



PORTCULLIS

Newsletter of the Barony of Brendoken
Volume VII - Issue 3 – April 2008

FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

Unto the Barony of Brendoken,

Spring and warm weather are sure to be here soon. At least that's what the greenery coming up is promising. With spring comes Brendokenfest on April 12th. We give our thanks to the Baronial Champions: Lord Ragnar Ironhand, Lord Ryuzoji Kenshin, Lord Gabriel Baum, Lord Antonio Vicini, and Lady Ursula the Widow for their endeavors on behalf of Brendoken. We look forward with great anticipation to the upcoming Championships. If you are interested in becoming one of Brendoken's Champions, please read the Responsibilities of the Champions, found on page 3, before entering a competition.

We also wish to send out Our thanks to Lord Kilij Kiyan ben Yaltajak and Milady Zaliha bint Zazilik for their efforts in putting together the Qaina Hafla, which was held on March 29th. From all reports, it was a day filled with interesting classes, delicious foods, and ended with unique and delightful dance and music. To those who helped to make this event a success: Hoobah!

As we gear up for the whirlwind of events between now and Pennsic War 37, have fun, be safe, and remember the ideals that brought you to the SCA.

Yours in Service to the Midrealm and Barony Brendoken,
Alexander and Catriona,
Baron and Baroness Brendoken



BRENDOKEN BARONIAL A&S COMPETITION, APRIL 12, AS XLII.

I apologize to everyone for the lateness of this information. Of course, the judging will take into account that you had short notice. ~Ursula

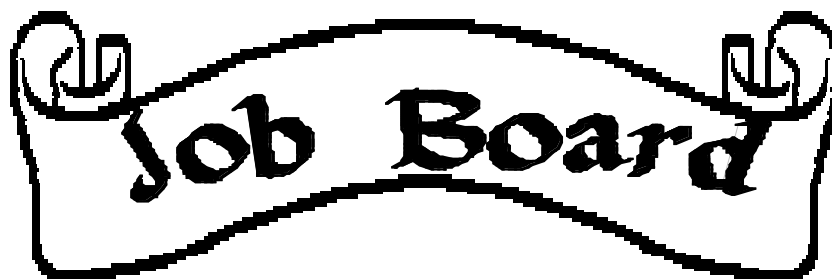
The competition includes an All-comers competition and the Championship. However, both sets of entries will be displayed together and judged in parallel.

How to enter:

1. Bring your two (or more, or fewer) entries to the A&S table BEFORE NOON on the day of the event and fill out a very short form.
2. Prizes will be awarded will be by a combination of judges' determination and populace vote.

Rules:

1. The competition shall be in two parts, Open and Themed. While it is not mandatory to enter both parts of the competition, it is preferred for contenders for the Championship to do so.
2. The Open competition shall be open to any item that would be eligible for a Regional or kingdom A&S competition in the Midrealm, viz:
 - a. it must be the work of the entrant,
 - b. it must have been completed within the previous two years, and
 - c. it must not previously have been judged at any Regional or Kingdom A&S competition
3. The Themed competition shall consist of any item that falls under Rule 2 and is created upon the theme "The Glory of Brendoken."
4. Minimal documentation consisting of the item name and description, including the date and location being recreated, is required. (E.g. "Fifteenth-century English wool carder.") Additional documentation is at the discretion of the applicant.
5. Cross-entering for the championship is permitted, but a championship entry of two items will be considered to outscore a cross-entered item of equal quality.
6. The judges will not know the contestants' names while judging.
7. In cases of doubt or exceptions regarding the rules, the outgoing Champion shall make a ruling.



The barony is on need of volunteers to fill these positions:

BARONIAL SENESCHAL
BARONIAL EXCHEQUER
BARONIAL SIGNET

If interested, please contact the current officer and/or Their Excellences.

responsibilities of the champions

For the duration of your term as Baronial Champion, Service to the Barony should come first if at all possible. Prospective champions should make appropriate plans to deal with any oaths of service to peers, households, etc that will need to be put on hold during the term BEFORE the tourney begins.

Everyone should be aware that the Champions represent the Barony of Brendoken when in garb at all times during events, not just during courts or while in the colors of the Barony.

The Baronial Champions will be expected to attend various events where there will be a Baronial Presence. They should come prepared to represent their office in whatever methods are required at that time.

The Baronial Champions should be prepared to stand with Their Excellencies during Baronial Courts.

The Baronial Champions may be asked to be an emissary for the Barony, should the need arise.

Each Baronial Champion should teach within their area of expertise. This may be done at an event (Baronial or otherwise), practice, or workshop.

Rapier and Armored Champions should be authorized in more than one style, or planning to do so in the future.

Martial Champions should plan to serve within their respective combat units as needed for the duration of their service. This may include training or command of said fighting force.

Baronial Champions may be asked to step down if they are unable to meet the responsibilities of their office.

Currently serving Baronial Champions are responsible for setting up the tourney/ method of choosing their successor. This should include providing for necessary equipment, qualified marshals, and communication with site/event staff as needed. It is also expected that the Baron and Baroness will be consulted for informational purposes.

Office holders may not serve more than one term as a Champion in the same area consecutively. They may, however, serve in other areas. (One year as Rapier Champion, the next year as A&S, etc.)

We realize that "real world" issues may develop over a term and may affect your responsibilities to the Barony. Any issues or problems should be brought to the Baron and Baroness to be resolved. Remember to uphold the tenets of the Society and have fun!

Credits

The graphic on page 1 is from: <http://www.godecookery.com/clipart/misc/>
The Brendoken device on page 1, the Job Board graphic on page 2, and the group devices on page 4
were created by Baroness Catriona using Adobe Photoshop CS.

AROUND the BARONy



GWYNTARIAN: <http://www.midrealm.org/gwyntarian/>

The Marche of Gwyntarian will be hosting an event, First Contact: Moors in Hispania, on May 3rd at the Goodyear Heights Presbyterian Church, Akron, OH. If you are interesting in teaching a class, please contact class coordinator, THL Saradwen Ariandelen (Sally Burnell) at saradwen@raex.com. They meet at the Goodyear Heights Presbyterian Church, Akron, OH, every Thursday night at 7:30 pm except for the week of the last Friday of the month when they meet at Fred Fuller Park, Kent, OH, for a Dance Night.



THISTLE: <http://www.brendoken.org/thistle/>

The March of the Thistle meets on the second Sunday of the month (we hope to make these archery practices at the archery range in Norton, until further notice) and the fourth Wednesdays at the Wadsworth Public Library at 6:30pm for business meetings and presentations/ workshops. All are welcome! For more information, contact L. Mageen at 330-669-3649 (no calls after 8pm, please) or, probably your best bet for a timely reply, emp20u@yahoo.com.



THREE TOWERS: <http://www.midrealm.org/threetowers/>

The Marche of Three Towers have weekly meetings on Tuesday evening starting at 7 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Mansfield, OH. The new site for Encampment VIII on June 20-22 is in Bucyrus, OH. As described on the website: "it has LOTS of trees, a pavilion, and we get to have a Woods Walk for the archery folks. We have lots of space, but everything itogether and no hills."



ALDERFORD: <http://alderford.org/>

This group's meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Perry Township Police Department starting at 8 pm. Several of their members will enter or display their talents at Northern Oaken A&S Competition on April 26th in Hilliard, OH, sponsored by the Shire of Mugmort.

BRENDOKEN AT RUM

A strong contingent from Brendoken, led by Baroness Catriona, participated in the most recent gathering of the Royal University of the Midrealm.

Her Excellency is Dean of the College of History and SCA Administration, and Lady Tyzes Sofia, known as Zsof is Dean of the College of Performing Arts in the R.U.M., so they each had administrative as well as teaching duties. Baroness Catriona taught about the real history reproduced in the film “Kingdom of Heaven,” which is more interesting and complicated in real life than in the Hollywood version. THL Milica of Varna taught “If You Hold It, They Will Come,” in which she explained how to publicize your SCA event successfully and increase attendance.

In the theatre track, Lady Zsof, taught a lively and fun introductory class in improvisation. Lady Ursula the Widow reprised her Midrealm Singalong, the class she first offered at Masque of Courtly Love last year.

Maistor Justinos Tekton, Baroness Ailith MacIntosh, Baroness Katarina Peregrine, Lady Catriona Fionnghal nic Elphinstone, and young Erasmus were present as students. Of the first class of the day, “One Shot – One Kill,” led by Duke Bardolph, Justin commented that if he had done nothing else at R.U.M, that class had been worth the 300-mile drive.

Other classes attended by our members included scribing, dance, marshalling, Gregorian chant, and Commedia dell’Arte.

APRIL LORE AND LEGENDS-

Resource: Woodlands Junior School, Kent
(<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/year/april.htm>)

It is the arrival of the cuckoo that announces the return of spring in England. There are many dates in April that have been declared 'Cuckoo Day' depending on what part of England you are in. Traditionally, the cuckoo is thought to sing from St. Tiburtius' Day, the 14th April, until St John's Day on June 24th.

There is a curious ritual that should be performed if you hear the cuckoo sing on St. Tiburtius' Day. You are supposed to turn over all the money in your pocket and spit while not looking at the ground. If you have done this while you are standing on soft ground, the cuckoo's song means lots of good luck. But, if you had the misfortune to be standing on hard ground, it's bad luck for you!

Another bird that indicates spring has arrived in England is the swallow. In the Middle Ages, it was thought that the swallow spent the winter buried deep in the mud at the bottom of ponds. April 15th is a happier date in England; it is the traditional 'Swallow Day'.

When April blows its horn, Tis good for hay and corn.

April wet - good wheat.

Till April's dead, change not a thread.

upcoming events

April 2008

- 5- Standard Bearers' Tourney
Thirty-Year Anniversary
Cleftlands, Stow, OH
- 6- **Baronial Meeting**
4-6 PM Mishler Mill,
Smithville, OH
- 12- **Brendokenfest**
Brendoken, Dover, OH
- 19- Kingdom Heraldic and
Scribal Symposium.
Oakford & Castell Gwent
Sandusky, OH
- 19-20- Spring Coronation
Dragonsmark, Lexington, KY
- 26- North Oaken A&S
Mugmort, Hilliard, OH

may 2008

- 3 - First Contact: Moors in Hispania
Gwyntarian, Akron, OH
- 9-11- Baron Wars XI
March of the Marshes,
Perrysburg, OH
- 24-25- Spring Crown Tourney &
Kingdom A&S
Fenix, Fort Mitchell, KY
- 30-1- Iron Weasel Triathlon
Eastwatch, Burton, OH

June 2008

- 6-8- NOWM
Cleftlands, Wellington OH
- 20-22 Encampment 8: Siege the Dane
Three Towers, Bucyrus, OH

BARONIAL OFFICERS

Baron

Alexander of Hawkwood
Michael Gerlach
18100 Grill Road
Doylestown OH 44230
330-658-5040
baron@brendoken.org

Acting Seneschal

Lord Giles fitz Alan
Curtis Conrad
428 Scott Street
Crestline OH 44827
440-823-0770
gilesfitzalan@columbus.rr.com

Pursuivant

Baron Nigel FitzMaurice
Bruce Gordon
511 East Exchange St. #3
Akron, Ohio 44304
330.535.8065
obsidian@raex.com

Chronicler

Catriona nicHugh Mclae
Marti Livingstone
3951 Glenoak Drive
Louisville, OH 44641
330-453-9663
baroness@brendoken.org

Webminister

Milady Mair
Mary Ann Kienapple
330-252-4554
mair.kienapple@gmail.com

Head Chamberlain

Lady Ursula the Widow
Michelle Hartz-Coutts
mhartzcoutts@yahoo.com

Baroness

Catriona nicHugh Mclae
Marti Livingstone
3951 Glenoak Drive
Louisville, OH 44641
330-453-9663
baroness@brendoken.org

Exchequer

Lady Desderia von Bekea
Becky Robbins-Gerlach
18100 Grill Road
Doylestown OH 44230
330-658-5040
robbins@vpm.net

MoAS

Lady Zillah
Deb Patterson
Zillah1199@aol.com

Clerk of Precedence

Baron Nigel FitzMaurice
Bruce Gordon
511 East Exchange St. #3
Akron, Ohio 44304
330.535.8065
obsidian@raex.com

Signet

Lady Zillah
Deb Patterson
Zillah1199@aol.com

Chief Baronial Page

Rebecca of Thistle

This is the *Portcullis*, a publication of the Barony of Brendoken of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The *Portcullis* is available from Marti Livingstone, 3951 Glenoak Drive, Louisville, OH 44641 and is published monthly. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies.