

# IRON BARON



OCTOBER A.S. LVIII

# Baronial Officers

Baron - Sir Erik Martel

(Joe Goodwin) - Baron.IronMtn@meridies.org

Baroness - Mistress Gwenndolynn ni hAilleachain

(Stacy Hall) - Baroness.IronMtn@meridies.org

Seneschal - Maestra Magdalena da Parma

(Louise Webb) - Sen.IronMtn@meridies.org

Exchequer - Lady Emma Wyatt

(Jen King) - Excheq.IronMtn@meridies.org

Herald - Vacant

Knight's Marshal - Sir Erik Martel

Rapier Marshal - Baroness Genevieve Alaiz D'Avignon

(Kayla Adams) - Rm.ironmtn@meridies.org

Minster of Arts and Sciences - Mistress Margery of Crosgate

(Margie Hyatt) - AS.ironmtn@meridies.org

Chatelaine - Vacant

Chronicler - THL Christopher Aubrey

(Brian King) - Chron.IronMtn@meridies.org

RUM Provost - Vacant

Quartermaster - Baroness Genevieve Alaiz D'Avignon

(Kayla Adams) - Rm.ironmtn@meridies.org

Dance Master - THL Iain MacArthur

(Nicholas Milano) - KM.IronMtn@meridies.org

Webminister - Maestra Magdalena da Parma

(Louise Webb) - Web.IronMtn@meridies.org

Historian - Lady Emma Wyatt

(Jen King) - Hist.IronMtn@meridies.org

Minister of Youth - Lady Ailith de Steddham

(Ashley Setters) - MoC.IronMtn@meridies.org

Cover Art: Decorated Initial V, late 13th century, Unknown artist/maker

Part of Antiphonal, Master of Gerona

<https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/object/107SD3>

## Meetings

The Barony of Iron Mountain meets in Room 108 at Valley Christian Church, 2600 Cherokee Place, Mountain Brook, Alabama 35216. Room 108 is best accessed by driving around to the far right side of the building, parking in the back of the church, and entering on the ground floor covered entrance. Meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of the month from 6:30 to 8 pm central. The first Thursday is the Barony's business meeting. The third Thursday is class night.

October 5 - Business Meeting

October 19 - Class Night

November 2 - Business Meeting

Fighter Practice is held Sundays at Patriot Park. (710 Oak Grove Rd, Homewood, AL 35209) Park at Corky Bell Dance Studio. Start time is dependent on weather and proximity of events. Please check the Facebook page for announcement.

## *Congratulations*

Iain MacArthur  
Order of the Sable Sword

## *Upcoming Events*

October 6-8 - Crossroads  
Shire of Owl's Nest

October 13-15 - Fall Coronation  
Shire of Tir Briste

October 21 - Danelaw  
Barony of Bryn Madoc

October 27-29 - Gatalop  
Barony of Osprey

October 27-29 - Silver Hammer  
Barony of Thor's Mountain

## Da'ud Bob's Movie Reviews for October 2023

It never ceases to surprise me, when I run across a film that I have never seen before and should have known about. I mean, I spend a fair bit of time on the internet in various groups and websites like IMDb and Amazon specifically looking for certain types of movies. You know, the kinds of movies I review here every month. Movies set in the Middle Ages or Renaissance. Movies set in pre-technological eras. Movies of Shakespeare plays. And when I eventually run across an old (say, just to pick a date at random, 1960) movie that spans more than one of those categories, well, I wonder how I managed to have missed it all these years! But it happens, and it always surprises me. And that's the story behind this month's movie review. I was reading a thread in a Facebook group, and one of the commenters brought up an old movie by a Japanese director who was not Kurosawa, set in samurai-era Japan but which was basically Shakespeare's Hamlet. So of course I had to go and see if I could find it. And, sure enough, there it was, from a site called SamuraiDVD (you'll never guess what kind of movies they sell there, right?), and at a reasonable price. So I bought a copy to add to my Shakespeare shelf, and of course to review for you, my faithful readers. And thus it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you 1960's Hono-o no shiro, or to give it its name in English, **Castle of Flames**.

Directed by Tai Kato (see? Not Akira Kurosawa!), and starring Hashizô Ôkawa as young Lord Masato (Hamlet), Denjirô Ôkôchi, Mieko Takamine, Ushio Akashi, Yatarô Kurokawa, Kenji Susukida, Yoshiko Mita, Yoshiko Mita, Yoshiya Bando, Ichirô Izawa, Shôsaburô Aihara, Kensaku Haruji, and Masuo Kamiki (sorry, neither the DVD cover nor IMDb give the roles for each actor. I did write down the characters' names and their matching Shakespearean roles, but I still don't know which actor played which), the story is basically that of Shakespeare's Hamlet, only set in feudal

Japan, somewhat abbreviated with parts of the storyline omitted completely and with a number of scenes rearranged from their usual order. I am going to go ahead and assume that you already know the story of this story of the “Prince of Denmark” as told by William Shakespeare. If you don’t, it is easy enough to look up on-line. And the ending here is a little different from the Bard’s version, in that it lets Hamlet, I mean, Masato, live at the end, even as so many of the other characters die around him.

Good points: The movie stays pretty true to the general story. The costuming, as is probably to be expected of a Japanese movie set in Japan, is pretty decent. The ghost (even though he doesn’t say anything). The “play within a play”, The Mousetrap, or here, the Saohime act. We get to actually see the pirates here.

Bad points: You don’t see young Lord Masato planning the “play within a play” with the actors. Masato’s rejection of the Ophelia character isn’t as good as Shakespeare’s “get thee to a nunnery”. The rearrangement of some of the scenes feels confusing to anyone who is familiar with Shakespeare’s work. The peasants are revolting. (“You can say that again; they stink on ice.”) It’s weird to have Masato live at the end.

Zero breasts. One gallon of blood. 32 dead bodies, plus two acted deaths in the “play within a play”. Arrow fu. Wakizashi fu. Matchlock musket fu. Spear fu. Katana fu. Poison fu. Flaming torch fu. Gratuitous shoulder rub. Gratuitous village meeting. Gratuitous bastinado. A mere 57 on the Vomit Meter. 2½ stars. Da’ud Bob says, “I have no idea why I never saw this movie before. It’s great to see how Shakespeare can be absorbed and adapted into other cultures. Check it out!”

THE BARONY OF IRON MOUNTAIN PRESENTS

# *Magna Faire* | MEDIEVAL HOLIDAY

DALWHINNIE FIELDS • DECEMBER 1-3, 2023

Join us for a Medieval holiday weekend where you can enter a project in the Magna Faire or the A&S Regional. A special brewing track is planned along with other special interest classes. Rapier and heavy fighters can take part in the Toys for Tots charity tournament, the Sword and Mistletoe Tournament and the popular Iron Mountain Baronage Rapier Tournament. Site opens Friday at 5 pm central and closes Sunday at 10 am central. Look for more information on the Facebook Event page and at [ironmountain.meridies.org](http://ironmountain.meridies.org).

## Weekend Fee

Non-member \$28.00

Member \$23.00

## Day Trip Fee

Non-member \$22.00

Member \$17.00

Children Admitted FREE but food and bunk space is additional

## Food

Breakfast additional \$3

Feast additional \$12

Bunk Space additional (limited number – register early)

Upper bunks \$13

Lower bunks \$15

Make checks payable to: SCA, Inc/Barony of Iron Mountain. Mail to:  
Lady Emma Wyatt (Jen King), 1579 Vestridge Circle, Vestavia AL 35216



# THE CORONATION OF TIMOTHY III & YSMAY III



OCTOBER 13-15, 2023  
CAMP BENJAMIN HAWKINS BSC  
2251 BOY SCOUT ROAD  
BYRON, GA 31008



EVENT OPENS FRIDAY AT 4:00 PM  
ENDS SUNDAY AT 11:00 AM

PRESENTED BY THE SHIRE OF TIR BRISTE

## EVENT PRICES

MEMBER WEEKEND: \$25  
GUEST WEEKEND: \$30  
MEMBER DAYTRIP: \$15  
GUEST DAYTRIP: \$20  
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MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SCA, INC,  
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## DIRECTIONS

FROM I-75 SOUTH TAKE EXIT 153 SARDIS CHURCH RD. AND TURN LEFT. KEEP LEFT TO CONTINUE ONTO HARTLEY BRIDGE RD AND THEN BOY SCOUT RD. IN 3 MILES, THE ENTRANCE WILL BE ON THE RIGHT.

FROM I-75 NORTH TAKE EXIT 149 GA-HWY 49 AND TURN RIGHT ON OLD MACON RD. TURN LEFT TO STAY ON OLD MACON RD. TURN SLIGHTLY RIGHT ON VINSON ST. CONTINUE ONTO BOY SCOUT RD. IN 2.25 MILES, THE ENTRANCE WILL BE ON THE LEFT.



Iron Baron  
1579 Vestridge Circle  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

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