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# The Barony of Seagirt

June 2020

In the Kingdom of An Tir and Principality of Tir Righ







In accordance to the rule of the Crown of An Tir, all events, meetings, and practices are currently cancelled through the end of August 2020.

The July Coronet Tournament is postponed, and is currently being worked to be incorporated into the Kingdom Feast on the weekend of October 16th-18th. The reign of Their Majesties King Christian III and Queen Helene III has been extended to that time as well.

Similarly, the Tir Righ June Coronet will be rescheduled.

## FROM THE BARON AND BARONESS

There is a long tradition of telling stories while plague rages around us. Chaucer and Boccasio are two names associated with this tradition but whenever people have hunkered down to weather a storm, there has been an urge, a need, to share our stories.

I'd like to share one with all of you if I may. You may have heard it before and it may or may not have deeper meaning. Mostly it is just my favourite memory of one of my favourite people ever.

In the mists of time, long before Seagirt was a Barony, and only a few years after An Tir had become a Kingdom, an intrepid young man attended his first SCA event, your humble author. Wearing the saddest of garb - truly it was awful, there may be pictures - I attended classes all day for a two-day Ithra session held, as they usually were in those days, in the Clearihue building, C wing I think.

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Many of the basics were taught including, Introduction to the SCA, presented by His Excellency Gerhard Kendal of Westmoreland, Baron Lions Gate. He was a Knight and Laurel and a Pelican. A Court Baron of the Kingdom of the West, and a soft-spoken evangelist for the coolest hobby a first-year university student could imagine. Well, this one anyway.

For four hours he told us tales of a backyard party that grew. He told the origin story of the barony that just came into being because people just started calling it a barony and eventually, it was recognised as official when someone down south found out about it. He danced around a Great Rebellion that created a Kingdom and the tablecloth and beer bottle that gave it heraldry. More than anything though, he gave a young man, coming of age in the mid-1980's, hope for a Society where anyone could explore their interests. He gave us a series of questions I still use today when speaking to newcomers, asking how we decide what it is we do: Is it "medieval"? Is it fun? Is it safe?

He emphasized that the first two questions were often reversed in order and both were often interpreted pretty loosely, and the third allowed for modifications and acceptable risk.

But it was the ANYONE part that stuck with me. It was the fighting that anchored the whole thing and while there have been, and remain many issues, he emphasized that ANYONE wearing armour on the field was a "fighter". There were no restrictions on who could be a fighter so long as they were interested and could follow the rules. This concept extended to the whole of The Society. Follow your interests, pursue your craft, and you could rise to the highest "rank". ANYONE who joined was presumed to be gentle unless they proved otherwise by their words or deeds.

Over the years that sentiment was challenged and we grew and changed to make it more true. We are still making it more true today. In a time when the outside world is coming to terms with injustice and bigotry we are trying to make The Dream a reality for all who would participate. And as I face the current world of plague and division I remember a moment at the potluck feast. That Baron who had spent all day teaching, and would spend all the next doing the same, asked if he could sit with William and I.

He placed his bowl and mug down and sat across the table from us. He spoke to us and answered our earnest queries without judgement or weariness. He took the time to make us feel like a part of the group while at the same time maintaining a sense of humour. His evangelism was honest and often mocking of the whole enterprise, but the love of the people and the game shone through.

So now that I am a Baron, 35 years later, I look forward to speaking to new faces and making them feel as welcome as I did. It will be both a challenge and a pleasure. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to try.



## **SEALION: A WAR OF WORDS**



An unofficial, virtual war took place the weekend of May 22 to 24th, as the populace of Seagirt and Lions Gate alike rallied together to compete in a grand tournament of words, deed, art, song, and of course, feast! Many thanks to the lovely event steward who so cleverly adjusted to the circumstances, to the judges for their service, and to the populace for their contributions to the competition! The total tally was 4 points to Lions Gate, and 1 point to Seagirt, but the judges jointly decided to call the war a tie! Next year, we will be sure to beat them with unscrupulous force, no doubt.



# ONLINE A&S



Join us every Tuesday from 7PM - 9PM for a virtual A&S social!

Click the link on the Facebook page and sign up for a free Zoom account to participate!

The first Tuesday of every month does not have a gathering, or will start later, so as not to interfere with Baronial Curia, so keep an eye on the Facebook forum!

June 2020

# QUARANTINE PROJECTS OF THE

**POPULACE** 

Our Populace remains active! If you would like your projects showcased, emails details and pictures to

seagirt.chronicler@tirrigh.org



From Lady Isabella da Firenze: Japanese indigo plants. She will have an article about growing indigo in the upcoming edition of the Sentinel!

From Mistress Morgaine Essex: This is 22 count cross stitch approximately 16 inches square, stitched with DMC cotton embroidery floss. It will eventually be the top of a pillow.



# Officers of Seagirt

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# Royalty & Contacts

## KINGDOM OF AN TIR



Photo by: unknown

King Christian Bane and Queen Hélène d'Anjou

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### PRINCIPALITY OF TIR RIGH

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Photo by: Sophia of Constantinople