

# Clyffe Notes

January 2020  
Volume XXXI, No. 1



Barony of  
Dun Carraig

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**Business Meeting Minutes**

Business Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00pm at Big Larry's Comic Book Cafe, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

December meeting minutes were printed in the December issue.

The January business meeting (January 7) falls after the 5th-of-the-month publishing

deadline, so the notes from the January meeting will be printed in the February issue.



**Elderberries part 3: What to do with the berries after you pick them.**

by Mary Poschet

*Note to the reader: This is the last installment of a three-part series. The series began in the November 2019 issue of the Clyffe Notes, with a recipe for the Elderberry Sour Cream Pie that was served to the Seadogs at a Viking demo. The second, "Stalking the wild elderberry" in the December 2019*

*issue, dealt with finding, recognizing, and picking elderberries.*

To recap from last month: you pick elderberries by breaking off or cutting off clusters of the dark purple berries. I collect clusters in a bucket, 3 gallon to 5 gallon size.

Once home with my bucket full of berry clusters, I get out a large bowl and a wide-tooth comb (you can substitute a fork). I sit outside with the bowl in my lap and use the comb to pull the berries off the stem. I do this outside because some berries fly off in random directions, and they leave stains where they get squished. Also, there are always some bugs involved. If it's hot outside, or mosquito-y, you can set up an electric fan to blow on you as you work.

The bare stems are discarded - though they can be dried to make trees for a kid's diorama assignment.

Once the berries are combed off, fill the kitchen sink with cold water. Pour the berries into the water, stir them around a bit, and skim off whatever is floating (I use a wire-mesh strainer). That will get rid of most under-ripe berries, random small bugs, and bits of debris. Scoop out the berries that sank to the bottom, and drain them in a colander.

To freeze berries for pie, spread them out in a single layer on a cookie sheet, and place in your freezer overnight. The next day, scrape them off with a spatula, transfer to a freezer container, and store in the freezer.

To freeze berries for juice, just put them in a freezer container. It's OK if they freeze into a solid block.

To extract juice from fresh berries, mash the washed berries in a saucepan. Heat to a simmer, then simmer, covered, 15 minutes. Strain juice through muslin cloth, or several layers of cheesecloth. For frozen berries, you can skip the mashing step, just thaw, simmer, and strain. The strained juice can be used to make jelly, syrup, or cordial, or dye.

### Bonus recipe: Elderberry Jelly

This tastes a bit like grape jelly, but more intense. If it's too strongly flavored for you, try substituting store-bought apple juice for half the berry juice.

3 cups elderberry juice

1/2 cup strained lemon juice (4 lemons)

7 cups sugar (yes, really - you need this much sugar, don't reduce the amount)

1 box (2 pouches) liquid fruit pectin

7 to 10 half-pint glass canning jars, or 3 to 4 pint glass canning jars, with lids & rings. Wash jars & lids before using.

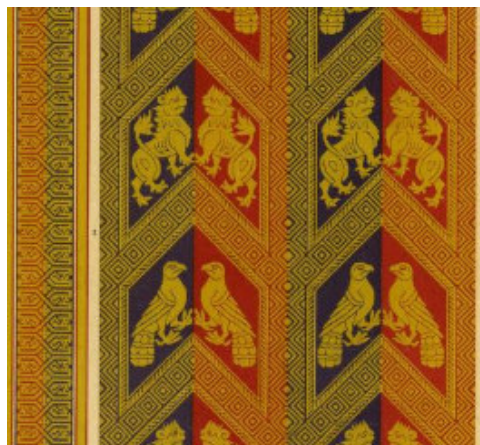
Set a large pot of water to boil - it needs to be big enough to submerge all the jars of jelly in boiling water. Also, in a small pot, bring the jar lids to a boil, then cover & remove from heat till you are ready to use them.

Measure elderberry juice and lemon juice into a *very large* saucepan (8 quarts or larger). Add the sugar. Mix well. Place over high heat and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. When it comes to a full rolling boil, stir in the liquid pectin. Then bring it back to a full rolling boil and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim off foam with metal spoon, and ladle (or pour) quickly into half-pint or pint canning jars, leaving at least 1/4 inch air space at the top.

Wipe jar rims, add lids and rings, tighten the rings with your hands (hold the hot jar with a potholder; do not use a tool to tighten the rings). Submerge the jars in boiling water for 5 minutes, then pull out and cool. After the jars are cooled, the rings can be removed, and any trace stickiness washed off the outside. If a lid does not seal after the jar cools, that jar can be eaten immediately. However, if the lid is found un-sealed after storage, throw out the contents without tasting them. Sealed jars will keep for years at room temperature.



### Chronicler's Choice



from *medievaltextiledesignpanels*

A question often comes up in making SCA garb: "What do I look for, to get period-looking fabric?" Here is some help.

I recently came across a series of "Textile Design Panels" from the Lowell Textile School (which operated under that name from 1897-1953, it's now part of the University of Massachusetts system). The links below go to image collections which appear to be intended as inspiration for textile designs based on historic sources. They are probably color plates taken from a variety of 19th-century reference books. I tracked down some of those books, but the Lowell collections tend to show brighter colors.

You probably will not find the exact same designs in modern

fabrics, but you can get a feel for the style of a period, and use that to judge what you can find today. Or, if you want to spend lots of money, you can get fabric custom-printed with the design of your choice. So here are the Lowell links, and the source books that I have identified.

<https://archive.org/details/greektextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/illuminatedmanuscripttextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/chineseandjapanesetextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/16th19thcenturytextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/italiantextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/medievaltextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/persiantextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/byzantineandturkishtextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/renaissancetextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/moorishtextiledesignpanels>

<https://archive.org/details/flowerstextiledesignpanels> \*\*

The grammar of ornament [https://archive.org/details/gri\\_c00033125008700094](https://archive.org/details/gri_c00033125008700094)

Polychromatic ornament <https://archive.org/details/polychromaticor00raci>

La plante et ses applications ornementales <https://archive.org/details/planteetsesappl00Gras> \*\*

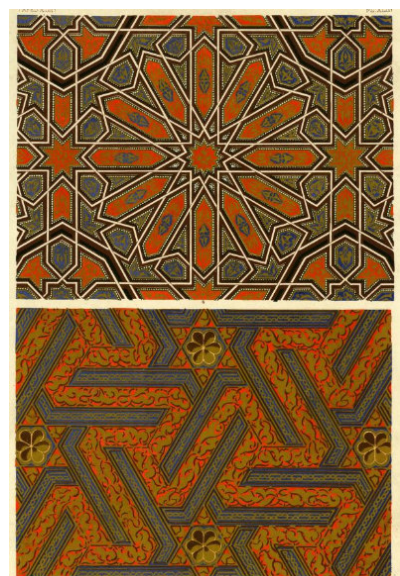
*\*\*These are Art Nouveau period (late 1800s-early 1900s), but I include them because they are beautiful.*



from  
medievaltextiledesignpanels



from  
renaissancetextiledesignpanels



from  
moorishtextiledesignpanels

# JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Archery Practice 7:00 PM Sir Jonathas' house	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Baronial Business Meeting 7:00 PM Big Larry's Leonardtown	<b>8</b> Fighter Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Archery Practice 7:00 PM Sir Jonathas' house	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Fencing Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>15</b> Fighter Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Archery Practice 7:00 PM Sir Jonathas' house	<b>18</b> Kingdom 12 <sup>th</sup> Night Roanoke, VA (BnB)
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Fencing Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>22</b> Fighter Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Archery Practice 7:00 PM Sir Jonathas' house	<b>25</b> Midwinter's 2020 Lochmere Severna Park, MD
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Fencing Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>29</b> Fighter Practice 7:30 PM Southern CC Lusby	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Archery Practice 7:00 PM Sir Jonathas' house	<b>Feb 1</b> Winter University Dun Carraig St. Mary's City, MD (BnB)

## Baronial Progress

Key:

(BnB) – Baron Harald and Baroness Ceridwen

(B) – Baron Harald

(Ba) – Baroness Ceridwen

The Baronial Calendar displays events at nearby locations.

It is not a schedule of all Atlantian events.

For all scheduled events go to [www "dot" atlantia "dot" sca "dot" org  
"slash" events "slash" atlantia-calendar-events](http://www.atlantia.sca.org/slash/events/slash/atlantia-calendar-events)

Does something need correcting? Please let me know. Email me and I'll correct it in the next newsletter.

[chronicler"at"duncarraig.net](mailto:chronicler@duncarraig.net)

If you would like to receive Clyffe Notes in printed form, please email me at [chronicler"at"duncarraig.net](mailto:chronicler)

Please send your SCA and modern name(s) and your address.

## Baronial Regnum



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[webminister@DunCarraig.net](mailto:webminister@DunCarraig.net)

**Baronial Champions**  
Armor: Lord Valdr Arisson  
Rapier: Lady Caitilín Inghean Uí  
Ruaidhri  
Archery: Lord Knutr Olafsson Osiðar  
Arts & Sciences: Al-Sayyida Naila al-  
Zarqa  
Bardic: Kara Erwinsdottir  
Thrown weapons: Lady Aine ingen  
MaelPtraic

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**Baronial Marshalate**  
Still to be updated soon....

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