

Baronial Council Meeting February 2009

Present – Lachlahn, Catherine, Nathan, Catalina, Andre, Edmund Lyon, Gillian, Donnchadh, Kerridwen

Late – Jane, Jehan

Apologies – Isabel, Edmund Kerr, Branwen, Columb, Wendy, Bechtold, Cinara, Catalina apologized for the absence of the air conditioner again.

Minutes of the last meeting – Approved

Officers

Herald – Apologies. No report.

Marshal – Report coming. The only Anealan armoured tournament for the quarter was Toys for Tots. It went well. Training is going well, in spite of the heat which may have dropped numbers a little. Using the third Sunday of the month to focus on armoured combat training is continuing and seems to be working. Other training sessions are working on one topic per session which also seems to be giving a sense of purpose to the training. There have been several new authorizations in Abertridwr. There has been some confusion in Dragon's Bay where the Dragon's Bay Marshal sent in authorization paperwork for others before he sent in his own. This problem has been addressed. Isabel de Annesley is the new Captain of Archers.

Rapier – Reported (first in Lochac, gold star). There was one rapier tournament this quarter with 3 entrants. They had so much fun, they did the tournament twice. The winner was Donnchadh Baillie. The Rapier Marshal conducted a workshop in Bosenberg at their Terra Nova event, which went well. There has been interest in cut and thrust. The Rapier Marshal is likely to soon be an authorizing marshal in this form, meaning we will soon be able to train in this form in Aneala.

Archery – Apologies. Reported. We are holding competition shoots at training on the first Sunday of the month, when it is available. January 4 – Royal Round, 6 entrants, Catherine de Arc won. February 1 – Handicap Royal Round, 5 entrants, Catalina da Gata won. Training has a regular attendance of 4-6 archers. The Anealan Webminister is currently working on a web page to track our archers IKAC and Royal Round scores.

A&S – Reported (first in Lochac, gold star). The A&S officer has resigned due to real life commitments. The Seneschal is currently caretaking the office. Applications will be called for. The assembly looked at Andre. A&S has been going very well with many people entering local comps. We have hosted workshops and are working on stuff for the upcoming Royal visit. Dancing and singing are taking a break but will hopefully be back soon. The Autumn Gathering class timetable is done. The Seneschal will complete the A&S newsletter.

Reeve – Apologies. Reported. The Kingdom has finally cashed our donation of our share of the profit from Coronation. The Kingdom Exchequer reports that the Kingdom coffers are now overflowing (due in no small part to Aneala) and there is a discussion on the Reeves list about whether to scrap the Lochac Levy for 2009 or to reduce the cap for groups to \$500. The current account balance is \$8083.80. The SCAA's plan for membership is being hotly discussed on the Reeves list and it is generally agreed that under the new plan there will be a greater administrative burden for Reeves. Many reeves are already struggling with the required record keeping. Council discussed the Lochac Levy proposals. It was decided that we object strongly to having donated money to help our Kingdom only to then find that because of our generosity, other groups are no longer expected to contribute and a letter to this effect will be sent by the Seneschal. We would prefer that the money be saved for future need, or used to increase the travel fund so Crowns can afford to visit here without us paying their way every time, or to bring Kingdom regalia to outlying groups. Crowns have refused to bring regalia to Aneala because of the excess baggage costs.

Constable – Apologies, going to the circus. All is well.

Chronicler – Apologies. Must resign as soon as a replacement can be found as mundane work is making it difficult to do the office. Both Nathan and Kerridwen have volunteered to do a couple of Vines while a replacement is being found. The assembly looked at Andre again.

Web – Working on rapier and archery results pages similar to the armoured combat results pages. It was asked if the armoured combat results were going to be updated. They are currently up to date up to the Bosenberg Tournament, for which the Webminister is awaiting results. The enquirer is going to have a look at the page, since it may have been some time since he last did so. The Webminister had one person ask to be removed from the results page last year, which has been done. He now has the code in place to remove people from the list and will put out a message to see if anyone else wants to be removed. The coronet proposal has also been added to the website with a link from the home page and this has been announced on the mailing list.

Lists – Reported. The fighters are behaving. Noted that the listkeeper will need to check membership cards as well as authorization cards at tournaments when pay to play comes in. Wants a tablecloth. Helped to listkeep at the Bosenberg Terra Nova event. 5 new fighters from Abertridwr authorized at this event. Winner Kane Greymane. The only Anealan tournament this quarter was Toys for Tots. The winner of the rapier list was Donnchadh Baillie, the winner of the armoured list was Nathan Blacktower.

Chatelaine – Reported. The Office Party demo went very well. They paid us \$1,000. No new members appear to have resulted from this demo. Business cards were printed for this demo at a cost of \$170. The Hyde Park Demo is next weekend. We have been invited to the Mythica demo on 28 March. This sounds like a good opportunity for us but a lot of people will not be available that day. Demo to go ahead if enough support can be found. Aneala needs some pictures for demos. The Chatelaine will find suitable photos and get them to Nathan who can arrange printing and laminating.

Seneschal – The SCAA membership policy appeared very quietly on the Lochac webpage on 6 February. There has still been no discussion about it on the CoS list, although I asked the Lochac Seneschal about it weeks ago. The Reeves list is discussing it. I emailed the SCAA at their committee@sca.org.au address on the 12 January. I had no response at all. I emailed Kane and Liduina on 17 February. Liduina responded on the 18th and said she had not been on the BOD since June so I should ask Kane. Kane responded on the 17th. He does not know yet what events the policy will apply to. The current wording states that it will apply to training and meetings but this may change and he will let me know ASAP. The day membership is actually an event membership and is payable once per event for multiday events. The 8 week introductory period will be free, though this may change. I did ask how we were to keep track of how long people have been playing. The answer is “Just ask them how long, it will soon become apparent who is a tosser”. We are not sure how exactly that will be enforced. Contributing membership will not include a paper Pegasus. The difference in cost between the sustaining and contributing membership has therefore risen from \$15 to \$35. Council found this excessive. We do not understand why the new membership proposal will be difficult for reeves who already have to calculate the Kingdom Levy (if the BOD does agree to charge membership for the same events as Kingdom Levy). Perhaps this is a good time to scrap group caps and have everyone pay the Kingdom Levy equally. We agree with the reeves that there has been far too little communication regarding this proposal. It is due to be implemented in only 10 weeks and the SCAA Chairman still cannot tell us which events the membership policy applies to. It is also too late for Colleges to be prepared. We have concern that new college members may not like being told they now have to pay an extra \$20 to play.

The proposed Achenfeld Seneschal reported that there has been no response from the kingdom Seneschal to her petition to create the Canton of Aachenfeld. The last response indicated the Kingdom Seneschal was still looking at the postcodes. The Anealan Seneschal sent an email to the Kingdom Seneschal asking what progress has been made with the application and what is required to give the intervening postcodes to Abertridwr on the 19th. There has been no response to that yet.

Calendar

The Captain of Archers asked if the training focus days could be reassigned this month as the first Sunday is the Hyde Park demo. Currently there is an archery focus on the first Sunday, rapier on the second Sunday, and armoured combat on the third Sunday of the month. It was decided that this would not happen. The agreement is that there will be a focus on a particular combat area at training if the relevant Sunday is available, if not then it is skipped for that month. We do not want people taking training days into consideration when planning events and we do not want to reschedule training every month to account for events. Events very much have the priority.

17/1/09 Midsummer – 110 booked. 110 came. They were not the same 110 people. Profit \$927.65. Highlights – numbers were really great, so many people helped, the competitions were all well supported with some really good entries. The heraldic garb competition should be repeated more often for the colour it added to the event. Problems – the hall was not in acceptable condition with one of the main doors missing most of its hinges and about to fall off,

and paint, chewing gum, food and grease all over the tables and floor. The hall manager knows it's the fault of the school group who have regular use of the hall and are not looking after it properly. She asked for a letter detailing the problems to take to them, which the steward has provided. The heat was a problem. The kitchen was very unpleasant to work in and a lot of people left early to return to their air-conditioning. It was recommended that we look at using air conditioned halls for Midsummer if possible in the future. There was a problem with some people packing up the hall early. They started after court even though it was only 9.30pm. They were asked to stop but anyone wanting to return to the hall later in the evening had to get chairs out again if they wanted to sit down. No packing up is to occur until the event has been announced closed or at the express instruction of the steward. Aneala currently has enough gear to supply 10 tables (80 people). It was stretched beyond capacity at this event. We need to look at increasing our gear so we can supply at least 14 tables (112 people). This project has been assigned to Baroness Jane who is running Midwinter which is the next event likely to need this gear. Catherine will see if the runner fabric is still available. The Head Cook has asked that we consider replacing the wooden bowls we currently use. They always smell musty, even when well aired after events. This was discussed. Possible alternatives include stainless steel, solid wood, glass or ceramic. Glass and ceramic were considered too heavy, bulky and breakable. The stainless steel will look a lot more modern and will be too hot for servers to touch. The solid wood will be more bulky. The decision at this time is to continue with the current style of bowls, ensuring that any that are damaged or worn are replaced before the next feast. We will however call for proposals for other options to be presented to council in the hope someone can find something better.

15/2/08 Virtue and Vice Tourney – Jane – Reported. 30 people attended. The event made a \$19 loss, which the Steward will cover as previously arranged. This was discussed and council decided that the Steward's money was not acceptable. Aneala will cover the loss. There were 7 fighters. Vice (Edwin, Jehan and Catalina) won the day 27 to 17. The indulgent food competition was well supported. Votes from the populace were tied between Catherine's ice cream and Alienor's gold love spoons so the ice cream was assigned to vice and the spoons to virtue and the winner was decided by the rapier tournament. The site was great for a summer event being very shady and breezy. The turnout was good for a rapier event. The new trailer made a huge difference to how easy it was to run the event. The site is now too expensive to be used again, unless we can negotiate a lower price. There was a problem with the site being advertised as being on Sycamore Drive which runs along the far side of the park to where the event was held. This will be rectified in the future. There was comment that the site was too far north for people south of the river. It is actually less far north of the river than Wandri is south of it.

20/2/09 O Day – Gillian – Went well. Signed up 50 people with more to sign up on Tuesday at training.

1-2/3/09 Hyde Park Demo – Kerridwen – We have the same area as last year. We will do both days again. Will advertise the Newcomers Feast. Has confirmed 8 people coming for Sunday and 7 for Monday. Hopefully more will come.

21/3/09 Newcomers Tourney and Feast – Gillian – Collins St Centre, 4pm tourney, 6pm feast. Aneala will float the event.

15/3/09 WA SCA Meeting/Ides of March/to be or not to be – Catherine. Will cost 1.50 per head, BYO snacks and drinks. There was some discussion about how it might run. Has the potential to be “interesting”.

24-27/4/09 Autumn Gathering – Lachlahn – “That’s getting complicated”. Boesenberg has reimbursed us for last year’s site hire. Portaloos will cost \$1,000. This will be covered by the \$5 price increase, changing the feast to a potluck supplemented with meat and bread, and the increased numbers we are hoping for. The extra cost does make the site less attractive and other options should be considered next year. Their majesties have written to Their Excellencies saying that the thing they were coming for is not now going to happen at this event so they have no reason for coming and the funding that was to be raised to bring them out for that purpose will therefore not be available, so they are not coming to the event. Council confirmed that Aneala will cover one airfare and accommodation for Their Majesties, as is traditional. Abertridwr have already voted to supply one airfare. The Baron and Baroness will write to the Crown, assuring them that their expenses are covered, and that there are other reasons for them to come to this event. Please write award recs.

25/7/09 – Midwinter – Jane – North Perth Town Hall, feast of excess, 6-11pm, \$27/30. Branwen was to be Head Cook. This may have to change but no decision will be made yet.

9/09 Championship – Catherine – site booked and paid for.

Old Business

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

Loaner Armour – Conan – Still waiting.

Disposal of old regalia – Catherine

Ironwing I – Need a proposal. Burning it is still a possibility.

Old Coronets – Proposal is now online for commenting.

New Business

Announce mailing list – This list has not been used in quite some time. There are more people on populace so everyone uses that instead. We hoped to reduce cross posting with this list but that has not worked with everyone posting to it as well as every other list. This list will be closed.

Minor pricing at events – It has been Anealan policy to charge minor prices to those under 16. This has not happened at some recent events. It is hard for the constables with a queue of 110 people to get minors to sign the right waivers then work out what price they should pay. To simplify things, and bring us more into line with usual mundane practice, we will now charge

minor prices to those under 18. It has been usual to charge minors half price. This encourages more families to come but it means making a loss on most minors, who cost the event at least as much as adults. It was decided that minors prices must cover the basic costs of attending events. This will be more important as we can no longer rely on the non-member surcharge subsidizing things. This will be up to the event stewards to determine. It has been policy to allow under a certain age to attend for free. It was proposed that it would be better to charge them double the adult price. This was voted on and carried. A second vote was held to see if we should really do this and that was also carried, by a smaller majority. The final decision is that this will be left to the event steward's discretion.

Next Meeting – 20th March at Catalina's house.