

The background is a complex stained glass design. At the top center is a white eagle with wings spread, perched on a branch. Below it, the word "PHOENIX" is written in large, white, serif capital letters with a black outline. The central focus is a shield with a green field containing a white eagle with wings spread, perched on a branch. Above the eagle is a white laurel wreath. The shield is set within a circular frame with a red top and bottom section and a blue middle section. The entire design is surrounded by intricate patterns of green vines with yellow berries, grey and white geometric shapes, and blue dots.

PHOENIX

September 2013
Anno Societas XLVIII
Volume 27, Issue 18

THE PHOENIX

Barony of the Sacred Stone

September, 2013

Volume 27, Issue 18

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Letter from the Seneschal

Greetings to the Populace!

First, I would like to say that it made me proud to be the Seneschal of this Barony at our birthday when cup after cup was delivered to Their Majesties. It really shows that this Barony is truly the best Barony in the Kingdom of Atlantia!



Next, I'd like to mention that War of the Wings is coming up very soon (October 9-13) but, even before then, **bids for War of the Wings IX are due as of October 1st!**

Last, with the crowning of Ragnarr and Lynette, we are entering a new reign. Their first event after Their Coronation will be in our Barony at War of the Wings. Please help make them feel welcome in our corner of Their lands.

September 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>					

Baronial Schedule

Aug. 30 - Sept. 1 **Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday** — Sacred Stone is turning 31, so we're headed to Morocco! Join us for feasting, fantastic garb, and a rich environment that anyone can enjoy.

Sept. 15 **Business Meeting** — We will be meeting at 2:00 PM at 2063 South Main Street, Mt. Airy. (Mount Airy Wesleyan Church)

Canton Schedules

Meetings

Aire Faucon— N/A

Baelfire Dunn - N/A

Charlesbury Crossing - First Monday of every month

Crois Brigitte - First Wednesday of every month, 6:30 PM

Middlegate - Second Sunday of every month, 2:00 PM

Salesberie Glen - N/A

A&S

Aire Faucon - Tuesday evenings at rotation locations

Baelfire Dunn - N/A

Charlesbury Crossing - Location to be announced.

Crois Brigitte - Dates and locations will be published

Middlegate - Tuesday 6-9- contact A&S Officer for address

Salesberie Glen –Occasional Wednesdays, contact Lady Mari for dates

Practices

Aire Faucon - Will be held on canton nights as location allows

Baelfire Dunn - Rapier practice: Sundays at Bunker Hill HS

Charlesbury Crossing - N/A

Crois Brigitte - Archery Practice on Sundays at rotating locations

Middlegate - Wed. and Sunday Heavy Fighter Practice

Salesberie Glen - N/A

September Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2013

Location:

Star of Bethlehem Church

1355 Jonestown Rd
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

OFFICER REPORTS

Coronet

Voting about policies today. Thanks to those that helped to re-write them. This helps to keep in compliance with kingdom standards.



We had an awesome event yesterday. The rain didn't slow anybody down. In attendance were 28 newcomers. The fiber solar turned out awesome with 22 participants.

Seneschal

Everything is going great. I have Brianna as not-drop-dead deputy, and Illyria is drop-dead. The meeting is moving around the barony, and next month is in Mount Airy. There are lots of events coming up. Volunteer at WoW!



Exchequer

As of August 18th, the balance is \$8,033.43.

The barony sponsored a fete at Pennsic and brought back check for \$93. The numbers are not yet in for Flight of the Falcon. People sponsored people for feast. 135 people came out.



I also need help at gate at Baronial Birthday.

Chronicler

Lady Caitlin has recently stepped down from this position. If you are interested in the position please submit your letter to:
Seneschal@sacredstone.atlantia.org,
Baron@sacredstone.atlantia.org, &
Baroness@sacredstone.atlantia.org before SEPTEMBER 12th.

A decision will be made regarding this position at the Baronial Business Meeting on SEPTEMBER 15th.

Herald

1. Found several issues with the Warranted Herald list in relation to heralds residing in the barony. Have send questions to Kraken.
2. According to the list as it stands we have 23 heralds, at least 5 are part of Triton Staff. (And I would like to add Master Bran to bring our total to a cool two dozen - but that is just me and it can't be official, sigh)
3. Flight of the Falcon hosted a Royal Court.

Names in Submission:

At Society: Alesander Davidson, Stella da Lodi, Vincenzo d'Este

Devices in Submission:

At Society: Stella da Lodi, Vincenzo d'Este

Heavy Marshal

There are no issues or rules changes to report at this time. We had 12 armored fighters at the August Warriors Heart Challenge to include two new fighters. The Challenge seems to be going well and I hope that interest from the fighting community continues to grow. There was good fighting at both Flight of the Falcon and Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. At Flight of the Falcon we were able to authorize a new fighter who had recently relocated to the Barony from Mid-realm. We were also able to authorize a new fighter in the Barony at Baronial Birthday.



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Minister of Arts and Sciences

The fiber solar went very well! 22 people joined in, and there were a lot of informal classes taught. I hope to do it again soon, possibly at WoW.

Baronial Birthday is coming up, and the A&S Baronial Champion will be chosen there. Additionally there will be lots of competitions.

Rapier Marshal

No report given.

Rafael has been hosting practices in Bunker Hill every other Sunday. The next one will be on the 25th of this month.

Archery Marshal

No report given.

Archery practice is still held once a month at Lorelei's on Sundays.

We are looking at a revision of rules concerning atlatl.

Chatelaine

Flight of the Falcon was awesome. 28 newcomers. Newcomers point help is needed at Baronial Birthday and WoW.

Webminister

Greetings to the Populace.



Our web presence is still strong. Many thanks go out to those who keep the conversation rolling on Social Media. The plans to redesign the baronial webpage are still underway. If you have pictures of yourselves in action (fighting, service, or arts) please consider submitting them to me with the appropriate release forms available

at <http://www.sca.org/docs/library.html> under the Publications heading. It is my preference to have these as action shots rather than posed shots but please consider submitting any and we'll see how it goes. Lastly, I am happy to announce Casey Jones has volunteered to lend his time and talents as a new Deputy for the Webminister's Office. If you are interested in learning about how the web and social sites work, please contact me at annorahall@yahoo.com. All skills are welcome.

In Service,
Lady Annora Hall

Chirurgion

Baronial Birthday should be a nice, simple event. I need many people at WoW (water-bearing, etc, as well as surgeons-in-training). We all need to have fun but be safe. The new deputy is Alexander Davidson



Chancellor of Youth

Some of the children were recognized in court at Flight of the Falcon. There should be at least one page at Baronial Birthday. Thamira has officially passed her background check, so she is official in her ability to help.

The baronial toybox project has been derailed slightly; we need to look into if we want to continue to do this.

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CANTON REPORTS

Charlesbury Crossing

Our deputy seneschal is becoming exchequer. We are holding two fighter practices, one each on Sunday and Tuesday, and are thinking of Thursdays as well.



Middlegate

Middlegate continues to do new and exciting things. We continue with our open A&S nights at Geeksboro coffee house in Greensboro with regular attendance from our newcomers and continuing interest from casual observers. We will soon be adding a monthly period games night at Geeksboro as well to run alongside their normal Friday games night. Ten of our newcomers were able to attend Flight of the Falcon and they each enjoyed themselves. Several of our members are working toward starting an acting troupe, so look for that in the near future.



Baelfire Dunn

We are preparing for Below the Salt in April. We also need scraps to stuff targets.



Aire Falcon

Our virtual meetings are a huge success. The next meeting on Sept. 10 at 7:30 at Ingles. We are alternating online and face-to-face. Also, we are trying to get together A&S meetings – notably a portrait painting class!



Crois Brigitte

We are still active, some throughout the kingdom. Archery practice is going very well. Looking for additional ideas for get-togethers.



Salisburie Glenn

We just had a business meeting. We have a



warranted MoAS now.

Old Business

Baronial policy changes. 2 real substance changes:

Matching wording to kingdom to baron and baroness (gender); archery and heavy marshals. Gramatical/spelling changes.

2 abstainers; the motion passed.

War of the Wings Heraldic Badge needs submission.

Populace directory; contact info and such. See Murienne for forms.

New Business

Chronicler call for letters; we will be voting on this at the next meeting.

A proposal to purchase archery netting for WoW and other events. These will help to collect arrows in target archery, not combat. At least one is needed for WoW. The proposal was for \$300; the vote passed unanimously!

We are looking for a location for meeting in Charlotte. Wet Willies was proposed – it is free for meetings. There is a bar/food/etc, as well as a large meeting room. This will be the location for the meeting on 20th October.

We need cups for their Majesties and newcomers. We will be stockpiling for Baronial Birthday, and then possibly painting afterwards. Seneschals will collect these and communicate the need to their cantons.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The September meeting will be on September 15th at 2:00 PM, at the Mount Airy Wesleyan Church (2063 South Main Street).

Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday

We are still going to Morocco. Ealasaid is our cultural advisor. A couple of classes will be happening happening (henna, scriptorium), merchants, 3:00 in the afternoon is blessing dance lesson. Music! Camillo is cooking! Champions will be appointed. Water gun fight. Childrens' activities happening too. A&S: non-alcoholic drink competition, at least a gallon, populace vote. Silent Auction competition. Leather jewelry competition.

Champions are all being asked to do something for A&S (that's legal).

Champions being chosen in A&S. There are four categories for this: feather, flame, white, green. Heavy, rapier, and archery are also being chosen. Emails are encouraged to submit letters. Ransom the Cure tourney is also going to be there. Remember that the populace can also donate money to this cause.

War of the Wings: Lots of A&S will be happening. There will be poetry, cheese, performing arts, and a championship. Bardic circles: give info before event for calendar! Backlog scrolls. As always, get registered and get there. A call is going out to volunteer! Herald's consult point is going to be co-run this year.

In a Phoenix Eye: November 9th. Staff and volunteers are still needed. There will be lots of amazing A&S there to see and participate in. ACCEPS should be ready soon. This will take place at the Star of Bethlehem Church. Bardic, youth, cook, and brewing champions will all be chosen there.

Kingdom Unevent: December 7th. It will be held at Bunker Hill, completely free. There will be a fundraiser lunch, with details on the website. There will be no classes, but officer and order meetings.

Kingdom University: Will take place here at Bunker Hill High School in March. More details coming soon.

The Ipswich Mint: Part Two - The Hammered Coin.

Background

Since the process for producing hammered coins remained pretty much the same from the 1st millennium through the 15th - 17th centuries I will talk a bit about this process before I move on to articles specific to Roman Era coinage.

Hammered coins were made in Venice until the 1770s. France became the first to adopt a fully machine-made coin ([Milled Coin](#)) in 1643. In England, the first non-hammered coins were produced in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I in the 1560s, but while machine-produced coins were experimentally produced at intervals over the next century, production of hammered coins did not finally end until 1662.

Process

Minting of money was restricted to guilds or mints which were authorized by the ruler to produce coins. Raw metal (typically silver) was used to produce coins of particular weights and sizes, and with markings that generally identified both the reigning sovereign, and the moneyer that produced the coin. The value of the coin was not stamped on the coin itself – its weight in silver defined its value. In fact, people sometimes cut coins into pieces to make change (a practice used in the middle ages forward).

To mint coins using the hammered method, some basic tools were necessary.

- Hammers
- Shears
- Facilities for melting silver
- Scales
- Punches for engraving
- Files for shaping dies and punches

Engraving Tools

If you look at coins closely (like the example below), you can see that the patterns and words on the coin are made up of a relatively small number of simple shapes, like lines, arcs, triangles, dots, lozenges, and so on. Highly skilled engravers were employed to create portraits and other designs. These shapes are made by punches that created dents in the face of the die used to stamp the coin. Before creating coins, a moneyer had to create a set of punches that can create all the shapes and letters needed to make coin faces.



A basic punch set might include these shapes:



Dies



Coins were stamped between two dies, the top die (also called a trussel or hammer die) with the obverse (front) image, and a bottom die (also called a pile or anvil die) with the reverse (back) image. The diameter of a die typically matched the size of the coin to be made. An example of an Anglo-Saxon Silver Penny depicting Cnut was 20mm. For a Roman AE4 coin, the die would have been 14mm in diameter, and a Roman Follis would have been 26mm in diameter. These dies were generally made from iron, and were rarely hardened since the die material was much harder than the coin material already. Normally dies would last for a decent amount of time, even though they weren't hardened. A coining team could produce up to 20,000 strikes, wearing out a set of dies, in one day. During the 2nd century about 17 million Roman denarii were issued each year, so a year's issue required up to 1000 dies; the bronze issues of the Constantinian period must have required many thousands of dies.

To prepare dies for engraving, the Moneyer wanted to get the face of the die as flat and square as was possible (by square, I mean at right angles to the axis of the die). The way they would have gone about this was to run the die face along a file for a long time, checking and turning the face as they went, until it was flat and square. Then the die face was polished in order to get smooth and shiny coins. A couple of people have told me that they would not have polished the dies in period, but in his 12th century treatise 'On Divers Arts', Theophilus discusses the use of sifted ground charcoal applied onto a piece of wool [6, pp. 102, 158], a brush made from brass wire [6, p. 114], and also finely scraped chalk applied to a cloth [6, pp. 102, 158]. In his 16th century treatise on metals and metallurgy, 'Pirotechnia', Vannoccio Biringuccio recommends using fine pumice followed by an abrasive powder known as "tripoli" [7, p. 389]. Furthermore, with most extant medieval coins the areas without design elements are smooth; this could only have been attained by dies that have been faced and polished.

Engraving the Dies

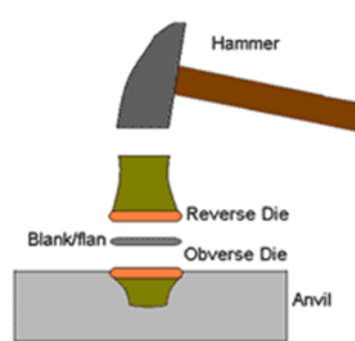
The first thing to explain is that when dies were engraved everything was done in reverse! Everything created on the die would appear in mirror-image on the coin (the term for this is that the die is engraved "in intaglio", meaning reversed). It was not uncommon in medieval coins to see mistakes made in this process – a letter reversed, for example.

A coin die (in the Middle Ages) generally started with a line of pellets (dots) around the outer perimeter of the die. These were imprinted on period coins to prevent people from trimming the outer edges off and reducing the value of the coin. The obverse face typically had a rendering of the king, and the king's name or some slogan, while the reverse identified the Moneyer or mint that produced the coin. On Roman coins the obverse would have contained a likeness of the Emperor and an inscription with his name and any titles, while the reverse would depict any of a number of gods, depictions of battle and other pictures as well as further inscriptions to include mottos, mint, valuation marks and control marks.

Dies were typically engraved using a punch set and a hammer. The process was pretty straight forward; the engraver would place a punch on the die face, align it carefully, and then tap it sharply with a lightweight hammer to get a good clean imprint. This was repeated until the desired design was finished. The same would then be done to the bottom die.

Making Flans

A flan was a blank disk of metal that would be struck to make a coin. In period, silver or gold (the ancient romans also use bronze) was melted down, poured out into molds and hammered into sheets of a measured thickness, then cut into circles (flans) with shears. The flans were weighed, and any that were under-weight were melted down again and the process was repeated until a supply of accurately weighted flans had been produced. For high-value coins (like those made from gold), the flans would have been made intentionally too heavy, then after the coins were struck, they would be filed or trimmed to the exact weight, which allowed the final appearance of the coin to be adjusted before it left the mint.



Striking Coins

Figure 3 the Tools of a Moneyer

When striking the coins, an anvil or large stump/block of wood with a hole drilled into it would have been used to aid in the process.

One of the dies would have been placed inside of the hole, face-up. A flan would have then been placed on the bottom die, with the top die being placed face-down on the flan. The Moneyer would then wrap one hand around the dies in order to hold the top die vertical and keep the dies centered on the flan. Finally, either the worker or an assistant would strike the top die sharply with a sledgehammer, and thus a coin was produced.

References

Coffman, James, the Moneyers Handbook, Self-published, Reprint 2005.

Hammered Coinage, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hammered_coinage

Zander H. Klawans, Handbook of Ancient Greek and Roman Coins, Printed 2003

Hlaford Symon de Ipswich

Author

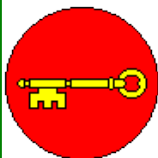
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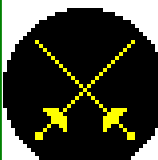
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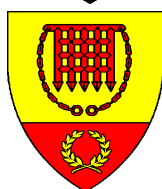
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