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January 2023

Greetings Unto the Populace

Another year is upon us! May it bring joy and peace and happiness to you and yours.

I want to start by sending out a huge Thank You to everyone involved in the Alderford Elves. The people who put it together, Lady Deirdre MakKyneth and Lord Gogan ap Gryffry, and their incredible group of Elves, did such a fantastic job putting together gift bags. I got to enjoy being part of the delivery crew that brought some smiles and some goodies to several people in the Barony and I look forward to seeing how this grows in the future.

Masque of Courtly Love is just around the corner. It should be a fabulous event, with many fine people working hard to put it all together. Be sure to bring your dancing shoes, as we look to bring back the dancing that used to take place in years past.

I look forward to all of the wonderful opportunities the next year brings, both to the Middle Kingdom and the Barony. And I am really looking forward to taking that journey with you.

Yours In Service,
Cadwgan
Baron of Brendoken



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Group Reports (continued from page 3)

Alderford - Milisandia (Janet Jones) is the new seneschal for Alderford. We will be checking out a new space for our December 13th meeting. The address is 2517 Pigeon Run SW, Massillon. It's an old school owned by former SCAdians. There's a gym and a kitchen. Anyone who would like to check it out, please meet us there. The meeting will be from 7-9.

Gwyntarian - Our last meeting this month will be the 15th. No meetings over the holidays.

3 Towers - Meetings on the 2nd is A&S, 866 Danwood Ave, Mansfield and 4th Thursdays is Business at the Crestline library.

Thistle - We are trying to come back.

General -

Judith - if there's an interest in having a Cooks Guild, we will have a meeting after the January meeting.

Catriona - I am the class coordinator for masque. Show your expertise. Let me know what class you'd like to teach

Gogan - I have Masque pre-reg forms

Deirdre - Alderford holiday party December 10th starting at 6. Outside weather permitting. There will be a period pot luck competition, and a gift exchange if you want.

Mili - Choir practice tomorrow, Monday the 6th at 7 at my house.

A&S by Lady Lena

Next month at our February meeting we will be doing a take and make spice activity. We are also going to start winter hiking in garb, Sunday January 15 at 3. This month we will try the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm at Address 1828 Smith Rd, Akron, OH 44313. It has a nature center with restrooms and part of the trail is paved. The other parts are gravel. Web link <https://www.summitmetroparks.org/nature-realm-visitors-center.aspx> I am looking for an A and S activity for March if anyone would like to help.

Deirdre's Norse-Style Stuffed Dates

Medjool Dates

Creamy Goat cheese

Honey

Hazelnuts

Mix honey and creamy goat cheese to taste (about thiiiiiiis much honey)

Remove pit from dates and fill space with honeyed goat cheese

Add chopped hazelnuts on top



Early English Christmas Traditions by Mistress Catriona

We have a tendency to view a “traditional” Christmas through the Victorian point of view. If you want to celebrate a medieval Christmas, it would look quite different! The fixed date of December 25 as the birthdate of Jesus was arbitrarily set by Pope Julius I in the 4th Century. Until then, it could be celebrated in April, May, January, or even November! Whenever it was celebrated, it was not a time of revelry and fun but a time for a special mass, quiet prayer, and reflection.

The real fun happened during the 12 days of Christmas starting after the solemnity of Christ’s mass and ending on Epiphany (Twelfth Night, Kings Day, Jan 6th). This was the time of giving gifts and merriment.

One could say it was a time of raucous and bawdy entertainment... and the tradition of a Lord of Misrule as a master of revels. Some scholars believe that this tradition of choosing someone to play the part (and who enjoyed all the privileges) of the lord, high status cleric, or even the king, to be a release valve for the frustrations of the serving class, peasants, and farm workers. To get a good jab at their betters, as it were. The Lord of Misrule was chosen by eating the rich and dense fruitcake which had a bean and other lucky tokens baked in it. If you received the bean, you became the King or Queen and everyone had to do what you told them to do.

Other early traditions were “wassailing” which became our Christmas caroling, mince pies which actually contained minced meat, decorating with evergreens, the serving of the Boar’s head (a delicacy for the medieval noblemen to have on the table), and games. The games were usually a chase, a version of hide-and-seek, or a contest of strength and daring.

The Church, the King, and the Protestant reformers tried to curb the excesses. You find many references to death and injury appearing in court documents. They were also decrees outlawing several of these traditions.

So, which Christmas would you like to celebrate?

Baronial Meeting Minutes for December 4th, 2022

Excellency - Great to see everyone here today. Be sure and get your award req.’s in this week for Masque. During Masque there will be a Baronial Armor Champion Tournament. The travel challenge has started. If you have gone to an event outside the Barony, let me know. I have tokens.

Seneschal - There is food! I will keep the meeting short. All officers need deputies.

Exchequer - Bank balance is \$4,885.69

Signet - not here

Archery Marshal - Sally is the deputy

Knights Marshal - practice at Gwyntarian meetings.

Rapier Marshal - Artur is the new Rapier Marshal. Please consider becoming a marshal. Play is great but the more marshals we have the better for all.

A&S - Mar’itsa will be my new Deputy. I would like to have us work on winter garb and take a winter hike. In January I will start handing out tickets for wearing garb to meetings. February we’ll learn how to make Powder forte. We will have a table set up in the front to show work in progress.

Herald - get award req’s in for Masque. There will be no royalty at Masque.

Chronicler - Thanks to all who submitted recipes for the newsletter. I had more than I could use, so I will continue to post recipes for the next months. I misspelled whiney. New officers need to let me know their new web addresses. I have a deputy!

Chatelaine - Medina library demo is dead in the water. I’m looking for a deputy.

Web minister (deputy) - I have updated the Order of precedence. Please check and see if I have all of your awards, let me know if not. Once 3 Towers and thistle have a meeting place, I can enter that info on the Newcomers page with google maps. If you have suggestions of what you’d like to see on the web page to be more helpful to newcomers, let me know.

Social Media Officer - Everything’s good. Hooray (continued on page 7)





January ~~21~~, 2023

9am-8pm

Grace Fellowship

6282 Nave St SW, Canton, OH 44706

Adult Day Member Discount Registration: **\$12.00**

Adult Day Registration: **\$17.00**

Child Day Registration ~~12-17~~: **\$8.00**

Youth Day Registration ~~0-11~~: Free

Family Cap Member Discount Registration: **\$32.00**

Feast Adult **\$15.00**

Feast Children ~~12-17~~ **\$8.00**

Planned Menu

On table: Salad, Bread Butter Pickle trays, Candied almonds

1st course: Porkloin in wine sauce, Tiairrin (cheese pasta), Cock-a-leekie (chicken and Leek soup), Candied sweet potatoes

2nd Course:

Roasted Venison, Pottage of rice, Pears in Wine sauce, Roasted root vegetable

3rd course: Caramel Bisque with pistachios, Baked apples in pastry

Menu and ingredients subject to change

Lunch tavern (subject to change without notice) **\$8.00** Jacket Potatoes with toppings, Salad bar, vegetarian and meat chili and assorted **\$1.00** beverages.

Classes

"Forgotten Tune"

Round it Goes - A class on singing in rounds, Mistress Catriona

Frets and Fingers - ~~IOI~~ playing fretted string instruments, Brendan O Corraidhe

String Cheats - Sound better on your guitar than you really are, Brendan O Corraidhe

"About a Girl"

Uppity Women of the Middle Ages - Mistress Catriona

German Brick Stitch - Basic embroidery stitches - Zuriel

"In Bloom"

Use of Flora in the Middle Ages - Lady Milisandia MacGreghere

"Love Buzz"

Alchemy in Period - Bryn

Brewing Small - Bryn

~~IOI~~ Cordial/Mead Class - Zuriel

General Interest

Beginner English Country Dance - Lady Avelina

SCA ~~IOI~~ - Lady Iolicia

Dancing - Lady Lena Kreiger

Martial Classes

Measure in Motion - Warder Vlad Grigorovich D'ragoun

Combat Archery/Seige Round Table - Runa and Zuriel

Fletchings - Lord Dungan MacRogan