

The Aerie



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SEPTEMBER A.S. LIII (2018)

Cum An Iolair Calendar (Events in bold are local)

September 2018

- 1 Tournament of Horse and Falcons—Forgotten Sea (Kansas City, MO)
- 7 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7pm
- 8 King's Companie of Archers—Calontir (Smithville, MO)
- 14 Cook's Guild 7:30 at Marguerite's 7216 Cottonwood Shawnee, KS
- 15 Queen's Prize—Crystal Mynes (Carthage, MO)
- 21 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7 pm
- 22 Crucible at the Crossroads—Three Rivers (St. Louis, MO)
- 29 Frosted Helm-Come Home to the Heartland—Coeur d'Ennu (Des Moines, IA)

October 2018

- 5 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7pm
- 6 Autumn Arrows—Calanais Nuadh (Rolla, MO)
- 12 Cook's Guild 7:30 at Marguerite's 7216 Cottonwood Shawnee, KS. **Date may need to be changed!**
- 13 Fall Crown Tournament—Flinthyll (Burlington, IA)
- 19 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7 pm
- 20 The Silk Trade Road from Grimfells—Grimfells (Pineville, AR)
Vertigo—Lost Moor (St. Joseph, MO)
- 27 Fall War College—Moonstone (Burlington, KS)
Harvest Home—Standing Stones (Columbia, MO)

November 2018

- 2 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7pm

- 3 Fall RUSH: Book Arts—Lonely Tower (Omaha, NE)
- 9 Cook's Guild 7:30 at Marguerite's 7216 Cottonwood Shawnee, KS.
- 10 Plebian Games—Amlethsmore (Hallsville, MO)
- 16 Shire Meeting: St. Thomas the Apostle 12251 Antioch Rd.-7 pm
- 17 Toys for Tots—Wyvern Cliffe (Jefferson City, MO)

Shire Birthday List

September

- 2 Gianlupo delle Bande Neri
- 15 Bronwen ferch Lloid

October

- 21 Alfgeirr Skytja

November

- 5 Modar Neznanich
Tegan Ford
- 14 Kim Sarsfield
- 17 Adelaide Sarsfield
- 20 Miguel Navas de Mijorca
- 30 Geoffrey Lucas

Note from Chronicler

We need articles, book reviews and event reports for *The Aerie*. Please submit those by the 25th of each month to chronicler@shireofcai.org. It would be especially helpful if people wrote event reviews. It is so simple to write them since you go to events already. We need a new Herald. See the Seneschal if you are interested.

Shire of Cum an Iolair Meeting Minutes 2018-08-03

Present: Gideon, Bronwen, Adelaide, Ysabel, Saige, Fiona, Kotori, Eibhilin, Zarra, Mitsumi, Caitlin, Giraude, Gian-Lupo, Tessie, Tim, Gerran, Margaurite, David (new), Joyce (new)

Bronwen read letter from Patriot Outreach thanking us for our donation of \$776 from the Server Auction. A picture was taken of the letter and will be posted on (Facebook? The website? Didn't get that part).

NOTES FROM FEAST OF Eagles

Giraude said that Fish in a Barrel raised \$302 for the Kingdom Travel Fund. Thanks especially to Caitlin, Fiona, Kotori, Tessie, and others for their donations. The move from "Pig in a Poke" to "Fish in a Barrel" has allowed us to raise more money, since more than one ticket can be sold for each item.

Gian-Lupo reported that 199 people signed in, which makes this the largest Feast of Eagles in many years (as long as he can remember). Reason could have been the good weather, or the attendance of Their Royal Majesties, but most important, it has been the hard work of all of us over the past few years to improve Feast of Eagles and make it an event that people want to come to. This is the 3rd year in a row that we've sold out seats for Feast, and we are getting more fighters, both armored and cut-and-thrust.

Eibhilin wanted to give special thanks to Ysabel, Gideon, Janos (of Aston Tor), and Fiona for helping to clean up the kitchen

after Feast. Bronwen thanked Alfgeirr and Niccolo for helping with the soda sales.

Issues from Feast of Eagles:

1. Water jugs were not on site until later. Not sure if that fell to the marshal or autocrat. Suggestion: Pre-event checklist for event to make sure small things like this are not overlooked. Giraude said she had access to one we could use in future.
2. There was an issue with the Feast Reservation form—one person could reserve for several and that ended up causing confusion at the Gate, especially as people were trying to pay for other people. Ysabel said the form was from the old website—the new website has a form that we can configure to do what we need. Ysabel and Kotori will go over it to see what will work best with the other Gate forms.
3. There were a lot of complaints about the new Gate forms/procedures. Kotori and Fiona will give feedback to the Kingdom Seneschal and Kingdom Exchequer about our experiences with the new forms. Feast of Eagles was the first event these forms were used at, so this was new for everyone.
4. Parking is tight. Most of the locals did move their cars for so worshipers could park for the evening Church Services, but still, parking an issue. Not sure of resolution on that.
5. Need a clearly marked jar for donations. This may be one reason why Inn did not break even this year—people didn't know where to put the money? Tim offered to make some specific boxes for donations.
6. No tokens for the populace vote for the A&S contest. Mitsumi ended up borrowing some from the Dirty Dozen Largesse Contest. Another item for the pre-event checklist.
7. Kotori and Fiona reported that people at Gate loved the Feast tokens, but missed having site tokens. It was remarked on several times. We should probably offer site tokens at the next Feast of Eagles.
8. Zarra and Eibhilin reported an issue with the serving items. We need more of them. It was suggested that there are probably more in the storage unit. Kotori is going to have to do an inventory anyway (as new Exchequer), so we will have a better idea of what the Shire has. Gerran asked whether the Shire would want to buy some new serving ware, and also to consider when looking to get serving ware think of how it would store. Consensus was that we should see what comes up in the inventory and then decide from there. Question of more serving utensils was also brought up. Kotori said she will not get to doing inventory this month (too much other things going on). Agreement that it should probably happen in September or October when it is cooler.
9. Side discussion: Giraude heard somewhere that we were no longer allowed to use wood as serving (utensils? Platters? I didn't get that part.) Bronwen will check on this and report back. Fiona brought up the subject of Gold Key, which falls under Eibhilin's office as Chatelaine. It should be inventoried, too, and sorted by gender and/or size. At this point we have several boxes of Gold Key loaner clothing (people have been generous about donating old clothes). Kotori will check into the rules about selling Gold Key items if the Shire decides to downsize the Gold Key.

Eibhilin introduced new people, David and Joyce. All-around welcome.

Saige asked about the status of Shire Business cards, brought up at an earlier meeting. Kingdom Chatelain has a business card template on their site. Ysabel would like to do something else. Eibhilin will check with Kingdom to see if we have to use that particular template or if we can make our own. Ysabel will put together some ideas so we can look at them at the next meeting and maybe vote on a design.

Mitsumi mentioned the Facebook information does not match that on the official site. Ysabel will look into it.

Adelaide asked about maybe doing some Shire t-shirts. This was enthusiastically received, especially as the group's 25th anniversary is coming up. Various recommendations from Shire members as to where to source the t-shirts. Adelaide agreed to take point on this project. (PS: we need prices!)

Idea for Feast Token for next year's Feast of Eagles—stamped Silver Eagles on Red and Gold cloth? Caitlin mentioned she does have an embroidery machine, too. Tabled for further discussion.

Kotori gave an outline of the Caloncon Exchequer's meeting and some changes on the way we handle our money. There are several new forms, Gate will have to be done differently starting immediately, Seneschals will be responsible for waivers, not exchequers (who will track gate money on a separate form), stricter reporting criteria, Shire must start doing minutes, write a financial policy, and have a 2019 budget by October. (EDIT: heard back from Kingdom Exchequer—2019 budget due by the END of October). Events must have written budgets.

We'll have to make some decisions about 2019 Feast of Eagles earlier than usual, and may want to get an autocrat/feastocrat in place soon so they can have some input on the 2019 FoE budget.

Giraude said she would start negotiations about the Clothiers site as soon as the Gardner schools open, which should be next week? Anyway, soon.

Group not happy about the budget thing, but it is what it is. Biggest announcement was that Kingdom is accepting Paypal payments/pre-registration for Events. It is optional for local events, required for Kingdom events (ie Crown Tourney, Coronation, QPT, etc) There is a process, please see the file that Kotori uploaded to Facebook and Yahoo groups for details. It may be a good option for Clothiers. If so, we have to request it 2 months before the event (and since it's around the holidays, a little earlier than that might not hurt.)

Zarra said she had worked Gate at Estrella where they had Paypal pre-registration and that they had printed out sheets that were highlighted as people checked in. Kotori said feedback from the areas where the Paypal/Credit Card process were tried was positive. People like the convenience.

Some questions on the Paypal process. Kotori only has to request it: the actual work is done at Kingdom level by a team of deputies to the Kingdom Exchequer. The Shire may want to consider getting a card slider for taking credit cards for events. Calontir has a specific model they want the groups to use, it cost about \$25. No decision made at this point, but group seemed to like this development.

Queen's Prize has been moved to the weekend after our Clothier's event, while Kingdom Arts and Sciences has been moved to the weekend before Feast of Eagles starting in 2019. This may affect our numbers, but there's no way to tell at this point. Some talk about moving Feast of Eagles to another weekend, but it's difficult. June is out, if we go into August, Their Majesties could not attend due to Pennsic, September has several conflicts. It was decided to keep Feast of Eagles where it is (4th Saturday in July) and see how things work out. Ysabel is now head of the Calontir's Cooks Guild. They met at Feast of Eagles. She would like to see more of our cooks involved in the Kingdom guild since we have so many good cooks in our group. The Cook's Guild has been talking about doing a Cooks, Bakers and Brewers RUSH, and she thought it would be a good fit for our group. Group generally agreed but questions about date and some specific requirements. Also, we don't want to conflict with Forgotten Sea's "Playing with Fire" mini-event (this year happening alongside Horse and Falcon). Ysabel said that Mathurin, who has been running "Playing with Fire", wants to merge it with the RUSH, so we're clear there. Need more information about dates. Other groups may be bidding on this, too.

Marguerite said that the nursing home where the Shire did a demo a few months ago really loved it (especially the dancing) and asked if we would come back and do another. It would be on a weekday evening again. The Shire agreed. Marguerite will find out about dates and more details.

No further business, meeting closed
Ki no Kotori
Exchequer
Shire of Cum an Iolair

Shire of Cum an Iolair Meeting Minutes 08-17-2018

Present: John, Lilian, Mitsumi, Caitlin, Fiona, Bronwen, Susan (visiting guest), Rhodri, Giulia, Zarra, Rose, Thomas, Kotori, Tim, Tessie, Gideon, Marguerite
John Bowyer reported that the Peasant's Revolt (Baronial Moot) last weekend was a lot of fun.

Bronwen wanted to bring up the topic of our group using Paypal for preregistration and to process credit cards at events, as was discussed some at the last meeting. The percentage that Paypal takes out was discussed—a file was shared from the Kingdom Exchequer to the Seneschal's and Exchequer's list giving some real examples of the percentage that Paypal would take for this service.

Kotori brought up that some of the numbers on the handout were off (this was discussed on the Exchequer's list). The percentages are: For pre-pay registration, it is 30 cents per transaction + 2.3% of the transaction. For Credit Card Pay at the Door, it is 2.7% of the transaction. [Note: for further info, please see Kotori's Exchequer Meeting Notes, posted on both the FB and Yahoo groups]

Question from Bronwen: does the group want to utilize Paypal for pre-registration and credit card processing at Clothiers? Everyone liked the idea. However, as Giraude is the autocrat of the event, we need to consult her and make sure she is okay with it. She could not make tonight's meeting because she had family in town. Bronwen will talk to her.

Discussion about how the Paypal Credit Card swiper works. Mitsumi has had a lot of experience with this and would be willing to help at Gate.

Some notes from the discussion: Paypal times out at 10 minutes, but you can set it up on a phone to come back at a fingerprint, so just tap it rather than have to retype the password. Also, if you turn the volume of the phone up, it gets better reception (?).

Phones used with the swiper need to be Android—it won't work with iPhones. But several group members have Android phones, so no problem there.

Bronwen asked Kotori to check with the Paypal deputies to find out which swiper we would need to buy, and get particulars about the price, etc.

John asked if we decide to do pre-reg for Clothiers, do we want to set up a table at Kris Kinder to allow people to pre-reg? It does not need to be all day. Tabled for further discussion.

Kotori (Exchequer) reported on the Feast of Eagles final numbers:

The gross income was \$2,984.50. This includes Gate, Feast, Inn, Sodas, and Fish in a Barrel.

The expenses (mostly on feast and site, with a few incidentals—printing, mailing, sodas) were \$1,232.58.

We paid \$195.00 for the Non-Member Surcharge.

We donated \$302.00 to the Kingdom Travel Fund from the Fish in a Barrel raffle.

(Noted during meeting: the tithe of \$150 is not counted as an event expense, it is something the Shire does yearly anyway.

This year we just happened to give it at Feast of Eagles.)

Final Group Profit from Feast of Eagles was \$1,254.92.

Feast did not quite pay for itself, but it was only short by \$7.74, and part of that was due to the issue with the new forms and matching them to the feast pre-registration. As stated at last meeting, Kotori will be meeting with Ysabel about this. Also, who knows if the new forms will change again before then?

We did lose money on the Inn (\$67.85), but again, as stated in the last meeting, the donation basket was not clearly marked, and there wasn't one out where the fighters were. Tim is making us some donation boxes so that issue will be addressed. It was agreed that the donation Inn is a courtesy to the fighters and our other visitors, and also a draw for the event, so the Shire feels it is worth the cost.

Fiona mentioned that the 2019 Kingdom calendar does not have Feast of Eagles listed yet. Bronwen will request it be put on the calendar. Our annual "reserved" date is used for Clothiers, so we have to put Feast of Eagles on the calendar every year. The next Feast of Eagles (25th Anniversary!!) will be on July 27, 2019..

Rhodri and Giulia mentioned that there has been some talk about moving Pennsic forward yet again, but it looks like nothing has been done yet, and the Pennsic website indicates it will be at the same time next year as it has been. Feast of Eagles is traditionally the last event in Calontir before Pennsic that new fighters can authorize. However, if Pennsic is moved forward, we'll have to reconsider our date. But it won't only mess with us, but with Kingdom Arts and Sciences as well. However, it looks like nothing has been decided yet, so we will go forward as usual.

Marguerite will talk to St. Thomas Church (our regular site) as soon as possible to reserve the date. Their calendar fills up fast!

Some talk about the Clothiers site at Gardner and how the costs keep going up. Rhodri offered to check the price of a Baptist Church over near him that he thinks might be a good back-up. The Gardner site has been good for the event—lots of room for classes.

Marguerite gave an update on the Demo mentioned last month. She needs to check with Roderick first (since we need musicians) but it looks like October 18th will be the date. She will update when she knows more.

Compliments were made about the new website that Ysabel has put together.

Looks like Queen's Prize will once again have a large contingent from Cum an Iolair.

Lilian (Arts and Sciences Minister) asked what classes we would like to have in the future.

Ideas:

Pre-print Class (Kotori said she would teach, requested it be AFTER Queen's Prize, though)

Felting Class (Lilian would teach. If it is held on a Friday night, we will need to get into the Church around 6 pm—the class takes some time. Even if not everyone can get there by then, she can at least get some people started.)

Sewing Day (requested by Marguerite who desperately needs a new chemise). That would probably need to be a whole day, perhaps at someone's house? John and Lilian? Giraude and Gian-Lupo? Marguerite has the room but she's not set up well for it. Rhodri said he might be able to host in the future, but right now he and Giulia are still unpacking.

Pottery painting. Lilian suggested this, that we meet at a pottery painting place for an evening of painting. People liked the idea, she will get more information.

Block printing. Wild cheer of approval on this one. No details yet on who might teach.

Camping 101. John Bowyer said he has taught how to set up a camp kitchen before. Also looking for just good practical tips on camping. Might be able to combine this with a demo (I didn't hear the rest of that conversation.)

Gulf Wars Primer. Rhodri offered to teach this sometime in January.

Calontir History Class. Rhodri also offered to teach this one.

Tapestry Class. Marguerite has wanted to teach this, but needs some frames for students to use. Zarra has been trying to put together some frames, but has had some technical issues with the wood. John or Tim might help her finish those up? Also need to

source the right kind of yarn. This would need to be a 4 hour class or done over 2 successive meetings.

Lilian will bring her calendar along next meeting and figure out when these classes could be scheduled.

Adelaide is in charge of the next Cook's Guild meeting in September. The Cook's Guild meeting in October will need to be moved as Marguerite will be out of town. New date to be decided, will be announced on the list and on Facebook.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Ki no Kotori
Exchequer
Shire of Cum an Iolair

Book Review: The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England

by Caitlin nic Ragnie
(used with permission)

Ian Mortimer, the author of "The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England," has created a guide that is truly unique. It's written as if you have traveled back in time and found yourself in Britain during the 14th century. It's meant not only to review what made this period unique, but also to immerse oneself into that period to discover it from the point of view of those who lived it.

As Mortimer himself puts it: "How did people greet each other...? What is their sense of humor like? How far away from home do individuals travel?" His hope is that such knowledge will make us not only understand the past better but find out "what it's like to be human" in this era.

The chapters are written thematically. While the first few concentrate on subjects like "The Landscape" and "The People," the latter ones are more direct, like "What To Wear" and "Where To Stay." Not only does this give us a rich diorama of the era, it is also extremely readable.

As aids to our understanding, Mortimer also provides charts, a fair amount of artwork (in color), and lots of lists. One list is all about "Ordinances"... a list of offences of the time and what their penalties were, including items like "No butcher may work in the city as a cook." Additional lists cover such items as "Household Inventories" of actual people, "Clothing Regulations," and "The Social Hierarchy."

What particularly sets this book apart though is not its lists or pictures or subject headings, however, but its thoroughness. The reader really does gain a sense of learning about specifics of the era and finding out what one needs to get around. Not only will you find out what your own home looks like--should you be a wealthy burgher or a commoner--but you will also be told how others will greet you when you knock on a door to, say, an inn--again, whether you are a member of nobility or a commoner. Also, you will be informed as to what you should expect from various courses of food in a peasant's home versus a nobleman's. The Guide also lets you know how to take care of yourself or

others in matters of illness or surgery, how to handle various legal issues such as malicious arrest or even execution. You will find out how to entertain oneself in local townships by wagering, playing a "ball and stick" game, seeing a performance, or witnessing the spectacle of jousting.

Mr. Mortimer has created a history book which can be read and enjoyed by just about anyone. Not only did I learn a lot about the time period, but I got a distinct and well-rounded idea of what it was like to be there, living the life of a visitor to England during that time period. This book is thoroughly entertaining, filled with great information, and I highly recommend it for history lovers.

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