

Barony of Smoking Rocks



Kenning Points



January

AS XLIX (2015)

A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

With the festive season of Yule and Winter Solstice now behind us, the members of the Barony I am certain are spending the bitter cold winter months in their halls by the warmth of their hearts. This is the time of the year to catch up with the many projects awaiting our attention. It is time to fix broken weapons, sharpen swords, darn the holes in your leggings, spin wool, weave cloth and practice your arts, tell stories to the young and compose a song for our lover.

It is also the time to plan gatherings to stay in touch with your friends and neighbors, to practice your fighting skills and prepare for journeys to other lands for the season will change again and spring and summer will be here.

The Barony has many plans for the coming months starting with Ice Weasel in February, the Barony's Birthday celebration in April and not long after it will be time to prepare for the Pennsic War. Fight practice at the PAL, archery practice at Trader Ed's, many East Kingdom events near and far as well as demo's for the general public will surely occupy our time these coming months. I will do my best to keep you posted on news and I appreciate any contribution to this newsletter from all of you.

Marguerite

12TH NIGHT 2015 ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!

About 70 attended. The day was spent visiting with family and friends, playing games, eating scrumptious food (Thank you Haakon and the kitchen crew) listening to music (Thank you musicians) and just generally enjoying the warmth of the place and joy of the company.



The King and Queen of the day were selected via apple bobbing this year. Young Queen Emily and King Vuradech did a fantastic job in keeping the sometimes slightly unruly crowd in check.

The ladies did their utmost to protect the sheep from the deceitful and feisty wolves. The dancing was vigorous and enjoyed by all. Accompanied by the "12th night Pavane, arranged by Rufus Bowe, Baron Cerdic of Colbridge lead the festive introduction of the populace to the "royal couple" in the feast hall. The feast itself was hearty and delicious and the Yule log kept us all warm and toasty.

Many thanks go out to all who helped in making certain that this gathering goes down as unique and special memory for all who attended.

"Thank you Master Pat, Haakon and Richard Leviathan and The kitchen crew and everyone who helped put this event together. This is one of our favorite events, and as always it was a lovely event. YIS Baroness Molly"

ICE WEASEL X - DECAMA WEASEL

Beginneth here the announcement for Decamaweasel, otherwise known as Ice Weasel X, the premier outdoor winter fighting event in the East!

Beginning at midday, in the port city of New Bedford in the Barony of Smoking Rocks, on the 7th day of February, it will come to pass that good gentles gather together for interchange of discourse. We will host an honourable company of lively ladies and adventurous men who will perform feats of strength and valor, share pearls of wisdom and learning, and recount diverse Novels or Fables or Parables or Stories, as we may please to call them. From these pastimes, the said gentles, who shall witness them, may derive both pleasure from the entertaining matters set forth therein, and the dreary dumps of February be banished by diversion of mind.

Please join us as we celebrate Ice Weasel X – the Decamaweasel! – our usual mid-winter "little smack and nosh" event featuring our the traditional Weasel bear-pit in the snow. If there is time afterwards, there will be melee practices. Also keeping with the Ice Weasel tradition, we will hold the annual meeting of the Smoking Rocks Tailors' Guild and diverse lessons in Arts & Sciences.

This year Weasel X takes its inspiration from the Decameron, thus we also will be celebrating the art of storytelling. Attendees are invited to offer up a story during feast using one of the themes from the Decameron: examples of the power of fortune; examples of the power of human will; love tales that end tragically; love tales that end happily; clever replies that save the speaker; tricks that women play on men; tricks that people play on each other in general; and examples of virtue. Awards will be given for best performance of a period story as well as best original story.

Isabeau du Valle will be providing us with a hearty luncheon of meats, cheeses, soup, and fruits as well as a delicious dinner based on a rustic 14th century Iberian menu. Those with gluten or nut allergies may contact Isabeau at isabeau1530@yahoo.com to discuss which dishes will contain those ingredients.

EVENT DATE: February 7th, 2015

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
169 Belleville Road
New Bedford, MA 02745

SITE OPENS: 10 am SITE CLOSES: 8 pm

EVENTS FEES:

Site fee: \$5 adult member / \$10 adult non-member (Site fee includes Day Board)

Youth 12-17: \$3 / 12 under: Free

FEAST: Adult: \$11/ Youth 12-17: \$6 / 12 under: Free

EVENT STEWARD:

Mali Lim Howe
Baroness Molly Blythe
malichan9@gmail.com

508-863-1831 (cell) 508-995-5389 (home)

Checks Payable to: SCA, Inc. - Barony of Smoking Rocks Please send reservations for gate and feast to Molly Blythe, at 213 Central Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745.



BARON & BARONESS

The Baron and Baroness are the local representatives of the Crown in a large SCA group, known as a Barony.

Their role is to represent the Crown in all matters. This includes the pleasure and duty of speaking to the Crown for their populace and vice versa. (This is especially the case if the Crown is acting in a manner you believe is against the interests of the people who have been entrusted to your care.) It also includes advising the Crown on Awards. Locally you serve as the focus of Baronial attention and as a representative of your Barony to other groups.



CEAWLIN ALREDING is an 11th century Saxon turnip farmer from Essex. Since being elevated to the Baron of Smoking Rocks, he is now a slightly more successful turnip farmer.

MOLLY BLYTHE

Maria Alegrezia di Nicoletti, is a 13th century Italian, daughter of a Venetian merchant who specializes in the spice trade. She believes in reincarnation, as in a past life she was Molly Blythe, the daughter of a Welsh peasant, and was married to a turnip farmer from Essex.



SENESCHALE

A seneschal is the modern equivalent of a president or chief operating officer for the Barony. As the Seneschal I need to be familiar with the SCA Governing Documents, East Kingdom Law and Policies, East Kingdom Financial policies, the Barony Charter and By-laws. I preside over the monthly Barony Business meetings where Barony Officers reports on current activities, and events and "other happenings" in our fair Barony are discussed and voted upon. .

ELAINA HOWE OF MORNINGTHORPE and her husband Robert Howys are landed gentry of the early Elizabethan period. Elaina inherited her family estate of Morningthrope, which is a parish in Norwich, Norfolk England. Her father was a cloth merchant, who specialized in importing fine materials from France and Italy. Her mother was the daughter of a French merchant, which cemented the family business. Elaina is Robert's second wife.

CHATELAINE

The chatelaine has the unique chance to be both filled with the enthusiasm of our newcomers, and to support them as they start their journey into the Society.

A Chatelaine's mission is to promote the Society's growth within the Barony of the East Kingdom

She/he supports and encourage newcomers, maintains and makes available Gold Key (appropriate clothing for newcomers to wear at their first events), encourages demos or other forms of outreach, and has a knowledge of local resources for newcomers.

LADY MAD MARION Co-Chatelaine

Marion time travels picking eras where she can sparkle and enjoy being a lady of fashion. Marion loves to cook, brew, read and has recently become interested in calligraphy, illumination, fencing, and of course, being of all things, fun .



LORD RUFUS BOWIE Co-Chatelaine

Lord Rufus Bowie, an itinerant troubadour from Scotland. The year is 1365. I met a lovely Irish girl, Sile inghean MhicCarthaigh, born in 1345, daughter of a shoemaker with a love of music. We were married just before the Statutes of Kilkenny were enacted 1366- Statutes of Kilkenny forbade English to marry Irish. We now travel together to all parts of the known world amusing the gentles we meet along the journey and joining with other musicians. It's a simple life. We both narrowly escaped the Black Death occurring in 1347 and celebrate our long lives because of that.

There past few months we have been traveling with a fine group of musicians and we now call ourselves "Fracta Modi" which in Latin means Shatter the Ordinary. We spend long hours on the road practicing our music. We have been shattering the concepts audiences have of the quality of traveling musicians.

BARONY BIRTHDAY

APRIL 11TH, 2015

On Saturday, April 11th, the Barony of Smoking Rocks will celebrate its 39th birthday at the Holy Ghost Club in Westport MA.

Come spend a day in the countryside with tourneys Both Heavy and Fencing with Prizes. We will be deciding both our fencing champion, and Lord Protector of the Barony that day as well. Thrown Weapons competitions and even a Kitchener's/Wench's competition with fun for all!

There will be an Arts and Science Display/Competition, and a Brewer's paneling competition, plus classes in the various arts as well. There will also be a fabulous French feast cooked by our Own Lord Robin Goodefellowe! More details to follow. Merchants are free and welcome. Please contact the Event Steward for details, space reservations or questions. no pets or outside alcohol beyond the brewer's panel is allowed. A cash bar will be provided.

SITE OPENS: 10am SITE CLOSES: 8pm

EVENT LOCATION

171 Sodom Road
Westport, MA 02790

DIRECTIONS:

Best route to 195 in MA. Take exit 10 (Route 88) and follow to Route 177 (American Legion Hwy) Take the exit and bear right off the exit following 177 to Sodom Rd. Take a left onto Sodom Rd the site is approx 1 mile on the right.

EVENT FEES

Site : Adult day \$12.00 Children 6 to 17 \$6.00 5 and under free.
Non member surcharge of \$5.00 per non member adult.
Feast: Adult \$10.00 under 14 \$5.00

EVENT STEWARD:

Denise Kappler

SEND RESERVATIONS TO:

Denise Kappler

14 Jefferson Court, Fall River MA 02720

Make Checks Payable to: SCA MA, INC. Barony of Smoking Rocks

ARCHERY PRACTICE

AT TRACER JAN'S IN FALL RIVER

Address: 288 Plymouth Avenue,
Fall River, MA 02721
Phone: 774-627-7743

The Barony of Smoking Rocks holds an archery practice most every Friday from 6 to 8 pm.

It is open to all archers regardless of residence or experience. The only requirements are an \$ 8 range fee paid to Trader Jan's and a willingness to abide by SCA archery rules for safety and equipment.



The view from the 30 yard line at Trader Jan's.
Come by and check it out !

Meeting Minutes December 2014 / January 2015

Barony of Smoking Rocks Business Meetings

This is an abridged version of the minutes. For the full versions, please visit the Barony of Smoking Rocks yahoo group.

Officer Reports:

Arts & Sciences: There will be many A & S classes offered at Ice Weasel.

Chancellor Minor: Many activities are planned for 12th night

Leviathan Pursuivant: Although EK herald was contacted regarding Smoking Rocks "order of Precedence updates". Heraldry meeting planned for Spring.

MOL: Nothing to report at this time.

Chatelaine: Ladies Marion, Nest and Sile sorted through gold key garb, unusable items were removed, others washed, dried and ready for 12th night. Inventory submitted to the Baroness and Seneschale. Gold key is in need of larger size women's garb. New comers who need garb should notify us about their sizes before an event. Please everyone go through their garb and donate quality garb. Next Chatelaine report is due January 15, 2015. Chatelaine's received spreadsheet from Baroness with info from Makers Faire attendees.

Chronicler: Yule special edition newsletter submitted.

Exchequer: Barony is now down to just one account since September.

Old Business:

12th night: Things are moving along well, short list of pre-registered folks, Fracta modi will play music, financials are in order, dance is all set many experienced dancers are expected to attend.

Ice Weasel: Event location is St. Anthony's, rooms are available for classes. The feast will seat 45 to 50. Large outside fighting space. Parking on street, on site only for kitchen crew, additional space at nearby school. Baronial court will be held. Prices for best stories on deception between men and women (based on Boccaccio's Decameron) will be handed out, don't worry nobody will really die.

Barony Birthday: Home made scrolls will be given out to tournament winners. Make sure you wear something fabulous for this very festive event in April.

Steward position: Bruka is stepping down, only Baroness Nest has applied so far.

New Business:

Fracta Modi has been asked to play at Dragonship Haven investiture. They will also play at the King and Queen's A& S championship in Montreal and during Royal court at Birka.

Kitcheners discussed the possible need for some baronial stock pots instead of using personal equipment. A vote for a set of knives was approved. Staff at a local Military Museum (Fort Taber) will meet with Molly to discuss a possible upcoming demo.

Upcoming meetings:

February 1, 2015 at 3pm in Wareham @ Rufus and Sile's home.

March 1, 2015 meeting will be 7 pm at Timo and Amy's home in Lakeville.

IYS Ammalina Taikkizhavi, Deputy Chronicler & Marguerite von Elfenau, Chronicler

ANNOUNCEMENT !

Baron Ceawlin and Baroness Molly congratulate the Smoking Rocks fighters

Wulfhere the Saxon, Bruka, and Serafima Medvednikova for their good showing at Birka!

VIVAT

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY

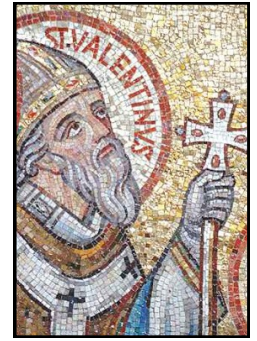


THE DARK ORIGINS OF VALENTINE'S

by Arnie Seipel, February 13, 2011 opinion article by NPR

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate romance and love and kissy-face fealty. But the origins of this festival of candy and cupids are actually dark, bloody — and a bit muddled.

Though no one has pinpointed the exact origin of the holiday, one good place to start is ancient Rome, where men hit on women by, well, hitting them.



Pictured drawing depicts the death of St. Valentine — one of them, anyway. The Romans executed two men by that name on Feb. 14 of different years in the 3rd century A.D. Hulton Archive/Getty Images

Those Wild And Crazy Romans

From Feb. 13 to 15, the Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia. The men sacrificed a goat and a dog, then whipped women with the hides of the animals they had just slain.

The Roman romantics "were drunk. They were naked," says Noel Lenski, a historian at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Young women would actually line up for the men to hit them, Lenski says. They believed this would make them fertile.

The brutal fete included a matchmaking lottery, in which young men drew the names of women from a jar. The couple would then be, um, coupled up for the duration of the festival — or longer, if the match was right.

The ancient Romans may also be responsible for the name of our modern day of love. Emperor Claudius II executed two men — both named Valentine — on Feb. 14 of different years in the 3rd century A.D. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valentine's Day.

Later, Pope Gelasius I muddled things in the 5th century by combining St. Valentine's Day with Lupercalia to expel the pagan rituals. But the festival was more of a theatrical interpretation of what it had once been. Lenski adds, "It was a little more of a drunken revel, but the Christians put clothes back on it. That didn't stop it from being a day of fertility and love."

Around the same time, the Normans celebrated Galatin's Day. Galatin meant "lover of women." That was likely confused with St. Valentine's Day at some point, in part because they sound alike.

As the years went on, the holiday grew sweeter. Chaucer and Shakespeare romanticized it in their work, and it gained popularity throughout Britain and the rest of Europe. Handmade paper cards became the tokens-du-jour in the Middle Ages.

*DU BIST MIN, ICH BIN DIN, DES SOLT DU GEWISSIN.
DU BIST BESLOZZEN IN MINEM HERZEN, VERLORN IST DAS SUZZELIN.
DU MUOST IMMER DRINNE SIN.*

*YOU ARE MINE, I AM YOURS, THIS YOU SHOULD KNOW.
YOU ARE LOCKED IN MY HEART AND LOST IS THE KEY.
YOU MUST ALWAYS STAY INSIDE.*

THE MINNESONG a tradition of lyrics and songs from 12th century Germany. In the Middle High German, love or minne, as it was called, is the dominant theme in lyrical verses and it is therefore known as "minnesong". Besides the usual meaning of love, minne also includes memory, loving & mindfulness or affection in a broader sense. For instance "gotes minne" translates to god's love.

(Source: A brief history of German literature by George Madison Priest, Gotthold Klee)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:
MASTER PADRAIG MACEANRUIC**

*For your augmentation of Arms Award
received at the fall Crown Tournament*



**CONGRATULATIONS OR SHOULD WE SAY
CONDOLENCES
TO MASTER PADRAIG MACEANRUIC**

*On the honor of being named
Warlord of the East Kingdom*

Congratulations !

**Lady Sunnifa
Heinrecksdottir**

**For her well deserved induction
into the order of the Maunche
Market Day at Birka.**



The stained Glass "scroll"
Illumination by Nest Verch Tangwistel. The
calligraphy was done by Henna Sinclair. The
words were written by Toki Redbeard.
Glass by Solskinn

CONCERNING CROWN TOURNAMENT AND THE HEIRS OF THE EAST

FROM CEAWLIN AND MOLLY, BARON AND BARONESS SMOKING ROCKS

We have tried to avoid a lot of the negativity concerning the recent Crown Tournament. Ceawlin was there, witnessed the finals, and was very saddened that he brought people who were new to the Kingdom to see the East at Her worst.

The recent activity on the internet has not helped matters much, and we have been dismayed by the lack of courtesy displayed there. To that end, we have not participated in it. We come from an age where people wrote letters, on valuable paper or vellum, with costly ink. They used their words carefully and precisely. We wish the pixel jockeys would remember this before hitting the 'send' button. As such, what we say here is for the ears of our Barony

We were Invested to Serve the Barony of Smoking Rocks. That charge did not come with a proviso that we could take six months off if we didn't like the King or thought someone did something bad. Individually and personally, we each have opinions on the matter, but in our positions we will stay true to our Homage and Fealty to the Monarchs.

There is a lot of talk right now, some of it even constructive, on what went wrong at Crown, and how to take better steps to insure something like this does not happen again. I'm sure that the inevitable Marshal's Meeting at Birka will be 'lively'. But We are pleased to see the Marshallate and the Crown –God Bless our Good King Edward and Queen Thyra!- taking steps to make whatever amends they can.

We also understand that some folks in the Barony are involved in the upcoming Royal House. And there are some folks that are "taking a vacation" for six months. Either is fine, we just ask that everyone respects the choices other people make.

We want to be part of the Positive Process. If you have feedback or feel you need to discuss any of the things we have mentioned, or disagree with our Stance, we invite you to come to us personally, or by email if you must, and have the conversation. We will not open Ourselves to the potential abuse that has assisted the downfall of so many others on the Book Of Faces. But we serve you, the Populace to the best of our Abilities. We do want to hear from you in this, and all proper things.

We are Yours In Service, Our Beloved Barony.

Ceawlin et Molly

REGNUM

Baron and Baroness

Ceawlin Alreding & Molly Blythe
(Ken Howe & Mali Lim Howe)
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baroness@smokingrocks.eastkingdom.org

Chancellor of the Exchequer:

Solskinn (Liz Gerald)
508-295-3734 / solskinn23@yahoo.com

Deputy Exchequer:

Sile Inghean MicCharthaigh (Fran McCarthy Young)

Chancellor Minor:

Alys Attewater (Ann Carpenter)

Deputy Chancellor Minor:

Rufus Bowe (George Anzivino)

Co-Chatelain's:

Rufus Bowe (George Anzivino) lv2tchmusic@gmail.com
508-274-6051

Mad Marion (Denise Kappler)

508-542-8353 up to 9pm / magzmommy@gmail.com

Chronicler:

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Deputy Chronicler

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Leviathan Pursuivant (Herald):

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