



Andercurrents

Barony of Highland Foorde, Kingdom Atlantia - Vol 22, 18- Aug AS 55, 2020



Pennsic XLIX - The One that Wasn't



Bonjorn Highland Foorde!

Undercurrents is always looking for content to be submitted every month. The more content you submit, the more interesting our newsletter will be!

Have a column about your favorite subject you want to write every month? Maybe you found an interesting article that you'd love to publish and discuss your findings? E-mail me and let's get started on getting your content added.

Yours in service,

Aurri La Borgne
Chronicler of Highland Foorde

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Deputy Youth Officer

VACANT

Contact Vilhjelmr if interested

Highland Foorde Champions

Arts and Sciences - Baroness Glynis Gwynedd

Archery - Oger Funk

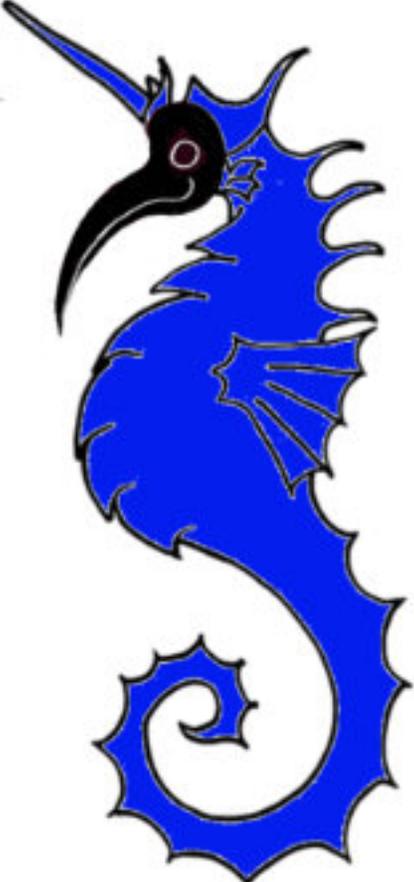
Bardic - Harper An Cu

Brewing - Ethel Lea Mouse

Heavy Fighting - VACANT

Rapier - Urraka al-Tha'labiyya

Thrown Weapons - Galen Telerisson



SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

ONLINE
UNIVERSITY
OF ATLANTIA

UNIVERSITY.ATLANTIA.SCA.ORG

Class Proposals Deadline: 8/3/20
Student Registration: 8/16-9/10/20

ALL ARE WELCOME.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
ATLANTIAN
OR AN SCA MEMBER TO JOIN US!



Atlantian Activities



Northern Atlantia A&S night: August 12th, 6-9pm via Zoom

August Monthly Business Meeting: August 16th 1pm via Zoom

Compass Convergence Singers: Come sing with a group of madrigals! Times and locations change to match the convenience of the attendees. Contact Lady Thorve for more information

Cooks Guild: Brand new! Join Lady Caran in a safe space to discuss historical food facts and food related events within the SCA. No set meeting date or location as of yet. Contact Lady Caran for more information

Shire of Roxbury Mill

Weekly Rapier Gatherings: Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm via Google Meet

Weekly A&S Meetings: Wednesdays from 7:30-9:30pm via Google Meet

Lochmere

Baronial Happy Hour: Tuesdays from 7-8pm via Google Meet

...and More!

Great Performances: An SCA Bardic Showcase: August 16th-30th via Facebook

Revenge of the Stitch IV: August 28th at 3pm to August 30th at 5pm via Facebook

For a full list, be sure to check out the
[Virtual Atlantia Activity Calendar](#)

Pennsics Past

For the Pennsic that never was...



A collection of stories, memories, and
photos from across
Highland Foorde and beyond





round this time, people would gather from all over the Known World to live in a little city on a campground called Cooper's Lake. Land would be measured, tents set up, classes to teach and to learn from, great battles to be had, and stories to tell. Friends who only see each other once a year are neighbors once more for two weeks. But with the Covid Pandemic sweeping across the globe, the safety of the populace was taken into great account and for the first time, Pennsic was postponed.

But, that doesn't mean that we all still can't gather together. Since the pandemic hit, the SCA has made leaps of improvement to recreate moments in a virtual setting and Pennsic is no different. With Facebook Groups, Zoom rooms, and Discord servers alight, people are gathering more often now than ever before. To honor that, here are some of Highland Foorde's favorite memories from Pennsics past...



One of my favorite Pennsic memories involved a rain storm. I think that's pretty typical honestly. The rain causes chaos and we react to it. Our main tent gets "cows" (where the canvas stretches a bit and fills with water) so we run around and "milk" said cows with whatever stick we have at hand. As it poured down and my campers ran around laughing and calling warnings about where the water was going to go (VERY IMPORTANT, by the way) Larson yelled loudly "THIS IS A DUMB HOBBY". And we all fell into hysterics, because WHO WANTS THIS?? But man, we all love it so. So much so that his Excellency presented Larson with a pewter pin stating "this is a dumb hobby"

– Baronness Sinn Larensdotter

Daniel and I used to camp with Cambion, when we went to Pennsic. One year it rained. And rained. Hoo boy, did it rain. We set up in the rain, the first weekend. M.Igor and M.Fevronia had a Grimms Tent set up to await their arrival... and a seep spring opened up underneath it. They found pallets, and over that put plastic and then straw. But things were still squishy.

You have to understand, now, that Cambion was camping at a site easily 140 feet from the nearest water, and of that, 40 feet was straight up. SO... The Sunday morning of the middle weekend, for the first time, the day dawned bright and clear. Barbara of Cambion went out

in her bare feet onto the dewy (well, soggy) lawn...took one look down... and screamed,

SCORPION! SCORPION!

Well, THAT brought everybody in the camp running. M. Igor, who comes from Arizona where they HAVE scorpions, and knew perfectly well that scorpions do not occur in western Pennsylvania, got there first. He looked down, and said,

Fi-le'!

It turned out to be an enormous crawfish. It was scooped up in a dish and M.Igor led the younglings of the camp down to the stream to ceremonially dump it back in. But as M.Igor said later,

“You know it’s bad, when the aquatic life seeks higher ground.”

– James of Rutland

My favorite memory was last year, when our campmates turned the large pond at the bottom of our block into a shrine to Msr. Flamand (a plastic inflatable flamingo float). By the end of Pennsic, it had become a veritable pilgrimage site, with candles and flowers and gifts from neighboring camps. It was a brilliantly creative way to deal with a nuisance issue.





Clan Cambion has, shall we say, A Rep for sneaky tricks. Sir Timothy of Arindale, AKA Timothy Swordbender from the Great Sword of State actually bending across his shoulder when he got tapped, came to Cambion to celebrate- that night? The night after? At any rate, he had been WARNED NOT TO LET HIS CHAIN OUT OF HIS HANDS. There's the setup. So Cambion was all in a circle in chairs around the fire, and M. Igor looked at Sir Timothy's chain, which was made of huge (hollow) links.

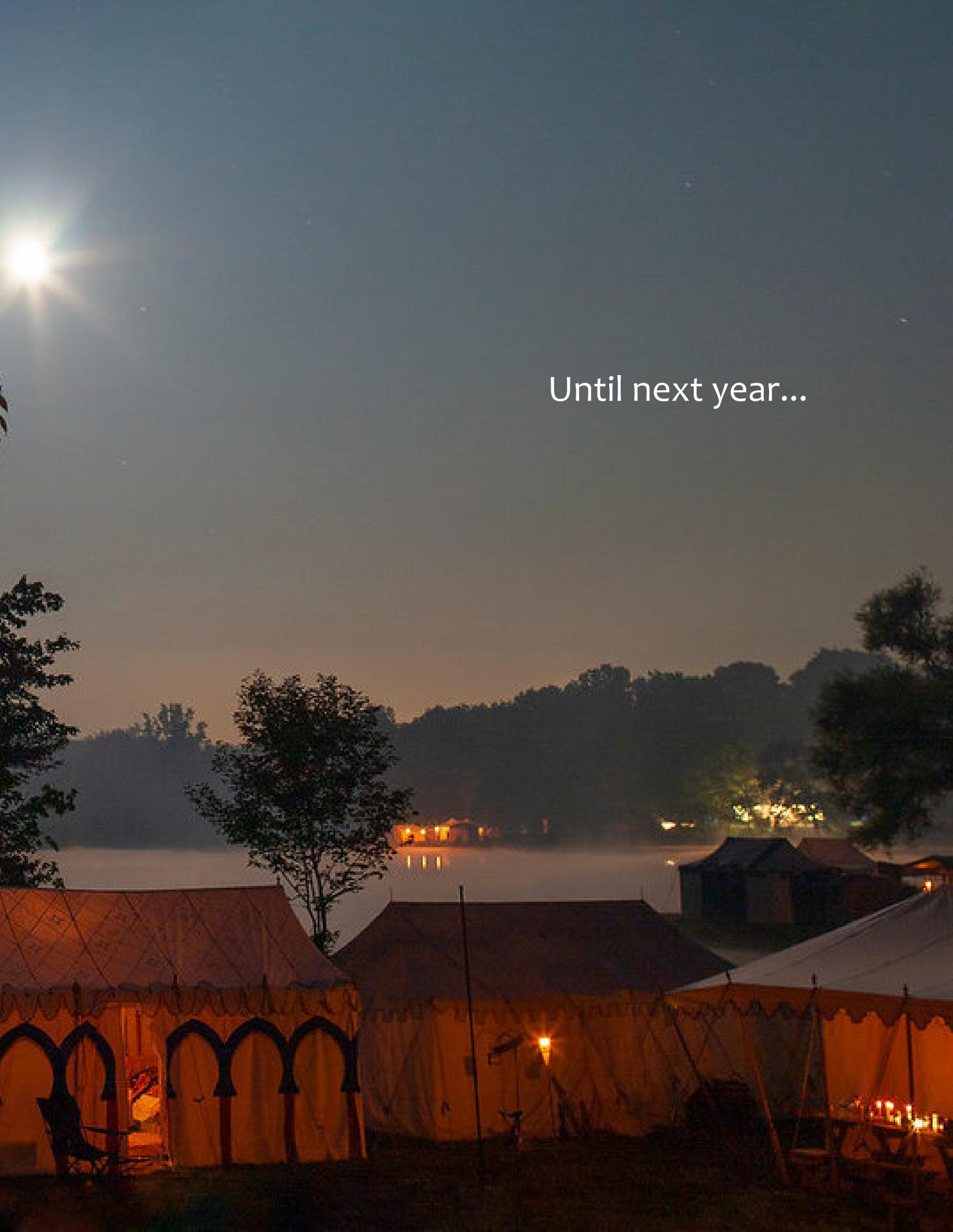
He said, "Boy, that must be heavy."
And Sir Timothy said, "no, it's not."
"Can I heft it?"
"Sure."

And M.Igor hefted it from hand to hand a minute, and said, "Yes, that IS light."

And passed it on to the person on the other side of him, away from Timothy. That person passed it on. Sir T. sat there with a sick look on his face, as the chain went halfway around the circle, and got to Maile. Maile was not, shall we say, willowy... And she said, "[I forget who] will love this.", pulled her chemise string out and dropped the chain down. It disappeared like apple peelings down the drain.

Sir Timothy did eventually get it back, but had MUCH egg on face at the time.



A night scene of a festival or fair. In the foreground, several large tents are illuminated from within, casting a warm orange glow. The tent on the left has a decorative patterned top and arched openings. In the middle ground, a calm lake reflects the lights from a building on the far shore. The background shows a dark, silhouetted forest under a twilight sky. A bright light source, likely the moon, is visible in the upper left corner, creating a lens flare effect.

Until next year...

Repast



When you walk through the Pennsic troll, no.. When you are driving to Cooper's Lake, no.. In the many days before Pennsic as you pack and plan, a list has formed of the many friends you will see, classes you will attend, and merchants you can't wait to buy from again. One such merchant, who has been around since Pennsic X, is a frequent find on everyone's list. As lovely as their spice blends and sweet as their *Poudre Fine*, Auntie Arwen's Spices is a staple for the mundane and SCA'dians alike. But who is Auntie Arwen, and how did her spices become all that they are today?

Would you believe me if I told you it all started because of her Garlic Salt? Specifically, the well known **Blatantly Gahhaarlic Salt**. Well it's true! Jane Sibley, better known to us as Auntie Arwen, had always dabbled in spice blends but never really shared it with the public until her garden club ran a fundraiser. She offered up a batch of her garlic salt and after seeing how well it sold, and how much the garden club made from it, she quickly whipped up 11 more blends. She sold them locally and at Pennsic in little orange prescription bottles and the next you know, 11 blends became 50, the plastic bottles evolved into the beautiful glass hex jars she uses today, 50 blends became 75, and now over 450 blends of spices as well as teas, tisanes, botanicals, and custom blends. But as the blend count increased, she learned that she soon wouldn't be able to do it on her own anymore.



Jane Sibley
aka Auntie Arwen

It's said that good things come in pairs and for Jane, Colleen Jordan and her wife Lydia Fithian (better known in the SCA as Lady Kinbrough Lyons and Lady Mikalina Lydushka Pavlovna) were just the pair she needed. Working off and on at Auntie Arwen's from Pennsic XX and beyond, Jane knew they would be the future of her business, and it turned out Colleen and Lydia felt the same way! When they found out there was a chance Auntie

Arwen's would close up shop, they stepped up from washing jars and bottling spices to keep the legacy alive. While Lydia learned all that she could from Jane about her blending techniques and ways to research recipes, Colleen went on to learn all about marketing, distribution, and design a few business plans.



Lydia Fithian and Colleen Jordan
aka Lady Mikalina Lydushka Pavlovna and Lady Kinbrough Lyons



As the years went on, things began to expand even further. Now that Lydia and Colleen were running the main tents, Jane was able to return to selling locally, Lisa came on board as their official tea aficionado, and Auntie Arwen's is now available online 24/7 for all your seasoning needs. As if we didn't already know how wonderful they are, Auntie Arwen's Spices was recently awarded "Duchess Favorite" at A Market Day at Birka earlier this year in the East Kingdom.



*Until we can all meet at booth 184 next year,
check out Auntie Arwen's Spices by [clicking here!](#)*

Populace Meeting Minutes

Meeting began at 2:10pm on Sunday, July 19th with 10 attendees:
Lughaidh, Ludwig, Sinn, Thorve, Aurri, Epy, Vilhjelmr, Jacinthia, Sir Gaius, Caran

Officer's Gave the Following Reports



Chatelaine: Lady Caran DeBurg Present

- Couple of newcomers; one has been making garb and researching ideas, the other has vanished
- No demos or recruiting going on
- Struggling with not being to see newcomers face to face to maintain retention
- Still wants videos from the populace of them doing their favorite SCA activities
 - Sir Gaius asked about gathering at all, but with maintaining social distancing
 - Vilhjelmr replied that absolutely no SCA activities are allowed.
 - Epy offered the idea of holding a newcomers roundtable on Zoom/ Discord
- Lady Caran followed up that she noticed it's the same few people who are participating within the Barony. There has been great difficulty bringing back older members
 - Epy inquired about a society wide data point on retention was available for review
 - Caran pointed out that the tools for

figuring out the issues are out there and have been used, people simply aren't responding to them

- Sir Gaius commented that more people seem to be active on Facebook, but that outlet allows an easier time for negativity to come up
- Baroness Sinn has talked with other Baronies and they all have their different methods for retention. There is no "play book" to follow to maintain members.



Exchequer: Lady Thorve of Highland Foorde Present

- \$12,648.43 in Barony account. 2nd quarter report is almost finished and ready for submission
- Received refund check from Wilson Ruritan for \$50, will deposit into account later this week
- There is one outstanding incoming check from last year and one outstanding outgoing check from last year, both with the same person. Will be working on getting it all squared away this month



Knight's Marshal: Sir Gaius Tascius Severus Fabianus

Present

- No formal activities at least until rumored August 1st
 - Note was made that this date is not a confirmed time for reopening
- Steel fighting has been added as an activity society wide. Rules and close rapport with Kingdom Marshalls is involved. In the future, combined steel/heavy practices will happen together.



Herald: Baron Fergus of Hanna
Not Present

- Nothing to report



Minister of Arts and Sciences:
Lady Harper An Cu
Present

- 8 people came to Virtual A&S, much discussion on period tents and how to make them. Also discussed archery, thrown weapons, brewing, and much more. Next Virtual A&S is August 12th
- If you are taking SCA/Clover classes online, or teaching them, please let me know so I can share with our kingdom what our Barony is up to! Similarly, if you are doing a Facebook live stream about anything SCA, let me know
- Don't forget to post your projects, accomplishments, and experiments to the Virtual Atlantia gallery.



Chronicler: Aurri La Borgne
Present

- Apologized for the absence of last months podcast. Trying to balance having two jobs again with SCA as well
- Still looking for Pennsic stories and photos to feature in the newsletter, so please send them! Can be sent via Facebook or e-mail



Web Minister: Baroness Glynis
Not Present

- Nothing to Report



Youth Officer - VACANT

- Jacinthia is considering returning for position of Youth Officer



Master of the Lists - Epy Pengelly, Armiger
Present

- 2 different authorizations will be required for steel fighting. More info to come later

- No events are being held, so there has been no authorizing!



**Seneschal: Tiarna Lughaidh O Murchadha
Present**

- Reminder that August 1st is not a firm reopening for events or gatherings. When it is safe to open, attendance will be very limited to ensure the safety of all attendees
- Jeff is working on his warrant, just waiting on signatures. Should be good to go for August
- After stepping down from Seneschal, there is a firm possibility Lughaidh will be doing in heraldry of some kind



**Baron and Baroness:
Baron Ludwig & Baroness Sinn
Present**

- Their excellencies will be talking with Lady Caran another time to discuss retention and possible ideas to assist with that. Firmly believe that a heavier support from online endeavors and virtual activities will help
- Request that there be a minimum of two weeks between events once things start to open up to help eliminate risks

Old Business

- HRM: Spiked for 2021. Michelle isn't wanting to autocrat, but will if nobody else does and will share her info for anyone who will step up.
 - Barony is waiting to see if anyone steps up
 - Baroness Sinn requested that Epy talk to Michelle to check in and see how she is doing and what her stance on HRM is
- Highland Havoc: Epy is ready to call of the event and push it through a digital avenue. She will post challenges where others can submit videos completing certain tasks.
 - Will look into moving site deposit to 2021 if possible

New Business

- Full update and revision of Baronial Charter is coming soon!
- Aurri volunteered to be Social Media Deputy and to start an Instagram and Twitter for the Barony so we can boost our online presence.

*Meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.
Motedioned by Baroness Sinn, seconded by Epy
Pengelly, Armiger*

New to the Barony or SCA?

First off, welcome! We are so happy that you are interested in joining our family of revelry and creativity. You can click the links below to find more information on what the SCA is, how it started, and how **YOU** can get started.

New to the SCA

SCA Newcomer's Portal

How to Get Started

What is the SCA?

Become a Member

If we are your local Barony, reach out to our Chatelaine Lady Caran De Burg to get a jumpstart on your participation within the community! In addition to providing resources and information, the Chatelaine can also provide loaner gear such as feast ware, garb, and accessories to new members to use at events.

You can contact Lady Caran by e-mailing her at info@highland-foorde.atlantia.sca.org

How to Recommend an Award

Do you believe someone in the barony or society deserves an award or recommendation? Awards are given based on feedback from members. All members, no matter their current status, are encouraged to provide recommendations to their Crowns.

For award recommendations we have multiple options:

- Email the Baron or Baroness with your recommendation.
- The NEW Baronial Award recommendation system!
- Also Kingdom level recommendations!

Baron Ludwig & Baroness Sinn want to help with awards. Please notify them by email so they may offer input, especially regarding kingdom recommendations.

This is Undercurrents, a publication of the Barony of Highland Foorde, of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Undercurrents is available from Jessica Gagnon at aurrilaborgne@gmail.com . Subscriptions are free, as all publications are available electronically. This newsletter is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.

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Credits:

- Cover Photo, Pennsic Castle photo, camp photo (p 10), and camp photo (p 12): Ron E Lutz II
- Online University Ad: “Spike” lineart, Isabelle LaFar; Plague mask addition, Master Solvarr;
Ad design, Adriana la Bretonne
- All photos in Repast: Lydia Fithian
- OoC Elevation photo, camp gathering (p12), and Pennsic Hill photo: Baroness Sinn Larensdotter