

# the skein

wherein ARE wound  
the JARARVELLIR JARNS

The Skein  
Paul Goldschmidt  
5625 Highland Way  
Middleton WI 53562



DECEMBER 2009 A.S. XLiv





## BARON AND BARONESS:

Their Excellencies Kitakaze Tatsu Raito and Æsa Gilsdottir  
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## BARONIAL OFFICERS



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**Rapier Marshal:** Cosimo de Cellini (*Joe Ordaz*) 274-0997,  
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**Web Minister:** James (*James Krot*) 989-493-1953,  
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Baronial Mailing Address: PO Box 259537, Madison, WI 53725-9537

Baronial Web Page: <http://www.jararvellir.org>

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**SUBMISSIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Subscriptions for 2009 are free, but there is a recommended donation of \$1 per issue to cover postage and copying (Full year = \$12). Submissions will be edited for grammar and spelling. Anything that is in poor taste or violates SCA publication guidelines or copyright law will not be published. *The Skein* is published monthly on the first Wednesday after General Meeting. The submission deadline for each issue is the Friday before the General Meeting of the publishing month. Submissions are accepted in any (legible!) format and via e-mail. Please also include any publication restrictions beyond those of this newsletter.

**ART CREDITS:** The photograph of Their Excellencies was taken by Viscountess Elashava and is reproduced here with permission. The clipart on page 12 is from *Medieval Life and People* (Mineola, NY: Dover, 2007) and is royalty-free.

## CANTON OF COILLE STOIRMEIL

(Monroe & Juneau County, WI)

<http://www.coillestoirmeilonline.org>

Seneschal: Matthias of Rolling Oaks (Matt Schwall)

23149 State Hwy 21, Tomah WI 54660

[limos112@hotmail.com](mailto:limos112@hotmail.com), (608) 372-5445

Monthly Meeting: First or second Sunday of the month at the Nest in Tomah

# BARONIAL MEETINGS, GUILDS, AND CONTACTS

*Please call the contact person to verify when & where an activity is held!*

## **Archery Practice** Sun 12-2PM, Wed. 6:30-9PM. UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Lady Jois (Deena) 226-0846

## **Armoured Combat** Wed. 7-10PM, Sunday 2-4PM. UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Roisin igen Ailill (Rebecca Heidelberger) 244-4621, roisin106@aol.com

## **Armormaking** Tuesdays 7PM. 3314 Ridgeway Avenue

Contact: Master Giles (Ed Gilbert) 244-2845, horsebows@mail.madtown.net

## **Bardic Arts** (not currently active)

Contact: Vacant

## **Brewing & Vintning** Third Monday. Various locations (call for info)

Contact: Robert the Stout (Robert Trefz) 441-6150, rtrefz@tds.net

## **Calligraphy & Illumination** Tuesdays 7PM. Call for location

Contact: Lady Eile (Alicia Cronk) 250-4595, leleth.faery@yahoo.com

## **Clothier's Guild** Alternate Mondays, 7PM. Contact for location and dates.

Contact: Iohanna (A. Rebekah Turner) 957-9072, arebekah@gmail.com

## **Cordial Guild** First Tuesday 7:30PM Contact for location

Contact: Lady Cianna Kharleen (Carrie Wilkey) 846-8008, cianna@teadame.com

## **Equestrian** (not currently active but information available)

Contact: Alissende de Montfaucon (Tammy Thompson) 212-5433, alissende@centurytel.net

## **European Dance** Sundays 3PM. UW Campus—check TITU for room.

Contact: Lady Genevieve Elisabeth Dumas (Jenny Becker) 206-9330, kathrynscully98@aol.com

## **Fletching** Fridays 6:30PM (call ahead) 5418 Imagine

Contact: Lord Toussaint de Caluwe (Tyson Patterson) 838-4092

## **Fool's Guild** Alternate Wednesday 6:30PMish, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: Lady Aliénor Hathaway (Mariessa Dobrick) 658-8941, reesa83@aol.com

## **General Business Meeting** Usually 1st Sunday, 7PM, Edgewood College,

Predolin Hall — call to verify meeting date and location.

Contact: Ivan Matfeevich Rezansky (John Beebe) 298-0918, rezansky@sbcglobal.net

## **Instrumental Music** Mondays 7PM-Beginners, 8PM-Advanced.

UW Campus—Check TITU

Contact: Lord Nikolaus der Ausländer (Clint Hotaling) 846-0859, n\_auslander@hotmail.com

## **Middle Eastern Dance and Drumming** Wednesday 8:15pm, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: Lady Kenya (Heather Cushing) 298-0103, evilkenya@tds.net

## **Needlearts** Tuesdays 7:30. Call for location

Contact: Lady Helena Caxton (Sara Andrews) 414-507-5872, lostvirtue76@yahoo.com

## **Pottery Guild** First or second Monday (alternating with Clothier's), Fired Up Pottery.

Contact: Annora (Wendy Nelson) 438-6530, wendybyrd42@yahoo.com

## **Rapier Practice** Wednesday 6:30-9PM, UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Cosimo de Cellini (Joe Ordaz) 274-0997, jordaz@netzero.com

## **Social Practice** Wednesday 9PMish. Call to verify location

Contact: HE Eithni (Jean Hetzel) 628-7782

## **Thrown Weapons** Sundays Noon, Second Wednesdays 7PM, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: John "Jack" Bartholomew of Flanders (David Thompson-Hall) 257-1082

## **Vocal Music** Thursdays 7 PM UW Campus—Check TITU

Contact: Lady Aliénor Hathaway (Mariessa Dobrick) 658-8941, reesa83@aol.com

# FROM THEIR EXCELLENCIES

Greetings Kinsmen from Kitakaze Tatsu Raito and Æsa Gilsdottir!

First, we wish to thank those of you who came to see HE Eithni step down and witness our investiture. We were quite moved to see so many come forward while we swore our oath to do our best for Jararvellir. Also, we wish to thank HE Eithni for serving the barony so well as High Seat over the last 6 years. Our Barony would be a much poorer place without her energy and good cheer.

We are honored and excited to have the opportunity to serve the Barony for the next three years. Jararvellir is a healthy, vibrant group and we look forward to seeing our group continue to prosper.

Last month the Canton of Coille Stormeil hosted an excellent Tournament of Chivalry. At the end of the day, Their Majesties Siegfried and Elizabeth recognized the exceptional hospitality of the Canton with an award of the Hearthstead. To our friends in the Canton, Skol!

Looking to the future, our annual Yule Moot is January 17 at Edgewood College. As usual, this will be a laid-back day of companionship and we look forward to seeing many of you there. In comparison to hosting larger events, where many of us work hard to throw a great party for the rest of the kingdom, moots provide us with the opportunity to get to know other members of the barony. We do plan to hold a Court at Yule Moot, and so if you know of gentles worthy to receive Baronial awards, please do not hesitate to recommend them to us.

At Yule Moot we would like to host a Fish Market. Many items with a Piscean theme have come into our possession amongst the baronial regalia, and we would like to give these items a better chance to be utilized. Look for more details on the email list and next month's *Skein*.

Soon after Yule Moot, on January 23 we will host It's Only A Flesh Wound at the Jefferson County Fair Park. In addition to a plethora of armored combat, Mistress Seonaid is sponsoring a fighting-themed A&S competition; look on the event website for details. Though this

event is heavily combat-themed, populace space is available for those who wish to simply spectate, socialize and/or work on projects.

Again, we are thrilled to serve the Barony in a new capacity and look forward to good times and great companionship in the coming months and years!

In service,

RAITO AND ÆSA

## DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

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*In attendance: Eithni, Stephen du Bois, Cwen, Robert the Stout, Paul Wickenden, Iohanna Carracci, Sol, Tegan, Tatiana, James, Marian Elizabeth Wollenschlager, Nikolaus der Ausländer, Æsa, Raito, Maren, and Ivan Rezansky.*

**MoAS (Cwen):** People are doing artsy things.

**Directory (Cwen):** I haven't found a replacement yet and since most of the work is already done, I'm going to hold onto the position this time. If you have changes for the Directory, please send them to me.

**Griffin's Needle (Eithni):** I turned in the receipts for pizza for Griffin's Needle and got a check and that was all of my business today.

**Exchequer (Tatiana):** We made about \$412 from SUN. I am gearing up for starting on the Domesdaye. I'll have more availability in a week when school is over and will be showing up at the Stock Pavilion again.

**Webminister (James):** In one more week, I'll be able to do stuff!

## JARARVELLIR ARTILLERY BRUNCH

Sunday, December 20 at 10:30am

Please join us for the December archers' brunch. Our kind host this month is HL John Bartholomew of Flanders (more commonly known as Jack) at 1110 Colby Street (directions below). Please bring a dish to share. Archery practice begins at noon at the Stock Pavilion. As always, we have loaner archery gear available.

### Directions to 1110 Colby St:

Take your best route to John Nolen Drive, headed toward the Alliant Energy Center (Coliseum).

From the North: Drive south on John Nolen from the area of Monona Terrace and cross Monona Bay. After passing the park you will hit a stoplight. This is Lakeside Street, turn left. Follow directions below from Lakeside St.

From the South: Exiting on John Nolen from the Beltline, go past the Alliant Energy Center (Coliseum). The first stoplight is Olin Ave; go past this to the second stoplight, which is Lakeside Ave. Turn left onto Lakeside, and follow directions below.

Once on Lakeside: Heading west on Lakeside, the second street on the left is Colby Street; turn onto Colby. 1110 is at the top of the hill on the right, a one-story white house with black trim, a small front porch, and a garden out front.

Questions? Contact Moira (244-1559 or blarose@tds.net)

## STOCK PAVILION SCHEDULE

We have our regular times (on Wednesday and Sunday) through the end of April except for the following dates: March 10th and 14th, and April 25th.

The full schedule can be found at:

<http://www.ansci.wisc.edu/Facilities/stockp.htm>

## EVENTS

### OUT AND ABOUT

For more information visit the individual group's website (accessed from <http://www.northshield.org/Events/List.aspx>).

#### February 2010

20—Fighter School,

**Jararvellir** (Jefferson WI)

27—Bardic Madness XX,

**Windhaven** (De Pere WI)

#### May 2010

15—Beltaine by the Bay,

**Darkstone** (Mason WI)

#### June 2010

4-6—Mermaids Attack XVII,

**Turm an dem See** (Valders WI)



## LOCAL NEWS

### NEEDLEARTS

We'll be meeting on Tuesday December 15th, at Helena's House. No meetings on December 21 or 28 because of the Holidays. We'll return the first week in January

As always, if you have any questions please call me (414)507-5872

heleNA

**Chronicler (Paul):** My usual reminders: Skein subscriptions are now due for 2010. Let me know if you want to renew. I am still looking for a deputy. And I am looking for submissions (if I don't get any, I'll continue to dredge up historical scandal and misquote important people).

**Tegan:** Nothing.

**Iohanna:** Nothing.

**Archer's Brunch (Sol):** This month Jack will be hosting the Archer's Brunch. See the *Skein* for details.

**SUN (Marion):** I got my event report in. We made money and we had 160 people attend. The day went pretty well. We could have had better communication between the event staff and the provost but it went pretty good.

**Instrumental Guild (Nikolaus):** We had an expression of interest from someone moving in from Ansteorra (as well as a new member from Ansteorra who may be leaving for a modern job elsewhere).

**WW (Æsa):** I can't remember exactly how much we made, but in the past we decided to donate \$1000 to Boscobel (and a TI subscription to the Public Library) and then split the remainder between the Baronies. Do we want to do this again? **[Meeting approved the proposal]**

**Yule Moot (Æsa):** We are looking for a Yule Moot autocrat (it will be on January 17th). If we don't get a volunteer, we will start dragooning people. All the usual details (Washburn Room, starting at Noon-ish, potluck and general meeting afterward, etc.). See the *Skein* for an announcement and more to follow on the Jara list.

**Fighter's School and Flesh Wound Events (Stephen):** I'm still waiting for site contracts for both events, but this is not unusual. The ads are in for Fighter's School and I hope to have the class schedule finalized on 15th (just waiting on a few teachers with modern conflicts).

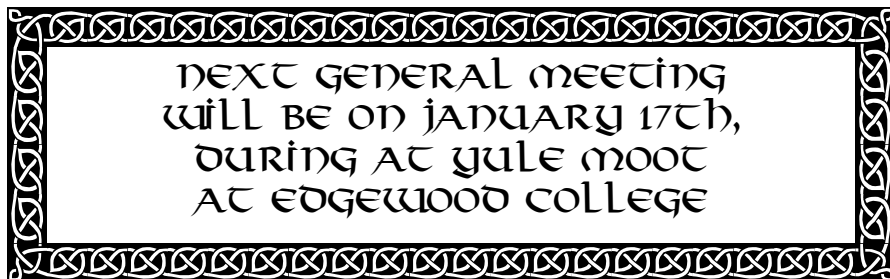
**Robert:** Hi!

**Next Meeting (Ivan):** Our next meeting is scheduled for January 17th and will take place at Yule Moot. We are still looking for an autocrat for the Moot. Please contact me or Their Excellencies.

**Animals in Stock Pavilion (Ivan):** We were able to clarify the policy on animals in the Stock Pavilion. No pets can be brought in. Service animals are allowed but we will need to provide proof that the animal's shots are up to date. For our current case, we are working on getting those records to the college. If there are new service animals in the future we will do the same. Otherwise, please don't bring non service animals to the Stock Pavilion or you will be turned away.

**Knight Marshall (Ivan for Roisin):** Roisin wrote me to remind us that she is looking for a replacement for Knight Marshall.

**Seneschal's Office (Ivan):** My term is up in February, but I am interested in renewing my office. If anyone else is interested in the position, let me and Their Excellencies know. We will need all nominees before the January General Meeting (so they can be announced and we can vote the following month).



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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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**Deputy Chronicler** — The Deputy Chronicler helps with the production of the *Skein* and other print publications, as needed. The primary responsibility is helping the Chronicler with taking minutes at the General Meeting or publishing and distributing the *Skein* during periods when the Chronicler cannot do it. Familiarity with desktop publishing, strong communication skills, and ability to meet tight deadlines a plus. If you are interested in the position (or wish to learn more about its requirements), please contact Paul Wickenden at [goldschp@tds.net](mailto:goldschp@tds.net).

# it's only A FLESH wound

23 January 2009

Jefferson County Fair Park ,  
503 North Jackson Ave., Jefferson, WI 53549  
Gate opens at 8:00am      Site closes at 9:00pm

Site Fees: Adults \$9.00    5-12: \$3.00      Under 5: Free  
Non Member Surcharge will apply      No Pre-Registration  
Site is dry and handicap accessible.  
Food is available for purchase on site from vendor

Steward:      Robert the Stout (Robert Trefz)  
46 South Hillside Terr  
Madison, WI 53705  
(608) 441-6150    [rtrefz@tds.net](mailto:rtrefz@tds.net)

First tourney will start PROMPTLY at 10:00. Authorizations by appointment only. No weapons exceeding six feet in length are allowed except in the spear and melee tourney.

**Tourneys:** Great Axe, Great Sword, Florentine, Mixed Weapons, Polearm, Weapon and Shield, Team Spear Tourney (9 ft spears, only one member of the Chivalry per team), and Three person melee (only one member of the Chivalry per team).

**A&S Competition:** Entries must be of a martial theme. Please provide documentation (at least a 3x5 card with time, place and description of methods and materials if applicable).

<http://www.jararvellir.org/OnlyAFleshWound3.php>

to provide the following anecdote: "As far as I can remember, the lyrics were composed by a group of us riding in Perygin Northhumber's car to the Jubilee fair [a popular demo in the Barony of Illiton – ed], probably in 1981 or 82. The song was in honor of the unveiling of the new baronial banner (the huge one). I can't quite recall all the people that were in the car, probably Ælfreda [æt Æthelweada], certainly Perry and me, maybe Enid and Jim-Sean. The song was premiered as a couple of the people from House Pegasus climbed a tree to unfurl the banner. A most inspiring sight! The cheer at the end was added later.... Ah, the memories!"

**The Cheer:** The cheer is somewhat easier to track down as it was expropriated from the cheer traditionally used by fans of the Madison Muskies baseball team (active from 1982 until 1993) and was well-known by locals. That it fit with the Barony was a happy coincidence and an inside joke.

**The Chant:** The source of that last part is the most obscure. It may have been created in the early 1990s and added to the song and the cheer, or it may have been part of the original concoction, and then fallen out of favor. Either way, it has only been a regular part of the ritual for the past twenty years or so.

Despite, the song/cheer/chant long association with the Barony, its legitimacy as a part of our protocol has never been accepted by consensus. Some members are devoted to the tradition, others wish it would go away, while the vast majority (too new to the Barony to appreciate its legacy) don't understand it. One notable naysayer is our own Excellency who acknowledges the value of the ritual for installing fervor in the troops when he led the Vicious Fishes, but nonetheless does not approve of its practice: "I never sang the fight song. In fact, I very much disliked the fight song. So the troops, naturally, kept singing it (which was the point).... It is often so that the troops need something to keep them together. Also, it is often that that thing is something that they can use to the consternation of the one who puts them to task. So, they sing, and I object. It worked well."

*[Acknowledgements: With special thanks to Josceline and Shava for contacting Theodora and other old-timers, and to Theodora for her recollections. Ealasaid and Beartram provided interesting tangential recollections as well which I was not able to publish here.]*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### JARARVELLIR YULE MOOT

Sunday, January 17, 2009 — Washburn Room, Edgewood College

Come join us for a day of fellowship and winter merriment as Jararvellir hosts its traditional Yule Moot! Bring some games and munchies to share during the day and a dish to pass for the evening potluck. Tea and hot cider will be provided throughout the day. Please note that, after the potluck, we will be having the combined January/February General Meeting.

Watch the Jara list for more details and a final schedule!

### CALLIGRAPHY AND ILLUMINATION

Our meeting location has changed to my residence (with the exception of Nibs and Needle nights). Please contact me if you need directions at [leleth.faery@yahoo.com](mailto:leleth.faery@yahoo.com) or call 244-9054. I may be difficult to reach Tuesdays until C&I meeting time, so it may be advantageous if you need directions to try to reach me on Mondays.

eile

### BARONIAL DIRECTORY

If you would like to be added to the new Baronial Directory or if you need to make any changes from last year, please send me the info (Modern Name, SCA Name, Address, Phone # (and limitations as when to call), Cell #, Email address, Guilds) at [cwen@uwalumni.com](mailto:cwen@uwalumni.com).

CWEN

## PRAISE POEM

by Alienor Hathaway of Grayfeathre

I read a praise poem while doing some research on what makes a period Celtic Bard. As it happens, Bard in the original Celtic sense was extremely difficult to attain and involved years of training and was very high in rank. The term was adapted later to define a poet. This poem is actually based on a Taliesin poem.

### Praise Poem

In the name of the stars,  
the populace of Northshield call  
Our rise against our foe--  
The shield of your kinsman.  
Stephen, King by right  
I praise you with the acclaim of the Bards.

Strong, worthy of name  
With view of Griffin's light  
The song of thunder  
of oncoming storm  
Words-woven to praise  
Won by arms by right  
Holds my oath, no harm befall him.

## JARARVELLIR'S FIGHT SONG

by Paul Wickenden of Thanet

At the end of our most recent Baronial Investiture, when a group of Fishy-Folk burst into an impromptu round of the Baronial Chant and the Fight Song, I suddenly realized that I knew nothing about where these unusual relics of our Barony's history came from and I decided that I would attempt to find out.

To get us all on the same page, there are at least three basic elements to the ritual I am describing in this article. First, there is the fight song itself, set to the tune of "On Wisconsin":

*Jararvellir, Jararvellir  
Break through that shield wall  
We're your loyal sons and daughters  
Spawn'ed in your catfish waters  
Jararvellir, Jararvellir  
Fighters true and brave  
Banner of the Barony  
forever wave.*

Then, there is the cheer of "Let's go fish!" which is accompanied by a special clap created by extending the arms fully, turned sideways, and bringing the hands together (the overall effect is to look like a fish snapping its jaws).

And finally there is the chant (*We got spirit, we got bounce, we got the name you can't pronounce. Jararvellir!*).

So, where is it all from? My initial suspicion was that one of the old timers would reveal that it had all come up in a drunken post-revel or a bardic circle, or perhaps it had spawned at the Stead during a "Whatnot" some years ago. But it all proved to be a lot older than I thought and a bit more difficult to track down. Shava and Josceline both had their suspicions as to where it had come from, but had to contact old friends to find out for certain. Other Baronial folks were similarly stumped. Part of the reason is that the whole thing probably goes back almost thirty years ago.

**The Song:** To get at the story, Mistress Josceline tracked down Theodora von Igelheim (now retired from the Society) who was able