

The Starkhafn Baronial Banner

Baronial Newsletter 2022 Spring



"Coming Home" by Baron Robartach mac Lochlainn.

The Baronial Address

Baron Robartach and Baroness Gyda

Glad vár Starkhafn!

Just as the turning of the season brings the bloom of new life, so too the passage of time brings change. Spring brings the hope and promise of the renewal of life. Where one journey ends, another begins.

Our journey as Baron and Baroness is reaching its completion; our ships are sailing back into our home fjord and we see the shore drawing near enough to smell the home fires and hear the welcome sounds of our skuldalið.

We are grateful you joined us on this journey. Your efforts and companionship have touched our hearts. We have experienced many wonderful and joyous moments as well as some sad ones, but the difficult times were made easier as we all supported each other. We feel honoured to have served the Barony as your Baron and Baroness and thank you all for supporting us during this journey.

Change often brings introspection and reflection. Looking over our expedition these past years, our hope is that our service has helped make the Dream enjoyable, uplifting and welcoming to all.

As we pass on the Flame to our Heirs, Thomas and Catlyn, we know we are leaving you in good hands. Hands that have and will continue to serve the Barony and work to keep the Dream alive. We hope you will join us in welcoming them and uplifting them as they sustain us.

The outpouring of support and love that we have received from our Starkhafn and adopted Starkhafn skuldalið has been incredible. Usually words come easy, but we are having difficulty finding the words to express the depth of our gratitude to each and everyone one of you that have given of your time and (many) efforts to help keep the Barony running smoothly. From the very visible works of holding office, serving on Court and Guard, stewarding events, creating beautiful largesse, sharing your skills and knowledge with others, setting up and packing out for events and tourneys, making sure we were watered and protected from the big fireball in the sky, sharing a story and a laugh and so many more things. Tusen tack!

The heart of Starkhafn continues to be a well of inspiration. By all your efforts you lift each other up along the way. You have, and continue to make Starkhafn a home with a welcoming hearth. Collectively you are all the sparks that keep the Flame of Starkhafn lit.

We look forward to sharing all the new experiences, new adventures and new journeys the future will bring with our skuldalið, our Starkhafn. Happy Ruby Anniversary, Starkhafn! Vae Victus!

May the winds breathe life into your sails and the rain feed your crops,

ROBARTACH AND GYDA

TRADITION IS NOT TO PRESERVE THE ASHES, BUT TO PASS ON THE FLAME.

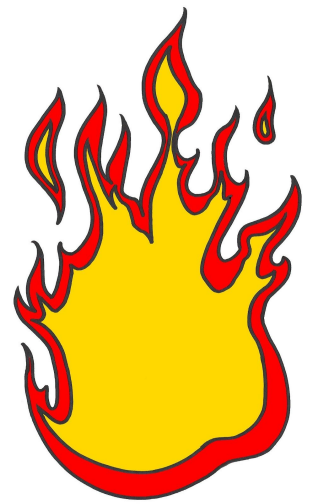


The Reeves' Address

Reeve Thomas and Reeve Catylyn

Greetings from Lord Thomas and The Honorable Lady Catylyn,

As our time as Reeves come to an end and we step up as Baron and Baroness next week, we want to thank everyone who has participated and helped us to prepare for this great honor. This job we are stepping into is an ever bigger, more detailed undertaking than we realized at first and there is no way we could do it without all the support we have received. Thank you to all the populace of Starkhafn who work behind the scenes to make sure not only our own events happen but also those of you who support the kingdom level offices and organizers. These last two years have seen some major changes and adaptations to keep our populace safe and still involved in the Dream we all love. The future is bright as we seem to be emerging from the plague finally but please keep all the lessons learned in mind as we come together as a community again. Let's stay safe and work together to build our society back even stronger and more inclusive than it ever was.



Anniversary is upon us and it is finally time to find our new champions! Robartach and Gyda will hold their final court after a long and illustrious reign and retire in style. There will be tourneys and competitions in armored, rapier, archery, thrown weapons, Arts and Sciences, chess, brewing and bardic along with the wonderful Quintivium for those overachievers with the ability to bend time to their will and participate in 5 activities in one day. We look forward to watching and awarding the prizes for such achievements at our first court as B&B. Thank you again to all of those who have volunteered to support us on our court and Guard. We especially want to thank Arland Weigel von Offenbach for stepping up as Captain of the Guard, Bernadeta Costa Tempest for stepping up as chief Lady in Waiting and Gyda Magnusdottir for taking on the role of Chamberlain. This reign could not go forward without the hard work and dedication of these leaders and organizers.

We are looking forward to attending the Mists/Cinagua War in the Kingdom of the West (May 6-9) and Potrero War (May 26 - 30). If anyone is interested in traveling with us up north, please let us know. Potrero registration is open so be sure to get your name on the list as well as registering for camping space through the potrero website. Robartach has generously volunteered to organize the Barony's space as camp master so let him know the sizes of your tents as soon as possible. Registration for Great Western War opens in June as well so make sure you plan early. As travel prices are rising, we are committed to finding ways of getting as many of our populace who want to go to these events to ride share and travel with us as possible. Please don't hesitate to ask for that extra seat!

If the glory of our victories is measured by the strength of our foes then our victory over this plague is mighty indeed. And so we say Vae Victus! Long live Starkhafn!

In service to the Dream
Thomas and Catylyn
Lord and Lady Starkhafn
Reeves of Starkhafn



Dragon Cake History

By Antonius Tesel



The SCA has a long history of telling stories, from the ‘No Sh*t there I was,’ to the oral histories of famous battles, famous or infamous people, and so on. There is also a tradition that if something is done twice, it is a tradition, and if repeated three or more times, the origin is lost in the mists of time. So it is with our Dragon Cake.

I spoke to Baron Starkhafn, our first baron, Keradwc an Cai. The tradition has been going on so long, he had a hard time remembering every detail, other than it was about when we became a barony. He said that his mom made the first cake, and that the second one was a green rice crispy monstrosity. This could possibly have been the first one to be slain, but he wasn’t sure. As to how the slaying of the dragon started, he thinks it was one of those, ‘sounds like a good idea,’ sort of things. At any rate, the cake and the dispatching has been going on for a long, long time.

Once upon a time, we bragged that Starkhafn was the gateway of kingdoms, and was the site of Estrella War councils between Caid and Atenveldt. This was years before Artemisia came into being and became a signatory to the council. At that time, we also claimed to be the guardians of the Eastern Seas of Caid, and the Barony that kept the Kingdom from being overrun by the Dragons who lived in the seaside marshes... well you can see how the story moved along. During the lost ages of Dragons, we have had cakes that were grand, some that were less so, and some that were last-ditch efforts. Some cake makers spent long hours on their finished products, some created dioramas, one was made with a Barney cake pan, a dotted line across its throat. But all -in-all, the legend lives on. Suppose we could cheer, “Vae Draco.”



2017



Jörmungandr 2018



2019

Here is a partial list of the Dragon Slaying Rules:

- No covering the blade with cling film
- No spraying the blade with Pam or some other spray or anything like butter, lard, etc.
- No stabbing the dragon from underneath so that any crumbs or icing are wiped off by the bottom of the cake pan
- No cutting the cake with someone else’s sword
- No using your squire (or child, Sir Athanaric)
- No using the sword to pound a dagger into the dragon
- And now, thanks to Sir Skafnir, there will be no garroting the dragon with sword in hand

365 Days of Sonnets

by Lady Lucia Traveler

One of Starkhafn's talented artisans, Lady Lucia Traveler, has set a Calliopean challenge for herself to write 365 day of Elizabethan sonnets. These are but a few selections from her project. If you would like to read more, seek them out on Facebook under #365daysofsonnets.

11 Aug 2021

I have challenged myself to write an Elizabethan Sonnet a day for a year starting today, my birthday. My thought is to put them in a blog, and then share the link out periodically, but that's yet to be set up. So, instead, I thought I would share the first one in a post.

SONNET #1

TODAY, I CELEBRATE MY DAY OF BIRTH.
MY FIFTY-SEVENTH TIME AROUND THE SUN,
WITH MEMORIES OF SORROW AND OF MIRTH,
WITH THOUGHTS OF BATTLES LOST AND BATTLES WON.
I THINK OF JOURNEYS THAT STILL LIE AHEAD,
AND ALL THE FRIENDS I'LL MAKE ALONG THE WAY.
THE MANY PATHWAYS I HAVE YET TO TREAD,
AND ALL THE PLACES I HAVE YET TO STAY.
I THINK OF FRIENDS THAT I HAVE LEFT BEHIND,
OUR PATHS CROSSED BRIEFLY AND DIVERGED ONCE MORE,
AND NEW ACQUAINTANCES I'VE YET TO FIND,
AND ALL TH' ADVENTURES THAT STILL LIE IN STORE.
I CELEBRATE THIS YEAR THAT'S YET TO BE.
A HAPPY, HAPPY DAY OF BIRTH TO ME!

13 Aug 2021

Today's Sonnet #365daysofsonnets

SONNET #3 -To Cosmo

MY PUPPY'S FUR IS SOFT, HIS BREATH SO SWEET.
HE SUPERVISES ME THROUGHOUT MY DAY.
HE LOOKS TOWARDS ME AS TO ASK A TREAT,
"I'VE BEEN A GOOD BOY!" HE DOES SEEM TO SAY.
WHAT WOULD WE DO WITHOUT YOUR FLOOFY TAIL?
YOUR SNIFFS, AND WAGS, AND WOOFs THAT MAKE US SMILE.
YOU MAKE US LAUGH EACH DAY, AND WITHOUT FAIL
YOU DO IT ALL WITHOUT AN OUNCE OF GUILF.
YOU ASK FOR NOTHING MORE THAN BELLY RUBS,
A GATE TO GUARD, A CASTLE TO SECURE,
SOME SHADE TO LIE IN UNDERNEATH THE SHRUBS.
YOUR NEEDS ARE SIMPLE AND YOUR MOTIVES PURE.
OH COSMO, SWEET! YOU ARE THE BEST OF FRIENDS!
AND THAT, I THINK, IS HOW THIS SONNET ENDS!

8 Oct 2021

This morning's poem is in praise of Starkhafn's newest Pelican Eibhilin Inghean Laisréni!

SONNET #55

I SAW A FRIEND GET AN AWARD TODAY
AN HONOR THAT IS TRULY WELL DESERVED.
FOR RECOGNITION IS THE HIGHEST PAY
FOR ALL THE MANY WAYS THAT SHE HAS SERVED.
AND ONE BY ONE THE NOBLES SPOKE FOR HER,
GIVING TESTIMONY TO HER NAME.
TELLING ALL WHO GATHERED THEY WERE SURE
HER TRUE AND WORTHY SERVICE TO OUR GAME.
A PELICAN NOW HANGS UPON HER CHAIN,
ANOTHER IS EMBROIDERED ON HER HOOD,
AND WE, HER FAMILY, JOIN IN THE REFRAIN
OF SONGS AND POEMS THAT CELEBRATE HER GOOD.
AND IN STARKHAFN THE SHOUT WENT UP SO LOUD,
"VAE VICTUS!" PEW-PEW, YOU HAVE MADE US PROUD!
— AT GREAT WESTERN WAR

9 Oct 2021

This morning's sonnet was written about the Tabarding Ceremony (for lack of a better name) of the Starkhafn Levy.

SONNET #56

OUR WARRIORS GATHER'D EARLY IN THE MORN
TO PLEDGE THEIR STRENGTH UPON THE FIELD OF WAR.
IN STARKHAFN WE ARE THE "BATTLE BORN,"
WHO SLAY OUR FOES AND TURN TO FIGHT SOME MORE.
OUR REVESS STOOD BEFORE OUR LOYAL BAND.
EACH FIGHTER KNEELED AND PLEDGED HIS LOYALTY.
A TABARD PROFFERED FROM HER GENTLE HAND,
A SIGN FOR ALL THE BATTLEFIELD TO SEE.
SHE READ THE WORDS OUR BARONESS DID SEND,
WHO COULD NOT VENTURE FORTH UNTO THIS WAR.
INSPIRING WORDS THAT OUR DEAR LADY PENNED,
THAT NOW SHALL BE PASSED ON INTO OUR LORE.
AND NOW OUR WARRIORS STAND UPON THE FIELD.
"VAE VICTUS!" MAY OUR ENEMIES ALL YIELD!

365 Days of Sonnets (con't)

6 Oct 2021

The world lost an amazing lady yesterday. For Jade Siewert.

SONNET #70

THE HEAVENS GAINED ANOTHER STAR TONIGHT,
WHOSE LIGHT ON EARTH EXTINGUISHED FAR TOO BRIEF.
I KNOW YOU TRULY FOUGHT THE BEST OF FIGHT.
YOU'RE NOW AT PEACE AND WE ARE LEFT IN GRIEF.
YOUR HEART WAS ALWAYS GENEROUS AND KIND.
YOU NEVER MET A STRANGER, JUST A FRIEND.
THIS WITH THE SENSE OF JOY YOU HAD COMBINED
TO CREATE A MOST EXTRAORDINARY BLEND.
TONIGHT WITHIN OUR HEARTS DOES SORROW REIGN,
TOMORROW WE WILL GIVE IT LEAVE TO FLY.
TONIGHT THERE'S LITTLE THAT CAN SALVE OUR PAIN,
TOMORROW WE'LL BEGIN TO SAY GOODBYE.
WE'LL NOT ALLOW YOUR MEMORY TO FADE,
FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS, SWEET LADY JADE.

7 Nov 2021

When bottling Cranberry Spice Mead, it sometimes leads to poetry. (Looks like I will have 7-8 bottles when all is done) #365daysofsonnets

SONNET #81

SWEET WINE MADE FROM THE HONEY OF THE BEES,
WITH YEAST AND WATER IN A BREWING POT,
YOUR LOVELY TASTE IS GUARANTEED TO PLEASE,
FAR BETTER THAN A WINE THAT CAN BE BOUGHT.
CRANBER' AND SPICE COMBINED IS PURE DELIGHT.
AT FIVE YEARS OLD YOU'RE LIGHT AND SMOOTH AND
SWEET.
READY FOR TOASTING ON A WINTER'S NIGHT,
YOU WILL BE AN EXTRAORDINARY TREAT.
NOW SHARED WITH FRIENDS WILL BE YOUR DESTINY.
FOR WINE THERE IS NO BETTER FATE THAN THIS.
WHEN BEVERAGES DO FLOW SO PLEASANTLY,
THEY BRING WITH THEM A SWEET CONVIVIAL BLISS.
SO RAISE YOUR GLASS OF MEAD AND DRINK A TOAST.
FORGIVE ME FOR THIS MOST PROUD BREWERS BOAST.

2 Jan 2022

SONNET #115

SOME TREES GROW TALL AND SPREAD THEIR BRANCHES
OUT.
THEY'RE DRIVEN TO GROW HIGH AS THEY CAN BE.
THE WANT THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD TO HAVE NO DOUBT
THEY TOWER OVER EVERYONE THEY SEE.
OTHER TREES GROW DEEP INTO THE SOIL.
THEIR ROOTS DUG DOWN AS DEEP AS THEY CAN GO,
PROVIDING THEM WITH STRENGTH TO STAND THE WINDS
TURMOIL,
THEIR TRUNK GIVING SUPPORT TO ALL THEY KNOW.
STILL OTHER TREES SPREAD WIDE ACROSS THE GROUND.
THEY COVER THEIR SMALL PATCH HERE ON THE EARTH.
THEY GIVE SHELTER TO ALL THE BIRDS AROUND.
THE FRUIT THEY BARE ADDS VALUE TO THEIR WORTH.
TREES HAVE NO CHOICE OF WHAT LIFE THEY WILL LIVE.
BUT WE DECIDE IF WE WILL TAKE OR GIVE.

2 Apr 2022

It's been an interesting hiatus, but it has been worth it. Still, I've got more sonnets to write to reach my goal. #365daysofsonnets

SONNET #138

WHEN I CONSIDER ALL THAT LIES AHEAD,
THE MANY STEPS BEFORE ME ON THIS PATH,
THE WORDS STILL TO BE WRITTEN, TO BE READ,
MY FUTURE ACTIONS AND THEIR AFTERMATH.
AND WHEN I LOOK BACK ON THE ROAD I TOOK,
DECISIONS MADE THAT PUT ME WHERE I STAND,
IT SEEMS TO ME JUST PAGES IN A BOOK,
THAT HAVE BEEN PENNED BY MY UNWITTING HAND.
TRULY THE NEXT CHAPTER'S UP TO ME.
I WILL DECIDE WHICH PATHWAY I WILL TAKE,
AND WHICH HORIZON I WILL WAKE TO SEE.
YES, THESE ARE ALL MY DECISIONS TO MAKE.
WHICH WAY I'LL GO, I CANNOT SAY JUST YET,
FOR ME, MY DESTINATION'S NOT BEEN SET.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Starkhafn In-Person & Virtual Happenings

- ❖ **Thursdays 6pm-8pm : Starkhafn Virtual Social**
- ❖ **3rd Thursdays Monthly 6pm-7pm: Starkhafn Monthly Officer/Population Mtg**
- ❖ **3rd Wednesdays Monthly Starkhafn 6pm-7pm: Monthly Financial Committee Mtg**

Zoom links for the Starkhafn virtual events can be found <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Starkhafn/>

- ❖ **2nd Tuesdays Monthly Cooking Guild**

More information <https://www.facebook.com/groups/543894915763841>

- ❖ **Weekly Fighter Practice <https://wp.sca-caid.org/events/>**

More information <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167286519990922>

- ❖ **Weekly Archery Practice <https://www.facebook.com/groups/297538950299416>**

Whitney Mesa Park Recreation Area - 1550 W Galleria Dr, Henderson, NV 89014

Known World Virtual Happenings

- ❖ **Kingdom of Caïd Events Calendar <https://wp.sca-caid.org/events/>**
- ❖ **Barony of Starkhafn Events Calendar <https://starkhafn.sca-caid.org/events/>**
- ❖ **Known World Entertainment Guide: <https://www.facebook.com/KWEGuide>**

Lists lots of Known World events including Interviews, Bardic & Fighter events. Some events recur on a regular schedule.

- ❖ **Consolidated Caïd online events schedule: <https://wp.sca-caid.org/on-line-news/>**

Upcoming Kingdom Events

❖ Kingdom of Caïd Events Calendar

- April 22-April 24 : Starkhafn Anniversary
- April 30 : Nordwache Anniversary & Investiture
- May 7 : Darach Anniversary
- May 7 : Summergate Anniversary
- May 14 : Altavia Anniversary
- May 26 - 30 : Potrero War (Calafia)
- June 4 : Gyldeholt Anniversary
- June 4 : Gyldeholt Anniversary
- June 5 : All Things (Nordewache)
- June 11-12 : Collegium
- Jun 18-19 : St. Corrigan's "Day" (Dreiburgen)
- June 18 : Carreg Wen Anniversary
- June 25 : Lyondemere Anniversary

April 2022

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|--|----|----|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 3 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 4 | 5 | 6 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 7 | 8 | 9 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 12 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 11 | 12 | 13 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 14 | 15 | 16 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 17 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 18 | 19 | 20 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 21 | 22 Starkhafn Anniversary | 23 Starkhafn Anniversary |
| 24 Starkhafn Anniversary | 25 | 26 | 27 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice 6pm Starkhafn Financial Committee Mtg | 28 6pm Starkhafn Ofc / Pop Mtg | 29 | 30 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Nordwache Ann. |

May 2022

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|--|----|----|---|---|-------------------|---|
| 1 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 2 | 3 | 4 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 5 | 6 | 7 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 8 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 9 | 10 | 12 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 12 | 13 | 14 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Altavia Ann. |
| 15 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 16 | 17 | 18 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice 6pm Starkhafn Financial Committee Mtg | 19 6pm Starkhafn Ofc / Pop Mtg | 20 | 21 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 22 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 23 | 24 | 25 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 26 Potrero War | 27 Potrero War | 28 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Potrero War |
| 29 Potrero War | 30 | 31 | | | | |

June 2022

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | F4r | Sa |
|--|----|----|---|---|-----------------|---|
| | | | 1 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 2 | 3 | 4 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Gyldenholt Ann. |
| 5 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 6 | 7 | 8 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 9 | 10 Collegium | 11 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Collegium |
| 12 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 13 | 14 | 15 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice 6pm Starkhafn Financial Committee Mtg | 16 6pm Starkhafn Ofc / Pop Mtg | 17 | 18 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice |
| 19 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 20 | 21 | 22 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 23 | 24 | 25 9am Starkhafn Archery Practice Lyondemere Ann |
| 26 9am Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 27 | 28 | 29 6pm Starkhafn Fighter & /Rapier Practice | 30 | | |

Baronial Resources on The Book of Many Faces

Barony of Starkhafn (Official)

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

For official announcements

Starkhafn Officers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/104961526259093/>

For the Baronial officers

Barony of Starkhafn (Unofficial)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/76434610880/>

For discussions amongst the populace and announcements

Starkhafn Arts & Sciences (Unofficial)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/543894915763841/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Arts & Sciences topics and events, including Cook's Guild

Starkhafn Archers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/297538950299416/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Archery topics and events

Starkhafn Levy

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/167286519990922/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Armored Combat topics and events

Starkhafn School of Fence

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/226349494451932/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Rapier topics and events

Starkhafn Scriptorium

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/874094372695951/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Scriptorium topics and events

Starkhafn Bardic

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/659530714933033>

This group was set up to share Bardic performances and information on Bardic events for Starkhafn and other groups.

The Most Excellent Brewers Guild Of Starkhafn (Unofficial)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/302740049828607/>

For discussions, planning and announcements regarding Brewing topics and events

Starkhafn Demos

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/249688865455479/>

For discussions, planning, suggestions and announcements regarding demos

Regnum

The Officers of Starkbafn

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