



THE PLUME

THE BARONY OF NAMRON • FEBRUARY 2024



Valencia

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NEWS FROM BARONESS AND BARONESS EMMA AND ISABELLA

Hello Barony,

We hope you're all doing well! We wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude for the extraordinary Barony that you are. Thank you so much for the support you've given us so far, and we're excited about the support we know we'll receive in the future.

Spring is upon us, presenting an extraordinary opportunity for all of us to truly shine. For the Barony, Gulf Wars is coming up and we will be traveling to support the kingdom and represent you all. If any of you are planning to attend, please make sure you are pre-registering with Ansteorra - Namron. Also, please consider joining the Facebook group - Namron Goes to Gulf Wars XXXII. You will find a camping form posted within that you'll need to fill out. We are still looking for some assistance with transporting Baronial items to and from Mississippi, as well as help with camp cooking and chores. There's a sign-up form available on the Facebook group as well.

Next up is Medieval Fair, and as you all know, it takes a village to make these events a success for all three days. If anyone is available to assist in any way, please kindly let Mistress Kyna know. We truly believe that many hands make light work.

Beltane is also on the horizon and we're excited about what is planned. It will be held at a brand new site just outside of Stillwater, and it promises to be an incredible experience. We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating the traditions of Beltane, along with some exciting new additions.

Outside of the Barony, we wanted to share some upcoming events that might be of interest to you:

- February 23rd-25th: Bjornsborg's Battle of the Beasts
- April 13th: Coronation
- April 19th-21st: Wiesenfeuer Baronial
- April 27th: Another Day in the Park
- May 11th: Queen's Champion
- May 17th-19th: Northkeep's Castellan
- May 24th-27th: Steppes Warlord

Thank you once again for being a part of this journey with us. We truly appreciate every one of you. We cannot wait to forge stronger connections, get to know you all on a deeper level, and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you as we work tirelessly toward our shared vision.

In Service,
Emma and Isabella

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE EXCHEQUER

Greetings Namron,

Wow has it been a year. We have gotten a lot accomplished financially this last year.

I want to start by giving a great big THANK YOU to you, the populace, for supporting me these last 2 years in this position. As many of you know my office has been open to application for a few months now as I have reached my 2 years in office in January. Thank you to all who helped with a gate shift at an event and to those who answered my many paperwork questions I had to begin this journey. I truly appreciated all of your advice.

Currently we have 1 application and 1 interested that have taken the Round Table classes as of the writing of this missive. I am hoping to be able to make the announcement soon about who my successor will be once I am advised.

We were able to get the new canvas, agreed upon in December's populace meeting, ordered for a bit less than anticipated and await delivery. 2024 Financial policy was finalized at the beginning of January with a few wording changes in areas that needed to be updated and new budget approved for 2024.

If anyone wants to view those, or has any questions, I can provide them any time as well as the books and am working on getting the updated policy on to the website. The next few months will be transitioning and training the new treasurer in time for the eventing season.

In Service to the Dream,
Lady Sibeal inghean ni Suilleabhain
Mka
Kathy Shatley

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE MINISTER OF CHILDREN

Hello, wonderful community of Namron!

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the support you have shown me during my time as your Minister of Children. As I transition into the role of your baroness, I find myself reflecting on the incredible experiences I've had working with so many amazing families and children. I truly believe that we have a bright future ahead of us in the SCA and here in Namron, especially when it comes to nurturing and empowering our youth. I am genuinely excited to see all the new opportunities and experiences that unfold.

Rest assured, we won't be leaving this important position vacant for long. We have capable individuals serving as MOCs at Large who are ready and willing to step in as needed for future events. I am also eagerly anticipating the emergence of our new Youth and Family Officer. Yes, you heard it right! We have a new title and handbook that better represents the diverse range of activities and services we offer. Starting from the Winter Roundtable on January 20th, the Ministry of Children will now be known as the Youth and Family Office. Its primary objective is as follows:

"Empowering young learners: Led by passionate Youth Officers who act as mentors and facilitators, the Youth and Family Office provides a platform for young minds to thrive. These dedicated individuals are not simply babysitters but skilled educators who curate age-appropriate activities that nurture a love for learning and equip children with valuable skills for participation and leadership within the SCA."

If you are interested in learning more about the Youth and Family Office and/or applying for the baronial office position, please feel free to contact me. I would be more than happy to assist you!

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your love and support.

Warm regards,

Emma O'Ruairc
Namron Youth and Family Officer

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE MINISTER OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Greetings good Gentles! Mondays we will have open A&S from 6-8pm at the Indian Hills location. We currently do not have a class scheduled this month, but keep an eye on the emailing list and the baronial facebook for any changes to our normal schedule.

YIS,
Halldóra Hrafnisdóttir
MoAS Namron

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE THROWN WEAPONS MARSHALL

Hello and Salutations from the office of The Thrown Weapons Marshall. Lets discuss the month of January, we unfortunately had to cancel our first practice due to the extreme cold. We had another at the end pf the month. Febuary practices will be held on 2-11-24 and 2-25-24. I hope to see more people at our practices and would love to hear feedback, feel free to email me at Throw-weapons@namron.ansteoera.org.

For this month I want to start in with some hiatorical references into our favorite thrown weapons category, axes.

Francisca is our axe for this month, this article is sited below.

The francisca (or francesca) was a throwing axe used as a weapon during the Early Middle Ages by the Franks, among whom it was a characteristic national weapon at the time of the Merovingians (about 500 to 750 AD). It is known to have been used during the reign

of Charlemagne (768-814).[1] Although generally associated with the Franks, it was also used by other Germanic peoples of the period, including the Anglo-Saxons; several examples have been found in England.

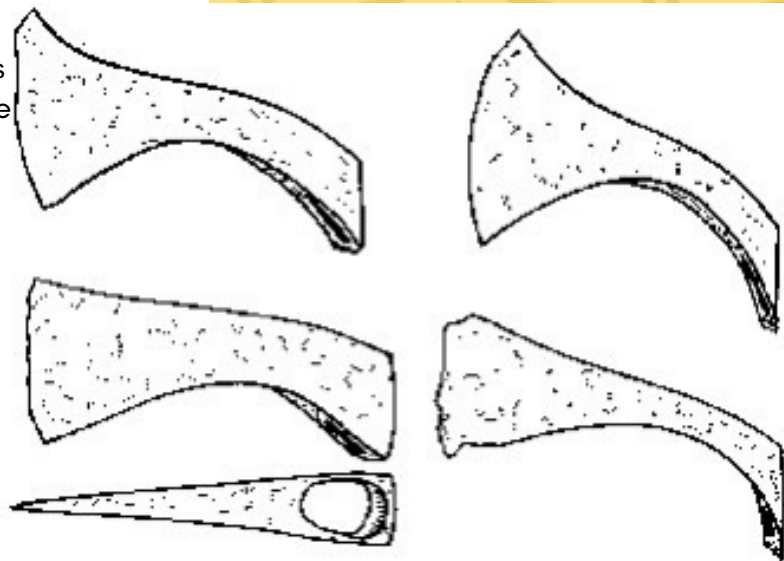
Etymology

The term francisca first appeared in the book *Etymologiarum sive originum, libri XVIII* by Isidore of Seville (c. 560-636) as a name used in Hispania to refer to these weapons "because of their use by the Franks".

The historian Gregory of Tours (c. 538-594) in

his *History of the Franks* uses two Latin terms for the Frankish axe: *securis* and *bipennis*.

The régime of Vichy France used the image of a stylised double-headed francisque as part of its iconography (compare fasces).



Different types of Francisca heads

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE THROWN WEAPONS MARSHALL



Francisca with shaft

Etymology

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Description

The francisca is characterized by its distinctly arch-shaped head, widening toward the cutting edge and terminating in a prominent point at both the upper and lower corners. The top of the head is usually either S-shaped or convex with the lower portion curving inward and forming an elbow with the short wooden haft. Sometimes the head is more upswept, forming a wider angle with the haft. Most franciscas have a round or teardrop-shaped eye designed to fit the tapered haft, similar to Viking axes. Based on the measurements of modern replicas, the francisca had a haft length of around 40-45 cm (16-18 in) and a 10 cm (4 in) cutting edge with an average weight of around 600 g (21 oz, 1.3 lb). Based on the surviving heads of franciscas recovered at Burgh Castle and Morning Thorpe in county Norfolk, England, the length of the head itself measured 14-

15 cm (5-6 in) from the edge to the back of the socket.

OFFICER NEWS

FROM THE THROWN WEAPONS MARSHALL

Use

The Byzantine historian Procopius (c. 500-565) described the Franks and their use of throwing axes:

...each man carried a sword and shield and an axe. Now the iron head of this weapon was thick and exceedingly sharp on both sides while the wooden handle was very short. And they are accustomed always to throw these axes at one signal in the first charge and thus shatter the shields of the enemy and kill the men.

Procopius makes it clear that the Franks threw their axes immediately before hand-to-hand combat with the purpose of breaking shields and disrupting the enemy line while possibly wounding or killing an enemy warrior. The weight of the head and length of the haft would allow the axe to be thrown with considerable momentum to an effective range of about 12 m (40 ft). Even if the edge of the blade were not to strike the target, the weight of the iron head could cause injury. The francisca also had a psychological effect, in that, on the throwing of the

francisca, the enemy might turn and run in the fear that another volley was coming.

Some sources, strangely, describe the Francisca as both the "main weapons" of the Frankish infantry around the time of Clovis. These sources also describe the Francisca as being a fierce melee weapon.

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisca>

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Activities

Middle Eastern Drumming

February 13, 2024 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Class/practice is held in Blanchard. All experience levels are welcome! Please contact Baroness Dominique for address and additional details: thunderdomi.as@gmail.com

Middle Eastern Dance Class

February 6, 2024 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. 2275 E. Sooner Rd. Blanchard, OK Middle Eastern Dance class/Practice is held in Blanchard. All experience levels are welcome!

Please contact Baroness Dominique for additional details: thunderdomi.as@gmail.com

Youth Rapier Practice

Wednesdays, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Southern Oaks Recreation Center, 6818 S Walker Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73109, USA Steel weapons combat is an SCA form of combat used toward the end of the Middle Ages. Loaner gear is available and youth ages 6-17 may attend. Possible changes and cancellations may happen due to severe weather. Updates are announced on the Baronial mailing list.

Rapier (Fencing) Practice

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Southern Oaks Recreation Center, 6818 S Walker Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73109, USA Joint, indoor practice with the Barony of Wiesenfeuer. Steel weapons combat is an SCA form of combat used toward the end of the Middle Ages. Loaner gear is available.



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Activities

Possible changes and cancellations may happen due to severe weather. Updates are announced on the Baronial mailing list (<http://lists.ansteorra.org/listinfo.cgi/namron-ansteorra.org>). Combat scenarios range from 1:1 tourney style up to 600 vs 600 war melees! Check out the event ad and/or website to see what type of fighting scenarios are being done at the event so you are ready. (Typically is 1:1 tourney style unless it is a war or melee event) For more information, contact the Baronial Rapier officer, whose information can be found on the officers page



Armored (Rattan) Combat Practice

Updates are announced on the Baronial mailing list (<http://lists.ansteorra.org/listinfo.cgi/namron-ansteorra.org>). For more information, contact the Baronial Knight's Marshal (Armored Combat) officer, whose information can be found on the officers page

(<https://ansteorra.org/namron/officers/>) Armored (Rattan) Combat practice is held indoors every Wednesday, combined with the Barony of Wiesenfeuer.

Updates are announced on the Baronial mailing list (<http://lists.ansteorra.org/listinfo.cgi/namron-ansteorra.org>). For more information, contact the Baronial Knight's Marshal (Armored Combat) officer, whose information can be found on the officers page (<https://ansteorra.org/namron/officers/>).

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Activities

Monthly Populace Meeting.

February 1, 2024 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM The Depot, 200 S Jones Ave, Norman, OK 73069.

Come join us to find out what exciting things are coming for the Barony of Namron!

Target Archery & Thrown Weapons Practice

February 11, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 4200 E Franklin Rd, Norman, OK 73026, USA

Target Archery and Thrown Weapons Practice is BACK!

We have loaner equipment available, and trained Marshals to teach you if you're new! Please wear closed toe shoes, and tie back long hair. Youth ages 6+ are welcome to participate with a parent or guardian present.

Please check the Barony of Namron Facebook Group for updates in the event of inclement weather



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Activities

Arts and Science Class

February 19, 26. 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM 103 W Acres St, Norman, OK 73069, USA, Lowery Room in the Central Library

Open A&S will be held weekly on Mondays (except for holidays and immediately before and after any holidays) alongside any planned classes. Expect 1 class per month and 1 scribal night per month within these Mondays. Specific schedule pending. There will always be room for open A&S work alongside any planned classes and scribal nights. Come by and check it out. Find more up to date information on the class for this month on the Facebook page.

Calligraphy and Illumination

February 20, and 27. 6:45 PM - 8:15 PM

Firestorm Ink (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/116467718388381>) is a Scribal Guild made up of members from both the Barony of Namron and the Barony of Wiesenfeuer who focus on creating the best quality of workmanship when it comes to Baronial, Principality and Kingdom wide scrolls and charters. Members participate in various levels of painting, design, white-working, and creating originals that are awarded to deserving participants within the SCA. All works are historically based and researched to assure their accuracy in not only the style, but the colors utilized to create such a beautiful document.

Meetings are held virtually except the first Tuesday of the month.

Firestorm Ink meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Natural Grocers: 2120 SW 89th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73159 from 6:45 to 8:15pm

Monthly Business Meeting.

February 15, 2023 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Virtual. The Barony of Namron Business Meeting will be held via Google Meet. Please check Facebook or the email list for details.

All members of the populace are welcome.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Kingdom Events

Bjornsborg Battle of the Beasts

Feb 23-25 2220 FM 466, Sequin TX 78155

Viking Raid

Feb 23-25 - CANCELED

Sherwood Forest Faire demo

Mar 02-03 - every Saturday and Sunday between 3/2 - 4/21
1883 old Hwy 20 McDade Tx 78650



BIDS AND REGISTRATIONS

Throne Bids: The Barony of Namron is accepting bids for a matching pair of Baronial thrones. The thrones should pack flat for transport, be unique in design, and have some sort of visual representation of Namron.

Please send your bids, with design proposal and cost estimate, to the following:

treasurer@namron.ansteorra.org
seneschal@namron.ansteorra.org
baron@namron.ansteorra.org
baroness@namron.ansteorra.org

Thank you!



BARONIAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Social Media Officer

Youth Armored
Combat Marshal



Diversity, Equity, and
Inclusion Officer

Youth Rapier Marshal



Treasurer

Siege Weapons Marshal



Silent Heraldry
Coordinator

Equestrian Marshal



The above officer positions are available. If you would like to take the lead in promoting these activities in our Barony, please complete the application at:

<https://ansteorra.org/seneschal/apply-for-an-office/>

BARONIAL WISH LIST



Simple drawstring bags for storing rolled banners, black or gold (2) 10"x54"; (3) 10"x24"; (1) 8"x45" when laid flat

Painted PVC tubes for banner transport

Namron belt sashes

Feast gear for newcomers (dinner plates, bowls, utensils, mugs/goblets; break-resistant materials are welcomed for our younger members)

Table runners to hang from back to front at Their Excellencies' place settings; gold with baronial arms on the front section preferred (Don't sew, but would like to help with this? Donations of durable and washable fabric would be a great boon!)

Hard-shell knee and elbow pads for Youth Armored Combat

Four embroidered napkins for baronial feast gear

Largesse (matching sets of 12 are especially useful, but all largesse is wonderful)

Embroidered Memorial Banner Project

We have a list of names. Next, we need someone/s to research devices. This is a daunting task, so multiple participants would be ideal. Once that is completed (as much as it's possible), we will be in need of artisans to embroider the devices.

OFFICER DIRECTORY



Landed Nobility

Baronessa and Baroness of Namron
Lady and Lady of Skorragnarðr

Baronessa Isabella Coppola, [email](#)
(580) 504-4919

Baroness Emma O'Ruairc, [email](#)
(405) 227-0207
(no calls after 10PM for either, except in
emergency)

Baronessa Isabella



Baroness Emma





Seneschal
Local Branch Business Manager
Halldóra Hrafnisdóttir
Hunter Higdon
seneschal@namron.ansteorra.org



Treasurer
Oversees and documents local branch finances.
Sibeal Inghean ni Suilleabhain
Kathy Shatley
treasurer@namron.ansteorra.org



Quartermaster
Oversees Baronial inventory.
Seren of Namron
Stephanie Ilaoa
quartermaster@namron.ansteorra.org



Sable Storm Pursuivant Herald
Personal Heraldry and Vocal Heraldry
Sævarr Maní
Nicholas Southwood
herald@namron.ansteorra.org



Knight's Marshal
Oversees practices and safety for combatants using sword and shield.
Centurion Flynn Alreksson
marshall@namron.ansteorra.org



Rapier Marshal
Oversees practices and safety for rapier combatants.
Thaddeus Starr
rapier@namron.ansteorra.org



Target Archery Marshal
Oversees practices and safety for target archers.
Aillenn Bean Ui Maille
archery@namron.ansteorra.org



Thrown Weapons Marshal
Oversees practices and safety for thrown weapons:
knife, axe, and spear.
Lord Deinis O'Maille
thrown-weapons@namron.ansteorra.org



Minister of Arts and Sciences
Promotes and supports the study and practice of
medieval arts and sciences.
Halldóra Hrafnisdottir
Hunter Higdon
moas@namron.ansteorra.org



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Newcomer Resources and Education
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Webminister
Local Branch Website Development and Maintenance
Lord Xavier William Terrant
webminister@namron.ansteorra.org



Minister of Children
Educational Programming for Youth, Ages 6-17. Background
Check Required.
Emma O'Ruairc
Sherri Cornelius
moc@namron.ansteorra.org



This is the February 2024 issue of The Plume, a publication of The Barony of Namron of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Incorporated (SCA., Inc). The Plume is available from seneschalenamron.ansteorra.org. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Incorporated, and does not delineate SCA policies. Copyright © 2023 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting articles and artwork from this publication, please contact the editor, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

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