

From The Tower



Barony of Southron Gaard

May A.S. LV
(2020 C.E.)

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Chronic Ramblings

Times of plague and quarantine aren't to be desired, but with the populace under house arrest, 3 deeply wonderful gentles have produced articles for this issue of *From The Tower*, for which your editor is hugely grateful! And katherine kerr has been at sea sending missives to Rotte, and the next instalment has been included here as well.

So curl up with your beverage of choice and learn about the stool that Lowrens made (and is going to teach us to make!), plague masks from Brian and cuniculture from Her Excellency. Read katherine's letter and have some joy with the insult generator. Consider applying for one of our many vacant / upcoming offices.

Yours in Service,

Agnes Graye



Image Credits for this issue:

Cover: Josse Lieferinx's 'Saint Sebastian Interceding for the Plague Stricken' (c. 1498). [Wikimedia Commons](#)

Assorted clipart and marginalia from around the web



Kingdom of Lochac
King Theuderic and
Queen Engelin



Please send award recommendations to crown@lochac.sca.org with a courtesy copy to B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org.

Please check Lochac Cannon Lore for an individual's existing awards and information about awards, additional information can be found on the Kingdom website: www.lochac.sca.org



Baron and Baroness Southron Gaard



Greetings to the Populace of Southron Gaard,

It may seem like a hard task to write a column in such times where events, practices and gatherings have been so constrained as they have been for the last month, however there has been so much going on beyond and between our bubbles that it leaves us with the quandary of what do we leave out!

There have been social gatherings in the rooms of Zoom, Discord and Skype, and contacts maintained in the Book of Faces and through missives sent near and far. There have been so many instructional classes and discussions on crafts, combat, archery and so many other activities that we share with those around the globe, that is has been hard to decide which rabbit hole to dive into each day! We can't wait to see what you will be able to show us upon our return to normal levels of interaction.

There have been matters of a more serious note as well. Our Kingdom grapples with how to deal with Crown succession and how we are to proceed should transport remain impossible or prohibitive.

Locally, in Southron Gaard, many are in shock at the news of the serious downturn in health of one of our Populace. We acknowledge the implication that such news has, at a time when we cannot be near people we care about. Others are dealing with the depression of isolation and loneliness. When we cannot offer support and encouragement in physical and close sense, please remember that checking in, and a kind word go a long way to relieving these feelings.

On Monday, we find ourselves stepping a little closer to our friends and families with our bubbles starting to become a more elastic. Please remember that this small step is not to be taken as a stride. Please keep your bubbles safe.

We have all done so well. We have all been strong. We have all been determined. We have all been prepared to give up so much for the common good. For those that have worked through the last month as essential workers, we applaud you. For those that return to work over the coming weeks, do not fear, but maintain and insist upon systems to keep you safe.

Keep up this good work, keep your hands washed and your bubble secure.

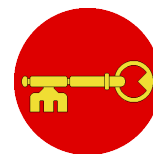
Yours In Service

Grim and Alexandra

Baron and Baroness of Southron Gaard



Southron Gaard Seneschal



Greetings to you all!

Well, we're coming to the end of Level 4 Lockdown, and while level 3 is basically much of the same, it does allow some people to get back to work who were otherwise unable to. I'm sitting at home, trying to remember dates, plans, meetings, and juggling work on non-standard hours and feeling discombobulated, and I've had it fairly easy compared to many of you. You have my admiration and thanks for maintaining your bubbles and not putting others at risk. I have very much enjoyed seeing the various posts, discussions, videos, and virtual Caribbean sea voyages of late...which brings me to the following...

It was recently confirmed to me, after review and discussion, that the Barony (and other groups in NZ) is allowed to hold virtual events properly (which I have included below in a summary of that provided by the Kingdom Seneschal)

For New Zealand Groups:

There is no requirement for a record of attendance. Groups are able to use any online platforms.

Online Event

A scheduled digital activity that is sponsored by an SCA branch. This allows for court to be conducted, awards and announcements to be made, and registration of some form is required. As defined in Corpora, requirements for participants are still to be upheld:

Events

B. Requirements for Participants at Society Events. Anyone may attend Society events provided they wear an attempt at pre-17th century clothing, conform to the provisions in Corpora, and comply with any other requirements (including but not limited to site fees or waivers) which may be imposed. At business meetings and informal classes, the requirement to wear pre-17th century dress may be waived. All participants are expected to behave in an appropriate and respectful manner.

Event bids and approvals are as per usual – a documented outline to be approved by the committee. If there is a financial aspect to the event, a discussion must occur with the Kingdom Seneschal.

Online Activity

A regularly occurring digital activities sponsored by a group, such as Arts and Sciences. The approval for this can be given once if there is little difference between iterations. These meetings can be advertised on SCA official platforms (such as Facebook and group websites) and may occur on other platforms listed below, however if there is a variance to the platform, the Group Seneschal and Reeve must approve this via email.

Approval process: approval through a branch council meeting and must outline the following:

- Time
- Day of Week
- How often
- Type of activity: Demonstration / interactive discussion using video.

Online Meeting

A regular or irregular meeting that may be designated as a group of people that have a common purpose such as branch councils, guilds and other SCA sponsored identities. These meetings can be advertised on SCA official platforms (such as Facebook and group websites).

For regular council meetings, minutes and a list of attendees/apologies are still required. There is currently blanket approval for these meetings, and they must be held as per advertised.

Hopefully I'll have some proper news and an actual column for you next month. My thoughts go out to those of you doing it tough. Take care, stay safe, and stay strong

YIS



A Simple Stool for Events

Lowrens Wilyamson

It's what everyone has been waiting for: another flatpack collapsible stool design for events.

I had been looking for a simple construction class that would fit in a one-day event, and deliver a Useful Thing at the end of it. Making a stool sounded like such a thing.

This design is one that I came to after browsing the various planks and beams of wood that Raffé has accumulated in his grounds, adjacent to the Baronial storage container. There were some planks in there that looked like prime material for a simple stool.

This stool design is not based on any specific period piece, but does use only jointing techniques that were available in period. The individual sections of wood are cut from a single plank, but could equally well have been split from a medium diameter log. The long-wise spacer is fastened to the leg uprights by wedges through tenons. The leg uprights grip the seat plank through angled mortices that are reminiscent of dovetail-like joints used to fasten trestle legs to table tops, or the brace joints in rafters, as in this example.



I mapped the design out full size on a sheet of newspaper, transferred the measurements to the plank and cut the pieces with a handsaw.



Each of the leg uprights has a mortice cut in it. I could have sawed the hole out, but cutting it out with a chisel was not a problem either. With the mortices cut, there is the trial fit:



Similarly, cutting the angled mortices and tenons for the joint with the seat is done by eye with auger and chisel. Cut and fit some wedges and add some general decoration, and you have a stool.



The wedges are rather more chunky than necessary, but this makes them easier to knock in and out to assemble or collapse the stool, and the larger wedges are harder to lose in the grass.

As you can see there is scope for pimping the basic format with heraldic or other decoration, and painting it is always an option and totally period.

All of this required about 2.5m of 200x25 timber. At the next convenient event, I plan to present a construction class for 3-4 people to spend 2-3 hours to cut out and assemble more of these stools and take away with them. I'll see you there.



Plague Masks

Brian di Caffa

Did plague doctors wear plague masks within the SCA period pre 1600? I will start in the 18th century with confirmed examples and work backwards to less certain references. There are many pictures of plague doctors on the internet with murky origins. Often the references provided refer to other unreferenced pictures, or to items/pictures that are themselves reproductions.

I decided to find the museum and library original references to these plague mask pictures and descriptions. Starting with the late 17th/early 18th century, a beaked figure wearing glasses and wide-brimmed hat is depicted supporting Theodore Zwinger III's coat of arms.



Theodore Zwinger III (1658-1724): coat of arms with portrait. Oil painting. —Wellcome Collection
<https://www.artuk.org/discover/artworks/theodore-zwinger-iii-16581724-126787>

Around the same time as the above oil painting, a treatise of pestilence by Jean-Jacques Manget in 1721, depicts a plague doctor with a beak and a hat on the front page. This specifies crystal eye pieces and that the long nose is filled with perfumes. The text of this treatise contains numerous recipes for perfumes to disinfect the miasma or bad air under different circumstances. If you come across coloured versions of this 1721 picture, they are likely to be 19th century watercolour depictions. The caption under the image says: "Clothing of doctors and other people who visit plague victims. It is of levant morocco (leather), the mask has crystal eyes and a long nose filled with perfumes."



Traité de la peste: recueilli des meilleurs auteurs anciens et modernes, et enrichi de remarques et observations théoriques et pratiques : avec une table très ample des matières. Author Jean-Jacques Manget. Publisher chez Philippe Planche, 1721

An Italian engraving by Sebastiano Zecchini 1656 is apparently the earliest picture of a plague doctor. There are a couple of German parody copies of this engraving published within a year or two which criticize the plague doctors from Rome for being unable to help the sick, and essentially hanging around the sick and living off them like ravens around carrion. One of these parody engravings calls him “Dr. Beak”, gives the doctor clawed fingers, and shows children in the background running away.

The caption at the bottom of the original Italian engraving says: ‘The outfit in which the doctors in Rome go to medicate in defence of the infectious disease is of waxed canvas, the face with eyeglasses, & the nose full of perfumes against the infection. They hold a staff because of their reduced vision and to demonstrate their operations.’ In Rome, & in Perugia. By Sebastiano Zecchini, 1656. (Translated by [BSHistorian](#))



The earliest extant plague doctor depiction. Sebastiano Zecchini, 1656.

https://research.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details/collection_image_gallery.aspx?partid=1&assetid=251271001&objectid=1539871

The earliest description comes from the physician Charles de Lorme, who is attributed to inventing the protective outfit. The 1752 book [Remarques critiques sur le dictionnaire de Bayle](#) cites “Le Catalogue des Livres de l’Abbe de Saint-Martin” (which I have not been able to find a copy of). This says that the plague doctor outfit was developed for the first time in Paris in 1619 by Charles de Lorme, who also wore it at the siege of Rochelle in 1627-28. This initial description of his protective outfit was fairly vague however:

En 1619. la Ville de Paris, étant affligée de la peste, il se servit d'une invention singulière pour donner impunément du secours à cette Ville. Je me servirai des propres paroles de l'Abbé de Saint-Martin.
 » Il se fit faire, dit-il, un habit de marroquin, que le mauvais air pénètre très difficilement. Il mit en sa bouche de l'ail
 » & de la rue; il se mit de l'encens dans le nez & les oreilles, couvrit ses yeux de besicles, & en cet équipage assista les malades; & il en guérit presque autant qu'il donna de remèdes. L'invention, dont il se servit, huit ans après, au Siège de la Rochelle, ne fut pas moins merveilleuse. Une infinité de Soldats de l'Armée du Roi moururent du flux de sang, & le désordre auroit été entier sans le secours de M. de Lorme. Il en

'He had himself made, he says, a leather suit, which bad air penetrates with great difficulty: he put garlic and rue [a type of plant] in his mouth; he put incense in his nose and ears, covered his eyes with spectacles, and in this equipment assisted the sick, and he healed almost as much as he gave remedies.'

[Remarques critiques sur le dictionnaire de Bayle](#) p483

Author: Philippe-Louis Joly Publisher: F. Desventes, 1752

Charles de Lorme was interviewed later in life in the book: [Moyens faciles et éprouvés dont Monsieur de l'Orme, premier médecin & ordinaire de trois de nos Rois, s'est servi pour vivre près de cent ans](#) Michel de Saint-Martin, 1682. (Easy and proven ways that Monsieur de l'Orme, the extraordinary principal doctor of three of our kings, used to live for almost a hundred years), which describes his coat and mask in greater detail (pages 424-425): 'Il n'oublioit jamais son habit de marroquin dont il étoit l'auteur, il l'habilloit depuis les pieds jusques à la tefte en forme de pantalon, avec un masque du même marroquin où il avoit fait attacher un nez long de demy pied afin de détourner la malignité de l'air...'

'He was never without his own design of (goatskin) leather coat, and dressed from head to toe with pantaloons and a mask of the same leather to which he attached a long nose half a foot in length in order to keep out the bad air.'

There are two examples of surviving plague masks from the German Museum of the History of Medicine, Ingolstadt. These have simple conical beaks with nostril holes underneath, as compared with the contemporary pictures that look like bird's beaks with an upper and lower mandible and nostrils. Perhaps there were regional differences between Italian and German masks. I have requested the origins of these masks from the museum, but have not had a response, possibly because it is closed due to the current plague. A museum brochure says that one of them is circa 1700.



German Museum of the History of Medicine, Ingolstadt. circa. 1700.

To determine the prevalence of plague masks, I read a few English plague treatises from mid-17th century, but as I didn't find reference to masks, I didn't search earlier tractates. By 1665 the concept of transmission from one person to another was well established, as opposed to targeted retribution from God. And the concept of invisible living organisms floating through the air from people's breath was starting to compete with the miasma theory. "likewise the opinion of others, who talk of infection being carried on by the air only, by carrying with it vast numbers of insects and invisible creatures, who enter into the body with the breath, or even at the pores with the air, and there generate or emit most acute poisons, or poisonous ovae or eggs, which mingle themselves with the blood, and so infect the body: a discourse full of learned simplicity, and manifested to be so by universal experience."

Title: A Journal of the Plague Year. Author: Daniel Defoe, 1665 <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/376/376-0.txt>

There was still no mention of covering the mouth and nose with cloth at this time in England; perfumes held to the nose, or lighting aromatic fires to purify the air, was still the primary response to potential exposure. The best advice in the 17th century, as with the 14th, was to flee to the countryside. The use of quarantine was well established, but the same advice to purify the air was included in "A Plain and Easie Method FOR Preserving [by God's Blessing] those that are WELL from the Infection of the PLAGUE, Or any Contagious Distemper, In CITY, CAMP, FLEET, _&c._ AND For Curing such as are Infected with it." Tho. Willis_, M. D. 1666 <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/49299/49299-0.txt>

I decided to copy the existing plague masks rather than the pictured examples so that I could construct them accurately. I used heavy cotton fabric for breathability rather than oil-skin canvas or velvet, (oil-skin and velvet fabric are available at Spotlight if desired), and made the dagged shoulder covering. The body covering should be a loose robe like an early houppelande made from leather or waxed fabric. As I don't have a suitable impervious robe, and most of my similar outfits are bright and cheerful, I figured that a monk habit would be suitable from my wardrobe.

The extant masks appear of a more primitive construction than the pictured examples, so I surmised that they may be an early design, though they could also be a regional difference. However, based on the references above, protective clothing against the plague, and especially plague masks, did not exist pre-1619.



Cuniculture in early periods and today

Modern practices of rabbit breeding for meat production

B. Alexandra

Why do people raise rabbits for meat today?

- 1/.Economic – cheap to raise, cutting the food bill.
- 2/. Health – Rabbit meat is very low in fat and an easily digested protein with a low allergen rate.
- 3/. Ethics – The ethical dilemmas of factory farming of meat, inhumane treatment of animals, and alteration of meat products, and excessive processing can be negated by raising ones own stock.

All these factors form a solid argument for, and have attributed to the growth of, what is known as “quiet farming”. This is the practice of breeding rabbits for meat and fur in the modern domestic backyard.

In most parts of the world this is done in cages or “hutches”. These cages are elevated off the ground to protect from predators and to help in maintenance and breeding practices. However there is a growing push-back against this practice. Many people feel that in the pursuit of ease and convenience in production, that the ethics of rabbit welfare has been put aside. Small wire cages resemble the battery farming of chickens, and aggressive backlash against anyone arguing from a animal welfare standpoint are prevalent in forums for cuniculture.

So, what is the answer to this? How do we get the ethics of rabbit production back into play? We revert to practices that began with the Romans and continued through to the monasteries and large estates of Europe.

Early practices in rabbit breeding and domestication and how we can use them today

Colonies:

Romans were the first to build “warrens” for rabbits, having discovered the animals to be a very easily bred and transported food source for the empire. Warrens were constructed on islands or simply by building a thick hedge or obstructive wall around a wild rabbit burrow, and the rabbits selectively culled as required.

Domestication and selective breeding of rabbits for meat and fur was developed in the monasteries. Stone walled gardens and pits were built and wild rabbits placed and with careful selection, the domestic rabbit was bred to maximise growth, weight, litter size and resistance to disease.

There has been a huge resurgence in the use of colonies for the farming of rabbits worldwide. This is in part a by-product of the rise of the “lifestyle block” giving space for this activity, but also the growing concerns for the ethics of our food production. The benefits of animals being able to live in a more natural way, while still having the protection from predators and a secure food source is very appealing to those who hold the ethics of food production as a major reason for the raising of rabbits.

Tractor Hutches:

Tractor hutches came into use in medieval times, in conjunction with warrens, to clear garden beds, and fertilise them ready for planting. Rabbits were removed from the warren and housed in lightweight, easily moved structures that provided shelter from the weather. These structures were then moved around over a garden bed to clear the garden waste and weeds, sometimes in conjunction with chickens to maximise the clearing of plants and parasitic bugs, prior to replanting. Rabbits became tools in the maintenance and health of the medieval monastic garden.

In the modern backyard, the keeping of rabbits in moveable tractor style hutches allows the same benefits to the gardener, and provides a compromise of control of space, safety from predators, and controlled breeding, while allowing the animals to graze and play about in a natural way.

Rabbits as a food source – is it worthwhile?

Rabbits breed...well, like rabbits.

A doe can become pregnant again on the day she gives birth, and her gestation term is 4 weeks, so you could have a litter of rabbits birthing every month of the year in a modern caged rabbit facility. She will be “burnt out” in only a couple of years, with decreased production and increased issues with litter fatalities and abnormalities. Poor girl is still feeding litter one when litter 2 is born! This is NOT what happens in the wild, and should not be what she is subjected to in domestication. A more healthy arrangement is to breed her when she has weaned her previous litter. Thus giving her a nice 4 week break before her next litter is demanding her time and milkbar facilities.

In a colony or hutch set up, where the buck is kept separate from the does, this creates a very predictable and manageable routine.

In an “open colony” where the buck is in with the does, the initial birth rate and kit production is very high, at almost a litter per month, however this eases back after the initial “excitement” has worn off, and the rabbits settle into a natural rhythm of a couple of litters in spring and autumn, but a dormancy in the cold of winter and the heat of summer.

Bunny maths:

If a litter is born every 12 weeks, this means a production of 4 litters a year, with an average of 8 kits per litter. A single doe will produce up to 32 kits per year, each with a dressed out weight of approximately 1.2 kg at 12 weeks old, making a total of approximately 38.4kg of meat for the domestic freezer, per year.

Given the basic breeding unit of 2 x does and 1 x buck that gives you 76.8kg of meat per year.

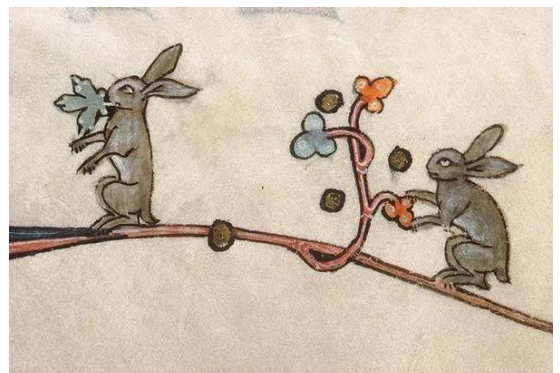
We have done calculations on the feeding costs of raising our own “grow-outs” to 12 weeks, added to the costs of feeding and caring for our parent rabbits and found the per kilo rate to be under \$7 per kilo, which makes it very economical as a meat source.

Furs and what to do with them! As historical re-enactors I don't really need to identify uses of fur to you all. Mittens, muffs, hats, bed coverings, bags....

Once the rabbit has been skinned, it should be cured, tanned or frozen until you know what you will use it for. We generally salt them heavily, roll them up and dry store them until we have enough to do a tanning batch. It is unethical to waste what we have produced.

Conclusions

There is a lot more we could go into about the animal husbandry, processing and recipes for rabbit. There is a whole rabbit hole (hehe) to be explored about depictions of rabbits in medieval manuscripts, but I hope you have enjoyed this little insight into the keeping of rabbits in the past, and how we can bring those practices into the modern backyard.



Tales of Portents, Monsters and Pirates:

The Baskin-Kerr Alternative Timeline Archives

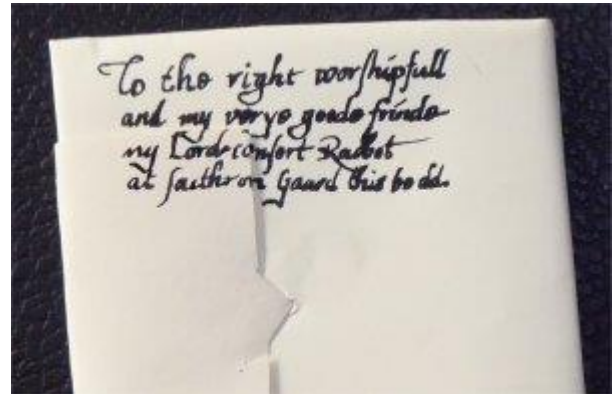
katherine's Second Letter: Matters unseemly and unsettling

March 30: Will the Swallow make it safely to Hispaniola?

To the right worshipfull and my vereye good frinde my Lord-consort Radbot at Southron Gaard this be dd

Ryght wellbeloued frinde do I hail you fra the citie of Santo Domingo, wherof I am much acheered at being ashoer albeit but a shorte while / Yoe shul knaw that we had wonderd as to owre safety for there was muche unrest wtin the companie here & C. Hawkins

hath great suspishyons of certaine members of his crew and he and his cuz Sr ffrancys quarrel daiely with vile speches towards each tha other wherin they denounced each other as villeynis slave & arrant knave wyth manie more vile wourdes such as Pyrate and theefe the witnessing whearof did muche amayze me /



Such aduersitie beggan on the crossing of tha Equator when the anciaunt custome hath been to hav much ribaldry and topsyturveyneess of the establishd order wherein the lowliest becomes the greatest and the Offycers must serve the men. A dramatikal satire of knyghting sailors was protestd by Sr ff, remembring his own knyghting by the Englysshe quene on shipboard, as comming too close to his honoure But his honoure is a thinne thinge being a newmade manne for was he not boxd upon the ear at Court by Sr Bernard Drake for presuming kinshippe and the armes of that anciaunt familie in taking up the red wyvern wtout consent such that he must then look to register a new device wtout conflkt – such heraldickal troubles follow everyone methinks; wot say you? But I digresse – at that tyme of Altit 00.00 two sailors on their mayden voiage were hoist up to the main yardarm and dipt iij times into the Sea & near drown'd And worse was when no fisshe could be hadde to make the accustomed feast so the vaste amountes of strong drinke served to inflame tempers until alle beinge dronken cam near to making a Mutynie.

The Capten had drawen his longe knyfe -- he witt well its use being knowne to have stabbed a man dead in a tauern when younge; & stared his owne men downe and tempers cooled onlie to be stirred again some daies later when a siren was spotted sunning erself in the waters and combing her long yellow haire and the men rushed to stare at her bare

dukkys and spake hottly of bringing her aboard for theyre amusement butt to noe avail.
Trule was I gladde of tha failure, for a wommin – even one bearing fish tayles – cannot
feel safe within this vessel /

The waters are not much safer I trow as they are knowne for manie corsairs – I suspect our
own gentlemen are notte above a tryck of that type. We had fair weather to bring us to
Hispaniola where the goode folk live in tha sturdy stone towne of Santo Domingo leaving
the North and Weste of this great ilande whcyh is as bigge as alle Englonde to privateers
and their Ilk of ffrenych Englisshe and Deutch nations Being the first found of all the
Indies and long time inhabyted thys ilande ought thuslie to be the most populus but they
have but one citie and xiiij villages, for the Espanyols hav so treated the first pepples such
that but twa hunnerd live from the iij millions wha once dwelt herein / I talked with a
Dominican Fra Bartolome who sayd tha native souls wert tha most simple & good-natured
& humayne Race of People that culd possebly be; wt-out Spleen or Malyce or Envie. And
hee fought to have their labors ceas and the work to be takken up by peples from Affrica
but I think the forst labor of any manne is Not a good thing.

Letting you witt that for now we wait wtin the safetie of S Domingo, built acrossse the
rivir from the olde town following a uge storm termd in the Taino native tong an
hurricane. We travell uppon the rivir in their canoes - like untto a narrow wherry -- and
eat with great relief our fill of meate taken in the local fashon from ane open barbieque
grill; at nyght wee sleep like sailors on shippe wtin the swing of an ammock. I regret
grately that my lord-husband's man has taken upp tobacco; he burns the lighted weede
and imbibes the smoke thru a tube he passes into his nostrils then lies sprawling uppon tha
ground as iff in a drunken stupor / see here so manie new wordes hav I collectd from this
breef stoppe

As touching our quarrling Companie, Sr ff hath ioined the Englysshe fleet that arrivd
soon after the Swallow first anchored in the north to lett him ashore wtout the Spanisshe
knowing. He hath taken charge of the Swan formerly mastered by a Iohne Lovell who
maie be distant couzin of myne not that I would enquire that of him for as you know my
Granfather hadde forgot that name and that names woe / I am pleasd to see the backe of
the Draco and his drumme whych was sounded overmuch as was his wont late at night
Affter that we sayled on to the porte where C Hawkyngs was welcomed having served King
Philip ofttimes and manie there calld him by a castillian name Juan Aquines suche was
his fayme despyte the puir relations betwixt tha Englisshe and those of Spayne /

When we sayle - and that right soon - the Capten intends to stay close by lande once we
crosse to the waters of Darién and Tierra Firme. I knowe nott why we are to goe that waie

*for it seems muche owte of the direction of Cuba butt I am tole it hath to do with currants
and the lyke. Methinks more to doe with the Camino Real the Spangles use to shift theyre
gains. God willing there wille be noe signe of them /*

*And so once more I muste say fare thee welle goode knyght until suche time as I have
occayson to wryte onse agayn, wisshing yow gode estatis & Healt he euyr to endure, I
reckommaunde me unto yr noblenesse and ende as Katherine*

*I pray you send a letter of ansore so that it maie reache mee to San Cristobel de la Habana
attn Rob. Bernaldez hee is C Hawkins factor there / And so with my comendations to you
and owre frinds ones agayne I bede you fare well*

Question of the Day

What does Tierra Firme mean in this context? (Hint. I do not think these words mean what you think they mean.)

Identify six loan words which come from a language native to your area or persona. See if you can seamlessly slip them into a conversation today.

The "vile" words on shipboard come from one of the contemporary reports. Get a feel for other ways of referring to an annoying companion: try out the [random Shakespearean insult generator](#). Which one feels best in the mouth?

Further Comments

I have touched only very lightly on the really appalling thing which concerned these and other sister-ships -- the transport of Africans across to the Caribbean as slaves. Both Drake and Hawkins (who really were cousins who periodically fell out) were involved in this traffic; Bartolome de las Casas really did suggest replacing the rapidly dying Taino with Africans to labour in the fields and he also wrote surprisingly compassionately about the indigenous peoples and their plight

I'm trying to keep things here reasonably light at this time, but by all means use this as a springboard to learn more about the development of slavery, African civilisations, or the presence of blacks in Europe during the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

The heraldic stoush between Francis Drake and Bernard Drake (no relation) really did happen. Sir Bernard denied Drake the right to use the red wyvern; Queen Elizabeth then instructed the heralds to put a tiny wyvern on board the ship that formed the parvenu's crest. Bicheno reads this positioning, where the wyvern looks up at the hand in the heavens holding the ship's hawsers, as "a none too subtle reminder that arms came from above", thus mocking "Sir Bernard's snobbery [and] the whole pretentious business that chivalric arms had become" (pg 156).

References

Superscription: "To the right worshipfull ": [Hardwick letter ID: 55](#)

Letter-locking: [Medici packet, slit and tab, 1617](#), Jana Dambrogio, MIT

Hakluyt Society books (see first reference above)

Elizabeth's Sea Dogs: How the English became the Scourge of the Seas; Hugh Bicheno; Conway, 2012

[John Hawkins: Spanish connections](#)

[10 things you may not know about Francis Drake](#)

Crossing the Line: Violence, Play, and Drama in Naval Equator Traditions; Simon J. Bronner; Amsterdam University Press, 2006

[Drake Conflict over arms](#)

Bartolome de las Casas: [A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies](#); 1542-1552; National Humanities Center

[Taino loan words](#): hurricane, canoe, barbeque, hammock, tobacco

"..burns the lighted weed": Gonzalo Fernandez de Oviedo

(Governor, Hispaniola 1532-1557); A Brief History of Vice:

How Bad Behaviour Built Civilization, Robert Evans; Penguin, 2016, pg 141

[Katherine's Lovell connection](#)

[Drake's Drum](#)

Postscript: "I pray..." [Hardwick letter ID 113](#)

Situations vacant

Southron Gaard needs a New Chatelaine

Chatelaines serve as a contact point for newcomers to our group who are interested in the Society. For this reason we consider this role to be critically important to the growth of our Barony. The Chatelaine also arranges use of loaner garb and equipment so that the newcomer can begin participating as soon as possible.

Requires: - Current SCA membership

- Outgoing and approachable demeanour
- Confidence in interactions with newcomers
- Arranging resources to help newcomers immerse themselves in the SCA swiftly
- Sound knowledge of The SCA as a whole, and local conventions and activities.

Workload: Most work is done prior to events, organising use of equipment and garb, making introductions etc. First contact for newcomers.

Good gentles of Southron Gaard,

Have you ever wanted to make your mark on the archery field both literally and figuratively?
Now is your chance!

The Captain's post is soon to be vacant and his seat with the comfortable cushions is still warm if you are quick.

You will need a few basic skills, make an arrow, make a bow string, be a member and be a TAM.

Advantages

1. good at chatting to people
2. Have a vehicle
3. A good imagination for new things to shoot.

The position comes with two whole weeks of training if you are interested and have some holes in the skill set. Let enthusiasm be your guiding star.

Apply to the Seneschal in writing with your references.

Good luck!



Knight Marshall

Role

The Knight Marshal is responsible for coordinating all authorised combat forms within the Barony (including Heavy fighting, Rapier, Combat and Target Archery, and Equestrian though not all forms may be active at a given time, and any may be handled through deputies). This includes coordinating and encouraging regular practices, encouraging and teaching newcomers to each fighting form, helping with the creation and marshalling of tournaments and war combat at events, assisting in the upkeep and construction of equipment and encouraging others to become warranted marshals.

Requires

A current SCA membership, and an enthusiasm for one or more of the combat forms involved, though actual ability is optional. The Marshal should be familiar with the relevant rule sets and Kingdom Officers, and possess an eye for potential safety issues – one or more current Marshal authorisations is desirable. It is not required to store or transport equipment required to run practices and tournaments but the Marshal should be aware of the state and status of all Baronial Marshallate property, whether in storage or out on loan. Reliable internet access is highly recommended for maintaining contact with marshallate activities and events around the kingdom.

Workload

Apart from filing reports, handling other Marshallate paperwork as required by the Kingdom Earl Marshal and attending Baronial Council meetings (about 4 hours a month in total), no specific part of the Knight Marshal's workload is mandatory. But it is very desirable that a Knight Marshal actively encourage and support relevant training sessions and equipment workshops, as well as generally be available to stewards to act as field marshal or marshal-in-charge at events where possible.

Reporting Channel

The Knight Marshal is required to report to the Baronial Council monthly, and the Kingdom Earl Marshal quarterly. Copies of these reports are sent to the Baronial Seneschal and the Baron & Baroness.

Resources

SCA Marshallate Web pages: <http://www.sca.org/officers/marshal/> Kingdom of Lochac Combat Handbook (along with other marshallate info): <http://lochac.sca.org/marshal/>

Please contact at marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org or seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org if you have questions about the role.

Tour d'Or Herald

Role:

Quite simply, your job is to coordinate the smooth running of heraldic activities in your group. There are a few essentials.

Whenever your group runs an event, it's your job to make sure there's a duty herald or two, and if there's a tourney, you need to organise a field herald or several - which will often be the same people. If Royalty come visiting then you must be prepared to run Their court, or find someone who can.

You shouldn't rely on the Seneschal, Steward or Autocrat to tell you a herald is needed. You should keep your eye on the event calendar and ask what heraldic services they'll need. This doesn't mean you have to do everything yourself - feel free to delegate. But it does mean you have to make sure it gets done.

You should also make yourself available to offer advice on names, devices and badges ("book" heraldry). If you don't know the answer to a question - and since you're probably new to the office this is quite possible - then you should refer them to someone who does know, such as the other group Heralds or the Crux Australis Principal Herald. You will be the main overseer for Heraldic submissions originating from your group.

Requires:

- Current SCA membership
- Loud, clear speaking voice
- No fear of public speaking
- Organisation (so Courts run smoothly)
- Basic knowledge of Heraldry.

Workload:

Most work is done at events, running courts, making announcements etc.

At large events, you can be quite busy. Between events, most work is paperwork to do with Heraldic submissions ~ 1-2 hours a week.

Reporting Channel:

Monthly reports are made to the Baronial Council. Quarterly reports are made to the Crux Australis Herald.

Resources:

There are several online discussion lists, and you should be on the Lochac ones at least. The web also has lots of good information about book and voice heraldry. There are also many good books on Heraldry.

Official society Herald site: <http://www.sca.org/heraldry/>

Lochac Heraldry site (includes submission forms and forums): <http://lochac.sca.org/herald/>

Please direct questions to herald@sg.lochac.sca.org or seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org



May Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Council ONLINE	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Hall meetings may be resuming, they may not, watch the lists.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Armoured Combat

Sundays 10am–noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

Rapier

Sundays from 2pm at Redwood Scout Hall.

Archery

Fine Sundays at Northcote School grounds, meet at Redwood Scout Hall.

archers@sg.lochac.sca.org

Tourney days

First Sunday of the month as announced

Arts & Sciences

Sundays from 11:00am at Redwood Scout Hall.

Fibre Guild: every third Sunday of the month, 11am at Redwood Scout Hall or as announced.

Council Meetings

First Wednesday of the month, from 7:30pm – details, agenda etc. are posted to the SG list.

All welcome



June Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3 Council	4	5	6	7 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
8	9	10	11	12	12	14 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Heavy Combat A&S hall Fibre Guild Rapier Archery
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
29	30					

Southron Gaard Regnum

Being a list of the current Baronial Officers and their official email addresses.

* **Seeking replacement:** see vacancies page or contact the seneschal for details.

Baron & Baroness:	Grim of Thornby and Alexandra	BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org
Seneschal	de Santiago Elena Sophia di Luciano dei Medici	seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org
Reeve	Lowrens Williamson	reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org
Tour d'Or Herald*	Elisabetta Foscari	herald@sg.lochac.sca.org
Castellan*	Hadrian de Listrille	chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org
Quartermaster	Seeking replacement*	quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org
Knight Marshal*	Radbod von Borg	marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org
Captain of Archers*	Tetsu of Southron Gaard	archers@sg.lochac.sca.org
Captain of Rapier	James of Southron Gaard	rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org
Lists Officer	Melisande de Massard	lists@sg.lochac.sca.org
Arts & Sciences	Gisle Akelsdattir	arts@sg.lochac.sca.org
Chronicler*	Agnes Graye	chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org
Librarian	Jayne Bolyn	library@sg.lochac.sca.org
Web scribe	Adrienne Furet	web@sg.lochac.sca.org
Chirurgion (first aid) *	Lady Rosanella Soranzo	chirurgion@sg.lochac.sca.org
Constable (safety)	Callum MacLeod	constable@sg.lochac.sca.org
Youth	Seeking replacement*	youth@sg.lochac.sca.org

Hamlet of Wildmoor - Otago

Cheperka (Natalia) nnyates@xtra.co.nz

Hamlet of Gildenwick - Nelson

Awaiting notification of new point of contact

SCA (NZ) Inc. Membership

There are two different types of membership available to event participants in New Zealand.

Subscribing Membership

Grants full rights of participation in the SCA (including voting, entering Crown Tournaments, holding office and affiliate membership with overseas branches). Subscribing membership also includes a subscription to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom Newsletter which is an electronic newsletter (PDF).

1 Year with E-Pegasus*	\$ 15.00
3 Years with E-Pegasus	\$ 30.00

An updated SCA (NZ) Inc. membership form will shortly be included in future issues of this newsletter, or can be accessed on the SCA (NZ) website. <https://registry.sca.org.nz/RegistryMenu.php>

Event Membership

For all non-members aged 18 years or over attending an event. Event membership lasts for the duration of that event only and is not sufficient to hold office or fight in Crown Tournament etc. If the event has a cost, and it is not held by a College, the levy will be charged.

Per event \$ 2.00

For further information visit the official SCA(NZ) Inc. website at:

www.sca.org.nz

Other SCANZ Groups

Auckland	Barony of Ildhafn	http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org
Hamilton	Canton of Cluain	http://cluain.lochac.sca.org
Wellington	Shire of Darton	http://darton.lochac.sca.org

Southron Gaard Council Provisional Minutes

Meeting Minutes 1st of April 2020.

Present: Grim, Alexandra, Jayne, Kotek, Aveline, Elisabetta

Apologies: Elena, Agnes, Gisle

Meeting opens 7:33pm

1. Last month's meeting minutes.

Moved by Lowrens to accept last month's minutes

Seconded by Grim

Nays 0, Abstentions 0. Motion is passed

2. Business Arising:

Lowrens: I am working with the Kingdom Exchequer to pass on the funds to the Shire of Adora. So this is in the Exchequer's hands. Will update next meeting

3. Funding Requests: None

4. Event Proposals: None

5. Event Reports: 2 events cancelled for April. Unsure what is happening with May Dance and Gildenwick's Collegium

6. Officer Reports

B and B: Did not attend monthly tournament

Did not attend fighters practice

Correspondence with Kingdom Seneschal, Territorial B&Bs, Southron Gaard Seneschal, and other Kingdom Officers regarding Covid-19 response

Looking forward to seeing some of the entries for the Person Gubbins Challenge that come from our populace having some extra time at home.

There is a great need in the Barony for people to take Officer roles. We have many vacant offices, and we will have more over the next few months.

Seneschal's Report: Communication and followup reposting with Kingdom Seneschal re: Event cancellations. Online meetings with Kingdom Seneschal. Communication with B&B re: Event cancellations.

Seneschalate is currently awaiting confirmation from Kingdom and BoD on Official options for digital/online events using platforms other than discord. (as to ensure compliance with Social media policy).

Provided guidance and feedback on several queries on the shutdown



Reeve's Report: Baronial Account balances:

* Main account: \$ 24692.73 at 1st March, and \$23747.46 at 31 March. Incomings \$31 for BA (to be refunded). Outgoings \$976 for CF wash up. There is \$280 to be refunded to a Rowany person for CF changes; the SCANZ Paypal process is proving challenging, but we have a local Plan B to make this happen.

* FAT account: \$2,920.90 at 31 March. No transactions this month.

There is FAT information to be gazetted to the Barony's website giving the latest news of FAT fund applications and grants. Between myself and Mistress Ginevra and the upset of recent mundane affairs, this has yet to happen. No excuse. Current allocations of FAT funds are:

* \$433.50 to be gifted to the Shire of Adora ,

* \$718.90 to the Hamlet of Gildenwick, for event support and equipment purchases. Note that the Gildenwick Collegium event in May that would have been supported is not likely to happen on that date.

Quarterly report to Exchequer is due this month, as is the Halfly GST payment (is that a word?). No problems anticipated with either.

There is a refund pending for a Rowany attendee to CF. End of Year GST coming up.

Herald's Report:

One new submission to Kingdom. Wrote a herald related article for FT'T.

Arts and Sciences Report: A&S Report would have been minimal and predictable due to current affairs, however I would like to highlight our Persona Gubbins Challenge, and there are several FB pages that are running online A&S classes and discussions - I (and others) can gather links for anyone interested.

Webscribe's Report:

- updated SG site with COVID info on home page
- updated Persona Gubbins challenge info
- other minor web & email maintenance

7)Hamlet Reports: Wildmoor:

Event was cancelled but will organise something later on.

8) General Business:

Lowrens passed on some info to Llewyllen about Canterbury Faire before the lockdown and haven't heard back.

Mistress Katherine Kerr has suggested removing the redundant Google calendar on the website and replacing it with links to various initiatives to help strengthen the online SCA community.

Will have to forward it onto others and get back for the next meeting

Meeting Closes 7:50pm

