



BARONIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 2009

Held at the Caltech "Y" on November 12, 2009



ATTENDEES: THL Cormac Mór, Lady Theodosia of the Isles, Baron John ap Griffin, Baroness Flavia Beatrice Carmigniani, Baroness Gabrielle nicChlurain, Lady Muirgen na Failglas, Lord Amalgaid mac Donnucáin, Lady Dalphina Delacroix, Lord Tobias Meerschlange, Baroness Justina Marie of Burgundy, Lord Peter Cadarn, Lord Gerritt Raynor, Mistress Bridget Lucia MacKenzie, Duchess Chamayn of Castile, THL Tomaso da Barbiano, Lord Balthazar van der Brugghe, Baron Jason Thomas the Wanderer, Baroness Morgaine FitzStephen, Duchess Natalya de Foix

ABSENT OFFICERS/EVENT STEWARDS: Jean-Christophe Messier (co-Chronicler), Baron Robert John of Cedar Wood (Constable), Lord Fáelán MacCearbhaill (Rapier Marshal), Lord Æoelwigg Ælfwiggsson (Archery Captain), Lord Owain ap Gwyllim Pengryth (Castellan)

PROCEEDINGS: At the Seneschal's request, THL Cormac called the meeting to order Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

GREETINGS & OPENING COMMENTS: *Baron John and Baroness Flavia* – We've been very busy with life lately. It's been an interesting year and we're looking forward to things winding down and a new year. We'll have questions later on about who's going to which events.

SENESCHAL'S COMMENTS & REPORT: *Baroness Gabrielle* – Passed out the agenda, the Oct 2009 minutes, and officer reports. We received a nice thank-you letter from Villa Esperanza. Baroness Justina, Lord Tobias, Lady Catharine Hawkwood, and Their Excellencies John and Flavia went to present the check. They were expecting about \$200, but the Barony donated \$1,000. Thank you to all who helped.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Canton of the Canyons: *Lord Tobias Meerschlange* - Nothing much going on. Baron John reported that the books donated by Lord Tobias/Canyons to CP Prize were taken to the West LA VA facility. They were blown away by the number of books, most of which were donated by Schuyler House.

In honor of Veterans Day, Baroness Gabrielle thanked the Baronial veterans of the Armed Services.

College of the Voyagers: *Lord Fáelán MacCearbhaill* – *Absent*; however, Lord Fáelán's on-line report indicated "Nothing new to report."

OLD BUSINESS:

PRT: *Mistress Bridget Lucia MacKenzie and Duchess Chamayn of Castile.* Yay! Thank you all for all you did for us, for helping to make the dream come true. We made a lot of money but will not write the check tonight because there are still a few financial items that need to be handled. When the check is written, Baroness Bridget would like to take a group of people to deliver it; when everything is finalized, they will decide on a date. All t-shirts sold at a profit of \$450. We received \$1,105 from Starkhafn which will be added to the final check. Duchess Chamayn read a letter from Starkhafn which accompanied the check. We are planning to donate the check in person; anyone who wants to come is invited. We are still looking for Christian Rendon (youth fighter) who might be from Al Sahid. Mistress Bridget and Duchess Chamayn plan to take a trip to a local recovery ward to distribute the Christmas trees that were decorated and all are welcome to come along.

Almost 300 people who came through gate. The bake sale raised \$370. The sale of ceramics raised approximately \$100. We sold 600 ta-ta blings. Every station and activity was successful monetarily. Duchess Chamayn noted that a lot of positive feedback from the community, including the Fire Department (some of whom may come out for fighter practice), the Relay for Life, and the American

Cancer Society. Members of the local community thought it was “one of the coolest things we’ve ever seen.”

Word is spreading about how cool we are throughout the community. Mistress Bridget and Duchess Chamayn are taking a “think-poo” (time off) to consider how/if they want to handle the next fund-raiser. Per Baron John and Baroness Gabrielle, Angels is not in a position to host the event next year. Baroness Gabrielle thanked everyone for what was an “effort of love.”

GWW Artist Enclave/A&S: *Baroness Flavia:* Asked whether the Barony would like to host the Artists Enclave/A&S Area at GWW 2010. Barony would form a “core group” from Angels to reach out to the Kingdom to provide classes and demos. Baroness Gabrielle noted that there is only one Collegium session now, in the Spring; classes at GWW considered second Collegium. The main bank of classes would be offered Thursday through Sunday (noon). Lord Peter and Lord Gerritt volunteered to run the “Industrial Arts” area and THL Tomaso volunteered to commit “substantial time” to helping, especially with Brewing.

Duchess Natalya asked what the Barony’s overall schedule was for 2010. Baroness Gabrielle noted that we are hosting events in January (Melee), March (Robin Hood), April (Collegium), May (Voyagers), August (Crown/Day of Meetings), September (Anniversary), and December (Yule). Baroness Justina noted that if Angels runs the A&S area, we can set the schedule. Baroness Morgaine volunteered to teach. It was suggested that there would be three bulletin boards at the area for that day’s classes, the next day’s classes, and classes that were available on a last-minute basis. Lady Theodosia volunteered to spearhead Angels’ effort.

THL Cormac, as Angels’ “land-o-crat” asked about the possibility of combining the arts area with the Angels camp. The general feeling was to keep the two areas close but separate. It was agreed that Angels would not set up camp next to the A&S area. Everyone who had attended GWW this year loved where Angels camp was set up.

A motion made and seconded to for Angels to offer to host GWW A&S Group. Motion passed with one abstention. There will be a Yahoo group for this activity.

Exchequer: *Lady Dalphina* – Per Baroness Gabrielle, Lady Catharine has been working on a draft for a Baronial financial policy. Lady Dalphina would like to remove the “extraneous funds” designation from a number of accounts and roll the money back into the Barony’s general fund: Seraph, South Crosswaies, San Ambrogio, Angels A&S, Infrastructure, Event Reconciliation, and Largesse. Some subfunds are necessary (active colleges and cantons, for instance). The Exchequer can establish a special subfund as needed (fundraisers, for example.) The Barony voted unanimously to remove the stated subfunds and return the money to the Barony’s general fund. The subfund for the trailer/storage will be maintained.

Lady Dalphina will take care of payment for the insurance rider for Melee. She has a check for Mistress Bridget (reimbursement for PRT) and for the monthly storage charges.

Largesse: *Lord Amalgaid* – For Calafia Anniversary, Their Excellencies have award cords, griffin brass rubbing, and rubbing spices for smoking meat. At the present time, Their Excellencies and THL Tomaso will be attending Calafia Anniversary. The HoCs has offered hospitality. Their Excellencies, Baroness Gabrielle, and possibly Duchess Mora will be attending Frost Dragon. THL Cormac may also attend. Their Excellencies have the gold, frankincense and myrrh needed for the traditional 12th Night presentation to the Crown.

There was a discussion about how Largesse production has gotten out of hand. It was generally agreed that hand-made consumable items are preferable to store-bought items. Duchess Natalya noted that this is a good way to showcase the barony. Consumable items are good, and a card with information about each artisan including contact number for thank-you notes is good. Baroness Gabrielle reminded us that we all have something we can do but we don’t have to go overboard. Baroness Morgaine also noted that

there is a difference between the type of gift one gives at a Coronation or Investiture vs. a stepping-down. Various items for future presentations were discussed.

Monrovia Christmas Parade: *Baroness Gabrielle:* The Barony will once again be participating in the Monrovia Christmas Parade on Thursday, December 3, 2009. THL Tomaso offered the use of his truck which will be turned into a "war wagon" by the addition of shields as decorations. Baroness Gabrielle reminded everyone that the parade occurs rain or shine, so dress warmly. She also reminded us that we cannot display anything religious (i.e., Santa or other denominations).

Paying Gate Fees: *Baroness Gabrielle:* Raised the issue of attendees not paying gate fee. While it is a voluntary donation, it was agreed that not paying is discourteous. Duchess Natalya suggested re-instituting a "walk-around" service to collect fees and signatures. Baroness Gabrielle noted that the more serious issue involves not signing the waiver. Her name is on the contract for sites, as Baronial Seneschal, so anyone who fails to sign the waiver is putting the Barony and the Seneschal at risk.

Baronial Sewing Nights: *Baroness Flavia and Lady Theodosia:* We have chosen Wednesdays as the Baronial sewing night(s). The first one will be Wednesday, November 18, at Chateau Griffin, beginning at 7:00 pm. Please bring sewing machines if you have them. Bring things to cut out because they have big tables. Please eat before you come; no food in the work areas.

Angels Yule: *Lord Balthazar:* Lord Gerritt Raynor offered to provide an industrial-sized professional catering "pavilion" (with lights and outlets) for use on the patio. It would house the Inn of the Crimson Spade, as well as the Toys for Tots toy collection and the Raffle Baskets. The ornament exchange tree may also go out there. He will need help retrieving it and ten 8-foot tables from storage. THL Tomaso has secured the use of an outdoor heater, donated by Master Otuell Gowe. Christmas tree ornaments. The only things occurring inside the hall will be the potluck banquet, court, and entertainment including the Seraph Bard competition. There are outlets running down the center of the hall so people will be able to set up culinary equipment that needs power. THL Tomaso's new office at Caltech is next to Dabney Hall, so he will be able to oversee access to the driveway for unloading and loading. For the potluck feasts, the Barony is providing basic beverages, bread, and plastic bags for guests' dirty dishes. THL Tomaso will provide 30-gal trash cans and Lord Peter will provide the industrial trash bags for them.

There are available chairs, but everyone is asked to bring smaller tables. It was also suggested that we have different colored trash bags for easy recycling.

Baroness Flavia has offered to make the "Don't wash your dishes here" signs for the upstairs bathrooms. Baron Robert could not attend the meeting tonight due to work, but Lord Balthazar will discuss providing an escort for those who wish assistance to their cars. Baroness Flavia wants to be sure that everyone feels safe. Duchess Natalya suggested using a snowflake as the design for the site tokens because it's non-denominational and fits in with the theme. To encourage payment of the site fee, it was suggested that the site tokens be numbered and a drawing for a prize be held during the evening.

There will be no dancing this year. THL Tomaso confirmed that we can control the lights in the courtyard.

Lord Balthazar advised that he has contacted Baron Giles Hill of Sweetwater regarding the possibility that TRM might attend the event. There ensued a brief discussion about seating at the head table.

Brewer's Guild: *THL Tomaso:* We had a meeting two Sundays ago and are planning field trips. THL Tomaso suggested going to a sandwich shop in San Gabriel which specializes in beers/ales. Duchess Natalya suggested a general baronial field trip to Penzeys Spices on 4th Street in Santa Monica.

Angels Melee: *THL Tomaso:* Things progress apace. It will be a basic event with no White Elephant Sale, no Raffle, and no Book Sale. If someone wants to undertake the effort, it was suggested that a "breakfast bake sale" with tea and coffee would be a good idea. It was agreed that Angels does not need to have a raffle at every event.

Collegium: Baroness Justina's offer to do a full lunch for sale both days of Collegium was met with resounding applause.

Pink Ribbon: Baroness Gabrielle noted that Angels was approached regarding hosting the next Pink Ribbon Tourney. Her response was that Angels wants to give another group that honor next year. No one opposed this idea.

Day Shade: THL Cormac reported that Sunforger carries 10 oz. flame retardant fabric for \$7.00/yd; however, it was unclear whether they provide a certificate to that effect. Duchess Natalya suggested that he get a sample of fabric for testing. Panther also sells flame retardant fabric and Baroness Morgaine is a Panther dealer so she will look into that. THL Cormac will also make an investigation trip to the Garment District for fabric.

Gold Key: Duchess Natalya has several beautiful pieces of women's size 18-20 garb from Baroness Thea to donate to Gold Key but Baroness Gabrielle noted that no one is currently in charge of this. There are three tubs of loaner garb currently in storage.

Crown/Day of Meetings: THL Cormac has discussed a potential site and information A&S Day with Kingdom Seneschal Baron David of Caithness and Deputy Seneschal for Events Baroness Brianna JeNell, who offered the possible use of Kingdom funds to help defray costs. He has been able to secure the Masonic Hall in Monrovia which has a large room for the officer meeting as well as another large room suitable for an A&S display. He proposes having a "pancake breakfast" for the Kingdom, followed by the opportunity to enjoy the A&S Display and then go to PitP in the afternoon for the fighting practice. There would be no site fee or gate, just the basic cost for the breakfast. He is currently waiting to hear back from Baron David about this plan.

Baroness Gabrielle noted that we will be using Recreation Park for Crown.

Miscellaneous:

Baroness Gabrielle wished Baron John a Happy Birthday (his birthday is November 17).

Lady Dalphina will be stepping down as Exchequer at Anniversary 2010 and needs a deputy.

Baroness Gabrielle has been seneschal for a year and is also looking for a deputy.

Minutes from the October meeting: THL Cormac moved to approve as unread. The motion passed unanimously.

Angels Officer Reports: THL Cormac moved to approve as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Closing comments: Baron John noted that it was a good meeting at which a lot got accomplished. He is looking forward to hearing the final totals for PRT. Baroness Flavia encouraged everyone to bring more people into the Barony, and to invite former members to come to Yule.

THL Cormac called the meeting to a close at 9:26 pm.

Minutes recorded by Duchess Natalya de Foix, THL Tomaso da Barbiano, and THL Cormac Mór

THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING WILL OCCUR ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009.