



Portcullis



Newsletter of the Barony of Brendoken
Volume V Issue 1 January 2006

From the Baron & Baroness

Unto the Good People of Brendoken,

The holidays have passed and the clean-up has begun. As a new year breaks upon the Barony, we have begun to look forward to the preparations for a busy few months.

There is much to be involved in through the coming months of spring. With RUM and a Regional A&S fair in the area, our craftsmen will have places to display their fine works and opportunities to teach or learn new ideas and processes. There are plans for a War College and a number of tourneys for fighters to test their metal. Plans are afoot for construction of siege weapons and other combat equipment. Even a Bardic in Gwyntarian for the singers and storytellers to entertain. Several projects left over from last year will be revisited. Many hands will be needed to finish the Baronial Sunshade and more tabards in the baronial colors have been requested.

Now is the time to plan for the summer months as well. Armor and weapons to clean, garb to make, and supplies to prepare. Plans have begun for the Barony Encampment at Pennsic and tourney season is just days away. We hope to visit with the populace of Brendoken at upcoming events. As the weather and the amount of daylight improves, we plan to visit the local groups. Life, as always, will be busy of times.

Take time for friends and family and remember to have fun!

Alexander and Catriona
Baron and Baroness Brendoken

Be Part of it All!

Why are these people smiling? They're happy because they making things happen in the Barony of Brendoken by participating in baronial meetings and you can too! Regularly-scheduled baronial meetings are open to the public. One each quarter takes place at the Mishler Weaving Mill in Smithville, Ohio (near Wooster), which is centrally-located. Others take place at local events or functions throughout the Barony of Brendoken.

What goes on at a baronial meeting?

- Reports from the Baron & Baroness
- Officer reports
- New and old business pertaining to the Barony
- Discussion of items of interest to baronial members

For more information on baronial meeting times and locations, visit the website.



Photo by Milica

Baronial Website and Lists

Brendoken website <http://brendoken.org/>

The Atrium (populace list) <http://brendoken.org/mailman/listinfo/atrium>

Announce (official baronial announcements only)

<http://brendoken.org/mailman/listinfo/announce>

Officer Letters



From the Seneschal

Greetings and Well Met,

As the Arts and Sciences season comes upon us, I hope that it finds many of you with your projects well in hand. For those who haven't participated in the Faire system, I hope that you will give it a try. I have found it to be both a rewarding and informative activity. Our new MOAS, Robert of Bristol, will be able to answer your questions or finds the answers for you.

With Spring approaching and all men of arms starting to turn their thoughts to the upcoming tournament and war season, I can say that His Excellency has several nice concepts and ideas for the Baronial fighting unit this year. Please take some time to become involved, it will be an experience to look back on in the years to come.

I am taking applications (an SCA resume and a letter of intent stating your vision for the Barony) for the position of Baronial Seneschal until March, 31. I will be stepping down in the Fall and want several months to work with my replacement and ensure a smooth transition.

In Service,

Brice le Corbet
Baronial Seneschal



From the Chatelaine

Greetings from your Baronial Chatelaine!

As a Baronial and Midrealm Scribe, I have done many scrolls in the past year. Some of the scroll blanks that I did went to places & parts unknown, but by and large, the ones I have done have stayed local. It occurred to me as I received my latest scroll assignment, that this one was for a person that I knew nothing about, that lives within our barony. I was & I am bothered by this fact. Not by the fact that I am doing a scroll for an unknown person, but by the fact that a person was thought so highly of within our borders and I have not yet met so worthy an individual.

The Baronial meetings will be traveling for the next two months. In February the Baronial meeting will be at the Masque of Courtly Love in Alderford, and March's meeting will take place at Gwyntarian's dance night. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone took these opportunities to meet people within our Barony that aren't from your home shire. We are a large Barony in terms of geography. We cover the width and breath of twelve Ohio counties. Get to know people from the other Shires within our Barony and you make our Barony smaller and cozier. I challenge everyone to make a new acquaintance at one of our upcoming events. You already know you have something in common, you both like to dress up and play pretend.

Maerwynn of Warwick

Chatelaine, Barony of Brendoken



From the Chronicler

Unto the fair folk of the Barony of Brendoken does Milica send greetings.

I would like to thank Their Excellencies and the officers of Brendoken for providing me with letters and materials for the *Portcullis*. Please take a moment to read what they have to say. I would also like to encourage all of you to utilize the Baronial newsletter as a means to showcase the activities and talents of your group. If you have information about a guild meeting, fighter practice, dance night etc. that you would like to share, I would be happy to include it in the next issue. Also, I welcome non-commercial announcements, research articles, poetry, songs, artwork and photographs. All of these types of material make the newsletter more interesting and unique to our Barony.

The *Portcullis* is published the week following a baronial meeting (so that the minutes may be included) and is bulk mailed to each group for distribution. Electronic copies are also available in PDF format on the website. If you have not received issues of the newsletter at your local meetings, please contact me at milica@4th.com so that we can work something out.

In glad service to Barony and Kingdom

Milica of Varna
Chronicler, Barony of Brendoken

A Note From Alderford's Seneschal

Hail Brendoken,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new seneschal of Alderford. I've been active in the SCA for about 8 years now. Since 1997 I've been the Knight's Marshal for Alderford and I enjoy teaching how to make armor and training new fighters.

Alderford is already off to a busy start. Next month we will be holding our Masque of Courtly Love event and planning has started for Melee School: A Very Civil War. We've been contacted about doing a small demo for The Kiwanis. We have a few people from Alderford helping out the Barony at the Spring Rum event.

I look forward to working with the Barony on the behalf of Alderford in the coming years. If there's anything Alderford can do to help Brendoken or the groups within the Barony, feel free to ask and I'll do what I can.

Sgt Einar Blakklar
Seneschal
Marche of Alderford

Around the Barony



Alderford: Alderford has a new Seneschal: Sgt. Einar Blakklar.

Members of Alderford are actively working on the Masque of Courtly Love which will take place February 18, 2006 at Zion Lutheran Church in North Canton. The event has a medieval science fair theme. Maistor Iustinos Tekton and lady Zabava are the Co-Autocrats and THL Francesca de Onorati is Feastocrat.

Alderford will host the next baronial meeting at the Masque.



Gwyntarian: Thanks to the many library demos, Gwyntarian is receiving a fair number of demo requests.

They are planning a spring event which will take place in early May.

On March 31, Gwyntarian will host the baronial meeting as part of their regularly-scheduled Dance Night/Bardic evening. The event will take place at a new meeting site: Sand Run Park in Akron (site of Gordon & Arwenna's wedding).



Thistle: Thistle continues to meet at the Wadsworth Public Library on the first and third Sundays of the month. These will include dance practices.

The shire received great press coverage when the *Medina Gazette* published a nice feature on the group.

Thistle is planning a spring event with a woodworkers theme.



Three Towers: Three Towers will host the Northern Oaken A&S Faire on April 29. They are also in the planning stages for Encampment at the Castle.

Lady Drina has chosen a new deputy, Lord Kevin Kern, with plans for him to step into the position of Seneschal at a future date.

Baronial Knights' Marshal Position Available

Sgt. Garth der Eisenzahmer has expressed his desire to step down as Baronial Knights' Marshal in January 2006. Anyone interested in serving in this position should contact Sgt. Garth at tpage@neo.rr.com or 330-327-8732.

Spring Royal University of the MidRealm

March 25, 2006

Smithville Methodist Church

243 N Milton St

Smithville, OH 44677

9:00 am – 7:00 pm

Please join The Barony of Brendoken as we are proud to host the Spring Edition of R.U.M. There is space for plenty of classes (including fighting), possible availability of kitchen space for appropriate classes, and plenty of teachers and knowledge to share. Come down for a day of fun and learning... MidRealm style.

Site fee: \$6 (\$5 pre-reg) per person / \$9 for non members. There is an additional \$3 Registration fee for RUM.

Pre-reg deadline is Mar, 15, 2006 (Pre-reg goes to Troll address below)
Merchant fees:\$10 for one 6 ft table-2 chairs. Merchant space is limited.

There will be an on-site lunch tavern.

Inquiries for the R.U.M. Or those wishing to teach should contact Sir Garth of the Craigs (whyteboar@yahoo.com) for further info.

STAFF

Co-Stewards:

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baroness@brendoken.org

THL Milica of Varna (Katherine Courtney) milica@4th.com

Fighting Co-ordinator/Merchant liaison:

Lord Brice le Corbet (Jim Robertson)

brice_le_corbet@yahoo.com or 419-566-8271

Troll:

Alaric de Navarre

(Randall York)

1582 Timber Rd.,

Mansfield, OH 44905

ryork@neo.rr.com or 419-589-7431

Directions:

Take best route to Ohio State Rte 585 towards Smithville, OH (NE of Wooster). Turn north onto N. Milton St. (Smithville Inn on corner). The church is 1/10th of a mile on the right.

Upcoming Events

January 28 - Regular Event in Cleftlands: A Day of Chivalry and Romance {Cleftlands} [Cleveland, OH]

February 4 – Middle Eastern Drumming Class [Cuyahoga Falls]

February 14-20 - Estrella War XXII {Atenveldt} [Goodyear, AZ]

February 18 - Masque of Courtly Love 9.1 {Alderford} [Canton, OH]

February 18 – Baronial Meeting (at Masque)

February 25 - Winter' End {Fenix} [Cincinnati, OH]

March 4 - Ceilidh {St. Joan} [Dayton, OH]

March 12-19 - Gulf Wars {Gleann Abhann} [Lumberton, MS]

March 25 - Spring R.U.M./War Collegium {Brendoken} [Smithville, OH]

March 31 – Gwyntarian Bardic/Dance Night & Brendoken Baronial Meeting {Gwyntarian/Brendoken} [Akron, OH]

April 6 -- First Thistle Spring Craft Symposium: Woodworking {Thistle} [Brunswick, OH]

April 8 --Cleftlands Standard Bearers Tournament {Cleftlands} [Highland Hills, OH]

April 22 -- Coronation {Andelcrag} [Portage, MI]

April 22 -- Grand Tournament of the Unicorn XIV {Unicorn} [Oxford, OH]

April 29 -- Northern Oaken Regional Arts And Sciences Faire {Three Towers} [Mansfield, OH]

April 29 -- St. Joan Ball {St. Joan} [Dayton, OH]

Introduction to Basic Middle Eastern Drumming Rhythms

An introduction class for learning basic Middle Eastern Drumming Rhythms will be held at 2:00pm, February 4. We will begin by learning those basic rhythms that are most commonly used in drum circles playing for dancers. This is a hand drumming class so please bring a suitable drum, i.e.. Dumbek, Darbuka, Jimbe, etc? if you do not have a drum you can still play by bring a pot or smooth bottom bucket 8-12 inches in diameter. We have almost no seating so you will need to also bring a backless folding stool or cushion to sit upon. We will begin around 2:00 and play till we get tired. We will also discuss if we want to continue with a Middle Eastern drumming group.

Directions: Use Map Quest or Yahoo maps from you location to 504 Ashland Ave. Cuyahoga Falls, Oh. 44221 Phone number: 330-928-7377. Email: caelinus2000@yahoo.com Please RSVP if possible so I have so idea how many people are coming!

Thank you and hope to see you,

Caelinus and Claudia

Minutes of the Baronial Officers' Meeting
January 15, 2006
Mishler Weaving Mill, Smithville, Ohio

27 people in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Seneschal Lord Brice le Corbet.

Groups

Alderford: (THL Milica, reporting for Seneschal Sgt. Einar Blaklar) Alderford has a new Seneschal: Sgt. Einar Blaklar.

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Baroness

Baroness Catriona, in her capacity of RUM Autocrat, has been working on the event. Ads have been sent to the Pale and to the Aestel, Aethelmearc's kingdom newsletter. Lady Catriona Fionnaghal nic Elphinstone (Ceit) has agreed to take on the position of lunch tavern coordinator. Groups and individuals will be asked to donate items for the tavern so that the luncheon will serve as a Brendoken fund raiser. Catriona is coordinating with the RUM Chancellor's staff and hopes that there will be class information ready for the website as soon as possible.

Catriona pointed out that reporting for shell baronies is identical to reporting in other baronies. Local group officers

are required to send copies of their reports to their baronial superiors. This is not being done and makes it difficult for baronial officers to report up their chain.

If Brendoken will continue to present original award scrolls to its members, more scrolls will be needed. Events with baronial courts are rapidly approaching and scrolls for these events are needed.

Baron

Baron Alexander reported that land registration for Pennsic is now open and he needs ideas for this year's baronial camp. If anyone would like to serve as land agent or deputy land agent, they should see Alexander. If Brendoken wants to have a gate at Pennsic, someone else will need to transport it.

Alexander briefly addressed several issues which are pending:

- Combat archery crossbows and/or siege engine
- Daily-wear coronets for Their Excellencies
- Brendoken court banner and stand
- Battlefield sunshade (Partially assembled and residing in Catriona's garage)
- Warboards for fighters

Alexander would like contact information for the baronial champions on the baronial website.

Alexander is seeking someone to make him new garb. He has already purchased the fabric and will barter for the sewing time. He has also agreed to uphold his promise to wear hose.

Herald

THL Gauselin the Lost reports that she is still in need of some files. THL Katarina will make sure that she receives them.

Exchequer

Lady Bekea reports that Brendoken has only \$1300 in its account and is hemorrhaging rapidly. She is soliciting fund raising ideas which could include:

- Halloween Haunted Forest
- Demos
- Selling chocolate bars from GFS
- Manning refreshment stands for sporting events
- Drawing at RUM

The drawing (raffle) for RUM is a go. The autocrats will accept donations of handmade items or services.

Bekea reports that she has tax deduction receipts available for those donating to the barony. She also has paperwork for the RUM troll.

Bekea also reports that she is looking for a deputy.

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Lady Debfgail reports that Lord Robert of Bristol will be

taking over the position. So far, she has received no MoAS reports from any of the groups.

Chamberlain

Lady Debforgail needs to know if anyone would like to serve as retainers for events. The retainers will be appointed to their Excellencies on a first come, first served basis for each event, but there are plenty of tasks available on any given day.

Web Minister

Lady Claudia now has access to the website. Please send updates, minutes and change of office information to her. She will also be working on the RUM website.

Chronicler

THL Milica needs reports, officer letters, announcements, etc. for the *Portcullis*. So far, she has received only one report (from Bekea). Local groups are encouraged to use the newsletter to highlight activities in their groups and announce events and meetings.

Chatelaine

Lady Maerwynn will bring Gold Key for RUM. Since there is no baronial loaner garb, items will be borrowed from the groups. She will consider the possibility of collecting a baronial Gold Key, possibly through a clothing drive. It was suggested that extra baronial tabards be used for loaner garb or servers.

Marshal (Sgt. Einar reporting for Sgt. Garth)

Sgt. Garth is still looking for a replacement.

The marshal's Domesday was sent in even though only one group, Alderford, reported.

Seneschal

Lord Brice announced that he is planning to step down sometime after Pennsic.

He will accept letters of intent to serve as Brendoken Seneschal until March 31, 2006. The letters should include an

SCA resume as well as ideas and vision for the barony. Once chosen, the person will serve as a deputy until after Pennsic.

Brice plans to schedule a meeting for the baronial officers in the near future to discuss long-range planning.

Baron Nigel

Baron Nigel is in charge of Gwyntarian's Bardic Night and Baronial Meeting scheduled for March 31. He is looking for performers for that event which will include vocal and instrumental music, poetry, storytelling and other performances. Those interested should contact Baron Nigel. Performances during the evening will be offset with dancing.

Lord Caelinus

Lord Caelinus announced that he and Lady Claudia will host a Middle Eastern Drummers for Dancing class on February 4, 2006 at 2:00 PM. Attendees should bring drums if possible, but pots and pans will be available for those without drums.

THL Katarina Peregrine

Katarina reported that Royal Courts have been sparsely populated this Reign and encourages more people to attend Court. It is difficult for Their Majesties to present awards when recipients are not present and disheartening for the scribes.

Lady Elizabeth Dowling

Lady Elizabeth is interested in forming a guild to study medieval and renaissance vocal music. She will consider hosting a small gathering at her home or at a local event.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

THL Milica of Varna

Chronicler, Barony of Brendoken

Masque of Courtly Love 9:1: A Medieval Science Fair

The Marche of Alderford is pleased to present "Masque of Courtly Love 9.1: A Medieval Science Fair" on February 18, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Zion Lutheran Church in North Canton, Ohio.

Relive the fun of a Science Fair, just like when you were a kid, but now for adults, too, and now combined with the fun of these Current Middle Ages! If the Science Fair isn't your thing, have no fear. As in years past, we'll offer a whole range of activities, including: Armoured combat, Rapier combat, Youth combat (if a Marshal is available), Arts and Sciences classes, Bardic and/or theatrical entertainment, and Merchants. Of course, no Masque would be complete unless we sent you home with a full belly, and so we are proud to feature a feast by our own THL Francesca de Onorati.

<http://alderford.org/events/masque2006>

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