

THE DREDGINGS



BEING THE VOICE OF THE BARONY OF LOCHMERE SCA, INC.

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ASXLVI

JULY 2012

This is The Dredgings, a publication of the Barony of Lochmere for the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). The Dredgings is available from the Chronicler, Sarah Toich
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Submissions should be sent to the Chronicler and should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if materials are to be returned. Artwork, articles, and event fliers are welcome. Submissions can be electronic or typed: email to Barjavel@verizon.net. Files should be in Microsoft Word format. The Chronicler reserves the right to retype articles or fliers and disregard artwork not appropriate to the style and format of The Dredgings. State all references of a work, unless an original, and include your mundane and Society name for proper credit. State in which issue (month) you would like an item to appear. In order to maintain publishing schedules, all submissions must be received by the 15 th calendar day of the month for publishing in the following month's issue. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis. Reprints must present the text as originally published, in its entirety, with proper credit to the author and source. Contents copyright 2012.

If you are new to the Barony of Lochmere, these websites should be of interest to you:
Lochmere Homepage: <http://www.lochmere.atlantia.sca.org>

Official SCA Homepage: <http://www.sca.org>

Kingdom of Atlantia Homepage: <http://www.atlantia.sca.org>

The Acorn: <http://www.acorn.atlantia.sca.org>

Event Calendar: <http://www.acorn.atlantia.sca.org/calendar.htm>. All rights revert to the author/artist and may not be reprinted without permission. The artworks throughout this edition of The Dredgings (unless attributed to a webpage) are from: Dover Clip Art: Hope's Greek and Roman Designs



Exhibits and Concerts - In Kingdom or Around Town

Museums and Music

JULY 2 -30, 2012

COLUMBIA BAROQUE SOLOIST SUMMER INSTITUTE

University of South Carolina School of Music
813 Assembly St.
Columbia, SC, 29208

Playing in the French Manner: Written and Improvised Ornamentation

Performers and/or Faculty: Jean Hein, Baroque Recorders; Jerry Curry, Harpsichord



A series of five classes on Monday evenings for recorder and harpsichord players featuring the music of Jacques-Martin Hotteterre, Francois Couperin and Marin Marais. Classes will focus on performing French music "in good taste"

which will include French style and ornamentation. Recorder players and harpsichordists will have opportunities to play Suites and Dances together in addition to studying solo literature. One class session will feature a faculty concert with members of the Columbia Baroque Soloists. The last meeting will be a recital by the class participants. Sessions are open to high school students, college students and adult participants.

Cost: \$80

Contact: Dr. Timothy Hein P. O. Box 6972 Columbia SC 29260 803-727-8555
columbiabaroque@aol.com www.columbiabaroque.com

JULY 15-21, 2012

MIDEAST WORKSHOP (ARS)

LaRoche College, Pittsburgh, PA

Director: Marilyn Carlson

Chansons & Dances of Late 15th - Early 16th Centuries. 55-60 students of all ability levels. We offer recorder (all levels except novice), viol, harp, flute. You may enroll for recorder, viol, flute as primary instrument; harp, voice, recorder, viol as secondary instrument. Large and small ensembles: Allworkshop Ensemble (instruments and voices), Renaissance Band (recorders, viols, capped reeds,), Medieval Collegium (The Sound of Sacred vs. Secular Music), Consorts (by level), Vocal Ensemble.

Classes include Harp-for-Novice, (opportunity for hands-on experience without owning an instrument), Introduction to Medieval Fiddle. Other classes: Bass Recorder Classes (2 levels), Contemporary Music, Improvisation (Yes, you can do it!), The Basse Danse (monophonic & polyphonic). MiniSeries topics TBA.

Faculty: Marilyn Carlson, director; Stewart Carter, Judith Davidoff, Eric Haas, Emily O'Brien, Alan Purdum, Peter Ramsey, Majbritt Young Christensen, James Young.

All facilities are air-conditioned. Private bath, refrigerator/microwave, live internet in each room. Tuition \$390

Room & Board \$400 (double occupancy), \$595 Room & Board (single occupancy)

Testimonials:

"Wonderful teachers, great music, nice people, lots to learn."

"Brightest spot in my musical year."

"Excellent faculty – congenial atmosphere."

"What a wonderful experience I had at Mideast."

"I was bowled over by patience and kindness of teachers and friendly collegiality of the whole thing"

Contact: Marilyn Carlson,
1008 Afton Road, Columbus, OH
43221-1680; 614-754-7233;
mcarlson@columbus.rr.com;
<http://www.mideastearlymusic.addr.com>

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

BLOOM EARLY MUSIC WORKSHOP

Presented by Lisle Kulbach, Larry Lipnik, Jody Miller
116 Martin Dr., Catawissa, PA 17820

Please join us for a weekend of early music and other activities in the forest and hills of Pennsylvania. A great opportunity for singers and instrumentalists to work together. The low price is the same regardless of the number of days you attend, so please try to make all sessions. We have a maximum of about 30 participants. Private sessions available for additional fee.

Info: Dwayne Heisler, 570-317-6214, dwayne@remitcorp.com
<https://sites.google.com/site/bloomearlymusicworkshop/home>

The Walters Art Gallery – Baltimore, MD Paradise Imagined: The Garden in the Islamic and Christian World



Saturday, June 30, 2012–Sunday, September 23, 2012

This exhibition explores the art of gardens and the cross-fertilization of garden imagery between the East and West. Gardens have functioned as spaces of invention, imagination and mythmaking, as well as places of repose and recreation, for different cultures across time. Through a journey into the intimate gardens on the pages of approximately 22 illustrated herbals, poetry, epic and sacred texts from the Walters' collection of manuscripts and rare books, the exhibition focuses on the transmission, exchange and assimilation of garden imagery and metaphors between the Islamic and Christian worlds in the late medieval and early modern eras. This show will

address the image of the garden as an expression of love, power, philosophy, spirituality, knowledge, and the interactive and often performative dimension of imaginary gardens evoked through word and image.

<http://thewalters.org/eventscalendar/eventdetails.aspx?e=2359>

***Byzantine Coins and Medallions at Dumbarton Oaks
1703 32nd Street, between S and R Streets Washington DC***

Medallion of Constantine II, ca. 326–327
(BZC.1949.5)



Dumbarton Oaks' world famous collection of Byzantine objects is equaled in importance and diversity by its collection of Byzantine coins and medallions. It comprises more than 12,000 specimens and covers the entire history of the long-lived empire. Although the collection includes some representative examples from the third century, comprehensive documentation begins with Constantine the Great (r. 306–337), who founded Constantinople in 324 CE, and continues through all the imperial rulers, many empresses, and even a number of usurpers up to the last legitimate ruler, Constantine XI (r. 1449–1453), who died defending the capital city against the Ottoman Turks.

There are examples of all the denominations struck at different times in the economic history of Byzantium, including gold, silver, bronze, electrum, and copper issues that, in five major catalogues, have been interpreted and made available to the scholarly and interested public.

<http://www.doaks.org/>



Meeting Minutes

July Meeting Minutes 2012

The meeting began with the introduction of returning and new folks.

Seneschal – I'm going to be playing around with survey monkey. We need to know who is planning to attend events and share day shades with the Barony- please RSVP when we ask.

Baron /Baroness – Pennsic is our next event- we plan to have court at Pennsic on the 4th of August around dusk. There will be a party afterward to celebrate Galmr's 20th anniversary of his Knighthing. We want to encourage fighters to come out and share our day shade at Pennsic. We want everyone to come out to process and bring banners for opening court.

A&S – Lisette is unable to attend – her report was posted to Elist : I don't have much to report at the moment. I am trying to contact my deputies, but may be too late...so I am sending this. I have been in contact with the autocrat for the September joint Baronial event. The A&S activities will

consist of a themed competition (once they solidify a theme), a Baronial Bling competition, a Novice Display and an Open Display. We now have a conflict with the September event and University. As of today, no place has been set, but rumor from the autocrat is it would be in Mineral, VA, which is only about 2 hours from site. This affects A&S, due to the fact that I may be short teachers. SOOOOO, I am sending out a call to people already planning on participating in the Baronial event. If you would like to teach a class....ANY class...let me know so we can get you on the docket. Classes are a great way to get people involved and appreciate shared interests. We need to start thinking about setting up the Combo Nights for September after school starts. Sir Alfred, has our timelines gone into the school? I assume we will want to keep the 2nd Tuesday of the month, since we started a trend. I don't think we will have a Combo Night schedule for July. Take the time to get all your projects ready for Pennsic. Remember to sign up for classes at Pennsic. It's a great time to learn new skills and show them off at the September event.

Webminister – present but no report

Exchequer – as of the end of May – approx \$14000.00

Need checks to get signed for demo, reimbursements for On Target, and reservation for Mid Winters. Still need receipts from On Target- must happen very soon or I cannot reimburse. Do we want to rent school for practice A&S starting with new school year? Vote taken- positive to rent school as usual.

Chronicler –need articles and photos.

Chatelaine – not in attendance but sent report. Cassair has researched local activities for demos in 2013 (Columbia festival of the Arts, Annapolis Irish festival, Multicultural festival in Howard, AA county fair, Laurel Main Street, Wine in the Woods, Celtic Festival in Leonardstown) Galmr thinks it's a good idea to recruit new folks. Are we interested in one demo a year? We need a lead-time for getting in to these festivals. Cassair will check into some of these. Please let Cassair know if you have ideas for this.

Demo light – Mistress Arianna is officially in charge of the demo (Arianna) this is intended to be a light demo- easy to do. Centennial Park is available for a Sunday in September (23). Start at noon- have a cookout- garb is optional- intended to use fighters to attract folks. Charcoal and water are being donated. Grill will be available – please bring something to grill. Ground is fairly level. Bring A&S to display. Inside of pavilion has 5 picnic tables; we will be in Pavilion C. This will be the first demo in a long time. More information will be passed as it becomes available. (Question- Segehart- we've been booted from the park before for fighting before are we sure this is okay?) Arianna - We need to talk to the rangers to make sure there will not be a problem.

Chirurgion- Karen is officially a Chirurgion- Karen is now our official Chirurgion.
At On Target one band- aid was dispensed.

Chamberlain- Saige - In theory I know where everything is stored

Archery Marshal – Dealla – practices are going well – we have had up to 16 folks on Thursday nights. Storvik's event was cancelled due to the storm Friday night. At trial by Fire after Pennsic- Bright hills is hosting the Lochmere arrow challenge. We need to get some teams to compete and regain the arrow! Teams of 2 must – members must play with the Barony they compete with.

MOL – Gabrell - One authorization last week.

Heavy Marshal / Rapier Marshal (Alric) Current practices - rapier melees are pulling about 30 people. (Galmr- Many heavies are also doing rapier at the King's request) We are doing both heavy and rapier. One problem we have since we are not indoors is the weather- Alric has found a site for

\$63 an hour /\$189 a night at the Howard County Sports Complex. We will be using this site this Saturday (7th) and 10th, 17th, 24th August 14th and 21st. These are all Tuesdays the site is near Arundel Mills Mall. Total cost of \$945. We are going to encourage our fighters – Knights and White Scarves are being asked to donate to pay for the site. We also have a possible donation from Galacian? The site is large enough to set up some tables and chairs and folks can hang out. (Aelfred- currently we pay nothing for summer practice- and during the school year we only pay \$15 an hour for the current site. (Galmr- we intend to raise the money and firm up the commitments) Alric - we want to find a site that is more economical. We are going to encourage other groups to attend. Aelfred- other groups have paid initially for a fighter practice site but then it tends to drain off and become a financial drain on the Barony. So we are going to accept a \$975 risk for the Barony so that the barony has an indoor practice site?
Countess Aryanna - could we expect that the fighters would make a fundraiser if they don't raise the money immediately?

Vote- do we want to spend the money for the summer site for 5 weeks? Vote was positive to rent site!

Herald – out of town

Head retainer Avice has been organizing retainers for upcoming events

Old Business

19000 sq ft for Pennsic 33 adults – Ernie has loaner tents for everyone who has contacted him. He has rented a 20 ft truck. Gas and truck around \$1000. This year the Barony will be paying 1/3 of truck campers will cover the rest. Adults will pay approx \$22 each. Truck is for tents and camping equipment. Ernie will be contacting everyone going to Pennsic this week. The Thursday before Pennsic is packing day- staging at Corun's house and Dealla's – people are needed on the 26th to pack the truck in both locations! If you have stuff going on the truck you need to help pack the trucks. If you can get stuff to Dealla's early to help stage things contact her. If you are going to bring things to Dealla's you must let her know to expect you. Make sure you label your stuff. Be at Pennsic for set up on Saturday at 11 am.

Battle of the Bay- Aryanna- is liaison – the autocrat is from Storvik- this is new ground for us – we have a list of people who have agreed to volunteer for activities. Just because it is in Storvik it is equally our event as their event. We will need to help with set up on Friday down at Croom. Karen will be the Chirurgeon in Charge.

Gab will be water bearer in charge. Reynard is cooking. Arianna is merchant lead. Christian is in charge of field.

Mid winter's we have a reservation / Night out of Town- Alric is autocrat /On target is spiked for June 14,15, 16 in 2013

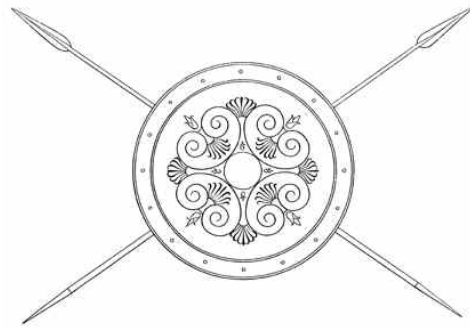
New business

The first Sunday of Pennsic, Sean Butterworth (Sean of Ridingfield) needs help to set up a handicap shower (prebuilt) for his Eagle Scout project. More information will be posted to the elist. If you are interested in helping please post to the Lochmere list.

Silk banner workshop in July 8th at 1 pm

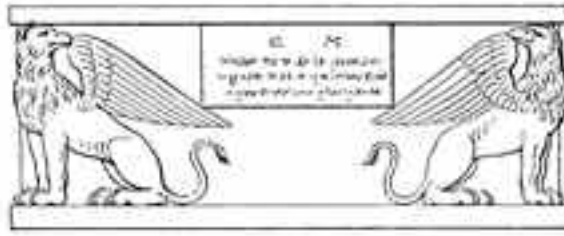
Next business meeting is - August 13th

September Meeting is the 10th



**Activities and Events Calendar
July/ August 2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8	9	Fighter Practice 10	11	12	13	14
15	16	Fighter Practice 17	18	19	20	21
22	23	Fighter Practice 24	25	26	27	Pennsic War (Through August 11) 28
29	30	31	August 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	Pennsic Ends 11
12	Business Meeting 13	Fighter Practice 14	15	16	17	18
19	20	Fighter Practice 21	22	23	24	25
26	27	Fighter Practice 28	29	30	31	Trial by Fire- Bright Hills September 1



EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trial by Fire- ABCs (Archers, bards & cooks)

August 31-September 02, 2012

Barony of Bright Hills

The Barony of Bright Hills welcomes all to its first official Trial by Fire – ABCs (Archers, Bards and Cooks) featuring the shoot for the LOCHMERE ARROW. Try your skill at archery, bard craft or cooking, or just watch the fun. Bards will entertain around the fire. Cooks will face the flames to create the finest main courses, side dishes, grains and desserts.

Website: <http://www.brighthills.net/events/trialbyfire2012.html>

Martial Activities: Archery competitions including a competition for the Lochmere Arrow.

MIC for Trial by Fire Event - Lord Janyn Fletcher, janynfletcher[AT]yahoo.com .

MIC for Lochmere Arrow – Lord Seamus McRae, jjfrailey[AT]gmail.com .

MIC for archery competition – Lord Godai Katsunaga, am_piobaire[AT]comcast.net

Arts & Sciences Activities: A&S Activities include bardic, cooking, brewing and poetry competitions.

Cost:

Adult, Member:	\$12.00	Day-Trip	\$0.00	Feast	\$0.00	Camping
Adult, Non-Member:	\$17.00	Day-Trip	\$0.00	Feast	\$0.00	Camping
Youth (6-17):	\$8.00	Day-Trip	\$0.00	Feast	\$0.00	Camping
Child (0-5):	\$0.00	Day-Trip	\$0.00	Feast	\$0.00	Camping

Make Checks Payable To: SCA-MD, Inc., Barony of Bright Hills

Cost Notes: The family cap is \$40. Camping is included in the event fee.

Site: Baltimore Bowmen, Graham Memorial Park, 10301 Harford Road, Glen Arm, MD 21057. Site opens at 5 pm Friday, August 31, and closes 6 p.m. Sunday, September 2, 2012.

Site Restrictions: This event is in a Maryland state park and all rules pertaining to state parks in Maryland apply. No alcohol allowed on range. Dogs must be on a leash. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs. Please remove and take all firewood from field. Park in designated areas. Ground fires are not allowed but fire pits are welcome.

Feast Information: Saturday's Feast will be potluck supplemented with entries from the Cooking Competition. Although there is no fee for eating feast, you must either provide enough prepared or ready to eat food to serve 8 or enter the Trial by Fire cooking competition. It can be something you make at home or on site or something that you purchase.

Merchanting Information: Contact Lady Livia di Samuele (Sherrill Abramson) for merchanting information at [abramsonsm\[AT\]yahoo.com](mailto:abramsonsm[AT]yahoo.com)

Other Information: The Sekunjabin Tavern will be at Trial by Fire courtesy of Lady Livia di Samuele.

Autocrat's Information: Deirdre O'Bardon (Debbie Eccles), P.O. Box 130, Reisterstown, MD 21117,

Phone: (410) 455-9444, E-mail: deirdre_obardon[AT]yahoo.com

Reservations: Yseulte Trevelyn (Karen Setze), 1629 Riedel Road, Crofton, MD 21114, Phone: (410) 721-4752

Directions:

From the South – Take I-95 to I-695 toward Towson. In about 2 miles, take exit 31B, Harford Road. Follow Harford Rd about 2 miles (3 traffic lights). Continue on Harford Road down the hill about 1/4 mile. Turn right at the sign and follow road thru to the second gate.

From the West (I-70) - Take I-70 to Baltimore, then take the 695 exit towards Towson. Then follow directions from the South.



Battle on the Bay - Storvik/Lochmere Baronial Birthdays

September 14- 16, 2012

Barony of Storvik

The Aztec Empire was vast and powerful and claimed as its capital Tenochtitlan, one of the largest cities in the world at the time. Nonetheless, within two years a small force of Spaniards successfully combined with a confederation of villages to bring the empire to its knees. Join the baronies of Lochmere and Storvik to see if history repeats itself.

The fighting, as in years past, will be a melee campaign in which the outcome of a scenario influences the types of scenarios that follow. This year there will be a unique twist aimed at replicating the peculiar conditions in Meso-America during the conquest. There will be two teams: Aztecs versus Spaniards/Tlaxcala Confederacy. Each team will be represented on both heavy and rapier fields. Fighters who are authorized on both lists may move back and forth between the different formats. If your team really needs to win a rapier scenario, then your general can send crossover fighters to the rapier list, knowing that his team will have a more difficult time winning on the heavy field. In other words, what happens on the armored field will influence what happens on the rapier field, and vice versa.

In addition to armored and rapier combat, there will be target archery and youth combat. In years past it has been an extraordinarily well attended event with large melee teams, so bring your households and plan on a great time! Questions about the fighting and format should be directed to the Marshal-in-Charge, Chevalier Joselin d'outremer at joselindoutremer(at)gmail.com.

Website: <http://storvik.atlantia.sca.org/events.html>

Martial Activities: Armored melee, combat archery, rapier melee

Arts & Sciences Activities: A&S: Coordinated by Lady Lisette La Roux. Theme competition (Aztec/Spanish), Baronial Bling competition, novice display, open display. Brewing roundtable hosted by Patrick Ravenclaw.

Cost:

Adult, Member:	\$12.00 Day-Trip	\$12.00 Feast	\$5.00 Camping
Adult, Non-Member:	\$17.00 Day-Trip	\$12.00 Feast	\$5.00 Camping
Youth (6-17):	\$5.00 Day-Trip	\$12.00 Feast	\$0.00 Camping
Child (0-5):	\$0.00 Day-Trip	\$12.00 Feast	\$0.00 Camping

Make Checks Payable To: SCA-MD, Inc., Barony of Storvik

Cost Notes: Send registrations to Lady Tirzah MacCrudden or pay by credit card on ACCEPS (<http://acceps.ansteorra.org/>) Children age five and under are guests of the Barony. \$2.00 discount to adults for pre-registration by 9/3/2012!

Site: Patuxent River Park, 16000 Croom Airport Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Site Restrictions: Open at 4pm on Friday, close at 11am on Sunday. Discreetly damp (only period containers visible). Fire in fire rings only - rings and firewood are provided. Dogs are welcomed but must be leashed at all times. Please clean up after your pet!

Feast Information: Feast by Master Reynard de La Rouchefoucauld. Feast seats are limited. Please pre-register!

Merchanting Information: Merchant coordinator: Mistress Arianna Morgan, chrissings[AT]juno.com, 410-533-4535. Please include "Merchanting at Battle of the Bay" in email subject line.

Other Information: Target Archery: run by Nuala and Geoffrey of Needwood Thrown weapons: run by Baroness Dealla Cohen

Autocrat's Information: Kunigunde von Darmstadt (Rebecca Green), 116 Lee Ave. Apt 209, Takoma Park, MD 20912, Phone: (703) 929-7423, E-mail: ilkender[AT]gmail.com

Reservations: Tirzah MacCrudden (Evelyn Brady), 3408 Stonehall Dr., Beltsville, MD 20705, Phone: (703) 966-0787, E-mail: lltirzah[AT]gmail.com

Directions:

FROM THE NORTH. Either take your best route to the DC Beltway and follow directions below or come down I-97 S and take exit 7 to merge onto MD-3 S/Robert Crain Hwy toward Bowie. Follow MD-3 S for 9.9 miles. At US-50 MD-3 becomes US-301 S/Blue Star Memorial Hwy/Crain Hwy. Continue on for 11.7 miles and turn left at Croom Station Rd In 1.8 miles turn left at Croom Station Rd. At the 'T' intersection in 1.6 miles turn left onto Croom Rd/MD-382 S. In 1.5 miles turn left at Croom Airport Rd. and go 2.9 miles. Turn right toward barn and park.

FROM THE DC METRO AREA. From the DC Beltway in MD take exit 11 for MD-4 S/Penn. Ave E toward Upper Marlboro. Go 7.7 miles and turn onto US-301 S. In 1.8 miles turn left at Croom Station Rd. At the 'T' intersection in 1.6 miles turn left onto Croom Rd/MD-382 S. In 1.5 miles turn left at Croom Airport Rd. and go 2.9 miles. Turn right toward barn and park.

(Note: If you miss Croom Station Rd turn from US-301 the next traffic light is Croom Rd/MD-382 S - turn left and follow directions below.)

FROM THE SOUTH. Come up US-301 N/Blue Star Memorial Hwy/Crain Hwy. 7.4 miles north of the US-301 N, MD-5 N split turn right at Croom Rd/MD-382 S. Go 3.0 miles and turn left at Croom Airport Rd and go 2.9 miles. Turn right toward barn and park on the left.

(Note: While on Croom Airport Rd. do NOT turn left at any point.)



POETRY CORNER



PHARSALIA
OR THE CIVIL WAR
BY
LUCAN
(MARCUS ANNAEUS LUCANUS)
A.D. 39 - A.D. 65

BOOK I
THE CROSSING OF THE RUBICON

.....

*Wars worse than civil on Emathian plains,
And crime let loose we sing; how Rome's high race
Plunged in her vitals her victorious sword;
Armies akin embattled, with the force
Of all the shaken earth bent on the fray;
And burst asunder, to the common guilt,
A kingdom's compact; eagle with eagle met,
Standard to standard, spear opposed to spear.
Whence, citizens, this rage, this boundless lust
To sate barbarians with the blood of Rome?
Did not the shade of Crassus, wandering still,
Cry for his vengeance? Could ye not have spoiled,
To deck your trophies, haughty Babylon?*

*Why wage campaigns that send no laurels home?
What lands, what oceans might have been the prize
Of all the blood thus shed in civil strife!
Where Titan rises, where night hides the stars,
'Neath southern noons all quivering with heat,
Or where keen frost that never yields to spring
In icy fetters binds the Scythian main:
Long since barbarians by the Eastern sea
And far Araxes' stream, and those who know
(If any such there be) the birth of Nile
Had felt our yoke. Then, Rome, upon thyself
With all the world beneath thee, if thou must,
Wage this nefarious war, but not till then.
Now view the houses with half-ruined walls
Throughout Italian cities; stone from stone
Has slipped and lies at length; within the home
No guard is found, and in the ancient streets so
Scarce seen the passer by. The fields in vain,*

*Rugged with brambles and unploughed for years,
 Ask for the hand of man; for man is not.
 Nor savage Pyrrhus nor the Punic horde
 E'er caused such havoc: to no foe was given
 To strike thus deep; but civil strife alone
 Dealt the fell wound and left the death behind.
 Yet if the fates could find no other way
 For Nero coming, nor the gods with ease
 Gain thrones in heaven; and if the Thunderer
 Prevailed not till the giant's war was done,
 Complaint is silent. For this boon supreme
 Welcome, ye gods, be wickedness and crime;
 Thronged with our dead be dire Pharsalia's fields,
 Be Punic ghosts avenged by Roman blood;
 Add to these ills the toils of Mutina;
 Perusia's dearth; on Munda's final field
 The shock of battle joined; let Leucas' Cape
 Shatter the routed navies; servile hands
 Unsheath the sword on fiery Etna's slopes:
 Still Rome is gainer by the civil war.*

Online Medieval and Classical Library Release #16b

This electronic edition was edited, proofed, and prepared by Douglas B. Killings (DeTroyes@AOL.COM), May 1996.

Lucan's "Pharsalia" (or, "Civil War", as many scholars now prefer to call it) was written approximately a century after the events it chronicles took place.

Lucan was born into a prominent Roman family (Seneca the Elder was his grandfather, and Seneca the Younger his uncle), and seems to have befriended the young Emperor Nero at an early age. He was for several years a poet of some prominence in the Emperor's court, and it is during this period that the "Civil War"/"Pharsalia" was probably begun. However, Nero and Lucan's friendship evidently soured, and in A.D. 65 Lucan joined Calpurnius Piso's conspiracy to overthrow Nero. When the conspiracy was discovered, Lucan was given the option of suicide or death; he chose suicide, and recited several lines of his poetry while he died (possibly Book III, l. 700-712).

Lucan's "Pharsalia" was left (probably) unfinished upon his death, coincidentally breaking off at almost the exact same point where Julius Caesar broke off in his commentary "On the Civil War". Ten books are extant; no one knows how many more Lucan planned, but two to six more books (possibly taking the story as far as Caesar's assassination in B.C. 46) seem a reasonable estimate.

It should be noted that, as history, Lucan's work is far from being scrupulously accurate, frequently ignoring historical fact for the benefit of drama and rhetoric. For this reason, it should not be read as a reliable account of the Roman Civil War. However, as a work of poetic literature, it has few rivals; its powerful depiction of civil war and its consequences have haunted readers for centuries, and prompted many Medieval and Renaissance poets to regard Lucan among the ranks of Homer, Virgil, and Ovid.

---DBK

For more information check out: <http://omacl.org/Pharsalia/>



The Officers of the Barony of Lochmere



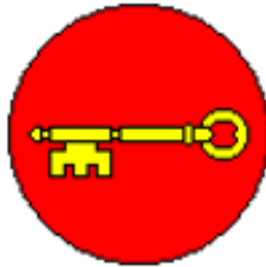
Baron

Baron Galmr Ingolfsson,
6001 Parkway Drive
Laurel, MD 20707
240-568-9070
Wayne At Wayneprecht.Org



Baroness

Baroness Eydís Herjólfrsdóttir
6001 Parkway Drive
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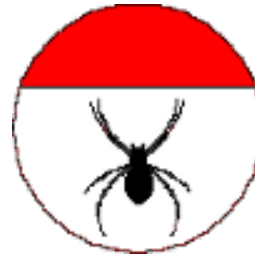


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