



The Clarion

Newsletter for the
Barony of Ben Dunfirth



June 23, 2022 - AS 57

Barony of Ben Dunfirth, Kingdom of Ealdormere

June 23, 2022 - AS 57

Honours and Awards:

Lady Mary Memorial
Tournament, April 30, 2022

Maneke of Ben Dunfirth

On Vigil for the Order of Chivalry

Gajin Surin

Order of the Wain

Murder Melee in the Meadow,

June 16-19, 2022

Maneke of Ben Dunfirth

Inducted into the Order of Chivalry

HRH Trumbrand the Wanderer

Inducted into the Order of the Crucible

HE Augusta Weyfare

On Vigil for the Order of the Laurel

Thord the Barbarian

On Vigil for the Order of Chivalry

HRH Kaylah the Cheerful

Award of the Boar's Tusk

HE Don the Duckman

Award of the Golden Boar

Portia of Ben Dunfirth

Award of the Boar's Tusk

Kellen of Trinovantia Nova

Award of the Boar's Tusk

Fischer of Ben Dunfirth

Award of the Scarlet Banner

Juliana Scrivner

Award of Arms

It is an extraordinary blindness to live
without investigating what we are.”
- Plotinus

Events Calendar:

Events as listed on the Kingdom of Ealdormere Calendar from June-August 2022:

Date: Wednesday June 29-Sunday July 3, 2022

Event: **Trillium War 2022**

Location: 3421 Concession Rd 5, Clarington, ON

Description: Weekend event of Armoured
Combat, Fencing, Archery, and Thrown Weapons
Tournaments, plus a multitude of A&S activities and
classes (and Laurel Vigils!)

Hosted By: The Canton of Ard Chreag

Date: July 29-August 14, 2022

Event: **Pennsic War : The Homecoming**

Location: Cooper's Lake Campground, Slippery
Rock, PA

Description: The Pennsic War is an annual American
medieval camping event held by the Society for
Creative Anachronism, a "war" between two large
regional SCA groups: the Kingdom of the East and
the Middle Kingdom.

*Please refer to the Kingdom website www.ealdormere.ca
for the most recent and updated information with regard to
events & meetings.*

*Rules on what will be permitted at in-person events (number
of attendees, meal prep and food distribution, etc.) may also
change on short notice. Please check the website and the
Ealdormere Re-Opening plan for details, and event site links for
updated event details.*

Ben Dunfirth Business Meetings/Fight Practices for Spring/Summer 2022:

Baronial Business Meetings/fight practices are on Mondays at Dundas Community Centre
June and September, and the Hamilton Aviary at Cootes Paradise July and August

Dundas: Monday, June 6, 13, 20, 27 & September 12, 19, 26

Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre (10 Market Street, Dundas ON)

Hamilton: Monday, July 4, 11, 18, 25 & August 8, 15, 22, 29

The Hamilton Aviary (85 Oak Knoll Drive, Hamilton, ON)

****The above dates are subject to potential future COVID-19 in-person meeting restrictions****

Welcome Summer!

Please enjoy this Summer edition of the Ben Dunfirth Clarion; let's get ready for a great season of Ben Dunfirthian events, awards, and general shenanigans!

Ben Dunfirth continues its rarely-broken streak of Baronial Royalty, and we are thrilled to welcome and celebrate Their Highnesses Princess Kayla the Cheerful and her Consort Trumbrand the Wanderer (making SCA history at the same time as the first two-time Queen by Right of Arms - wow!).

Many awards have been presented to our populace, and incredible "gotcha's" were unveiled at Ealdormere's most recent events.

Baron Brand and Baroness Jocea announced at this past weekend's Murder Meleé that after six amazing years they will be stepping down this fall, which means that Ben Dunfirth is on the hunt for our next Baronial Nobles. It goes without saying that these will be some big shoes to fill! See pages 5-7 for more information on the Baronial Selection process, and your voting rights and obligations as members of the Ben Dunfirth populace.

As always, stay tuned to the Ealdormere website for more information regarding potential restrictions on upcoming in-person events.

Territories Claimed

Territories claimed by the far roving members of the Barony of Ben Dunfirth:

- Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
- High Commission in Skraeling Althing
- Several more of the 999 islands, Ontario/ NYS
- Waimea Canyon, Hawaii
- Joshua Tree National Park's "Skull Rock", CA
- Palm Springs Air Museum, CA
- The Hague, Netherlands
- Holguin, Cuba
- Ben Braha, Prague, (Orloj)
- The Rock of Gibraltar, Drachenvald (Spain)
- The North East Fountain, Louisville, Kentucky
- Tekit Easy Island, Jamaica
- Rincón de la Vieja Volcano, Costa Rica
- A newly declared Ben Dunfirth bar, the Bastion of An Tir, and a little land along the trail nearby
- The Hall of lights in the Laurel Caverns, PA
- The 3rd Red Rock on the Right, Denver CO
- Isla De Jocea, Cuba
- Fumarole at NÁMAFJALL, Iceland
- Den of Evil, Blood Moor (Diablo)
- New Ben Dunfirth, Neo-Ealdormere (No Man's Sky)
- Mind Palace, Ealdormere proper
- Spooky Hallway, Gatineau, QC
- The Moon (in Lunar Eclipse only), Earth
- H62C (H-Block), Howard Springs

From Their Excellencies

So, this is our thank you for our last Murder Melee as the Baron and Baroness of Ben Dunfirth, and for the last six years representing up the most kick-ass barony we know.

Thank you to (Sir!) Maneke for tackling his first event steward job with the unflappability we always see from him. Thanks to Jorgen and Meredyth for holding down the gate and getting everyone into the event. Thank you to Don, Tristham, Augusta, David, and Marioun for running the activities of the day. Thank you to Her Majesty Hyrrokin for the amazing pinata for the kids. And thank you to His Majesty Roak, Evander, Hespeler, Fischer, Gajin, and Arlette for set up and tear down for the weekend. And thank you to all the other people of Ben Dunfirth for the things that you did during the weekend to make this such a memorable event.

And now, we want to take the time to thank Ben Dunfirth one last time – sometimes being a baron and baroness of a barony is a lot of work – we mean, a lot of work. However, the last six years have been a joy and a delight because we just got to be ourselves, and the barony was just, well, baronial pretty much on its own. Many hands make light work, and nothing can grind us down – not a pandemic, not adversity, not getting our momentum back after ‘the blip’. We are so proud of those who call Ben Dunfirth their barony, and do their best to show the kingdom how to have fun, laugh with friends, and cause interkingdom diplomatic incidents. We will be stepping down at Huntsman’s Harvest, and someone else will take up the gold coronets and swear fealty to the Crown of Ealdormere, and we will be there, standing behind them, to give back to the barony that has given us so much. Semper Arx!

Brand & Jocea

Dominus & Domine Arx



Baronial Selection Procedure

Baronial Selection Procedure - The Barony of Ben Dunfirth December 31, 2014 (updated to meet Kingdom Law definitions June 11, 2022)

In the event that a single or pair of Baronial Nobles need to be selected in the Barony of Ben Dunfirth, the populace of the Barony will be polled, and the Crown will invest a fitting candidate or set of candidates.

When our existing Baronial Nobles have announced their intent to step down, an existing solitary Baronial Noble seeks to add a partner, or the Crown instructs our Barony to start our selection procedure, we will begin the following process. Ideally this process will begin at least four months before the expected investiture of the Baronial seat.

Announcement

The selection process will be announced in a kingdom court, and the important dates laid out in advance of the process will be announced on the Baronial website. Further notices made by email groups, baronial meetings, kingdom website, the kingdom newsletter, or other methods of dissemination will be appreciated but not required. **(Melee Court, Saturday June 18)**

Nomination of Candidates

If a new Baronial Noble or Nobles are being chosen, there will be at least three consecutive nomination meetings for either a single Baronial Noble, or a paired set of Baronial Nobles to be accepted by the Baronial Seneschal. Anyone in attendance of the meetings may make a nomination, and an individual or pair of individuals may nominate themselves. **(Baronial Meetings on Monday June 27, July 4, July 11)**

If an existing solitary Baronial Noble is seeking to add a partner, they will nominate to the Barony an additional person to serve alongside them, and the nomination meetings will serve as notice to the membership.

To be nominated for the position of Baronial Noble, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- a) Be a paid member of the Society in good standing
- b) Be at least 18 years of age.
- c) Meet any further requirements set out by Corpora and Kingdom law.

After the third nomination meeting, all nominees must indicate to the Baronial Seneschal whether they accept or decline the opportunity to participate in the poll, and the Crown will be consulted by the Baronial Seneschal to determine that that all candidates are acceptable to them. The Kingdom Seneschal will also be consulted to determine that all candidates meet the requirements of Corpora and Kingdom Law.

If the Baronial Seneschal is considered as a candidate, they will step aside from their office, and a deputy or interim seneschal will administer the Barony until the end of the procedure.

At the baronial meeting following the three nomination meetings and the confirmation of the Crown, the final nominated candidates will be announced. **(From TRM before Pennsic)**

Baronial Selection Procedure...pg 2

Candidate Meeting

For at least one meeting, the candidates will make themselves available to meet with the members of the Barony, explain how they intend to serve the Barony, and answer questions from the membership, unless exceptional circumstances arise as dictated by the Crown. **(Baronial Meetings Mondays August 22, August 29)**

Polling Meetings

For at least two meetings following the Candidate(s) Meeting, the Baronial Seneschal will have polling forms available to be filled out by the populace attending the meeting and collected that same evening. The Baronial Seneschal will keep a tally of who has returned a poll, and whether they are paid members or not. **(Baronial Meetings Mondays September 5, September 12)**

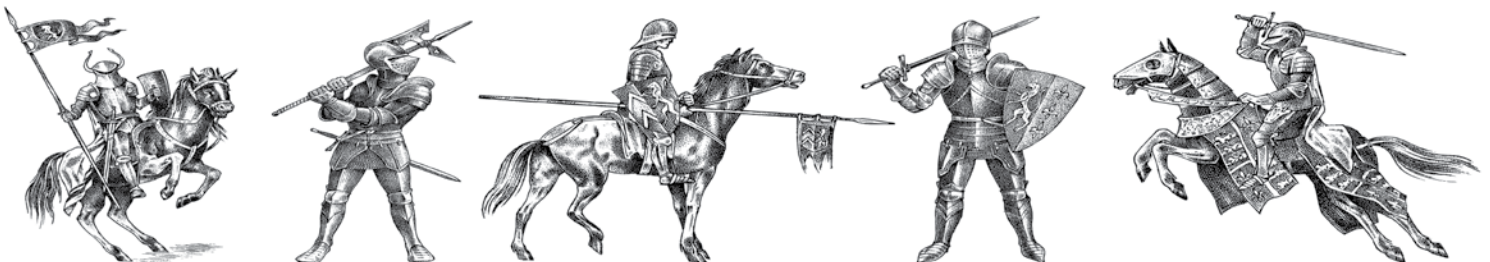
To participate in the baronial polling, the baronial populace must meet one of the following requirements:

- a) Be a paid member of the Society in good standing living in the boundaries of the Barony of Ben Dunfirth.
- b) Served at some point in the past two years as a baronial officer.
- c) Received from the Barony of Ben Dunfirth at any point a baronial award.
- d) On their honour claim to be participating members of the Barony and claim to have attended at least six baronial meetings in the last year.
- e) Attend a baronial polling meeting

Blank polling forms will be numbered but not tracked or correspond to specific members of the populace. Polling forms will ask for whether the voting person is a paid member or not, and list the nominated candidates to be ranked numerically (i.e., "1", "2", "3", etc), with "1" being the most preferred choice, and higher numbers being less preferred choices. Polls that are not filled out completely, and with/without unique sequential ranks for all the candidates will be considered spoiled and not counted.

If only one candidate is participating in the selection, the poll will be a simple vote of confidence of "0" for confidence and/or support, or "1" for no confidence or support (following the same kind of process used for multiple candidates -- the closer the score is to 0, the more approved the candidate is.

At the end of the polling meetings, the Baronial Seneschal will choose a scrutinizer or second impartial person to participate in the tallying of polls -- this could be the baronial pursuivant, or another member of the group who is not a nominee, or a representative of the kingdom. The polls will then be totalled, with subtotals counted for members and non-members, with the lowest total for a candidate indicating the most desired selection by the Barony. The results will be conveyed to the Crown within the week of the end of the polling meetings, and the physical polling forms will be turned over to the Kingdom Seneschal within 30 days. The results of the tally will be kept in strict confidence of the Crown and not shared with any other person.



Baronial Selection Procedure...pg 3

Announcement of the New Baronial Office

After considering the results of the poll, the Crown shall select from the list of candidates a choice not substantively opposed by the populace, and meets the requirements of Corpora and kingdom law. They will then notify all the candidates of their decision privately, and publicly announce their intent to invest the polled candidates of their choice into the Baronial seats. If the Crown's chosen candidates for the baronial office hold a position disallowed by a territorial baronial noble, they will step down from that office. **(Kingdom Court, Coronation September 17)**

The Crown's choice for the baronial office will be invested in a kingdom court of their choosing. **(Huntsman's Harvest, October 1)**



Murder Melee in the Meadow - June 16-19

What a fabulous time was had at Ben Dunfirth's Murder Melee in the Meadow 2022, Post-Plague Edition!

The weather, oft breezy to the point of hurricane-force winds, not to mention rather brisk during Evening Court, was otherwise assertively sunny and clear for nearly the entire weekend, which was greatly appreciated for our first baronial event of 2022.

The list fields were full of fighters in various melee groups, the fencing area was spirited and well-attended, and the Thrown Weapons and Archery ranges picked up in attendance on the Saturday once the winds calmed.

Our beautiful site at Binbrook conservation area was in excellent shape (which as many past attendees know is sometimes not the case with an annual Mud Run being held the week prior).

Much enjoyment was had at the Scribal Salon held by HE Marioun Golightly, and the savage mauling and eventual defeat of the Royal Pinata at the hands of the children of Ealdormere was highly entertaining.



All Photos by Fischer of Ben Dunfirth

Murder Melee in the Meadow - June 16-19

The Saturday morning Court celebrated Ben Dunfirth's own (Sir) Maneke receiving his white belt of Knighthood in a sunlit ceremony performed by the Order of the Chivalry, with amusing and heartfelt words spoken on his behalf by his Peers. A gorgeous scroll created (in record time, we hear) by our own Baroness Augusta Weyfare was presented to Sir Maneke, and many exclamations of amazement and delight were overheard.



Murder Melee in the Meadow - June 16-19

The Saturday evening Great Court held many surprises and memorable moments, with awards and gifts presented by all baronies to deserving members of the populace.

The following Baronial Awards were presented by our Most Illustrious Baron Brand and Dread Baroness Jocea:

- HRH Kaylah the Cheerful: Award of the Boar's Tusk
- HRH Trumbrand the Wanderer: a gift!
- Portia of Ben Dunfirth: Award of the Boar's Tusk
- Kellen of Trinovantia Nova: Award of the Boar's Tusk
- HE Don the Duckman: Order of the Golden Boar



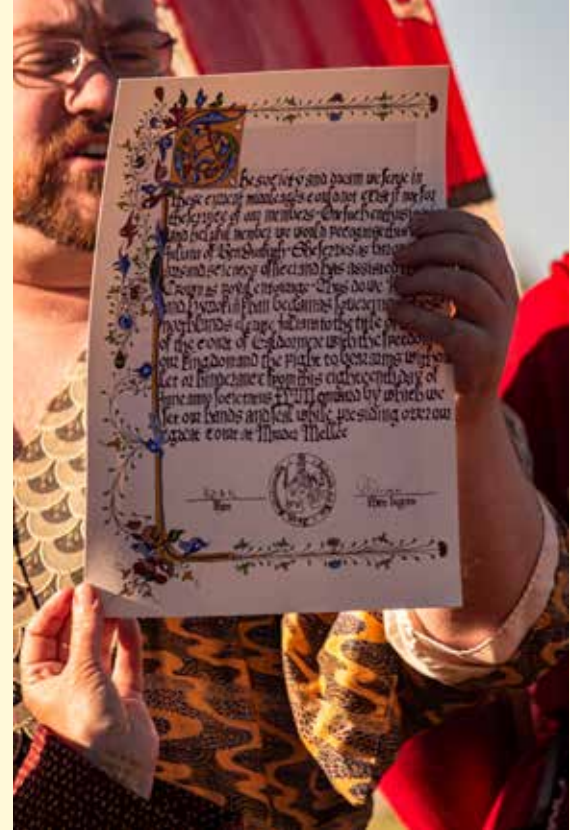
Murder Melee in the Meadow - June 16-19

In addition, the following members of the Glorious Barony of Ben Dunirth were presented the following Kingdom-level awards and boons:

- HE Augusta Wayfare: put on vigil for the Order of the Laurel,
- Thord the Barbarian: put on vigil for the Order of Chivalry.
- Prince Trumbrand: inducted into the Order of the Crucible for Armouring
- Fischer of Ben Dunfirth: Award of the Scarlet Banner
- Juliana Scrivner: Award of Arms

In all, Murder Melee was a rousing success, in large part due to the tireless efforts of our many Baronial members working hard to make a memorable event for all attendees.

Wassail to our Baron and Baroness, the Event Staff, and Event Steward Sir Maneke for their enthusiastic contributions to an excellent Melee!



Meredyth's Cookery Corner: Mushroom Pasty

This recipe dates back to late 14th century France, from the quintessential cookbook *Le Ménagier de Paris*. This same recipe book also contains recipes for pasties with venison, veal, beef, or mutton. However, pasties have been mentioned in a multitude of cookbooks throughout the ages. The earliest version of *Le Viandier* (Old French) has been dated to around 1300 and contains several pasty recipes.

This simple yet delicious recipe is naturally vegetarian in nature, but can also be converted to fully vegan if so desired by omitting the cheese and using vegetable shortening instead of lard in the pastry (if making by hand). It can also easily be amended into a meat pie with chopped leftover meats from previous meals, or have any number of small-cut vegetables added to the filling for a more robust pasty. It is the ideal "leftover-buster".

Mushroom Pasty

Original recipe from "A Boke of Gode Cookery" - *Le Menagerie de Paris*, 1395

MODERN RECIPE:

Pastry:

- 3 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1 cup lard or vegetable shortening, room temp
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 3-5 tbsp water
- 2 tsp cider or white vinegar

Filling:

- 1-1 1/2 lbs. whole button or sliced mushrooms
 - 2 tbs. olive oil
 - 1/2 cup grated or shredded cheese
 - 1/2 tsp. each salt and ginger
 - 1/4 tsp. pepper
1. Whisk together the flour and salt. Cut fat into small pieces and cut into the flour until mixture resembles coarse crumbs.
 2. In a small bowl, beat egg with water and vinegar. Drizzle over the flour mixture while tossing everything together with a fork.
 3. Gather dough together; sprinkle any dry or crumbly bits with tiny amounts of water until the dough comes together. Divide into six pieces, shape them into discs, wrap and chill.
 4. Parboil or sauté the mushrooms; drain.
 5. Add oil, cheese, salt and ginger, and mix well.
 6. Place in rolled out rounds, fold, crimp, vent and eggwash, and bake at 350°F for 35-40 minutes until pastry is golden.

ORIGINAL RECEIPT:

Mushrooms of one night be the best and they be little and red within and closed at the top; and they must be peeled and then washed in hot water and parboiled and if you wish to put them in a pasty add oil, cheese and spice powder.



Photo licensed from Adobe Stock

Sources: Wikipedia; Power, Eileen. *The Goodman of Paris (Le Ménagier de Paris)*. A Treatise on Moral and Domestic Economy by A Citizen of Paris (c. 1395). New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1928.

Knoweth Thy Officers: Juliana Scrivner

Greetings to all!

I, Juliana Scrivner, am the current Arts & Sciences Minister for Ben Dunfirth! I know what you may be thinking, “aren’t you a little short to be a stormtrooper officer?” and to that I say “Huh? Oh! The uniform!”. I have no uniform per se, but I am usually easy to find at events, especially those that we host, helping in some manner.

When fencing (which very well may have nothing to do with arts or science depending on who you ask), I do wear garb that has my heraldry on it, so keep your eye out for that.

Next, one will likely ask about my qualifications. Despite joining only a year pre-plague, I have always been a lover of arts and science. Being a rather artful person myself, I love painting and creating and try to get out to as many paint sessions as possible. I also have a knack for looking at things and trying to figure out how they were put together. I likely developed said passions and skills from watching an unhealthy amount of the television show *Mythbusters* as a young child.



Photo by Juliana Scrivner



Photo by Juliana Scrivner

Call For Entries

Last year's Clarion editions are a perfect example of what can be done when we all contribute article ideas and A&S Project Show and Tells. Let's keep the participation flowing, as I'm always happy to include your suggestions in the next edition of the Clarion.

This is your invitation to share; please contact me about photos you may have taken at events, stories (new and old) you want to tell, and other article ideas that involve Ben Dunfirth.

Please contact me (Meredyth Llwellyn) at bdchronicler@gmail.com and make sure to include your SCA name and contact info where I can best respond to your message.

Baronial Officer Contact Info

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Twitter: twitter.com/bendunfirth

Website: <http://bendunfirth.com>

Although the SCA complies with all applicable laws to ensure the health and safety of our event participants, we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure to infectious diseases during in-person events. By participating in the in-person events of the SCA, you acknowledge and accept the potential risks. You agree to take any additional steps to protect your own health and safety and those under your control as you believe to be necessary.

The website is the most up to date source for announcements, dates and information.

This is the quarterly issue of The Ben Dunfirth Clarion, a publication of the Barony of Ben Dunfirth of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Clarion is available from THL Augusta, bdchronicler@gmail.com or the Ben Dunfirth website. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright (c)2022 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece.

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