



# Aurora Borealis

*Lighting up the Northern Shores Region*

Second Quarter 2015

Volume 9 Issue 1

## New Prince and Princess for Tir Mara

This fall, we welcomed new heirs to the East Kingdom. His Grace, Duke Darius Aurelius Serpentius, known as Omega, and his lovely Bride, Her Grace, Duchess Etheldreda Ivelchylid became Prince and Princess of Tir Mara and the East Kingdom. Well known in these lands, you will see them at many upcoming events. For those of you interested, Their coronation will take place April 11, in the Barony of Bhakail.

## Upcoming Events in the Northern Shores

April 18th  
**Spring in the Shire**  
Shire of Avonmore  
Havelock, NB

June 12-14th  
**Beltanes**  
Barony of Havres des Glaces,  
Shawinigan, QE

June 26-28th  
**Baronial War Camp**  
Barony of Ruantallan  
Landsdowne, NS

Events outside the Crown Principality

April 11th  
**East Kingdom University**  
Barony of Endewearde  
Bangor, Maine

May 8-10th  
**Middleground**  
Shire of Lyndhaven  
Yoho, NB

June 20th  
**Dinner at the Kasbah**  
Barony of Ruantallan  
St Margarets Bay, NS

September 18-21st  
**Siege of Castle Theo d'Ore III**  
Barony of Ruantallan  
Landsdowne, NS

July 9th - 12th  
**Great Northeastern War**  
Province of Malegentia  
Hebron, ME

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### DISCLAIMER:

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## Order of Precedence

Currently, there is a project underway to update the order of precedence for the Crown Principality of Tir Mara. This work is being done by various volunteers from each of the baronies/shires in the region. The updated lists can be found on the Crown Principality facebook page at is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/765441133532150/?fref=ts>

Currently the Lyndhaven and Ruantallan OP is loaded. The IDD list is being worked on as well. We are looking for someone to work on the Barony of Havres Des Glaces list and the Dragonnet list. If anyone is interested in participating in this project, please contact Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys on the facebook page.

Please be patient with those working with the lists as each person entered needs to be verified with the kingdom court report and be placed in the correct order.

## Order of the March

The Order of the March is set by East Kingdom and can be found at

<http://op.eastkingdom.org/March/index.html>

The order is how we set the order of precedence. Currently the order of precedence is set as follows.

1. Royalty and visiting foreign Royalty
2. Officers of the realm (kingdom officers)
3. The Royal Peers
  - a. Dukes and Duchesses
  - b. Counts and Countesses
  - c. Vicounts and Vicountesses
4. The bestowed peerages (Chiv, Laurel, Pelican)
5. Territorial Barons and Baronesses
  - a. Current sitting Barons and Baronesses
  - b. Retired Barons and Baronesses (by the date they were invested.)
6. Holders of Grants of Arms (including Court Barons who received a grant and foreign order members who received grants with their award)
7. Orders of High Merit (Golden Rapier, Sagittarius, Tygers Combattant, Maunche and Silver Crescent)
8. Court Barons and Baronesses who did not receive a grant.
9. Armigers (Award of Arms recipient)
10. Orders of Honor (Tygers Cub, QOC, Terpsichore, Troubadour, Kings order of Excellence, etc)
11. Members of the populace.

### Tir Mara Regional Championships

The following events are in need of an autocrat/event bid:

#### Tir Mara Archery Championships

Held in spring or summer

#### Tir Mara Rattan Championship

Current Champion is Spurius Genucius Rutilus

#### Tir Mara Arts & Sciences Championship

Current champion is Katherine Murray

#### Tir Mara Rapier Championships

#### Tir Mara University

**Currently being planned for this fall in Havres des Glaces.**

\*If you are interested in running an event to house any of these championships, please contact the current champion to see if they are interested in helping with the endeavor.

If there are any other groups considering a bid for a Kingdom level event, please let us know so that we, as the Crown Principality of Tir Mara, can work together to avoid potential event conflicts.

## **Tir Mara Champions from Rattan and A&S Event.**

The Tir Mara Rattan Championship and Arts and Sciences Championship was held in the Barony of Ruantallan in November, 2014. There were 12 amount of entrants in the rattan championship from various parts of the region. The fighting was fierce, and in the end it came down to two combattants: H.E. Pellandres dit le Frere, and Dominus Spurius Genucius Rutilus. In the end it was Spurius who prevailed and became the Prince's Rattan Champion for Tir Mara.

In the Arts and Sciences competition there were 10 people competing for the title of Princess's champion. The Princess's champion was awarded to Inga Thorgansdottir and Princes champion was awarded to Katherine Murray.

Also announced during court, the Shire of Avonmore changed from Incipient Shire to Full Shire status.

Vivant to all contestants and the Shire of Avonmore!

## **Our Borders are Threatened!**

Greetings Tir Martians! Our Border is threatened! The Barony of Endwearde claims it owns two islands in the Bay of Fundy which properly belong to Lyndhaven! This threat cannot go unanswered, for if we let them encroach upon our lands here, what is to stop them from claiming the lands along our border? What will be next? Lands of Avonmore? The tip of the crown lands of Ruantallan? NO! They must be stopped at the border. We must assert our dominance over our rightful lands!

We will fight for these islands and to show the Endweardians that we mean business and that this land is OUR Land! We shall meet on the fields of Middleground on the weekend on May 8-10. All combattants are welcome.

Rattan fighters! Archers! Siege weapons! Fencers! Dancers (they can kick really high!!) No one shall be turned from the field of battle.

More information can be found at the east kingdom website at:  
<http://eastkingdom.org/EventDetails.php?eid=2701>

## New Baronesses for L'ile Dragon Dormant

In the Barony of L'ile Dragon Dormant have announced the passing of the second Baron and Baroness, Sir Angus McHaley, Baron of L'ile Dragon Dormant and Mistress Tadea Isabetta di Bruno, Baroness of L'ile Dragon Dormant to new heirs. Two sisters, Lady Jeanne de Robin and Lady Genovefa Clerica were invested as Landed Baronesses at the East Kingdom Arts and Sciences Championship in the Barony of L'ile Dragon Dormant on March 7th.

The King and Queen of the East, His Royal Majesty King Edward and Her Royal Majesty Queen Thyra were in attendance to make the transition from old to new. Her Royal Highness Princess Etheldreda Ivelchylde was also in attendance.

## The History of Easter

The history of Easter reveals ancient pagan roots; this holiday was not always a Christian-based holiday. It is believed that the term Easter is literally derived from the term Eostre, the name of a Teutonic feminine deity. The latter goddess is a fertility goddess, a goddess of the spring, and the hare is sacred to her. Others believe that the word Easter is derived from hebdomada alba, a Latin term meaning white week. The latter reference is believed to be associated with the act of putting on white attire when being baptized and served as a reference for the week that Easter occurs in as well.

The association of Easter practices with the pagan goddess Eostre makes clear some of the traditions that are carried out today. The goddess Eostre was honored toward the end of the month of March, right around the time of Spring Equinox. Jakob Grimm, the author of "Deutsche Mythologie," explains that a goddess similar to Eostre was at one time mentioned by the Venerable Bede. Dr. Jonathan Young, a well-known folklorist, further asserts the mythic past associated with the holiday; the month of April was once identified as Ostaramoanoth or Eostremonat; this times the month of April immediately after Spring Equinox. Eostre is also sometimes identified as Ostara, a word rooted in the term "east," which literally means "dawn." Celebrations honoring Ostara or Eostre are ancient, and the holiday came to represent the cycle of life, death, and rebirth.

Since the holiday of Easter is about renewal and new beginnings, one should not be surprised to see people wearing brand new attire at Easter parades; this is done to reflect the notion of doing away with what is old and bringing in all that is new and fresh. Eggs are symbols of fertility, of birth, and of renewal too, and this could be why many people still paint eggs in lovely pastel colors every year. Meanwhile, the Easter Bunny may be rooted in the ancient hares held sacred to the great goddess Eostre or Ostara

*<http://historyofeaster.net/page1.html>*

## Open Position - Tir Mara Web Minister

Greetings unto the Seneschals of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara, from the East Kingdom Webminister.

Dominus Gnaeus Aurelius Andronicus, current Tir Mara Deputy for the Office of the Webminister, has announced intention on stepping down in March. We have no successor at this time, so I am reaching out to you in order to fill this upcoming vacancy. Please mention this request in your Local branch meetings to have interested gentles to send their Letters of Intent with relevant list of abilities to [webminister@eastkingdom.org](mailto:webminister@eastkingdom.org) so that we can start the transition as soon as possible.

I consider the position of Tir Mara Deputy Webminister a duplicate station akin to the East Kingdom Webminister, for the Principality. The interested gentle should be one who is willing to learn how to administer the groups under the Principality and work side-by-side with the East Kingdom Webminister.

It is my intention to have this position be as fully autonomous as possible, as if they were their own entity, in preparation for when Tir Mara becomes its own sovereign Kingdom. I will be the mentor and main resource for the Deputy to learn all of the aspects of the Office of the Webminister from the point of view as the Point of Contact for the Principality.

Duties will include (but are not limited to, and shall be expanded upon):

- o Direct support of the Tir Mara Crown Principality website.
- o Creation and support of the Tir Mara email forwards for the Principality Officers and Guilds.
- o Creation and support of the Tir Mara email lists for the Principality.
- o Having the Webministers of the Principality report directly to the Tir Mara Deputy for all issues, and requesting assistance from the East Kingdom Webminister only when necessary.
- o Administering the Help Desk website <http://helpdesk.eastkingdom.org> to address all tickets for the Principality in a timely fashion.
- o Working with the Website Quality & Usability Deputy for the yearly review of each website in the Principality.
- o Building a working relationship with the Principality Chronicler in order to prepare for the publication of a newsletter.
- o Assisting the East Kingdom Webminister with the expansion of the services offered on the East Kingdom server in order to support the Principality Webministers.
- o Be the Point of Contact for any email issues within the Principality.
- o Be the Point of Contact for all Officer Listing updates and changes within the Principality.
- o Reviewing the Principality branches for website presence and assisting all Local branches with their websites as necessary to keep our presence up to date.
- o Additional responsibilities as necessary for the day to day working of the Principality web presence.
- o Keeping records of the Webministers and Webministers-At-Large within the Principality, including modern contact information and expiration of Society Membership.

Please forward this request to any additional parties that you may know that I do not have contact information for. (I could not find contact information for the Canton of Artigus.)

#### Upcoming Projects:

- o The Shire of Bois Ardent, Canton of Artigus, Shire of La Selve d'Aure, and Shire of Le Dragonet do not have a website on the East Kingdom Server. It will be the Tir Mara Deputy to contact these groups, have them designate a Webminister that then Warrants with this Office, and establish a website on the East Kingdom Server. With this project I will be able to teach the Deputy how to, from start to finish, every step of the way the creation of these groups in the Æther.
- o Making certain that all Local branches are on the East Kingdom server using the <http://branch.eastkingdom.org> designation, with no sub-branches being held as <http://branch.eastkingdom.org/sub-branch> as no group should be hosted in a directory under another group.
- o All Principality branch websites have to be hosted on the East Kingdom server if they are not already. Any 'vanity' website names will need to be pointers to the official website and will not host duplicate information.
- o Establishing a policy and procedure of Office Succession for the Principality in order to avoid any loss of service to the groups that the Tir Mara Deputy would be overseeing.
- o The websites of [eilean.eastkingdom.org](http://eilean.eastkingdom.org), [lyndhaven.eastkingdom.org](http://lyndhaven.eastkingdom.org) and [ynysyghaed.eastkingdom.org](http://ynysyghaed.eastkingdom.org) do not currently have a Warranted Webminister for their website on record. This project will include contacting the previous Webminister (if any) and the Seneschal of the Local branch to resolve this issue, including following the steps for suspension and removal as listed in the East Kingdom Webminister Policies Handbook if necessary. Establishing a new Local Webminister or having a Webminister-At-Large assigned to the website will also be part of this project.

Lord Lorenz Greylever, OTCub, OSC  
East Kingdom Webminister

## Officers of Tir Mara:

### Seneschal

*H.E. Alessandra Francesca di Milano*

### Exchequer

*Position currently vacant*

### Earl Marshal

*Sir Gareth Grey de Wilton*

### Badger Herald

*Position currently vacant*

### Chatelaine

*Lady Cellach Dhonn inghean Mhic an Mhadaidh*

### A&S Minister

*Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley*

### Minister of Lists

*Lady Matilda Fossoway*

### Accessibility Porter

*Sile Dhubh Mhic an Mhadaidh*

### Chirurgeon

*Dominus Eginhard d'Aix la Chapelle*

### Minister of Children

*Position currently vacant*

### Youth Marshall

*Syr Yesungge Altan*

### Waiver Secretary

*Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley*

### Web Minister

*will be vacant*

### Deputy Commander of Siege Forces and Combat Archery

*Lord Athelwulf Stealcere*

### Deputy Commander of Archery

*Lady Eadwynn aet Hraefneshyrste and Dominus Gnaeus Aurelius Andronicus*

### Deputy Commander of Thrown Weapons

*Lord Ludwig von Eisburg*

### Deputy Commander of Fence

*Lord Guthfrith Yrlingson*

### Newsletter Design and Production

*Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys*

### Deputy Clerks for Tyger Signet

*Lady Mergriet van Wijenhorst and Baroness Shadiyah al-Zahra*

## Officer Reports

Officer Reports should be submitted to both Kingdom and the Tir Mara counterparts. Officer Reports are due at the following times of year:

A&S Reports – March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1st, Dec 1st

Chatelaine Reports - April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct 15th, Jan 15

Chronicler Report – Once a year, December 15th

Exchequer Reports – April 30<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Oct 31st, Jan 30

Herald Reports

Marshal Reports – March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, Sept. 1st, Dec 1st.

MOL Report – once a year, in February

Seneschal Reports – April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 15th, Jan 15th

Web Minister Report – Once a year

Be kind to your Tir Mara officers, and file your reports in a timely fashion! Remember they have to include your reports in their reports, which are also due at the same time!

### Contribute to the *Aurora Borealis*:

The next edition of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara Newsletter, the *Aurora Borealis* is due to be available online by June 1, 2015.

All contributions for the next issue must be received no later than May 1, 2015. No submissions after that date will be accepted for the June issue.

Contributions should be sent to:

**Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys**  
**gwensca @ moonsandstars (dot) com**