



PORTCULLIS

Newsletter of the Barony of Brendoken
Volume VII - Issue 6- July 2008

FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

Greetings are sent to the good gentles of Brendoken.

The final countdown has started. 20 days left until Pennsic land grab. A short three weeks to finish the new Pennsic projects, check out the stuff used last year, pack the tent, the garb, the food, the bed, the banners, the armor, the weapons, the bow, the arrows, the thrown weapons, the rapiers, the list of classes to be taught and taken, the drinking water, the cook stove, the propane, the extra blankets, sleeping bag and wool cloak, the hot water heater, the shower, the beer, and, oh, did I forget? The spending money.

We SCAdians often refer to Pennsic as a party where you have invited 1300 of your favorite people. Well, if not 1300 favorite people, at least a whole bunch of good gentles who are focused on one dream: To recreate a place out of time, a small Camelot in the midst of a very mundane and crazy world. To those who are able to attend this event, may the Pennsic War XXXVII be this and more. On behalf of those who must stay home, we promise to bring back photos, stories, and memories to share!

For the Alexander and myself, this Pennsic will be tinged with the knowledge that this will be Our last Pennsic as the Baron and Baroness of Brendoken. Forgive Us, should Our emotions be visible. We have had the privilege to watch this barony blossom into something magnificent. It is hard not to show Our gratefulness and delight.

There are many opportunities to participate at War. We hope you will take advantage of them. Please come and visit us all at the Baronial Encampment. Be sure to attend the Baronial Revel on Tuesday, August 5th, at Brendoken's camp.

Be safe, have fun... Draco Invictus!
Yours in Service to Brendoken and the Midrealm,

Alexander and Catriona
Lord and Lady Brendoken



**Barony of Brendoken
Business Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2008**

In attendance: 18

I. OFFICER REPORTS:

A. Baron and Baroness:

1. Please get forms for the Baronial Encampment from Lord Gabriel or the Baron
 - a. Measurements of your tent are needed to arrange the camp
 - b. There will be siege weapon and combat archery authorizations at NOWM

B. Seneschal:

1. The quarterly report has gone in
2. A deputy is needed, as he will be stepping down in 18 months

C. Exchequer:

1. The Hafla made a profit of \$3238.42
2. She has the longest tenure as a baronial office.
3. A deputy is needed ASAP

D. Pursuivant:

1. The signed 'change of officer' document needs to be completed
2. Thank you to Milady Mair for a correction
3. A plastic carry box for Pursuivant records has been purchased.
4. Lady Ursula intends to write a monthly column in the Portcullis to publicize interests bits, news from court, and the presentation of awards
5. Please contact Lady Ursula if you have received a kingdom award

E. MoAS: Not present

F. Knights Marshall: Not present

1. However, he has submitted reports as needed and has been reporting the martial activities of Thistle

G. Chronicler:

1. Articles, reports on events, recipes, and drawings are needed for upcoming issues.
2. Thanks were given to those who have sent in items for the Portcullis
3. A deputy is needed for the office of Chronicler

H. Chamberlain: Not present

I. Webminister: Not present

J. Signet: Nothing new to report

II. GROUPS

A. Gwyntarian:

1. Their library demo went well- most of the students were interested in the textile demo
2. The Sam Salem School demo will have a set up at 12:15 pm
3. The new demo coordinator is Lady Alexandra
4. Everyone is invited to attend their meetings and fighter practices

B. Thistle:

1. Baron Nigel did a wonderful presentation on A&S judging and competitions. He demystified the process.
2. Lord Duncan is a MIT for thrown weapons
3. Edward of Thorn is an MIT in archery
4. Summer meetings will be held at members' homes. The next meeting is TBA.

- C. Three Towers:
 1. Three Towers will be doing an all day demo for Ashland Middle School on June 4th. They would appreciate any help, especially heavy fighters.
 2. *Encampment VIII: Siege the Dane* will be on the weekend of on June 21st
- D. Alderford
 1. The date of *Melee at Roswell* has been changed to August 22-24th at the B&A Primitive Weapons Camp in Roswell, OH
 2. Alderford will be part of the 4th of July activities at Silver Lake Park in Alliance, OH from 5-9 pm.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Pennsic Fighter Café- subsidized by the Barony
 1. Grapes, pickles, boiled eggs
 2. Lord Giles homemade beef jerky
 3. Price of pickles discussed, no decision was made
- B. Baroness Tea
 1. The silent auction venue has been changed to the *Siege the Dane* event.
 2. Lady Ursula is urgently requesting items, with a reserve price if appropriate
 3. White elephants are acceptable
 4. Please get items to Lady Ursula
 - a. She will accept them at NOWM
 5. The money will be used to defray the costs of the Baroness's Tea held at Pennsic
 6. Discussion on how the dispersal of the money generated was to be handled.
 - a. It was decided that the Baroness should hold the money and keep a record of how it was spent.
- C. Retaining at Pennsic for TRM's
 1. Dates were discussed, these will be sent to Lord Akira who is acting as Brendoken's contact to TRM's
- D. Details about Brendokenfest
 1. Brendoken will probably be getting the deposit returned
 2. The April 18, 2009 date is free for our use. Other groups will be using a different area
 3. Final financial picture: a deficit of \$112.00, however several staff members donate approximately \$250
 4. Brendoken's liaison with the Fairgrounds will remain Lady Ursula, but only until the set up starts.
- E. Invasion by Middle marches Archery Champion
 1. Cleftlands has also been challenged
 2. An attempt to raise excitement for Pennsic Archery
- F. Baronial Scrolls Display Table, information provided by Lord Robert
 1. 6 ft. folding table \$48
 2. Plexiglas \$8 per sheet (3 ft square)
 3. Total costs around \$64
 4. Lady Ursula proposed that \$75 be allocated for the purchase of items to make the table. Lord Ragnar and Lady Elena seconded it. The motion was approved.

IV. New Business

- A. The date of *Melee at Roswell* has been changed to August 22-24th at the B&A Primitive Weapons Camp in Roswell, OH
 1. There will be youth fighting
 2. A thrown weapons marshal is needed
- B. Lady Duversa's campaign to create Midrealm Ohio license plates was discussed and sign up sheets were provided for each groups' seneschal
- C. A reminder: Bring Mead Hall food items to NOWM

Catriona, Baroness Brendoken, respectfully submitted these minutes.

AROUND the BARONY



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

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. Everyone is invited to attend meetings and fighter practices



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

The March of the Thistle will be meeting at the homes of its members during the summer. Please check our websites for dates and locations.



Three Towers: <http://www.midrealm.org/threetowers/>

Well we've had another successful Encampment. There were about 135 on site, and feast sold out. We hope to improve this next year at the new site. We got quite a few compliments on the new site for Encampment this year; a few lamented the loss of the scenic backdrop of the Medieval Chateau. The feast was also well received, with many eating enough that they rolled out the doors of the feast hall. Encampment was also the site of one of the kingdom rapier war practices; this probably accounted for rapier combatants outnumbering the armored combatants. The Rose Chalice Tourney was fought on the rapier list again, with Lord Thomas of Effingham the victor. This year we could offer a woods walk to the archers. Maybe we can get the fencers and fighters into the woods next year. Upcoming is a demo for the Lexington Blueberry Festival, which will be much like the Ohio Mart demo. There is room for siege weapons.

In Service,
THL Giles fitz Alan



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

There's plenty of good news from Alderford this month. At Northern Oaken War Maneuvers, this past month Lady Ursula received her Purple Fret for her bardic activities. Just last week we found out that Their Royal Highnesses, Ullr and AnneLyse, will be attending Melee at Roswell. The rescheduled date for Melee is Aug 22-24. We had a beginning scribal arts class at our last meeting that was very well attended. Alderford took part in the Fourth of July celebration at Silver Park in Alliance. We had a good showing and plenty of exposure, which will lead to new members.

In service,
Einar

FROM THE SENESCHAL, BARONY OF BRENDOKEN,

Again, I ask that you take up arms, and sharpen your A&S skills and arrows to aid the Midrealm against our foe to the east at Pennsic War. The Dragon needs all we have to offer. Our barony has grown, and aged somewhat. In the coming year we will see our current Baron and Baroness step down. Bearing this in mind, Their Excellencies and I will request a polling of the populace of the barony in October of this year. We must have letters of intent from any and all who would aspire to the position of Baron and Baroness no later than September 1, 2008, that the populace of Brendoken might know their prospective Baron and Baroness and give wise counsel to the crown during the poll that follows. We would prefer electronic submissions of letters of intent to pursue the coronets of Brendoken. Please send them to the seneschal at gilesfitzalan@columbus.rr.com, Her Excellency at catriona@neo.rr.com, and His Excellency at hawkwood1@hotmail.com. It is worthy to note that our own Baron Alexander authorized single rapier at Encampment. Congratulations, Your Excellency!

In Service,
THL Giles fitz Alan

FROM THE SIGNET

Greetings are sent to all the scribes and the want to be scribes. The Barony is looking for scroll blanks for future use for awards. I am also trying to get a list together of scribes to call for assignments for courts. I need Your Name, if you do Calligraphy or Illumination or both, Phone number and E-mail address. This will help to spread the workload out to more of the Barony. If there is someone you would be interested in doing a scroll for please include it with your info. I am looking to find out if the scribes of the Barony would be interested in having an illumination night to make scroll blanks for gifts to the Crown. I would like to make it a Baronial thing for every reign. This would help the Kingdom plus show off the artistry of the Barony.

I would like to thank Cat of Gwyntarian for all the scroll blanks she has donated so far. Hoobah!

If you are interested, please contact the regional signet if you wish to do scroll work for the Kingdom.

Thank you kindly,
Lord Robert of Bristol

REQUEST FROM THE WEBMINISTER

Since we now have limitations on posting photos on the web and the Portcullis, links to on-line photos from events would be appreciated.

YIS,
Milady Mair

Credits:
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the trumpet sounds - Notes from the Herald

Baronial Awards

Their Excellencies Baron Alexander and Baroness Catriona held court on June 21, A.S. XLIII at Encampment: Siege the Dane in Three Towers. The following awards were given:

The Golden Shield was presented to Lady Desideria von Bekea. Their Excellencies spoke of her accomplishment at Brendokenfest in entering all five of the championship contests. Lady Bekea said that she would encourage the other baronial champions to enter the other four contests next year.

Hasen Buchanan of Three Towers received the Golden Shield. The Baroness described his exceptional politesse and helpfulness at Brendokenfest.

The Golden Shield is presented to members of the barony who “excel in the upholding of chivalric ideals, and who are thereby worthy role-models to all members of the SCA.”

Lord Giles fitz Alan received the Golden Alder Leaf for his feast cookery. Lady Brigit Breachnach also received the Golden Alder Leaf for operating the Dead Parrot lunch tavern at multiple events and for her feast preparation. This award is given for superior achievement in the Arts and Sciences.

Kingdom Awards

Three of our members were honored by Their Majesties in court at Northern Oaken War Maneuvers. Edward of Thorn (Thistle) received an Award of Arms for his work in archery and other services to the shire and the barony. Lady Elena of Argyll (Thistle) received an Award of the Purple Fret for her service as Seneschal. Lady Ursula the Widow (Alderford) was made a Companion of the Order of the Willow for her singing, songwriting, and teaching. On May 25 at Crown Tournament, Lady Wulfwen atte Belle was made a Companion of the Order of the Evergreen.

Hoobah to all those who bring honor to Brendoken!

The next Brendoken Court will be held at the Baronial Revel, Tuesday, August 5th in camp at Pennsic.



ONE OF THOSE RARE MOMENTS

By Catriona nicHugh Mclaeay

The Lady Ursula was made a Companion of the Willow at NOWM. This was no surprise as the lady is skilled in the bardic arts, creating period garb, and manifesting her persona in a period manner. It was a realistic recognition of her talents. But later, after court, the lady received a tribute most fair and lovely. I asked the participants if I might share it, as I was privileged to be in attendance when it was given.

From the Lady Ursula, came a humble and shy reply, " Oh gawd, Trey certainly deserves the feature but I'd be horribly embarrassed. *Sigh* It's for the poet to say. I suppose I can put up with embarrassment in a good cause."

From Milord Abel came this answer: "So, let me get this straight. I can be featured, furthering my goal of Bardic Domination AND get to make Her Willowness blush with modesty? It's like a dream come true! :0)"

So, if you will, picture a darkening sky, a household gathered around a campfire, exchanging small talk about the day. A bard and Gentleman Extraordinaire requested a boon, to speak to the Lady Ursula. The group became silent. Milord Abel spoke from his heart, simply and sincerely.

Ursula the Widow?

I'm not certain what that could mean
Because, well, surely no woman
Is more Married to The Dream?

I remember when I first saw her
Singing a song she composed for her Baroness
I'm embarrassed to say I was slack-jawed
Even a little awed, I confess

Many times since then I have seen her
Her eyes gleaming with Inspiration
Helping, urging, supporting some Art or Science
This is how high her Aspiration

Then, today, this woman of renown
Was summoned to court
To appear before the Crown

My heart leapt with glee for the Widow
As their Majesties wisely named

This Woman
This Lady
This.....Muse

Ursula the Willow

Abel Frölicher AS XLIII



upcoming events

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
Pennsic, 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



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Rebecca of Thistle

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