



The Blue Strand



Barony of Krae Glas

Sense of Purpose

Issue 2012-2- February

From the Baron and Baroness

Unto the populace of Krae Glas do Baron Cormac and Baroness Elspeth send greetings,

This missive leaves our desk before the month is over, but already it has been a busy month. We acted as caretaker B&B for the Barony of Stormhold's Monthly Bash. Although unfortunately we fell victim to the "land bond" there. This means that if ever the Barony changes hands, those taking over have awful weather. A snapped sunshade pole is testament to nature's suspicion of our presence, but the warmth of Stormhold's welcome more than made up for it. Congratulations to Lord Theophilus of Krae Glas who emerged victorious on that day.

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We also had the fourth of our Summer Twilight Tourney series, in the familiar setting of the Oak Grove. It was very much a return to the origins for Twilight Tourney, with House Woodrose hosting the event once again. This time around the weather was more obliging, even if the lamp which usually lights our evening there was not.

We will shortly be heading to Border War in Bordescros to convince the so-called Warden of the South that any attempt to exert his will on the Southern region is ill advised. Should he attempt to exert his will by force, he will surely fail, for our host is greater in number, our warriors more resilient and our beards more bristling.

We hope you have all had an enjoyable February and hope to see you soon at the Final of the Summer Twilight Tourney series and at the "Pirates of the Aegean" feast.

Yours with purpose, Cormac and Elspeth.

From the Chronicler

Greetings, one and all, and welcome again to The Blue Strand.

Once again we have had a busy month. Our Baron and Baroness have travelled far, taking many citizens with them. Krae Glas and the fighting force have become known throughout the kingdom. From our fair neighbour of Stormhold, to the war mongers of the north, all have learned that our fighters, fencers, archers and even our banner bearers are a force to be reckoned with.

This issue covers some of our adventures beyond our borders. It also has some articles from some very special people. Please take note of them.

So, without further ado, I give you the Second edition of The Blue Strand for 2012.

YiS
Veronica Bellini
Krae Glas Chronicler

In Court - Events

Hosting Stormhold's Monthly Bash

Our Baron and Baroness were very honoured to be asked to host for Stormhold's monthly bash.

Alas the weather did not agree. Stormhold's bond with the land remained strong. First the heavens did open and a great torrent of rain fell upon the revellers.

This not being enough to discourage Krae Glas from assisting Stormhold, the land then blew up a great wind. It stole hats and veils, but not contented with this the wind did blow so strong that trees bowed to its might. Tent poles were snapped, but Krae Glas would not be swayed. The Monthly bash did continue regardless of the forces the land threw at them. In the end our own strength Theophilus Balsamon won the day.

Our Baron, Baroness and victorious fighters did return to our fair-weathered borders to tell their tale, and bask in the sunshine, as our land welcomed them back to where they belonged.

Twilight Tournament - Fourth Round.

The Silk Road caravan rolled into Turkey this month. Where it witnessed a great battle. For within a grove of oaks did stand the Saracens and Crusaders. Each fighter willing to stand shoulder to shoulder with their brother to quell their foe.

In other words, it was a melee styled tournament. It was almost an expected win for Gib Purchase, and he did not disappoint. He walked away with another victory under his belt, and looks to be the new Baronial Champion, come the end of round 5.

Round 4

Turkey - Saracens versus Crusaders

The winner - **Gib Purchase**

The current standings are as follows:

1st place - Gib, 2nd place - Cormac, 3rd place - Zhou

Twilight Tournament A&S round 4

We are almost to the end of the series. Turkey gave us some interesting tastes and sights. This strange land is filled with wonders. The food, even which not entered into local competitions, was exotic and wondrous to behold.

The entertainment was quite varied. Ranging from amusing antidotes about a snake called Nate, to a dark rendition all the way from Babylon. The winner was a very detailed description of a raving mad man.

A&S winners:

The latest people to be awarded for their A&S efforts are as follows:

Cooking Miguel Rodriguez de Santiago

Entertainment Leif Magnusson

Art Miriam Staples

Currently Lady Clara is leading in the Cooking and Leif Magnusson is leading in the Entertainment. At this late stage there is still no clear winner in the Art. Venice will be the decider for this.

Border War XIV

The war began with a bang. Both friend and foe alike dove for cover as the explosion ripped across the peaceful morning.

When the dust settled it was discovered the mighty double bellows that were being used to smelt metal had been the cause. The fire belongs outside of the bellows, it seems.

The rest of the weekend went more to plan. The war was a sight to see. Our own Baroness has given a true account of what happened in this chronicle, so I shall speak not of war, but the life that occurred around it.

For those with less war-like tendencies there were crafts to make and banners to admire. The pagentry of the War was something of an amazing sight, as people waved the banner they supported, along with their own colours.

The food that was served was delicious and plentiful. Many of us sampling long after we were satisfied.

The company around the encampments was polite and even friendly. There was much laughter, drinking and merriment to be had.

Even in the quiet corners, there was embroidery and a book stall, which would have lightened the purse of many.

Despite the heat, the rain and the misunderstanding with Politocopolis, the weekend was very successful.

Being an account of the war fought on the Border, Anno Societatis XLVI

And so it was that the King gathered his forces and did battle against the Warden in the North and his dukes and companies.

And with the King came the Baronies of the South in all their strength. A great force and bold was Innilgard, with bright shields of white which held against all the might of the North. On the winds of storm came the mighty Drakkar of Stormhold, with their great banner flying proudly over the field. And young and fierce Krae Glas, newly come to the King's side, and their Baron's helm shone like a star.

Arrayed against them were the forces of the North, the Warden and the might of Politarchopolis. And with the Warden fought his Duke and the White Company, and power was in their hands, and a fell light was in their eyes.

So it was they met on the field of Bordescros, and long was the affray, and the sun beat down, and there was much torment. But from the South their rose a General, Yevan, and to him was given the marshalling of the King's army. Cunning were his plans, and bold, and the forces of the South prevailed on land and on sea. The might of the Warden was broken, and his army vanquished.

At the last, the King called upon the Baron of Innilgard for an arrow, and he shot it, but the arrow turned awry, and the Warden was not slain. And then the King called upon the Queen, and asked of her an arrow, and though her heart quailed within her, for she was the better shot, she gave it him, and he shot again. And this time the arrow flew true, and the Warden fell, pierced through the heart.

So it was, and it is true, for I was there and saw the proud banners flying, and the clash of arms, and heard the cries of the fallen. And I say to you, the flower of honor in the South fought that day, and we will tell our children, and their children after them, and we will not forget it.

Elspeth, Baroness Krae Glas

Krae Glas Younglings

Once again, the children of Krae Glas came to the fore at Twilight Tourney, giving us another wonderful and imaginative play. This time telling of the founding of Constantinople by Emperor Constantine. With wonderful acting and suitably dramatic death scenes, the play was met with great applause.

Young Peregrine of the house of Lwyd was also quite helpful in the graceful lowering of the banners in the feasting hall at Bordescros. After some deep consideration with Miguel de Santiago, it was decided that Peregrine should stand on Miguel's shoulders, rather than the other way around.

Special Report - Calibration

This eve, before you all take the field, I want to speak to you about calibration. The way we play this game calibration is core. We all want to feel like we're playing on the same, level, field. Calibration is core, obviously, to our scoring system, but just as importantly, if not more, it is key to our honour. And it's not just your honour as a combatant. It is the honour of your consort who, presumably, respects you and encourages you to do the right thing. It also reflects on the group. No-one wants to be known as the rhino-hiding group, nor do they want renown for hitting and taking excessively light. What we aim for is a standard that means that anyone can take the field against you and be confident that you will fall to a good strike, and be able to throw a good strike in return.

I see there being several types of calibration. The first is the obvious one. How hard do I have to hit you for you to take it? If, on a scale of 1-10 a blow of strength 5 is considered good I would attempt to throw all my blows at strength 6 or so. That leaves me room to ramp up if necessary, and minimises

the chance of injury or bruising. Take too hard, and you run the risk of cheating. There's no nice way, and nor should there be, of putting it. Shedding good blows is cheating. Also, many of us are capable of throwing our blows considerably heavier. It is grossly unfair to put your opponent in the position where, in order to defeat you, he runs the risk of injuring you. That's not fun. That's not how the game works.

The second form of calibration is your own consistency across your body. It is not acceptable to take legs heavier than bodies or heads, for instance. Your opponent has the right to expect that a blow of a given force will be called "good" no matter what the target. Naturally, the exception is face-plates, where less force is required. Saying that you can't feel blows because of your armour is no excuse. Either work out another set of metrics to determine what constitutes a good blow, or change/adjust your armour so that you can feel blows (feel, not be hurt by).

The third part of calibration is calibration according to your opponent. You do no-one honour by "going easy" on a new fighter, or in a sexist manner, a female opponent. If you're an authorised combatant on the field gender, sexual proclivity, race, religion or taste in music are irrelevant. Your opponent is just another combatant, no matter who they are, or what colour belt they wear. By treating all opponents equally you pay them all respect.

Fourthly, honour dictates that you maintain a steady standard of calibration no matter how deep you go into the tourney. The exception to this can be when two experienced fighters or knights tacitly agree to "up the stakes". But, even then, it should be a clean fight and not mire down into a slug fest. Part of the whole SCA combat is that you are also the entertainment, and no-one wants to watch two egos go at it.

Mistakes will happen. None of us are perfect, and sometimes we get a call wrong. If you do, admit it and talk about it. If you are in the least bit unhappy it does everyone good if you approach your opponent and discuss it. Build a community of communication so that on the fly check-ups are the norm. Call it if you think your blow was light, or flat, and then leave it to your opponent to decide. If people get used to talking about it as an everyday thing, then it no longer looms over us as some form of passive-aggressive spectre. Discuss, Compromise, forgive, and learn.

Finally, it's all about having fun. Being confident of everyone's calibration in a tourney relieves a lot of stress, and allows you to enjoy the simple beauty and dance that is a fair, well fought tourney. The bonus is that fun is contagious. Non-combatants will notice, and catch it. It's all about making honourable fun, and that is a keystone of our wonderful organisation.

YiS

Gwynfor Lwyd, OP, AugArms, OLM, OWL, OGS, PrF, Baron of the court of Lochac etc.

Minutiae and Hearsay

Minutiae

Lochac's Biggest Garage Sale

- Want to do something to help the SCA?
- Got stuff stashed away just in case it comes in useful?
- In need of some new armour/fabric/feasting gear/clothing?

For the purpose of the garage sale, we will be using William Castille's website SCA Classifieds. Go in, have a look in the Fundraising for Settlement section:

<http://scaclassifieds.griffin-dor.org/>

Start helping out. Bank details are yet to be released but will be advertised as soon as they are made available in both New Zealand and Australia.

May you grab a good bargain and thank you for your generosity.

Many of you will know about the settlement the SCA has made out of court in order to stop incurring ongoing legal fees. For those who do not, please read more about the settlement here:

<http://sca.org/BOD/announcements/settlementFAQ.pdf>

The proceeds are going to assist in this.

New Contacts for Officers

If you seek to contact an officer, there are some new e-mail addresses to use.

The new e-mail contacts are:

Seneschal: KG.Seneschal@gmail.com

Reeve: KraeG.Reeve@gmail.com

Chronicler: KG.Chronicler@gmail.com

Marshal: KraeG.Marshal@gmail.com

Herald: KraeG.Herald@gmail.com

Please update your address books to reflect these changes.

Hearsay

Rumours from the North:

There is a rumour that members of the south were too enthusiastic in the recent war. Word has reached us that certain clandestine persons were hired to carry out a dark deed, should the war go badly for the south. However as the war ended with a victorious south and the north forgiven, will the Assa... clandestine doings be recalled? Only time will tell.

Company of the Black Dolphin:

Members of this seafaring crew were seen to be assisting the might of the South in the battle against the North. Such assistance being by the blade and bow.

Rumours of a hidden motive are surely unfounded as their actions were being monitored at all times by several unimpeachable officers of the court.

Upcoming Events

The following are upcoming events. Please let the chronicler know of others you wish to add to this list.

Krae Glas:

Twilight tournaments

Venice - La Carnevale.
16th March 2012
6:00 pm
The Lemon Scented Lawns
Monash University

Competitions:

Food: seafood or Pasta dishes (Please note that one of the judges can only eat tuna and salmon in seafood and will defer to the other judge for any other seafood)

Entertainment: a pleasurable story or poem. - Which is suitable for children (Or parents forewarned of the content)

A&S - something to be worn or used for Carnevale, a mosaic or a painting on canvas

Fighting - The Tourney will be styled after rapier combat, in that a single handed sword and buckler are the armaments. The Round Robin is the style. Unless we have too many fighters, in which case we'll swap to a Double-Elim.

Pirates of the Aegean

11th of March 2012
1:00pm Rapier Tournament
6:00pm Feast
Oakleigh Hall,
142-144 Drummond Street, Oakleigh

Being given license by their Excellencies of Krae Glas, the Company of the Black Dolphin seeks a crew of *cough* like-minded *cough* individuals. So the Company of the Black Dolphin will hold a Rapier Tournament to test new recruits and elect by skill of the blade the Company's leader for the coming year.

This will be followed by a Feast at the Potted Porpoise Tavern. During the evening there will be a game of Pirates and Pick-Pockets, as two sinister groups attempt to recruit the populace to their nefarious deeds, while knocking each other off. There may also be an outbreak of dancing depending on the presence of musicians and people with feet.

There will be Arts and Sciences Competitions for

A Rapier legal off-hand device (weapon, buckler, or whatever), with bonus points for back-story, novelty.

Best sea-worthy garb (piratical or otherwise).

Child-friendly Tavern Songs.

Tavern Drink (Brewed, mulled, or cordial).

Bookings to the Event Steward, Yves de Lyle (yvesdelyle@gmail.com or 0431621562).

Suth Moot IV

6th – 9th April 2012

The lands of the southern part of the Kingdom of Lochac (the sinister part thereof) welcome you to attend Suth Moot.

Suth Moot is a low-key, family friendly, relaxed event that we hope will offer those who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity over the long Easter break to do medieval stuff. Knowing, as we do, that other Living History events are also geographically remote, we also invite members of those groups to attend.

With a full children's activities stream, Arts & Sciences Collegia & workshops, Archery, Guild of Defence and Heavy Combat streams all tastes are catered for in a convivial and comfortable environment offering period camping, modern camping, cabins and day tripping.

Cost:

(Not including cabin accommodation)

\$60 until 25th March 2012, \$70 after and at the gate, \$20 day rate

\$2 must be paid by all non SCA annual financial members.

Additional information, including the booking form can be found via Emailing KraeG.Reeve@gmail.com or auntienic@gmail.com

Beyond our fair borders:

The Third Chess Challenge

March 17th, 2012

Address: Harleston Park, Seymour Rd, Elsternwick VIC 3185.

Times: 2-6pm

Cost: Members and Newcomers \$6, non-members \$8, children \$2.

Please book but payment can be made on the day.

Email miriam.staples@gmail.com to book.

Rowany Festival 2012

6th – 9th April 2012

Bookings have to close on MARCH 1, 2012

For more information, visit the attendance booking web page:

http://festival.lochac.sca.org/?page_id=65

For more information, contact Sorle Maknicoll sorle.sca@gmail.com

May Crown

11th – 13th May 2012

From 12th Night till Easter Members \$75, Non members \$80

From Easter, gate prices apply \$80 and \$85. Dorm accommodation is available at an extra \$30 per head.

The event is a fully catered camping event at Camp Kurrajung Scout Camp Oura Rd Wagga Wagga NSW

Bookings can be made via Sir Jon Dai at s.davis_1969@hotmail.com

30 Year Anniversary

16th of June, 2012

30 years ago, the SCA Lochac had its first event in Campsie, Sydney.

There are more details to come regarding the anniversary, so save the date. It will be held in a venue in Sydney.

Regular Events

Rapier Practice & Capstone Training Every Thursday 7:45 – 10:00 PM
 Fairhills High School, 330 Scoresby Road,
 Knoxfield, Victoria Australia 3180

Dance Practice Every Friday 6:00 – 8:00 PM
 Central 1 lecture theatre foyer,
 Building 63, Monash University

Archery (target and basic combat) Every Friday from 7:00 PM
 Lemon Scented Lawns
 Near Central 1 lecture theatre foyer,
 Building 63, Monash University

Fighter Training Every Friday from 8:00 PM
 Central 1 lecture theatre foyer,
 Building 63, Monash University

Early Music Instrumental/Vocal Group Every Friday from 6:00 PM
 Central 1 lecture theatre foyer,
 Building 63, Monash University

Monthly planning Meeting 2nd Saturday Mthly 12:30 - 1:30 PM
 Magnolia St, Doveton

Monthly Crafhall 2nd Saturday Mthly 1:30 – 7:00 PM
 Magnolia St, Doveton

'Bash and 'Broidery 4th Saturday Mthly 2:00 – 5:00 PM
 9 Cypress ct, Cranbourne North



[Click here for the link to the Calendar](#)

Baronial Awards

Apollo Dolphinus

There are three variations, Martial, A&S and Service.

This award recognises someone who has excelled in one of the above areas.

They don't need to be the best fighter, but it could be someone who has assisted with lists or promoted fighting, as an example.

The symbol of the order is a Dolphin haurient, with a red, green or blue stone dependant. Red symbolises martial, green symbolises A&S and blue is for service endeavours.

Recipients:

Gwynfor (Martial)	27/08/2011
Paul de Ville (Arts and Science)	16/11/2011
Yves de Lyle (Service)	13/01/2012
Martyn Fairchild (Service)	13/01/2012

Baroness Cypher

These are awarded to individuals who have come to the Baroness' attention, and are small tokens of varying types - such as buttons and teasels.

Recipients:

Baron's Cypher		
Auðun inn illi	27/08/2011	Token - ring
Baroness' Cypher		
Celsa	27/08/2011	Token - button
Envoy to Politocopolis		
Adrian Neggastein	27/08/2011	Token - two pronged fork

Baronial Endorsement:

The Baronial Endorsement was created by Cormac and Elspeth to recognise those who have enriched the Barony of Krae Glas through their actions and their sense of purpose.

The symbol of the Krae Glas Baronial Endorsement is two dolphins endorsed.

Recipients:

Theophilus Balsamon	27/08/2011
Veronica Bellini	20/11/2011

Baronial Spurtle

The Baroness wished to recognise those who have helped the Barony in the culinary fields - whether it is by preparing, cooking, serving or helping in the kitchens.

The symbol is a small silver spoon.

Recipients:

Gwir verch Madog	27/08/2011
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Contacts

The Baron and Baroness of Krae Glas

Baron Cormac Lenihan and Baroness Elspeth Caerwent (Conrad and Cathy Leviston)

The baron and Baroness administer the lands and people of Krae Glas on behalf of the kind and queen of Lochac. They ensure that Krae Glas contributes to the nobility of Lochac, and recognize good work within Krae Glas, be it martial, in the arts and sciences, or in service.

Email: [Baron and Baroness](#)

Seneschal

Martyn Fairchild of Grenhamerton (Andrew Bennett)

Ph: 0404 927 395

Email: [Seneschal](#)

As in medieval times, the Seneschal is the head of the group who handles the day-to-day affairs and manages the other Officers. A mundane equivalent is President.

Reeve

Nicolette Dufay (Lillian Johnston)

Ph: 0413 518 151

Email: [Reeve](#)

The Reeve handles the financial aspects of the group, including maintaining the books and bank accounts. The mundane equivalent is a Treasurer.

Chronicler

Veronica Bellini (Monica James)

Email: [Chronicler](#)

The Chronicler records the history of the Barony and distributes it for the known world to read.

Marshal

Leif Magnusson (Matt Curran)

Ph: 0400 669 459

Email: [Marshal](#)

The Marshal is responsible for encouraging Martial activities within the group. They ensure that fighters are safe on the field as well as inspecting and authorising new fighters. They coordinate Heavy, Rapier, Combat Archery and Target Archery.

Group Rapier Marshal

Seigfried of Capstone

Email: [Seigfried](#)

Coordinates and encourages rapier combat within the group.

Arts and Sciences

Clara Luther (Kath Langmead)

Email: [Arts and Sciences](#)

Encourages the pursuit of any arts and sciences through classes, workshops, informal gatherings and competitions.

Herald

Tomasia Mariano (Hannah Langmead)

Email: [Herald](#)

Coordinates the running of Heraldic activities for the group, including registration of names and devices, performing voice heraldry during events such as court, and on the field during tournaments.

Constable

Miguel de Santiago (Matt Armstrong)

Ph: 0409 300 193

Email: [Constable](#)

Responsible for site and event safety, indemnities/waivers and lost property.

Web Minister

Paul de la Ville (Paul Harrison)

Ph: 0405 462 362

Email: [Webwright](#)

Maintains the group's internet presence. This includes social networking sites, the mailing list and the main website. They also assist with moderation of the forums, form policy and create and maintain content for the site.

If you are interested in assisting with running Krae Glas, or want to know more about what an Officer does, then please contact the Seneschal so we can register your interest.