

AN TIR CURIA MEETING -- May Crown 2013 (5/19/13)

Significant Figures Present:

- His Majesty, UlfR Blodfotur Fallgrson
- His Royal Highness, Ieuan Gower
- Princess of Avacal Sadb ingen Thuathail
- Kingdom Seneschal, Dame Brighid Ross

Words from His Majesty -- Thank you to all of the officers and deputies for their hard work in running An Tir. Please speak up about what is and is not working in your area, and in regards to new Kingdom and Society policies so that adjustments can be made to help things run better.

Law Changes -- None this weekend.

OFFICER REPORTS

Note -- The new format was used at this meeting: All Kingdom Officers must post their report on the Curia email list 1 week prior to the Crown event. Seneschal Dame Brighid Ross will summarize this information at the meeting, and officers can clarify items as needed. The intent is to spend less time on routine updates and more on discussing issues of joint concern.

Seneschal -- Dame Brighid Ross

- The new Society Seneschal's Handbook has been released. Clarification has been requested about the ambiguous language on page 22 regarding scheduled activities for children. One passage says that two unrelated adults must be within sight and sound of the children at all times. Another passage says that one of the adults must have a current background clearance. Dame Brighid believes the second is correct rule to be for those living in the US. <http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/KingdomSeneschalHandbook.pdf>
- Background clearance process -- The Seneschal's office is making new efforts to educate everyone on how to properly submit these so clearances can be done in a timely manner. Details are posted at http://www.antir.sca.org/Offices/Seneschalate/Background_Checks_Process.pdf
 - Clearances are required for Kingdom and Branch Seneschals, Family Activities Officers, Youth Armored Combat Marshals, and certain other individuals who will be working in activities dedicated to children.
 - Once an individual has been chosen as the officer (not in the application stage), that person makes the clearance request to their Branch Seneschal.
 - The Branch Seneschal contacts the Background Checks Deputy Dame Angharad Albanes. [background-checks-deputy \[at\] antir.sca.org](mailto:background-checks-deputy[at]antir.sca.org) . Please put the words "background check" in the subject line.
 - Dame Angharad will email the form to the individual for them to complete and mail to the SCA Corporate Office.
 - The Corporate Office will confirm with the Kingdom Seneschal who needs a clearance, and then run it. The Kingdom pays the \$7 fee for each clearance so we don't want to run these without a valid reason.
 - The results are reported back to the individual and to the Kingdom Seneschal. A clearance letter is valid for 2 years.
 - Individuals living in Canada or other countries are not required to have a clearance at this time.
- Fire performances are essentially banned due to a new ruling from the Society Seneschal. This includes fire dancing, fire walking, fire breathing, and fireworks. To even be considered for a waiver, the sponsoring branch must submit a plan explaining how this activity will take place and the safety precautions, as well as purchase the additional insurance required. Even then the Society Seneschal has already stated he is not inclined to grant an exception.
 - It is not known if this new ruling is in reaction to a specific incident.
 - His Majesty UlfR asks that Dame Brighid relay to the Society our concerns that fire activities attract a lot of attention and can be a valuable recruiting tool. It is also complicated to apply US law to our chapters in other countries. Perhaps the restrictions could be reconsidered.

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Arts & Sciences -- HL Nidda Ridarelli

- HL Nidda Ridarelli stepped into this office at Kingdom Arts & Science and Bardic Championship tournaments in March.
- The primary task at this time is to find a Contingency Deputy and to fill some other positions. Please tell her if you or someone you know, are interested. HL Nidda is also looking at creating arts and sciences competitions that are accessible to individuals at various skill levels.

Chamberlain -- HL Sigivald Garansson is the new officer in this position. No other information given.

Chatelaine -- HL Muirgheal inghean Alasdair

- Reporting is back up for the chatelaine offices and most branches are preparing to ramp up recruitment efforts for tourney season.
- HL Muirgheal's major focus this year is encouraging chatelaines to do more outreach in their communities, rather than only responding to those who contact them. She is hosting discussions at Kingdom events on how to find new venues and techniques for outreach.
- Helping those new to the SCA to learn about our culture, find their niche, and connect with others who can serve as positive role models is the job of everyone who participates in the SCA, not solely the Chatelaines.

Chirurgion -- Viscountess Telisia Brutusdottir

- There was one significant injury in the first quarter of 2013, which occurred at Art of War, but fortunately it was not a life altering situation.
- Master Tvorimir Danilov is working hard to create a Chirurgion Symposium at An Tir / West War.

Chronicler -- HL Marike Sigrunasdotter

- The submission deadlines for the Crier were changed on Jan 1st. Event Copy is now due on the 15th of the month, the same time as the Event Information Form. This provides the editing team with more time to track down necessary information and verify details and still make the Society's printing deadlines. (Failure to do so results in a \$250 per day fine to the Kingdom.) HL Marike reports that compliance with the new deadlines has been very good, and it is making it far easier for her team to do their job.
 - Event information is due on the 15th. However, other types of information (letters from royalty, officer reports, changes to the contact listings, etc) are due on the 26th of the month, two months prior to the edition where this will appear.
 - Individuals or events who do not submit their paperwork on time will not see it until the next issue.
- The Chroniclers Office is coordinating with the Kingdom Web Team to create a Crier Copy submission and Event Information Form that can be easily filled out directly on the An Tir website. The goal is to reduce the number of errors people make in completing the paper forms, and speed up the submission and editing process. Hopefully this will be completed by July.
- Send Crier Copy to [Crier-Copy (at) antir.sca.org]. There are additional addresses for original articles and artwork, and for changes to officer listings. Details at <http://www.antir.sca.org/Offices/index.php?expand=Chronicler#chronicler>
- Any change to officer information should be sent to HL Alessandra de Montefeltro [crier-lists (at) antir.sca.com]

Exchequer -- HL Genevieve Marie Etienne de Montagne

- Royalty, Officers, and Champions: Please submit your travel expenses and other reimbursement requests as soon after you incur them as possible. The Kingdom is operating with less available cash than in the past and cannot easily accommodate large unexpected payments.
- There was not a financial meeting this weekend. The plan was to do a session online in the two weeks after the event, but it was not possible to organize this. Future financial meetings may occur at Crown events or may be done online. There is merit in holding the meetings in person in a setting open to any citizen who wishes to attend. However, holding them online frees up space in overly crowded event schedules, and allows the participants to focus more time and attention on complex financial matters and event bids. A webinar format would also allow everyone to view the relevant spreadsheets and handouts.
- Budget Report:
 - The 2012 annual report is down to the last few clarifications and HL Genevieve expects to send it to the Corporate office this week.

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- An Tir had a loss of about \$23,000 for the first quarter of 2013, largely due to pre-paying expenses related to An Tir West War and the Kingdom Feast. Reimbursement from those events will come in July and November respectively. A bank account has now been set up for the War expenses in the future, and parties are working on the final details for the policy which would make this an independent entity going forward, and save both Kingdoms the type of advance expense An Tir incurred this year.
- This weekend was the first Kingdom event with the new higher gate fees: \$20 for adults, \$10 for youth ages 10-17, and a family cap of \$60. Plus the \$5 surcharge for all adults who are not SCA members. No significant complaints have been noted.
- The Arts & Sciences budget is being increased by \$350 so that they have the full amount for 2013 after completing the Championship event in March.
- An Tir did receive its share of the reimbursement from the sexual abuse lawsuit from the Corporate office. The Kingdom was required to pay 95% of the amount back to the individual branches who contributed, or incur a penalty, and this was done. Due to the non-disclosure clause in the settlement agreement, exact amounts cannot be discussed in a written format. If anyone has any further questions on this matter, please contact HL Genevieve directly.
- HL Genevieve wanted to express her thanks to the Principality Exchequers: The Honorable Lord Raffé of the Summits, Mistress Manyra of Avacal, and Baroness Janet Kempe of Tir Righ. Also to HL Elonda Blue Haven who handles the NMS payments, and Master Arontius of Bygelswade for all his work with the plans for the new An Tir West War agreement.

Family Activities -- HL Mericke de Ross

- She is the new officer in this position and would like to change her job title to Chancellor of Family Activities. She has already selected a Contingency Deputy (Lady Elewyn ferch Emrys), a Preceptor of Pages (Lady Isabel of Oxeneford), and a Youth & Family Achievement Program deputy (Madame Jacqueline de Lioncourt) to assist her with projects. She has started a new online discussion group, and hopes to increase reporting significantly in future quarters.
- She is currently reviewing branch websites and speaking to Seneschals to promote more family activities.
- The Society has created a new Youth & Family Achievement Program. See the next section for details.

Herald -- HL Gwenlliana Clutterbooke

- Reporting has improved over the past few months. All of the Principalities and most Baronies submitted reports for the fourth quarter of 2012, and only one Principality did not report for the first quarter of 2013.
- HL Gwenlliana has created new guidelines for individuals occupying the Black Lion pavilion at Kingdom events, limiting the space during tournaments to those currently volunteering. She has sent these to the community's mailing list and will also post them in the tent itself. She does not want to be disrespectful of others, but it has become difficult for her team and the Lists volunteers to effectively manage tournaments when there are so many extraneous people present.

Marshal -- Viscount Matheus Bane

- Officer changes: Viscount Matheus Bane will step down as Earl Marshal at July Coronation and will be replaced by Sir Einar Knuteson, the current Armored Combat Deputy. In turn, Sir Styrkarr Jarlsskald will take on those duties. HL Guillaume de Garrigues will soon be replacing Dame Macha of Mountain Edge as Kingdom Equestrian Marshal. -- The Crown thanks Viscount Matheus for his service.
- Crown Tournament: There were 94 competitors this weekend. Of these 57 pre-registered, which eases the process for everyone. There were 7 same-gender couples entered into the lists, including the first pair of men in the Known World.
- MIC's: There have been 5 events so far this year where the Event Steward did not appoint a Marshal in Charge in advance, and someone had to volunteer onsite in order for combat to take place. Please do not let this happen again! The MIC can be someone other than the Branch Marshal for the hosting location, as long as they meet the requirements for that discipline. (At minimum a current SCA membership and authorization in the database for the discipline in question.) Please contact the regional, principality, or Kingdom marshal leadership if you need help finding someone.
- New Lists Database: HL Steven Desjardin reports that progress has been slow as a college student is doing the programming. However, some new individuals have recently volunteered to help, so hopefully things will move faster over the summer.
- Combat book updates: Rules changes at the Society level required that An Tir update its own documents:
 - The new Armored ABC's are signed by TRM this weekend. There are some changes to the types of materials allowed for weapons and armor, as well as clarifications on fighting conventions and

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the status of marshals. The role of the Kingdom Armored Deputy is defined for the first time, making it distinct from the Kingdom Earl Marshal.

- The new Society Equestrian manual was released last October, and An Tir is still working on incorporating those changes, along with new ones being discussed online. HL Guillaume was a key participant in the re-write in 2007 and also has modern professional skills to bring to this task, so it should go relatively smoothly.
- Archos Loegaire mac Lochlainn (Loric) did a quick revision to the Book of Target in January to incorporate some Society changes. A full revision of the manual is scheduled to be released in July. This will largely refer to the Society rules and only go into detail for An Tir specific items.
- Clarification on marshal cards in ALL disciplines: These do expire just like a fighter's authorization does. They can be renewed within 4 years by the signature of a single current senior marshal, but after that the individual must repeat the promotion paperwork. Non-fighting marshals follow the same authorization procedures as those who compete in that discipline.
- Equestrian participation continues to grow in An Tir and there have already been two events focused on horsemanship in 2013 with several more planned. Event Stewards are reminded that there must be a qualified Equestrian MIC and insurance policy on file at any time there is an SCA equestrian presence: Events, practices, public demos, and community parades. (Reference Section 4 of the An Tir Book of Horse for details.)

Media Officer -- HL Julia Sempronia

- Please memorize and use this line when you speak to individuals outside of our community: *"We are a worldwide research and reenactment organization specializing in the Middle Ages."*
- Things are going well as this office builds up steam, especially with the new volunteers for social media. Mistress Khalja Khorkoi spent yesterday on Facebook posting all of the details of Crown Tournament as they happened, so those who were not at the event could share in the excitement. This is one of many mechanisms for us to recruit and retain SCA members.

Scribe -- HL Renart le Fox de Berwick -- No new information.

Teamster -- Don Talentus del Albero ("Talon") -- No new information

Web Minister Baronessa Chiara Francesca Arianna d'Onofrio

- An Tir moved its operations to the new server in late December. There were far more problems than anticipated, including a lot of lost emails, and the fact that the Kingdom mailing lists went offline for two weeks, but it was all fixed by mid-January. The new website design has been completed and the coding is nearly finished. The merger of the development site with the active one should occur in late June and hopefully will go smoothly.
- The Web Team continues to respond quickly to routine matters, but the above tasks have slowed down their work on larger projects such as forms for officers, and a webpage listing the contact information for all of the local web ministers.
- Please send all website requests to [webteam (at) antir.sca.org] and not to her personally in order to receive the best service possible.
- Further details are on Baronessa Chiara's blog at <http://antir.sca.org/Blogs/webminister/> Her first quarter report is posted there with a list of all of the Facebook sites related either to An Tir or to any SCA activities connected with the military. Baroness Chiara said that "I wanted to make sure that our members know they are cared about and can find us no matter where they are."



Youth & Family Achievement Program

In the 2010 SCA Census, adults who started in our Society as children cited the importance of feeling included by caring adults in activities they were interested in. Current parents rated it as very important to their continued attendance that there be constructive opportunities for their children to participate in.

Thus the SCA Corporate office has decided to institute a new Youth & Family Achievement (YFA) program using the same concepts as Boy and Girl Scouts badges. The roll out of the plan scheduled for after Pensic War, with participation beginning in early 2014. This is a not intended to replace the Page Program or any other activities, but

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rather to enhance them. Kingdoms can choose whether or not to participate, and then if they do, it's up to each parent to decide whether or not they want to be a part of the program.

Traits of the program:

- It will be aimed at youth ages 5-15.
- Youth will complete worksheets and activities at events to earn a badge in various topic areas. There will be three sets of learning plans to accommodate different age groups. Each badge will take about 10 weeks to earn.
- Until all of the packets are prepared and there are enough mentors to meet the demand, children can count Ithra or other classes as meeting the learning requirement.
- The cost per badge is still being determined, but is expected to be \$3-4 paid by the parent.
- It will be up to the Kingdom or the individual to decide how best to display the badges on a mantle, baldric, or similar item. It will also be up to each branch to decide what kind of ceremony to use when awarding badges, but they are encouraged to make it a big deal.
- The first set of badges will be archery, armored combat, family life, pottery, and woodworking.
- Another set will be released later in 2014 and will include games, cooking, and costuming.
- Parents who enroll will be given a packet of information about the program. This will also include information on how to prevent child abuse.
- Both the parents and mentors must be paid members of the SCA.

Requirements for the Mentors:

- They must complete an online training program and regularly report to the Kingdom Deputy for the YFA program. Local operation of the program will be the responsibility of the Branch Family Activities Officer, or if there's not one, then the Branch Seneschal.
- Mentors will NOT need to complete a background clearance, but must follow the "2 deep rule" in all of their activities.

Those present at Curia express approval of the concept of engaging families more and optimism that this type of program has potential, since children often respond well to concrete goals. However there is uncertainty with so many of the details not yet known. The membership requirement is particularly disliked: The concern is that this will substantially discourage people from participating, and may doom the endeavor altogether. HL Mericke de Ross and Dame Brigid Ross will relay this feedback to the Society Officer and perhaps that can be changed.

Individuals interested in learning more and being part of the creation process can join the discussion at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/society_youth_forum/

KINGDOM EVENT UPDATES

Bids are needed for events in 2014: May Crown, July Coronation, and September Crown. There is one bid recently received for Twelfth Night 2015, but the Crown would like to see a choice of options. Branches are encouraged to team up with one another to make this happen! The Shire of Shittimwoode has expressed interest in using the Hovander Field site near Bellingham, WA again, but will need to partner with another branch for the manpower.

Instructions for current and prospective Event Stewards:

- Getting started:
 - Contact Events Deputy is HL Ysabella Greene at [eventinfo (at) antir.sca.org]. She can answer your questions, help you arrange partnerships with other branches, and more. Please send your draft bid submission to her so she can make sure all of the questions are answered before it is presented to the Financial Committee.
 - A new handbook for Event Stewards has been created by HL Vivien nic Uldoon and is posted at <http://currentmiddleages.org/autocrats/welcome/>. This is an ongoing project, so please send her your feedback on the existing text, as well as articles and widgets you would like to see added.
- Once your event is chosen:
 - A representative of the event team is expected to speak at every Curia meeting from the time their bid is approved, until one meeting after their final report is accepted by the Seneschal's Office.

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- Events Deputy is HL Ysabella must have a written update from each Kingdom event team by the 15th of the month so she can monitor whether things are on track, or whether assistance is needed.
- After their Kingdom event, branches should use the Kingdom Event Report form which has space to easily record all of the required information.
- Forms and instructions to run a Kingdom event are available under the Event Stewarding and Administrative sections of the forms website: <http://www.antir.sca.org/Pubs/forms/>

May Crown 2013 (May 17-19) -- Baronies of Madrone and Vulcanfeldt. Event Stewards are HL Sarra the Brave and Lady Rowena d'Ath-Fhirdia. <http://maycrown.baronyofmadrone.net/index.php>

- Event site is the Toppenish Rodeo & Livestock Association (WA).
- HL Sarra the Brave reports that this was a great partnership between Vulcanfeldt which supplied the land and site crew, while Madrone filled most of the officer positions. There were 875 people through gate, which is up more than 200 from last year's May Crown and the largest attendance in about 6 years.
- The invoice for site tokens was submitted to the Exchequer this weekend. The team is still hoping to make more money by selling the excess buttons.

An Tir – West War 2013 (July 4-7) -- Kingdom of An Tir. Event Stewards HL Jenae la Joyeaux and Lady Magdalena of Dragon's Laire. <http://www.antirwestwar.org/>

- Site will be the private property in Gold Beach, Oregon that has been used for the past few years.
- HL Jenae la Joyeaux reports that the key positions have been filled. Viscount Matheus Bane will be MIC for the armored war, and Sir Raphael the Rogue agreed to oversee equestrian activities with 10-20 horses expected. Family activities are also planned.
- The contract has been signed, and payment for the site will be made this week. Pre-registration is occurring through ACCEPS.

July Coronation 2013 (July 19-21) -- Shire of Midhaven. Event Stewards HL Bryson MacLachlan and HL Mericke de Ross. <http://midhaven.antir.sca.org/JulyCoronation2013/>

- Site is the Northern State Recreation Area in Sedro Woolley, WA. The same as was used in 2011.
- HL Mericke de Ross reports that planning is on schedule and the insurance certificate has been obtained. The site owners will mow about a week before the event.
- About 20 merchants have registered so far.
- There will be more space for archery this year, in celebration of the Kingdom Protector Tournament. Archos Loegaire mac Lochlainn will oversee that event, and HL Etole Marchant the other archery and thrown weapons activities.
- Sir Thorkel FitzHrothgar is the MIC for the weekend and will oversee the Armored Championship. There will also be rapier and youth combat, but no equestrian activities.
- They are using the eric plan from 2011 for guest pavilions, so if there are any changes in who is coming, or the size of their tents, please let HL Mericke know immediately.

September Crown (Aug 30 – Sept 2, 2013) -- Shire of Fire Mountain Keep. Event Steward HL Bors the Luscious. He is assisted by Sir Godric ap Rhys and HL Dafydd Caerfyrddin.

http://www.antir.sca.org/Upcoming/?Event_ID=2504

- The site will be Nix Ranch, a private property in Chehalis, WA. This is the same site as was used for September Crown 2010 and 2011, and the past 3 Autumn Wars.
- HL Bors the Luscious reports that he has a good team in place to run the event, and they have obtained the necessary general and equestrian insurance.
- Scheduling is being handled by Sir Godric ap Rhys.
- Participants must bring their own water, but the event team also plans to offer this and ice for sale.
- The armored MIC will be HL Fergus the Red. Equestrian MIC will be Dame Macha of Mountain Edge.

Kingdom Feast (November 1-3, 2013) -- Kingdom Culinary Guild. Event Stewart is HL Renart le Fox de Berwick. <http://www.antirkingdomfeast.org/>

- Event will take place at the Ocean Shores Convention Center (WA). Pre-registration will be required.
- The goal of this event is to allow people interested in food and music from many branches to get together for a weekend to cook and entertain with one another. Foods from throughout the geographic and temporal span of the medieval period will be offered. Bardic performances shall happen throughout the facility all weekend. No meetings or court are planned at this time, but the team is considering scheduling classes on the culinary and bardic arts.

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- Baron Arontius Bygelswade reports that they were able to obtain a discounted room rate at nearby hotels. The event team needs to increase the amount of advertising to draw attention to this event.

Twelfth Night 2014 (Jan 10-12) -- Barony of Wyewood. Event Steward is HL Alianora Greymoor.

http://www.antir.sca.org/Upcoming/index.php?Event_ID=2506

- Site will be the Doubletree Hotel in SeaTac, WA within blocks of the airport and light rail station.
- The contract has been signed, and a website for the event will be put up soon.
- Don Enzo Bandinelli will be the MIC for the rapier championship tournament. The hotel is also allowing armored fight practice to occur indoors. The team is working on plans for arts and sciences displays.
- The hotel required 280 room nights to obtain the event space for free, and there were 470 nights confirmed as of May Crown. Another block of rooms was obtained in late April. Rates are \$109 a night, with an additional fee for parking. Go to http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CTAC-DT-SCA-20140110/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG to get the convention rate.

Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championship (March 7-9, 2014) -- Barony of Stromgard. Event Steward will be Sir Edward Ean Anderson. http://www.antir.sca.org/Upcoming/?Event_ID=2507

- Site will be the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, WA. <http://www.heathmanlodge.com/>
- The hotel is 15 minutes from the airport and provides a shuttle for guests. The Vancouver mall with shops and restaurants is 2 blocks away. Room rates are \$95 a night for double occupancy, with \$10 for additional guests. Parking is free.
- After some negotiation, the contract for the weekend has now been signed. The Barony of Stromgard is providing the funding for the event.