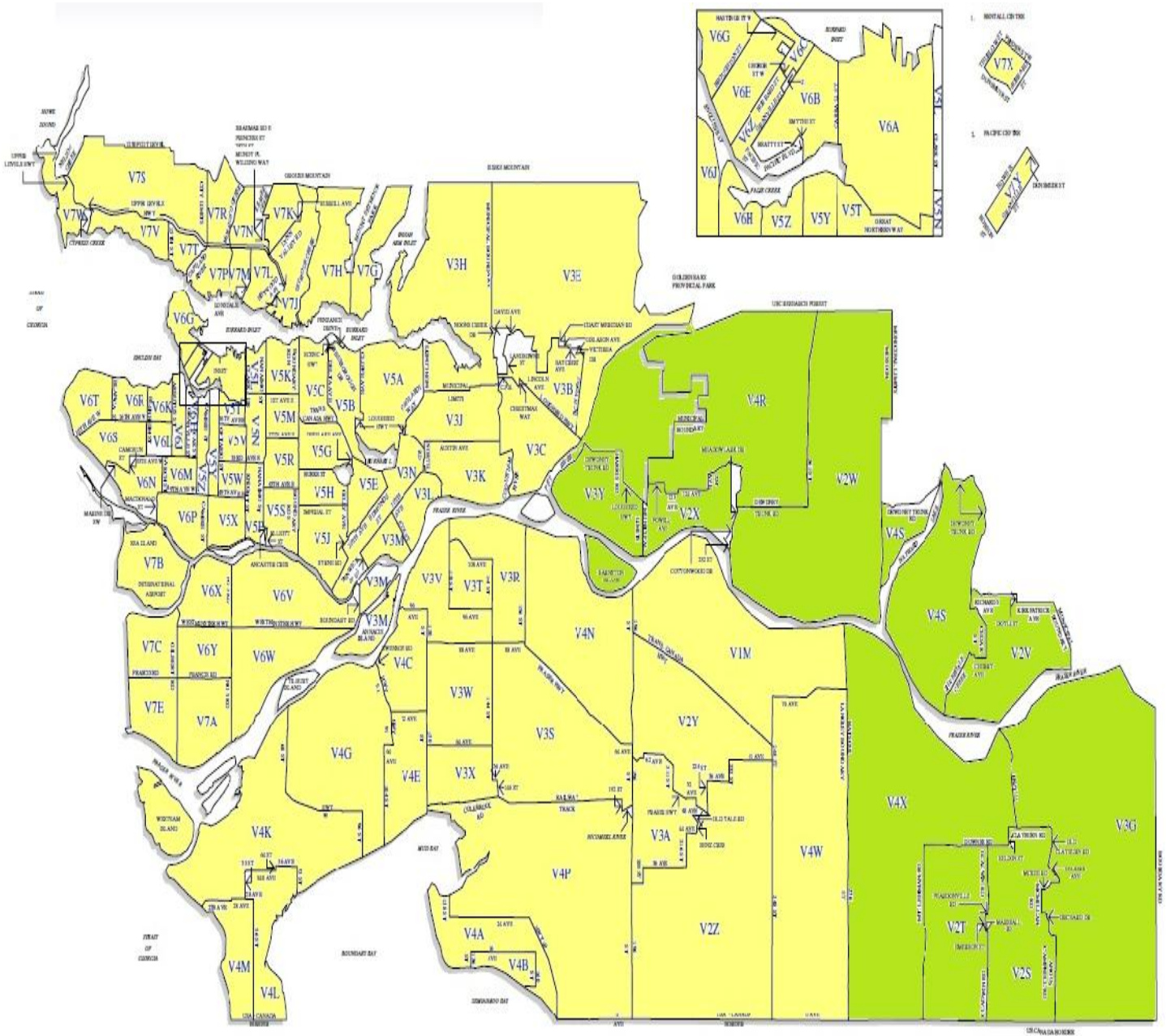


The North Wind

Newsletter of the
Barony of Lions Gate

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Lions Gate's New Borders

The Baron's Column

Baron Griffin ap Bedwyr

Well it looks like that day has finally arrived and I must write my last column as Baron of Lions Gate. It is with mixed emotions that I approach this and our step down and try to find ways to sum up what it has meant to be Baron. I know that as things go forward the Barony will be in good hands. Over my time in the Baronial seat I have come to know James and Margaret very well and feel they will make a great Baron and Baroness. They are both thoughtful, even-keeled individuals who know how to work well with a variety of people and groups. James' well thought out words have a way of diffusing tension and help clarify issues that have become a little murky. The best of luck to you both in the days to come.

To those who also put their names in the hat for our jobs, thank you all. You have in many ways been pillars of our group and added greatly to the flavour as well as the joy and fun that this game should be all about. If there is one thing I have found as Baron it is that the SCA needs more people who are willing

to serve, not because they have to, but because they want to and enjoy doing it. Service is a means to an end and that end is the pleasure you receive from seeing people enjoying and benefiting from your labour.

There are many things that one thinks about as they come to the end of a job like this, one thing is that it is more than a job. It has not always been easy, it has not always been fun but it has certainly been worth the effort. I am a better person than I was when I stepped up and I am thankful to all the people who have helped me to become so. Lions Gate is a great Barony and from what I have seen (though I am no expert) one of the most unique and that greatness and uniqueness comes from the people. Whether you have been around for thirty plus years or just started yesterday you are all vitally important to what makes this Barony and this Society what it is. Thank you all.



Speaking of Service

This will be my last issue as the Baronial Chronicler. It was quite a change from Baronial Archer but something I was already familiar with from my other interests and pursuits. I had a journalism background, published science fiction fanzines, and did a weekly one page newsletter for my Cub Pack. The Baronial Chronicler is a job that is lots of fun but also very demanding. More importantly, it is a job that can be yours.

We need someone to replace me as Baronial Chronicler and we need that person ASAP. If you are interested please submit a written application to the Seneschal and their Excellencies. Applications need to be submitted by Midnight, November 24th. If you have any questions please feel free to contact either Callen or myself.

The official duties for the Baronial Chronicler of Lions Gate is to take minutes at Council and publish the North Wind. It is fun but a lot of work. Don't be surprised to spend 10 – 20 hours doing work for this position.

It helps to have a vision and goal. My vision was to showcase all the awesome things that are happening around us whether it be the A&S Showcase or who got what award or giving Doctor Carus a forum to amuse us with his discussions on medieval science. There are things that I never got around to doing but I would love to see things like fight practise showcased perhaps through some step by step photos of certain techniques. I would love to see more original Bardic material. I am looking forward to see what someone new brings to the table.

About the North Wind

This is the November 2010 issue of The North Wind, a publication of the **Barony of Lions Gate**, of the **Society for Creative Anachronism**, Inc. (SCA, Inc.) The North Wind is available from the Chronicler, James Welch (HL James Wolfden, OGS), jameswolfden@yahoo.ca and is also available from the Barony's website <http://lionsgate.antir.sca.org/public/>. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. Policies.

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Council Highlights

October 2010

Archery Practise Indoors

Archery practises will be added to the Cloverdale Indoor Practise starting Monday, November 8th and then continuing every other Monday until the New Year, the Baronial Archer reported.

In the new year, practises may move to weekly if the attendance numbers support it.

In other archery news, Jaqueline Lafleur attended the Burnaby Archer's AGM. There will be no increase in fees for next year but the idea of a drop-in fee was rejected.

Welcome to the Barony

The Newcomer's Information Session is a rousing success so far with both newcomers and SCA members attending, our chatelaine, Sage, reported at Council.

"Greetings All! As of this day the twenty first day of October XLV AS 45, I am please to announce that since September, we now have 13 new members joining our society. Please take the time and welcome our newest travellers to the Barony!

We welcome! Sheila Robertson Sinclair, Demia, Elaine, Marie de Cerisy-la-foret, Sally, Auezoeten Havikswijf van Hilvarenbeek, Havik Zeghersoen van Hilvarenbeek and their son Samuel Haviksoen, Rayne & Hawke and their children Tyler, Sebastien and James. Huzzah to you all!"

Lions Gate Bid for February Investiture

Archos Morweena of House Desdecardo presented a bid for Lions Gate to host February Investiture (in March) to Council.

The event, if accepted by the Principality of Tir Righ, would be held at the Maritime Labour Centre which Morweena reports may be small for a Baroness Tourney but is just perfect for an Investiture.

In addition to seeing Kheron and Kenna step up, the February Investiture also hosts the Tir Righ Rapier Championship.

Archos Margaret Hamilton of Stirlingshire will be Morweena's deputy.

SCA @ SFU?

Caemgen, our Baronial Sable Loat, will be returning to Simon Fraser University soon and is looking to set up an SCA group there.

In Lions Gate past, SFU and UBC were a source for new members with SCA groups forming under the auspices of the universities.

There is also a demo planned at UBC with the hope that a SCA group might form there as well.

Eisenmarche Dissolves Lions Gate Gains Land

The Shire of Eisenmarche has dissolved with its coffers being transferred to the Shire of Lionsdale and its lands being split between Lions Gate and Lionsdale. The decision was made in accordance with the wishes of the citizens of Eisenmarche as determined by a recent polling.

The Shires of Eisenmarche and Lionsdale have been discussing a merger since Lionsdale started looking into becoming a Barony. A representative from Lions Gate has sat in on the meetings.

Eisenmarche has indicated that it would like its funds to be earmarked for Lionsdale baronial regalia when the time comes.

The Barony of Lions Gate will assume control of the postal codes WEST of the Pitt River. The Shire of Lionsdale will assume control of the postal codes east of the Pitt River (V2W, V2X, V3Y and V4R).

As was done with the treaty between Eisenmarche and Lions Gate, a person may live in one jurisdiction but play in another.

An Eisenmarche 'retirement' ceremony is planned for Baroness' Tournament next weekend in Lions Gate.

See map on the cover for a graphical representation of the borders between Lionsdale and Lions Gate.

For more information on what was said at Council, check out the Council Minutes for October 2010 posted at the Barony's website - <http://lionsgate.antir.sca.org/public/council.minutes.shtml>



Calendar of Events

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Rapier Dance	5 Newcomer Info Session	6 Baroness' Birthday Tournament
7	8 Cloverdale Practice Archery	9	10	11 Rapier	12	13
14	15 Cloverdale Practice	16	17	18 Rapier Dance	19	20 Antioch Invitational
21 Scriptorium and other classes	22 Cloverdale Practice Archery	23	24 North Wind Deadline	25 Rapier Council	26	27
28	29 Cloverdale Practice	30				

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Rapier Dance	3 Newcomer Info Session	4 Baronial Banquet
5	6 Cloverdale Practice Archery	7	8	9 Rapier	10	11
12	13 Cloverdale Practice	14	15	16 Rapier Dance Council	17	18
19	20 Cloverdale Practice	21	22 North Wind Deadline	23 Rapier	24	25 Merry Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31 Happy New Year	

***Lions Gate Baronial Council** is where the "business" side of the Barony is run. All members are encouraged to attend council. Council is held on the 4th Thursday of the month, 7:30pm at the Sapperton Pensioner's Hall, 318 Keary Street, New Westminster (across from Royal Columbian Hospital)

Baroness Birthday Tournament

Event Steward: HL Myrrim de Lancaster
Time: November 6th

Adults - SCA Member \$15, Minors 13 to 18 \$5, Minors 12 and under free, Family Cap: \$30, NMS Applies

Location: Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street, Vancouver, British Columbia

Witness history in the making, as we celebrate Baroness Caitrin's birthday with a Winter Tourney followed by the step down of Their Excellencies, Baron Griffin and Baroness Caitrin and the elevation of their successors by Their Royal Majesties. The Annual Unbelted Heavy Tourney will take place in the morning, followed by two Rapier Tournaments: Lion's Gate Defender and Gerhard's Riposte. The A&S competition at the event will be to produce a birthday gift for Baroness Caitrin.

Merchants will be in attendance to share their latest wares. The little ones will be able to enjoy Pied Piper.

NOTE: There will be no food or drink available on site; however, there will be a dessert buffet available during court. Donations for the buffet are very much appreciated.

Antioch Invitational

Event Steward: Desiree Chirastella

Time: November 20th

Location: Albion Fairgrounds, Maple Ridge

Site fee: \$5 (for SCA), \$10 for general public

Kids 12 yrs and under are free

You're Invited!

Come out to Showcase your skills at Martial Combat, Arts & Sciences and Archery! We would like to present the best of us to the world to display what it is that we do and how much fun we are having. Yes, it is a demo to the public and an event for the rest of us.

There will be Prize Tourneys for fully Armoured Combat, Rapier Combat and Archery! (Tourney formats and entry requirements will be published soon)

This is one day so come early and all activities will be INDOORS!

Scriptorium

Date: November 21st, 2010

Time: 10am to 4pm (common room)

Location: 203 – 2518 Hastings Street, Vancouver – Buzzer #518

Learn how to illuminate and create scrolls and charters. In addition to the Scriptorium, there will two additional classes being taught. The Scriptorium is scheduled to end at 2 pm.

Persona Development Class (12pm to 2pm)

Learn how to create an SCA persona. This includes picking a name, a place of birth/country, a time period you would like to have lived in, etc. *There is a \$1.50 fee for this class.*

How to Do Research in the SCA (2pm to 4pm)

Whether you are researching your persona or researching documents to support your Arts and Sciences presentation, learning how to search on the internet and which books to look through are very important steps in properly researching and documenting in the SCA. *There is a \$1.50 fee for this class.*

Everyone is welcome to come and join us. To sign up for a class or classes, contact Lady Sage McLeod of Canna at chatelaine@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Baronial Banquet

Event Steward: Caitrina inghean Aindrasia

Time: December 4th

Location: Centennial Lodge, Queen's Park, New Westminster

Banquet fee: \$25

The seasons change, and time moves on. A new couple sits on the Baronial seats for the great Barony of Lions Gate. As they begin their reign, they gather their entourage and take a grand tour of their new lands. In the northern reaches of their Barony, they begin their circuit at a welcoming Scottish style great house; the ancestral home of the Clan MacAndrew.

Come join with the Clan as they welcome the new Baron & Baroness of Lions Gate into their home with a banquet in their honour. The feast will feature traditional Scottish fare, the center of which will be the great highland red deer! (Okay, it's roast beef. But its persona was a red deer.)

The Wolf & Drum Tavern will be in attendance (a cash bar), and hosted by the fabulous MacAndrew Bar Babes. No other alcohol will be permitted.

Music provided by Collegium Leonum.



Ask Doctor Carus (Scary Month of Dead Edition)

Dear Dr. Carus:

I have been reading "The Name of the Rose" and am wondering if a person can be poisoned by licking their fingers to turn pages painted with toxic paints. Arsenic, mercury and lead were used in Period, so I wonder if that small amount would be enough to poison a person. Signed Curious Rose

Dear Curious Rose:

Next to turning lead into gold, the power to remotely kill in mysterious and horrible ways is the most popular topic that Dr. Carus is mobbed about at parties. He muses that a kit for turning one's enemies into gold would prove a popular commodity, indeed.

It might be objected that, in exploring such questions, one enters the forbidden realm of "Black Alchemy" (by analogy with "Black Magic"), did not "Al-Khem" by itself not already mean "The Black Art" – with reference to its origin in the dark-soiled land of Khem, or Egypt. And yet, to better understand the use of any weapon – including, sword or bow – also helps to better defend oneself and others against it, and to regulate its responsible and curtail its illicit uses. Such learning thus serves both prudence and justice; also, Alchemy is an all-natural Science – no trafficking with demons is involved.

The Poison Book trick has been around: see "Tale of the Wazir and the Sage Duban" (within "The Fisherman and the Jinni", in *The Book of the Thousand Nights and a Night*, 9th C, transl Richard Burton, Night 5); as the pretended cause of death Charles IX of France in 1574, in Alexandre Dumas Sr *La Reine Margot*, 1845, Ch 49; also traditionally alleged of the original manuscript for the real-life titillating 16th C novel *Jin Ping Mei/Golden Lotus*, for the author to avenge his father's death against a high official (see A. Lévy, Introduction to the French translation, 1960). In Eco's novel, the poison preparation is adhesive (to make the pages stick – just mix in a bit of gum arabic), stable, odourless, tasteless, inconspicuous, potent, and kills painlessly in half an hour: this would fit various plant products, as discussed last month, of which Eco lists "datura stramonium (sic: an unknown name before the 18th C), belladonna, hemlock", though aconite (= Wolfsbane, Monkshood) is also an excellent candidate (well-known to the Ancients, including as an arrow-poison; ca 5 mg of the active ingredient is lethal to humans). But Eco's "highly powerful substance" also turns the tongue and fingers black (a necessary plot device), which the forementioned candidates (as the author admits) do not: Lunar Caustic (silver nitrate) has this effect, due to formation of elemental silver (ultimately, the chemical basis for photography), as Dr. Carus can personally attest, and as known from (Saint) Albertus Magnus in the 13th C, but also has an intensely burning taste, and would probably not stay colourless on paper for long; cacodyl (As_2Me_4) will turn your tongue black if you walk into the same room, but the stench is spectacularly vile, it combusts spontaneously in air, and was unknown anyway before 1842. No real pure or mixed substance available at the time could have had the properties described: it is, Dr. Carus fears, pure Science (Alchemy)-Fiction.

In addition, inorganic poisons are less "deliberately" malicious, and so typically require much higher doses than "organic" ones, though since they often also bioaccumulate, they can typically be administered over a long time in undetectably small amounts (enough "white arsenic" – Eco's "arsenacho", As_2O_3 , a common byproduct from smelting ores – to kill in one dose will typically be vomited up before it can act: as what happened when a local baker tried to poison the entire European population of Hong Kong at the outset of the Second Opium War in 1857); they also act more slowly, such as by first destroying the liver or kidneys, instead of a direct attack on the heart or central nervous system. Similar chronic poisonings by arsenic, lead or mercury were common occupational diseases, from careless use of their compounds, such as in mining or refining, or for pigments (yellow orpiment, As_2S_3 ; lead white, $(PbCO_3)_2 \cdot Pb(OH)_2$; red cinnabar, HgS) by artists: so, take care! That said, inorganics can also be medically useful, through killing germs first: silver against food poisoning, as mentioned a couple of columns back; zinc oxide (Eco's "tutty") against eye infections; mercury (Eco's "live argent" = quicksilver) and its compounds against syphilis since Paracelsus in 1530 ("all things are poisons... only the dose makes a thing not a poison"), until the first "magic bullet" – Salvarsan, itself an organoarsenic compound – and the later sulfa drugs, and penicillin, materialized in the 20th century.

From A Woodworker's Shop by Lord Adam Fairmay

Have you ever thought about creating that perfect finish on a project, the ultimate contrast to all the careful effort and love you have poured into its creation only to hit a wall when it comes to information on the how's and why's of application. Well take heart, you're not alone in your frustration; I have yet to find a more confusing topic within the woodworking world. For the longest time every second article or publication I read contradicted the previous one leaving me more confused after researching than before. A little over 2 years ago that changed for me with the discovery of a wonderful book written by a gentleman by the name of Bob Flexner. These days if I have any doubt about a product or technique I reach for his treasure trove of information on the topic:

-Understanding Wood Finishing- (ISBN 978-0-7621-0680-6)

Published by Fox Chapel Publishing

This is by no means the only good reference book on the topic of how to select and apply the right finish, but is one of the most comprehensive books I have had the pleasure of reading without having to pay an exorbitant price. This book does not assume the reader has years of background experience, nor does it water down the information to the point that you are wading through a kindergarten primer. Laid out in 21 well-organized chapters, his book takes you through all the background theory in plain English. Then advances on to various applications as well as maintenance and repairing finishes. As you progress through the various topics the book is full of useful side notes and tips which help to destroy the myths and mystery about fine wood finishing.

Lions Gate Needs A New List Minister

Lions Gate is looking for a new List Minister to takeover when Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin steps down in January. If you are interested please submit a written application to the Seneschal and their Excellencies. Applications need to be submitted by Midnight, November 24th.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Seneschal, Callen Drakkar.

Lists Job Description

The Baronial Lists officer is a deputy to the Minister of Stables, and responsibilities include:

- facilitating lists for baronial events as requested by the Baron or Baroness, Seneschal, or autocrat
- reporting to the Baronial Minister of Stables and to the Principality Minister of Lists as they require maintaining suitable records for the office, and handing them to your successor when you step down
- maintaining a stock of blank fighter authorization cards, and forwarding completed fighter authorization cards in a timely fashion to the Kingdom Minister of Lists
- acting as a resource for branches without their own lists officer, whenever feasible

Scroll of the Month

This month's scroll was done by His Lordship, Miles Fitzhubert for Iain ap Griffin when he received his Knott Yett. I liked this one because, well, being a kid at heart, I would have loved to get this one.



Miles sent me a few others but some still have to be handed out so I couldn't ruin the surprise. Hopefully, they will get showcased in the future.

Have you done or received a scroll that you would like to see printed? Send a photograph or scan to me at chronicler@lionsgate.antir.sca.org and let me know a little history of the scroll. If you are not the scribe, please ask their permission first! Of course, wait until after the scroll is presented.

Arts and Science Showcase

Arts and Science is not always about making pretty jewellery or cool leather work or spiffy helms. Sometimes it can be about something near and dear to my heart.

Food and drink and good times.

Banquet season is upon us. Get out to either Lionsdale Bard and a Banquet or the Lions Gate Baronial Banquet and chow down on some good food and some tasty libations. To stimulate your appetite, I include this fine selection of food photographed by Agnes Cresewyke and Tomas de Courcy.



Compendium



* Their Royal Majesties of An Tir – King Tiernan Mor Dal Cais and Queen Miranda Faoltiarna (king@antir.sca.org, queen@antir.sca.org).



* **Their Highnesses of Tir Righ** – Prince Alden ap Owain and Princess Katherine atte Moure (prince@tirrigh.org, princess@tirrigh.org).

* **Baron & Baroness of Lions Gate** - TE Griffin Ap Bedwyr and Caitrin ni Cingeadh (griffcait@shaw.ca). 12159 – 222 St. Maple Ridge, V2X 5W4.

Baronial Council

Acting Seneschal

Lord Callen Drakkar

seneschal@lionsgate.antir.sca.org.

Contingency Deputy - Her Ladyship Ceara inghean ui Mhadadhain

Watch - Lord Gareth Doiron

Chancellor of the Exchequer

HL Anika Steif exchequer@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Deputy Exchequer - Lady Ylas Anasdoter,

deputyexchequer@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Chamberlain - HL Edrik,

chamberlain@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Sable Loat Pursuivant (Herald)

Lord Caemgen mac Garbith

herald@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Minister of Stables

Sergeant Dalibor Krivoklatsky

stables@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Archery - HL Delwyn verch Ynyr

archery@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Master of Blades (Rapier and Cut & Thrust) -

Guillemin de Rouen blades@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Lists - Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin,

lists@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Chirurgion - **VACANT**

chirurgion@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Chronicler

HL James Wolfden,

chronicler@lionsgate.antir.sca.org.

Librarian - HL Maeda no Kiko Mariko,

librarian@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences

Lady Myrrim de Lancaster

artsandsciences@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Bardic Arts - HL Sionann in Ui Fhlaithbheartaig

bardicarts@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Dance - HL Rhiannon ap Gwynedd of Clan McBeighn

dance@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Gamesmistress - Mary Ostler

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Chatelaine

Lady Sage McLeod of Canna

chatelaine@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Pied Piper - **VACANT**,

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Baronial Scribe HL Aelana Cordovera

scribe@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Deputy - HL Aelana Cordovera

Baronial Webminister

Lady Malie Rennick of Lions Gate

webminister@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Deputy (Webspinner) - Lord Rothgar

webspinner@lionsgate.antir.sca.org