

# AN TIR FINANCIAL MEETING -- May Crown 5/21/17

## Attendance:

### ROYALTY

King Styrkarr Jarlsskald  
Queen Dagrun Stjarna  
Crown Prince Christian Bane  
Crown Princess Helene d'Anjou  
Summits Princess Alina of Folkstone  
Summits Prince Tjorkill Kanne  
Tir Righ Princess Glynis Fawr

### KINGDOM & PRINCIPALITY OFFICERS

Seneschal Lenora Truble  
Exchequer Arontius of Bygelswade  
Curia Clerk Althaia filia Lazari  
Arts & Sciences Minister Cristiana de Huntington  
Crown Events Deputy Francisca de Montoya  
Crown Events Assistant Ana de la Sera  
Scribe Sarra the Brave  
Web Minister UlfR Blodfotur Fallgrson  
Tir Righ Seneschal Alessandra Luciana Giancomo

### OTHER INDIVIDUALS

Ysolt Tayler of Windhill  
Ysabella Greene (Deputy Chamberlain)  
William Tarrell  
Thorkell Palsson (Twelfth Night 2018 Steward)  
Steven Desjardin (May Crown Steward)  
Rose Atherton (Kingdom Lists Minister)  
Luiathrend inghean Uilliam (Martial Auth. Officer)  
Gera Gangolffin (May Crown Steward)  
Etiennette de Montagne (Kingdom Pelican Secretary)  
Erik Loren Elcara  
Elonda Blue Haven  
Edward Ean Anderson  
Desiree Aurelia Chiarestella (July Coronation Steward)  
Alessandra da Montefeltro (Baroness of Wyewood)

*Approximately 3 others, names unknown*

## Report by Exchequer Master Arontius of Bygelswade

### Officer Status:

- Arontius's first two year term as Kingdom Exchequer ends at July Coronation. He asks to stay on one more year to oversee the implementation of PayPal, and the update to the Financial Policy document. He has identified a potential successor and will use this time to train that individual as well. Request granted.
- Viscount Ulfgar Thorvaldsson is taking over as Teamster from Magnifico Talentus del Albero this weekend. The Kingdom appreciated Talon stepping back into this role for the past year to help out. He is an organized and reliable volunteer. Ulfgar, Talon, & Chamberlain Charles de Bourbon did an inventory today.

### Current Financial Status

- *All amounts are in US dollars unless stated otherwise.*
- The Kingdom currently has an asset total of \$151,331.13. Details are:

Primary Checking	\$62,581.26		CD 4950	\$17,078.23
Savings	\$14,672.68		CD 4953	\$15,501.05
CD 1404	\$13,265.24		CD 4957	\$14,843.14
CD 4949	\$13,389.53			

- The majority of our income is generated by attendance at Crown and Kingdom event fees. Most of the rest comes from donations by branches and individuals, and most of that is earmarked for the Raven Travel or regalia funds.
- The Kingdom Seneschal and Exchequer need to review the bank statements and Monthly Bank Reconciliations for December 2016, and for January through April 2017.
- Major changes since Twelfth Night include:
  - Profit from Twelfth Night of \$8937.44.
  - A loss from Kingdom Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championship of \$1098.67.
  - Transferring all of the various University of Ithra funds into the main Kingdom account which has reached a total of \$19,315.28. A new dedicated account for Ithra will be established soon.
  - Final payment of \$1200 for the new thrones for the King and Queen.
  - Payment of \$600.60 towards the new Kingdom website.
  - A donation of \$700 from Viscount Matheus Bane based on his work turning the old thrones into shield tiles for the populace to purchase. This money will be used to make new regalia.
  - Donations from the Barony of Aquaterra of \$1020 and from the College of Lyonsmarche of \$200. Arontius has started posting thank you's about these donations and other financial news on the main An Tir Facebook page to keep everyone informed about the financial status of our Kingdom.
  - The usual demands of Royal and officer travel, as well as NMR passing through the checking account.

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- Of the total in the Kingdom's accounts, the following amounts are in dedicated accounts for specific projects:
  - NMR is currently at \$6949.42, but this fluctuates rapidly. \$4099 has already been paid out this year.
  - Raven Travel Fund has a balance of \$3950.90. King Styrkarr has some fundraising plans in mind.
  - Kingdom Feast: There is \$6956.53 in the account as seed money for the 2018 event.
  - University of Ithra: Previously these funds were in multiple local accounts throughout the Kingdom, some of which banks were about to confiscate because they had been dormant for too long. So far the Kingdom has brought \$19,315.28 into its main account, and will set up a separate line for all of these funds shortly.
  - Crown Repair: There is \$4902 in the account which we can use to refurbish our long-standing pair.

### Non-Member Registration & PayPal

- Prior editions of the Financial Committee notes have a detailed explanation of when NMR applies and the submission timelines. It is crucial that An Tir adhere to these rules not only to remain in good standing with the Society, but also to be eligible to use PayPal for gate fees.
- An Tir has now met the minimum Society standard to be eligible to use PayPal, but there is a lot of work yet to do to create those procedures. Arontius is looking for 6-8 detail oriented volunteers to help him with this project. Best case scenario we could implement this for September Crown, but Twelfth Night might be more realistic. Summits Princess Alina of Folkstone works with PayPal in her professional life and volunteers to help.
- For more information about NMR requirements and the plan to implement PayPal, see the Society Exchequer's page at <http://www.sca.org/officers/exchequer/#nms>.

### Status of the Kingdom pavilions

- Unfortunately the tears in the roof of the gold-dagged pavilion which occurred at September Crown 2015 are not yet fixed, although \$500 was allocated at Fall Crown Council 2015 to do so. So far we've had enough tents by officers sharing or the hosting Barony loaning one of theirs. The Teamster and Chamberlain need to assess the situation to either get that pavilion repaired or purchase a new one. The ridge pole for the green-dagged tent the heralds use was supposed to be examined this weekend.
- At July Coronation we decided to authorize funds for a new pavilion for use by the Royal retinue at major events. This would give them a designated and enclosed space to hold meetings, sign scrolls, assemble largess, plan out the agenda for court, and other tasks. Most often this would be set up in the Royal encampment, but the Royals could also speak with the event team about setting it up on the erics, perhaps attached to the Royal pavilion. -- Project on hold as other tasks have priority.

### Other Business

- Queen Stjarna plans to attend the Known World Dance Symposium near Baltimore, MD in June. As no other Monarchs are attending, the Raven Travel Fund cannot be used for this trip, but the Financial Committee will allow her to pay for some of the costs out of the Crown's regular travel budget.
- Software for Kingdom officers: Nearly all of the Kingdom Officers and their deputies have been converted to the Office 365 system, which includes not only email addresses that don't require forwarding and document storage capacity, but also versions of Word and Excel that are fully compatible with what the Society officers are using. This resolves the issues a few officers were having in exchanging reports from other software on their home computer with their Society counterparts. Since the SCA is a non-profit organization, we are able to use Office 365 for free. Converting the remaining Kingdom Deputies and all of the Principality officers to that system is next.
- Fund raising project by Count Edward Ean Anderson: He has engaged the merchant community in a discount card program. Individuals buy cards for a fee which will be donated to the travel funds for the Monarchs and Heirs. The card will be honored by participating merchants for various discounts on purchases. The initial cards will be valid from July Coronation through Twelfth Night, then new cards will be issued for the first half of 2018, and so on. So far 10 merchants have agreed to participate and they will have a banner marking their booths. Edward will also publish the list online with a link to those merchants' websites so purchases outside of events can count as well. He is looking for volunteers to help spread the word and enlist more merchants in the Summits, Tir Righ, and the Inlands.

Revising the Kingdom Financial Policy manual -- The current edition was created in May 2012 and there have been a lot of changes since then, most notably on NMR and admitting children to Crown and Kingdom level events for free. Arontius plans to have a draft ready by Twelfth Night 2018. The current policy is at <http://www.sca.org/docs/finpolicies/AnTirFinPolicy.pdf>

## Event Related Discussions

Kingdom Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championship -- The amount of space the Barony contracted for was based on the 8 championship competitors and 12 individuals with single entries who had registered at Twelfth Night. Some of those individuals subsequently withdrew and so less space was needed. If Dragon's Laire had been able to renegotiate with the hotel for less space, the event could have broken even, but the contract did not permit this. That is a factor to consider in planning future editions of this event.

- The venue cost \$5748.67. There were a total of 254 attendees, but some of those were comped in according to our Kingdom policies, so income was \$4755. The Barony of Dragon's Laire is willing to pay all of the other operating expenses out of their own funds, and is only asking the Kingdom to cover the difference between the gate receipts and the hotel rental, which is \$1098.67.
- King Styrkarr says that the SCA was founded on the principle of educating people about the Medieval era, and that is how we achieved our 501c3 charter. KASB and Collegium are events dedicated to our educational goals. Spending money in this fashion is more important than creating regalia. We just made a significant profit from Twelfth Night and May Crown also expects to do so, amounts which more than cover the loss at KASB. Other attendees agree and the request is approved.

An Tir – West War 2017 -- While there is more collaboration than ever before between the two Kingdoms this year, it's still An Tir's year to host, and that means paying the bulk of the advance costs. In early April, Arontius wrote a check for \$13,082 for the initial fee to rent and service the portable toilets. This is the company's non-profit organization rate, plus a bit of extra grace since we've become a reliable customer for them. In order to pay for the toilets alone, 374 adults will need to pay the gate fee of \$35. That doesn't account for the costs of renting the site or the dumpster, purchasing straw bales for war scenarios and the archery range, printing site copy, or any of the other costs associated with the event. Arontius posted this information on the main An Tir Facebook page as a way of educating the public about why event fees are set at the levels they are. While we want to keep our activities as affordable as possible for everyone, we also have to deal with the reality that site infrastructure fees are rising.

September Crown 2017 -- The plan to use Hovander Park in Ferndale WA did not work out, and so the event will take place at Camp McLean in Langley, BC. This is barely on the Canadian side of the border so it's still easy for Americans to reach, and will be more financially friendly for Canadians given that their dollar is still running significantly below the US currency. Event Steward UlfR Blodfotur Fallgrson has reworked the event budget to accommodate the different costs with this new location, and that was approved by the core Financial Committee.

## Royal Regalia Projects

### Crowns:

- Travel Crowns: These would be less elaborate and lighter weight versions that could be comfortably worn during day while walking around event sites in An Tir, or more easily transported to events in distant lands. They would also provide an alternative for a Monarch who was seeking a different fit for their head or their persona. The crowns are being constructed in silver by Master Sigmund and Master Ugo de Mori. In January the initial payment of \$4300 was made to begin construction. Delivery is expected in time for TRM to travel to Pentic. To follow the development of this new regalia, check out the Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/newantirtravelcrowns/?hc\\_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/newantirtravelcrowns/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf).
- Refurbishing An Tir's long standing crowns: Master Torfin Torgulsson finished the assessment and it's worse than we hoped. He has three or four ideas on how to restore the crowns to a usable condition, but it will take a lot of time and probably more than the \$4902 currently set aside for this. Their Majesties will consult further with Torfin and members of the Regalia Committee about whether we want to pursue restoring them to a usable state, or find a way to retire them that keeps them an active part of our history.
- The crowns that most An Tirians believe are our "first set", are actually the second pair in our history. Viscount Matheus Bane has photos of the originals and is seeking leads as to where they are stored.

### Thrones

- The new chairs for the King and Queen crafted by HL Alasdair Mac Roibeirt were revealed at Twelfth Night. The final payment for these has now been made. Those wishing to learn more about the construction of these thrones can do so at <https://www.facebook.com/New-An-Tir-Thrones-1542002872770303/?fref=ts>.
- Matheus has disassembled the old thrones and is turning the components into nearly 100 different objects, including book covers, marshaling batons, jewelry boxes, and tokens for the Kings and Queens who sat in them from AS 17-51. He also cut 200 shield tiles out of the thrones that fighters can use in Crown

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Tournament. At \$10 each, all of these have now been claimed, yielding a donation of \$700 so far to fund new regalia projects. (Matheus turned in another \$690 at June Faire.) Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/AnTirThroneFundraiser/?fref=mentions>

Regalia we are seeking bids for:

- Signet Ring with a miniature Kingdom seal to be used on scrolls where the regular seal won't fit. This could be a seal that is worn on a chain, or one that can attach to several simple finger-rings of different sizes.
- Goblets for Their Majesties to use for toasts.
- Tokens for the former Kingdom Champions. These must cost less than \$10 per item.
- Royal Scepter and Rod. The original artisan for the scepter offered to replace it, and to make the rod using the same model, but he still needs to submit an official bid. Other artisans are also invited to submit proposals. No knife blade inside this time however, as it creates problems at border and airport security checkpoints.
- Announcements have been made in various venues in the past couple of months. Contact Chamberlain Charles de Bourbon for more information. Once we have specific plans, the Financial Committee can decide whether to authorize a particular project.

Tracking and Insuring Regalia:

- Master Phelan Tolusmidr is continuing to research options. Each appraisal is likely to cost around \$25. Phelan has located 2 or 3 companies which could insure these items, and the premiums to cover the crowns range between \$250-\$1000. That policy must cover the crowns and the armored champion's sword residing at different times in both the US and Canada. The other policies must cover cross-border travel, but we might be able to save money by storing the items in only one country. -- King Styrkarr has found someone in his city who can do the appraisal on the Royal crowns, and will send this estimate to Arontius.
- Kingdom Chamberlain Master Charles de Bourbon is creating a spreadsheet to track all of our Kingdom property, including the regalia and new projects. There are a lot of items in a lot of hands, and keeping track of this is a challenge. He is investigating attaching GPS trackers to some of the most valuable items to aid in retrieving them if they are lost or stolen.

Decommissioning of Regalia -- Viscount Matheus Bane is leading the development of a comprehensive plan for items that are no longer being used, rather than allowing them to disappear into some well-meaning individual's attic, as has happened too often. What should be stored in its original form? How do we keep that item at least periodically in public view so we all can remember the role it played in our history and the people associated with it? What pieces could be incorporated into new projects? (E.g. the first Kingdom Champion's cloak that was turned into barding for the Riderless Horse ceremony.) What could and should be sold as mementoes? (This is more about sharing our history than the money it would raise for the Kingdom, although the latter is appreciated.)

### Event Bids

Summary of decisions to date:

- May Crown (May 19-21, 2017) -- Barony of Madrone. Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, WA.
- An Tir – West War (June 30 to July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017) -- Dishner property in Gold Beach, OR.
- July Coronation (July 14-16, 2017) -- Shire of Danescombe. Salmon Arm Fairgrounds, in Salmon Arm, BC.
- September Crown (Sept 1-4, 2017) -- Barony of Lionsgate. Camp McLean in Langley, BC.
- An Tir Collegium (November 10-12, 2017) -- Barony of Wastekeep. Red Lion Hotel in Richland, WA.
- Twelfth Night (January 12-14, 2018) -- Barony of Wastekeep. Red Lion Hotel in Pasco, WA.
- Kingdom Feast (Oct 12-14, 2018) -- Barony of Dragon's Mist. Ocean Shores Convention Center in WA.
- Twelfth Night (January 11-13, 2019) -- Barony of Three Mountains. Doubletree Hotel in Portland, OR.

Bids Being Sought

- Collegium 2017 = The Wastekeep team really needs another branch to step up now to shadow them and then run the 2018 event, and then another branch to shadow that group and then run the event in 2019. The intent is for lessons learned one year to be carried over to the next, so we sustain the vision of the event and keep making it more successful. Madone and Dragon's Mist have both indicated some interest in helping out. King Styrkarr will publish in various venues the details for this event.
- May Crown 2018 = The Barony of Wealdsmere has a bid in process they will present at July Coronation.
- 2018 Events = Twelfth Night and Kingdom Feast are both taken care of, but bids are needed for all of the other events. It's also time to start looking for hotel space for Kingdom Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championships in 2019.