

THE ARGUS

January 2019
A.S. LIII

Barony of One Thousand Eyes, Kingdom of Artemisia “The Heart of Artemisia”



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JOIN THE CURRENT MIDDLE AGES!

The Society for Creative Anachronism, or SCA, is an international organization dedicated to researching and re-creating the arts, skills, and traditions of pre-17th-century Europe.

Members of the SCA study and take part in a variety of activities, including combat, archery, equestrian activities, costuming, cooking, metalwork, woodworking, music, dance, calligraphy, fiber arts, and much more. If it was done in the Middle Ages or Renaissance, odds are you'll find someone in the SCA interested in recreating it.

You will frequently hear SCA participants describe the SCA as recreating the Middle Ages “as they ought to have been.” In some ways this is true – we choose to use indoor plumbing, heated halls, and sewing machines. In the dead of winter we have more to eat than King’s venison, salt pork and dried tubers. However, a better description is that we selectively recreate the culture, choosing elements of the culture that interest and attract us.[1]

[1] <http://socsen.sca.org/what-is-the-sca/>

PLEASE JOIN US AT ANY OF OUR LOCAL EVENTS!



WE'D LOVE TO GET TO KNOW YOU!

Barony of 1000 Eyes

<https://www.onethousandeyes.org/>

<https://www.artemisia.sca.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1087296174634926/>

<https://www.facebook.com/barony1000eyes>



**UNTO THE PEOPLE OF ONE THOUSAND EYES,
GREETINGS FROM AVELYN AND ALAN, BARONESS
AND BARON OF THIS FINE BARONY**

We hope this missive finds you warm and happy, looking forward to a New Year, and the excitement that it brings. While it is cold outside right now, the days are getting longer, and in due time, the green will return to the reaches of Our Barony.

As We noted in our last letter, the last year has been good to our Barony. Now We must look forward to what the future holds for Us. During this next year, if everyone in the Barony brings in a new person, We will all be the richer for it. Make every attempt to bring a new person into the SCA. We would also like to see some of Our friends who have become in-active to be motivated to return to play.

Our challenge continues for each of you to send an article to Lady Signy for the Argus. Your knowledge and experience will enrich everyone, so please take the time to write an article.

Our next event is January 19, at the York Grange, and should be a fun time. Bring your banners to decorate the hall in true medieval splendor!

At the March 16 event, Their Majesties will accept letters of Intent for our Heirs as the next Baron and Baroness. At Uprising, Their Majesties will conduct a polling, and announce the next Baron and Baroness of One Thousand Eyes. At Baronial Birthday in November, the next Baron and Baroness will be elevated. Please give this your attention and consideration. Being Baron and Baroness is a fun, and fulfilling job. It also requires time and dedication, and at least some amount of financial ability. Not only do the Baron and Baroness of One Thousand Eyes need to attend all local events, as well as fighter practices and demo's, but it is important to represent Thousand Eyes at Kingdom events and other group events. Please consider this when you consider your Letter of Intent.

**AVELYN AND ALAN,
BARONESS AND BARON**



MID-WINTER CELEBRATION

YORK GRANGE

954 W. 65 S., IDAHO FALLS

JANUARY 19, 2019 10:00 TO 10:00 PM

As the depths of winter grip our fair and bountiful lands, the Barony of One Thousand Eyes bids you to come and join us in a Mid-Winter Celebration on January 19, 2019.

Our Baron's Champion for the upcoming year will be decided by an Arts & Sciences Competition. Minimum entry is two items with documentation. Site is damp, so brewing entries will be allowed.

There will be a rapier tournament to choose our new Baronial Rapier Champion and the Captain of Her Excellency's Musketeers. An Armored Tournament will be held. The format will be determined by HL Ariadne.

We will enjoy a color court before and during the feast with suitable prizes awarded to the Lord and Lady of each heraldic color. A variety of soups and salads will be offered for lunch. Donations will be accepted towards the Rapier Loaner Gear Fund. The feast will feature several types of local wild game and fowl, including elk, venison, goose, and duck. Roast beef will be available for those who prefer tame game. The bountiful feast will be topped off by apple cobbler with ice cream.

Feast fee: \$8 for adults, \$5 for youths 12-17 years old; those under 12 years old are free. Feast cap of 40 people. Reservations are encouraged. Feast reservations are due by January 5, 2019.

Site: The York Grange, 954 W. 65 S., Idaho Falls, 83402. Site opens at 10:00 am and closes at 10:00 pm. Site is damp. Fees: Adult Event Registration Fee (18 years and over) is \$13. Adult Member Discount Event Registration Fee (18 years and over) is \$8. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc. Barony of One Thousand Eyes.

Directions to Site: 954 W. 65 S., Idaho Falls. From the south or north from I-15, take I-15 to Exit 113. Go East on W. 65th South for 3.5 miles. White Building is on the north side of road.

Autocrat: Robert the Lost (Bob Parris) Phone: 208-690-0724

email: barbarie117@yahoo.com

Feast Steward: Robert the Lost assisted by Ariel of York



MASKED BALL - WEAR YOUR COLORS

CLUBHOUSE EVENT CENTER

7311 W. POTOMAC DR., BOISE, ID

JANUARY 26, 2019

Good Tidings to all Artemisia, it is time for Arn Hold's Annual Masked Ball! This year's theme is "Wear Your Colors", your chance to display your heraldry in your finest. Come join us for an evening of dancing, mirth, and merriment.

We will have live music, desserts, tavern games and the following competitions: *Best Heraldic Mask *Lord and Lady of Color, in each of the heraldic colors *Bard of Arn Hold

The fundraiser will be a silent auction for goods and services donated by the populace of Arn Hold.

Schedule: The festivities will begin at 5:00 pm through 11:00 pm. Court will be at the discretion of Their Majesties. Lord and Lady of Color and Heraldic Mask Competition will be held throughout the evening. Dessert Buffet will begin at 7:00 pm.

Site: Clubhouse Event Center, 7311 W. Potomac Dr., Boise, ID 83704. Site opens at 5:00 pm and closes at 11:00 pm. This is a wet site.

Fees: Adult Event Registration is \$20; Adult Member Discount Event Registration \$15. Minors 17 years and under are free. Please make checks payable to: SCA Inc., Barony of Arn Hold. Children are welcome but there are no children's activities.

Directions: Follow I-84 to W Franklin Rd in Boise. Take exit 49 from I-84; Take exit 49 for I-184/Franklin Rd toward City Center, keep right, follow signs for Franklin Road. Take N Cole Rd to Potomac Dr. right and the event center is on the left hand side.
Autocrats: HE Teaghan MacLiam (Carrie Stuart) phone: 208 867-3639;
email: dcstuart@cableone.net



NOTES ON THE PEACOCK AND HIS FEET

BY SIGNY THE SLOW

“The peacock is of all birds the most proud, and indeed his body and wings are beautiful. When he walks about he admires himself greatly, but when he looks down and sees his feet he gives a loud cry, for they are very ugly.”¹

That’s harsh! Just how ugly are the peacock’s feet? Let’s have a look.



Well, that’s not so bad. Not beautiful of course, and they hardly match the beauty of the rest of him, but I don’t have the urge to cover my eyes, though that spur looks pretty scary.

What else did people long ago believe about the peacock? Bartholomaeus Anglicus had this to say:

“The peacock hath an unsteady and evil shapen head, as it were the head of a serpent, and with a crest. And he hath a simple pace, and small neck and areared, and a blue breast, and a tail full of eyes distinguished and high with wonder fairness, and he hath foulest feet and rivelled. And he wondereth of the fairness of his feathers, and areareth them up as it were a circle about his head, and then he looketh to his feet, and seeth the foulness of his feet, and like as he were ashamed he letteth his feathers fall suddenly, and all the tail downward, as though he took no heed of the fairness of his feathers. And as one saith, he hath the voice of a fiend, head of a serpent, pace of a thief. For he hath an horrible voice.”²

Actually, we now know the peacock has to keep its head raised in order to keep his tail feathers in display mode. When he lowers his head the tail feathers relax down behind him. I really don’t think the peacock has enough self awareness for shame and is totally OK with his feet.

“For who but God the Creator of all things has given to the flesh of the peacock its antiseptic property? This property, when I first heard of it, seemed to me incredible; but it happened at Carthage that a bird of this kind was cooked and served up to me, and, taking a suitable slice of flesh from its breast, I ordered it to be kept, and when it had been kept as many days as make any other flesh stinking, it was produced and set before me, and emitted no offensive smell. And after it had been laid by for thirty days and more, it was still in the same state; and a year after, the same still, except that it was a little more shrivelled, and drier.”³

As it happens, this tidbit of info is actually correct. Cooked peacock meat will last quite a while without spoiling, but this is also true of many kinds of poultry.

The peafowl that are native to Southern Asia and Malaysia were introduced to Europe through trade routes⁴ and became very popular both as ornamental birds and as a delicacy. They were a status symbol

strolling around the grounds of kings and nobles and were served strikingly at lavish court functions. The bird would be carefully skinned with feathers in place, then cooked whole. After the bird was cooked, the skin with feathers would be carefully replaced on the cooked bird and brought to table. It must have been stunning, though hardly up to today's food safety standards.⁵

There are only three naturally occurring kinds of peafowl: the Indian Blue, the Java Green, and the Congo Peafowl, though selective breeding has introduced hundreds more.⁶



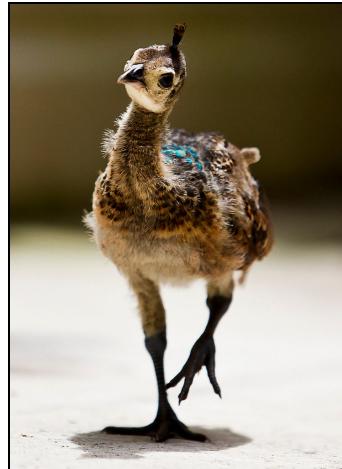
The blue peacock lives in India and Sri Lanka



The green peacock is found in Java and Myanmar



The Congo peacock lives in African rainforests.



This is a pea chick. Oh the cutes!

Many of the peafowl bred in captivity look very much like the wild varieties, with slight variations. Here are a few examples of some of the more exotic varieties.



At first glance you might think this gorgeous fellow is an albino, but you'd be mistaken. It is actually a "regular" peacock that has a genetic mutation called leucism. While peafowl with leucism can create color cells, the color cells do not migrate to the feathers, so they stay white. The way to tell a bird with leucism from an albino is the eye color. A bird with leucism will have a blue grey eye color, while an albino will have red or pinkish eyes.⁷

This is a photo of a peacock with partial leucism, also known as a "pied". They can be quite beautiful.



This Burmese peacock has an elongated neck and much longer legs.



Also from Burma is the Grey Peacock Pheasant. Though its markings are similar, it is a pheasant rather than a peacock. It was only named this way because of its similarity to a peacock.



Above is the well known “Photoshop Red” in its natural habitat of purple grass.



This Purple Spalding (Left) is named for the flashes of purple in its plumage. A spalding is a cross between an Indian Blue Peafowl and a Green Peacock.



Above is the Midnight Black Peacock.

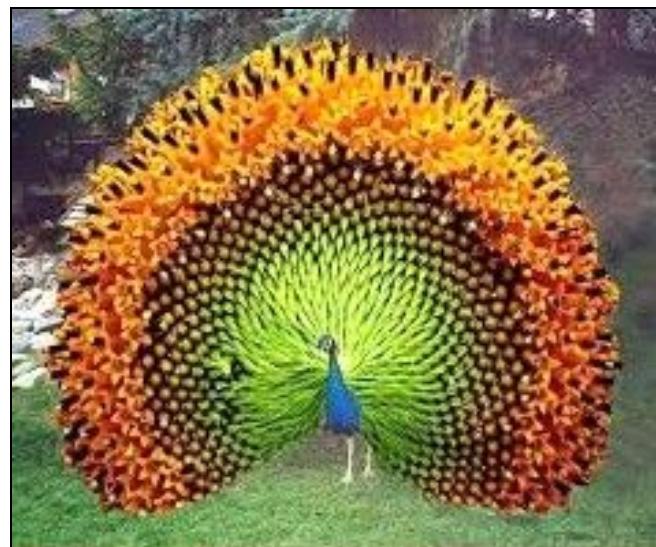


This is the Peacock Spider. Pretty, but not a peacock. I made it small in case you're spider phobic. Enlarge it if you're inclined.



The lovely Cameo Peacock.

Last, and certainly creative, the Fabulous Facebook Sunflower Peacock. Totally fake. Wish it wasn't, that would be an awesome thing.



Sources:

¹ *Epiphanius Physiologus* (Author Unknown)

² Bartholomaeus Anglicus [13th century CE] (*De proprietatibus rerum*, book 12):(Steele edition of 1905)

³ Augustine of Hippo [5th century CE] (*City of God*, Book 21, chapter 4)

⁴ http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/fall06/darylff/about_peacocks_hist.html

⁵ <http://coquinaria.nl/english/peacock/index.htm> Coquinaria, article: Peacocks and Pasties

⁶ <https://sciencing.com/life-cycle-peacock-5800786.html>

⁷ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peafowl>

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