

AN TIR FINANCIAL MEETING -- July Coronation (7/21/13)

Significant Figures Present:

- His Majesty, Ieuan Gower
- Her Majesty, Gwyneth Gower
- Kingdom Seneschal, Dame Brigid Ross
- Kingdom Exchequer, HL Genevieve Marie Etiennette de Montagne

NOTE -- There was no Financial Meeting at May Crown. The plan had been to do one online immediately after the event, but there were scheduling and technical difficulties, and by the time those could be resolved, July Coronation was imminent, and the decision was to handle all of the business there instead. The Crown may attempt an online Financial Meeting again in the future, as it would be easier to discuss many of these complex matters if everyone could see the written materials at the same time.

Budget Update -- Presented by Kingdom Exchequer HL Genevieve Marie Etiennette de Montagne:

- An Tir is currently operating at a loss of \$26,000 for the first 2 quarters of 2013. However, all but \$2000-3000 of this is due to money the Kingdom has put forth to fund An Tir – West War a couple of weeks ago, and for the Kingdom Feast & Bardic event in November. Once the profits from those events come in, this deficit should be made up; and thus HL Genevieve is feeling pretty good about the Kingdom's situation.
- All of the insurance reimbursement from the sexual abuse lawsuit has now been refunded to the branches. The Kingdom paid out approximately \$35,000 between the settlement and its own funds to refund roughly 95% of what the branches had contributed.
- Raven Travel Fund is very healthy right now, and received about \$700 in new contributions this weekend from the Baronies of Aquaterra and Stromgard, and the Shire of Shittermoode.
- Cash on hand continues to be limited, but this will improve in December once one of the cd's comes due.
- The Kingdom's single biggest expense continues to be travel, followed by general supplies. For events the biggest expense beyond the site itself are the portable toilets, and sometimes those cost even more than the property rental.
- The Queen asks which item consistently exceeds its budget, and HL Genevieve says it is travel in general, and travel for the champions specifically. Now that there are 5 individuals, there is not enough to go around, and fund raising is important.

Financial Adjustments

- The budget for the Arts & Sciences Minister was raised by \$350 so that HL Nidda Ridarelli has the full normal amount for 2013 after championships finished in March. She has a lot of plans to increase activity in this office. There were also some extra receipts because of the mid-year switch in champions from Duchess Caoimhe ingen Domnaille to Dame Gwen the Potter, after the former had to relinquish the post due to her lord winning September Crown.
- \$4000 was moved from savings to checking to meet expenses until the profits from An Tir – West War are received. The initial outlay, plus about \$14,000 in profit, is expected in the next couple of weeks, and then the savings account can be replenished.

Future Plans

- There is \$300 allotted for upkeep of regalia which should be sufficient. There are plans to make the King and Queen summer-weight cloaks, but that material is already on hand. There is also fabric for war tabards still available.
- Teamster Don Talentus del Albero is working on a bid for necessary maintenance on the Kingdom trailer.
- Family Activities Officer HL Mericke de Ross reports that their day shade was destroyed at An Tir – West War, and Youth Armored Combat has also requested a shade. She has talked with Teamster Don Talentus about obtaining two similar to the current 10x12 Kingdom officer pavilions

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from the Panther company. The tent should not have walls, in order to maximize the visibility of the children.

- His Majesty says that several pavilion dealers have brand new ones for sale very cheap at Pensic, because it's more cost effective to do that than for the company to transport the item back home.
- The Financial Executive Team will consider this matter further and make a decision about how to proceed. If there are really good deals available at Pensic, then 2 tents may be possible immediately, but otherwise Family Activities and Youth Armored Combat will need to share one for now, and then a second perhaps can be purchased later in 2014.
- There is a desire to replace the Kingdom Orb. Everyone is asked to spread the word to artisans they know to present a formal bid to the Chamberlain.

Badges for the Youth & Family Achievement Program -- The initial proposal from Corporate was that parents would need to pay the \$3-4 fee per badge, but there were concerns this would discourage participation. Several members of the Chivalry are very excited about this new program, and have enlisted their brethren in a plan to create sufficient fund raising projects that the Kingdom can give these out for free, the same way that Goutte's, Jambes, and other award symbols are distributed. A participant in the meeting suggests a card to go with each badge saying "This token was purchased for you by the Knights of An Tir."

An Tir – West War Financial Committee -- Presented by Kingdom Exchequer HL Genevieve Marie Etiennette de Montagne and by Master Arontius Bygelswade:

- The intent is to create an independent entity which would fund and supervise organization of this annual event, rather than the two Kingdoms alternating responsibility for fronting the money many months in advance in order to meet the land owner's requirements. This is how several of the other inter-Kingdom wars are managed.
- While some individuals have expressed concerns about the future of this event, attendance has held steady around 1100 for the past 5 years. An Tir hosted this year and saw 1350 people through the gate, and is estimating \$14,000 in profits.
- An Tir opened an account at a Chase branch near the event site. That institution was chosen because they have offices throughout the western US. Having a local bank account made it vastly easier for the gate team to make deposits and obtain change, and to manage other transactions during the weekend.
- The goal is that the bank account for the war become self-sustaining so it's not necessary for the Kingdom to front the money out of its general accounts each year, and not be reimbursed for several months. Profits beyond the margin necessary for event operations could be put towards site improvements. (This year the site owner ran potable water spigots throughout the camping area based on the reliable revenue he receives from the event. The populace has stated its support of paying a bit more at gate if there are amenities like this on site.)
- An Tir has approached the Kingdom of the West about sharing this account, but they have expressed reservations based on their perception that the event is shrinking.
- An Tir is paying the site owner of the An Tir – West War property \$25 per month to use a small section of his barn for storage. Items include portable holes, signs, 2 cases of marking paint, stakes, garbage cans, banners, etc. The first year's fee was paid out of profits from t-shirt sales, but the Kingdom can reimburse this with the receipt. A contract still needs to be done with the site owner.
- Decisions:
 - An Tir is going to maintain the bank account with the dedicated funds for the War regardless of whether or not the West chooses to participate. This makes more sense than taking it out and putting it into the general accounts every 2 years. There's no cost to letting the money sit there, and it will accrue some interest.
 - Event Stewards Dame Jenae la Joyeaux and Lady Magdalena del Albergo will go through the gate sheets and provide a report about what percentage of attendees were from each Kingdom. Perhaps that might help in discussions with the West.

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- Kingdom Seneschal Dame Brigid Ross and Exchequer HL Genevieve will speak with their counterparts in the West to re-visit the current agreement that the Kingdoms split the profits of the event 60 (hosting group) to 40 (guests) each year, as the West has not paid An Tir in several cycles. If the West is no longer interested in this arrangement, then the written agreements should be updated accordingly.

EVENT BIDS

Summary of decisions to date:

- September Crown (Aug 30 – Sept 2, 2013) -- Shire of Fire Mountain Keep. Nix Ranch in Chehalis, WA.
- 12th Night (January 10-12, 2014) -- Barony of Wyewood. Doubletree hotel in SeaTac, WA.
- Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championship (March 7-9, 2014) -- Barony of Stromgard. Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, WA.

Applications for the following events are being actively sought:

- 2014 = May Crown and September Crown
- 2015 = May Crown, July Coronation, and September Crown

Bid presented for July Coronation 2014

- Spokesperson HL Tamar Rustavelli for the Barony of Three Mountains.
- They would use the Trojan Park site in Rainier, Oregon; which is just across the border from Longview, WA and about an hour west of Portland, OR. The site has permanent toilet and picnic structures, lots of shade, and a paved parking lot.
- This is the same site as was used for July Coronation 2012, where attendance was 550 people and about \$5500 in profit.
- The one concern about this site is that if there has been a significant amount of rain recently, people cannot drive on the grass. This was broadcast as an absolute prohibition in 2012 and that negatively affected attendance. However, if the message is re-framed as "Yes you can drive on the grass unless the weather has been really bad", the community may be more receptive.
- Decision: Bid was accepted.

Bid #1 presented for Twelfth Night 2015

- Spokesperson Dame Brigid Ross on behalf of the Barony of Adiantum
- Site would be the Valley River Inn on the north side of Eugene, OR.
- This is the same site as was used for Twelfth Night in 2009 and 2011. The Barony used the latter numbers in calculating the new bid, which shows a profit of \$5000.
- Responses: It is a lovely site well suited to our needs. The Event Steward team was enthusiastic and ran a good event.

Bid #2 presented for Twelfth Night 2015

- Spokesperson HL Muireann inghen ui Rodain, Seneschal of the Barony of Glymm Mere
- Site would be the Ocean Shores Convention Center on the WA coast, with the nearby Shiloh Inn hotel being the other primary activity area.
- This site has been used for many events in the past, including most recently Twelfth Night 2010. The team estimates \$6000 in profit.
- Assuming no rooms are rented, then it would cost An Tir \$5000 for the meeting rooms in the hotel. However, we always fill the hotel and spread into several of the neighboring ones, which means the meeting rooms would be free. The hotel has agreed to reduce their normal room rate from \$129 to \$89 per night because they are thrilled to receive business during the winter.

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- Plans: The Event Stewards are thinking of using a nautical theme, and also of hosting games on Friday night to raise money for the Raven Travel Fund.

Bid #3 presented for Twelfth Night 2015

- Spokesperson HL Ana de la Sara for the Barony of Dragon's Mist
- Site would be the Doubletree Hotel in the Rose Quarter of Portland, OR.
- This is the same site as was used for Twelfth Night 2013, but this time the Barony of Dragon's Mist would host as their first Crown level event, rather than the Barony of Three Mountains.
- The hotel was very pleased with us this year and is willing to give us a larger discount in the future. Assuming no rooms are rented, then the estimated profit margin would be \$7600. If the room quota is met, which was the case last time, then the profit should be \$12,000.
- Room rates would be \$114 a night, plus possibly a fee for parking. Dame Brigid Ross suggests the Event Steward talk with the hotel and point out the deals we are getting in some other locations and see if they are willing to reduce this.
- Complication: The traditional Twelfth Night weekend for 2015 is already booked, but the hotel is willing to do it the following weekend. Or we could have our traditional one in 2016.

Decision on Twelfth Night 2015 bids -- At Coronation the Executive Team stated they wanted a little time to review the materials, but promised a decision before their Majesties left for Pensic. The bid was subsequently awarded to the Barony of Adiantum because most of the other Crown events in the past couple of years have occurred in Central An Tir; and with all 3 options being excellent, that was a preferred characteristic.