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The Barony of Brendoken



The Portcullis

July 2021



reetings unto the Populace!!

And, we're back!!! By the time you read this, we will be holding our second in person Baronial meeting and at least one of our Marche's will have had a practice. And, wow, doesn't it feel good!!

So, a couple of quick reminders. Please, take it slow! Not everyone has kept up with their exercises and some of us (your Baron included) are kind of out of shape. Take it slow with all activities. Let your muscles regain the memory of doing things. And please, remember to hydrate!

As previously announced, we will be holding tournaments for Rapier Champion and Thrown Weapons Champion at Melee of the Knave in August. If you are unsure about a Champion's responsibilities, please visit the Brendoken website or speak to the Baron or Baroness about it. It's really not scary being a Champion!! And it can actually be a lot of fun! We are really hoping for a large turnout to get us started into the next year.

We mentioned at the last meeting that we will not be able to attend the Crown Tourney. For those that are able to go, please travel safely and enjoy the startup of activities. Please remember, if you are planning on attending any weekend events, you must preregister for them. They will not be letting anyone in who has not preregistered.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming meetings, practices and events.

Yours In Service,

Cadwgan and Eadaoin
Baron and Baroness of Brendoken



Meeting notes continued from page 3

Chamberlain - nothing because they are going on vacation.

A&S - If you entered the largess derby please contact Lena Krieger (Lisa Krieger)

Herald - A box has been delivered We need a new herald. DonalBane is accepting names. Baroness Maerwynn has expressed an interest.

Chronicler - There are some changes to the portcullis in the contacts. I am only using names and email addresses no phone numbers except for Cadwgan. I will also be adding Deirdre as our social media officer, sorry I haven't done that before. Next month there will be recipes from Mistress Judith and Retaining 101 by Baroness Catriona.

Chatelaine - Gogan is the new Chatelaine paper work is done and ready to go.

Web Minister - not here

Marche Reports

Alderford - Melee in August, if you want to teach a class come see Francesca. Our meetings are 2nd and 4th Tuesdays still zoom meeting till July. We may be looking for a new space, if anyone has any ideas please let me know.

Gwyntarian - Marellus is the new seneschal. July 8th will be our first in person meeting. It will be at the Turner club. Planning on doing things outside, archery, fighting? Maybe, weather permitting. I need a MoAS if you interested let me know.

Thistle - archery at the silver creek metro park on Tuesday

3 Towers - getting back to an in-person meeting

General -

Catriona - When royalty comes, if the barony doesn't have a trouble shooting bag, we should have one. Let's talk with the other baronesses and see what might be needed, and let's talk with the exchequer about footing the bill. Next Alderford A&S meeting on the 22nd will be: "Uppity women in the middle ages". Because "Well behaved women seldom make history."

Merwyn - employed at Gojo in Wooster, I have sanitizer -soaps for the next event

Katerina - garage sale at the house next weekend

Being a Retainer 101

Compiled by Baroness Catriona nicHugh Mclae

1. Pre retaining
 - a. Check in BEFORE your shift starts with the coordinator, and then know where your charge is and get there ;-)) If possible, have a quiet talk with previous retainer
 - b. Have a trouble shooting bag or basket- check the contents BEFORE you retain
 - c. Wear a baldric/tabard if available
 - d. Quietly introduce your self to your charge and start retaining
2. Keep your mouth closed.
 - a. Do not repeat anything of what you may hear.
3. Stay with them at all times.
 - a. Do not leave unless they ask you to do so.
 - b. If you are getting something for them, do it as quickly as you can.
4. Help put up the thrones, set their table, and carry their gear.
5. Carry a pen and paper with you.
 - a. If your charge says thank you, write down what was given or what service was done so it will be remembered.
 - b. Record the event, the SCA & modern name, address, phone number & e-mail
 - c. Clarify if it is a personal gift or for the regalia.
6. Carry a timepiece
7. Remind them to eat and drink
8. Know when to interrupt
9. Bow or courtesy to those wearing crowns and coronets
 - a. If you are in a procession, you do not have to do this.
 - b. Make sure to recognize (bow/curtsey) all the people on the dais at court in the order of their rank.
10. Know your charges:
Food Allergies, General Allergies, Whims, Quirks, and Phobias,
Likes and Dislikes, What is their boiling point and how to diffuse it?
Know when to back off
11. Don't forget to have fun!

Minutes from the June 13 Meeting

So good to see you! We're back. Please sign in. This is for contact tracing. Pre-reg is strongly suggested

Our next meeting will be July 11.

Excellencies - It's so good to see everyone here. Good things to come. I'm not crying it's the allergies. Vaccinated hugs for free. Take it slow. Don't overdo We need award recommendations. 2 events are planned one in August and one in November. Aug 14th Melee of the Nave will be here. We will host the rapier championship and reinstate thrown weapons champion. November 6 will be the Road to Pompei A&S championship and bardic championship. If there is anyone we owe a scroll to see us after the meeting. We're not going to crown we scheduled a family vacation.

Seneschal - For the rest of the year our meeting schedule will be: August 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov 7, Dec. 5th. We have two new people. Mistress Judith is not new to the SCA but is back in the area. Welcome. She brought some kitchen supplies. Feel free to look through after the meeting. Anything not taken will go into storage away. Our other new person is Nillethar Aventinus. This is her first time at an SCA function. The church is foregoing the rent for the year. We made a \$500 donation to the church. Let's commission a scroll given to them at Melee.

Vlad - Melee V will be on the Aug 14th it will be outside. Bathrooms will be open. We may have some things inside if things change. We will have tents. There will be rapier and armor training - combat is a maybe, and archery There will be classes, we'll have 3 class rooms, and A&S. Bring your own food and drink. We need more staff, if you're interested, see me after the meeting. The Barony lost Gabriel de Porte mka Chris Hetrick, one of the first Brendoken Blades recently. I want to sponsor a memorial tournament. Please a moment of silence.

Exchequer -

Signet - has changed. Safiye Hatun bint Ilyas is now the new signet.

Knights Marshal - Wolverine - no marshal activities till July 1 still have to abide by society rules. You have 2 weeks to get your gear back in order. I have supplies and tools. Start getting back to being active.

Rapier Marshal - Vlad - July 1st I want to ease back into things safely we haven't been active for 16 months. Bring water. No sharing. Start off slowly and safely. There will be a short rapier meeting after the meeting. Masks will not be needed but you can wear one if you want. (continued on page 7)

Strawberry Tart by Viscountess Mistress Judith of Kirtland

Late spring is the time for strawberries, both cultivated and wild. Thomas Tusser lists them as plants brought in from the wild and then civilized:

“Wife, into thy garden and set me a plot with strawberry roots; the best to be got. Such growing abroad, among thorns in the wood well chosen and picked prove excellent good.” Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry, 1557. Strawberries were also gathered in rural areas and brought to the markets or sold door to door.

Where most tart receipts involve cooking the fruit until tender, Thomas Dawson recommends a more delicate method. Then as now, strawberries do not need cooking to tenderize them, and they tend to get moldy quickly. This receipt seems to address both issues: most of the fruit isn't cooked, and the acidity of the wine retards mold.

“To make a tart of strawberries take strawberries and wash them in claret wine, thicken and temper them with rose water and season them with cinnamon, sugar and ginger and spread it on the tart. And adorn the sides with butter and cast on sugar and biscuits and serve them so.” The Good Huswives Jewell, 1597. Redaction.

Ingredients:

- (1) 9" pie shell, butter-based
- 6 cups strawberries, cleaned
- ½ to ¾ cup claret or red wine
- 3-4 tablespoons of very fine dry bread crumbs
- 1 cup plus 1 tablespoon sugar (more if the berries are tart)
- ½ teaspoon rosewater
- ½ teaspoon each cinnamon and ginger
- 1 teaspoon butter

Procedure:

Heat red wine until simmering; add bread crumbs slowly and beat with wire whisk until almost invisible. Beat in sugar, rosewater, cinnamon and ginger with wire whisk. Set aside. Crush 2 cups of the berries and mix with the wine and spice mixture. Line the pie shell with the remaining berries. Spread the berry, wine, sugar and spice mixture over the pie shell. Gloss the crust with butter and sprinkle the tablespoon of sugar over the tart. Because the weather today (June 3rd) is too wet for cakes or biscuits to stay crisp, I'm having my strawberry tart with whipped cream! If there is any extra it is delicious on pain perdu or cheesecake.

Judith would love to meet the cooks of the Barony and compare notes and sources (even if we can't serve food quite yet). Visc. Mist. Judith of Kirtland/Judith Carr can be reached at pbradfordpblack@aol.com.



A&S championship

I, Deirdre, your current A&S Champion, will be hosting a competition to fill my seat at Road To: Pompeii

The theme is "Youth"

The rules are:

You must create or document, Period Youth activities, games, garb, etc.

If youth did it or had it, it counts!

Make or write a research paper on anything regarding youth in period, narrowing the search field to your persona time/location is not required.

Documentation is recommended, but absolutely not required.

Please contact myself or Their Excellencies, Baron Cadwgan (David Myers) and/or Baroness Eadaoin (Melissa Roubo) if you intend on participating.

Thank you, and have a glorious day!

HUNTER AND SABLE!