

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
April 11, 1972

Present: Jon DeCles, David Green, Diana Studebaker

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.
2. Diana read and passed around copies of the Society balance sheet for 1971. David requested that we find out if the car that the Middle Marches has in the Society's name is insured. He also suggested that we need a written financial policy. It should include that the Kingdom's must have Kingdom bank accounts, and any donation that is to be given a receipt by us as a deduction will have to be paid in to the central office and then if desired paid back to the Kingdom the donor wishes it to go to.

Jon read the financial report for the first quarter of 1972 (Central).

Craig Close was proposed as acting Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Imperium and accepted.

Work subscriptions were voted to Craig and to Olive Partridge.

3. The East

El has written saying when are we going to give Boardman his subscription, and we must be sure to give him the arms he wants. Jon has instructed the Deputy Steward to write and tell El that we will do the other things when and only when we have received the signed oaths of surety.

The collected N.Y. registration papers have been sent to the Dept. of State yet once again.

The amendment covering expulsion of members should be written up for the next meeting (see last month's minutes).

4. The Steward is to instruct his deputy that only the Board has authority to confirm appointment or disappointment of Seneschals. However we need a written policy on this, since it is not in the By-laws or Corpora yet. Kingdom Seneschals might be given power to appoint own subordinates in capital and provinces, but not in baronies.

The Kingdom of the West should be asked for a clearer definition of who and why they shall be given Grants of Arms (the other Kingdoms should be asked to consider this as well). Grants of Arms were invented by the Clarion Herald. They are not in the By-laws. By policy they are given to Great Lords of State, but it is up to the kingdoms to define same.

5. Formal passing on the publication policy approved at the last meeting was tabled until next meeting.
6. The approval of the procedure for abatement of arms was xxxxxxxx delayed until a special meeting can be held to discuss this (Thurs. 4/13/72).
7. Diana was instructed to write up the proposal for a Board of Advisors for the By-laws and to write asking those nominated to serve.

8. The general question of territorial baronetcies was discussed.
  - a. Sir Stefan's letter proposing various definitions was discussed, and approved with the following qualifications:
    - #1 the request to differentiate present from possible branches by referring to the latter as "group forming" was approved, and the Chronicler will be so instructed.
    - #2 We should try to get the Kingdom Seneschal to confirm the existence of a new group in his territory, but if impossible, this requirement can be bypassed.
    - #3 The title for a nascent canton may not be "march". "Group forming" will do very well here as well.

Sir Stefan's definition of the office of baron and seneschal was very good, although formal approval of it must wait until a final decision on the nature of territorial baronetcies is reached.

- b. Shall we consider changing the present definition of territorial Baron?
  1. We need to write out criteria for awarding such a baronetcy. They should include length and success of service.
  2. How important is it for a Barony to have a baron?

Pro- he acts as a ceremonial figurehead, can stand-in for the King, gets populace used to idea of a ruler and gives them an opportunity to learn how to act, is a good focus of ceremony and baronial pride. Inspires baronies to develop local ceremony etc.

Con - he can become too important, begin to use title as an office and over use his influence, his presence can deflect the energies of the group into inventing ceremonies rather than group development.
  3. Under what circumstances can a Barony replace a lost baron?
    - a. If the first group dies out, and a totally new one is founded in the same place.
    - b. If it is decided that a barony must have a baron, another might be allowed if the first had "died" (i.e. left the SCA for a period such as 5 yrs.), or if he formally ceded his title to another.
    - c. If the original baron simply moves to another branch, he might leave a vicar behind him. Perhaps anyone about to receive the title should be asked for plans for fulfilling abandoned functions if he should move away.
  4. What should be done about the Bufo petition?

A ceremony should be constructed which will demonstrate the groups' qualifications for the honor. The new barony should host it for the benefit of King and court, and should proceed to show off all their talents and achievements. If these are satisfactory, an investiture will complete the event.

Criteria for this honor should include a certain number of members, who will affiliate voluntarily with the barony.

Jon should present a formal scheme for the next meeting.

5. What, if anything, should the territorial baron get on his arms?

The Lord Laurel recommends a canton. Jon feels that he should be represented by the baronial arms, as the King is by the Kingdom. Diana felt that they should have a permanent canton of the barony's arms on their own as visible evidence of their achievement in case they move. Also, representing them by the barony's arms would give them too much importance-- too sacred a character. An extremely inconclusive discussion of the whole matter followed. This should be further considered at our next meeting.

9. The request to change the age of consent on waivers was discussed. David of Ilwhirlaines latest advice is that a statement that "if the participant is under legal age in his state of residence and/or the state in which the event is taking place" his parent should sign it would be adequate. Anders says he knows some lawyers in the province of the Mists-- XXX we should try and get a second opinion from one of them.

David brought up the question of reviving the general waiver because of the dangers to spectators from shattered weapons, etc. A good idea, but may be impracticable in a large group. The Constable or Sheriff should watch out for spectator safety. The Imperial Marshal should be requested to investigate the proper-- safe size for tourney fields. Perhaps a double Eric would help.

10. The Lord Laurels' comments on the proposed Order of the Pelican were read. His proposed use of the order does not present any objections to the one suggested by Diana, it ignores it, therefore Diana would like to go ahead and write it up as she proposed it. Approved.

The College should be asked if any Pelicans vulning themselves have been registered.

The objection that the pelican is a Christian symbol has been advanced. Diana contends that the piece of "natural history" which makes it appropriate for our use was ancient Greek. The Medievals believed that the pelican used its own blood to feed its young, and therefore saw in it an allegory of Christ and the Church, we see in it an allegory of the good civil servant and the SCA. David volunteered to look it up.

11. Send the list of work-based subscriptions to Boncoeur.

12. Boncoeur's request for a work hours/subscription credit ratio system was discussed and will be reconsidered after we have some more reports from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He also reports several queries on the nature of Class G membership. This should be answered in the "Question Box" in the next available space.

13. Various brief business items were discussed:

- a. Valerie of Ithildin's resignation was read and accepted.
- b. The two letters of application for Archivist were handed to David.

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- c. Isaac's request to form a new province in the Stockton area was read and approved, approval to be conveyed to Steve.
  - d. The formation of a Florida branch was approved and the letter routed to Raymond.
  - e. Dunharrow's letter accepting chairmanship of the Steel use commission was read, and his letter to the commission accepted for xxxxxxxxx. dissemination. His proposals for falconry and horsemanship requirements for knighthood were good, but implementation is considered impossible except in West, where I believe they have already been added to list for local use. We recommend that the Kingdom report on their experience after using them awhile.
  - f. Boncoeur's request for permission to send notification of subscription receipt was accepted if he will pay for them himself.
  - g. The letter from the Great River (N.M.) was read, and the Deputy Steward is to be instructed to let them alone until the after Barnharts leave.
  - h. The letter from Duke Cariadoc exploring possible justifications for war between the MK and EK was read. David will write him with further ideas.
14. The laws of Atenveldt. Not enough time to discuss this. Diana will prepare a paper on any objections for circulation between meetings.
15. The Court of Chivalry-Abatement of Arms questions were tabled until Thursday's meeting.