



Barony of Red Spears

Spearpoint

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January 2021, A.S. LV

Contents

January 2021, A.S. LV	1
OYEZ! OYEZ! Missives and Meeting Notes.....	2
Gatherings and Whatnots Baronial Calendar	2
Midrealm Ethereal Courts (Virtual) Schedule	3
Society Notes	3
The Marshal's Corner	4
Have you seen this hashtag? #15forSCA.....	4
Current Challenges.....	4
eTips For Distanced Gatherings	6
Scrolling for Crumbs: Research Tips for the Current Times.....	6
Behold! A tour stop on the highlights of the Virtual Known World.....	7
Current Red Spears Baronial Officers	9

OYEZ! OYEZ!

Missives and Meeting Notes

Greetings,

We hope that this finds you happy and healthy as we move into the new year. The holidays are usually a time filled with joy but the past year has been hard on us all. We look forward to leaving that behind us and moving into better times.

Currently in person SCA events are shut down until June 1. As that time approaches, we will gather more information and provide it to the populace as we can. We are hopeful that we can begin allowing small in person gatherings after that point. That being said, make sure you take the startup slow and steady and start preparing now. At the time of this writing, Pennsic is still being planned to be on and Gulf Wars and Estrella have moved back into October.

I continue to be impressed by the online presence this Barony has established. Yule Feast was wonderfully done and we had an excellent class at the Fjord given by Master Vincent Devere. We also were able to hold our first court and give some very well-deserved awards. We look forward to seeing everyone at the court on January 17th where we will recognize other worthy individuals.

As always if you need anything from us please feel free to reach out to us by phone, email or Facebook.

Yours in Service,

Proconsul Marcos and Proconsula Bianca,

Baron and Baroness of Red Spears

=====

Gatherings and Whatnots

Baronial Calendar

Covid plague pandemic protocols are still in effect. Official in-person meetings, events, and fighter practices are suspended until May 31, 2021. That is not to say that nothing is going on through virtual means on various platforms, hence the title of this column: "whatnot" (n.) an item not identified but similar to the item already named.

Check the Baronial webpage (<https://redspears.midrealm.org/announcements/>) or Baronial Calendar (<https://redspears.midrealm.org/calendar/>) for on-line meeting log in details:



The Barony of Red Spears (NW Ohio)

Next Baronial Court and Zoom Meeting: Saturday, January 17, 1pm EST. Their excellencies Marcos and Bianca have requested the presence of Phaedra O'Hegerty, Heather Kvale, Veoreos Miklos, Aislin de Tanat, Deorsa Ker, Mary Ker, Dorothea de Beckham, and Sivrid Brumbach.



The Canton of Hrothgeirsfjodr (Toledo)

8 pm Tuesdays – Fjodr’s Zoom Meeting



The Canton of Marche of the Marshes (Bowling Green)

8pm Thursdays – Marche’s of the Marshes Zoom Meetings

Midrealm Ethereal Courts (Virtual) Schedule

All Courts are at 2 pm CST / 3 pm EST - Live via [Kingdom YouTube Channel](#) unless otherwise noted, and posted for later viewing. Check <https://midrealm.org/ethereal-middle-kingdom/> for updates.

- 16 January 2021

Society Notes

The Resolution to Suspend In-Person SCA Activity until January 31, 2021, has been extended to May 31, 2021.

Please read the update here: <https://www.sca.org/news/resolution-to-suspend-in-person-sca-activity-updated-december-4-2020/>



Resolution to Suspend In-Person SCA
Activity Updated - December 4, 2020 -
SCA.org

Resolution to Suspend In-Person SCA Activity Update
December 4, 2020. Please click on the link to access the full
document.

www.sca.org



The Marshal's Corner

Martials take note: Once we are back to having in person meetings and practices, you must be a paid member to retain your martial warrant. Warrants will not expire while we are not having in-person events.

Everyone should take a look at the Revised Marshal's Handbook as there are a few changes. It can be found here: https://sca.org/officers/marshal/docs/marshal_handbook.pdf

The updated Rapier Rules are here: <https://library.midrealm.org/marshal/rapier/#>

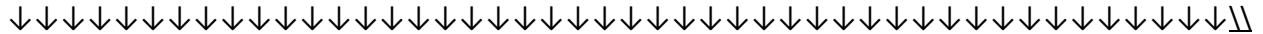
Practices: Take care of yourself. Remember to get up and move this winter.

Kit Repair and Upgrade: All activities this winter can count towards the [#15forSCA](#).



Have you seen this hashtag? [#15forSCA](#)

For each 30 days completed (does not have to be consecutive) of 15 minutes a day doing something SCA to get ready for when we are able to meet again in person, you will earn a war pay token against the Plague. Just hashtag [#15forSCA](#) to show what you are doing today! (Set your settings to global so that your hashtag can be shared.) Thanks to Hadley Rochyby and Nathan Frye for the great idea! Note: You don't need to hashtag everything. To help remember what you did, try keeping track of days by putting notes or items in a jar. Everything counts: projects, exercise, social media, research, and so on.



... The limb on the branch, And the branch on the tree ...

Current Challenges

Baronial Baker's Dozen Largesse Challenge

Greetings and salutations unto the fair populace of Red Spears! At the request of Their Excellencies Marcos and Bianca, I humbly ask one and all to consider participating in a Baronial Baker's Dozen largesse challenge, to be completed prior to Their court on January 17.

The competition works as follows:

1. Participants will make sets of 13 like items (see below for examples).
2. REVISED: One item of set of items must be completed and in my (Hedwig's) possession by the evening of Friday, **January 8**.
3. I will photograph all entries, by set, that week and post a poll for a virtual populace bean count.
4. The winner of the populace bean count will be announced in court on January 16. The winner will also receive a small prize (TBD, probably pottery).

5. One item from each set entered will be awarded to another participant from the competition, and the rest will go to Their Excellencies as largesse. We will iron out details of distributing award items to participants sometime after court.

Their Excellencies would particularly like entries that are beginning member- and youth-friendly. Such items include, but are not limited to, children's toys, beads, mugs, crafting items, etc. If you need more specific ideas or guidance, or to make pickup/drop-off arrangements please PM me and ask!

Yours in service to The Dream,

Hedwig Hefner

MIDREALM CHALLENGE

For the Artisans of the Midrealm!

Dame Honor von Atzinger has issued a challenge for Twelfth Night of a virtual arts & sciences 'bean count' competition. The competition will go 'live' on Friday January 8th, 2021 and will run through Sunday January 10th, 2021.

Here's a breakdown of how to enter and rules:

1. All entries must be submitted no later than Wednesday **January 6th, 2021**
2. One entry per person
3. To submit an entry you must send photos or video and a description via e-mail to honorvonatzinger@gmail.com
4. All arts & sciences items will be allowed for entry (except Food or Drink as there's no way to sample them)
5. If you're entering a performing arts entry you **MUST** submit a video of you performing the piece and a written description
6. When submitting your entry give your full SCA name
7. This contest will be limited to Midrealmers only
8. Here is the information for voting:
 - a. All entries will be put into an album on Facebook as a photo or video with a description. Dame Honor von Atzinger will notify the Midrealm Facebook group once the album is 'live'. Share the album as much as you like within MIDREALM groups
 - b. A Google Survey will be set up for the votes
 - c. Everyone gets ONE vote, play fair and don't vote more than once

At the end of the voting a winner will be declared and they will receive a beautiful Mistress Nona puzzle mug, along with some other goodies! Please contact Dame Honor von Atzinger with any questions.

Watch the Barony of Red Spears FB group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/119680006373>) for updates, or check the Discord server.



eTips For Distanced Gatherings

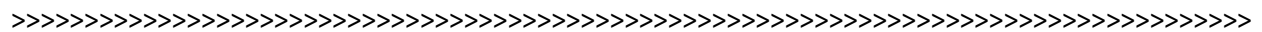
Body language is missing. You sit too much and too long. You have to hold your head funny to see the screen. It feels like the introduction to the Muppet Show or Brady Bunch. Conversations can be awkward with lags and garbled sound. Turning off video cuts down the data usage, but data can be an issue. Still, for now, it's a point of connection outside your pandemic pod family and friends.

You've made it – you are on the call / in the session / attending the service / put-your-favorite-context-word-here. Now what? Have you thought about helping out?

What's happening on the tech support side? To sum up: multi-tasking. For tech support setting up an event, preparation is key. Multi-day events with sessions running simultaneously need to consider how people will maneuver from one spot to another. A vivid imagination helps conceptualize the non-physical space. For two simultaneous classes, a 'social room' with a moderator can greet and guide people to a 'room' or 'salon' or whatever term is being used to outline the virtual gathering space. This is not the only solution, and groups are exploring options in a landscape of quickly changing technology platforms. The access and announcement capabilities of Facebook earlier this summer no longer worked only a few weeks later for the next event that tried to repeat what was done earlier. This first draft of this article earlier in the Fall was outdated by the time it was published! The take-away point: be flexible, and patient.

For tech support on a meeting call, things are a bit simpler. Opening the call. Taking over as host if the presenter needs to step away. Guiding the host to switch views to better see participants, watching the chat, trouble shooting, facilitating communication, and this list is looking familiar. Guiding the attendees on getting recognized, troubleshooting, answering questions, providing information, and this list is also starting to look familiar.

The issues you may experience are going on everywhere, even with presenters who have been doing this multiple times. There is a large learning curve, and still stuff happens. First and foremost: Don't confuse social media limitations with a personal slight. The attendees have as much or more to learn and get used to as the presenters and hosts. It feels funny. We all feel weird. And moments of panic or annoyance pop up at unexpected times. Everyone has had moments. Breath in. We'll get through this.



Scrolling for Crumbs: Research Tips for the Current Times

Social media resources and activities are available and growing more plentiful. Archives and museums are opening their vaults to the quarantined masses for a limited time. If you come across an amazing find and want to share with your friends, this is just the space to show and tell. Listings here are not an endorsement of content found on other websites. Note that photos can be tricky to publish, but directing us the hiding spot is more fun anyway!

Google Books: <https://books.google.com>

Click on Services Portal

Click on Login to either set up a new login or go to an existing account

Rum is now included on the regular side list of services

RUM Themes:

January term is Open

February term is Open

Announcements and Discussions:

Known World Entertainment Guide:

This is an official page dedicated to providing a weekly directory of online medieval content from across the Known World of the Society for Creative Anachronism. Content shared on this site has agreed to comply with the Society's Social Media Policy. Updates weekly:

<https://www.facebook.com/KWEGuide>

Classes, Episodes, Recorded Material

This is a sampling of on-line content for SCA audiences:

Games

Many tutorials exist for games such as the many variations of chess, tafl, tablut, morris and many others. Contact the chronicler@respairs.org if you would like to write up an article on one of your favorite table top games.

Flying Chariots & Dragon Kings: The Chess of Medieval Japan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Un5_M_9s3uA

Child's Play: Easy Children's Games and Toys

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyRDYmNXtmU>

Crafts and Food

Many tutorials exist for a wide variety of skills. If you would like to write up an article on something you are familiar with, or share your skills during one of the weekly meetings contact the chronicler or local seneschal..

Historical Winter Beverages

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDLJ-f8a1P0>

Introduction to Blackwork Embroidery

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DW6_k8MuUw0

Smocking: Lecture & Demo on Pleat-Work Embroidery

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76BWZYmiH1w&t=20s>

Creating a Japanese Kumihimo Braid

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EE_19Ga0FvQ

Introduction to Viking Wire Weaving

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsFYJsLEggE&t=26s>

Basic Leather Knowledge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpNQYbR3w40>

Illumination Shading

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ac0_wlERfyM

Painting On Fabric


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_rxzFaE7knY

All Aboard!

This is only a brief sampling of class topics. Check the Royal University of the Midrealm - RUM YouTube page, your local library, and many other locations for more topics. If you have a favorite go-to site, let the Chronicler know! Attend the local cantons' weekly meetings to see what your neighbors are currently working on and show off your own projects.

Ever try to explain something and "too much, let me sum up" still didn't satisfy? Share the fun this winter in print! Seeking article submissions for upcoming newsletters.

Current Red Spears Baronial Officers

Badge	Office	Person	Contact information**
	Baron	Baron Marcos De Ribera	Baron {at} redspears.org Excellencies {at} redspears.org
	Baroness	Baroness Bianca di Michaleto	Baroness {at} redspears.org Excellencies {at} redspears.org
	Seneschal	Lord Veoreos Miklos	seneschal {at} redspears.org redspears.seneschal {at} midrealm.org

	Exchequer	TH Margherita di Raffaele	exchequer {at} redspears.org redspears.exchequer {at} midrealm.org
	Herald	Lord Olivier van den Woude	herald {at} redspears.org redspears.herald {at} midrealm.org
	Chronicler	Lady Dorothea de Beckham	chronicler {at} redspears.org redspears.chronicler {at} midrealm.org
	Minister of Arts & Science	Corky The Potter	moas {at} redspears.org redspears.moas {at} midrealm.org
	Heavy Marshal	Sgt Hrothgar Varghossan	armored {at} redspears.org redspears.marshall {at} midrealm.org
	Rapier Marshal	Lady Fatima bint Malik	rapier {at} redspears.org redspears.rapier {at} midrealm.org
	Archery/Thrown Weapons Marshal	Lady El'Aria a'Fighe	archery {at} redspears.org redspears.archery {at} midrealm.org
	Chatelaine	Lord Olivier van den Woude	chatelaine {at} redspears.org redspears.chatelaine {at} midrealm.org
	Webminister	Lady Phaedra O'Hegerty	webminister {at} redspears.org redspears.webminister {at} midrealm.org
	Youth Minister	Lady Pellegrina da Canal	youth {at} redspears.org redspears.youth {at} midrealm.org

**** Note: Both e-mail addresses work for any of the officers. You need to only send to one of the listed e-mail addresses.**

This is the January 2021 issue of the Spearpoint, a publication of the Barony of Red Spears of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Spearpoint is edited by and available from Dorothea de Beckham, chronicler@redspears.org or redspears.chronicler@midrealm.org and found on the Red Spears Facebook. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2021 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.