



PORTCULLIS

Newsletter of the Barony of Brendoken
Volume VII - Issue 5- June 2008

FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

Unto the people of Brendoken,

Pennsic is but 2 short months away, and many things have yet to be completed. And yet.... Once again, Our southern cousins, (the new ones!!! Their Excellences, Lamorak and Isabeau) plan to invade Our lands at the Marche of Three Tower's event: *Encampment VIII: Siege the Dane*. To all who can use bow, crossbow, or have archery gear for loan, help your Barony and your Archery Champion defend against the challenge that the Middle Marches' Archery Champion has presented!

In regards to Pennsic, Our camp is being planned, as we speak, by Gabriel Baum of Thistle. See or contact him for any info, details, or questions. There will again be a fighter's café, Baronial night, and the Baroness's tea. Details to follow....

The Blades and the Shields of Brendoken are training for their roles in battle. There are also archers, siege engineers, and water bearers who need your support. Everyone, it takes but a moment to offer help, a kind word, or an extra set of hands... These small things will be remembered!

Yours in Service to The Barony of Brendoken and to the Midrealm,
Alexander and Catriona



Barony of Brendoken
Business Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2008

In attendance: 25

I. OFFICER REPORTS:

A. Seneschal:

1. Local group seneschals, please send your reports to Lord Giles, Baronial Seneschal, before May 15th.

B. Exchequer:

1. Lady Bekea reported the Hafla site deposit was returned.
2. The Hafla made a profit of \$1, 408.95
3. Receipts are needed ASAP in order to complete the final report on Brendokenfest.

C. Pursuivant:

1. Lady Ursula the Widow has updated the Barony's Order of Precedence
2. Please go to the web site and check it for additions and corrections
3. A deputy is needed for the office of Baronial Herald

D. MoAS: Absent during the meeting, however, it was noted by the Regional MoAS that he has all the reports from Brendoken

E. Knights Marshall: Absent, however, he has submitted reports as needed and has been reporting the martial activities of Thistle

F. Chronicler:

1. There was difficulty in copying the May Portcullis. She regrets not having copies to pass out.
2. Articles, reports on events, recipes, and drawings are needed for upcoming issues.
3. A deputy is needed for the office of Chronicler

G. Chamberlain:

1. Lady Ursula introduced Lady Michele of Thistle as her successor
2. A vote of confidence was taken and Lady Michele was accepted

H. Regalia: This office is open.

I. Webminister: Lady Mair also needs a deputy for the office of Webminister

J. Chatelain(e): This office is open.

K. Signet:

1. Lord Robert asked that any scribe who would be willing to do scrolls for baronial courts to please contact him.
2. He proposed that the scrolls be showcased after court, that doing this would be part of the signet's duties
3. He was going to check out the pricing of Plexiglas to make a cover and report back to the group

L. Baron and Baroness:

1. Sgt Einar was given his scroll from the court at the *Moors in Hispania* event.

2. Pennsic Encampment items were discussed
3. A demo of siege weapons and combat archery was announced, taking place outside after the meeting

II. GROUPS

A. Gwyntarian:

1. The *Moors in Hispania* event had about 55 participants and 40 at the feast
2. The church was very happy with the group and would welcome them back as renters
3. They have 2 school demos coming up

B. Thistle:

1. Baron Nigel will visit the Wadsworth Library meeting on May 28th. His topic is A&S Documentation
2. There are several changes in officers coming up
3. Lady Elena was happy to note that Chip is an MIT of Archery

C. Three Towers:

1. *Encampment VIII: Siege the Dane* will be on the weekend of on June 21st
2. There will be a tabletop siege weapon competition
3. Three Towers will be doing an all day demo for Ashland Middle School on June 4th. They would appreciate any help.

D. Alderford

1. Melee at Roswell is on July 11-13
2. Alderford will be part of the 4th of July activities at Silver Lake Park in Alliance, OH.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Brendokenfest postmortem:

1. Changes for future Brendokenfests
 - a. Raise the site fee \$1
 - b. Raise the number of feast tickets to be sold and raise feast fee
 - c. Do not expand the number of feast seats until our feast are regularly selling out
 - d. If we wish to make use of the same site, reserve it NOW
 - e. Standardize the time of year it occurs
 1. Discussion of possible dates
 - f. Discussion if to continue equestrian activities; general consensus: Yes
 - g. Charge a fee for the horse discussion
 1. It was decided to check into real life horse fees
 - h. Have VIP largesse basket prepared in case of visitors
 - i. Any volunteers to be autocrat??

B. Officer File boxes

1. \$15 reimbursement limit set
2. Our seneschal suggested VERY strongly that officers get the boxes ASAP

C. Pennsic hospitality

1. Fighter Café- subsidized by the Barony
 - a. Grapes, pickles, boiled eggs
 - b. Lord Giles homemade beef jerky
2. Other martial activities: vegetable trays
3. Brendoken Revel: Milady Emma of Thistle has volunteered to coordinate
4. Baroness Tea
 - a. Donations of money or food will be needed
 - b. Milady Cliodhna of Scone and Sgt Einar volunteered to coordinate the food for the tea

- D. Retainer at Pennsic for TRM's
 - 1. Each Barony picks a day to supply retainers
 - 2. Midrealm court is Thursday of War Week
 - 3. Lord Akira will check on the details

IV. New Business

- A. Invasion by Middle Marches' Archery Champion
 - 1. Will be contacting Their Excellencies Brendoken
 - 2. Challenging all surrounding baronies
 - 3. Melee or Encampment
- B. Event promotion
 - 1. Lord Giles has noticed lack of event flyers at other's events.
 - 2. In the discussion these suggestions and comments were made
 - a. Pick up flyers not taken from troll at the end of the day
 - b. Mail a hard copy to nearby seneschals
 - c. Discuss ideas with THLady Milica
 - d. Send 1/2 sheet flyers as they go with postcard postage rates
 - e. Make the copy specific to the audience
 - f. Use multiple ways to get the word out
 - g. Mention merchants in the information
 - h. Have event promotion be a separate staff position
 - i. Send people to nearby groups meetings to hawk the event
 - j. If appropriate for real world audience, put flyers in public libraries

Catriona, Baroness Brendoken, respectfully submitted these minutes.

FROM THE BARONIAL KNIGHTS' MARSHAL

Greetings unto all fighters of the noble Barony of Brendoken,

As war is fast approaching, we all must make preparations to add our strength to that of the great kingdom of which we are a part. So strap your shields, tape your swords, and repair your armor for the battles that are to come.

But remember the pen is still mightier than the sword. To achieve the ideals of chivalry and honor, laws must be given their due. So, check authorization cards and membership cards for their expiration dates. (I recently found mine close to expiring) To renew one's authorization card, send a copy of the card (front & back), a signed waiver, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Clerk of the Roster. This noble Lady's address may be found in the back of the Pale.

As soon as the ogres of mundania have been subdued, I intend to hold fighter practices. Any suggestions as to a site would be greatly appreciated. I am also seeking a deputy for this office.

I look forward to seeing you all on the field.

YIS,
Magnus



COOKING WITH LADY BRIGHID BREATHACH

The good lady shares research from her feast at the *Moors in Hispania* event.
(Used by permission from Bridget Coffman)

Recipe for Making Sinâb

Clean good mustard and wash it with water several times, then dry it and pound it until it is as fine as kohl. [32] Sift it with a sieve of hair, and then pound shelled almonds and put them with the mustard and stir them together. Then press out their oil and knead them with breadcrumbs little by little, not putting in the breadcrumbs all at once but only little by little. Then pour strong vinegar, white of color, over this dough for the dish, having dissolved sufficient salt in the vinegar. Then dissolve it well to the desired point, and strain it thoroughly with a clean cloth; and there are those who after it is strained add a little honey to lessen its heat. Either way it is good.

The Other Mustard

2 tbsp butter
2 tbsp flour
4 tbsp ground mustard
2 tbsp honey
2 tbsp sliced almonds, ground in a food processor
1 tbsp water
8 tbsp vinegar
Dash salt

In a small saucepan, make a roué of the flour and butter. Mix in the ground mustard; it will be a crumbly paste at this point. Add all of the remaining ingredients and cook over very low heat until smooth. Remove from heat immediately and allow to cool. Store in a glass jar in the refrigerator.

nORTHEAST OHIO COOK'S GUILD SCHEDULE

Greetings, good gentles,

Here is the schedule of Cook's Guild meetings for the balance of 2008: June 29, July 27, Aug 24, Sep 28, Oct 26, and Nov 30.

We are agreed that December is impossible to schedule until later in the year, when we all have a better idea of our holiday obligations. Dates are subject to change, as fate & mundane life decrees. I intend to send out reminders about a week prior to meetings. All meetings are planned for 2pm at Faerwood, Lady Maria's house.

YIS,
Lady Maria

AROUND the BARONy



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

The Marche of Gwyntarian will be doing a demo for Sam Salem School on May 2nd in the afternoon. 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 at The Marksman Archery Range until further notice and the fourth Wednesdays at the Wadsworth Public Library at 6:30pm for business meetings, presentations, and workshops. All are welcome!



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. They will be at the Ashland Co. Fairgrounds all day June 4th doing an all day demo for the Ashland Middle School students.



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. The *Melee at Roswell* event date has been changed to August 22-24. The group will be part of the 4th of July activities at the Silver Lake Park in Alliance, OH.

Credits:

The Brendoken device and the local group devices on pg. 1 and 6 were created by Marti Livingstone using PhotoShop and are used with permission.

The Oak leaf graphic on pg 1 is from Dover Publications. The medieval cooking graphic on pg. 5 is not in copyright.

the trumpet sounds

Notes from the Herald- Lady Ursula the Widow

Their Excellencies Baron Alexander and Baroness Catriona held court on May 3, A.S. XLIII at the Moors in Hispania event at Gwyntarian. The following awards were given:

To Baron Nigel fitzMaurice, the Golden Thistle for his service as Pursuivant.

To Sergeant Einar Blakklar, the Golden Alder Leaf for the excellence of his maiden feast at Brendokenfest.

To Signore Lorenzo di Calabria, the Golden Tower for his prowess and leadership in rapier fighting.

To Ron of Gwyntarian, the Golden Thistle for his loyal and devoted logistics work.

To Olwyn of Gwyntarian, the Golden Thistle for tireless service in kitchen and counting house.

The Order of Precedence on the baronial web site is now up to date. My thanks to Webmistress Mair for making it so. URL: <http://www.brendoken.org/BrendOP.html>

The next baronial court will be held at Encampment: Siege the Dane in Three Towers on June 22.

EXETER RIDDLES

Excerpts from: *Riddles from the Exeter Book. An Anthology of Old English Poetry.*
Charles W. Kennedy, translator. New York: Oxford University Press, 1960.
Answers at the bottom of page 4

1) *My house is not quiet, I am not loud; But for us God fashioned our fate together. I am the swifter, at times the stronger, My house more enduring, longer to last. A times I rest; my dwelling still runs; Within it I lodge as long as I live. Should we two be severed, my death is sure.*

2) *I'm told a certain something grows in its pouch, swells and stands up, lifts its covering. A proud bride grasped that boneless wonder, the daughter of a king covered that swollen thing with clothing.*

3) *A lonely wanderer, wounded with iron, I am smitten with war-blades, sated with strife, Worn with the sword-edge; I have seen many battles, Much hazardous fighting, oft without hope Of comforts or help in the carnage of war Ere I perish and fall in the fighting of men. The leavings of hammers, the handiwork of smiths, Batter and bite me, hard-eged and sharp; The brunt of the battle I am doomed to endure. In all the folk-stead no leech could I find With wort or simple to heal my wounds; But day and night with the deadly blows The marks of the war-blades double and deepen.*

upcoming events

June 2008

- 1- Baronial Meeting- 4-6pm
Smithville, OH
- 6-8- NOWM
Cleflands, Wellington OH
- 20-22 Encampment 8: Siege the Dane
Three Towers, Bucyrus, OH

July 2008

- 5- Brawl at the Crooked Dragon XI
Falcon's Quarry, Wellington, OH
- 6- Baronial Meeting- 4-6pm
Smithville, OH
- 11-13 Push for Pennsic
Norborough, Wapakoneta, OH
- 25-8/10- PENNSIC WAR 37

August 2008

- 5- Baronial Revel- Starting at 6 pm
Baronial Encampment
Penssic, Cooper's Lake, PA
- 22-24 [**MOVED FROM 7/11/08**]
Melee at Roswell
Alderford, Roswell, OH

September 2008

- 7- Baronial Meeting- 4-6pm
Smithville, OH
- 5-7- Harvest Days & ToC
Winged Hills, Camden, OH
- 12- 14- Saxon Summer VIII
Rivenvale, Hubbard, OH
- 19-21- Pounce VII
Catteden, Findlay, OH
- 27-28- FALL CORONATION
TBA

BARONIAL OFFICERS

Baron

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

Seneschal

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

Pursuivant

Lady Ursula the Widow
Michelle Hartz-Coutts
ursula@4th.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
mair.kienapple@gmail.com

Head Chamberlain

Milady Michele of Thistle
Michele McNeal
Michele.of.thistle@gmail.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

Signet

Lord Robert of Bristol
Todd M. Bunt
1234 Monument Rd. NW
330-313-7763
TMBunt@hotmail.com

Clerk of Precedence

Baron Nigel FitzMaurice
Bruce Gordon
obsidian@raex.com

MoAS

Lady Zillah
Deb Patterson
Zillah1199@aol.com

Chief Baronial Page

Rebecca of Thistle

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