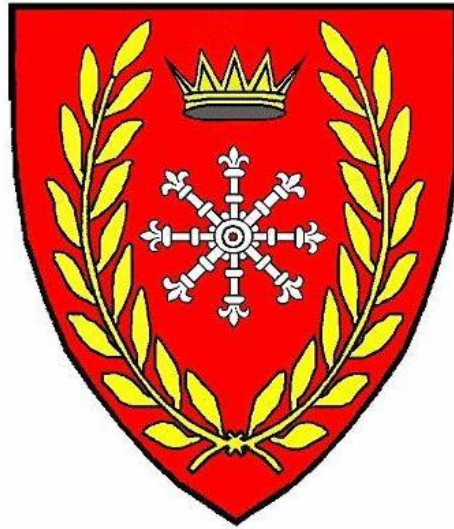


The History of the



Kingdom of Æthelmearc

by: Dame Hrefna Ulfvarinnsdottir

A History of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc

Prologue

The Kingdom of Æthelmearc consists of the modern areas of western and central New York, western and central Pennsylvania and all of West Virginia. It was once the western regions of our parent, the Kingdom of the East. Our journey to become a kingdom began with the founding of the Marche-Debatable Lands, which takes its name from the lands that were in the same position during the wars between England and Scotland in the 16th century⁹², in September A.S VIII (1973)¹ Its borders were roughly equivalent to modern day Æthelmearc, minus the areas of New York and a few in Pennsylvania, as seen in the map to the right created in A.S. IX (1975) by Baron Robert de la Tor Fraisse.



I. Forming the Principality

There were a number of attempts in this region to become a Principality, dating back to at least A.S. IX (1975),² but the movement that finally lead to the Principality of Æthelmearc began in A.S. XXI (1986) and culminated with a polling beginning at Twelfth Night on January 1, A.S. XXIII (1989).³

BMDL map (1975)⁵⁸
Photo by Laird
Grimolfr Ormalfrson

On October 11, A.S. XXII, the day after the Coronation of Morguhn II and Rowan II, 40th Monarchs of the Kingdom of the East (October 10, A.S. XXII [1987] to April 16, A.S. XXII [1988]), a meeting was held at the home of Mistress Arianna of Wynthrope in the Barony of the Rhydderich Hael to discuss the possibility of the Western Region becoming a principality. Over 25 members representing eight groups attended this meeting which was moderated by Lord Andreas Hak, the Western Region Seneschal. He charged those present with a mission: “To marshal people of differing opinions into coherent action.”¹¹³

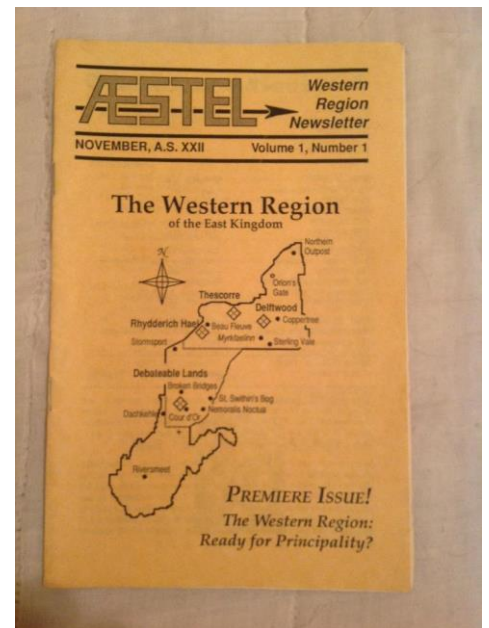
Items discussed at this meeting included an explanation of how principalities work and forming a plan to educate the populace in the region about principalities, to document how “our proposed principality” would operate, and to find ways to collect feedback from the Society members in the Western Region. Once these steps were completed, the next would be a formal polling of the regional membership on the question of becoming a principality. The creation of a new principality would only move forward if this polling returned favorable results.¹¹³

With a general plan now in place an Action Committee was formed to get the principality process started. The committee was formed that day, but remained open to those who might want to join at a later date. The initial members included:

<u>SCA Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Committee Role</u>
Andrea Hak	Western Regional Seneschal	Rhydderich Hael	Chairman
Morghun Sheridan	HRM of the East	Coopertre	Kingdom Feedback
Zahava Tchauchik	---	Rhydderich Hael	SCA Laws Research
Marian Greenleaf	Seneschal	BMDL	Names Research
Arianna of Wynthrope	---	Rhydderich Hael	Heraldic Research
Bertram of Bearington	East Kingdom Historian	BMDL	Education & Newsletter
Gwendolyn of Basing	Seneschal	Thescore	Group Feedback
Bear the Wallsbane	Western Regional Marshal	Stormsport	Group Feedback
Magnus de Cnoic an Iora	Exchequer	BMDL	Group Feedback
Kristin Ailbe Ainmchaid	---	Morgantown, WV	Group Feedback
Rhiannon the Curious	---	Coppertree	Group Feedback ¹¹³

The Western Region Principality Action Committee then set the schedule for the next two meetings with the first to be held on December 5, A.S. XXII (1987) in the BMDL two hours before the start of classes at the University of the East Kingdom event. The second meeting was scheduled for January 9, A.S. XXII (1988) at the Rhydderich Hael Twelfth Night or possibly the day after.¹¹³

Another major development came with the creation of The AEstel to serve as the newsletter for the Western Region featuring articles and information of interest to the people of the area, especially in regards to the principality creation. Bertram of Bearington took up this task at the request of Andreas Hak to become the first chronicler for the region (by the time we became a Principality we were on our third chronicler).¹¹³ Bertram loved wordplay and puns. He liked the idea of relating the name of the Western Region newsletter to the East Kingdom's newsletter, called "Pikestaff." The word "æstel" derives from the Latin word, "hastula", which means short spear, hence a small pikestaff. However, an æstel is actually a pointer used when reading which is similar to a bookmark so he thus combined two puns in a word that begins with the same Æ character as the name of the Kingdom.⁵ The first issue of "The AEstel" appeared in November, A.S XXII (1987),⁸ and it still serves the kingdom as of this writing.



The cover of the first newsletter of The Western Region, The AEstel by Master Bertram of Bearington. The photo is also by Master Bertram of Barrington⁸

As preparations to become a Principality got underway, many discussions took place about what the new Principality would look like. Proposed laws and policies were written and a unique thing to emerge from these efforts was the decision not to register arms for the Princess (and eventually the Queen) for three reasons: 1) it was not a period practice for the consort to have arms that differed from the ruler; 2) the belief that the Coronet/Crown should speak with one voice; and 3) the question of who would bear the Princess'/Queen's arms should a woman win Coronet/Crown by her own hand. This decision caused some confusion with the East Kingdom heralds who insisted that Princess'/Queen's arms did need to be registered and led to a ruling from the Laurel Queen of Arms, the Society Herald, who determined that there was no requirement for such arms. It is now the policy of the Society Herald that Consort Arms are no longer allowed to be passed.⁴

(a) Name

Another important feature of these discussions was, of course, the naming of the new Principality and the creation of arms. This was accomplished by soliciting name and device submissions from the populace. Then these submissions were displayed at events where the populace was asked to vote for their choices by placing tokens into cups. When the choices from the eight device submissions and three name submissions (The Lakes, Ethelmark, and Magoland).were narrowed down to two each, they went on the Principality polling.⁵

The name that won in the polling, the Principality of the Lakes, submitted by John the Pell⁵³, was returned for being in conflict with the Lakes District in England. The Arms were resubmitted with the second name choice devised by Lord Alfredo el Bufon. His original entry was spelled Ethelmark, but the Principality Committee didn't like that so they changed it to Æthelmark. Once it went to the heralds, they noted that Æthelmark was a mixture of Old English and Anglo-Saxon. The rules of the College of Heralds require the languages to be consistent so this was not passable.²⁶ Two spelling alternatives were offered by the College: Athelmark or Æthelmarc, and the populace expressed a preference for the latter, Æthelmarc. The name was created by combining the mid tenth century (time of King Æthelstan) words of "Æthel", which means noble, and "marc", which means border, to create the invented place name of Æthelmarc,⁵⁷ and was chosen because we are the borderlands between the Kingdoms of the East and the Midrealm.⁶ The special character, Æ, used in the name comes from Old English and is known as an aesh or ash.⁷

(b) Arms

The kingdom Arms were designed by Arianna of Wynthrope. She chose the escarbuncle because in heraldry it is considered to be a stylized rendition of a shield boss, and it had several layers of meaning - the shield boss for Pennsic and its resemblance to a snowflake for the northern parts of Æthelmarc which are notoriously snowy in winter. She offered the design with several

background colors (green, per saltire green and black, blue, and red), to the Principality Committee at a meeting. Arianna only wanted to submit one since they were all very similar. Morguhn Sheridan, who was the King of the East at the time, expressed a preference for the red background and that was the design that was submitted. Other designs were also submitted by Barak Sir Mago and Sir Andreas Hak.⁵ The blazon for the winning device is: gules escarbuncle argent within a laurel wreath and in chief a coronet Or.⁷¹

II. Approval of the Principality

By March of A.S. XXIII (1989), the 400-some member populace of the Western Region indicated its support for a Principality. On April 15, A.S. XXIII (1989), Morguhn III and Maurya, King and Queen of the East, appointed Mistress Cassadoria Finialla, who had just completed her term on the Society's Board of Directors, as Lady Protector of Æthelmearc until such time as a Coronet List could be held and the victors invested as Prince and Princess.³

Through the diligent efforts of many dedicated gentles, the Seneschal of the East was able to send an impressive and enthusiastic petition for a new Principality in the western East Kingdom, and the Seneschal and Heirs of the East wrote to express their support for the petition. As the East Kingdom had become very large, it was believed that a new Principality would benefit both the group and the kingdom in many ways. At its meeting on July 22, XXXIV (1989), the Board of Directors agreed that the petition package was excellent and displayed great unity among the peoples of the western East Kingdom. The only concern was the lack of an approved name due to the first choice being sent back as in conflict. It was unclear if a new name could be processed in time for the proposed date of the first Coronet in September of that year. The members of the Board agreed to vote on the petition as presented and approved it with the hope that Laurel's schedule would permit consideration of the recently submitted second name before the scheduled tourney, or that an agreement could be worked out to register the Principality's arms under a "holding name" while another name was processed.⁹ The name "Principality of Æthelmearc" was registered via the East Kingdom in September A.S XXV (1989).¹⁰

III. The Birth of Æthelmearc

The new Principality's first event was Pennsic XVIII where Æthelmearc had a pavilion on the battlefield which included list ropes decorated with pennons displaying the Principality's badge, and fighters were invited to gather there. They also had musicians playing while the Lady Protector sat in state.⁴⁷



**The Shield of Chivalry
Created by Mark of the
Potted Shamrock and
Raymond von Zell. It was
presented to the
Principality by Remus
Fletcher.⁶²
Photo by: Mark of the
Potted Shamrock⁶³**

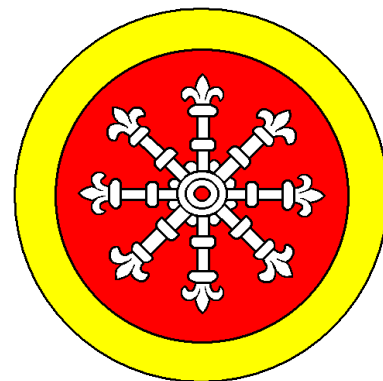
Our first Coronet Tourney was held on September 23, A.S. XXIV (1989) at the Bristol 4H Camp in the Barony of Thescorre with a field of 26 contenders. The event was autocrated by was autocrated by Lady Orianna vander Delft of Winfield (later known as Orianna Fridrikskona) and Lord Fridirkr Tomasson av Knusslig Hamn⁸⁵ along with apprentice autocrats Lady Maire Dromond and Bronwy coes y Rhosyn. The Chief Cook was Lady sine ni Moriag with assistants Lady Adren cuFaol, Mistress Michaelae Del Vaga, and Stevan Wolfgang auf Ravensburg. Lydia Branwen and Lord Andreas Syndikus Drachenfreund provided art work for the site booklet. Lady Kilde Jurgenstochtor and Alison of the Many Isles handled children’s activities, and Lady Aelis provided music for the day.¹¹⁵

Tarbold Celerius prevailed that day against Haakon Oaktall¹¹ fighting for Lady Eleanor of Waldren⁸⁵ to win the Coronet for Cainer of Loch Suili. The semifinalists were Random Wronghand and Sir Alexander Caithness. Tarbold and Cainer were named the Lord and Lady Protector of the Principality of Æthelmearc until such time as They could be invested as Prince and Princess.⁸⁵

On December 2, A.S. XXIV (1989) in the Barony of the Rhydderich Hael, Tarbold and Cainer were invested as the first Prince and Princess of Æthelmearc by King Horic and Queen Lea of the East as the first in a line of 16 Princes and Princesses³ Their Investiture was autocrated by Glynis Ciara of Trawsfynydd and Maeve Ni Siurtain.⁸⁹ In their first court, Tarbold and Cainer gave Awards of Arms to Ragnar of Elandris and Aiobheil of Dun Holen.¹²

IV. Principality

At the time our first Coronets were invested, the Principality consisted of four Baronies: The Marche of the Debatable Lands (Pittsburgh, PA), Thescorre (Rochester, NY), the Rhydderich Hael (Buffalo, NY), and Delftwood (Syracuse, NY); seven Shires: Coppertree (Utica, NY), Sterlynge Vayle (Binghamton, NY), Stormsport (Erie, PA), St. Swithin’s Bog (Johnstown, NY), Misty Highlands (Morgantown, WV), and Riversmeet (Charleston, WV); and the canton of Beau Fleuve (Niagara Falls, NY), the College of Cour d’Or (several colleges in Pittsburgh, PA) and the Dominion of Myrkfaelinn (Ithaca, NY)³, which is unique because it’s the only independent dominion in the Society as their charter, written in Icelandic, expresses their allegiance to an individual king, not to a kingdom.¹³



Populace badge of Æthelmearc⁷⁶

Tarbold and Cainer established the Principality’s Service and Arts Orders, the Keystone and the Sycamore, at the first Principality Twelfth Night on January 6, A.S XXIV (1990)³ in the Barony- Marche of the Debatable Lands. The Keystone was so named in part because Pennsylvania is the “Keystone State” and the symbolism of holding things together. Andreas Hak was named as the Principal of this Order¹⁴ for his extensive work in bringing the Principality to fruition. The

Sycamore was named for the trees that are ubiquitous to the region,¹⁵ and Maurya Etain Sableswan⁶ was inducted as the Principal. The Martial Order, the Golden Alce, was created on February 10, A.S. XXIV (1990) at 4th Annual St. Valentine's Day Tourney and Feast in the Shire of Stormsport. Alexander Caithness of Wyk was named as the Principal with Co-Principals Gwilym o'r Afonydd Tair for Archery, Brother Justinian of Rakovec for Rapier, and Berengaria of the Hounds for Armored Combat.¹⁶

February 24, A.S. XXIV (1990) saw Tarbold and Cainer preside over the Principality's second Coronet Tourney in the Shire of Misty Highlands where the day was won by Yngvar the Dismal for Hodierna Miriglee of Lincludin.¹⁷ On March 17, A.S. XXIV (1990) at the 14th Annual Festival of the Passing of the Ice Dragon in the Barony of the Rydderich Hael, the Courtesy Award, the Cornelian, made its debut, with Aaron Faheud Swiftrunner being inducted as the Principal.¹⁸

By the end of Tarbold and Cainer's reign on June 2, A.S. XXV (1990), the Shires of Nithgaard (State College, PA), Endless Hills (Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, PA), and River's Mist [soon to become Abhain Ciach Ghlais (Williamsport, PA)] successfully petitioned the East to join Æthelmearc. Over the next four Reigns (June 2, A.S. XXIV (1990) to June 6, A.S. XXVII (1992), the Principality gained several new Branches: the Shires of Hornwood (Punxsutawney, PA), Hunter's Home (New Castle, PA), Robledal (Indiana, PA), Port Oasis (Huntington, WV), Afengara (Wheeling, WV), and Lofty Mountain (Beckley, WV) and the Canton of Steltonwald (Beaver, PA).³

When Yngvar I and Hodierna (June 2, AS XXV [1990] - December 1, AS XXV [1990]) took the thrones as the 2nd Coronets in the Barony of Delftwood on June 2, A.S. XXV (1990), They awarded Patents of Arms to Tarbold and Cainer, creating them the 1st Viscount and Viscountess of Æthelmearc. They also created Cainer as the first Lady of the Garnet, the Principality Order for former consorts.¹⁹

The Reign of Alexander and Rainnveigr, 3rd Coronets, (December 1, A.S. XXV [1990] to June 1, A.S. XXVI [1991]) brought the first Prince and Princess Royale in Their Highness' twins, Andy and Deedee. This reign also featured new thrones commissioned by Alexander for Rainnveigr for Their Investiture that came to be known as the Jeweled Thrones. They were carved by Baron Don Seamus O' Caireallain in less than a month's time. As of the writing of this paper in November, A.S. L (2015), these thrones are still in active service to the Kingdom of Æthelmearc.²⁰

Through the work of His Highness Alexander and Cedric the Humble,²¹ combat archery came to the battle field. The first official event to feature this new martial form was Æthelmearc War Practice on May 18, 1991 in the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands. (This area becomes the BMDL's Canton of Stelton Wald [registered spelling] in 1993.). An Atlantian marshal, Ariadne Flaxenhair of Dragon's End, authorized the first seven combat archers in the Principality. Cedric the Humble, Charles of Alden, and Kyriel Hawkmoon, Eric Brehattin, were among their number.²²

As the Principality celebrated its fifth year, the Shires of Riversmeet, Port Oasis and Lofty Mountain joined to form our fifth Barony, Blackstone Mountain. By this time, the Shires of Sylvan Glen (Harper's Ferry, WV), Beinn de na Preasssan (Altoona, PA), and Sunderoak (Butler, PA) and the Canton of Wintersedge (Hamburg, NY) had formed. The Stronghold of Orion's Gate, which would later become the Shire of Wynterset, ⁶⁰ (Fort Drum/Watertown, NY) emerged from a long dormancy.³

At the Investiture of Ariel and Angharad, 5th Coronets, (January 11, AS XXVI [1991] - June 6, AS XXVII ([1992]), a small group of people from the southern part of the Rhydderich Hael, which later in Their reign becomes the Shire of Herontir, gifted them with 33 dozen cookies to celebrate their Investiture.⁸¹ Ariel and Angharad also introduced the Principality's Youth Award, the Silver Buccle, with Eilonwy of Dragon's Hollow (later known as Ruth of Dragon's Hollow⁸³) as the Principal at the second annual Black Stone Raid in the Shire of Port Oasis on March 28, A.S. XXXVI (1992).⁸²

As the Principality continued to grow, the need to have a standardized schedule for Investitures and Coronet Tourneys became clear for a number of reasons. Chief among them were that Princes and Princesses were spending an irregular number of months on the throne, Heirs were also waiting an irregular number of months to assume the throne, holding Coronet Tourneys in the cold winter months was proving problematic, and the desire to avoid conflicting with East Kingdom Coronations and Crown Tourneys. By the time of the reign of the 6th Coronet, Princess Akiley and Prince Bear I, who always asked that the name of his Princess be listed first,⁷⁸ (June 6, A.S. XXVII [1992] - September 12, A.S. XXVII [1992]), it had become clear that this situation needed to be address. Akiley and Bear had the choice of serving a longer reign of nine months or a shorter reign of three months in order to establish a new rotation for these events. They chose to take the shorter reign thus moving Fall Investiture into September and standardizing reigns as being six months long. Since that time, our Investitures and Coronet Tourneys and then our Coronations and Crown Tourneys have followed closely to that schedule.⁷⁹

Christopher and Maurya, 7th Coronet, (September 12, A.S. XXVII [1992] - March 27, A.S. XXVII [1993]), became the first Prince and Princess to be invested under the new event rotation on September 12, A.S. XXVII (1992) in the Canton of Beau Fleuve.⁸⁰

The Reign of Judith and Bear II, 8th Coronets, (March 27, AS XXVII [1992] - September 11, AS XXVIII [1993]) saw the creation of the Jewel of Æthelmearc to recognize up to one subject per Reign for their efforts in all fields of Societal endeavor. The first recipient was Their Heir, Sir Haakon Oaktall in Their Court on August 19 1993 at Pennsic XXII.²³

V. Advancement to Kingdom

The movement to become a Kingdom began in A.S. XXVIII (1993-94), and by the time of the 15th Coronet Tourney on May 26, A.S XXXI (1996) in the Shire of Coppertree during the reign of Yngvar II and Caryl, 14th Coronets (March 23, A.S. XXX [1996] - September 14, A.S. XXXI

[1997]), proposed laws and petitions had been prepared and the polling started on Memorial Day weekend, A.S. XXXI (1996). By late June, the 900-some members of the Principality expressed their support for a Kingdom³. With the move to becoming a kingdom firmly underway, there was some concern in the Kingdoms of the East and the Midrealm over the fate of the Great Pennsic War, which by now was a 25 year tradition between these two mighty kingdoms, since the site where the event is held would now be in the new Kingdom of Æthelmearc. At Pennsic XXV (August A.S. XXXI [1996]), the Middle Kingdom Seneschale, Duchess Lisa Delorosa, the East Kingdom Seneschale, Baroness Rhainnon the Curious, and the Æthelmearc Seneschale, Mistress Orianna Fridrikskona, signed the Pennsic Treaty, which stated that Æthelmearc will not interfere with the running of the event and that the East and the Midrealm will keep Æthelmearc informed since our seneschal would now bear the legal responsibility for the event.²⁴ (See Appendix A for the full text.)

On October 19, A.S. XXXI (1996) at the East Kingdom University in the Shire of St. Swithin's Bog, the 15th Prince and Princess, Rurik and Elspeth (September 14, AS XXXI [1996] - April 5, AS XXXI [1997]), learned that the Board had approved the Kingdom petition³. On June 7, A.S. XXXII (1997), Her Highness, Susan of Fox Meadow, the 16th and final Coronet of the Principality of Æthelmearc presided over Æthelmearc's First Crown Tourney in the Shire of Endless Hills. She completed her reign without Kyl the Wild because he was called away on other matters.²⁵

So it was in the presence of the Crowns of the East, Hanse and Moruadh, and the Crowns of Atlantia, CuÆn III and Bera, Susan of Fox Meadow witnessed as Sir Yngvar the Dismal, 2nd and 14th Viscount of Æthelmearc, prevailed over a field of 41 entrants to win the Crown for his soon-to-be-bride, Caryl Olesdottir, 14th Viscountess of Æthelmearc. Finally, on September 20, A.S. XXXII (1997), Hanse and Moruadh, King and Queen of the East held Their final court in the Principality of Æthelmearc. They released the landed Barons & Baronesses, peers, and officers of Æthelmearc from their oaths of fealty; They awarded Arms to Bethoc of Ravenswood; and created Susan of Fox Meadow as the last Viscountess and last Lady of the Garnet. With this business being taken care of, Hanse and Moruadh then closed the Principality.⁸⁶

Noting the lack of someone to rule over the new Kingdom, King Hanse called for the winner of Æthelmearc's Crown Tournament to come forward. Crown Prince Yngvar, wearing a black brocade tunic, did so, then when Queen Moruadh and King Hanse asked if there was a lady to rule by his side, Yngvar summoned his new bride, Crown Princess Caryl, wearing a white brocade houppelande with long hanging sleeves lined in black satin and a black satin belt bearing the badge of the Kingdom in velvet, pearls and gold braid. She joined him on the dais. Once there, Prince Yngvar requested that, since she was first in inspiration to him, that Caryl be crowned first. King Hanse and Queen Moruadh found this request fitting and obliged by crowning Caryl as Queen. Yngvar then asked that he be allowed to be the first knight to swear his fealty to the Crown of Æthelmearc and gave his promise kneeling before his Queen. After receiving Yngvar's oath, Queen Caryl, along with King Hanse and Queen Moruadh, placed the

Crown upon Yngvar's brow. King Yngvar then turned to the populace and welcomed them to the Kingdom of Æthelmearc, to the loud cheers, stamping of feet and applause of the populace.²⁶

VI. Kingdom

During Their first court, Yngvar and Caryl created Mistress Orianna Fridrikskona a Baroness of Their court in thanks for her work as Seneschal in making the Kingdom a reality and which greeted with a standing ovation from the populace²⁷. Their Majesties retained the Principality's Orders and Awards,³ and received an ambassador from King Palymar III and Queen Aislinn I⁸⁷ of the Midrealm who were also being invested that same day. Ailgheanan I and Calleja, King and Queen of Meridies⁸⁷ sent Viscountess Hodierna Miriglee of Lincludin and Irene von Schmetterling⁸⁸ as Their ambassadors who carried Their pledge to fight by Æthelmearc's side, without question or negotiation, for a single cause.⁸⁶

(a) First Peers

On October 4, A.S. XXXII (1997) at the 4th Annual Harvest Raid in the Shire of Heronter, Yngvar and Caryl created the first peerages given by the new Kingdom, elevating Cori

Ghora to the Order of the Pelican and presenting her Æthelmearc's ancestral Pelican medallion (See Appendix B for the story of this medallion).

Alison of the Many Isles was elevated to the Order of the Laurel; and Sigenoth (Cygnus) the Blissful was elevated to the Order of Chivalry.²⁸ The new

monarchs had recently signed the White Scarf Treaty, an interkingdom grant level Order to recognize excellence in the Rapier community²⁹ and named Rian

Gortyroyan as the Principal at that same day.²⁸

(b) Kingdom Orders of High Merit

On the following weekend of October 11, A.S. XXXII (1997) at Crown Tournament in the Barony of Thescorre, Their Majesties established the Orders of High Merit which bear a Grant of Arms. For Service, They named Juliana Richenda Trevain as the Principal of what would later become known as the Order of the Millrind.³⁰ Connor M'Elean offered the use of



Æthelmearc Ancestral Pelican Medallion - Photograph by Dame Hrefna Ulfvarinnssdottir¹⁰¹



The White Scarf Treaty Master Rian Gortyroyan distributed copies to the members of the Order in Æthelmearc. Corwyn Montgomery scanned the document so it could be added to their webpage circa 2003.¹⁰⁹

his own badge, (Fieldless) A millrind argent, registered in September of XXXII (1997) via Æthelmearc for this Order's badge.¹⁵ It was officially transferred to the Kingdom of Æthelmearc in November of XXXIII (1998).³¹ For the Arts & Sciences, Their Majesties chose Aralyn Thorgrimsdottir (later known as Geirny Thorgrimsdottor) as the Principal.³⁰ The first name considered for this award was the Order of the Nightingale but it was later changed to the Order of the Fleur d'Æthelmearc.¹⁵ For Rattan, James Ahearn was inducted as the Principal in what would later become known as the Order of the Gage³⁰ The Order of High Merit for Archery, later to be called the Order of the Scarlet Guard, was created on October 18 XXXII (1997) at the Clash of the Peons in the Shire of Abhain Ciach Ghlais with Thomas Spence Colby as the Principapal.³²

King Yngvar and Queen Caryl also presided over the elevation of Endless Hills as Æthelmearc's sixth Barony on January 24 A.S. XXXII (1998).³³ Port Oasis returned to Shire Status, the Canton of Riversmeet became a College, the Canton of Lofty Mountain dissolved into Blackstone Mountain, and the Shire of Beinn de na Preassean dissolved during Their reign.³

Æthelmearc's 2nd Crowns, Christopher I and Maurya I, (April 4, AS XXXII [1998] - September 19, AS XXXIII [1998], 7th Viscount and Viscountess of Æthelmearc, presided over the elevation of St. Swithin's Bog as the Kingdom's 7th Barony on July 18 A.S. XXXIII (1998).³⁴ They were also the first King and Queen of Æthelmearc to reign at Pennsic where they elevated the first female knight of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc, Rowan de la Garnison, to the Order of the Chivalry at Pennsic XXVII on August 14, A.S. XXXIII (1998).³⁵ Sir Rowan would go on to later become the second quadruple peer in Æthelmearc and one of a handful of female quadruple peers in Society.³⁶ Rowan became the 6th Duchess of the East on April 16, A.S. XXII (1988) and 29th Countess of the East on October 5 A.S. XX (1985).⁶⁵ Her three other peerages came from Æthelmearc where she was knighted as previously mentioned, elevated to the Order of the Pelican on July 8, A.S. XXXV (2000) by James I and Elina I,⁶⁶ and to the Order of the Laurel on April 18, A.S. XLIII (2009) by Christopher II and Morgen II in Their final court.⁶⁷

Morguhn I and Meirwen I, 10th and 13th Viscount and Viscountess of Æthelmearc, also reigned as the 3rd Crowns of Æthelmearc (September 19 AS XXXIII [1998] - March 27, AS XXXIII [1999]) They created Maurya Etain Sableswan, 7th Viscountess of Æthelmearc and 34th Countess of the East, as the first duchess of Æthelmearc on September 19, A.S. XXXIII (1998) in the opening court of Their reign in the Canton of Beau Fleuve.³⁷ They also created the Order of High Merit for Other Martial Forms, (thrown weapons, equestrian, etc.), the White Horn, on January 2, A.S. XXXII (1999) at Æthelmearc Twelfth Night in the Shire of Coppertree and named Connor MacLiam as the Principal.³⁸

Cygnus I and Dorinda I, 4th Crowns, (March 27, AS XXXIII [1999] - September 18, AS XXXIV [1999]), elevated Jehan de la Marche to the Order of the Pelican on August 20, A.S. XXXIII [1999] in the Great Court at Pennsic XXVIII [38] thus creating the first quadruple peer in the Kingdom of Æthelmearc.⁶⁴ Jehan received his Royal peerage as the 8th Count of the East on

January 6, A.S. VII (1973). He became a Master of the Laurel in the Middle on May 8, A.S. VI (1971) and a Knight of the East on September 23, A.S. VII (1972)⁶⁵

The reign of Christopher II and Maurya II, 5th Monarchs of Æthelmearc (September 18, A.S. XXIV [1999] to April 8, A.S. XXXIV [2000]), marked the first time Kingdom Twelfth night was held in an historic building, the Starrucca House in the Barony of Endless Hills (Susquehanna, Pennsylvania), which dates to the Civil War era and is one of the last standing brick hotel-train stations in the United States. It featured an original Civil War flag hanging in the proper ballroom. The ballroom itself was painted in pale blue and cream with buttresses, columns, and arches and a super-high ceiling resembling something from Beauty and the Beast. The on-site working kitchen, restaurant and bar supplemented the event offerings.

Lady Aoife Finn served as the autocrat. She was expecting it to be cold in January and thought that would keep attendance down, but temperatures ran into the 60's and with fighting and fencing both being offered, people showed up from not only Æthelmearc, but the East, the Middle, and Atlantia as well. They stopped counting attendance of 350 as fire code only allowed for 380 occupants, but folks continued to show up. Dame Aoife believes over 400 people attended the event.¹¹⁶

James I and Elina I, the 6th Crowns of Æthelmearc (April 8, AS XXXIV [2000] - September 16, AS XXXV [2000]) created Christopher of York as the 1st Duke of Æthelmearc at Their Coronation on April 8, A.S. XXXIV (2000) in the Shire of Sterlynge Vayle.³⁹ Their Majesties also sought to encourage hound coursing as a Kingdom activity and so created the Pack of the Sylvan Hounds, recognizing two hounds, Odette and Jasper, as the Principals of the Pack on July 15, AS XXXV (2000) at The Hunt in Their Shire of Stormsport.⁴⁰

The reign of Andrew & Alexandra, 9th King and Queen of Æthelmearc saw the creation and chartering of the Regiment of the Southern Watch (referred to as the Southron Watch in its charter) at Kingdom Twelfth Night in the Barony of the Rhydderich Hael January 12, AS XXXVI (2002).⁹⁹ This is a unit of interested fencers living in the southern parts of the kingdom dedicated to promoting and teaching rapier skills, especially the use of the rapier in melee battles. They strive to serve as exemplars to excellence in the Arte of Defense before the Kingdom and the Known World, to organize themselves and create such Rankes, Awards & Standards as deemed fitting & proper in keeping with the law and policies of the kingdom, and to promote good fellowship amongst the fencers of Æthelmearc. Members of this unit are identified by the signifier and symbol of the foliage and flower of the dogwood tree.¹⁰⁰

During The Reign of James II and Elina II, 10th King and Queen of Æthelmearc (April 6, AS XXXVI [2002]-September 28, AS XXXVII [2002]), the Order of the Silver Alce was created to recognize the excellence of our youth in the martial arts. On August 16, A.S. XXXVII (2002) Wulfgar mab Graedwyn was inducted as the Principal of this Order in Æthelmearc's Royal Encampment at Pennsic XXXI.⁵⁹

The Reign of Rurik I and Elspeth, (September 28, AS XXXVII [2002] - April 5, AS XXXVII [2003]), the 11th Crowns, witnessed Daniel O'Rian the Fletcher being inducted as the Principal into the Order of the Silver Sycamore, established to recognize the work of our youth artisans, in Their last court at the Coronation of Christopher III and Maurya III (April 5, AS XXXVII [2003]- September 20, AS XXXVIII [2004]) in the Shire of Hunter's Home on April 5, A.S. XXXVII (2004).⁴²

The 13th Crown of Æthelmearc, Henri I, (September 20, AS XXXVIII [2003] - April 17, AS XXXVIII [2004]), who reigned alone because his Princess abdicated before Their Coronation, announced in his final court on April 17, AS XXXVIII [2004]) at the Coronation of Maynard I and Christina in the Canton of Beau Fleuve, the creation of the Order of Martial Authenticity to recognize authenticity in dress. He named Connor Bowsplitter and Alea Bagah as the archery Co-Principals; Christian Amaury de Launey as the rapier Principal, and Aengus MacBain as heavy weapons Principal.⁴³ This Order was later renamed as the Order of the Golden Stirrup in A.S. XLIII (2008)⁴⁴

During Henri's reign, the Rose Royal Tournament, held at the Feast of the Bears in the Shire of Stormsport on March 27, A.S. XXXVIII (2004), featured both rapier and heavy weapons combat for the first time. The Ladies of the Rose and of the Garnet chose these victors: His Grace, Sir Ragnvaldr Jonsson, heavy weapons martial prowess; Don Christian Amery de Launey and Don Diego Miguel Munoz de Castilla, joint winners for rapier progress; THLord Marduke Inchmertyn, Galleries' Choice for heavy weapons combat; Lord Colin MacWilliams, Galleries' Choice for rapier combat; Sir Reinhardt von Berchtesgaden, overall heavy weapons champion; and Don Iago Benitez, overall rapier champion.⁹⁰

Maynard I and Christina, the 14th Crowns of Æthelmearc, (April 17, A.S. XXXVIII [2004] - September 18, A.S. XXXIX [2004]), found that rapier was growing in popularity and that rapier melees had come to Pennsic so They named Her Grace, Dorinda Courtenay as the first Rapier Warlord of Æthelmearc at Their Coronation on April 17, AS 38 (2004) in the Canton of Beau Fleuve.⁷² Since then our rapier army has grown in size and renown. They are a force to be reckoned with each year at Pennsic.⁷³ The first Æthelmearc tournament for youth fighters aged six through nine was also held on this day with Quinn emerging as the victor.⁹³

They also changed the method by which the Heavy Weapons Champion (also known as Rattan Champion) is chosen. This honor had been granted to the runner-up in Crown Tourney in previous reigns. Maynard and Christina wanted to create another high profile tourney for the fighters of the kingdom to take part in, something for which they could strive without having to fight in a Crown Tourney. Their Majesties' desire was that the Heavy Weapons Champion should want to hold the position and be ready to defend the crown because they bested all comers at the champion tourney.⁷³

Malcolm I and Tessa I, the 16th Crowns, (April 23, AS XXXIX [2005] - September 24, AS XL [2005]) held Æthelmearc's first Kingdom Heavy Weapons Champion as envisioned by Maynard and Christina on April 30, AS 39 (2005) at the Royal Champions Event in the Shire of

Heronter.⁴⁵ Duke Morghun Sheridan was selected as the Champion that day. They followed that up with the first Youth Combat Championship on May 28, A.S XL (2005) in the Incipient Shire of Riversedge at the Viking Sword and Rose event. William of Talbot's Keep was named the champion of that tourney.⁴⁶ They also held the first Combat Archery Championship and named Lord Morien MacBain the Combat Archery Champion of Æthelmearc on June 4, AS XL (2005) at the Defenders of Sherwood in the Shire of Misty Highlands.⁴⁷

During the reign of Robin and Isabeau, 17th Crowns, (September 24, A.S. XL [2005] - April 22, AS XL [2006]), Her Excellency, Marguerite de la Marche, Seneschal of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc, announced that the Canton of Angels Keep was no longer incipient and had been elevated to a full Canton of the Barony of Delftwood on February 4, A.S XL (2006) at the Feast of the Seven Deadly Sins in the Barony of Delftwood.⁶⁸ Angels Keep would later achieve full shire status five years later on February 12, A.S. XLV (2011).⁶⁹

Malcolm II and Tessa II, 18th Crowns, (April 22, AS XL [2006] - September 16, AS XLI [2006]) created the King's Award of Excellence on June 10, AS XLI (2006) and named Mistress Liadain ni Dheirdre Caomhanaigh the premier recipient of this award at Tournaments Through the Ages in the Shire of Stormsport.⁴⁸ The following weekend, June 17, A.S. XLI (2006), they announced in Their court at Jugglers, Tumblers and Bards in the Shire of Coppertree that the Stonghold of Wynterset was elevated to full shire status.⁷⁰

During Their reign, Lord Constantine of Clan Blackhart threw a Royal Round of 105 at Pax Interruptus on July 8, A.S. XL (2006) in the Barony of Thescore, bringing his average to 101.67 and making him the first thrower in the Kingdom of Æthelmearc to have a Royal Round Average over 100 thus achieving the rank of Marksman.⁸⁴

The reign of Rurik III and Angelik II, 20th King and Queen, (April 14, A.S. XLII [2007] - September 15, A.S. XLIII [2007]) brought Æthelmearc its first unbelted Prince on May 5, A.S. XLII (2007) at Crown Tournament in the Shire of Sterlynge Vayle when The Honorable Lord Duncan von Halstern bested all comers to win the day for his inspiration, Ilish O'Donovan.⁷⁴ He went on to be knighted by King Rurik and Queen Angelik at Pennsic War XXXVI on August 7th, A.S. XLII (2007) in the Shire of Sunderoak. Duncan and Ilish were crowned as the 21st monarchs on September 15, A.S. XLII (2007) in the Shire of Riversedge.⁷⁵

The reign of Khalek I and Branwyn I, 22nd Crowns, (April 12, AS XLII [2008] - September 20, AS XLIII [2008]) brought equestrian activities into the official list of kingdom activities with the induction of Alexander Caithnes of Wyk, 3rd Viscount of Æthelmearc, into the Order of the Millrind for his extensive work on the Kingdom equestrian program on May 31, AS XLIII (2008) at Melee Madness in the Barony of Endless Hills. Their Majesties invited Alexander to speak of the significance of the day's equestrian activities. He explained that three years of development had led to this historic first Æthelmearc Equestrian Championship Tournament. He described those games of skill which were performed by the riders and their horses, and expressed his appreciation for Their Majesties' support of the program. Their Majesties then called forth Their new Kingdom Equestrian Champion, Lady Rhiannon filia Catell. Her Majesty

also offered a token of admiration for the skill of Alexandra Caithnes and named her the Queen's Equestrian Champion.⁴⁹

Their Majesties, Maynard II and Liadain I, 24th King and Queen of Æthelmearc, (April 18, AS XLIII [2009] - September 19, AS XLIII [2009]) announced in Their last court at the Coronation of Henri II and Elena on September 19th, AS XLIV (2009) in the Shire of Stormsport that They had created a new award called the Order of the Golden Thorn to be awarded at the pleasure of the Crown for defense or protection of the Crown. The token of this order is a garter, and there are no scrolls given with it. Their Majesties inducted as the Principals of this new order Sir Otto of Westphalia, Lord Kenshin Sato, Baron Vladisla Nikulich, Lord Jacob of Dunmar, and Lord Tiberius Pinarius Varro.⁵⁰

The 25th Crowns, Henri II and Elena, (September 19, AS XLIV (2009) - April 10, AS XLIV [2010]) announced in Their court at the 32nd Festival of the Passing of the Ice Dragon in the Barony of the Rhydderich Hael on March 27th, AS XLIV (2010) that They were creating a new youth order in the kingdom, the Order of the Stirrup, to recognize youth for martial authenticity in their armor upon the field of combat, and They inducted Lord Rouland of Willowbrook, Aaron the Swift, and Thorstein Thorgrimsson as the Principals of this new order.⁵¹

At this same event, Their Majesties called for the Members of the Scarlet Guard there present to attend Them. Baron Caleb Reynolds spoke for the group, stating that they wished to recognize an historic accomplishment. Lord Eldritch the Owl was called forward and presented a medallion of a Master Bowman for achieving of a royal rounds average score of greater than 80. This feat of skill was made all the more amazing as at the time these scores were shot, Eldritch was 15 years old thus making him the fifth youngest archer ever to achieve this rank in the history of the entire Society.⁹¹

During the reign of Isenwulf and Rosalinda (September 17, AS XLVI [2011] - April 14, AS XLVI (2012)), the 29th Crowns of Æthelmearc, Their Heir, Prince Andreas Morgan, made a major announcement concerning Pennsic at Kingdom Twelfth Night held on January 7, A.S. XLVII (2012) in the Shire of Sylvan Glen. In consultation with The Heirs to the Thrones of the East, Middle, and Atlantia, the upcoming Pennsic War XLI would, for the first time in the event's history, feature an alliance of Æthelmearc and Atlantia to fight against the combined forces of the East and Middle Kingdoms rather than the traditional East versus Middle format.¹⁰⁴

On April 14, A.S. XLVI (2012), King Isenwulf and Queen Rosalinda announced in Their final court at the Coronation of Andreas and Kallista in Shire of Sylvan Glen, the creation of a new and as yet unnamed Order of High Merit honoring accomplishments in combat archery and siege engineering. Lord Morien MacBain was inducted as the Principal for Combat Archery and Sir Maghnus an Chnoic na n'Iora as the Principal for Siege Engineering,⁵² later to become known as the Order of the Scarlett Battery. On that same day, Andreas and Kallista (April 14, AS XLVI [2012] -September 15, AS XLVII [2012]) took the thrones as the 30th Crowns of Æthelmearc, making Andreas the first unbelted King of the realm.⁵²

Maynard III and Liadian II (April 20, AS XLVII [2013] September 21, AS XLVIII [2013]), 32nd Crowns, signed the Treaty of the Golden Lance which establishes in the signatory kingdoms the Order of the Golden Lance, a grant level award, to recognize those who have demonstrated exceptional expertise in the arts of equestrian activities and who have, through service to the equestrian community, advanced those arts and promoted them.⁵⁴ Their Majesties inducted Shishido Tora Gozen as the Principal of this new order on August 24, AS XLVIII (2013) at the Siege of Harlech in the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands.⁵⁵

The reign of Timothy and Gabrielle, 33rd Crowns, (September 21, AS XLVIII [2013] to April 12, AS XLVIII [2014]) saw Lord Robert of Sugargrove named as the First Throne Maker to the King of Æthelmearc for his exemplary crafting of thrones, including the thrones currently in use by both Their Majesties Æthelmearc and Their Majesties East who were in attendance at the event, and a set to be presented to Their Highnesses, Magnus Tindal and Etain, upon Their Coronation on April 12, XLVIII (2014) in the Shire of Sterlynge Vayle.⁵⁶

During the reign of Titus and Anna Leigh, the 35th Monarchs of Æthelmearc, (September 20, AS XIX [2014] to April 11, AS XIX), the Board of Directors held a special conference call on February 2, AS XIX (2015) following their quarterly meeting the previous month in response to the large outpouring of support for the peerage level Order of Defense to recognize rapier and cut thrust. During that call, the Board approved the creation of the Order of Defense and directed the Laurel Sovereign of Arms to submit the name and the related heraldry to the heraldic comment process in preparation for the opening of the Order on May 1, 2015.⁹⁴

Following closely on the heels of this announcement Their Majesties Titus and Anna Leigh informed the populace that They would issue the first Writ for this new Order at the Rapier Muster in the Shire of Silva Vulcani on February 15, AS XIX 92015).⁹⁵ Three days later at the muster, Their Majesties summoned Duchess Dorinda Courtenay into Their court and commanded her to present herself at A Celebration of the Art of Rapier on May 1st, AS L (2015) in the Shire of Herontir to answer if she would accept elevation as the Premier of the Order of Defense in Æthelmearc.⁹⁶

On December 13, AS XIX (2015), Their Majesties' Heirs, Prince Timothy and Princess Gabrielle, brought news of another major change in the Great Pennsic War. Æthelmearc and Atlantia would stand together again East and Midrealm for Pennsic XLIV (44) as these two mighty kingdoms had decided to settle their differences and join forces in an attempt to divide Æthelmearc up amongst themselves. Their Highnesses assured the populace that They would do all They could to rally the Known World in defense of our homeland.⁹⁷

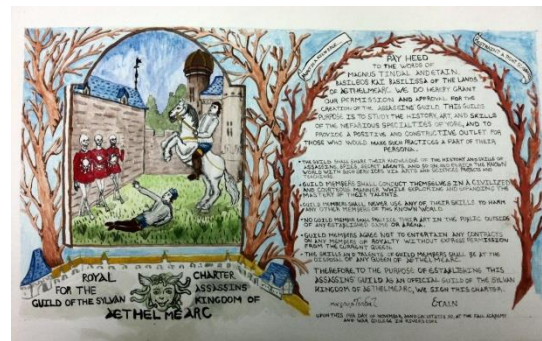
Timothy and Gabrielle, 36th King and Queen of Æthelmearc, (April 11, AS XIX [2015] to September 19, AS L [2015]), elevated Duchess Dorinda Courtenay to the Order of Defense on May 1st, AS L (2015) in the Shire of Herontir at A Celebration of the Art of Rapier, creating her the Premier member of the newly created Order.⁹⁸

A few weeks later in June, Their Majesties announced that the Kingdoms of the East and the Midrealm had decided to join forces in the 44th Annual Great Pennsic War and split Æthelmearc amongst themselves.¹⁰² In August AS L (2015), King Timothy led the Æthelmearc Army and her allies from Atlantia, Ealdormere, Northshields, Ansteorra, Caid, The Tuchux, House Clovenshield and others against the combined forces of the East, the Midrealm, and the Kingdom of Acre. It was a hard fought event with scores that were so close that the monarchs of the three principal kingdoms declared this war a tie.¹⁰³

At the 10th Anniversary of the Agincourt event in the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands during the court of Tindal II and Etain II, 37th Monarchs, (September, A.S. L [2015] to April, A.S. L [2016]), THL Margery Kent of York was inducted the Order of the Sycamore for her many years in the performing arts as part of the Dismal Players, the Debatable Consort, and I Genesii. Their Majesties then called the companions of I Genesii, the second oldest Commedia dell'Arte troupe in the Known World, into Court for a special presentation. Speaking for the group, Lord Angus McDougal told the audience that they wished to celebrate Margery's exemplary work as part of their troupe and presented her with a scroll naming her as Zanni Emerita, and he went on to announce that for the first time in their long history, they were retiring the character of Spinetta, a part that Margery had played with great skill for many years, thus granting her sole designation and ownership of the name of Spinetta.¹⁰³

On November 14, A.S. 50 (2015) at Æthelmearc Æcademy in the Shire of Riversedge, the Imperatori (Magnus and Etain's preferred titles in honor of their Roman personas) called the Assassins Guild before Them. Their Majesties presented them with a signed charter to create them as an official guild of the Kingdom, subject to certain rules and restrictions as outlined in said charter.¹¹⁰

Their charter states that the guild will share its knowledge of the history and skills of assassins, spies, secret agents, and other equivalent persons to enrich the Known World through art and services projects and teaching. It also specifies that their skills and talents will be available to any Queen of Æthelmearc.¹¹¹ Lord Matheus Weasel accepted the position of the first Guild master with Lady Maggie Rue serving as the Deputy Guildmaster.¹¹²



Charter Scroll for the Assassins' Guild
Created by Lady Maggie Rue¹¹¹

Duke Timothy of Arindale invited fighters and fencers to attend the first Adult Swim Fighter and Fencing Practice on February 20 and 21, A.S. 50 (2016) at the Milton Shoe Factory located in the Shire of Abhainn Cicah Ghlais (Milton, Pennsylvania). It started out as a small practice with Duke Timothy hoping for a few knights and Dukes to be in attendance. It turned into something much larger.

Adult Swim attracted some of the premier fighters and fencers from 13 kingdoms across the Society, including Royalty from Æthelmearc, Atlantia, Ealdormere, and the East. Many of Æthelmearc's best fighters turned out for this as well as Dukes and Chivalry from around the Known World. Among them were Duke Gregor von Heisler and Duke Kelson von Heidelberg of the East, Duke Sean Kirkpatrick and Duke Timur Jochan from Artemesia, and Duke Sven Randullsson and Duke Lochlan Dunn from Ansteorra. The heavy fighting featured over 15 classes taught by members of the Chivalry as well as free time for pickup fighting. Fighters were even able to authorize at this practice. During this two day event, 45 royal peers (dukes or counts), and over 100 members of the chivalry, including 6 female knights, attended this practice. Over 400 in total attended this practice.

Fencing classes were coordinated by Doña Elena d'Artois. Master Aedan Aylwyn from Atlantia was on hand to teach Giganti's One True Guard, Italian Rapier from the Waist Up, Tempo and Measure, and How to Practice Melee at Home Practices. In addition, Master Alesone Gray of Cranlegh from the East Kingdom attended to teach Longsword and Destreza, while Mistress Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen taught a class on German Sword and Buckler. Twenty-five White Scarves also attended this practice.

Lunch was provided on site Saturday by the mobile food service That Kitchen Witch. A post revel was held in the dining room of a local hotel on Saturday night.¹⁰⁵

Byron and Ariella, 38th King and Queen of Æthelmearc, (April, A.S. L (2016) to September, AS 51 [2016]), attended the SCA 50 Year Celebration held at Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds & Conference Complex in the Shire of Qal`at Ja`far (Danville, Indiana) in the Kingdom of the Middle from June 17 to 27, A.S. L (2016). Their Majesties had a marvelous time at 50 Year, and the Kingdom made had a large presence at the event as evidenced by Their Majesties thank you missive published in the Æthelmearc Gazette on July 24, A.S. 51 (2016):

“The once-in-a-lifetime 50th anniversary of the birth of the Society is behind us. But before We turn Our thoughts to the Pennsic War, We would take a moment to thank those gentles who supported Us in this wonderful event.

First and foremost, Our thanks go to Countess Geneveive du Vent Argent. She was Our rock throughout this process, and helped in every stage of planning and execution. We thank our Jewel Herald, Gwendolyn the Graceful, for traveling to far lands with tasks as massive as reminding the Founders that Æthelmearc exists. We thank THL Rosalia [Iuliana Andere] for organizing the Æthelmearc camp – We were so glad that the populace and Royal camp were brought together, and we could all be a single Kingdom. We thank Lady Arsalan [Egesig] for her Crown support (literally) and her support of the Crown (figuratively) and for her willingness to play medieval strategy games with His Majesty. There were several gentles who created martial events for the glory of the Kingdom: Master Urho [Waltterinen] (archery), Master Illadore [de Bedagrayne], and Mistress Fredeburg [von Katzenellenbogen]

(fencing), Duke Timothy [of Arindale] and Don Clewin [Kupferhelbelinc] (heavy), Lady Melodia [Beaupel] (thrown weapons), and the entire equestrian community (equestrian). And We would lastly draw the Kingdom's attention to one who played a critical role for Us, despite not attending the event. Dame Hrefna Úlfvarinnsdóttir was pivotal to Our success as a Kingdom and as Royals; she is an example of service for all to aspire to.

The hard work of these individuals, and everyone from Aethelmearc who attended the event, made Us look good to everyone in the known world. We thank you all.

In Service to the Dream, Byron and Ariella, Rex et Regina Aethelmearc”¹⁰⁶

Later in the summer, Byron and Ariella's reign saw another unique event. Traditionally, either the East Kingdom or Middle Kingdom has hosted the Queens' Tea at Pennsic. For Pennsic XLV, Aethelmearc hosted the Queens and Princesses of the Known World for the first time at this function. Queen Ariella transformed Aethelmearc Royal into a medieval garden with the help of many gentles starting with the Head Gardener, Mistress Filipia Caprioti. The Head Cooks for this Queen's Tea were Lady Otiligie and Mistress Odriana. Mistress Gabrielle d'Auvergne provided harp music. Master Ambrose Kyrielle created a lovely labyrinth for the courtyard in Aethelmearc Royal, and. Baroness Betha made embroidered napkins as favors.¹⁰⁷

The reign of Byron and Ariella also saw the creation of the Scarlet Guard Accord for the purpose of allowing the Order of the Scarlet Guard to establish a precedent for the recognition of the rank and skill of any visiting members of the equivalent Orders in other Kingdoms as equals within the ranks of the Kingdom of Aethelmearc Order. While visiting our lands, these members are welcome to Order meetings and discussions of business of the Order, but shall not be added to message lists or groups, nor shall they be included as a voting member in any pollings. Furthermore, if any member of an equivalent order moves to Aethelmearc and becomes a subject of our kingdom they will automatically become a full member of the Scarlet Guard.¹⁰⁸

Society Orders recognized as Equivalent Orders by the Scarlet Guard at the time of this writing:

- i. Royal Missile Company in West Kingdom (GoA)
- ii. Order of Sagittarius in East Kingdom (GoA)
- iii. Greenwood Company in Middle Kingdom (GoA)
- iv. Commanders of the Azure Archers in Atenveldt (GoA)
- v. Order of the Split Arrow in Meridies (AoA, polling)
- vi. Order of Chiron of Caid (GoA)
- vii. Order of the Arc d'Or in Ansteorra (GoA)
- viii. Order of the Yew Bow in Atlantia (GoA)
- ix. Order of the Grey Goose Shaft in An Tir (GoA)
- x. Boga-Hirth in Calontir (GoA)
- xi. Order of the Arc d'Or in Trimaris (GoA)
- xii. Order of the Sharparrow in Outlands (GoA)

- xiii. Order of Strongbow's Yeoman in Artemisia (GoA)
- xiv. Lochac Company of Archers in Lochac (GoA)
- xv. Order of Aquila et Fulmen in Northshield (GoA)
- xvi. . Order of the Sable Huntsman in Glenn Abhainn
- xvii. Order of the Grey Goose Shaft in Avacal (GoA)¹⁰⁸

During the reign of Marcus and Margarite, 39th King and Queen of Æthelmearc, (September 24, A.S. 51 [2016] to April 22, A.S. 51 [2017]), Master John Michael Thorpe, Guildmaster of the Royal Guild of Aethelmearc Metalsmiths announced the creation of the Æthelmearc Guild Hall based on the Medieval City of York (Jorvik) where all of the guilds would meet. This guild will provide a place for all who practice the material trades at Kingdom and local guilds level as well as artisans, hobbyists, and people who are interested in learning how to do a craft. All material tradespeople are welcome to join. The goal of this guild shall be to use the material trades to enhance the shared SCA experience by promoting the idea and practice of producing and using period items as closely as we can approximate. This organization will be dedicated to communication between artisans of all genres, whether it be cooking, ceramics, metals, tailoring, or any other SCA craft. The Guild Hall will be run by and for the artisans, outside of the structure of the formal A&S community. It will answer directly to the Crown as the medieval guilds did.¹¹⁴

At the dawn of Anno Societatis LI (2016), the Kingdom of Æthelmearc is standing strong with seven baronies, twenty-one shires, three cantons, one college, and one dominion. We have recently crowned our 39th King and Queen. Our oldest barony, the Marche of the Debatable Lands, celebrated its 41th birthday, and we will mark the 26th anniversary of several milestones in our long and glorious history, and the 19th anniversary of becoming a Kingdom. We are looking forward to a bright future filled with much glory and many more milestones.

Appendix A

Pennsic Treaty

Resolved that, historically the event known as the Pennsic War has been held in the Barony-Marche of Debatable Lands, Principality of Æthelmearc, at Cooper's Lake Campground. Pennsic War has been and is an event held jointly by the East and the Middle Kingdoms. In the event that the Principality of Æthelmearc shall be elevated to Kingdom status, the following provisions shall apply by mutual unanimous agreement between the East, the Middle, and Æthelmearc which shall not be revocable by any one party without mutual unanimous consent by all parties:

1. Copies of the bids and the names of all prospective autocrats for the Pennsic War will be provided to the Æthelmearc Seneschal for review and comment. The Æthelmearc Seneschal will have two weeks from the receipt of the names and bids to provide comments to the hosting Kingdom Seneschal. No decision will be made on the Pennsic autocrat until the Æthelmearc Seneschal has had this opportunity to comment on all of the prospective applicants.
2. The hosting Kingdom Seneschal will inform the Æthelmearc Seneschal immediately upon the selection of the Pennsic autocrat. An autocrat may not be named who was not on the list or who has not been reviewed by the Æthelmearc Seneschal.

3. The Pennsic autocrat will report to the Æthelmearc Seneschal, Seneschals of the East Kingdom and Middle Kingdom, and the Crowns of the three Kingdoms on at least a monthly basis on the progress of the planning of Pennsic.

4. The Pennsic autocrat and the Seneschals of the East and the Middle recognize the legal responsibility of the Æthelmearc Seneschal in relation to Pennsic when decisions or actions are taken during the course of the event, and the Æthelmearc Seneschal is to be included in all discussions relating to such actions or decisions.

5. Given the additional responsibilities that Pennsic will impose upon the Æthelmearc Seneschal, Æthelmearc will receive from the Pennsic proceeds an amount equal to 10% of the total amount received by the East and Middle combined. The amount received by Æthelmearc will not reduce the amounts received by the Middle and the East.

In consideration, Æthelmearc shall not interfere with the operation of Pennsic subject to the above provisions including but not limited to the following provisions, which Æthelmearc agrees to:

6. Æthelmearc agrees to never pull Society Sanction on Pennsic without good and just cause.

7. Æthelmearc shall not attempt to move the location or change the dates of Pennsic.

8. Æthelmearc shall not attempt to cancel the Pennsic War.

Further, now and in the future, this resolution is binding on and lies outside of the authority of the Royalty of the three Kingdoms. The Royalty of the three Kingdoms shall not have the authority or right to void, negate, or alter this resolution.

Signed for the East Kingdom: Baroness Rhiannon the Curious

Signed for the Middle Kingdom: Duchess Lisa Delorosa

Signed for Æthelmearc: Mistress Orianna Fridrikskona

Original signed document on file with the SCA Corporate Office in Milpitas.

Source: <http://www.aethelmearc.org/seneschal/pennsictreaty.php>

APPENDIX B

Æthelmearc's Ancestral Pelican Medallion

By Sir Andreas Hak

At Pennsic 1990, King Ronald III & Queen Bronwyn II made Andreas Hak the 55th Master of the Pelican in the history of the East. After the ceremony, Gravin Eva van Oudeachterkol (24th Queen of the East) came to see Andreas. She explained that the assembled Pelicans of the East wished Æthelmearc to have a new tradition when we created our own members of the Pelican, but also to have some connection to our parent group. Thus they raised funds among themselves

and obtained a Pelican medallion that had been worn by no one. They asked Andreas to wear it as the first citizen of Æthelmearc to receive the Pelican after Æthelmearc's elevation to Principality. They charged Andreas not to pass it on until Æthelmearc was a kingdom and made their own Pelicans at which time they hoped the medallion would become Æthelmearc's ancestral medallion.

In the fullness of time (seven years) Æthelmearc became a Kingdom. The gift medallion from the East was refurbished by Master James O'Neill, and presented when King Yngvar and Queen Caryl elevated Cori Ghora, and she became the first member of the Pelican elevated by Æthelmearc. That medallion is still the ancestral medallion and every effort is made to see to it that every Pelican made in Æthelmearc wears it.⁶¹

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