

the BiCRANIAL BEAR

september 2023

Greetings to the Citizens of Adiantum!

Welcome to the third BiCranial Bear of 2023.

Although we are not holding an official fall event this year, our Heavy Championship will take place at Terra Pomaria's Martinmas gathering on October 20-22. Our Baron continues to interview members of the populace – this quarter's interview is with Baroness Morrghan O'Siodhachain. Do you know how old our various awards are? Can you divide a circle into any number of equal parts? Read on and learn!

Enjoy. . .

In service to Adiantum,
Yseult of Broceliande, Chronicler

The BiCranial Bear is the official newsletter of the Barony of Adiantum.

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BARON BRUNJARR INTERVIEWS BARONESS MORRGHAN

When did you join the SCA?

1994

What was your first event?

Egil's '94, the second to last at Zumwalt

Do you remember who helped you learn about our society and who is it?

My first household was a group of high schoolers doing their best. Guðrun Ulriksdottir was my main source of SCAdian wisdom, but she had the nerve to graduate and go to college. We didn't have much on the internet in those days so we had to figure it out the hard way, show up and do the thing.

What is your "dream" when you go to an event?

My community is what makes the Dream come to life. After being a part of Adiantum for thirty years local events are like a family reunion. Sitting around a fire with good friends and stories, with the sounds of a happy village all around me is the best place to be.

Can you tell us about your persona and how you chose it?

My persona is "Ooooo Shiny!!!" for the most part, but 12th century Sicily has some of the most amazing textiles, so I am happy to call that home. The name was taken from my

mother's ancestors the O'Siodhachain's, and the fact that no one mispronounces Morrghan (the spelling is my own fabrication, I was seventeen, don't judge).

Do you have a passion in our society? A Marshal skill, crafting, or service...etc?

Textiles, I love sewing, printing, hoarding. I adore fabric, and while I will try my hand at any skill that crosses my path I love textiles the most.

Would you please share any roles you have filled in our Society ie championships, officer positions, etc?

I have served as Baroness of Adiantum, Summits A&S Champion, Various Egil's Staff positions more years than not, and more that I have forgotten over the years.

Is there anything you would like to learn about that someone could help you with?

Time management always seems to be the thing I need help with.



Morrghan is wearing a tunic that she hand stamped with a pattern block that she carved.

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Order of the Baronial Brownie

On October 22, A.S. XII at the Adiantum Harvest Revel, Baron Michael of Dragonswood created the Order of the Baronial Brownie and conferred it upon these deserving denizens of Adiantum.

Ulfhedinn inn Vegfarandi

Reginleif the Unruly

Victoria Morgana de Toledo

Maria del Norte

Christina de Valencia

Pedro Chimene de Cinqtours

Ann Swinton

Janet of Arden Erinn of Lemati

Janet of Stonecroft

Thorgeirr Eikinskjaldi

Gregory of the Lost Forest

Donn an Bronach

Anastasia Terrapinovna

Caroline of Waldland

Ailantha of Greani Vellir

Wyclif of Bleaugraes

The Barony extends thanks and congratulations to one and all.

Adiantum's Awards

Adiantum's first award, given in Anno Societatis XII, that is 1977, was the **Baronial Brownie**. It is the first level of service award for work that has benefitted the Barony and its people. Most of us can recite the traditional wording:

"Know all men by these presents that we, _____, Baron and Baroness of Adiantum, being greatly pleased with the noble lords and ladies who contributed so generously to the success of our great Barony, do hereby wish to give public recognition of our gratitude. Therefore, we elevate our worthy subject, _____ to the **great & glorious, noble & prestigious, splendid & magnificent** order of the Baronial Brownie, and it shall be the exclusive right of that order to wear a badge – being argent, a brownie proper – to be known as a **brownie button**, Furthermore, we hereby confirm Adiantum's first sumptuary law: We grant the Order the exclusive right to wear brown sawtooth dags on their clothing – these to be yclept **brownie points**."

Do you have brown saw-toothed dags on any of your clothing??

The origin of the award is appropriately humorous. Back in the 1970s, Adiantum used to raise money by holding bake sales outside the University of Oregon Book Store. One time, every single contribution was a batch of brownies, so Baron Michael and Baroness Alianora created the award. Notice of it was published in the January 1977 special Arts & Sciences edition of the Barony's newsletter, *The Elf Hill Times*:

The Elf Hill Times became a twice-yearly A&S journal that published 29 issues through January 1991. Three further issues appeared sporadically after that, the last in 1998.

The Order of the Fern & Quill

For eleven years Adiantum didn't have any other awards until Baron Ulfhedinn and Baroness Reginleif created the Order of the Fern and Quill in A.S. XXIII (1988). It was given for achievement in the arts and sciences. The first member was Yseult of Broceliande. Forty-nine people have been honored with this award since then.

The Coulter and Cornucopia / The Order of the Collar and Chain

Ulfhedinn and Reginleif created the Order of the Collar and Chain at the same time that they created the Fern & Quill, but the An Tir Order of Precedence records the first award in A.S. XXIII (1989) to Takezo Kurita and Chimene de CinqTours. The name was intended as a reference to the Elizabethan Chain or Collar of Office or Livery Collar. Thirty-two people have received that award. Baron Evan and Baroness Ayla retired it out of respect for our POC community and replaced it with the Coulter and Cornucopia in A.S. LVI (2022) to be the new mid-level Service award.

The Order of Adiantum

Baroness Yseult created the Order of Adiantum at Egil's Tourney in A.S. XXVII (1992) as an order for people whose total achievement helped shape the culture and identity of the Barony. Members of the order would become obvious through their continued active service and participation in the Barony. Galen Patternweaver was the first recipient. A total of thirty people have received membership in the order. The Baron and Baroness award it after consulting with the members of the order.

The Vigilant Bear

This is an award for exceptional martial prowess in service to the barony, created by Baron Ambrose and Baroness Marian in A.S. XXX (1995). Thirty-three people have received it.

The Band of Briars

At Egil's Tourney in A.S. XLI (2006), Baron Brutus Solamon and Baroness Katerine Martel created the Band of Briars to recognize the people whose valiant efforts had won Adiantum a site for Egil's

Tourney by beating back the briars at Lynx Hollow Park. In total, thirty-one people have been inducted for continuing the battle against the encroaching briars.

Order of the Golden Comb

This award was given in A.S. XLI (2006) and A.S. XLII (2007) by Baron Brutus Solamon and Baroness Katerine Martel to two households whose encampments at Egil's Tourney had an exceptionally period appearance, House Eisen and Caer Lutris.

Order of Courtesy of Adiantum

Baron Tadhg O'Murchadha the Wanderer & Baroness Morrghan O'Siodhachain inaugurated this award at Egil's Tourney in A.S. XLV (2010) for those members of the populace whose actions exemplify courtly and courteous behavior. It has been awarded to fourteen people beginning with four that first year: Telisia Brutusdottir, Johanna Trewpeny, Morgan the Truehearted, and Brother Al of Peace Haven.

The Aurei Ursus

This is the Baroness's Favor to be bestowed at the Baroness's pleasure. It was first given in January A.S. XLII (2008) by Baroness Katerine Martel. It has been given to twenty-one people.

The Order of the Silver Fern

This is a throne favor for the Baron, since Aurei Ursi was only created for the Baroness's use. It was first given in May A.S. LVI (2021) by Baron Evan and has been awarded to five people.

Baron Evan and Baroness Ayla created the **Memoriam Aede** in A.S. LIV (2020). It is a baronial version of The Riderless Horse and was created initially to memorialize those we lost during the pandemic.

The Order of Bastet

This was created in the past year by our Baroness Isis Sat Ne Nes Bastet to recognize exemplary and inclusive involvement with new populace of the Barony.

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Here are a couple of useful tidbits from the website of Brynmorgen Press, <https://www.brynmorgen.com/resc>

To Divide a Circle into Equal Parts

1. Draw diameter AB.
2. With A as center and AB as radius, scribe an arc. Repeat, with B as center.
3. With a ruler, divide AB into the desired number of parts. This example shows five.
4. Draw a line from C through the second division.
5. Step AD around the circle. Presto!



