



Barony of Red Spears

Spearpoint

Barony of Red Spears

May 2023, A.S. LVIII

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

Oyez! Oyez!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MAY 1 BEGINS ANNO SOCIETATIS 58 (LVIII)



Polling for the new baronage of Red Spears took place in April. The Baronial investiture will take place at Black Swamp War Games.



June 2nd(6pm) - 4th(12pm)

Hancock County Fair Grounds
1017 E. Sandusky St. Findlay, Ohio 45840

	Fee
Non-Member	\$20
Member	\$15
Children (6-17)	\$10
Children (5 and under)	Free
Camping	\$10

◆ Questions? Contact ◆

► Justin Collier ◀

◆ marcheofthemarshes.seneschal@midrealm.org ◆ 419-308-0738 ◆

or visit

<https://marcheofthemarshes.midrealm.org/black-swamp-war-games/>



Missives and Meeting Notes

My dearest Barony,

The time has come for the sun to set on my service as your Baroness. It has been my honor and privilege to represent you to the Crown and to the Kingdom. While my time has been short, I am proud to have watched you all flourish after the end of our seclusion.

I have the absolute confidence that whatever choice Their Majesties make, Red Spears will be in capable hands once I have stepped down. My hope is that you will show my successors the love and support shown to me.

Red Spears is a unique and wonderful place, full of some of the kindest, smartest folk in the Middle Kingdom. The populace is what makes the Society such a fantastic family.

Yours in Service to the Dream
Bianca di Michaletto

BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (February)

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, February 19, 2023 at Way Public Library. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal.

Meeting started at 1:16 pm. Present: Baroness, Seneschal, Exchequer, Chronicler, Rapier Marshal, Fjord Seneschal

- Seneschal – The window to submit an application packet for the Red Spears Baronage opens on Feb. 25th and closes the evening of March 25th at midnight. A detailed letter to the populace will go out with all the details for the application packet. The short list for the application packet should include SCA name(s) and title(s), legal names and contact information, a copy of the valid membership(s) and a letter of intent which may include information about the applicant(s) for the populace, vision for the barony, a single photo of the applicant(s) in any common photo format with a photo release form. PDF or Word or Txt Doc are all acceptable formats for document submissions. The current and past barons and baroness have all agreed to answer questions about the barony.
- Chatelaine – Needs a replacement as soon as possible.
- Baroness –
 - The plan is to step down and hold investiture about June. Current plan for attending upcoming events is Better War Through Archery for the Sternfeld installation. This event will also have an Unbelts practice run by Hawk.
 - Largess needed by the kingdom include leather or wire AoA circlets, and small pottery mugs for people attending their first event.
- Chronicler – Bianca will step in as deputy or Chronicler when she steps down as baroness. The next newsletter is planned to be published in May for the summer quarter.
- Herald – No report
- Exchequer – the storage unit has been paid for and we still have money.
- Marshal
 - Rapier: If participating in the limited armor experiment, there are reports to submit after every event and practice. Applications and report forms can be found through the kingdom Rapier webpage.
 - Needs a replacement soon who can be more active. Ari agreed to take over as baronial if Steve will finish getting his MIT set up so that he can take over as the Fjord Marshal when Ari steps over to Baronial Marshal.
- MoAS – Craftsperson's Greens are happening; check event listings to see if one will be there.
- Fjord Seneschal – Yule Feast made around \$500, and more fundraisers are planned to pay for the site. Upcoming Fjord meetings have classes scheduled including calligraphy, cheese making, and baklava.
- Marshes Seneschal – Still looking for a Swamp Wars site for this summer.
- Old Business – The updates to the charter were reviewed. Arina motioned to accept the updated charter, Aislin seconded. Unanimous approval from all present. The charter now goes to the kingdom for final acceptance.
- New Business – Lady Darby Owls will be working with the baronial seneschal initiating the steps needed to re-start the Canton of Castel Gwent, and has agreed to be the contact person for Seneca Co., Ohio. The people in Castel Gwent are currently meeting monthly on the 2nd Sunday at Bob's Dojo on Washington Street in Tiffin.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (March)

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, April 16, 2023 at Way Public Library. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal.

Meeting started at 1:07 pm. Present: Baroness, Seneschal, Exchequer, MoAS, Chronicler, Marshes Seneschal, Fjord Seneschal

- Seneschal – The deadline to apply for the Red Spears baronage is 11:59pm March 25
- Baroness – a site is needed in the next 30 days to host the baronial investiture. Terpsichore is the next event the baronial presence will be at. Their majesties have a largess request for AoA circlets.
- Exchequer – no changes, and have been in touch with Kingdom.
- MoAS – Stuff is happening in the Cantons at meetings. The North Oaken Regional Craftsman's Fair deadline was extended. Pax agreed to be deputy MoAS.
- Fjodr – Upcoming classes are T-Tunics after the business meeting, making natural deodorant, making scotch eggs, dessert revel, and leather working. Meetings and practices have good turnout with around 8-12 or more in classes. The meeting may change due to the site's rummage sale set up but the date hasn't been set yet, and the site has been paid up for the whole year.
- Chronicler – The next Spearpoint will be the May/Summer issue. Bianca has agreed to be the deputy chronicler after the baronial changeover. Meeting notes are being posted to the web as well as put in the newsletter.
- Marshes – First Thursdays are dance practice. There is a good population for rapier and rattan armored practices. Nathan is a cut and thrust instructor in town for part of this year. The exchequer report was finally finalized, and the exchequer needs a deputy so that they may step down this year. Have leads but still looking for an event site.
- Chatelaine – Bea is stepping up as Chatelaine
- Herald – needs a replacement as soon as possible
- Marshals – Ari for Rapier Marshall, Sivrid for Heavy Marshal if can step down as MoAS
- New Business –
 - Planning is underway for Sivrid's elevation at Grand Tournament of the Dragon in late April
 - Leofric offered his yard for tent set-up testing once the weather warms up
 - Baronial Bench sponsorship at Midrealm Royal: replace/repair the two broken benches
 - Pennsic bus stop bench sponsorship is a separate bench thing coordinated through Silver Tree Souc: Aislin proposed and Otto seconded with unanimous approval to sponsor a bench for \$75 with a work day at Aethelmarc war practice.
 - Gulf Wars follow up – the barony was well represented with Aisin and Sivrid part of a team that received the Dragon's Teeth award. Warder Allen (fencing) and Leofric (armor) fought in the Rose Tourney.
 - Storage Unit – sturdy shelving is needed. Otto will price out shelving at a few stores
- Old Business – The revised charter is being forwarded on to Kingdom

Adjourned 1:41 pm. Next meeting: 1-3 pm April 16 at Way Library.

BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (April)

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, April 16, 2023 at Way Public Library. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal.

Meeting started at 1:07 pm. Present: Seneschal, Exchequer, MoAS, Chronicler, Chatelaine, Marshes Seneschal, Fjord Seneschal

- Seneschal – Do the poll! Kingdom needs a certain percentage of the barony to respond to be valid. Will pin the link to the poll in the Q&A zoom chat tonight. Will get paper copies of the poll to people who need paper copies.
- Baroness – The barony had a great turnout for Terpsichore. Please complete your poll soon! Their majesties still need AoA circlets. Congratulations to Lord Pax on their AoA.
- Exchequer – we’ve still got money. Do the poll!
- Chronicler – The next Spearpoint will be the May/Summer issue coming out in early May. There’s still time to submit content. Do the poll!
- MoAS – The Midrealm no longer does regional A&S tournaments, only the kingdom level which will be at Crown at the end of May. The rules and docs for the kingdom arts and sciences tournament can be found on the midrealm.org kingdom page. Change of officer paperwork will be done this week with Pax. Do the poll!
- Fjodr – Meetings are happening. The baronial candidates had a question-and-answer session last week. This week Leofric is teaching leatherwork and Durange will be at practice. Next week is open. In May Aldread is leading Robin Hood themed activities, Sausage Making with Myrah, Dorothea is making Norse Hoods, Pax is leading a discussion on how to be an ally. Rattan practice happens weekly, and rapier when Ari can be there. Do the poll!
- Marshes – Black Swamp War Games is on the calendar for June 3 at Hancock co fairgrounds. Ongoing discussion of plans for the event. Marshes meeting will not be moving any time soon, the rattan and rapier practice is every week, and dance is the first Thursday of the month. Will work with Pax to bring in more classes. Do the poll!
- Chatelaine – After Black Swamp War Games in June, there is a demo at the ‘Be Excellent Festival’ demo at Lourdes College. Amptgard and others will be doing combat demos, Bea is checking on electricity and a tent for hosting period games. Planning is underway. Do the poll!
- Herald – needs and applicant to replace Dame Magrat. Do the poll!
- Old Business – Do the poll!
 - Plans for Sivrid’s elevation April 29 at ToD, and BSWG June 3 already discussed
 - Leofric is checking on a weekend date to set up and check the baronial tents
- New Business – Fill out the poll by Saturday April 22!
 - West Winds Archery Range in Toledo is open for the outdoor season. Sivrid and Dorothea will be going over regularly for practice. Dorothea is almost finished with the archery marshal warrant process.
 - Baronial presence at Pennsic is likely to be in the War Hogs camp on the Serengeti
 - Former Canton Castel Gwent (Tiffin, OH) is preparing paperwork to re-organize as an incipient Canton with the backing of the Barony.

Adjourned at 2:10pm. **Update:** Next meeting May 21, 1-3pm at a day of event prep and a cookout at Leofric’s, Findlay, OH, with a tentative time of 10am to late afternoon. Contact Leofric for directions.

Gatherings and Whatnots Baronial Calendar

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 late spring and summer 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 winter poll. Warmer weather means a site change. With a few

exceptions, we are back at the park: **1-3pm outdoors at Woodland Park, Perrysburg, OH 43551.**

Meeting Dates:

May 21 (cookout at Leofric's, Findlay, OH), **June 18 and July 16** (Woodland Park, Perrysburg, OH)



The Canton of Hrothgeirsfjörðr [Hróðgeirsfjörðr] (Toledo)

7-9:30 pm, Tuesdays – Fjörðr'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. Armored and Rapier practice every week except Dance weeks.

The Household of Catteden (Findlay region) is hosting informal meet-and-greets; contact TH Isibel Mhic Leoid at losobail@redspears.org for details.

The Incipient Canton of Castel Gwent (Tiffin region, Seneca Co.) is meeting the 2nd Sunday of the month at Bob's Dojo, 178 South Washington Street, Tiffin, Ohio 44883. Contact Darby Owls at Lboehler@yahoo.com for details.

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Calendar of Events

Events (Host Group, Region) (Town, State)	Event Dates
MAY 2022	
<u>Spring Coronation (Constellation)</u> (Barony of Shadowed Stars, Constellation) Bluffton, IN	May 6
<u>Mugmort Melees XVI</u> (Barony of Middle Marches, North Oaken) Granville, OH	May 12-14
<u>May Day</u> (Barony of Fenix, South Oaken) Union, KY	May 13
<u>Constellation Academy of Defense & Dance Symposium (CADD)</u> (Shire of Mynydd Seren, Constellation) Spencer, IN	May 19-21
<u>St. Cecilia at the Tower IX</u> (Barony of Cynnabar, Pentamere) Milan, MI	May 20
<u>Spring Crown and Kingdom A and S (North Oaken)</u> (Barony of Cleftlands, North Oaken) Jefferson, OH	May 27-28
JUNE 2022	
<u>Black Swamp War Games</u> (Marche of the Marshes, North Oaken) Findlay, OH	June 2-4
<u>It Takes My Child to Raze a Village: XIII</u> (Barony of North Woods, Pentamere) Brighton, MI	June 3
<u>North Oaken War Maneuvers (NOWM)</u> (Barony of the Cleftlands, North Oaken) Wellington, OH	June 9-11
<u>Smurf Shoot</u> (Hawkland Moor, Pentamere) Wellington, OH	June 16-18
<u>Simple Day – A Simple Quest</u> (Barony of Sternfeld, Constellation) Danville, IN	June 30-July 1
JULY 2023	
<u>Tyger Hunt 37 & Ale to the Victors 8</u> (Barony of Roaring Wastes, Pentamere) Detroit MI	July 7-9
<u>Push for Pennsic (South Oaken)</u> Troy, OH	July 7-9
<u>Pennsic War 50 (Aethelmearc)</u> Slipery Rock, PA	July 28 – Aug 13

Announcements

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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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 Midrealm website pages.

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

SCA 101: Traditions Part II

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/>. Since the global shutdown and reopening, this column has sought to answer questions that typically happen at in person conversations.

This issue: Traditions Part II: Personas and Heraldry

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.

What's a persona? Developing a persona and heraldry add to the flavor and color of events and experiences in the SCA. Many people use a persona as a way to focus their SCA pursuits and research. It can be a guide to the clothes you wear, the name you choose, the heraldry you register, and the crafts and research you pursue. It can be as vague or specific as you care to invest time developing a backstory and keeping to the theme. There are no rules to lock you in to your early choice of persona.

Some people do not go farther than registering a name and device and go on to pursue whatever catches their interest. Some people use a persona as a guide to keep their to-do list manageable instead of trying to do ALL THE THINGS at once. Others use it as a guide for research 'What would my persona

be doing at this time of year in the location they are in?’ The possibilities are vast. There is also no rule mandating you create a persona or that you stick to your original plan.

What’s OSCAR? In many cultures over the times the SCA researches, heraldry was an important part of group and individual identity. Registering personal heraldry (coat of arms, armory) lets other people know what they can use to identify you individually for an award, or in a tournament, or for your stuff lying around an event.

Picking a color and metal (gold or silver) and an item is a good place to start developing your own heraldry for use in the SCA, but don’t get too attached to your first choices. Every approved submission has rules it must follow and points of difference from other registered and real-world heraldry before being called yours.

OSCAR is the SCA [Online System for Commentary and Response](#) system provided by the society office of Laurel Sovereign of Arms (LoAR) for tracking heraldry and name submissions in the Known World. Submission forms and documentation are recorded in OSCAR for heralds to discuss and verify submissions. Periodically the LoAR issues letters to each kingdom with the submission acceptances and returns for further tweaking, typically called the Letter of Acceptances and Returns.

There can be delays, but a typical submission can go through the system in about 6-9 months, with final results expected in no more than a year. If your email or postal addresses have changed during that year, the results may have difficulty finding you. Watching the LoAR archive or subscribing to receive LoARs electronically is the fastest way to discover when your submission is decided on by Laurel.

Public portions of the OSCAR archive can be used for free for researching names and heraldry without logging into the system. Note that submissions do cost a nominal amount of money to cover expenses incurred during the acceptance process.

For more information on the Midrealm’s office of Herald see: <https://midrealm.org/herald/>
How to Submit Names and Armory: <https://midrealm.org/herald/escutcheon/>

Some specialized terms for heraldry:

CHARGE: a geometric design, person, animal, item, emblem, device on a background field of a shield (escutcheon)

FIELD: the background of a shield that may be one or more tinctures or furs that may be varied based on a system of terminology for describing the patterns

TINCTURE: A limited pallet of Colors or Metals (gold, silver) used to blazon heraldic art

BLAZON: the formal description of a coat of arms, flag or other emblem used to recreate an accurate reproduction

EMBLEM: a symbolic image representing a concept or abstractions such as a virtue, vice, group, or person such as a king

Chinese Lanterns

by Artemisia Voltera

Paper Chinese lanterns date back to the Eastern Han dynasty (25 to 220 AD). They created frames for candles using bamboo, or wood, stretching decorated silk or paper over it. Monks used them to celebrate Buddha during worship. Traditionally, there were hanging, flying, or floating lanterns. Lanterns signify a wish for a better and brighter future.

Lanterns became popular during the Tang dynasty (618 to 907 AD), when people first released lanterns into the sky to celebrate the country's strength, peace and prosperity.

Colors, **lanterns** shape and designs of lanterns all held significance.

Red -wealth, fame, and prosperity, a thriving life. (Most are red)

Yellow lanterns - good luck, neutrality, freedom from worldly concerns. This was the emperor's color during imperial times. Used a lot in Buddhism.

Green lanterns- health, prosperity, and harmony, attract growth.

Round – Traditional shape - wholeness and togetherness, and the full moon

Decoration - writings say best wishes for a long, healthy life

Chinese Dragon designs - strength

Flowers /butterflies - happiness

Bamboo – resilience

Plants - growth

A traditional story tells about the mythical beast called Nian who ate livestock, crops, and people on the eve of a new year. To prevent Nian from attacking and causing destruction, people would put out red lanterns to scare him away.



Next Issue!

Summer leads quickly to Pennsic. Is your camping gear ready?

Contact the Chronicler with the topics you want to see.

Be kind and support one another. One Midrealm!

Red Spears Baronial Officers

Badge	Office	Person	Contact information**
	Baroness	Baroness Bianca	Baroness {at} redspears.org
	Seneschal	Lady Arina Aldea de la lacului	seneschal {at} redspears.org redspears.seneschal {at} midrealm.org



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Canton and Regional Contacts



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Sir Sivrid Brumbach

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redspears.org



Seneschal of
The Canton of
Marche of the
Marshes (Bowling
Green region)

Otto Kukelbrecht

marcheofthemarshes.seneschal {at}
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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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