



Love Wins! A Regular Event in Cleftlands: Love Vs Death

The 22nd Regular Event in Cleftlands was another rousing success. For the second year in a row the site was the spacious St. John's Byzantine Cathedral in Parma. There was a threat of snow, but the day dawned bright and clear with easy travel for all of the over 400 gentles who attended the event.

Mistress Zsof and Dmitrii were the able event stewards, Baroness Madelaine was the gate keeper and Claricia de la Mere debuted as feast steward with an absolutely scrumptious and historically accurate feast based on an Italian source. The hero portions presented at feast were creative and delicious including a "Kraken" pie featuring a many tentacled beast bursting from the pie crust to capture a sugar paste ship.

One new feature added by the enthusiastic lunch steward, Lady Sadira, was boxed

lunches for the fighters pre-ordered and delivered to the fighting hall, so they didn't have to leave the list field to get nourishment. All fighters this reporter encountered were thrilled with the new service! The martial fields were busy all day. James ap Llewelyn returned his Ladder of Renown tournament which was even a bigger success than last year.

Baroness Cerridwen of Brendoken issued an heraldic costume challenge on the theme of historically accurate Villains and Heroes which was well met, 15 people entered (including 4 youth). In the end Honor Von

Atzinger's Landsknecht Captain America won in a difficult decision by our judges! Robin of Cleftlands received a special commendation second place prize

for her 9th century Norwegian Minion.

So many were honored in court that Their Majesties chose to do two courts, one at 1pm and one as scheduled.

In the Court of Love and Death bards, musicians and



Photo by Lord Tarmach

storytellers vied for which force was greater: Love or Death. the judges panel found Love victorious which is fitting for such a day!

Baronial Succession Secured

Their Majesties Edmund V and Kateryn V have announced that the successors to Baron Calum and Baroness Constanza as the fifth Baron and Baroness of the Cleftlands will be Sir Crispin de la Rochefoucauld and The Honorable

Lady Gianna Vettori.

The Crown and transition officer are grateful to everyone who returned their polls and helped Their Majesties make this important decision.

The 5th Cleftlands Baroni-

al Investiture is scheduled for Northern Oaken War Maneuvers (June 9th-11th at the Ukrainian American Youth Resort); which will also be the 21st anniversary of that event.

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Guild Meetings:

- First Monday of the Month—Scribe's Guild at Brackenburye Cottage
- First Monday of the month—Cook's Guild at Recher Hall
- Tuesdays - Leatherworker's Guild at Master Oliver's home
- Second and fourth Tuesdays—Needleworker's Guild
- Thursdays—Armourer's Guild at Ealdred and Clairiel's
- Thursdays—Woodworker's Guild at Meinhard's

Is your guild missing? Contact the editor to ensure you are included in the next issue of The Forum!

Local Merchants Lose Home in Fire

Rydderch ap Morgan and Amye Goldwin, called Dostia, longtime residents of Eastwatch and frequent event merchants with their shop “Misc. Etc.” had a house fire in December.

They are both in good health and some of their merchant wares were stored in a separate location, however all their home goods were lost. They are working with their insurance company and rebuilding their lives.

Friends have created a GoFundMe site for donations:

<https://www.gofundme.com/Rhyl-Dostia>

A&S Challenges

Our newly minted A&S Minister, Baroness Colette du Pré, has issued a teaching challenge. For each class taught participants will win a point with a competition for who has the most points at the end of the year. See Baroness Colette for more details.

Also, Baroness Aldermoureis “Alda” Ventske issued a challenge to the populace at the Baronial Yule Revel this past December. Her challenge? Work on any arts and sciences project for 100 days in 2017.

She handed out pre-printed slips of paper to record your arts and sciences

activities on and jars to store them in. Each slip as a spot for the date and what project you worked on. All 100 can be the same project, or you can work on many projects. You don’t have to work a long time at it either, just a few minutes and you can count that day toward the challenge. 100 days comes to just twice a week for the year.

Are you up to the challenge?

Court report

Many Cleftlanders recently received honors including:

At A Regular Event in Cleftlands:

Laurel—Oliver Stillman

Dragon’s Heart—Aiden Elfædur

Evergreen—Lassarina O’Malley

Willow—Matheus Mac Eoin, Gwennlian Tarianlas and Dorothea Wever

Red Company—Njall Orkneyssen

Award of Arms—Zofia der Kinder, Robin of Cleftlands, Levi of Cleftlands, Foulke of Redcliff, Cato of Vito’s Minions, Cadfan of the Cleftlands, Albinus

of Tri kai, Thora of Cleftlands, Denes of Cleftlands, Lupa of Vito’s Minions, Blaire MacDougal, Aethelwynn Skerra Dimma, Brutus of Vito’s Minions, Aedin of Cleftlands, Rollo Eldström, Nazir of Trotheim and Jaromir of Trotheim

At Better War Through Archery February 4th

Dragon’s Barb—Gwynedd Cole

At Winter War Maneuvers March 4th

Dragon’s Heart—Sorcha Fraser

Is anything missing? Let the forum staff know for the next issue!

Middle Marches Baronial Transition

Their Majesties announced the next Baron and Baroness of the Middle Marches will be Duke Talymar and Mistress Melisande.

No doubt it was a difficult decision for Their Majesties with so many excellent candidates to choose from. The other couples contending included Master Malachi and Baroness Chandara, TH Lord Erich Yeager and Mistress Stasi, Sargent Boldwin and THL Maggie O’Donnel, and Sargent Luca Sogliano and THLady Sarai Tindall.

The Baronial Investiture of the 8th Baron and 7th Baroness of Middle Marches was at Winter War Maneuvers March 4th.

Calendar:

March 11-19—Gulf Wars

March 25—Keep Calm and Ceilidh On (Gettysburg, OH)

March 29—Scribal Display at Dessert Revel

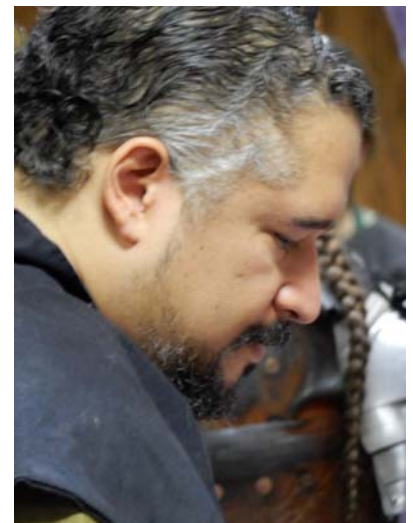
April 1—North Oaken Regional A&S Faire (Warren, OH) and Grand Tournament of the Unicorn (Oxford, OH) and Terpsichore at the Tower (Saline, MI)

April 7-8—Quest for the Golden Seamstress (Berkley, MI)

April 8—Masque of the Fool (Thompson, OH)

April 22—Fletchings of Spring (Eastwatch)

April 26—Dessert Revel tournament



Oliver Stillman, being entered into the Order of the Laurel. Photo by Alda

Book Review: Two takes on 1066

Recently I read two books on the historic events of that fateful year, 1066.

The first was a slim volume, 1066: The Year of the Conquest by David Howarth (ISBN: 0-14-005850-8)

It was a quick read, full of facts but aimed at building the personalities of the historic figures and the way their contemporaries may have felt about them. There is even a nice attempt to cover what the average English citizen's life was at the time of

the conquest. I would recommend it for any re-enactor looking for a persona based in the time period. While being less scholarly than some works it does give you a feel for how a contemporary person would have felt about these events.

The second was a much longer, more scholarly work, 1066: The Year of the Three Battles by Frank McLynn. (ISBN: 0-7126-6672-9)

This book was much less of a narrative, but much more full of

facts and well reasoned arguments. This is the book for someone who wants to dig deeper and separate rumor and myth from reality. The author is careful to present the evidence and arguments for all sides where political biases and popular myth may distort history.

In the end I enjoyed both books and am glad I read them.

-Milesent Vibert

Dollars and Sense—Exchequer’s Report

The contract for Recher Hall has been renewed after a bid to look at alternate sites. The contract is for one year and at an increased rate. We now pay \$100 a week for the upstairs space and downstairs.

Our increase in expenses for next year is roughly \$30 a week (\$70 a night rent increasing to \$100—\$50 for each hall and \$25 for our storage) or around \$1,500 over last year’s expenses.

To cover that expense we collect approximately \$30 a week in tithe, including those who tithe annually, meaning

our weekly deficit is \$70 or close to \$3000 for the year which the Barony needs to absorb.

For 2016 :

The Barony had \$19,499.14 in income (mostly from our events) and \$16,255.88 in expenses (events and site rental are the biggest expenses) for a total increase in net worth of \$3,243.26

If we maintain this level of income and expense for next year, we should break even with the additional cost of site.

Our events last year were remarkably

successful:

Dressed to Kill had a \$286.72 profit

A Regular Event in Cleftlands: Dancing with the Tsars had a profit of \$2,222.60

Standard Bearer’s had a loss of \$647.23

NOWM had a profit of \$3,460.24

The Barony had, as of the Domesday report, \$3,609.16 in its checking account and \$25,262.26 in a savings account.

Remembering Lord Uilliam MacGeniss

Lord Uilliam MacGeniss (Willis Jackson, Lliam to his friends) passed away unexpectedly February 17th. Friends will remember his enthusiastic service to the shire of Eastwatch as a herald and his joy and love of the society. Lord Lliam was

61 years old.

A memorial service was held at the Jakubs-Waite Funeral Home 36000 Lakeshore Blvd. Eastlake, OH 44095 Saturday February 25th, 10 am to noon.



Photo by Lady Seonaid

Our monthly rent for our meeting site has gone up; what does that mean for the Barony?

The Barony of the Cleftlands

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Congratulations Jolicia!

Congratulations Lady Jolicia atte Northcliffe, the new Kingdom Deputy Chatelaine of Recruitment and Retention! Lady Jolicia succeeds Baroness Chandara Gamal from Middle Marches in the post.

Congratulations Sorcha!

Our Baronial and Regional Signet, Sorcha Fraser will be soon stepping up as the new Kingdom Signet replacing the current Signet, Mistress Estelle de la Mer. She will be the first Kingdom Signet from Cleftlands.

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Past issues of The Forum are available on-line at:

<http://wiki.cleftlands.org/Publications>

Call for Submissions

The Forum is only as good as its content. Without contributions from members of the populace like you, this would be a pile of blank paper!

In the hopes of having future issues, please give us

your content! Write about your guild happenings, share your class notes, review a book or movie of historical interest. You can also share poems or prose, photos or drawings, Etc.

Ever wanted to be the kid

reporter in the old B movie? Here's your chance! Write for The Forum today!

The next issue is scheduled to be out in June or July. The format and layout may be very different.

Letter from the Editor

Hello, I hope you've enjoyed this issue of the Forum. Words are not my craft, and I know I lack skill in design (I make ugly webpages) so this is out of my comfort zone, however our Baronial Newsletter has been on an extended hiatus (the last issue was in February 2009!) and I missed it!

A lot has happened since that last issue of The Forum: Two Baronial Transition pollings, four seneschals, 32 local events (including two coronations!) Three local reigns of Kings and Queens of the Midrealm. Nine local people were elevated to the

Order of the Chivalry, eight to the Order of the Laurel, and three to the Order of the Pelican since then. Countless other important happenings and special moments in the history of our Barony occurred!

In this digital age many feel that we have evolved past the need for paper newsletters cataloging our history and current events, however I still like the feel of paper beneath my hands and I appreciate the opportunity to pause and reflect that a newsletter brings. I hope you feel the same.

Our Chronicler, Baroness Angharad, graciously allowed me to step in and act as editor in chief for this issue and we intend to continue the newsletter quarterly.

Have important information, news or articles you'd like to submit? Let me know! I'll be glad to feature them.

At your service,

Milesent Vibert

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