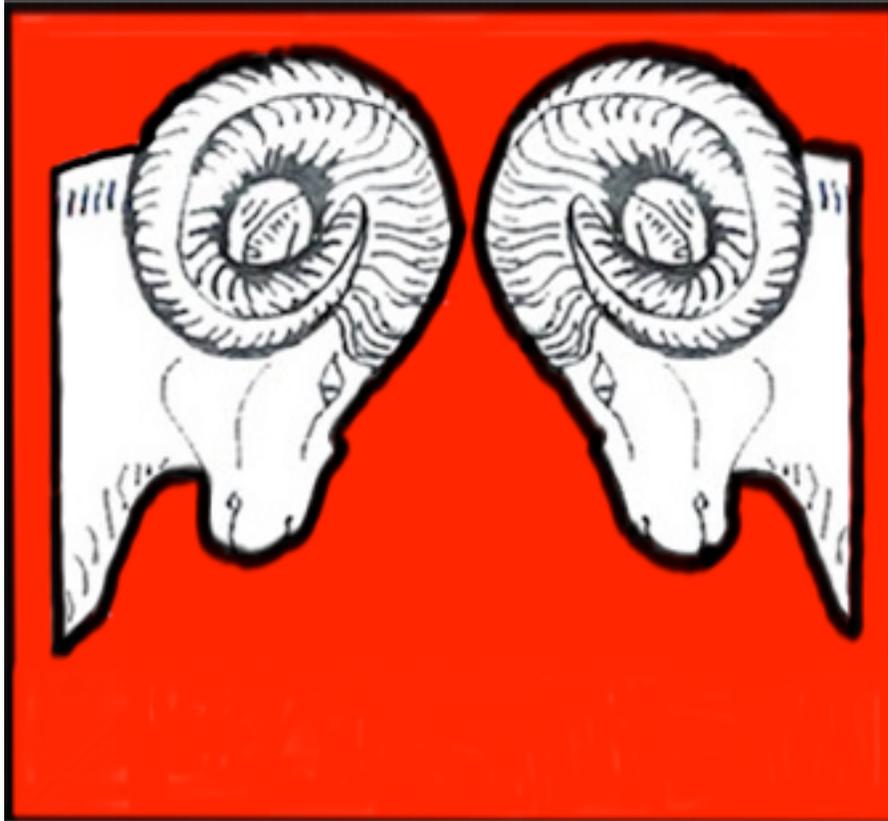


Ramshaven Herald



A.S. 12
Summer 2014

Honore



‘Honore’, With Honor

A short time ago it seems, since I became Chronicler for the Barony of Ramshaven, and shorter still, since Their Excellencies Penda and Sibylla took the High Seats. The Ramshaven Herald has persisted throughout, with a bit of derring-do, and plain old thinking-outside-the-box. Our far-flung group has proven time and time again to be resilient and resourceful.

Today, I speak to the honor it has been, and is, to continue in this office, having the freedom to bring to the populace a newsletter that is a joy to read, and dare I hope, to keep in the bookshelf. Today, I bring you

this special edition of the Ramshaven Herald, subtly out of synchronization with my usual pace of publication.

Today, I, Adnar Dionadair, publish this special project in court, a secret held by, supported by, and shared with, a fair number of the populace of Ealdormere and the kingdom’s finest artists. This is a newsletter in honor of Their Excellencies Penda and Sibylla, a hand-crafted edition for their bookshelf, a personal souvenir of their time on the high seats of Ramshaven!

A Soapstone Bowl

Last year Joffr got his hands on some asbestos free Ealdormerian-sourced soapstone and began carving a bowl.

This project has gone through a few phases - from a rock that weighs as much as a full grown ram to the semi-finished bowl you see attached. One might say this is a bit overboard to replace pottery but there are certain advantages to soapstoneware.

When dropped, this piece will not shatter. More likely, it will break someone's toe. Food can be cooked directly in the container without fear

of cracking or breaking. It does not require a kiln or potter's wheel to make. Anyone who has whittled or can use a chisel can create the same or similar bowl. You do not need to worry about the grain of the stone when carving as you would in wood.



In all, about 14 hours were spent on making this bowl to its current form. Most of this was spent using gouges and chisels to create the hollow of the bowl after using a saw to take a piece of sufficient size. After you've made the hollow, cut and sand down the exterior of the bowl until it is round. Extant pieces show that a flat bottom and a rounded but nearly

square sides were prevalent. Once you have a smooth exterior, sand the hollow until smooth. Then break out some fine dentistry tools (found at Princess Auto) to carve protective runes or decoration.

When working with soapstone, one must wear a mask and/or keep the soap stone wet. Joffr has found that working the stone in a basin and using warm water works best.

The stone Joffr obtained is very soft and a harder soapstone could be worked to better effect.

There are many abandoned mines and quarries in Ealdormere that hold soapstone and the local mundane authorities in Hastings county do allow artists to pull from these quarries. Inquiries can be directed to the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines for this program.

For his next series of projects, Joffr plans to build a simple pole lathe to turn cups and bowls from wood.

Perhaps one day Joffr will return to stone as a medium and carve a runestone to commemorate a heroic achievement for you.

Joffr Rodson

On the Horizon

Our summer seems so busy! Yet, we still have time to relax... at the fourth annual Middle Ages on the Green! This year, Bryniau Tywynnog's annual demo-event/picnic will be held on August the 16th at the Critter Pavilion, Laurel Creek Conservation Area. The only "costs" are bringing a lunch, a potluck dinner, and entry into the park itself. Come out and bring friends to our "Just Play Day"!

Details are posted to Bryniau's website!

Name the Bird



I found it curious, peculiar even, to have this bird quietly walk into my office and make itself at home. What to do, with such a thing? Of course, the first thing I did, was try to determine what manner of animal it was. Was it a chicken? A pigeon? Some wild mutation looking for a

new home? Such debate is naturally fun material for bringing out that inner bard. Perhaps a song could be made of it, or perhaps a little lyric. Consider it a challenge! Here, then, is my own odd ditty about my fowl visitor:

Work and toil, soot and oil
my hands are creased and greased
sigh, my lament, long-sitting foment
interrupted by the bird!

Ask its name, task and tame
invite it 'cross the floor
now alas we fill a glass
to hope we gain some fame

Here we go, nice and slow
What's this fowl called?
chicken pigeon, lunch or smidgeon?
confused we spill our drink!

Before the crowd I'll say aloud
we say his name is George
Could be a pet, off to the vet
Or not! He's out the door

Baron	Penda of Ramshaven
Baroness	Sibylla of Ramshaven
Seneschal	Evan Quicktongue
Armoured Marshall	Vanion
Exchequer	Kohl of Rokesburg
Chronicler	Adnar Dionadaír (Erhard Kruger)
Arts & Sciences Minister	Brigit Larkin
Herald	Joffre
Kingdom of Ealdormere	www.ealdormere.ca
Barony of Ramshaven	www.ramshaven.com
Canton of Bryniau Tŷwynnog	www.bryniau.ca
Canton of Der Welfengau	www.derwelfengau.com
Incipient Canton of Northgaedham	http://www.ramshaven.com/ northgaedham
Email list	Http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ SCA-Ramshaven

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