



Barony of
Western Seas
<http://westernseas.org>

THE RUIESTONE

JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2015



Photo by Lillian Vaughn

Welcome,
Your Excellencies!

*Baron Jörgen and
Baroness Odriana*



Barony of Western Seas

<http://westernseas.org>

The Runestone

First Quarter 2015

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Fighting Baronial



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

New Baron and Baroness crowned

*By Mistress Genevieve
la Minstrelle*

HUZZAH for the new Baron and Baroness of Western Seas!

We are happy to announce the winner of the Fighting Baronial Tournament, and new Baron of Western Seas, His Excellency Jörgen Unruh, who fought on behalf of his beautiful consort, Her Excellency Ödriana Knarra-bringa!

With a field of five, we were very impressed with the other competitors: m'Lord Martin who fought on behalf of his consort, m'Lady Elisabetta; Lord Andrew on behalf of his lady Melissa; Baron Claudius who fought on behalf of THL Duibheasa; and Lady Ödriana who fought on behalf of Lord Jörgen (yes indeed, husband and wife did fight each other for one round!).

Story continues on Page 4

Baroness Uta to be elevated to Order of Pelican

It brings us joy to announce the Queen has contacted Baroness Uta Blackthorne, and extended an invitation to join the Order of the Pelican.

After much thought and contemplation totaling almost 10 seconds of stunned silence, Baroness Uta has accepted.

We would like to offer our congratulations to her on this wonderful honor. She has been a shining example of service in Farhaven, the Barony and the Kingdom of Caid.

Well-deserved and well-earned, you make us all so proud, Baroness Uta.

Congratulations from us and the Barony of Western Seas on your future elevation to the Order of the Pelican!

Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!

— Baron Jörgen Unruh and
Baroness Ödriana Knarrabringa



Photo by Illora of the west lea

The Baroness Uta Blackthorne at Great Western War. The Seneschal of Farhaven has been invited into the Order of the Pelican, a prestigious honor befitting this extremely accomplished, multi-talented woman. Huzzah!



Spring Gathering

WHEN: May 30

WHERE: Dragongate,
Canton of Farhaven (11-
2591 Ohialani Road,
Volcano, Hawaii)

Join us in celebrating the arrival of spring! There will be arts activities and feasting.

Preliminary schedule
(subject to change):

10 a.m.: Site opens

11 a.m.: Arts activities,
pupus and Vigil for Baron-
ess Uta

1 p.m. or at their Majes-
ties pleasure: Royal Court

3 p.m.: Feast

5 p.m.: Swordplay and
other games

8 p.m.: Site closes

EVENT STEWARD:

Baroness Uta Blackthorne
(Zaff Uta Noel Bobilin),
(808) 225-8525 or sen-
eschal@farhaven.org

Fighting Baronial

Continued from Page 2

It was a double elimination tourney with one time with shield and one without shield.

The Champion was Lord Andrew, who fought the final two out of three bouts. Huzzah, Lord Andrew!

Special presentations were made to Lord Gui as the newest member of the Baronial Guard, and m'Lady Christie and m'Lady Sadhbh for the pending award of Argent Comet.

Many, many thanks to Sir Marco for heading the Lists, Sir Valeran for being our Herald, and the presentations from the Baronial Guard, Canton of Castle-north, Baron Jörgen and Baroness Ödriana, and a beautiful singing presentation by m'Ladies Elisabetta, Mary, Hannah and Rebecca.

Most of all, thank you to the entire Barony for all your help and support throughout this year. We are so grateful to you all for having us serve you! And we will always be here to help.



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo



Fighting Baronial





Barony of Western Seas

<http://westernseas.org>

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Greetings unto the Populace

From the Seneschal



Greetings!

We have had a joyous beginning to this year, with Winter Feast held by the Canton of Farhaven, and the Baronial 12th Night held at Queen Emma's Summer Palace on Oahu! There will be many events coming up on the calendar, including WarBands, Castle-north Grand Prize Tournament, Farhaven's Second Odd Saturdays, and a Viking Feast, Festival of Ostara, on Peridot Isle.

One event I wish to highlight is the Arts & Sciences Baronial, which will be held this year, most likely in September. For any who

wish to enter, now is the time to start your projects! Their Excellencies have posted on Facebook, and on the Yahoo e-mail list, the special dispensations they will allow to encourage all who may wish to enter. An A&S packet for the previous competitions is available in the files on Yahoo Western Seas. Mistress Genevieve la Minstrelle has offered to help with documentation, for any who might want help. If anyone has questions, you are welcome to contact myself, or Their Excellencies.

Best regards,

Mistress Raven of Heronsmarsh

Seneschal, Barony of Western Seas

From the Chronicler



Greetings unto the Barony!

Welcome to 2015's first quarterly newsletter, which introduces our new Baron and Baroness. We bid them a hearty welcome, and eagerly await their visits to the outlying cantons. (Not bragging or anything, but Peridot Isle gets them first, and we're very excited to show off ... I mean, show them a good time.)

I appreciate all your patience and understanding as this newsletter transitions to a new schedule. I hope you find this one worth the wait, but there won't be as much of a wait for the next issue — the deadline is already on the horizon at the end of March. As always, your ideas or submissions are welcomed and appreciated!

YIS,

Lady Viviana of Peridot Isle

Greetings unto the Populace

From their Excellencies



Greetings Lords and Ladies of the Magnificent Barony of Western Seas,

It is truly an honor and pleasure to serve as your Baron and Baroness for this year.

When we moved to this Barony from the Kingdom of the East barely a little over a year ago, we were so eager to associate with all of you. As we attended fighter practice and our first event, Castlenorth Grand Prize Tourney, we grew to love the aloha that was shared with us. Each one of you has extended an arm of friendship in some way.

We were very excited to know that the Baronial was to be a fighting competition. As you know it is very unusual for the leadership of a Barony to be determined this way. I thought that I might actually have a shot at winning, until I realized that I would have to fight with a two-handed weapon, or no shield ... not really my strong suit, especially since I never wielded a great weapon until that day. Of course, the Baron had, being from Caid. As my luck would warrant that I would fight great weapon verses the person whose honor I bore.

After both of us consulting Baroness Mistress Genevieve, it was determined that we should fight each other as though we were not fighting for each other's honor. It was a brave, albeit, brief battle in which I ultimate-

ly lost, and was eliminated; but I died with gusto! It only matters how you look! After several more vigorous rounds, Jörgen Unruh was determined to be the victor.

After taking the reins, we got started helping plan 12th Night. This was such a glorious time in which the Baron and I really enjoyed ourselves.



It really struck us during the procession just how many talented, honorable, and giving people surround us. We are going to have to make the "runway" longer for some of these highly decorated and deserving individuals. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity and thoughtfulness of the gifts that were bestowed upon us. The monetary presentation made on behalf of Mistress Genevieve from many generous contributors for her missing violin again instilled the aloha spirit and ohana feelings that tie us together as a barony.

We are indeed looking forward to visiting each canton and getting to spend some quality time getting to know the people who we only know by name. We already have a visit scheduled on Peridot Isle and the days can't pass soon enough.

YIS,

Baroness Ödriana Knarrarbringa and Baron Jörgen Unruh

Calendar of Events

Upcoming merriment

March 2015

WHAT: Archers Muster! — Farhaven
WHEN: March 13, noon, to March 14, 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: 43-1688 Manienie Rd., Paauilo, Hawaii
EVENT STEWARD: Honoria (Hattie Gerrish), 808-747-4745, seneschal@farhaven.org
DETAILS: See more on Page 27

WHAT: Festival of Ostara — Peridot Isle
WHEN: March 21, 1 to 9 p.m.
WHERE: Amore Kai, 4429 Kalua Makua Place, Kilauea, Kauai
EVENT STEWARD: THLord William Walworth di Durham (Richard Sherman), herald@peridotisle.org.
DETAILS: See more on Page 27

April 2015

WHAT: Hawaiian Scottish Festival & Highland Games Demo/Event
WHEN: April 11-12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
WHERE: McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Beach Park, Honolulu, Oahu
EVENT STEWARD: Mistress Genevieve la Minstrelle, 808-783-5770, scottishfest@westernseas.org
DETAILS: <http://www.scotshawaii.org/#!/festival-info/c1qhn>

May 2015

WHAT: Spring Gathering — Farhaven
WHEN: May 30
WHERE: House of Dragongate, 11-2591 Ohialani Road, Volcano, Hawaii
EVENT STEWARD: Baroness Uta Blackthorne

(Zaff Noel Bobilin), 808-225-8525, seneschal@farhaven.org

DETAILS: See more on Page 3

Ongoing events

Fighter practices

WHAT: Canton of Torvald fighter practice
WHEN: Thursdays, 5 p.m. to dark

WHERE: Kapiolani Park, O'ahu
CONTACT: Lord Randall Von Voorheis, chatelaine@westernseas.org

WHAT: Canton of Bard's Keep fighter practice

WHEN: Saturdays, 4 p.m. to dark
WHERE: Blaisdell Park, O'ahu
CONTACT: Lord Randall Von Voorheis, chatelaine@westernseas.org

WHAT: Farhaven practice (for Unarmored Combat, Arts and Archery)

WHEN: Sundays, 2-4 p.m., Lilioukani Park, Hilo, Hawaii

ALSO: Third Saturday of the month — March 21, 1 p.m., Manuka Park, Ocean View

CONTACT: Baroness Uta Blackthorne (Zaff Noel Bobilin), 808-225-8525, seneschal@farhaven.org. Please email to verify practice will be held or check Facebook for cancellations

Officers meeting

WHAT: Barony of Western Seas Officers meeting
WHEN: Every third Wednesday of the month, from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Windward Community College, 45-720 Keaahala Road, Kaneohe, O'ahu

DETAILS: Anyone may attend. All meetings are available via Skype for members on Outer Islands.

CONTACT: Contact Mistress Raven of Heronsmarsh at seneschal@westernseas.org in advance to be added to the Skype call



Calendar page from The Belles Heures of Jean de France, Duc de Berry, 1405-1408/1409.

12th Night



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

A glorious 12th Night

By Baroness Ödriana Knarrabringa

‘Twas a glorious afternoon for a gathering of friends. The camaraderie began to build as the chariots arrived, the decorations were adorned and the “Ogre juice” started flowing. Alas, it soon was time for everyone to make pretty.

The garb, which was so carefully labored over, was adorned. All personas present looked simply elegant in their chosen attire. The location itself was also simply picturesque and befitting our merry band of souls.

Running on standard Aloha time, all armigerous persons purged the hall for procession.



Story continues on Page 10

12th Night

Continued from Page 9

This “slight” delay was probably caused by none other than myself. I confess that I had not factored in lacing time for my garb. Please accept my sincerest apologies as everyone waited for the Baroness to don her garb. There were several pokes and suggestions from the Baron that we should speed the process along. I informed him that it would be worth the wait; and having been married 10 years, he said “Yes, dear.” I surmise that I have taught him well.

As we waited to be called into the great hall, an air of grandeur and brotherhood filled our hearts. We were truly grateful for all those who were with us, but truly missed those who could only be with us in spirit.

As the procession



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo



began, the accomplishments of all those who had come before us was duly noted and appreciated.

As befitting my Viking persona, I, Her Excellency, did swear fealty to my Lord and Baron Jörgen. All who entered were invited to do the same by drinking out of the communal horn.

As the evening began there was much talk and stories shared — many, I’m sure, “elaborated” with the expansion of time. There was beautiful music filling our merry hall by m’Lord Martin and THL Duibheasa.

A small rebellion which had been brewing was quelled with the arrival of food.

A whole-hearted thanks to our exquisite wooden spoon, Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo. His culinary expertise was exemplified in the fine offerings that night. There was roast beast, saffron rice, antipasto, delectable ravioli (best I’ve ever had) and my personal favorite: chicken and bacon pies. I’m still reminiscing about those. After dinner, the populace was thusly treated to offerings of fresh fruit, baklava and freshly brewed wassail.

A special thank you as well to Sir Marco for assisting our chef in preparing and serving this feast. I did, however, notice that he was not wearing the proper bikini attire as requested by said chef. I’m sure this will be remedied (the Baroness is requesting blackmail pictures).

Story continues on Page 11

12th Night

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In a slight re-arrangement of agenda, court (opening and closing) were held after the consumption of much food, when people were slower and could not run away.

There were innumerable, extravagant and gracious gifts bestowed upon myself and the Baron. I must say we were quite humbled.

It should also be noted that Sir Kag-etora, being the last Baronial Champion, crafted a new Baronial Champion Medallion for Lord Andrew which was hence presented to him.

It truly was a day to remember, although some might not remember all of it.

We again extend our heartfelt thanks to Ogre for autocratting such a successful event.

We hope for more



Photos by Baron Claudius
Brutus Di Bartolomeo



wonderful celebrations in all your company.

YIS,

*Baron Jörgen Unruh
and Baroness Ödriana
Knarrarbringa*



Meet the Baron



Photo by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

Baron Jörgen Unruh

Tell us how you became involved in the SCA.

As a youth, my sisters got involved with the local SCA group. I went along to practices and eventually wars. Got hooked on the war and melee fighting, though I was

too young to fight. At 14 I was paging at wars, carrying gear, water bearing, whatever I could to be as involved as possible. At 16 I started fighting Shanai (back then they did not have Rapier yet, and they did not allow even practice until 18 years of age.) I grew up in the high desert

in Southern California, in a small town; the local group was the Barony of Navejheim. I was very involved paging and invited to join House Defiant, which was primarily Gravity Well heavy shield wall members.

Meet the Baroness

Baroness Ödriana Knarrabringa

Tell us how you became involved in the SCA.

Like almost all people in the SCA, I was clubbed and drug in by someone. The Baron and I met in Atlantia after he moved to the D.C. area. While we were dating he invited me to come with him to bear pit tournament. I remember it well not because he fought, but because he wore a kilt. So yummy.

(Baron's note: Remember that comment about flopping on the persona a bit.)

I loved the outfits, and really had a great time at the event which had a feast following the fighting. Our next event was 12th Night in Atlantia which was different; I was immediately hooked with all the wonderful gowns!

After we got married, I tried fighting, found I liked it, and off we went to Estrella War together. It was actually in a privy at Estrella I found out we were expecting our first-born. We took a break from the SCA at that point, until we were welcomed into the Western Seas fold.



Photo by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

Tell us about your persona.

Seeing as my spouse had chosen a late German name, I thought that I would do the same. At the time I really wasn't sure how things worked.

I also like it when things match, I'm OCD like that. As I grew to understand more of the SCA, I discovered that although I don't drink I was a Viking at heart. This is how my last name was born.

In short, I'm embracing my two favorite parts of myself: the love of my life and the wild streak I still have.

What SCA activities do you participate in, or enjoy most?

I love it all! I can't even begin to pick a favorite. I'm a weird sort of person who enjoys getting in armor, but also loves to sew and get dressed up. I can't go to an event without wanting to learn something new. I love to craft.

Do you have color, style or food/drink preferences you'd like the populace to keep in mind when gifting you?

My device is still under review by the college of heralds, but it is a white sea serpent curled into an M shape on a green round. That being said, my favorite color is blue. I adore all shades; sapphire or cobalt are my absolute favorites.

Although I don't drink, I love the glassware of alcoholic vessels. I'm Viking, I'm loud but friendly. I'm not a hard person to please and am truly in awe of all the things that people craft.

Meet the Baron

Continued from Page 12

If anyone is unaware, Gravity Well is made up of some bigger members, most 350 pounds; they don't move very fast but they were a very well-known anchor unit.

In high school I played football, and once I turned 18 I was invited to fight with them. At 190 pounds I was by far the smallest member, but pushed with the best of them. I had a huge war door, was used to shield tactics and had a great time.

We got a few other members that moved a bit quicker and started working melee fire teams. Learned a lot of group tactics, commands, and strategies. I loved melee and war fighting, fought it almost exclusively and (probably to my detriment) almost avoided tournaments or one-on-one fighting.

It wasn't till I moved after college to Kingdom of Atlantia (D.C. area) that I started really practicing sword and shield 1v1. I remember comments such as "You're a war fighter, aren't you," because I pushed with my shield. Even



Photo by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

then I loved to bring out the glaive for some 1v1 practice, and fought usually spear at wars.

Tell us about your persona.

It took many years to settle on a persona; I remember flopping around a bit on what I wanted.

Jörgen Unruh is a mercenary of the early 15th Century, from the Northern region of what is now Bavaria (Southern Germany), but at the time considered Holy Roman Empire.

Life was short and harsh, and mercenaries were paid well, and allowed to wear

more vibrant colors not permitted to most citizens due to their short life expectancies.

Jörgen's home town was besieged by Northern German invaders, when they were pushed back out he joined a mercenary troop that helped push them out.

Having nothing left after occupying troops spent time in the town, and seeing the lascivious life of the mercenaries, hooked him at a young age. Through the wars his pay has been good, sometimes only food, but at times food can be enough. Espe-

Meet the Baron

Continued from Page 14

cially when there are hungry mouths to feed.

What SCA activities do you participate in, or enjoy most?

I was hooked initially by wars. Fighting in groups, camping, revelry into the evenings — what more can you ask for!

With time I have grown to appreciate more that the SCA has to offer, but deep down I still like to swing a stick at some friends. The engineer in me really enjoys learning new things now and I love to learn the hows and why things work. I may not have the skill of some artisans but I love to see how they practice their magic and the wonders they produce.

Do you have any goals you'd like to accomplish during your reign as Baron?

I just want to be helpful, I did not set forth to win baronial with some change in mind.

Honestly if I can make it more fun for all, perhaps grow the populace and involvement, all the better.

What are you looking forward to the most about your reign? Anything you are dreading? Have there been any surprises so far?

We are very excited about getting to know everyone more, and visiting all the islands. I think winning has been great for us in that at least everyone knows us now ...

Dreading — yes, actually that was a huge lump the night after the tournament: “What did I get myself into?” I was very concerned about etiquette and traditions. Being relatively new to the Barony we had not had a chance to see how it all worked before stepping in and we didn't want to upset the apple cart, so to speak.

Surprises — oh yes, 12th Night was a grand time, but the procession of those able to attend was awesome. We have some very talented and wonderful individuals, and I felt a little behind the 8 ball in comparison. But we have some wonderful examples to follow and a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw on from those around us.

Is there anything else you'd

like the Barony to know about you?

I am a problem solver by nature; I enjoy working through a problem and trying to find a solution. Mechanical engineer by mundane trade but that comes with the bad as well. I am not the most talkative person, unless you know me or it's a topic I know a lot about. Then you can't get me to stop talking. I am more logical in my thought and discussion than emotional, again good and bad.

Do you have color, style or food/drink preferences you'd like the populace to keep in mind when gifting you?

My colors are blue, silver (white), but I love the color green as well. I value gifts of time and effort very highly, probably why I like the SCA and people involved so much!

The Baroness and I do not drink alcohol or coffee but please don't let that stop you from gifting — we have volunteers to help us with those should the need arise (and more offer each time we say this).

Cooking with Claudius

12th Night noshing (nom nom nom)



*By Baron Claudius
Brutus Di Bartolomeo*

Hi boys and girls,

This month we will not have a recipe, but pictures from 12th Night.

And I would like to take this time to say thank you to Sir Marco for all the help he gave me in the kitchen.

I hope that everyone had a good time and that you enjoyed

the food. (If not, you know that queasy feeling that you have in your stomach, it's the poison.)

I am truly sorry that our family from the other Islands could not make it, but we had you in our hearts. (And I get to save some of my poison for next time.)

I hope that we all have a good year and a safe one, see you in the next Runestone.

From my plate to yours,

— *Claudius*



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo



Cooking with Claudius



Photos by Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo

‘A Wanderer in Rags’ ❧ Chapter 1

❧ *This is the first chapter of a creative work penned by Lord Riley Frost of Farhaven. Look for more chapters of “A Wanderer in Rags” in future issues of The Runestone.*

Lord Riley Frost of Farhaven

Old Nan’s Inn was a well-known place, though you certainly wouldn’t know it at first glance. Small and home-ly looking, the inn by the road didn’t inspire much awe, or admiration, but inside, it was a different tale entirely. All who came here would get a warm fire, good food, and fine friends.

Of course you could find this in any inn, if you looked hard enough. But what set Old Nan’s apart was the stories. Storytellers, bards and Skalds from all across the realms would come here to tell their stories, and to weave great tales of the heros and masters of old.

Sometimes, even the heroes themselves would appear, and spin a song or two. Why they came to this little place

in the woods, no one could really tell. If Old Nan knew, she wouldn’t say. But tonight, someone different came across the ancient threshold.

The fire crackled merrily in the hearth as the common room of Old Nan’s hummed with the sound of dozens of voices. After a long day, many of the patrons were happy to simply relax, and enjoy themselves in the company of friends. Outside, rain fell in heavy grey sheets, blanketing the woods in a cold mist. A lone figure, swathed in a ragged cloak, trudged through it, booted feet dragging in the mud. Soft clinking belied the presence of armor beneath his cloak, and a battered sword hung from his belt.

Coming to the inn, he paused. Was this the place ...? He looked at the sign illuminated by a covered candle. “Old Nan’s” it read. It seemed that indeed, he was



Photo by Lord Robin Randell Petrie

Lord Riley Frost of Farhaven. When asked how best to identify himself, Lord Riley responded: “I would describe myself as geeky without pause, and with a very fertile imagination.”

in the right place. Raising a hand to the door, he pushed on the age-gnarled wood, and the door swung open. Conversations ground to a halt as the patrons observed

A Wanderer in Rags — Chapter 1

Continued from Page 18

the ragged, soaked stranger standing in the doorway.

“Well, are you going to come in, or are you going to stand out there in the rain?” Old Nan asked from behind the counter, smiling widely.

“Aye, come in!” a patron called. “Sit down, have a drink!”

The figure paused for a moment, then stepped inside. The warmth from the fire struck him, and he shivered as the chill of the mist and rain was chased from him. The door swung closed as he moved inside, weaving his way through the tables, to sit on a stool by the fireplace stones. Wisps of steam rose from his cloak as the buzz of the inn resumed, the wanderer for the moment, forgotten.

After a minute or two, the homely figure of Old Nan made her way over to him and asked if he needed anything.

“Ale,” the wanderer said quietly. His voice was rough and hard, yet soft in the same turn. “And bread,” he added, almost in an afterthought.

“Right you are, dear,” Old Nan said brightly. “I’ll be just

a moment,” and she bustled off.

The wanderer sat quietly, staring into the hearth. The swirling dance of the fire was strangely hypnotic and calming, and the wanderer would have lost himself in reading the flames had there not been a tap on his shoulder.

“Here you are, m’dear,” Old Nan said, and set a mug of ale in front of him. With it was his bread ... and a wedge of aged yellow cheese he hadn’t asked for. Odd. Nodding his thanks he began to eat, unaware of the eyes that had fallen upon him. A few patrons were looking curiously at the wanderer, wondering. He didn’t look like a bard ... and he definitely wasn’t from around here.

“Who are you, mate?” a patron asked. The wanderer paused, his mug halfway to his lips.

“... There are some who call me Karalus the Weary,” he said quietly, taking a pull of the ale. He could hear the muted whispers of the patrons. Did they know who he was? Perhaps coming to this place had been a mistake.

“Everyone here has a story

to tell, friend,” a bard by the counter stated. “What’s yours?”

A sigh, and the wanderer turned on the stool to face the bard.

“My tale is long, and tragic,” he said sadly. “And though it burdens me greatly to say it, it is why I am here.”

The bard chuckled. “Aren’t they all?” he said with a smile. “Well? Let’s hear it?”

The wanderer set down his mug, and turned back to the fire.

“Some would call me hero,” he began. “Others would call me monster.” Those listening leaned in closer to hear him. “I would call myself neither. Though I will never deny, that I have done wrong ...

“In my youth, I joined the army of a baron who ruled over my homeland. I was young, impressionable. I wanted to do the right thing, and I thought that by joining the army, I would be able to do just that. I was a fool. I had no way of knowing it at the time, but the baron had

Story continues on Page 20

A Wanderer in Rags — Chapter 1

Continued from Page 19

been preparing for years to make war on his neighbors, people and their rulers, who he saw as 'feeble', and 'unfit to live.' I walked right into that. After joining, I was immediately armed, trained, and sent to a camp on the border of the baron's land and was assigned to a group of young men like myself. However, no one was as idealistic as I was at the time. We were told to stand watch for 'enemy scouts' day and night, but all I ever saw were farmers and their livestock. No soldiers, no scouts. Nothing that I would have seen as the 'enemy.' ”

Pausing, the wanderer took a sip of his ale. Noting that those listening to him were completely silent, he continued.

“One day, we received marching orders. We were told that the baron had declared war upon his neighbor, and that we were to act as part of the vanguard. Within a day, the camp had been broken, and we were marching into the land we had been

“Pausing, the wanderer
took a sip of his ale.
Noting that those listening
to him were completely silent,
he continued.”

watching. Villages fled before us, and I didn't understand why. I knew we were at war, but it didn't make sense to me that peasants would flee if we were not going to do them harm. We marched for days, passing through countless emptied hamlets and villages. My comrades found this immensely amusing, saying that the subjects of our enemy were 'spineless cowards, too afraid to stand up and be counted.' This, and they would loot and pillage as they went, helping themselves to whatever food and strong drink they could carry. Inevitably, we happened across the army of the enemy. By this time, most of the baron's forces had joined us, and our numbers had swelled to

well over five-hundred score. We did not outnumber our enemy, but we carried a lust for battle that they did not. I remember seeing terrified peasant levies, and nervous men-at-arms. The only of our enemy's troops that seemed at all confident were the knights. Even so, the men around me were eager for blood, almost like hounds to the hunt. To me, they barely seemed men. The battle was ... horrid.”

“What happened?” a patron asked. The fellow could not have been more than 20.

The wanderer sighed. “It was a massacre,” he said.

“We held the high ground,

A Wanderer in Rags — Chapter 1

Continued from Page 20

and though our ‘enemy’ was outnumbered us and was desperate to drive us from their lands, the outcome of the battle was never really in doubt. The baron’s forces were driven by a thirst for blood and a hunger for glory. What transpired that day on the field ...” he paused, and shivered, despite the cozy warmth of the fire. “I dread to remember. I will not utter it.” He shook his head. “But, this was not what showed me the true meaning of what it meant to serve this madman of a baron.”

“A week or so after the battle, the officer commanding my company was ordered to go and secure a local village. Had I know what that meant, I would have deserted then and there. But I did not. Numbed to the realities of war now, I obeyed. After a day of marching in mud and rain, we reached the village. Unlike the others we had passed on the way into this realm, this village was not abandoned. We were ordered to attack. If our officer knew what waited for us, he did not tell. There were no soldiers. No militia. It

was a refugee camp, and we descended upon it with an animal savagery.”

There was a shocked gasp from the gathered patrons. The inn was utterly silent but for the crackling of the fire.

“No one was safe. The men we rounded up. Any who resisted were put to the sword. The women ... I dare not say what my ‘comrades’ did. It shames me to say that I saw what was being done, and turned away. I did nothing. I obeyed. I was a bloody tool in the hands of a madman. This was not war. It was slaughter. After we had subjugated the villagers, we were ordered to search the houses, and burn out any who had hidden from us. I was sent to investigate the barns on the edge of town. With my bloodied sword in hand, I set to my task, not realizing what exactly I would find. In the first barn I found nothing. Following my orders, I burned it. It was what I found in the next that gave me pause. I had noted that there were no children when we attacked, but I had simply thought that they had sent them away when we attacked. As it was, I was right. Partially.

“The barn was sheltering a few children. All were terrified, and nearly flew into a panic when they saw me. I was stunned and confused. I didn’t know what to do. I had my orders, and for a moment, I considered following them. I was ready to set the barn alight, and drive these innocents into the open where death awaited them. But I didn’t. Something, I don’t know what, stopped me. I suppose, that I realized that these people did not deserve death, as I had been told. I could hear my comrades laughing nearby as they set about burning the village.

“I had to do something quickly, but I didn’t know what. In the end, I told them to run. I couldn’t think of anything else I could do, and to turn on my company would be suicide. They ran, and I did nothing to aid them. Two were killed by our archers. But the rest ... they made it to the woods. I never saw them again. To my comrades, it appeared I had flushed them out, and they were simply too fast for me

Story continues on Page 22

A Wanderer in Rags — Chapter 1

Continued from Page 21

to catch. I said nothing. After we had set fire to the village, we gathered our 'spoils of war,' and left to rejoin the army.

"My fellows were happy, filled with euphoria at yet another victory, but I was shattered. I had seen what serving the baron went, and what little good I had tried to do, still caused the death of innocents. When we returned to the army, I took all that I owned and deserted, as I did not want to spend any more of my life in the baron's service. I thought that wandering would lead me to better fortune, but as it turned out, it would only lead me to sadness and death again."

The common room of Old Nan's was completely silent as the wanderer came to a stop. The patrons stared at him with wide, frightened eyes, and even the cheerful bard by the counter had been shocked into silence.

The wanderer sighed sadly, and reached in his belt pouch. These people, now that they knew what he did,

were afraid and appalled by him, like so many others. So many others.

"Thank you for your time," he said, and placed a pile of coins on the table nearest him. Gathering his cloak around himself, he rose to his feet and turned to leave.

He was about to push the door open and step into the rain when he felt a hand on his shoulder. Glancing over his shoulder, he beheld an ancient-looking man, hardened by long seasons. A hunter and tracker, if he had to guess.

"You don't have to go, lad," he said, smiling slightly. "We've all got a past, and not all of it is pretty. From the sound of it, they don't call you 'The Weary' for nothin'."

The wanderer nodded. "Indeed," he said. The hunter smiled, and waved at the people who still watched the wanderer with wide eyes. "Well, that's the point of this place, you see. To tell stories," the hunter said cheerily. "And from the sounds of it, you have quite a story to tell."

The wanderer looked around. Yes, the people were watching him with silent

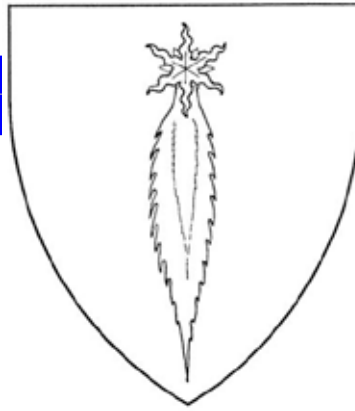
expressions of shock, but they weren't of fear, or disgust. They were of amazement. The old hunter smiled at him, and led him back over to the stool by the fire.

"Now, use that money 'o yours to buy yourself another drink, lad," he said. "'Cause you've got a story to tell."

The wanderer was amazed. These people wanted to hear his story after all. Perhaps coming here really had been a good idea. Letting Old Nan know he wanted another mug of ale, he settled in, glad for the warmth of the fire, and of the people around him.

"Well, I wandered for a while after I deserted, and got into a great deal of trouble. Even ran into a dragon that was terrorizing a seaside town. But, I'll get to that in due time ..."

Old Nan's Inn was a well-known place, a safe haven where even the most tortured of souls could tell their tales. And though tonight someone entirely different had crossed the ancient threshold, to the patrons of this little inn by the road, it was simply another story to tell.



ARGENT COMET OF WESTERN SEAS

- I. There shall exist in the Barony of Western Seas an award, known as the Argent Comet, which will be given by the Baron and Baroness, subject to the pleasure of the Crown, to those persons who have inspired others to contribute their skills and efforts to the Barony;
- II. The holders of this award shall be styled as the Companions of the Argent Comet;
- III. The insignia of the Order shall consist of a silver pin bearing the registered badge of the Order: fieldless, a comet palewise argent;
- IV. This award shall rank behind the Order of the Wa'a's Oar and the Order of the Sable Clarion;
- V. The award may be given more than once to the same individual;
- VI. Amendments to this constitution shall be made by the Baron and Baroness of Western Seas after due consultation with the Crown;
- VII. Companionship of previous recipients of this award is hereby confirmed.

By our hands this 11th day of October, XLIX, being 2014 in the Common Era.

Genevieve la Minstrelle
Baroness

Richard of Castle North
Baron

Farhaven — Winter Feast



Photos by Lord Robin
Randell Petrie



Farhaven — Winter Feast

By The Baroness Uta Blackthorne

*Based on the tune of "Brave Sir Robin" from
Monty Python:*

Bravely, Farhavenites
rode forth to Dragongate
They were not afraid to feast
oh, brave Farhaven!
They were not afraid
to cook in medieval ways!
Cook, cook, cook, cook Farhaven!

They were not in the least bit scared
To cook food on a spit.
Or to have their eyes smoked out,
by the dragon oven.
Drinking varied home brews
And not throwing it up,
Cookies, pies and cakes,
Brave Farhaven.
Their stomachs are full
And their hearts at ease
And the sun is shining
And the wind is light
And the shadows dappled
And the grass is green

And the goats are ... oh, sorry
Brave Farhaven on feast day.
Bravely ate and ate away!

When food reared its tasty head,
They bravely opened up and fed.
Yes, brave Farhaven turned out
And gallantly they danced about.
Bravely taking to their feet
Admittedly were quite off beat,
Bravest of the brave, brave Farhaven!

Then packing it in and picking it up,
And cleaning away and sweeping it up
Then planning it out and pissing off home,
Yes, bravely they are looking for the next
event!

That's ... that's enough music for now.

*With guest appearances from Peridot Isle by
Don Guillaume and Lady Elizabeth, and Lady
Viviana and Lord Ragnall with m'Lady Marie
and m'Lords Augustine and Dominic. Also ap-
pearing from across the water were Lord John
Robert of York and Lady Ziana da Lekeito from
the Barony of Arn Hold, Kingdom of Artemisia.*



Submission Guidelines

The deadline for the Second Quarter issue (April-May-June) will be March 31. Please contact Lady Viviana of Peridot Isle, chronicler@westernseas.org, with any article submissions, suggestions or questions.

The Runestone reserves the right to publish submissions as space and time allow, and to edit for grammar and content if necessary. Submissions that are original works will be credited appropriately. Submissions that are not original works must credit the source in some fashion. Submissions may be e-mailed to chronicler@westernseas.org.

All items submitted for publication must be accompanied by a Release for Publication, available at <http://chronicler.sca-caid.org/index.php#forms>. That website includes a number of release forms; please download and complete the "Society Creative Works Release" form and return it to chronicler@westernseas.org along with any creative works submissions.

Please use the following guidelines when submitting:

E-mail: E-mail submissions can be contained in the body of the message, or sent as a file attachment. File attachments should be plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf) or Word document (.doc or .docx) format for text. Graphics and photos should be saved as JPEG (.jpg or .jpeg) or PNG (.png) as appropriate.

Photo Policy: It is the responsibility of the photographer submitting photos for publication to obtain releases from the subjects in the photo. By submitting a photo for publication, the submitter affirms that they have and are giving permission to publish the photo, and that they have obtained all necessary releases from the subject(s).

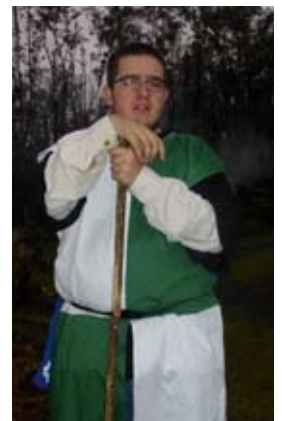
Calendar Listings: To have an official SCA event listed in The Runestone calendar, send all relevant details to the Chronicler at chronicler@westernseas.org. Please include: Event name; date and time; location; descriptive details; name of contact person and the best way to reach them for more information.

For more information: Contact Lady Viviana of Peridot Isle, chronicler@westernseas.org

Past Merriment



Farhaven — Winter Feast



Upcoming Merriment

Archers Muster!

DATE: March 13-14

TIME: Site opens March 13 at noon (for those wishing to camp over; no activities are planned)

Site closes: March 14, 4:30 p.m.

SPONSORING GROUP: Canton of Farhaven

EVENT STEWARD: Honoria (Hattie Gerish), 808-747-4745

E-MAIL CONTACT: Seneschal@Farhaven.org

LOCATION: Home of the Gerrish Family, 43-1688 Manienie Rd., Paauilo, Hawaii.

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: Turn off highway after post office (if coming from Hilo), turn left by feedstore on Pohakea Road. Turn left onto Pohakea Mauka Road, turn left onto Manienie Road, proceed to its end. Gate with house number on it will not be locked. Ignore Google Maps after turning on to Manienie.

SITE FEE: None.

EVENT DESCRIPTION: Bring your bows and arrows for target practice. Archer authorization available, and authorized archers may participate in an optional contest.

The ridgepole of a longhouse for the use of future events will be raised.

Potluck feasting.

Four-wheel-drive is not required for our dirt road, but it can be rough for some vehicles. Parking and transportation for the last mile available upon request. Please contact event steward for detailed directions.

Festival of Ostara

DATE: March 21

TIME: 1 to 9 p.m.

EVENT DESCRIPTION: Please join us for merrymaking as we celebrate the Spring Equinox with the Festival of Ostara, in honor of our Baron and Baroness. We plan a casual afternoon of fellowship. Bring your projects or ideas to work on.

A potluck period-style feast will be held. Folks are encouraged to bring period type side dishes for the feast. Our theme is German/Viking.

SCHEDULE: Tentative

1 p.m. Arrival time

5 p.m. Prepare for feast

5:30-8:30 p.m. Feast

8:30 p.m. Cleanup

All will be asked to sign a waiver on check-in. Help in set-up and cleanup will be greatly appreciated. Feast gear will be provided. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect.

SPONSORING GROUP: Canton of Peridot Isle

LOCATION: Amore Kai, 4429 Kalua Makua Place, Kilauea.

EVENT STEWARD: THLord William Walworth de Durham (Richard Sherman)

E-MAIL: Herald@Peridotisle.org

SITE FEE: No site fee

Which waiver, when and why?

By Lady Viviana of Peridot Isle

If you submit photos, artwork or want your personal information published in connection with an event, you will need to submit the proper waiver form.

Forms signed after January 2014 are now being kept electronically at both the Baronial and Kingdom levels. Three officers (the Chronicler, Constable and Webwright) are gathering these waivers as needed. Some forms can be completed digitally with an electronic signature and emailed back, or you can print it out and use snail-mail. We will happily send you the proper form, or you can download it for yourself at <http://chronicler.sca-caid.org/index.php#forms>

Which waiver, when?

- If you send photographs to be used in The Runestone or on the Baronial or Canton

websites, please complete “SCA Photograph Grant of Use Form.”

- If you send poems, articles, songs, works of art, etc., please complete “SCA Creative Work Copyright Assignment/Grant Of Use Form.”

- An entirely different waiver is required to allow your mundane name, personal email, phone number or physical address to be published in SCA publications or websites. This one is called “Permission to Electronically Publish Personal Information” and generally affects officers and event autocrats or hosts.

Below is the relevant section of an extremely helpful document developed by legalese-savvy folks at Kingdom. Please read it for more clarification.

Thank you for your patience — and kind attention!

Can you explain each release form and when I need to use them?

The SCA CREATIVE WORK COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT/GRANT OF USE FORM is needed from the author or artist for

- articles, poems, stories, songs, etc.
- original artwork (not clip art)

No form is needed for

- correspondence from officers or autocrats
- event notices
- captions

The SCA MODEL RELEASE FORM is needed from the person(s) in the picture if

- the image is portrait-style (see below)
- the photograph is taken in a private space at an event (such as a personal encampment)
- the photograph is taken at a non-public venue (such as an armor-making workshop at a home)

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.

The SCA PHOTOGRAPH GRANT OF USE FORM is needed from the photographer for all photos added after Dec. 31, 2010.

(A photographer may check the “Perpetual Grants of Use” box, which means they can complete the form **once** and it covers any photograph submitted now or in the future.)

— Information courtesy of Caid Social Media



Online resources

• Society for Creative Anachronism — www.sca.org *The main Website for all of the Society*

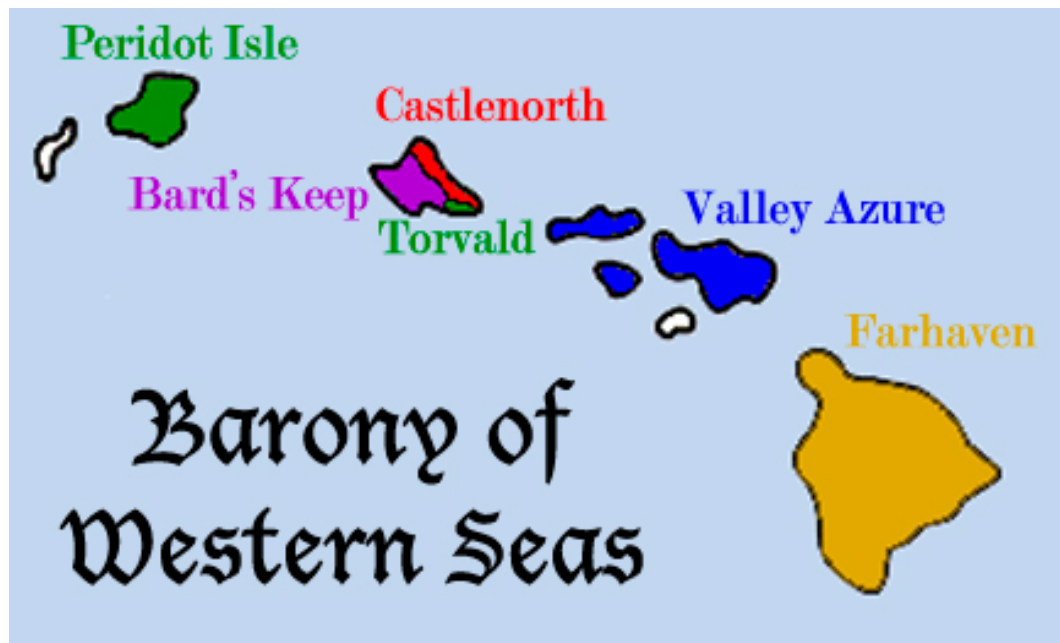
• Newcomer Portal — welcome.sca.org *Vast assortment of information and resources for newcomers*

• Kingdom of Caïd — www.sca-caid.org *Many resources, announcements and the current calendar of events*

• Wikipedia page: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Society_for_Creative_Anachronism

• Baronial e-mail discussion list: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WesternSeas/>

Barony of Western Seas
54-304 Kawaewae Way
Hauula, HI 96717



Cantons & Seneschals

Canton of Bard's Keep (Central, Western O'ahu)	Lord Andrew Fairburn	seneschal@bardskeep.org
Canton of Castlenorth (Northeastern O'ahu)	Sir Marco Di Bartolomeo	seneschal@castlenorth.org
Canton of Farhaven (Big Island)	Baroness Uta Blackthorne	seneschal@farhaven.org
Canton of Peridot Isle (Kaua'i)	THLady Una Logan	seneschal@peridotisle.org
Canton of Torvald (Southeastern O'ahu)	THLord Alasdair Iain Caimbeul	seneschal@sca-torvald.org
Canton of Valley Azure (Maui, Molokai, Lanai)	Sir Edward of Castleguard	seneschal@valleyazure.org

Baronial Guilds

Philosophers	Sir Valeran do Pico	herald@westernseas.org
Music Maximus	Mistress Genevieve la Minstrelle	minstrels@westernseas.org
Brewers	THLady Una Logan	brewers@westernseas.org
Wooden Spoon	Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo	constable@westernseas.org
Sappers	Sir Valeran do Pico	herald@westernseas.org
Scribe	THLady Duibheasa ingen ui hEalaighthe	exchequer@westernseas.org

Regnum of Barony of Western Seas

Baron	Jörgen Unruh	barony@westernseas.org	Ceremonial head of the Barony and representative of the Crown
Baroness	Ödriana Knarrabringa	barony@westernseas.org	Ceremonial head of the Barony and representative of the Crown
Seneschal	Mistress Raven of Heronsmarsh	seneschal@westernseas.org	In charge of the organization of the Barony and its sub-groups
Deputy Seneschal	THLord Alasdair Iain Caimbeul	seneschal@westernseas.org	Assists the seneschal with the organization of the Barony and its sub-groups
Herald	Sir Valeran do Pico	herald@westernseas.org	Keeps track of awards, assists with research and registration of names and devices, makes announcements at event and is Master of Ceremonies at events
Knight Marshal	Sir Edward of Castleguard	knightmarshal@westernseas.org	As combat supervisor, the knight marshal administers Armored Combat (rattan and armor) activities
Arts & Sciences	Lady Sorcha Campbell	artsandsciences@westernseas.org	Covers Arts, crafts and Sciences, and assists members in finding sources of information and teachers
Exchequer	THLady Duibheasa ingen ui hEalaighthe	exchequer@westernseas.org	Handles the financial matters of the Barony
Chronicler	Lady Viviana of Peridot Isle	chronicler@westernseas.org	Produces the Baronial newsletter (The Runestone)
Chirurgeon	THLord William Walworth de Durham	chirurgeon@westernseas.org	In charge of overseeing First-Aid and health and safety of the Barony
Constable	Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo	constable@westernseas.org	In charge of maintaining law and order as well as Lost & Found
Provost Marshal-Fencing	Baron Claudius Brutus Di Bartolomeo	constable@westernseas.org	Supervises fencing activities
Chatelaine	Lord Randall Von Voorheis	chatelaine@westernseas.org	In charge of introducing new members to the Society, group demonstrations and loaner garb for newcomers
Deputy Chatelaine	Lord Gui Le Belligerent	chatelaine@westernseas.org	Assists in introducing new members to the Society, group demonstrations and loaner garb for newcomers
Webwright	Sadhbh inghean Uí Conghal	webwright@westernseas.org	In charge of maintaining the Baronial Web page
Scribe	THLady Duibheasa ingen ui hEalaighthe	exchequer@westernseas.org	Organizes scribes to create award scrolls with calligraphy and illumination



Barony of Western Seas
<http://westernseas.org/>

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