

Baronial Questionnaire 2020 - Dragon's Lair
THL Kloe of Thira and Master Arion the Wanderer

1. It's traditional that the Coronets attend weekly social for 1.5-2 hours, starting at 6 PM. Is this a commitment you can keep?

Kloe – As active members in the Barony attendance at weekly social has always been a priority. Being there to support members and actively participate is a regular part of my life. I have dedicated the time to attend on my regular schedule, and have a career that allows me the flexibility to do so. It is my intention to continue to maintain regular attendance going forward. Should any issue arise, such as health or travel, the flexibility having two unrelated coronets provides the opportunity for the other to attend when one cannot.

Arion - I've done so for at least 10 years. I intend to continue to do so regardless of who becomes the new Baron and Baroness.

2. What are your plans for encouraging new players and reaching out to those Scadians who have left for one reason or another?

Kloe – With the increased use of Social Media we find ourselves in a position to bring in people who may never have heard of the SCA before. At the same time, it allows us to remain a part of the lives of those who have stopped playing for any reason. I believe continued use of Social Media will help us to stay relevant in the lives of those around us. At the same time reaching out via private messages, emails, and phone calls to those who have left the Barony to check in on them is also important. It allows us to maintain those connections and hopefully allow them to feel that they are still welcome.

Arion – June Faire is one of our biggest opportunities to bring in new people. As they show up, I try to talk with them, find what their interests are and hook them up with the right people.

How to encourage people who have left for some reason is a harder issue. I've reached out to those I know that have left the game. For a lot of them, life went somewhere else. Some get busy with other hobbies, some have kids, life goes on.

Do you have specific plans for increasing active participation in the Barony? Describe these plans.

Kloe – Continue to use Social Media, through our local social media officer, and as participants on the Baronial Facebook page to keep the community at large informed of our presence and activities. Encourage those within our barony to bring friends and family who may find interest in our hobby to attend practices, socials, and local events. There are other things we can do, and continue to do, as well. Such as additional classes for Arts, Sciences, and Marshallate activities, and create new ways of participating at the beginner levels of those activities.

Arion – "Active participation" depends on who you talk to and what they want. For some, like me initially, "active" was June Faire from dusk to dawn around a Bardic fire. Then I started to look around more. Then I got more involved in the things I thought were interesting. We can't force anyone to be more active than they wish to. If "Party" is what someone wants, make a good and safe environment for them to party in. If becoming a Laurel or a Pelican is their goal, guide them effectively. If they just want to shoot arrows or cross rapiers, make a safe space for them to do so. People actively participate in what they enjoy.

All you can do is make participation fun and rewarding. A key to this is knowing all of the populace and guiding them to find their geek. Since we are a volunteer society, we have a lot of Awards to recognize different levels of participation. A key job for the Baron and Baroness is to be constantly on the watch for who is doing what and make sure they know they are appreciated. This goes for both Baronial and Kingdom awards. Plus a simple "thank you" goes a long way to make all of us feel valued.

How do you make new members comfortable and help them understand the Society and what is entailed in actively playing?

Kloe – When it comes to new members, I try my best to help them to feel welcome in several ways. At practice I try to introduce myself or learn about them and answer their questions when they are directed to me. At events I pride myself on making an open and inviting space for new, and new to me, individuals and families to feel welcome and create that family atmosphere that speaks to the strength that the togetherness of our Barony. Having played for several years my level or participation is different from someone just starting out. Being able to express that, and that participating actively does not mean having to do everything, but rather finding what feels right to you and starting there is one of the best places to start. Helping to connect new members to those of similar interest is one way to do that.

Arion – How do you make new people anywhere feel welcome? You talk with them. You find what peaked their interest and help them grow that. You show interest in what they find fun.

I have worked with new members for many years on the thrown weapons and archery ranges. The first step is to teach them the "how to". After that, you check in occasionally and help them along their journey. I've expanded this mentoring as my experience and expertise has grown in the Society. As Baron, my scope would simply widen a bit more to make sure I know everyone and make them feel welcome and appreciated. I have no plans to tell people what their level of activity should be. This is a game we play, not a job. People should play to the level they enjoy.

3. The barony has historically swung between being Arts and Science focused and combat oriented. Do you plan to maintain a balance of support between martial focuses and Arts and Sciences?

Kloe – As a member of both fields I can understand the importance of balance between the two sides of the coin. Through the encouragement of new classes and activities to help Arts and Science thrive, and through practices and attending combat events and classes continue to bolster the combat communities, we can help to maintain that balance. At the same time finding ways to bring the two sides together through research, education, and classes, we can create a stronger Barony through supporting each other.

Arion – I do all of it.

I am a Laurel. I do art. I encourage art. I help people find their art geek.

I am a Scientist. I played one in real life. I continue to do experimental archaeology.

I am a Pelican. I do service. I help service junkies to find where they can help out.

I am a Warrior. I kill my friends. They kill me. We hang out later and tell "no shit, there I was" stories by the fireside.

It has to be about ALL of it! We shall make it so!

4. Are you familiar with the 'Omnibus Martial Peerage' proposal?

If so, what is your position on it?

If you support it what steps will you take to move it forward?

If you do not support it, why?

Kloe – I am familiar with the Omnibus Martial Peerage. I have shown my support for it on multiple occasions. That being said, while I feel that all our fields of combat need and deserve a path to peerage that does not lump them into one of the existing categories, I do feel that there are still aspects of the peerage that need to be worked out before it can move forward. To show my support I will continue to have open dialogue on the subject with those who are working at higher levels within An Tir to voice my concerns, and ideas. I will also continue to give my feedback through the commentary processes set up by the Kingdom and the SCA.

Arion – If so, what is your position on it?

I am a member of the original Steering Committee for the Omnibus Peerage. I have been a strong supporter since the day it started. Put simply, there are members of the archery, thrown weapons, equestrian, and siege communities who function as Peers for their communities already. Society so far has chosen not to recognize their service at the highest award level. I find this unacceptable and will continue to work for a change. The argument that adding more Peers will dilute what it means to be a Peer is spurious. The Society doesn't make Peers. Someone becomes a Peer by their own actions. Our Society merely recognizes you as Peer after you have become one through your deeds and words and behavior.

I will continue what I've been doing since Feb 3rd, 2015. Most of this is behind the scenes working with those supporters in other Kingdoms, reviewing and commenting the Order of Valiance documents, writing letters to the Board of Directors at appropriate times, and such. Many on the current Board of Directors are being updated as to what the original proposal included, since new members have stepped up and old members are gone. It is a marathon, not a sprint.

5. To the Respected Candidates for Baron: Each of you have stated in the past that you are not the most social, outgoing people. How will you overcome this to be successful in representing the Barony both internally and to the Kingdom at large?

Arion – I was extremely shy and introverted as a teen. I hung out with the academic geeks mostly. Back then, "geek" was a bad word! The cool kids didn't like you. Much has changed in the world since then!

The first time I had to speak publically, I shook like a leaf. Over many years I've honed my social skills. In my work life I was a College teacher. I'm comfortable speaking to large groups. I've made formal presentations to the WA State Legislature, the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners, many Kings and Queens of An Tir, and the Orders of the Grey Goose Shaft, Laurel and Pelican. I'm also quite comfortable one on one these days. A lot of this has to do with understanding my

self-worth. I actually find this understanding about myself a useful bridge to help others open up to their own potential.

Representing the Barony both internally and to the Kingdom at large will be enjoyable. I got this!

6. What do you think the Barony's strengths are and where would you like to help the Barony grow?

Kloe – The strength of the Barony comes from the people who support it. We have an amazing Barony full of many strong voices throughout all aspects of the SCA. I would like to see that growth continue with our newer members through teaching and mentoring them as they wish to be mentored.

I would like to see new faces working on event teams, while there are many who have done the jobs quite often that becomes a weakness as people shift their interests or priorities within the Barony. Helping to teach new teams, to handle small events as well as June Faire, will help continue the strength that is our Barony.

Arion – The strength of the Barony is the populace.

We are blessed to be living in the best Barony in the whole damned Knowne World! Why? Because of the amazing people who live and play in Dragon's Laire. We have a stable base of foundation members who are always there to tap for history and advice ... the Council of the Wise! We have a stable middle of long term players who are always ready to pitch in and help, be that help setting up, making art for beauty, or just being fun to hang with ... the Council of Fun! And we have a lot of fresh blood, who are learning where they fit in to this game we love. They will lead us into the future ... the Council of New Hope!

One goal for growing the Barony includes continuing the progress Conchobar has made establishing Legio Draconis. We are feared on the war field. We hold the An Tir War Eagle. Kloe and I have asked Conchobar to continue to lead Legio if we become Baron and Baroness.

I also want to encourage more bardic activities. I want every Baronial Court to include a bardic presentation, be it by the Champion or by invited Bards. Let music and joy fill the halls.

7. Have you thought about baronial retinue? If chosen, how much retinue? Guards? What help do you believe you will need or want to incorporate?

Kloe – Having served on several Kingdom and Baronial retinue crews I thoroughly encourage those who wish to serve in that capacity to do so. I believe Retinue is extremely helpful. Having been a runner for items, a tracker of a wayward teen, and general assistant as needed to the coronets of Dragon's Lair, Vulkanfeldt, and the Crown, I understand the need for those who are offering to help. Having 1 or 2 people at the side of the coronet ensures that any help needed is available. Unless the situation warrants it, such as private meetings or court, Retinue and Guards can be separate individuals or can be performed by the same person or people. I feel that each coronet should have a pair of individuals that works directly with them, 4 total (1 retinue, 1 guard, or both performing both duties each) which provides ample assistance if they need to split up for different activities. While together, such as court or meetings, that number can be reduced to suit the individual situations.

In my situation I am expecting those people to help as the need arises, be it moving a chair or carrying a basket, or running to grab a forgotten item, they need to be flexible in expectation of roles based on the situation. Sometimes just having a person there to keep you company while you wait can be extremely helpful.

Arion – People want to be a part of the Baroness and Baron's journey. We call them Retinue. They have an honored place in what we do. In many respects, service on a Retinue allows each person to expand their knowledge of how the Society works. It is a training ground for future leaders. As Baron and Baroness, we owe our populace the opportunity to do this. I don't see "Retinue" as an unchanging set of job titles. I see our Retinue as a flexible body of people who help us make the barony a fun and amazing place to hang out. We find who wants to do what and help them help the Barony.

As Baron, I would like Companions who fights with me on the warfield. We will need people to help set up and take down Baronial infrastructure at events. We will need people to help organize the Baronial encampment. We will need people who like to cook for large groups. We will need all those who traditionally stand behind the Thrones and make the magic happen. It really isn't about us, the Baron and Baroness. It is all about the populace and making the Dream real for you.

8. Do you play on having any emphasis on Sergeantry?

Kloe and Arion – Sergeantry was a program that was coming to abeyance when Kloe was still new to the SCA and Dragon's Lair. Our familiarity with it is not strong. We are happy to reach out to the existing sergeants for information on bringing the program back to Dragon's Lair, if it would be

the same as it was before, and what that would entail, as well as reach out to the Barony to see if there is interest in participating in the Sergeanty.

9. What do you plan to do to support youth engagement in the Barony?

Any plans on expanding outreach for youth combat, youth archery, and youth thrown weapons?

Kloe – As the parent of a Dragon's Laire youth I fully support them in finding what suits their passions in the SCA. To help our youth feel welcome we need to encourage youth specific activities. One way to do that is to ask the Youth what they want to do in the SCA, and guide them to the mentors that can support those desires. My own daughter has voiced her desire to have a Youth Archery Champion for our Barony and is working with the Archery community to help create a championship competition to help bring that to life. She feels that it would help the younger archers feel more involved in the Barony. I support that voice, and would like to see the same principles of participation for the youth in Arts and Sciences, and Thrown Weapons, as well as the continued encouragement of Youth Armored Combat through practices and classes.

Arion – The youth of the Barony need safe ways to play and enjoy the Dream. We have excellent people currently guiding our Youth activities programs. We will work with them to train others to step up to continue the fine progress they have made. Too often, someone steps down and no one is there to step up. With good planning we can prevent gaps in our service to the youth.

I don't know that we need to expand outreach as much as continue on the path we already walk. We've had an active youth participation in archery for as long as I've been on the archery range. We encourage youth to try thrown weapons at every outdoor practice. We have a great team leading youth combat right now.

I say trim the sails, full speed ahead!

10. What role do you see Dragon's Laire playing as a nonprofit in Kitsap County? Do you think we need to do community outreach and volunteering? Should we focus solely internally on the SCA? Why or why not?

Kloe – The SCA is not just about what we do internally but how we can share that beyond our own walls. I would like to see more community outreach through classes for students, scout troops, and adults in the community at large. I would also love to see our Barony step outside of its comfort zone and volunteer in other areas of the community, such as

disaster training (anyone can play a victim), maybe even hold community park clean up days in our garb, and support other organizations as we can.

Arion – We have an educational mandate: " The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. is an international, non-profit, educational organization designed as a hands-on, learn-by-doing model to research and re-create Europe life prior to 1600." This includes teaching outside of the SCA.

This is exactly why the Kitsap Medieval Faire concept was created. This one day in June is our time to shine and show the surrounding communities who we are and what we do. And we do this very well.

But we don't stop our educational mission there. We have always done outreach and demos for community groups and schools. We need to continue and expand on this good work. We are a Dream. We share this Dream each time we venture out into the community. The world will benefit by a healthy dose of chivalry, honor and grace.

11. How important is it to you to stay informed on how the Kingdom operates administratively? Do you regularly attend Curia meetings? Will you do so as Coronets? What is your familiarity with the SCA Corpora, Kingdom and Baronial rules and regulations? How important do you believe knowledge of these is?

Kloe – Staying informed on Kingdom matters is important. Currently I read the newsletters and missives from the Kingdom, and attend meetings that are open to the public at events. If selected as Baroness I will regularly attend Kingdom meetings where Baron and Baroness attendance is mandatory or requested.

My familiarity of SCA Corpora, and the laws of the Kingdom and Barony is not my strongest points. I regularly follow rule changes, have skimmed the SCA Corpora, and have read the An Tir Kingdom Law, An Tir Bullying and Harassment Policy, An Tir Books of Combat and Target, and Dragon's Lair Customary. I keep updated bookmarks of each on my computer, and refer to them as needed for clarity.

I believe that having the knowledge of the laws is important, but more important is knowing where to find those laws and how to refer to them for proper guidance. Memorization is not the key, but rather understanding where the answers are is.

Arion – I currently attend these meetings at Crown events: Marshal, OGGS, Laurel, Pelican.

I intend to add Curia and Noble Estate if I become Baron.

I'm a research nerd. I read, I read a lot. I read dry as dust documents for fun. I've read governing documents from the Society, the Kingdom and the Barony. I'm also careful to ask for advice when someone knows the rules better than I. I've been heavily involved with writing and/or review of most archery and throw weapons documents for very many years.

Concerning specific roles: The Seneschal is the chief administrative officer of the Barony. They guide the Baronial Financial Committee and the Populace concerning administrative matters. The duties of the Baron and/or Baroness are ceremonial in nature in reflecting the Royal presence in the Barony. Baron and Baroness must be knowledgeable about Kingdom administrative matters to effectively do our jobs.

Curia meetings are the Kingdom's Business Meeting. This is where important activities and/or changes in the Kingdom are discussed. The Baron, Baroness or a trusted representative should always attend these meetings.

12. What is Dragon's Lair's role in the Kingdom?

Kloe - The role of a Barony is to Serve the Crown. The structure of which is similar in style to the Kingdom with officers and champions that serve the Barony and in turn the Crown.

The role goes beyond that. Dragon's Lair's role is to support our Crown through our endeavors and to help one another and the community at large. To participate at events throughout the kingdom at the honor of the Crown. To help our neighbors, our cousins, through participation at their events. To support the crown at war. To hold events locally for our Barony and the Kingdom. To grow the populace of An Tir through our endeavors.

Arion – To be the best Barony in the Kingdom and be a shining light to all the rest. And that should be the goal of every Barony. We, the Barony of Dragon's Lair, are part of something greater than ourselves, the Kingdom of An Tir. And the Kingdom is but a part of the Dream that is the SCA. Being but a part, we need to work and play well with all the other parts to function as a cohesive whole. We are a puzzle piece. If you don't have all the pieces, the picture doesn't come out right.

Dragon's Lair is often the home for Kingdom Events. This benefits both the Kingdom and the Barony. Our strength in leadership is due to the knowledge and skills of our long term members and the eager willingness of the populace to make the Dream real. We do need to be careful to not take

on so much that we work until we drop. We are all in this game because it makes us happy. We need to make sure that joy is our guiding light.

13. What are you excited about in the Barony and what would you like to promote?

Kloe – This and questions 9 and 20 have similar answers. I am excited to promote the Youth and expanding their role in the Barony and helping newcomers figure out their passion within Arts and Sciences, Combat, and Service through expanding classes, activities, and events.

Arion – I find the fact that Dragon's Lair is blessed with great leaders in many disciplines quite comforting. This makes it easy to make things happen well and smoothly. I find it exciting that these leaders have purple hair as well as grey. Many hands make the work light. Many hands make the play fun. Younger hands help older backs! I currently promote joy and beauty and the Dream. Oh yeah, and I like to kill my friends for fun. I think these are good things to continue.

14. Some of the populace prefer an atmosphere of levity, while some prefer an atmosphere of formality. What is your preference in this?

Kloe – This goes hand in hand with question 23.

I feel that Formality is warranted when it is due. As a member of An Tir and Dragon's Lair I regularly bow to the Crowns and Coronets, as the respect is their due, in all public spaces and upon entering the camp of Barons and Baronesses. I bow to the thrones, and chairs of honor, as I pass them. I acknowledge the status of those above me with a simple bow of my head. I would expect the same of any member of the populace of Dragon's Lair to do the same. At the same time I would not expect someone to bow every time I passed them or they passed me in the Baronial Camp or in their own camp. In camp, unless there is something of a formal nature happening, I prefer the atmosphere of levity.

Arion – There is a time and place for both. The trick is finding the balance. I think we have a good team to do this.

15. How will you make yourselves accessible to the populace?

Kloe – Accessibility is achieved through multiple avenues. I will continue to be available in person during events and practices, online through Facebook and various messengers, through e-mail for those who do not actively participate on Facebook, and by phone using text or call. I will strive to

answer punctually to all contact as much as possible and to abide by the 3 days response time set fourth by the rules of this grand program we participate in.

Arion – The same way I do now. Be at the Socials, attend various practices and guild activities. Talk to the populace. Ask what their needs are and what they seek. Guide the along their chosen paths and caution them about rabbit holes. I'm on various forms of social media and accessible by everyone who has had a wish to speak to me so far.

16. What does "inclusiveness" mean to you?

Kloe – Inclusiveness is defined as letting people in and making them feel welcome. I openly welcome everyone, regardless of age, gender, disability, orientation, race, religion, health, any other factor that is designated by law. We are all here to have fun, learn new skills, and grow. I will extend a welcome hand and accept all who wish to participate with an open mind and heart.

Arion – My litmus test for all people is this question: "Is this person a good human being?" What race, religious creed or political party you belong to doesn't matter. Your sexual preferences are your concern not mine. Do as you will and harm none. I've shared companionship and good cheer in the SCA with people who do not share my particular political beliefs. That generally gets left right outside of Gate. We come to share a Dream. That Dream is not modern society and all of its weighty concerns. That dream is inclusive. There is no room in the Dream for those who espouse hatred and wish harm to others.

17. If you don't receive the bid for B&B what will you do to continue to promote your vision for the barony to support the new B&B?

Kloe – I have been participating in the SCA for nearly 12 years now. I joined because I found my family amongst those I have met here. My participation would not change because of not being selected as the next coronet of Dragon's Lair. I will continue to encourage participation in all activities, and continue to serve with the same passion I have always served with. I will encourage the expansion of activities just as I would have as Baroness of Dragon's Lair.

Arion – I will continue to do as I do now to support the Barony. If another couple gets the nod, I shall support their vision and help them achieve it as is in my power to do so.

18. Given the SCA is a 21st century institution recreating a historical past, what do you think the role of the Baron & Baroness in using modern technologies, especially social media, should be?

Kloe – The ability to communicate effectively in a digital age is extremely important. Answering e-mails, responding to social media questions and comments, and reaching out online are all a part of our modern age. It is important to use words and phrasing to show the feelings and statements you are trying to communicate, taking steps to ensure that you are not coming across as rude, harsh, or sarcastic while voicing your concerns, opinions, or ideas. At the same time it is important to be accessible to those who do not use social media, so that their voices may be heard and so that you can effectively respond to their needs and concerns effectively.

Arion – In 2017, we looked towards the future of how to communicate and asked Kosem to do our Social Media for June Faire. That was a very smart idea! She knows stuff Arion will only grasp in his next incarnation. Fortunately Kloe is also very wise in the ways of social media. While Arion often jokes about his Luddite tendencies we are finding that you can teach an old dog new tricks!

19. Do you participate in SCA combat? If not, how would you lead and inspire Dragon's Laire's forces upon the field?

Will the Dragon's Laire war band still be the Legio Draconis?

Kloe – I am a participant in the field of combat as a member of the Siege community, combat archery, and thrown weapons. I have run the field with many heavy fighters and will continue to do so as often as I can. I have had the honor to fight under the banner of the Legion, and foresee that banner flying valiantly as it has in years past. I humbly acknowledge that I am not the strongest voice among the fighters, that there are people within the Barony that have a stronger voice on the fields of battle and tournament. I would ask that they lead the forces under the banner of Dragon's Laire. Arion and I have taken the time to reflect and seek out a fighter whose voice is strong and respected among the Barony to lead the forces of Legio Draconis to battle, after much consideration we have asked that Baron Conchobar MacEoin continue to lead the warband that he has guided to flourish upon stepping down as Baron of Dragon's Laire, if we are chosen to serve as the next Baron and Baroness.

Arion – I started fighting as a combat archery at the tender age of 50. I seem to have developed a bit of a reputation as being OK at this. I was the first combat archery ever to be on a King's Guard

during Duke Styrkarr's reign. I was recognized by Duke Saveric with the Sable Gauntlet for my prowess on the war field. I have fought with a spear and a great axe. I don't suck at spear. I do suck at great axe. We absolutely wish to continue the Legio Draconis and have asked Conchobar to continue to lead the forces he created.

20. What are your top priorities for your entire term as Coronets?

Kloe – There are many goals I have to support our Barony, and its members. Three prominent areas of focus are growth in the Arts and Sciences for newer members, Service and passing the torches, and Youth Marshallate participation.

I want to see our newer members that are interested in Arts and Sciences find mentors who can guide them in learning their new craft. I also wish to encourage non-competitive activities at events to help encourage their growth, such as displays and small scale presentations. Which will hopefully allow them to grow as artisans.

I want to encourage members of the service community through learning by doing. Be it on an Event Team, shadowing an Officer, or participating on a smaller scale such as Retinue or Marshalling. I want them to know that no job is considered small, and any way they wish to help is just as important. At the same time I want to encourage people to learn the big jobs, so that those who have done them many times can pass the torch onto someone new.

I want to see our youth activities expand onto all fields and areas of the SCA. I wish to encourage the creation of Youth Marshallate Championships for Archery and Thrown Weapons, and Youth Arts and Sciences Champions. I want to encourage the youth to lend their voice to the growth of these areas through their interests. I also wish to help encourage youth to participate in service as some youth are already on that path but are not always sure how to move forward.

Arion – Promote joy. Honor our roots, for they are deep and strong. Encourage song. Assure financial stability. Have fun. Kill my friends, if they don't kill me first.

Dragon's Laire is strong and healthy thanks to the hard work of those Barons and Baronesses that came before us and the amazing populace, who make everything run smoothly. We don't need big changes in direction. We need to trim the sails and enjoy smooth sailing.

Our biggest challenge will be finding a good home for June Faire. That is something Arion and a group of good people have been working on for many years.

21. Conflict is bound to happen. What is your strategy for dealing with conflict between members of the populace that do not directly involve you? For dealing with conflicts that do directly involve you?

Kloe – I have been told people believe I am non-confrontational. There is truth to that, I do not openly seek conflict. If conflict arises, I will always defer to the society, kingdom, and baronial guidelines. I will listen with an open mind, offer solutions when warranted, and keep my opinions out of it. If the conflict involves me I will follow the same protocol for myself, and own up to my own mistakes, and work to come to a peaceful understanding and solution.

Arion – Conflict resolution is an important skill. And it takes a special type of person to do it well. The key is to find the right person to help. That may be different for each occasion.

When there is a conflict involving others, your first question should be do they want help or can they resolve the issue by themselves? If they want help, find someone they respect who will be fair and who is willing to help. Identifying the problem by listening without interrupting, identifying the feelings surrounding the issue, de-escalating strong emotions, working to brainstorm solutions, accepting compromise, and finding a fair solution are all elements that play into making it work.

For conflicts that directly involve one of us, clear, direct and compassionate communication between the parties is essential. The reality in our partnership is that Kloe is generally better suited to do this work. We each have strengths. It is essential that we rely on each others strengths and recognize which of us should lead. We are both smart enough to know when to call in help. Arion is smart enough to run stuff by Kloe for her insight.

One must also understand that not all conflicts will be successfully resolved. Sometimes the parties will go their own ways.

22. Do you have non-SCA commitments that will prevent you from attending events both in and outside the Barony that the Coronets are expected to attend? If so, how do you plan on handling those conflicts?

Kloe - In my non-SCA life I am a real estate agent. There are times where I will need to be there for my clients that may conflict with my SCA commitments. That being said, I have complete control over my schedule, and as such I work hard to ensure that my SCA commitments are rarely affected by my Non-SCA commitments and vice versa, unless it is beyond my control such as health of myself or family member, or engagements that are not part of my normal schedules such as one time activities like Reunions or Weddings. By having an unrelated Baron and Baroness one of us can attend activities that the other may have to step aside from due to outside influences.

Arion – I am retired. My life is mine to use as I choose. I choose to serve the Barony. My choices outside of the SCA will be balanced with my duties as Baron.

23. For some it is the Pageantry of the SCA that really evokes the ambiance of a 'Camelot' or 'Medieval' style. How do you feel about pageantry? How will you include it in your Courts, your Camp, retinue, progress, etc.?

Kloe – This goes hand in hand with question 14.

I feel there are times when the grand pageantry of the SCA is warranted, at court and in procession to battle, for atmosphere of feasts and events, and in the community areas of camp. I love to promote the look and feel of the medieval world. I encourage the display of banners and arms, and having a space that evokes that feeling of being back in time.

At the same time, I also understand that sometimes it can be overwhelming. That each person prefers their own style, or may not have the equipment to achieve pageantry on a grand scale. No one should feel like they cannot participate because they have modern tents, or garb that is not flashy.

Even I sometimes prefer to walk around in my most comfortable garb, I also understand that as Baroness I am portraying a person of status within medieval times and would present myself accordingly, unless warranted otherwise.

Arion – The first time my young niece saw an SCA event was a September Crown at Nix Farm. She said "It looks like Narnia!". A big part of the Dream is the beauty and ambiance surrounding what we do. This is what our goal should be. To promote wonder and awe.

Did I start with a ground pimple? Yup. As we became more and more infatuated with the Dream, we got a Regent's pavilion and added to the ambiance. Then we moved on the RVs for my wife's

comfort. There's a place for all of this that allows us to enjoy the wonder of the SCA within our needs and means.

There are ways to incorporate all of these lifestyles comfortably and still maintain a sense of Camelot. Kloe is quite good at this. Arion is quite good at doing what is necessary to help facilitate her designs. We are a team. We have different strengths. We have worked together often enough to do all of this smoothly.

For Courts, grand entrances with banners and flags waving can be fun for all. But pageantry isn't just about the Baron and Baroness. Pageantry embraces the populace and allows you to be a part of the fun. Get your device passed! Make a banner or a gonfalon. Let your personal geek flag fly! We all play a part in bringing all that was good in Narnia and Camelot to life as we play. Let music and beauty fill your halls and camps.