

Curia Notes September Crown 2011

Their Royal Majesties Thorin and Dagmaer are present. Their Royal Highnesses Ieaun and Gwyneth had to leave the night before. None of the territorial princes or princesses are present.

No Curia will be held at Fall Crown Council. The next session will be at 12th Night.

OFFICER REPORTS

Seneschal Baron James Llewellyn ap Gruffydd:

- 100% of his branch officers have reported in the most recent quarter.
- Shire of Grimwithshire is requesting to dissolve their branch as of the Board of Directors meeting in October. They really tried to make it work, but have not been able to, especially with so many members moving out of the area recently. They will be absorbed back into the Barony of Wealdsmere.
- Several law changes have been announced at recent events and will be posted on the website soon. An Tir is due to publish its complete law book by early 2012 but is hoping that the Society will have resolved the issues to posting newsletters online by that time, so the laws can be posted the same way and save considerable printing and postage costs.
- TRM thank Baron James for his service as Kingdom Seneschal. Master Ljotr Einarsson will be assuming the role of Seneschal in a few weeks after he completes his term with the SCA Board of Directors.

Exchequer HL Elonda Blue Haven. Her successor is also present and will step up in October: HL Genevieve Marie Etienne de Montagne.

- Receipts must be submitted within 120 days or they will not be paid. They may be sent by email as PDF or photo files for a quick response, but the hard copies must also be received.
- Branches hosting a Crown level event must receive approval in advance if their expenses are going to change more than 10% from any budget item stated in their accepted bid.
- Branches hosting a Crown level event must file their final report within 30 days in order to retain part of the profits from that event. If there are extenuating circumstances, tell the Kingdom Exchequer immediately and an extension can be granted. (Recent examples include Accepts not sending pre-registration fees in a timely fashion, or the dispute the Shire of Midhaven had over the garbage bill for July Coronation.)

Black Lion Herald HL Anthony Hawke -- Everything is going well. The online form for award recommendations now asks for a person's number on the Order of Precedence. This is not required, but it can help the Crown identify the correct individual being written about.

Earl Marshal Viscount Matheus Bane

- Reporting is going well and few incidents have been noted. He is finishing his report to the Society this week.
- Viscount Matheus talked with armored marshals working this weekend about not using the command "center", and allowing fighters the freedom to maneuver as much as possible in an eric without jeopardizing anyone's safety. This message will be repeated to a wider audience in the coming months.
- There is now an understanding amongst the Kingdom's leaders that a minor can come participate in youth armored combat, target archery, or thrown weapons with a "responsible adult" their guardian has designated, and that the parent or guardian themselves do not have to be present. Changes to the official language in the Book of Youth Combat and Book of Target regarding this will be forth-coming.
- There is discussion of changing the rules on sword thrusting tips occurring at the Society level. Stay tuned for further details.

Arts & Sciences Viscountess Katherine atte Moure

- Some branches consistently report, others do not.

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- Major revisions have been made to their website. Feedback is welcome.
- The “Bard-off” competition last night met with a great reception, even from those who often do not attend such activities. More such events are being planned for the future to make music a more public part of the SCA again.

Chronicler HL Godith d'Arcy of Goosefoot Mead -- She is not present, but one of her deputies provides a report.

- There is about \$16,000 left in their budget.
- All Kingdoms receive the same stipend from the Society to publish their newsletters, regardless of the size of their membership. This especially hurts An Tir, being one of the largest kingdoms at 3600 members.
- Society is still working on plans to move Kingdom newsletters online through a secure access system for members, but it is proving to be a more complex and contentious process than originally thought. The plan is to have this ready by January 2012, but it may take longer.
- Having the newsletter online may result in stricter deadlines for information to be submitted, but these deadlines should be closer to the event than now because the material does not have to be laid out for the printer. An online newsletter would also allow for updates to event copy and hyperlinks for more information, unlike a paper version.

Chirurgion HL Jahnkin de Leeuw stepped into this position the night before, taking over from Viscountess Sumayya min Yibna.

- They created a new Master Chirurgion this weekend which will help with training new volunteers.
- HL Jahnkin's early task will be clarifying rules on volunteers and credentials for everyone's understanding, and to stay in compliance with modern laws.

Chatelaine HL Muirgheal inghean Alasdair

- She is looking for a Contingency Deputy and someone for Rivers Region.
- Things are going well. Large branches have seen a number of new members over the summer. Several are planning demo events in the near future and will need members to participate.
- The challenge is helping newcomers find a reason to stay in the SCA, and integrating them into the community: educating them on our terminology, customs, and activities. Everyone can act as a chatelaine in this respect.
- Chatelaine is emphasizing to all of her deputies the importance of making face to face contact with new members, and not solely corresponding with them via email. At the same time, entries on the general and Wiki websites are helpful in attracting and educating all participants.

Family Activities Coordinator Madame Jacqueline de Lioncourt

- She is looking for a Contingency Deputy and someone to do administrative projects.
- The title change from Pied Piper to Family Activities was made official throughout the Kingdom Law book and other materials this weekend. Seneschal James will arrange for Dame Brigid Ross and HL Jenae la Joyeaux to present this concept to the Board of Directors at the October meeting, for possible expansion into other kingdoms.
- Reporting is going well and there are lots of family activities going on in many branches.
- HL Fjörleif Hrafnarsdóttir from Aquaterra will be resurrecting the Page Program. This previously has been focused on adolescents, but they will begin accepting pre-teens as well.

Scribe Mistress Bronwen Elgars

- The scribes need a new large Black Lion seal and will obtain bids for this item.
- Baronial reporting is inconsistent, and Mistress Bronwen is going to push harder on this.
- The planned updates to the Doomsday Book have run into some delays. The Great Book team is in charge of this activity.

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- The scribes are working to create a website to track commission assignments for present and overdue original scrolls, as the current roster system doesn't work very well. Also a database to list skills different scribes have to take on specific assignments or to teach classes. Their Majesties state that Baroness Kiara and Master Pyotr could help with this, and they can discuss this issue with Mistress Bronwen more later.
- Her Majesty suggests asking people with original scrolls to take photos of them and submit them for an archive to share the history of An Tir and this beautiful artwork. Also the scribes creating scrolls, or the Head of Retinue before they are distributed, could photograph new items. Perhaps these pictures could be connected to the recipient's OP listing. The question is which server has enough space to hold these files.

Teamster Baron Michael

- He has been in the position for 3 years and is now Baron of Terra Pomaria and needs to step down. A notice has been published in the Crier, but needs to run again. Announcements can also be sent to all email lists, and he left flyers on the window of any truck at September Crown not already pulling a trailer.
- The only individual interested in taking on this role so far lives in Canada. The challenge is that because the trailer is licensed in the US, it needs to be pulled by a US truck by a US licensed driver in order to cross the boarder. (Once it is across, the authorities have not been concerned about the licensing combination.)
 - One solution would be for there to be two people in the teamster role: One on the US side who could store the trailer and either drive it to US events themselves, or make it available for the Canadian driver to transport it in the US. And for Canadian events, the US driver would transport the trailer across the border to meet with the Canadian driver.
 - Another solution would be to buy a second trailer and license it in Canada and use this one for Canadian events. If it was not needed at times, it could be loaned to Tir Righ.
 - Transferring the license on the trailer back and forth on the existing trailer between the two countries is too expensive to work.
- Their Majesties ask for an updated list of which items are in the Kingdom trailer versus the Royal one. There has been some confusion about this lately, which has made set up at events more difficult.
- Each Kingdom officer with a pavilion needs to take pictures of it when it's down, partially set up, and completely erected; and write out instructions on how to set up and fold it. These can be put in a binder in the trailer so that new volunteers at event sites know what to do. The parts of the pavilion should also be labeled. Chamberlain HE Constance Davies can help with this.

EVENT REPORTS

Kingdom Seneschal James points out the advantage of posting the event rates and schedules on the Kingdom website is that this information continues to be available in subsequent years for new teams looking for data in planning the next event. If the information is only on local branch websites, that is not guaranteed.

Event teams are reminded to consult with Kingdom Media deputy HL Floralyn before speaking with anyone from the media in order to get advice on how to make the best presentation.

July Coronation 2011 hosted by the Shire of Midhaven near Arlington, WA.

- Attendance was 936 total onsite, which is typical for this time and location.
- The event went very well despite the rain and the mud. The populace was quite understanding of the event team's limitations. The county is also asking to have the SCA back at the site.
- It took 2.5 weeks before the portable toilet company could come and retrieve those. The trash company charged double the agreed rate for the dumpster, but this has been negotiated back down. Accops was late in sending the pre-registration money. The bank then made some errors with the deposit amounts.

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As a result the event team asked for an extension on paying the Crown for this event, but everything should be resolved by Sept 9th.

September Crown 2011 hosted by the Barony of Glymm Mere at Nix Ranch, Chehalis, WA.

- Attendance was approximately 1200 this weekend, which is typical for this time and location; and they expect to be on budget. There have been a couple of small problems, but otherwise it has been a good event.
- Accepts did not send the list of pre-registered attendees until the Wednesday before the event after repeated requests for this information.

SCA Board of Directors quarterly meeting will be in Seattle on Oct 14-16th. The Barony of Madrone will host a revel the evening of Saturday 10/15. Embassy Suites (SeaTac Airport). 15920 West Valley Highway near the airport and Southcenter Mall. For more information see www.sca.org/BOD/AttendingaBoardMeeting.pdf

Kingdom Heraldic Symposium will be November 5th & 6th in Newberg, OR hosted by the Shire of Mountain Edge. Planning for classes is going well. Site fee is \$15 and includes lunch. One location is being used on Saturday and another on Sunday. Crash space can be arranged by contacting the Event Steward HL Macha the Determined.

Fall Crown Council will be in Wyewood November 12th

- At the time of the Curia meeting discussions were still in process with the Kent and Renton school districts for a suitable site. This was subsequently determined to be Meeker Middle School. (Kent district but a Renton address.)
- Site fee is \$5 plus NMS. The shire will serve lunch for donations.
- A revel will follow court on Saturday evening.
- Fighting will take place at the same location for the regular site fee, and there may be a tournament organized. For an additional \$10 fee fighters may attend the workshop Sir Rauokinn has arranged. TRM will be speaking with Lord Arthur Buchanan about possibly filming the fighting as an educational gift to the hosting school.

Twelfth Night 2012 in will be hosted by Wealdsmere in the Canton of Silverhart (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho).

- 150 rooms have been booked.
- Alaska Airlines is currently offering a fare of \$50 each way. The Amtrak Empire Builder has a run from Seattle to Coeur d'Alene for \$90 which arrives midnight on Friday and returns 2am on Monday.
- The site tokens are finished.
- Invitations are being sent to the leaders of other Kingdoms this month to attend.
- The event team is making a second request for historical items to display in celebration of An Tir's 30th year as a Kingdom. Also for banners to be displayed and for bards to perform. The barding for the Riderless Horse will be displayed.
- Please send in requests for meeting times as soon as possible.

Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championships 2012 will be hosted by the Shire of Danescombe at the Shatford Center in Penticton, British Columbia. (This is due north of Omak, WA, about 6 hours from Seattle and 5 hours from Vancouver BC.) The event center has a number of meeting rooms available. There are many hotels and restaurants in the vicinity, and information about this is on the Kingdom calendar website. There are already several people stating they plan to enter, and there will be a competition for children as well.

May Crown 2012 -- A bid has been submitted by the Shire of Dregate, but has not yet been accepted and the event is still open for other applications. (See Financial Meeting notes for additional information.)

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An Tir – West War 2012 -- It is the West's turn to host this year. July 4th is a Wednesday and the West is proposing holding the event the weekend after. An Tir Seneschal Baron James is asking them to move it to the weekend before so the Canadians can take advantage of their long holiday weekend to attend.

July Coronation 2012 -- Two branches are reported to be considering a bid, but nothing has yet been formally submitted. TRM want the decision made by 12th Night to give the event team adequate time to plan.

September Crown 2012 will be hosted by the Shire of Druim Doinean and the Barony of Dragon's Lair in Port Angeles. (A little under 3 hours from Seattle.) The agreement has been signed with the fairgrounds to use the site, and additional space next to it for no additional charge. The event team will be making their first visit to the site in early October. They are considering using Aceps for pre-registration if problems with that system can be resolved.

12th Night 2013 will be hosted by the Barony of Three Mountains at the Doubletree hotel in central Portland. (See Financial Meeting notes for additional information.)

