

“The Raven’s Cry”

Polling Special Edition



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Official Newsletter of the Barony of
Raven’s Cove



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THE LETTERS OF INTENT FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE BARONAGE



LOI from Master Lochlainn and Mistress Edan

James Rardin and Heather Rardin

Unto Their Royal Majesties Randall I and Iul'iana I, The Kingdom Seneschal, Maistr Cian Mac Cellachain Ui Dubhlaich, Kingdom Regional Deputy Seneschal (NC) Lord Alesander Davidson, and the wonderful populace of the Barony of Raven's Cove do we Master Lochlainn hua Rigbarddain and Mistress Edan Lowery send humble greetings.

We wish for this letter to serve as our formal intention to put forth ourselves for consideration as candidates for the next Baron and Baroness of the Barony of Raven's Cove. We wholeheartedly believe we can best serve our Barony and our Kingdom by offering ourselves again for the Coronets position.

As members of Raven's Cove, we have participated within our Barony in many ways. Master Lochlainn was inducted into the Order of the Pelican in May of 2024 and continuously serves our fair Kingdom in any way he finds. He is an Armored Combatant, supporting it by fighting in numerous Crown Tournaments and being a Squire to Duke Bryan. He is a fencer and a Free-Scholar in the Academie d'Espee, he holds one of two Scholar positions on the Executive Council of the Academie d'Espee. He sits as the principal of the Order of the Sea Stag and is a member of the Order of the Kraken. Throughout our SCA history, we have served in various positions (Seneschal, Knight's Marshal, Herald, Chirurgeon, Chronicler, Exchequer, and Armored Champion) within Raven's Cove. We have both taken an interest in the Arts and Sciences with Master Lochlainn earning a Coral Branch for his work and research in period cooking. Mistress Edan has received a Silver Nautilus for the jewelry she has made not only for individual wear by many but also, as gifts of largesse to various wearers of the Crown of Atlantia. We both feel that A&S is important. We have both supported the Service community throughout our time in the SCA with Mistress Edan being inducted into the Order of the Pelican in April 2018. She continues serving Atlantia as Head Retainer and Court Secretary for numerous reigns and as the Emergency Seneschal for the Kingdom. She

has also been a member of the Kingdom Bid Committee. Additionally, we support the Archery and Equestrian communities as Mistress Edan is authorized in both Combat Archery and as an Equestrian. As such, our interests lie across the board in the SCA and we strive to bring others to where their joy lies.

We are now empty-nesters and have even more time to devote to helping our Barony. If we are allowed to serve; our goals will be but are not limited to:

- Come out of the abeyance and work towards a stronger Barony
- Make RC more of a presence at events
- Hold quarterly demos to strengthen our numbers
- Working alongside the seneschal's office, work towards guaranteeing that each office has a deputy and that no individual holds more than one office
- Continue to strengthen our relationship with neighboring groups

We realize that our goals are lofty, but we do not think them unattainable. Raven's Cove has within its populace an amazing amount of heart and desire, with individual members who continuously step up for the good of their Barony. This makes us so very proud to be counted among their number. We would count ourselves blessed and honored to serve as your Coronets.

As individuals, we bring diplomacy, grace, care, and fairness. Having served as Baronage for five and a half years, we fully understand how to navigate the trials a group can face during adversity. We also know how to be the individuals who must keep a positive attitude during those trials.

We know after much consideration and discussion that we are ready and prepared for what sacrifices may be needed to fulfill this endeavor. To that end, we acknowledge and can accept the obligation of service to the Barony of Raven's Cove. If chosen, we intend to make ourselves available to the populace by all means possible. We promise that we will be unprejudiced and just representatives of the Crown. Open to the Populace, and imparting their views and sentiments to the Crown as well as sharing the desires of the Crown with the Populace.

We remain ever Yours in Service to Atlantia, Raven's Cove, and the Dream,

Lochlainn hua Rigbarddain

James Rardin

Edan Lowery

Heather Rardin

LOI from Lord Ragnulfr and Lady Freydis

Paul D Padgett and Felicia D Padgett

Unto Their Royal Majesties Randall I and Iul'iana I, The Kingdom Seneschal, Maistr Cian Mac Cellachain Ui Dubhlaich, Kingdom Regional Deputy Seneschal (NC) Lord Alesander Davidson, and the wonderful populace of the Barony of Raven's Cove do we Lord Ragnulfr Ornofson and Lady Freydis Rodmarsdottir send joyous and grateful greetings.

We wish for this letter to serve as our formal intention to put forth ourselves for consideration as candidates for the next Baron and Baroness of the Barony of Raven's Cove. We wholeheartedly believe we can best serve our Barony and our Kingdom by offering ourselves for the Coronets position.

Being part of Raven's Cove, we have done many things, but the most important thing to us is service. We wish the serve everyone in our family, everyone who claims Raven's Cove as their home group. We want to watch our family build and grow and succeed. They all have the ability as we want to support and enable that, whether the individual interest is fighting, archery and thrown weapon, arts and science or learning and being given opportunities to serve themselves.

Lord Ragnulfr is a recently authorized heavy fighter, a fencer and scholar in the Academie d'Espee, supporting our fighters. He has served as the archery champion, is the current thrown weapons champion and is completing his thrown weapons marshal to be able to bring thrown weapons to the Barony. His art and his service, to the barony and the kingdom is in his passion for food, specifically smoking meat and shares his joy and encourages others to do so as well, whether in food, metal work, building things. He has received the Black Gull from Raven's Cove for his service to the Barony in many ways, and a Fountain for his service to the Kingdom.

Lady Freydis is a combat archer and a fencer, belonging to both the Academie d'Espee as a Scholar and an able-bodied Sailor on the North Star, a ship of the Corsairium. Admittedly she should not be allowed to throw anything sharper than a ball of yarn, but she cheers for thrown weapons. Archery is something she enjoys and loves to share and encourage others in, having been the archery champion before. She loves the arts mostly as a supporter and cheering audience. She has some skill with Viking arts but attends art events to serve and support the baronial artisans. Lady Freydis' s path is that of service, taking the belt of a protégée from Mistress Edan at the tournament of Ymir is 2022. She has served two terms as the Baronial Seneschal from 2019 through the great plague, and WoW 2023. For service she has received the award of the Black Gull from the Barony and an Opal from the Kingdom in 2021. At the Raven's Cove Baronial Birthday 2023, she was inducted into the Baronial Order of the Senmurv for service to the Barony and was awarded a Fountain by their Royal Majesties Abran I and Anya I for service during their reign.

In some ways, we share the same interest and in others we diverge, but we can support in a number of different ways to share the joy. Whether it's standing with our populace on the field or cheering for them as they compete. Some of the things that we wish to do if we are allowed to do will be :

- Have fun, joy and playfulness become a larger part of our interactions. We want the populace to join us as we come back as full part of Atlantia, to have the dream. We want to give them the opportunity to stand in the limelight of their dreams. We want to play.
- Leading our family out of this hard period, and growing together, stronger as a Barony.
- To create more awards to honor our populace at different levels in their path and skill. To honor different aspects of the dream.

- Create regular, quarterly demos that work with our Shire neighbors to the north and south to build our respective groups.
- We want to work with all our officers, especially our seneschal to build our office corps and deputies.

The list is not all we want to accomplish and will grow and change as our Barony does, but it's where we want to start. Some goals are more intangible than others, but no less important as we want the success of our Barony, and the happiness of our populace. They are all amazing people, with wonderful hearts and minds and talents. We are very proud to be recognized as being from Raven's Cove because of this populace. We would be honored and grateful to serve as you Coronets.

In our service to the Barony, and previous experience, we are both well versed in leadership, conflict resolution and working as a team. We both have different strength within that that complement each other. Lord Ragnulfr can be very driven, a lead from the front and get a mission mentality. Lady Freydis can be more the more diplomatic of the two, seeking compromise and problem solving within her purview.

We have both considered and discussed, not only among ourselves but with our adult (and almost adult) daughters, Veruna and Rota Ragnulfrdottir's, what would be necessary for us to fulfill this endeavor for the Barony. With their support, we have no question in our ability to accept this responsibility and fulfill it to the best of our capability. We promise that we will be fair, just, and unbiased representatives of the Crown. We will be openly available to the Populace and bring their views and feeling before the Crown as well as relaying the wishes of the Crown with the Populace.

We are Yours in Service to Atlantia, to the Barony Raven's Cove, and to the Dream,

Ragnulfr "Boarsmoker" Ornofson

Paul D Padgett

Freydis Rodmarsdottir

Felicia D Padgett

LOI From Baroness Olwen de Montgomery

Morag Polaski

To Their Royal Majesties Randall and Iul'iana; Master Cian, Seneschal of Atlantia; and Lord Ivan, Seneschal of the Barony of Raven's Cove does Baroness Olwen de Montgomery send warm greetings and hope that this missive finds all well.

After much thought, consideration, and deliberation I would like to put my name forward for consideration as the next Baroness of Raven's Cove. I believe I am able to bring a depth of experience to the position. I joined the Canton of Vest Yorvik, in the Barony of Septentria, a part of what was then the Middle Kingdom in 1987. While there, I held the offices of canton Chatelain, canton Chronicler, and Ealdormere Principality Chirurgeon. I moved to Atlantia (the Barony of Marinus) in 1993, serving as Baroness of Marinus. In 2002, I moved to the Stronghold of Raven's Cove, and since that time I have served as a herald at large and as a deputy for the offices of Exchequer, Seneschal, and Minister of Arts and Sciences, as well as the registrar of the Pages Academy, and the Dean of the Pages Academy. After Raven's Cove became a barony, I served as Baronial Minister of Arts and Sciences and Baronial Minister of the List and have been the Baronial Arts and Sciences Champion several times. I am currently the deputy seneschal, under Lord Ivan Mezey. Additionally, I am active within the Kingdom as a member of both the Company of the Clewe and the Company of the Silver Spindle. I have been honored to serve as retainers to Their Excellencies Lochlainn and Edan, as well as to Princess Kaellyn and Princess Heithr, when I lived in Ealdormere.

The Barony has undergone a period of tumult recently, as well as some change in the physical size of the group. Over the past few years, we have been able to reconnect with local resources, such as our local libraries, museums, and recreation venues. As Baroness, I would continue to work closely with the Minister of Arts and Sciences and the Chatelain to grow our local group with demos aimed at local recruiting, providing "living history" educational content through the proper portrayal of medieval activities, as well as exposure to SCA-style combat. In conjunction with building the Barony's membership, I believe that focusing on activities that are highly visible and interesting would be beneficial. Activities such as archery, thrown weapons, dance, and medieval games can provide a high rate of interest while not requiring a large sum of money from members in order to start participating. I would work closely with the Baronial Chatelain to develop a group where newcomers are warmly welcomed, and to foster a desire in them to stay for the long term. Finally, I would like to turn my attention to improving the Baronial regalia through the skills and abilities of the Barony, to include more banners, bunting, and pennants, as well such things as boxes, bags, and cushions.

Forefront in my mind is the knowledge that as the Baroness, I represent the Crown to the Barony and the Barony to the Crown, and I will endeavor to bring honor to both. Raven's Cove has had baronage who have represented Raven's Cove abundantly well, and I would continue in that example by traveling to represent the barony throughout the kingdom. I will continue the established customs of supporting the members of the barony on the field and off, visiting our neighboring baronies and shires as often as possible. I will further support the kingdom by participating, and encouraging the members of the barony to participate, in kingdom level events, inter-kingdom events, and in the hosting of such events. I intend to continue Raven's Cove's tradition of hospitality to all by welcoming visitors as our honored guests, and regularly inviting Their Majesties, Their Highnesses, and the kingdom's baronage to our events. I also desire to grow the practice of courtesy and chivalry within the Barony, by providing encouragement as well as example to all. The foundation of Raven's Cove has been well-laid, both as a Stronghold and a Barony. It is my sincere desire to build upon that groundwork.

I have experience in holding a Barony, both as part of a couple and as a solitaire, and I deeply understand that the care and keeping of a Barony is a great responsibility to both the Kingdom and the Barony. It is not a decision to be undertaken lightly, frivolously, or without a great deal of thought and consideration. There are challenges faced by all baronage, whether they sit as part of a couple, or as a single. I cannot say that I know every challenge with which I would be faced, but I can say that I will ask for assistance from those in a position to do so and accept it as appropriate when it is offered. If it is Your Majesties' will for me to fulfill this duty, I am prepared to take on the responsibilities inherent to this position, while acknowledging the challenges faced by every group in order to prosper and grow. Equally as important, should Your Majesties' choice rest on another, I pledge my full support to them and the Barony, to give wise counsel and serve where I might, to the best of my knowledge and ability. I await Your Majesties' pleasure,

Baroness Olwen de Montgomery

Morag Polaski

LOI from Lord Ivan Mezey

Ian Bell

To those who read this,

I hope this missive finds you well at this time. It is with enthusiasm and a deep sense of commitment to the ideals and traditions of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) that I write to formally request consideration for the title of Baron of Ravens Cove

I believe that the role of a Baron carries with it a significant responsibility amongst those to uphold the SCA's cherished values and those of Ravens Cove. I understand with the role comes sacrifice, and the understanding of that balance between your wants and the requirements and needs of the position. I believe it is not till the cornet is on your head that you truly start to understand the weight of the position.

My journey within the SCA has been enriched and transformative these nearly 30 years and helped me to understand what being in such a position requires. This understanding of responsibility is nurtured by my passion for the fighting arts, my passion for all things creative plus my unwavering dedication to my local barony and the society. Also to have had the privilege of participating in numerous events, engaging in arts and sciences, and serving my local Baronies, Cantons and Shires with dedication. I have learned much during my current time as Seneschal and helping to bring this Barony out of abeyance and create a new Baronial Policy, with the assistance of all those in this Barony. I have been honored to learn from and collaborate with many of the brilliant individuals who make up this welcoming and vibrant community. Each in there own way has helped provide me with a continually growing skill set to fill the role of Baron.

In seeking the position of Baron, I envision a role that cohesively blends my current experience as Seneschal with my commitment to the fighting community my love of the arts along with my long years of commitment to the SCA. I pledge my continued support to the members who are the life blood of our amazing barony. I cannot guarantee there will not be shenanigans. If honored with this title, I will commit to:

1. Ensuring the well-being of our community, I will work diligently to address concerns, facilitate communication, and promote a sense of community amongst our members. To continue to break bread with the other local Baronies and continue to foster strong inter group relationships.
2. To continue to guide newcomers, I am committed to helping newcomers find their place within the SCA and providing them with the resources and guidance they need to thrive. To that end I also will assist the Barony to help others of like mind find out about the SCA and guide them towards participation.
3. Continue to support the arts and sciences that should always be promoted. I am very passionate about the diverse range of skills and crafts that the this barony celebrates. I will continue to support and encourage members in their pursuit of these endeavors. I am always amazed at the brilliant works this barony's members are capable of.
4. Strengthen the rapier/fighter community. I am deeply committed to nurturing the growth of fighters within Ravens Cove and the SCA by organizing, promoting and participating in regular activities, and promoting the art of historical fighting.
5. Collaborating with kingdom officers and Crown. I will work in partnership with the Crown and other officers to advance the goals and mission within our barony, Atlantia and the SCA as a whole.

I understand the gravity of this role and the importance of representing Ravens Cove, Atlantia and the SCA with honor, integrity, humility and humor. If am granted the title of Baron, I will carry out my duties with unwavering dedication and a profound sense of responsibility to the Barony and its members. Thank you for your time, and consideration, I am more than willing to discuss my qualifications for this post. I am open to any interviews or questions that may be asked of me during the selection process. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing success of the SCA, while serving my Barony of Ravens Cove in this new capacity.

Yours in service to the Dream,

Ivan Mezey