

## Coronation of Ragnvaldr and Arabella a Success

The stormy weather of earlier in the week abated, and the sun shone down its glory on Cleftlands September 22<sup>nd</sup> as the noble populace of the Midrealm convened at the Bohemian National Hall to witness the coronation of Ragnvaldr and Arabella.

An estimated 655 gentles passed through the gate under Gate Keeper Lady Celeste's auspices, each receiving a rune stone token crafted by Lord Bastian. The forward-thinking staff posted signs explaining the meanings of the runes throughout the hall, as well as maps to help event-goers find their way around the historic building.

Of those attending, we had over 80 fighters, more than 70 of whom participated in the Coronation Tourney. There were many great fights during the afternoon, each giving his all in every contest. Baron Sir Diloun of the Middle Marches was the victor of the Coronation Tourney.

There was also a Children's Tourney, for which 38 fighters signed up. Before the tourney began, the fighters assembled in the list. Their names were read off and each received a fighting favor from the children, who had worked all morning under Lady Marsaili's supervision to create them. After more great fighting, and cheers from their small patrons, Sir Diloun once again proved victorious on the field. The kids presented him a lovely ceramic box with a dragon on the top. Marsaili

has asked that her thanks be conveyed to all the fighters for a gracious and chivalrous display that inspired and excited the children greatly.



As if this was not enough fighting to glorify a coronation, His Majesty held a list taking on all comers, and some combatants took advantage of the gorgeous weather to set up a training list outside.

When asked at the end of the day if they had gotten enough fighting, the fighters replied (after very slowly getting up) that they had in fact had all the fighting they could handle and more.

In addition to making favors for their tournament, the children at the event also crafted gifts for Their Majesties, a memory box decorated with fleur-de-lis and a journal decorated with the King and Queen's arms for Them to write Their experiences in throughout Their reign, which was

presented to Their Majesties at feast, and reportedly well received.

Ser Nick also organized a boffer list and tournament, providing ample entertainment all around for our kingdom's younger members.

*Continued on page 2*

## Our Officers

**Seneschal:** Lord Nial the Wanderer of Bork (A.J. Gooch)  
3735 Marvin Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44109

**Pursuivant:** Lord Pietro Nicolò di San Tebaldo (Samuel Pearce)  
#23 Lexington Square  
Euclid, OH 44143

**Exchequer:** Duchess Emelyn Carithail (Gayle Nichols)  
17211 Lakewood Heights Blvd.  
Lakewood, OH 44107

**Knight Marshal:** Sgt. Conrad Schwartzwolf (Marty Bradac)  
3835 W. 40th Street  
Cleveland, OH 44109

**Marshal of Fence:** Lady Brangwyn Snowden (Terrie Way)  
3480 West 118th St.  
Cleveland, OH 44111

**Minister of Arts and Sciences:** Lord Karl Wilhelm von Koln (Don Minch)  
17545 Madison Ave. #101  
Lakewood, OH 44107

**Chroniclers:** Ladies Lyonnete et Milesent Vibert (Marie & Grace Vibbert)  
445 Richmond Park W., #328B  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

**Chatelaine:** Lady Alex  
46545 Middle Ridge Rd.  
Amherst, OH 44001

## Coronation Continued

Lady Lie organized a game of sheep herding which was popular with the children as well. Each constructed a small 'flock' from foam balls, cotton, and gewgaws, and then herded them along the floor by kicking them, the goal being to get all your sheep safely to the finish.

For those not fighting or shuffling foam sheep along, there was that most popular of SCA activities: shopping! Organized by Maria Vincente de Castilla. Shoppers didn't go hungry, either, thanks to the efforts of Lady Ceinwen and her lunch kitchen staff. There were indeed so many activities that even if there hadn't been two courts, no attendee could say there was a dull moment.

Morning court saw Conrad Schwartzwolf entered into the Order of the Gold Mace, as well as the significant business of crowning our new king. Ragnvaldr processed in with an armed guard, declaring that it was as important to protect the peace as to fight the war. "Yes," said Bardolph, "But I'm worried about your *enthusiasm*."

There were two Arts and Sciences competitions at Coronation. The first was a "melee" of sorts- those entering the competition were asked if they were authorized combatants in the SCA (all styles) or if they were non-combatants. At the end of the day, the number of entries from each team was counted, with the group with the most entries declared winner. Proving that our area boasts more than the stereotypical 'stick jocks', the combatants won the competition with 14 entries to the non-combatants 11.

Of course, Cleftlands was well-represented in the entries, including beaded necklaces by Ladies Seadna and Alex, Ursula's blue-and-white nebuly socks entered for her by Donasian, and a blue-and-white nebuly tablet-woven belt with tiny red and gold tassels for flames entered by Clariel. Stephan von Lubeck's coat of plates and Berhardt's basket hilt added a military touch to the otherwise gentle arts contributed by their fellow combatants.

There was also a fashion show held during the afternoon, with much silliness and pomp. Lady Clariel won, but she suspects the judges were biased.

Across the great hall from these fashionable pursuits, a spirited rapier tournament organized by Vincent Furnier was fought. Again, each combatant gave his all, but our own Lady Lie shined over all her opponents to win the tourney.

Classes were well-attended, particularly the one on Viking ships. Lady Milesent coordinated 12 classes in areas throughout the event site, many of which were taught by local gentles. Serena taught about raising silkworms, Kitt lectured on the roles of women in the medieval church, Edward FitzRanulf taught about medieval warfare, and



Kathryn ferch Rhys instructed in dance, Lyonnete spoke on the evolution of medieval headgear and Seadna taught glass bead making, a class that was so popular with its students, they found it hard to put the blow torches down and attend feast.

Said feast was a triumph itself, sold out, as is usual with Cleftlands feasts, and featuring enough food to make the very floorboards groan from the weight. The cooks' guild had prepared their own sausages, which were very tasty, and ravioli's, which were, in fact, German. The theme of the feast was German, to honor our recently dethroned king, with all the recipes documented and set out on the tables. In addition to the sausages, head cooks Angharad and Francesca provided chicken, roast beef, herb tarts (a sort of spinach-quiche type of dish) and many fruit dishes, all with the help of the usual suspects. For desert there were funnel cakes (surprisingly period!) garnished with adorable mushrooms of marzipan.

Aethelstan served as Master of Ceremonies throughout the meal, heralding the courses, introducing the entertainers and announcing the winners of the day's contests. His loud, clear voice was also heard as a part of the storytellers' guild's skit on the history of Vikings. The serving staff could each hear a line or two,

and every one of them was funny, and repeated back in the kitchen. Aethelstan, Aureore, Timothy, Shlomo, Pietro, Karl, Vashti, and Sarra are certainly to be commended for their performance. We also saw two Middle Eastern dancers, Karl's violin, and Edward Brackenburye's bagpipes. In addition to all this fine entertainment, a group of chamber musicians sat near the stage, playing music throughout the evening.

It was a delicious feast, and a fun one both to view and to serve. Their former majesties, Bardolph and Brigh, joined in to serve high table with Rutgar's assistance. Kathryn ferch Rhys organized servers.

The evening ended with the first court of Ragnvaldr and Arabella, resplendent in red and gold costume. Many local people were recognized, to thunderous applause. Darius was called in to court and thanked for his hard work as autocrat, and also announced the proceeds from the day's auction. Originally intended for the Royal Travel Fund, the auction was re-directed to raise money for the disaster relief efforts in New York and Washington. Approximately \$1800 were raised from the sale of many fine items. The auction table was glorious and weighted down with generosity, organized by Lord Nail and watched over throughout the day. The auction itself took place outside, to permit the fighters to continue in the main gym. Hoobah to the bidders, the donors, and the staff for this outpouring of aid. There can be no greater tribute to the Midrealm and its new king than the earnest work of charity.



## Court list for Coronation:

Conrad Shwartzwulf- Golden  
Mace

Kathryn ferch Rhys - AoA

Christiana of the Black Rose  
Inn - AoA

Regan of Blacksilver - AoA

Imry of Blacksilver - AoA

Donasian de Susinio- AoA

Maria de Castille - AoA

Olafr Grimolfsson- AoA

Marsaili ingen Domnaill - AoA

Lie de Camurac - AoA

Darius abd al-Wajüd - Purple  
Fret

Celeste Aylene Dougherty-  
Willow

Guenhwyfar MacEwen- Willow

Lady Alexandra la Noir -  
Willow

Ian Rassmussen - Dragon's  
Barb

Seadna O'Bainiann - Dragon's  
Heart



# Distillations of the Ether

Recently Pennsic War XXX photos were added to our website, thanks to Alda and Shlomo for providing pictures. Remember if you've a good photo of Cleftlanders at other events, or of Cleftlands events your webmistress will be happy to scan them in for the website. Also we can always use more images of award scrolls for our Scribe's Guild page. Pictures provide our online guests with the best explanation for what it is we do, and what better way to share your memories than in our online photo album?

The new on-line searchable directory is nearly ready for the public, it boasts an easier data entry method that should keep awards and name changes up to date. Brian Crick was indispensable in producing it. If you have additions or corrections for the Baronial Directory, let me know. If you received an award recently, I'd rather hear about it twice than not at all. Also anyone who would not mind having their E-mail address posted as well as persona and awards, let me know. No one's personal information will be posted without consent.

I am proud to report that the Cleftlands server weathered recent virus threats intact, thanks to Donasian for his support making sure our server remains strong and healthy.



## Baycrafters

Between the all-consuming hustle and bustle of Pennsic War and the frantic preparations for Coronation was the Baycrafters Faire Demo. Darius, naturally swamped with his duties as Autocrat for Coronation, rose to the occasion finding some reserve of energy to pour into this Demonstration with the aid of Lady Sarra Bossard and Sarah Rex as well as others.

Our own Wulfgar and his lady Alamathea were the King and Queen of the faire. Wulfgar lent his impressive private collection of museum reproduction weaponry to the display.

Colin the Lecher is to be thanked in particular for helping set up two of the four tents as well as providing a 'castle gate' to hide unsightly piles of armor and water coolers from the public.

Lady Alexandra la Noire organized the tournaments and the lure of prizes worked well, the demo drew more fighters than years previous. As always the rapier and heavy weapons combat drew the biggest crowds and the good people of Bay Village were ecstatic to throw the tissue and duct tape 'stones' Alexandra had prepared for the demo. One fighter was heard to remark that he wished he had died earlier in the melee so he could avoid being pelted by the enthusiastic crowd.

The chivalry had a good showing at the demo, recently knighted Sir Valharic beat out tough competition for Saturday's tournament, Syr Theo won on Sunday and Ser Nicholas was victorious on Monday and in a chivalrous action gave his prize to Lady Lyonnete, who had to quit the tournament early for health reasons.

Lady Brangwen Snowden ran the fencing lists and won the rapier tournament on Saturday. Sunday and Monday's competitions were won by Warder Brice Colquhoun.

Lady Sarra organized the classes for the day which unfortunately were poorly attended. There is hope that next year the classes will be better advertised.

Lady Celeste orchestrated an impromptu dance demonstration on Sunday. Many flyers were handed out, illuminations displayed and in all everyone, combatants, artisans and the public had a good time.

# SCA-History: The First Coronation Held in Cleftlands

*From the second written history of the Cleftlands, compiled by Isabella of Greycliffs*

The Cleftlands finally got to host a kingdom event, Dagan's first coronation in the fall of 1974. Ozzie, Karen, Swami, and Maria did a lot of the planning. The day site was Squire's Castle. The tourney was to be at Thwing [CWRU campus], and the feast at Fenn Tower [CSU campus]. Almost all transportation in the Cleftlands died the week of the event. Swami had obtained a permit saying they needed no permit to use Squire's Castle, but he didn't show up at the castle with it. The police were finally somehow convinced that SCA was there legally. Dagan had his coronation and held his first court. There was some unpleasantness with Sterling van Hamm at this point. He left the SCA shortly afterwards. Due to lack of transportation and no lack of confusion, the tournament was never held. Some people, such as Maria and Yosef, never even got rides to the feast. They turned out to be the lucky ones. There were 45 feast reservations, and the cooks made enough food for 70 people. Many more than that number showed up. There was one salmon, and some bread trenchers (which in this case did not feed the multitude.) The roast suckling pig was delivered 2 hours late. A young server also managed to overturn a giant vat of peas. The event was a disaster, and earned notoriety for the Cleftlands which lasted several years.

*How far we have come! -ed*

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## Notes and Hoobahs

A very special Hoobah to the clean up crew from Coronation, who stayed on site until past midnight! The event ended late, and without these folks personal dedication the Bohemian Hall might never have forgiven us.

Congratulations to the youngest member of House Blacksilver for making it through her first event in her first garb! (aaaaw!)

The Chroniclers are leaving you! Lyonnete and her sister Milesent are departing for Vietnam October 9th, returning on the 21st, baring horrible disaster. There will be an October *Forum!* A second-string special deputy assistant chronicler is needed to ensure this happens. See Milesent or Lyonnete to volunteer.

The Glass Guild will be resuming its regular meetings and classes once Lady Alex finishes moving all her stuff out of storage. See her for details.

Congratulations to Aiden and Hely, celebrating their 5th Anniversary.

The Archery Guild has started shooting for ranking. Want to see how you stack up against your fellow archers? Come to Lucas Archery and shoot the trail!

In the well-deserved rest and relaxation after coronation, don't forget that we have another event coming up in January. Sir Ephraim is leading up the team, and hopes to make this a 'teaching event'. Each staff member will have a deputy to train, and together will write on their experiences to compile a 'how to run an event' book. If you are interested in learning how to help out at events, or wish to volunteer for a position, see Sir Ephraim.

We are moving indoors for the fall and winter, and a training list will be set up again. Those interested in learning the art of heavy weapons fighting, contact our marshal, Conrad, one of the knights or Calum.

Speaking of moving indoors: as has been our tradition, business meeting will move from 8:30 to 9pm while we are

indoors. If you have an opinion on this, see Lord Nial.

Lady Celeste will be leading Middle Eastern dance classes at meeting in October. See her, the dance guild mistress, or Darius for details.

The scribes guild is hoping to hold regular calligraphy and illumination classes at their meetings. If you have an idea for a class, see Guenhwyfar.

Case Medieval Society has started up again, and is holding regular meetings on Tuesday nights in Carlton Commons. Permission to park in the secured lot behind Carlton has been officially obtained for CWRUMS students and visitors from our Barony. Come help these kids learn all things SCA.

The CWRUMS group plans on improving their Trebuchet this year, making it SCA-legal, and they are going to hold a 'games of chivalry' event on October 6th.

# Calendar for October

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## As Usual:

**Regular Meetings** on Wednesday Nights at the Shore Center

**Archery Guild** Sundays at 1pm at Lucas Archery

**Armorer's Guild** Thursday nights at Valorian's house

**Dance Guild** Second Monday at Euclid Public Library

**Fencing Practice** Sunday nights at Wulfgar's Dojo

**CWRUMS Meeting** Tuesday nights at 7pm at Carlton Commons.

## Local Happenings:

**10-6-01** CWRU Medieval Society "Games of Chivalry" event and demo at Kelvin Smith Library Oval, CWRU campus

**10-26-01** Gwyntarian Dance Night

**10-31-01** Halloween and Desert Revel! Be prepared for above-average weirdness! Also the release date for October's *Forum*.

## Selected Events:

**10-5-01 to 10-7-01** Black Dragon Rising IV - Stormvale [Flint, MI]

**10-6-01** Cloved Orange Ball - Sternfeld [Indianapolis, IN]

**10-12-01 to 10-14-01** Known World Academy of the Rapier - Tree-Girt-Sea [Chicago, IL]

**10-13-01** Event in Dernehealde [Athens, OH]

**10-20-01** Crown Tournament - Andelcrag [Battle Creek, MI]

**10-26-01 to 10-28-01** Known World Arts and Sciences Fair - An Tir [Seattle, WA]

**10-27-01** Red Dragon - Tirnewydd [Columbus, OH]

Would you like your guild or household meeting or event posted here? Just get it to the Chronicler by the last Monday of the month!

