

Darkwood

Drum

A.S. I— January 2016

SPECIAL EDITION

Local Event Updates

Kingdom and Principality
Arts & Sciences Competitions

Golden Beltane Information

And More!!!



Words from the Darkwood Chronicler

Greetings Darkwood! This special edition of the Drum is to highlight all the great events that are happening within the borders of Darkwood during the months of February, March, and April. In addition, the wonderful Arts & Sciences competitions that are available and some news on upcoming Kingdom events.

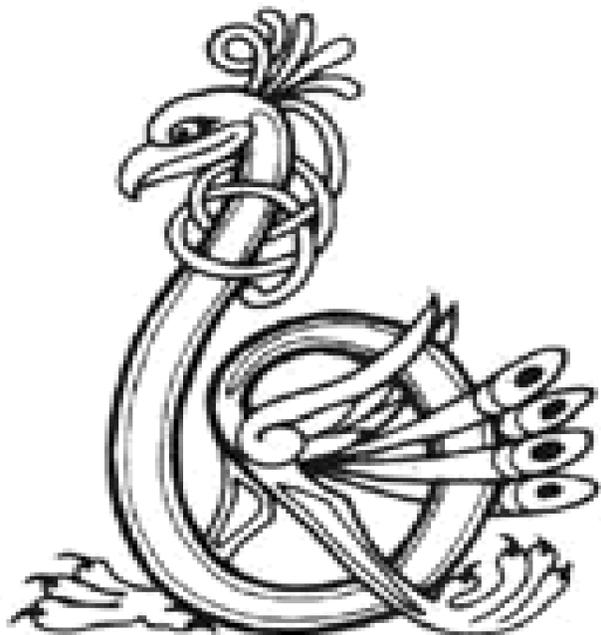
Just a reminder, the Barony has a Google Calendar that lists Baronial and Canton meetings, A&S nights, fighter practices and events along with major Principality and Kingdom events. Below is the link to the calendar. If you have issues viewing it, please let me know.

[Barony of Darkwood Google Calendar](#)

As always, to make the Drum great I need your artwork, bardic pieces, pictures, stories, website recommendations, book recommendations and event information. The Drum will be published quarterly (end of March, June, September, and December) so there are many opportunities to have your items included.

Yours in Service,

Norinna O'Shaughnessy



Baronial Meetings for 2016

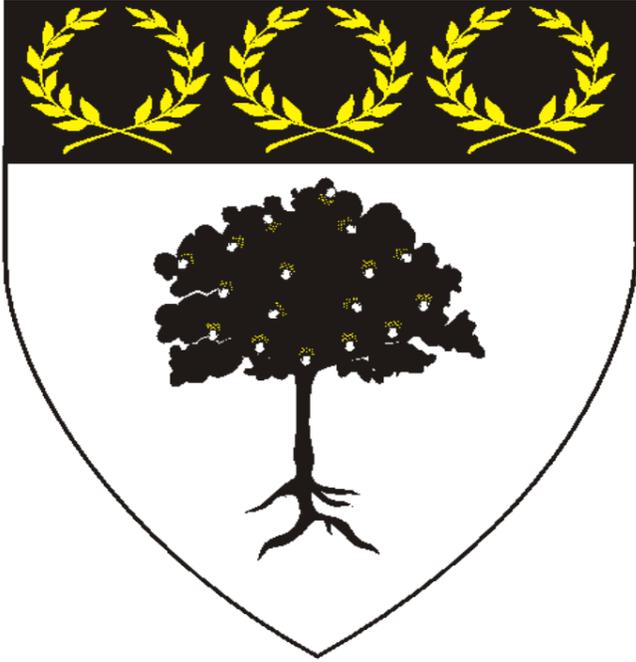
March 14—College of St. David's

May 16—Canton of Hawks Haven

July 11—Canton of Caer DARTH

September 12—Canton of MdR

November 14—Canton of Hawks Haven



BARONIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Successor Wanted – Baronial Exchequer

My warrant is up as of White Shield, 2016. I plan on asking for a year's extension, but will not be allowed to extend beyond that. Therefore, I'd like to find a successor to start learning the job and be prepared to step up at White Shield, 2017.

YIS,
Rose de LeMans

BARONIAL TAXES

Baronial taxes will be presented to the King & Queen of the West at June Crown. Their Excellencies, Jared and Brid, have requested that the items provided for taxes should be useful, quality vs. quantity, and reflect the passion and interest of the populace. Please make sure to label each item with: Your SCA Name, Group, and if applicable, an ingredients list and/or documentation.

Baronial Herald is always looking for team members to assist with court and field heraldry. If you are interested in becoming part of the team and/or learning what is needed to become a herald contact Irina Antonova Barsuka (contact information is in the Regnum on the last page of the Drum).

Wargy
Sunday, February 7th
Skyline Park—Napa, CA

On Sunday February 7th, in the beautiful lands of Vinhold (Skyline park in Napa), the Wargy will commence (again)!! This is an all-day resurrection WAR.

The field will be laid out in the shape of the Principality of the Mists (bay area), and divided out to the landed groups who reserve a slice of territory to defend. Heed the call to war, expand your horizons, annex your neighbors, and protect your hearth and home. At the end of the day, the group that holds the land gets the treasure! There will be A&S activities too!!

Each unit which receives land must bring the following things to the Wargy:

Troops, hired or native (each team must have a minimum of 4 fighters)

* A war banner on a pole that is at least 6' tall.

* A treasure chest filled with fortunes worthy of the "pride" of the group

* War support, by supplying the equivalent of at least 1 all-day marshal, and 1 all day support staff (gate work/ hydration support/ clean bathrooms etc., broken up however you wish)

* To claim your land, at least the commander (or designate) and one other team member must be on site by 9:30 am.

Darkwood plans to hold their piece of land on the field. Come out and support the Barony, as there are many ways in which everyone can be a part of this glorious day.





MDR Prize Tourney

Saturday, February 13th

All are welcome to come and start the tourney season with a tourney of skill, honor, and camaraderie! There will be both heavy and rapier tourneys, with fabulous and useful prizes for the winners of each and for the Champion of Montagne du Roi.

Warm and savory soups, both meat and vegetarian, will be served to all who so wish, and the friendly spirit of our land will encompass all comers and be enriched by their presence and company.

Autocrat: Luca Caravello di Venezia

Event Schedule:

Site opens at 9:30

Armor inspection begins at 11am

The tourneys will begin at 11:30am

Site closes at 5pm

Site Information:

Lower Presidio Historic Park (Corporal Ewing Road, Monterey California)

Corporal Ewing Road Bldg. 113, Monterey , CA

Site Fee:

None, though donations are welcome



Hawk's Haven

Grand Archery Tournament

Saturday, February 20th

Come join the Canton of Hawk's Haven for our Grand Archery Tourney. This will be a day of archery, games, dancing, food and fun!

The day's activities will include the Grand Archery Tourney including Royal Rounds, the Taste of Hawks Haven, and The Great Game to include many period games. Don't forget the ever popular "Shoot the Barons of Darkwood" novelty shoot. We will also have dancing and demos!

Grand Archery Tournament: Pre-Registration and Day of Registration available: This year to keep up with the great number of archers that come from all over the West to participate there will be pre-registration to allow for a quicker start to the tourney!

Participants who pre-register will be placed in the first and second round, as allowed by number of pre-registrants. Email the autocrat, Aine inghean Tuathail ui Ghallchobhair to pre-register.

A Taste of Hawks Haven: Come contribute to the bounty of the Taste of Hawks Haven, our annual sideboard competition.. This year we are sponsoring the winner with two tickets to the Darkwood White Shield Feast. Bring finger foods and deserts to share and let the populace vote to see which tasty treat is the best.

DEMOS: More to follow but we are working on having demo's! Currently there will be a dying demo and fiber artists available for demonstration. More demos to follow.

Dancing! Dancing! Dancing! Come to the dance hall and spend time socializing, dancing, tasting and enjoying the day.

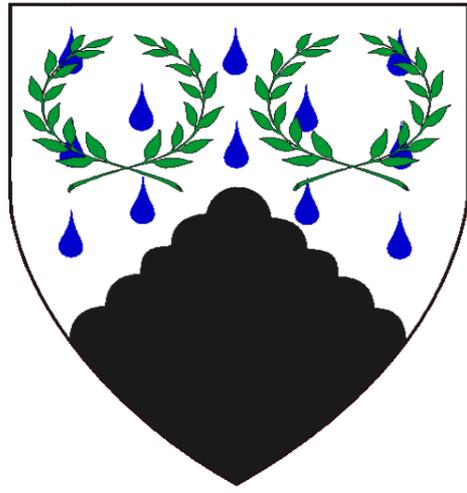
Games! The wonderful Francisco de Salamanca will be doing a short class on period games and then there will be games throughout the day. Coins will be provided, the one with the most coins at the end of the day gets a prize!

"Shoot the Barons of Darkwood" Novelty Shoot: Come donate your arrows (and your bills) to take aim at the current and former barons of Darkwood! All proceeds go to the upkeep of the archery equipment so that this

Site Information: (Machado School (15130 Sycamore Drive, Morgan Hill CA 95037))

Start Time: Site Opens at 9 AM. Pre-registration rounds start at 9:30 AM, regular rounds to follow, Site Closes 8:00pm

Site Fee: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, \$5 ages 6 - 12, and ages 5 and under free. Family cap is \$40. Make checks payable to "SCA - Canton of Hawks Haven"



Caer DARTH
Falcon's Treaty
Saturday, March 5th

Annual rapier event of the Canton of Caer DARTH

The site is Oak Knoll field at Ed Levin Park in Milpitas.

3100 Calaveras Rd--Milpitas, CA 95035 --(408) 262-6980

This is the same field as last year. Look for it on the right side as you are driving up Calavares Rd.

The site opens at 10:00 a.m. to the populace. Lists open at 10:00 a.m. for sign up
Site fee is \$10

Autocrat is Caitriona Griffin

FIGHTING

Cut & Thrust tournament - double elimination

Blood of Heroes - Melee

Un-scarved rapier tournament (no WS or MOD) - double elimination

Open rapier tournament - double elimination

Melee workshop for working in large units (afternoon).

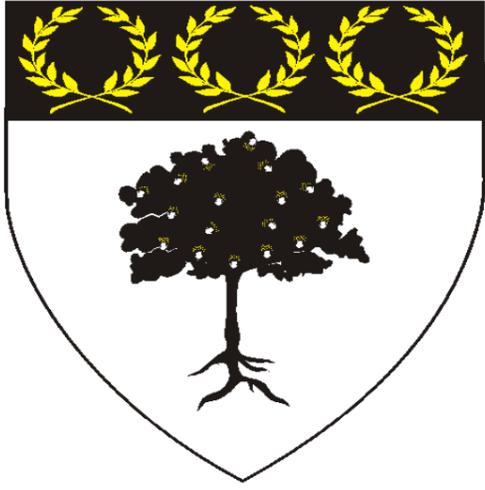
LUNCH ACTIVITY

There will be a discussion about the seven virtues and how they apply to us as fighters and the rapier community.

A&S

Embroidery competition!

All contestants are asked to create a rapier scarf and it must have the west kingdom populace badge on it. It can be either a solid white scarf, black for guild master, red for cadet, or blue for provost rank. All entries will be given away as prizes to rapier fighters at the event. All contestants will be judged.



Barony of Darkwood
White Shield Tournament
Saturday, March 12th
Bolado Park—Tres Pinos

Site opens at 9:00 a.m. to the populace
Lists open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 11a.m.

One of the brightest of lands in all the Mists is the Barony of Darkwood. Mountains, forests, ocean, the random garlic plantation.... Is it any wonder that folks travel from the far corners of the Kingdom to come visit? So, come out again to play with Darkwood as they host their Whiteshield Tournament at the beautiful Bolado Park in Tres Pinos, CA. I am encouraging folks to show their Darkwood pride and dress in black and white. Certainly *not* a requirement, but just something fun to do.

Autocrat: Mdm Ghislaine d'Auxerre

Site fee is \$10

Feast is \$15 (more information about feast tickets is listed on Page 10)

There will be incredible fighting! Both heavy and rapier lists with prowess and chivalry at its best. Further information regarding the tournament structures is on the next page.

Greetings, this is you Baronial Herald. Have you ever thought you might like to be a field herald but were afraid to do so? Well, this is a good time to try. I am looking for people who (in lew of better words) have a large voice. We will need heralds for the day. This is not to say that those of you who already know how are not welcome, au contair, I need teachers. Please let me know. In Service, Irina

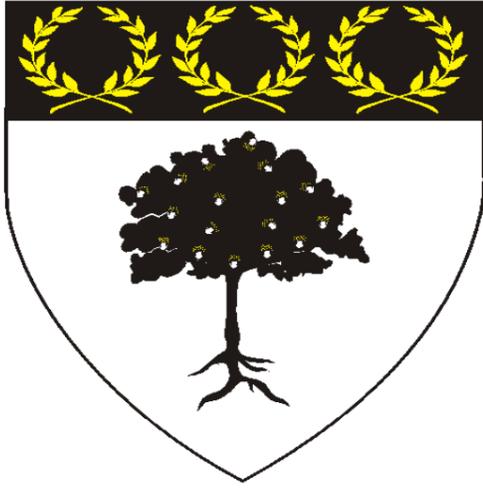
The epic silent auction will take place. Come see what incredible goods are being donated to tempt your purse.

Hello All,

I will be running the silent auction this year and I'm pleading, nay begging, for donations. 100% of all money made goes directly to our Barony. So, please think about items that you don't use anymore that you would like to have go to a good home. Please message me and we can make arrangements for pick up of items.

YIS

Josephine de Arellano y Prout



Barony of Darkwood

White Shield Tournament

Information

There will be two tournaments at White Shield, Rapier and Heavy. All fighters must show a current fighter authorization card at the Lists Table when they sign up. The Lists table will open at 9am and close promptly at 11am. Invocation at 11:30am and the tournaments will start at 12pm. Armour inspection will start shortly after the Lists Table opens, remember you will need your Lists card at the inspection for the Marshal to sign-off.

Rapier Tournament will be standard double elimination style. Bring all your weapons and have a grand time challenging your opponents with different combinations.

This year the **Heavy Tournament** will be run in a different style. Their Excellencies Jared and Brid, in a joint effort with Their Majesties Marc and Patricia, will be running the tournament in the same three point style that will be done at March Crown. Here is a brief rundown on how the counting will happen:

All fights are to 3 good blows struck
Fighters still call their own blows

ALL TARGETS COUNT THE SAME, a hit to an arm, leg, head or body counts as one good blow.

There will be a pause when a good blow is struck, to allow fighters to reset. This way, people who drop an arm/leg out of reflex are not penalized. If a flurry is landed, only the first blow counts, as a pause is enacted after a good blow.

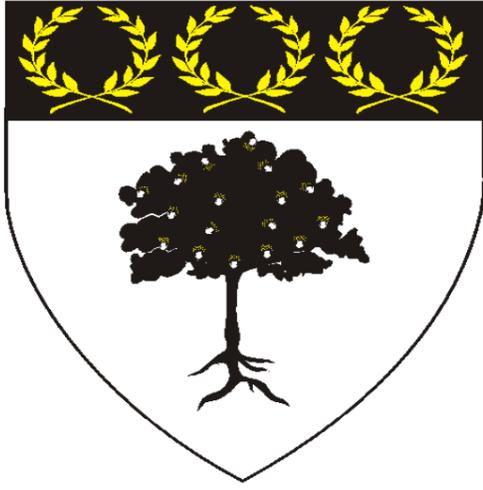
Double strikes count against both fighters. If you trade a leg for a head, both fighters earn one point.

Double kills are destructive. If there is a 2-2 score, and a double hit occurs, both fighters take a loss on their record. This will only change in finals, where a double kill will be refought. Finals will still be a best of three fights.

Byes will not be fought and the fighter with the bye will be the first fight of the next round.

Although no one “dies” in a counted blows tournament, We are asking fighters to take a knee and salute, so that bystanders can understand the outcome of a fight.

If you have any questions please contact His Excellency Jared.



Barony of Darkwood

White Shield

Feast Information

In the evening, a grand feast celebrating the cheer and generosity of Darkwood as well as honoring its current and past Barons and Baronesses crafted by the amazing Seraphina van Eldstrom.

Today is the day we talk about the Whiteshield Feast crafted by the amazing Lady Serafina van Elstrom. She has designed a menu meant to honor our past barons and baronesses and their place in our long and distinguished history.

After discussion with Their Excellencies, we have decided to do a soft opening up of the tickets for this year's Whiteshield feast. This is specifically for the benefit of the populace of Darkwood.

Here's how it works:

The only good reservation is a paid reservation. This means that you need to either personally hand me the money or mail it to my address (see below) preferably along with the names of the attendants.

If you are a past baron/baroness of Darkwood you have a guaranteed seat. You are a large part of our Baronial history and we want to make sure you are there to share with us. You still have to pay for your ticket(s) prior to the event, but you have a little leeway beyond the early rush.

Tickets are transferable, but I have to be notified in writing (email) that this is happening and with whom so I can update the reservation list.

Checks and money orders are made payable to "SCA Inc - Barony of Darkwood". Tickets are \$15.

They can be mailed to me at the following address:

S. Linehan

P.O. Box 1378

Boulder Creek, CA 95006



West Kingdom—March Crown

March 25-27

Skyline Park—Napa, CA

This is information His Royal Highness, Marc posted in October about how the tournament will be run at March Crown. If you are planning on fighting you will want to be aware of the format.

Greetings West Kingdom,

March Crown 2016 will be run a little differently, and We wanted to give fighters as much notice a possible, so that they can be aware of the format, and practice in the style of the tournament to better prepare if they so choose.

Invocation and challenges will remain the same, and the list will be run as a standard double elimination tournament, with standard West Kingdom armor conventions. The big difference will be that fights shall be to counted blows, no acted out wounds. What this means;

All fights are to 3 good blows struck
Fighters still call their own blows

ALL TARGETS COUNT THE SAME, a hit to an arm, leg, head or body counts as one good blow.

There will be a pause when a good blow is struck, to allow fighters to reset. This way, people who drop an arm/leg out of reflex are not penalized If a flurry is landed, only the first blow counts, as a pause is enacted after a good blow.

Double strikes count against both fighters. If you trade a leg for a head, both fighters earn one point.

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Although no one “dies” in a counted blows tournament, We are asking fighters to take a knee and salute, so that bystanders can understand the outcome of a fight. Please let Us know if you have any questions.

YIS,
Marc de Arundel
King of the West

Step-down pieces for Miles and Ariela, King & Queen of the West

All through the heavens the song echoes,
reaching the earth and all her creatures;
in music we are shaped and so shape our lives.
Each act must be in tune with that great song;
live to be melody and counterpoint.
As Queen you have lead us all in harmony.

Magnificent is the wind in all his might,
inspiring those too fast asleep, yet heed this;
laughter of the wind as well as the storm's roar
encircles us, bringing us to new deeds,
sending us on our way.

Leofwen Cryccthegn Bard of the West
Acrostics in the style of medieval Jewish poetry

Coronation piece for Marc and Patricia, King & Queen of the West

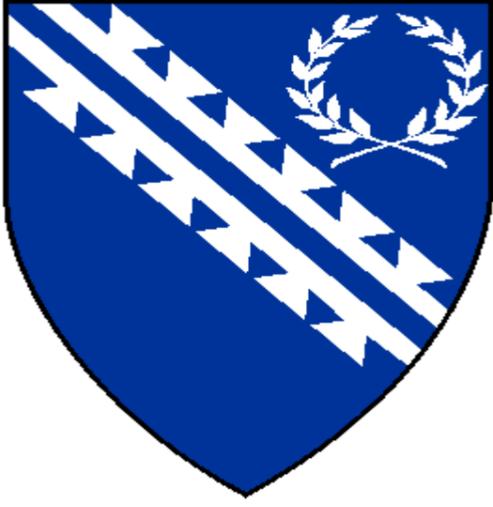
A New Hope

That is no moon that hangs within the sky
to which I find my sweet soul's ship is drawn
my falcon spirit cannot e'er deny
the light that brighter burns than crimson dawn.
Now he who won his crown with wit and brawn
was ever onward spurred by this same light,
and now they are twin suns who rule with might.

Know this, that might is more than show of force;
it stems from gentleness and justice twined,
when those of power choose to stay the course
and put their trust in instincts Love divined,
for then their true direction shall they find.
Yet when their people threatened are by war,
that force awakened, lion-like, shall roar.

From darkness into light we all are brought
to witness this reign's promise, just begun,
this 12th Night brings us joy in what we've wrought;
those gone before, those living, all are one,
and battles many each of us have won.
My lady, princess, now my Queen, shines bright,
so may my words reflect some of that light.

Leofwen Cryccthegn, Bard of the West



**College of St. David's
Warlord Tournament
Saturday, April 16th
UC Santa Cruz Campus**

Come one come all! Are you ready to become St. David's next Glorious Warlord? Then come join us at the the College of St. David's Warlord's Tournament, and fight to be our new Warlord! There will be both a Heavy and Rapier tournament, a silent auction with items made by St. Davids members, an A&S tournament, and a donation lunch.

Come artists! Win the A&S Competition at St. Davids Warlords Tourney and become the Golden Slug! The category is period University Life. Documentation is Optional. Winner is by vote of the populace.

Site Opens: 11:00AM

Schedule of Events:

11:45 AM Warmup Melee
12:00 PM Tournament starts
1:00 A&S Entries Due
2:00 PM Break
2:20 PM Tournament Resumes

The Silent Auction will start at 12:00 PM

Food for the donation lunch will be available starting at 1:30 PM

Court will follow the end of the Tournament

Site Information:

UC Santa Cruz (West Entrance) 1156 High St, Santa Cruz, CA 95064.

Directions:

From the South bay: take your best route to 17/880 S. Take 17 south to Hwy 1 interchange. Take Hwy 1N/Mission St. exit. At second stoplight, make a right onto Mission st. Then take an immediate left onto Highland, then a Right onto high street. Continue straight when you see the UC Santa Cruz sign, which will take you onto Empire Grade. Take a right on Heller Drive, then the next Right into the West Remote parking lot. The event will be held in the Family Student Housing Field, which is across from the West Remote parking lot.



West Kingdom—Golden Beltane
April 29—May 8
SZ Ranch—10001 Willow Creek Rd.
Paicines, CA

BELTANE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
April 29 to May 8, 2016

Join the festivities in the Kingdom of the West as we celebrate our 50th year since The First Tournament in Mistress Diana's backyard!

Gates open at 1:00 p.m., Friday, April 29th, coronation is Saturday the 30th, and on Sunday, May the 1st, the West Kingdom, hosted by the Ladies of the Order of the Rose, proudly invites the entire Known World to participate in the commemoration of 50 years since The First Tournament as fighter, consort, or observer, to fight for the honor of crowning one's inspiration as Queen or King of Love and Beauty. Plus all maidens (and former maidens) will be invited to dance the Maypole.

Throughout the week, enjoy classes, fighting, feasting, singing, dancing, bardic circles, music, displays, arts and sciences, equestrian activities, the Chapel of the White Rose, war and hospitality for which the West is renown.

The week-long celebration will culminate in a Towne Faire on Saturday, May 7th, with final court on Sunday, May 8th.

If there is something you want to do, please let us know in advance so we can try and put you into the schedule be it a display, a class or an activity. If you do not let us know in advance, feel free to suggest activities and have a good time without advanced planning.

This promises to be a once in a lifetime celebration of the creation of our Kingdom. Truly, this will be an event no one will want to miss!

Site Information: Bar SZ Ranch at 10001 Willow Creek Road, Paicines, CA 95043.

The website for the event is [West Kingdom Golden Beltane](#)

Site Opens: 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29.

Site Fee: Preregistered: \$50 for the event or \$10 per day.

Nonpreregistered \$75 for the event or \$15 per day.

The family caps are \$175 for preregistered for the week and \$250 for nonpreregistered for the week.

The merchant fee is \$20 and must be preregistered.

The nonmember surcharge of \$5 per person applies for this event and will be collected at the gate.

Children under the age of 5 are free. Children 5 and older will be charged as listed above.

Pre-reg deadline is MARCH 15.

As of this writing, preregistration can only be done by sending a check made out to West Kingdom to Alys Graye 38202 Ashford Way Fremont, Ca 94536. You can also pay in person at March Crown.

Autocrat: Brocc of Alderden (Eben Kurtzman) Phone 408-509-9151

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: We currently have the infrastructure for up to 1200 attendees. If more than 800 people preregister then we will be able to make adjustments. However, if less than 800 people preregister, the 1200 person limit **WILL BE FIRM**. We cannot have a situation where we have toilets for 1200 people and 2000 people at the event. So **PLEASE** preregister. We do not want a situation where we have to turn people away at the gate.

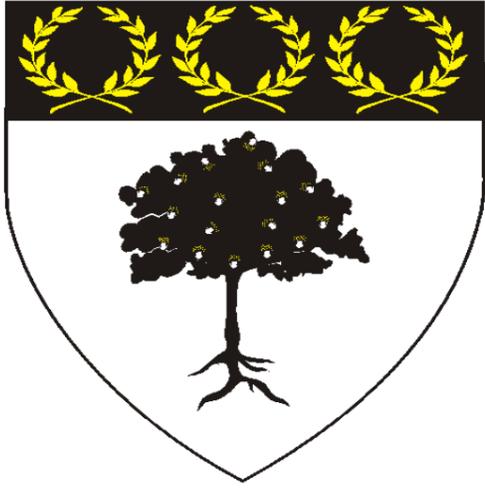
This is a **VERY** remote site. You are 30-40 miles from the nearest facilities, grocery stores, hardware stores, hotels, and **GASOLINE**. So please do not leave Tres Pinos or King City without planning accordingly, as it is a **LONG** walk.

There **WILL** be showers, portable toilets and hand wash stations on site. Water will be available from a water buffalo and a truck will be driven around daily from which people will be able to refill their water supplies.

There is no **WIFI** on site. There is minimal and sporadic coverage at best for Verizon and no other carrier as far as we can tell for cell phones. Electricity will also be **VERY** limited. If you need special accommodations, including recharging CPAP machines, please let us know in advance so we can try and accommodate you. Generators will be allowed in camps between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. provided the noise and smell do not disturb your neighbors.

We will be attempting to organize daily runs into town for groceries if there is the demand for it. Please be prepared to pay with exact change when you place your order. More information about this will be available on site.

Thank you,
Beltane 2016 staff.



Darkwood Goes To Beltane

At the most basic, here is what the Baron & Baroness would like to see for a Darkwood presence at Golden Beltane:

The Castle up and useable. This should be a space for peaceful moments, handfastings, fealties and oaths, vigils etc. I'd like to get a couple "donation boxes" made up, to hang in the castle for folks to leave messages for each other. Students or kids could be sent to find a person and tell them there is a message waiting for them in the Castle.

Shades up. Behind the Castle and off of the main road, at least one shade up, this would be space for gaming, socializing, bardic, dance. A "pub" or common house. Coffee house! spiced coffee, cider and hot chocolate, lemonade and iced waters during the day.

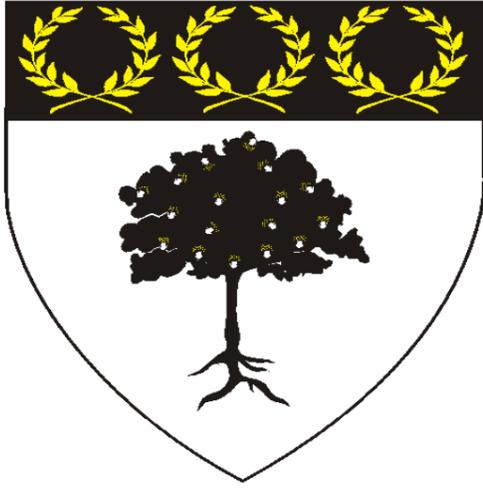
Carnival of the Phoenix. And space for the Carnival in whatever fashion they would like to present things.

Join the [Darkwood Goes To Beltane](#) Facebook Page for more information and to help make this idea a reality.

Darkwood has been asked to be a major part of the set-up and tear down for Golden Beltane.

Please join the [Golden Beltane! Set Up and Tear Down Assistance](#) Facebook Page for more information and to let Their Excellencies know if you can provide assistance.

Even just a bit of time will make the work go smoother and faster for all. Thank you.



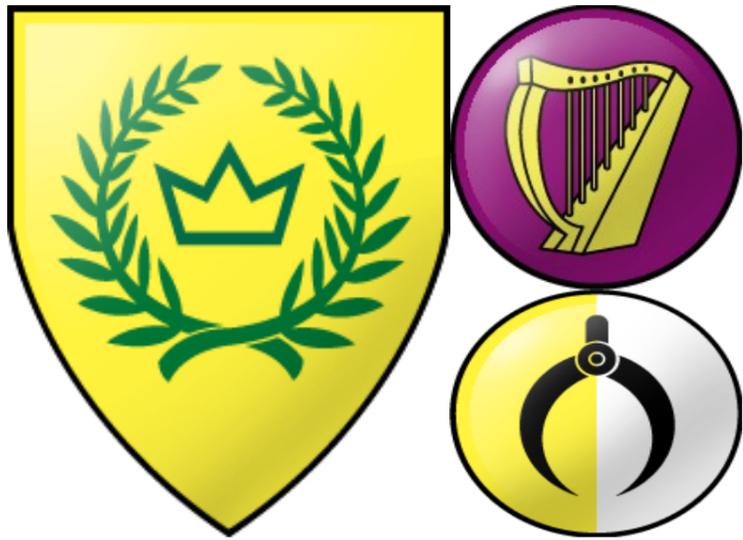
Darkwood Ballista Project

Something is up and it's the Darkwood Ballista Project!

That's right, with the kind permission of Their Excellencies Jared and Brid, the Darkwood Siege Team has been formed, and our first order of business is to build. We intend to build a ballista. We might even build two. We intend to build an Imperial Buttload of ammunition for it (can't do metric because it hasn't been invented yet). But alas, we need your help. And here's how you can do it! Just click on the link, check it all out and give! You will be rewarded!

[Darkwood Ballista Project](#)





West Kingdom 2016

Arts & Sciences

&

Wooden Spoon

Competitions

Kingdom Arts & Sciences Competitions

Beltane—May

Practical Science: Household Goods—Wall Decorations

Technical Science: Metal Work—Buckles and Clasps

Fine Arts: Clothing—Period Underclothes

Performing Arts: Original Performance—About the Year to Come

Arts & Sciences Tourney—June

Practical Science: Cooking—Something to keep hydrated

Technical Science: Leatherwork—Leather that holds something

Fine Arts: Needlework—Resembles plants

Performance Arts: Original Recitation—A story about art

Practical Science: Weaving for Clothes

Fine Art: Painting with Oils

Performance Arts: A Monologue

Technical Science: Something that can hold water

Purgatorio—August

Practical Science: Brewing—Basic Mead

Technical Science: Glasswork—can be worn as jewelry

Fine Arts: Calligraphy—sacred texts

Performance Arts: Physical Performance—Performance with a prop

Wooden Spoon Competitions

Well, since Beltane next year is Golden Beltane, the theme will be colors. Wooden Spoon entries should be period food that is primarily the color chosen for the competition. The food can be a particular color because of the ingredients and/or because you've used period coloring agents.

March Crown: White food

Beltane: Gold/Yellow food

June Crown: Green food

Purgatorio: Red food

October Crown: Blue/Purple food

Compeat Anachronist #109 is all about period food colorings, if you're looking for a place to start.



Principality of the Mists 2016

Arts & Sciences

&

Silver Spoon

Competitions

Mists Arts & Sciences Competitions

Spring Coronet—April

Practical Science - Pouches, any time/place/media

Technical Science - Tools - metal, bone, etc

Spring Investiture—May

Performing Arts - an original poem (this means written by you) in a period style. any time/place.

Performing Arts - an original song (this means written by you) in a period style. any time/place.

Fall Coronet—September

Practical Science - a savory dish. Feel free to make extra for the Princess' tea/bash/extravaganza/symposium

Technical science: Headgear - any media/time/place. Fabric, metal, leather. If you wear it on your head, it qualifies.

Fall Investiture—November

Fine Art: Something that can be worn on an arm or hand, any media/time/place. Rings, gloves, bracers, sleeves, favors. If I don't get any entries for this, I'll be very disappointed!

Fine art - Something painted - judging the paint here, not the object.

Additionally, I'll have display tables at every event. Show us what you've finished, what you're working on, etc. This is a great chance to lure in new people. Once they see the cool stuff we have or can make it's easy to start up a conversation with them, and get them excited about joining us.

Silver Spoon Competitions

Spring Coronet—April

Foods served in lenten times.

Spring Investiture—May

Things made with Almonds.

Fall Coronet—September

ANYTHING from Scapi (Margaret Graham will be carrying a copy of Scapi to all events I attend for reference).

Fall Investiture—November

Things in Brine.

Courtesy and Etiquette

As your Baron and Baroness, we have made a point of encouraging Hospitality and Generosity in all things within this great Barony of Darkwood. However, we would also encourage the noble behaviors of Courtesy which make eventing better for everyone...

-A person's camp is their home while at an event. If you have not been invited, please ask an occupant if you may enter. If there is no one there, do not enter unless it is an emergency. Do not use other people's camp spaces as roads or thoroughfares.

-Do not handle other people's things without permission. There is much Shiny! Most likely someone will be proud and happy to share and show off their Shiny. But ask first. And be courteous if your request is turned down.

-Be courteous in your address. "Milord" or "Milady" or "Fair Gentle" will always pass if you do not know what Excellency/Majesty/Highness/Grace/Sir/Master etc you may be speaking to. We are working on the assumption that we are all Nobility.

-Pay heed to the Herald's Calls. The "Oyez" of a Herald may be followed by anything from the current time, announcement of activities, calls for assistance or important event notices. Take a moment to be still and quiet and listen to the Heralds, they are volunteering their time and voices.

-"HOLD!" is the safe word for the entire SCA. If someone calls hold, it means that something potentially dangerous has or may happen. A fighter could be injured on the field, a vehicle could be moving, a tent pole could be coming down... if you hear HOLD, pause and survey your surroundings and do not proceed until you are sure the situation is clear. If you are on the field, a hold is released by the marshals, and courtesy would have you take a knee on the warfield, for the duration of the hold. Likewise, if you see a dangerous situation and cry "hold!" others will listen and stop.

-Blades should never be drawn or displayed in an aggressive fashion. We may have "live steel" (an actively edged weapon) for practical use or show, from a small carry knife to a greatsword. These should be safely sheathed (so that the blade is not bare, and cannot fall), and in certain situations peace-tied (bound so that it may not be removed from the sheath without deliberate effort). Weapons of estate, or those of an honor guard, may be bared at certain times at an event, but this is not permission for others. Loudly stating "clear!" is good form preceding drawing an edged weapon. Old fashioned courtesy dictated removing your steel before entering the presence of the Royalty in Court, if you are not a Knight.

-Respect Court. Attending official Court may not be your cup of tea. However, Court is a time and space to handle business, make announcements, honor awards and volunteers, etc, even if it may at times seem casual or humorous. Keep your conversation and distracting activity to a minimum. Even if what is going on in court is currently not important to you, it may be important to someone else, or be a new person's first experience of court and etiquette. If your camp or socializing space is neighboring the Court space, be mindful that those attending Court are there to pay attention to the business presented by the Royalty and Officers.

-The Word of an Officer is the Word of their Liege/Royalty. If a Herald is making a "call", pause your conversation and listen. If a Marshal is working a tournament or war do not interrupt their work or undermine them on the field, address issues respectfully and at an appropriate time.

-To assist in keeping a historical atmosphere, attempt whenever possible to hide modern items and amenities. Within your means, do your best to cover or conceal soda cans and plastic bottles, music players and computer devices, cell phones and cameras, ice chests and coolers. Work on accumulating period looking utensils, drinking vessels and containers, and dress. Everyone understands the need for eyeglasses, modern shoes, and that each person may be addressing the authenticity of their gear to the best of their means, as well as consideration of safety and hygiene.

-Always leave a site cleaner than you found it. Cleanliness of the site may determine whether a great space may be available to the Society again in the future.

-Offer to help. Someone may not need your help, but they will always appreciate the offer. Our group is driven by volunteers and service. The continuation of volunteer spirit is fueled by courtesy. Hospitality and assistance create good neighbors and good event experiences for the newest and oldest most jaded members of our Society, alike.

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Meetings – Every other month on the 2nd or 3rd Monday at 7pm, location varies (rotates between local groups). Contact the Seneschal or check FB or Yahoo Group for more information.

Fighter Practice – Location/date/time varies. Contact the Marshal for more information.

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Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm, 1190 7th Avenue, Santa Cruz (Yacht Harbor Manor Mobilehome Park Club House). Contact the Seneschal or check FB or Yahoo Group for more information.

Fighter Practice – Every Thursday from 6:30pm-9pm at the Galleria Parking Structure (River & Front Street) in downtown Santa Cruz on the top floor. More information on the Facebook page – CaerDarth Fighter Practice

Canton of Hawk's Haven

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Yahoo Groups – HawksHaven

Meetings – 1st Monday of every month, location varies. Contact the Seneschal or check FB or Yahoo Group for more information.

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Business Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7pm Contact the Seneschal for location.

A&S Meeting/Project Night – 4th Tuesday of every month, 7pm Contact the Seneschal for location.

Fighter Practice – Contact the Seneschal for time and location.

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Website- <http://medievalslugs.herokuapp.com/#/> (under construction)

Meetings – Only held during UC Santa Cruz school term. Location/date/time varies. Contact Seneschal or check FB for more information.