, Master Konrad, and all three Canton Seneschals for their efforts, as well as any Baronial members who made comments. It is this kind of co-operation and combined effort that helps our Barony grow and brings us all together. Thanks!

A big thanks to all who participated at Pounce, taught a class, cooked or served for Feast, etc. Catteden would like some feedback from all who attended on the site and activities offered. I heard a lot of good comments about the site location and the weather. Can you believe it. a Pounce without rain or cold weather. May next year be just as nice. Great event Catteden, keep up the good work. Until we meet again take care and play nice together.

THL Aiden Alpin of Dunkeld  
Seneschal, Barony of Red Spears  
Submitted for Oct Spearpoint.



## Chatelaines Report

Greetings everyone!

First, I hope everyone has a great holiday season!

As of now, there is a small demonstration booth happening at the Mazza Center at the University of Findlay in January. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Artimesia Voltera at [mdeann@gmail.com](mailto:mdeann@gmail.com). Also, Congratulations to the Marche as someone has been able to set up a group on campus. Please remember if you are your groups chatelain(e) to report before the Regional report is due.

I also would like to encourage everyone to bring a friend to Yule. An event is the best place to take someone who is interested in joining.

Yours in Service,  
Lady Iosobail inghean Uilliam mhic Leoid,  
Chatelaine of the Barony of Red Spears and Herald of the Canton of Catteden



## Arts and Sciences

No report submitted – position is open and we would love to receive applications.

Send a letter of application covering at least: membership number and valid dates, name, and contact information to the: Baronial Seneschal, the outgoing officer and the Baron and Baroness.



## Out Loud! – Herald

No report submitted

## Signet

No report submitted



## In the past - Historian

By Lord Douglas MacFarlane  
I have recently been told some more of the history of our Barony of Red Spears by Master Konrad Mailander and Lord Vidal. Master Konrad explained how Baroness Gabriella became sole ruler of the Barony for some years after Baron Taylor stepped down. For awhile the baroness chose to rule

until Baron Blaise became the next baron. We all are aware of what happened when the polling took place in 2007. It is important information to know who ruled and when, but I would also like to know more about the others who make up our great barony!

At Yule Feast I would like anyone who has time to seek me out so I can get your history videotaped. I have some questions to ask :

Your SCA name and mundane name

When did you join the SCA

How long have you been a member of Barony of Red Spears and which canton are you a member of and how long have you been a member of this group

Tell me about your persona and your interest in that history

What is your favorite hobby

What is your favorite activity

What is your favorite event

What was your favorite feast

What was your favorite coronation

Funny stories or mishaps

What brought to join the SCA

Any history of the barony and your canton that you would like to share

So look for me at the Yule Feast and the meetings at the Marche of Marshes and we will get to work getting your history down!

## On the Web: webminister

The updates continue. I will be posting a new website design off my private server for proofreading and comments before posting it live to the midrealm.org site.

The test URL is

<http://www.soylent-green.com/redspears/>

It will be up by the end of the week (if not up now). - Godfrey

## Rapier Marshal:

In addition to the practice in the Marshe, Yoseph is running a practice on Tuesday nights at 7:30 up at the Fjord meetings.

Otto authorized at Simple Day and Raphael filled out his auth. card (for rapier) at Harvest Day.

The Organization Fair on the BGSU campus has brought in some new people to the Marche, some of whom want to rapier fight.

We do, however, need to pull all loaner gear in and do some washing and maintenance on it.

With the cooler months on the approach, we can set our sights on the warmer events of spring, like Gulf Wars.

I kid thee not, there I was....A few years ago at Gulf Wars the Mid-Realm was allied with great Ansteorra against Trimaris. Which just means that we fight with our friends in Ansteorra and her other allies against our

friends in Trimaris and their allies.

In the rapier field battle we were flanking the Trimarians. The battle was mostly decided but far from over and I spied Don Silvain and some of his troops as our forces wrapped around the Trimarian line. Slim, dressed in soft red with quick-flashing blades and long golden locks. Silvain is sometimes in jest called 'Elf Boy' or 'Elf Lord'.

By the time I reached him he had been wounded and was on his knees.

"And now the Elf Lord Dies!!" I thundered. Even on his knees his speed is amazing and it wasn't long before he deceived my blade and struck me a fatal blow. He died shortly afterward as our wave of troops swept over him.

Well, that's the way it goes sometimes.

Later, at a gathering he asked me, "Did I actually hear you say 'An now the Elf Lord dies!'?"

We had a good laugh over the whole thing.

I did not call the Atlantian King "Bub".

It's fall, keep a weather eye and your powder dry!

'Captain' Lheng Craidd, called 'The Groupie'

**We got stuff!** – Baronial stores in my control are secure and dry. I will be publishing an inventory later this month. If you have any items not already reported to me do so soon. If you need to borrow stuff, there's a new form. I have them. - Godfrey

## Shoot at will

Our newest Archery Champion, Medhbh Drisceoil (Stephanie) and I are working to get Archery Practice going again on Thursdays before the Marshes meeting at Cowboy's pending getting some hay or straw bails there. This is an ideal location for those in the Northern part of this Barony.

For those in the Southern part of Red Spears, Archery Practice will be at my home (208 N. Main Street, Jenera) and is available 24/7, but email me (archerygirl63@yahoo.com) or call (419) 326-0002 first to let me know. BBQ (bring drinks or side dish) or bonfire will follow practice in Jenera.

\*\*Archery Practice IS subject to weather conditions! If wind advisory, raining (or pending dark clouds), or snowing; practice will be cancelled.

Staying on Target,

Lady Elizabeth Eve MacFarlane – archery marshal



An impressive shot! This picture was taken at Pounce of one of the arrows that overshot the targets.

## **“Taxes and Tithes”**

The Barony of Red Spears has for a long time had a custom where the Cantons would pay 10% of the profits from events they host to the Barony as “taxes” and when the Barony hosts an event on lands belonging to one of its Cantons it “tithes” 10% of the profits to the Canton. As the years passed so has the common knowledge of the purpose and the origin of this tradition. So I decided to write this article to keep this knowledge alive.

It all started because I screwed up. The fall of 1999 the Canton of Hróðgeirsfjörðr was planning to hold an event and had reserved the use of the University of Toledo Student Union where we were meeting at the time for this purpose. I was to be one of the event stewards for the event, which was to be focused on classes. At that time the Royal University of the Midrealm (RUM) held region sessions and they were looking for bids for the Oaken RUM. I discussed the idea of putting in a bid to make the event the Oaken RUM with the rest of the event staff, the Baroness and Baronial Seneschal. We also decided to change the sponsorship to the Barony instead of the Canton. At the time Hróðgeirsfjörðr was an incipient Canton and it would save on paperwork. (Hróðgeirsfjörðr became full status at that event.) But as an oversight on my part did not discuss it with the Canton in general until after the RUM Regent had accepted the bid for the Barony to host the Oaken RUM. Some members of Hróðgeirsfjörðr were upset about this change in sponsorship and rightfully so. As a concession the event staff agreed that 10% of all the profits from the event would go to the Canton of Hróðgeirsfjörðr. So on November 13, 1999 the Barony hosted the Oaken RUM at the University of Toledo and donated 10% of the profits to Hróðgeirsfjörðr.

This idea was discussed at a Baronial meeting after the original agreement with Hróðgeirsfjörðr and it was decided that it was a good idea. It was agreed that in the future the Barony when it held events in lands belonging to one of its Cantons it would donate 10% of any profits from the event to that Canton. Also the Cantons at that time agreed that they would donate 10% of any profits from events they sponsored to the Barony, since gentles from all over the Barony usually help out at events no matter who is the sponsor of the event.

Part of the confusion over the years is that these donations from the Cantons for the sake of shtick became commonly referred to as “taxes and tithes.” The term “taxes” was purely for adding a period feel to the donations when they are made. The Barony has no right or power to tax its Cantons; whether Cantons make such donation is completely the choice of that group. When the original Baronial Charter was being written in 2001/2002 we made mention of this tradition, made it clear that the “taxes” were not required, and asserted that the Barony will make such donations or “tithes” accordingly to the Cantons.

There have been those who have thought that the tradition was created for the Barony to get money from Baron Wars or that it was part of a deal for the Marshes to be the host of Baron Wars. Really Baron Wars had nothing to do with the creation of this custom. Before the next Baron Wars was held the Barony tithed for Oaken RUM and Hróðgeirsfjörðr paid taxes for Flirtin’, Fightin’, and Feastin’. Viktor von Murdoch, autocrat of Baron Wars, not being one for business meetings had not been there when these discussions about “taxes and tithes” had originally occurred was a bit taken back by this at first. The Marshes did get a lot of pressure from Hróðgeirsfjörðr to pay their “taxes”. Eventually it was voted on by the Canton and approved to pay “taxes” for Baron Wars. Over the years since, the Marshes has been the most consistent of the Cantons in paying taxes to the Barony for its events.

I attest that this, to the best of my ability to remember, is the true and factual account of the creation of the tradition of “taxes and tithes” in the Barony of Red Spears and its Cantons, as I was there at the time and it was my fault.

Meister Konrad Mailander, OP



Illumination by Cerridwen verch Ioreword

## Local Groups

### Hrodgeirsfjodr

**Seneshal:** Lord Godfrey Thacker of Northumberland (Robert Wenzlaff ), [rwenzlaff@soylent-green.com](mailto:rwenzlaff@soylent-green.com), 419-309-0271

Yule Feast will be soon upon us. It is scheduled for Dec. 12th at St. Mark's. Site fees will be \$4 pre-reg, \$5 at the door. Feast \$9 pre-reg, \$10 at the door, both 1/2 off under 12, free under 6, Midrealm family cap applies. See Vidal (you know, Vidal, right?) for pre-reg. Pre-reg Deadline is Dec. 1st. More details to be posted on the hrodgeirsfjodr website soon.

In other news there is a new voting policy in the Fjodr. In a nutshell, all present are welcome to vote unless a role call is moved for and seconded (which I hope is a rare occurrence). If there is a roll call, votes will be counted from paid members living in zip codes assigned to us, or unassigned zipcodes closest to us.

Meetings still continue on Tuesdays at St. Marks, 2722 Collingwood, Toledo, OH at 7pm every Tuesday. The 2nd Tues. is our regular Business Night, and 4th Tues. is our A&S class night.

### Marche of the Marshes

**Seneshal:** Gaivs Albivs Lvpos, called "The Mad", [Firemech\\_180th@hotmail.com](mailto:Firemech_180th@hotmail.com)

**Meeting time/place:** Our group meets every Thursday at 7pm in BG City Park, on Conneaut Street. Visit [www.marcheofthemarshes.org](http://www.marcheofthemarshes.org) for site directions. Here is our monthly schedule!: 1<sup>st</sup> Thur-Fighting and General Discussion : 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur -A&S (and Fighting), 3<sup>rd</sup> Thur-Dance, 4<sup>th</sup> Thur Business Meeting (and Fighting), 5<sup>th</sup> Thur - Dessert Revel (Fighting!!!), ~did I mention that we like to fight?

Please stop by and pay us a visit! We gladly welcome any and all who would seek to join us for fun and revelry.

### Catteden

**Seneshal:** Artemesia de Voltera [mdeann@gmail.com](mailto:mdeann@gmail.com)

**Meeting time/place:** Every other week, on Sundays rom 6.30pm – 10pm at 6, 7, 8 Performing Arts Center located at 1718 Romick Pkwy Findlay, OH 45840.

For more details see the website: [www.catteden.com](http://www.catteden.com)

At the Canton of Catteden we love to learn. We try and schedule classes with experienced teachers that can help us to expand our knowledge of medieval arts and

sciences. Come join us and learn new and interesting things, you won't regret the stop in!



### Counting Coins

No change from the third quarter

Meister Konrad Mailander, Baronial Exchequer



### Write it up

A newsletter is only as good, or as comprehensive as the articles it contains. In the absence of submissions you get a thin newsletter. Reminders are ignored,

deadlines pass unnoticed, please remember to submit a report and take some time to write or polish non report articles to keep things interesting. You may notice that in this Spearpoint some of the articles seem out of date, that is because they were submitted for the October Spearpoint which was never published because of technical issues so those articles have been recycled for the October/January issue now available. Hopefully, next month's issue will be full of fun and timely articles.

### Minutes of the August Baronial Meeting

In attendance: Aiden, Thorkell, Helewyse, Sivrid, Wulfwyn, Yoseph, Vashty, Konrad, Aemiliana, William the fierce, William the seafarer, Iosobail & Rose, Mebdh, Bronwen d'Torrens, Artemesia, Juliana Spencer, Decima de Seta, Godfrey, Ranulf

Baron & Baroness – Had a good war, suggest pooling donations from cantons to give to H.O.P.E the charity that Carla supported.

Seneschal – had a good war, would like to expand Barony into west (Defiance area) a new canton in W. territory would be good.

Catteden – Pounce is coming Sept 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, need help working Pounce. Thanks to all who showed up at Carla's funeral and visitation.

Fjodr – still meeting on Tuesday, talking about change to Wednesday. Had a good War.

Marche – Dance this week.

Exchequer – second quarter report done. Spent \$157 more than took in, the \$200 donation to kingdom is tabled. May want to abandon PO Box. Jarnhaus made motion to abandon PO box, Thorkell 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tabled until the end of the meeting to allow Ranulf to comment. No more renewals motion carried.

Herald – not present

Knights Marshal – Had a good Pennsic, Report is due in 1 week, would love to see reports from group marshals.

Rapier – not present

MOAS – had a good Pennsic. Please teach at Pounce and enter A&S competition. Open up the position for applications has been 2.5 yr in office.

Chatelaine – Wapakeneta demo, 8.30 am Friday Aug 28<sup>th</sup> contact Badger.

Chronicler – submit stuff, due date Oct 14<sup>th</sup>.

Signet – War was great, submit Baronial award recommendations for Pounce.

Quartermaster – stores still safe and dry. Need stuff to be arranged for Pounce.

Webminister – will get updates up soon. Need new pages, introduction to the Barony and newcomers page.

Old Business – Baronial open positions Chiurgeon and Signet.

Announcement – Konrad on vigil for Pelican at Harvest Days.

New Business:

Demo – may be at campus fest demo 27<sup>th</sup> Aug, no details yet 11am – 3pm.

Events – Pounce as discussed earlier.

Signet position – one applicant, Juliana Spencer – none opposed Juliana is now signet.

Charter review group. Helewyse made a motion to open the charter for review, Mebdh seconded. Motion carried. Please channel suggestions on the charter to the review group. Charter has been sent to kingdom seneschal for review.

Sivrid motioned to adjorn.

## Minutes of the October 17th Baronial

### Meeting

Deputy Seneschal opened meeting.

- In attendance – attendance sheet misplaced
- New prince and princess chosen yesterday.
- Yule Feast coming Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, website should be up today.
- Baron/Baroness, had fun at pounce, please submit award recommendations for Baronial and Kingdom awards.
- Catteden, meeting site has changed. Parade in Findlay, demo opportunity, need 10 people to make Halloween parade 27<sup>th</sup> October.
- Fjordr, meeting every Tuesday. New voting policy in place, everyone votes unless there is a roll call. Yule feast id Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, pre-reg is \$2 cheaper, German Feast, desert provided by cooks guild. Website should be up tonight. Next week A&S meeting, covering leather bottle making by Yoseph and Fiacc. To teach a class at Yule contact Aiden.
- Marche – meetings as usual, new people are showing up had fun at pounce and student group on campus is now full status.
- Exchequer, re-summarized PO box discontinuation. All checks have PO Box number currently, not a problem new checks can be ordered.
- Herald, lots of name and device submissions at war. Decisions will be Jan or Feb, with notification in March or April. Herald gave notice that planning to step down soon.
- Knights Marshal, we still have fighters, need to get database up to date, if you've been fighting he needs information for domesday.
- Chronicler, home computer has issues, newsletter will be late, another reminder for officers and others to submit articles.
- MOAS, Pounce classes well taught, get out and teach at Yule or locally, report to your local MOAS, position is open applications wanted.
- Rapier Marshal, practices at the Fjordr on Tuesdays from 7.30pm, run by Yosept, more rapier fighters from campus, loaner gear needs maintenance, new marshal of fench in training. New youth rules for rapier 6-10 and 10-14 yrs old.
- Youth Combat, available when needed

- Equestrian, not present
- Archery, Pale letter from archery marshal encourages monthly practice. Two sites for practice asks senschals to promote.
- Chatelaine, promote Findlay demo, Tuesday Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 7pm – 9pm. Talk to Aemellina
- Web, structure together, needs new content, previous should be up sometime this week. Needs permissions for photographs.
- Signet, nothing new
- Quartermaster, no change will publish inventory soon. To borrow items contact Godfrey.
- Historian, Spearpoint article will have guidelines for interviewing people regarding Baronial History. Will have sessions at Marche and Yule feast. Would like to put a scrap book together.
- Charter revisions – charter review committee used two rules: 1) Do we do it this way? 2) Has kingdom law or corpora law changed? Konrad gave a brief overview of the recommended changes to the charter. Helewyse made a motion to approve the changes, Mebdh seconded. Some brief discussion regarding review commentary. Motion carried unanimously with one abstention. Jarnhaus motioned to close the charter for revisions, seconded by Anna and Captain.
- Old Business – already covered
- Announcements – On the books for Baron Wars at the Fort, BUT Fort Meigs only guaranteed funding until Mid December.
- New Business-
- Upcoming demos – maybe doing cooking classes at gourmet store in Perrysburg.
- Events – Yule Feast covered, pre-reg to vidal.
- Bid put in for regional A&S for April (hosted by Hrodgeirsfjordr)
- Barony asked to consider submitting at bid for RUM 2011.
- Barony asked to consider submitting a Bid for Known World 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration (7 years out).
- Jarnhaus motioned to adjorn.

### Inside this Issue

Baronial Blathering, SCA Disclaimer	1
Seneschal, , Chatelaine, Herald reports	2
MOAS, and Signet	2
In the past	2-3
Shoot at will, we got stuff	3
On the web, rapier marshal	3
Taxes and tithes	4
Local Groups	5
Counting coins, write it up	5
August meeting minutes	5-6
October meeting minutes	6
Index	6
Officer contact information	7
Book review	7

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Historian – Lord Douglas MacFarlane  
cattherald@yahoo.com

Signet – Lady Juliana Spencer  
Jbates1990@aol.com

## Upcoming Events with significant Baronial Attendance

January 30<sup>th</sup> – A Festival of Fools, Barony of the Cleftlands (Cleveland, OH)

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Val Day, Canton of Three Hills (Kalamazoo, MI)

February 20<sup>th</sup> – RUM, Canton of Aldurford (Canton, OH)

March 6<sup>th</sup> – Celidh, Barony of Flaming Gryphon (Dayton, OH)

March 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> – Gulf Wars, Kingdoms of Meridies and Gleann Abhann (Lumberton, MS)

## Books I have read and are currently reading, the MacFarlane Clan, and blacksmithing

### By Lord Douglas MacFarlane

I have read and enjoyed greatly Ink and Steel by Elizabeth Bear and am currently reading the first book in the seires Blood and Iron. The Promethean Age series begins with Blood and Iron, continues with Whiskey and Water, Ink and Steel is next and ends with Hell and Earth.

I think the reason I enjoyed Ink and Steel so much was that it is situated in the late Elizabethan England with William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe as the main characters. William Shakespeare's works have always fascinated me and to read some of Christopher Marlowe's writings for the first time is quite exciting for me.

I began reading science fiction at a young age and have branched out into fantasy after reading J.R.R. Tolkien's Hobbit and trilogy one summer while still a teen. Because of my wife Beverly's and I interest in history we began hunting for history books at used book stores. We found some great history books written in the early 1930's that are so informative and interesting that we wonder why text books from school were not of the same format! Historically I have read books on the Knight Templars and other fighting orders of that period that have given me a glimpse of their lives and place in history.

As a previous herald I have some books on heraldry and research books on names that have been fun to look over and find out my family's history in Scotland. My clan is the MacFarlane Clan and I am of the Miller sept. In researching the MacFarlane Clan I have learned that the full moon was referred to as MacFarlane's Lantern when my clan would go out on raids and borrow sheep, cattle and so on. My clan is currently trying to buy an old church that has been turned into a museum and shop in Scotland to share with our clan and preserve our clans heritage and history.

I also have some books on blacksmithing due to my interest in this artistic skill. From the books I have been able to learn a great deal about smithing, armor making and more. As a hobby it has been a great deal of fun to work with hot metal and learn how to forge and form it into a finished item. I am still at an apprentice level but look forward to learning as much as I can!