

WINTER 2016



Barony of North Woods'

Holmgang

Newsletter for the Barony of North Woods

in the Pentamere Region

of the Kingdom of the Middle

of the Society for Creative Anachronism



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Photograph of a plate from a period fencing manual, curated by the Michigan State University Library

All Baronies of the Middle Kingdom Are required to publish a newsletter quarterly, even if they have a web page. If you would like to submit an article to the newsletter, please send it to the Baronial Chronicler.

An electronic version of this newsletter can be found on the Barony of North Woods web page, under Missives.

Barony of North Woods

Baronial Council Meeting

January 24, 2016 (action items are in bold)

Their Excellencies (Maximilian and Gwenllyen) –

- Recommendation to set up meeting reminders for Baronial Council Meetings. **Lucien will follow up on this by creating a pinned post on FB and setting up a reminder on the Yahoo group. Rocco will update the website.**

- Their Excellencies have reached the 3 year point in their term. Their term length is a maximum of 5 years. Approximately 6 months before the end of the term, the polling process will begin. **TE request that those interested contact them if they desire context or other information.** This is not a requirement of potential candidates, simply an exchange of information.

- Baroness' Baby Project- The results will be announced in the afternoon at Val Day.

- Northwoods Events

- HE Max will be on vigil for MoD at Val Day and elevated at Grand Tournament of the Unicorn. **Talk to HE Gwen if interested in helping.**

- Her Excellency is seeking ideas on advertising Golden Seamstress in non-SCA venues. **Please send ideas to HE.**

- Ale to the Victors is upcoming.

-There is a desire to run Northwoods Community College in winter of 2017. **An Event Steward is being sought.**

-Northwoods Champions

- Children champions will be chosen at It Takes My Child to Raze a Village

- Archery Champion will be chosen at Pentamere Archers College

- Rapier Champion will be chosen at Tyger Hunt

- A&S, Armored and Service champion selections are still to be determined.

Officer Reports

Seneschal (Lucien Featherstone) - Awards- Put them in! The deadline for awards to be granted at future events is coming up soon. Submit award recommendations to TE and the online system. (<http://www.midrealm.org/op/recommend/login.php?from=/op/recommend/>)

- All reports are in. Thank you to all who reported!

- The charter has been submitted and is in the review process. The Kingdom Seneschal is currently reviewing this. There is no timeline for a return of the charter yet. **Lucien will update the Barony as information becomes available.**

Exchequer (Brigida Alderotti) - Report is in. Balance is \$2627.32. \$69 is in the special fund for regalia.

Chronicler (Sugawara no Tokihira) – The newsletter is in process and should be ready in the next few weeks. **Please submit articles or ideas for articles to Sugawara.**

Herald (Verrix Verrtissignos) –The badge for the new Wolfpack award has been approved.

Chatelaine (Rycheza Tkaczyc) – Reports are in. There was a recommendation at a chatelaine’s meeting that groups should consider holding meetings and workshops at a public venue rather than traditional demos.

- A large donation has been made to the Baronial Gold Key, including some armor. These items may be available to individual groups in the near future. **Rycheza will log all of this property and send a list of items to the Web Minister and Exchequer.**

- The Chatelaine requests information leading to the location of the Baronial Gold Key. **If you are in possession of Baronial property, please contact Rycheza.**

Web Minister (Rocco Barbarossa) – (<http://www.northwoods.midrealm.org/>). **Please send any updates or changes to Master Rocco. Lucien will be sending a listing of upcoming meeting dates and a list of officers to Rocco.**

- **Event Stewards should copy Rocco on upcoming event information so it may be posted to the website.**

Rapier Marshal (Calum (Sugawara)) – Rapier marshals of the Barony should submit reports to him.

- A Baronial practice is being considered.

- The Baronial Rapier Marshal will be collecting ‘lost sheep’, those rapier fighters not otherwise logged by other groups.

- This interim position has been filled by Calum (Sugawara). Please congratulate him.

Minister of Youth (Lady Sæhildr Barngodr) – Report is in.

- Herald’s Point and ITMCTRAV are coming up. **Please submit award recommendations for youth awards in each are for the latter event.**

- **Please contact her if you are a member of the populace and have a child.**

Knights Marshal (Bjarg Kormaksson, absent) – Nothing reported. Bjarg is the new knights marshal. Please congratulate him.

Minister of Arts and Sciences (Fujinami no Kaede, absent) – All reports are in.

It is requested that all Canton officers copy their respective Baronial officer when they report. Baronial officers should copy the Baron and Baroness and the Seneschal.

Group Reports

Hawkland Moor

- Wassail is complete. The group is gearing up for future events.
- The group holds monthly A&S workshops. One coming on 10 am on March 12th will be silk banner making. The location will be at Master Nigel's. More information will be forthcoming.

Weld Lake

- Heralds Point and Scribal Symposium and It Takes My Child to Raze a Village are coming up.
- An armored marshal is being sought for Heralds Point. **Please contact the Event Steward if interested.**
- Rocco and Lucien will be donating custom shields to the victors of each respective tournament.

Ealdnordwuda

- Pentamere Academy of Defense is on 3-19-16 at Hidden Springs Church. Class instructors and a lunch tavern host are being sought. **Contact Lucien if interested.**
- Pentamere Archers College is on 5-21-16 at the Demmer Center. There will be a marshal in training track as well as indoor and outdoor areas. There will not be a non-member surcharge for this event. **If interested in teaching a class, contact Kata.**

Old Business

Iron Oak property and other excess Baronial proper will be documented and placed on the website. Any items not sold in that venue will be auctioned off at Heralds Point. **Lucien and Rocco will follow up on this. Other excess Baronial property should be documented by the holder and information sent to Rocco and Brigida.**

New Business

- The Barony is registered for 50th year. Lord Calum is the land agent.
- Officer Elections- A poll for officer elections was conducted. With 9 votes cast, the results are as follows:

Rapier Marshal (Interim Position)- Calum MacLeod (Sugawara) This term expires 1-31-17.

Armored Marshal- Bjarg Kormaksson This term expires 1-31-19.

Exchequer- Brigida Alderotti This term expires 1-31-19.

Herald- Verrix Verctissignos Cattidanios This term expires 1-31-19.

Next 3 meetings will be on 4-17-16, 7-10-16 and 10-2-16 at Brewery Becker. All meetings will begin at 1 pm.

Featured Article

Proposed Baronial Charter

Preamble

We, the People of the Barony of the Northwoods, do hereby ordain and establish this Charter, revised this 30th day of October, A.S. L (2015).

Article 1.0: The Baronial Council

1. A standing committee, referred to hereafter as the "Council," shall be formed for the purpose of fostering greater Baronial unity, resolving issues of import to the Barony, coordinating events, and assisting the Baron, Baroness, and the Baronial Officers in general.
2. This Council shall be comprised of three delegates from each member group, the Baronial Officers and the Baron and Baroness of Northwoods.
 - a. The method by which each member group shall choose its delegates shall be left to the discretion of that group.
 - b. Each group's Seneschal shall inform the Baronial Seneschal of the identity of their Council delegates in advance of any Council meeting.
 - c. If such notice is not given, said delegates will not be seated.
3. The Council shall meet a minimum of twice yearly, preferably quarterly, or when called into special session by the Baron, Baroness, or Baronial Seneschal.
 - a. Issues requiring a vote will be decided on by the members of this Council. The Seneschal shall facilitate this vote and will not vote upon the matter except in the instance of a tie.
 - b. Votes may be cast in a virtual manner if a physical gathering is not feasible (such as for an emergency meeting of the Council, a delegate is unavoidably detained, etc.). Votes cast in such a manner shall have the identity of the voter confirmed by the Seneschal. Such virtual meetings shall be publically announced with as much notice as feasible.

Article 2.0: Baronial Terms and Limits

1. The Barony shall place no limit on the number of terms a person may serve as an Officer or as Baron/ess.
2. Officer terms shall be 3 years in length, with one third of the positions open to election in each year.
3. Officer terms will expire on the January 31st of the respective year of their term. The order which is suggested is Year one: Seneschal, Chatelaine, MoAS, Web Minister; Year two: Chronicler, Youth Minister, Rapier Marshal; Year three: Exchequer, Herald, Armored Marshal.

Article 3.0: Additional Duties of the Baronial Seneschal

1. The process of recommending officers to the Kingdom (election process) will be overseen by the Baronial Seneschal.
2. The Baronial Seneschal may appoint deputies to assist in the fulfillment of these duties, subject to the approval of the Council.
3. These duties include:
 - a. Oversight of any and all selections of Baronial offices (but not the Baron/ess, see below); and
 - b. Ensuring that these selections are fair, free, and open, with the ballots counted publicly and at a place accessible to the populace and candidates with the results being made public.

4. The Baronial Seneschal oversees the acknowledgement of delegates to the Council.
5. Neither the Baronial Seneschal nor said deputies may supervise an election or recall for which they are involved.

Article 4.0: Additional Duties of the Baronial Exchequer

1. The Baronial Treasury shall be administered by the Baronial Exchequer
2. This Exchequer will be elected in the manner detailed for all other Baronial officers, save that the Exchequer may not be a close relative or spouse of the Baron, Baroness, or any other Baronial Officer, nor reside in the same residence of any of those listed.
3. All disbursements made by the Exchequer shall first be approved by the Baronial Council, which may be summoned for this purpose by the Baron, Baroness, or Baronial Seneschal.

Article 5.0 Additional Duties of the Baron and Baroness

1. The Baron or Baroness shall hold at least two courts per year. During each term, they must hold court in each member group at least once.
2. The Baron or Baroness shall attend at least one additional event in each member group at least once per term.

Article 6.0: Candidate Requirements

1. In order to be eligible to serve as Baron or Baroness or as a Baronial Officer, the following qualifications must be met:
 - a. The candidate must reside within the confines of the Barony. If the candidate subsequently leaves the Barony, they must immediately withdraw their candidacy.
 - b. Be a member in good standing of SCA Inc.
 - c. The candidate must be enrolled with the Baronial Seneschal by the close of nominations (as specified in Article 7).
2. Candidates are also encouraged to publicly declare their candidacy.

Article 7.0: Officer Election Process

1. At the Council meeting prior to the completion of an officer's term of office (a minimum of 8 weeks), the Seneschal shall notify the populace of any open or soon to be open Officer positions (those unfilled or those expiring in the forthcoming January). This announcement begins the nomination and election process.
 - a. Candidates will have four (4) weeks to declare their candidacy and must notify the Seneschal of their intent to be a candidate.
2. A maximum of two (2) weeks after nominations are closed, the Seneschal shall distribute ballots to the populace of the Barony
 - a. Electors must reside within the confines of the Barony.
3. The voting period shall last two (2) weeks from the date the ballots are distributed.
4. On the same day the polls close, the Seneschal shall publicly count the ballots and certify the returns.
5. The candidate who receives the most votes will be identified as the preferred candidate for the position.
 - a. The Baronial Seneschal shall submit a written report of the polling returns to the Baron and Baroness and to the populace of the Barony.
 - b. The Seneschal shall forward this result to the relevant Kingdom and Regional officers.
6. Neither the Crown nor the Kingdom Officers shall be bound in any way by the results of this or any other Baronial election.

- a. Pending a warrant from the relevant Kingdom officer, the identified preferred candidate may assume the duties of said office unless the candidate is not acceptable to the Crown or Kingdom officer. If this is found to be the case, the candidate with the second most votes shall become the preferred candidate. If no alternative candidate is available or acceptable, a special election using the above steps will be conducted to identify one.

Article 8.0: Baron/ess Polling

1. Six months before the completion of the Baron's or Baroness' term of office the Seneschal will be contacted by the Group Transitions Deputy to begin the polling process. Their Excellencies will notify the Seneschal a minimum of 6 months prior to stepping down, especially in the instance when stepping down before a full term of office.

Article 9.0: Recall Procedures

1. If the populace believes any officer or the Baron or Baroness is failing in their duty to the people of the Barony, they may vote to recall said person from their office or position.
 - a. In order for a petition to be considered, it must be received by the Baronial Seneschal in written form, signed and dated by the petitioners. The petition must also be copied to the Baron and Baroness.
2. Once the petition is received, the Baronial Seneschal will forward the petition to the Baronial Council.
 - a. The Baronial Council may reject or return for re-wording a petition it is not sufficiently clear, concise, or addressed in a civil manner.
 - b. If the petition language is found to be acceptable, the Baronial Seneschal shall forward a copy of the petition to the person being recalled within a maximum of 2 days.
3. A maximum of two (2) weeks after receiving this petition, the Baronial Seneschal shall poll the populace of the Barony. The question on the ballot shall be phrased "Shall [the person in question] retain their office as the [office or position] of Northwoods?"
 - a. If a majority of the votes cast respond negatively, that person shall be asked to resign their office, as they have agreed to abide by this Charter. If the individual does not resign in a timely fashion, the Baronial Council shall immediately forward a petition to the Crown for their removal.
 - b. A special election will be held to fill the office or position for the remainder of their term.
 - c. If less than a majority vote for the removal of the person in question, they will retain their office and no further petitions for their removal may be submitted for a minimum of 3 months.

Article 10.0: Amendment Procedures

1. This Charter may be amended upon the receipt by the Baronial Seneschal of a petition signed by a number of electors not less than 33% of the total number of ballots cast in the most recent Baronial Seneschal election or by the approval of two thirds of the Baronial Council.
2. Upon receipt of a completed petition, the Baronial Seneschal shall immediately forward it to the appropriate Kingdom officials for the purposes of determining conflict with Kingdom or Society Law. Amendments or revisions may only be considered if they have the approval of the proper Kingdom officials.
3. A maximum of two (2) weeks after the amendment or revision has been approved, the Baronial Seneschal shall hold a referendum on the amendment.
4. The voting period shall last two (2) weeks from the beginning of the referendum.
5. In order for the amendment to be added or revisions to be approved, it must gain a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the populace.

6. If the amendment fails to garner the necessary majority, it may not be reconsidered until the next meeting of the Council as a whole, except at the direction of the Crown or Kingdom Seneschal.

Poetry Corner

Sparring

*The guard is training
In the court of the snow fort
Jewels in the sun
Swords flash in boastful combat
Though none but pride bears a wound*



Baron and Baroness

Baron Maximilian der Zauberer and Baroness Gwenllyen the Minstrel

(Robert and Janet Scheltema)

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Baronial Officers



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Groups of the Barony



Canton of Ealdnordwuda

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Riding of Hawkland Moor

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Canton of Weald Lake

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