



# Barony of Red Spears

## Spearpoint

Barony of Red Spears

December 2023, A.S. LVIII

### Contents

<b>December 2023, A.S. LVIII</b> .....	1
Oyez! Oyez!.....	2
Missives and Meeting Notes.....	2
Gatherings and Whatnots Baronial Calendar .....	8
Calendar of Events .....	9
Announcements.....	10
SCA 101: The Game – Part 1 Beginnings.....	11
Article: Ancient Holiday Celebrations .....	12
Red Spears Baronial Officers.....	13
Canton and Regional Contacts.....	13



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

## Oyez! Oyez!

Congratulations to Their Majesties Wigthegn and Neassa on the acquisition of Heirs, Their Highnesses Tsarevich Ivan and Tsarevna Katalena

The official online presence of Their Royal Majesties of the Middle Kingdom may be found here: <https://trm.midrealm.org/> and for Their Royal Highnesses look here: <https://trh.midrealm.org/>



## Missives and Meeting Notes

Greetings Red Spears,

Six moons have come and gone since We took over as Baronage. Thank you all for making it such an amazing time so far.

We want to take a moment to go over and remind everyone of some of the amazing things that have happened over the year.

Sir Sivrid Brumbach was elevated to the Order of Chivalry. William was a part of the victorious unbelted team at Pennsic. Fatima bunt Malik won the Knowne World Baronial Rapier Champions tournament. Maeva took a squire's belt from (His Highness) Sir Ivan.

The Fjodr has had successful A&S classes in multiple disciplines. The Marche continues to make the most of dance nights and revels of all sorts. Tannis has started a flourishing group on BGSU's campus (the Falcon Creative Anachronism Club).

It has been a pleasure to see new folk come out and participate, giving those senior Red Spearians incentive to get back to their joy again.

One of the most notable things from this past year was the inaugural Black Swamp War Games. The event was put together quickly by a talented group of individuals and was fun and successful for all in attendance. We can't wait to see this event grow moving forward.

As we look to the future of Red Spears, we are excited for our upcoming Yule Feast, where we will be introducing two new traditions. One being the Soup Challenge and the other the Tournament of the Three Spears. We are excited to have Her Majesty in attendance, and welcome shenanigans to be had.

As we wrap this missive up, We want to inform the Barony of Our intent to have Black Swamp War Games be where We select Our Champions for the upcoming year. The closer we get, the more information we can share, but we're excited for all that the new year has to bring.

To everyone traveling this holiday season, stay safe and return swiftly. You all make this Barony the best it can be; we wouldn't be where we are without you.

Always Yours in Service to the Dream  
Leofric & Aislin

## BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (September)

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, September 17, 2023 at Woodland Park, Perrysburg, OH. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal. Meeting started at 1:42 pm. Present: Baronage, Seneschal, Exchequer, Chronicler, MoAS, Herald, Rapier Marshal, Armored Marshal, Fjord Seneschal, Marshes Seneschal

- Seneschal – Thank you all for your support during my time as Seneschal. Artemesia will be running next month's meeting as Deputy Seneschal.
- Old Business – Benches
  - The donated barony bench for Pennsic bus stops has been sponsored by Ansteorra, so they take care of storing it.
  - The benches for Mid Royal at Pennsic ran into technical difficulties and will be completed this winter.
- Baronage –
  - Upcoming project – make and wear baronial colors for Pennsic and a few other events
  - Make award recommendations
  - Baronial Progress for upcoming events: Coronation, Vikings, Fall Crown, Grand Day (Cynnabar Investiture), and Red Dragon
  - Black Swamp War Games – There was a general consensus to make Black Swamp War Games a baronial hosted event, with fundraising opportunities for the cantons.
    - The Marshes Canton seneschal is in contact with the Fairgrounds for securing an early June 2024 weekend for BSWG 2. Update: Black Swamp War Games is going on the calendar for the first weekend June 2024.
    - Bids need to be submitted soon. Otto will be putting in a bid for Black Swamp War Games. Other bids welcome.
    - Baronial Championship competitions will be held at BSWG 2, and not a Yule.
    - Equestrian inquiry
    - Thrown Weapons inquiry
  - Group photo will happen after the meeting is adjourned
- Exchequer – Ulf has stepped up as baronial exchequer and is in need of a deputy.
- Chronicler – The *Spearpoint* September issue for the fall quarter has been published to the baronial group Facebook files. A new active Webminister is needed for updating the website. Bianca will be taking over this office soon.
- Minister of Arts and Sciences –
  - Discussed upcoming classes at the Fjord and Marshes meetings
  - Upcoming baronial project – making tabards for baronial champions. Watch for project nights at Fjord and Marshes meetings.
- Chatelain – Let her know of any demo opportunities
- Herald – New appointment: voted in Charity.
- Marshals
  - Rapier: Continuing education deadline has passed. Those who missed the deadline are now MITs as of 9/23 and should talk to Regional (Caitlin) about re-upping warrants.
  - Rattan: Q3 report submitted.
    - Group marshals in the cantons are needed for reporting participation numbers at practices.
    - Discussed advertising some canton practices as baronial practices, probably rotating locations monthly
- Fjord Seneschal – Discussed upcoming Fjord meeting classes

- Manor House Halloween Demo – decorating the foyer (large area) in a ‘Haunted Woodlands’ theme for the Metroparks Zombie Prom. Walk through is coming up on Wednesday evening; decorating days are Oct. 15-18 with free public walk throughs the following Saturday through Friday, and then the Prom on the last Saturday of the month. Metroparks is selling tickets for the Prom itself.
- Yule Feast will be December 9. It’s on the Midrealm Calendar
  - Discussed Yule – Charity is event steward. Activities will involve mixed teams (rapier, rattan, A&S) with points for teaching a class, display bean count, heralding (boasts). Event theme is Saturnalia. Candles for site tokens – check with site about open flames at feast. White elephant gift exchange (family friendly) price point to be determined. Fundraiser for the Fjord’s site expenses to be determined (yard sale?). Bea and Bill will need information to update the websites.
- Marshes Seneschal –
  - Portage Park is happy to have us back more often. Looking into a different meeting site.
  - Bowling Green College Group –
    - 150 inquiries happened at the campus student fest and the Anime and History groups want to collaborate on activities. 30 people are already on the discord.
    - BG College Group can bring in guest lecturers for club events, including costumers for making garb
    - Otto has the baronial Gold Key loaner garb. More regular stuff is needed especially t-tunics. Garb making days will be organized – talk to the costumers.
    - Plug for Golden Seamstress Event – get a team together, help with garb for newer people
    - after this semester the group will be able to use campus facilities for events such as RUM or command staff meetings
  - Looking into business cards
- New Business –
  - The Baronage has a pattern for baronial tabards
  - Yule Feast needs feast helpers. Talk to Bianca if interested.
  - Next Baronial Meeting will be October 15 at Way Library.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

### **BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (October)**

Minutes for the Barony of Red Spears business meeting, October 15, 2023 at Way Library, Perrysburg, OH. If anyone would like to discuss something from the previous meetings, contact the seneschal.

Meeting opened at 1:22pm

Old Business: None

Baronage:

- Currently working on champions tabards. Vote to approve \$300 to reimburse His Excellency for materials. Check to be cut at Fjodr meeting
- Events: Attending Crown Tourney, Grand Day of Tournaments and Yule Feast for the remainder of 2023. Grand Day will Cynnabar’s baronial transition.
- There will be a day camp at Grand Day

Exchequer: Not present. Needs a deputy.

Chronicler: Bianca will be taking over with Dorothea's assistance regarding the newsletter

MOAS: Oct 26 and Nov 16 will be tabard days at the March to work on the new champion's tabards.

Chatelaine - Not present, nothing to report.

Herald: Pelegrina is now Baronial Herald and has access to the email account. Please send award recs to the canton and baronial herald. If there is anything in particular you want to learn about, please let her know.

Rapier Marshal: Not present, sent in report. Anyone who missed the continuing education classes is no longer a marshal and will have to redo their marshallate.

Armored Marshal: Fighting at both the March and Fjodr meetings. Starting in November we will be hosting Baronial practices at 1 practice a month in each group. At the time of the meeting, there is no solidified date for these practices.

Fjodr: Manor house decoration on Tuesday 10-17, no meeting at the church that day or 10/31.

- Yule Feast - planning continues, we are not against the Schvitz fight practice this year. Site tokens have been ordered
  - Lunch for Yule Feast will be a soup competition hosted by TE. Pun names are being encouraged by Aislin.
  - Their Excellencies will be sponsoring a team competition for Rapier/Armored/A&S.
  - Teachers are needed for Yule
  - There will be a dessert revel and dancing after Feast

Marche: University is getting very good attendance at Monday meetings on BGSU's campus.

- Discussed the possibility of making Black Swamp a co-event with the Barony. The date has been locked in for 1st weekend in June.
- University group: A garb making and leather working class is scheduled for this semester, which are larger classes where teachers can be reimbursed by the school. They are also looking for smaller classes.

Webminister: Motion approved for Artemisia to take over as webminister.

New Business: Next month the November meeting may be a Yule Feast work day.

Meeting ended at 2:02pm

### **BARONIAL BUSINESS MEETING (November)**

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

Meeting opened at 1:27 pm



Old Business: Baronial Tabards are in progress and last pieces from the red cloth will be cut out at upcoming Tuesday and/or Thursday meetings, and then sewing will happen.

Seneschal: Nothing new

Baronage:

- Events: Attending Barony of Roaring Waste's Wassail, and a progress calendar for next year is in the works.
- Let them know which rapier and Arts and Sciences events you want Barony representation... hint hint Let them know if you are entering anything anywhere.
- Send in award recommendations to the kingdom and to the barony

Exchequer: Needs a deputy. Domesday prep is in progress. We still have money, and it's OK to spend it

- Officer budgets are in the works
- Send notes to the Exchequer on what your office may need
- Budget will be voted on at the December baronial meeting

Chronicler: Bianca will be taking over with Dorothea's assistance regarding the newsletter sometime after Yule. The winter Spearpoint will be out near Thanksgiving.

MOAS: Yule discussion at end of meeting. Domesday annual summary report is coming up fast.

- What classes have you taken or taught
- What projects have you worked on
- A post will go up on Facebook asking what you've been doing

Chatelaine - Not present. There have been some inquiries about demos.

Herald: Order of Precedence updates are in the works. Send in notes on the awards you have gotten over the past few years or any you don't see listed for yourself on the OP listed on the baronial webpage.

Web Minister: Officer change form was turned in, but haven't heard back yet.

Rapier Marshal: Domesday is done.

- Proposed holding a rapier focused baronial practice on off nights from rattan since we have a lot of crossover people who do both. All agreed to see how the combined rapier/rattan baronial practices go over the winter since we are just getting into the new routine.

Armored Marshal: Baronial practices went well and will keep doing them.

- Domesday due soon. Send in anything from the Marshes' practices that needs to be on the Domesday. Need reports from Marshals of the Field.
- Looking for baronial deputy, and canton deputies for the Fjordr and Marshes

Fjordr: Yule discussion at end of meeting

- Manor House Haunted Forest went well and had ~1500 visitors a day for the walkthrough week. Thanks to all who helped put that together.

Marche: No meeting on Thanksgiving but will have revel at end of November.

- University group is known on BGSU's campus as the Falcon Creative Anachronism Club
- The students have been working on a group name and heraldry to register with the SCA
- The club can get funding from the university for workshop speakers and materials. Attendance has been 10 consistent attendees with another 5 or so in and out and a few others expected in the Spring when their class schedules change. So far this semester they have hosted Hedwig teaching finger loop braiding, Fatima for multiple clothing workshops with capacity for 15 making t-tunics per session, and Leofric for making leather belts and pouches. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> is the last meeting of this semester.
- The club can get funding for event travel and has funding for around 6 students to attend Yule Feast.

Yule Feast - Saturnalia: Dec. 9, 2023, at Fjordr meeting site (same site as usual)

- 16 classes already scheduled
- Site tokens have been delivered to the Event Steward's hands
- Royalty will be present (Her Majesty) with Barone Bron as royalty liaison, and several neighboring baronages have indicated they will be in attendance
- Website is updated and now mobile friendly and getting added to the kingdom calendar event posting. Pricing and schedules have been fixed
- No pre-reg is available. Cash and check only. Ask people to respond to the Facebook event as going to help with feast planning.
- Soup Off – Bring cash, and a soup with an ingredients list, for lunch fundraiser
- Yard Sale – Bring SCA related stuff to donate for a fundraiser to help pay for the Fjordr's meeting site
- Gift Exchange – Bring a family friendly wrapped gift for an exchange after feast; gag gifts encouraged
- Dancing – After feast, so the expectation is about an hour or hour and a half
- Quest Teams – explanation of how the teams will work will be posted on the website
- Volunteers needed for royalty retainers, Load in and out, and feast servers

Black Swamp War Games 2: June 1, 2024, at the Findlay Fairgrounds (same site as last year)

- Baronial hosted event this time, proceeds split with Canton Marche of the Marshes
- Feast – discussed not having a multi-course feast since there is no kitchen. Will have Open Grill and some sides provided by Barony. People can bring something to grill. Pot Luck Social. Utensils and some stuff available from the Cooks Guild supplies.
- Lunch Tavern – Fjordr fundraiser, taco bar stations run by Baroness Anne and her staff.
- Around \$1600 rental fees for site, with additional \$1500 expenses expected
- Archery – Yes, want something like a Friend or Foe style shoot to be worked into the Quest's theme
- Crafters Green – Pax will contact kingdom to see if there is anything needed to make it official and look for a class and A&S coordinator since they will not be available

- The Quest to Get Through the Swamp – similar to Grand Day’s Quest. Needs a coordinator. Will be brainstorming incorporating archery, rattan, rapier, pel-dummy, puzzles and table games, merchant passport, dance, storyteller / loud tent, wild plants on site (photos), costumes (paper dolls?), and more.
- Site token: passport book and map
- Site is reserved; we are on their calendar
- To be discussed later: Baronage Beauty, Turkish Coffee and other vendors, Youth, Quiet Room, tent for royalty
- Bid coming soon, in the next week or two

New Business: Emergency Bid requested by Their Highnesses to host Crown Tourney and Kingdom A&S this spring, Memorial Day weekend, the week before Black Swamp War Games. Same site is available and reserved pending contract. Baron Raffaele is spearheading the bid and will be event steward. Camping is available and Raffaele and Otto will confirm Sunday night camping with the site for the bid.

Next month the December 17 will be at Way Library.

Meeting end at 2:56pm

## 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.*

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.

**WINTER NEWS:** Starting in November, we will be having a Red Spears Baronial armored combat practice at each of the Canton sites one time per month. These will be the First Tuesday at the Fjodr site, and Third Thursday at the Marshes site.

The goal of these Baronial armored combat practices is to get a larger group together to practice that the individual canton's practices on those two days. We will be able to incorporate both some individual drills and training as well as melee unit practices.



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

**Baronial Meeting** dates have changed to the third Sunday of the month. Cooler weather means a site change to indoors until next Spring.

Meeting Location: Way Public Library, 101 E Indiana Ave, Perrysburg, OH 43551

Dates: December 17, 2023, and for 2024: January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21





**The Canton of Hrothgeirsfjodr [Hróðgeirsfjörðr] (Toledo)**

7-9:30 pm, Tuesdays – Fjodr Meetings are indoors at the Park Church (1458 Harvard Blvd, Toledo, OH 43614). General Schedule: A&S classes or bring-a-project nights most weeks.

Armored practice happens every week; for Rapier practice contact the group to check if a marshal will 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) hosts informal meet-and-greets; contact TH Isabel Mhic Leoid at [losobail {at} redspears.org](mailto:losobail@redspears.org) for details.

The Incipient Canton of Castel Gwent (Tiffin region, Seneca Co.) meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at Bob’s Dojo, 178 South Washington Street, Tiffin, Ohio 44883. Contact Darby Owls at [Lboehler {at} yahoo.com](mailto:Lboehler@yahoo.com) for updates and details.

▣

**Calendar of Events**

<b>Events (Host Group, Region) (Click thru for Town, State)</b>	<b>Event Dates</b>
<b>December 2023</b>	
<a href="#"><u>Christmas Tourney LI (South Oaken)</u></a>	Dec 2
<a href="#"><u>North Wood’s Wassail (Pentamere)</u></a>	Dec 2
<a href="#"><u>Yule Feast (North Oaken)</u></a>	Dec 9
<a href="#"><u>Carraig Ban Winter Revel (Midlands)</u></a>	Dec 16
<b>January 2024</b>	
<a href="#"><u>Ayreton Twelfth Night (Midlands)</u></a>	Jan 6
<a href="#"><u>12th Night in Pentamere (Pentamere)</u></a>	Jan 6
<a href="#"><u>Twelfth Night in the Middle Marches (North Oaken)</u></a>	Jan 13
<a href="#"><u>Winter Revel (Pentamere)</u></a>	Jan 20
<a href="#"><u>Festival of Maidens 49 (Midlands)</u></a>	Jan 27
<a href="#"><u>Winter Wassail (North Oaken)</u></a>	Jan 27
<b>February 2024</b>	
<a href="#"><u>Tournament of the Arts at Winged Hills (South Oaken)</u></a>	Feb 3

[St. Valentine's Day Massacre \(Pentamere\)](#)

Feb 10

[Candlemas XXXIV \(South Oaken\)](#)

Feb 17

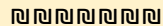
[Herald's Pointe and Scribal Collegium \(Pentamere\)](#)

Feb 17

[Masque of Courtly Love \(North Oaken\)](#)

Feb 24

## Announcements



The Canton of Hrodgeirsfjordr proudly presents

### Yule Feast - Saturnalia

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Park Church

1456 Harvard Blvd., Toledo, OH 43614

Site opens at 9:00am closes at 9:00pm

Event Registrations (No Pre-registration. Cash or Check only):

Adult Registration (non-member)- \$15.00

Adult Member Discount Registration - \$10.00

Minors (0-17)- Free

Feast: \$15 (40 seats available)

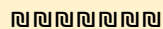
- **Adult & youth A&S classes and competition**
- **Armored and Rapier combat lists**

Feast by Baroness Bianca de Michaleto

Event Steward: Lady Pellegrina da Canal (Charity Goehring), email: [yulefeast@redspears.org](mailto:yulefeast@redspears.org) phone: 567-213-1408 (no calls after 9pm Eastern time)

Day space is limited - Site is DRY

<https://hrodgeirsfjordr.midrealm.org/yule-feast-2023/>



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/>

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](mailto:issues@midrealm.org) if you encounter any issues with the award form or other Midrealm website pages.

Send baronial award recommendations to [Redspears.baronage@midrealm.org](mailto:Redspears.baronage@midrealm.org) at any time.

## SCA 101: The Game – Part 1 Beginnings

*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: The Game – Part 1 Beginnings**

Once upon a time, there was The Dream. The Dream dates back to the early days of the society and fit in with the concept of "I've always dreamed of ...." (fill in the blank). While the Society was growing beyond the backyard party, The Dream provided plenty of room for development. Since this SCA thing is a collaborative playground of many different dreams, language shifted to talking about the SCA as a Game with many paths. Come out and play a while.

From the beginnings as a themed costume party, thousands of people have grown the variety of activities and sports available to participants. Participation is a key element of the society, whether it is helping out in some way, engaging in the activities, or just being present in garb, contributing to the atmosphere of the event. People pick places and time periods of interest to help focus their clothing, name choice, and sometimes their other hobbies. Personas can be as vague and broad, or as precise as you care to make them. Introduce yourself as you will. Registering your unique name with the College of Heraldry can come later, and isn't required, although it is recommended. Don't be surprised if someone gives their persona a name different than what you find on social media.

There is too much to do all at once, so groups have to pick and choose what to offer at events and what to focus on at any given time. Try a variety of activities and events as your schedule allows. Creativity in making it all work for your budget and available time is as important as the creativity that goes into clothing or a craft project.

Some people find great enjoyment bringing a vision to reality such as a research or craft project, meals for their friends, or an outfit or full kit, an art project, an activity or an entire event. Local, regional, kingdom, or society levels of service keep things running and allow us the luxury of having places to gather to explore our interests. Many people bring their skills and knowledge to the SCA, and often the SCA is a place for them to hone or pick up new skills to apply in other areas of their lives.

Common threads run through all the regions of the Society such as the requirement that an attempt be made by all attendees to wear pre-17<sup>th</sup> century clothing at events. Although local meetings and gatherings do not have that requirement, local customs and activities vary and anything you do beyond making the attempt at historic clothing is your choice. Communication methods have changed with the modern times, but there are in-person meetings and social media spots to ask for help with outfits, bringing or borrowing picnic gear for feasts, seating for outdoor events, and helping each other with travel and accommodations for weekend events, or weekday activities.

---

## Article: Ancient Holiday Celebrations

by Artemisia Voltera

Throughout the world, we have been celebrating in December for decades. Besides the traditional holidays that we have come to know, there are many older and ancient celebrations of the past.

One of the oldest celebrations that happened at the end of December is called "Raising the Willow". This great festival was celebrated in Egypt from around 1160 BC during Ramesses III rule. The willow tree was an important symbol in Egypt and is tied with the God Osiris. His body was believed to be sheltered and buried by willow trees after he was killed. It is an icon of rebirth, agriculture and fertility. The festival helped to assure the crops and trees of the land would prosper in the coming seasons.

Another very old celebration comes from Greece in 300 BC, originated in possibly the Mycenaean period, called the Eleusinian Mysteries. This was a secret ceremony for those that worshiped the Goddesses Demeter and Persephone. The ceremony represented Persephone being taken from her mother Demeter, by Hades. It symbolized the loss, the search and finally, the reunion of Persephone with her mother.

Starting around 5th century BC, the Mayan people in Mesoamerica celebrated K'atun. This was the largest holiday on the Mayan calendar and only happened every twenty years. Each Mayan city created large stone sculpted structures with hieroglyphics (called stelae) in honor of the town's ruling family. The stelae was a way to share and record what had happened in the last 20 years. They feasted on turkey, maize, cocoa, honey and mead like fermented beverages.

On the first day of winter, in modern day Iran, the Persians celebrated Yalda. This was the celebration of sunrise after the longest night of the year and the worship of Mithra, the Sun God. People stayed up all night long burning fires, telling stories and eating. They ate watermelon, pomegranate, and dried fruit as symbols of life, resilience, rebirth, renewal, and keeping the body warm through the winter. As the sun rose there was drumming, dancing, feasting, acts of charity performed and prayers. They also believed that people's wishes would be granted in that day.

Still to this day, in Pakistan, the Kalash people celebrate the Festival Choimus to worship their God, Balomain. It is a two week long celebration with feasting, swirling dances around bonfires, drums, singing, prayers, clapping, and chanting. It is believed that Balomain is visiting them from their homeland of Tsiam during the festival. Because of his presence, purity and celibacy are of the highest importance. Women hold a special place during the celebration. They adorn themselves with dresses of cowry shells, apricot seed necklaces, elaborate headdresses, painted faces and facial tattoos. The single women are even expected to find a husband during this time.

No matter the culture or the century, it is clear that December has always been a time for celebration.

---

### Next Issue!

More Winter indoor events.


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**
	Baronage	Barone Aislin de Tanet Baron Leofric of Osprey	Redspears.baronage {at} midrealm.org
	Seneschal	Lady Arina Aldea de la lacului	seneschal {at} redspears.org redspears.seneschal {at} midrealm.org
	Exchequer	Lord Ulf Olfuss	exchequer {at} redspears.org redspears.exchequer {at} midrealm.org
	Herald	Lady Pellegrina da Canal	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	Noble Paxino Voltera	moas {at} redspears.org redspears.moas {at} midrealm.org
	Rapier Marshal	Lady Fatima bint Malik	rapier {at} redspears.org redspears.rapier {at} midrealm.org
	Rattan Marshal	Sir Sivrid Brumbach	armored {at} redspears.org
	Chatelaine	Lady Beatrix de Vezelay	chatelaine {at} redspears.org redspears.chatelaine {at} midrealm.org
	Webminister	TH Artemisia Voltera	webminister {at} redspears.org redspears.webminister {at} midrealm.org

## Canton and Regional Contacts

	Seneschal of The Canton of Hrothgeirsfjodr (Toledo region)	Sir Sivrid Brumbach	hrothgeirsfjodr.seneschal {at} redspears.org
---	---	---------------------	---





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

Otto Kukelbrecht

marcheofthemarshes.seneschal {at}  
redspears.org

**\*\* 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.**

This is the December 2023 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](mailto:chronicler@redspears.org) or [redspears.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:redspears.chronicler@midrealm.org) and found on the Red Spears Webpage. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2023 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.