



The Clarion

Newsletter for the
Barony of Ben Dunfirth



December 23, 2022 - AS 57

Barony of Ben Dunfirth, Kingdom of Ealdormere

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Honours and Awards Bestowed upon Ben Dunfirthians:

Huntsmans Harvest,
October 1, 2022

Eógan Svartauga

Award of the Boar's Tusk

Grimroth Skullhammer

Award of the Boar's Tusk

Sir Tristham Ovinra I Groffa

Inducted into the Company of
the Rising Phoenix

HE Brand Thorwaldsen and

Her Grace Jocsa Valente

Awarded the Horn of Ben Dunfirth

HE Augusta Weyfare

Inducted into the Order of the Laurel

Her Grace Jocsa Valente

Awarded Court Baronetcy

HE Brand Thorwaldsen

Augmentation of Arms

Amelie of Ben Dunfirth

Award of the Wolf's Cub

King's Prize Tournament,
November 5, 2022

Lady of the Laurel, Countess Marioun Golightly

Announced White Wolf Fian Challenge

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

When the words come, they are merely empty shells without the music. They live as they are sung, for the words are the body and the music the spirit. - Hildegard von Bingen

Events Calendar:

Events as listed on the Kingdom of Ealdormere
Calendar from January - March 2023:

Date: Saturday January 21, 2023 9am-3pm

Event: Blue Dragon Studium

Location: Woodview Community Centre, 151
Cadillac Ave N., Oshawa, ON

Description: An A&S event!

Hosted By: The Canton of Ard Chreag

Date: Saturday January 21, 2023 5pm-11pm

Event: Masque by Moonlight

Location: 816 Woolwich St, Guelph, ON N1H 6J2

Description: An evening event with performances
and lots of yummy food!

Hosted By: Ard Chreag

Date: Saturday February 4, 2023

Event: Tournoi du Coeur de Glace

Location: Belleville Fish and Game Club,
170 Elmwood Drive, Belleville, ON

Description: Fighting Fencing! A&S!

Hosted By: The Shire of Bastille du Lac

Date: Saturday, Feb 25, 2023, 9am-5pm

Event: Practicum: Pastyme with good companye

Location: Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Dr,
Kanata, ON

Hosted by: the Canton of Caldriithig

Date: Saturday, Mar 4, 2023

Event: Winter War

Location: North Middlesex District High Schol,
100 Parkhill Main St, Parkhill, ON

Description: Fighting! Fencing! A&S!

Hosted by: The Shire of Trinovantia Nova

Ben Dunfirth Business Meetings/Fight Practices for Winter/Spring 2023:
Mondays at 7pm from January - March 2023

Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre: 10 Market Street, Dundas ON

No Meetings on: Dec 26 (Boxing Day), Jan 2 (New Years Day stat), Feb 20 (Family Day)

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

Winter Wonderland

What an eventful few months we have had as both a Barony and a Kingdom! With so many events rammed into what remained of our calendar year once the province re-opened, it feels like every second weekend or so has been taken up with jaunting from one side of Ealdormere to the other since May. But it's apparent by the excellent turn-out at every event, considering the remaining restrictions for gatherings both inside and outside have only just been dropped at the beginning of this month, that we've all missed one another during the Plague Times(TM).

This last-of-the-year's quarterly edition of the Clarion reports on our own Baronial event (Huntsman's Harvest) back in early October as well as the Kingdom events Crown Tournament and King's Prize Tourney, as well as the recent Out of Kingdom Baronial Investiture of our Cousins to the South (in Aethelmarc) for good measure.

The next quarter in the new calendar year will be just as busy, with several highly-anticipated events taking place between January and March; be sure to mark your calendars! As always, stay tuned to the official Ealdormere website calendar for more information regarding potential changes and/or restrictions on upcoming in-person events.

Looking forward to warmer days and shorter nights! Wassail Ben Dunfirth!

- *Hæ Mæredyðh*, Ben Dunfirth *Chronicler*

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
- The Hall of lights in the Laurel Caverns, PA
- Isla De Jocea, Cuba
- A newly declared Ben Dunfirth bar, the Bastion of An Tír, and a little land along the trail nearby
- The 3rd Red Rock on the Right, Denver CO
- 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 Quarantine Facility, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- Steak & Shake, Erie PA
- Porcine Signpost, Elkhart Fairgrounds, IN
- "Bacon Rock", Luray Caverns, VA



From Their Excellencies



Photo by Armiger Fischer

Hail and welcome to our first Baronial missive!

Her Excellency and I look forward to representing the Barony and carrying on the rich legacy from those who have held these lands before us.

I think we can define this past year as the Year of Change in Ben Dunfirth. Not only are we new Baronials, but we have had many of our Officers change over as well! With new people come new ideas, and we look forward to working with them, and all of you, to continue to promote, improve, and have our Barony serve as an example of what a dedicated group of people can achieve.

We do want to thank all those people to have served the Barony over their terms in the various Officer positions, and hope that you continue to guide us with your sage advice, wisdom and experience.

Please have a safe and happy holiday season, avoid the plague, work on your crafts, practise your forms, repair your armor, and mend your garb, because spring will be upon us before we know it!

Don Carborundum Megitimi!

Yours In Service,
Meredyth and Jørgen



Huntsman's Harvest - October 1, 2022

The weather cooperated once again with a glorious and sunny, if a bit chilly, day at Huntsman's Harvest. It goes without saying that this was HE Jorgen's and my favourite event since the re-opening; but then, it always has been. It was just maybe a liiiiittle more special this time around with our step-up into the Big Chairs as Ben Dunfirth's new Baronials for the next three to five years!

Many awards and honours were bestowed that day, and we were so pleased to see our friends both in- and outside our Barony summoned to their Majesties' "Pillow of Reckoning" to receive recognition for their efforts over the last few years. We were thrilled to witness Her Excellency Augusta Weyfare being inducted to the Order of the Laurel for her incredible artistic talents, and our far-away but still dear Lady Petra inducted into the Order of the Pelican. We were even able to contribute for the first time by awarding Baronial level awards to some highly-deserving Ben Dunfirthers. Best Day Ever!

Photos by Armiger Fischer of Ben Dunfirth, except where otherwise marked.



Photo by Gabriel Ryan



Photo by Graham Day



Crown Tournament - October 22, 2022

The weather was breezy and a little chill, but otherwise perfection for October's Crown Tournament in Rising Waters.

All of the fighters who spent many hours training for this day were in full fighting trim, well-prepared to fight for the glory and honour of the Crown.

Three cheers to His Highness Prince Steinarr for his Victory on the field, and our hearts to his Inspiration, Her Highness Princess Margraig of Erainn! All photos by Armiger Fischer and Eógan Svartauga.



King's Prize Tournament - November 5, 2022

A diversity of A&S projects were on display at Ealdormere's first **King's** Prize Tournament in Septentria!

Prizes were given to all of the participants, two incredibly talented worthies were inducted into the Order of the Laurel, Kingdom level awards were granted (including HRH Margraig of Erainn being awarded the Order of the Wain), and three citizens were added to the Scroll of Honour.

All photos by Armiger Fischer and Bellatrix Hespeler.



Baronials on the Move - December 17, 2022

Following up on our Election Promise to represent our Barony in the Greater SCA, we, along with Their Excellencies Ramshaven and Rising Waters, and HRH Margraig of Erainn, attended our first Out of Kingdom event: the Baronial Investiture in the Barony of Rhydderich Hael, in the Kingdom of Aethelmarc.

We all had an Excellent time! (*heh, see what I did there?*) We would like to thank Their Majesties Aethelmarc, their new Excellencies Rhydderich Hael, and all the interesting people and new friends we met for an amazing event, despite the uncertain weather and the indoor restrictions still in place in Aethelmarc. We look forward to hopefully hosting Their Excellencies (and their Melee team) at Murder Melee this coming summer!

All photos by HE Meredyth Llwellyn



Meredyth's Cookery Corner: Christmas Drink Recipes

Christmas was one of the highlights of the medieval calendar, for both the rich and peasantry. During the longest holiday of the year, typically the full twelve days of Christmas, people stopped work, homes were decorated and a Yule log burned in the hearth. The holiday began in earnest before dawn on Christmas morning with a special Christmas mass that signaled the official end of Advent and the start of the feasting season, which ran from December 25th through January 5th of the new year. Gifts were exchanged, church services were enjoyed and merry feasts were eaten by all where there was usually better food and more of it than at any other time in the year.

Amongst the aristocracy, Christmas gifts such as fine clothes and jewellery to wear for the season were exchanged on the 25th of December. There was another round of gift-giving on the 1st of January, as well. Known as 'first-gifts' they were thought to be an omen of a person's fortune in the coming year. Much like today, though, the real joy of Christmas for many was the food and drink.

Clarrey (Serves 6-8)

"Take kanel & galinga, greyns de paris, and a lytel peper, & make powder, & temper hit wyt god wyte wyne & the þrid parte honey & ryne hit þorow a cloþ."

- 1-750mL bottle sweet white wine
- 1-2 cups honey
- 1 tbsp each cinnamon, galingale or ginger, cardamom
- 1 tbsp white pepper
- Cheesecloth

Boil the wine and honey, reduce the heat and skim off the scum as it rises. Continue adding honey as you deem necessary, then remove from the heat and stir in the spices. Let the mix sit covered for 24 hours. Remove the residue of spices and pass the wine into another container using a strainer with two or three layers of cheesecloth. Bottle and wait at least one month before serving.



Photo licensed from Adobe Stock

Wassail Punch (Serves 8-10)

Wassail is a warm, spiced apple drink that is enjoyed as part of a ritual called wassailing, which took place on the Twelfth Night (5th January). Medieval people would visit orchards and sing to the trees to wake them up, scare away evil spirits and ensure a good apple harvest the next year. In other towns, people went singing from doorto-door; they would then offer a drink from the wassail bowl in exchange for gifts.

- 6 small apples, washed and cored
- 1 litre cider (sweet or dry)
- 2 cinnamon sticks, crushed
- 2 pinches ground cloves
- Freshly grated nutmeg, to taste
- 1 lemon, sliced
- Sugar, to taste

Score and bake the apples and roast at 375°F until skin is soft and starting to split.

Heat the cider over low heat and add cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg. Stir well and heat through until the liquid starts to foam.

Stir in the lemon slices and roasted apples. Gradually add sugar to taste. Serve hot.

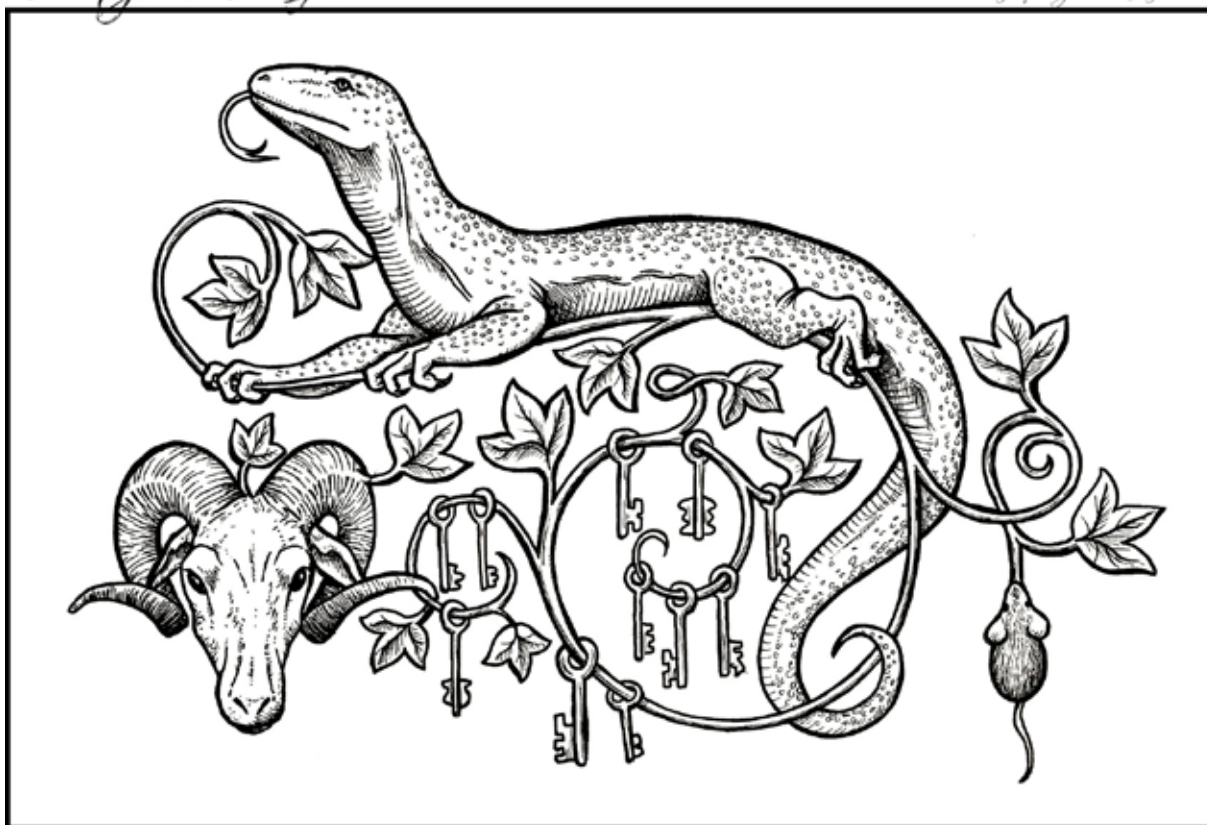
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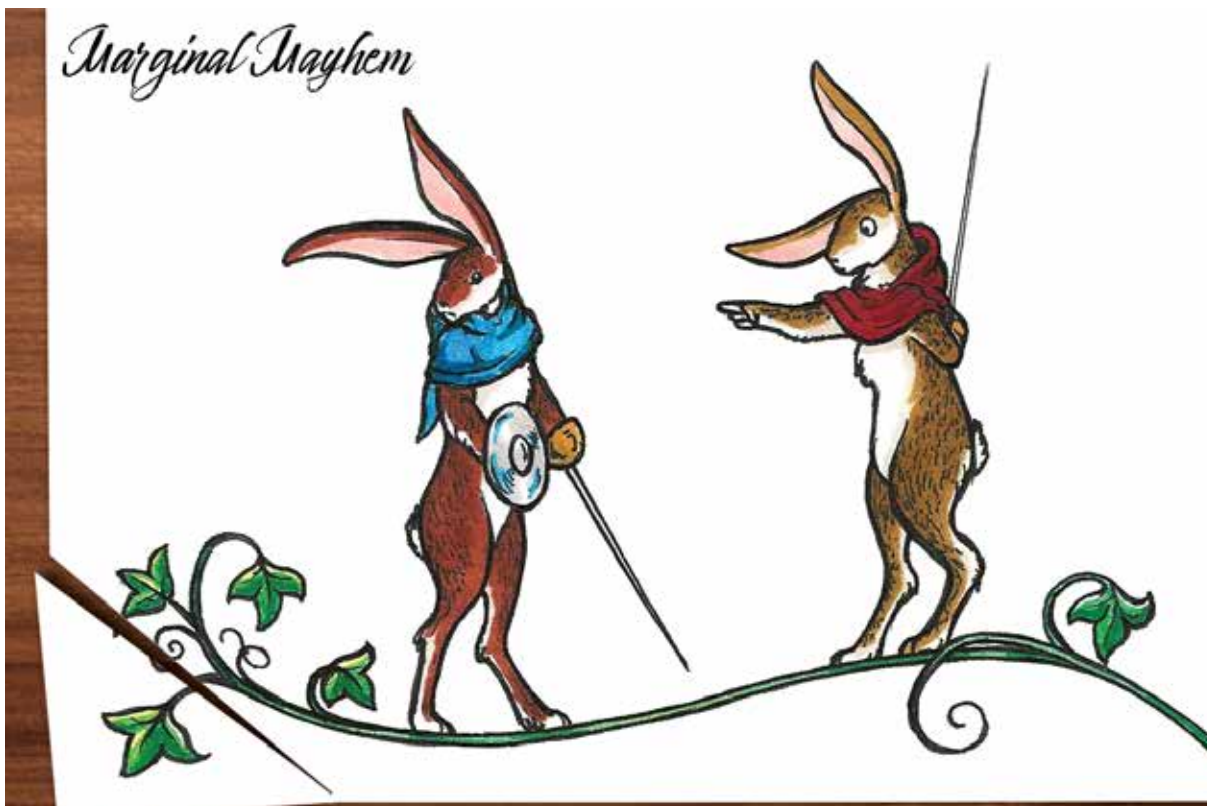
Marginal Mayhem

Marginal Mayhem

by Augusta Weyfare



Marginal Mayhem



Call For Entries

Our Clarion editions of old 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.

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 or be told, and other article ideas that involve Ben Dunfirth.

Please contact me (HE 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.

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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.

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