

The



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The Blatherings

Barony of Blatha an Oir, (Tacoma, Pierce Co., WA)
SCA Inc.
Volume 28, Number 5 May A.S.XLIV C.E. 2009

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Errors and Corrections: Every effort is made to keep *The Blatherings* error free. Please let the Chronicler know if a correction is needed.

This is the May 2009 Blatherings, a publication of the Barony of Blatha an Oir of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA, Inc.). The Blatherings is available from the Blatha an Oir website (<http://www.blathaanoir.org/>) or from Joel Viney 5218 S. Prospect, Tacoma, WA 98409. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright 2009 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please ask the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

Missive from their Excellencies . . .

Greetings!

We've had some MAJOR developments regarding this year's Autumn War which we believe are going to have a very positive impact on attendance, and is also the first step in returning Autumn War into it's past glory.

We have been in contact with the Prince of Tir Righ and the Prince of the Summits and have been fostering the idea that each of them declare 'war' on the other at Autumn War! Such a war will bring people from the Summits area of Oregon and the southern areas of Canada as well as most of Washington! August 13-17, mark it on your calendar!

We're entering a VERY busy two month stretch for our Barony, with Honey War on the second weekend of June followed immediately by our Lord Defender championship the next weekend. July is going to bring us our demo at Ethnic Fest (complete with Rose Tournament) as well as the An Tir/West War and July Coronation. August, well, who needs to say anything else....AUTUMN WAR!

This is an exciting time in our Barony's history. Be part of it.

In Service,

-Baron Aleksii Konstantinovich Chernoi and Baroness
Elspeth nic Grath
Proud Baron and Baroness of Blatha An Oir

Things to do in Blatha an Oir

Baronial Business Meeting: It's the best place to find out what's going on in your barony!
South End Community Center
1614 99th St E
Tacoma, WA
Next Meeting: June 18, 2009 (Third Thursday)

Newcomer's Classes: A series of classes designed to help newcomers to the SCA. Please contact Agnes berengarii de girona for more information.
Location: Krazy Kat Fiberhaus
3013 6th Ave., Suite A, Tacoma, WA

Fight Practice: Learn Heavy Armoured Combat!
Time: Tuesday, 6:30PM (April to October)
Location: Sheridan Elementary School
902 E. 53rd St., Tacoma, Washington.
Contact: Baron Sir Aleksii Konstantinovich Chernoi
Cell: 253-255-1736 baobaron@blathaanoir.org
(NO Calls after 9:30PM please)

Arts and Sciences: Learn to Make Medieval Things!
Please contact Katheryn de Gonneville at baoarts@blathaanoir.org for more information.
Each Fourth Wednesday of the Month.

Scribal Gathering: Learn Calligraphy and Illumination.
Contact Annaka Poznanska at 206-782-6701 for more information.
Each Second Wed of the Month.

Exchequer Appendix for BaO Customary

The following is the proposed required Exchequer Appendix for the BaO Customary for review by the BaO populace. Please direct any comments to the Exchequer, Seneschal, or the Baron and Baroness. This proposed Appendix will be discussed at the August Business Meeting. The Appendix is also available on the Baronial Website under the Baronial Officer's Page. *Quick Look at Required Forms Table and Gate Take "Drop" Record Form* were removed from the *Blatherings* due to formatting issues. The Table and Form are included in the Exchequer Appendix available on the BaO website

APPENDIX: OFFICE OF EXCHEQUER

Article 1: Purpose

To assist the Office of the Exchequer, officers and populace of the Barony of Blatha an Oir manage and maintain the financial affairs of the Barony and its affiliates. This appendix and its sub-appendixes provide details, requirements and how-to's to ensure the Barony of Blatha an Oir operates and meet requirements set by the various governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

Article 2: Governing Documents

The office of the Barony of Blatha an Oir (BaO) Exchequer is established and all activities are governed by Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) Corpora and Society Financial Policy; Kingdom of An Tir documents include Kingdom Financial Policies of An Tir and Local Exchequers' Handbook (LEH); and Barony of Blatha an

Oir's Customary. All are available for review on the SCA internet web sites. SCA US tax ID: 94-1698556.

Article 3: Summary of Duties of the Baronial Exchequer

- Manage and oversee all monies and assets of the barony and stronghold
- Set up and maintain bank accounts
- Prepare and submit reports in a timely manner
- Insure funds are available for use as approved by financial committee, baronial meeting populace and governing documents
- Ensure monies are used appropriately
- Conduct monthly financial committee meetings (see BaO Customary Article 10 Definitions)
- Assist the Stronghold of Rath an Oir with their assets
- Be familiar with governing documents as they relate to the office

Article 4: Sub-Appendixes

Sub-appendixes are to aid in the management of the exchequer office and assist other baronial officers and autocrats in financial affairs:

- Gate Procedures
- Mileage reimbursement and trailer towing
- Chamberlain
- Stronghold of Rath an Oir
- Ledger Tips & Quarterly/End of Year (doomsday) reports

DRAFT: submitted for populace review, comments, etc at the BaO business meeting held 5/21/09. Acceptance into the Baronial Customary will be at the August meeting.

APPENDIX: EXCHEQUER - GATE PROCEDURES

Article 1: Purpose

To establish consistency and ensure gate activities are in compliance with SCA procedures/rules and not-for-profit status requirements. (Local Exchequers' Handbook (LEH) Chapter 8, EVENT FINANCES)

Article 2: Don'ts and Can's

Section 1: Don'ts:

- A. Absolutely do not use any money collected at gate for refunds or expenses including supplies, food, site rental/fee, honoraries and fees, etc.
- B. Accept checks from anyone who has been identified as a risk by the exchequer,
- C. Accept personal checks on banks from outside the United States
- D. Accept checks without living address, ie general delivery
- E. No pre-registration or gate monies will be deposited into personal accounts, this is considered "co-mingling."
- F. Non-gate cash collections like A&S classes, sales, etc. They can be set up remote from gate activities. Monies must be kept separate from gate monies.

Section 2: Can's:

- A. The autocrat can use cash advance for any of the "don'ts" (except for site rental/fee) or
- B. Have the exchequer write checks during the event. (Pre-arrangement required.)
- C. Charge various rates; pre-registration (with end date), family caps, helpers, visiting royalty, etc. Can charge no fee when participant provides in-kind services at that event. This is not encouraged but we understand that some folk cannot afford to attend otherwise. (Don't comp just because you like them.)

(LEH) V. CONTROLS OF CASH, A. Gate Cash Income Management, 7. Refunds, B. Expense Reimbursement and Invoice Payment, and BaO financial committee 4-17-09

Article 3: Requirements

Section 1: Autocrat

- A. Is ultimately responsible for gate
- B. Only one person is responsible for gate operations, does not need to be the autocrat.
- C. Staff must be paid members of good standing in the SCA, be acceptable to exchequer and seneschal, and understand event financial procedures.
- D. No younger than 15 years of age to run gate table
- E. Helpers who don't handle gate monies can be non-members and younger than 15.

Section 2: Monies:

- A. All monies taken in are tracked, secured and accounted for
- B. All monies turned in to the exchequer within 5 days of collection, no exceptions:
 - 1) Pre-registration within two weeks of receiving monies from participant
 - 2) Last day of event
 - 3) Stop accepting pre-registration checks 14 days prior to event to allow bank turnaround (in case a check is NSF)

Section 3: Count out with exchequer when monies are turned over Required forms:

- A. Waiver forms, gate sheets, etc. to kingdom waiver deputy
- B. Event Expenditure report and Non-Member Surcharge report are completed by the BaO exchequer:
 - 1) Data collected by autocrat
 - 2) Non-Member Surcharge report with payment to kingdom
 - 3) Event Expenditure report is for internal BaO use

Section 4: Compliance and rules

- A. Follow modern law, and all levels of SCA rules/procedures
- B. Non-Member Surcharge when applicable, see related section.

Article 4: Running Till at Gate

Section 1: Only one person works the till at a time

- A. When changing people on the till (shift change), the outgoing and incoming does a till count together, document and transfer till operations.

BaO Customary
Article 3. Expenditure
of Baronial Funds,
Section 4. Event
Spending

Section 2: Have a small amount of "gate seed" cash for change.

- A. When closing gate for short while and another person will open, provide that person the "gate seed" to open within a lockable box or money pouch.
- B. Person closing gate performs a "cash box count" and "drops" all the money. Remember, a second person is needed to verify and sign off.

Section 3: Checks are made out to "SCA, Inc – Barony of Blatha an Oir" (Including Rath an Oir events.) Put name of SCA group by name for convenience of locating should there be a problem.

Section 4: Handling of Money

- A. "Cash Box Counts," aka "Drops"
- B. Keep the total amount in the till small; this may require one or more "drops." Can be done at shift change or during a shift as needed.
- C. Two people must do the count out for drops, intermediate and final.
 - 1) The two people can be till operators at shift change
 - 2) Till person and autocrat/gate coordinator

- 3) Till person and exchequer
- D. Drops are best done directly to the bank of account, however this is frequently unavailable, currently BaO does not use this service.
- E. Drops must always be kept secure and in one place. It is the autocrat's responsibility to provide this. This can be a locked vehicle if needed. Key is keeping it out of site and locked.
- F. At Cam-o-Lot, the owner graciously accepts drops and stores them in his onsite safe until collected by the autocrat or designated person/exchequer.
- G. Once a bundle is put in a drop, it cannot be used for making change or other purposes

Section 5: Counting the money:

- A. Checks are tracked separately; quantity is more important than value, (the exchequer will document value as each check must be listed separately for the bank deposit).
- B. Some people are very skilled running tills and doing count outs, but experience has shown that counting values usually results in errors. Recommend counting quantities of each denomination i.e. 15 ea \$5's, 6 ea \$20's, 26 quarters, etc. (Exchequer will use a calculator tape to verify value.) The

attached form is designed for this purpose.

- C. Before doing final drop remove the value of the "gate seed" and bundle/label separately. "Gate seed" amount must be the same as the cash advance.

Section 6: Other gate requirements/duties:

- A. Check that all minors are with legal guardian (18 years or older) or parent(s).
- B. If not that they have a notarized Medical authorization for a specified adult(s) of age 18 or older.

Article 5: Non-Member Surcharge (NMS)

Section 1: Required when event is published in Crier / kingdom calendar and a fee is collected.

Section 2: Applies only to adult rates, if children are charged the same amount as an adult then NMS is collected for them too.

Section 3: NMS applies only to non- current members of the SCA, Inc

Section 4: Current NMS charge is \$3.00, no more or less.

Section 5: Track the number of NMS collected along with total number of attendees (both adult and paying youth for the report).

Section 6: Report and payment must be submitted to Kingdom Exchequer within 30 days of the event by the baronial exchequer

Article 6: Trespassers

When person(s) get past checking in at gate

- Section 1: Politely encourage the trespasser to report to gate for sign-in and pay fees.
 - A. If known have the Heralds announce the individual(s) to report to gate.
 - B. If not known, point them out to Seneschal or Autocrat to approach them.
- Section 2: Only the Seneschal and Autocrat have the authority to have the trespassers removed of site if necessary and therefore should be the only ones approaching the individual(s).

Article 7: Supplemental Information

- Section 1: Gate Types: there are a variety of event types that influence what style of gate procure to use; one day, two or more days; with and without combat/fighting activities; no fees collected; pre-registration only; combined pre-registration and cash gate, etc. Below are both required and recommended activities.
 - A. No fees collected: usually a demo, but can be an event (Stronghold of Rath an Oir's events are frequently this type).
 - 1) When fighting/combat activities occur then waivers and attendance are required

- 2) Fight practices require attendance and waivers (submitted quarterly by the group marshal).
- 3) Non-Member Surcharge is not collected
- B. Pre-registration:
 - 1) Gate confirms attendance to ensure all attending have paid.
 - 2) Fighting requires waivers; they can be verified/submitted with pre-registration or at the gate.
 - 3) Non-Member Surcharge; see section for details
- C. Fees (\$) collected at gate:
 - 1) "Gate Seed" (cash) to make change
 - 2) Attendance list with amount paid noted
 - 3) Fighting/combat activities require waivers.
 - 4) Non-Member Surcharge; see section for details

(LEH) V. CONTROLS
 OF CASH, A. Gate
 Cash income
 Management, 10.
 T

Make money drops regularly when gate operates more than 4 hours (recommended) to keep total amount at gate minimal.

- Section 2: Documents and form tools:
 - A. Waivers are:
 - 1) Required for all events with combat/fighting activities and all must sign in.

- 2) Fight practices: those not current SCA members must complete individual waiver if fighting, group waiver if observing.
 - 3) Required for some event sites due to owner's insurance requirements (i.e. Cam-o-lot Enterprises in Randal, WA)
 - 4) Not require for non-combat/fighting activities, i.e. feasts
 - 5) Turned in to kingdom waiver deputy with a cover report within 30 days of the event.
 - 6) Fight practice attendance list and waivers are submitted quarterly.
- B. Attendance are:
- 1) Required when combat/fighting activates occur
 - 2) Monies are collected
 - 3) Not required when no monies are collected, i.e. business meeting, A&S gatherings, Heraldry meetings, cooking, etc. (and no fighting activities)
 - 4) Non-Member Surcharge report: see section for details
 - 5) Financial Reports: After an event where monies are collected the exchequer will prepare a report depicting the expenses and income for a net profit or loss of the event. Note, this requires all

expenses/receipts be submitted quickly for a timely report. This report is for baronial use only.

- Section 3: Source for forms: gate sign-in/waivers/attendance sheets come in a variety of formats available on the AnTir web site.
- A. These forms are recommended; it is permissible to modify/create unique designs as long as it has the required information.
 - B. Waivers are standardized in verbiage and must be used as written. However, layout can vary.
 - 1) List format for several to sign
 - 2) Individual
 - 3) Family
 - C. Medical authorization form for Minors when children will be in care of others or old enough to roam event site on their own. Note: if parent/legal guardian is not on site the waiver must be notarized.

<Quick Look at Required Forms Table and Gate Take "Drop" Record Form removed from the Blatherings due to formatting. These forms are included in the Exchequer Appendix on the BaO website>

**APPENDIX: EXCHEQUER - MILEAGE
REIMBURSEMENT & TRAILER TOWING**

Section 1: Mileage Reimbursement:

- A. Not used in conjunction with going to an event, i.e. one round trip.
- B. Not used for beverages and food for the travelers.
- C. Mileage reimbursement is acceptable for:
 - 1) work parties before and/or after an event
 - 2) officers in fulfillment of the duties of their office
 - 3) towing the baronial trailer
- D. Reimbursable travel expenses are gas, tolls and oil receipts, or at
- E. IRS charitable rate for mileage, currently \$0.20 (twenty cents).
- F. Insurance, repairs and tickets are not reimbursable.

Section 2: Trailer Towing:

- A. Person(s) towing an SCA owned trailer must have towing coverage on their insurance
- B. Proper connections for safety and signaling
- C. Must check the trailer out from Chamberlain (exchequer or seneschal in a pinch)

- D. SCA not responsible for damages or repairs caused by towing the trailer

To be written

APPENDIX: EXCHEQUER - CHAMBERLAIN

**APPENDIX: EXCHEQUER - STRONGHOLD OF RATH
AN OIR**

**APPENDIX: EXCHEQUER - LEDGER TIPS &
QUARTERLY/END OF YEAR (DOOMSDAY)
REPORTS**

(LEH) Chapter 4.
Managing Assets –
Non-Cash; VIII.
Vehicles

Baronial Meeting Notes: May 21, 2009

Officer's Reports:

Baron/Baroness: Aleksii and Elspeth – Honey War gearing up. War Moot Sunday, May 31st 1:PM at Tuesday Fight Practice site.

Seneschal: Elisabethe Phipps – More Event Bids needed. Stronghold will be put on rest after Daffodil Archery Tournament. Date changed for Autumn War 2010. But fine for 2011-2014. No longer office of Waterbearer.

Herald: Dafydd Caerfyrddin - The herald's office has been fairly quiet this month, but we are gearing up for Tourney Season. Abrahe and I have been doing some consulting on names and devices.

Arts & Sciences: Katheryn de Gonneville – Meeting next Wed. Beginning surface embroidery at KKF. Isabella will hold a Single Entry Contest at Lord Defenders.

Marshal: Nels Ulfger I Jaren – Marshal out of country. Deputy Marshal Alaister will fill in while Nels is unavailable.

Exchequer: Shawna Kerr – \$17117 balance. Quarterly Report OK. Working on new Exchequer governing document which includes new Gate Policy and Stronghold. Will be addendum to Customary. Will send to Chronicler to publish for review.

Lists: Aislinn - Not Present.

Chronicler: Abrahe çaragoça - Need submissions for May Blatherings. Working on Tri-Fold project for HE with Chatelaine.

Chatelaine: Agnés berengarii – One newcomer came to last Newcomer night. Next meeting May 25. Basic Garb. Working with Chronicler on Tri-Fold for Newcomers. Wyewood helping with Ethnic Fest.

Chirurgian: Office Open.

Scribe: Annaka Poznanska - New charter available. Working on catching up backlog.

Games: Isabella de Wallingford – Not Present. Qube and Bocci will be played at Lord Defenders as well as board games.

Chamberlain: Anghared verch Reynulf – Not Present. Will help Exchequer on Chamberlain Appendix for Exchequer Governing Documents.

Pied Piper: Awaiting Approval.

Demo: Leif Moonshadow – Unofficial Demo at Viking Fest in Poulsbo.

Rath an Oir: Will be put on Rest after Daffodil Archery.

Events:

Need Autocrats:

Candlemas: N/A

Celtic Spring Feast:

Celtic Bardic: N/A

Daffodil Archery Tourney: RAO May 22-24, 2009 – Prizes made (quivers). Help needed on Sunday for Breakdown. Thrown Weapons and Twilight Shoots, also.

Lord Defenders: Dafydd June 19-21, 2009 – At Longbranch. Pot Luck on Saturday. Limited RV spots. Reserve ahead of time. Baron Michael Breakfast moved to LD. Dafydd did site walk.

Ethnic Fest: Yusef July 24-26, 2009 – Will be a Chivalry Rose Tourney. Wyewood will help out.

Autumn War: Dafydd and Morgan August 13-17, 2009 – Talking with Principality of Tir Righ and may be Tir Righ vs. Summits War. Crown may be there as well. ACCEPS being used. Daytrip fee added for Sat Only.

Sgt. Trials: Date available in Sept if inclination. Will probably be put on hold til next year.

Harvest Feast: November 14, 2009 - Two bids submitted. Bid Deadline June Business Meeting.

Business:

Tuesday Fight Practice: In full swing. Pot Lucks after Fight Practice.

Regala Project: Agnes berengarii – Working on coordinating Regala projects.

Adjourned: 8:00PM

Newcomer's Nook

I am The Honorable Agnes berengarii de girona and I am the Chatelaine for The Barony of Blatha an Oir. Chatelaine is an SCA term for "Welcome Wagon Lady". So, I am here to help you by providing guidance through this new world of the Society for Creative Anachronisms, Inc. Like many clubs, being new can be a bit overwhelming and that is why I am here.

In Blatha an Oir, we are hosting a series of classes to help the SCA newcomer. All classes will be on the last Monday of the Month. Classes will be held in the classroom of Krazy Kat Fiberhaus, 3013 6th Ave, Suite A, Tacoma, WA (for directions call: 253-627-8559) or e-mail baochatelaine@blathaanoir.org. I encourage all newcomers to attend as many of the classes as they can. Classes are held 7:PM on the last Monday of the month at Krazy Kat Fiberhaus (3013 6th Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98406).

Please RSVP and let me know if you will be able to make it.

Baronial Officers

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Chatelaine

[Agnés berengarii de girona](#) (mka: Peggy Viney)

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Gold Key (Office Open -- please submit application to Seneschal)

Chiurgeon (Office Open -- please submit application to Seneschal)

Scribe

[Annaka Poznanska](#) (mka: Anita Taylor)

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Pied Piper/Children's Activities (Pending)

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Stronghold Officers

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Postern Gate

The Postern Gate is the e-mail list setup for the populace of Blatha an Oir. To subscribe to the Postern Gate go to <http://antir.sca.org/> The address for posting to the Postern Gate (known as [gate2]) is bao@antir.sca.org If you don't receive confirmation of your subscription within **24 hours** please email the [Gatekeeper](#) at baogatekeeper@blathaanoir.org.

