



# Aurora Borealis

*Lighting up the Northern Shores Region*

Third Quarter 2015

Volume 9 Issue 2

## Upcoming Events in the Northern Shores

August 22nd  
**It Takes a Village**  
Canton of Seashire  
Halifax, N.S.

September 4th - 7th  
**Summers End**  
Canton of Ynys Y Gwaed  
Landsdowne, NS

September 11th - 13th  
**Feste du Nord**  
Canton of Artigus (incp)  
Franquelin, QC

September 18-21st  
**Siege of Castle Theo d'Ore III**  
Barony of Ruantallan  
Landsdowne, NS

October 10th  
**Fall Harvest and Masked Ball**  
Shire of Avonmore  
Havelock, NB

October 24th  
**Feste des Glaces**  
Barony Havres des Glaces  
Levis, QC

November 21st  
**Dragon Dormant Yule Feast**  
Barony of L'Ile Dragon Dormant  
Laval, QC

## Correction

In the last issue of the Aurora Borealis It was reported that Katherine Murray was the Tir Mara Champion for Arts and Sciences. It is in fact Inga Torgansdottir that is the A&S Champion.

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## Court Reports For Tir Marans.

We were graced with the presence of Their Majesties King Omega and Queen Etheldreda, who conducted court after the dinner at the Kasbah. Among the awards given out were the following:

Tygers cub to Augustine  
QOC to Mistress Zanetta Gavlinne Angioliere  
Companion of the Maunche to Lady Katherine Murray  
Court Baroncy to Lady Hedda Bonesetter

There were several awards that were not given out that day and were deferred the Baronial War camp held on June 27th.

Backlog AOA for Remy Le Bastard  
AOA for Juliotte de Castlenou D'Arry (Lilou)  
AOA for Maired Drake  
AOA for Alison nic Angus  
Ruantallan Baronial Archery Champion is Lady Miranda  
Companion of the Maunche to Greta Thorfinsdottir

Many Tir Marans attended Pennsic and were bestowed the following:

Spurius Genucius Rutilus - OTC and Silver Crescent  
Borujin Acilaldai - Master of Defence  
Fausta Xanthina - AoA  
Gareth Grey de Wilton - Court Baroncy  
Isolda of Fairmay - Maunche  
Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys - Laurel

If there are any award recipients I have missed, I apologize. The official court reports have yet to be published and I am going from memory.

### **Tir Mara Regional Championships**

The following are the regional events: when they were last held or are scheduled to be held and the current champions.

#### **Tir Mara Archery Championships**

##### **Tir Mara Rattan Championship**

Last Held in November 2014 in the Barony of Ruantallan  
Current Champion is Spurius Genucius Rutilus

##### **Tir Mara Arts & Sciences Championship**

November 21st, Barony of L'ile Dragon  
Dormant  
Current champion is Inga Torgansdottir

##### **Tir Mara Rapier Championships**

Held in June 2015 in the Shire of Avonmore  
Current champion is Rozalyn Vella

##### **Tir Mara University**

Not scheduled in 2015

\*If you are interested in running an event to house any of these championships, please contact the current champion to see if they are interested in helping with the endeavor.

If there are any other groups considering a bid for a Kingdom level event, please let us know so that we, as the Crown Principality of Tir Mara, can work together to avoid potential event conflicts.

## A little "did you know"... from the Tir Mara Web Minister

While some many already know, it has been brought to my attention that not everyone knows what has been going on by way of new advertising rules in the past few years.

At present, I am maintaining the Tir Mara website and I can't enter any event announcements until they are not just submitted to the EK website, but until they are actually up on it. No events in this kingdom are official until they are on the EK calendar.

This also means that addition information that is only advertised on FB is not considered official. This would effect stuff like tournaments and competitions and the like, they need to be entered in the announcement on a site on an EK webserver. On that note, all group websites have to be on the EK webserver.

Something a lot of people may not be aware of either, I certainly was not when I moved back to the area and tried to volunteer, is that inquiries, problems and other items concerning the use of webservices, go through the helpdesk where you fill in your info and fill out a ticket.

<http://helpdesk.eastkingdom.org/>

This is also helpful if you need to inquire about known issues, outages and the like.

Lady Mergreit van Wijenhorst

## East Kingdom Webminister Event Policies

There has been a lot of misunderstanding regarding the use of Social Media sites and how to handle the distribution of Official statements from a recognized Local branch or Office for the East Kingdom. In a nut shell, and simply put:

**No Official publication from any entity that is recognized by the East Kingdom or Society can be posted initially or solely on a non-official website.**

Additionally:

**Links posted on Social Media sites back to the official document, webpage or announcement located on the East Kingdom sanctioned site are permissible and encouraged to further publicize the information.**

I am adding into the Webminister Policies Handbook the following entry, which is an addendum to the current Handbook and effective immediately.

East Kingdom Webminister Policies v02012015 – Addendum

## **J. Official Communications**

1. Information is not considered Official unless posted on the sanctioned Local branch, Kingdom Office, or Kingdom Guild website.

**a)** Official information (on a site hosted by the East Kingdom server) may not be duplicated in another location. Links to the Official information on the website may be posted to social media or other unofficial newsgroups directing readers to the website.

**b)** Event pages posted off of the East Kingdom Server must have a link back to the official announcement on the East Kingdom Calendar.

**(1)** If no Event entry on the East Kingdom Calendar exists, the event does not carry SCA Sanction and is not protected by SCA insurance.

**(2)** Social Media Event pages may not contain or display more information than the official Event entry on the East Kingdom Calendar.

**(3)** Local practices, meetings and demonstrations do not have to be listed on the East Kingdom Event Calendar to be official. They remain listed on the Local branch official website to be sanctioned.

2. No Warranted Webminister is required to take on the responsibility for any Social Media site.

**a)** The only official entity that the Warranted Webminister must administer is the official Local branch, Kingdom Office or Kingdom Guild website that they are assigned to.

**b)** The Local branch, Kingdom Officer or Guild Head cannot force a Webminister to take a social media site under their control.

**c)** If a posting is not hosted on the East Kingdom Server, it is intrinsically Unofficial.

*<http://webminister.eastkingdom.org/index-4/policies-updates-03082015/>*

## **Announcement from Tir Mara Royal Travel Fund B.O.D.**

This October will mark the 12th year for the TMRTF. It has been a wonderful benefit, but also a lot of hard work! Through the efforts of the BOD and the many individuals who have organized fundraisers, we feel we have helped each group within Tir Mara learn the value and reward of pre-planning fundraising campaigns. To that end, we feel confident that the groups and curias of Tir Mara can take on the responsibility and record of their own fundraising efforts. As of August 31st, the Tir Mara Royal Travel Fund will be closing. All monies currently in the account will be re-distributed back to the geographic groups that raised it, minus a percentage of incurred banking fees. We will be in touch with our group representatives directly to advise them of their expected pay out. Thank you again 12 great years of helping bring EK Royalty to our glorious shores!

# From the Society Exchequer

May 25, 2015

Greetings to the Exchequers and Seneschals of the Known World!

During the past year, our organization was subject to an external audit. This audit included an evaluation of our processes, covering our record keeping from the Corporate office to the smallest branch. We have now received the finding from the audit, and the recommended changes that will need to take place in order to be in compliance.

The SCA, and all its subsidiaries are considered a large organization, and although we are a volunteer organization, we must still meet modern day accounting requirements. Some outlined changes have already been put into place, and the time has come to communicate the other required changes so that your group can be in compliance. A failure to implement the changes places all groups at risk, for we are all tied together under the SCA umbrella.

There is already an updated Society Financial Policy in place, approved at the April 2015 Board meeting. The changes in the policy that will affect all groups are listed below:

1. If you are writing a check for yourself or another related person for either a cash advance or reimbursement, it must be signed by unrelated parties.
2. If your kingdom does not already require this, bank accounts (all branches) must be reconciled monthly. The bank reconciliation/bank statements must be signed by the Seneschal (the reviewer) and the Exchequer (the preparer), and the signed copy must be sent their superiors. Quarterly reconciliations are no longer allowed and signatures are a must.
3. NMS must be submitted to your Kingdom Exchequer within 10 days of the close of the event. Your Kingdom Exchequers will be sending in their NMS reports and checks on monthly basis.
4. Failure to submit your NMS in a timely manner can cause your group to be place in suspension. NMS is considered financial reporting, and will be subject to the same criteria for reporting standards.
5. As a reminder, all signers on the bank accounts must maintain a current membership while a signatory on any bank account. Please make sure to provide membership information (membership number and expiration date) on your quarterly reports to the Kingdom/Society Exchequer.

There will be a few more changes that will be introduced at year-end. I have held off on them at this time in order for all groups to work towards achieving compliance by the deadline of July 1, 2015, the end of the 2nd Quarter.

Thank you for all your hard work and service,

Kathy Palmer  
Baroness Katherine Angelique d'Artois de Berry, OP, OL  
Society Exchequer  
exchequer@sca.org  
813-334-7201

## Officers of Tir Mara:

### Seneschal

*H.E. Alessandra Francesca di Milano*

### Exchequer

*Position currently vacant*

### Earl Marshal

*Sir Gareth Grey de Wilton*

### Badger Herald

*Position currently vacant*

### Chatelaine

*Lady Cellach Dhonn inghean Mhic an Mhadaidh*

### A&S Minister

*Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley*

### Minister of Lists

*Lady Matilda Fossoway*

### Accessibility Porter

*Sile Dhubh Mhic an Mhadaidh*

### Chirurgeon

*Dominus Eginhard d'Aix la Chapelle*

### Minister of Children

*Position currently vacant*

### Youth Marshall

*Syr Yesungge Altan*

### Waiver Secretary

*Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley*

### Web Minister

*Temporary - Lady Mergriet van Wijenhorst*

### Deputy Commander of Siege Forces and Combat Archery

*Lord Athelwulf Stealcere*

### Deputy Commander of Archery

*Lady Eadwynn aet Hraefneshyrste and Dominus Gnaeus Aurelius Andronicus*

### Deputy Commander of Thrown Weapons

*Lord Ludwig von Eisburg*

### Deputy Commander of Fence

*Lord Guthfrith Yrlingson*

### Newsletter Design and Production

*Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys*

### Deputy Clerks for Tyger Signet

*Lady Mergriet van Wijenhorst and Baroness Shadiyah al-Zahra*

## Officer Reports

Officer Reports should be submitted to both Kingdom and the Tir Mara counterparts. Officer Reports are due at the following times of year:

A&S Reports – March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1st, Dec 1st

Chatelaine Reports - April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct 15th, Jan 15

Chronicler Report – Once a year, December 15th

Exchequer Reports – April 30<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Oct 31st, Jan 30

Herald Reports

Marshal Reports – March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, Sept. 1st, Dec 1st.

MOL Report – once a year, in February

Seneschal Reports – April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 15th, Jan 15th

Web Minister Report – Once a year

Be kind to your Tir Mara officers, and file your reports in a timely fashion! Remember they have to include your reports in their reports, which are also due at the same time!

### Contribute to the *Aurora Borealis*:

The next edition of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara Newsletter, the *Aurora Borealis* is due to be available online by June 1, 2015.

All contributions for the next issue must be received no later than May 1, 2015. No submissions after that date will be accepted for the June issue.

Contributions should be sent to:

**Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys**  
**gwensca @ moonsandstars (dot) com**