

Unto Their Royal Majesties, Highnesses, and the Barony of Carillion do we, Ciaran ua Meic Thire and Ellynor Redpath send greetings,

While we have not lived in the barony for as long as many, having moved into Carillion in 2018 (AS 53), we say without hesitation or doubt to you that Carillion and the East Kingdom are and will forever be our homes. When we first moved into the East (Ciaran went to college in Atlantia, Ellynor in Aethelmearc and both finding the SCA while away and moving to Settmour Swamp after graduation), before we were fencers or archers or artisans, before we had even been to an event in the East, we were invited to Baroness Ty's house for Baconpooza. We didn't know many people, having only met Jehannine and Phillip, Thor, and Miles, we came and were met at the door by Wolfgang Gruenwald, of blessed memory. He quickly ushered us in but then told us to step outside. We did and he had us come in again and step outside again. He then told us to step inside one more time and, while still very confused, we complied and were told "great, you've been here three times now, you are family, welcome and please make yourself comfortable." It took us another 4 years to move into Carillion, but his words and his kindness have never left us. Carillion is where we feel that we belong. We strive to welcome others into the barony with the same enthusiasm and love that was shown to us whether as seated baronage or just as members of the populace.

Carillion itself began in the halls of Princeton University and its name was inspired by the bells of Westminster Choir College. As we found the SCA through the local barony's connections to the university, we know what an extensive resource this can be. The baronial lands house at least nine colleges and universities and tens of thousands of students. As active members of the rapier, archery, arts and science, and service communities (with close connections to the armored, equestrian, and thrown communities), we believe that we are in a unique position where we can help any newcomer find a place in their area(s) of interest and connect them with the right people to help welcome them and guide them on their path.

Our main goal is to help Carillion grow again after the plague years and help both novice and veteran SCAdians in any way we can. Carillion has a special place in our hearts, and we feel it is the job of the baronial heads to represent their lands and their people as the current baronesses do and we wish to continue their works. There is so much that has been done by so

many both inside the barony and outside it. We'd like to help thank those who have worked so hard contributing time, effort, and resources. Many hands make lighter work, and we cannot and should not expect those who give their all to continue doing so without in perpetuity. All deserve a chance to rest and enjoy the fruits of their works and bringing in new blood is a great way to do that. We have such wonderful neighbors to the North, South, and West (the neighbors to the East are a bit fishy) and our bonds with them can help raise us all together like a rising tide. Demos are not just attended by those that live within the group hosting them and each of our baronies build off one another.

We have consulted with many who hold and have held baronial seats in the past, within Carillion, the East Kingdom and beyond. As Master Aldemere MacRafe, the former baron of Black Diamond (who was our first interaction with a coronet), told us, "The role of the baronage is to not only represent the populace they serve but to represent the society as a whole." Dame Juliana Grene, former baroness of Black Diamond, advised "the baronage is oftentimes the first person or people that many newcomers will meet, and that interaction will forever shape if and how they go forward in the SCA. Baronage or citizen, always strive to be a warm smile, a welcoming hand, and a compassionate guide to the dream." We have taken their words to heart and ingrained them into who we are as SCAdians because they could not have been more right. We wish to follow in their footsteps and in the footsteps of our baronesses and be this voice, this welcoming hand, this chime of the Carillon heard across the lands. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours in Service to the dream,

Don Ciaran ua Meic Thire & Baroness Ellynor Redpath