

# From The Tower



## Barony of Southron Gaard

January A.S. LIV  
(2020 C.E.)

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## Chronic Ramblings

I have been thinking about volunteers, and volunteering. We are not all designed to put up marquees (hooray for those that are) but we do all have a skill set that can be useful in some fashion. I never thought editing FTT was my thing, yet here we are, and it turns out I love it. Similarly meal plan – everyone thinks I can cook. I can't! Well, not properly. But I can organise and collate and troubleshoot – this is where my strengths are, and “organise and collate and troubleshoot” are skills I’m bringing in for Faire again this year, even though we’re not going, because there was a need. YOU have a skill that can be brought to bear on volunteer tasks even if it’s not putting up a marquee. There’s a load of adminy paperworky stuff (probably not at this point) and some chores that are reasonably physically light and just having someone spearhead the marquee raising, even if they only holler and don’t lift a thing, makes it go up much easier. Figure out what your thing is! Our hobby requires buy in from us all to keep it ticking along.



Yours in Service, Agnes Graye

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- Aberdeen Bestiary ([Aberdeen University](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Aberdeen_Bestiary) Library, Univ Lib. MS 24) Folio 55 verso : [Phoenix](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Aberdeen_Bestiary) (Fenix) rising from its ashes. From [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Aberdeen\\_Bestiary](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Aberdeen_Bestiary)
- Henry IV, Holy Roman Emperor, miniature from the Emmeram Evangeliary from wiki By Anonymous - File:Heinrich im Evangeliar von St. Emmeram.jpg, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=68422>
- Emperor Ivan IV as found in the [University of Texas](https://www.bildarchivaustria.at/Pages/Search/Result.aspx?p_eBildansicht=2&p_ItemID=50) Portrait Gallery (published in 1901) By Anonymous - [https://www.bildarchivaustria.at/Pages/Search/Result.aspx?p\\_eBildansicht=2&p\\_ItemID=50](https://www.bildarchivaustria.at/Pages/Search/Result.aspx?p_eBildansicht=2&p_ItemID=50), Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2151>
- Adam naming the animals, South-eastern England (possibly Rochester) c. 1230, 300 x 215 mm *Royal 12 F. xiii, f. 34v*, detail from <http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/TourBestiaryGen.asp>
- The *Huth manuscript*, Initial with image of Arthur taking the sword from the stone, Northern France (Arras?), 1310, 300 x 220mm from [www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/TourPopup.asp?TourID=318](http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/TourPopup.asp?TourID=318)
- Assorted public domain clipart from around the web



## Kingdom of Lochac

King Niall inn Orkneyskii and  
Queen Sabine du Bourbonnais



Prince Theuderic and Princess Engelin

Please send award recommendations to [crown@lochac.sca.org](mailto:crown@lochac.sca.org) with a courtesy copy to [B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:B&B@sg.lochac.sca.org).

Please check Lochac Cannon Lore for an individual's existing awards and information about awards, additional information can be found on the Kingdom website: [www.lochac.sca.org](http://www.lochac.sca.org)



## Fibre Guild

The Southron Gaard fibre guild is open to everyone that has an interest in making and playing with fibre: spinners, dyers, weavers, braiders and the like. Our meetings are usually the third Sunday of the Month at 11:00 am in the Redwood Scout Hall. Bring what you're working on, any new resources to share etc. For more details, please see the Southron Gaard Calendar - <http://sg.sca.org.nz/calendar.shtml>



The Lochac Fibre Guild has an email list at <http://lochac.sca.org/mailman/listinfo/fibreguild> and webpage at <http://fibre.lochac.sca.org/> which features a monthly "award cord" tutorial.

The Southron Gaard 'branch' also has a Yahoo group list at [https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SG\\_String/info](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SG_String/info), and now a Trello board that you can request access to by emailing Her Excellency, Baroness Ginevra, at [g.devisconti@gmail.com](mailto:g.devisconti@gmail.com).



## Baron and Baroness Southron Gaard



. Greetings all,

It is Our great pleasure to be able to announce the Crown's decision that Master Grim of Thornby and Baroness Alexandra di Santiago will succeed Us as Baron and Baroness of Southron Gaard. We understand from Their Majesties that participation in the survey was very high, again confirming the level of involvement and engagement that many have with the group. This is very pleasing to us as it was one of Our goals to see that improve during our tenure. We would also like to thank and acknowledge THL Cesare and THL Violetta for standing. Putting yourself forward for this process is daunting when you know there can only be one couple chosen and all nominees are so obviously invested in the Barony.

As you know, we will be stepping down at Canterbury Faire, so this is Our final column. We would like to thank you all for the chance to serve as your Baron and Baroness, and for the support you have so freely offered. It has been an amazing chance to realise the vast range of different interests and activities that we engage in, and share the ideals of chivalry, courtesy and grace that, along with an interest in the medieval world, give the Barony its strength. It has been a privilege to be part of the process that rewards the efforts of the populace as they continue their journey of learning within the SCA, and inspire others to emulate them.

We both have many memories of this time that we will always treasure, but We know that the Barony will continue to stand strong, and We look forward to seeing the new directions and growth that will happen with Our successors. We hope that Grim and Alexandra will receive all the support that you have shown Us. We look forward to celebrating Our departure and their investiture with everyone at Faire.

We also look forward to seeing you all at Our final barbecue from 11am on the 5th of January at the Redwood Scout hall.

In Service to the Barony, for the next few weeks,

Richard and Ginevra

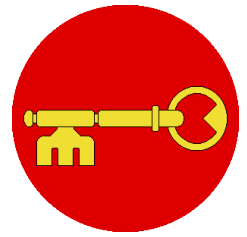
Baron and Baroness of Southron Gaard





## Seneschal, Southron Gaard

As 2019 draws to a close, and 2020 looms large before us, I find myself hoping the coming year also brings with it good health, good luck and joy for all of our populace.



I look back at 2019 and recall some fantastic times, as well as some darker ones, both in game and out. It has been a year a change in many ways, as a nation, as a group, and as individuals...and as we move into a new year, I can see more change ahead. A new King and Queen, a new Baron and Baroness, new events, and new people. I encourage everyone to respond to these changes with grace, and with good cheer, and to remember that at one time we were the new change within the society.

Fist of all, I would like to thank the Officer core for their hand work over the last 12 months, and their dedication in enabling this group to run. Without you, we do not have a group.

I would also like to thank the group event stewards, and their teams of volunteers. Again, without you we have no events to attend or feasts to partake of.

In addition to this, there are those who provide support, learning, and structure to the rest of us by their presence, their time, and by doing what they can to contribute....and I say thank you to them as well.

Finally, to all the populace of this Barony, I say thank you for providing everyone with a group to participate in, an audience to perform to, fighters to cheer for, artisans to learn from, and like-minded people to talk to about this wonderful hobby.

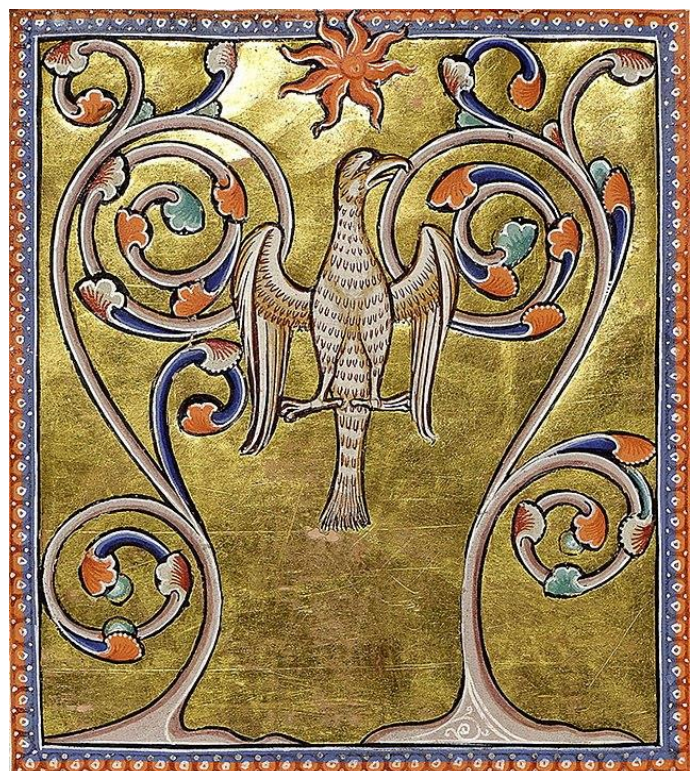
At our best, we can be an amazing and welcoming place, and a populace worthy of the dream. I encourage us all to try and be our best; To dream, and to welcome, to participate, and encourage, to learn and to teach, and to continue to make Southron Gaard a shining beacon in the South, the sturdy pillar of the Crescent Isles, and a welcoming light for all those beyond our shores.

With that said, let us show the Kingdom what we can be at Canterbury Faire (which is in fact nearly only 2 weeks away) and let everyone enjoy our largest annual event. I look forward to seeing banners, heraldry, and flags flying high atop encampments, on the tourney field, and in court.

You have my best wishes and thoughts for the year ahead, and hope 2020 will be kind to you and yours.

Yours in Service

Elena Sophia di Luciano dei Medici



# What is an SCA Principality?

*Bartholomew Baskin (once upon a landed Baron, SCANZ Treasurer, Kingdom Seneschal, ...)*

I recently posted on the Althing list (<https://www.sca.org.nz/mailman/listinfo/althing>) about the possibility of forming an SCA Principality in New Zealand.

I started by outlining why I thought now might be a good time to consider this evolution, and subsequent posts and discussions have revolved around various structural or policy ideas if we decided to go ahead - such as "how do we fund it?" and "how long should a princely term be?".

But I realise that some people - especially newer folk - might appreciate a clearer idea of what an SCA Principality is. Not to mention how it would (or wouldn't) affect relations with the rest of the Kingdom and within the new group. Hence this article.

The SCA supports a range of group types and sizes, with the seven below being the most common:

Hamlet - loosely organised, as few as five people, very closely tied to/part of a parent group such as a Shire or Barony

Canton - formally organised, as few as five people, closely tied to/part of a parent Barony

College - formally organised, as few as five people, affiliated with a parent group such as a Shire or Barony and tied to an educational institution (typically its student union), governed principally by the latter's rules

Shire - formally organised and self governing, as few as five people but typically many more. Part of a parent Principality (if there is one) and Kingdom.

Barony - formally organised and self governing, as few as 25 people but typically many more, has local landed Royalty (B&B) who typically serve for multi-year terms without a specific time limit and are typically chosen by the Crown after a poll and commentary period among the local populace. Part of a parent Principality (if there is one) and Kingdom.

Principality - formally organised and self governing, as few as 100 people but typically more, consists of several sub-groups such as Shires or Baronies, has a local landed Royalty (Coronet or P&P) who typically serve a defined less-than-a-year term and who, at present, are chosen by winning an armoured (heavy) tournament held for that purpose. Part of a parent Kingdom.

Kingdom - formally organised and highly self governing, as few as 400 people (Lochac currently has over 1500 subscribing members), many subgroups (Lochac has 13 Baronies and five Shires plus many smaller groups), has landed Royalty (Crown or K&Q) who typically serve a six-month term and are chosen by winning an armoured (heavy) tournament held for that purpose. Not part of any parent group, except the legal incorporation which runs the SCA in their territory, affiliated to the SCA Inc in the US.

So, a Principality adds a new layer to the set of groups many of us are already familiar with. Generally speaking, it's organised around a pre-existing sense of identity and affiliation – whether cultural,

geographical, national, organisational or even just plain habit - "that set of groups have always gone to each other's events".

Within a new Principality, the sub-groups go on just as before - group Councils decide what their groups do, when and how; a local B&B remain the subjects of the Kingdom's Crown, and so on. Nothing about the new layer stops any of the current Kingdom stuff from happening - the Crown visits whenever They feel like it, Crown events can still happen here, the Kingdom levy and Kingdom-administered services still apply, our folk can still enter Crown tournaments, Kingdom awards are still handed out, and so on.



But there is a new layer of Royalty (the Coronet or P&P) and officers - SCA rules define a minimum of six Principality officers. They work with the equivalent sub-group officers and collect their regular reports, and themselves report to the Coronet and to their equivalent Kingdom officers. There is some room for variation in all this, defined by local Kingdom and Principality laws. There are also Principality awards, dispensed by the Coronet - we get to define for ourselves how simple or complex any award system should be.

What does this new layer achieve? That depends a whole lot on each specific Principality. On the Althing list I outlined several potential administrative and growth-related benefits for us if we formed a New Zealand-based principality. But in a more general sense, the benefits are:

- \* New and closer strategic focus - courtesy of all the people in this new layer - on the needs and opportunities of the groups in the Principality, hence the likelihood of more growth
- \* A closer-to-home source of inspiration and aspiration, with more regular "shiny"
- \* A more attainable Royal role - both in the sense of "can we get it?" and, critically, "can we DO it?". More so than either the Crown or B&B roles offer, as each in its own way is hard to attain and very onerous.
- \* A stronger sense of regional identity
- \* New challenges and opportunities, which may re-excite some who are a bit longer in the tooth but don't want to take on the major challenge of Kingdom-wide roles
- \* More local and less-delayed recognition of various achievements, via the Principality award system
- \* Lower administrative cost and especially effort for the Kingdom - a factor which becomes more and more critical as a Kingdom grows and becomes more complex and harder for its own officers - all volunteers! - to manage successfully
- \* Less chance of administrative friction and unwanted side-effects from Crown-level and Kingdom-level decisions which would otherwise affect the local groups individually - i.e. typically more chance to successfully head poor decisions off at the pass (as a Kingdom gets steadily larger and harder to manage well, this is a biggie)



\* For as long as the selection of a P&P is tied to a particular combat form, more reason to promote and take part in that combat form. That would not apply if, of course, we collectively decided to try for a different way of choosing the P&P, and succeeded in persuading the Board of SCA Inc in the USA to agree to that.

\* If we continue to grow well as a Principality, Kingdom status will eventually beckon, as it did 17 years ago for Lochac.

If you want to get a general feel for how a particular region (now the Kingdom of Aethelmarc in the Eastern US) first approached the idea of a Principality, see page 6 onwards of this newsletter from many years ago: <http://history.aethelmarc.org/Newsletters/AESTELWR198811F.pdf>

Especially don't miss the Q&A starting on page 16 of that newsletter -- it explains some of the above ideas much better than I just did!

To look at the idea in more detail, please do visit the Althing archives if you haven't been reading there, and join in with your own thoughts and questions as well. And come to the exploratory workshop which Mistress Aveline has scheduled in the Great Hall for the first Sunday evening of Canterbury Faire.





## Things that happened in January...

Jan 6, 1066: Following the death of his brother in law Edward the Confessor, Harold, Earl of Wessex is crowned King of England. He is England's last Anglo Saxon King and reigns just 9 months before William the Conqueror conquers in October.

Jan 25, 1077: German King and Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV bends the knee to the Pope at Canossa. Following a long row about the balance of power, Henry was excommunicated by the Pope in 1076. But shortly thereafter he needed the Papal support again, and so undertook the famous Walk to Canossa. Dressing in a hair shirt and without shoes, he knelt in the snow outside the fortress praying. After 3 days the Pope let him in, forgave him and they took communion together. The peace didn't last (he was excommunicated again in 1080) but the act made history.

20 January 1265: England's first parliament meets Simon de Montfort calls a meeting of the chaps at Westminster, to discuss power and plans about the monarchy. What was different about this meeting was that rather than just being the aristocratic and clerical elite, it included 2 knights from each county and 2 burgesses from each borough. 30 years later when Edward I called the 'model parliament' he retained these knights, burgesses and elected representatives from each city, eventually known as the "commons".

25 Jan 1533: England's Henry VIII marries his second wife Anne Boleyn, in defiance of the Catholic church who had refused to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

15 Jan 1535 with the Act of Supremacy, Henry VIII becomes Supreme head of the Church in England following a break with Rome.



16 January 1547 Ivan the Terrible who had been ruling Russia since 1533 has himself crowned as the first Russian Czar. His reign lasted until 1584 and included beneficial changes such as a new legal code, but also included a struggle against the Russian nobility with over 3000 people put to death.

15 Jan 1559 Elizabeth I is crowned in Westminster Abbey

25 January 1579 The Union of Utrecht is signed, unifying the northern provinces of the Netherlands (Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht, Gelderland, Friesland, Groningen and Overijssel) into the (Protestant) Dutch Republic and a break with (Catholic) Spain.

## January Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
6	7	8 Council	9	10	11	12 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
13	14	15	16	17	18 Canterbury Faire	19 Canterbury Faire
20 Canterbury Faire	21 Canterbury Faire	22 Canterbury Faire	23 Canterbury Faire	24 Canterbury Faire	25 Canterbury Faire	26 Canterbury Faire
27	28	29	30	31		

### Armoured Combat

**Sundays** 10am–noon at Redwood Scout Hall.

### Rapier

**Sundays** from 2pm at Redwood Scout Hall.

### Archery

**Fine Sundays** at Northcote School grounds, meet at Redwood Scout Hall.

[archers@sg.lochac.sca.org](mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org)

### Tourney days

**First Sunday** of the month as announced

### Arts & Sciences

**Sundays** from 11:00am at Redwood Scout Hall.

**Fibre Guild:** every third Sunday of the month, 11am at Redwood Scout Hall or as announced.

### UCMRS Dance

Mondays 7pm -8:30pm in KF08. Kirkwood Village.

### Council Meetings

**Second Wednesday** of the month, from 7:30pm – details, agenda etc. are posted to the SG list.

*All welcome*

### Baronial Open Homes

Informal, un-garbed, social activity to allow people to chat about projects, the SCA and life in general, share a pot-luck meal and maybe watch a video.

## February Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
10	11	12 Council	13	14	15	16 Heavy Combat A&S hall Fibre Guild Rapier Archery
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Heavy Combat A&S hall Rapier Archery
24	25	26	27	28	29	

## Southron Gaard Regnum

Being a list of the current Baronial Officers and their official email addresses.

\* **Seeking replacement:** see vacancies page or contact the seneschal for details.

Baron & Baroness:	Richard d'Allier & Ginevra di Serafino Visconti	<a href="mailto:BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org">BandB@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Seneschal	Elena Sophia di Luciano dei Medici	<a href="mailto:seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org">seneschal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Reeve	Lowrens Williamson	<a href="mailto:reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org">reeve@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Tour d'Or Herald	Elisabetta Foscari	<a href="mailto:herald@sg.lochac.sca.org">herald@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Castellan	Hadrian de Listrille	<a href="mailto:chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org">chatelaine@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Quartermaster	<b>Seeking replacement*</b>	<a href="mailto:quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org">quartermaster@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Knight Marshal	Radbod von Borg	<a href="mailto:marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org">marshal@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Archers	Tetsu of Southron Gaard	<a href="mailto:archers@sg.lochac.sca.org">archers@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Captain of Rapier	James of Southron Gaard	<a href="mailto:rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org">rapier@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Lists Officer	Melisande de Massard	<a href="mailto:lists@sg.lochac.sca.org">lists@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Arts & Sciences	Gisle Akelsdattir	<a href="mailto:arts@sg.lochac.sca.org">arts@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chronicler	Agnes Graye	<a href="mailto:chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org">chronicler@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Librarian	Jayne Bolyn	<a href="mailto:library@sg.lochac.sca.org">library@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Web scribe	Adrienne Furet	<a href="mailto:web@sg.lochac.sca.org">web@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Chirurgion (first aid)	Lady Rosanella Soranzo	<a href="mailto:chirurgion@sg.lochac.sca.org">chirurgion@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Constable (safety)	Callum MacLeod	<a href="mailto:constable@sg.lochac.sca.org">constable@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>
Youth	<b>Seeking replacement*</b>	<a href="mailto:youth@sg.lochac.sca.org">youth@sg.lochac.sca.org</a>



## Hamlet of Wildmoor - Otago

Cheperka (Natalia) [nnyates@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nnyates@xtra.co.nz)

## Hamlet of Gildenwick - Nelson

*Awaiting notification of new point of contact*

# SCA (NZ) Inc. Membership

There are two different types of membership available to event participants in New Zealand.

### Subscribing Membership

Grants full rights of participation in the SCA (including voting, entering Crown Tournaments, holding office and affiliate membership with overseas branches). Subscribing membership also includes a subscription to Pegasus, the Lochac Kingdom Newsletter which is an electronic newsletter (PDF).

1 Year with E-Pegasus*	\$ 15.00
3 Years with E-Pegasus	\$ 30.00

An updated SCA (NZ) Inc. membership form will shortly be included in future issues of this newsletter, or can be accessed on the SCA (NZ) website. <https://registry.sca.org.nz/RegistryMenu.php>

### Event Membership

For all non-members aged 18 years or over attending an event. Event membership lasts for the duration of that event only and is not sufficient to hold office or fight in Crown Tournament etc. If the event has a cost, and it is not held by a College, the levy will be charged.

Per event    \$ 2.00

For further information visit the official SCA(NZ) Inc. website at:

**[www.sca.org.nz](http://www.sca.org.nz)**

### *Other SCANZ Groups*

Auckland	Barony of Ildhafn	<a href="http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org">http://ildhafn.lochac.sca.org</a>
Hamilton	Canton of Cluain	<a href="http://cluain.lochac.sca.org">http://cluain.lochac.sca.org</a>
Wellington	Shire of Darton	<a href="http://darton.lochac.sca.org">http://darton.lochac.sca.org</a>

# Southron Gaard Council Provisional Minutes

Meeting Minutes 11th Dec 2019

Present: Richard, Ginevra, Margaretta, Lowrens, Jayne, Adrienne, Master Grim

Apologies: Gisle, Rat, Rosa, Kotek, Elisabetta

Meeting opens 7:38

## 1. Previous minutes

Richard moves to accept last month's meeting minutes

Adrienne seconds.

No abstentions or nays, motion carried,

## 2. Business arising: None

## 3. Funding request:

Discussion about money for hire garb. Cords and piping wanted to complete some outfits

## 4. Event proposal:

James is still working on it- feast planned just need to check sites

## 5. Officer Reports:

**B and B:** Successors have been found, attended Idhafn summer event.

James is Champion of Idhafn. Attended Tourney and fibre guild meeting

Correspondence over CF, with the Royals, and sponsorship for CF.

**Seneschal's Report:** Communication with Crown

Communication with B&B

Communication with populace members re: Social media policy

Enacted social media policy directives as required by Kingdom/Society on

SG Public facebook group

Attended monthly tournament

1/4 report due this weekend.

**Reeve's report:** Main Account balances:

\* \$36998 at 1-November, \$42837 at 30-November.

\* Canterbury Fair: \$5152 booking payments received; no outgoings.

\* Golden Flight: \$581 received; \$1208 payments made.

\* Various other: \$1314 received: \$708 is repayment of cash advances made for earlier events, \$604 seems to be from someone overseas, probably for Fair. I have a query with the SCANZ Treasurer to clear this up.

FAT account:

\* \$2054 at 30-November, no activity this month.

General:

Have Fiery Knights 2 report and expenses to process.

**Herald's report:** Starting to sort out stuff for CF now that I have more time!

**Chatalaine:** No report

**Constable:** No report

**Chronicler:** FTT happened and will happen again.

**Quartermaster:** No report

**Knight Marshall:** I have nothing to report, other than the monthly tournament was held and Roland brutally crushed all opponents to win the tournament.

Oh and CF folks have been messaging me

**Rapier:** no report

**Archery:** no report

**Arts and Sciences:** Weekly A&S happenings slowing down leading up to Christmas. Remember, Faire is (nearly literally) only two weeks after that, get working on those projects!

**Webscribe:** Webscribe report for the December Council Meeting 2019:

- More CF site updates and calendar updates
- Working through locating all links to old lochac site and updating them to new lochac site
- other minor web & email maintenance

**Youth Officer:** No report

**Chirurgeon's report:** I was not able to attend the monthly tournament. Have not received any reports of injury. Hurrah!

Nothing else to report.

**Hamlet Reports: Gildenwick:** No report

**Wildmoor:** No report

Congratulations also to Darius for his article and Agnes Graye for Willam BlackFox award

Meeting closes: 19:56

