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Isabella of Axemoor
Brandy Decker

Vacant Offices

Minister of Children
Group Rapier Marshall
Chirurgeon

Baronial Website

www.axemoor.net/index.htm

Baronial E-list

Costumers Guild E-List

Bayou Tapestry

Barony of Axemoor



Hail to the Baron and Baroness Elect

Their Excellencies

Gellis and Brighida

July 2011

Greetings from the Chronicler of the Bayou Tapestry.

As some of you know I will be returning to the Pacific northwest at the end of July.

I have enjoyed my year here and I love this Barony. I will continue to do the BT In August so you should start thinking now if there is someone out there who can take over for the September issue.

Let the Baroness and Seneschal know if you are interested.

Regards,

Baroness Anastasia Alexandrovna Andreeva (OL)

Barony of Axemoor Bardic Champion

Barony of Axemoor Chronicler



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The Varangian Guard

The Varangians were the elite forces of the Byzantine army- much like the Praetorian Guard of ancient Rome or the Ottoman Janissaries. They were originally made up exclusively of Vikings (which the empire had been hiring as mercenaries since the 9th century), but after the Norman Conquest of England a rush of exiled Anglo-Saxons were added to the mix. By the 12th century there were so many English that it was commonly being referred to as the 'Anglo-Varangian' Guard. As the empire declined, the Varangians also fell on hard times. By the middle of the 14th century they had largely ceased to function and the last mention of them is in the first decade of the 15th century. They appeared relatively late in Byzantine history. In 988, the emperor Basil II, facing a serious revolt, asked the Viking prince of Kiev for some help. In exchange for an imperial bride, the prince sent along 6,000 warriors and Basil was so pleased by their effectiveness that he made them his permanent bodyguard. Their oaths were to him personally- a fact that the court was uncomfortably aware of- and they were housed in the Bucoleon Palace where they could keep an eye on things. Basil made sure they were given a generous salary and he called them 'Varangians'- literally 'men of the pledge'.



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From the Baron and Baroness

Greetings Axemoor,

We are in the middle of a heat wave here in the Deep South! It's definitely time to relax on the veranda with a cool, refreshing drink. (Make that in the A/C!)

First and foremost on the list this month is congratulations to our Heirs, Their Excellencies Gellis and Brigida. We look forward to turning over the coronets to them at Baronial Investiture in August. We know they will have a stellar reign and they will be counting on your help and support. Huzzah to the newest Baron and Baroness of Axemoor!

A warm welcome to our new members. We hope you find your a place in this Baronial Family. We are a close-knit and hard-working group of individuals. We welcome you. If you have questions about anything, please ask someone. We were all newbies once and know that it can be a bit overwhelming to take everything in at once. Baroness Alis will be having Newcomer's class later this month that will answer many of your questions and concerns. But until then, if there's anything you want to know...feel free to call Baroness Martha (985-223-3568.)

Our combined A&S/Costumer's Guild Meeting was a huge success. Thank you all for participating. And thanks to our hosts TE Gellis & Gida. It seems that Friday nights work for this group! Shall we continue this?

Although we had a great turnout for Garb and Grub, OI' Man Weather had other plans! G&G/Fighter Practice was called off when the nasty gnats showed up en masse! We'll try again next month.

For those of you who were not able to join us at Tegan & Dafydd's for 4th of July, you missed a great revel! There was much fun & fireworks! Many thanks to our hosts for opening their home & hearts. Thank you, Tegan & Dafydd, our dear friends.

We have much preparation for Baronial Investiture in the weeks ahead. Please give generously of your time and talents. (We know you always do...and don't really even have to ask.) We just want to make sure that this day is as special for our Heirs as it was for us. Remember, we will also be having our Live Weapons Championships during the day at Investiture as well, so get the word out to friends and neighbors.

Hopefully everyone has been practicing their calligraphy since the June A&S class. We need to fill our scroll case. We have a feeling we will be needing scrolls in the very near future!

As always, we thank each and every one of you for all your time, your commitment to this Barony, and for being the most amazing and wonderful populace in the known world

We remain yours always,

Charles and Martha

Baron and Baroness of Axemoor



With regard to the mask's deposition within the walls of a 16th-century building, the University of Southampton is currently researching such concealed items. The practice of placing a shoe was common in 16th- and 17th-century house building, as was the practice of concealing elaborate artifacts, or multiple associated artifacts, as 'witch deposits'.

The University of Southampton website: <http://www.concealedgarments.org> suggests: "These objects may have been concealed as a protective device to ward off evil and other maleficent forces or they may have been used as counter-magic to deflect a curse or other negative circumstance, such as illness or economic blight considered to be the consequence of malevolent spirits or witches, e.g. the use of witch bottles, charms and curses. The objects may also have been viewed as 'lucky things', perhaps heirlooms from an ancestor or from another person considered to be spiritually powerful and so they were perceived as lucky for the household. Or did builders constructing or altering a building or the householders themselves just want to leave their 'mark'?"

This is a find of note and has been designated: National importance

Date from: Circa AD 1500

Date to: Circa AD 1600

Dimensions and weight

Length: 195 mm

Width: 170 mm

Quantity: 2

Materials and construction

Primary material: Textile

Secondary material: Glass

Manufacture method: Hand made

Completeness: Complete **Spatial data**

Region: East Midlands

County: Northamptonshire

District: Daventry

To be known as: Daventry area

Method of discovery: Building work [scope notes]

General landuse: Other [scope notes]

Specific landuse: In use as a building [scope notes]

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 19th June 2010

Orange Custard

A frozen custard of orange, eggs, & honey

Original recipe from *Platina*:

Verzsum. Take the yolks of four fresh eggs, half an ounce of cinnamon, four ounces of sugar, a like amount of orange juice and rosewater, Blend this all together and when it has been reduced to one mass. you cook it in the same manner as we described for cooking saffron pottage... it cools the liver and checks the bile.

- Andrews, E.B. trans. *Platina. De Honestia Voluptatae. L. de Aguila. Venice, 1475. St. Louis: Mallinckrodt, 1967.*

Modern recipe:

Eggs	Milk	Rice Flour	Orange Water
Orange Pulp	Honey	Cinnamon	Saffron

In a bowl, whip the eggs until they are fluffy. Set aside. In a pan, heat the milk until it begins a slow boil. Stir constantly. To the milk, add the orange water, honey and cinnamon to taste. Next, crush the orange pulp and add to the milk mixture. Stir in the egg mixture and allow to thicken. Add rice flour, stirring constantly, if needed to hasten thickening. When thickened to about the consistency of creamy soup, take off the fire. Pour into bowls for chilling and cool immediately. It should thicken up nicely. If it does not do so, put back in the pan and repeatedly add rice flour until thick enough. If you have to add extra flour, make certain to add more spices and honey as the flavor will dilute some. Add saffron to color. When thoroughly chilled, scoop into dishes and serve.

- contributed by Michael Hobbes As found in the boke of gode cookery website

<http://www.godecookery.com/friends/frec34.htm>

Oranges (*Cetrona Id Est Narancia*)

Nature: The pulp is cold and humid in the third degree, the skin is dry and warm in the second.

Optimum: Those that are perfectly ripe.

Usefulness: Their candied skin is good for the stomach.

Dangers: They are difficult to digest.

Neutralization of the Dangers: Accompanied by the best wine.



From the Tacuinum of Rouen

This is a large Visard mask (also spelled 'vizard'), worn by gentlewomen in the 16th and possibly into the early 17th centuries.

The mask was found during the renovation of an inner wall of a 16th-century stone building. The wall was approximately four feet thick, and the mask was found concealed within the inner hard core of the wall, which consisted of soil, straw and horse hair (for insulation). The mask was folded in half, lengthways, and placed within a small rectangular niche behind the face of the wall. Due to the conditions when found, the mask has an amount of soil and straw adhering to one half. The opposite half still has the velvet material in relatively good condition, but is in need of some conservation to prevent further damage.

The mask is oval and measures 195mm in length and 170mm in width. The eyes are lentoid, 30mm wide and 15mm high. The mouth is 48mm wide, widening in the center to make a gap for the nose. The nose area is strengthened to stand out and form a case around the wearer's nose. The mask weighs 32.4g (although this weight is inaccurate, due to the amount of soil and straw adhering to one side).

The outer fabric is black velvet. The lining is silk. The inside is strengthened by a pressed-paper inner. The three layers are stitched together by a black cotton thread.

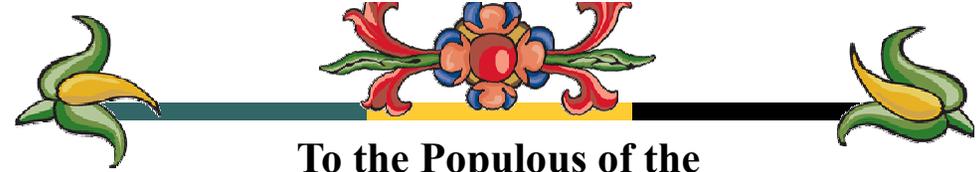
On the lining, just below the center of the mouth, is a loose thread of white cotton. This cotton would have held the black glass bead (found in association with the mask). The bead is 10mm in diameter and weighs 1.42g. There is some wear at the hole, which is 3mm in diameter. The black glass bead was used to hold the mask in place. With a lack of holes to allow string or elastic to be put around the head, the mask would have instead been held in place by the wearer holding the black bead in her mouth.

An excerpt from Phillip Stubbes *Anatomie of Abuses*, published in 1583, he wrote: "When they use to ride abroad, they have invisories, or masks, visors made of velvet, wherwith they cover all their faces, having holes made in them against their eyes, wherout they look. So that if a man, that knew not their guise before, should chaunce to meet one of them, he would think hee met a monster or a devil; for face hee can see none, but two brode holes against her eyes with glasses in them".

Another Elizabethan scholar, Randle Holme, wrote: "A mask . . . This is a thing that in former times Gentlewomen used to put over their Faces when they travel to keep them from Sun burning....Visard Mask, which covers the whole face, having holes for the eyes, a case for the nose, and a slit for the mouth, and to speak through; this kind of Mask is taken off and put in a moment of time, being only held in the Teeth by means of a round bead fastned on the inside over against the mouth." (taken from the website <http://www.houseffg.org/belpheobe/Research/Gloves%20and%20Muffs%20and%20Masks.pdf>).

These masks rarely survive. One parallel can be found at the Victoria and Albert Museum in the form of a 17th-century doll's mask, belonging to the collection of Lady Chapman. This example is almost identical to our mask. Another is held at Norwich Musuem, although their example is more crudely made than the one described here.

A Period Mask



To the Populous of the Barony of Axemoor,

The Financial committee has decided that the special fund titled trailer fund has remained dormant since its creation, back in 2006 when it was created. The creation of the trailer fund was to purchase a new trailer shortly after Hurricane Katrina had damaged the current trailer. The many members of the populous contributed money to this fund with the understanding that it was going to purchase a new trailer. The repairs on the trailer after Hurricane Katrina did not warrant the purchases of new trailer and due to the fact that a secondary reason for the funds was included in the setup of the trailer fund, these funds were not able to be transferred to Axemoors general funds account which is the account where we pay for most things i.e. events, baronial awards, etc. I have spoken with Mistress Crystina on how to handle this situation with the trailer fund account and then reported back to the Financial committee regarding how to handle the fund. It was voted on in December 2010 to use the funds to repair, replace and revamp anything that was necessary in the trailer, then after this was taken care of if any funds were left we would take and transfer those funds to the General Expense funds. This would not happen until after the populous was notified by e-group, Bayou Tapestry and in the Pop meetings and would run through the 2nd Quarter (April-May-June 2011), due to the fact that we had events each month of the 1st Quarter (Jan-Feb-Mar) and coronation in April.

If anyone has any questions, comments, suggestions or complaints as to what the funds are being used for and where the remaining funds will be transferred to the General Funds accounts, I ask that you please direct these to

THL Gillian la Dyer at apaleshadow@yahoo.com.

Gillian is the Seneschal and legal voice of the Barony of Axemoor. She will handle the concerns and before the funds are transferred over the financial committee will meet with Gillian and hear what was said to her.

All future special fund accounts will have a secondary area of dispersion which will be the General Fund. Example we have a fund for the new baronial sports chariot from Crazy Olaf's Carts and Saxon BBQ and we raise enough to purchase it plus more, the extra money will then go to the General fund, for it is in the general fund that the upkeep of the sports chariot is usually paid out of.

As of the close of the 1st Quarter of 2011 the amount in the trailer fund is \$877.45. This amount has been the same since 2006. Thank you for your time and again questions, comments, concerns or complaints please direct them to Gillian la Dyer, Seneschal of Barony of Axemoor

Thank you.

Lady Adalyde de Sardaigne, Order of the Axe,

Historian of the Barony of Axemoor

Exchequer

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July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5POP	6FP	7	8	9
10	11	12	13FP	14	15CG/As	16
17	18	19	20FP	21	22	23
24	25	26	27FP	28	29APA	30APA
31APA						

FP=
fighter
Practice

PM= Pop
Meeting

A&S=
Arts and
Sciences
Night

CG=
Cos-
tumers
Guild

GG=Garb
and Grub

APA=Ac
ademy of
perform-
ing arts

From Baroness Martha

I would like to thank all those individuals that went out and helped sort the pavilions that we borrowed for Coronation. It was a lot of work and you are much appreciated.

The 4th of July Blow-up at Dafydd and Tegan's was, as usual, a success! No one died, everyone was extremely well fed, and the company can not be beat.

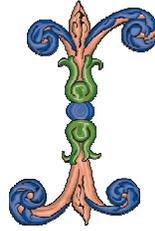
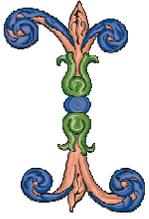
Barones Stasi says thanks for the alligator sausage!!

It is a fine thing to belong to the Barony of Axemoor.

Regards,

Baroness Martha Effingham of Stewerts Kepe





**ATTENTION ALL NEW MEMBERS!
FULL OF QUESTIONS? NOT SURE WHO TO
ASK?
JUST KEEP WONDERING WHO THAT PERSON
IS**

AND WHY ARE THEY DOING THAT?

Well, you're in luck! I will be holding a class strictly for new members who have joined the SCA within the last 12 months.

Get the answers to the questions that have been nagging you!

We will be discussing the basics and some details about the SCA.

Snacks and Refreshments will be served. Garb is not required.

A "Meet and Greet" with some old members of our Barony will follow the class.

Baroness Alis ingen Fhinn

Saturday, July 23, 2011

2 pm

(please arrive 10-15 min early as I will be starting promptly at 2pm)

650 Chalmette Street Harvey, LA 70058

All those new members who attend will receive a FREE gift and have their names put in the drawing for a brand new **KNOWN WORLD HANDBOOK!**

You are welcome to bring a friend with you, but I ask that you **PLEASE RSVP!**

(I will need a head count for the FREE gifts)

Baroness Alis

AMF101580@aol.com or

(504)512-7321 and please leave a message.

Thank you and I hope to see some new faces there!

The Barony of Axemoors Champions

Marshall Champion

Lord Settemio

Arts and Sciences Champion

THL Mikhail al Rashid

Bardic Champion

Baroness Stasi

Poet Laureate

Isabella of Axemoor

Archery Champion

THL Dafydd ap y Kynith

Thrown Weapons Champion

Lord Dennis

A&S Night May 10th 2011

Baroness Martha did an impromptu fibula making class and we had an herbal bead class taught by Baroness Stasi

Those in attendance: Martha, Stasi, HM Muirgan, Giada, Annette, Alis, Dale, Aroon, Gida, Gellis, Lance, Lillian, Adlyde, Rochelle, Aolfi,

