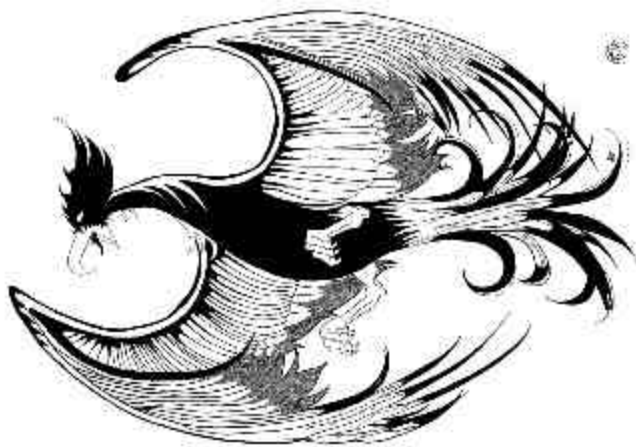


The Phoenix

The Barony of the Sacred Stone



*July 2006 ASXLV
Volume 20, Issue 7*

Barony of the Sacred Stone, SCA, Inc.
Kathryn Evans
4493 Leepers Street
Iron Station, NC 28080

Unto the Populace

From the Baron and Baroness

Unto the populace of Sacred Stone do we, Marc and Alianor, send warm summer greetings.

Summer has come upon our fair Barony with a vengeance. We pray that everyone will enjoy these months of heat and activity safely.

With all the events and activities, please bear with us as we have much information to pass along.

Wastelands was a hot but wonderful day. We watched as so many of Sacred Stone's citizens received recognition for their talents and hard work. Vivat to each of you. We are incredibly proud to be part of such a wonderful Barony. As there is no greater pride for us and such a great joy for the recipient we ask that you please send us award recommendations. There are so many gentles deserving of so much, we may not know of them all and wish to make sure that they are recognized for their hard works and talents.

Along those lines we also wish to put out a call for scrolls. Seeing the look in someone's eyes as they are handed a physical representation of the gratitude of us and the Barony is a wonderful thing, and ask that the populace help us to be able to perpetuate this memory.

The drums of war grow louder and more frantic with each passing day. Soon many of us will travel to the lands to our North, else the conflict reach fair Atlantia's borders. We go to stand at the side of our King and Prince, Queen and Princess as they help their cousins of the East against the MidRealm threat. Sacred Stone will be hosting the largest encampment in recent memory and we are getting anxious to pack the wagons and hit the trail. It will be an experience we look forward to sharing with first timer and veteran alike. We hope that all of you staying in other encampments will stop by to say hello and share your tales of success and humor be they conquests on the fields of battle or merchant row, or even tales of a wonderful class taken.

His Excellency requests that any fighters going to War please contact him. There are tabards as well as shield covers for any interested in showing their Baronial colors. On that note, we announce that we will be holding a Baronial Court Tuesday of War Week at 7:20 pm. Their Highnesses have been gracious to allow us to hold this court at Atlantian Royal. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Their Most Royal Highnesses have granted Sacred Stone the great honor of hosting Their Coronation. Please watch as more information will be dispersed very soon. We encourage you all to lend a hand where able, and show the Kingdom exactly what makes us so proud to call Sacred Stone home.

The weekend after Coronation is the Birthday of Sacred Stone. This year's festivities will be held at Elchenburg. The theme for the day is the Manness Codex. This day, we will seek out our new Baronial Champions. As has been mentioned, the Heavy Champion, Rapier Champion, Archery Champion, Arts and Science Champion, Bardic Champion and Youth Combat Champion will be joined by a Brewing Champion, Bakery/Cooking Champion, Scribal Champion, and to showcase the talents of our Barony's future we will also be choosing a Youth A&S Champion and Youth Archery Champion. Shortly we will be sending out the requirements for entering into the competitions for these positions. We encourage everyone to enter, and to please consider entering in more than one area. Novice and veteran alike are asked to compete for any and all.

Lastly, War of the Wings is coming up quickly and will be here before we know it. The staff has asked that folks please start sending in their reservations so that they may make the proper arrangements. We will be having a Baronial encampment and ask that anyone interested in acting as Steward please contact us as soon as possible to get the proverbial ball rolling.

We look forward to seeing you all. Have fun and be safe.

We remain,

Marc and Alianor
Baron et Baronne
Barony of the Sacred Stone

From the Castellan

ConCarolinas was a fun demo this year. 6 fighters or so showed up and attended this demo. The Convention members enjoyed this display of the SCA and asked many questions. We found a number of old SCAdians returning. Once again, I would like to thank all of the people who assisted me.

Members from the StellarCon spoke to me about a possible SCA demo at their Con. There could be an SCA track of activities if things could be worked out. One thing I wanted to make clear is that I did not want the SCA members to have to pay for a Con membership in order to do a demo. Space is also a factor. This Con will take place in Greensboro, NC.

Local Pagan groups have asked for SCA demos. There is such a gather in Charlotte in September of this year. I am still getting details on that.

Achbar

From the Chronicler

Greetings all,

I would like to thank Lord Jonathan Blackbow for his wonderful story this month as another installment for the War of the Wings. Lord Christophe of Gray has also supplied us with another great archery article which I hope you will all enjoy.

This fall my warrant as Chronicler will be up and due to school and other mundane considerations I do not intend to renew it (though I have greatly enjoyed my time as Chronicler). If anyone is interested or would like to know more about the job please let me know and I will be happy to answer any questions.

Always in service,
Katerina

From the Warlord

This past Assessment, I had the chance to work with some fighters from Sacred Stone in the capacity of the job. My job as Warlord needs improving. I hope to do that at more baronial fighter practices. My goal is to have more participation and better training by War of the Wings

Achbar



Regnum

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Regnum

Baronial Champions

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Barony of the Sacred Stone

Regular Member's Meeting

Called to order on June 25, 2006, Elkin, NC by Master Robear at 11:00 a.m.

Seneschal's Report:

A request was made to all seneschals to compile a complete list of the Canton officers in the Barony. Robear is planning to meet with all of the Canton Seneschals in the near future.

Exchequer's report:

Lady Lidia's warrant expires this month. Lord Rufus volunteered to be our next Baronial Exchequer. And there was great cheering! The current balance is \$9993.10.

Quartermaster's report:

We have a high security storage shed at Buffalo Storage in Statesville. There are 3 keys, held by The Baron & Baronne - in Greensboro, Lord Alain (Quartermaster) - in Statesville, and Master Robear (Seneschal) - in Charlotte. An inventory list with processes for checking items in and out is being developed. We still need to buy/build storage shelves and do another purge of Regalia.

Knight's Marshal: not present

Rapier: not present

Archery: Lord Ellys reported that the archery activities went well at Wastelands and that Crois Brigitte archers are growing in skill and numbers.

Youth: Sir Axel stated that Youth Combat is going strong in Sacred Stone. Currently, Sanouke, Lady Micai (please send me the correct spellings, I apologize for mangling them), and Sir Axel are warranted Marshals. Lady Kellia and Baron Achbar are MITs. We have 9 authorized youth fighters in the Barony. We will at least 2 divisions fighting at War of the Wings at least 5 or 6 combatants.

Herald: not present

MoAS: not present

MoL: not present

Chatelaine:

Achbar organized a successful demo at Con Carolina the first weekend in June which has led to an invitation to participate at High Point's Stellar Con next February. There will be a whole SCA track, entitled, "Making Fantasy from History."

Chronicler: Lady Katerina reports that the newsletter is going well, and that she has been receiving a good flow of articles. There will be 4 more installments of stories for War of the Wings. Lord Jonathan wrote the next one, in this issue. Katerina's warrant will be up in October; she does not plan to submit a renewal.

Webminister: not present

Canton Reports/Announcements

Aire Faucon: Fight of the Falcon II will be held August 26. This is a low-key event focused on the needs of newcomers. Volunteers are sought to teach A&S classes, and an Artisans' Row. Please pre-register early so that final decisions about hall size can be made early.

Baelfire Dunn: not present

Charlesbury Crossing: Charlesbury Crossing and Aire Faucon are planning some joint A&S activities. Wednesday, July 19 at Mistress Jessamyn's will be a Chinese Fabric Exchange. Bring unwanted fabric from your stash (at least 4 yards) and we'll have a good time trading it around and finding new, loving homes for it. The following Tuesday, July 25 will be at Lady Brianna's.

Crois Brigte: The canton members have been working at the castle site regularly, most Sundays, beginning at 11-12:00 and continuing through the afternoon and enjoying archery shoots and fighting practice too. A proposal to put on Fools' 12th Night in January 2007 is being drafted. A gathering at the castle is planned for the weekend of June 30 - July 2.

Hindscroft: Wastelands was a great success this weekend! Applause for all!

Salisbury Glenn: Mistress Jeanmaire is the new MoAS for the Canton. Dancing classes are being held the 2nd Thursday of the month, The Dancers of the Glen. July 15, the canton will host a Dance & Dessert Social. Please wear garb, bring a dessert to share, and a small donation for use of the church facilities. There will be more info on the elists. Mistress Jeanmaire will be hosting a sewing gathering at home that afternoon, too.

Old Business:

War of the Wings I has 3 pre-registrations. There will be Baronial Encampments, and a Middle East encampment. Friday Night's Tourney will be a fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness, along with a basket raffle and food vending. The Performing Arts Competition will be Friday Night. The site will open at noon on Friday.

New Business:

Sacred Stone's Baronial Birthday will be autocratted by Herrin Gise September 8-10. The theme is the Manesse Codex. There will be procession for Court; cantons are requested to supply banners. (Asszony Rozsa has documentation for period banners.) Please pre register early so that firm numbers are available for feast planning and budgeting. A website is being constructed.

Her Excellency would like tabards for youth combat fighters. The Laurels volunteered to have them ready in time for Pennsic.

There will be several additional new Champions chosen at Baronial Birthday in the categories of Brewing, Baking, and Bardic. There will also be 3 youth champions, one in each division.

Master Robear and Lord Jonathan are putting in a bid for Coronation. The site is Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center in Reidsville, NC, north of Greensboro. They are planning a 3 day event, over Labor Day weekend.

Their Highnesses' Announcement:

A Team Tournament is planned for Coronation. Count Valharic will be cooking feast.

Their Excellencies' Announcements:

Baronial Court at Pennsic will be Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Atlantia Royal Encampment.

A request was made to make Lady Graciella and her husband, Wolf, official citizens of the Barony, and the response was unanimously in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.
Freiherrin Susanna von Schweissguth, OL



War of the Wings

Chapter Most Recent

How the Birdy Got Her Flame On

Hearken, O mighty King, to my tale. Thou hast heard much regarding the ongoing struggle of the Phoenix 'gainst the Kittyhawk, and the history thereof, even unto the story of How the Kitty Got her Wings. Yet, LO, O mighty King, there is in truth an even older tale; that of how the Phoenix one day Caught Fire, which we, in the modern tongue, do refer to as the Birdy Getting her Flame On. In exchange for sparing my life I now reveal the ancient tale to thee, that Thou mayest stretch forth thy Royal Hand upon the Barony of the Sacred Stone, and encompass it with thy Favor.

Or, failing that, laugh thyself nigh unto death.

I begin in the misty times before the Mighty Kingdom of Atlantia, e'en before the land itself was named. So long ago, O Mighty King, that even the Phoenix and the Kittyhawk were but a chick and a kitten. Being young animals, they knew naught of their instinctive enmity for each other, and often played together in the sun-dappled fields, or chased each other round and round the hills till they grew sick with dizziness. Life was simpler then, O Mighty King.

Yet even in those simpler, more innocent times, there were vestiges of Darkness; greed, avarice, strife, MTV, early video games; the list goes on. One such bone of contention lay between the Chick and the Kitten, although they did not know it.

The land roundabouts was mostly farmland, but further into the mountains, a strange group of creatures lived. They wore green and yellow, and had deformed faces, and carried pick-axes, and they mined the surrounding land for gems and gold, and were thus known as Miners. The local farmers grew a strange plant that the Chick found oddly pleasing, though it made her sick to smell it in quantity - yes, O Mighty King, I see you know of it. It grew so profusely back then that it was called Brownweed, and the Miners discovered it, and coveted it, and traded the gems and gold they wrested from the earth for it. The farmers had use for the gold, but none for the gems, but they knew that a thing need only be difficult to attain to make it worthwhile to others, and so they hid the gems, mainly emeralds, in a spot which only they knew. When the Miners asked what had become of the emeralds, the crafty farmers replied "Hidden it."

This puzzled the Miners, but they merely went on with their digging and shoring and mining. And life proceeded apace, and time passed, as time does.

Am I boring you, O Mighty King? I crave pardon. Ofttimes it is meet that a story be told in its entirety, the better to understand the events of today.

Then one day, while the Chick and the Kitten romped and gamboled through the dew-heavy grass near a village of farmers, one of the very young children saw the twain, and scampered up to join them. Her name was Lilith, and her hair was black as coal. She had a simple robe on, tied at the waist with a scrap of rope, and tied to the belt was a pouch with her toys in it. The Kitten found the scrap of rope quite appealing, and Lilith took it off and began to play with the Kitten, who chased the rope to and fro with abandon, as kittens will do.

The Chick watched but soon grew bored, O Mighty King. Surely you encounter the same as you sit on your throne, from time to time? Boredom was a thing that the Chick avoided at all costs, and without any other source of distraction to hand, she began to peck through the things in Lilith's pouch as a diversion. Innocently enough it began, as do many journeys down a dark path.

While rooting through Lilith's pouch the Chick's beak clicked against something small and hard. The Chick grasped it in her beak and pulled the thing out into the sunlight, where it glistened and gleamed greenly in the sunlight, as emeralds are wont to do. The Chick saw the light and was utterly entranced by it. She called to Lilith, who left the Kitten with the scrap of rope and came over to see what the Chick had found.

"And what is this, little girl?" chirped the Chick. "What a fascinating object this is! In truth I cannot take my eyes off of it."

Lilith, being young, knew only that her parents had many of them and that they were apparently worth very little, since her parents had returned them to the hills from whence they came. She told the Chick as much. And over such a small thing did the Chick's heart begin its slow downward spiral into avarice.

The Kitten, having tired of the fact that the rope merely lay in the grass and did nothing, came over to the Chick to see what interesting object she might find. The bright light of the emerald also entranced the Kitten, who began her own downward spiral into avarice at the sight of the green gleam. (However, Kittens, as everyone knows, are born into avarice, and thus the downward spiral of the Kitten was more of a downward lunge.)

The Chick knew that there were many more of these shiny rocks in another place, and made hasty excuse to the Kitten in order that she might sneak away and gather more of them to herself. The Kitten, knowing nothing of more shiny rocks, was content to play with the single emerald for the nonce. Lilith accompanied the Chick back to the village, the better to gather more shiny rocks.

The Chick arrived at the village just a bit too late; the farmers had already left the village with a shipment of emeralds to be hidden. After stripping the village of the few remaining emeralds the Chick asked Lilith where more of the shiny rocks might be found. Lilith knew naught of exactly where, but she was able to point the direction the farmers had taken, and so the two set off to the northwest.

Meanwhile, the Kitten had tired of the shiny rock, and left it where it last fell, and with the attention span typical of a Kitten wandered to the East. As luck would have it, a group of farmers wandered the same direction as the Kitten, as they had decided that they were over-farming the local land. The shiny rock, having served its full purpose, was left where it had fallen. Many of the locals began to worship this rock, and as time passed, they became both possessive and protective of it, and allowed the forest to grow around it, that it might be better hidden from prying eyes. And they ever after called themselves Guardians of the Sacred Stone.

[at the time this writing was discovered the Guardians had not yet changed their name to reflect the truly amazing amount of money they had lost betting on horse races. -ed.]

The story reaches its peak, O Mighty King, in more ways than one. When the Chick and Lilith had wandered for what seemed an eternity, they came to a place high in the mountains where the farmers had concealed their vast store of emeralds, and the Chick dug her way into the earth to find them. When she broke through into the chamber in which the gems were kept, she could do nothing but stand in awe of the massive store of brightly gleaming emeralds. Lacking hands, she began to gobble up the emeralds and store them in her crop, planning to hide them somewhere else.

Lilith followed the Chick into the cave, saw what the Chick was doing, and begged her to stop. "For," she cried to the Chick, "surely the gems are safe where they are, and there is no need for you to covet them so in their shiny gleaming."

The words "shiny gleaming" got the Chick's attention back on the emeralds, and she went back to plucking them from the earth. Lilith begged her again and again, and then pleaded with the Chick to at least limit her gobbling to what she had already taken. "For," she cried to the Chick, "surely you would not be so covetous as to take every single gem from these farmers that have worked so hard to gain them in their shiny gleaming."

Again, the words "shiny gleaming" set the Chick off, and she redoubled her efforts to pick up the remaining emeralds. As she plucked the last emerald from the ground, she turned to go, and saw Lilith watching her with an evil smile on her face. And the Chick was mightily confused. At the same time she noticed that she was growing warm.

Lilith gazed upon the Chick, O Mighty King, saying, "thrice, you were warned that these gems were hazardous to your health. Three times you ignored the warning. Now you will pay for your greed and avarice with your life. The emeralds will shortly reach critical mass, burst into flame, and burn you to a cinder." And she began to laugh evilly.

Finding herself growing uncomfortably warm, the Chick grew afraid. Surely, O Mighty King, you do the same from time to time? No? I grovel in apology. Surely I am not worthy. There is no need to summon the executioner, O Mighty King. Truly there is not. For if you did, there would be no way for me to finish the most excellent tale I relate to you today.

Ah, yes, the tale. The Chick grew afraid while Lilith laughed evilly. Suddenly the Chick looked hard at Lilith, who continued to laugh as she watched the Chick's growing discomfort.

"THRICE!" Said the Chick.

"Thrice," said Lilith.

"THAT'S ODD...I COULD HAVE SWORN YOU SAID **THRICE.**" said the Chick.

"I did, not that it's any of your business," said Lilith.

"I KNOW THAT, IT'S JUST..." the Chick muttered.

Finally Lilith could stand it no longer. "Just **WHAT?**" she screamed. "You're not going to try to worm your way out of this, are you? You're **DEAD.** Give it **UP.**"

!

"**DID YOU MEAN TO SAY THRICE? OR TWICE?**" said the Chick.

"**I SAID THRICE AND I MEANT THRICE!**" screamed Lilith.

"**BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY ONLY WARNED ME TWICE.**" said the Chick.

Lilith counted on her fingers for a moment, muttering under her breath. Then she began screaming at the top of her lungs in incoherent rage. When that finally ran its course, she snarled at the Chick, "**FINE! You won't die. But you'll BURN FOREVER IN AGONY!**"

And the Chick burst into flames. Lilith watched in glee as the Chick was enveloped in a cheerful yellow-orange glow.

"**PRETTY COOL,**" said the Chick.

"I don't understand...you should be writhing in pain!" yelled Lilith.

"**OH, THAT.**" said the Chick. "**MY MOM CAME FROM SOMEWHERE OUT WEST WHERE IT'S HOT ALL THE TIME. THEY ADAPTED. IT'S GENETIC NOW. SORRY TO RUIN YOUR FUN.**"

Screaming wordlessly, Lilith ran off in a generally easterly direction.

The Chick yelled after her. "**DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE THEY'RE FROM? SOME PLACE CALLED PHOENIX.**"

But Lilith was too far gone to care.

As you apparently also are, O Mighty King. Sweet dreams.



Getting Into SCA Target Archery

Well, maybe this is a little backwards, and should have been the first article in this series, but I think there is still some good information for those of you already into archery. So you want to become an SCA target archer? Let's deal with the first question, "How much is this going to cost me?" For about \$175 you're in! \$100 for your bow, \$60 for a dozen arrows, and \$15 for arm guard and glove/tab.



Bows – If you can, shoot other people's bows before you buy a bow. Long bows, recurves, reflex/deflex, and horse bows all shoot differently. My starting estimate was based on the Victory take down recurve model commonly available. This is a fiberglass reinforced bow and a very good bow for the price. The bow breaks down into three pieces making transport easy. These bows are available from 20 pound draw up to 35 pounds. Don't let friends "advise" you that you "need" a 40 or 50 pound draw bow. A 35 pound bow set up correctly can fling an arrow over 100 yards and in the SCA that is the farthest you will ever shoot. Your bow will come with a string however I would strongly encourage you to get a spare. Strings do break.

Used bows – You can find some fantastic bows in flea markets and garage sales. **BUT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BUYING!** Check the bow for fiberglass splitting as evidenced by sharp fibers that stick in your fingers when you run them up and down the limbs. Check the limbs to make sure they are not twisted. Also check the limbs to make sure they flex the same. That is the bow should make a consistent arch when drawn. If the bow does not have a string nor an arrow rest, no biggie. You can get replacements. Also check the draw weight and, if it has a string, string it and draw it a few times. Check to see that the string lays back down in the center of the limbs after each draw. Some times used bows are slightly twisted and the string "walks" – slowly moves to the edge of the limb. Ultimately it will pop off, usually at full draw!

Your arrows must be wooden shaft with feather fletches. The nocks can be plastic or self nocked. Self nock means there is a small groove cut into the back of the shaft for the bow string. This type of nock is usually not repairable if damaged. Plastic nocks can often be "worried" off the shaft and replaced. The points must be of a type that does not destroy the targets. Most archers use field points. If you are shooting into new Saunders mats, a very common thing, you may lose points. They can be replaced. Shaft, fletch, and nock color is left to personal choice. The brighter colors are easier to see down range and in the grass should you miss.

You can get an arm guard and glove or tab at most any sporting goods store. Wall-Mart sells all their archery gear on sale after archery hunting season has passed. I prefer a glove. Other archers prefer a tab. Try out both before you buy if you can.

You should have something to carry your arrows in. A basic quiver is fairly inexpensive but also very easy to make. If you don't have any leather laying about, make a quiver out of heavy fabric like denim, put a strap on it and you have a quiver. It is also a good idea to have a bow stringer until you get very good at the step through method of bow stringing. You can find plans on-line and they are simple to make.

Shoot straight,
Christophe of Grey
>>>~~~~~>

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The Phoenix Triumphant T-shirts



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Description	Color	size	Quantity	Price each	Total Price
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Zipped Hoodie					
Sweatshirt					
				Total	

Prices:

T-shirts (S, M, L, XL) - \$15

(XXL - \$16.50, XXXL - \$17.50)

Long Sleeved T-shirt (S, M, L, XL) - \$17

(XXL - \$18.50, XXXL - \$19.50)

Zipped Hoodies (S, M, L, XL) - \$20

(XXL - \$21.50, XXXL - \$22.50)

Pull-over Sweatshirts (S, M, L, XL) - \$20

(XXL - \$21.50, XXXL - \$22.50)

The profit from each shirt sold (\$3) will be donated to the Barony at War of the Wings I.

Make checks payable to "Jesse Evans."

Mail completed order form to Jesse Evans, 4493 Leepers St., Iron Station, and NC 28080.