

# The Barge

CONGRATULATIONS TO THEIR ROYAL MAJESTIES



For more information regarding the Reign of His Royal Majesty Marius Lucian Fidelis Artifex (Lucian) and Her Royal Majesty Atia Albia Tamara (Tamar), please head to: <https://www.calontir.org/royalty-falcon-crown/>

# What exactly happens at Coronation?

BY PÁDRAICÍN AN ÉNGH

If you have never been to a Calontir Coronation, you are truly missing something special. The excitement surrounding it for the populace is something akin to Anna's reaction in Frozen: IT'S CORONATION DAY! (This maybe the exact reaction Uaithne had the morning she woke up before attending her first Coronation.) Please keep in mind this is a general idea of what happens during the coronation ceremony. Each new reign brings with it a new time period, and more often than not, the style of the coronation will often reflect said time period. So preface each sentence with, "Generally..." and you'll get a good idea of what may happen and I won't get yelled at for being 100% incorrect. Also keep in mind if you attend a coronation in another kingdom, it will be different.

I want to thank Their Graces Eringlin and Alethea Charle for lending their expertise regarding this article.  
(reprinted from the Summer 2018 Issue)

## MORNING COURT

Once the populace is gathered and seated, the sitting King and Queen will enter and hold their last court. During this court, last minute items of business and some special awards are presented, for example, The King's Favor and the Queen's Order of Distinction.

The final aspects of this last court include the outgoing Crown releasing their Household before stepping down. A royal household will typically include ladies/lords in waiting, personal guards, the King's and Queen's Champions, Their Chamberlain, a Court Herald, and other retainers. The King and Queen will also release items of state, such as the scepter, rings, and seals to be held in safekeeping by certain members of the Witan, Kingdom, and representatives of the Peerage Orders. The Crown will then call the Chivalry forward to guard the Thrones in forthcoming absence of the Crown.

Finally, the sitting Crown will remove their coronets. Sometimes the King will remove the Queen's first and she will exit before him. Sometimes they will remove them and depart together. It often depends on what the Crown decides. The Crown will say goodbye before they exit, and the only remaining people up front near the empty thrones is the Chivalry.

What comes next is pretty cool. The Heralds of Calontir will recite the lineage starting with the first Warlords of the Region of Calontir (before we became a Kingdom), then the Prince and Princesses who reigned while we were a Principality, followed by all the Kings and Queens who have reigned since Calontir became a Kingdom. If you listen closely, you can hear how each herald's announcement reflects the personality of each reign.



## CORONATION



Once the heralds are finished, for a moment it is quiet and then something happens. What specifically I cannot tell you, because it depends on each reign. However, Duke Eringlin Aldhelm was gracious enough to give a general idea,

*“A typical Calontir ceremony will usually follow a traditional outline, however. The Prince will process into Court with an entourage to take up the Crown he is the rightful Heir to. They are usually challenged by a member of the Chivalry who are guarding the thrones. His challenger demands that the identity of the heir be*

*validated by the Kingdom Herald, that their eligibility to be the Crown is verified by the Kingdom Seneschal, and that the Kingdom Earl Marshal vouches that they were the victor of the last Crown Tournament and are therefore the true Heir to the Calon Throne. Once these verifications are made, the Knights will make way and kneel to allow the Heir to approach the Thrones. Just as the Heir reaches the thrones, there is usually someone (often more than one person) whom steps forward to counsel them on what it means to become the Crown. After hearing those words of counsel, the Heir is asked if it is still their desire to be Crown, and then they are called upon to swear an Oath of Office before placing the Crown on their head (there have been instances of Heirs being crowned by others, but usually they do it themselves). As they do this, attendants usually place the Royal Copes on them. Everyone applauds the new King! The King usually then calls forth for his consort who will reign as Crown with him (this has been done with the pair together on more than one occasion); the Princess is called forth, counseled by advisors before being asked by the King to swear an oath of office, then Crowned as Queen (so far – we haven’t had any Queen by Right of Arms, or same-sex couples yet). They then usually install their Champions, receive Oaths of fealty from the Chivalry and release them from guarding the thrones, then call forth the other Peerage orders, Officers of State and landed Barons/Baroness for Oaths, before conducting any business in their first court.”*

The populace is released and much like regular events, there is fighting, and children’s activities, vigils if an elevation is going to happen, the previous Queen is put on vigil for the Order of the Lady of The Rose, socializing, eating, and drinking.

While most of us are having a good time, the King and Queen are in meetings for the greater part of the day. I’ve been told there’s lots and lots of paperwork involved.

## EVENING COURT

Evening court with the new King and Queen is pretty typical of any royal court. They will enter, maybe give out their first awards, give a speech on how excited they are, and some items of business will come up (such as announcements of upcoming events). At some point Their Majesties will ask the members of the populace wishing to swear fealty to come forward.

A note about swearing fealty: It is not required. If you have religious or moral doctrine you follow that is against swearing oaths of any kind, e.g. Quakers, you do not have to. While the SCA maybe a hobby, you are still making a promise to someone. This is just my personal opinion, but before you swear fealty, listen and discern what the oath is asking of you. Words and context matter, so keep this in mind.

If you really want to swear fealty, but are struggling with it (because that happens and it’s okay to struggle with it) I would advise you to talk to people and get their perspectives. I know of some people who only go down on one knee. Taking one knee is still showing reverence to what is before them, a middle ground if you will.





## COVRT / CEREMONY ETIQUETTE

Coronation is a wonderful and exciting event, but it is a long day. You've heard the saying, "It's a marathon, not a sprint?" So here are some things to keep in mind, for this or any ceremony/court you may attend:

- **TURN. OFF. YOUR. PHONE.** If there is a case where you need to have it on (sick kiddo or parent at home), put it on vibrate and sit towards the back and with easy exit route.
- If you need to ask questions, **DO!** But do so quietly and sit with someone or ask the people next to you, "May I ask you questions?" Ask questions when there are pauses in activity or speaking, not while something is taking place.
- Mitigate your needs; bring lots of snacks and food. **NOTHING THAT CRINKLES!** Dear God, if you eat snacks during the ceremony, have all food unwrapped and keep noisy, smelly food to a minimum, and have a full mug.
- Go to the bathroom before you sit down.
- If you have small kiddos who may get board, sit to the back of the area so you can remove them if need be. Bring something for them to play with. Bring something for you to play with. I tend to fidget so I always have a hand project to hold, even if I don't work on it. I also have social anxiety and one of my triggers is close proximity of people touching me, especially when it's hot. So I know I need to sit as close to the end of a row as I can, just in case I need to get up and stand or walk around.
- If you are hard of hearing or sight, sit towards the front. Let the people around you know, so they can help you see and hear if need be.
- Taking pictures is okay, after all this is your first Coronation! It's exciting and really cool with all the pageantry. However, remember to be aware of the people around you. Sit where you have a good point of view and won't obstruct the views of others. Silence any and all noises your camera/phone will make. Turn off the flash. Keep in mind, there is usually a designated photographer who then posts the pictures for our use, so if you don't have a great view, your battery is dying, or you are so wrapped up in the moment, don't worry. Chances are, someone's got you covered picture wise.

Most of all enjoy the day and have fun. I hope this has been helpful to anyone attending their first Coronation and if you are unable to attend, there's always next time.



# Barony happenings

**Feb 5:** Drawing Gothic Designs, Kirk Poore

**Feb 12:** Round Table: Peer Associate Relationships, Moderated by Baron Duncan Eardstapa

**Feb 19:** Loom Knitting: Why Is It Period And How Can I Learn It, Rhoda Parker Sachs

**March 4:** How To Submit to The Barge & What You Need, Rae Bardon

**March 11** Youth & Family Class: Make & Take sewing class. Project TBA

## Recognizing The Cool Things We Do

With a new reign comes the opportunity to rat your friends out. In a good way. My absolute most favorite thing ever is to see my friends and loved ones recognized for something they do. It's brought literal tears to my eyes. And I'm not talking pretty Drew Barrymore tears, I'm talking full on ugly crying. So, no matter if that "doing something" is making something, serving, or fighting, when you see someone doing something cool - send in an award recommendation. Even if you don't know what awards a person has, send one in anyway! The Crown will sort it out. But don't take my word for it, for the reasons why and how, Her Excellency Konstantina is here to help you navigate all things award recommendations!

## How to Rat Out Your Friends to The Crown

By BARONESS KONSTANTINA KALOETHINA

One of the things that the SCA does is grant awards to our participants, much like any other group. In a sense, each SCA event is like the OSCARs, BAFTAs or the Tonys – we recognize in court as a Society excellence (in a few tiers, that is) in four main groups: martial skill (in both armored and rapier/cut and thrust), arts and sciences, and service. Unlike modern awards (which usually go through a jury process), SCA awards are granted by royal whim.

Side note: I have overheard some people congratulate others on "earning" an award. If (and it's a big if) this were Scouting or something of its ilk (which uses an awards system with set rubrics indicating if an award guideline has been met), I would be inclined to agree. The SCA, though, uses a different system – awards are granted by the Crown/Coronets/Baronial Coronets, so even if an Order doesn't agree (and yes, that does come with ramifications – so bear this in mind, those who aspire to wear the crowns of their kingdom or coronets of their principality or barony), a Crown can grant the award to whoever They wish. So, yes, whim is part of the reason an award is granted (and yes, it does put a burden on those in the Big Chairs to see that Their populace is thus

### Upcoming Events

#### February 2020

1st, Clothiers

8th, Queen's Prize

22nd, Chieftains

29th, Winter War Maneuvers

### COMING SOON: GULF WARS!

For more information about Kingdom events:  
<http://calendar.calontir.org>

recognized). Depending on kingdom, Orders may be polling or consulting orders, which is another difference, so please check with your local kingdom. The core of a polling/consulting order does involve discussion about a candidate, but again, those who wear the Crowns/Coronets make the ultimate decision. (In short, this is really me arguing about semantics.)

Tackling the why question first: awards can help in the sense of belonging to a group within the SCA. They show that a gentle has a certain skill or promise of a skill. Awards, though, because they are granted at the whim of the Crown/Coronet, may not match up to when you think a person should be granted an award. (Also, another side note: do things in the SCA because you think they're fun and not to rack up the awards – you will set yourself up for burnout very quickly. It can be hard to fight the jealousy monster, but remember that awards are also not a pie – there will always be more awards granted, and someone else receiving an award does not diminish the value of yours.) On a note of psychology, yes, it absolutely feels great to have one's work validated by the folks in the Big Chairs, and it helps create theatre for those who are assisting in presenting courts at events. It allows scribes to create beautiful works of art and wordsmiths to stretch their poetic muscles. It adds to the events of the day. In a volunteer management sense, awards help to reward commitment to the SCA as a construct. (That being said, do not rely on the Crown/Coronets to thank someone for a job well done. Please express your appreciation often to thank people for what they bring to our world. I cannot emphasize this enough.)

Onto the how-tos. Every kingdom/principality/barony handles award recommendations a bit differently, though most (if not all) kingdoms have a way to recommend someone for an award on their website. Again, please check with your local kingdom/principality/barony to see how award recommendations are handled.

When it comes to writing an award recommendation, your first stop should be the kingdom's Order of Precedence. The Order of Precedence (or OP, as it gets truncated to) is a sequential hierarchy of nominal ranking of persons within the SCA. It comes in handy when making toasts at feasts, but it also comes in handy when making sure that the person you're writing an award recommendation for doesn't already have the award that you're writing them in for. If you need assistance in looking up a person in your group's OP, reach out to a herald! It never hurts to check for alternate spellings, names that a person was called at another time, or even their last kingdom of residence.

A few things to be aware of when you're recommending an award:

Anyone can recommend anybody for anything. You do not need to be a member of an order to recommend someone. Additionally, you can also recommend people for awards even if you don't have any. Some kingdoms require membership in the SCA to suggest awards, so, again, please check your local kingdom

Be clear but succinct. Tell the Crown what good works you've seen a gentle do, but don't go on for pages and pages. The Crown is busy – please respect their time!

Be specific and give details, e.g. skill levels, positions held, events attended, classes taught, articles published, presentation, personal qualities. Are they really great at the underwater basketweaving of Upper Flibonia? Do they teach it? Are they kind? Indicate this to the Crown!

Better yet: write action statements. Sure, you think your friend is awesome, but give concrete examples of what it is that they do well. Did they create a magical feast with a roll of aluminium foil and some toothpaste? Did they run several years of gate shifts? Are they teaching someone how to fight? Action statements. Concreteness.

Keep a record of who you've suggested. Depending on how you recommend (and the system that the kingdom/principality/barony has), you may have an option to get the award recommendation you've written copied to your email.

Be respectful. I feel this should go without saying, however, I can understand how frustrating it can be to always feel like you're sending in the same things for the same person. The Crown may be seeing these recommendations for the very first time.

Be honest. Exaggerating can be easy to do, but state just the facts. Explain why you think that someone should receive a specific award. Provide evidence of why they should.

If the Crown hasn't acted on an award recommendation, wait until the next reign, and write a new one. Sometimes things happen behind the scenes or it's not their time yet. Still, don't stop writing award recommendations.

So, let's put all of this together and write a sample letter. I have a tendency to not go with terribly flowery language (see directly below), with a noted exception of if I am writing to out of kingdom royals. Names and important details have been changed to protect the not-so-innocent, but these are examples of real award recommendations that I've sent.

*Truly Gentlesdottir makes a crapton of lucet. And I mean a crapton. She teaches people (including me!) how to manipulate string, and she does an amazing job with it. I tangle string, and even with that, she managed to teach me. It is for these reasons that I commend her for inclusion into the Leather Mallet.*

A more flowery one could be written as such (it's an out of kingdom one, so mind the IKA, and it's why I've included my alphabet soup. For most award recommendations within your kingdom, you really don't need to add the post-nominals and all other awards that you have on your signature line - it's downright tacky):

*I write to you today of Pelagia McAwesome and the works of her hand that she has continued to excel in through three different kingdoms – Flibonia, Lacava, and now Scipio Fortress. When I met Pelagia some 20 years ago, she was with her glass, finishing up some works and then teaching others how to play with enamels. I learned from her own hand almost a full decade ago how better to blend colours with brushes that didn't quite behave (no easy task)! If you were one of the lucky ones in Lacava, you received a scroll made by Pelagia – though, lucky for us, she made many, many, many beautiful pieces that now live across the land.*

*Her current work is with creating her tools and other items and then creating incredible, beautiful works for some lucky person to display in their home. She has also done some incredible stained glass, and best off, she will willingly teach, even while balancing being a mom.*

*I do only hope that this out-of-kingdom's visitor's voice only shows to see the impact of Your subject Pelagia, and that You see it fit to add her to your garden of Flowers. I feel so very strongly that she is so very, very, very overdue.*

*In service to the Society,*

*Baroness Konstantia Kaloethina*

*CB, CCC, CGCS, AOA*



As you can see, there's a couple ways to go about doing it, but it's something that needs to be done, no matter how you choose to do it. I make it a habit to write a few award recommendations a week when possible.

So, there you have it – you should be able to look at writing award recommendations. I challenge you to think of who you think should be recognized and write those recommendations. The Crown appreciates it – I promise!

## Questing Outside the Kingdom

BY TALIESIN OF THREE RIVERS

On Saturday, Jan 25th I attended my first out of Kingdom event: Maidens in Midrealm, hosted by Caer Gwyn. It was something I was looking forward to, but also something I was worried about. I find that I often gravitate towards the same people at an event (social anxiety can be fun at times), so the idea of stretching my wings and going to an event where I would know next to no one was terrifying.

When I decided I wanted to go to this event, the first thing I did was look at the event flier and see what classes were offered, if there was an Inn and if there was a feast. I normally serve feast no matter what event I am at since this is a great way to meet people, stay busy, get hours for the Service portion of the Quest, and as a bonus you get feast for FREE. For me this is important since I am gluten free, and so few feasts have a lot of options for me.

This event did not have a feast, but the local barony was hosting the Inn. I reached out to the coordinator of the Inn and asked if they could use volunteers. I felt that this would give me something to do and I wouldn't spend my day sitting by myself and wondering what to do.

When I arrived I checked in at Troll and proceeded to look over the flier to decide if I wanted to attend any of the classes or the post revel. I walked around for a bit looking at vendors booths, and the Arts and Sciences displays. I found it super interesting that they had a set of tables with supplies just for playing with different types of Arts and Sciences gear. They had simple spindles with wool, a pvc card loom set up with some free cards you could take with you, practice scrolls with paints, and book galore to look up how to do the work. It was one of the best ideas I have ever seen and someone sitting at the table even took time to teach me how to spin on a drop spindle.

When lunch time came around I went to the Inn and got my orders for what to do. I got to serve soup for to hours to hungry members, and it was a ton of fun for me. I got to meet the Princess of Midlands, an old friend of mine I had not seen in almost ten years, and so many new people I have no way to count them all. I also learned a lot about the running of Inn, a bit about how food budgets work, and how they precooked, immediately froze, and reheated the meat pies for ease in serving.

After lunch was over I attended a couple of classes. The first class I attended was on how to be a feast steward. As someone who often serves feast I like to know more about what the people behind the scenes are doing, and I hope to one day run a feast of my own. She had some very awesome tips and was more than happy to answer any questions we had. All in all I feel like I learned a lot from Lady Zilia's class.

The next class I took was Oswyn's class on Saxon Law. As someone with a Saxon persona I am always looking to find out more about the Saxons and their way of life. He started with a person having to pay 3 shilling for punching someone else in the nose as his baseline and going from there. I learned a lot and feel closer to my persona than I had before.

For the final part of my day I attended court. I was not sure what to expect since I know that Midland awards are different from those we have in Calontir. The proceedings of the court were very much the same as the proceedings we have in Calontir, which helped me quite a lot. They shouted something in Japanese, their King's persona is Japanese, instead of Huzzah, but that was honestly the biggest difference.

Lorelei of Midrealm was sitting next to me and was happy to answer any questions I had regarding awards I did not recognize, or back stories I could not follow. I got to watch three people be elevated: a Laurel, a Pelican, and a Knight. It was very exciting and emotional all around. A number of other well deserved awards were also given out, along with some truly beautiful scrolls.

All in all it was a wonderful experience and I got to meet, and talk to, many wonderful people. I learned about Saxon law, running a feast, and all about how to make my own vinegar and where to buy my Mother (for the vinegar)! If you see Oswyn at Chieftains showing off his awesome ciders, do not forget to ask him about his vinegars as well. I look forward to many years of in and out of Kingdom events.

YIS,

Taliesin of Three Rivers

## A Season of Giving

Calontir's generosity knows no bounds. While our generosity and hospitality is consistent all year round, without a doubt Toys for Tots is our pièce de résistance and this year was no exception. This past December (2019) With over 300 in attendance, and a little help from some visitors from a Galaxy far far away, Calontir donated over 2100 toys to the USMC Toys for Tots Foundation. At our yearly baronial fundraiser, Winter Court, over \$4200 was raised for The Barony of Three Rivers.



# LEGALITIES AND THINGS

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Illumination Work page 3, Detail of a roundel of William the Conqueror ('William Bastard'), from a genealogical chronicle of the kings of England, England (East Anglia?), c. 1340–1342: British Library [Royal MS 14 B VI](#), membrane 5.Administrivia

## Administrivia

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