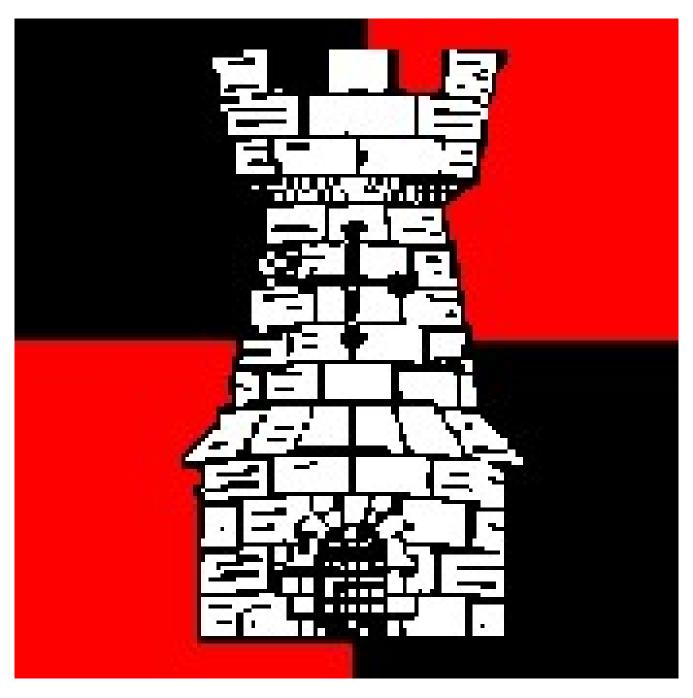
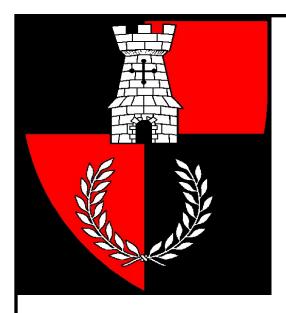
The Banner

December 2020 A.S LIV

Volume 31 Issue 12





Welcome to the Barony of the Lonely Tower!

Greetings and warmest wishes to all who have wandered into these lands of the Barony of the Lonely Tower.

The Barony of the Lonely Tower is the local SCA group for the Omaha/ Council Bluffs metro and surrounding area and part of the Kingdom of Calontir, which covers most of Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and a small portion of Arkansas.

If you are unfamiliar with the Society of Creative Anachronism (SCA), you can find out more information by visiting the Society's introduction page. We would also encourage you to visit the SCA's Newcomer's Portal.

The best way to get involved with us is to attend as many local meetings and events as your mundane (modern) life allows - however, we understand life comes first and this is just a hobby. You may participate with us as much or as little as you like.

When you attend activities, be sure to introduce yourself and let us know what your interests are. Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions as our Barony is filled with members who would love to answer them for you.

To find out more about our events and activities, be sure to check out our website as well as the calendar at the back of this newsletter. For more information or to ask specific questions, feel free to contact one of our officers listed on the last page.

Welcome to the Current Middle Ages - We're excited to have you!

Be sure to visit the Society for Creative Anachronism's Pinterest page.

They have over 75 boards and hundreds of pins to help in whatever you're interested in.

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Inside This Issue

This is the December 2020 issue of *The Banner*, a publication of The Barony of the Lonely Tower of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc).

The Banner is available from the BLT Chronicler, Gaius Cornelius Scipio Titianus (Robert Reinders), PO Box 8172, Omaha, NE 68108 chronicler@lonelytower.org

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The Banner is received paperless copy and paper copy free of charge by all members of the Barony of the Lonely Tower, on a monthly basis.

Those outside the Barony wishing to receive a paper copy of *The Banner* may do so by sending a \$15 donation per year to cover mailing costs.

Baronial Positions



Baron Augustin le Blinde &
Baroness Aleit de La Thomme
Baron & Baroness of the Lonely Tower
baronage@lonelytower.org



Sir Aleksandr Yaroslavovich Vyetikov Seneschal Blt.seneschal@gmail.com



HL Cristina la Ambeler
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Blt.exchequer@gmail.com



Lord Gaius Cornelius Scipio Titianus Web Minister & Chronicler webminister@lonelytower.org chronicler@lonelytower.org



Sir Michael Nymandus

Knight's Marshal

knightmarshal@lonelytower.org



Lord Owain the Younger

Archery Marshal

archermarshal@lonelytower.org



Lady Eadaoin inghean Chionoidha.

Minister of Arts & Sciences

A-sminister@lonelytower.org



HL Nikolai Gornostai Spiach'ev Горностай Anser Pursuivant (Herald)

herald@lonelytower.org



Lady Jorunna Refsdottir
Chatelaine
chatelaine@lonelytower.org

From the Baron and Baroness of the Lonely Tower

Unto the Populace of the Barony of the Lonely Tower do We, Augustin and Aleit, send warmest greetings!

As the weather grows colder and the pandemic escalates in these lands, some good news has finally reached Us. The announcement of a vaccine brings hope that life may begin returning to normal in the coming months and We may begin seeing our friends again. We are pleased that archery has been able to continue safely with precautions in place, and groups continue to gather online to share talents and stories. The monthly business meetings have been happening virtually and We appreciate the continued efforts of the baronial officers as they ensure operations continue even though we are not gathering in person. As We embark on the holiday season, We extend our deepest wishes for a safe, healthy and joyful holiday season. We also offer our hope for a more prosperous and joyful new year.

Yours in service,

Augustin & Aleit

Sage Words from the Seneschal

To the people of The Barony of The Lonely Tower Greetings. First off this month I would like to take some time to thank Lady Jorunna for her continuing efforts in trying to keep the members of the Barony active and connected. This is not a small task and I, for one truly appreciate her work. Last week we held our first Zoom gathering and it went well. None of us are used to just hanging and chatting in such a forum and it showed, but in spite of this, it still went well. One good suggestion was that such things should have at least a lose goal, theme, or something for people to hold onto and help break the ice. If things develop from there, great. Moving forward we will try to work on this. If you have ideas for a goal or theme, please let me know. As I have said in my past couple of letters, we plan on holding an event on May 1st, keep the date open! As always, if there are any questions, please contact me and I will try to get them answered. Take care of each other In service Aleksandr

Chatelaine Chat

The Plague Times...Episode 6: Jump In!

It is particularly challenging right now to participate in SCA, since everything is online, and we are unable to safely meet in person. Many people are struggling to connect and deal with the isolation we are currently facing. However, that does not mean that nothing is happening, and that you should just wait until we are able to meet in person again. Now is an ideal time to learn, study, and practice whatever it is you do, or aspire to in the SCA. For our newcomers this time is wonderful for you. There are classes being offered from all over the world, that normally you would not have an ability to attend with amazing speakers and instructors. This weekend Calontir is hosting a small offering of courses known as Collegia. There are classes on arts, sciences, fighting, and more. Here is the link to the event page on Facebook, which has the current schedule listed: https://fb.me/e/chwgitpCL

There are weekly shows that discuss all aspects of the SCA. There are classes being taught online regularly on any topic you can think of. If you're wanting to learn about fighting and practicing your fighting skills. There are online zoom classes, and online based challenges for you to participate in. I provided a link with a list of facebook groups back in the August Banner that cover all different topics. However, that's really the tip of the iceberg. If you're not sure where to start looking for a specific topic, you can ask in the barony group page, or at a baronial zoom gathering. There's always something exciting happening. So make sure to check out the baronial group page.

In addition to all the online events, shows, challenges, and competitions--the barony is working on planning events for when we can meet again in person. We will need volunteers to help with these events. Come to our business meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month to learn about upcoming events currently in the planning process, ask in the baronial group, or feel free to email chatelaine@lonelytower.org.

Yours in Service,

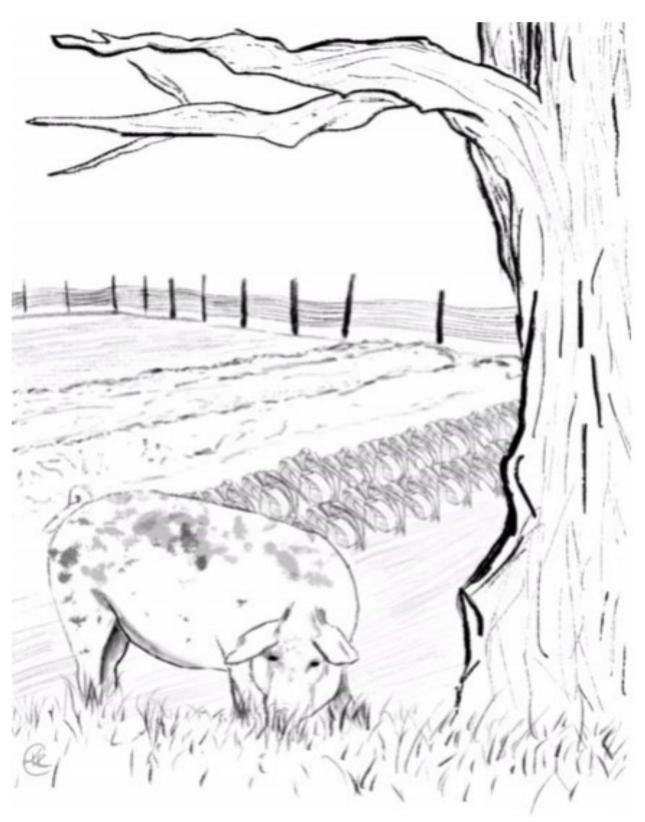
Lady Jorunna Refsdottir

Exchequer Check-In

Greeting to the people of the Tower lands.
This is my last month as your exchequer—the past three years have been a delight of service. Truly.
Oisin will be taking over in my stead.
Our bank balance remains at \$6187.61. The Domesday report has yet to be done—I will submit it before
the January 30 th deadline. Once it is approved at the Kingdom level, it will be posted.
Thank you for allowing me to serve you.
In grace,
Cristina.

Exchequer article

Garden Grotto & Cooking with Cristina



Gardening Grotto: A brief history of Thyme

Thyme has a heralded history as a healing herb, long before it's culinary ideology.

Romans believed it offered protection from poison—whether you ate it or bathed it. In fact, they'd burn it, much like the Native Americans do white sage.

Later, when the plague hit Europe, thyme was a primary ingredient in the poultices used for boil-ridden sores.

We now know that the active ingredient in the herb is a strong antiseptic, pain reliever, and anti- inflammatory called thymol.

Growing this beneficial plant is something I've not been able to do. Thyme loves heat, well drained soil, lots of sun. Growing it in partial shade, damp areas, or even hydroponically will result in failure. This is a plant that thrives on, not neglect really, but not doting attention. That's where I fail—they always need water, or food, or a little shade because it is just too sunny right there. Uh huh. Funny thing, if the sunny location has protection from the westerly winds that plague the Lonely Tower through the cold winter, thyme could survive and be green all winter. It's duplicitous that way.

Plant the seeds in damp soil, press firmly, and cover only slightly with a little bit of sand. Keep damp (mist them with a spray bottle a few times a day) until the seeds sprout—this can be anywhere from 7 to 60 days, not even kidding. Putting plastic wrap over the seeding container to keep the moisture and heat in will work too. Once the plants seem to have established, they'll be about 3-4 inches all, the daily watering can cease—thyme prefers it on the dry side.

Use it fresh or dried. To dry it, cut sprigs and hang for a few weeks. Then rub the small leaves off and put into a small container. Keep away from direct light as this can cause the oils to evaporate—making it taste a bit like shrubbery. Thyme is one of the few plants whose flavor doesn't change much upon drying, making it a favorite for winter storage.

Resources:

https://www.history.com/news/a-brief-history-of-thyme

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thyme

https://www.myspicer.com/the-history-of-thyme/

http://www.ourherbgarden.com/herb-history/thyme.html

http://www.ourherbgarden.com/thyme.html

 $https://journals.lww.com/nutritiontodayonline/fulltext/2016/01000/thyme_history,_applications,_and the following properties of the control of the control$

_overview_of.10.aspx

https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/266016

 $https://academics.hamilton.edu/foodforthought/our_research_files/thyme.pdf$

https://www.ilfbpartners.com/farm/gardening/thyme/

Honir nidrvegheth (Chickens Hunter Style) - roast chicken served in a seasoned wine broth.

Ingredients: chicken (roasted in oil, salt, & pepper), chicken broth, garlic powder, white wine (diluted with white grape juice), salt, & pepper) pepper), chicken broth, garlic powder, white wine

Recipe XXVI [Q22]. One should roast a hen and cut it in pieces. Add to some broth lard, a little garlic, wine, salt and egg yolks, and cook the hen in this.

Recipe source: Grewe, Rudolf and Constance B. Hieatt, editors. Libellus de Arte Coquinaria: An Early Northern Cookery Book. Tempe: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2001.

CRISTINA'S RECIPE: serves 10-15 depending on how many pieces are in the package 1 pkg Chicken thighs, deskinned, deboned and laid out flat—save the bones!

2c broth

2c white wine—I used sauvignon blanc

1tbl garlic powder

1tsp salt

1tsp pepper

2tbl bonne herbs (from Penzeys)

About a dozen eggs, separated, save the whites for something else

Addtl garlic powder, salt and pepper for sprinkling on chicken thighs

Dredge the thighs in oil, both sides, then sprinkles the rough side with garlic powder, salt, pepper. Roll them up into themselves, formerly skin side out, and put on a rack in a roasting pan—this is very important else they sit in their own juices and aren't firm enough. Sprinkle again with spices. Cook at 375 for 45 min until done. They can sit out for a bit...whatever; they're dead, not like they've got a date.

Boil the bones in water to cover all day, or as long as you can...make it as strong as possible. When ready, combine 2c broth with 2c sauvignon blanc wine in a pot, add garlic powder, salt, and the herbs and bring to a hard boil. Reduce it by at least half—how patient are you?—and let cool a bit...cuz you're about to add the egg yolks and if the temp is too hot they'll curdle...don't ask me how I know. Beat the egg yolks (one for every thigh-ish) in a large bowl til yellowish. When the broth is just too hot to touch, put about a cup or so of the broth into the eggs, beating

the whole time, then—stirring the pot hard—add them back into the broth. Just keep beating the broth…it'll thicken—sort of.

Slice the thighs into 4 or 5 pieces...place into serving bowls (I figured a thigh per person). Add the thickened broth until the chicken is about halfish covered...the sauce is great for sopping with bread.

Can add frozen peas at the end, or precooked carrots, some roasted potatoes, etc.

Now I see no reason this couldn't be made from leftovers. Going to need about 4 cups of shredded/chopped chicken (about a whole bird). Use canned or powdered chicken broth. The original intent of this recipe was to use everything—including the eggs the bird may have been guarding. If cholesterol is an issue, making a broth thickened with egg yolks might not be the best ides. Instead, stir 2 Tbls of cornstarch with a 1/4c of cold water, stir that into the broth when it has reduced. Keep stirring else you may end up with goo at the bottom of the pot.

If you haven't the mixed herbs called for, use your favorites—but I suggest keeping it simple; a teaspoon of thyme and perhaps a small sprig of rosemary. Monitor the salt—the original recipe

is actually quite salty, but the leftover version will definitely need pepper and garlic, and maybe

a pinch of salt, but not too much.

Virtual Highland Havoc Archery Scores

Challenge 1 □ 6 □: Targeted Projectile Practice: Cry HAVOC and let slip the Vikings of war by

shooting arrows outside! Handbow Grand Bowmen Elite - Lady Celestria Alexandre d'Amiens
Bowman division - Lord Michael de Lundie
Marksman division - Lord Owain the Younger
Novice division - Lord Gaius Cornelius Scorpio Titianus

Period Bow Marksman division- Lord Owain the Younger
Archer division - HE Kezia von Holzenhaus
Novice division - Noble Naila al-Zarqa

Crossbow -Bowman - Master Dolan Madoc

Honorable Mention to Jorunna Refsdottir who lost out to Gaius by the tie-breaker. The only tie-breaker needed.

		Royal Round	Tie	
SCA Name	Bow Type	Rank	Breaker	Total
Gaius Cornelius Scipio				
Titianus	Handbow	Novice	710mm	1
Master Dolan Madoc	Crossbow	Bowman	88mm	9
	Period			
HE Kezia von Holzenhaus	Longbow	Archer	476mm	3
Jorunna Refsdottir	Handbow	Novice	990mm	1
	Handbow-			
Owain the Younger	Horse	Marksman	295mm	2
	Period			
Owain the Younger	Longbow	Marksman	238mm	6
Michael de Lundie	Crossbow	Bowman	365mm	4
Michael de Lundie	Handbow	Bowman	91mm	6

Baronial Awards

All members of the SCA are encouraged to send in award recommendations for those members of the populace that they believe are worthy of recognition. Below are the names and brief descriptions of awards given in the Barony of the Lonely Tower.

The Cord - The Cord is simply that, a cord in the Lonely Tower colors that denotes the person wearing it is an active member of the Barony.

The Rose Window - The beauty and craftsmanship required in the making of a rose window gives us the definition for this award. The Rose Window is given for promise in the pursuit of the Arts and Sciences.

The Column - The support needed to keep the Lonely Tower standing comes from its many Columns. This award is given to those who have helped serve the needs of the Barony of the Lonely Tower.

The Defenders of the Gate - Cave Canes! "Beware of the Dogs" is the motto of this fair Barony. And well said, the knights, huscarls, fyrdmen, fighters, archers and equestrians of this barony have given us ample reason to be proud of each area of endeavor in the martial arts. Thus this award is given to those who are a part of our martial presence at tournaments held in the Lonely Tower and throughout Calontir and the Known World.

The Goose Migrant - Where the goose flies, so it takes with it the spirit of this land. This award is for those who have trav-eled widely within or without Calontir, representing the Barony wherever their paths may lead them.

The Keystone - Given to those without whose presence the Barony would likely not have become nor likely remain the beloved place we all share. In this award we seek to honor those who enhance, embrace or support the Barony and by extension the Kingdom and Society.

Baronial Champions	Credits					
Arts & Sciences Champion						
(1st Quarter)	Baronial Positions photo page 3:					
Aethelwyn aet Ulancumbe	© 2020 Jim Janicki AKA Baron Augustin le Blinde . Used with permission					
Cut & Thrust Champion	© 2020 Jilli Janicki AkA baron Augustin le billue . Oseu with permission					
(2nd Quarter)	© 2020 Tamsin McDonald AKA Baroness Aleit de La Thomme . Used with permission					
Master Rolf Hobart						
Archery Champion	© 2020 Candy Caines AKA Cristina la Ambeler. Used with permission					
(3rd Quarter)	© 2020 Michael Bull AKA Sir Michael Nymandus. Used with permission					
Lord Owain the Younger Armored Combat Champion	© 2020 Neil Hilton AKA Sir Aleksandr Yaroslavovich Vyetikov . Used with permission.					
(4th Quarter)	© 2020 Bethany Melendy AKA Jorunna Refsdottir. Used with permission.					
Sir Bjarm Rorikson						
Officer's Warrants	© 2020 Mike Hinkley AKA Lord Owain the Younger. Used with permission.					
10/2019 - Archery Marshal	© 2020 Seana Dennis-Holmes AKA Lady Eadaoin inghean Chionoidha. Used with permis-					
01/2022 - Chronicler	sion.					
01/2021 Exchequer	31011.					
01/2021 - Anser Pursuivant (Herald)	© 2020 Robert Reinders AKA Lord Gaius Cornelius Scipio Titianus. Used with per-mission.					
01/2020 - Chancellor of the Exchequer						
03/2020 - Minister of Arts & Sciences						
06/2020 - Seneschal						
01/2021 - Knights Marshal						
08/2021- Web Minister						

December Events

« 2019	DECEMBER 2020	JAN > 2021 »				Month ▼
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	3	4	5
6	7	8 Virtual Baronial Gatherin	9 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	17	18	19
20		22 Virtual Baronial Gatherin	23 Cancelled Archery 6:30 p	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Cancelled Archery 6:30 p	31		

January Events

« 2020	JANUARY 2021	FEB > 2022 »				Month ▼
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Virtual Baronial Gatherin	6 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	14	15	16
17			Archery Practice 6:30 pm		22	23
24	25	26	27 Archery Practice 6:30 pm	28	29	30
31						

Barony of the Lonely Tower
Baronial Financial Policy
CAO 01 January 2021

The Financial Policy of The Barony of the Lonely Tower (BLT) is structured to be compliant to both Societal (23 April 2016) and Kingdom (July 2018) policies, as well as to establish local policy and procedures.

Updates made to the Financial Policy of BLT will be included and dated in conjunction with subsequent revisions of either Societal or Kingdom policies in addition to any revisions internal to this policy.

FUNDS

All funds will be managed through the group bank account.

The group account does not operate with designated funds, rather as one general fund. Though monies may be earmarked for use in the ledger and the committee meeting minutes.

No private personal accounts will be utilized for group purposes or monies.

All incoming funds will be deposited before any subsequent disbursements of those funds.

The group bank account requires two signatures for withdrawal, expense, or transfer transactions. It is the responsibility of the group Exchequer to hold and maintain the group checkbook. No cards have or will be issued for the group bank account.

ePay may be used with written approval from the Kingdom Exchequer; pre-registration, pay at the door, or both. No other alternative payment services may be used.

Signatories of the group bank account will not issue or draft a check from the account in their own name.

Should BLT dissolve, all monies held in the group bank account will escheat to the Kingdom or another branch, and the Kingdom Exchequer will be notified of the disbursement.

All personal checks received by BLT will include the individual's name, address, and phone number.

All checks will be endorsed prior to deposit and will be deposited in a timely manner, no later than 14 days following receipt, in accordance with Society policies.

Reimbursements will be made within 60 days of the incurred expense, as per Kingdom policy, with coordinating receipts. For event specific expenses, receipts are requested to be delivered to the Exchequer prior to, or at, the event in compliance with Cash Advance procedures outlined on the Kingdom Cash Advance Form.

Receipts will contain only the items that are being reimbursed.

EVENTS

All monies collected at event gates will be reconciled against the Gate Form tally. Gate Forms will be completed for each transaction at the event gate. Gate Forms will not be completed or altered following the event. Monies will be deposited in a timely fashion and no later than 14 days following an event or collection or in compliance with Society policy.

Multi-day events: Upon opening the Gate and cash box, the monies present will be accounted and verified. Upon closing for the day, the monies will be reconciled, Gate forms tallied, and an accounting made for monies taken in that day. This procedure will be repeated for every day of the event that the Gate and cash box are open. Upon the closing of the Gate for the final time, the Event Worksheet will be filled out, total monies tallied and verified.

Group monies must be collected and managed by at least one paid adult member in compliance with Society policy.

Reigning Calontir Royalty (4) and local Baronage (2) will be complimentary guests of BLT for gate and feast. Gate Form signatures are still required. Additional complimentary guests (e.g. visiting Royalty, visiting Barony, etc) will be determined by the event autocrat(s) and approved by the financial committee at the presentation of the bid(s) or as required.

Minor gate fees are discounted with respect to adult gate fees such that minors are not liable for Societal Non-Member Surcharge.

Prior to an Event Bid going before the Financial Committee, the proposer must communicate with the Exchequer so that a viable Event Budget can be produced. This budget will be submitted with the written bid, demonstrating Exchequer awareness and compliance with Kingdom Financial Policy.

After the event report is signed and submitted to kingdom with the event budget, both will be published in the newsletter for populace awareness and to make a duplicate record with the chronicler.

If an event does not meet the budget estimates (goes over), the exchequer—working with the seneschal and event steward—will prepare a memorandum to be placed in the files stating why the event went over-budget and what actions will be taken to remedy the situation.

REPORTS

Quarterly reports will be submitted using the locked MS Excel form provided by the Kingdom. The schedule for the quarterly reports follow both the Kingdom schedule as restricted by the statement schedule for the group bank account. These dates are

Quarter 1 Jan 1 – Mar 31, Due Apr 15

Quarter 4/Domesday Oct 1 – Dec 31, Due Jan 15/31

Reconciled bank statements, online banking screenshots as necessary, and the account ledger will accompany quarterly reports. Additional documentation will be submitted as required to show any activity on any report that does not present on a statement due to restrictions from the banking cycle.

The group Seneschal will sign and approve reconciled statements, quarterly reports, and the Domesday report. Quarterly Reports may be electronically approved, however the Domesday will be signed and submitted in original form following Kingdom acceptance. Upon Kingdom approval of the Domesday, it will be published in the group newsletter. Quarterly reports will not be published, but will be available for viewing by the populace upon request.

A full review of group financial records by the Kingdom exchequer and witnesses is required every two years and at the change of baronial exchequer. This is required to cover at least three and up to seven years of records and follow the review guidelines. A copy of the review will be presented to the Kingdom exchequer.

Non-member information including number of attendees, funds, and documentation must be sent to the appropriate parties within 10 days of an eligible event. Event reports are due within 30 days of an event to the appropriate parties.

As BLT is based in Nebraska, events held by the group are required to collect sales tax and abide by state specific vendor policies in compliance with current corporate policies.

Guilds or non-branches will defer to Kingdom and Society policy regarding financial policies and management.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

The Barony will operate a financial committee led by the Baronial exchequer and including the Baronage as one vote, Seneschal, and two additional paid-members of the populace. Member term will typically be two years, in conjunction with the term of office. As per Society and Kingdom policy, the minimum quorum required is the group Seneschal, Exchequer, and one of the Baronage; every effort will be made to ensure total inclusion of the entire committee as well as the populace.

Financial Committee Members will be selected at the first business meeting of the calendar year.

Among those present, a request will be made for volunteers after a reminder of the responsibilities of the committee and the requirements for serving are read.

Requirements for serving on the Baronial Financial Committee are: willing and able to attend business meetings; current member and able to retain membership throughout their 2-year term; not currently serving as an officer at any level (Baronial, Kingdom, Society) to preclude any possible perception of conflicts of interest.

The committee will be responsible for pre-authorizing budgets and approving unbudgeted expenses, the content of the financial policy and rules of operation. Financial decisions may be made electronically, in person, or over the phone; resolution will be by majority vote and must comply with Society policies regarding group expenses.

Any member of the committee may request a meeting, however financial committee meetings are typically held following monthly business meetings as required to review and approve budgets and expenses. Emergency meetings may be called and resolved within 48 hours using one of the aforementioned methods of communication. Meetings must include at least 3 members of the committee.

Minutes of each meeting will be taken by the Exchequer or designated alternate and then posted on the Baronial website and in the monthly newsletter to ensure populace awareness regarding the decisions of the Financial Committee.

The Baronial budget and financial policy will be reviewed and approved by the committee annually, and as needed, typically at the October business meeting in preparation for the New Year. In addition to discussion within business meetings, the budget will be published on the website and in the newsletter in conjunction with the Domesday report in compliance with Kingdom and Societal policies.

(2020) Reminder that deputies are local and not warranted unless required to act. Call or email the kingdom exchequer if the local exchequer is going to be out of town for more than a couple of weeks. We can then get a deputy warranted at the Kingdom level.

unn

EOF