

# CLYFFE NOTES

## March Business Meeting Minutes

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This month's meeting was attended by Mathew, Caolin, Theron, Isolda, Molly, Mathias, Serena, Adriana, Matt, Michele, Mike, Khadir, Lore, Kiri, Ro, Sir Haraald, and Ceridwen.

New business consisted of the inventory day on March 15th, participation in the Relay for Life in June, preparing a Medieval Feast—an event headed by the same group that coordinates the Celtic Festival, getting new archery targets, acquiring a baronial pavilion, and our Pennsic status.

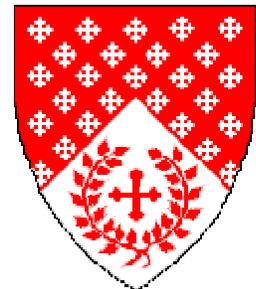
On the Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> of March, the Quartermaster and Baron will be inventorying and putting the Baronial Stuff™ from Their Excellencies' garage and into the shed. People are needed to help. If anyone has other Baronial Gear, it HAS to be there that day. It needs to be inventoried by the end of the month for the exchequer report. Pictures of items will be taken and assembled on a disk. Also, the loaner gear needs to go to someone else.

Inquiry into the interest in the Relay for Life was made. The

Calvert County Relay will be on June 13th. Do we want to treat it as a demo, or participate as a team? The two times we've done it as a demo have not been up to par, so we'll decide at the April meeting if we're going to do it or not. If you can't make the meeting but want to give input, email Theron at seneschal@dun-carraig.net. The point was also made that we have regular demo venues in St. Mary's and Calvert Counties, but we need to work on finding one in Charles County to be get more recruits from that area.

Khadir informed us that he spoke with the coordinator of the annual Celtic Festival. She has asked if we'd cook and serve a medieval Feast sometime around October. All profits would be split between us and them.

New targets are needed for archery practice...badly. The foam targets are cheaper, but don't last nearly as long as the straw targets. Straw targets are heavier to lift—especially when wet. A decision on which type of target to get will be made next month when Khadir gets more information



Dun Carraig's Arms

from other suppliers.

After spending the day at Ymir last month, it had become obvious that we need to consider getting a baronial pavilion/day shade in the near future.

Lastly, our Pennsic campsite is registered as "Barony of Dun Carraig." Phillip is the harbinger.

Old business that was covered was Middle Eastern Event and Challenge updates, and supplies-needed list for baronial groups.

For the Middle Eastern event the absolute maximum number of people allowed on site is 250. This will be a popular event, so baronial members should get their paid reservations in. Feast will cap out at

*(Continued on page 6)*



## Letter from Their Excellencies



Hail to the fierce warriors of the Barony does your great and powerful dread Baron greet you. Spring is all about change...we need some changes around here...at the last business meeting, our cooks asked for more money to buy pots and our archers needed more backdrops for practice. Why? Pots hold more beer than the Baronial mugs, so I vote "yes" for large beer pots. As for the backdrops, arrows are made of wood and wood floats. Arrows don't hold beer, nor does a backdrop...VETO on money for backdrops! The Barony is not made of money, people and our coffers are low. So we're going to institute my BRILLIANT shower guild (that the stupid Baroness shot down 'cuz it was tacky). And we really don't need that uppity Baroness either...a little duct tape solved all my problems with HER...BAM! Instant pell...time for Erwin's solo reign! (Gittity-gittity) Yeah...a shower guild...it'll give you service folks something useful to do ...no sense in having you stand around plotting the overthrow of my new regime. And we are reinstituting the "bunny fur is period" movement...bunnies are period. Just ask any Laurel... We will now become a Viking Barony...what's good enough for Conan the Barbarian and Thundarr the Barbarian is good enough for us!! And future transportation to wars will now be coordinated by Sir Theron as his belt has teleportation powers. With a few side journeys to Germany for beer...we'll even stop by Puerto Rico...'cuz we need rum. Uh-oh...gotta sign off now...Molly's drugs are wearing off (note to self: up the dose...)

Forever shocking- Erwin

(Please note: the above is intended as a light-hearted April Fool's joke. If it had been a real letter, Baron Erwin would be buried in the backyard

and we'd be enjoying MY solo rule. Love, your Uppity Baroness)

**BnB's Report:** We went to Estrella War, and gave a gift of a cook pot to the hosting barony. We made gift baskets for Ponte Alto which were well received. We will continue to do this for new Baronage. Also, we need award recommendations.

## Seneschal' s Report

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We have new baronial members who are newly authorized . We used to give a tabard to fighters when they authorized and it'd be nice to do that again (and have it for Stierbach's Investiture). We need 4 tabards for those newbies.

Did you find a mistake? Did I misquote someone? Please (kindly) let me know. Email me at [Chronicler@duncarraig.net](mailto:Chronicler@duncarraig.net) and I'll correct it in the next newsletter.

## Chronicler' s Report

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My first newsletter went out (with some mistakes...oops). If you want to put anything in the newsletter, let me know. If you want your activity for next month posted, let me know. If you don't want your picture in the newsletter, let me know. If you'd like to be my deputy...you got it...let me know.

## Herald' s Report

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Heraldry Day was held on March 2nd. One person showed up.

## Quartermaster' s Report

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See the section of New Business about the inventory for the Quartermaster's Report.



For all you Harry Potter fans out there...Platform 9 3/4 at King's Cross Station, London.

## Chatelaine' s Report

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We had to turn down a demo opportunity because of low numbers of participants. We do have a lot of new people. I want to find out if we want to do a Pennsic sewing circle, especially for the newcomers. Can the Garb for Chatelaine go in the shed? (Answer: No problem, it needs to be inventoried anyways.)

## Webminister' s Report

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The Website is having some problems with the log-in. I'm working on it.



## Minister of Arts and Sciences' Report

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Classes: Sari wrapping class was a few weeks ago. Psanky egg class was in Dec. Next class is henna class by Massarah on Mar. 14<sup>th</sup>. Let Massarah know you'll be there...then, please, show up. (Last time one person showed up after much interest was showed.) If anyone's interested in a class topic (and maybe being an instructor, but not necessary), let Hank know.

KASF went well. We had a great Dun Carraig turnout.

There is a possible court class at the baronial inventory day. (Middle Eastern garb info will be *available*)

## Minister of the Lists' Report

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No Event, No Report.

## Knight Marshal's Report

We've had a large turn-out for the last 2 months with no less than 8 people in armor. This has led to recruits for fighting at Pennsic (and for camping) from outside of the barony. There has been melee practice every week.

Defending the Gate was moved for our benefit. For that, we *need* to show a presence there. It'd be nice to field 10 Seadogs at this event. This is a great melee event!

Rules haven't changed, so make sure you're up to date. Thrusting force has been clarified: Helmet ruling is back to positive force. Logan's reign is ending: combat archers can now come back out. Sinclair does not have the same regulations.



A champron with decorative rondel—Equine armor on display at the White Tower, Tower of London

## Exchequer Report

I'm waiting to hear back from Kingdom regarding the approval of our changes to the Financial Policy. As soon as I hear something, you will know.

Some charges were reversed by SunTrust and the account dealt with at the branch so we aren't supposed to be getting anymore monthly charges. Switching banks might not be necessary after all, I will know for sure shortly. As soon as the decision has been made, the checks will be changed to the new 'pay to' way they need to be.

I need those who were working on the repairs for the shed (I believe Lore and/or Khadir and/or possibly our Baron had some plans to do something to the shed) to please get it done so the shelves can be put into place. Inventory must be totally complete and the report by the Quartermaster turned in to me by the end of March to be included in my 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter '08 report. (The Quartermaster stated that he has emailed the shed committee but it hasn't been dealt with yet).

Theron (Tom) still has funds available regarding the baronial tent repair (\$20 approved); & Mathias (Jim) regarding general Quartermaster supplies for loaner gear and kitchen supplies (\$75 approved). Please get these taken care of soon or I will need to place the funds back into the general fund and they'll need to be voted on again.

## March Meeting Minutes (cont'd. from p. 1)

120 (and as I'm writing this, we have reached that number. There is now a waiting list for feast.) If anyone arrives at the event after the max of 250 has been reached, and causes any trouble, let Theron know. Lori has distributed papers for event assignments at the meeting. Still looking for some handlers for Molly during the day (lest she be let loose on the crowd). Decorations will be much the same as last year. In the Kitchen: Shopping at Jetro (and whatever other interesting stores) will be Saturday, a week before the event (March 22). Sunday, March 23, around 1pm, will be a precook at Kiri's house. (Sorry, it is Easter Sunday, but can't help it.) Friday before event (March 28), will be cooking all day.

Caolin updated us on Challenge of the Heart plans. Camp Brown is a no deal. Their only open dates in June are the 21st and 28th. We may have to use Kings Landing if we can't find another site, but last year there were some problems: Overnight watches, camping space, etc. We are in dire need of potential sites for other events. We were reminded that the deadline for the Acorn flyer for June events is April 1st. We may need an emergency financial meeting, or even baronial meeting if we will be dealing with a higher site fee.

The Quartermaster has noted that he has asked multiple times for the Kitchen, Rapiers, and Heavy to give lists of needed supplies.

The rest of the meeting was the officer reports. They are reviewed in their proper sections.

## “ Fitting in at Events, Feast, and Court”

*Since we have a number of new members and the Court class was canceled, I thought I'd highlight some information about courtesy to others at events. This is taken from the SCA website under Resources and Information for Newcomers.*

The Society is a re-enactment and re-creation organization, intended for participants rather than spectators. Everyone who attends an event is expected to wear at least an attempt at medieval clothing. Garb need not be fancy. Anything reasonably "medieval-ish" can do for the first event. In some kingdoms, an organization called "Gold Key" provides loaner costumes at no charge or for a small rental fee. Call someone in advance to see if loaner garb will be available, or at an event look for the symbol of a key on a green or blue background.

If the event you are attending includes a feast be sure you have made a reservation, if required, and that you bring "feast gear" - a spoon, knife, plate, napkin, and something to drink from. You may also wish to bring a small cloth in case the table is uncovered, a fork, a bowl, small containers of sugar and salt, and a plastic trash bag to put dirty feast gear in after you have eaten. Many people bring their own beverage, but often some form of drink is provided. Iced tea, lemonade, and water are common.

For outdoor events, it is wise to bring a folding chair or a blanket to sit on. Carry a portable supply of water or other beverage, especially if you will be in the sun for part of the day. Bring a hat or other sunshade for protection. Working on a craft, project, or game can be a good way to meet others at an event when you tire of observing. Although at many events a feast is served in the evening, if you wish to eat earlier, you may need to bring your own lunch or snack. Avoid modern-looking food and drink containers or cover them with a cloth.

When the King and/or Queen are present, people in many kingdoms will make a "reverence", (a bow or curtsy) each time they walk past the King or Queen. They will also make a reverence when the King or Queen walk past them or when they walk past the Royal Thrones, even if no one sits there. The space some 10' to 20' around the thrones is considered part of the Royal Presence. Walk around it, rather than through it. Watch what others are doing and copy them. Be careful not to stand where you might block the view of the King or Queen. When sitting on the throne, they are not as mobile as you are.

"Court" is a very special event with an emphasis on ceremony and courteous behavior. When called before Their Majesties, in most kingdoms people remove their weapons before approaching. They make a reverence when they come near, then kneel. As they leave, notice that they walk backwards several steps, bow or curtsy again, and then turn to walk back to their seats. Try to sit near the front so that you can see well and watch others as they stand, sit, or bow. If necessary, quietly ask someone near you to explain what you do not understand.

The policy on smoking varies but generally it is not permitted indoors. Ask about the local policy on flash photography. Some kingdoms forbid it, especially at court events. Keep in mind that the feast or court is an attempt to recreate the Middle Ages. Cigarettes and flashbulbs did not exist then and are obvious when being used.

## A Viking Toast

*Chronicler's Note: I found this article in the Beverage section of Stefan's Floregelium and thought it sounded of interest. The gentle who posted this info goes by the name Gunnora. It was posted after an inquiry about the toasts made at feasts, and if and how it was practiced in medieval times.*

A related custom is the Germanic *symbel* or *sumbel*, practiced by the Saxons and by the Vikings. The Vikings offered up toasts, or *Fulls*. The first *full* was assigned to *înn*, and was made for victory and the king's success. Snorri Sturleson gives Earl Sigur's first toast at a festival at Hla in 952 as an example. Freyr and Njor were the recipients of the second toast, which was for peace and plentiful harvests. The third toast was often made to Bragi, god of poetry. After this, men might make the *Minni*, a toast to those of their kinsmen who had become famous.

At weddings, the toasts offered might be slightly different: the story of Herraud and Bosi recounts that the cup was consecrated to *Thor*. The first toast was made to all the gods, the next toast to *înninn*, and the third to the goddess Freyja.

These rounds of toasting were a part of the custom of *Sumbel* (Old Norse) or *Symbel* (Old English), both meaning "ale-gathering." Toasts might be combined with vows or oaths, boasts, storytelling and song. Tacitus wrote in his *Germania* of the custom of *sumbel*, saying "Drinking bouts lasting all day and all night are not considered in any way disgraceful." More than one *sumbel* is encountered in *Beowulf*, and in Old Norse poetry such as "*Lokisenn*," where Loki is told:

"Seats and places for thee at *sumbel*  
The Aesir never choose  
Because the Aesir know which wights  
To have at a glorious drinking-feast."

*Sumbel* is even mentioned in Christian poetry such as "The Dream of the Rood," where it is told that "There are God's folk seated at *symbel*." The term "*symbel-daeg*" came to be used in Old English to denote a Christian feast day.

The *sumbel* was a joint activity. Those participating came and sat together, usually within a chieftain's hall. It was often referred to as a drinking feast, where ale, beer or mead might be served in a ceremonial cup, and passed from hand to hand around the hall. The recipient of the cup made a toast, oath, or boast, or he might sing a song or recite a story before drinking and passing the cup along. While referred to as a "feast," the *sumbel* did not include food, but might precede or follow a meal. A *sumbel* was solemn in the sense of having deep significance and importance to the participants, but was not a grim or dour ceremony - indeed, at Hrothgar's *sumbel* in *Beowulf*, "...there was laughter of the men, noise sounded, the words were winsome."

# APRIL 2008

## BARONIAL PROGRESS

- April 4-6—Coronation, Hawkwood, **R, H, BnB(?)**
- April 11—Night on the Town X, Lochmere, **BnB**
- April 18-20—Tournament of Chivalry, Storvik, **BnB**

### Key

BnB—Baron and Baroness

B—Baron

Ba—Baroness

Use other Acorn Progress

Abbreviations.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Business Meeting	2 Armored and Rapier Practice & AnS	3 Archery Practice	4	5 Spring Coronation @ Hawkwood Fri-Sun.
6	7	8	9 Armored and Rapier Practice & AnS	10 Archery Practice	11	12 Night on the Town X @ Lochmere Fri-Sun
13	14	15	16 Armored and Rapier Practice & AnS	17 Archery Practice	18	19 Tournament of Chivalry @ Storvik Fri-Sun.
20	21	22	23 Armored and Rapier Practice & AnS	24 Archery Practice	25	26
27	28	29	30 Armored and Rapier Practice & AnS	Archery Practice		



Stained glass window of Sts. Kentigern (left) and Cuthbert from Crosthwaite Church

## My Bad...

Ok...so my first issue has a few mistakes (I haven't finished counting them yet...) I left a few template items in the margins of a couple pages...oops. I realized after publishing that I should have given individual credit for pictures so you know whose is who's: pictures on pages 5&9 (Lochmere BnB) were taken by

Antonio Felluci, and pages 3 & 4 were taken by Skorri. Thank you, gentlemen for the use of you pictures.

One of the new columns had an error, the title being "Around the Barony Q & A" not Q & Amo.

The Goodly St. Ro has pointed out a couple of my other mistakes:

the acronym I used for our Middle Eastern event should have read ADITME, not ATITME, and the general entry information under the MoAS report should have been "Nothing new to report." I must have forgotten to actually change that.

My Bad..

## New Column: Get to Know your Fellow Dun Carraige: Sir Theron Andronikos

*Chronicler's Note: This is one of my new monthly additions to our newsletter. Each month I ask someone to give the story of how he/she became involved in the SCA, and/or Dun Carraig. This month features our new Knight, Sir Theron Andronikos*

### What's the S.C.A.?

I have always been interested in medieval history. I used to watch medieval type movies and loved the fight scenes, the clothing, the intrigue and of course, the women! I wanted to learn how to use a sword so I started looking up kendo stuff. A friend of mine said if I was interested in learning medieval sword

fighting I should check out the S.C.A. I said "what's the S.C.A.?" We got online and looked up the society. I found the local group and they had a Sunday practice scheduled so I took my best friend and we went. No one was there. Not a soul. I noticed while I was online that they had another meeting scheduled for Wednesday night and that was like 2 minutes from my house. I showed up and found two guys hitting each other with taped up sticks. I was a little put off by it but one guy asked me if I wanted to try it out. I put on some loaner armor and

stepped out onto the floor. He let me swing at him for a few minutes, and then he hit me square in my head! I swear I got this huge shit eating grin on my face! He smiled too and I haven't looked back since. Now I have trained with literally hundreds of people, learned some very artsy stuff, worked my butt off at events and for my group and found a place where I can live out my dreams. Thanks Jonathas, that first shot was light though =)!



Clifford's Tower in York, England

If you would like to receive Clyffe Notes in printed form, please email me at [chronicler \[AT\] duncarraig.net](mailto:chronicler[at]duncarraig.net). Please give me your SCA and Mundane name(s) and your address.

## New Column: Around the Barony, Q & A

*Chronicler's Note: In this new section, I plan on posing a question to the Barony. Anyone receiving this newsletter is welcome to respond, and the answers will be posted here the next month in whatever space I have available. Answers can be sent to Chronicler <AT> duncarraig.net.*

Well, this column is a little slow in picking

up, but that's okay. I'll try posting to the sea-dogs list as well.

This month's question is: What was the most memorable weekend event (i.e. non-war event) that you've attended thus far? I hope

to hear from more people this month. \*grin\*



Inside Clifford's Tower

# Baronial Regnum



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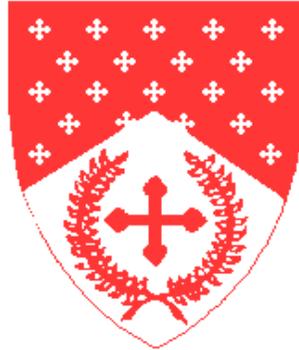
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We're on the Web!

Check out [www.duncarraig.net](http://www.duncarraig.net)

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