

FW Tidings 1994
Feb March

NOTES FROM THE CHRONICLER:

- Got a mixed bag of articles for you this issue. I went through the Chronicler's handy dandy old Steward/TI article binder and picked some out. Also it's that time of year for the Baronial Customs and Traditions to be published, so you have it and as a footnote to them, the purposed changes that Baron Christoforo and Baroness Marixsa submitted.

Also thanks to my esteemed colleagues of the Kingdom of Caid's newsletter, "the Crown Prints", I'm including four short and one full page article on various subjects that are equally applicable to us in the West Kingdom. Published unchanged are the ad announcement for Pennsic XXIII and the "Helpful Hints of Crown Tourney" article which can apply to our Crown or Coronet Tournaments too. Modified by me (by cutting out specific Caid rules or by whiting out Caid references), so they would apply to our situation more so, is the "Official Events" definition, the Chronicler Notes on Deadlines and the short article "To Those Intending to Participate in Crown Tournaments" which like the Crown article above applies equally to our Crown or Coronet Tournaments. My apologies to Duchess Natalya de Foix for modifying her articles, if I knew more or was better with words I could have re-written them myself so I wouldn't of had to use her's or if the West had a Kingdom newsletter half as good as Caid's, I wouldn't of had to change a thing.

- Well it's been fun, but this is my last newsletter. Jim Nottingham (Lord William John) is taking over and will be putting his first one out in June with all the post-April tourney information. Bye

Lee Sharpeyes

- **CANTON CHRONICLERS:** To ensure the information contained in the FWT reaches all of our populace, you may reproduce anything in any of my issues in your local newsletter. If reproducing please reproduce the entire article/item not just bits and pieces of it.

- The Far West Tidings is published bi-monthly in Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. 6 issue subscriptions are \$10.00. Send all checks or monies to the Baronial Exchequer.

- Submissions of any kind (that can be xeroxed) for future issues of the FWT are more than welcome. Any event information should reach me no later than the 25th of the month before I publish (ex: 25 Jan for the Feb issue). Send all items to the chronicler.

Canton Meetings

Chuzan: Sun: Fighter Practice, 2p. 1st Mon: Business meeting, 7p. All other Mon: Dance Practice, 7p

Eternal Wind: Thur, Business meeting 630p. Sun: Fighter Practice, 3p.

Ryūgatani: 2nd Sun: Business meeting 430p.

Warrior's Gate: Currently inactive

World's Edge: Even Tue: Business meetings. Odd Tue: Craft meetings. Sat: Armoring.

Calendar of Events

- 9 & 10 Apr: Baronial Coronet Tourney hosted by Chuzan. Location: Kadena High School, Okinawa. Autocrat: Michael Curtin (Lord Thomas MacCurtin). Troll: \$18.00 (kids 5-12 \$6.00). This will be a camping event outside the high school, with the A&S stuff inside the school. All camping equipment is available from the autocrat. Troll includes all meals from Fri evening to Sun lunch. RSVP to the autocrat at: PSC 482 Box 2953, FPO AP 96362 p: 645-4834.

- 23 & 24 Jul: Baronial War. Location: Misawa. Cost: \$5.00 w/o tents, w/tents TBD. Autocrat: Lady Amytis de Fontaine.

BARONIAL UPDATES

OFFICERS:

- Herald: Lord Bernard will be leaving the barony in the fall and would like to turn over his job in the late summer. All those interested contact him.



BARONIAL WAR

23 - 24 July 1994 Misawa A.B., Japan/Ski Hill
Site Fee: \$5.00 without tents Fee with tents to be established.
Store/Food trips will be done regularly throughout the weekend.
Armor Inspection 9 A.M. Sat
Breech, bridge, hill and melees battles scheduled. Other battles to be held as needed.
Prize Tournament 11 A.M. Sun
Prize is a chainmail hauberk made by Lord Gundolphus Vestator.
Contests
Best Stronghold/Port/Household Heraldic Display
Best Battle Cry Most Period Campsite
Also Planned:
Family Scavenger Hunt Baronial A&S Display
Bardic Circle Dancing Belly Dancing
White Elephant Auction (plse bring donations to benefit the Baronial Coffers)
Garb War Small activities

NEEDED: Trolls, waterbearers, resurrection point timers, chirurgions, Garb judges, merchants.

BE SURE TO VISIT THE 'FRIENDLY WENCH TAVERN' WHILE AT THE WAR

Rationalitas

By Duchess Natalya de Foix

Helpful Hints for Crown Tourney

I'm not going to promise that if you follow all the suggestions in this month's column, you will win Crown Tourney--but it couldn't hurt! Preparing for this event takes organization, planning, and discipline. It is a rare individual who can wake up the morning of the event after not having fought for months, drive out to the site, and win. Given that most of us are not this person, here are some things (in no particular order) that I strongly urge in the quest for the Crown.

Give your budget a very objective review. This is not an inexpensive hobby, and being on the throne adds even more costs -- not the obvious things like plane tickets, costumes, gasoline, and phone bills, but hidden costs like little gifts to event hosts, housing hosts and your court, stationery, and meals in restaurants going to and from events. You can be nicked and dimed into bankruptcy if you aren't prepared.

Give your work schedule a very objective review. Are you working on a project that requires overtime in the next six months? Are you about to be given one? Will you lose the chance at a promotion if you turn it down in favor of maybe winning Crown? Re-think that plan!

Talk over your philosophy of reigning with your consort. Make sure you both agree on important things and respect each other's differences, and that you aren't fighting with a hidden agenda for revenge; the populace isn't stupid and can sense when the monarchs are more interested in their own plans than in the welfare of the Kingdom.

Practice. I don't mean an occasional Sunday bash and chat in the park. I mean regular fighting practices. I mean that half-hour in the backyard every day doing 50 shield punches with each arm. Why? Because, as most veterans of Crown Tourney will tell you, when you get to the 8th round, you're running on empty and if you haven't built up that arm, it won't be there.

Don't start building new armor the Monday before Crown. If you want new armor, you should have started the Monday after the previous Crown! Two months before Crown, start on new weapons so you have time to get used to them. Make sure you have spare weapons that meet regulations, just in case your sword takes a fatal blow instead of giving one. One month before Crown, start overhauling and repairing your gear, working a little at a time. Start collecting extra leather thongs, hose clamps, duct tape, straps, buckles, all those little annoying things that tend to break at the wrong time.

Don't start a new costume or fighting tunic the Monday before Crown because something always comes up during that week to conspire against you, and suddenly there you are the night before... and you know the rest. It's especially important if you are making new fighting garb to have time to get used to it. If you absolutely can't break yourself of the habit of starting something new the week before, make a pact with yourself that if it isn't done by 10pm on Thursday, you'll stop sewing! And have clean back-up garb you can take instead.

Check your pavilion at least two weeks before Crown for rips, tears, loose grommets; fix it early the week of the event and then pack it up. Check your chairs for ripped seat covers and sturdiness. The Monday before Crown give that cooler a thorough cleaning (and <<shudder>> disinfecting if you didn't do it from the event a month ago!)

Discuss with your consort how you both feel about the Tourney. Crown Tourney isn't usually the best day to meet your consort's parents for the first time or to have a bunch of co-workers show up to see their first SCA event. If you have strong feelings about keeping people out of the pavilion, discuss it with your consort and/or your household. Don't be afraid to say that you need a little quiet space in the pavilion during the event. Make plans in advance for set-up assignments; this is a day that I recommend the non-fighting members of a household put up the pavilion and make it habitable (unless, of course, they always do that anyway!)

Make a list of your gear, your armor, and whatever else you are planning to take; then make copies. Tape one to the inside of the front door at eye level and check things off as you load the vehicle. I call this the "Oh, S**T" list because inevitably an hour or so after you've left home when suddenly you remember what you forgot and shout "Oh.....!"

Plan a reasonable, nutritious meal for the event. There are some fighters who simply can't eat the day of the event, but no one should go without water! Bring extra water. Bring paper towels, trash bags, and napkins.

Pack a first aid/health/beauty kit. A what? Band-aids, ointment, Bactine, a clean washcloth in a plastic bag, a bar of soap (use that empty round margarine container), a toothbrush and toothpaste, tissues, a comb and brush, deodorant. Hey, you never know.... besides you should be taking those things to tourneys anyway! Bring a change of mundane clothes (that includes clean socks and underwear) and a change of garb. Don't forget your cloak! (Again, you never know....)

Go to the bank sometime during the week and get some cash for the weekend (don't rely on finding a cash machine the morning of the event!)

Get your vehicle cleaned out thoroughly, washed, and checked (oil, tires, windshield wipers, transmission fluid) early in the week of the event. Nothing worse than being all packed and having your transportation poop out on you!

Check the directions to the site. If you have any questions, check a Thomas Guide or spend a few cents to call the autocrat -- better than being stuck in heaven-knows-where! Make several copies of the directions and put one in the glove compartment. Put one in your pocket or purse.

Get a good night's sleep during the week. Go to bed no later than 10 or 11 (use the VCR!). Drink plenty of fluid the week before, take your vitamins, eat a healthy, well-balanced diet. If you are sick the week before, stay home! (especially if you wake up the Morning Of with a fever). I know, I've heard all the stories about young fighters who think they do better when they fight sick, but remember, you've got mundane responsibilities that aren't going to take kindly to wrecking your health on the weekend.

If you can pack the vehicle the night before, do so calmly and without a conflagration between you and your traveling partner. More relationships have teetered on the brink of destruction because of Fights Over Packing the Truck.

Plan a nice, quiet evening the night before the event. Have a nice dinner. Listen to some music. Watch your favorite video (even it is "The Warlord"! Relax. If Crown Tourney is out of town for you and you can afford to stay in a motel the night before, do so (but make sure your gear is secure!). If not, set your alarm and leave plenty of time to get there.

Now the vehicle is packed and gassed up, you have cash, you have clean clothes, you have sturdy armor, you have a clean pavillion and armor, you haven't forgotten anything (because you used the checklist), you got a good night's sleep, you have a map. You're ready to go! You've done almost everything you can to insure that you are as fit as possible. The rest is up to your ability to meet the challenge of the luck of the draw.

A final note: Consorts, don't berate your fighter if s/he doesn't win. Having your favor carried in Crown Tourney is an honor in itself, and having someone risk life and limb for you on the field of combat should not be regarded lightly. Fighters, if you don't win, don't beat yourself up (someone probably already did that for you.) If you need a little time afterwards to gather your wits and regain your good humor, walk off away from the field and do it. Then wash your face (aren't you glad you brought the washcloth and soap?), take down the pavillion, put on fresh clothes, and go out to dinner! Celebrate a day hard-fought (and well-planned!)

From ✕ to Those Intending to Participate in Crown Tourney

OR
CORONET

Whether you will be fighter or consort, you should think carefully about your decision to participate in Crown Tourney. All those entering should be intending to win. You cannot say, "oh, I'll (he'll/she'll) never win, so I don't have to think about whether I can really do this".

Reigning as King and Queen ^{BARON AND BARONESS} is a huge commitment of time, money and emotional energy. For ✕ months you will be busy with kingdom ^{BARONY} events nearly every weekend. You'll be called during the week regarding Kingdom ^{BARONY} business. You'll have large phone bills, travel bills and, probably, clothing bills. You may be faced with difficult problems which your subjects will expect you to solve wisely and justly.

The Burden of the Crown ^{is} indeed heavy and one never really knows the weight until it is on one's head. There is also much joy in reigning in this fair Kingdom. ^{But} just before the Tourney, I would like you to think about the Burden and whether you are ready to shoulder it.

If you decide that you are, then you need to know about....

Membership and other Eligibility Criteria for Crown ^{CORONET} Tourney

The Board has changed the membership requirement since the last Crown. It has actually lessened somewhat. Each combatant and consort must be paid members. In the past, at least one had to be a Subscribing member and the other had to be either an associate or family member with access to Kingdom newsletter at his/her home address. Now both may be associate or family members but both must reside at an address where the Kingdom newsletter is received.

Another new twist is that membership now becomes effective when the Registrar receives a properly completed membership application and full payment. I will require verification of this for Crown list if the person has not yet received a membership card.

The individual will have the burden of proof. A member who needs such immediate proof may send, along with the membership application, a self-addressed, stamped blank post card. The Registrar will return it with verification of membership and waiver status.

By the time we have ✕ all fighters will be required to have the blue membership card indicating they have signed the new waiver form (or the above verification from the Registrar that the new waiver is on file).

If either of you are an associate or family member, I'd also appreciate it if you would include the legal name of the person who is the subscribing member with whom you or your consort lives. It will also help if you include a copy of your verification postcard (as described above) if you do not yet have your membership card. Your name may not appear on the Registry printout for me to check your membership.

These two items will save us both some phone calls and frustration but are not required in the Law.

Pennsic War XXIII

Pennsic War XXIII will be held August 13-21, 1994 at Cooper's Lake Campground, 205 Currie Rd, Slippery Rock PA 16057 in the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands. The autocrat is Baron Bran Trefonnen (Scot Woodward Myers), P.O. Box 2981, Davidson, NC 28036.

The event starts officially at 8:00 AM on Saturday, August 13, and ends at 5:00 PM on Sunday, August 21, and is sponsored by the East and Middle Kingdoms. Land allotment is Saturday, August 6. Checks are not accepted by the Troll, so please bring cash or traveller's checks. Photo ID with proof of age will be requested for admittance. Minors under 18 are not admitted unless accompanied by parent or court-appointed legal guardian. Please note that Pennsylvania law does not recognize notarized legal guardian documents. Pets (other than seeing-eye dogs) are not permitted on site.

For information on land allotment, please send SASE with 29 cents postage to Viscount Sir Edward Ziphron of Gendy c/o E.F. Morrill, P.O. Box 2475, New York, NY 10108. The deadline to request maps and information is May 1, 1994. Final land requests must be postmarked by June 30, 1994.

From the NEWSLETTER Staff

I type for the ^{N/L}, so I get a chance to see the production process first-hand almost every month. Right now I'm looking at a envelope from a ^{BARON} Officer containing an article for publication--and the envelope is post-marked January 25th, which you know (if you read the Chronicler's columns and the back page) is the submission deadline itself. It seemed to me after some careful thought that the reason articles do not arrive when they should is because many folk apparently don't understand technical publication language, so hopefully you will find the following definitions useful:

Deadline: a limit in real time before which something must be finished. Which means your article must be mailed before the 25th of a month. I know that most of you can read well enough to get to Crown Tourney on the right day, so why can't you read well enough to see the days on the calendar before the 25th? OK, here's a simple exercise. Find the box with "25" on your calendar. Count back 5 days (time allowed for mail delivery) to the 20th or 19th (if the 20th is a Sunday). Take a red pen and write "Mail to ✕ " in it. Wasn't that easy? Now you know when to put your submission in the mail, don't you?

Legible: capable of being read. Which means someone else besides you can read it. You know if your spelling or handwriting isn't up to par, so how about having someone (even a non-SCA person) read your article/letter/poem before you send it?

Telephone: an electronic device for sound reception at a distance. If you have a question about your article, call the Chronicler (not before ✕ am or after ✕ pm). If you are having trouble meeting the deadline (see above), call when you start to sink, not ✕ pm on the 25th. If you get a call from the Chronicler, have the courtesy to return it; he can't print what he can't read (see legible above).

Responsibility: having a duty or obligation; also an odorless, colorless state of being which can cause your reputation to smell and turn black if you fail to fulfill said duties or obligations. If you are an officer or autocrat who is responsible for sending information to the Chronicler, SEND IT IN AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

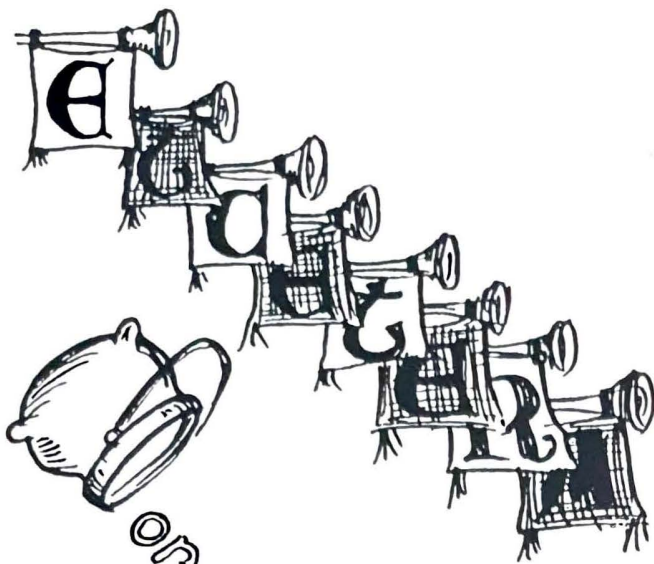
"Official" Events: There seems to be some confusion about this. I have received a number of questions. We no longer use the term "official event".

Any event publicized to at least the membership of the branch is a Society event. It must be sponsored by a branch of the Society and be conducted according to Society rules.

However, "formal actions and announcements which have long-term impact on the Society may occur only at Society events for which the date, time and place have been published in advance in the... Kingdom ^{BARONY} newsletter" (pg 3, Corpora). The Society Seneschal's Handbook for Kingdom Seneschals explains that these actions can only take place at events which are on the Kingdom ^{BARONY} Calendar and published in the newsletter.

These ^{BARONAL} formal actions and announcements are awards, advancement of branches and the announcing of Law changes.

So, if your event is not in the KINGDOM NEWSLETTER ^{OR THE FAR WEST TIDINGS}, you may still hold it but it will be a local event at which the Crown may not give awards nor announce Law changes.



Part I: Kingdom of the West
by Mistress Aelfwynn Gyrthesdohtor,
Vesper Principal Herald
And Count Master Frederick of Holland,
Banner Herald

(Authors' note: This article was written on two weeks' notice, and the anecdotes contained herein are not complete, nor, necessarily, accurate. Corrections and/or assassins should be sent to the responsible parties – the editors, not the authors.)

The Awards, Grants, and Patents of Arms in the Kingdom of the West are the same as those in the other Kingdoms of the Known World. The first Order to be established in the Society was the Order of Chivalry, with the knighting of Ardral Argo Ver Kaeysc at the first tournament in May I. There was no King, but the other fighters there had adopted knightly personas, and they felt that, as Ardral fought as well as they did, he should be a knight as well. The Order of the Laurel was the second Order. The first Masters, Alfonso di Castile and Beverly Hodghead, were admitted at Twelfth Night, in the year II; Master Beverly participated in the first tournament and he is still a very active and very knowledgeable man. The OL originally recognized outstanding achievements both in service to the Kingdom and in the arts and sciences, but when the Order of the Pelican was created by the Board of Directors in October VII, the Laurel became an Order recognizing primarily artistic excellence. Both Grants and Awards of Arms were established by the Crown of the West at Twelfth Night in the year III.

The Kingdom of the West has a number of armigerous orders. The Order of the Leaf of Merit was established by Their Royal Majesties Jean de la Grand 'Anse and Ellen of the Gleaming Star in the year VI to recognize service and achieve-

ments in the arts at a level somewhat below that of the Order of the Laurel. The first recipient of the OLM was Ellen Cross Quills, a particularly energetic and well-beloved lady. The award did little to slow her down, and she is now a Mistress of the Pelican. The emblem of the OLM is a single laurel leaf – one leaf of the wreath of the Order of the Laurel. The current maker of the OLM pendants is Baron Gerhard Kendal of Westmoreland; ironically he has never received the OLM, but he does have every other award given by the Crown of the West for activities other than fighting.

Over the years the Leaf of Merit came to be considered primarily an award given for service to the Kingdom, so the Order of the Rose Leaf was established by Their Royal Majesties Christopher of Hoghton and Esmirelda Dancingstar in March XIV to recognize equivalent achievement in the arts and sciences. The emblem of this Order is a single rose leaf. Three of the four recipients of this new award are now members of the Order of the Laurel, and Gruen der Spitzenkloppler, the first member, was admitted to the OL the day after she received the ORL.

The Order of the Knights of the Silver Molet was created by King Henrik of Havn, Part IV, at Twelfth Night VIII as an enhancement in the Chivalry to honor the knights of the West who most fully achieve and display the ideals of honor, chivalry, courtesy, and service. The first two knights to receive the KSM were Sir Bela of Eastmarch and Sir Robert of Dunharrow; admitted since have been Earl Sir Kevin Perigryne, Count Sir Stefan de Lorraine, Duke Sir Henrik of Havn, Duke Sir Siegfried von Hoeflichkeit, Sir Elriin of Hrassvelg, and Sir Loren sur la Roche. These eight knights are exemplary among the more than 70 members of the Order of Chivalry in the West. The Knights of the Silver Molet have the privilege of bearing the badge of their Order, being Argent, on a pile gules an antique crown Or, as an augmentation of arms and as a cloak of honor, and they may also wear rowelled spurs. They form the Honor Guard of the King and Queen of the West, and are traditionally called upon to escort the Crown Prince and Princess to their Coronation.

Non-armigerous awards given in the West include the Queen's Order of Grace and the Queen's Cypher. The QOG was established by Queen Ruth in AS VI; it is given by the Queen to those who display exceptional chivalry and courtesy. The emblem of the QOG is a pendant in the form of a crowned rose. The first pendants were made by Mistress Johanna von Griffenhurst, now of Caid, who cast them in plaster and painted them. They were very fragile, and surviving pendants are highly valued. The Cypher was first awarded in the year IX by Queen Lorna of Leeds, now a resident of Caid. This award is given by the Queen to those who have given her considerable personal service. The recipients of the QC wear the cypher of the Queen who gave the award. Since this is an award for personal service to the Queen, one individual may receive several Cyphers, and several ladies in the West are nearly toppled by the true weight of service when they display all their honors.

The Muckin' Great Clubbe was first awarded to Henrik of Havn, the second knight of the Society and six times King of the West, at the first tournament in May I. The MGC is given for ferocity on the field – not for winning, not for skill, certainly not for common sense, just for ferocity. The Clubbe itself is a magnificent club of polished wood with a ten-inch spike driven through it. The polish must be maintained by the holder of the Clubbe by the application of a pound of wax (well, that's what they say) before he or she passes it on to another fighter who displays like ferocity. One lady fighter, Vicountess Tasmin of the Raven Tresses, received the MGC for donning her armor and fighting off her rescuers after she had been abducted.

WEST



Or; within a laurel wreath
vert, a crown dancetty of
three vert voided Or

The Olde Battered Helm receives considerably less gentle, if not less aesthetic, care from its holder. The OBH is awarded for superiority in the art of dying, and the Helm is an old blue freon-can helm, battered by much service, with a sword blade driven through it. The recipient is expected to mark the Helm with live steel in the presence of witnesses before he or she passes it on. The first holder of the OBH was Count Sir Baron Stefan de Lorraine, who also holds the coveted ETC, in the year VIII. Countess Patrice di Couer Fidel received it during her reign as Queen for fainting when her champion was defeated in a live chess game; several fighters have been given the OBH for dying so realistically that their opponents were upset. The OBH is generally passed on at Coronations and the MGC at Crown Tournaments. The holders of these awards choose their successors carefully.

The Order of the Wooden Spoon is a long-established Order for excellence in the culinary arts. It is given to winners of the Wooden Spoon competitions held at Kingdom events. The first award was given to Mistress Rima of Rockridge in May VI; a number of citizens of the West hold double spoons.

Concerning Consistency or Ignorance is Bliss

By CARIADOC OF THE BOW

One of the things I enjoy about SCA events is the opportunity to be in persona—to act and speak as the medieval person I am pretending to be. In discussing the subject with other members of the Society, one issue that is often raised is the problem of consistency. How, it is asked, can one function as a medieval person at an event? Time travel is not a medieval idea, so how can one medieval person interact with others from hundreds of years before and after his time? How can I, as a North African from 1100 AD, learn Italian dances from the sixteenth century or cook from a fifteenth-century English cookbook?

What is wrong with all of these questions is that they confuse what I know with what my persona knows. I know that my wife's persona is several hundred years later than mine. My persona knows only that his lady wife is a foreigner. David knows that the gentleman in the starched ruff is from the sixteenth century. Cariadoc knows, having been told, that the gentleman is from a Frankish tribe called the English. Cariadoc also knows that, like most other Franks, the gentleman in question does not face towards Mecca to pray, does not wear a turban, and does wear funny clothes. None of that is in any way inconsistent with what Cariadoc knows of the world—foreigners are like that.

Cariadoc comes from a culture far from the SCA mainstream, so it is easy for him not to know the difference between a tenth-century Englishman and a sixteenth-century Englishman. But while the average SCA persona may not be quite as ignorant of other people's times and places, he is still much closer, in that regard, to Cariadoc than to David. Most medieval people did not know very much history or geography, and much of what they did know was wrong. If you meet a stranger who is wearing odd clothes, it is much more natural to assume that he is from a distant country, or even from a part of your own country where local styles are a bit unusual, than that he is from a different century.

One obvious response to this is that Cariadoc does not have to recognize sixteenth-century clothes in order to know that the gentleman he has just met is from the sixteenth century—after all, the gentleman has just responded to my query of "what are you" by answering "a sixteenth-century Englishman." But this is an inconsistency that comes not from being in persona but from being out of persona. Real medieval people did not start conversations with strangers by asking them what century they were from. All we have to do in order to avoid problems with temporal inconsistency is to talk as our personae instead of about them—and not mention any dates.

This brings up a related point—conversation. Some people seem to assume that, in order to be in persona, you must spend most of your time talking about current events—“have you heard the latest news about the crusade/Henry VIII/the Norman Conquest?” If so, then conversing for more than a few minutes would require quite a lot of specialized knowledge, and a conversation among personae from different times and places would rapidly become either obviously inconsistent (“What crusade/Henry who/what’s a Norman?”) or very confusing.

But consider, for a moment, your ordinary twentieth-century conversation. How much of it is about events that will appear in the history books a thousand years from now? The answer, surely, is—very little. Mostly we talk about what is happening around us or in our lives—and two people with very different personae are still attending the same event. If we do mention current events, they are likely to be something like the latest Welsh border raid or last year’s bad harvest—neither of which comes attached to a date.

It is sometimes suggested that, in order to do a consistent persona, one would have to talk only with others from the same time and place. One wonders how medieval travellers managed. When Ibn Battuta, a fourteenth-century North African, travelled through Anatolia and Southern Russia to India, where he spent several years as one of the chief judges of Delhi, did he have trouble maintaining a consistent persona? The people he travelled among were as foreign to him as my fellow feasters are to me—yet somehow he managed to interact with them while remaining himself. Indeed his experience, like mine, seems to have been that strangers are often more interesting to talk with than people from the next village over.

A different sort of consistency problem is raised by the institutions of the Society itself. Knights, Dukes, Seneschals, Knight Marshals, Masters of the Laurel and Pelican—how do all of these things fit into Cariadoc’s world? And, equally puzzling, how does he fit into them—what is a Berber doing marshalling a tournament or ruling a Kingdom full of Englishmen, Vikings, et multae caetera?

The answer, again, is that I am obviously a foreigner. The Middle Kingdom is not the Maghreb. It is not much stranger for a North African Berber to be Earl Marshall of the Middle Kingdom, as I was many years ago, than for another North African Berber to be the chief Malikite Judge of the city of Delhi in India. It is no stranger for me to have ruled over the mingled populations of the Middle than for Robert Guiscard de Hauteville, a Norman adventurer, to have ruled over the medley of Moslems, Byzantines, Italians, and Jews inhabiting what was to become the Norman Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. The customs by which the Middle Kingdom chooses its kings are indeed very odd—they will make a fine traveller’s tale for my hearers to scoff at, if I ever make it back to the Maghreb.

Another problem that some people see with being in persona is the problem of being stuck with your persona’s quarrels. How can we conduct a civilized event if Vikings and Celts, Normans and Saxons, Guelfs and Ghibbilenes,

Saracens and Crusaders, feel obliged to kill each other in the middle of the dance floor? Is it not necessary, in order to conduct our affairs in relative quiet, to impose an ahistorical ban on period persona violence?

The simple answer is that such a ban is not in the least ahistorical. In period, “enemies” interacted peaceably quite a lot of the time. The Irish and the Norse may have had their little troubles, but that did not keep them from trading, allying, and intermarrying. One of my favorite bits in the memoirs of Usamah ibn Munqidh, a Syrian Emir who was an older contemporary of Saladin, is the part where he is trying to avoid offending a Frankish friend while turning down the friend’s offer to foster Usamah’s son. One has the impression that Usamah is about as eager to have his son fostered among the Franks as a nineteenth-century Englishman would be to have his son raised by cannibals in darkest Africa—but, being unwilling to say so, he politely explains that, much as he appreciates the offer, the boy is the apple of his mother’s eye, so . . . Moslems and Christians might fight to the death on the walls of Acre, but in Norman Sicily they got along well enough—so well that one of the most famous of the successors of the Norman Kings, the Holy Roman Emperor Frederic II, was suspected by some contemporaries of being a closet Moslem.

Nothing I have said here answers the question of whether being in persona is more fun than other ways of enjoying the Society. Nor have I said much about the techniques by which one convinces oneself and others that one is, for the moment, a medieval person. Both are subjects I have discussed elsewhere. But I hope I have convinced you that there is no inherent impossibility, no glaring inconsistency, in attending an event as a medieval person at a medieval feast rather than a twentieth-century hobbyist at a costume party. ♣

Cariadoc of the Bow (Duke, KSCA, OL, OP) is a North African Berber, c. 1100 AD whose interests include Islamic persona, storytelling, jewelry, and cooking. *David Friedman* (4919 S. Dorchester, Chicago, IL 60615) is currently a faculty fellow in Law and Economics at the University of Chicago Law School.



A Little Can't Hurt...

The Known World looks very different when viewed through my eyes. I am a herald, fighter, artisan, and musician. I have held high office. I have lived in four kingdoms and have visited even more. I am well known in many places. I am also an alcoholic.

I have been reluctant in the past to discuss this subject with SCA friends; it is not an easy thing to explain. Alcoholism is a disease, and it is a very complex disease. It cannot be cured, but it can be arrested. The most successful treatments include abstinence from alcohol (and other drugs), and involvement in Alcoholics Anonymous.

I used to think that I was the only AA member floating around the SCA. Time has proven me wrong. I've met other AA people in the society, and there have even been AA meetings pulled together at big events, like the one on Thursday night at TYC. Yes, there are AA members and other non-drinkers in the SCA; we exist however invisible.

I got involved in AA after being in the SCA for less than a year. At first, I was going to quit the SCA because I felt very uncomfortable with all the drinking that went on (trying not to drink when surrounded by drinking is not easy). My friends in AA actually talked me out of that, pointing out that I could easily avoid those SCA revels and post-revels which bothered me. I was having fun in the SCA; my friends realized that and urged me to try to retain the parts of the SCA which I enjoyed. I listened to them and gave the SCA a chance.

I have a hard time at big camping events like wars and overnight tourneys. Even though I've been in AA many years now, I still get uncomfortable around partying. Put yourself in my shoes for a second: how would you feel watching everyone else drink? I feel left out and sometimes very envious. I choose not to drink today because I know that active alcoholism is a fatal affliction. It's really simple not to drink; all I have to do is not pick up a drink, but sometimes something as simple as that is damn hard.

One Pennsic was so terrible for me that I almost stopped going to wars. I didn't have my own car to get off-site to a meeting, and I didn't have enough change in my pocket to make a phone call to the AA answering service in Butler. I was still newly sober then, and I hadn't yet told any of my friends about my alcoholism. There was no one to talk to, and no where to go where I felt comfortable. I wandered about at night, looking in at encampments and all the partying. I ended up going to bed early a lot.



Since then, I have never repeated my mistake. I have always made sure that I had provisions to make an AA phone call, get off-site to a meeting, or at least have someone to talk to at night when all the partying is going on. Sometimes, my precautions fall flat for me; there are still many events where I go to bed early. (Trying to go to bed early at an event is like trying to fall asleep in a high-school cafeteria. I often wish autocrats would set aside a portion of camp for people who want peace and quiet at night.)

I was at an overnight event just this week-end. It was an event I could have lived without, but I currently hold an office and had to go. I was invited to a party and informed that drinks were provided. I asked if non-alcoholic drinks were included in the provisions, and was told that if I wanted non-alcoholic stuffs, I would have to bring my own. Mind you, these people had good reason to celebrate since their head of household received a

peerage at this event; on the other hand, to throw a party with only alcohol provided was a discourtesy to me and every other non-drinker invited.

Some people are very proud of their home-brews and want everyone to appreciate their efforts. I'm afraid I've insulted a few folks by declining their offers of liquefaction. I know they mean to be friendly, but I've had many goblets thrust into my hands without warning. Even after my protestations, an awful lot of people ask me to go ahead and try just one sip, that a little can't hurt.

Let me tell you something. A little *can* hurt. Just the smell gets my addicted metabolism running wild. Listen, folks, I'm still addicted even though I choose not to drink today. For the likes of me, there is no such thing as "just a little." For me, it's all or nothing. That's what it means to be addicted. It was not easy for me to stop drinking. (Someone once asked me what it was like to stop my alcohol habit. I told them to try to stop breathing for a few weeks, and they'd have an idea.)

So this is what it has been like for me. On paper, it may sound a bit grim, perhaps even a little desperate, but it's really not like that most of the time. As I have accumulated time in AA, I have gotten better at being comfortable at events. However, I am often disturbed by the disregard and lack of courtesy that exists toward non-drinkers in the SCA. If the SCA were just a drinking club, I wouldn't belong. It would be nice, though, for those of us who don't drink, if the rest of the Knowne World would develop better and more courteous manners concerning their alcohol usage.

Let me wrap up by saying a few words about the typical alcoholic; there is no such thing as a typical alcoholic. Alcoholism, like rape, does not discriminate. Alcoholics are doctors, lawyers, housewives, policemen, secretaries, engineers, bums, students, and occasionally, even members of the SCA.

What did medieval alcoholics do? History is silent about their fates, but we can fill in the gaps. They died of alcoholism, good gentles, they died. †

Editor's Note

While the author would like to maintain anonymity, you may write to "Author," c/o Johanna Meyer-Mitchell, 1738 Endriss Dr., Martinez, CA 94553. Mail addressed in this manner will be passed on, unopened, to the author. Please remember that the opinions stated in this article are those of the author, and should not be mistaken for precepts from Alcoholics Anonymous. However, for more information on alcoholism, feel free to contact the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, NY, NY, 10163, or your local council on alcoholism.



PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BARONY'S CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

The following are changes proposed to the Customs and Traditions of the Barony of the Far West. They are being made in the hopes of clarifying the basic rationale of the Arts Coronet Tourney and Martial and Arts Championships. They are also being made in order to update some areas to meet kingdom law.

III. Duties and Responsibilities of the Coronet.

B. (addition) The position of Baronial Martial or Arts Champion, being deemed such a conflict, should the champion achieve the Coronet at the tourney following his/her winning of the championship, he/she shall surrender said championship to second place winner of the event. Consorts holding a championship shall be equally bound.

X. Events in the Barony

A. (change in date) There shall be two Baronial Coronet Tournaments and investitures per Society year. They shall be held as close as possible to the middle of October and the middle of April.

2. (change of wording) There shall be a Baronial Championship Tourney held following the Baronial Coronet Tourney or on the Sunday of the event.

3. (addition) When the Baronial Coronet Tourney is martial, the Championship Tourney shall be Arts and Sciences. When the Baronial Coronet Tourney is Arts and Sciences, the Championship Tourney shall be martial.

a. Each champion shall serve for a year unless winning the coronet or becoming consort and both champions shall stand at court as befits their high honor.

b. Champions shall be styled Baronial Martial Champion and Baronial Arts Champion respectively.

F. (addition) Baronial Events shall be submitted to the Page to be listed as official West Kingdom events.

XI. Coronet Tourney

A. (word change) The Baronial Coronet Tourney shall be rotated among the groups in as much as is feasible. No group may host it twice in a row and the hosting group must be able to enter at least five (5) competitors for the Coronet. (change from "field").

B. (deletion - "usual") The order for Coronet Tournaments shall be to alternate between standard heavy weapons list and an arts and sciences tourney.

C.1. (change 2-1 month per kingdom law) Both must have been residents of the Barony for at least one (1) month and promise to remain so during their reign should they win.

F. (a lot of changes and some additions) If the tourney is arts and sciences, certain conventions must be met. They are -

1. (change) The arts and sciences tourney shall be open to all arts and sciences of the middle and current middle ages.

2. (addition) There shall be a minimum of 10 categories, including miscellaneous arts and sciences categories.

3. Entrants shall enter no more nor less than five (5) entries, at least one of which needs to be an art and one a science.

3. No more than two entries may be entered in any broad category, nor more than two in any subcategory.

3. (number change from 2. Change of word "created") Entries for the arts and sciences competition shall have been completed while the competitor is in residence...

This concludes the changes and additions to the Baronial Customs and Traditions as proposed by Baron Christoforo etc. and Baroness Harixsa.

Customs and Traditions of the Barony of the Far West

Being a compendium of the customs and traditions of the current middle ages as they are practiced in Their Occidental Majesties' Palatine Barony of the Far West.

Introduction

The customs and traditions written down in this book were first established during the era of Their Excellencies Alwyn and Rhiannon, the founding Baron Palatine and the founding Baroness Far West. Their Excellencies believed it to be necessary to the welfare of the Far West that the customs and traditions be preserved in writing, that future generations might know and respect the legacy they receive. This revision was made by Edward and Marixsa, Palatine Baron and Baroness of the Far West, on February 11, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992).

These customs and traditions establish the foundation upon which the SCA has been built in the Far West. They support all our efforts to re-create the Middle Ages as they should have been, an era filled with grace, honor, nobility, and courage; devoid of the baseness which haunts man's existence.

These customs and traditions also serve as a binding force to unite the far-flung branches of the Far West through a commonality of practice and belief.

I. The Law

A. The word of the Crown is law.

B. The Palatine Barony shall be held as a fief of Their Occidental Majesties, and be subject to the laws of the West Kingdom, the Corpora and By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the United States Constitution, and any local or national mundane laws as should apply.

II. Territorial Charter

A. The title of the fief shall be "the Palatine Barony of the Far West," as created by Their Majesties Jade and Anastasia on June 20, A.S. XXII (c.e. 1987).

B. The geographic area of the Barony shall be Japan, Korea, The Philippines, Guam, and Diego Garcia, the British Indian Ocean Territory. Other territories may be added by royal grant.

C. The right to sit on the Baronial thrones and rule the Barony in the name of the Crown shall be determined twice each Society year by Coronet Tournaments.

D. The victor in the Coronet Tourney shall be styled the Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West; his/her consort shall be styled the Baron/ess of the Far West. No other differences in rank, duties or obligations shall exist except as provided herein under XIII.C and XII.G.

E. The Coronet shall be construed to refer to either or both of the Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West and the Baron/ess of the Far West.

III. Duties and Responsibilities of the Coronet

A. The Coronet of the Far West shall fulfill their duties as contained in the Corpora and By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of the West Kingdom, and according to the wishes of the Crown.

B. The Coronet may hold any office(s) within or without the Barony, save that of Baronial Seneschal, so long as the responsibilities and duties of such office(s) do not conflict with the obligations and duties inherent in the Coronet.

C. The Coronet shall act to the best of their ability as the chief examples of chivalry, courtesy, and grace for the people of the Barony.

D. The Coronet shall:

1. Represent and be the advocate of the Baronial populace to the Crown of the West;
2. Encourage special care in the extension of hospitality and welcome to new and prospective members of the Barony;
3. Encourage and promote the arts, sciences, and martial arts of the current middle ages;

4. Serve on such courts and boards as are deemed necessary by the Crown of the West;
5. Swear fealty to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing;
6. Accept fealty from the subjects of the Crown in the Barony on behalf of the Crown of the West;
7. Report to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing, as to the status of the Barony at each coronation;
8. Recommend to the Crown of the West those who, through their achievements and/or service, are worthy of recognition;
9. Recognize their predecessors for their services as Baron and Baroness of the Far West; and
10. Encourage and support the officers of the Barony and recommend their replacements to the kingdom officers and Crown as the need arises.

IV. Specific obligations of the Coronet

A. The Coronet must be residents of the Barony and reside within the Barony throughout their term on the Baronial thrones.

B. The Coronet must be present at their Coronet Tourney, their investiture, and the Coronet Tourney and investiture of their successors.

C. The Coronet must maintain membership in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., during their tenure on the Baronial thrones.

V. Rights and privileges of the Coronet

A. The Coronet may make such awards as shall be specifically delegated to them by the Crown of the West.

B. The Coronet shall have the right to establish and make non-armigerous awards and honors specific to the Barony to acknowledge the skills and service of its populace. They shall consult first with the Golden Peach Pursuivant and the Vesper Principal Herald of the West, to insure that award names and tokens are properly used.

C. The Coronet shall have the right to present Baronial awards and honors to members of the populace.

D. The Coronet shall have the right to receive and make use of gifts to the Barony for the use of the Coronet, and to preserve such gifts for the Barony.

E. The Coronet shall have the right to receive and keep such personal gifts as may be presented to them.

VI. Failure to serve as the Coronet

A. Should either the Baron or Baroness, through no fault of his/her own, be unable to attend the Coronet Tourney and Investiture of his/her successors, the one who attends the event shall perform the necessary functions of both to maintain a smooth transfer. In such a case, the departing Baron or Baroness shall be considered to have fulfilled his/her obligations to the Barony and Coronet and shall be considered to have completed his/her tenure.

B. Should either the Baron or Baroness be unable for whatever reason to fulfill his/her term in office, he/she must abdicate by writing to the Baronial Seneschal, Crown, and other member of the Coronet.

C. In case of an abdication, specific measures to maintain the Coronet shall apply, namely:

1. Should either the Baron or Baroness abdicate, the other shall assume the duties of both for the remainder of their tenure, regardless of which is the Palatine Baron/ess. The remaining member of the Coronet may not elect to take a new companion to share the Coronet;
2. Should both the Baron and Baroness abdicate, the Baronial Seneschal shall immediately contact the Crown of the West to determine which of two courses of action should apply:
 - a. The preceding Baron and Baroness may be asked by the Crown to serve the remaining portion of the reign, or the Crown may appoint the Baronial Seneschal vicar. If a vicarage is established, no awards may be given out or courts held by the Vicar.
 - b. If the Crown wishes, a new Coronet Tourney shall be held as soon as possible, which shall be presided over by at least two of the three offices of Baronial Seneschal, Baronial Herald, and Baronial Marshal; the victor of this list will be invested and serve out the tenure of the failed Coronet regardless of the time remaining.

D. Should either the Baron or Baroness leave the Barony for more than a month without contacting the Baronial Seneschal during that time, this shall count as failure and de facto abdication.

E. Should abdications be brought about through no fault of the abdicating Baron or Baroness, their successors shall determine if they should be recognized for their time on the throne.

VII. Baronial Officers

A. The officers of the Barony shall be:

1. Seneschal;
2. Herald (Golden Pearch Pursuivant);
3. Marshal;
4. Minister of Arts (may combine with Minister of Sciences);
5. Minister of Sciences (may combine with Minister of Arts);
6. Chronicler;
7. Exchequer;
8. Chirurgurgeon;

B. The Coronet may create other offices as shall be needed. Any new offices coming under the auspices of one of the offices mentioned above shall be administered as an adjunct deputy position to that office and report to that officer.

C. Baronial officers will report to their kingdom superiors on a schedule as set by the kingdom officer, and monthly to the Coronet, with a copy being sent to the Seneschal for the files.

D. Baronial officers will oversee the activities of their deputies as well as the local officers, who will report to them.

E. In as much as is possible, the Baronial roster of officers should be dispersed throughout the Barony; all should attempt to attend Coronet lists and investitures.

F. Local branches shall have at least a Seneschal, a Herald, and either a Marshal or Arts and Sciences officer. If the local group lacks a reeve, the Seneschal shall perform that function.

G. The Baronial Chronicler is responsible for publishing the *Far West Tidings*, the Baronial newsletter, on a regular basis.

VIII. Rights and duties of the populace

A. The populace of the Barony has the rights accorded to it by The Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

B. The populace may display Baronial heraldry as described in Section XV herein.

C. Those of the populace bringing small children or pets to events or other functions are responsible for their care and behavior.

D. The populace should refrain from smoking in the confines of the feast hall, other places where there is little ventilation, or at court.

E. The populace should exercise care that blatant mundanities are not on obvious display.

IX. Geographic divisions within the Barony

A. The Barony shall consist of several local groups which shall be styled ports, strongholds, cantons, or colleges. The first two designations are reserved for military bases, the third for civilian-based groups, the last for groups based in local colleges or universities.

B. Each branch must meet the requirements for it established in Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

C. The officers of each branch, regardless of designation or location, will report to their Baronial superiors on a schedule set by the Baronial officer.

D. When an existing group is incorporated into the Barony, it shall become a port, stronghold, canton, or a college.

E. Whenever possible, the Baronial Seneschal, with the approval of the Coronet, will designate a Society contact person for an area which has yet to be developed.

X. Events within the Barony

A. There shall be two Baronial Coronet Tournaments and Investitures per Society year. They shall be held as close as possible to the end of February and the end of August.

1. The competition for the Coronet will be held in the morning on Saturday, and the investiture of the victor at a ceremony that evening or the next morning, as the victor chooses.

2. There shall be a Baronial Championship Tourney held on Sunday of the Baronial Coronet event.

C. The Barony was founded on June 20, A.S. XXII (1987). There shall be a Baronial event to celebrate this anniversary. The event should be held as close as possible to June 20.

D. Petitions to hold Baronial events must be submitted to the Coronet with sufficient time to allow decisions and plans to be made.

E. Groups planning to hold a local event are responsible for notifying the local and Baronial chronicler of such plans so that they may be sufficiently publicized.

XI. Coronet Tourney

A. The Baronial Coronet Tourney shall be rotated among the groups in as much as is feasible. No group may host it twice in a row, and the hosting group must be able to field at least five (5) competitors for the Coronet.

B. The usual order for Coronet Tournaments shall be to alternate between standard heavy weapons list and an arts and sciences tourney.

C. Competitors for the Coronet and prospective consorts must meet the following requirements:

1. Both must have been residents of the Barony for at least two (2) months, and promise to remain so during their reign should they win;
2. Both must be paid members of the Society, one must be a sustaining member;
3. Both must possess a working knowledge of the structure of the SCA, the West Kingdom, the Palatine Barony of the Far West, and the offices of the Coronet;
4. Both must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the Tourney. (The Coronet may choose to waive the age factor. This decision shall be made on a case-by-case basis providing the gentle is armigerous. Under no circumstances shall both be under 18);
5. Neither can be already a landed noble (the current Coronet, territorial Barons, prince/esses, kings or queens) at the time of the Tourney; and
6. Both must be otherwise acceptable to the Coronet.

D. The victor of the Coronet Tourney and his/her consort are styled "Lord and Lady of the Far West" until their Investiture.

E. If the Tourney is standard SCA heavy weapons, the Coronet may apply such specifics as it wishes provided they do not violate Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of the West Kingdom, or this document.

F. If the Tourney is arts and sciences, certain conventions must be met. They are:

1. The arts and sciences tourney must consist of at least eight (8) categories, including calligraphy, illumination, embroidery, bardic arts, dance, chess, heraldry, and costuming. Others may be added at the behest of the Coronet.
2. Entries for the arts and sciences competitions shall have been created while the competitor is in residence, and never previously submitted to a Baronial or Kingdom arts and sciences competition.
3. Specific details of the Tourney will be published in the *Far West Tidings* as far in advance as possible.
4. The entries will be judged by the Coronet, those who have worn the Coronet, the Baronial Seneschal, Baronial Ministers of the Arts and Sciences, and any other qualified gentles the Coronet should choose to invite.

G. The new Palatine Baron/ess shall have the right to determine where the next Coronet Tourney shall be held.

H. In the event that a Coronet Tourney cannot be held, the Coronet will consult the Baronial Seneschal and the Crown of the West to determine the cause, and to decide if the Coronet should continue in extended rule or a vicarage should be created.

XII. Succession of the Baronial Coronet

A. The Investiture of the Lord and Lady of the Far West shall take place either in the evening of the day of the Coronet Tourney or the next morning, as they prefer.

B. The new Coronet shall swear fealty to the Crown of the West as part of the ceremony, and shall forward a written statement of same to the Crown.

C. All Baronial regalia shall be passed to the new Coronet at the time of Investiture.

D. Should either the Lord or Lady of the Far West fail to accept Investiture, the following shall happen:

1. The Tourney (regardless of whether it was a conventional heavy weapons list or arts and sciences) shall be declared null and void;
2. The Baronial Champion Tourney scheduled for Sunday morning shall be the new Coronet tourney;
3. The victor in that tourney shall be Invested immediately, and the runner up shall be Baronial Champion;
4. The gentles who failed to accept Investiture shall be banned from competing for the Coronet for a space of one year (i.e.; two Coronet Tournaments); and
5. This emergency procedure shall not interfere with the usual rotation of arts and sciences tourneys and heavy weapons lists.

E. The new Coronet shall recognize their immediate predecessors for their service to the Barony by inducting them into the Order of the Leaping Dolphin.

XIII. Baronial Awards and Honors

A. In the Palatine Barony of the Far West, there shall exist awards to recognize the skills and service of the populace. The earliest awards were established on June 20, A.S. XXII (1987) by Their Excellencies Alwyn and Rhiannon, founding Baron Palatine and Baroness of the Far West.

B. Awards shall consist of honors and membership in orders. These differ in that membership in orders can be bestowed to a person only once, while honors can be awarded time and time again.

C. The Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West shall, during his/her tenure on the throne, be the protector of all the orders of the Barony, and as such shall be awarded the recognition and status as a member of the orders.

D. The Baronial orders are:

1. The Order of the Sea Griffin. This award recognizes those who are the very ideal of what the gentry of the current middle ages should be. It was established to recognize members of the populace who have made great sacrifices of themselves in service to the Barony, who have demonstrated great courtesy, chivalry, and grace at all times, and who have achieved much in the arts and sciences. This is a polling order; no member may be inducted unless the other members are in majority agreement. Every effort should be made to contact all members of the order. A majority of the members may also approach the Coronet with a candidate; however, in such a case, the Coronet is not obligated to induct members proposed by the order itself. The order was named after the principal charge on the arms of His Excellency Alwyn, Founding Baron Palatine of the Far West. The order was created by Baron Palatine Edward and Baroness Marixa on Nov. 3, A.S. XXVI (c. 1991). A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Sea Griffin" and may append the initials "C.S.G." after his/her name. The token for the order is a silver-colored sea griffon on a red field, pendant from a yellow ribbon.

2. The Order of the Burdened Bouget. This is the Baronial service award. It was established to recognize members of the populace who have made great sacrifices of themselves in service to the Barony. A companion of this order is styled "Bearer of the Burdened Bouget" and may append the initials "BBB" after his/her name. The token for the order is a silver-colored bouget pendant from a red ribbon.
3. The Order of the Attic Helm. This is the Baronial award given to recognize fighters of high calibre. It was established to recognize members who, in addition to fighting skills, train new fighters and show chivalry on and off the field. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Attic Helm" and may append the initials "CAH" after his/her name. The token for the order is a gold colored image of a Greek helm pendant from a red and gold ribbon.
4. The Order of the Oriental Dragon. This is the Baronial award given to recognize great skills in the arts or sciences. It is given to those who both do and teach. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Oriental Dragon" and may append the initials "C.O.D." after his/her name. The token for the order is a gold-colored dragon on a billet of green jade pendant from a chain.
5. The Order of the Hibiscus. This is the Baronial award established to honor those members of the Barony who are at all times examples of courtesy and grace. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Hibiscus" and may append the initials "C.H." after his/her name.
6. The Order of the Empty Shell. This is the Baronial award established to honor those members of the Barony who have participated in the Barony's various activities thereby enriching it. This order is only given to members who are leaving the Barony. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Empty Shell" and may append the initials "C.O.E.S." after his/her name. The token of the Order is a small empty shell pendant from a blue and silver ribbon.
7. Order of the Leaping Dolphin. Realizing that the Barony has no official way of recognizing those who have in the past served as the Coronet, Baron Palatine Edward and Baroness Marixsa created this award on January 4, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992). It is given by the new Coronets at their investiture to their predecessors, and none may be inducted into the order who have not ruled as Baron or Baroness. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Leaping Dolphin" and may append the initials "C.L.D." after his/her name. Members of the order may display the Baronial badge below a baronial coronet.

E. The honors of the Barony are as follows:

1. The Ginger Flower. This honor was established by Palatine Baroness Trude and Baron Wulfric on December 5, A.S. XXII (c.e. 1987), and is presented to fighters whose prowess on the field of battle is exceeded only by their ability to die with panache and flair.
2. Baronial Gratitude. This honor was established by Palatine Baron Ulrich and Baroness Ariel in June, A.S. XXV (c.e. 1990). It is presented to those who have through some special deed or service made life easier for the Coronet.

3. Far West Support. This honor was established by Palatine Baron Edward and Baroness Marixsa on January 4, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992), to recognize continued work for the growth of the Barony in such diverse areas as autocrafting, running demos, feastcrafting or gold key and generally lending a helping hand where needed.

XIV. Baronial Heraldic Insignia and Display

A. The arms of the Palatine Barony of the Far West are: "Gules, a dolphin embowed argent naiant through a laurel wreath Or, all between three water bougets argent."

1. The Baronial arms shall not be displayed save when the Coronet is present.
2. The Baronial arms may be displayed by the Coronet as it deems appropriate.

B. The badge of the Palatine Barony of the Far West is: "A dolphin embowed argent, naiant through an annulet Or."

1. The populace may display the Baronial badge, and are encouraged to do so.
2. Baronial guards and the Baronial champion may wear a tabard "per pale Or and gules" with the badge over the left breast.

C. The ensign of the Palatine Barony of the Far West, subject to the approval of the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, is: "Gules, a dolphin embowed argent, naiant through an annulet, and a dexter tierce Or." The populace may fly the ensign of the Barony, and are encouraged to do so, at all functions.

D. Each local branch of the Barony shall register its name and device with the College of Arms. Local arms may be displayed to serve as a rallying point for the group.

1. The arms of the Stronghold of Warrior's Gate are: "Gules, a laurel wreath Or surmounted by a tower with open gates argent, issuant from a base debased Or"
2. The arms of the other branches will be listed when approved by the Laurel Sovereign of Arms.

XV. Changes to this document

A. The Coronet may make such changes, additions, and deletions as they deem appropriate after consultation with the Baronial officers and gaining the approval of the Crown of the West, and Baronial and Kingdom Seneschals.

B. Before such changes can be put into effect, they must be published in *Far West Tidings* and announced at an official event as defined by Corpora.



Baronial Tournament

Unto the Barony of the Far West

Does the Canton of Chuzan send Greetings

Let it be known throughout the Far West that the Baronial Tournament for the Palatine Barony of the Far West will be held in the Canton of Chuzan (Okinawa Japan.) This will be an arts and Science Tourney.

Date: April 8, 9 & 10 A.S. XXVIII (in the common era 1994)

Site: Kadena High School. Kadena Air Base Okinawa Japan.

Feast/site fees: The feast fee for the weekend event 6 meals no camping equipment fees is Adults \$18 for the entire weekend. Children under 12 the price is \$6. and Children under the age of five are FREE. There is no site fee.

This site has flush toilets and shower facilities. Accommodations for off island arrivals: Off island arrivals will stay with members of the Canton until the event. All tents, sleeping bags, lanterns and other camping equipment will be provided for all those arriving from off island. Visitors are asked to bring garb and entries to the tournament or armour if needed. If possible guests are asked to bring feast gear, but some is available for loans.

Reservations: may be sent to Michael Curtin (Lord Thomas MacCurtin) PSC 482 Box 2953 FPO AP 96362-2953 make checks payable to SCA Inc. Canton of Chuzan. Ph (011) 098938-5111 645-4834. Please confirm reservations by March 26 and send information about plane arrivals as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to pick up arrivals. Alternate contact Robert de Fecamp (Bruce Brown) PSC 79 Box 21451 APO AP 96364, telephone 098 - 957- 2705.

Site opens: 4:00 pm Friday, April 8

Site closes: 4:00 pm Sunday, April 10

Menus available upon request.

Cooking facilities available for culerny entries, but any special pans and ingredients need to be brought. Tables will be provided for entrants works.

This is the Far West Tidings, a publication of the Barony of the Far West of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Far West Tidings is available from the Chronicler listed on the inside cover. It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc, and does not delineate SCA policies.

Invitation for Bardic
Christmas for chivalrous behavior
Sept 15 - 2013

Year no report from chuyar.

Break
30, 31, 1 / 2, 3, 4
day watcher /

Tra Lee Gossett
DHS Kami Seya
PSC 478 Box 40
APO AF 96313-1800

MPS