

# The Shards

## BARONESSA'S LETTER TO THE BARONY

Beloved People of Shattered Crystal,

It has been a long time, friends. Soon we will all get to see one another again and that is going to be so very exciting. But it is a little scary too. I admit it, I'm nervous. Many of us have been so focused on survival these many months, that we may not remember how to interact with people.

I am a highly social person. I NEED to see people. But living alone, I have gotten very used to quiet, solitude, and my sanctuary. I have had two interactions lately that gave me pause: a trip to the zoo and a house full of guests. There were too many people, too much movement, too many unknowns, and too much noise. I was obviously uncomfortable. Me, an extrovert. That's not how that is supposed to work. We have all had different experiences in surviving this pandemic. Those situations and experiences are going to shape how we emerge from the alone time.

Early on I was certain that my first instinct was going to be to hug all the people. Many people are going to have that reaction. Maybe you? Possibly me? I want to take a minute and remind us all that as a Society, we value Chivalry highly. Chivalry is not always Knightly or carrying a burden for someone. I often think of it as showing someone Honor and Respect. As we all come together again, it is going to be critical that we all honor and respect the differing experiences each individual has had in this time. That we strive to welcome without overwhelming. Above all else, keep Consent in mind. Some people will still be wanting to maintain a space around their person. Speak to people and tell them you have missed them, first. Consider it like getting engagement in the martial sphere: make eye contact and offer the person a wave, elbow bump, high five, or a hug. Wait for permission. It's a mutual decision and don't be upset if that person has already hit their limit on contact and asks for minimal interaction. It doesn't mean they don't like you. Reintegration is going to be hard. It is going to be a process. Moving forward from trauma always is. Be patient with others. Be patient with yourself.

\*Waving excitedly\*

Baronessa Petrona



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Greetings from the Archive.....	2
Bardic War Largesse Challenge Winners.....	2
Chatelaine's Corner.....	3
Youth War Chant for Pennsic.....	4
Simple Things That Makes a Feast Special 5-6	
Word Game.....	6
Curia Call.....	7
Calendar.....	8-9

### In Person Events Begin Again!

Beginning July 1st, SCA and Kingdom rules are allowing us to be in person!

We'll see you July 6th at the Moose Lodge!

## Greetings From the Archives

During our time away I was tasked with creating an Archive for the Barony. This decision led to many hours debating how to archive items, how will things be stored and how to keep things organized so we know what is in the archive!

The other major decision and the one I want to talk about here is what to put in the Archive? One of the first thoughts was to scan and save various newspaper clippings that featured the Barony. Articles from our various demos and activities over the years.

Another focus of the Archive will be to document items and articles from all the Crystal Balls. I am looking to add the dance programs from all the Crystal Balls over the years to the Archive. I would also like to get good pictures to document Crystal Ball site tokens. So far, the archive has tokens for 3 Crystal balls.

This effort does hold true for any other event the Barony has held such as Crystal Chamfron, For Hands and others throughout our long history.

As our Archive is new, I am open to ideas of what other things should be added to the Archive. As we return to in person activity, I will also be able to start accepting items for archiving. Please contact me for any items you have, to add to the archive or ideas of things we should have in the archives.

In Service,  
Cristen Fynlo

### Bardic War 5-Item Largesse Challenge

1st: Laura LeTang  
2nd Lady Malina an  
Eich Gil  
3rd: Lady Thora  
Brandsdottir  
4th: Maitre Philippe  
de Lyon  
5th: Lady Celestria  
Sumulot  
6th: Asa the Nine  
Fingered

# Chatelaine's Corner

## Equipment, Authenticity and the Things you Need-Need

A lot of times new people come to the SCA, look around, and come up with a shopping list of things they're sure they need to just go to events that includes more stuff than Berengaria and I acquired in our first decade playing this game. Let's take a step back and talk about what you actually need to get started.

**Garb:** There aren't a lot of ways around this. You're going to need at least one medieval outfit. Unless you know just what you want and are a talented tailor, or can just throw money at the problem, I recommend starting with a basic t-tunic for pretty much everyone. Plug <making a basic sca T-tunic> into Google. You will be rewarded with a couple dozen videos, hundreds of web pages and about eleventy-zillion pictures. A floor length T-tunic is worn as a dress, a knee length tunic is worn with pants: Google <making basic sca viking pants>. For your first set of garb I recommend a color that hides dirt well. Natural fibers, particularly linen are much cooler in the heat than synthetics. Eventually you're going to want a second set of garb, but for starting out, that's not really a need.

**Accessories:** You'll want a belt. Avoid the colors white, red, green and yellow (for reasons I'll get to at some point). Brown and black are both pretty standard. A basic pouch – just a small drawstring bag you can put a wallet keys and phone in useful. Hang it from your belt. You will also need shoes. For women, many simple shoes will do, ballet flats being the easiest. Shoes for men are harder. Many styles of simple pull on boots and shoes will be fine – Chelsea boots and moccasins both work well. If you sunburn easily you might want a hat – a broad brimmed, round top, straw hat is almost perfect. Google <Tres Riches Heurs June> and note the guys with the scythes in the background.

**A Mug or a Goblet:** Just something to drink out of. Pewter mugs and goblets (or aluminum pretending to be pewter) are plentiful at resale shops and most baronial members have something they will lend you for the duration. The SCA has a number of potters who will cheerfully sell you a mug, but that's more than you need starting out.

**Feast Gear:** An odd quirk of the SCA is that we bring our own table settings with us for feast. (OK, maybe not so odd given the number of improvised kitchens we use.) You need a fork, knife and spoon, a plate and a bowl. For silverware, modern is fine – Target's web page is currently selling at least a dozen different lines of bamboo and melamine tableware that would look right at home on the SCA feast table.

**Money:** A whole lot of SCA things are not geared to deal with plastic. Gate will typically (but not always) take a check, but if there's lunch, a bake sale or the like, it's good to have some cash on hand.

You are now officially covered. But depending on the nature of the event, there's a lot of other stuff you might want to bring. The important thing to note – from here on it can pretty much be a product of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and it's totally good enough. You can track down period equivalent everything if going that extra mile sounds like fun to you:

**A Chair:** Indoor sites typically have enough seating (typically). Camping sites are hit and miss. A modern camping chair or a small stool can be very nice to have.

**An Ice Chest:** Are you bringing your own lunch? Food? Beverages? You might want to bring an ice chest. Check the site rules re: outside food (usually the sky is the limit, but some sites are restrictive about outside food or alcohol).

**Misc. Needs:** Things like sunscreen and bug spray, any meds you might need. A flashlight.

**Whatever You Think You Need if You are Spending the Night:** day tripping requires a different loadout than staying two nights in a hotel requires a different loadout staying two nights in a cabin requires a different loadout than camping event on Friday and staying until Sunday. Modern is fine for pretty much all this gear and some people will only wear modern clothing on Friday night and Sunday morning. You're probably going to want to take a shower and brush your teeth somewhere in there. Keeping an extra change of clothing in the car is never a bad idea. It's never a bad idea to ask someone who has been to that particular event before what you ought to bring, but remember that only you know where you're going to draw the line between "roughing it" and "pointless misery".

**Toys!:** There are many activities that require the participants to bring their own gear. Depending on what you're into this can range from a basket with your knitting or needle work in it; a bow, a quiver and some arrows; a guitar and some song books; both rapier and armored combat armor; or a workbench, 300 lbs of misc. tools and 100 board feet of lumber. For starting I recommend bringing a small handcraft for downtime until you have a better feel for what you're going to be into.

# A Youth War Chant for Pennsic

By Mistress Caroline

Let me start with a little history. For Pennsic XX, I was Youth Chancellor of RUM and again on Pennsic staff as Coordinator of Children's Activities.

At Pennsic we seem to like to have ceremonies for such things as starting the "war", giving special awards, honoring newly deceased members, and anniversaries. Pennsic XX seemed a good one to celebrate as an anniversary.

A contingency of youth had been invited to come before their Majesties of the Known World during one of the ceremonies held outdoors in the Rune Stone area. I decided to have the kids coming down the hill shouting a Pennsic war cheer or chant, in nursery rhyme rhythm. So, I wrote one for them, printed it out, practiced it with the children, and invited any parents who wanted to come along. Some did, and many dressed their offspring in their kingdom livery. It was cool.

When we marched down the sloping hill, the then Falcon Herald of Calontir walked next to me in the back, and his wonderful voice really added to the effect. Some adults were also on the sides, and the kids were led by a self-assured youth. All had the printed chant, and most could read.

The kids were "pumped" walking toward all the brass hats and special people. Welcome smiles awaited them as they finished chanting and moved into two long lines and bowed. Those of us who had organized their efforts were full of pride in the children.

Here is a copy of the quickly written, childish chant/cheer. Changing the last few stanzas, could make it usable for Pennsic 49 or 50. (By the way, I do not include this as poetry, but as a used, historic sing-song-y

kids' chant.)

Pennsic War, Pennsic War

Thousands come from near and far.

Tigers brave and dragons bold,

Oh, what stories could be told

Of the years of friendships strong,

And war deeds now set in song.

And this year rates; it's really great

It's our time to celebrate.

Five, ten, fifteen, twenty

Pennsic's older than you and me.

Wow!!

Twenty years, twenty years –

That deserves a round of cheers.

(Cheers)

# SIMPLE THINGS THAT MAKE A FEAST SPECIAL

## BY MISTRESS CAROLINE

Over the years we have added dishes and edible decorations that have helped make our feasts and meals memorable. One thing that can help make a feast “shine” is to include special butters. I’ll give a few and tell how we came to use them.

Mistress Graidhne was the Dragon Herald on duty when Shattered Crystal was installed as a barony. She and I became good friends. She made a simple “modern” strawberry butter that has graced breakfast and tea tables in several Kingdoms. Once when I was staying with Graidhne and Baron Charles in Kansas, they had been committed to provide breakfast breads and spreads for a Calontir morning get together. Graidhne was pregnant and avoided all foods that morning, so I was asked to make the honey and the strawberry butters. I’d been making honey butter for years, but not strawberry. Graidhne tossed out basic amounts and the suggestion that I fix it until it was the right consistency and tasted right. The butter that was on hand was salted, but some would prefer sweet.

### Strawberry Butter

1 lb. butter, softened

1 (8 oz) pkg. Philadelphia cream cheese, softened

2/3 cup of strawberry jam, (more or less to your taste)

2 to 3 sifted Tbls. powdered sugar

Cream butter and cream cheese together. Blend in strawberry jam, and then add powdered sugar and mix until incorporated.

This goes well on a buffet with homemade rolls or biscuits.

Another favorite butter is honey butter, and there are several ways to fix it. Most people fix it at home with an electric mixer, but I’ve done it by hand many times. If I can whip it by hand, most anyone else can. Her Ladyship Elsbeth can do it almost automatically at events, and she has a beekeeper friend who has often provided us with wonderful honey.

Most of the time there is about a ¼ cup honey to one pound of butter, but it can be as much as ½ and ½. It seems that SCA folks in the South like to add cinnamon and often a little vanilla exact. There is controversy over sweet or salted butter as the base. Some people use sweet butter and then add a touch of sea salt. Many of us have discovered that a little powdered sugar helps the butter stay together, or keep its form. There are folks who also swear by a certain kind of honey. I guess what I’m trying to get across is that there is no hard and fast rule for making honey butter.

### Basic Honey Butter

1 lb. butter

¼ cup honey

1-2 teaspoons of powdered sugar (or not)

Stir honey into the butter and then add powdered sugar, if you are, and whip it until well blended. Refrigerate or put in cooler.

Of course, you can make butter that is not a sweet butter, such as a garlic butter, which goes great with Mistress Berengaria’s crusty bread Fort du Bois ovens produce. There is also no hard and fast rule for garlic butter. To garlic butter you can add seasonings such as Italian seasonings, and grated parmesan cheese.

# SIMPLE THINGS THAT MAKE A FEAST SPECIAL

(CONT)

Garlic Butter

from Bobby Flay

1 and 1/2 sticks unsalted butter

4 cloves coarsely chopped garlic

Kosher salt and ground pepper

Combine the butter and garlic in food processor or with mixer until smooth. Season with salt and pepper.

How's that for simple, yet using modern equipment?! You can also spread the butters on parchment paper, form the paper and butter into rolls and refrigerate until firm. Then you can make butter logs. However, I suggest with the softer butters you use cute little containers. A merchant friend of mine makes wooden butter molds and also stamps. I have gifted several to baronial friends. They can add a little design touch.

Making butters is just one way to spark up SCA meals. Maybe later I'll write about special desserts, illusionary foods, and other fun food endeavors. I've made food preparation booklets for kids, but that was when our kids, as a group, were more willing to stay in one place long enough to make various food entities.

## An All Word Game (originally prepared for older youth) By Mistress Caroline

Medievally, word games were quite popular, especially with people at parties at court. Since all of you might have chosen to attend Crystal Ball, here is a word game for you. A longer one was used as a competition for all attendees at the 2011 Tudor Ball.

Each statement will be answered or completed with a word containing -all. Some have had the first letter given as a hint.

Ex. The opposite of big is small.  
The knight rode his noble steed, or stallion, into battle.

Mistress Alpha soon was able to urge her mount faster, into a \_\_\_\_\_.

The war horse, when not in use, was kept indoors in a \_\_\_\_\_

The troubadour had composed a folk song or \_\_\_\_\_ about his lady fair.

Candles in the Middle Ages were often made of bee's wax or -----.

The award scroll had been done by an excellent c\_\_\_\_\_, an illuminator like Master Daniel.

The Midrealm King made an \_\_\_\_\_ with the King of Calontir to fight together at Pennsic.

Courtiers were polite, polished, and tried to be g\_\_\_\_\_.

After the storms at sea, the Spanish sailors wished they were on a big g\_\_\_\_\_.

The leather guild worker would stamp wet leather with a metal tool and a m\_\_\_\_\_.

# CURJA CALL

## **Their Crystalline Excellencies**

Vacant  
baron@shatteredcrystal.org

Baronessa Petrona De Manciano  
baroness@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Pursuivant (Herald)**

Kallinikos Rondi  
pursuivant@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Chatelain**

Master Avery Austringer  
Ted.kocot@gmail.com

## **Demonstration Coordinator**

Mistress Alpha Biraz-Pars  
(See Equestrian Marshal)

## **Deputy Knight Marshal**

Master Avery Austringer  
(See Chatelain)

## **Equestrian Marshal**

Mistress Alpha Biras-Parz  
equestrianmarshal@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Thrown Weapons Marshal**

Vacant

## **Minister of Arts and Sciences**

Lady Catalina Mellini (Lina)  
moas@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Seneschal**

Mistress Berengaria Mordaunt  
seneschal@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Knight's Marshal**

Master Avery Austringer  
(See Chatelain)

## **Archery Marshal**

archerymarshal@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Rapier Marshal**

Lord Bartelmeu le Wis  
rapiermarshal@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Youth Marshal**

Lady Brigid MacCauley  
boffermarshal@shatteredcrystal.org

## **Chronicler (Acting)**

Asa the Nine-Fingered  
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## **Minister of Youth**

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## **Exchequer**

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# July 2021

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6 Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Meeting	14	15	16	17 Summer Crown
18	19	20 Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Meeting	28	29	30	31

# August 2021

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

1 Smurf Shoot	2	3 Meeting	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Meeting	11	12	13 Ragnarok Rampage	14 Ragnarok Rampage Melee of the Knave V
15 Ragnarok Rampage	16	17 Meeting	18	19	20 Call of the Waterhorse	21
22	23	24 Meeting	25	26	27 Baroness Wars Shard Articles Due	28 Baroness Wars Hunt for the White Stag
29 Baroness Wars	30	31 Meeting				

# September 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 Mounted War Games	3 Mounted War Games	4 Mounted War Games Middle Kingdom Academy of Defense
5 Mounted War Games	6 Mounted War Games	7 Meeting	8	9 Vikings Come Home	10 Vikings Come Home Day of Play 5	11 Vikings Come Home Day of Play 5 Pferdestadt Rapier Classic
12 Vikings Come Home Day of Play 5	13	14 Meeting	15	16 Lillies War	17 Harvest Days 37 Lillies War	18 Harvest Days 37 Three Saints Lillies War
19 Harvest Days 37 Lillies War	20	21 Meeting	22	23	24	25 Fall Coronation
26	27	28 Meeting	29	30		