

Baronial Newsletter

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Upcoming Events

Meeting Minutes

Baronial Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2023

Excellencies report:

There should be no more entrees into the "Broken Stone Order".

An excellent time was had at Nottinghill Coil.

Members of Sacred Stone participated in fighting

Sir Gawain received a well-deserved Coral Branch

Their highnesses want to see more Eastern themed events

Seneschal report:

Recent awards: Gawain (Coral Branch), Fyen (Pearl and Silver Nautilus)

Officer reports:

- Chatelaine –
 - Nothing new to report
 - Charlesbury has 10 new members
 - The Buzzed Viking is open to people coming in garb and hanging out
- Herald –
 - Working on a new name and expected to send it in this week
 - Will have a running report submitted to the newsletter.
- Marshall - NR
- MOAL –
 - Ymir - help is always welcome
 - Looking for a youth MOL
- Exchequer -
 - Current account has \$28,068.58
 - Down a little due to a slight loss at SSBB
 - A motion to donate \$250 to the Children's fete at Pennsic seconded, votes
 - 15 yes
 - 0 no
 - 1 Abstain

- A motion to reimburse Theodore Sikorski who accidentally deposited his refund check into the bank. Seconded, voted
 - 13 yes
 - 2 Abstain
 - 0 No
- Chronicler –
 - Looking for submissions of art, stories, recipes, etc.
 - Each month will have a theme. March will be themed around Ireland. (Submissions do not need to relate to the theme).
- Youth minister – NR
- Web-minister –
 - Please submit events to the calendar
- Quartermaster –
 - Storage unit is in Salisbury
 - Reach out if there is anything that you need
 - Submit recommendations on what you believe the barony could use.

Canton Reports:

- Aire Faucon – No report
- Charlesbury Crossing –
 - The last meeting was at the Cabarrus Brewery.
 - Next University of Atlantia saw many participants from the canton
 - There is a request for gold key and fabric for gold key
 - Day in the Park will be held May 13 at Park Road Park
- Crois Brigitte –
 - A&S Day – Practice casting
- Middlegate –
 - No report at the meeting
- Salesberie Glen –
 - Canceled the February meeting is canceled due to a conflict with Ymir

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Below the Salt

In the works for the middle of June (date flexible)

The theme will be North African/ Mediterranean

2. Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday

In the works for Labor Day weekend (Sept 1 - 4)

the theme will be "Clash of Cantons"

a far east theme

3. March meeting (March 19)

Winston Salem 118 Flint Field Drive

Meeting adjourned

From Their Excellencies

Phelicitations, Phine Phoenix Phamily,

We had a wonderful time at Ymir and hope those who attended did as well. It does our hearts good to see that so many Phormidable Phoenixes served and contributed to create an enjoyable time for all. We thank our Phoenixes (Honorary Phoenixes included) on staff: Meisterin Gisela vom Kreuzbach (herald extraordinaire), Mistress Rowan (hall steward), Patronne Murienne (the pear tart was delicious!), Honorable Lady Gwenthwyfar (thanks for the A & S Meet & Greet), Lady Juliana (also A&S), Rebbah Thamira (youth activities), Honorable Lady Niccolina (MoL), Baron Ormarr (merchants), Noble Owain (webminister). You served your kingdom and barony with grace and phinesse.

Our retainers kept us on track, entertained, and safe for the whole event. Alain and I are so phortunate to have all y'all's good company. (Okay, okay, enough with the ph's...) Thanks go to Baroness Cassandra, Lady Kizzie, Lord Jiro, Lord Fedor, Lady Ysoria, m'lord Eoin, m'lord Trian, and Lady Dorothea. We love you!

Here are how other Stonies contributed to Ymir: Lady Ailis made a tasty entry for the Royal Baker competition. M'Lady Claire received a Silver Nautilus for her entry in the same contest. We saw our brave fighters Syr Cyriac, Lord John, Baron Talorgen, and Master Achbar and marshal, Syr Garan. Sir Randall stood guard over us at court. At the Friday night bardic circle, all comers were entertained by Master Ciaran, Mistress Rosalind, and Rebbah Thamira. Those who made our field pavilion go up and down: Baron Ormarr, Lady Kizzie, Lord Jiro, Lord Fedor, m'lord Eoin, m'lord Trian. Thank you for your companionship and service!

Many Stonies received recognition this Saturday. Mistress Gwenllian joined the Order of the Pelican. Meisterin Gise took Lady Erna as protege'. Mistress Rosalind took Lord Gawain as apprentice. Magnifica Hildegard took Sir Christian Thomas as apprentice. Sir Rodney received a Coral Branch for his armor and leatherwork. Sir Christian Thomas joined the Order of the Pearl for his research on

paternosters and Knights Templar. Congratulations, Stonies, we are so very proud of your work and service!

Azza looks forward to seeing baronial folks at Gulf Wars this year. Be sure to find her at Atlantian Camp for your share of commemorative baronial bling! She can use your help as well as retainer or companion, as this is her first Gulf Wars and she wants to have a wonderful experience. No experience is necessary. Get to know your baroness better as she gets to know you better.

Events your baron and baroness will be attending:

Date	Event	Who
11-20 March 2023	Gulf Wars	Azza
25 March 2023	Hidden Mountain Baronial Birthday	Alain & Azza
1 April 2023	Spring Coronation	Alain & Azza
8 April 2023	Duke University Demo	Alain
8 April 2023	Sacred Stone Baronial Practice	Azza

March 17, 2023 is St. Patrick's Day

In honor of that let's examine a page from the Book of Kells:



(http://www.codex99.com/typography/images/manuscript/kells_illumination_lg.jpg)

Research from Lady Amathullah Luciano

Why not Cotton?

Cotton has been around since before the pharaohs of Egypt yet, most people in the SCA will tell you that clothing should be made of wool or linen to be period. The reason for this is not that there was no cotton in period, but has most to do with the politics of the time.

Most people will say that the Portuguese “introduced” cotton to Europe in 1498, when Vasco de Gama started the European trade with India and started supplying inexpensive cotton goods to the continent in 1500. However there had been Cotton in the southern parts of Europe centuries before that.

In fact, cotton textile products were used in Rome as early/late as 100BE. Arabian ships brought cloth from India to both Europe and Asia starting around 100 AD. In Spain, the Moors brought cotton production and manufacturing in 700 AD. They even made cotton paper and for two hundred years Spain dominated Europe’s use and production of cotton. Cordova, Seville and Granada all produced cotton cloth and their weaving and dyeing process made fabric that was said to be favorably compared to that of Baghdad and Damascus. However, because of the Crusades this was considered “heathen” and was thus shunned.

Italy was the next to get into the business of cotton. Italians imported cotton when Egypt stopped exporting it in the 1300’s but they had started trying their hand at the manufacture of it the 1100’s “Fustians” which were cotton blended with linen wool and/or silk came from Venice and Genoa and full cotton fabric from fine lawn to robust velveteen and corduroys came from the Lombardy region. Indian cotton came in thru Venice as well. Cotton goods were regular traded between Venice and Ulm, Germany beginning about 1320 and southern Germany took its cues from Italy and had its own cotton industry for a generation. From 1363 to 1383. One or two master weavers and merchants got together a cheap workforce and the ability to regulate their products thus guaranteeing the quality of their products and supplanted Lombardy fustian on the European market. In the Champagne region of France there was a fabric market six times a year for people trade buy and sell wool, linen, China silk and Italian cotton. That lasted until the 14th century when Flanders superseded the “Champagne Faires” as the most important commercial site.

All this was quietly undermined by moralist and medieval economist in Sweden, France, the Netherlands and England who told the populus that these cottons were not made in Europe thus took the wealth away. Also, such “Eastern Luxuries” corrupted the moral fiber of society.

The true leader of the “don’t use that cotton stuff” was King Edward the III of England (1327-1377) He was considered by the French as the “wool merchant” and is responsible for the “wool base” in England. He encouraged Flemish weavers to come and make and teach their fine weaving techniques so that the wool fabric from England would be “the best in the world”. From the 14th to the 16th century, wool was king in England. Sumptuary laws made so only the very rich could have cotton and even that was limited.

(On a side note, the word English “Spinster” comes from this time frame. All unmarried women were expected to spend their time spinning and/or weaving as they had no household to take care of because the making of cloth was done in homes instead of shops/ factories.)

Add to this was the rise of the Ottoman Empire, which disrupted the flow of raw and manufactured cotton into the region and ruined the Italian and German cotton industries.

Thus, cotton never really caught on in Europe. It wasn't that it wasn't there, it was that it wasn't "trendy". To wear cotton then was somewhat (as I perceive my research) like wearing fur.

So, if you want to wear cotton in the SCA go ahead. The Arabs, Africans, Indians Asian and Americans all dyed it wonderful. If it is Red is from the Americas, If blue Indigo of Africa or Asia. If the pattern is block printed it is probably African or Arabic, if it is painted or batik, then it came from Asia though none of that is exclusive. Cotton blended with other stuff is a "Fustian" and can be Indian, German or Italian.

As long as you aren't one of King Edward III and his family's subjects, cotton is perfectly period. Why not Cotton!

Bibliography

Cotton: Origin, History, Technology and Production by C. Wayne Smith and J. Tom Catherin

The Heritage of Cotton: The Fiber of Two Worlds and Many Ages by M.D.C Crawford

Cotton by Edna Turpin

Cotton by Beverly Lemire

Empire of Cotton: A Global History by Sven Becker

Cotton: The Fabric That Made the Modern World by Giorgio Riello

Sample Entries from S.M.A.S.H. IV

Sacred Stone had several members participate in the SCA Magnificently Awesome Scavenger Hunt (SMASH). Here are a few of the entrees from our Phabulous Phoenixes...

MASH IV Item #8 Write a fictional meetcute story about two historical figures who were alive in the same time and place, and could have met (created and entered by the Honorable Lady Fyen Van Amsterdam)

Team Waywyrrd.

Meetcute:

Scene: Cesena, Italy

The aristocrat Malatesta Novello has decided to build a library to house all of the world's known knowledge. He sends out missives to authors and humanists to send copies of their works to Cesena.

A missive is sent to humanists such as Leonardo Bruni. Instead of just sending copies of his works, he decides to journey himself to Cesena with the hope of gaining a meeting with Malatesta himself.

Christine de Pizza hears about this call for works of authors and decides she is going to journey to Cesena herself, aren't her words just as valuable as other Humanists?

Christine de Pizan and Leonardo Bruni arrive in Cesena confident in the knowledge that their personal works should be added to the new library. Leonardo requested audience with Malatesta and Christine requested audience with Malatesta's wife Violante da Mantefeltro. Both received approval to add their works - so off to the library they traveled.

Christine de Pizan and Leonardo Bruni reach for the door handle at the same time, their hands overlapping. Their eyes meet and they smile, They have met their heart friend.

SMASH IV Item #82 Find out what your persona would have eaten for breakfast and make it! Include the recipe and your review, please! (Created and submitted by Lord Gawain de Barri and Lady Niccolina the Wanderer

Team Waywyrd

Mid 15th century Florence, Italy. They had started breaking their fast because they had started having a surplus of food. Some sources said just bread, while others said bread with fruit and cheese. All said with wine. Since my bf and I like variety, we went for the whole shebang! We added the oil on place of butter for the bread, which was a gift.



Women's History from a Medieval Lens

I have always been fascinated by what I call 'Rebel Women' - women who decided to rewrite the rules of society, or at least bend them, to suit their needs and wants. Over COVID quarantine I taught about many of these incredible women. Let me introduce you to one of my personal role models, Christine de Pizan. "Christine de Pizan (1364 to 1430), born in Venice, Italy, was an Italian writer and political and moral thinker during the late medieval period. She became a prominent writer at the French court during the reign of Charles VI, writing on literature, morals, and politics, among other topics. She was noted for her unusually outspoken defense of women. Her writings remained influential and oft-printed through the 16th century, and her work returned to prominence during the mid-20th century." (<https://www.thoughtco.com/christine-de-pizan-biography-4172171>)

Ask a Peer

Do you have a question for a Peer? Send your query to the Chronicler.

Would you like to add something to the newsletter?

Message Tamara Babulski on facebook with your entry.

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