

Duties & Responsibilities of the Baron & Baroness of Rising Waters

To hold the lands of Rising Waters in fief to the Crown of Ealdormere, and to serve the Barony. To oversee the growth and care of the lands for the Crown and to bring to the Crown's attention all worthy gentles. To help create a medieval atmosphere by holding Baronial Courts and establishing a Baronial Presence at events.

Keep & maintain files

- ✱ - receive copies of officer reports
- keep records of ceremonies, guard info
- keep copies of all Baronial court reports
- keep copies of event bids, event flyers, hall info,
- demo information, QE Centre info, minutes of meetings
- incoming & outgoing correspondence
- Baronial Order of Precedence
- receive copies of office applications
- keep copies of all manuals/ books
- keep all back up disks
- old taxes submissions (books, scrolls, etc)
- special documents and archives

Baronial Awards

- receive letters of award recommendations & keep confidential
- devise court lists from recommendations
- contact Baronial scribes to assign scrolls for awards
- sign and seal all Baronial award scrolls
- regularly hold courts at Baronial events where Baronial awards are given
- 2 Seals - Baron & Baroness - Baronial Signet

Keep in regular contact with the Crown

- write kingdom award recommendations to the Crown
- attend Council of Barons meetings at least once per reign
- attend all Kingdom level events (Crowns & Coronations)
- regularly attend out-of-barony events
- give advice when solicited via phone, fax, email, letter, in person
- swear fealty to the Crown - not a kingdom law or Corpora requirement at this time, but it is strongly advised that the Baron and Baroness do so. This is not a personal fealty but done on behalf of the populace
- act as Royalty Liaison at Baronial events

Keep in regular contact with the Populace

- attend Barony meetings regularly, and diligently read minutes of meetings
- submit letters to the Cataract on a regular basis (at least 4 times a year)
- attend all Rising Waters events, demos, workshops

- give advice when asked
- try to attend or make appearances to personal invites to household parties, meetings, canton meetings, guild workshops, etc
- lead and inspire the Baronial Forces at events, be a rallying point
- act as Defender for any Baronial citizen in need
- act as mediator for personal conflicts (dispute resolution) (see Seneschal's Policies)

Work closely with Baronial Officers

- regularly attend Officer meetings
- assist Herald in updating Baronial OP
- send letters & updates to Baronial Webminister for website
- supposed to be actively involved in selection and removal of Baronial officers
- give Herald detailed court lists before events
- part of decision making in all Baronial matters (demos, events, expenditures)
- encourage new members, act as chatelaine
- assist in formulation & implementation of Baronial Policies

Organize RW Baronial Encampment at camping events

Send out invitation letters to Royalty & other nobles for Lady Mary (around early April)

Select Baronial Champions every year either by appointment or tournament - at least heavy weapons & archery champions, could add A&S champion as well

Represent the Barony at out-of-Barony events

- may be asked to sit at head tables - good PR to do so
- may be asked to sit in other Royalty's or Barony's courts as guests
- may be asked to judge competitions, or marshal tournaments

Visibly encourage all Baronial activities (combat, fencing, A&S, guilds, households, etc)

Set Taxes each year to encourage the populace to participate in some form of A&S in order to foster personal growth and knowledge

The Baron and/or Baroness are encouraged to maintain a paid membership in the SCA to ensure that the Baron and Baroness have the means to be aware of what is going on in the Kingdom, and to set an example to others to maintain a membership.

Maintain and care for the Baronial Regalia, and take to Baronial events:

There is a lot of Baronial property such as camping gear, structures, event supplies and regalia. The Quarter master may hold & maintain much of the camping gear and other items. The following list are things the Baron and Baroness need to store and maintain themselves. Some items need regular polishing, cleaning or upkeep. The Quarter Master keeps a list of all Baronial property, so the Baron & Baroness must keep the QM informed of any changes to the Regalia they have.

- 2 thrones
- 2 cloaks
- 2 sets of coronets
- stamps, goblets, badges & tokens (must buy more tokens & goblets when run out)
- 2 large Baronial Banners & wooden stand
- 2 baronial tabards
- Baronial guard livery (red & white tabards & surcoats)
- Lady Mary trophies (order new plaques each year)
- 2 fancy goblets (dragon & maiden)
- war banner & pole
- ceremonial halberd
- ceramic trivet, ceramic water pitcher, wash basin & pitcher
- brass hour glass
- large brass goblet
- 2 baronial tablecloths
- wooden hand sculpture

What Personal Qualities make a Good Baron or Baroness?

The Baron and/or Baroness should set examples of chivalry, courtesy and virtues appropriate to the representatives of the Crown through their own behaviour and deportment, and to encourage these virtues in the people of the Barony. These virtues include but are not limited to:

- diplomacy & tact
- responsibility
- patience
- trustworthiness
- sincerity
- good listeners
- accepting & tolerant of all types of people
- inspired and innovative
- be inspiring to motivate people
- understanding & open-minded to new ideas
- confidentiality
- ability to maintain a regal deportment but have fun too

- good stage presence
- good strong court voice
- good people skills
- no personal agenda
- loyalty to Barony, Crown and the Society
- be worthy of respect
- not afraid or too proud to ask for help
- accessibility via whatever methods of communication (phone, fax, email, person)
- be able to set high standards
- flexibility (be open to ideas & able to handle criticism)
- be able to keep control of courts (concise, brief yet fun)
- have a good sense of humour & know that this is just a HOBBY!

What physical things help make a successful Baron or Baroness?

- Good reliable vehicle able to transport people or stuff
- Lots of storage space in home/garage for regalia & files
- Computer to do reports & letters on
- Internet for email and accessibility to World Wide Web for information
- Reliable household or group of friends to enlist for help
- Financial means to attend lots of events, support higher phone bills, etc
- Good office set-up (file cabinet, pens, paper, stapler, 3-hole punch)

In summary, how we characterize the role of Baron and Baroness:

- it is an office and also a lesser member of the Royal family
- vital to the group
- courts are important public relations tools
- are the voice of the People
- are the focal point of the Barony in order to progress
- work closely with officers
- provide continuity within the Barony
- must have a good solid and reliable knowledge of how the Society and the Kingdom work.

*That is to say, know and uphold the Laws of the Society and the Kingdom. Read Corpora and Kingdom Law often.

Some Disadvantages or Other Things You Should Know:

- ▶ some events are complimentary, most Kingdom level are not
- ▶ may be asked to sit at head table at many events, therefore cannot sit with your friends
- ▶ sometimes get your own room at local events, sometimes get invited in the Royalty Room, sometimes share with other Barons, but don't count on a private room
- ▶ do not assume you are sitting at head table - that is up to the Crown, even at local events
- ▶ people expect you to know everything happening at events
- ▶ late night phone calls despite the notice in the newsletter
- ▶ higher phone bills
- ▶ lots of calls the week before an event
- ▶ more vehicle & mileage expenses - the Barony can only reimburse some gas expenses
- ▶ lots of stuff in your house
- ▶ can be reimbursed for some office type expenses (files, paper, stamps, envelopes, etc)
- ▶ some friends cannot handle your new role and may become distant
- ▶ some people who wouldn't give you the time of day before are suddenly your best buddies
- ▶ no time to change/eat/visit the loo at events
- ▶ very little privacy at events
- ▶ little free time at events
- ▶ may find more people expect rides with you to and from events
- ▶ must watch what you say to people for they take everything literally and personally
- ▶ Strangers will call you by name and expect you to know who they are
- ▶ Good idea to have a Charges d'Affaires (personal chamberlain) to keep you organised and informed

Questions for Candidates:

- 1) Why do you wish to run for Baron/Baroness?
- 2) If you are an officer, do you have a drop-dead deputy?
- 3) Do you have any particular plans or projects for the populace during your term?
- 4) What would you like to see the Barony get involved in or do?
- 5) How do you plan on handling disputes?
- 6) What will you do if you do not win the election?