



The Ben Dunfirth Clarion

Summer A.S. LX (2025)

"Because red is so mainstream"



in this issue...

**The folklaw of Ben Dunfirth
Murder Melee in the Meadow**

Upcoming A&S Days

www.bendunfirth.com

Baronial Court

of Their Excellencies Baroness Meredyth &
Baron Jørgen at Murder Melee, June 7th 2025

Countess Arlette of the Rozakii

Baroness' Favour

THL John Spooner
Award of the Boar's Tusk

THL Katrina Prebensdottir
Award of the Boar's Tusk

Lord Evandrus of Hallstatt

Award of the Boar's Tusk

Lady Vivian of Ben Dunfirth
Award of the Boar's Tusk



Royal Recognition

The following member of the barony haa had their skill and virtue recognized by Ealdormere's royals, and been awarded accordingly:

Dominus Howell James of Town's End
Award of the Maiden's Heart

Additionally, we welcome our new Heirs,

Prince Tristham & Princess Anneke

who will join the Line of the North on September 27th at their Coronation, hosted by the Canton of Petrea Thule

From the Chronicler

Ascelyn of Ben Dunfirth, Armiger

Hello again!

It has been a busy start to the summer for Ben Dunfirth as we ran both a Crown Tournament (headed by Their Graces Marioun and Evander) and the 40th(!) installment of Murder Melee under the event stewardship of the Honourable Hespeler and Noble Fischer.

Beyond these events, members of the kingdom have travelled far and wide these past month, even travelling to Tir Mara in the East Kingdom to fight and compete for glory: for the kingdom, the barony, and the self. Dominus Howell returned from Beltaines a champion of the thrown weapons and proceeded to win another tournament at Trillium War: Their Excellences have indeed shown themselves wise in their selection of thrown weapons champion.

Coming this fall, I will be looking for a volunteer to take on the position of deputy chronicler. This deputy will work with me to assemble this baronial newsletter, with duties to be split based on the deputy's skills and interests. Duties could include photography (or requesting photos from others), preparing submissions for the newsletter, or assembling the newsletter itself. If you are interested in serving as a chronicler in the future or just looking to help out, I'd be happy to hear from you.

A reminder, as always, that the *Clarion* welcomes submissions of all kinds both from members and friends of the barony. Be it photos, stories, written works or project updates: please, let it be part of our group's history! Submissions can be sent to bdchronicler@gmail.com, though if you'd like to workshop an idea with me you're more than welcome to approach me in person or contact me through whatever means you have at your disposal. This is after all, good member of Ben Dunfirth, *your* newsletter. I just put it together.

In fact, as I prepare this folio I am in the midst of packing for a long journey to distant Lochac along with Dominus Howell—I trust our return will find Ben Dunfirth as solid and steady as it was on our departure.

Dutifully,

Ascelyn

P.S. Recently finished a double-sided banner with some of my heraldry!



The Folklaw of Ben Dunfirth

There was recently discussion in a business meeting regarding baronial policy. In the interest of documenting Ben Dunfirth's history and considering how we *may* wish for our group to run, find below a portion of the "folklaw" approved by the membership of April 2010. This is **not** enforceable as currently baronial policy.

Article 1 – Membership

1. Any person has the right to become a member of Ben Dunfirth. Persons do not have to be paid members of the Society for Creative Anachronism to participate in the activities of the Barony.
2. The names of the membership are maintained as a function of the Office of the Seneschal. It is the responsibility of the Seneschal to keep the list of members up to date.
3. Any person may at any time petition the Seneschal to have their name added or removed from the list of members.
4. It is the responsibility of the individual members to ensure that the information in the possession of the Seneschal is correct.
5. No member of Ben Dunfirth may maintain membership in any other territorial group(s) within the Society for Creative Anachronism. A member of Ben Dunfirth may participate in as many groups as they wish, but for the purpose of maintaining an accurate membership list they may only hold membership in Ben Dunfirth
6. The membership list may not be disseminated to any outside agents or agencies. the membership list may however be requested and utilized for official reasons within the Society for Creative Anachronism.
7. Any member of the Barony may participate in any group meeting, event, demo, fight practice, competition, or official gathering.

Article 2 – Succession of Baronial Thrones (Royal Assent – November 4, 2010)

Qualifications for the Baronial Seat

All candidates must:

1. Be a member of the Barony of Ben Dunfirth.
2. Be acceptable to the crown of Ealdormere.
3. Be an international or family member in good standing of the SCA.
4. Be a minimum of 18 years of age.
5. Be nominated as a candidate within the span of 30 days after the current Baron and Baroness announce their intention to step down.
6. Meet the requirements as set out by Corpora and Kingdom Law.

Participation of the Members of the Barony

1. Members of the Barony shall participate in the selection of the Baron and Baroness through a formal poll. This poll in no way binds the Crown, who retains sole control over the appointment of individuals to the Baronial Seats.
2. Only those individuals who are on the current membership rolls of the Barony may participate in the poll. The membership list is kept up to date as a function of the office of the Seneschal.
3. Voting will be done by e-mail as well as secret ballot.
4. The e-mail voting window shall consist of at least 7 days and no longer than 30 days. E-mail votes should be addressed to the Seneschal and the Pursuivant to ensure the vote was received.
5. At the end of the e-mail voting period there shall be one evening of secret ballot voting held at the next regular business meeting.
6. The votes shall be counted by the Seneschal and the Pursuivant, and the raw numbers will be presented to the Crown to assist them in their decision making process.

Article 2 – Succession of Baronial Thrones (continued)

Order of Events

1. Approximately 6 months before the current Baron and Baroness intend to retire; they shall announce this intent to retire in a court. This shall initiate the selection policy.
2. The membership list of Ben Dunfirth will be immediately frozen at the time of the announcement; no new members will be added to the voting list after this time.
3. All prospective candidates have 30 days from this announcement to be nominated. One may either be nominated at a regular business meeting or may declare their nomination in an email to the Seneschal and Pursuivant. Members may self-nominate or be nominated by others.
4. At the end of this nomination period, the list of potential candidates will be sent to the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal for their approval.
5. Upon receiving the decision of the Crown, the candidates will be notified of their acceptance or refusal and the list of accepted candidates will be announced at the next business meeting.
6. Over the next 30 days after the accepted candidates are announced, all candidates must attend at least one regularly scheduled business meeting or one all candidates meeting for the members to ask them questions. Any who do not present themselves at least once forfeit their place on the Baronial Poll.
7. At the end of this 30 day campaign period, the period of electronic polling shall commence for no less than 7 days and no longer than 30. The length of this period will be decided by consensus of the Seneschal and Pursuivant based on current circumstances.
8. At the end of the electronic polling period, 1 regular business meeting shall be held with a secret ballot poll.

1. The Baronial Seneschal and Pursuivant shall prepare the ballots for the poll in accordance with Corpora and Kingdom Law.
2. On the day of the count, if the Baronial Seneschal or Pursuivant cannot be in attendance then they may appoint a deputy to perform their duties.
3. If the Baronial Seneschal or Pursuivant intends to run for the Baronial Seats they must first resign their posts as they hold a position of crucial importance in the election process.
4. When all secret ballots are in, the Seneschal and Pursuivant, or their appointed deputies, shall count the ballots and add the totals to that of the electronic ballots.
5. That evening the Seneschal shall send the raw data of the poll to the sitting Royalty to assist them in their decision on who will succeed the thrones of Ben Dunfirth. The seneschal shall also forward this email to the Pursuivant, to ensure there are no irregularities.
6. Once the decision is made by the Royalty, those selected shall ascend the thrones of Ben Dunfirth at the next event held in the barony.

Article 3 – Selection of Baronial Officers

1. The incumbent of an office will give notice of resignation in writing to the Seneschal. In the case of the Seneschal resigning, notice in writing will be given to the Pursuivant.
2. Notice of the vacancy of an office will be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the membership.

Article 3 – Selection of Baronial Officers (continued)

Nomination and Elections

1. Nomination to select a successor will be opened at the meeting at which a vacancy is announced.
2. Any member of the Barony may stand for the nomination to any office, so long as they meet the requirements.
3. Nomination may be made by the nominee, or any person(s) in favour of the nominee.
4. Nominations may be either verbal or written. Written nominations must be submitted to the Seneschal or the Pursuivant.
5. Nominees must explicitly accept the nomination, either verbally or in writing, for the nomination to be valid. Written acceptances must be submitted to the Seneschal or the Pursuivant.
6. Nomination shall remain open for a minimum of two (2) regularly scheduled business meetings of the membership, including the first week. At any time on or after the third meeting at the discretion of the Seneschal, nominations may be closed and the names of the nominees made known to the membership.
7. In such a case as there is only one (1) nominee for a position, that person shall be acclaimed as elected to that position.
8. Prior to the actual vote taking place, each candidate will be allowed to make a speech before the assembled membership, should the candidate(s) so desire. Likewise, any member of the assembled membership may ask such questions of the candidate(s) as are pertinent to the election procedure. The speeches and questions can continue for a length of time as determined by the Seneschal.

From Arts & Sciences

Mistress Lucia de Enzinass

Dear Ben Dunfirth,

I would like to know what Arts & Science (A&S) you have been up to this last quarter. Any crafts, mad science, teaching, writing, or hosting A&S meetings please brag about them to me. I will then brag about them to the Kingdom A&S Minister.

Please send your report to me by September 1, 2025.

The Barony is blessed with the upcoming A&S days:

- Lord Evanderous will be hosting a fiber arts day on July 26th.
- Noble Ascelyn will be running a Do & Dye day on August 17th

Details on upcoming A&S days can be found here:
www.ealdormere.ca/ben-dunfirth/arts-science-workshop/

Cheerfully yours,

Lucia de Enzinass

bdartsandscience@gmail.com

Crown...



Photo by Howell



Photo by Howell



Photo by Howell

Spring Crown was held Caledonia Lions Community Centre, a new site for the barony. The hall-divider made for a nice sound barrier between the fighting and the eating/chatting area. There was a feast based on pre-contact First Nations cuisine executed by Nobles Ren and Gabriel (and Ascelyn, a who self-conscripted at feast-time), with many lends lent to serving, washing dishes, and tidying up. A site we'll probably use again, though sadly not suited to archery.

... And Melee



Photo by Pasi Palnaten

This year's Melee faced some challenges due to changes with the site, but nevertheless managed to delight and exhaust: a round-robin of 5-a-side melees and subsequent "ten man (really, 8-10) melees" just about wiped the fighters out! When Sir Brand called the fighters to the field once more for a final grand melee, less than ten mustered to each side!



Photo by Pasi Palnaten

Ealdormere Goes East

Many an Ealdormerean (including Their Majesties) travelled east this June to the Baronnie du Havre des Glaces for *Les Beltaines*, which saw Ealdormere (with Al-Karakal fighting alongside us) pitted against the might of the Eastern Kingdom. In a land where the 'mosquito barometer' goes from 'agreeable' to 'post-apocalyptic', Ealdormere emerged victorious not only in armoured combat but on the thrown weapons range as well, with Dominum Howell claiming victory in the finals of the Tic-Tac-Toe thrown tournament over Lord Matthew Mac Angus (a good friend residing on the distant shores of Ruantallan).

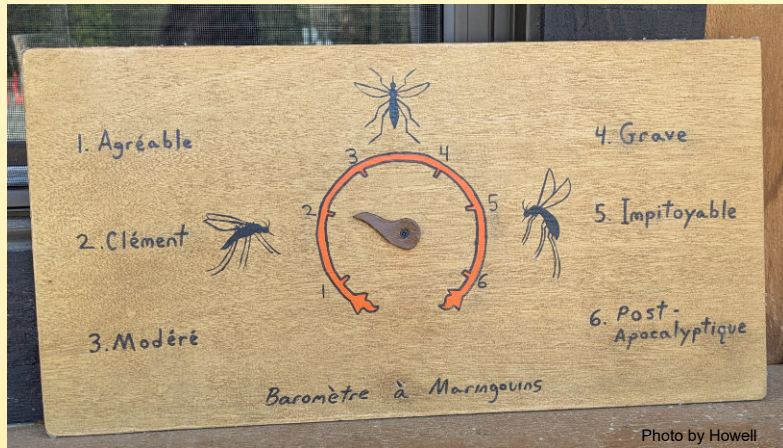


Photo by Howell



Photo by Howell



Photo by Tidehelm the Moneyer

Such a successful meeting was Beltaines, the end of June saw Lord Ranulf (middle, bottom picture) make the mirror trip down from l'Île du Dragon Dormant to join us in camp and on the target range at Trillium War!



Photo from Howell



Photo from Howell

Baronial Meetings

For the summer months we will be meeting outdoors in the Teaching Gardens at 85 Oak Knoll Drive, Hamilton.

Please be aware that this is an outdoor, public space with **no dedicated bathrooms or changing facilities**. While there are several commercial stores and restaurants nearby on King St., they are approximately a four-minute drive from the site, so plan accordingly if you are attending practice.

Additionally, the area is surrounded by tall grass and tends to attract mosquitos, especially after sunset. We recommend bringing bug spray if you plan on fighting.

Fall Meeting Space

At this time Ben Dunfirth does not have an indoor meeting space to return to once the days grow short and the air cold. An ideal meeting space would be available Monday nights, be accessible by Hamilton public transit, and have room for armoured combat, fencing, and some space for A&S practitioners.

If you have a space you think may be suitable, please reach out to seneschal.bendunfirth@gmail.com

Other Upcoming Events

For the most up-to-date event information, please consult the [kingdom calendar](#) and event webpages.

August 8th-15th – Calling Crows

While the Crows of Champcorbeau have traditionally hosted a self-described “Pennsic Pity Party” by the name of Murder Muster, this year the Ealdormere’s most southern shire will be hosting a week-long camping event far all wishing to enjoy an extended respite in domestic territory.

August 23rd – Middle Ages on the Green

A free-to-attend ‘come and play’ demo event hosted by the Canton of Bryniau Tywynnog featuring a potluck dinner.

August 28th-September 1st – Gwyl y Fflam

A labour day weekend camp hosted by the Shire of Bastille du Lac.

August 29th-September 1st – Heima Aftur

The shire of Ulfheim lays to rest the storied camp known as Baron’s Howe and inaugurates Heima Aftur at a new site just outside Sowerby, in the northern reaches of our Kingdom.

September 6th – Step Spritely

A full day (and evening) of dancing at a transit-accessible site in Mississauga.

September 13th – Rising Waters Baronial Investiture

Marking the investiture of the successors to our eastern neighbour, Her Excellency Baroness Sciath.

Baronial Officers

Landed Baronials

HE Jørgen Lennertson (George Bird)
HE Meredyth Llwellyn (Alicia York-Bird)
baronialsofbendunfirth@gmail.com

Seneschal

Noble Ren (Cassie Ren Singer)
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Chatelaine

Noble Gabriel of Ben Dunfirth (Air Ryan)
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Social Media Officer

Sir Brand Thorwaldsen (Blair DeMarco-Wettlaufer)
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Exchequer

THN Bellatrix Hespeler (Glenn Shilletto)
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Armoured Combat Marshal

Captain Jack Mungo
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Fencing Marshal

THL David of Ben Dunfirth (Dave)
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Archery Marshal

HE Don the Duckman (Don Intini)
duckfamily.intini@sympatico.ca

Youth Combat Marshal

Dominus Howell James of Town's End (Emily Townshend)

Baronial Pursuivant

Lord Evandrus of Hallstatt
bdpursuivant@gmail.com

Thrown Weapons Marshall

HE Meredyth Lllwellwyn (Alicia York)
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Ascelyn of Ben Dunfirth (Michael McLaren)
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