

Baronial Business Meeting

December 7, 2017

Officer reports are verbatim, meeting notes are paraphrased.

Proconsul Augusti Conchobar Mac Eoin, by decree of the Sable Lion of AnTir, Baron of the Mighty Barony of Dragon's Laire and Proconsula Eilidh Keldelth, by royal decree Baroness of Dragon's Laire to the people, champions and officers of Dragon's Laire, Io Saturnalia et Vita Longa!

It is just beginning to set in that we are serving a second term and we are so honored that you, our populace, have chosen us again to represent you as Baron and Baroness. Gratias tibi! We will strive to live up to this honor, so please do not be afraid to or hesitant to come talk to us with your concerns, ideas and thoughts and we will do our best to address your concerns and assist you in your efforts.

Winter is here and we would like to remind people that this does not mean that SCA life is over. There are many opportunities to go to feasts, participate in the arts and enter contests. Our own Candlemas celebration is coming and we will be choosing our baronial Arts and Sciences Champion and Bardic Champion. Please consider entering this contest to honour this great Barony and yourself and wear the colours of Dragon's Laire. Entrance into the championships is in the form of a letter of intent to Ourselves and the current Champions and Countess Elizabeth de Rossignol as A&S minister and is due by An Tir 12th night. If competition is not your thing you can also participate and honour the Barony by writing a scholarly research paper and entering the ranks of Scholar of Dragon's Laire.

We will be travelling around An Tir in the next few months and would love to see members of the populace at events such as Glymm Mere's Yule, An Tir 12th Night and Coronation and Ursulmas. We would also like to remind people that An Tir Arts and Sciences and Rapier Championship is coming up and our Cousins in Glymm Mere could use your help in any way you can offer. Please consider travelling with Us to see the wonder that is An Tir.

As We have previously stated, winter is also a perfect time to build and maintain armor for the heavy field. It would be a glorious thing to see Legion I Draconis take the field at An Tir West war with the Legion Scutae. Please consider making one to take to the field or consult with THL Arkhai or THL Thangbrand who have some experience making them. Despite the cold THL Andromache and THL Gabhin are still providing lights to practice with and practices continue to be well attended so there is no reason why fighters cannot stay in fighting trim. As far as the other combat arts, thanks to Our Baronial Rapier Champion THL Ambrose, rapier continues to flourish and grow inside and archery is active when weather permits thanks to THL Stephen

In Our second reign, we look forward to new people finding niches they can fill and moving in to accept the challenge of volunteering for running events and taking officer positions. If you want to get involved, talk to someone. We have so many hard-working people in Our Barony with skill and experience who would love to share their knowledge. If there is a face you don't have a name to go with, or you haven't spoken with them in a while, go over and re-introduce yourself and chat. Don't assume that because someone is "established" or has a title that they are not just

as prone to shyness, and social anxiety as everyone else. This is a social group. Go be social. We like to maintain a hands-off approach and allow people the chance to do their work without too much intervention. We respect people's efforts and ideas and rest assured that the brilliant people of Dragon's Lair will flourish in their chosen endeavors.

We look forward to seeing you all at Yule. It is a wonderful event made for shared laughter, and time spent with friends. In the spirit of the season, We are collecting new socks to donate to those in need in our community. Please bring socks for men, women or children to donate.

Also, don't forget Their Majesties will be in attendance. The Barony will be hosting many out of town guests this Yule. It is a chance to meet new people, embrace old friends, and show An Tir just how awesome Dragon's Lair is.

In Servitium Laetantem Baron Chonchobar MacEoin & Baroness Eilidh Keldelath

OFFICER REPORTS

Seneschal

THL Ciar ingen Fiachnae

Greetings to the Mighty Dragon's Lair!

I attended the Admin track at Collegium and an informational time was had by all in attendance. Some more information for the Customary and the Financial Policy, when we get around to updating that.

We have open and opening Officer positions! If you are interested in being the Baronial Lists, Youth Armored Combat, or Games Officer, please see me so we can discuss!

In consultation with Their Excellencies, the Baronial Family Activities Officer position has been placed in abeyance. This does not mean that family activities are disappearing! To hold them at an Event will be at the discretion of the Event Coordinator. To have them at Social or at A&S Play day should be discussed with the Seneschal and or the A&S Minister (depending on timing and activity). I've received some questions about 2-deep and Society policy, so I'm passing my questions onto the Kingdom Seneschal. Please let me know if you have any questions about this change!

In Service,
Ciar ingen Fiachnae
Seneschal

Marshallate

Baronial

Lord Stuart of House Awry

Greetings mighty barony,

Despite the recent weather, we continue to hold practice weekly, and it's a testament to our fighters' dedication that they still show up, this Saturday at Yule we will hold a fight practice at which we will be inspecting helm padding in accordance with the new society rules so make sure that your helm has at least 1/2 inch thick padding and that it's in good repair. I won't be available the next 2 weeks of practice as work has me scheduled.

YIS,

Lord Stuart of House Awry

Rapier

No separate report at this time.

Archer

Lord Stephen of House Awry

Greetings Mighty Barony,

Practices continue per usual, weather dependent. Practices continue to be well attended.

The Top 10's for Archery have been calculated and I wanted to give a couple congratulations to 2 of our archers for their first Top 10 Achievements. First is to M'Lady Alexandria in the Period Handbow category and KL Kloe of Thira in the York Handbow category. Huzzah!

IS,

HL Stephen of House Awry, OGGS Chief Archer of Dragon's Lair

Thrown Weapons

No separate report at this time.

Siege

No separate report at this time.

Equestrian

On hiatus. No separate report at this time.

Arts & Sciences
Countess Elisabeth de Rossignol

Weekly classes continued during November and are now scheduled through the first of the year. Calls for entries in the upcoming Baronial Arts and Sciences and Bardic championships have gone out, as well as for Scholars papers, with entries due by the weekend of Twelfth Night. At the upcoming baronial Yule event we have a scheduled scroll display, dance instruction, and dance participation with live music. The scribal guild and culinary guild continue meeting and active. Overall, Dragons Laire continues active in the arts and sciences.

Chronicler
THL Sayako Enoki

Greetings Mighty Barony!

I think it is safe to say that I have found my feet as Chronicler, and my head is swirling with ideas about taking the Flames in a different direction. I don't particularly like the idea of taking the reports and business meeting notes and turning them into a newsletter. It seems redundant to me because officer and guild reports are widely available, and makes a newsletter into a wall of words that will lose a reader. I would like something that is newcomer and seasoned-SCAdian friendly, is visual and readable, and contains the kind of information that people would look for in a newsletter. Of course, there will be more to follow. Stay tuned!

All of the blessings of the season upon our mighty Barony, and I am looking forward to the New Year.

YIS,
THL Sayako

Herald/Golden Dragon Pursuivant
Murakami Tsuruko Sensei

Greetings, Yule Feast is coming and will include a Royal court. If you are interested in helping out with heraldry please contact me. Also at Yule Feast there will be an edible heraldry competition. Create a representation of your device or the barony's device in any edible medium. Entries will be judged on artistry, accuracy, and sheer inventiveness. Countess Elisabeth is available for heraldic consultation at most fight practices. Also check out the links to heraldic information that she's posting to the Baronial FB page.

YIS,
Murakami Tsuruko
Golden Dragon Pursuivant

Chatelaine
THL Jess of the Roving Irishmen

November brought an uptick in requests for information about the Barony. We will be having Sage and her dad join us for their first event at Yule, along with another good gentle whose name escapes me at the moment. Please take a minute to introduce yourself if you cross their path this weekend.

In January, Isemay will become our new Chatelaine. She is excited to take over for me. I will stay on as her deputy to help with the transition.

In Service,
THL Jess, Chatelaine

Exchequer
Gabrielle de Cameron

The Barony's bank balances are as follows:

Checking: \$43,961.98

Savings: \$24,284.76

CD: \$10,232.09

Steward
Master Arontius of Bygelswade

1. Usual Note - If you need items out of the storage unit, please give me as much notice as possible so I can make the time to pull things out of the way as necessary to get to the items you need. With all Baronial owned assets in one storage space, there is limited room for movement and it takes a while sometimes to move everything to accommodate. Contact me at <arontius@comcast.net> if you need access or if you have any questions. Either myself or the Steward Deputy (Dame Madrun) can meet with you at the storage unit depending on schedule.
2. Materials needed to support Yule Feast have been loaded into their respective transports and are ready to be delivered to site. For anyone other than the Steward who is transporting this gear and material, please contact the Steward to make arrangements to get materials back into storage sometime in December.
3. If you are currently storing Baronial owned materials at your home (for example, banners, decorations, arts and sciences gear, etc.), please contact the Steward to review inventory held at your home prior to the end of the year so that the Baronial Inventory as a whole can be updated.
4. As always, before adding 'stuff' to the Baronial Inventory, please speak to the Steward so we can judge how much room new material will take up and how much room is actually available to hold it in the Unit.

**Gamesmaster
Emil Paulus**

No separate report at this time.

Lists

No separate report at this time.

The Lists position is open!

**Webminister
Máenach na Cailled**

Greetings!

First, a question...

...for those who write monthly reports (officers, event stewards, etc.): would you like the web site to automatically fill in the SCA Name, Real Name, and Email fields in those cases where it can? For the Email address I could set it up so that it fills in the forwarding address (webminister@dragonslaire.org for my report, for example) -- that way your personal address isn't necessarily included in the report. This may be of more concern once I figure out automatically posting the report to the Book of Faces. Let me know what you think!

The actual report!

November was a complicated month, with vacation, holidays, birthdays, and hip surgery!

Despite this, I did manage to get a few things done. For the most part my efforts went toward updating event and class schedule information, plus a little bit of behind-the-scenes work related to the new "reCAPTCHA" checks on the report submission and award recommendation forms. In particular, I restructured some things so I could more easily load the reCAPTCHA code on only those two pages where previously that code was loaded by every page on the site. Bottom line: most pages on the site should load a bit more quickly now.

Reminder: if you see anything wrong on the web site, or you'd like to make suggestions, or you have a question, or... anything else about the web site, please don't hesitate to contact me at webminister@dragonslaire.org !

Upcoming plans

I'm experimenting with how to make reports look better, make them easier to read, etc. The current iteration supports Markdown and sends emails in both HTML and plain-text format simultaneously. As always, let me know what you think!

Ideally I'd like to add a "preview" button so that you can tell what your report will look like after the Markdown is processed.

I'm investigating Web Components as a way to make it easier for Kösem and me to collaborate on web site design updates.

I've added Google Analytics to the web site in order to collect statistics on the ways people are accessing our web site. I'm particularly interested in learning which browsers people use and how often people load the site on tablets and phones. This information will help guide decisions about compatibility. I know we have some individuals in the Barony who feel strongly about privacy; in the interest of privacy I have disabled the parts of Google Analytics which track semi-anonymous users by assigning them ID numbers which span sessions. If you're concerned about the use of Google Analytics I'd be happy to go into more detail about which pieces of information I do and don't track, and how. There are no secrets here!

If people like the Markdown support I'll start working on a "Preview" button.

Web site change list

2017-11-09: 11f19bc Fix issue that could reject award recommendations

There was an issue with reCAPTCHA verification which could cause it to be rejected even though the human did the right thing.

2017-11-09: 58e23e5 Update Flames / Business Meeting notes page

This includes posting notes from the last few meetings.

2017-11-09: 2d84d6a Update A&S competition page w/info from Countess E

2017-11-10: 6aaeb67 Update Yule page from its An Tir page

2017-11-12: c5d7dc2 Update "Our next event" sidebar for Yule 2017

2017-11-18: 12318f3 Update class schedule

2017-11-18: fee01d9 Update Yule schedule

2017-11-18: 2543473 Add November 2017 business meeting notes & reports

2017-11-18: bf2beb4 Add DL A&S competition judging forms

2017-11-18: 6a769c9 Correct Candlemas date

2017-11-28: bc6856d Update Candlemas event page

2017-11-28: f35a7d6 Remove Yule pre-reg links

2017-11-28: 7ac434c Finish removing securimage; remove stray files

2017-11-30: efba84e Adjust dlheader.html and the way it gets included

Each page now contains its own <html> and <head> tags, making it possible to add custom items in the <head> of an individual page. This will make it so that not every page needs to contain the reCAPTCHA JS, for example.

2017-11-30: f78b023 Convert dlheader.html to dlheader.php

2017-11-30: 88bbb7d Move reCAPTCHA script ref into pages that use it

YACs

We need a YACs officer.

Scribe

Rhiannon of Eaglesflight

It was a quiet month once again. We have charters ready for Yule.

As always, anyone wanting to do illumination or calligraphy should contact myself or HL Ela.

I will not be attending the meeting this month.

Librarian

Lady Ela Pennayth

Greetings! Several new and rare out of print pamphlets from An Tir Herbal Guild were donated by Raupulfr inn Orpstori, former Herbal Guild Head and delivered to our library by THL Ciar. Thank you, on behalf of our Barony. The Herbal Guild Compendium, Volume 1 and The Herbal Guild of Antir: Primary Sources "Chocolate, or An Indian Drink" are excellent resources with helpful bibliographies. We have had one book checked out and returned this month, "Known World Handbook, 4th ed." Please contact me via facebook or elaynisdewi@gmail.com if you would like to check out a book from our Baronial Library. I will complete the inventory in the latter half of the month. If you would like to assist, please send me a note.

Yours In Service to Crown and Coronet,
Lady Ela Pennayth y Ynis Dewi

YAFA

On hiatus.

GUILDS

Bardic

No separate report at this time.

Culinary & Spiritmakers Maitre Renart le fox de berwyk

Greetings unto the populace of the greatest Barony in the Kingdom of An Tir!

Your Culinary Guild held there November meeting at the home of m'Lady Lucy. A great time was had by everyone in attendance where Lord Maenoch, Lady Ciar, Lady Ela, Kristy, Sara and myself. Work was completed on a honey mustard sauce for our coming Yule feast. Yummy samples of Quince jelly, membrillo, and quince paste were all devoured. There were some different goat cheeses, and some cheddar available and consumed as well. We talked about plans for a December meeting or to skip that meeting because of the holidays, unless plans for a potluck happen, we'll see how Yule goes.

If you are interested in period foods, feasts, or just great food in general, send me a message and I will get you information concerning our meetings.

June Faire planning is in it's wee early stages and will continue as we beckon winter to go away and the sun returns.

The possibility of Magistra Aelianora coming to teach a class(s) on cheese making is slowly gaining ground. Stay tuned.

A bread making class taught by me with a directly following full Saturday (hands on) will be forthcoming.

Costumers THL Jess of the Roving Irishmen

Nothing to report.

In Service,
THL Jess, Costumer's Guild Mistress

Scribal Lady Ela Pennayth

The DL Scribal Guild will host a Scroll Display at Yule, December 9. We are seeking original scrolls that must have Coronet or Royal signatures and seals. Please bring the framed or unframed work of art in the morning of Yule and I will place it with the display. No easel is necessary, as your scroll will be safely placed flat on the table. The scrolls will be accepted as

long as gate is open during the event. Please don't forget to pick up your scroll from 4:30 to immediately after court.

There is room for more illuminated scrolls at our display. Besides our illustrious Kingdom Peers, I know we have many Wyverns and quite a few Dragon's Pearls, Grey Geese (Geese?), Dragon's Hearts and other Baronial Service, Arts and Martial awards worthy of an original scroll. If you would like to add your award to the display, please let me know by Friday, so I can arrange for enough table space. I will have a high definition camera to assist our kingdom archivist with An Tir's Scroll Archive pictures.

Our Guild will have a Scriptorium on December 17 at the country estate of Maitre Renart le fox de berwyk. All are welcome! We will work on Kingdom charters, discuss original scroll design and practice acanthus leaf painting. Please rsvp on our facebook group page, "DL Scribes" or contact Maitre Renart or myself for more information. I will have beginning charter painting resources and loaner gear on hand.

Your Humble Servant, Lady Ela Pennayth y Ynis Dewi Dragon's Laire Scribal Guild Head

Textile

No separate report at this time.

DRAGON'S LAIRE EVENTS

Candlemas (February)

Baronial Championships for Arts & Sciences, Scholars, and Bardic

We are no longer planning to hold Candlemas at the Masonic Hall. The contract was not compatible with our needs. Candlemas will now be at American Legion Hall. The site fee will be \$550 rather than \$900. This is a dry site.

Candlemas averages 80-100 attendees, and about 60 at feast. The expected profit is about \$180. Her Excellency is the event steward.

Arts & Sciences Day Camp (Spring)

No bid for Spring 2018 A&S Day Camp yet.

Junefaire (First Weekend of June)

Annual Flagship Event, Open to the Public

Junefaire is coming together, and the team is almost filled. We need someone to run modern gate. Merchant applications went live, and we have four merchants registered already. The first team meeting will be Tuesday (Dec 12), and is just for the planning team, not for the public. His Excellency would like to see how many merchants are repeat merchants, and know what they think about the one day format. Arion will be speaking to merchants about the one day format. Sunday will be a "sensory-friendly" quiet Sunday at the Faire for special needs families. We will have PayPal for Junefaire, which should make Gabrielle's life a little easier, and will be less for gate to handle with prepays already paid.

Last Chance (September/October)

Baronial Martial Championships

No bid for 2018 Last Chance yet.

Arts & Sciences Day Camp (Autumn)

No bid for Autumn 2018 A&S Day Camp yet.

Yule (December)

Annual Baronial Feast

Maitre Renart le fox de berwyk

Greetings unto all present!

As of today we have 7 days until the event, and 197 people have registered for the event, it is going to be a grand time indeed. The current schedule will go something like this:

8:00 AM
Site opens for staff

10:00 AM
Gate opens

10AM-4PM
Entries for Edible Heraldry Contest accepted

11:00 AM
Morning Court

12:00 PM
Dance Class (1 hour) immediately following Morning Court

1:00 PM
Lunch

1:30 PM
Fight Practice

2:00 PM
How to wear a Hennin class Countess Judith and Baroness Spike

2PM-4PM
Yule Ball

3:00 PM
Table decoration judging

4:30 PM
Edible Heraldry Contest - Entries must be in before Court!

5:00 PM
Evening Court

6:00 PM
Gate closes

7:00 PM
Feast

9:00 PM
Site Clean up

10:00 PM

You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here - site closes

In there somewhere will also be the original scroll display with HL Ela y Ynis Dewi.

Please keep in mind that the SCA gate does not open until 10AM, only the event team will be allowed access to the site before 10am. Those wishing to take the dance class (11am) will learn the dances that will happen during the ball (2PM). When packing your feast gear for the event, pack a plastic bag that will fit your dirty dishes to go home. There will be a receptacle for scraping dishes but they will not be able to be washed on site. Please do not attempt to wash them in the bathrooms. Those bringing original scrolls for the display please make arrangements with HL Ela for that. Those for the edible heraldry please make arrangements with Countess Elisabeth. Site clean-up will begin at 9PM, at this time please move your personal items to your vehicle so the event team can get the site cleaned. Everyone need to be on there way home prior to 10PM.

Do not forget the Sock Drive, we want to show our best and that Dragon's Laire Rocks.

Please direct any questions straight to me.

In service to Crown and Coronet,

Renart

OTHER EVENTS

September Crown (September 2018)

Tournament to Determine the Next King & Queen of An Tir

Master Arontius of Bygelswade

1. Dragon's Laire was awarded the bid to host September Crown as of the Collegium Financial Committee Meeting held on November 12th, 2017.
2. EIF has been submitted, with Calendar Page to support our Event in place.
3. Preliminary contract from OPG (Port Gamble) in hand and is being reviewed. When complete, and any changes made, meeting will be set up with OPG to discuss actual land usage.
4. First Planning Meeting for Team Haggis IV will be held in January. Exact date and time to follow via e-mail and Facebook Post before the end of Calendar Year 2017.

PROPOSALS, OTHER, and Oh-By-The-Way's

Proposals

Proposal for the Financial Committee

Mistress Brigid Ross

Dragon's Laire has more money in the bank than ever. The proposal is that the Barony makes a substantial donation to the Kingdom, somewhere around \$8,000-\$10,000.

The Kingdom is running at a deficit this year, and according to the Kingdom Exchequer, An Tir is expected to go into the red this year by \$3,000-\$5,000. Branches, including Dragon's Laire, used to make regular contributions to Kingdom. It used to be standard for the Kingdom to tithe the branches. However, branches are no longer tithed, and while Dragon's Laire is prosperous, most branches are either breaking even or losing money. Attendance at Kingdom events has been lower, which accounts for much of the reduced Kingdom income. The lower attendance at Kingdom events has much to do with a lack of competition for bids for those events. This means that many bids for Kingdom events have been awarded to branches in Canada, making attendance more difficult by those outside of Canada, where most the populace of An Tir lives. Kingdom events also incur Kingdom travel costs, and costs in general have been going up. The Kingdom has also been spending money at education events like A&S and Collegium that have been breaking even or losing money.

Our account balances are drawing the attention of the Board of Directors, which may or may not have implications for our Barony. We must find the balance between not amassing too much wealth locally, and ensuring that the Barony has the cash reserves to remain solvent in years of hardship. Ideally, we should have two years of operating costs in cash reserves, and Junefaire alone costs \$20,000 to produce.

The consensus is that we would like to make a monetary contribution to the Kingdom, but we need to examine our finances so we can make an informed decision about what amount we should and can donate. We cannot compromise our ability to remain solvent, nor should be necessarily set aside plans for future spending. We need to explore what amount would be a significant, but feasible, donation from the Barony.

Our goal for this proposal is to be able to present a donation to the Kingdom at 12th Night.

Proposal for an Archery Pavilion

Magister Arion the Wanderer

Panther is having their 10% sale now that it is December. The price from Ray Baker (Edward the Smith) for an 18x20 ridgepole marquis with walls, stakes, and ropes (no poles – too much cost to ship, and the poles aren't very good) is \$1827.79, tax and shipping included.

Arion can make the poles for about \$100

The priority use for this pavilion will be for archery, but it will be a Baronial asset that will also be available for other uses.

The request is approved.

Proposal for an Alternative Indoor Practice Space

His Excellency

The response from the proposed alternative fight practice site is \$150 per month. We should go do a walkthrough to make sure it will be suitable for our needs, and will need to pick a different day for fight practice.

We don't want to lose VFW hall on Tuesdays and will use it throughout the summer as we normally do.

Approval pending inspection.

Interest from Valhal Brewing

Valhal Brewing wants to do Norse embroidery classes at their club. They would like classes twice a month, but that would be hard for us to sustain. They are looking for some sort of Norse or Viking-related class. We can realistically support such classes once a month, probably on a Thursday, after Yule. Valhal Brewery will cover the advertising for the classes, and this could be a good recruiting tool for Dragon's Laire.

Open Officer Positions

Lists Master/Mistress

Games Master/Mistress

*Youth Armored Combat (YACs)** – this position requires a background check.

*Youth and Family Activities (YAFA)** – We are putting this position into abeyance. Dragon's Laire youth and children are mostly preteens and young children. The lack of age diversity

means that it is very difficult to plan activities for age groups, and then engage them in those activities.

We will still plan for youth and family activities, but they will no longer be coordinated through a designated officer.

** Positions that work with youth must meet additional requirements, including a background check and additional supervision. Adult participation in youth activities must meet the "Two Deep" rule, meaning that two adults must be present for youth activities. The second adult need not participate, but instead may simply be present, and must not be of the same household as the first adult, nor be the parent of the child. For more information on youth requirements, please contact the Seneschal.*