

CURIA MEETING -- September Crown (9/2/13)

Significant Figures Present:

- His Majesty, Ieuan Gower
- Her Majesty, Gwyneth Gower
- Kingdom Seneschal, Dame Brigid Ross

Law Changes -- None

Note -- Fall Crown Council will be held online this year on the weekend of November 8-10. Duke Ulfr Blodfotur Fallgrson will be facilitating the same technical arrangements as were used for Spring Council.

OFFICER REPORTS

Seneschal -- Dame Brigid Ross

- An administrative retreat weekend for Seneschals and Exchequers is set on September 28th - 29th.
- Avacal: Polling for the Principality to become their own Kingdom will run from September 1st through October 29th. Details are on the Principality of Avacal's website. The attitude within An Tir about the impending separation of the Kingdom is a mixture of joy and sadness, which some have described as analogous to when a family watches their teen go off to college. There has been surprise expressed by some individuals from other Kingdoms, including at Pensic, as historically these separations have included some level of acrimony.

Arts & Sciences -- HL Nidda Ridarelli

- There is a lot of enthusiastic participation in activities at this time. HL Nidda has set up a blog to share information with the community at <http://antir.sca.org/Blogs/artsci/>
- This weekend there was a challenge event for about 15 youth which was a great success. The kids were very supportive of one another's efforts. The "Dirty Dozen Largess" competition for adults on Saturday also yielded a number of beautiful donations for the Kingdom.
- Plans continue to develop for Kingdom ASB Championship in March. HL Nidda says the site is beautiful, and she is excited to see the talents of An Tir displayed as individuals compete for the Championships.

Chamberlain -- HL Sigivald Garansson

- He is working on a guide for those interested in working as part of a Royal retinue.
- Bids are being solicited by Twelfth Night to create several new items of Kingdom regalia.
 - A new orb.
 - Medallions for the outgoing Kingdom Champions.
 - Also requested will be bids for new crowns for the King and Queen: An Tir is the only Kingdom that does not have a second set. While our current ones constructed by Duke Torgul Steingrimsson are beautiful and attract a lot of positive attention at inter-Kingdom events, they are requiring more and more repair and will not remain usable forever. We need to start planning for replacements so that we have them before it becomes a costly emergency. A variety of fund raisers can be organized in part to avoid using our savings, but more importantly those events will be a way of acquainting the populace with the idea, engaging their participation in the process, and helping them come to accept and own the end result.
 - Individuals interested in submitting a bid should contact Chamberlain HL Sigivald Garansson at [chamberlain (at) antir.sca.org].

Chatelaine -- HL Emma Barrington

- HL Emma took on this responsibility at July Coronation, and has spent the past few weeks organizing and learning what she needs to do. She is being assisted by Lady Muirgheal.
- The Chatelaine community met at July Coronation. HL Emma was pleased to see so many volunteers who are excited about their office, about going out to talk with individuals, and who have so many great ideas on how to represent the SCA in positive terms.

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Chirurgion -- Viscountess Telisia Brutusdottir

- Everything is moving along well. They have 2 new fully warranted Chirurgions and have added several new Chirurgions in Training.
- Viscountess Telisia and her team have been working hard with Avacal to get their Chirurgionate in good shape for the transition. The current Avacal Principality Chirurgion will step down in November, and there are currently 2 applicants for the position being evaluated by the current officer, Principality Seneschal, and Viscountess Telisia.
- Major incidents since Coronation: There was one serious injury requiring ambulance transport at Sound Unity, but that individual is recovering well now. Two people were taken to the hospital by private vehicle at Quad War, both were a result of medical issues rather than injuries. One rider suffered a broken leg during the equestrian championship this weekend. Kingdom Equestrian Officer HL Guillaume de Garrigues will be providing further details soon.

Chronicler -- Countess Octavia Laodice

- A color issue of the Crier will be published this fall.
- The new laws for Avacal and the Summits still need to be published.
- The online version of the Crier Copy submission and Event Information Form which was announced at Coronation has unfortunately run into some implementation errors. They are testing the latest draft now, but it may still be a few weeks before this will be available to the public.

Exchequer -- HL Genevieve Marie Etienne de Montagne

- The Kingdom was operating at a loss of \$3900 after July Coronation, but hopefully we will be in positive numbers once the income is received from September Crown.
- All of the offices are operating within the limits of their budget, and the Raven Travel fund is particularly healthy. Travel remains the biggest challenge, and there will be a lot more of this to Avacal in the next year to prepare them for independence.
- Officers need to look at their current budgets and plans for next year and see what adjustments they would like to request. Initial conversations about this will occur during the Fall Crown Council financial meeting. HL Genevieve will look at the estimates for the 2014 Kingdom Events to see what we can expect in income.

Family Activities -- HL Mericke de Ross

- HL Mericke only received reports from 6 branches for second quarter. This includes Seneschals where there is no Family Activities Officer. Recruiting more local officers is one of HL Mericke's priorities.
- Background clearances:
 - US: Those who are very diligent in following the procedures are being cleared in 2-4 weeks; but otherwise it takes much longer. The rules for the process will be prominently discussed at the Seneschal's retreat at the end of September.
 - Canada: The Society has not yet decided on how to conduct clearances in that nation, but An Tir is determined to do so. Master Ljotr Einarsson is investigating options for a system in Canada, though some individuals have already voluntarily obtained clearances from their local law enforcement offices.
- Youth & Family Achievement program (YAFA):
 - Lady Meiralyn O'Shea is now overseeing this project.
 - The Society was supposed to formally introduced the endeavor at Pensic, but Mericke and Meiralyn are awaiting confirmation of this. It has been announced that the Society is looking for individuals who can help write the worksheets for the second set of badges.
 - An Tir's Knights plan to start fund raising for the badges at Twelfth Night.
 - The lack of formal family activities at the branch level is a concerning sign as to whether An Tir will be able to implement YAFA because it is going to be up to the branch officer to educate their communities about this project and encourage participation by youth and mentors. They will be overseeing the interactions of mentors with various youth, and will help mentors with the worksheets which are then forwarded to the Kingdom officer. Only the branch officer must have a background clearance, not the mentors.
- The Family Activities day shade was destroyed at An Tir – West War, and the Youth Armored Combat marshal has also requested a shade. The Financial Committee this morning approved purchase of two new Panther pavilions, though it remains to be determined whether these will be ordered directly from that company or from one of their local distributors who can provide the roof, poles, and set-up kit at a lower price. (One will be used by Family Activities and the other by youth armored combat.) The poles will be

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interchangeable with the other Kingdom pavilions to make things as easy as possible during set up. The plan is to place the order in early 2014 so the pavilions will be ready for set up at May Crown.

Herald -- HL Gwenlliana Clutterbooke

- Things are going reasonably well and reporting continues to improve. The Society Laurel Sovereign of Arms, Master Gabriel Kjotvason was at September Crown to meet with the heraldic community, and this resulted in some great discussions. He also had a separate conversation with Viscountess Sadb ingen Thuathail about the work the Avacal college is doing to prepare for independence.
- The Kingdom Heraldic Symposium will take place October 19 in the Barony of Adiantum.
- HL Oddr Mjoksigliandi stepped down as Lions Blood Herald this weekend and was replaced by HL Anne Rose Smyth. (Lions Blood handles new name and device submissions in An Tir.)

Marshal -- Sir Einar Knuteson

- There were 91 entrants in Crown lists this weekend. Sir Eirik Daegarsson emerged victorious with the inspiration of Driffina of Stromgard. In the equestrian championship, Duchess Miranda Faoltiarna outshone her competitors to achieve this honor for the third time. (There were 12 riders entered, but 2 withdrew as the day progressed.)
- There was an incident at Tournament of Armies in which a fighter was hit in the eye with the prod of a crossbow when both combatants unexpectedly turned towards each other. Fortunately she will be alright. While this was a freak incident that is unlikely to recur, Sir Einar has asked Royal Archer, Archos Loegaire mac Lochlainn, to review the situation and make any relevant recommendations about how a future similar event could be prevented; before the Society decides to do so.
- The ABC Addendum was signed by TRM this weekend. This document changes the types of weapons rapier fighters are authorized in, and makes some significant changes to the section on rapier marshals to bring them in line with how the other disciplines operate. It also corrects several proof-reading errors that were missed before the May 2013 armored manual was published. Finally it states that there is a literal expiration date on marshal cards in all combat disciplines. These must be renewed within 1 year of that expiration or the individual will have to repeat the promotion process.
- The Society is soliciting comments on creating a fourth peerage for rapier combat through 12/1/13. Details are at <http://www.sca.org/BOD/announcements/APECProposal.pdf>.
- Seneschals and Event Stewards are asked to give careful thought to selecting qualified and currently warranted Marshals in Charge for events where there will be combat. There have been at least 4 events this year without an MIC and 2 where the individual failed to carry out their duties. If you need help finding an MIC, or in preparing an otherwise eager volunteer to assume those responsibilities, please contact your Regional or Principality Deputy for assistance. A document with basic guidance on these issues will be distributed at the Kingdom Seneschals' & Exchequers' retreat at the end of September; and more education will be done in the marshal community in the coming months.

Media Officer -- HL Julia Sempronia

- There have been a few inquiries from branches on the best wording for promotional materials and how to use QR codes in these. HL Julia also received word of a couple of news features done about SCA events.
- Some individuals have expressed anxiety over the accuracy of media stories. HL Julia's advice is "don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good. If published stories show us putting our best feet forward (and preferably not in our mouths), enjoy the coverage."
- Social media activities continue to blossom under Baroness Khalja Khorkoi, Mistress Isabella Lucrezia, and Sir Arminius Scorpius.

Scribe -- HL Renart le Fox de Berwick

- Reporting and participation have improved.
- Lady Muriel Buchanan accepted the role as Contests Deputy, and is very excited about running scribal competitions at Kingdom events. HL Maderun verch Trahearn is the new Education Deputy, and will be assisting local branches in obtaining the tools, classes, and training on documentation they need to encourage more scribal arts. They are both settling in well in their new positions, and arranged for a very industrious work setting at a pavilion near the erics this weekend.
- The new Black Lion Seal Matrix, made by Master Arion the Wanderer, was delivered to Mistress Turriean ni Chaoilte dal gCais at July Coronation so she could continue making the seals for scrolls. HL Renart gave the retired signet ring to His Majesty to wear, at his request.

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

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Web Minister Baronessa Chiara Francesca Arianna d'Onofrio

- New Web Minister in the Principality of the Summits is HL Berte le Webbere.
- There were a lot of code changes this quarter which required 161 uploads on 43 separate days. There were also 83 various changes to the officer listings section.
- Tasks in process:
 - New website format is very close to being finished. Master Jean Louis de Chambertin and Aoife inghean ua Fiachrach are testing all of the connections between the current databases and the new website.
 - Helping the Chronicler's office trouble-shoot the online Event Submission form so hopefully this can be implemented soon.
 - Lists website: Baronessa Chiara participated in a conference call this quarter to discuss how to make more progress on this project. She arranged space on the An Tir server as a test environment, and the priority is copying an edition of the current database there to examine the new code. She is also working with the current database owner to transfer the domain name to the SCA in accordance with standard policy.
- Requests:
 - Can the instructions for new royalty and baron/ess be updated to include instructions that they must complete the model and photographer release forms. Ideally this should be done at the same time as they submit their names and contact information to the Web Team and Chronicler for publication on the website and Crier. The Web Team continues to receive photos of new Kingdom and Principality Royalty without this information and has trouble obtaining it after the fact. As Baronessa Chiara stated: "If the top officers of our Kingdoms and Principalities are not following this policy how is the rest of our populace expected to?"
 - Can the officer handbooks be updated to include language about the procedure for warranting a new officer? The Summits sent the change for their new Web Minister to the Society officer without Baronessa Chiara's signature, not understanding that was needed.

KINGDOM EVENT UPDATES

Bids are urgently needed for May Crown and September Crown in 2014. They are also requested for events in 2015 including Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championships, May Crown, July Coronation, and September Crown. Branches are encouraged to team up with one another to make this happen!

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.
 - Event Stewards have a great resource at <http://currentmiddleages.org/autocrats/welcome/>. Mistress Vivien nic Ullood is managing this site and welcomes your feedback on current articles, and suggestions for new items.
- 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 has been accepted by the Kingdom.
 - Events Deputy is HL Ysabella Greene must have an email update from each Kingdom event team by the 15th of each month so she can monitor whether things are on track and assist as needed.
 - After their Kingdom event, branches should use the Kingdom Event Report form which has space to easily record all of the required information. Please use the comments section so that others can learn from your event. A copy of this is to be sent to the Seneschal, Exchequer, and HL Ysabella.
- 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/>

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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 was the Northern State Recreation Area in Sedro Woolley, WA. The same as was used in 2011.
- Attendance was 974 people. The total profit was \$9129.70, of which \$5477.82 went to the Kingdom.

September Crown 2013 (August 30 – September 2) -- 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

- Site was 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.
- There were 1054 people on site, and thus the event should have earned a profit. However, the event team needs to submit the receipts from this weekend before everyone can be certain.

Kingdom Feast 2013 (November 1-3) -- 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 is required through ACCEPS and will run until October 15th. About 50 people have signed up so far. That financial system is not working well, and the Exchequer says to keep documenting the attempts to use it.
- 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. All of the lead chefs for the feast and classes have been chosen, and there is a discussion about different branches sponsoring courses. The Bards are very busy with a variety of secret projects.

Twelfth Night 2014 (January 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.
- Wyewood is very excited to be running their first Crown event as a Barony. They are expecting about 1200 people.
- 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. There are 520 nights already confirmed and a third block is being arranged. Rates are \$109 a night, with an additional fee for parking. To get the convention rate go to http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CTAC-DT-SCA-20140110/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG
- Now that the Heirs have been selected, suites can be arranged for them. HL Alianora will send the proposed schedule to the Heirs and Monarchs in the next week.
- This hotel hosts a large science fiction convention every year and is accustomed to our dynamics. Typically they set aside a wing for parties so we don't disturb other guests. The hotel is also willing to let us use one of the meeting rooms in the evening, but no food or drink can be set out for general consumption in that space.

Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championship (March 7-9, 2014) -- Barony of Stromgard. Event Steward is 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/>
- Note: This is one weekend later than the traditional date.
- 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.
- The contract has been signed and plans are coming along. So far 30 rooms have been reserved, and all SCA participants will be in one portion of the building to minimize the disruption to other guests. The grand hall will also be open on Saturday evening for socializing.

July Coronation 2014 (July 18-20) -- Barony of Three Mountains. Event Steward is HL Tamar Rustavelli.

- Site will be Trojan Park in Rainier, Oregon; which is just across the border from Longview, WA and about an hour west of Portland, OR. The site has permanent toilets and picnic structures, lots of shade, and a paved parking lot. <http://www.oregon.com/node/2282>

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- 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.

May Crown 2014 (May 16-18) -- Baronies of Madrone and Vulcanfeldt. Event Stewards are HL Sarra the Brave and Lady Rowena d’Ath-Fhirdia.

- In the absence of any other bids at this late date, the Baronies of Madrone and Vulcanfeldt are willing to reprise the event they held this past spring at the Toppenish Rodeo & Livestock Association site (WA). They will be using essentially the same event steward team, and expect roughly the same costs and profit margin.
- Two conditions: If there is a reasonably viable bid from another branch by Fall Crown Council in November, the Crown should accept that instead. Madrone will not host another Crown event until at least 2016.
- Decision: Bid accepted assuming no others are submitted.

Twelfth Night 2015 (January 9-11) -- Barony of Adiantum. Event Steward is Mistress Yseult of Broceliande.

- Site will be the Valley River Inn on the north side of Eugene, OR. <http://www.valleyriverinn.com/>
- This is the same site as was used for Twelfth Night in 2009 and 2011.

Twelfth Night 2016 (January 8-10) -- Barony of Dragon’s Mist. Event Steward HL Ana de la Sara.

- Site will 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 in January 2013 and is willing to give us a larger discount this time on the public spaces. Room rates would be \$114 a night, plus possibly a fee for parking; although some additional efforts are going to be made to reduce this rate before the final contract is signed.