



The Ben Dunfirth Clarion

fall A.S. LX (2025)

"The Left-handed Barony"



in this issue...

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A Delegation to Lochac

www.bendunfirth.com

From the Chronicler

Ascelyn of Ben Dunfirth, Armiger

The fall has come again! I've been making you turn these pages sideways to read for a whole year now and it's Huntsman's Harvest once again. This issue's chock-full, so much so I've stayed up 'til the last nub of my candle to corral it all into these pages.

The more things change, though, the more they stay the same. Howell has returned to the Senechal's office, a Ben Dunfirth ally is on the Lupine Throne, and I've got way too many things going on. If you'd like to help change one of those things and have an interest in newsletters, you can help me: I am looking for a deputy chronicler.

The deputy chronicler is responsible for helping put together this very newsletter: that could mean taking photos, putting together segments, or helping make everything fit on the page. If you're interested, you can reach out to me in person or at the chronicler's e-mail address, bdchronicler@gmail.com.

Royal Recognition

The following members of the barony have had their skills, virtues, and actions recognized by Ealdormere's royals, and been awarded accordingly:

Ichijou gorou Kinaki
Order of Thorbjorn's Hammer

Gann
County

Mægwynn skrautibrók
County
Order of the Rose

Minck the Skinner
Maiden's Heart
King's Favour

Fischer of Ben Dunfirth
Order of Thorbjorn's Hammer

Additionally, **John Spooner** and **Nika Dmitrieva doch' Zvezdina** received writs from King Gann & Queen Mægwynn for the *Order of the Mark*, and will sit their vigils at Huntman's Harvest

We recognize His Majesty **King Tristham**, crowned on Septmeber 27th alongside Queen Anneke.

Summer Sundries

Do and Dye

We did, it dyed, and we didn't die! But it didn't turn out the colour we wanted—lessons to be learned for next time:

- Don't forget to clean the iron (black) out of your tub from your last dye bath
- Don't skip over the line of the instructions that says to *simmer* the weld before straining it.

Thanks to everyone that came out with their own projects, and to Their Excellencies for hosting!

Photo: Meredyth



Photo: Meredyth



FanExpo Demo

Several members of the Barony ventured up the coast to Eoforwic to share our arts (and arms) with the strange denizens of FanExpo. Wassail for the volunteers!



Photo: Lucia de Enzinas



Photo: Lucia de Enzinas



Photo: Meredyth



Photo: Meredyth

Photo: Meredyth

The Folklaw of Ben Dunfirth

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, continuing from where left off in our last issue. This is **not** enforceable as currently baronial policy.

Article 4 – Duties of Officers

1. The first duty of any Officer is to contact their Kingdom Superior.
2. The second duty of any Officer is to contact the Baronial Chronicler and Webmaster.
3. Further duties are outlined in the respective Officer's handbooks.
4. It is recommended that all Officers have at least one Deputy.
5. It is the sole prerogative of an officer to appoint their deputies.
6. The membership may make requests of the officers, such specific duties as they would like to have carried out.

Article 5 – Meetings

1. Meetings of the membership shall take place on a regular basis, the dates, times and places of such to be decided by the membership.
2. Any member(s) may petition the Seneschal to hold a special meeting on the membership.
3. There will be at least (3) days notice given prior to a special meeting of the membership being held.
4. The Seneschal, or their appointed representative, shall call, be present at, and preside over all meetings of the membership.
5. The Seneschal, or their appointed representative, shall make notice of all meetings known to the membership as widely as possible, as is within their power.
6. Any and all persons are welcome to attend all meetings of the group.
7. Any person may put before the membership any SCA-related topic for discussion.
8. Any person may speak on any SCA-related topic brought before the people.

Report from Lochac

Ascelyn of Ben Dunfirth, Armiger

In mid-July Howell and I set out on a lengthy journey from Ealdormere to the distant Kingdom of Lochac. We had the immense pleasure of visiting weeknight meetings in the Baronies of Rowany (Sydney) and Stormhold (Melbourne) as well as attend an event, **Fencing Fest**, in the Barony of River Haven (Brisbane). We would like to thank the welcoming people of Lochac for their hospitality, as well as those Ealdormerians who put us in touch with people on the far side of the globe.

Here are some pictures from the “SCAdian” portions of our trip, courtesy of Howell and myself.



Above: HRM Ariston (blue and red) at Rowany fight practice. This was the night of our arrival and we were very jet-lagged, so this is the only extant picture from this visit.

Across: Us with the wonderful people of Stormhold at their Monday night meeting.

Below: Indigenous woven baskets on display at the Australian Museum.





In River Haven we attended **Fencing Fest**, a small annual event (~30 attendees) dedicated solely to fencing with a mix of classes and tournaments. A few attendees had flown in from Stormhold, Rowany, and Politarchopolis (Canberra)—Lochac's groups are very far apart, so going to an event in another Barony often means flying. Because of this, events are frequently multi-day affairs to make travel worthwhile, and options for room and board at these events are the norm. This is a marked difference from Ealdormere's routine of day events in the winter and longer events where you rely on your own camping kit in the summer.

It was quite a cold weekend for the season (recall that Lochac's seasons are the opposite of ours): daytime highs were 20 °C and overnight lows were around 10 °C.



Across: The event site. Bunkhouses on the middle, main hall on the right, kitchen, washrooms, and staff cabins out of frame to the right.

Above: The view out behind the site.

Below: We photographed a lot of birds this trip.





Fencing Fest normally does not have a baronial court, but just for us (!) Baron Dimitrii opened a court in order to receive the gifts & scroll with which Ben Dunfirth's baronials had entrusted us. We look forward to delivering the return message at Huntsman's Harvest.

Right:
Everyone is happy to learn about spears
Below:
Howell fighting in a rapier melee.





On the Sunday morning of the event there was a round-robin tournament, which gave Howell a chance to cross blades with many of Lochac's finest fencers. This included some passes of "chair fencing", which appears to be a commonly-accepted accomodation in Lochac's fencing community

Clockwise, from across-bottom: Howell facing an opponent, chair-to-chair/When fencing a seated opponent, it is courteous to check their reach and not disengage from it/Howell faces one of many Lochac MOD's/Sunday group photo (missing: event steward Batista and tireless cook, whose name sadly eludes me at this moment)



Huntsman's Harvest

Featuring the vigils of Order of the Mark premier candidates John Spooner and Nika Dmitrieva doch' Zvezdina.

Germania Park Campground

4221 Trinity Church Road, Binbrook, LoR 1Co

Admission: Member 20\$, Non-Member 30\$,

Under 18 Free.

Lunch (8\$): Beef and barley stew – gluten-free and vegetarian options available

Dinner: Potluck, pre-registration required

[For full schedule of activities, feast pre-registration, and other details, see the event webpage.](#)

Baronial Meetings

At this time Ben Dunfirth does not have an indoor meeting space for fight practices. 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

Until then, baronial business meetings will be held at the Hamilton Library, **Turner Park Branch (325 Rymal Road East)**, at 7:00-9:30 PM.

Rising Waters holds a fight practice Wednesday nights in Grimsby at:

Lakeview Public School

33 Olive St. Grimsby, ON, L3M 2B9

6:00–9:00 PM

Arts & Science Days

There will be an open A&S day on **November 1st**, 10 AM - 4 PM, located at:

245 Grand River St N
Grand River Room
Paris, ON
N3L 3V8

Anyone is welcome to attend to work on their own projects, socialize, or get assistance. See the event [webpage](#) for more details.

Other Upcoming Events

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

Things are quite quiet event-wise this side of Septentria through the end of the year:

November 19th – The Revival of the Feast of Bacchus

Returning after many years' haitus, this feast will have a casual atmosphere and, I suspect, no shortage of libations. This is an adult-only event.

December 6th – Wassail

Bryniau Tywynnog's anuual holiday gathering. There will unfortunately be no merchants this year due space limitations.

Baronial Officers

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