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Greetings unto the Populace!!

And just like that, it's December again! Sometimes, the minutes pass slowly, but the years pass by so quickly.

As we look to the future, we can only hope for many more good times with our chosen family. More events are being scheduled. Some of our favorites are back on the calendar. And we are looking forward to spending time with not only folks from our beloved Barony, but from around the Midrealm as well.

As many of you have now heard, our bid was accepted for Midrealm Crown Tournament in October of 2022. We are excited to be hosting such a wonderful event in our Barony again, and we have no doubt that the populace will rise to the occasion, as it has so often done, and make this an event to remember!

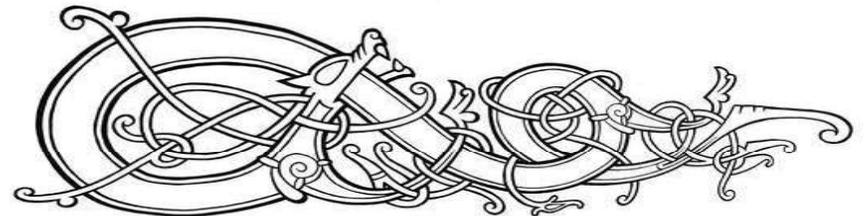
May this season be a time of peace, love, family and good fellowship. Be safe and be kind. And have a Blessed and Happy Holiday!

Yours in Service,
Cadwgan and Eadaoin
Baron and Baroness of Brendoken



Baronial calendar for December 2021

Sunday	Mon.	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Baronial Meeting 2pm				Gwyntarian meeting 7:45pm		
	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Alderford Meeting 8:30pm		Gwyntarian meeting 7:45pm		
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Alderford meeting 8:30pm				



GIRDLE BOOKS by Baintighearn Deirdre MakKyneth

Girdle books were smaller tomes with a tail attached to the covering, so they could be worn and hung from the girdle belt.

They were most likely used from 13th-16th centuries, peaking in the 15th and slowly dropping out of favor as a status/financial symbol when use of the printing press became more widely used and available, thus



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eliminating the requirement for texts to be hand sewn and written, and therefore, more readily available and cheaper

Girdle books were primarily used by clergy and monks but also by women of nobility as their Book of Hours. There are hundreds of depictions in paintings and sculptures, but only 26 girdle books have been found to date, most likely because of being worn,

they deteriorated more quickly than other books, the oldest datable example being from Kastl, Germany, 1453

Minutes From November 7th meeting

Seneschal – Sorry we have to go back to virtual but trying to keep safe. We will continue on zoom. Margery Carter died after a long battle with breast cancer. Danielle Chronistar was killed in a traffic accident. She was always ready to help. Very knowledgeable and she will be missed. James lost his sister Melody. Please join me in a moment of silence.

There is a new Midrealm seneschal.

Excellencies – Remembering those who pass is always important as an individual and the group. If you need anything, reach out and we are here to help. We had a zoom meeting with their Majesties. They have developed a new Augmentation of Arms. It's a Beacon. If you notice any who has gone above and beyond to keep us all together as OneMidrealm, please let their majesties or us know.

Exchequer – \$7,668.60. Using a new work book Looking for deputies.

Knights Marshal – Armored Marshals domesday report due December 1st. If you have not participated since 2019 you will need to reauthorize.

Rapier Marshal – We have the reports but are having issues.

Chronicler – Thanks to Judith for her article. Let me know if anyone would like to be my deputy. I will post the newsletter on Facebook after the meeting.

Chatelaine – nothing new right now

Social Media Officer – tik tok is now an SCA approved platform. If you have ideas for videos for example “officers - what I do in the SCA”, let me know.

Marche Reports

Alderford – We've moved to Zoom meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Mistress Catriona is doing classes on the 4th Tuesday.

Gwyntarian – Meeting on Thursdays 7:45 to 10. Rapier and Armored fighting practices. No Fred Fuller for November and no meeting on Thanksgiving.

Thistle –

3 Towers – looking to hold zoom meeting later in November

General – Ceredwin & Shonna: The Barony of Brendoken put in a bid for Crown Tournament at the Wayne County Fair Grounds. Camping would be available, there is also a large indoor space. We are planning for it to be an all-outdoor event. We put the bid in Oct 31st. It was due November 1. Our policy for bidding needs to be updated. The kingdom now has its own bid form. We have not heard anything about the bid. It has been put out for everyone to look at. If we don't get this we should try again.

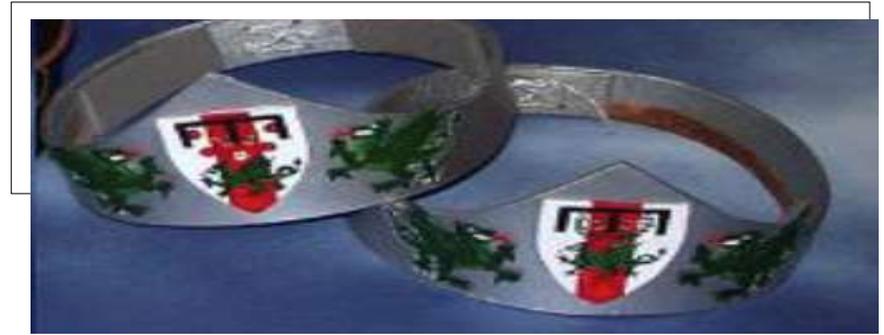
Our next meeting will be December 5th at 2pm. It will be a Zoom meeting.

Interacting with Important Persons by Mistress Catriona nicHugh Mclaeay

After putting on your best bib and tucker, you only need to remember a few things to survive encounters with important people. 1) There is ALWAYS someone more important than you. 2) You need to recognize this and acknowledge it by a reverence (bow/courtesy) or a bob (quick nod of the head) depending on the circumstances. 3) You do not just go up and start talking to the important people without having an introduction. Look for a retainer or the chamberlain. 4) You can cover over most any awkwardness by being extremely polite.

General rule of thumb, if the crown (Their Royal Majesties) or coronet is gold, the person wearing it is a ruling/landed personage. If the crown (Their Royal Highnesses) or coronet is silver they are heirs, have stepped down from a position, or were created a court baron/baroness by Their Majesties. Usually the headgear has a device or emblem of the territory or personal coat of arms. You can decorate the headpiece any way you wish within the framework of your rank. In other words, check with a reputable herald. For example, a landed baron/baroness has a gold coronet with 6 pearls (round objects). In the Middle Kingdom it has become customary after stepping down from that position, they wear a silver coronet of 12 pearls. How the coronet is decorated is up to the wearer.

Majesties Crowns



Highnesses Crowns

For specific information about crowns, coronets, and circlets, and how to interact with those who wear them, check out the Middle Kingdom Pursuivant's Handbook, 2020 edition, pages: 132-134. Go to <https://midrealm.org/> Then, click on Officer Directory, which will show you a menu, click on Office of the Dragon Herald. Scroll down the webpage until you see Heraldic Documents and click on "Herald" folder. This takes you to the library and click on • Handbook – Pursuivant's Handbook, whole. From there you can go to pages 132-134.

There are two other phrases that are important to remember in conjunction with Royalty. The first is the Royal Presence, which is an imaginary circle within 10 feet of the Royal Family. Even if They do not see you, you need to acknowledge Their presence by standing and bowing or curtseying.

The second phrase is Sanctum Mediterraneum with is an imaginary circle 10 feet around the thrones whether They are sitting in them or not. Only Kingdom Officers may enter without permission. You just need to acknowledge Them or Their thrones as you pass by.

In court no live weapons are to be carried into Their presence during the proceedings if and when you are called into Their presence. You need to reverence twice, once at about 10 feet away and second time at about 5 feet away. Talk loud enough that the audience will be able to hear you. When you leave, you should back up and repeat the 2 reverences before turning your back on the royalty.

See....easy peasy. Have fun and enjoy the pomp and circumstances. Ask questions, take in the drama, and remember.... after the event is over, Their Majesties Starbucks coffee costs the same as yours!