

Lions Gate Council Minutes November 2010

Acting Seneschale Report - Ceara inghean ui Mhadadhàin

December Council – Should there be one?

December Council is currently scheduled for December 16th.

The solution agreed upon is to wait until after Baronial Banquet to see if there is any urgent business that can't wait to be addressed at the January Council. If no urgent business presents itself, December Council will likely be cancelled.

Gold Key – What's happening with it?

Ceara has repeatedly pestered Fiona/Tam, who doesn't communicate very well by email. We are still looking for one person to coordinate Gold Key. Rayne had previously expressed interest and will be followed up with.

Some discussion followed over the direction to take Gold Key – tabards are the simple option, but there were complaints that they looked too much like serving tabards. However, they are easy to sew and no great out-of-pocket loss should they disappear. More discussion if there should be more dress-like options for women, and how the sizing would function if that option were taken.

There was an idea to sew up samples of tunics and tabards to decide which to chose, but we no longer have time for it. Jacqueline will donate the one example tabard she has from a previous batch.

Event Bids – We need them.

Seeking event bids at the Kingdom, Principality and Baronial level.

Kingdom is now seeking bids for 2012.

Principality is seeking bids for Investiture.

Renaming Baronial Events:

Bardic and A&S (currently known as Winter Defenders')

Heavy, Rapier, Archery (currently known as Summer Defenders')

May require new names, not many suggestions were put forth.

Heroes Tourney was suggested, but would imply a different format. Discussion tabled for now.

SCA Inc and the lawsuit that's effecting our member fees:

Due to a lawsuit somewhere on the East coast involving the alleged molestation of children, the SCA Inc's legal fees have gone through the roof. They're now into the second lawsuit and predict it continuing possibly for a number of years yet.

Details can be found on the SCA.org website.

Membership fees are going up by \$8, and family cap will go up by \$5, as of Jan. 1st

Seneschal – Who wants to become one?

Francesca is officially stepping down as Seneschale for medical reasons. The job will be posted and applications are due a week before council to the Principality Seneschal and Baron and Baroness.

Watch – Garet Doiron

The Watch assisted with Gate at Baroness' Tourney, no incidents to report. There is nothing else to report for the month.

Exchequer – Her Ladyship Anika Steif

The position of Exchequer has been open for some time, and Anika would really like an applicant to replace her.

Lions Gate Exchequer Report November 2010

As of November 30, 2010, the bank balance is \$8,914.50

Approx. expenses for the remainder of the year\$2,265

(Note, all expenses include paying for January and/or first quarter of 2011)

1. Cloverdale Rodeo
 Fight practice 1st quarter\$1,200.00 (approx)
2. Masonic Hall
 Bransles (January).....\$179.20
3. Public Storage
 Baronial locker (January).....\$234.08
4. Sapperton Hall
 Rapier practices 1st quarter.....\$650.00

- 5. Miscellaneous
 Baronial Banquet expenses

Receivables.....	\$2,100.00
1. Bransle float	\$100
2. Baronial Banquet hall deposit.....	\$200
3. Baroness' Tourney hall deposit	\$500
4. Baroness' Tourney expenses advance	\$100
5. Banquet food advance.....	\$1,200

Lions Gate Income Statement September 2010

INCOME

Direct Contributions/Donations	\$3.00
Income from Demos and Activity Fees	1,439.00
Event Income	0.00
Other Income	0.00
Total Gross Income.....	\$1,442.00

EXPENSES

Bank Service Charges	12.28
Equipment Rental & Maintenance.....	0.00
Food	0.00
General Supplies	0.00
Occupancy & Site Charges	816.48
Printing & Publications.....	0.00
Travel	0.00
Donations to Other 501(c)(3) Organizations (NMS).....	0.00
Total Expenses.....	\$828.76

NET INCOME.....\$613.24

Lions Gate Income Statement 3rd Quarter 2010 (so far)

INCOME

Direct Contributions/Donations	\$106.15
Income from Demos and Activity Fees	2,653.00
Event Income	6,753.13
Other Income	0.00
Total Gross Income.....	\$9,512.28

EXPENSES

Bank Service Charges	30.79
Equipment Rental & Maintenance.....	3,441.02
Food	0.00
General Supplies	1,750.66
Occupancy & Site Charges	1,673.62
Printing & Publications.....	0.00
Travel	0.00
Donations to Other 501(c)(3) Organizations (NMS)	889.00
Total Expenses	\$7,785.09
NET INCOME.....	\$1,727.19

Chamberlain – Edrick

I have a couple of points to bring up.

- 1) Please remind Autocrats to arrange to pick up items in a timely fashion, phoning on the Friday of the event probably will not work out!
- 2) Please remind Autocrats to arrange to return items in a timely manner and if the items are being passed on to another event, please send an item list to me. I would actually prefer if items came back and then went out again.
- 3) For all the time I have been Deputy Chamberlain or Chamberlain our three door alarmed locker has had alarms on only two doors, as of this weekend it has an alarm on only one door. I asked Anika to include a note next time she sends in a cheque. Since I generally do not go during business hours I never get to talk to the Manager and I seem to get the run around on the phone or from the weekend staff.

Re: the locker door alarms

Francesca spoke with the clerk at the locker facility twice (last time was in July), about getting doors alarms on at least the left AND right doors. The clerk assured her that she would follow through. Anika was going to follow up. No solution reached as yet.

Sable Loat Pursuivant (Herald) – Lord Caemgen mac Garbith ui Andrais

No report.

Stables – Sergeant Dalibor Krivoklatsky

There were four practices without no incidents reported, and one event - Baroness' Birthday, with myself as MIC, nothing to report. Archery and rapier people have not advised me of anything unusual in their pursuits either. A quiet month. We also "had" Antioch, which I don't believe was ours to report.

We need to book dates for next year for practice.

Proposal from Jacqueline to have hot drinks at practices:

At the fight practice this week I noticed a good number of very chilly gentles. Such a frigid winter could certainly be warded off with warm drink; tea perhaps, or hot chocolate, or even decaf coffee? With warming thoughts in mind, I spoke with the manager of the space, and inquired as to whether we might bring coffee pot, hot water and the materials for toes-warming imbibe-ables of the non-alcoholic kind, and was granted permission to do so!

I am proposing an arrangement similar to that used at the bransles, with a modest fee collected to cover costs and provide a bit more income to the barony. I have a portable table and can donate some supplies to get this started, and perhaps in future resupplies can be purchased from the funds gathered. If we ask people to bring their own mugs it will keep the consumables and garbage down, but we can have a few extras for the folks that forget, or who are new.

I will only be attending fight practice every second week-on those dates that have archery-but I am happy to do my part to set up the beverages on those occasions. If council and their Excellencies are agreeable, I can draw up a list of supplies and equipment, or we can rely on the bransle practice to guide us. At the least a large coffee pot will be needed, and a kettle. If everything is packed in a plastic tote, it will be easy to pass from one person to the next.

The funds gathered could be given to the fight practice coordinator each night, or delivered directly to council.

The practice coordinator has indicated she can help transport supplies.

Chang tried to expand the idea to a cooler of sports drinks. Baron James requested we constrain the idea to hot drinks, at least until the end of the cold season and see how things go.

Archery – Her Ladyship Delwyn verch Ynyr

Nothing new to report. Practices are ongoing, every other Monday out in Cloverdale with the next one being this coming Monday, December 6th.

Baron James passed on an inquiry from William Arwemaker: Since the archery range gets closed early around 21:00, should archers get a discount?

Baron James does not think there should be a discount, but that the end time of archery practices be better documented on the baronial website.

Opinions were taken, and the consensus was that actual practice time for archers is equitable with heavy fighters who also have to get armoured first, and that the archers are also being supplied with equipment (butts, nets, etc). Solution agreed upon is to better document archery practice end time on the baronial website.

Blades – Lord Guillemin de Rouen

The following summarizes rapier activities in the Barony of LG for the month of November 2010.

Practices were not held on November 11th, or on the last week of the month, for Remembrance Day and poor weather, respectively. The other practice and the Phoenix Tourney were quite well attended, and guests from Academie Duello were present once again. We look forward to continuing this positive relationship, as they seem to keep winning.

Baroness' Birthday was quite well attended, though about 10 fighters less than I'd hoped for. However, many fighters were in attendance but chose not to vie for the championship. Nothing wrong with that. Good format, well run. Callen beat me in the final, and many people shed tears as a result.

If you have any questions, yell downstairs.

Lists – Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin

Baroness Catrin will be taking over for Lists.

Baroness's Birthday Tourney

Heavy:

- 25 entrants, plus 8 knights, and his Highness Alden
- His Highness Kirk, Prince of Avacal was victorious in the Lists
- HL Hraði Inn Rakki was awarded the Boar's Spear (sergeantry who went furthest)
- Lists was run by HL Algae, with assistance from HL Floalyan, the lady Mina from Avacal and me.

Rapier Defender:

- 21 entrants, including two members of the O.W.S.
- Callen Drakkar was victorious
- Lists by me, with assistance from Brian Steele

Gerhard's Riposte:

- 6 entrants, but 7 fighters
- Matthais Blennerhasset was victorious
- HL Alessandra was awarded for chivalry
- No lists for this tourney

Antioch supplied forms onsite to Heavy; supplied forms and helped Francesca w/ Rapier.

Chronicler – Lady Winifryd Euphemia Doiron

Greetings,

I'm the new Chronicler. I go by Winifryd Euphemia Doiron, or Wendy, by the way more commonly in the society. Mundanely I am Marissa Fischer. I have a BA in English Literature from SFU, and I'm working on a Technical Writing Certificate from BCIT. As such I think it will be very valuable to create a volunteer portfolio through the minutes and the North Wind.

I'm looking forward to being the Chronicler for the Barony of Lions Gate.

Library – Her Ladyship Maeda no Kiko Mariko

No report.

Arts and Science – Lady Myrrim de Lancaster

Not much to report.

Bardic – Her Ladyship Sionann in Ui Fhlaithbheartaig

Bardic:

At Baroness' Tourney, there was some impromptu Bardic before court was to begin and Countess Wren rounded up all the Bards she could press gang into performing saying, "Court's not ready...STALL!!!"

That said we had performances from HL Wulfstan, Viscountess Chiara (the current Principality Champion), Viscountess Bernadette, Caemgen (however that is spelt... KEVIN)... and myself...

At this past weekend's Antioch Invitational, I set up a small display of "Viking" stuffs, including my instruments, and happily played music, sang and answered numerous questions from SCA and Non-SCA visitors... and then had another impromptu Bardic with Viscountess Thora and HL Hraði Inn Rakki, overseen by Her Highness Kate offering opinion from the throne via an annoying whistle.

Bransle – Her Ladyship Sionann in Ui Fhlaithbheartaig

Bransle:

We had one.

Monies collected totalled \$120.

Dance – HL Rhiannon ap Gwynedd

I will not be in attendance because dance practice conflicts with Council. I have \$25.00 for the barony and need to arrange to get it to the Exchequer.

Games – Her Ladyship Mary Ostler

No Report.

Chatelaine – Lady Sage Mcleod

Chatelaine Report for the month of November 2010

Inquiries:

- We have had many inquiries about Newcomers' Information Sessions, upcoming classes and events

Demo Review:

- Antioch was great. Lots of people showed up and were interested in possibly attending an event or practice in the future.

Bransle:

- We had one newcomer come out to the Bransle but has since disappeared.
- No incidents

NIS Report:

- Sessions have been greatly attended by SCA members and newcomers

- We will be having a session on Dec 3rd as well as Jan 7th
- No incidents and looking forward to the next one!

Other News:

The Newcomers Webpage is up on the LG website and looks great!

Is there anything else people would like to see on the website that isn't there?

- A page with different households or groups? Eg: Embellishers group
- Add more information together to put on the website

Ceara suggested Sage make a general call-out to the lists and see what comes in?

Scribe – Her Ladyship Aelena Cordovera

This has been a busy month for the scribes, preparing charters for Griffin and Caitrin's step down, making a group entry for the Baroness's Birthday gift - a box of cards in Celtic design painted by new and experienced scribes for her delight. Aelana was called up in court to receive a jar of spices for the group. We will use it to spice some wine and eggs at a meeting in the future.

In addition, we had a scribal Third Sunday which was attended by Baron James who approved the research that had been going on in preparation for new charters and scrolls. He also gave us a general idea of what charters and scrolls would be needed in the future and at what seasons of the year. We look forward to an exciting scribal year. I have been getting emails from scribes on possible electronic sources of design so we will be talking about ways to share these: thumb drives, print out in color, a web site etc.

Alienor also gave a lesson in basic penwork and English secretary calligraphy, used for vernacular books and legal documents, in period.

Aelana gave a lesson in Gutenberg painting of printed designs following a 15th century handbook. We will continue to pursue these two arts as it will take lots of practice to get competent.

Tamsyn is planning a workshop on her beautiful whitework embellishment as well as more classes.

We are also discussing a Scribal Retreat perhaps over the holiday season with guest instructors for layout and design, of scrolls and charters to introduce new scribes and polish up the skills of our working scribes who have been meeting for two years now.

At the same time, at the same place Sage and Myrrim organized a research and persona development workshop for Newcomers with Tanikh sharing her long time expertise in these areas.

This meeting of Scribes and Newcomers at Baronial workshops could extend into Bransle workshops too, for future reference.

Baron James inquired on what if any costs would incur for the workshops? Only the transportation cost if they bring the Pewter workshop instructor over on the ferry, so about \$15.

Sage inquired when the next scribal class will be? We haven't set a date, but considering Dec. 27, or Jan. 2/3 (Sun/Mon)

The workshops will be at the Hastings and Nanaimo co-op, about \$15 - \$20 per workshop. We're considering in the new year maybe Large work-shop at the bransles? Something like book binding, or embroidery. Classes that could take about an hour and a half. Need to co-ordinate with Myrriam

Webminister – Lady Malie Rennick

Nothing to report ... Site updated to reflect new B&B :)

Other Business:

Baroness' Birthday

A cheque must be delivered to the Marine Labour Centre tomorrow (Friday) for the balance of the money we owe them. We paid \$500 already, but must now give them the balance for the main room and the two rooms we used upstairs.

We exceeded our predicted attendance of 200 by 24 people, and people really seemed to be enjoying themselves. I was very fortunate to have the help of John as Co-autocrat, and Lady Isolde, Lady Jaqueline, and Fiona to help with decorations. The list Mistresses Dame Elena and Algae were indispensable as were the two MICs, Lord Dalibor and Lord Lucien. Through Morweena's efforts, the merchandising went smoothly. Ylas, Wendy and their Excellencie's two daughters spent hours looking after gate. Mark was invaluable in organizing the heralding. Lord Stefano was a big hit with his Pied Piper set-up. If I have forgotten anyone, my sincere apologies, but I'm up to my eyeballs in work at the moment. I am very thankful to everyone who helped out, particularly those who stayed to help with the take down when the rest of us were dog-tired.

I know that the Event Steward needs to fill out the final copy of the event form, but to do this I need some facts and figures from the Exchequer. I would appreciate knowing the number of members, families, NMS and children that went through the gate, and the total amount received.

I have sent a copy of the bill for the water with Ylas to give to the exchequer. I did buy some extra things on that bill in order to provide a light lunch for their Royal Majesties and Their Royal Highnesses, but as I didn't receive clearance from the council, I will abide by its decision whether I will be reimbursed or not. I just couldn't see the Royals traveling all this way and not providing them with some hospitality.

Lists Mistress Elana requests that site not be used for Baroness' Birthday again due to space issues for fighters/observers/gear

Ylas said her kids' bead draw was a success

Ghost Ridge:

James: \$600 for the barony, approximately. No hard numbers.

Banquet:

Working on food, still need servers

March Investiture

We need a deposit check for \$500 Payable to Maritime Labour Centre.

Total costs from hall (think of this as the "contract")

Rental

Saturday & Sunday = \$1500

HST on Rental = \$180

Large Boardroom (SAT \$125

HST on Boardroom 15

5 hrs for onsite person \$125

Total \$1945

Bid for Winter Defenders from Kevin:

2-day Feb 26/27 A&S Defenders and Bardic

Masonic Hall

We still require bids for:

- TOA
- Baroness' tourney
- Banquet
- Winters
- Summer
- Sergeants (Ceara spoke with Laric)

Bransle – What should be done about them, and should they continue?

Letter from Alastair:

In regards to the Bransle assessment, I know that one lodge that used to meet there has now decided to "cease operations" due to too few members which was brought on in part by the high rent the Temple Association is now having to charge and the Knights Templar lodge is having to almost triple their annual dues due to the high rent and are therefore not sure if they can survive! If they go under that would make at least 3 tenants whom the Temple Association cannot collect rent from anymore.

Whatever rent the Barony is being charged now, is likely to increase *dramatically* fairly soon from what I can see. (If it hasn't already!)

I remember seeing some lockers there a few years ago marked either SCA or Barony of Lions Gate so if those are still there and the Barony doesn't need that space any more it would be a good idea I think to "cancel" them, and if the rent has not recently gone up (or perhaps as my bad news above is all from this last week - even if it has!) a talk with whomever is the contact for the landlord to see what the rent might be soon is probably not a bad idea either in order to set the assessment at a "correct" level.

Lists Elena confirms the lockers have been cleaned out.

Letter from Her Ladyship Sionann in Ui Fhlaithbheartaig:

I think that the Bransle is a valuable "event" for a variety of reasons... HOWEVER... as it is also not making quota, I think it needs to be rethought...

I propose that rather than holding a monthly Bransle, that the Bransle be held every 3 or 4 months instead. This means that perhaps it will become more special and more people may make the effort to come out.

I also propose that at least now and again, those be held as a tavern night. Perhaps not every Bransle, although as autocrat, I would not object to that if that is what Council wishes. Though this is traditionally a family event, having alcohol there doesn't not mean that it can't still be... just like Banquet, et al.

I would also like to see theme nights, perhaps craft themes, group project themes, and MORE CLASSES taught (I just need advance notice of what and how much space is needed and whether to reserve the room upstairs if needed...).

I am open to more suggestions.

How do we draw more people out? What sort of things do people wish to see or see more of at the Bransle? Or do we wish to see the Bransle continue at all?

Aelana: My biggest issue with Bransle is how closely packed the tables are. I find it difficult to walk around, and you can't open up the tables to include people very easily. We should change the seating arrangements so people can circulate and move around more.

Gwen: As a newbie –we [my husband and I] looked at going to the Bransles. We have chosen not to, for two reasons. One: my husband is not good at small talk, he's not comfortable with a large group of people. Neither of us have projects we can really bring with us, or are transportable. If there was a class or something being offered, and we could sit and learn and get to know people, not just be left to float and circulate. Having something to focus on and learn would mean less pressure to come up with something to talk about.

Jacqueline: Classes and having a dance component helped, maybe we can get dance back. There were always two challenges with classes – lighting, and noise. If we made kits for largesse, people could learn about what they needed to do, and take the kit away to actually work on it.

More discussion ensued, with some consensus of considering working in a combination of ideas – taverns, fewer bransles, changing the venue, changing the end time, changing the day of the week, different seating arrangements, and classes or workshop kits. No bransle for July, August, and December. June is OK.

Baron James wanted to discuss putting something in place of May Bardic back on the calendar.

Either May Bardic? Or Picnic? Or Tavern? Or Masked Revel? An inexpensive event, some fun, and a short court, and the Sunrise Hall site is so cute.

Ceara proposed maybe doing Baronial Banquet in May with a Christmas Bransle. Ideas still being hashed out.

Baron James requested everyone present to give an opinion about changing Baroness' Champions to Baroness' Inspirations, and possibly then changing Defenders' to Champions'.

Everyone spoke, and most people seemed to like Inspirations, those that didn't felt that it wasn't quite the right term either.