



# Baronial Shaft

A Publication of the Barony of al-Barran  
A Chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronisms

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## From the Baron and Baroness

Greetings beloved populace of al-Barran! This past month has been quite the adventure for us personally, but the love and support you have shown us, and particularly His Excellency, has been humbling, heartwarming, and truly life saving! Thank you everyone for your help!

Onward to events! Grand Outlandish Tournament is in a few short weeks! His Excellency (with the blessing of all healthcare providers) will be in full attendance and we are most excited to celebrate with friends old and new. Please read below for GOT details, paying particular attention to the fire warnings. And please attend the site clean up day on **May 11!**

In June, we will have the first of two Summerfest demos. This is a huge boost to the Barony's coffers as well as a great way to gain newcomers! But it is also a lot of work. We will need assistance with transporting items, setting up tents, creating an arts display, and of course lots and lots of FIGHTING! More information will be

coming soon, but please mark **June 15** on your calendar!

We would also like to welcome all of our new officers. Thank you for stepping up to serve your Barony and the populace. You truly are the heart of the Scorpion we call home! A few of our officers are in need of deputies--these are low responsibility positions that can give you a taste of what the office holds and allows you to give back to our community. If you're interested in any of the positions listed below, please reach out!

Yours in devoted service,  
Harduin, Baron    Gwenlyn, Baroness



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## Save The Date! Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events (more information linked if available):

May 4, 2024, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM - [Drygestan Defender Demo](#)

May the Fourth be with you and your fortitude as you vie to be the Defender of Dragons!!!! **Free!**

**May 8, 2024 - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM - [Final UNM Johnson Field Fighter Practice](#) - 2401 Redondo Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106. **Free!****

**May 11, 2024 - 9:00am** Grand Outlandish site clean up.

**May 17, 2024 & May 18, 2024 -[SCA Village and Demo At the Lincoln Forest Renaissance Fair](#)**

This is Ruidoso 's first Renaissance Fair. we will be putting on Combat demos along with A&S displays. **Free**

**May 23, 2024 12:00 pm – May 27, 2024 12:00 pm -[Grand Outlandish Tournament](#)**

Il roads lead to al-Barran as you make the journey for Grand Outlandish Tournament. Join us over Memorial Day weekend – there is something for everyone, and everyone is welcome! **\$25+ for pre-registration.**

**June 15, 2024 - [al-Barran Summerfest Demo](#)**

Save the date! We are participating at Summerfest 2024 on June 15th. Northeast heights. This is one of our great fund raising opportunities for this year. We need help with setup, tear down, heavy combat, fencing, A&S, dance and music, plus more! **Free**





## Thoughts From Your Seneschal

Unto the Populace of Mighty al-Barran, do I, Countess Ymanie the Midwife, send greetings!

It is my great pleasure to join a community so warm and rich in history! I want to begin this missive by taking a moment to thank all who have made me feel welcome as I settle in to my new post as your Baronial Seneschal. Though I have done this job before in other places, I have much to learn from all of you about the nuance of this great Barony. I look forward to the conversations that we will have together as we continue to grow as a group.

This initial period in office has been largely a "settling in" time, getting the lay of the land, familiarizing myself with the officers roster, getting to know people better, and starting a framework for the execution of my duties. I hosted a business meeting at the end of April, which was very well attended, much to my immense pleasure. I am excited to work with this group of dedicated volunteers!

As you all are getting to know me, please feel welcome to contact me at [seneschal@al-barran.outlands.org](mailto:seneschal@al-barran.outlands.org), to let me know how I can be of assistance with your ideas to help this Barony continue to be robust in love, service and community. I hope to see you around at a practice or event very soon.

Yours Ever in Service,  
Countess Ymanie the Midwife

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## Grand Outlandish Tournament XLIX

### May 23-27, 2024

Greetings from your Event Stewards of GOT XLIX! We are excited that Outlandish is getting close. If you haven't pre-registered, you can still do so until May 9 using this link: <https://sca.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/sca/eventRegistration.jsp?event=788>.

We do not have a stable internet connection at site, so we will only be able to take cash and check payments if you pay at gate.

If you are planning on bringing your RV/caravan or merchanting at GOT and haven't already contacted the Event Stewards, please do so ASAP. You can reach them here: Lord Constantine Cortez (mka Jeremy James, [kahrne@gmail.com](mailto:kahrne@gmail.com)), Doña Genoveva Meyer (mka Jenn Martinez, [llama\\_mmama\\_2001@yahoo.com](mailto:llama_mmama_2001@yahoo.com)).

Our final site cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 11 at 9:00. (Ten Points General Store, 10484 NM-337, Tijeras, NM 87059.) We need volunteers for this fine event. Gate, fighting marshals, The Watch, town crying, trash...there are many opportunities. There will be a physical signup sheet at the cleanup, but you can also contact the Event Stewards with your availability. We will also have a volunteer raffle this year. For every hour you volunteer, you will receive a ticket. You can then put your accumulated tickets toward an item (or several items) in the raffle. If you have items that you would like to donate, we will gladly accept them.

We have some exciting classes lined up, but there's still room for a few more! You can sign up through May 10 here: <https://forms.gle/txpUKvUfLQWSJE5w6>. Below are the classes and their instructors. Dates and times will be finalized in the next 2 weeks. If you have any questions, please contact the A&S Coordinator, Lady Aoife of al-Barran here: [sammysena14@gmail.com](mailto:sammysena14@gmail.com).

Visit the [WEBSITE](#) for a complete list of A&S Classes as well as the tentative schedule!



Fire! We all love it, and it certainly adds  
ambiance to any event.  
However...having any kind of open  
flame will be dependent on fire  
restrictions at the time of the event. As  
much as we all hope to have a forging  
demo or campfire, it is entirely possible  
we won't be able to do this. We  
appreciate your understanding in this  
matter.

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## Exchequer's Report

Dear Reader,

From the office of the baronial exchequer, I pen this report.

Financially, the barony is stable, although fluctuating to the downside at the moment.

We have several investments in place in the form of events that are happening throughout the year.

I've just spent my morning gathering documents, reimbursement request forms, and invoices. The ink is still wet on a half dozen checks that are going out to make sure we have a grand Grand Outlandish!

Site deposits are going out for

Midwinter and The Guild Presents A Sworded Knocks (Working Title)

When all is said and done, we're sitting at just above \$18,000 in liquid assets.

A full reckoning of our non-cash assets remains unclear, but the quartermaster and I are working diligently on the matter.

We have invested in a new baronial Marquee, which will serve us for years to come. The financial committee agreed that this was a wise investment, given the rising costs and increasing demand for the sole period tentmaker in the U.S. Our other pavilions are still in workable condition, but it would be nice to have a brand new one that will surely last us.

The barony has banded to get a secure spot for our trailers at our keep and to place those trailers on those secure spots.

There was a break-in at our keep this quarter, but nothing was taken. It was a smash and grab operation that could have happened at any secure facility. As such, the seneschalate decided to retain the services of Extra Space Storage. We will not be moving our keep at this time.

Thank you for your time and attention.  
Blessed Be.









First image courtesy of The Captured Sun Ffotography

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**Summerfest**  
**June 15, 2024**  
**North Domingo Baca Park**  
7521 Carmel NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Set up and tear down  
Arts displays  
Martial displays  
Fight-a-knight volunteers  
Calligraphers to fill in fight-a-knight scrolls  
Color, beauty, and personality that is al-Barran!

More details coming soon!

# Populace Submissions:

## Tribes and Meaning

*Submitted by: Noble Cortland d'Erlon,*

I've come into an office that demands a great deal of time and energy – Baronial Exchequer. To surmount this challenge, I must uncover a purpose for doing so. For whom am I doing this and why? I am blessed to have found a tribe within the barony and their companionship bestows meaning on my endeavors.

Some concepts and constructs are lost on my neurodivergent mind. Words like “fun” and “play” have always rung like a language I cannot learn. I've seen the frustration on people's faces when they ask, “Did you have fun?” and I don't understand the question. I could toss an easy “yes” or “no,” but both seem disingenuous. I can neither agree nor disagree with a statement I don't comprehend.

I spent years trying to ingratiate myself with a clan to which I tangentially relate. They are good people with kind hearts and a lust for brotherhood. Though they never made me feel unwelcome, I never felt at home. We shared a love of hitting each other with sticks, but our values were unmatched. We spoke different languages.

At long last, through deliberate openness and spectacular serendipity, a cascade of associations fell upon me. It wasn't long with these people before I felt the warmth of their presence. Our perspectives resonated. To them, divergence and diversity was more than accepted – it was celebrated. Our weirds don't always match, but they don't conflict.

They don't ask me if I had fun. They understand the duress it causes me. They ask me if I enjoyed myself, or if I did as I intended to do. I understand that is the definition of fun, but I can't bring the two together in my mind. And they understand that.

For personal reasons which I'm open about – but not publish-in-the-newsletter open about – I had to take a hiatus from SCA activities. The hiatus led to shame over missing events. The shame prolonged hiatus. You can imagine where this is going.

Perhaps I was projecting when I returned and believed my former clan felt betrayed by my extended absence. Had I broken trust? Had I betrayed some code that I wasn't aware of?

I was met with cautious attempts at “Where have you been?” Questions my shame would not allow me to answer. Questions whose answers I wasn't sure would be received. That clan does not accept weakness or frailty. They do not know “can't.” If you wanted to be here, you would have.

Again,

these are good people. This is their culture and in the name of diversity, it must be allowed – and celebrated. My tribe welcomed me with celebration and embrace. It didn't matter where I had or hadn't been. All that mattered is that I had returned.

I'm still not sure what fun is, but now that I have a place where I feel at home, I am learning to play.

And as I narrow my eyes at this mountainous duty before me, I know that the barony means something to people who mean something to me – and that's meaningful.

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## Baronial Officers

Baron	Master Harduin of Heristal
Baroness	THL Gwenlyn Aldwyn
Seneschal	Countess Ymanie the Midwife
Emergency Deputy Sen	Countess Sabiha
Deputy Seneschal	Lord Aelrick VonBeck
Exchequer	Noble Cortland d'Erlon (Aralon)
Deputy Exchequer	Countess Aria de Chatillion

Blaidwyn	Hannah
Quartermaster	Lord Gregor der Junger
Chatelaine	Noble Sas
Deputy Chatelaine	Open
Arts & Science	Sir Hrolleifr Harbjorn
Deputy A & S	Open
Chronicler	Noble Brynjolf Bjarnison
Webminister	Dupre of al-Barran
Social Media	THL Matthias Sturmaere
Scorpion Pursuivant	SirSimon de Montgomery
Deputy Herald	Lady Zahira Bint Ali
List Minister	Lady Drienna de Tarante
Knight Marshal	Lord Tetsuya
Deputy Knight Marshal	Open
Rapier Marshal	Lord Constantine Cortez
Deputy Rapier Marshal	Doña Genoveva
Archery Captain	open
Scribe	Baroness Róis Inghean Uí Longáin
DEI	Lady Aurelia Salutia




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