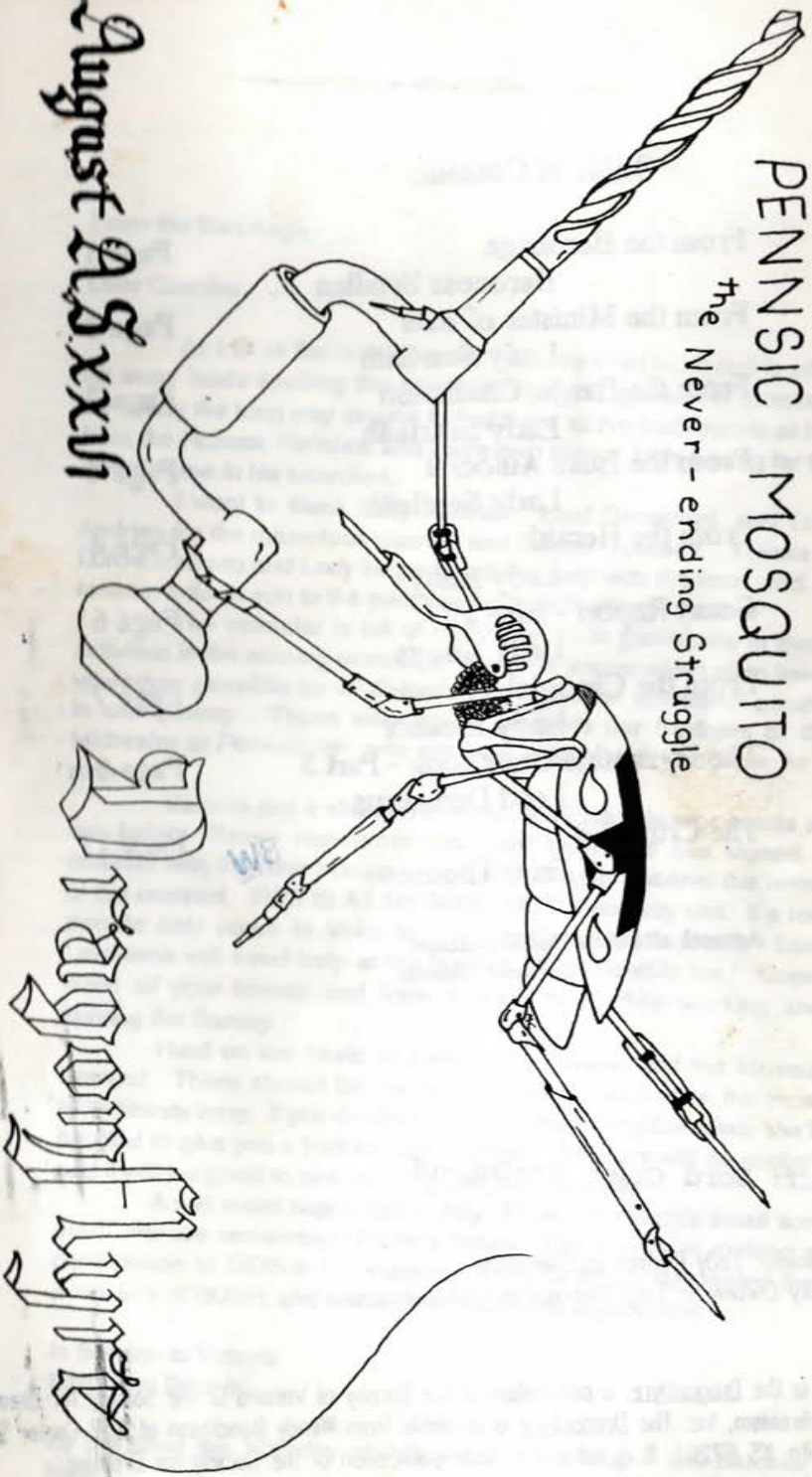


PENNSIC MOSQUITO
The Never - ending Struggle



August 28xxvi

Borony of Volvong
c/o Wengy Donaldson
807 Carter Street
Wichita, KS 67203

Mary and Dean Day
Ends 92/06
1033 McCormick
Wichita, KS 67213



The *Discordance* is a monthly newsletter for the subscribers within the Borony of Volvong, and offers by subscriptions for \$11.00 per year. Submissions: Art, articles, poetry, letters, etc are gladly accepted but subject to the approval by the board. Postage to central any reprints or items which seem a tad loose. Submissions should be on white paper, back ink for art. Letters and articles are gladly accepted and need not be typed.

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This is the Dragonflyre, a publication of the Barony of Votavia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Dragonflyre is available from Wendy Donaldson at 807 Carter St., Wichita, KS 67203. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. and does not delineate S.C.A. policies.

From the Baronage

Dear Cousins,

As I sit in the cool Baronial Hall, my Lord Husband is off in far away lands seeking fire-breathing flying dragons. He seems to be taking the long way around to find them as I've had reports of him from the Roman, Parisian, and Germanic tribes. He's having far too good a time in his searches.

I want to thank Lady Searlaith, Lord Demetrius, and Lord Andries for the marvelous classes and Scouts' Tourney. Thanks to Lord Leonardo and Lady Marie for all the help with the food, and, of course, a thank you to the people who took the time to come.

The calendar is full of opportunities to participate in many activities in the coming months, and we are encouraging all to travel whenever possible so all Calontir may know the wonderful people in our Barony. Those who go to war with our Brothers of the Midrealm at Pennsic, go with our best wishes and concerns for a safe trip.

Valor is just a short time away, and Lady Eleanor needs all our help. Please remember that Lord Lawrence has signed a contract with the new management promising to observe the terms of the contract. THIS IS A DRY SITE. NOT discreetly wet. If a few people only come to Valor to drink, we won't miss them. Lord Lawrence will need help at the famous "Blooded Axe Inn." Come meet all your friends and have a good time while working and serving the Barony.

Hard on the heels of Valor is coronation and the Harvest Festival. There should be enough fighting to keep even the most bloodthirsty busy. If you desire to help, contact Lady Ceithlinn, she'll be glad to give you a task for Lord Hobbs. The days will be cooler, and it will be good to see our kingdom friends again.

A sad event happened in July. Robert the Scott's small son died. Please remember Shelby's family. The Barony is making a contribution to SIDS in his memory. Lady Searlaith suggested the proceeds of BUSH, and we feel this would be appropriate.

In Service to Votavia,
Baroness Briallen

By my hand the 17th day of July, AS XXVI, sitting in the Baronial Hall.

LETTER FROM THE MoA

Interest Groups. It looks like feast or famine for our current interest groups. Dance and Bardic are getting a wonderful turnout; Costuming had a good t-tunic workshop last time. Instrumental is a bit slim (especially since it is up against Dance two times a month and populace once a month), but still trying to get together once a week; no word at this time on Needleworkers, though I heard they were going to try to get started again; and I believe Calligraphy is very much on hold. Apologies to those who came to Choral's first meeting. Sick children are unplanned. Hopefully, we will have chosen a new place to meet and a new starting date by the time this is published. Call the SERP line (if it's working) or me for info.

Run down on known days/times/places:

Dance: 2 times a month--the Wednesdays before and after the populace meeting Wednesday; 7 p.m.; NORTH Linwood Park.
Bardic: 2 times a month--the Thursdays after Dance (again, either side of populace meeting); 7 p.m.; Kasamira's Tower.
Instrumental: Every Wednesday; 7 p.m. at Janos' (or 6:30 p.m. before populace meetings--at populace meeting site).

Congratulations to the new Vatavia Bardic Champion, whatever-name. I think she said she'd have a letter in this issue, as well. Congratulations also to Anne of Lockwood for winning the Novice Bardic Competition held at B.U.S.H. on July 13. There was some wonderful talent and a hard decision for the judges.

Upcoming Opportunities: AUGUST: A&S classes and Choir at Pennsic. 24th - Mad Dogs & Englishmen VI Arts competition for fighting accessories. LABOR DAY WEEKEND: Valor A&S. Arts competitions in Middle Eastern Dance, Calligraphy & Illumination, Costuming, and Poetry, with a special category of best use of Blue and Gold in an existing entry. SEPTEMBER: 19th-23rd - Harvest Faire (Calontir/Outlands Interkingdom) will have A&S activities. 28th - Bois D'Arc Decennial A&S competitions in Embroidery, Heraldic Art, Late Elizabethan Costuming, Vocal Music (Elizabethan), Pomanders & Sachets, Brewing and Vintning, and Cartography. OCTOBER: 5th - Fall RUSH in Spinning Winds is sure to have Arts classes. 19th - Kingdom A&S Championship. NOVEMBER: Baronial A&S Championship.

See your Mews for more information on events throughout the Kingdom.

In Service to Vatavia,

Sarabeth

FROM THE BARDIC CHAMPION

Greetings! First I'd like to thank those that judged the championship. I wouldn't have wanted to judge it! I had some very tough and worthy competition (again). Thanks to my competitors for keeping me on my toes.

I would like to announce the categories for the next bardic championship, to be held 6 months or so from now. There will be 3 rounds -- one song, one story, one poem/verse. Of these, one should be period, one original (at least partly) and one SCA. (On the original: if you want to do a song, for instance, you could do original music to existing words or original words to existing music, or wholly original). Criteria have not been decided at present. There is a movement to "merge" the Bardic College criteria with the current Kingdom Criteria, so I'll wait and see how much progress has been made as time gets nearer.

I have taken over leadership of the Bardic interest group. For day/time/place, see the MoA's letter. What do we do? A theme is announced for each meeting. EVERYONE brings SOMETHING to do (sing, tell a story, recite a poem, read something) that can tie in with that theme. We are also going through the current Bardic College criteria, talking about them a bit at a time, then discussing our "theme" pieces based on the criterion talked about at the last meeting. (This is easier to say than it is to write!) Lastly, we cover one new SCA song at each meeting. If there's time, we usually end in a sing-a-long. So far, everyone is having a good time, and learning something, besides.

I would like to also congratulate Anne of Lockwood for winning the Novice Bardic Competition at B.U.S.H. Everyone did very well. I can see some tough competition coming up soon! As far as I am concerned, each competitor was a winner because they got up and did something. It takes guts to get up in front of the Bardic Champion, a former bardic champion, and an ollav with the bardic college, as well as several other people, and perform. You all deserve a prize. Drew says he was very pleased, and plans to sponsor more of these in the future.

Those who missed B.U.S.H. missed two excellent classes on Bardic. Thanks to Lord Sean Angus MacDuinnchinn and Duke Sir Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel for teaching them. Please do more.

In Service to Vatavia,

Sarabeth

FROM THE AUTOCRAT OF B.U.S.H.

I wish to thank the following people for all of their help in pulling off B.U.S.H.

Demetrius (co-autocrat, setting up classes, making signs, helping with registration, teaching)
Drew (co-autocrat finding afternoon site, handling scouts tourney, feast, bardic competition)
Leonardo (cooking feast, teaching)
Baroness Brialen (helping with complications at day site)

Teachers:
Lord Galen MacDonald
His Lordship Lawrence Taillefer the Leech
Lady Phillipa Lloyd de Tarifa
Baroness Brialen Ulfsdottr Vikings
Dietrich
Duke Sir Gabriel ap Morgan ap Hywel
Lady Marie Chantal Delaire (also help with feast)
Lord Sean Angus MacDuinnchinn
Lady Kasamira Verena d'Arcy

Considering all of the problems and lack of communication, we had 2-7 people in each of the classes, 57 teams of 2 for the fun scouts tourney, plenty of food for the feast, and a fun time singing after the bardic competition.

I hope I haven't forgotten anyone. Thanks again to all.

SARLANTH

Unto Their Excellencies Baron Gawayne ap Tristam and Baroness Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikingr, the Lords, Ladies and Good Gentles of Vatavia, doth Lady Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrap Pursuivant for Vatavia, send Greetings.

The May Letter of Acceptances and Returns from Laurel King of Arms has the following action on armorial submissions from Vatavia:

Demetrius il Condottierro

Device: Argent, a triangle voided, issuant to dexter from its apex, a pennon sable; registered.

Magnus O'Carr

Name and Device: Argent, on a pale azure between two dragons combattant sable, a sword Or peircing a skull argent; registered.

Robert de Spenser of Wessex

Name and Device: Purpure, three delfs voided interlaced in bend sinister argent; registered.

Simon de Vernun of Wellingborough

Device: Per bend sinister sable and argent, two scarps enhanced and a falcon contourny counterchanged; registered. Our congratulations to these Good Gentles! Your submissions have passed Laurel!

The following submissions were returned on this letter:

Lora Anne the Silent

Badge: Per chevron inverted vert and Or; returned for conflict.

Llewelyn the Archer

Device: Per chevron azure and vert, a chevron fracted between two mullets of eight points and a tower Or; returned for non-blazonable fracting of the chevron.

We invite these gentles to consult with Caltrap and staff to redesign and resubmit as soon as possible.

The Letter of Intent, 30 June 1991, from Lord Saker to Laurel King of Arms has the following submissions from Vatavia:

Donatus Luxford

Device: Or, two spears in saltire sable surmounted by a dragon salient to sinister gules.

Gwendolyn Morna O'Shaughnessey

Name and Device: Per bend gules and sable, a horse rampant and a sword bendwise inverted argent.

Ian Michael O'Shaughnessey

Name and Device: Per pale sable and gules, two dolphins respectant Or.

Moriagh Tiege O'Flaithbheartaigh

Device: Or, on a fountain a crocodile involved gules.

Moriagh Tiege O'Flaithbheartaigh

Badge: Fieldless, a crocodile involved gules.

Our congratulations to these Good Gentles! Your submissions have passed Kingdom!

I remain, in service to Vatavia, Calontir and the Dream, Annys de Vernun of Kettering.



Unto Their Excellencies Baron Gawayne ap Tristam and Baroness Brialen Ulfsdottir Vikingr, the Lords, Ladies and Good Gentles of Vatavia, doth Lady Annys de Vernun of Kettering, Caltrap Pursuivant for Vatavia, send Greetings this twenty eighth day of June, and this report of the Royal and Vatavian Baronial Courts held the evening of the twenty second of June, AS XXVI, on the front lawn of Kansas Newman College.

A Royal Court of Roderick of Mandrake Hill, King of Calontir by right of combat, was opened at about the hour of seven by Lady Annys de Vernun, Caltrap Pursuivant. His Majesty addressed the populace, then a scroll naming Lord Demetrius il Condottierro a Member of the Order of the Torse for his service to Barony and Crown in Cookery was read and accepted on his behalf by His Excellency Baron Gawayne. His Majesty graciously acceded to a request from the Baronage to allow a Vatavian Baronial Court to be held, which was then opened.

Lord Galen McDonald was summoned and spoke to the populace thanking those Gentles who participated in the Costuming Workshop for their contribution of time, effort and materials in the making of tunics for loaner garb. He announced his resignation as Chatelain, and called for letters of application from anyone who wished to replace him.

The Autocrats of the day's event were summoned, and thanked the populace for their participation. The victors in the individual Missile competitions were called and presented with scrolls. They were:

Dietrich Isenhardt for the Knife Throw
Grim Wolfheresson for the Spear Throw
Dietrich Isenhardt for Quarter The Stump
Balroc Ivarsson for Ranged Ax
Dietrich Isenhardt for Speed Shooting
Tristan Rory de Jorz for Willow Wand.

The members of the Best Overall Team, Big Bear of Hammerstorm, Balroc Ivarsson, Locnar, Thorgrim Hrothgarsson, Ragnar and Grim Wolfheresson each received a scroll and a silver coin. Dietrich Isenhardt was presented with a scroll as Best Overall Individual, and received twelve arrows as he was named the new Luchistnik.

Lady Searlaeth nic Uilliam O'Ceallaigh was presented a silver cup and the Staff of Olaf as she was named the Victor of the Bardic Competition and the Barony's new Bardic Champion.

The Baronial Court was closed about twenty minutes past the hour of seven, and there being no further business before His Majesty's Court, it was closed immediately thereafter.

Humbly I remain, in service to Vatavia, Calontir and the Dream,

Annys de Vernun, Caltrap



From the Chronicler and the Valor Autocrat

Unto the Populace of Vatavia, Greetings!

Dragonflyre - As always, I need artwork, anecdotes, puzzles, etc. In a group with the size and knowledge of Vatavia, it should be no problem coming up with these things each month. It does not have to be great literature! If you have some thing that can be taught in writing, go ahead and submit it. It may not be the "period way" to teach, but these are the "Current Middle Ages"! 2) Without the support of two Good Gentles, the summer's issues of the Dragonflyre would have been just like TV, another bunch of reruns. After consulting with the officers, it has been decided that Ld. Demetrius and Ld. Friar Thomas will receive their next six issues FREE!! I, as chronicler, I'm willing to extend this to anyone who contributes a significant (This doesn't mean tons, just significant) amount to the newsletter. Thanks so much to both these Good Gentles!

Remember, subscriptions are only \$11.00 a year for twelve issues.

A Byzantine Cookbook

Demetrius

METE PYE

5

This recipe was developed based upon a desire for a medieval meat pie without a sweet fruit component. For those desiring the rather extensive documentation, please contact Demetrius.

Ingredients for filling

1/2 cup	strong beef broth (if you use bouillon cubes, then omit the salt)	1 1/2 lb.	meat (I use 1/2 lb. each of beef (round or chuck), pork, and chicken (or turkey) - use lean meat or increase amount and drain well.
1	onion, chopped and cooked in oil or margarine	1 tbs	verjuice (from unripe grapes)
1/2 tsp	mace	1 tbs	parsley
1/2 tsp	cubebs	2	large eggs
1/8 tsp	cloves	1/4 tsp	pepper
1/2 tsp	salt		
pinch	(1/8 tsp) saffron		
1	lime or lemon (juice only)		

Ingredients for crust

(The recipe for the crust is from Mistress Gwyneth Espicier, which she adapted from Robert May's The Accomplished Cook (1660).)

2 cups	flour	3/4 cup	cold butter
1 tsp	salt	1	egg yolk

Ingredients for gilding

1	egg yolk	dash of saffron	splash of water
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(alternative coloring procedures discussed below)

Valor - 1) As you may know, I'm also the Valor autocrat (the increase in gray hair should have clued you in on this). I would like to take some space to humbly ask (okay, beg) for the help of the individuals in the Barony. This is OUR event. It is up to all of us to make it work. Because of the close proximity of our next event (three weeks after Valor), it's extremely important we all help out so that we don't wind up working a few individuals to death. The following is a list of our invaluable coordinators. PLEASE SEE THEM AND VOLUNTEER:

- 1) Sean and Eckeric - Troll
- 2) Doc - Tavern
- 3) Leonardo - Tavern Head Cook
- 4) Kerare - Children's Activities
- 5) Deitrich - Archery/Site Tokens
- 6) Searlaith & Thorgrim - A&S
- 7) Demetrius - Cooking comp.
- 8) Galen - Royal's Feast
- 9) Kasimira - Hall mistress, Royal's
- 10) Rinaldo - Fighting
- 11) Katrionna(sp.?) - Quest
- 12) Drew - Games
- 13) Sean - Bardic

Finally, Camp Hiawatha has changed management. As a result, the site is now positively, without a doubt, no questions asked, you can bet your life on it DRY. IT IS VERY DRY. IT IS QUITE DRY. IT IS EXTREMELY DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY. DRY.

In service,

Eleanor



Please check the SERF line for calendar information.
522-7272 or 522-SERF



Mete Pye recipe (continued)

To make the filling, brown all the meat and pour off most of the fat. Saute onion until it is limp. Combine all ingredients except egg and simmer over low heat to allow flavors to blend. Add eggs and heat for a few minutes more. Flavors are better blended and develop a bit more if you refrigerate filling overnight before putting to the pie. Variations in taste are possible by altering the fruit selected (substituting lemon or orange for the lime). Additionally, a more subtle variation is possible by using grains of paradise instead of pepper, increasing the amount slightly (I prefer this latter variation).

To make the crust, "blend the flour, salt, and butter together until the lumps are no bigger than pea-sized and preferably a bit smaller. Put the egg yolk in measuring cup and add enough cold water to make about 1/2 cup. Add to the flour/butter mixture and mix until you can make a nice ball of it. It will seem pretty dry at first, but will eventually come together. Try to work it as little as possible -- the less you handle it the more tender it will be. To make it easier to roll out, chill it. Makes a generous amount for two crusts."

In a glass pie plate, place the uncooked bottom crust. Prick crust and 'weigh down' with dry beans. Cook at 375° for approximately 15-20 minutes. Gently pat the filling into place. Add the top crust and seal, cutting holes for the steam to escape. Cook at 375° for approximately 15-20 minutes. Remove from the oven and brush on the egg, saffron, & water mixture. Return to the oven and continue cooking for 30 - 40 minutes more. Allow it to sit briefly before cutting and serving. Variations in crust coloring can be accomplished by using sandalwood (reddish), blueberry juice (gives a "berry" flavor if you try for a dark blue), or crushed parsley in water (I can't get a smooth color, but it is green/green speckled and does add a slight parsley taste). Food coloring, while not period, provides a more even color and no additional taste.

The visual effect is more dramatic if the holes cut in the top pie crust form a picture and that picture is embellished by the selective use of colors (e.g., the Calon cross in purple, with a border of gold).



The Crusades

The following article is Part Two of a Two Part series
by Friar Thomas Bacon

The natural tactical unit was a squadron composed of roughly 100-150 knights. On most occasions, these squadrons were brigaded into three divisions and a reserve. How these divisions were positioned on the field of battle is subject to much speculation; the terms used in the chronicles are vague and ill-defined. Common formations appear to be column, abreast, echelon, and, in one instance, square. Flanks were usually anchored on some natural obstacle. The reserve was detailed to counter any attempted or actual breakthroughs by the Moslems as they tried to attack from the rear.

There is some controversy about how much of basic crusader tactics Bohemund of Taranto, the commander of the First Crusade, created, and how much was actually adapted from the Byzantines. The Emperor Alexius Comneus had adapted tactics similar to that of the crusaders in the years just prior to the First Crusade.

In general, the leaders of the first Crusades understood the need for military discipline, but were often unable to effectively enforce it. Joinville reports that when Louis IX learned of the death of a knight who had gone out to face the Saracens alone, he said "...that he would not care to have a thousand men like Gautier, for they would want to go against his orders as this knight had done."¹

A good example of what could be achieved with the discipline of leadership is when Richard the Lionhearted marched south after taking Acre. His army marched in three columns down the coast. On the seaward side was infantry carrying baggage, the middle column was composed of the knights, and the third was more infantry protecting against harassing Moslem attacks. Periodically the two infantry columns would trade off. In the middle column, a cart sporting a large banner on a pole served as the mobile headquarters. Despite constant provocation, they kept ranks. Only when the Arabs became reckless did Richard allow the knights to charge out using their favorite tactic (as in the Battle of Arsuf). The results of lack of discipline can be seen in two particular battles, al-Babien and Marj'Ayyun.

At al-Babien, the king of Jerusalem was attempting to gain control of Egypt. In pursuit of Moslem forces, the zealous knights pushed ahead of their foot-soldiers. When the Moslems turned to fight, they selected ground which would minimize the effectiveness of the crusader charge. By selectively withdrawing part of his forces, the Arab commander, Shirkuh, was able to dissipate the charge and cause the knights to be broken into smaller groups. While the battle was a tactical stalemate, the knights lost one-third

of their number as well as the opportunity to defeat the Arab army and gain control of Egypt.

Marj 'Ayyun further demonstrated the need for discipline when, after an initial crusader charge readily defeated the Arab raiding parties, the crusaders broke formation to loot the Moslem camps, only to be defeated by the main army of the Moslem forces.

The two key lessons of military operations in the Holy Land were the need for knights and foot-soldiers to coordinate and support one another and the need for the army to maintain formation no matter what manner of provocation occurred. Why these lessons did not transfer to the European battlefield is an intriguing question. The most probable answer is that this mode of operation was reluctantly used for sheer self-preservation by the Crusaders in response to Moslem tactics. When the Crusaders returned to Europe, no longer facing Moslem tactics, they reverted to their former habits.

Endnotes

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Baronial Officers List

Baron - Gawayne ap Tristam	
Wayne Taylor	524-0917
Baroness - Briallen ferch Vikingr	
Debbie Taylor	524-0917
Seneschal - Lawrence Taillefer the Leech	
Larry Bumgardner	942-1045
Pursuivant - Annys de Vernun of Ketteing	
Marie Watson	755-1917
Treasurer - Lelia ni Lochtna O'Cathail	
Lana Smith	838-2858
Minister of Arts - Saerlaith nic Uilliam O' Ceallaigh	
Devery Corteville	687-3241
Minister of Sciences - Thorgrim of Hammerstorm	
Richard Cathey	687-6471
Knights Marshall - Rinaldo il Bianco	
Del Lindsley	684-0782
Archer Marshall - Stephan Egan O'Bannon	
Steven Burris	733-1936
Chronicler - Eleanor ap Rhiwallon	
Wendy Donaldson	264-4530
Luchistnik - Dietrich Isenhardt	
Jim Morrison	682-7320
Champion - Thorgrim of Hammerstorm	
Richard Cathey	687-6471
Historian - Friar Thomas Bacon	
David Moreno	685-1182
Minister of Children - Hywela Frech Ferch Wyddel	
Lisa Cooper	685-3152
Bardic Champion - Saerlaith nic Uilliam O' Ceallaigh	
Devery Corteville	687-3241
Arts & Sciences Champion - Demetrius il Condottierro	
Henry Marks	777-0770
Chatelaine - Galen MacDonald	
Mark Donaldson	264-4530