

Greetings Unto Their Royal Majesties Cellach and Vukasin, their Royal Highnesses Alric and Katherine, Baroness Hannah Schreiber, Baroness Maggie MacKeith, Baron Fergus MacPherson, and the Populace of Shadowed Stars,

We, Mael Duin mac Gilla Ennae and Prudence of Colleah, do hereby humbly and sincerely request consideration for the position of Baron and Baroness of Shadowed Stars. Over the past several years we have given due diligence to the responsibilities to both Crown and Populace required by this role in discussion between ourselves and with both former and current Landed Baronial couples. We have not made this decision lightly. As we put forward our candidacy, we ask your leniency while we introduce ourselves both in the Society for Creative Anachronism and the Modern World and outline our hopes for the future of the Barony of Shadowed Stars.

Mael Duin mac Gilla Ennae was born in 1280, the third son of a veteran of the Battle of Ath-an-Chip. His father made sure that he and his older brothers learned the art of swordsmanship. When Edward I left England to invade France with Count Guy of Dampierre, Mael joined the army going there rather than take arms against the Scots. After the truce was signed in October, Mael traveled to England and began taking work as a guard for trading caravans. Over the next several years, he journeyed across both England and Europe, marrying once and having a daughter before his wife passed away. Eventually, he found a small tavern for sale in Sligo, Ireland and purchased it, renaming it the Knotty Dragon Tavern.

Prudence of Colleah was born in the small town of Cowlee in Oxfordshire in 1295, where her father was a magistrate and teacher. As a youth, her father ensured that her educational curiosities were well satisfied. They lived there until 1311 when he was branded a heretic for his scientific views, whereupon they fled to Saxon Germany. Once her father found employment with the ambassador to Saxe-Wittenberg, Prudence began her studies again, including training with a Hungarian Sabre Master who was staying nearby. In 1317, she met Mael while he was in Saxe-Wittenberg with a caravan purchasing ale for his tavern. Intrigued by the Irishman, she proposed marriage. After some tense negotiations with her father over dowry, the two were wed in 1318 and moved back to Sligo and the Tavern.

As a member of the Society since 2003, Mael has received an Award of Arms, a Purple Fret, is a Member of the Order of the Cavendish Knot – one of the few to have the distinction of being made a member of the Order a second time due to a clerical error, and is a member of the Order of the Bronze Ring. He began serving the Shire of Shadowed Stars as the Deputy Pursuivant the first year he was a member, and was elected to the full Office shortly thereafter. He also held the Shadowed Stars Office of Rapier Marshal. Mael served as Seneschal of Shadowed Stars for four years, and is currently the Baronial Chatelaine. He has also is the Co-founder of the Knotty Dragon Tavern, a service and social household which received the Purple Fretty. In addition, he helped with the organization of the Blades of Brendoken rapier guild. He is also a member of Raven Company. In the past, he advanced to the rank of Executive Officer of the Midrealm Rapier Army.

Prudence joined the Society in 2005 as a citizen of the Barony of Brendoken. She received her Award of Arms at her second event in recognition of her service at her first event in Feast Preparation. She has

received the Star of Brendoken with the other initial members of the Brendoken Rapier Melee Unit, which was then awarded the Dragon's Teeth at Pennsic War 38. In recognition of her individual skill, she was inducted into the Order of the Cavendish Knot. Prudence also helped with the initial organization of the Blades of Brendoken. Upon her arrival in Shadowed Stars, she stepped up to the position of Minister of Arts and Sciences and held the position for four years. Prudence is currently serving the Barony as both Webminister and Thrown Weapons Marshal. She also has received a Willow for embroidery and a Purple Fret. She is a member of the Knotty Dragon Tavern and Raven Company. She is an authorized Thrown Weapons and Rapier Field Marshal.

As Shadowed Stars continues its journey as a Barony, we would work to emphasize keeping the "Fun" in "Functional." The key to this endeavor is maintaining group integrity through promoting fun while working, displaying a positive attitude, and minimizing the detrimental effects of growing pains. Specifically:

- Encourage participation in all facets of the Society.
- Facilitate a variety of activities at the local level
- Advocate for more accessibility for everyone, whether it be by promoting ride sharing or pairing members with those of like interests.
- Stress the welcoming of new members, since the strength of the Society as a whole is by the influx of new members and ideas.
- Encourage the growth of members into areas for which they display an aptitude and interest.
- Work with surrounding groups and the Kingdom to foster a greater sense of community and camaraderie.

In these modern times, we are known as Michael Malaney and Rachel Coffman. Although we maintain our family names, we were married in July and October of 2008. We met through the Society and our love of rapier combat. The courtship presented in our persona histories is more or less how it happened in real life, as well.

Michael is a 17 year veteran of broadcast television, and worked as a Newscast Director for 12 of those years, and currently has progressed on to managing an Auto Parts Warehouse.. Since the age of 20, he has been in a leadership position at each company he has worked at. In that time, he has learned how to meld diverse personalities into a team working to a mutually desired and beneficial goal.

Rachel is a graduate of the Ohio State University with dual degrees in Greenhouse Production and Management, and Nursery Management. She currently is involved in various landscaping projects, and volunteers with the Botanical Conservatory in town.

(contact information redacted)

We thank you for the opportunity to complete the process we started so long ago by serving both the Kingdom, Populace, and the Barony of Shadowed Stars as its Baron and Baroness.

Yours in Service to the Crown and the Dream,

The Honorable Lord Mael Duin mac Gilla Ennae and Lady Prudence of Colleah