
❖ The Carolingian Minuscule ❖



The Minuscule is the newsletter for the Barony of Carolingia. This issue is for the 8th Month of the 58th year of the SCA, known as December 2023.

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Greetings from Their Excellencies

Carissimi Caroligiani,

Unto you do we Fiore and Frithuric, your Baronessa e Barone, send our greetings.

We have arrived at the waning of the year. At this time many of us are celebrating festivals, reunions, and holydays as we approach the shedding of one year and the donning of the next.

It is our greatest wish that this season bring you all of the joy it can. Still, we realize that some of you, dear populace, are struggling amongst all the revelry. Our hearts are with you as well. We serve you in your most joyous moments and also when the night is darkest.

Activities in the Barony continue to meet from martial practices to music and dance, forestry and needleworking to name a few. We love the energy that comes from these activity-specific gatherings. We are also quite enjoying the events that we have been hosting with more frequency of late.

Crown Tournament was hosted in Carolingia, and it was a resounding success. Everywhere we passed, we saw Carolingians working and supporting the combatants, Carolingians among them. The honor and grace of our fighters is truly gratifying.

On February 3rd, we will host Winter Nights. This is a wonderful event for performance with a lovely tradition. Please visit the event announcement and also please note that we will be selecting our Baronial Performing Arts Champion at this event. So begin your preparations for what is sure to be a lovely day.

Winter Nights East: a Performing Arts Challenge Event

East Kingdom, Society for Creative Anachronism

We will also again host Otters Welcome in May. More details will be forthcoming. But for those planning ahead, we will select our A&S Champion at this event this year.

The incoming year is already looking promising for our Barony. But, as always, please come to us with your ideas to make it even better. Have an event you'd like to host. A class you wish to run. Thoughts about another string of socials, maybe ice cream again, cocoa or pizza.

We remain honored to serve as your Baronage and excited to see what comes next.

Al Suo Servizio,

Fiore e Frithuric

Baronessa e Barone di Carolingia

East Kingdom Regional Events

Check the East Kingdom events page for updates or cancellations.

December 2	<u>Bergental/BBM Yule</u>	Barony of Bergental - Dalton, MA
December 9	<u>50th Bridge Birthday Celebration</u>	Barony of the Bridge - North Kingstown, RI
December 9	<u>Followers of Peter the Dressmaker</u>	Shire of Nordenhalle - Port Ewen, NY
February 3	<u>Winter Nights East: A Performing Arts Challenge Event</u>	Barony of Carolingia - Groveland, MA
February 24	<u>Ice Weasel 18</u>	Barony of Smoking Rocks - Fall River, MA
March 2	<u>East Kingdom Arts & Sciences Competition</u>	Shire of Quintavia - Worcester, MA

Court Reports

Carolingia Baronial Rattan Championship Tournament, October 22, 2023

Order	SCA Name	Award	C&I
1	Albrecht Ostergard	Carolingia Rattan Champion	

Event Chronicles

Event Chronicle - Carolingia 50th Anniversary Celebration

Author: Mistress Eowyn Eilonwy of Alewife Brook

The Barony of Carolingia was founded during AS 5, with its first organized festivity being a St. Valentine's Day revel. Planning an occasion to mark the 50th anniversary of that gathering started during AS 53, when the East celebrated its own foundation, if not before. But all the initial plans were upset by the arrival in late AS 54 of the plague called the 19th Covid; while it ravaged the land, the most learned physicians counselled all folk to avoid any meetings, so as to prevent the spread of the disease.

At length, however, as the sickness waned & ways were found to heal & to avoid it, planning for the anniversary re-commenced. At length, it was decided to hold the celebration during the end of summer, in the year 58.

So on 9 September, the feast of St. Ciaran of Clonmacnoise -- an Irish abbot who was said to have had a fox carry his papers around for him, until it ate them -- this great gathering began.

The Carolingian Golden Jubilee included all manner of activities & diversions: tourneys at armored combat & defense, contests in archery & weapons-throwing, displays of artisans' work & historical artifacts, various folks' responses to challenges set by some Companions of the Moon, classes in several diverse subjects, dancing, & performances by various bards & jongleurs as well as by I Sebastiani. Several merchants also set up booths, selling many diverse items of interest. Lunch and supper were provided, to the great credit of the cooks, who had to cope with the disabling of their kitchen by a great storm only the day before. Many folk who had long lived retired from society returned, at least for this day, to join in the celebration.

The royalty of the East graced the barony with their presence, and held their court to distribute recognition to many present. Specifically:

At mid-morning, King Brennan & Queen Caolfhionn, together with Prince Matthias & Princess Feilinn, opened their court, & invited the Honorable Lord Frithuric Ulman & Mistress Fiore Leonetta Bardi, Barone & Baronessa di Carolingia, to join them.

The Baronessa thanked all present for their attendance on this occasion. She also noted the difficulties of the kitchen & related matters due to the recent storm, asking all to exert due care & patience until repairs could be made.

Next, the Seneschal-Royal read a legal directive, banning a certain man from the Royal presence.

Then Their Majesties sent three folk to sit vigil during the day: Baron Jozef Ludwiczak to consider entering the Chivalry, Lady Ysabel da Costa to consider entering the Laurelate, and Baroness Alanna of Skye to consider joining the Pelicans. Each was led away by companions of these respective orders, to places prepared for them.

Finally, the damsel Abby Tolasdottir was inducted into the Order of the Tyger's Cub, receiving a medallion passed down by her aunt, Mistress Leonete D'Angeley.

These things being done, the court was suspended until late afternoon.

In the middle of the afternoon, Barone Frithuric & Baronessa Fiore held their own court. It commenced with their herald reading the baronial lineage, from Baron John of Ileway down to the present; the Barone & Baronessa also noted the presence in this court of their retired predecessors Master Aquel of Darksted Wood, Mistress Johanna Dudley, & Maitre Jehan du Lac.

Mistress Ygraine of Kellswood presented the Barone & Baronessa with a reliquary she had made, to hold a bit of soil from the site of the Founding Event, that it might be present whenever needed.

Lady Etain ingen Ui Neill was inducted into the Order of the Daystar.

Lord Richard Heyworth was inducted into the Order of the Moon. Since he was acting as Their Excellencies' herald, he asked that someone else step into his place to lead the usual greeting, which the Honorable Lady Aaradyn Ghyoot gladly did.

Two folk were inducted into the Order of Perseus: Lady Roskva Mac Cianain, who is also called Widowmaker, and Master Duncan Kerr, whom the Order had been striving to catch for several years.

Their Excellencies then asked Lord Gavin Kent if he could play for them. He demurred, explaining that as the rain had returned (which it did a few times during the day), he had stored his guitar in his cart to keep it dry. So after some further talk, the court was closed.

Then just before evening, the royal court re-convened. Again, Their Majesties & Their Highnesses entered the area with due ceremony, & invited the Barone & Baronessa to join them. Barone Frithuric & Baronessa Fiore did so, but asked leave to give their predecessors seats of honor. This being granted, Master Aquel, Mistress Johanna, & Maitre Jehan all took seats beside them.

Queen Caoilfhionn noted the presence this day of Duke Akbar ibn Murad al-ben Muhammed ibn Hakim & Duchess Khadijan of House Hakim, the first Duke & Duchess made in the East.

Georges des Isles Verts, one of the founders of Carolingia, was at long last awarded arms. He also accepted a certificate similarly awarding arms to his late wife, Tabitha of Wyndmoore, who had most unfortunately died a few months before.

Jasper of Carolingia was inducted into the Order of Gawaine.

Evelyn of Carolingia -- whom King Brennan called his littlest squire.

Alex Arngrimrson, & Connor Shinnock were all inducted into the Order of the Tyger's Cub. With the companions of this order gathered before Them, the King & Queen asked those of successively greater ages to stand forth, until there were finally left a group of four who were 25 or older. Their Majesties then asked this group to choose from among themselves one to carry the Royal Toy Chest. This proved to be Baroness Lillian Stanhope. She was presented with the chest while all the children present were called forward, and then in the usual fashion she was given a brief head start before they chased after her, to demand the royal bounty of toys.

Queen Caoilfhionn presented a basket of gifts to the Barone & Baronessa, which they gratefully accepted.

Baron Jozef Ludwiczak was then called forward, & came accompanied by his household, House Lochleven. Having agreed to his elevation, & choosing knighthood, he returned his squire's belt to his master, Duke Gryffith FitzWilliam. Their Majesties then asked for testimony from the several peerages as to Baron Jozef's worth. This came in the form of a letter from Mistress AElfifu of the Hazel Thicket, read by Sir Colin mac Eoain mec Lachlainn, for the Laurels, & direct addresses by Master Ryan Mac Whyte for the Pelicans, Mistress Anastasia da Monte for the Defenders, Countess Chatricam Meghanta, called Meggie, for the Roses, and Master Karl Meerstapa for the Chivalry. The Chivalry was then called forward to witness this action. Baron Jozef was girded with a white belt by his lady, & received as well his spurs & chain; mention was also made of a sword being made for him. Then in the usual fashion, the King dubbed him a knight, accepted his sworn fealty, and gave him the ceremonial buffet. As the order greeted their new companion, Duke Gryffith sang the popular tune "Born on the List Field".

Sir Trentus Nubianus and Mistress Leonete D'Angeley were inducted into the Order of the Silver Rapier, with Mistress Leonete's certificate being writ in verse.

Eryn fitzPatrick was awarded arms.

The Honorable Lord Marcus Attilius Pansa was inducted into the Order of the Silver Brooch.

Edvardr Mikaelsson was awarded arms.

Newcomers to the East were called forward that Their Majesties might welcome them; all were given cups so they never need go without drink.

Lord Ander Tynegate was inducted into the Order of the Sagittarius.

Mistress Anne of Framlingham was given a court barony, receiving a leather coronet made for her by Mistress Ygraine of Kellswood.

Lady Lilavati Datta, who is more commonly known as Ysabel da Costa, was called into the Royal Presence; she came among a company of her comrades in the Carolingian Waytes, who played her forward. Upon receiving her agreement to join the peerage, the King & Queen asked for testimony as to her worth. To answer, Duke Vissevald Selkirksson spoke for the Chivalry, Countess Chatricam read a letter from Master Thomas of Effingham for the Defenders, Countess Corotica merkka Senebelenae spoke for the Roses, Master Justin du Coeur spoke for the Pelicans, and Master Gundormr Dengir spoke for the Laurels. The Laurels were then called to witness as Lady Lilavati was given a medallion made for her by the Honorable Lady Cassandra Aiantide, a wreath in the form of a hair ornament made by Lady Aaradyn, and a "dupatta" or shawl made by Countess Chatricam. The text of Mistress Lilavati's award certificate was extremely complex, and was read out in Latin by Lady Aelia Fortunata & in the common tongue by two other folk. After Mistress Lilavati swore her fealty, her new companions greeted her.

The Honorable Lady Safiya al-Naghira and the Honorable Lord Matteo Genovese were both inducted into the Order of Apollo's Arrow.

Lady Anezka Liska z Kolina, Baron Ceawlin Ealhreding, Mistress Elaine aHowys of Morningthorpe, and Mistress Amalie von Hohensee were all inducted into the Order of the Silver Crescent. Unfortunately, the award certificates for all the ladies were either not finished or at least not present, but the King & Queen assured all that they would be delivered in due time. Baron Caewlin's medallion was given by Master Fergus Redmead, his successor to the seat of Smoking Rocks.

Then Baroness Alanna of Skye was summoned. In honor of her great involvement in equestrian activities, she & her large entourage all came riding hobby horses. Upon her agreement to join the peerage, her mistress, Mistress Eleanor fitzPatrick, reclaimed Baroness Alanna's protegee's belt, then returned it to her to pass along to her own first protegee. When Their Majesties asked for testimony from the peerages, a letter was read from Duke Eliahu ben Itzhak, of the Midrealm, for the Chivalry; Master Roibeard mac Neill mhic Gille Eoin spoke for the Laurels; Master Llewellyn Walsh read another letter from Master Thomas of Effingham for the Defenders; Countess Corotica read a letter from Countess Indrakshi Aravinda for the Roses, and Mistress Karrah the Mischievous spoke for the Pelicans, noting that this was her first time to provide such testimony. With the order called forward to witness, Mistress Alanna received as livery three different medallions from three different people, a cote, and a hat. Then her new companions greeted her.

Finally, Their Majesties thanked all who had helped make the day not only possible but pleasant, including Baroness Phaedra de Vere, who had constructed their extremely elaborate Chinese-style garb.

Then the court ended.

Many folk then left, though some stayed a few more hours for the supper & further entertainment that ensued.

The festivities are reported to have continued in a more modest form on the next day, Sept. 10, which is the feast of SS. Nemesian, Felix, Lucius, another Felix, Litteus, Polyanus, Victor, Jader, Dativius, & their Companions. It is said that during the morning and early afternoon, a practice was held at armored combat, while on another part of the grounds, the Barone & Baronessa & various others watched as contests were held to choose new Baronial Champions in the arts of archery and weapons throwing.

For the archery, the retiring champion, the Honorable Lord Sojourner van Haarlem, is reported to have constructed some very clever targets; the contest was won by Lord Timothy of Sherwood.

For the weapons throwing, Baroness Arlyana van Wyck was the retiring champion; it is said that to ensure equality among the contestants to succeed her, she required all of them to throw her personal set of weapons. This contest was won by the Honorable Lord Pandaulf.

When these contests were done, the Barone & Baronessa held a brief court to thank their former champions and to install their successors. That being the last activity of the day, all then packed up their goods and went their ways homeward.

Event Chronicle - Carolingian Armored Combat Championship

Author: Mistress Eowyn Eilonwy of Alewife Brook

On October 23, AS 58 -- being the feast of three different SS. Severinus (one surnamed Boethius, one of Bordeaux, & one of Cologne) -- the armored fighters of Carolingia gathered at their regular weekly practice in the Canton of the Towers. But on this day, the Barone & Baronessa joined them, along with various other watchers, for they had chosen to hold here a tourney to choose the successor to their current Champion at Arms, Lord Wilhelm Van Hammaburc.

The weather was cloudy and cool, with a brisk breeze. A few fighters present did a little sparring before the tourney started -- but then Lord Wilhelm had the herald call all together to explain its format. Barone Frithuric also recounted at this time the points of the baronial champion's agreement, which the tourney winner would have to fulfill.

Twelve fighters took part in the tourney, although not all were contesting the championship. They began split into two pools for round-robin bouts, in which long-hafted weapons were encouraged, though not required -- this was partly in preparation for the great Crown Tourney to be held a fortnight later, at which, it had been announced, such weapons would be required during all the early bouts. After the round-robin bouts were done, the list mistress determined the best two fighters from each pool who wished to earn the championship. These continued into the semifinals, which were fought to the best two out of three bouts, with the combattants each choosing his own preferred weapons. So the Honorable Lord Albrecht Ostergaard bested one lord Kevin, while Master Karl Meerstapa defeated one lord Thorfinn, and thus came to face each other for the finals. The finals were again fought to the best of three bouts, with each combattant choosing his own preferred weapons; for these bouts, Master Karl consistently used sword & shield, while Lord Albrecht always chose ax & sword. Lord Albrecht won the first bout, Master Karl the second, and then Lord Albrecht the third, thus winning the tourney.

After a brief pause, the Barone & Baronessa held a session of their court, at which the following occurred:

Barone Frithuric thanked the fighters for their willingness to serve, and all who had helped organize the tourney.

Lord Wilhelm was called into court, where the Barone & Baronessa thanked him for his year's service, and he returned to them the champion's regalia of tunic and sword. Baronessa Fiore apologized for forgetting to bring the token she had planned to give him, and promised to present it later. Barone Frithuric noted that Lord Wilhelm may reside in Hadchester, but having now served as Carolingia's Baronial Champion, he cannot help but continue as a Carolingian at heart. Then as Lord Wilhelm withdrew, Lord Albrecht was called forward. The Barone & Baronessa invested him with the champion's regalia, and he joined their entourage. Baronessa Fiore noted at this point that the Champion's regalia also includes a ceremonial ax, but that it is presently being repaired.

The Baronessa then mentioned that since some hours of daylight still remained, any fighters who wished were welcome to continue with their regular practice. That being the last matter of business, the court then ended.

A few fighters did indeed go back to sparring for a while, but it was not long before all packed up their belongings & went their ways homeward.

Guilds, Science and Artistic Activities, and Martial Activities in Carolingia

A summary of activities within the Barony

Below is a brief description of Baronial activities and practices, with current contact information if available.

<i>Accademia Della Danza</i>	The Accademia works on the interpretation and reconstruction of original dances based on primary sources. Currently on hiatus, please contact Magister Gunðormr Dengir (accademia@carolingia.eastkingdom.org) if you have interest in a new project.
<i>Brewers and Vintners</i>	Currently inactive. Interested individuals should contact the Chronicler for further information.
<i>Calivers</i>	Meets as needed for projects.
<i>Canton of the Towers Project Days</i>	Look for information about upcoming Canton of the Towers project days on the Canton of the Towers and Barony of Carolingia Facebook pages. The project days are virtual meetings. For information about upcoming projects or to ask any questions, please contact Towers MoAS Baroness Johanna Dudley, moas@towers.eastkingdom.org .
<i>Cooks Guild</i>	Meets occasionally. Meetings are posted on the Carolingia Facebook page.
<i>European Dance</i>	Dance practice is held in sessions of 6 to 8 weeks each Spring and Fall at the Presentation School Foundation in Brighton, Thursdays from 7:30 - 9:30 PM. Contact dance-guildhead@carolingia.eastkingdom.org .
<i>Fiber Arts</i>	Currently inactive. Interested individuals should contact the Chronicler for further information.
<i>Great Council</i>	Is the business meeting of the Barony and is usually the first Monday of each month at 7:30. Check the Carolingia Facebook page for information or the meeting link. Great Council meeting minutes are published on the Barony's web site at https://carolingia.eastkingdom.org/the-barony/great-council/council-minutes/

<i>Herald's Office</i>	Holds occasional online consultation sessions. Check the Carolingia Facebook page for information.
<i>The Low Company of Gamesters and Gamblers</i>	Carolingia's gaming "not-a-Guild", typically meets on a regular irregular six week schedule on a Friday evening around 7:00pm, at Deirdre and Symon's house in Framingham. Meetings are announced on the baronial calendar, the mailing list, and the Carolingia facebook page. We teach and play a variety of period games – if there's something you'd like to learn, please speak up and we'll try to arrange it! No prior knowledge or experience is required, just a willingness to play. If you plan on coming, it's helpful to let Symon or Justin (low-company-guildhead@carolingia.eastkingdom.org) know so we have some idea how many to expect, but feel free to just drop in if you find the evening free.
<i>Middle Eastern Dance</i>	Meets in Multipurpose Dance room on Thursday nights in Cambridge, 7-9PM every week. Please email for details: serenebrilliant@gmail.com or erzuliedancer@gmail.com .
<i>Needleworkers Guild</i>	The meeting is open to all embroiderers, both new and experienced. Lots of resources are available if you need help or inspiration! We usually meet each month on a Thursday evening, 6:30pm. This month will be a hybrid meeting, in person and zoomed, so please check the Carolingia Facebook page! Contact the guildhead for info: Donato Favro, needleworkers-guildhead@carolingia.eastkingdom.org
<i>Newcomers' Nights</i>	These monthly online meetings (usually the fourth Monday of the month) are posted on the Carolingian email list and Facebook page. All new folks are welcome, for any definition of "new", both new to the SCA and new to the area, and you're welcome to come back as often as you'd like. We will sometimes choose a topic to focus on (anything from upcoming events to specific arts or activities), but the highest priority is always your questions! For more information, email Justin du Coeur (chatelaine@carolingia.eastkingdom.org).

<i>Quire</i>	On hiatus. The Quire is the choral ensemble of the Jongleurs Guild. If you would consider reactivating the Quire, please contact the Quire Master at quire@carolingia.eastkingdom.org
<i>Soothsayers Guild</i>	Currently inactive. The East Kingdom Soothsayers Guild is quite active with classes and on-line chat. Search for East Kingdom Soothsayers in Facebook groups.
<i>Storytellers Guild</i>	Meets virtually. For information about the next meeting, please subscribe to the Carolingian email list (described on https://carolingia.eastkingdom.org/getting-involved/), contact the Guildhead directly (storytellers-guildhead@carolingia.eastkingdom.org), or watch for announcements on the Carolingian FB page. Sir Michael requests anyone who wishes to attend to send an email in order to receive specific meeting information.
<i>Trumpet and Kettledrum Corps</i>	Currently meeting as needed. Check the Carolingia FB page for announcements.
<i>Waytes</i>	The Waytes are the Barony's musical instrument consort and dance band — the instrumental ensemble of the Jongleurs Guild. Practices are held on non-council Mondays at the home of the Mistress Ysabel da Costa. Contact waytes@carolingia.eastkingdom.org for more information.
<i>Archery</i>	<p>At the range of Master Peter the Red in Carlisle MA. The Barony's regular practice time is each Sunday from 10 - 1; times are usually available during the week between 10 and 3. Limited loaner gear is available with prior notice. For times other than Sunday, everyone must sign up at least 1 day ahead by calling (978) 827-0808 or sending a FB messenger post to Peter; you will receive confirmation from Peter to finalize your time slot. Do not leave a phone text message. Please call when you arrive. Proof of COVID vaccine is requested by the homeowners.</p> <p>At the range of Master Li Kung Lo and Mistress Ygraine of Kellswood, in Natick MA, by appointment. Please contact ygraine@kellswood.com to arrange a time.</p>

<p><i>Rattan Fight Practices</i></p>	<p>Fighter practice in Framingham meets Wednesday evenings in Ellison Hall at the Plymouth Church in Framingham: 87 Edgell Road, Framingham MA 01701. For more information or to confirm a practice date, contact Master Karl Meerstappa.</p> <p>A joint Baronial and Towers Fighter Practice at Ipswich River Park is held in N. Reading on some Sunday afternoons (weather permitting). Check the Canton of the Towers Barony of Carolingia Facebook pages for more information and schedule. This practice coordinates with other regional groups, so the location will change.</p> <p>Baronial Fighter Practice on Sunday afternoons (weather permitting) hosted at Baron Valerian's home in Braintree MA. For more information: knight-marshall@carolingia.eastkingdom.org.</p>
<p><i>Rapier Practices</i></p>	<p>Baronial Rapier practice is held in Cambridge on Thursday nights. Contact the Marshal of Fence in advance for information: fence-marshall@carolingia.eastkingdom.org Practice occurs on Thursday from 7-9pm at the Cambridge War Memorial.</p> <p>Rapier practice in Framingham occurs along with the rattan practice Wednesday evenings. Directions above with the rattan practice.</p>
<p><i>Thrown Weapons</i></p>	<p>Practice will be held every Saturday from 10 AM to 1 PM in Framingham, when range conditions permit. Contact thrown-weapons@carolingia.eastkingdom.org</p>

Regnum and Officers

BOLD denotes a new officer for this issue.

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&

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SCA Forms

Single Adult Participation Waiver Form:

<https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/adltwaiv.pdf>

Multi-Adult Participation Waiver Form:

<https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/rosterwaiver.pdf>

Minor Participation Waiver Form:

https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/waiver_minor_family.pdf

Author/Photographer's Release:

<https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/>

Model Release:

<https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/>

No model release form is needed when the photograph is taken at a public place and in a public forum (where there is no expectation of privacy), including any SCA contest or competition, merchants' row, court, class, etc.

Image on cover page:

Coat of Arms with a Peasant Standing on his Head, Meester van het Amsterdamse Kabinet, 1485 - 1490. Downloaded with permission from web site of the Rijks Museum, Amsterdam, NL: <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl>

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