



Aurora Borealis

The official newsletter of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara

Fourth Quarter 2010

Volume 5 Issue 4

New staff for the Aurora Borealis

Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys

We, the *Aurora Borealis* Newsletter Team, would like to welcome H.E. Master Godfroy de Falaise to the team as the French Translation Co-ordinator. We know that Master Godfroy will do great things in this role! I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new editor of the *Aurora Borealis* – Lady Camilla di Bruno, who will be taking over the role of Editor of the newsletter starting in October. I wish her all the best in her new role.

Upcoming Events in the Northern Shores

October 9
Tir Mara A&S/Rattan Championship
Shire of Lyndhaven
Gagetown, NB

December 18
Herne the Hunter XI
Canton of Distant Shore
Truro, NS

November 27
Alphonso X Collegium
Barony Of Ruantallan
Lyons Brook, NS

March (TBD)
Baronial Investiture Anniv.
Barony of L'ile Dragon Dormant
Quebec (site TBD)

Event dates to make note of:

October 23
EK Crown Tournament
Shire of Mountain Freehold
North Hero, VT

January 29th
Market day at Birka
Barony of Stonemarche
Manchester, NH

January 15
East Kingdom 12th night
Barony of Settmour Swamp
Livingston, NJ

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DISCLAIMER:

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NMS rules for East Kingdom

Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys

Attention all Event Stewards and would be Event Stewards! I am writing this in an effort to explain how the Non Membership surcharge (NMS) is applied to event fees. The NMS is applied to the gate fee, not the actual fee of the event. Therefore if there is a discount fee for minors it must be applied to both the on board and off board fees for the minor to qualify for the discount. Only minors (those under the age of 19) can EVER qualify for a discounted fee. Adult fees are always full price. (It's all about the offboard fees.)

SCENARIO ONE

The gate fee is 7.00. The feast is 6.00. Side board is 2.00

Adults on board = \$15.00
Adults off board = \$ 9.00
Minors under 19 on board = \$13.00
Minors under 19 off board = \$9.00
Family on board = \$40.00
Family off board = \$27.00
Children under 5 = free

In this scenario because the gate fee is 7.00 and side board is 2.00 and the price is not discounted for those under 19 (except for children under 5) there is an NMS on ALL fees. If a family of four come, then the NMS is charged on all non-members except children under the age of 5.

SCENARIO TWO

The gate fee is 7.00. The feast is 6.00. Side board is 2.00

Adults on board = \$15.00
Adults off board = \$ 9.00
Minors under 19 on board = \$13.00
Minors under 19 off board = \$7.00
Family on board = \$40.00
Family off board = \$23.00
Children under 5 = free

In this scenario, only the adults who are non-members pay the NMS. The minors do not BECAUSE there is a discounted gate fee for them (as seen by the discount in the minor off board fee as well as on board fee. If a family were to attend then only the adults (over 19) who are non-members would be charged the NMS.

Hope this helps clarify the NMS issue. For more information please see <http://www.sca.org/docs/finpolicies/NMSPolicy.pdf>

Membership in Tir Mara

Currently our membership for the Northern Shores region is as follows;

	09/10	01/10	2009	2008	2007
Ar n-eilean ne	6	5	6	10	8
Ruantallan	99	133	118	140	149
Lyndhaven	22	29	29	34	42
Havres des Glace	41	48	46	52	62
L'isle du Dragon Dormant	62	69	46	76	61
Castle Nor	5	6	16	N/A	N/A
Dragonet	11	9	24	12	17
Boise Ardent	14	12			
Total	260	311	284	334	356

Officers of the NSR:

Seneschal

H.E. Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys

Exchequer

H.E. Mistress Freya Manslayer Karlsdottir

Earl Marshal

H.E. Master Conrad Connor MacAllyn

Badger Herald

H.E. Mestress Lyanna Kernough

A&S Minister

Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley

Minister of Lists

Lady Wulfwyn

Chronicler

Lady Camilla di Bruno

Chatelaine

Vacant

Accessibility Porter

Lady Skya na Ruady

Youth Marshall

Master Gilbert the Short

Waiver Secretary

Mistress Elizabeth "Bess" Darnley

Web Minister

H.E. Mistress Zaneta Gavlinne Angiolieri

Deputy Commander of Siege Forces

Lord Guthfrith Yrlingson

Deputy Commander of Archery

Mistress Elise ferch Morgan ap Owen

Deputy Commander of Combat Archery

Lord Aethelwulf Stealcere

Deputy Commander of Thrown Weapons

Master Ludwig von Eisburg

Deputy Commander of Fence

Lord T. Tarius Britannicus

Deputy Eku Chancellor

Lady Zelina Silverfox

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H.E. Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys

Newsletter Design

H.E. Mistress Zaneta Gavlinne Angiolieri

The Tir Mara Royal Travel Fund

Mistress Zaneta Gavlinne Angiolieri

Greetings unto the glorious populace of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara. The summer season has passed all too quickly and once again preparations begin for the rest of the years events. As part of that preparation we want to remind everyone about the Tir Mara Royal Travel Fund (*formerly the Northern Shores Royal Travel Fund*) and how it works.

First, it ONLY applies to events held in Tir Mara. The East Kingdom has another Royal Travel Fund which typically covers the travel expenses of one, and only one, royal to attend events. If a royal couple travel together, only one of their fees is covered by the EKRTF. This is the very reason the TMRTF/NSRTF was created.

Second, if you have aspirations or any indication that you're event might turn into a Royal Progress and would like to assist your visiting royalty with travel expenses from the fund **PLEASE CONTACT US FIRST AND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**. I cannot stress enough how often we are contacted AFTER an invitation has already been extended and/or accepted, only to find out there are no funds available to you.

On a side note, invitations to Royals should come from your Baron/Baroness or, in the event you are not a Barony your groups seneschal, so Baron/Baroness and Seneschals please take note, you can contact us directly or remind your event stewards to contact us when you get asked to extend a Royal invitation!!!

Third, the royal travel fund is NOT a loans office! If you want to benefit from the fund you need to contribute to the fund, which means fundraising! We have made every effort to have a representative in every regional area of Tir Mara. Their contact information is available on our website. If you want to run a fundraiser, please contact them, or any of the TMRTF/NSRTF board members, BEFORE you organize your fundraiser. This will allow us to help you make your fundraiser a success, ensure that we follow up on funds and allocate them properly, and verify that you intend to represent the TMRTF/NSRTF in an appropriate manner. We encourage all areas of Tir Mara to schedule fundraisers on a regular basis, whatever you feel your area can withstand. This will ensure that when you need funds they will be available to you. Although loans from one group to another have been extended in the past, doing so makes for a lot more work in our bookkeeping, and over extends groups that *are* being proactive, groups that cannot continue to shoulder the burden for the entire Crown Principality alone.

In conclusion, the TMRTF/NSRTF has been recognized and appreciated by many Royal Couples over the last few years. We would like to see that continue as a sign of the hospitality we have become known for. We would ask that event stewards and regional curias familiarize themselves with the fund and how it works BEFORE they need it, so it's available for when they do.

Website: <http://nsrtf.sccspirit.com>

NSR Regional Championships

The following events are in need of an autocrat/event bid:

Northern Shores Rapier Championships
(for Spring 2010)

Northern Shores Archery Championships
(for Summer 2010)

Northern Shores Rattan Championship
(for Fall 2011)

Northern Shores Arts & Sciences Championship
(for Fall 2011)

*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 groups considering a bid for a Kingdom level event, please advise the populace of the region, so that we, as the Crown Principality, can work together to avoid potential event conflicts. We have a yahoo mailing group called "northprinc" to help facilitate communications across our vast region.

Contribute to the CP Aurora Borealis:

The next edition of the Crown Principality of Tir Mara Newsletter, the *Aurora Borealis* is due to be available online by January 1, 2011.

All contributions for the next issue must be received no later than December 1, 2010. No submissions after that date will be accepted for the January issue.

Contributions should be sent to:

Lady Camilla di Bruno
(chronicler@tirmara.eastkingdom.org)

Please note:

Newsletter editors reserve the right to edit content as required for space and content. We will do our best to present your contributions in full, however, some edits may be required to accommodate for limited space.

Principality - What Does It Mean?

Mistress Gwenhwyfar Dinas Emrys

For the purpose of this document, a Principality refers to a full Principality and not a Crown Principality.

A Principality is an area within a Kingdom, ruled by a Prince and Princess. The difference between a region and a Principality is that a region does not have a ceremonial representative, a collection of laws and policies, or a heraldic identifier. A Principality also has the ability for its ceremonial representatives to bestow principality level awards.

A Principality has to have the following, in order to become a Principality:

- ❖ A body of laws and policies
- ❖ Heraldry passed by the Kingdom College of Heralds
- ❖ 100 members within their borders
- ❖ All major officers positions filled (Seneschal, Exchequer, Knight Marshall, Minister of Arts and Sciences, Minister of the Lists, Chatelaine, Herald, Chronicler)
- ❖ A record of well attended events
- ❖ Sufficient members of the orders conferring Patens of Arms (Knights, Laurels and Pelicans)
- ❖ Sufficient caliber of fighters to provide appropriate competition in a Coronet Tournament.

What does this mean to YOU?

A Principality does not change the fact that we still belong to the East Kingdom. Several Principalities have stayed in their status for several years, never moving to full Kingdom status. (*The Principality of Cynagua and the Principality of the Mists, inception 1979, Tir Righ around 2003.*) The populace of the Principality would still have the same rights and privileges as any other person residing in the East Kingdom, and we still follow the same rules and regulations as the East. People of the Principality should not feel that we are betraying the East Kingdom, or that the East Kingdom is trying to get rid of us. Becoming a Principality adds status to the East Kingdom, that they are able to foster growth in the Kingdom, that they can AFFORD to have a Principality!

What does a Principality do for US?

A Principality can have many different roles.

- ❖ Bring unity to the groups within the Principality
- ❖ Foster relations between the groups and start working to share knowledge bases and skill levels.

- ❖ Encourage more pomp and splendor at eventsHave a rallying point under the Principality Heraldry, for wars, and competitions
- ❖ To create our own customs, unique to us as a people, different from the East Kingdom
- ❖ A chance for those groups who have never seen or hosted royalty, (or do so infrequently) to hold principality level events.
- ❖ In the event that East Kingdom Crown does not get to come to our area, the Prince and Princess can give out the awards for the King and Queen in absentia.

What does having a Prince and Princess mean to US?

A Prince and Princess support and promote the members of the Principality. They help to bring to the attention of the East Kingdom Royals those gentles worthy of recognition. They also help foster unity within the borders of the principality, serve as a focus point for our groups, and give a royal presence where we did not have one before. They have the ability to recognize gentles with awards, and can represent our groups on the Kingdom stage.

What's the bad stuff?

Not everything is rosy at the Principality level. If it was, everyone would be doing it! Here are some of the areas where we may feel a negative impact:

- ❖ We as a Principality would be required to hold two coronet tournaments per year. We would be adding these two events to a fairly busy calendar, and we would have to make sure we don't conflict with Kingdom level events.
- ❖ Those groups not supporting the Principality movement may feel bitter about the change in status from region to Principality, thus decide not to play.
- ❖ There may be a decrease in the amount of Royal visits to our area. (With having a Prince and Princess, there may be awards given out by the Tir Mara Royals that would have been given out by East Kingdom Crowns.)

So these are the facts with regards to a Principality. Remember, a Principality is what you make of it. Let's make something we can all be proud of!

Remember when?

As we move forward in creating an identity for the Crown Principality, we look back at photos of where we started. It's interesting to note that the 2010 Great North Eastern and Pennsic Wars lacked the Northern Shores/Tir Mara presence we once had. Here are some pictures to remind us of where we came from, and possibly where we might get back to in the future. These pictures were taken during battles at Pennsic 2006 and 2007.



GNEW
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GNEW 2006
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Pennsic, 2006
Copyright © Aug 2010 Queen Marguerite ingen Lachlainn. Used with permission



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Pennsic, 2007
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