

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
Meeting Minutes  
10 October 1982

Board Members Present:

Henrik Olsgaard, Chair  
Larry Mannion  
Mike Woodford  
Dave Thewlis  
Rob Himmelsbach

Staff Members Present:

Sandra Adams, Steward  
Cliveden Chew Haas,  
Corporate Secretary

Others Present:

Carol Bowman-Porter

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The meeting was called to order at 1:48 pm at the house of  
Cliveden Chew Haas.

I. Establishment of Agenda:

M/s/c Dave-Rob to approve the Agenda as amended.

II. Approval of Minutes:

M/s/c Rob-Mike to approve the 29 August Minutes as corrected.

III. Reports:

A. Steward:

As requested by the Board, Sandra had investigated the cost of visiting An Tir as suggested by the Kinadom Seneschal. She reported that it would cost approximately \$150 extra for her to combine a Board meeting with a trip to An Tir. She suggested that the trip might be scheduled for January. Rob as ombudsman will contact the Crown of An Tir to discuss the visit.

There have been problems where Kingdom chroniclers had agreed to print required material (in two recent cases, Kingdom laws) and then decided at the last minute not to do so without consulting anyone. The Board noted that Chroniclers must print required material such as Kingdom laws, announcements from the Kingdom seneschal, etc. The Steward and the National Chroniclers will remind the Kingdom chroniclers of SCA policy on printing required material.

A description of the duties and responsibilities of the Steward's Office as it currently stands was included in her report.

B. Chancellor of the Exchequer:

The Board warranted Shelley Stone (Baroness Michaele del Vaqa) as Chancellor of the Exchequer through 31 October 1983.

10 October 1982

Page 2

Her report included a copy of the revised financial statement for 1981, which will be published in the next issue of T.I.

C. Corporate Office:

The membership count passed 8,000 with the October label run. The Stock Clerk's Office has been working about 30 hours per month filling orders, rather than the 15 hours per month originally estimated.

D. Laurel King of Arms:

Laurel sent a letter to the Board and the Steward questioning whether it was proper for kingdom law to require that all peers swear fealty and that if they do not so swear they shall be considered inactive, as one kingdom has recently stated. He also asked whether the Board reserves unto itself the authority to degrade a membership in non-peerage orders. The Board remanded the law questions in Laurel's letter of 10 September 1982 to the Steward's Office to handle.

On another point brought up by Laurel, they noted that if kingdom law does not specifically mention Masters of Arms, the law could be successfully challenged by a member wishing to join that order, as it is an inter-kingdom peerage. Kingdom law does not necessarily have to mention such orders, but they cannot specifically outlaw them.

Laurel was also concerned with the recent publication of the Order of Precedence of Law in the SCA, as it should mention other countries rather than just the U.S.A. There was general agreement on this point. The Board decided to wait for Larry to arrive before taking any action.

The College of Arms requested financial help to publish the next edition of the SCA Ordinary and Armorial. The Board felt that this was an excellent project, but so many corporate funds are already tied up in printing projects (KNOWN WORLD HANDBOKE, FIGHTER'S HANDBOOK, CAERTHAN HERALDRY SYMPOSIUM, etc.) that a new project cannot be financed at this time. They suggested that the funds of the College of Arms could properly be used to finance the print run, since this is a project of the College.

The Board signed two-year warrants for Laurel's deputies: William Linden (Alfgar the Sententious), Virgule Herald; William J. Bethancourt III (Ioseph of Locksley), Greenwood Herald Extraordinary; J. Edmund Rush (Renfield Wanderscribe), Clarion King of Arms; and Cynthia Hilton {Cynthia Fitz Colline), Laurel Secretary.

10 October 1982

Page 3

E. Society Marshall: No report

F. Society Chroniclers:

The Society Chroniclers feel that the current paragraph in CORPORA does not fully cover all elements of their job. They proposed a change to CORPORA, which was discussed and modified by the Board.

M/s/c Rob-Dave to revise CORPORA as follows:

IV. CORPORATE OFFICERS AND OFFICES

G. THE CHRONICLER OF THE SOCIETY. The Chronicler is responsible for:

1. *Overseeing publication of all official Society publications, including TOURNAMENTS ILLUMINATED, THE COMPLEAT ANACHRONIST, each kingdom's official newsletter, and any other publications the Board designates as official;*

2. *Overseeing the editors of the official publications of the Society, including corporate level deputies and kingdom chroniclers;*

3. *Serving as a source of publishing expertise and advice for the benefit of the Society.*

Six letters of complaint were received by the Board referring to the Society Chroniclers' handling of the proposed replacement of the Midrealm chronicler. Letters were received from Winifred Halsey (2), Edward S. Tonry, Gordon F. Osterstrom, Gina A. Frasson, and Timothy W. Lyon. The Steward had investigated the matter, as requested by the Board, and felt that no action was required. The Secretary will respond to the letters received by the Board. The Steward will write the Society Chroniclers.

G. Arts: Report received.

H. Sciences: Report received.

There have been some complaints that there is too much emphasis on reports in these offices, and that local officers need more help in understanding their job and how to do it. The Steward feels that in general we need a greater reverse flow in the Society - information needs to flow down to the local level rather than flowing up to a filing cabinet. Henrik as ombudsman will contact Louise and discuss her plans for the offices once administrative details are solved and a routine has been established.

I. Chirurgeon General:

William Hearter sent his resignation as Chirurgeon General of the Society, dated 15 September 1982. He recommended the Kingdom Chirurgeon of Caid as his replacement. The Steward will contact his recommended successor and suggest that if he is willing to serve, a probationary period of six months should be established, as he is not able to serve as a deputy under the corporate officer while learning the job.

IV. Routine Business:

A. Changes in Status:

1. Shire of Starkhafn (Las Vegas NV):

M/s/c Dave-Mike to accept the elevation in status for the Barony of Starkhafn as recommended and approved by the Steward.

2. Barony of Hammerhold (Meridies):

This group has had no Baron/Baroness for over a year. The Kingdom Seneschal recommends that the group be downgraded to a shire, as they do not meet the membership requirements for a Barony and have not for a long while. The Steward will write the Kingdom Seneschal that the group must either meet the general requirements for a Barony or explain why they should not be demoted to a shire.

3. Shire of Collegium Montium (Eastrealm):

This is a group which has been plagued with dissension and infighting since its inception. The Acting Kingdom Seneschal and the Crown recommend that the group be abolished and that no group be allowed to possess its zip codes for one year. They have been dropped as an on-campus organization due to complaints, and other complaints have also been received. All warrants will be removed as of the November PIKESTAFF.

The Steward agrees that something needs to be done, but feels that it can best be handled by the Eastrealm as an internal kingdom matter. Without warrants the branch does not exist and cannot hold events, though of course members can participate individually in other groups and events.

B. Establishing the Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Sunday 14 November 12:00 noon. The Committee of the Whole will meet 8 January at 9:00 am. The

Board will meet again 9 January 15 12:00 noon. All meetings at Cliveden's house.

V. Old Business:

A. Membership Requirements and Fees:

Report from the Committee of the Whole:

1. The C.O.W. recommended an increased rate structure for membership fees be adopted effective 1 February 1983 and that revenue sharing be paid to the kingdom of residence for each Sustaining, Contributing, and Patron member.
2. A proposed letter was submitted, to be printed in T.I. #65 (Winter 1982) explaining how the current financial crisis had come about and what was being done.
3. The C.O.W. suggested establishing a committee to perform a review of the Steward's Office. The Board needs more information on the duties and responsibilities of this office in order to establish if and how much the Steward should be compensated.
4. There is no plan to require dues-paying membership to attend an event of SCA. The C.O.W. recommended that the Board formally define "participation" in light of the recent change to CORPORA (27 June 1982, p.6 - "II.1.e. Associate Membership. Conveys the right to *participate in Society activities*").

The Board discussed the recommendations of the C.O.W. at length. It was felt that the change in membership requirements regarding participation in SCA events should not be enforced at this time, as the change had been enacted before the full extent of the Society's financial situation was known. The Board would like to actively solicity membership opinion on this issue.

M/s/c Dave-Mike that the Board not enforce requirements for membership for active participation in the Society at this time, and that a notification be sent to the newsletters explaining this fact and requesting input from the membership. The Board shall make a further ruling on this issue after 1 May 1983.

M/s/c Dave-Rob to incorporate by reference the report of the Committee on Membership Rates of 20 September 1982 as amended by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (9 October 1982) into the Board Minutes and to make copies available by a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Corporate Secretary.

This report was the basis for the C.O.W.'s discussion on membership rates. For a copy please send a self-addressed large manila envelope with 71¢ postage to the Corporate Secretary, P.O. Box 743, Milpitas CA 95035.

M/s/c Dave-Larry to change the yearly membership rates of SCA effective 1 February 1983 as follows:

Associate Membership	\$ 6.00
Sustaining Membership	20.00
Family Membership	10.00
Contributing Membership	50.00
Patron Membership	150.00
Foreign Membership	20.00
Life Membership	2000.00 (one-time payment)

M/s/c Dave-Rob to change the rates for additional publications of SCA effective 1 February 1983 as follows:

Additional Newsletters	\$ 6.00
THE COMPLEAT ANACHRONIST	6.00
BOD Minutes	6.00
First Class Mailing Option	5.00

M/s/c Dave-Rob that an explanation of the reasons for the new rate structure, the current financial situation of the Society, the necessity for enacting the raise as soon as possible, and a request for feedback from the membership be placed in the next issue of T.I.; that copies be made available for SASE from the Corporate Secretary; and that copies be sent to the kingdom newsletters in case they wish to extract information for publication. Copies of the 1981 Financial Statement and of the Financial Statement through the 3rd quarter 1982 will be appended.

M/s/c Dave-Rob to amend Policy Decision #6 to add the Chancellor of the Exchequer to those corporate officers who are required to submit regular reports to the Steward.

The Board directed the Stock Clerk and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to determine an appropriate price list for publications sold through the Stock Clerk's office, reflecting the true cost of production, shipping, handling, and overhead.

M/s/c (unanimous) Dave-Rob to change the BY-LAWS as follows:

#### II.1. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP:

a. Sustaining Membership. The basic membership, conveying the right to hold office in the Society, and a subscription to *TOURNAMENTS ILLUMINATED* and the appropriate kingdom publication.

b. Contributing Membership. The privileges of Sustaining Membership, together with the thanks of the Society and listing in *TOURNAMENTS ILLUMINATED* (unless anonymity is desired).

d. Foreign Membership. Available to mailing addresses outside the United States (other than APO and FPO) and Canada: conveys the rights of Sustaining Membership to hold office in the Society, and to receive *TOURNAMENTS ILLUMINATED* by Air Mail.

g. Lifetime Membership. The privileges of Contributing Membership for the lifetime of the member, ~~the cost to be 20 times the current Patron Membership fee.~~

M/s/c Mike-Rob to continue to pay the Steward at the current rate of \$750 per month through December 1982 and to set up a committee to investigate and review the duties, responsibilities, and administration of the Steward's Office.

Dave Thewlis will chair the committee. Katherine Kurtz will be asked to serve as a member.

At this point the Board called the Chancellor of the Exchequer to discuss the committee report of 20 September. Newsletter subsidies are to be raised according to the schedule below, to \$6.00 for third class plus an additional \$5.00 for first class mailing (per year). The T.I. subsidy will be raised to \$4.00 (per year). The Board directed the Exchequer to increase the publication stipends gradually as new subscription monies become available. The subsidy will increase 15¢ per label (from the current 35¢), beginning with a 5¢ raise in summer quarter if possible, and an additional 5¢ fall and winter quarters if funds allow.

B. Computer Purchase:

The financial exigencies of the Society do not change our computer needs, but may change our plans. The committee is still searching for an appropriate system. [Information on our computer system requirements is available from the Corporate Office for SASE.]

C. Australia:

The group has not yet decided which kingdom they would like to affiliate with. Robin Breheny (Mistress Rowan Perigrinne), the group's founder, seneschal, and incipient Baroness, had recently visited the United States and had a chance to discuss matters with various Board members, corporate officers, kingdom officers, etc. The proposed

name for the Society group in Australia is Lochac, used by Marco Polo for the area in 1251. They would like to be an administrative region of some sort, as they are too widespread to function as a single Barony or Principality across the entire continent.

They would like their newsletter to be an official SCA publication, as they need to maintain contact with their parent kingdom, but it's too unwieldy to handle official business through an overseas newsletter.

The Steward will write and discuss the Board's suggestions and recommendations. The Registry will work with the group to develop a firm proposal for an official subsidized newsletter. The Corporate Secretary will set up a two-way packet to and from the group so that all mail can be handled through one point.

D. Dick Eney

This matter of Laurel's handling of titles in the Society had originally been brought before the Board through letters and petitions over a year ago. Dick had recently submitted an update of his position, as requested by the Board. The Board agreed with his general principle that if something is not a title we should be concerned about, there is no reason to regulate it. The original petition circulated by Dick (Vuong Manh) had included a proposed change to CORPORA, which was adopted by the Board:

M/s/c Larry-Dave that a new section be added to CORPORA:

VII. INDIVIDUAL ORDERS AND TITLES

B. TITLES

6. *Styles and unrecognized titles.* It is a well established custom of the Society for those seeking special training to exchange pledges of fealty with skilled teachers. The Society recognizes APPRENTICE as a general term for this relation, but other Period expressions (page, maid-in-waiting, etc.) may be used. Those who exchange such pledges with members of the Orders of Knighthood or of Masters and Mistresses of Arms may style themselves SQUIRES. These names, and titles (religious, military, scholarly, etc.) which do not assert or imply noble rank or territorial jurisdiction, are not restricted from use, but are not officially recognized and convey no precedence.

E. Crown of Atenveldt:

Complaints regarding actions of the Crown of Atenveldt in relations with Caid and with Ansteorra were received by the Board of Directors. The Board directed that the letter regarding out-of-kingdom awards and warrants, which had previously been composed but held while the ombudsman contacted the Crown of Atenveldt about the problems, be sent to the kingdom newsletters for publication. Copies will also be sent to those who wrote the Board in complaint.

F. Report on the Stock Clerk's Office:

The Chancellor of the Exchequer submitted her review on the conduct of the Stock Clerk's Office under Judy Gerjuoy {Mistress Jaelle of Armida}. Shelley found that the monies were not mishandled and the expenses were reasonable. A full accounting is not possible, as proper records were never kept. However, neither Hilda Powers nor Gordon Monson ever objected to the accounting submitted during their tenure as Chancellor of the Exchequer. A formal accounting system, including inventory balance, costs of goods sold, selling expenses, net income, etc. needs to be set up for the office as soon as possible.

Cliveden agreed that there is no evidence of any malfeasance. Since moving to Milpitas the Stock Clerk's Office has received numerous complaints of checks never cashed and books never received, It appears that the system used was not adequate to the task. The major problem appears to have been that the Exchequer's office did not keep a close enough eye on the Stock Clerk to either head off problems before they developed, or to solve difficulties once they appeared.

G. Society Marshal's Rulebook: Henrik, Larry, and Phil McDown have conferred on revisions. Tabled to January

H. Board Restructure:

M/s/c (unanimous) Dave-Mike to amend Article IV Section 2 of the BY-LAWS as follows:

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2. QUALIFICATION, NUMBER, TENURE AND RESTRICTIONS

b. There shall be seven (7) Directors on the Board; more may be added at the discretion of the Board by amendment of these By-Laws, but only in such multiples that the number of Directors remains uneven.

i. *Three (3) members of the Board shall be resident in the vicinity of the Corporate Headquarters*

*and shall comprise the Steering Committee of the Board of Directors.*

*ii. The Steering Committee shall assist the Steward, edit and approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, and otherwise act in a coordinating capacity for the Board.*

M/s/c Dave-Mike to confirm Rob Himmelsbach as a full member from his first appearance on the Board of Directors on 1 August 1982 for a period of three years.

The Board directed the Secretary to send the approved announcement regarding the expansion of the Board and a request for suggestions and comments in filling the expanded seats to allow a greater degree of representation from other kingdoms. Copies should also be sent to the Crowns and Kingdom seneschals.

I. Press Purchase:

Delayed until later in the meeting.

J. Chirurgeon's Handbook:

The Steward will request the next Chirurgeon General to review the proposed changes to bring the Handbook into agreement with CORPORA.

VI. New Business:

A. New World Personas:

This was a question to what degree New World personas are permissable, sent by Linda Brasil. Such personas are outside the scope of the Society except as visitors to pre-17th c. western culture.

B. Advertising in Society Publications:

The Secretary passed around a half-dozen examples of requests for advertising in T.I. which would have been of great interest to our membership, but which had been turned down due to the policy that T.I. does not accept advertising. Many prospective advertisers wish to reach a large audience, and expect to be able to place national and international ads through one agency, rather than dealing piecemeal with various newsletters, each with its own rates and requirments. It was agreed that the chroniclers need to be consulted before any policy is set.

M/s/c Dave-Mike that T.I. and the kingdom newsletters may accept advertising of interest to members of the Society and in keeping with the Society's stated purpose and activities. The Society Chroniclers are directed to develop a standard scale of advertising rates for T.I. and the kingdom newsletters which can be sent to prospective advertisers. They should consult the kingdom chroniclers and present a proposed rate schedule for review.

V. Old Business: Continued

I. Press Purchase:

The Crown of Caid had been reached by phone regarding the proposed loan from the corporation to the Kingdom of Caid to purchase a press for THE CROWN PRINTS. The promissory note which had been sent for the Board's approval and signature was properly made out, but had only been signed by the chronicler of Caid.

M/s/c Dave-Larry to authorize the Chair to sign a properly drafted and signed promissory note for the purchase of Omtae Press by the kingdom of Caid; the signatories must be the seneschal and Crown heads of Caid.

VI. New Business: Continued

C. Order of Precedence of Law of the Society:

M/s/c Dave-Larry that an addendum be added to the Order of Precedence of Law of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., to read, "Where a group of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. exists in and under the jurisdiction of a country other than the United States of America, the structure of law of that country equivalent to the first section of this Order of Precedence (i.e., U.S. Constitution through city law/local ordinance) shall apply."

The Secretary will send a notice to kingdom seneschals, and foreign groups, and arrange for printing in the Spring 1983 issue of T.I.

VII. Communications

A. Thomas Delfs

This was a letter concerning various points in the minutes of 27 June. Larry had answered.

B. Les Berkley

Two letters were received concerning recent decisions of the Board and including a copy of an article he had written

and published in "The Salamander," a baronial newsletter from the Eastrealm. The Board found his enjoyment of verbal engagement intriguing, especially in the lack of an opponent, but noted that he is doing so with a lack of full information. Rob will answer.

C. Elisabeth Waters:

This was an angry letter disagreeing with Board expenditures of late. She included her cut-up membership card, though the Board noted that the Patron membership had already expired. The Secretary will answer and discuss the various actions of the Board. Information on the computer requirements and on the Society's financial situation will be sent.

D. Paula Horvath:

She questioned the Order of Precedence, as it dealt only with U.S. law. The Board had already dealt with this matter under VI.C. above. She suggested that along with the Society emphasis (as delineated in the Articles of Incorporation) upon pre-17th century western period, we might also consider setting a starting cut-off date for the SCA, such as the reign of the Emperor Constantine. Paula also commented upon other recent Board actions, some of which she approved and some she questioned. The Board appreciates receiving members' thoughts on subjects of interest to the Society. The Secretary will answer.

E. Katherine Kurtz:

Katherine had received a copy of a letter by Mercedes Lackey. She enclosed a copy of her reply, along with a letter discussing her concerns about the financial situation of the Society.

F. Colin Andras:

This letter questioned the requirements for Society membership and requested a definition of "participation" and "Society activities."

G. Mercedes Lackey:

A letter complaining of Board handling of Society finances.

VIII. Executive Session: None held.

10 October 1982  
Page 13

IX. Summary and Dissemination:

The Secretary will prepare a chart of responsibilities assigned for various items during the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 pm.

By my hand for the Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cliveden", written in black ink.

Cliveden Chew Haas/Mistress Cliveden de Cheux  
Corporate Secretary