

SIREN'S SONG



I would like to thank everyone that contributed to this newsletter. All of you are very much appreciated.

Allison Renee of Roseholm

FALL 2011

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Upcoming Local Events

November 5th 2011: Crystal Ball – Barony of Shattered Crystal [Collinsville IL]

December 3rd 2011: St. Nicholas Day Tourney for Toys for Tots - Barony of the White Waters- [Goshen, IN]

January 14th 2011: Twelfth Night - Tree Girt Sea- [Chicago, IL]

January 27-29th 2011: Festival of Maidens XXXIX- Wurmwald [Urbana, IL]

March 31, 2011: Rites of Spring - Barony of Illiton [Bartonville, IL]

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Grendel

By Kevin Burge

The hall, Herot, sits there, on the hill, golden and gleaming. I sit here, in the bottom of the bog, malevolent and muddy. Damned through a birth of disgrace, they refer to me as a foul and ugly fiend. Mocking is the sounds of their merriment. Galling is the glitter of their golden finery. The knowledge of their feasting is a fell wound in my side. The songs they sing scrape against my soul as I sit here, outcast and cold, in the mud. Vengeance shall be mine! My being vibrates with the need to violate their cold corpses!

My monstrosity shall bring forth the mayhem they fear. My scaly hide is like armor, shedding the blows of steely spears. My teeth are fearsome fangs; I relish the anticipation of ripping apart the flesh of my foes. When I burst the bolt on the door, bashing skulls and breaking bones, it will be they who are damned and outcast, and I shall be exalted, triumphant, a power of terror.

Daringly I dart through the shadowy night's darkness. Bravely and strongly, I burst the bolt on the door. I stride down the hall strewn bodies of these buffoons whose bright hall was a mockery to my doom and despair. Red is the blood, rivulets of it, flowing from bodies. Shrieking are the cries of sorrow of the survivors, a sensual song of victory to my monstrous ears. Satisfied with the vengeance my wrath had so violently wrought, I returned to my burrow, deep in the woods, beneath the bog. Now I, a descendant of Cain, ruled over the land. The sons of Abel now feared to hold festivities. No more did they frustrate me with their feasts. The dark, forsaken hall became a monument to my ferocity. The abandonment of joy was an accolade to my ascendancy. Despair was the dues they paid me for their wretched lives. A dozen winters the darkness remained undisturbed.

A song rang out, carried across the stillness of the night sky. It was salacious in form, a bawdy sneer at my subjugation of men. Illumination poured out of Herot, insulting my dominance of the demesnes. A gala of food added to my grievances. Beowulf is what the bards of men would call the adversary in song. Fodder to feed my too long dormant fangs is what I called him in my forest.

Wrathful, I walked to the hall in the silence of the still night, as my enemy slumbered. I would awaken them with an assault of atrocities. Punish them for unleashing my incensed umbrage. Dauntless, I tore down the door. Ferociously I flashed my fangs and claws. Slashing swords all around me! The sneaky foe had not been sleeping! Steel weapons slid, innocuous, off my scaly skin. My fangs met foe ferociously. Hero's souls departed Herot hastily with my help. Then the prominent man, powerful and muscled, undertook me unarmed. Gravely we fought, and he grappled my arm. PAIN! Beowulf leveraged my limb until it was loose. Despair at the dripping of my own blood. Shocked by the subjugation of my body and will I slunk back to my bog. As I lay dying in the muck, my life running red out of my wound, one last vow of vengeance passed my lips

"MOTHER!"



Photo taken by Sarah Rosecrans. Used with permission

This is the Fall 2011 issue of the Siren's Song, the official newsletter of the Barony of Illiton. The Barony of Illiton is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the Siren's Song is published as a service to the membership. Subscriptions are free and are available from the Interim Barony Chronicler Sarah Rosecrans. Copyright © 2005 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Barony Chronicler. The Siren's Song newsletter is available without charge to all Baronial members. If you are receiving an electronic copy of the newsletter and would like a printed copy, it can be obtained by notifying the Chronicler. Please email the Chronicler to have your name added to the list and to be notified when each issue is available for download. Please send your requests to the Barony of Illiton Chronicler. If you would like more information about the Barony of Illiton and upcoming events sponsored by them, please visit www.illiton.org. All photographs featured here are property of the photographers and are used with permission.

The Incipient Canton of Athelington held their bi-yearly elections on September 2011. The new officers are.....

Seneschal-Lady Josephine Catherine Daltrey
mka/Dixie Schroeder,

Pursivant-Lord Griffin Daltrey
mka/Kenneth Schroeder,

Treasurer-Lord Connor MacGreggior
mka/Robert Weagly.

They will be serving two terms.



Winter Morning - based on a 13th century French painting

Picture by Mike Pozar of Illiton. Used with Permission

Unto the good Populace of Illiton,

Their Most Royal Majesties EikBrandr and Runa now sit the Dragon Thrones, and in Their estimable wisdom They have reinstated the ancient tradition of Regency Courts. Many of us have never attended a Regency Court, and may not understand what such an event entails.

In a Regency Court, TRM endow one or more persons with the authority to act in Their stead, to officially dispense Kingdom-level business in Their absence. This means that awards typically granted by the Hands of the King and/or Queen can be given by the hands of their Regents. In the past, the Sovereigns have entrusted the Tanists (Crown Prince and/or Crown Princess) or the local Baronage to preside over Regency Courts. At All Hallow's Revel, in Illiton's Canton of Lochmorrow, on October 29th of this year, Their Majesties have requested that the Baronage of Illiton act as Their Regents and preside over a Regency Court.

We wish to rise to Their Majesties' will and to do this properly, so we urge the good folk of Lochmorrow, of Illiton and Athelington and lands beyond, to attend this event and to grant it the regard, solemnity, pomp and circumstance such an occasion warrants. Bring yourselves and your banners to display, so that Their Majesties shall hear tale of the event and know the wisdom of Their choice in selecting this Barony to host a Regency Court.

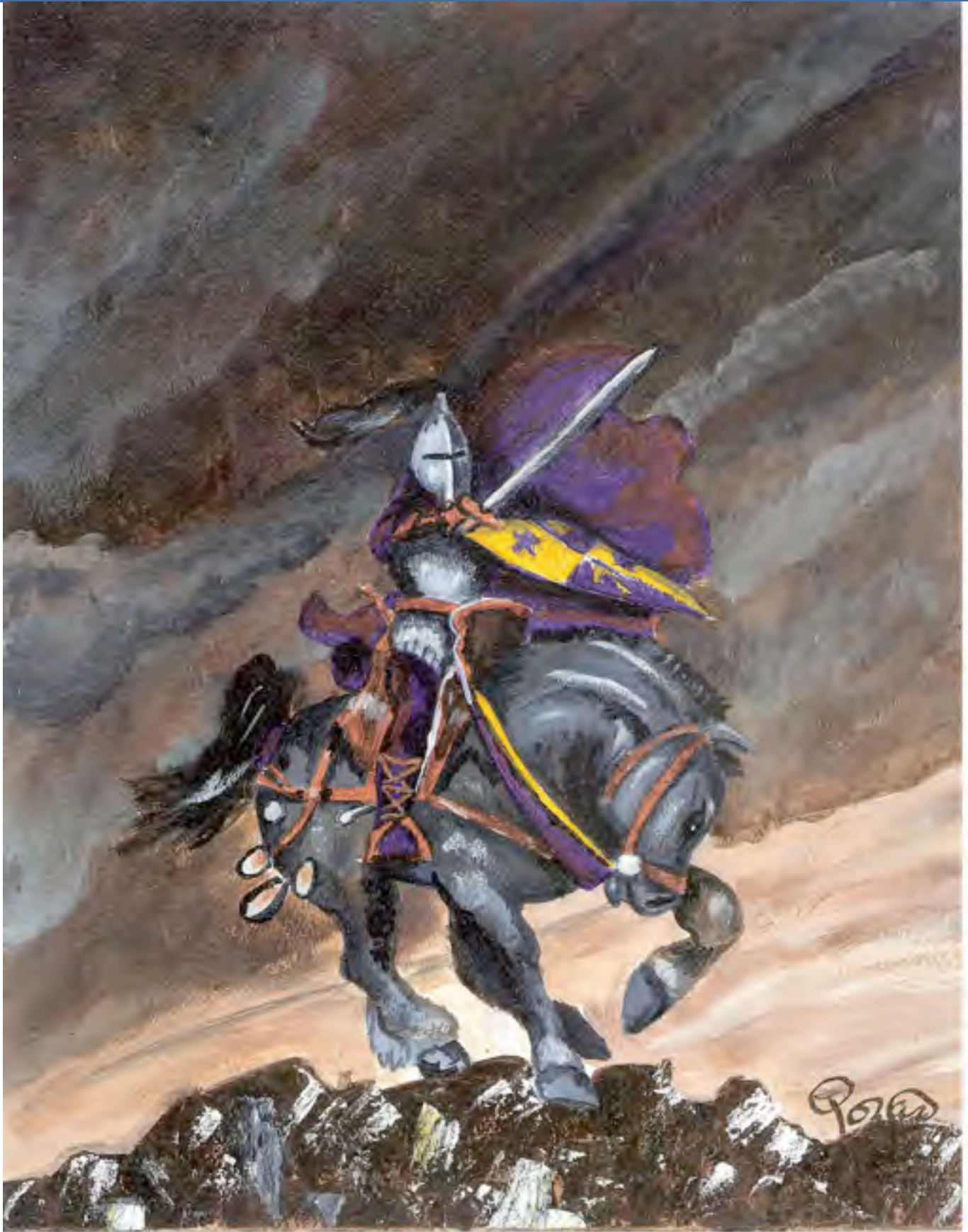
On a related note, neither Baronowa Alzbeta nor I can see everything that our people do, and so we ask that if you notice someone whose efforts or attitudes improve the SCA as a whole and Illiton in specific, making this a more enjoyable place to play, we wish to hear of it so that we can communicate to Their Majesties the wonderful works of our people. We would also encourage you to put in recommendations yourselves through the online recommendation site at www.midrealm.org. The number of recommendations received is as important as the quality of the recommendations, so if you feel someone is deserving of recognition, let us know who and why, and submit a recommendation of your own that we can echo.

Alas, many of the people of Illiton, Athelington and Lochmorrow find themselves in undesirable financial straits due to their situations in drear Mundania, and so must of necessity be more selective in choosing which events to attend. We ask, when feasible, that you take a few moments and share with Baronowa Alzbeta and myself your plans for the autumn and winter event season so that we may update the recommendations. The Crown plans to attend Crystal Ball in Shattered Crystal on November 5th.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to see our people in Illiton, Athelington and Lochmorrow honored for their tireless efforts and selfless service to this Dream we all embrace.

Yours in Service,

Baron Wilhelm and Baronowa Alzbeta



Stormy Knight - Winner of the 2010 Black Fox Award

Picture by Mike Pozar of Illiton. Used with Permission

From the Baronial Kitchens

I would like to express my thanks to all who worked the kitchens at the Fields event. Members of the Woodenspoon Brigade and the Company of Grillers pulled off another wonderful feast. I hear the grillers are willing to do it again-awesome!

Under the observant eye of our Head Cook, Eoin atte Keld, the kitchen staff ran a great kitchen and produced an even more excellent feast. The feast began with the now famous cheddar ale soup and bread, there was a green salad with an apple vinaigrette accompanied by the grilled lamb, and finally roasted beef and sautéed onions.

They finished with a dragons tail cake and a great dessert revel (many thanks to those of you that volunteered for this! We couldn't have done it without you!)

I especially wish to thank all the kitchen staff and support crew for it is a great thing to help in our kitchens. You really don't have to work all day and it is fun! It takes a full compliment of good gentles to bring about a feast and I wish to list them here:

Kitchen staff: Percy, Tim, Eric, Jane, Judy, Kali, April, Sherry, Angela, John Jr., and Bill K. Support staff: Sherry, Sarah, and Laura and the awesome folks who helped with clean up-all of you just rock!

Since the holidays are almost upon us I thought I would share the wonder of citrus zest. It occurred to me that everyone might not know how to make this-and it is great in salads, sauces and general baking (as in cookies!).

To make Citrus Zest

Zest is the yellow and orange parts of lemons and oranges without the bitterness of the pith.

To remove the zest from the fruit, wash the fruit well. Using a vegetable peeler, use just enough pressure to remove the peel in strips. Remember to not include the white parts as it is bitter. With a sharp knife cut the peel in bits. You can store the zest in the fridge in a plastic bag for up to 3 days. A zester is made especially for this purpose for all you kitchen gadget folks and is a handy thing to have so your fruit peels don't go to waste.

Until next we meet-enjoy the holidays, go forth and cook something (and share your recipes)!

PS. Don't forget the desserts and chili contests at 12th Night

YIS, Michaela-head of the Cooking Guild

Eoin atte Keld+Illario- captains of the Company of Grillers

Done this day- Nov 2011

A & S Meetings Are Held on the 3rd Sunday At 3:00 PM At Liberty Hall in Marquette Heights on Lincoln Blvd at the top of the hill

We have Business meetings on the first Thursdays of Every Month. Business meetings, Fighters practice and Middle Eastern Dance practices are held at the First Christian Church of Peoria, 6400 N. University St, Peoria, IL. Business meetings are the first Thursday of every month At 7:00 PM Practices are every Tuesday starting at 6:00 P.M. Check out more events at www.midrealm.org - Calendar of Events.

For Newcomer information: <http://www.midrealm.org/chatelaine/docs/NewcomersGuide.pdf>

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