

The Carraig Banner: A View from the Tower

April/June 2023 -- Anno Societatis 57/58

This is the quarterly newsletter for the Barony of Carraig Ban.

Officer change

Hunter will be seneschal during the baronial polling, April 1 through May 1.

Message from our Baron

Greetings from the Baronage to the populace of Carraig Ban!

As you all have known for some time I am stepping down from my position soon. In order for this process to be as transparent as possible I want to take this time to go over the timeline of events that are coming so you may better understand this process.

The timeline is as follows:

April 1st - Our seneschal begins accepting candidate packets and letters of intent. This window will be 30 days.

May 1 at 11:59pm - The window for packet submission ends. The kingdom will be working with our webminister to get the letters and candidate photos published to the Baronial website.

May 11th - Polling opens for commentary. Polls are online by default now, though paper polls will be available on request. This window must be 3 weeks exactly. Those who are not part of the barony's lands may ask to participate in this polling.

June 1st - Polling ends. Kingdom compiles the information and send it along to TRM for consideration and selection.

Usually the selection period is 30 days at which time TRM will call the candidates and tell them of the results. I want to remind the populace, the polling is not a vote, it is a tool which TRM uses to help them pick their candidate. As well as the polling TRM will also ask peers within our baronage of their opinion and also will weigh what I will say about the candidates.

If you are considering submitting a packet or have questions before you submit one please reach out to me privately, we can set aside time to discuss your questions.

YIS

Baron Honda Heihachiro

Message from the Seneschal

(Lord Alexicratus -- carraigban.marshal@midrealm.org)

Hello everyone!

It's that time we've all been waiting for, baronial election time! With your host: ME

It's my job to inform as many people as I can that polling is coming and it's about time for anyone who wants to be considered for the position of baron/baroness to submit their packet of application. The letter of intent and packet of application must include:

- SCA name and any titles - the titles and styling used in the letter of intent will be exactly how it is listed on the poll.
- Legal name with contact information including: mailing address, phone number, email address
- Copy of valid membership card (valid through June) and a copy of photo identification
- Letters can include any information the candidate wishes to communicate to the Crown or the populace – such as SCA experience or vision for the barony.
- The submission of the letters should also include a single photo of the candidates (or one each if they don't have one together) with the current MK photo release form.

All documents should be in a PDF, TXT or Word document format, please. (Photos can be submitted separately in most any common photo format)

The time frame for these packets is April 1st to May 1st. No earlier, no later. I will receive these packets and forward them to who needs them for review.

After the application process is over this will be the timeline:

- May 1st, 11:59 pm. The window for submission closes and any packets still in your inbox get forwarded to me. Ursus will reach out to our webminister at this point and work with them to get the letters published to the Baronial webpage. I'll publicly announce the candidates on any of the Baronial official communication channels.
Optional but encouraged: It's good to arrange a "Q&A" between the candidates and the populace, in person, online, or mixed.
- May 11th - The polls open for commentary. This will be announced online and commentary is highly encouraged!
- June 1st at 11:59pm - Polls close for commentary. Any paper polls must be postmarked no later than this date as well. Ursus will compile the information and forward it to TRM for a decision. The decision should be relatively quick.

Polling will happen online but if wanted a paper ballot can be used upon request of me. Anyone outside the barony that primarily plays with our barony is also welcome to participate upon notifying me, you'll get a non-resident poll.

Please message me with any questions.

Greetings from the Chronicler

A name has been chosen! There were many submissions. The name receiving the most votes is "The Carraig Banner." However, it was pointed out by several of our long-time members that there had been a newsletter previously, called "A View from the Tower." This name was also submitted, and received the second highest number of votes.

To honor the long legacy of Carraig Ban and its history, the two names will be combined.

The winner of the contest, having submitted the name “The Carraig Banner” is Lord Akiyama Kazuhiko. He receives the one free registration to the Barony’s annual event, Ragnarok Rampage, and in the spirit of generosity that characterizes Carraig Ban, is donating it for the use of a baronial newcomer.

50th Anniversary of Carraig Ban

Carraig Ban started meeting 50 years ago this year. (We became a barony a few years later.) We are hoping to celebrate this in some way before the end of the year.

From the Historian – The very beginning of Carraig Ban

1973 is the year Carraig Ban was founded. In that summer, Master Rory O’Tomrair (Ed Tonry) and I, Mistress Winifred Yseulte (Winifred Halsey) both ended up at what was then called King Richard’s Renaissance Faire. The SCA provided the medieval fighting for the crowds, and if you were interested, they’d take your name, address and phone number. Both Rory and I gave the people their own information on different weekends.

A week or so later, a person from the SCA, an individual called Rodney the Rusty, came by my sister’s house where I was staying for the summer. We chatted and I agreed to go to some meetings in Chicago. That was the closest group at that time. Rory had also been contacted and agreed to go.

The meetings were held in the house of Roland de Tourgrise and Bran Kernow, where we met a variety of very interesting people, including Franz von Blinken-Lichten* who was the second king of the Middle Kingdom (Cariadoc of the Bow being the first king). Rory and I also met each other. He was living in Downers Grove and I was living back on campus.

We met up with two other people who knew about the SCA – Sara and Craig Gilbertson. I don’t remember any other of the people from 1973 but we had about 8 people in the group.

By early fall, Rory had prepared the paperwork, submitted it, and Carraig Ban was born. Carraig Ban translates and the “white tower”. The white tower is Altgeld Hall.

Rory and my first event was a summer picnic in Chicago. Our second event was Pennsic II.

After Pennsic, and with our group officially founded, we had our first event in the fall of 1973. Neither Rory nor I remember much of that event after all these years, except the fighting was in the old Fieldhouse and the feast was in the basement of a church. I made spaghetti. Oh yes. Spaghetti.

The following year, we did better, but that is a story for the next newsletter.

*Franz von Blinken-Lichten was at the time a computer programmer. Hence the “blinking lights” in his SCA name.

Calendar of Selected Events

A complete list and current official information linked from <https://midrealm.org/events-calendar>

April 21 – 23, 2023

Crystal Chamfron: Fool's Day

Barony of Shattered Crystal

Camp Dubois

Wood River, IL

Pre-Registration must be **postmarked** by Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Registration fee SCA member pre-reg \$12

<https://shatteredcrystal.midrealm.org/chamfron>

April 22, 2023

Three Saints and a War of Stars

Barony of Rivenstar

Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds

Lafayette, IN

Registration Fee SCA Member \$15

<https://rivenstar.midrealm.org/events/2023/3%20Saints>

April 29, 2023

The Awakening XXXIV - Armored Easter Egg Hunt

Shire of Baile na Scolairi

Mt. Hope Funks Grove Park District

McLean, IL.

Site fee SCA Member \$15

<https://sites.google.com/view/awakenings2023>

May 6, 2023

Spring Coronation

Barony of Shadowed Stars

Wells County 4-H Park

Bluffton IN

Pre-reg **closes** May 1, 2023

Pre-Reg Adult (18+) SCA member \$15

<https://shadowedstars.midrealm.org/coronation-spring-2023>

May 19 - 21, 2023

Constellation Academy of Defense & Dance Symposium

Shire of Mynydd Seren

McCormick's Creek State Park

Spencer, IN

Park entrance fee of \$7/\$9 plus

Adult SCA member registration \$10

<https://sites.google.com/view/cadd-2023/home>

May 27 - 28, 2023

Spring Crown and Kingdom A&S Faire

Barony of the Cleftlands

Ashtabula County Fairgrounds

Jefferson, OH

Advance registration adult (18+) SCA member \$15

<https://events.cleftlands.org/crown>

June 16 – 18, 2023

**Ragnarök Rampage: Hel's Belles
Barony of Carraig Ban**

Elks Page Park
Dixon IL

Adult member site fee \$15

<https://carraigban.midrealm.org/ragnarok-2023>

(see below for more details)

June 30 - July 1, 2023

**A Simple Day in the Country
Barony of Sternfeld**

Hendricks County 4H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex
Danville, IN

<https://sternfeld.midrealm.org/simple-day>

Ragnarök Rampage: Hel's Belles

The Barony will be hosting its annual event on June 16 – 18, 2023, at Elks Page Park, Dixon IL. See <https://carraigban.midrealm.org/ragnarok-2023> for details not included below

Autocrats:

Lord Akiyama Hiroaki: carraigban.seneschal@midrealm.org

Lady Reishi Honda: carraigban.chatelaine@midrealm.org

Feast steward: Lady Gillian Durham: carraigban.chronicler@midrealm.org

Merchant Amenities

8' long rectangular table, up to 2 chairs

Indoor and outdoor space is available, electricity is only available inside.

No cut off date for merchants, but no guarantees on indoor space if you wait to ask for space.

Fee is a donation to Silent Auction of approximately \$20 value

Contact: Stan Sutton (Baron Faustino Baeza) Email: ssutton56@yahoo.com

The feast menu, as of April 1:

Rye bread*

Soft cheeses

Oven roasted chicken

Carrots with dill

Green soup

Braised lamb with barley pottage*

Salat of greens and herbs with mustard vinaigrette

Irish molasses bread*

Cheesecake*

Cold rosehip tea with lingonberry syrup

Cold barley water with honey

Note: in the interests of inclusiveness, the feast is nut-free. Vegetarian pottage, and gluten-free substitutions for the starred items, will be available to those who request them **before June 1** by emailing the feast steward at [carraigban.chronicler @ midrealm.org](mailto:carraigban.chronicler@midrealm.org).

Baronial Officers

Baron

His Excellency Honda Heihachiro
carraigban.baron@midrealm.org

Landed Baron or Baroness is an appointed title and office given to an individual by the Crown of their Kingdom. They become the local extension of the Crown and a representative for the populace of their Barony.

Seneschal

April 1 to May 1

Lord Alexicratus carraigban.marshall@midrealm.org

After May 1

Lord Akiyama Hiroaki carraigban.seneschal@midrealm.org

Serves as president of the group, acting as administrator and legal representative of the SCA.

Chatelaine

Lady Reishi Honda

carraigban.chatelaine@midrealm.org

Assists new individuals navigate the SCA.

Chronicler

Lady Gillian Durham

carraigban.chronicler@midrealm.org

Documents group activities, and produces the Baronial Newsletter.

Signet

Lady Bien-Venue La Riote

carraigban.signet@midrealm.org

Coordinates volunteer artists of the society to create awards that are given out to members of the SCA for their accomplishments.

Herald

Armiger Akiyama Kazuhiko

carraigban.herald@midrealm.org

Official messenger for the Barony and researcher of book heraldry.

Marshal

Lord Alexicratus

carraigban.marshall@midrealm.org

Trained officer who oversees armored combat activities for safety purposes.

Minister of the Arts and Sciences (MOAS)

Armiger Akiyama Kazuhiko

carraigban.moas@midrealm.org

Responsible for the encouragement of arts and sciences, and reporting on the group's activities.

Social Media Officer (SMO)
Lady Bien-Venue La Riote
carraigban.socialmedia@midrealm.org

Manages Baronial information that is circulated on social media outlets.

Quarterminister
Lady Thana Speedo

Stores and catalogs Baronial equipment and provides access to it to stewards and officers for the running of events.

Web Minister
Lady Honnor La Riote
carraigban.webminister@midrealm.org

Responsible for maintaining the Baronial Website.

This is the April/June 2023 issue of the official newsletter of the Barony of Carraig Ban, a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. This newsletter is published as a service to the membership of the SCA's Barony of Carraig Ban. Subscriptions are free. For a hard copy of this newsletter, please contact Gillian Durham at carraigban.chronicler@midrealm.org

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