

## **Baronial Council Meeting August 2008**

Present – Lachlahn, Nathan, Catherine, Donnchadh, Kerridwen, Rosalind, Columb

Apologies – Bechtold, Cinara, Branwen, Catalina, Kilic, Jane, Jehan

Minutes of the last meeting – Approved

### **Officers**

Herald – Absent. No report. Seneschal to follow up on office handover

Marshal – Reported. Sunday training is regular. Training has been mostly out of armour but as we authorize more people, there is more armoured training. There have been a few tournaments with 5-7 combatants.

Rapier – Reported. Catalina is in charge until Donnchadh recovers from surgery, though he is continuing to report. Brandon Darby was authorized in single rapier, offhand offensive and offhand defensive. Hanming Jiang and Edwin Wordsworthy were upgraded to offhand offensive and offhand defensive. Walter MacMahon was upgraded to rapier melee. Prizes were played at Coronation. Jehan de Benne achieved his Journeyman prize, Jane Grenville achieved her Free Schola prize, Veil le Pantera was not successful in his Journeyman prize. Donnchadh sustained heavy bruising to his intercostals muscles, xrays confirm no fracture. All marshals agree there was no fault in this incident. There were two rapier tournament this quarter, one with 7 combatants and one with 3.

Archery – Absent. No report

A&S – Reported. A huge amount of new regalia has been made in the last quarter. Great gifts were presented to visiting royalty. There was a Kingdom A&S competition at Coronation. Standards were high and Anealans took two first and three second places. Singing and dancing classes are still being run by Catherine. The College still holds meetings every Tuesday for dancing and sewing. The Canton has regular A&S jointly with the incipient Shire of Dragon's Bay.

Reeve – Reported. He even sent a graph – the Seneschal likes graphs. The end of year report was submitted by Catalina. Opening balance - \$6,948.18, Closing balance - 12,303.71, Profit - \$5,355.53, Annual Expenditure - \$9,357.77, Annual Income - \$14,713.30. Our Kingdom levy was \$319 + \$245 from the Canton. This is a useful indication of event numbers. There is one outstanding amount from the Fighter Auction this year and one from last year whom we have not seen since the event. This month's report – Opening balance \$12,303.71, Closing balance \$12,292.81.

Constable – No report. Office handover happened. Rhianwen will do this quarter's report, not done yet. Several people attended Coronation and Pencampwr and paid for the events but did not sign in. This is a serious problem. Potential contributing factors:

People paid in advance and because they did not have to pay to get in they forgot to sign in. Some people attended only part of a multi-day event and the constables were most active at the beginning of the event.

We will address this problem by ensuring that:

The constable in charge at the event has regular announcements made to remind people to sign in on every day of multi day events.

The duty constable will wear the office's baldric so they can be easily found and may act as a visible reminder to people to sign in.

Chronicler – No report. The last Vine was posted online at the beginning of the month but the Chronicler could not post to the announce list. That problem is now fixed. Currently 27 people require a hard copy of the Vine. Several of the addresses on the list were noted at council to be incorrect. The Chronicler will send out a note to everyone on the list requiring them to reply if they wish to continue receiving the Vine so that the list can be updated. It was discussed that the printed Vine must also be out by the beginning of the month to be useful to those who cannot access the online edition. It was decided that it must be posted 3 working days before the end of the month. Cost for printing and posting Vine ranges from \$1.63-\$2.26 per issue using commercial printers. Note that postage has just gone up. It was discussed that the current A4 layout of Vine will use more paper than the old A5 layout. The Chronicler will look into using the A5 layout for the printed Vines. The Chronicler suggested that the office buy a printer to print Vine in house. Advantages: Printing costs may be significantly lower in the long run, it will be much easier and more convenient for the Chronicler, it should speed up the production of Vine, it could be used by the Constable to print waivers and the Chatelaine to print brochure inserts. Disadvantages: We will need to pay for the printer up front, we will need to maintain the printer, we need to ensure that it is not abused, it may put more pressure on the Chronicler if other officers want to use it. The Chronicler suggested a Lexmark multifunction colour laser printer for \$849 which should cost about \$343 a year to run, costing 95c per Vine including a colour cover. The IT types agreed that multifunction centres are not the most reliable and that a black only laser printer would be more cost effective. Nathan, and any others interested, will look into the purchase price and running costs of printers and bring those to next council. We will decide at next council if we are going to buy a printer and if so, what sort.

Web – The Webminister has made a number of updates to the Order of Precedence, the hit list and Regnum.

Lists – Reported. There were several authorizations last quarter. We had two kings visit and fight here. We had four events involving lists in the last quarter – 2 involved rapier combat, 3 involved armoured combat and one archery shoot.

Chatelaine – Reported. There have been a few newcomers in the last quarter. Loaner garb has been extensively used and returned. For next quarter she plans to distribute more flyers and bookmarks, design some recruiting posters, make new loaner garb to replace some of the more dodgy stuff. There was a problem at the last tournament where a regular player brought a newcomer. The lady was approached by at least two people (including the Kingdom Chatelaine) at the event and asked to wear garb and was offered garb by both people. She refused to wear the garb offered and was asked to keep to the sidelines of the event. The event steward spoke to

her later and said she was very upset by how she had been treated. She said she had made an attempt at garb and did not feel comfortable wearing the garb she had been offered. Those who had offered her garb said they could not tell that she had made an attempt at garb. It was mentioned at council that the fighter had been informed before the event that the lady would have to wear an attempt at garb as required by our laws and that he had said that she would not be keen. The fighter in question did not play any part in any of these discussions with his lady at the event. It was noted that at the same event a regular player showed up for part of the event in mundane clothing and had to be pressed to put on a doublet over jeans. Issues arising from this: What constitutes an attempt at garb? Our rules require an attempt, they do not require that the attempt be successful. If the lady had said to those who approached her that she had made an attempt they would have been obliged to accept that. We have not had this problem before when an experienced SCA person brings a newcomer, usually they take care to arrange garb in advance. If this situation happens again, it would be better to approach the experienced person and ask them to offer garb to their friend rather than having a stranger do it. It was noted that everyone who could have been officially required to attend to this situation (chatelaine, steward, constable, seneschal, B&B) had a full time job at the event. It was said that it is everyone's responsibility to look after newcomers. While this may be so, it is too easy for everyone to think that someone else will do it this time. It is the Chatelaine's responsibility to assign someone to attend to newcomers at each event if she cannot do it herself. The Chatelaine is going to look into what newcomers would feel comfortable wearing.

Seneschal – Most officers have reported.

## **Calendar**

4-6/7 Coronation – Rhianwen – Report not done yet. Will be ready for next council.

20/7 Archery Tournament – Jehan – No report

26/7 A&S workshop at Branwen and Kilic's – went well, about 8 people came. People did calligraphy and illumination and some sewing. The Baron can now write his full name.

10/8 Ransom Tourney – Columb – Made \$93 profit, 30 people came, 5 heavies and 3 rapiers. Dean was authorized. This was Columb's first event and he has learned a lot.

23-24/8 Balingup Festival – Liduina – quite a few people are going.

30/8 A&S workshop at Donnchadh and Kerridwen's.

14/9 Tournament in Honour of My Wife – Lachlahn. To be held at Lake Monger Primary School from 10am. The Baronial Champions will accept challenges in armoured and rapier combat and archery.

21/9 Walk for Life – This is not an SCA event but has the support of our people. The contact person is Catalina. Anyone interested should speak to Catalina. There are nine people in the team so far, they want one more. OK to use Aneala's BBP and equipment.

26-29/9 Championship – Please book.

12/10 College Challenge – Gillian for Edmund.

25/10 Bal d’Aneala – Catherine. All in hand so far.

25/4/09 Autumn Gathering – Bids will be discussed later.

### **Old Business**

Officers’ Medallions – Nathan – will get round to it.

Loaner Armour – Conan – Still waiting, not expected yet. Has had some contact re sizes so progress is being made.

Trailer – Donnchadh/Kane – Kane has the details and will collect it when he is in Perth, likely after Balingup. He is following up what insurance is required.

### **New Business**

New bag for the old pavilion – Catherine – A new bag is needed as the old one has holes big enough to lose the joints. Rhianwen will make one out of shadecloth.

Baronial Chairs – Lachlahn – One of the chairs is coming apart. Nathan stripped and re-glued the other one several years ago and it appears the second requires the same treatment. Nathan will do this. Lachlahn is keen to replace the chairs with something that packs better and is more spectacular. Suggestions should be brought to next council.

New Pavilion – Lachlahn – A new pavilion might be useful for the potluck table and officers. It could also be joined to the BBP to make a larger pavilion for feasting in. If it is to be used for this purpose then it should be about 4m square. It was discussed that this will take up more space and be another thing stewards need to deal with. They are already struggling with the BBP and many try to find ways to avoid taking it. Proposals for getting a new pavilion should be brought to next council.

Disposal of old regalia – Catherine

Ironwing I – Ceremonial burning (+/- keeping ashes for war series), give to someone, turn wood into dagger handle or award tokens, make it into a mini bow, use it as a banner cross piece. All of these suggestions were discussed and the preferred option is to use the wood to make a dagger handle. Proposals for how this should be done and offers of assistance should be brought to next council.

Old Coronets – Turn into chain of office, melt down for award tokens or new regalia, keep for investitures, keep for historical value, give to someone, use for “crown B&B”. All of these suggestions were discussed and the preferred option is to turn the coronets into chains of office

for the B&B. Proposals for how this should be done and offers of assistance should be brought to next council.

Autumn Gathering – Catherine – Two bids were presented for consideration, one from Peter and one from Lachlahn. The major points agreed on were:

People are in favour of a catered feast.

People want to know more about this possible outside vendor in Peter's bid before they will be happy to support it.

People like the idea of a night time tournament.

People prefer the bid that makes less profit, they are very nervous about aiming to make large sums of money and definitely do not favour using the profit to buy infrastructure though they do support using it to pay for people to come over to teach.

People felt that neither bid met the prime goal of having core team members from every group.

People were concerned that neither team had confirmed the availability and cost of the proposed site.

The Seneschal will take the feedback to the other WA Seneschals and a decision will be made soon.

**Next Meeting** – 19<sup>th</sup> September at Catalina's house.