

# Kenning Points



*AS XLVIII (April 2014)*

A story of a cold and stormy winters day.  
By Marguerite von Elfenau

It was a snowy Saturday in the east. A storm was brewing from the south it's oversized dark grey clouds threatened the sky above. The wind was fierce and bitter cold. That however did not hold the small group of men at arms, and their families, back from stomping through the snow drifts on their way to the ninth tournament of the "Ice Weasel", Neuf weasel, for good reason.

Marguerite followed the group, William her son was not able to accompany her on this journey since his master had sent him north to help stem a quarrel that had broken out between two subjects in the recent weeks. She was sad not to have him along on this voyage as he was always good company and she was sure he had a good chance at this tournament since he had grown into a strong and able young man. She walked with her Lord Johannes and some friends who were new to the barony. Johannes and her had much to explain about the day ahead, which made the journey go by rather quickly.



Once they arrived in the great hall they made themselves comfortable by the hearth and quickly started a fire while others began to prepare for the days festivities.

The men were donning armor and preparing their weapons for the upcoming tournament, meanwhile the merchants set up their wares of fine jewelry, clothing, spices from the far east, and much more. The musicians brought out their instruments. Very quickly beautiful and cheerful sounds rang throughout the hall and warmed the souls of all the folk present.



This day was not only going to be about the art in fighting and proof of prowess of all fighting men and women, no it was much more. The day was about the art of teaching and learning new skills for the people of Smoking Rocks. During the long winter months it was special to be with each other, to talk about the family, about everyone's well being, to reflect on the ones we had lost, and to discuss the healing of the sick among the people.



Marguerite, like many of the others, was ready to learn new crafts and new techniques since her weaving and knitting projects had become a bit tedious and dull in the resent days and months. There was a class offered that especially caught her interest as it was in a language not familiar to her at all, the class was taught by Bar-oness Nest and it was called "Kumihimo", this very foreign word was somewhat enticing.

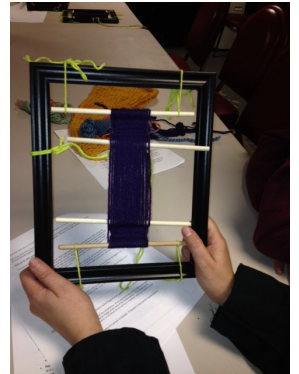
Kumihimo it turns out is some kind of hand braiding technique done by using a round wheel that has a hole in the middle, and notches all along the outside. First one had to prepare eight arm lengths of yarn using two different colors, those strings of yarn were then knotted together and put through the whole in the middle of the wheel with a weight attached to them. The strings were then separated on the wheel with two on top, to on each side and two on the bottom with the two colors off set from one another. After the wheel was set up, all one had to do, was moving one string down, one string up and turn the wheel. Minutes into this process one could see that a two color cord was being formed with the colors spiraling around each other. It was clear that all pupils had thoroughly enjoyed learning this "kumihimo" technique because throughout the afternoon one or the other could be found somewhere in the hall

still working on their new braiding projects.



Immediately after that class there was another class held by Lady Eleina, she presented the many hats she had fabricated over many years, it was fascinating and all were amazed at how much work seems to go into those “bonnets” they do look very lovely and decorative. Some of the patterns used and taught in this class seemed easy enough and Margurite and her new friends planned to go home and try their skills at making such a hat, they knew they had plenty of old dresses or extra fabric at hand.

Lady Sile was next with her class on “sprang” many of the newcomers attended. Marguerite decided to leave and find out about the day board since she was getting a little hungry. The kitchen crew must have been hard at work, a wonderful day board was set up in the hall. She took a small break to



eat and converse with old friends she had not seen in many months. The men at arms were entering the hall to warm up their sore bodies and take in some food and drink.

After lunch there was one more class on the history of the recorder with a short follow up on actually playing the instrument. The teacher was Lord Rufus. The class was small and an enjoyable time was had with little mistress Evelyn helping her mother play the recorder. Even one of the men at arms participated and he easily picked up on the notes and melodies and he visible become more and more relaxed after all the fighting in the cold.

The youngest members of the group had been kept busy with some kind of scavenger hunt, where they had to find answers to many questions which were often challenging and required a bit of team work and encouragement and help by the adults. Their eager excited faces showed just how much fun was had.

A glimpse through the frosted windows provided proof that the storm grew fiercer by the minute and it was decided that the feast and court would be held at a much earlier time, the group still had to travel back home the same day. This decision did not affect or diminish the celebration of the new champions of the tournament of the ice weasel, great honor was bestowed on them and many goblets were charged to toast our King and Queen, our Baron and Baroness and the days Champions throughout the delicious feast.

The meal shared by all was outstanding, the bread served with the delicious butters and it was crusty and warm, the Icelandic cod was so fresh it tasted as though the fish had freshly jumped out of the sea just before it was served. The meat pies, always one of Marguerites favorites, did not disappoint either. She would have loved to enjoy every last bite of that special meal. She knew that the savory sausage and the chocolate cake served with fresh fruit, the finale of that wonderful meal, were going to be left for the others to enjoy and that Johannes and her would not taste any of it.



But it was time to head on home for Margurite and her Lord Johannes he had enjoyed the libations of the day just a little bit too much. That and the thick and heavy snow developing outside made it necessary to not delay their journey home. Dressed warmly in their heavy winter cloaks they set out into the cold darkening day with many good wishes from all for a safe journey home.

Marguerite and Johannes arrived home safe, albeit a little late on that same day, and they were thankful for the many special memories of a another day spent with their smoking rocks family.





## The SCAdian Chef

### The Leftover Bread Dilemma

It's customary in Smoking Rocks, at the end of an event, to put out the leftovers from feast and dayboard and let people bring home what they want. It's a great way to keep tons of food from going to waste and it's also a terrific way for starving artists and impoverished scholars to supplement their diets between wealthy patrons and commissions for Royal portraits.

When you're lucky enough have access to professional bakers in the barony (many thanks again to our Richard Leviathan), a free supply of fabulous bread is a very welcome addition to the dayboard or feast. In fact, we get so much bread that even after the peasants' collective has taken what they desire, we still have several loaves left over.

What to do with all that extra breadiness? You could make medieval gingerbread – a la Forme of Cury (see <http://www.godecookery.com/ginger/ginger.htm> for the recipe), as the recipe is best when using fresh breadcrumbs and not the dry and sandy breadcrumbs you usually find in stores). It's a fun activity for children, too, as it can be molded like play dough. A sweet, sticky, honeyed, messy play dough. Hmmm, perhaps another day...

Let me suggest a hot and tasty dish of bread pudding! Ugh, bread pudding, you say? Fear not, gentle reader! This isn't your typical cold and runny bread pudding topped off with gaseous faux-whipped cream that sputters in all directions, not the bread pudding that you find at old, dimly-lit, family-style restaurants with funky smelling carpets and cranky patrons reminding you that you better not forget the early bird special is supposed to come with a choice of rainbow sherbet or congealed bread pudding. (Forgive me -I was scarred by my experience as a serving wench at such an establishment for years while I was still a penurious academic. Pray, give me a moment to compose myself.)

No, cold and congealed bread pudding would be a waste of hale and hearty SCAdian bread! I first started experimenting with bread pudding using a recipe that I purloined from a pair of Acadian exiles who run a tavern called the "Bon Ton Café". I will not publish it here, as rightfully one must travel to the Barony of Axemoor in the Kingdom of Gleann Abhann to sample it in its native surroundings (or you can make it at home using this receipt: [http://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/bread\\_pudding](http://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/bread_pudding)) but suffice it to say that it requires generous amounts of uisce beatha, preferably distilled in some inaccessible, moonlit glen guarded by local farmers. To the Smoking Bridge Guild of Libation Brewers – stat!

Of course, if you'd like to be more authentic, you can try Payne Foundow, a 15th Century English recipe from "the Boke of Gode Cookery" for a bread pudding that calls for red wine, honey, and spices such as cubeb and galingale.

You can find the recipe for Payne Foundow at <http://www.godecookery.com/goderec/grec23.htm>.

If you'd prefer something that might appeal to a more modern palate, try Whitepot Bread and Butter Pudding, which is out of our period as it was published in 1723, but more familiar to our tastes today (<http://recipewise.co.uk/whitepot-bread-butter-pudding>). When preheating your oven, keep in mind that 180 degrees Celsius is just a little over 350 F.

My favourite version is one that I adapted from the Bon Ton Café's recipe. I rarely keep bourbon or whisky in the house, so when I prepared this dish to bring to our annual Grape Stomp 8 years ago, I improvised with what I already had on hand: DeKuyper's Buttershots Schnapps liqueur. I eliminated the raisins and cut back considerably on the sugar, given the sweetness of the schnapps. Gentle readers, I present to you – Bread and Buttershots Pudding!

#### Bread and Buttershots Pudding

- 8 cups of bread, in 1-inch cubes, left over from last night's SCA dayboard or feast
- 1 qt milk
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup sugar (I prefer to leave it out altogether to cut down the sweetness)
- 2 Tbsp vanilla
- 1/4 cup butterscotch schnapps
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 Tbsp butter, melted
- Preheat oven to 350°F.



Mix the milk and butterscotch schnapps in a large mixing bowl and then soak the bread, making sure all liquid is evenly absorbed. In a separate bowl, beat eggs, (sugar – if you really really insist on it), vanilla, and spices together. Gently stir into the bread mixture until all bread is coated.

Pour the melted butter into the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking pan, coating the bottom and the sides of the pan well with the butter. Pour the bread in and bake at 350°F for 35-45 minutes, or when the edges begin to pull away from the pan. Serve with Buttershots Sauce.

#### Buttershots Sauce

- 3 T butter
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup butterscotch schnapps

In saucepan, whisk egg, sugar and butter. Cook over low heat (do not let it simmer or it will curdle) Stir gently, adding schnapps slowly. When sauce is smooth, remove from heat and drizzle over the bread pudding. Serve immediately.

Baroness Molly Blythe



## *An Ice Weasel to Remember*



### *a Birthday Event to Anticipate!*

We would like to thank the people of our barony for yet another memorable Ice Weasel event! What originally started out as a one-off, tongue-in-cheek “smack and a nosh” as Ceawlin likes to describe it, has evolved into an irreverent (hence, fun) annual event that likes to frolic way over in left field, to use a somewhat anachronistic cultural reference (and this being Ice Weasel, this is par for the course).

Even for a relatively small event, there are lots of people to thank, from the people who arrive early to set up – such as Sabina Luttrell, Godric inn hviti úlfir, and Julia – and the people who work the gate (Sabina, again, along with Johannes von Heugel), to those who stay after till the end to make sure the site is cleaner than when we arrived (Mahk the Red Hand, Gwenllian ferch Llewellyn, Anna Dokeianina Syrakousina, Geoffrey, and Faelin MacLochlainn – there is obviously a reason why several of them have received the Lodestone for their service to Smoking Rocks!)

Thank you to Nejla Dogan, who served as Mistress of the Lists, aided by Anna and Gabriella, and Faelin who served as list marshal. Congratulations to Tiernan MacAlpine, the latest winner of the Ice Weasel tournament!

We were really pleased with the turnout at the arts and sciences classes, which have now become part of the Weasel tradition. Nineteen, count ‘em, nineteen people - including all fourteen fighters who entered the tourney - attended Richard Leviathan’s class on battlefield communication, proving that even mooks will attend classes with sufficient arm-twisting, er, incentive. Plus we have witnesses!

Thank you too, to Eliana Howys, Sile inghean MacCarthaigh, Mistress Nest verch Tangwistel, Sunnifa Heinrichsdottir, and Rufus Bowie who also taught classes, as well as Alys Attewater who ran family activities and youth projects all day.

Thank you to Amy verch Rychard, who helped us through our first “real” baronial court, Fracta Modi, who provided music throughout the day and during court, and to all those who braved the weather gods to spend the day with us!

Belina la Costouriere and Andris Lowenstein, as first time event stewards and kitcheners, did a fine job, especially considering the threat of a blizzard looming over the event, but the fabulous kitchen crew (consisting of Andris, parent feast runner Fergus Redmead, Eliana Howys, Julia, William Bonesetter and his wife, Evelyn) handled the situation with aplomb, letting us feed everyone and close out the event several hours ahead of schedule.

We’re looking forward to Smoking Rocks’ Birthday Event – our 38<sup>th</sup>, if you’re counting from our very first event as a group, long before we were even a barony – which will be held on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the Fall River Masonic Lodge. The event will be in the very capable hands of Richard Leviathan and Haakon Ragnorson, so you know there will be hearty food, more irreverent humour and unfortunate examples of interpretive dance, but hey, two out of three....

It’s our longstanding tradition to hold our Lord Protector Tournament and Arts & Sciences Championship at Birthday to determine who our next Baronial champions of heavy list fighting and A&S will be. If a marshal is present, we will also be determining our next fencing champion who will have his or her name etched onto the Provost Cup. We encourage as many people as possible to enter the competitions, whether as a fencer, a fighter or an artisan and to share their talents with the barony!

While we realise the event conflicts with the Coronation of their Highnesses, we hope that barony members who do not make the journey to Coronation come out to drink to the health of their incoming Majesties and join us in revelry!

Yours in service,  
Baron Ceawlin and Baroness Molly



It’s cold out and you have nothing to do how about a game of:

### *Nine Men’s Morris?*

Also known as Merrels in France and Mill in Germany is probably the best known of all medieval board games though it is part of a family that includes three, five and twelve Men’s Morris.



The two players start with all men off the board and alternately place them on the board attempting to make a row of three and preventing their opponent from doing so. If a player makes a row of three then they may remove one of their opponent’s men. Once all the men are on the board each player moves them, again to make a row of three to remove their opponent’s men.

# Barony of Smoking Rocks Birthday Bash

*We are almost 40 but we don't look a day over 10!*

April 5th in Fall River, Massachusetts

Come help us celebrate our 38<sup>th</sup> Smoking Rocks birthday in style. We will have tourneys to choose our new Champions of Heavy List, Fencing and Arts & Sciences. We will also be having the second running of the Tubby Cup, a fun triad-based tourney with multiple challenges, many based on Monty Python's Holy Grail. Lots of bad Python humor but then again it would not be a proper SCA event without some.



Everyone knows we like to eat here in "The Rock" and this event will be no exception. The day board and Feast will be presented by Lord Hakkon Ragnorson who will fill you up with delicious Mediterranean fare. Come and have a brilliant and smashing time!

## Event Info at a Glance

Saturday, April 5, 2014

King Phillips Lodge

152 Columbus Drive

Fall River, MA 02720

Site Opens: 10:00 AM

Site Closes: 8:00 PM

### Event Fees

Site : \$8.00 for day 5.00 surcharge for non SCA members. Children under 5 free

Feast \$10.00

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

No Refunds will be given after March 29th. Pre Registrations can be sent to:

### Event Steward:

Autocrat: Lord Richard Leviathan aka Frederic Carpenter 31 Timber Lane Marstons Mills MA 02648 [508-685-3239](tel:508-685-3239) [vargaliss@comcast.net](mailto:vargaliss@comcast.net)

Send Reservations to:

Frederic Carpenter 31 Timber Lane Marstons Mills MA 02648 [508-685-3239](tel:508-685-3239) [vargaliss@comcast.net](mailto:vargaliss@comcast.net)

### Other Contact Information:

Arts and Sciences Contact- Sunnifa Heinreksdottir [acerridge@yahoo.com](mailto:acerridge@yahoo.com)

## IMPORTANT !

There is always space available for any members or friends of the Barony of Smoking Rocks in

***Kenning Points!***

THIS IS YOUR NEWS LETTER

Please submit your stories, articles, pictures and more to: [ruthbechtold@gmail.com](mailto:ruthbechtold@gmail.com)





It's time for the Domesday Book update!

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Domesday, it's kind of a cross between a phone directory and a who's who of people who are either Smoking Rocks residents or friends from other groups who play with us. Although I've done a few edits here and there over the years, the last time it was completely re-hauled was in 2009. I've uploaded a Google drive link via our Barony list serve so that folks can edit their entries. If you're not a Smoking Rocks resident (or if you're a new resident who was not included in the last Domesday) and would like to be included, please pm me.

Baroness Molly,  
March 8, 2014

### Rapier practice update:

We had an-all rapier practice Friday night. I renewed my quals, and picked up the rest of the set (even the silly soft parry one). I got to play with Lyle, Rich, Wil de' Ath, and Kyle with swords both long and short, in pairs and by themselves and paired with what is apparently my "magic" buckler. Sorry I missed Lady Tammi on my dance card. All and all, a success. 2nd practice ran late (the James was packed and the food service was slow) but luckily Janis Joplin stopped in and chased us out

Baron Ceawlin  
March 8, 2014



## Meeting Minutes of the February/March 2014 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 were several well attended A & S classes held during Ice Weasel.

**Chancellor Minor:** Report submitted to Kingdom. Good attendance and much fun was had with scavenger hunt at Ice weasel.

**Leviathan Pursuivant:** A motion was made and approved for a baronial badge, Barony website should enable members to search for OP awards. The barons sent a list of champions and award recipients to the webmasters. It is official Amy is looking for a deputy please contact her directly.

**Knight Marshall:** "Freehold building day" program ongoing and well attended. 14 fighters took part in Ice weasel tournament, Tiernan MacAlpin won.

**MOL & Chatelain:** Ran ice weasel tourney, re-authorized fighters and fencers, looking into deputy MOL, welcomed and talked to 6 newcomers during ice weasel.

**Chronicler:** January newsletter submitted, she is always in need of fresh articles for the quarterly newsletter, due end of March please send to ruthbechtold@gmail.com

**Exchequer:** Latest \$ figures will be emailed to Seneschale. The new Tax ID can now be used.

### Old Business:

**12th night:** 52 attended event and feast, attendance was lower than usual, lots of sickness going around. **Ice weasel:** about 50 attended, combining of feast and court worked out great, kudos to all who helped. Event was over by 5 and the hall cleaned up by 6 pm due to bad weather.

**Archery and thrown weapons:** Practice is held 2 times a month, Arch forester tournament will need to be rescheduled. Archery championship has to be held between May 1st and Sept. 30th.

### New Business:

**Baronial Birthday:** Found and lost initial local, event will be held in Fall River. Varied tournaments will be held including Barony's A&S championship. Feast will be mediterranean, Haakon feastocrat with Alys as his parent, needs kitchen help. Event budget approved by all.

**Makers fair "demo" on Cape Cod:** April 26th is the date on the grounds of the Community College, for more info contact Alys, she is looking into space for a fight demo.

**June event former VR/Cohasset wars:** Due to conflicts with the local and other events nearby it was decided to cancel event for 2014. Master Paidraig and Lady Solskin amongst others are looking into a large demo to be held in September for 2014.

**Baron & Baroness time:** Gratitude extended to the barony members who donated gifts for Stonemarche's new barons. The Baroness is also working on updating Doomsday book. Baron Ceawlin expressed his great pleasure on how everyone has been working so well together.

**Seneschale Time:** Working with Mistress Michael on business cards for chatelaine and other members to use going forward. Informs the Barony that the SCA has done away with the office of the Chirurgeon.

### Upcoming meetings:

April @ Baroness Nests home in Rochester

May @ the home of the chronicler in West Barnstable

In Ihrem Dienst,

Lady Marguerite von Elfenau, Chronicler

# Announcements

## Sad Tidings

It is with heavy hearts that we mark the passing of Lord Philippe Provost (also known as Lorenzo Durango, and as Phil Packard in the mundane world) on March 9<sup>th</sup>, after a lengthy illness. A recipient of the Leviathan, the Barony's award for service, he was Smoking Rocks' first Fencing Champion, a fencing marshal in the Living History Association, a marshal in training in the SCA, and a former deputy MOL for the Barony. He was the co-founder of Fortress Three Monkey Skulls, a member of the Sith and the Carolingian Fencing Squad, and man-at-arms to Lord Tristan LeSauvage.

He is survived by his wife, Lady Gisele Provost (Tricia Bentley), his children Joshua and Jonathan, and his stepchildren, Brittany, Ashleigh, Shyann, and Sterling.

Baron Ceawlin and Baroness Molly have created a fundraising account, the Phil Packard Memorial Fund, and are in the process of setting up a fencing tournament fundraiser and silent auction in the next few weeks to help his family with the funeral costs and outstanding medical bills.

They are actively seeking donations, whether monetary or in the form of items for the silent auction.

More information on the fundraiser event will be posted as the plans firm up. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Baron Ceawlin and Baroness Molly at [508-995-5389](tel:508-995-5389). Thank you.

## Oye, Oye, Oye

Well, Smoking Rocks, it is soon to be that time of year when we select our Barony's new A&S Champion. Stop groaning. This year, we will try something new. I know you all just love doing documentation...

This year, NO (not a typo) documentation is required! If you have used photos from either books or the internet, please either bring the books or make a copy of the image to bring with you. The only writing you will need to do for your entry is a list of your references. You will live through this. If not, we will do CPR. Judging will be face-to-face. You'll be asked questions about your entry and your research into the item(s). You will need to be present to speak with the judges.

I have uploaded the Guidelines for the competition into the "files" section that you can gain access to at the top of page. Aha! Now no one has an excuse not to enter! I cannot wait to see all the wonderful things you've been working on. As you are no doubt sick of hearing me say, every one of you is an artisan- whether you be a fighter, cook, tailor, spinner- whatever; you are all amazing. So enter! Share what inspires YOU with others!

Sunifa

## Thank you !

I want to give big thanks to all those who help at Ice Weasel.

I couldn't of done this event without you. Special thanks to those who help me through my first event: Baroness Molly, Baron Ceawlin, Lady Eleina, Lord Ernest, Lady Sabrina, Lord Fergus, Lady Solskinn and Lord Richard.

I hope I am not missing anyone. There are many, but these people were my teachers for this event. I couldn't of done it at all without all there guidance.

Belina

## Congratulations to:

Congratulations Justinus the Quick & Ulf the Dragonslayer, the newest members of the Order of the Tyger's Cub!

Congratulations Fergus Redmead, on being named Brewer to Their Majesties and receiving the King's Cypher!

Also vivant to Faelin MacLochlainn and Anna Dokeianina Syrakousina, newest inductees into the Order of the Lodestone for all their assistance to the Barony of Smoking Rocks!

## REGNUM

**Baroness**

Nest Verch Tangwistel (Tanya Sanders)  
508-763-4666 / eastarch@yahoo.com

**Chancellor of the Exchequer:**

Solskinn (Liz Gerald)  
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**Chatelain:**

Open position

**Chronicler:**

Marguerite von Elfenau (Ruth Bechtold)  
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**Knight Marshall:**

Richard Leviathan (Fred Carpenter)  
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**Leviathan Pursuivant (Herald):**

Amy ferch Rychard (Amy Jump)  
amy.jump@hotmail.com

**Minister of Arts & Sciences:**

Sunnifa Heinreksdottir (Heidi Dougherty)  
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**Mistress of the Lists:**

Neshla (Amelia Dogan)

**Seneschal:**

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