



The North Wind

Newsletter of the Barony of Lions Gate
#372 Apr ASL (2016)



Our New Champions



Canterbury Fayre

A brief report from our Baron

We're finally home and unpacked after an amazing event. Lions Gate, you did yourself proud! Enormous thanks and congratulations to HL Morweena and her team for organizing a great day. It was made even better by many faces we hadn't seen in several years. Thank you to Baroness Margaret for organizing some great classes during the day, and to the instructors for their knowledge.

We held three tournaments that day, and while competition was fierce, we ended the evening three new Champions.

Mistress Agnes Cresewyke became the new Bardic Champion.

Alice de la Wode is our new Arts & Sciences Champion.

And Russell Cambeul of Danescombe became Lions Gate's first Games Champion!

Huzzah to the Barony's new Champions, and sincere thanks to our outgoing Champions for your service. And I got hugs from Briony *and* Morweena as they stepped down, so you know I'm happy.

To add to those marvelous huzzahs, several members of Lions Gate were given honours by the Prince and Princess.

Lord Jayson was made a member of the Goutte de Sang, *and* got his coat back. Funny story, involving heraldry. Congrats to the new Honourable Lord!

Lord Corwyn was ... made a Lord again, with a second Award of Arms!

Eleanor Odlowe was made a member of the Order of the Goutte de Sang.

And HL Delwyn and HL Jaqueline were entered into the Order of the Havok!

Congratulations all around. I know I'm likely forgetting something I'll be embarrassed about later...

Happy and proud,
Baron Uilliam



The Different Drumbeat: Opinions and Essays

Learning a New Joy

Pew pew pew!

Ever been a part of a thing for a long time, and really thought you knew your niche, where you fit? And then something happens and you stumble upon a whole new aspect of that thing that you might have been kind of aware of, but had never thought to explore it? Here's a thought: don't hold back from giving it a try, if it at all interests you: you never know what you might discover!

I started shooting archery last July. I have fiddled with it over the years, but a combination of factors led to a feeling that it “wasn't for me”, even though many excellent friends are and were archers of some skill. I enjoyed the feeling of a bow and arrows in hand, because it just made me feel so cool, but just never twigged onto it as something I would enjoy. I was genuinely bad at it, and a lack of actually hitting anything with the weapons in question does dampen the feel of being a bad-ass very quickly. A definite contributing factor to the giving up on it was a lack of instruction: while there were a LOT of excellent archers around the Barony when I was a young woman (the Kendals often topped the IKAC scores list, for example), I recall a dearth of coaching happening on the range, beyond the basics of safety. So if I hit the butt with my borrowed equipage, I was thrilled, but couldn't really advance beyond that.

With my crippling arthritis and my already, very full schedule, it may seem foolhardy to embark on a wholly new, physical skillset, but no one ever claimed I couldn't be foolish, if I wanted to. (It's documentable, even!) The teaching of physical skills is something I have a modicum of experience with: I am a riding instructor, and have taught folks in and out of the SCA the basics of horsemanship and riding since I was 19. I am not necessarily an easy student, but I respond very well to enabling: provide me with equipment and a teensy kickstart, and I will make a solid attempt to learn a new thing.

But as horses ARE my thing, I jumped at a chance to co-ordinate a modern mounted archery clinic, taught by the gentleman who was the actual Kingdom Equestrian Champion, Domenico Taddio. As soon as I had booked it, I asked around, and my generous friend (and enabler), Jaqueline le Fleur loaned me her lovely horsebow and a dozen composite arrows to mess about with. She also gave me the basics of stance, draw and release skills, and then left me alone to learn as I do best, by the doing. I set up a short range in the indoor arena at work, and practiced every day. (I am aware not every person has the advantage of a space to do this sort of thing, nor the boss who tolerates it. Yes, I am spoiled.)

What surprised me, from the beginning of this adventure, was the fun and the sheer, clean satisfaction of actually hitting the target. And what proved crazy fun was hitting the target from the back of a moving horse. NOW we're talking! I realised if I wanted to have that feeling a whole bunch, was that I would need to practice. A LOT.

Jaqueline pointed me towards a coach who could take me past the solid basics she had tried to instill. Delwyn was in process of working towards her own Ludicrous standing, but she took the time to assess me and bring me along, watching my weirdnesses that originate with mounted archery and asking me why I did things, which helped me understand the importance of some things and showed me I could discard those things that were detrimental to my eventual goals. I would need to get very comfortable with my equipment, I would need to improve my accuracy quite a bit, and my speed enormously.



As I dove down the rabbit hole, I also learned about equipment, position, tweaking stance, grip, and release, ranging, targeting... Anyone who knows me knows what a voracious consumer of new knowledge I can be. I am learning about materials and manufacturing of all kinds of equipment and accouterments, about mastering things in tiny stages, about the vital importance of incremental progress through dedicated and thoughtful practice.

Perhaps the most surprising result of this sudden new passion was how it improved my riding! Practice doesn't make perfect, practice makes better. Dreams are good to have, but to make them achievable, I need small steps, easier-to-reach goals: one point of improvement in my score per practice, just one. Indeed, the parallels between being a good archer and being a good rider are really intriguing: balance is important in both disciplines, so is awareness and mindfulness, and the importance of correct repetition. Care and attention to equipment and to yourself are valuable as well: want to ride or shoot well? Eat and drink well, take care of your body, get enough sleep! Push yourself, but be gentle, too. Learn everything you can: fill your brain with information, and as you develop the skills, the data filters into relevant slots, and suddenly can be applied.

It reminded me to enjoy what I do; that, like learning to playing any instrument, you need to enjoy the process, even done badly, because at first, it won't be good.



I learned that equipment does not make a skill, but boy can it help, once you have made the commitment to methodical practice and improvement! I learned as well that I am better at budgeting than I thought: as soon as I knew I could own a bow that fit my needs, I starting setting aside funds for it (Thanks Ken!) I have put my hand to leather crafting again, as well: I needed quivers for arrows and my bow, a bracer, a pouch for my gloves, and to be able to kit up fast and efficiently, so skills that had rusted almost away were back in use again!

I also discovered through this introduction a phenomenal community: archers support each other. I am part of a new group of friends in the

SCA, people who are familiar faces and names, but with whom I have not spent all that much time.

There is so much generosity and helpfulness in this group of folks, and they are really interesting, fun people: I would never have met them without stumbling into this particular rabbit hole.

I love my new sport. Admittedly, I may still be in the first flush of infatuation, but it has kinda continued over nine months now: I think it's fair to say, I may be addicted.

I appreciate your kind attention to my wandering thoughts. Come find me on the range or in the menage, and I will bore you some more!

In (addicted) Service, I remain

Briana nic h'Eusaidh,

Courtier to His Excellency Uilliam of Lions Gate

Taim an Difruil Drumadeoir!

Lions Gate Calendar

April			
5, 12, 19, 26	Tuesday	Cloverdale Fight Practice	Alice Mackay Building
7, 14, 21, 28	Thursday	Rapier Practice	Justice Institute
3, 10, 17, 24	Sunday	Archery/Equestrian Practice	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
10, 24	Sunday	Youth Armoured Combat	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
9, 30	Saturday	AllThings	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
6, 20	Wednesday	A&S Night	233 Third St, New Westminster
27	Wednesday	Baronial Council	#101 -3701 Hastings St Burnaby
May			
6 – 8	Fri – Sun	Fjordland Rising	Lions Club Park 13776 Sunshine Coast Hwy (HWY 101) Madeira Park, BC V0N 2H1
14	Saturday	Lions Gate Champions	Warner Loat Park 4250 Piper Street Burnaby, BC
20 – 22	Fri – Sun	May Crown	Toppenish Rodeo & Livestock Association 600 South Division St. Toppenish, WA 98948
27 – 29	Fri – Sun	Sealion War	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Tuesday	Cloverdale Fight Practice	Alice Mackay Building
5, 12, 19, 26	Thursday	Rapier Practice	Justice Institute
8, 15, 22, 27	Sunday	Archery/Equestrian Practice	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
15, 27	Sunday	Youth Armoured Combat	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
4, 18	Wednesday	A&S Night	233 Third St, New Westminster
25	Wednesday	Baronial Council	#101 -3701 Hastings St Burnaby
June			
10 – 12	Fri – Sun	Tir Righ Coronet	Northwood Lodge and Resort 5538 Northwood Road Lac la Hache, BC V0K 1T0
18	Saturday	Lionsdale Champions	Albion Fairgrounds 23448 105th Ave. Maple Ridge, BC V2W 1G3
1, 15	Wednesday	A&S Night	233 Third St, New Westminster
7, 14, 21, 28	Tuesday	Cloverdale Fight Practice	TBD
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Thursday	Rapier Practice	Justice Institute
5, 12, 19, 26	Sunday	Archery/Equestrian Practice	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
5, 19	Sunday	Youth Armoured Combat	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
4	Saturday	AllThings	The Grene Wode, 25133 0 Avenue, Langley, BC
22	Wednesday	Baronial Council	#101 -3701 Hastings St Burnaby

Lions Gate Practices

AllThings Practice – The AllThing is the Barony of Lions Gate's monthly multidisciplinary practice. Gate opens at 9 am and the practice runs until 7 PM. Site fee is \$6 per adult. As this is a practice, NMS does not apply, and garb is not required.

The site has cleared two more large indoor spaces for us to use for combat clinics, classes and other activities, plus as always we have access to the White, Blue and Red Rooms, the Great Hall, Kitchen and Workshop! The AllThings is a great venue for classes and clinics, for any of the SCA martial or crafting disciplines, so put in your request to teach with the AllThing staff, and we'll see if we can make it happen!

If you'd like to volunteer to provide dayfood for nominal costs, please let Briana know which dates you'd like to do. We will be allowing those interested to cycle through the calendar so everyone gets a fair chance to offer their services/test their recipes. The evenings always feature a potluck feast. Coordinators for the potluck are always welcome, otherwise we set it up buffet style. This is another excellent opportunity to try out period recipes and get instant feedback!

For those interested in marshalling for their discipline, or with any other questions, please contact Briana (antirbard@yahoo.com) or on Facebook (Nancy Jeanne Hedge) and she will endeavour to accommodate!

Equestrian – Practices are held at the Grene Wode most Sundays. There are no practices on the Sunday immediately following an AllThing. Equestrian can start at 9 am, if there is interest. Weekly practices are planned to be building skills (specific weapons or games, or specific riding challenges), so that we can set up Challenge Courses at the AllThings. Trail rides after the arena work are also planned.

Horse use fees apply: \$20 for riders in a Grene Wode program, \$30 for those coming from outside. A brief horsemanship skills assessment is necessary before a Grene Wode horse can be used: the Marshalls will ensure riders and horses are matched according to skills and training. More information may be had from Briana nic h'Eusaidh (Nancy Hedge) or Cassandra Wineday (Joanne Loney)

Archery – Practices are held at the Grene Wode every Sunday. Archery starts at noon and goes till 5 pm. Royal Rounds range and a beginner range are almost always set up, and a potluck lunch is shared to help build the community and keep the arrows flying! Once a month there is a FUNdraiser featuring silly targets and/or interesting archery games!

Site fee is \$5 per adult. As these are practices the NMS does not apply and garb is not required. More information may be had from Delwyn (Kim Laven).

Youth Armoured Combat – Practices are held at the Grene Wode every other Sunday from 2 to 4 PM. Practices are also held at the AllThings Practice.

Cloverdale Fight Practice – Armoured and Rapier combat practice occurs every Tuesday Night at the Alice MacKay Building. Check the facebook site for the most up to date information.

Rapier – Rapier Practice occurs every Thursday Night at the Justice Institute in New Westminster. Heavy fighters welcome but please use something to prevent your knee armour from damaging the wooden floor.

Arts and Science – A&S practice happens twice a month at a member's home. The first meeting is for classes and the second meeting is more social and working on projects.

Dance – Dance practice happens every two weeks at 13325 Old Yale Rd in Surrey. Take Sky train to Surrey Center, then walk South, past the mall, keeping the mall on left. Walking along University Dr. to Old Yale Rd. Walk to the main doors, and on the right hand side is a patio and the meeting room for the dance practice

Recorder classes – Classes are being taught on alternate Tuesdays starting on Feb 16 at my place in Guildford. Call Nikolai at 604-585-9607. Collegium is on alternate Tuesdays next one is Feb 9, location varies, contact Nikolai

Upcoming Events

Lions Gate Champions/40th Anniversary Revel

May 14, 2016

Event Steward: Cassandra Wineday

Event Fee: \$10 to attend Champions/ \$10 to attend Revel \$15 to attend both – plus \$5 NMS No Charge for youth 18 and under.

Location: Champions – Warner Loat Park, Burnaby; Revel – Slovenian Hall, 5762 Sprott St, Burnaby

Be it known to all who may be lovers of Chivalry that there will be held on the 14th of May, a series of tournaments to determine the newest Champions of Lions Gate. All citizens of our fair Barony or those who just love our Barony are summoned to challenge for the honour of becoming the Baronial Champions in heavy combat, rapier combat, target archery, thrown weapons and youth armoured combat. These tournaments will be held in historic Warner Loat Park which hosted our first event 40 years ago.

But wait there's more.

In the evening, join the caravan to the Slovenian Hall where we will be celebrating 40 years of the Barony of Lions Gate, 50 years of the SCA and our new Champions. A potluck with the main dishes of Turkey and Ham being provided by the Barony will happen. Stay tuned for the food distribution.

May Crown and Vigil for Arianna Freemont

May 20 – 22, 2016

Location: Toppenish Rodeo & Livestock Association 600 South Division St. Toppenish, WA 98948

Who will be the next King of An Tir

But wait.... there's more

It is with Joy and Delight that All Good Gentles are invited to Attend the Festivities for Her Ladyship Arianna Freemont of the Clan MacBeighn as she holds Vigil for Elevation into the Order of the Pelican at May Crown Tournament in the Barony of Vulcanfeldt. All are Welcome to attend the Vigil to be held on Friday, May 20th, 2015 at 8:00 pm in Arianna & Cyneric's encampment (check at Gate for location). She will be elevated by the Grace of Their Majesties at 2nd Royal Court on Saturday. If you would like to contribute refreshments, please contact Maistresse Yolande Chastellain (Laura Offley) or Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin (Elaine McMillan). If you cannot attend, please send us a pm to include in her Vigil Book. Huzzah!

Sealion War

May 27 – 30, 2016

Event Steward: Briana nic h'Eusaidh and Garet Doiron

Location: Grene Wode Manor Farm, 25133 0 Ave, Langley, BC

Lions Gate once again defends herself from the encroaching hordes of Seagirt!

The Lions of the elder brother and the Sea Wolves of the younger have roared at each other across the waves, and now it's time to settle things for another year!

Come one, come all to The Grene Wode next May, to help decide the winner of this friendliest little war! There will be Bridge, Woods and Field battles; a new fighter's tourney; New Comer's and Old WarHorse's Bardic Circles; Equestrian, including Mounted Archery; a Siege Cooking contest; Dancing by Torchlight; conviviality and camaraderie can only be seen in such excellent frenemies as these two Baronies!

Some Words From Our Baron

Well, we're at it again. Something happened, then this other thing, then there was a weapon waved at the Baroness, and Sergeantry carting off Fru Hlif again, and I guess Seagirt's coming over to get her back. Will nothing end this continuing war? Will there never be peace between us?

I hope not.

And so, here are the war points, to determine the victor this year.

- Armoured (three scenarios)
- Rapier (three scenarios)
- Archery (three scenarios)
 - The full scenario plans will be explained more on site, but of each of the three "points" within these, one will be a Champions' battle; Seagirt's Champion vs Lions Gate's.
- Bardic
 - There will be an open stage near the centre of town, where any and all may perform. If you're going to be competing for the Bardic war point, you will need to sign up (schedule available on site), so that the judges can gather. Before the evening's bardic fire, the judges will chose the best three perfomances, and those three people will perform again during the evening.
- A&S
 - Seige Cooking! Exact details on this will be coming soon.
- Games Tournament
 - We will be holding a games tournament, much like the one held in Lions Gate to determine our Champion. Players will play three games; 9 Mans Morris, Quoits (ring toss), and ... a game to be announced later. smile emoticon
- Children
 - There will be three categories; boffer tournament, ring-toss, and hunt the whatever-animal-Caitrina-comes-up-with.

*** On Mercenaries ***

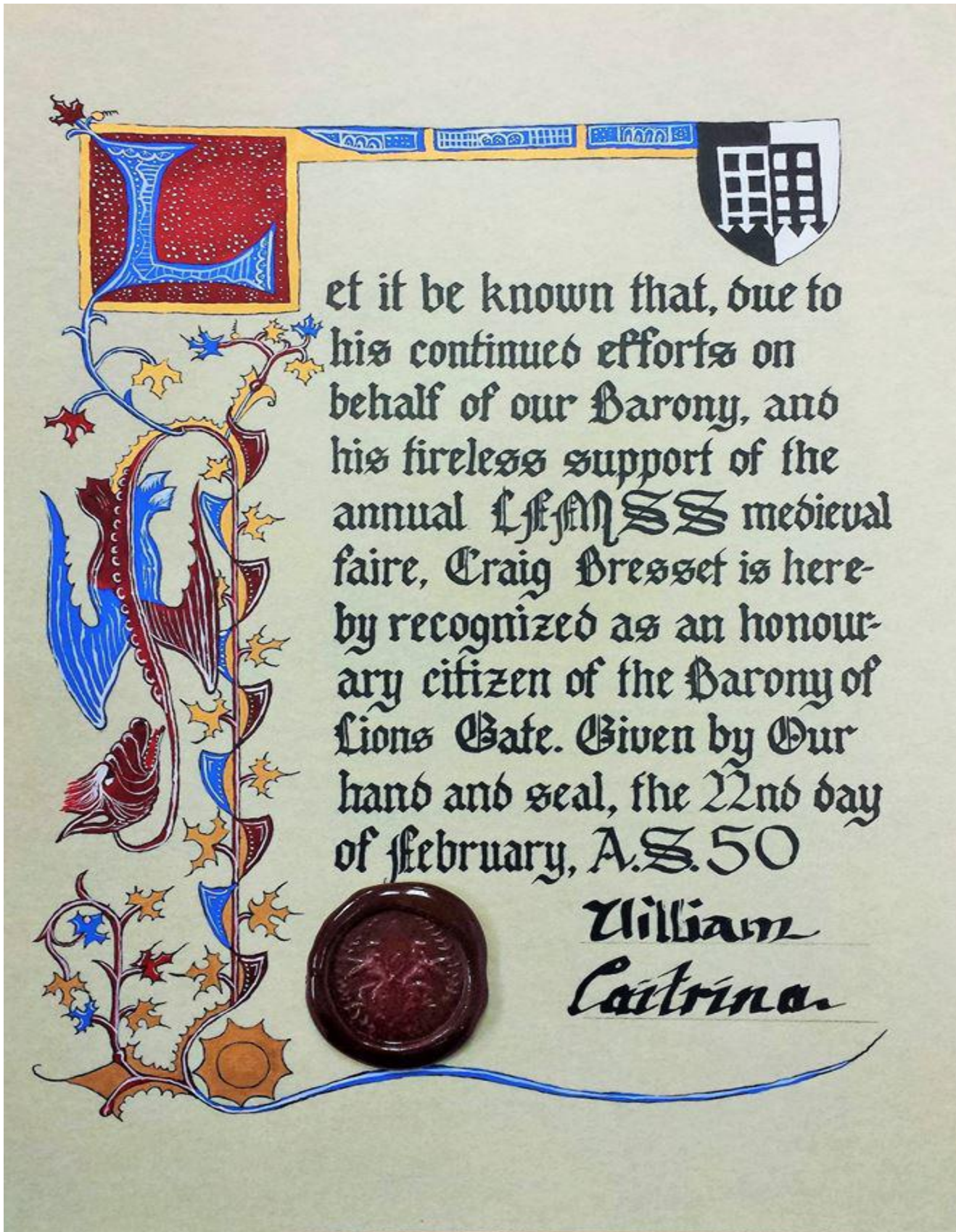
After discussions and negotiations with Their Excellencies Seagirt, this year, neither Barony will be hiring mercenary forces. As well, the Sergeantry, Courtiers, or Scholars of their respective Baronies will not be hiring mercenaries on behalf of their Baroness or Baron. Households and individuals within the Baronies are free to do so, and Sergeantry etc members who are members of households may as well, as long as it's clear that it's not happening on behalf of their Baroness or Baron.

Lions Gate! Join me in repelling the invaders! Let's send them back to their little rock in the ocean!

Baron Uilliam



Scroll of the Month



et it be known that, due to his continued efforts on behalf of our Barony, and his tireless support of the annual LfMSS medieval faire, Craig Bresset is hereby recognized as an honorary citizen of the Barony of Lions Gate. Given by Our hand and seal, the 22nd day of february, A.S. 50

William
Catrina

Compendium



Their Royal Majesties of An Tir – King Eirik and Queen Driffina (king@antir.sca.org, queen@antir.sca.org).



Their Highnesses of Tir Righ – Prince Vikingr and Princess Lishinia (prince@tirrigh.org, princess@tirrigh.org).



Baron & Baroness of Lions Gate – Baron Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Andrias & Baroness Caitrina inghean Andriasia (baron@lionsgate.tirrigh.org, baroness@lionsgate.tirrigh.org)

Baronial Council

Seneschale

Her Ladyship Brigitte die Arrogante

seneschal@lionsgate.tirrigh.org.

Contingency Deputy - Her Ladyship Cassandra Wineday of Newingate

Family Activities Coordinator – VACANT

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin

exchequer@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Deputy Exchequer – Her Ladyship Ylas Anasdoter,

deputyexchequer@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Chamberlain – His Lordship Garet Doiron,

chamberlain@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Sable Loat Pursuivant (Herald)

His Lordship Cáemgen mac Garbith ui Andrais

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Deputy – Lady Eithne Rose

Minister of Stables

Sergeant Miles FitzHubert stables@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Archery – Her Ladyship Delwyn verch Ynyr

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Master of Blades – Lord Seamus McKinneach

blades@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Lists – James Irvein, lists@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Missile Combat – Archos Elora

Thrown Weapons – Archos Elora

missilecombat@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Chronicler

Baron James Wolfden, chronicler@lionsgate.tirrigh.org.

Librarian – Her Ladyship Ylas Anasdoter,

librarian@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Her Ladyship Eleanor Odlowe

artsandsciences@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Contingency Deputy: Her Ladyship Ciana de'Libri

Bardic Arts – Her Ladyship Briana nic h'Eusaidh

Dance – Her Ladyship Rhiannon ap Gwynedd of Clan

McBeighn dance@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Games – Master Nikolai Andreiov

games@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Chatelaine

Lord Ragnvald Argoliason

chatelaine@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Deputy: Vacant

Gold Key – VACANT

Scribe

Mistress Agnes Cresewyke scribe@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Deputy – vacant

Webminister

Jakemina Arwemakeres

webminister@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Deputy - vacant

About the North Wind

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