

The Carraig Banner: A View from the Tower

April – June 2026 -- Anno Societatis LX – LXI

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

Baronial Missive

Dearest C-Ban,

The weather is changing and we can do more with our community! More chances for fighter practice, more events, and more history-making!

Ragnarok will be here before you know it, so get your award recs in sharpish! I know that we're excited for the annual pillow right, and our incredible Dragnarok. Also look forward to the magnificent soul food feast! If you want to teach or host an event, teach or to our event stewards Reishi (Lulu) and Elisabeth (Elizabeth).

We also have lots of upcoming classes: doublet making, dying with natural dyes, and more!

Onward to spring!

Hiroaki and Kazuhiko, Barons Carraig Ban

Carraig Ban Baronial Birthday Bardic Bash

Baronial Awards given out:

Baroness Katherine Von Trier	Award of the Plinth
THL Gillian Durham	Award of the Plinth
Sargeant Alexicratus Taifalus	Award of the Siege Tower
Lisbet of Carraig Ban	Award of the Drawbridge
Elewys of Carraig Ban	Award of the Drawbridge
Alejandro of Carraig Ban	Award of the Drawbridge
Attamannu of Carraig Ban	Award of the Quoin

From the Chronicler

Business meetings are usually held on a Thursday of odd numbered months, at the DeKalb Public Library. There will always be a Zoom link as well. (If we get enough members in Elgin, we will revisit having business meetings in Elgin.)

These meetings begin at 6pm with a half hour of socializing before the business begins at 6:30.

The next meetings are currently scheduled as follows:

Thursday, May 7, 2026 This will be devoted solely to discussing Ragnarok
Thursday, July 2, 2026
Thursday, September 3, 2026
Thursday, November 5, 2026

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Minutes of the January business meeting are available at
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dwg2lXt8eFJlBnlw--ov4kZVtdnaAxUW/view?usp=sharing>

Minutes of the March business meeting are available at
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1omfeVnhrprmEA0D2_3-LKgZxqaXqxl8Q/view?usp=sharing

A&S meetings

There is an A&S in Elgin on the 1st SUNDAY of each month, currently scheduled for 1pm to 3pm. Check the Baronial Facebook group for updates.
(In April the Elgin A&S has been moved to April 12, due to Easter being on the 1st Sunday.)

Other A&S are most Thursdays, held at the DeKalb Public Library, beginning at 6pm. If there is not a presentation you are welcome to drop by later than 6pm.

There is no A&S in person the 1st Thursday of each month There may be Zoom classes, check the Baronial Facebook group for updates.

Baronial Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/baronyofcarraigban>

For the DeKalb A&S meetings:

The 2nd Thursday usually has a theme of scribal (calligraphy and illumination) as well as sewing. The 3rd Thursday usually has a theme of fiber and fabric (including assistance with garb). The last Thursday of each month is a open house, potluck, gaming, and bardic night at the home of the Barons, 420 Franklin Street in DeKalb. (You are welcome to attend with no contribution of to the potluck, the main point of the evening is socializing, not food.)

If there are 5 Thursdays in a month, the 4th Thursday topic is TBD at the DeKalb Public Library, unless it's a month when a regularly scheduled session has been preempted by a special topic. In that case, the 4th Thursday will be whatever session was preempted.

(There will be no A&S on the 4th Thursday of April.)

On March 19 there was a meeting at the Rare Books Room of Founders Memorial Library of NIU, with a presentation by Baron Kazuhiko, on the topic of doing research in a rare books collection. Some of the collection was on display. 14 people attended.

The Powerpoint presentation is available here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/baronyofcarraigban/posts/26034374319558772>

On March 26 there was a Zoom presentation by Her Excellency Mistress Hillary of Langeforde on the Cultural Diffusion and the Silk Road. A transcript will be made available soon.

Additional A&S sessions:

Sunday April 19, 2026, 2 – 4pm, DKPL
Sergers are scary, let's fix that! with Baroness Mihri

Saturday May 2, 2026 3pm to 5pm, DKPL
Naalbinding with Jessie

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Saturday May 9, 2026 and Saturday May 16, 2026 11am – 4pm, DKPL
 Doublet-making with Mistress Sarafina Sinclair

Saturday May 23 and Sunday May 24, Locations TBD
 Saturday at 12 PM to 5PM, Sunday at 12PM to 2PM
 Natural Dyeing Using Northern Illinois Plant Materials

See table below for A&S schedule and what events are on the weekend after each A&S.

Carraig Ban Business and A&S Meetings, 2nd Q 2026

	A&S / Business meeting	(mostly) Midlands Event that weekend
Apr 2	Zoom meeting on “Measures of Success & Redefining Your Victory Conditions”	
Apr 9	DeKalb scribal and stitching (inc. garb assistance)	Fire Arts Symposium Wood River IL A&S in Elgin on Sunday
Apr 16	DeKalb fiber and fabric (inc. garb assistance)	Shire of Dark River Spring Moot Coal Valley, IL Sergers Class at DKPL
Apr 23	No A&S meeting	Awakenings 37: Juice and Cookies McLean, IL
Apr 30	DeKalb open house, bardic and gaming	Spring Coronation Indianapolis, IN Naalbinding at DKPL
May 7	Business meeting, A&S in Elgin on Sunday	DKPL – Doublet-making with Mistress Sarafina Sinclair
May 14	DeKalb scribal and stitching (inc. garb assistance)	DKPL – Doublet-making with Mistress Sarafina Sinclair
May 21	DeKalb fiber and fabric (inc. garb assistance)	Spring Crown Hastings, MI Natural Dyeing Using N. Ill. Materials location TBD
May 28	DeKalb open house, bardic and gaming	Battle for Greyhope Rensselaer IN
Jun 4	TBD	Inkin’ in Lincoln: Scribal Get Together Lincoln, IL
Jun 11	No A&S, Prep for Ragnarok	Ragnarok Dixon IL
Jun 18	DeKalb fiber and fabric (inc. garb assistance)	
Jun 25	DeKalb open house, bardic and gaming	

Fighting Practices

Heavy Fighting Practice is held on Wednesday nights beginning at 6:30. Until the weather gets better, it is held every other Wednesday at Fargo Skate Park in DeKalb. Once the weather is suitable for outside practice, it will be held at NIU, across from the lagoon near the Faraday Building.

Once the weather gets better, we may also start back up with fighting practice in South Elgin on every other Sunday afternoon.

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Check before coming at the Facebook group Carraig Ban Fighter Practice
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=official%20carraig%20ban%20fighter%20practice>

Rapier Practice is held every Monday night at the Egyptian Theatre in DeKalb. Contact August Tang for details. [carraigban.exchequer@midrealm.org or message him on Facebook]

Information on Selected Events

A complete list and current official information is available at <https://midrealm.org/events-calendar>

April 10 – 12, 2026
Fire Arts Symposium
<https://shatteredcrystal.midrealm.org/fire-arts-symposium>
Wood River, IL

April 18, 2026
Shire of Dark River Spring Moot
<https://darkriver.midrealm.org/moot/>
Coal Valley, IL

April 25, 2026
Awakenings 37: Juice and Cookies
<https://sites.google.com/view/theawakening2026>
McLean, IL

May 2, 2026
Reserved for Spring Coronation
<https://sternfeld.midrealm.org/springcoronation26/>
Indianapolis, IN

May 23-24, 2026
Reserved for Spring Crown and Kingdom A&S Faire)
<https://andelcrag.midrealm.org/spring-crown/>
Hastings, MI

May 29-31, 2026
Battle for Greyhope
<https://sites.google.com/view/battleforgreyhope/home>
Rensselaer IN

June 6, 2026
Inkin' in Lincoln: Scribal Get Together
<https://swordcliff.midrealm.org/events/inkin-in-lincoln/>
Lincoln, IL

June 12-14
Ragnarok: A Tradition of Rainbows
<https://carraigban.midrealm.org/ragnarok-2026/>
Dixon, IL

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Baronial Officers

Baronage

Their Excellencies Akiyama Hiroaki and Akiyama Kazuhiko

carraigban.baron@midrealm.org

Landed Baron/ess is an appointed title and office given to individuals by the Crown of their Kingdom.

They become the local extension of the Crown and a representative for the populace of their Barony.

Seneschal & Marshal

Lord Alexicratus

carraigban.seneschal@midrealm.org

carraigban.marshal@midrealm.org

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

Trained officer who oversees armored combat activities for safety purposes.

Exchequer

Baron Honda Heihachiro

carraigban.exchequer@midrealm.org

Serves as treasurer for the group.

Herald

Baron Ælfred of Chester

carraigban.herald@midrealm.org

Official messenger for the Barony and researcher of book heraldry.

Minister of the Arts and Sciences (MOAS)

THL Jadwiga Wlodzislawska

carraigban.moas@midrealm.org

Responsible for the encouragement of arts and sciences.

Chronicler

Lady Gillian Durham

carraigban.chronicler@midrealm.org

Documents group activities, and produces the Baronial Newsletter.

Chatelaine

Attamannue

carraigban.chatelaine@midrealm.org

Assists new individuals navigate the SCA.

Web Minister & Social Media Officer (SMO)

Baroness Umm Iskandar Mihri

carraigban.webminister@midrealm.org

carraigban.socialmedia@midrealm.org

Responsible for maintaining the Baronial Website, and manages Baronial information that is circulated on social media outlets.

Signet

Lady Bien-Venue La Rioté

carraigban.signet@midrealm.org

Coordinates volunteer artists of the society who create the awards scrolls given out to SCA members in recognition of their accomplishments.

Quarterminister

Lady Thana Spitui

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

This is the April – June 2026 issue of the official newsletter of the Barony of Carraig Ban, a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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