

Report of the Moot at War of the Trillium

In attendance, and spoke, were Their Majesties, Their Highnesses, most Kingdom officers and at least 30 residents of the Kingdom, both new and old.

The first issue raised was concern about going back into winter events. Xristina, as seneschal, replied that groups are continuing to plan to be outdoors for as long as possible, and we will continue to require proof of vaccination and masks (at all times when indoors). This news was welcomed by all in attendance.

The discussion then moved to the online communities that had developed over the past few years. They have been an amazing way to participate in activities with other Kingdoms. There was a desire to maintain a robust online presence moving forward, as it will continue to serve us well.

The challenge is to manage hybrid events for the people who are organizing them – we need to foster newer, younger people to help (particularly for things like streaming live courts). Maiwin offered to help with on-line events, noting that there are viable options such as Discord and Zoom; this helps people who are mobility or financially challenged to participate. Similarly, the Moots are unique to Ealdormere and it would be great to include more of the populace, perhaps by holding one on-line and another in person (or live-streamed). We could also make these options more robust by working with the social media office.

Nika noted that some events, such as the Known World Heraldic Symposium may be done on-line. Perhaps Ealdormere could do 1-2 events per year that become standard on-line events. Others noted that doing all of this requires a lot of support, but it is excellent for recruiting, especially if other activities, not just fighting, are shown. Miguel suggested channels on places like TikTok. For this, we need more people to take pictures/videos and obtain the necessary consent from participants. While some may find cameras obtrusive (or did in the past), there is far less resistance among the current populace of Ealdormere; most people use their phones to take pictures, even if it is just of an A&S project or a resource they need to track down later. There are good ways to disguise phones using a cover or pouch. Her Majesty Hyrokkin offered to teach a class on how to make a phone cover that looks like a book. However, despite general enthusiasm for being more comfortable with phones at events, some issues remain: one person noted that they have a sensitivity when around phones that are on; others reminded about privacy/consent. In short, there is a need to find a respectful balance between desire to use social media and desire for a relatively authentic medieval experience (values of courtesy and chivalry are important). Mentors could help in this regard. Duncan suggested having heralds announce when general filming might take place so that people could avoid being in that space (with a time limit of eg 10-15 minutes).

Baroness Lucia of Ramshaven noted that gas is quite expensive, and encouraged local groups to do small local events as a good way for people to learn the ropes and not worry about travel costs.

Oravella, who is new to the SCA pointed out that it can be challenging to connect with the right people as the website information isn't always clear about how to connect with local groups. The Kingdom seneschal responded that each group should have one email that stays the same regardless of who holds the office (that does lead to other questions about knowing to look for the Chatelaine rather than a

newcomer contact, and navigating event websites). This led to a discussion about social media consolidation/coordination so that information is easier to find. Although the Kingdom calendar lists all events and has links to events, there is sometimes a disconnect regarding the basic information that needs to be in all event websites, and ensuring that the links work. There are options such as the Ealdormere page hosting all event notices, ensuring that the mundane name of locations is clear on group and event websites, and make the interactive map linking locations and groups more visible.

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