



The Clouded Issue

A Newsletter for the Barony of Grey Niche
Kingdom of Gleann Abhann

December, 2017

Published Quarterly

The Pageantry and Drama of Crown List

By Duchess Linnet MacLeod

The Barony of Grey Niche was recently honored to host Crown List. The day was filled with exceptional fighting, pageantry, drama and well wishes from those supporting the fighters and their consorts.

In the SCA, rulers are chosen by right of arms. This special tournament is called Crown Tourney or Crown List. Each fighter participating is required to have a consort and each consort may only have one champion. A Letter of Intent is submitted before Crown Tourney by each pair wishing to participate verifying that they meet the requirements set forth. Competitors and consorts must meet specific authorization, residency and membership requirements as well as be acceptable to the current Crown. The Kingdom Seneschal and Knight's Marshall vet the participants as well.

The Kingdom of Gleann Abhann has many traditions that are highlighted at Crown List. First there is the Consorts Breakfast where every consort is invited to break bread with each other, the current Crown and queens/princesses of the past. This is an opportunity for unity and support among all who attend and a special way to begin what can be a life-changing day. Also, there is the Walking of the Field for competitors. Fighters contemplate the seriousness of the tournament and its outcome while strolling on the field of honor.

Competitors and their consorts set up beautiful pavilions around the field and are surrounded by the support of household members, peers and friends. Hospitality at these pavilions abounds. The heraldic display is one of the highlights of the day as the banners fly and the people wear the livery of the one they support. Heraldry also excels with the dramatic, and sometimes comical, introductions of the fighters and their consorts.

Many times other competitions will take place this day. The King may choose His champion from the competitors. The bards may vie for the title of Kingdom Bard. Artisans display their creations in the A & S competition for all to see.

The tradition dearest to my heart is that of the role of consort in Gleann Abhann. At crown List, every fighter has his or her own way of doing things, and a good consort will assist the fighter to accomplish this without stress or hassle. Also, the consorts stand together and support each other, their combatant and each other's champion at every fight. This show of support is not the case in every kingdom, but it reflects the Honor and Courtesy Above All that our kingdom holds dear.

A lot of hard work and preparation goes into Crown Tourney. The people participating in the list create new banners and clothes, organize pavilions and food, spruce up armor and swords, and plan for the day. Then there is also all the work of the organizers. The Crown, Kingdom Seneschal and Knight's Marshall jobs starts long before Crown List Day. The hosting group assists the Knight's Marshall in getting the field set to satisfaction and that proper refreshment is available to all. Pavilions are organized and raised. Heralds abound because there are many duties to be covered including knowledge and skill at voice, precedence, list organization, card running and list tree.

Crown List is indeed a special tournament and there are as many reasons to participate as there are people. Many fight in hopes of serving the kingdom. New fighters like to experience the awesomeness of Crown List. Others hope to gain the skill in fighting and gage themselves against the others in this ex-

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From the Baron and Baroness...

Greetings Fellow Nichers!

As the year draws to a close, we are reminded of what an amazing Barony we live in. At least we are certainly one of the busiest groups! Coronation, elevations, event-running, fending off Orks—never an empty weekend!

Our own James and Joan are now Their Royal Majesties. Many of us made the journey south to Their Coronation, held a week late due to the intrusion of Hurricane Nate. TH Lady Olrun became Mistress Olrun, a Companion of the Laurel. She was elevated in a splendid Viking ceremony that was part of an equally splendid Viking Coronation court. A number of Niche folk were involved in the prep, from sewing to script writing to being part of the show.

Two short weeks later the Orks were at the gate, or so we thought. The morning of Ork Wars dawned so cold that fighting was cancelled (a sign of the end times if ever there was one). Orks and humans huddled for warmth in the Great Hall, drinking and telling tales until time for court and feast.

November saw Fall Crown List at our traditional site, Camp Piersol. Although not originally the host group, the Niche stepped in on short notice. Baroness Myra of the Glen prepared the feast and Baron Guillermo acted as event steward. Throw in Baroness Arielle's vigil and elevation to the Order of the Pelican, in addition to a 27 fighter list, and you have a very busy event! Kudos to everyone who stepped up to make Crown List a success. Way to represent!

Crown List got our fighters fired up and ready for some tournament practice. A meeting of the fighters was convened and the decision was made to reinstate a monthly Thegn Tourney at Sunday fighter practice. The winner of our November tournament was Count Wernherus, who was also declared Thegn. December's Thegn Tourney is already on the schedule, along with our Baronial Christmas party. Anyone seen the Christmas Goblin?

It seems insufficient to say thank you once again, but know that it is heartfelt. We are lucky to serve such a wonderful group of people.

Go Niche!!

Guillermo and Arielle
Baron and Baroness of Grey Niche

Baron & Baroness—Master Guillermo Berenguer de los Almogavars & Mistress Arielle de Brabazon

Seneschal—THL Sarah de Warenne

Herald—THL Sean Patrick O'Donnell

Reeve—THL Geirmundr Hrafnsson

Knight Marshall—Sir Lorccán hua Conchobair

Quartermaster & Youth Marshall—Baron Uryuu Ujishige, called "Waffle"

Rapier Marshall—Master Damiano Elie Bellini

Live Weapons—Lord Eoghan Mac Iomhair

Arts and Sciences—Mistress Olrun Elidasdottir

Chatelaine—Lord Sindri Ivarsson

Historian—THL Rhiadain n'a Rind Ailue

Chronicler—OPEN

Sheriff—Lord Hrafn Knutsson

Webminister—Baroness Teresa Berconi

**Regnum
of
Officers**

From the Seneschal...

Hello Nichians!

Your trusty new Seneschal here. I just wanted to take a few moments to let you know that I am looking forward to the next two years. I hope we can get a lot of great things going and find new ways to have fun. Over the next few months we already have planned to start the Thane Tournaments up again. The fighters asked for this as a recruitment drive and I hope everyone will get on board to make this successful. We already had our first one last month and it was a lot of fun to watch. The food everyone brought was delicious too. Can't wait for the next few months to watch it flourish.

I would like to ask everyone to put on their thinking caps to figure out more possible recruitment tools we could do. If you have ideas about anything, let me know. I'm open to suggestions on how we can make this Barony even better than it already is. I've already got a list of things that need to be replaced or repaired that we will be addressing slowly over the next few months.

I look forward to hearing from everyone about suggestions.

YIS,

THL Sarah de Warenne

Sunday—Heavy, Light & Youth Fighter Practice
Audubon Park—corner of Southern and Goodlett
1:00 p.m. training, stretching and arming
2:00 p.m. fighting

Wednesday—Heavy Fighter Practice
Sir Lorcann's house—1955 Mount Badon Lane, Cordova, TN 38016
5:30 p.m. training
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. fighting
*in the event of inclement weather, making and repairing armor in the shop

Monthly Thegn Tourney!
Check the Grey Niche Facebook page for updates

The Queens Beside Our Kings

(to the tune of Wind Beneath My Wings)

By Brenna Froggie O'Duynie

She stood by the lyst in partial shadows
A glimmer of sun crosses her face
She approaches the ropes intertwined, on this day
Support in her kiss across the line.

As he takes the field with warriors glory
She stands to the side in patient grace
This dance on the field to choose an heir, for the Ram
His last blow falls true to stake their claim

The Gleann Abhann Roses are our heroes
They show us the dream we love to see
In beauty and grace they are unequaled
For They are the Queens beside our Kings.

Her dedication is not unnoticed
For she holds our dreams within her heart
She cherishes all within the realm, and always shows it
Love for the kingdom in her view

The Gleann Abhann Roses are our heroes
They show us the dream we love to see
With beauty and grace they are unequaled
For They are the Queens beside our Kings

The Gleann Abhann Roses are our heroes
They center our Kingdom and our Kings
Yes and we, we are the Stormborn ever eager
We love you, the Queens beside our Kings
Yes, Thank you for being Gleann Abhann's Queens.

*Written for Fall Crown Lyst
2017 Kingdom Bard Competition*

Martial Activities...



The Perfect Queen

By Duke John the Bearkiller

No harder task could be grasped and tried
To now single out Gleann Abhann's pride.
The Perfect Queen I had to choose (in faith a job I could
not lose)

For our Roses' shine that much is clear
Each inspires and we hold them dear
The Perfect Queen is now my quest (the choosing starts,
I'll do my best)

Good Broinnfhionn was the first it's true
Her logic strong she saw us through
We all survived the storm that year (she held our trust 'til
all was clear)

And Mary Grace's true beauty shone
As gracefully then she held the throne
And when she left our hearts were sad (we also lost that
half orc lad)

Linnet reigned here and kept safe the land
Within her gaze and her steady hand
Twas firm and sure that's what we knew (and in her
watch the Kingdom grew)

Kenna inspired with wit and charm
Which kept all safe with no fear of harm
Of her goodness I now do sing (but forget not her leper
king)

Onora brightly held fast the Crown
Strength of purpose is her clear renown
A winning way that's quick and sure (a love of Kingdom
that is pure)

Dear Diana stood for all in need,
A generous heart is thus her creed.
There is no doubt which path she'd choose (and her hus-
band has one hundred shoes)

Beatrix reigned and we soon did see
Benevolence and nobility.
Such gentleness was plain to all (and that darned Jon is
still real tall)

Muirgen ruled with a calm presence grand
When she entered we would proudly stand.
Her joy was clear in that we saw (her soft voice lifted,
cheered us all)

Miriell's smile went beyond the Crown,
She always lifted, held no one down.
Service given and never slow (and with her Ansteorra
grows)

Miriell's smile went beyond the Crown,
She always lifted, held no one down.
Service given and never slow (and with her Ansteorra
grows)

Emma gave us all her heart to see
The depth of such generosity.
Her reign was done and good times we shared (we cried
as then she cut her hair)

Brigit was in truth our mind and soul,
She kept us honest, her perfect role.
This woman who stood for all of us (A name for honor,
faith, and trust)

When dear Danielle laughed and walked we'd see
A Queen of warmth and real Chivalry.
There was no battle that we could lose (nor captured
memories by this muse)

Joan is currently to all our Queen,
but prior good service she has seen.
A smile so full of faith and love (she tends to Holy and
their three pugs)

Lorelei reached out; our glory new.
A stately Lady that the Kingdom knew
Would keep our trust and that is real (don't cross this one
with rapier steel).

But!!!!

Ashikaga Kimiko had been my choice
To celebrate and raise my voice.
All that's been, and all that's to be (all here within this
perfect Queen)

She is beauty, grace and chivalry,
Wisdom, service and nobility.
I laud and praise her in all ways (The Perfect Queen for
me this day)

But, this was harder than I believed
Each of the Roses all share their leaves.
Of honor and Gleann Abhann's heart (and everyone has
played her part)

We have been blessed, I cannot just point
At one Queen alone and thus anoint
They each stood their watch and made a stand (to prove
a Ruler is more than just rattan)

Help Wanted: Chronicler

Please contact the
Seneschal if interested



The Barony of Grey Niche proudly presents

Candlemas Collegium

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Good Shepard United Methodist Church (6050 Summer Avenue, Memphis, TN 38134)

Come celebrate a traditional Candlemas! The day will include a Regional Arts and Science Faire, classes, martial activities, and a wonderful luncheon feast. In addition, the Baron and Baroness will be choosing the Baronial Arts Champion, the Acanthus.

Event Steward

Mistress Kendra Dey
mka Kendra DeVaughn
Dey.Kendra@gmail.com
601-336-0320

Head Cook (All food allergies!)

Lady Brenna O'Duynie
mka Michelle Peterson
mmpeterson910@gmail.com
601-951-5656

Reservations

THL Sean Patrick O'Donnell
mka Todd J Hennen
rapierlw@gmail.com
901-590-2046

Please no calls before 10 a.m. or after 9 p.m. to staff members.

	Fee	Feast
Adult Member Discount Registration	\$13	\$7
Adult Registration	\$18	\$7
Minor Registration (All <18)	\$0	\$7

Make checks payable to: SCA-TN-Barony of Grey Niche

Mail reservations to: Barony of Grey Niche

Attn: Candlemas

PO Box 11184

Memphis, TN 38111

Cash only accepted at the door.

Early Bird Discount of \$3 for adults and \$0 for child. if postmarked by 01/15/17. PayPal cut-off date 01/12/18 at midnight. No family shall pay a Site Registration higher than three (3) adult member registrations for admission to an event as long as they all have proof of membership. This does include feast for more than those covered by the three (3) paid adult member registrations. Family is defined as One (1) or Two (2) custodial adults, plus legal dependents age 17 or under. Proof of immediate family relations and age may be required.

Directions: Take your best route to Exit 12 (Sycamore View) on I-40 in Memphis. Head northwest on Sycamore View Road for .2 miles. Turn right onto Summer Avenue. Church is on the left at .6 miles

Meeting Calendar...

January

4—Business Meeting
9—A & S Class
16—Business Meeting
23—A & S Class
30—Open

February

1—Business Meeting
6—A & S Class
13—A & S Class
20—Business Meeting
27—A & S Class

March*

1—Business Meeting
6—A & S Class
13—A & S Class
20—Business Meeting
27—A & S Class

**March schedule subject to change
because of Gulf Wars*

All meetings are held at
1750 Madison, Suite 303

Seating is limited, it is recommended
you bring a chair.

A & S Classe Descriptions

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Gulf Wars Prep (Starting on your project list)

Get help pulling the trigger on your Gulf Wars Projects!
Bring your project Notebook and one (ONE) project you
need help starting

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Gulf Wars Prep (Staying the course: keeping on target with your project list)

Continuing working on project list/projects, as well as mak-
ing sure that you have made progress
Bring you project Notebook and any one (ONE) project giv-
ing you trouble.

The following Baronial Officers need Deputies:

Reeve	Chatelaine
Knight Marshall	Historian
Rapier Marshall	Chronicler
Minister of Children	Quartermaster
Sheriff	Webminister

Please contact the officer or the Seneschal if
you are interested in volunteering your time to
serve as a deputy to an officer.

Crown

Continued from Page 1

ceptional pool of combatants. Some are encouraged to participate so that others may see the results of their training and the caliber of their fighting. Some believe you should never enter if you don't have the intention or ability to serve as Crown should you win. Yet others believe that the participation itself is the thing. And all honor their consorts by taking part in this glorious day that affects the future of the kingdom.

No matter your theory or experience, I highly recommend attending a Crown List (especially before you participate in one) and be part of the history of Gleann Abhann.

Every effort has been made to present correct information as a form of communication to the members of the Barony of Grey Niche. Please send all corrections, concerns and suggestions to Duchess Linnet MacLeod at chronicler@greyniche.net.

This is the December, 2017 issue of The Clouded Issue, a publication of the Barony of Grey Niche of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Clouded Issue is available from Linda Lee, 1212 Faxon, Memphis, TN 38104. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2005 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.