

Business Meeting Notes

Date: April 1, 2008

Meeting began at 7:35 called to order by HLy Margarite.

Officers:

- *Arts and Sciences*- This weekend's demo went well for A&S. Tabletop trebuchet were a hit. Definitely want an explanation for the boot moose. A lot of interest from the attendees. Duncan was elevated to a Journeyman Moneyer. The kids were really excited about it at the demo. C&I had the kids coloring.

Matilda brought out the sections for the kids to working on the "By You" Tapestry.

- *Calligraphy and Illuminators*: Annwn says they are doing Warlord Scrolls on the 15th.
- *SLAB*: Meet when Faelan says so. Brewers competition at warlord. Will probably merge with the Hafla/Multi-Vigil
- *Pottery*: 3rd Sunday of month. Also open studio via phone appointment.
- *Open Library at Serena's*: on 9th. Second Wednesday of each month.
- *SLAG*: on 30th. SCA New Years eve. Having a party.
- *Clothiers*: 16th. Hot weather hats at Genevieve. 26th Hot weather clothing beyond Chitons and T-Tunics.
- *Dance*: Still looking for location
- *Embroidery*: on hiatus
- *Woodworking*: May 17th in Flower mound at Liz's
- *Gulf Wars*: Lost A&S forms. "Interesting" judging decisions.
- *King's College*: Great opportunity to teach at a kingdom level.

There are A&S competitions coming up at various events.

- *Children*: Thanks for all that came and helped at the demo. Will most likely be increasing the number of children in the barony.
- *Chirurgion*: n/a
- *Chronicler*: Have newsletters. Bids closing tonight for my office. Next month will be my last newsletter I do and then my successor will have my successor working on it. If you want your events on the web calendar please remember to send me the information.
- *Equestrian*: n/a
- *Exchequer*: Margarite - She is home sick. According her we have "scads" of money. Hopefully fairly close to the 12,000 we had last month. Call her if you need a check.
- *Herald*: nothing to report

- *Historian*: Still have history and making it as we speak.
- *Hospitalier*: Vyolante is the new hospitaler. 25 families signed up at the demo. Talking with several of them. Thinking about putting together a newcomers guild. Will it make you run away or approach them, Please email me feedback.
- *Marshals*:
 - *Heavy*: Mike in class. Damon – Trying to restarting Wednesday night fighter practice with Elfsea. Officially Elfsea practice, but we are trying o show up in force. If enough people there will be classes on the basics.
 - *Light*: At practice. Vyolante - has report.. 4 practices with 9 fighters each. 0 injuries. 0 broken blades. Did do both demos. First experimental fight with great hammer.
 - *Archery*: New components to build new arrows. Will work on it between now and warlord. 5 dozen arrows. 2 practices canceled due to weather or Easter.
 - *Youth combat*: open for bids still
- *Quartermistress*: Supposed to get help building shelves before warlord. Need ropes, etc. Still missing 2 tables from 12th night.
- *Virtual Scribe*: Out of town. Bids close at midnight.
- *Seneschal*: Vivat for demos and those who hosted. Four offices closing at midnight. One bid for each. Seneschal, Chronicler, Vscribe, Exchequer

Populace Meetings:

- April 25 is Torquil and Hadassah
- May 16 is Elinor, Eric and Ian
- June 20 is Chiara
- July 25 is at Lyneya and Lasgaard
- August 22 – Kalida and Thorkel (bring swimsuit)
- September 19 – Regan and Faelan
- October 24 – Suzanne's
- November 21 – Hadassah and Torquil
- Dec 19 – Robin and Serena

Events:

- *Defender of the Flame*; April 12th
- *BoD meeting*: April 19th. Email Katheryn if you are attending after party at Willhoites. After after party at Main Event
- *Gulf War*: people went, died and had fun.
- *Warlord*: Margarite - Please volunteer if you want. Barb of Barb's Garb is Merchant Coordinator. Limited inside merchanting. Serena - Asked to put together a historical retrospective of Warlord. Seeking stuff. Label the photos. Please no unlabeled ones. Please email me if you have things for it. I will set up a new address just for this.

- *King's College: Viviana* – as of right now 30 classes on schedule. Still need pavilions and pop ups. We will need help setting up, etc. This is an all day event with court in evening. Annwn – Contact me for merchenting at the event.
- *Artisan: Bids close at midnight. No site yet.*

Demos:

- *AllCon Demo:* Demo went well. Thanks to a lot of people. Suzanna, etc. His Majesty was great. A&S brought a lot of attention. 6 pages of signup sheets and split out between Ft Worth and us. 2 sheets given to Elfsea ; Margarite – A big thanks for what you did.
- *Homeschool Demo:* See various officer reports for info.

Cantons:

- *Glaslyn:* no one here
- *Lindenwood:* Damon - We have money but Steppes has it.

Other business:

- *Gulf war gift:* Bids close at June business meeting.
- *Oaks meeting:* next month after business meeting.

Baroness:

- Thank everyone for their help with the 2 demos. Last weekend had 28 Steppes folks and 3 Elfsea folks.
- Gulf War experience was just phenomenal. Please come next year. We had fun time.
- A new knight. Sir Hrafn Olafson knight on the field in a very moving ceremony.
- New centurion, Damon.
- Looking to put together a committee to set demo guidelines, etc. Send me an email if you want to be part of it. Want something written in the next few months.
- Thanks to all who helped with and worked on the quilt for this year's gift. I do not have a picture as I was working on it to last minute, but their entourage will get a picture.
- Crown this weekend and Glaslyn coming up. Glaslyn is a lot of fun.
- Vyolante - Do have a demo opportunity coming up. Sunday after the BoD meeting. April 20th. SMU medieval club. Want 5 or so people with A&S, etc. 4 hours. Mail Vyolante if interested and able to work.

12th Night 2009/Artisan 2009 Calendar:

This year 12th night was on calendar because we had a multi-group event with Elfsea and Glaslyn. 2009 we have the opportunity to make 12th Night a Steppes only event. Do we want that or to keep it a multi-group event. If Steppes only will we want it to be on calendar or Artisan. Warlord off calendar is not an option.

Alaric – what is the status of Eisteddfod? Margarite - Bids are due September. Can not guarantee having it as part of the event. Current Champion has strong influence on venue. You can certainly bid for it to be with 12th Night but that would have to be done separately in addition to the standard 12th night bid.

Saqra – I had doubts about putting Artisan on calendar last year and found those realized. 1) Not enough time to judge or speak with artists. 2) I think the focus was taken away from the Steppe and our artisans. 2 Laurels made from Stargate (including our newly made Steppes Artisan) so basically it seemed to become a Stargate event. 3) Only 4 events in the past were on calendar and we always had at least 20 artisans.

Lyneya – 1) Eisteddfod will affect our income from the event. 2) 12th Night dates will have to get changed in a couple years due to new kingdom dates. 3) We ran into organizational issues with Elfsea last year. I have concerns about this going forward. Are they even interested? (Alasdair – remember it has to be a NON Steppes group to make a multi group. This excludes the Cantons). Katheryn – remember that last year was a brand new Elfsea B&B. They stepped up one week before this all started going.

Serena – Great respect for Saqra, but disagree with her on several points. I examined Black Stars back to before the kingdom. Artisan has been on the calendar every year since 1995. <See Mistress Serena if you want the info>. Was an uptick last year. Crown was present. Examined from many different angles and data points (and robin can come up with data points). The biggest factor seemed to be if the ruling noble of Barony was a Laurel then attendance was up. Attendance did drop when Mahdi and Val were B&B. We Laurels need to get off our butts and support the ruling noble(s). Also remember that we already have one bid for 12th Night from Elfsea. (Though don't let that stop you)

Duncan – Being on kingdom calendar only really allows for awards. With Warlord and Artisan so close, why do you need the second court to give out awards. Also remember that we did extend our hand to the other regional groups (Margarite - though we did reserve the right to take it back). Duncan – That may come across as arrogant.

Tourquil – Serena answered my question about the having been on calendar or not. Just because we reserved the right does not mean they other groups were listening.

Margarite – Remember that Elfsea only took a 1% risk. For a regional event all groups need to commit for it to really work. To my research and knowledge 12th Night has not lost money.

Annwn – On a non emotional level, (I go and support Artisan but not enter) why not flip flop and either share Artisan or have it non-calendar? We tried it one way now lets try the other way so we can really compare.

Nuala – My opinion is known. Artisan needs to be on calendar. It is prestigious and we get people from all over the kingdom. 12th Night is enjoyable but mostly I am bored stiff.

I go to visit, but can't eat the feast or drink. I have heard mixed reviews on it. I say keep Artisan on the calendar and do a 12th night as a regional.

Anne the Spinster – I feel the drop in attendance was not due to the lack of a laurel on throne, but rather due to having a B&B that only cared about fighting.

Genevieve – When I started playing again, I was heart broken that the barony put Artisan over 12th Night. 12th Night is unique as an event in the kingdom. I think the socialization is important.

Vyolante – I am young in this barony. 1 ½ years only. 12th Night was the 3rd event. I was awed about the age.

Damon – I grew up in the north. Where I come from if you want to be a Laurel, then you show and show at Artisan. How is it that our new artisan being made a laurel not add to the event. Of course there were problems at 12th night. There is always when trying something new. Can work through them.

Hadassah – Why do we need to make is a central regional event to take it off calendar. Why do we wait so long to close bids and make decisions? Sites are always booked very far in advance so we need to start the planning earlier. Alasdair – We waited on Artisan simply because no one had put in a bid. Also we can book a site without having an autocrat chosen yet.

Serena - one of the big dangers of taking Artisan off calendar is someone scheduling a conflict. If we take anything off calendar then we will lose the date. Removing Artisan from the calendar will make it lose some prestige.

Alasdair - 1) One thing to remember that we are so close to the edge on the budget generally that if 12th night was NOT a calendar event then it will lose money. Something to consider. 2) Is one year enough to try having 12th Night as a multi-group event? There are always growing pains with something new. Do we want to try again to see if we can get past issues we may have had this year? Let see what happens when they drive the event. 3) Something to think about is that if we decide on Artisan NOT being a calendar event we can still try and have 12th Night in conjunction with Eisteddfod. If we get it then there is always time to put Artisan on the calendar after that.

Duncan - Remember that Artisan is a baronial honor, not a kingdom one. It does not need to be a calendar event to give that out. Also if Elfsea does run the event we will lose some of the Steppes "brand" on the event.

Baroness Francesca – Awards can be given out at Canton events also. 12th night is one of the really LAST social events.

Viviana – I have been to 12th Night and enjoyed it. As an artisan I will go to Steppes Artisan whether it is on calendar or not. Also remember, awards can be read at other calendar events and given out later.

Chiara - I am an artisan and a fighter. Remember we all love our events and are passionate about the, I have been autocrat all 3 and I see one other here who has. Remember the awards can be given out at other events also.

Amra – My point is covered. As long as it read in at an official event the awards counts. I still think that we need to petition for a 3rd event for larger baronies.

Torquil – Why not just petition for more events?

Polling:

Artisan on/12th night off: 0

Artisan off/Steppes 12th night on: 4

Artisan on/12th Night as a multi-group event: 16

The rest abstained.

Meeting concluded at 9:10

Appendix A: Artisan Informational Chart