



Barony of Red Spears

Spearpoint

Barony of Red Spears

February 2023, A.S. LVII

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Master William Blackfox Award Commendation, Best Regular Feature, AS LVI (56)

Oyez! Oyez!

My dear Barony,

It is with a heavy heart I announce my intention to step down as your Baroness and begin the process of polling for our next coronets. There are many reasons I can give for my decision to bring my term to a close early. But the truth at the heart of this choice is I do not feel I have been serving you as Red Spears deserves.

All of you are wonderful humans and make the Barony what it is, and I hold each of you dear. If the position of Baron or Baroness holds your interest, please consider submitting your name. Have someone you trust and work well with as your companion. I am always willing to talk and answer questions, and I know my predecessors would be happy to offer advice as well.

It is my hope that we will be able to have the next investiture at the event currently in the works for June. More details will be available soon pertaining to deadlines but for now, please consider if you would like to serve Red Spears and the Middle Kingdom in this role. Serving you has been a pleasure, and whomever steps into this roll after me will be inheriting a great responsibility.

Yours with love, in service to the Dream

Baroness Bianca di Michaleto

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The tentative date for beginning the Red Spears baronial application process is February 25, 2023.

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Missives and Meeting Notes

BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (January)

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, January 8, 2023 at Way Public Library. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal.

Meeting started at 1:28 pm. Present: Baroness, Seneschal, Exchequer, Chronicler, Marshes Seneschal

- No Old Business
- Seneschal – This month is the one year in office anniversary. Feedback is appreciated on how things are going.
- Chatelaine – a replacement is needed as soon as possible. Oliver has been in place for five years. The seneschal will place announcements in the relevant Facebook groups and discord server. There was some discussion about going through the garb in Gold Key.
- Baroness – The new baronial champions are Ari (Rapier), Aislin and William (Armored), and Leofric (A&S). Looking forward to having practices outdoors during baronial meetings once the weather warms up. Thanks to all who helped make Yule Feast go so well.
 - At Val Day there will be a baronial day camp for everyone with a potluck snack table. This is an indoor event and although not required, the baroness recommends wearing masks.

- Get award recommendations in to the barony and/or kingdom.
- Leofric has offered his place for an archery / thrown weapons day this spring.
- Chronicler – needs a deputy. The next newsletter is planned to be published in early February for the spring quarter.
- Herald – Magrat is looking for a replacement now. Richard M. volunteered to be a deputy to learn more about the office.
- Exchequer – the storage unit has been paid for and we still have money.
- Marshal
 - Rapier – new authorization rules are now in effect
 - Heavy – the new handbook is now available
- MoAS – Tournament of the Arts was this weekend at Pentemere 12th Night
- Discussion of open officer positions, recruiting, and setting up a newcomer’s paper questionnaire similar to the on-line google form.
- Fjord Seneschal - We had Yule Feast. Upcoming meetings have classes scheduled for the fjord meeting.
 - Armored practice happens every week; for rapier practice contact Ari to make sure he'll be there.
 - Summary of January Classes at the Canton of HrothgeirsFjodr
 - Jan 10 - Learn how to make Meringues with Paxino Voltera
 - Jan 17 - Chinese New Year with Melissa Artemisia Harris - Chinese Zodiac year of the bunny, Make a lantern
 - Jan 24 - Create wire trees in a hoop - Bill Cherney
 - Jan 31 -Turkish coffee class- J Myriah Shumate Peth
- Marshes Seneschal –
 - Meeting schedule continues with
 - First Thursdays – Dance
 - Second Thursdays A&S, bring a project to work on
 - Fifth Thursdays – Dessert Revel. Leofric challenges everyone to bring something home made in March.
 - Every week except Dance weeks – Armored and Rapier practice
 - Additional challenges were discussed for a quarterly schedule that could be bumped up to baronial level such as ‘Walk to Pennsic’ for a fitness challenge. A baronial favor, a coin or pewter or ceramic tokens for participants were also discussed.
 - Watch for news later this Spring about potential meeting site changes after more is known about the mall’s new owners reorganizing the store locations.
 - Demo ideas were discussed: Apple butter Fest, parks, Glass City Park (Toledo), restaurants, Botanical Gardens, other fests, Oregon Fest, German American Fest
- New Business
 - Their highnesses have asked the barony to host a war practice sometime before Pennsic. A site, steward and marshals in charge are needed as soon as possible.
 - Revisiting the Charter Review – Dorothea will put out a link again and ask for input for substantial change suggestions.
 - Revisiting the Baronial Meeting schedule – Arina will put out a questionnaire on moving to another Sunday or alternating between the Fjodr and Marshes meetings.
 - Feb. 11 is Val Day so meeting for February is moved to the Third Sunday, Feb. 19, 1-3 at Way Library, Perrysburg.

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 pm.

Gatherings and Whatnots Baronial Calendar

In-person gatherings may be cancelled or migrate to an on-line virtual format at short notice. With the variety of on-line, in-person, and hybrid gatherings, a catchall phrase was chosen for this column title: "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 updates:

Although the SCA complies with all applicable laws to try to ensure the health and safety of our event participants, we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure to infectious diseases during in-person events. By participating in the in-person events of the SCA, you acknowledge and accept the potential risks. You agree to take any additional steps to protect your own health and safety and those under your control as you believe to be necessary.



The Barony of Red Spears in the North Oaken Region of the Midrealm (NW Ohio)

Baronial Meeting dates in the winter and early spring have changed to the third Sunday of the month due to multiple event conflicts with the new schedule and is based on votes cast in a recent poll. We are still meeting from 1-3 pm, at Way Public Library, 101 E Indiana Ave, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Watch social media for date changes and outdoor location site updates when the weather gets warmer. Meeting Dates: February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18



The Canton of Hrothgeirsfjodr [Hróðgeirsfjörðr] (Toledo)

7-9:30 pm, Tuesdays – Fjodr’s Meetings - Indoors at the Park Church (1458 Harvard Blvd, Toledo, OH 43614). Meetings may be outside if the weather is nice. Schedule: A&S classes or bring-a-project nights most weeks. Armored practice happens every week; for Rapier practice contact Ari to make sure he'll be there.



The Canton of Marche of the Marshes (Bowling Green)

7:30 pm Thursdays – Marche of the Marshes – Use the south-east door to the indoor gym site is at the Woodlands Mall behind the old Elder Beerman (1234 N Main St, Bowling Green, OH 43402). First Thursdays – Dance. Second Thursdays – A&S, bring a project to work on. Fifth Thursdays – Dessert Revel. Leofric challenges everyone to bring something home made in March. Armored and Rapier practice every week except Dance weeks.

The Household of Catteden (Findlay region) is hosting informal meet-and-greets; contact TH Isabel Mhic Leoid at [losobail {at} redspears.org](mailto:losobail@redspears.org) for details.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

For open local officer and deputy positions see the baronial meeting notes and contact the seneschals. Kingdom and Regional job openings are listed here: <https://midrealm.org/jobs/>

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Calendar of Events

Events (Host Group, Region) (Town, State)	Event Dates
FEBRUARY 2022	
<u>Candlemas XXXIII</u> (Shire of Dragonsmark, South Oaken) Shelbyville, KY	Feb 4
<u>St Valentine's Day Massacre</u> (Canton of Three Hills, Pentemere) Kalamazoo, MI	Feb 11
<u>Courting on the River</u> (Shire of Dark River, Midlands) Moline, IL	Feb 18
<u>Winter Solar – "A Day of Rest and Repose"</u> (Shire of Narrental, Constellation) Logansport, IN	Feb 25
MARCH 2022	
<u>Winter War Maneuvers IX</u> (Canton of Pferdestadt, North Oaken) Marion, OH	March 4
<u>Better War Through Archery</u> (Barony of Sternfeld, Constellation) Danville, IN	March 25
APRIL 2023	
<u>Day of Play 6</u> (Canton of Rokkehealden, Barony of Ayerton, Midlands) Hinsdale, IL	April 1
<u>Terpsichore at the Tower XXVI</u> (Barony of Cynnabar, Pentemere) Saline, MI	April 15
<u>Crystal Chamfron: Fool's Day</u> (Barony of Shattered Crystal, Midlands) Camp Dubois, IL	April 21-23
<u>Student's Tourney "The Return of Squires"</u> (Canton of Ealdnordwuda, Pentemere) Mason, MI	April 22
<u>Three Saints</u> (Barony of Rivenstar, Constellation) Lafayette, IN	April 22

The Midrealm Calendar with scheduled Royal Courts, and additional virtual and in-person events can be found through the kingdom newsletter, the Pale <https://members.sca.org/apps/#Newsletters>, and the calendar at <https://midrealm.org/>. Events may be cancelled due to local conditions, so check event pages and social media for updates.

Note: preregistration may be offered for in-person events posted on the kingdom calendar; preregistration usually closes several days before the event. CHECK ON THE TYPE OF PAYMENTS TAKEN AT GATE! Checks-only for at-gate payment is common for record keeping purposes. SCA-rs registration was replaced with PayPal until another system is adopted.

The kingdom award recommendation form <https://midrealm.org/award-recommendations/> is now accessible directly from the Member Resources dropdown on the Midrealm.org homepage. Contact issues@midrealm.org if you encounter any issues with the award form or other pages on the Midrealm website.

Send baronial award recommendations to baroness@redspears.org at any time.

SCA 101: Traditions

Welcome! If you have questions, please ask! This column is written by Dorothea de Beckham and usually focuses on some of the basic jargon, experiences, and expectations of participating in the SCA (Society of Creative Anachronism). Additional commonly heard terms can be found through the Midrealm Newcomer's Portal: <https://midrealm.org/newcomer-portal/glossary-of-sca-terms/>.

This issue: Traditions

Traditions develop in any group, and you probably have many of your own. A few traditions that you may encounter at Midrealm events are presented here. This is by no means an exhaustive list, and if enough additional examples are gathered there may be a follow up to this article.

The Royals should not be left unattended: In some baronies this may also apply to the landed baronage, but it is one you will often see if their majesties or highnesses are present at events. Retainers are scheduled volunteers who accompany their assigned royal for an hour or two, and help them in their royal duties at events. The attendant is often carrying a satchel or basket or 'retainer bag' which holds gifts and other useful items. Their Majesties have assembled some helpful guidelines for retainers and others on their webpage: <https://trm.dag-annemarie.com/retaining-101/>

Cheers: Huzzah! Is a celebratory exclamation often heard in the Midrealm. You will likely hear other phrases as you travel. The army uses Draco Invictus! Recent reigns have used short phrases such as One Midrealm!

Toasts: At feasts it is traditional to give toasts. The first toast of the evening is to their majesties presented by the highest-ranking peer after the first served course of food. This can be followed by the next highest-ranking peer toasting their highnesses, with the third toast given by the third highest ranking peer.





Annual Events: Due to juggling a busy calendar and attempting to not have two groups holding events within 150 miles of each other on the same weekend, recurring annual events have developed in many groups. A quick look through the calendar of upcoming events shows several that have been held for nearly a decade or two, or three and more.

Awards: In addition to kingdom and baronial awards given out in courts, and competitions at events, a few other awards have developed over the years. At the society level, the Office of the Society Chronicler sponsors the Master William Blackfox Award which was created to honor the memory of the author and illustrator of the cartoon Warhaven, a regular feature in many newsletters for several decades. The annual Master William Blackfox Awards recognize excellence in the work of Chroniclers and newsletter contributors throughout the Society. For more on the Blackfox Award and lists of previous award winners, commendations, and nominees see <https://www.sca.org/the-william-blackfox-awards/>

Next Issue!

Spring is around the corner! Contact the Chronicler with the topics you want to see.
Be kind and support one another. One Midrealm!

Red Spears Baronial Officers

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

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