

The Shards

BARONESSA'S LETTER TO THE BARONY

Greetings People of Shattered Crystal,

It certainly has been quite the year, hasn't it? Whatever you want to call it:

Unprecedented	Unexpected	Unparalleled
Aberrant	Abnormal	Terrifying
Bizarre	Difficult	Freakish

Thank you for being present for each other through it all. I think we can all agree that it has been rough.

Let's just call it over.

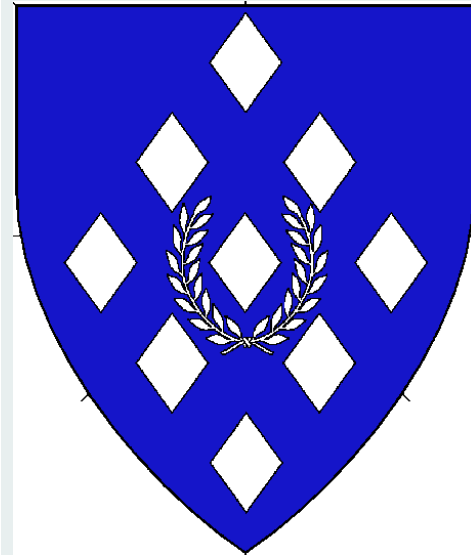
As we move into a new year, my thoughts turn to new beginnings. I already yearn for the fresh sprouting of new life in Spring plants. But winter shall have us in her hoarfrost grip yet. Winter is the time for peaceful pursuits in these lands. Yes, make ready with your trappings of war, the armor and the weapons. But more than that, take this time beside your hearth to reflect upon your accomplishments and goals. Set your sights upon new knowledge. Experiment with something new, fail, and try it again.

Experimental archeology is one of the most exciting things you can do in our Society. Fine-tune your own artistic and scientific skills. Mentor another person in a skill you already possess, be that in-person by teaching a class, one-on-one, or via a zoom or recording. Consider teaching one of our young people if it is appropriate.

For the Winter may be cold and dark, but there is opportunity for tremendous growth within yourself.

With Warm Wishes,

Baronessa Petrona



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In Person Events Begin Again!

Beginning July 1st, SCA and Kingdom rules are allowing us to be in person!

We'll see you every Tuesday at the Moose Lodge!

New Champions:

Cut and Thrust: Kurosawa Hayao
 Armoured: Maitre Philippe de Lyon
 Rapier: Christen Fynlo

Greetings From the Archives

As we look toward the winter seasons with hearths warm and pantry's full it is a time of celebration. As we look forward to 12th night and the selection of a new Baronial Bardic champion, I thought it would be a good time to share a few songs.

These come from the "A Songbook of the Barony of Shattered Crystal" written many years ago. If someone knows the date of publishing, please share it with me.

I wanted to share 3 songs from this book that I feel represent us as a Barony. I share these so that our newer members, if they wish to compete for bardic champion would have a song or two available to them. This of course does not mean you are required to sing one of these songs, just that they are available should you choose to sing one.

I will also mention as with all items in the archive, a digital copy of the songbook can be provided upon request.

In service,

Cristen Fynlo

Here's A Health to the Barony

Tune: "Here's a Health to the Company"

Words by Pieter Van der Eiken with aid from H E Mistress Alphaia Biraz-Pars

Are You Going to Crystal Ball
Sung to the tune "Scarborough Fair"
by Simon and Garfunkel
Filked by Liam Meyrick

Kind friends and companions, come join me in rhyme
Come lift up your voices in chorus with mine
Let us drink and be merry, all grief to refrain
For we may and might never all meet here again

Are you going to Crystal Ball
Feasting, music, dancing, and song
Remember me to one, who goes there,
She once was a true love of mine.

Chorus: Here's a health to the Barony and one to the
Crown

Let us drink and be merry til our sorrows we drown.

Let us lift up our voices, all grief to refrain

For we may and might never all meet here again

Tell her to make me a new English Garb
Feasting, music, dancing, and song
Without no seams nor needlework
Then she'll be a true love of mine.

Here's a health to Shattered Crystal that We love so well
Her glory and beauty, sure none can excel
No honor is greater than serving the Barony
Sure there's no one in the Knowne World as happy as we

Tell her to find me a good fencing list
Feasting, music, dancing, and song
Between the dancehall and merchant stand
Then she'll be a true love of mine.

Chorus: Here's a health to the Barony and one to the
Crown

Let us drink and be merry til our sorrows we drown.

Let us lift up our voices, all grief to refrain

For we may and might never all meet here again

Tell her to dance in her good leather shoes
Feasting, music, dancing, and song
And to come regardless of the weather
Then she'll be a true love of mine.

Kind Friends and companions come join us in song.
For the day was weary, and the night it is long.
Come lift up your glasses in festivity.
For the joy of being part of Shattered Crystal Barony.

Are you going to Crystal Ball
Feasting, music, dancing, and song
Remember me to one who goes there
She once was a true love of mine.

Chorus: Here's a health to the Barony and one to the
Crown

Let us drink and be merry til our sorrows we drown.

Let us lift up our voices, all grief to refrain

For we may and might never all meet here again

Greetings From the Archives Cont

THESE PIECES OF SHATTERED CRYSTAL

Tune & Words by Kenneth Ulric Amhranai tan Briongioid

(In two places the word has a capital letter within it. tUrmoil & futUre.

I left these in place as originally published.)

Long years ago, when we were a pup,
We went out with life to laugh and to sup,
But life dumped our wine and threw out our cup,
On the ground is Shattered Crystal

We've taken the best of the Shards thrown away,
And gone off and fought in a grand melee,
Now look, my friends, where we stand today,
These pieces of Shattered Crystal.

We've got ourselves nobles and pirates in store,
But building a Barony tis no puny chore
We welcome each body that comes through our door
Great gems oft come from Shattered Crystal.

Our Knights are quite stout, ladies full of grace
Our courtesy's shown throughout the whole place
The tUrmoil of life, we bravely embrace,
Every facet of Shattered Crystal.

Our Arts & our science we think are the best,
And no one can beat us in making a jest,
Our hearts and our hands ye can put to the test,
Such beauty in Shattered Crystal.

We're proud of our people and proud of our land,
Defending our honor we shall make a stand
With a king's army or by our own hand,
Large cuts can come from Shattered Crystal.

Perhaps we are haughty, too much we do boast,
But of all the Baronies, we like ourselves most,
And to our own futUre we raise our own toast,
A toast in Shattered Crystal.

We've taken the best of the Shards thrown away,
And gone off and fought in a grand melee,
Now look, my friends, where we stand today
These pieces of Shattered Crystal.

Message from the Crown

Greetings Midrealm,

We hope you and your families are well rested from the winter holidays.

We are aware of the concerns within the nation regarding the rising cases from the Covid- 19 variants. We are monitoring the case numbers within the Kingdom and have spoken to professionals regarding the realities of these. We share your concerns.

As we near the new year and the scheduled events, we ask each of you to make good decisions. Don't attend an event if you don't feel comfortable doing so. Don't pressure others to attend an event . Don't attend events because you feel pressured to do so, if you don't feel comfortable attending. Events should be fun to attend, not scary. We will be following this guidance as well.

Event stewards and seneschals have the call on cancellations of events. We expect event staff and local officers to be aware of the Covid situation, and all other potentially unsafe situations, in the location of the event and act accordingly. Weather cancellations have happened, and we all stayed home to await a better time to travel. Pandemic related cancellations are no different.

We, The Crown, are planning to attend scheduled events for months to come. We are also planning to pay attention and make choices regarding our attendance for each event. If We don't feel comfortable, we won't attend.

At this time, there is not a plan to cancel events for the entire Kingdom. However, the covid situation is being monitored and discussed by the Kingdoms officers. Who, with Us, fully support local officers/event stewards decisions to cancel individual activities and events.

We love and care for all of you, and are with you in being concerned and cautious. Please make good choices.

[#onemidrealm](#)

We remain in service to the Kingdom,

Ullr and AnneLyse

Monarchs

YEARLY GIFT EXCHANGE - A BRIEF EXPLANATION

BY ALPHJA BJRAZ PARS

Once a year at our annual 12th night potluck, the Barony participates in a rather strange custom - the annual gift exchange. Not that a gift exchange is strange - just the way we do ours. The idea started simply enough. Since we never knew who would be at the potluck - lets just everyone bring an SCA related present and randomly distribute once we are there. The how to distribute part got a bit interesting. Just numbering the gifts & then drawing numbers was too simple. We wanted some choice in the gifts. So here is the way it works currently:

1. Everyone who wants brings a \$10 - \$20 gift - kind of SCA related.
 - a. Preferrably non-gender specific.
 - b. Label if it is for 21 & over.
2. Before the potluck - all gifts are wrapped & placed on a table.
 - a. Sign the list as you place your gift on the table.
3. At the potluck - each person who brought a gift draws a number.
4. The people who draw #1 thru #5 pick from the table.
5. Whoever draws # 6 either
 - a. picks from the table or
 - b. steals a gift.if a: the next number picks.
if b: whoever's gift is stolen then can either (a) pick from the table or (b) steal
(stealing can continue until there is no gift that has not been stolen during this round - the last person then takes from the table)
6. Repeat #5 till everyone has selected a gift.

Extra rules:

1. Only one gift per person.
2. Gifts stay wrapped until the end of the gift exchange.
3. 20 seconds to chose your pick - or the timekeeper will choose for you.
4. All disputes settled by the Baron or Baroness

As you can tell, this is a drawn out affair. It usually ends up being the entire after dinner entertainment. It can be almost as fun to watch as to participate. We also do a smaller exchange for the younger crowd with a \$5 - \$10 dollar gift. Come join in or just watch. See you at 12th night.

The Teetotum What is, When it Was Used, and How to Play

By THL Mwynven Ysginidd Called Strawberry

When & What is it: What time periods were they made and use it?

It told that the T-Totum got its start in Rome as an emperor commanded his wisest counselors to come up with a fresh game to amuse him. These tops had four sides and the letters A,D,N,T, A take "ane" is the eyes of the emperor, D is "Donoto alium" was the disappointed remark of the day in Rome, N was a negative quantity "Nihil", T success could go no further "totum" [9] Whether this is the truth is hard to say But it makes a nice story.

The Elliott Avedon Museum identifies this as a gambling game that dates back to ancient Rome. Each side is marked differently and players wager on which side will end up when the teetotum is spun.

From Pieter Brueghel's "Children's Games", painted in 1560. A child is holding a teetotum in her left hand. Brueghel would most likely have been familiar with the French version of the game. Each player contributes a certain number of coins to the pot. The Oxford History of Board Games by David Parlett states the sides were marked as follows: 'P' for "pillar" or "plunder", the player wins the same number of coins he wagered; 'R' for "rein" or "nothing", the player loses his wager and his turn; 'J' for "jocque" or "game, the player loses his wager and must add the same amount of his wager to the pot again; and 'F' for "fors" or "out", the player wins the entire pot and the game ends. Players ante in again to continue playing. [2][8][13][14] The model the child holds has a long spindle requiring two hands to spin it. Modern versions have short spindles which can be spun in the fingertips.[2]

The game is described as being played by English children at Christmas time. Readers may note the game is remarkable similar to Dreidel, a game that's traditionally played by Jewish children during the Hebrew festival of Hannukah which takes place at approximately the same time of the year [10][13][14]

“According to the David Parlett, *The Oxford History of Board Games*, 1999, pages 29-30, states that the *Teetotum* was originally a cubic die threaded on a spindle so that only one of its sides were capable of showing after it was spun” Source: Virtual Museum of Games [7][8]

Markings of teetotums though history

The tradition in England is to use Teetotums marked on the four sides with Latin letters. The letters **A** (Lat. *aufer*, take) indicating that the player takes one from the pool, **D** (Lat. *depone*, put down) when a fine has to be paid, **N** (Lat. *nihil*, nothing), and **T** (Lat. *totum*, all), when the whole pool is to be taken.

The Teetotum What is, When it Was Used, and How to Play

Continued

(Roman) Latin	(English) Latin
A - ane	A – aufer (take)
D - donoto alium	D- dpone (Put down)
N – nihil	N- Nihol (nothing)
T - totum	T- totum (all)

Other accounts give such letters as **P**, **N**, **D** (*dimidium*, half), and **H** or **T** or other combinations of letters. Other combinations of letters that could be found were **NG**, **ZS**, **TA**, **TG**, **NH**, **ND**, **SL** and **M**, which included the Latin terms *Zona Salve* ("save all"), *Tibi Adfer* ("take all"), *Nihil Habeas* ("nothing left"), *Solve L* ("save 50") and *Nihil Dabis* ("nothing happens"),

The four sides of a Dreidel are marked with the Hebrew letters 'Nun' which stands for "Nes" meaning "miracle"; 'Gimmel' which stands for "Gadol" meaning "great"; 'Heh' which stands for "haya" meaning "happened"; and 'Shin' which stands for "sham" which means "there", a reference to Isreal.[10][17]

If) *nun*) is facing up, the player does nothing.

If) *gimel*) is facing up, the player gets everything in the pot.

If) *he*) is facing up, the player gets half of the pieces in the pot. (If there are an odd number of pieces in the pot, the player takes the half the pot rounded up to the nearest whole number)

If) *shin*) or) *pe*) is facing up, the player adds a game piece to the pot (often accompanied with the chant "Shin, Shin, put one in"). In some game versions a Shin results in adding three game pieces to the pot (one for each stem of the Shin).

In Israel, the fourth side of most dreidels is inscribed with the letter) *Pei* (instead, rendering the acronym, נס גדול היה פה, *Nes Gadol Hayah Poh*—"A great miracle happened here" referring to the miracle occurring in the Land of Israel. Some stores in Haredi neighborhoods sell the *wdreidels* which are imported from Israel. Dreidel has not any manifested evidence that it pre dates 18c.and that it is just a Jewish vision of the teetodum.[common Jewish knowledge]

The Teetotum What is, When it Was Used, and How to Play

Continued

Sources: (Bibliography)

1. <http://digregardless.blogspot.com/2013/03/spitfires-teetotums-and-crumbling-spires.html>

A fascinating little spinning top engraved with old-fashioned capital letters was identified by John Clarke at the Museum of London as made of ivory and a 17th Century 'teetotum,' a piece for playing 'put and take' games with.



2. A girl holding up a four-sided teetotum on Brueghel, Pieter "Children's Games" 1560. 46-1/2 x 63-3/8" (118x161cm) Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna.



3. <http://cadw.gov.wales/docs/cadw/publications/150923Tudorgames.pdf> © Crown Copyright 2014 WG20762

The Teetotum What is, When it Was Used, and How to Play

Continued

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8. Parlett, David The Oxford History of Board Games (Cary, N.Carolina; Oxford University Press; 1999; ISBN: 0192129988)
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11. Date 17thC (early) Production place Made in: Germany
12. **History of Glenbervie** By George Henderson Kinnear, 1895 edition, p. 88
13. Portman, Paul Pieter Brueghel's Children's Games (Berne, Switz.; Hallwall Press; 1964)

14. Game of the Month: Teetotums and Dreidels, by Dagonell the Juggler (<http://www-cs.canisius.edu/>)



possibly post medieval example .

Possible wood selection Juniper

Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) is one of only three native conifers in Britain. A member of the cypress family, it has short, spiky leaves and distinctive blue-black berries. Once a common plant, it was traditionally used in medicines and to flavour food and drink, perhaps most famously gin. <http://plantnetwork.org/>

Trees considered native to Wales, include a range of broadleaved species found in woodland situations (eg **oak**, ash, **birch**, **willow**, **alder**, etc) or hedgerows (eg **hawthorn**, **hazel**, **blackthorn**, field maple, etc). nativetrees.org.uk/

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January 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4 Meeting	5	6	7	8 Twelfth Night Winter Corona- tion
9	10	11 Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Meeting	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Meeting	26	27	28 Online Bardic Skirmishes	29
30	31					

February 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 Meeting	2	3	4	5 Clothier's Seminar
6	7	8 Meeting	9	10	11	12 Winter Rum in Winged Hills Queen's Prize Tourney
13	14	15 Meeting	16	17	18	19 Winter War Maneuvers
20	21	22 Meeting	23	24	25	26 Courting on the River Chieftan's
27	28					

March 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 Meeting	2	3	4	5 Winter War Maneuvers
6	7	8 Meeting	9	10	11	12 Gulf Wars
13 Gulf Wars	14 Gulf Wars	15 Meeting Gulf Wars	16 Gulf Wars	17 Gulf Wars	18 Gulf Wars	19 Gulf Wars
20 Gulf Wars	21	22 Meeting	23	24	25	26 Better War Through Archery Camp Dubois Rendezvous
27 Camp Dubois Rendezvous	28	29 Meeting	30	31		