

Customs and Traditions of the Barony of Allyshia

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The customs and traditions here written were first established during the era of Their Excellencies, Senkyu and Mary of Dumfries, the first Baron Palatine and the first Baroness Palatine of Allyshia. They were based upon the codex created during the reigns of their predecessors and the customs and traditions of the Barony of the Far West.

Being a compendium of the customs and traditions of the current middle ages as they are practiced in Their Occidental Majesties' Palatine Barony of Allyshia, these customs and traditions establish the foundation upon which the SCA has been built in Allyshia. They support all our efforts to re-create the middle ages as they should have been, an era filled with grace, honor, nobility, and courage; devoid of the baseness which haunts mankind's existence. These customs and traditions also serve as a binding force to unite the branches of Allyshia through a commonality of practice and belief.

Article I. - The Law

Section A.

The word of the Crown is law.

Section B.

The Palatine Barony shall be held as a fief of Their Occidental Majesties, and be subject to the laws of the West Kingdom, the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the United States Constitution, and any local or national mundane laws that should apply.

Article II. - Territorial Charter

Section A.

The title of the fief shall be "The Palatine Barony of Allyshia," as created by Their Majesties John and Gabriel on August 23 AS XXXI (C.E. 1997).

Section B.

The geographical area of the Barony shall be Humboldt County, California. Other territories may be added by royal grant.

Section C.

The right to sit on the Baronial thrones and rule the Barony in the name of the Crown shall be determined once each Society year by Coronet Tournament.

Section D.

The victor in the Coronet Tournament shall be styled the Palatine Baron/ess of Allyshia; his/her consort shall be styled the Baron/ess of Allyshia. No other differences in rank, duties, or obligations shall exist except as provided herein this Codex document.

Section E.

“The Coronet” shall be construed to refer to either or both of the Palatine Baron and Baroness of Allyshia.

Article III. - Duties and Responsibilities of the Coronet

Section A.

The Coronet of Allyshia shall fulfill their duties as contained in the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of the West Kingdom, and according to the wishes of the Crown.

Section B.

The Coronet may hold any office(s) within or without the Barony, save that of Baronial Seneschal or Exchequer, so long as the responsibilities and duties of such office(s) do not conflict with the obligations and duties inherent in the Coronet.

Section C.

Officers found to not fulfill their duties may be banned from future holding of office(s).

Section D.

The Coronet shall act to the best of their ability as the chief examples of chivalry, courtesy, and grace for the people of the Barony.

Section E.

The Coronet shall:

1. Represent and be the advocate of the Baronial populace to the Crown of the West.
2. Encourage special care in the extension of hospitality and welcome to new and prospective members of the Barony.
3. Encourage and promote the arts, sciences, and martial arts of the current middle ages.
4. Serve on such courts and boards as are deemed necessary by the Crown of the West.
5. Swear fealty to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing.
6. Accept fealty from the subjects of the Crown in the Barony on behalf of the Crown of the West.
7. Report to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing, as to the status of the Barony, and insure Baronial taxes are paid at March Crown for the Crown of the West.
8. Recommend to the Crown of the West those who, through their achievements and/or service, are worthy of recognition.
9. Recognize their predecessors for their services as Baron and Baroness of Allyshia.
10. Encourage and support the officers of the Barony and recommend their replacements to the kingdom officers and Crown as the need arises.
11. The current Coronet, upon investiture in the office, will meet with the Baronial Herald and the Minister of Regalia and/or their successors to pass on and account for the Baronial Regalia.

Article IV. - Specific Obligations of the Coronet

Section A.

The Coronet must be residents of the Barony and reside within the Barony throughout their term on the Baronial thrones except by mutual treaty between the Palatine Barony of Allyshia and the Shire of Wuduholt be Secq.

Section B.

The Coronet must be present at their Coronet Tournament, their Investiture, and the Coronet Tournament and Investiture of their successors.

Section C.

The Coronet must maintain membership in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., during their tenure on the Baronial thrones.

Article V. - Rights and Privileges of the Coronet

Section A

The Coronet may make such awards as shall be specifically delegated to them by the Crown of the West.

Section B

The Coronet shall have the right to establish and make non-armigerous awards and honors specific to the Barony to acknowledge the skills and service of its populace. They shall consult first with the Baronial Herald and the Vesper Principal Herald of the West, to insure that award names and tokens are properly used.

Section C

The Coronet shall have the right to present Baronial awards and honors to members of the populace.

Section D

The Coronet shall have the right to receive and make use of gifts to the Barony for the use of the Coronet, and to preserve such gifts for the Barony.

Section E

The Coronet shall have the right to receive and keep such personal gifts as may be presented to them.

Article VI. - Failure to Serve as the Coronet

Section A.

Should either of the Coronets, through no fault of his/her own, be unable to attend the Coronet Tournament and Investiture of his/her successors, the one who attends the event shall perform the necessary functions of both to maintain a smooth transfer. In such a case, the departing Baron or Baroness shall be considered to have fulfilled his/ her obligations to the Barony and Coronet and shall be considered to have completed his/her tenure.

Section B.

Should either the Baron or Baroness be unable for whatever reason to fulfill his/her term in office, he/she must abdicate by writing to the Baronial Seneschal, Kingdom Seneschal, Crown, and other member of the Coronet.

Section C.

In case of an abdication, specific measures to maintain the Coronet shall apply, namely:

1. Should either the Baron or Baroness abdicate, the other shall assume the duties of both for the remainder of their tenure, regardless of which is the Palatine Baron/ess.
2. Should both the Baron and Baroness abdicate, the Baronial Seneschal shall immediately contact the Crown of the West to determine which of two courses of action should apply:
 - a. The preceding Baron and Baroness may be asked by the Crown to serve the remaining portion of the reign, or the Crown may appoint the Baronial Seneschal vicar. If a vicarage is established, no awards may be given out or courts held by the vicar.
 - b. If the Crown wishes, a new Coronet Tournament shall be held as soon as possible, which shall be presided over by at least two of the three offices of Baronial Seneschal, Baronial Herald, and Baronial Marshal; the victor of this list will be invested and serve out the tenure of the failed Coronet regardless of the time remaining.

Section D.

Should either Coronet leave the Barony for more than a month without contacting the Baronial Seneschal during that time, this shall count as failure to serve and de facto abdication.

Section E.

Should abdications be brought about through no fault of the abdicating Baron or Baroness, their successors shall determine if they should be recognized for their time as Baron or Baroness.

Article VII. - Baronial Officers

Section A.

The officers of the Barony shall be:

1. Seneschal
2. Exchequer
3. Herald
3. Marshal
4. Constable
5. Minister of Arts (may combine with Minister of Sciences)
6. Minister of Sciences (may combine with Minister of Arts)
7. Chronicler
8. Chirurgeon
9. Chatelaine

Section B.

The Coronet may create other offices as needed. Any new offices coming under the auspices of one of the offices mentioned above shall be administered as an adjunct deputy position to that office and report to that officer.

Section C.

Baronial officers will report to their kingdom superiors on a schedule as set by the kingdom officer, and monthly to the Coronet, with a copy being sent to the Baronial Seneschal for the files.

Section D.

Baronial officers will oversee the activities of their deputies as well as the local officers, who will report to them.

Section E.

In as much as is possible, the Baronial roster of officers should be dispersed throughout the Barony; all should attempt to attend Coronet Tournaments and Investitures.

Section F.

Local branches shall have at least a Seneschal, an Exchequer, a Herald, and either a Marshal or an Arts and Sciences officer.

Section G.

The Coronet shall appoint members of the barony to unfilled offices or assume the responsibilities of those positions that remain unfilled.

Section H.

The Baronial Chronicler is responsible for publishing the Scribe, the Baronial newsletter, on a regular basis.

Section I.

Minister of Regalia is responsible for ensuring a smooth transfer of Baronial outgoing and incoming coronets and must also report additions or retirements of regalia to the Baronial Herald.

Section J.

All Baronial officers shall perform their office in accordance with duties as outlined in governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

Section K.

All Baronial officers must be paid members of the Society.

Article VIII. - Rights and Duties of the Populace

Section A.

The populace of the Barony has the rights accorded to it by the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

Section B.

The populace may display Baronial heraldry as described in Section XIV herein.

Section C.

Those of the populace bringing small children or pets to events or other functions are responsible for their care and behavior.

Section D.

Active Guilds within the Barony shall be required to pay taxes to the Coronet during Harvest Feast. Guilds not paying taxes will be considered inactive at the discretion of the Coronet.

Article IX. - Geographic Divisions within the Barony

Section A.

The Barony shall consist of several local groups, which shall be shires, cantons or colleges.

Section B.

Each branch must meet the requirements established for it in the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

Section C.

The officers of each branch, regardless of designation or location, will report to their Baronial superiors on a schedule set by the Baronial officer.

Section D.

When an existing group is incorporated into the Barony, it shall become a shire, a canton, or a college.

Section E.

Whenever possible, the Baronial Seneschal, with the approval of the Coronet, will designate a Society contact person for an area which has yet to be developed.

Article X. - Events within the Barony

Section A.

There will be one Baronial Coronet Tournament and Investiture per Society year. It shall be held on the first available date within the month of January or February.

1. The competition for the Coronet will be held on Saturday, with the Investiture ceremony of the victor as First Councilor held that evening.
2. The changing of the Coronet will occur at March Crown by Their Majesties leave.
3. The Baronial Coronet Tournament shall be open to all qualified members of the Barony and the Shire of Wuduholt be Secq by treaty, willing to fulfill the obligations of the office as stated herein.
4. There may be held a separate prize tournament for those not wishing to compete for the Baronial Coronet. Baronial competitors may participate in both tournaments.

Section B.

In addition to the Baronial Coronet Tournament, there shall be held at least a Harvest Feast in Autumn and a Yule Feast in December.

Section C.

Petitions to hold Baronial events must be submitted to the Coronet and Baronial Seneschal with sufficient time to allow decisions and plans to be made and for inclusion in the Kingdom Calendar.

Section D.

Groups planning to hold a local event are responsible for notifying the local and Baronial Seneschal of such plans so that they may be sufficiently publicized to include ample time for publishing in the West Kingdom newsletter The Page.

Article XI. - Baronial Tourney

Section A.

The Baronial Coronet Tournament shall be held at a central site of the Barony, and must have at least three (3) competitors for the Coronet. If fewer than 3 competitors enter, see Section K below.

Section B.

Competitors for the Coronet and prospective consorts must meet the following requirements:

1. Both must have been residents of the Barony or treaty area for at least six (6) months, and promise to do their utmost to remain so during the reign should they win. The Coronet may choose to waive the residency requirement.
2. Both must be paid members of the Society; one must be a subscribing member.
3. Both must possess a working knowledge of the structure of the SCA, the West Kingdom, the Palatine Barony of Allyshia, and the offices of the Coronet.
4. Both must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the Tournament. The Coronet may choose to waive the age requirement. This decision shall be made on a case-by-case basis, providing the gentle is armigerous. Under no circumstances shall both be under 18.
5. Neither can be already a landed noble (the current Coronet, Prince/esses, Kings or Queens) at the time of the Tournament.
6. Both must be otherwise acceptable to the Coronet.
7. Each competitor must enter at least one of the 3 competitions. On a case-by-case basis and/or in extreme circumstances, this requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Coronet.

Section C.

The Baronial Tournament shall consist of three (3) parts: 1. Heavy Fighting Competition, 2. Arts Competition, 3. Sciences Competition

1a. The usual order for the Heavy Fighting Competition shall be conducted as a round robin tournament, with the fighters with the most victories being awarded first (3 points), second (2 points), or third (1 point), respectively. In the event that there are more than six competitors, the list shall be conducted as a standard double elimination tournament. Any ties are to be re-fought to a clear victory for each place.

1b. The Coronet is at liberty to determine acceptable weapons forms to be used in the list, or it may be determined by lottery.

1c. If the Tournament is standard SCA heavy weapons, the Coronet may apply such specifics as it wishes provided they do not violate the governing documents of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, or this document.

2. The Arts Competition is to chronicle the reign of the current Baron and Baroness and is judged, without names attached to entries, in three (3) categories: (1) entertainment, (2) period style, (3) accuracy; with a range of zero to three (0-3) points given in each category. The highest scores shall be awarded points as in the fighter competition. The judging shall be "blind" (i.e., the author not identified to the judges).

3. The Sciences Competition is cartography. Drawn from memory, a map of the Known World or portion thereof, as determined by the Coronet. Judging will be on geographical correctness of the map and how correctly each location is identified, with one point being awarded for each category of correctly drawn or correctly identified location. The highest scores shall be awarded points as in the fighter competition. The highest scores shall be awarded points as in the fighting competition. If in the event of a tie, historical endeavor and period style may be considered.

Section D.

1. The entries will be judged by the Coronet, those who have worn the Coronet, the Baronial Seneschal, and any other qualified gentles the Coronet should choose to invite.
2. Each competitor will have their points totaled by the judges. The individual with the most points will be the victor and will receive the title of Palatine Baron/ess. His/Her consort will be Baron/ness. The results of the tournament competition will be safeguarded and announced at the evening celebration.
3. In the event of a tie, the individual who placed in the most competitions will be the victor.

Section E.

In the event that a Coronet Tournament cannot be held, the Coronet will consult the Baronial Seneschal and the Crown of the West to determine the cause, and to decide if the Coronet should continue in extended rule or a vicarage should be created.

Article XII. - Succession of the Baronial Coronet

Section A.

The Investiture of the First Councilor shall take place at the evening celebration on the day of the Coronet Tournament.

Section B.

The Coronet and the First Councilors will attend the March Crown tournament of the Kingdom of the West for the changing of the Coronet ceremony. The new Coronet shall swear fealty to the Crown of the West as part of the ceremony. The court at which the change of the Coronet is to be performed shall be at the whim of the Crown.

Section C.

All Baronial regalia shall be passed to the new Coronet.

Section D.

Should either of the Lord or Lady First Councilor fail to accept the Investiture, the following shall happen:

1. Their victory in the Coronet Tournament shall be declared null and void;
2. The runner up in the Coronet Tournament will then be declared the victor and assume the responsibilities of succession.
3. The gentles who failed to accept Investiture shall be banned from competing for the Coronet in the following year.

Section E.

The new Coronet shall recognize their immediate predecessors for their service to the Barony.

Article XIII. - Baronial Awards and Honors

Section A.

In the Palatine Barony of Allyshia, there shall exist awards to recognize the skills and service of the populace.

Section B.

Awards shall consist of honors and membership in orders. These differ in that membership in orders can be bestowed to a person only once, while honors can be awarded time and time again.

Section C.

The Palatine Baron/ess of Allyshia shall, during his/her tenure on the throne, be the protector of all the orders of the Barony, and as such shall be awarded the recognition and status as a member of the orders during their reign.

Section D.

The Baronial Orders are as follows:

1. Order of the Sea Lion (established by Baron Wahlen O'Falen and Baroness Liesel Blaisdel, A.S. XXX, c.e. 1996). This is given to recognize those who are the very ideal of what the gentry of the current middle ages should be. It was established to recognize members of the populace who have made great sacrifices of themselves in service to the Barony, who have demonstrated great courtesy, chivalry, and grace at all times, and who have achieved much in the arts and sciences. This is a polling order; no member may be inducted unless the other members are in majority agreement. Every effort should be made to contact all members of the order that live within the Barony. A majority of the members may also approach the Coronet with a candidate; however in such a case, the Coronet is not obligated to induct members proposed by the order itself. The token for the order is a gold-colored sea lion suspended from a blue ribbon.
2. Caprian Order (established by Baron fFylenDrac the Blind, A.S. XX, c.e. 1986). This is given for outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty to the Barony, and bears with it a recommendation for a Kingdom Award of Arms. This is a polling order as stated above. Candidates should have already been inducted into

the Order of the Leaf Du Jour. The token for the order is a small gold-colored goat suspended from a multi-colored ribbon.

3. The Order of the Fern (established by Baroness Marisol, A.S. XXI, c.e. 1987). This is bestowed by the Baroness to honor those who best exemplify the attributes of grace and courtesy. The token for the order is a small silver-colored fern leaf suspended from a multi-colored ribbon.
4. Order of the Leaf du Jour (established by Baroness Morgan Starbridge, A.S. XXII, c.e. 1988). This is awarded to honor those of the Barony who have shown themselves as steadfast hardworking members over a period of time. The token for the order is a single colored leaf suspended from a multi-colored ribbon.
5. Order of the Cornerstone (established by Baron Senkyu and Baroness Gwyneth, A.S. XXIX, c.e. 1995). This is awarded to honor those who have made exceptional effort to build and create a medieval environment for all to enjoy by the construction of the Great Hall and Grounds. The token for the order is a building block suspended from a multi-colored ribbon.
6. Order of Valhalla (established by Baron Senkyu and Baroness Gwyneth, A.S. XXIX, c.e. 1995). This is awarded to honor and recognize the service of those who have excelled above and beyond their peers in their creation of and have provided for the populace a festive occasion or event. The token is a small tankard suspended from a multi-colored ribbon.
7. The Order of the Trinity (established by Baron Janos Michaly and Baroness Katerina Vespucci, A.S. XXVI, c.e. 1992). This is awarded to recognize those who have braced the rapids of the Trinity River at the annual Medieval Encampment. The token for the Order is small gold ship captains' wheel.
8. Order of the Young Gentles (created by Baron Waylon Secheo and Baroness Judith LaFoncee, A.S. XXIII, c.e. 1989). This is awarded to honor the younger members of the Barony who exhibit good manners, grace, and courtesy. The token for the Order is a yellow ribbon favor with an embroidered G there upon.
9. The Order of the Honorary Allyshian (established by Baron Talorc and Baroness Esthee, A.S. , C.E.) is given to those who attend and participate in Barony functions and events and who do not reside within the Barony. The token is a wax-sealed vial filled with local Allyshian sunshine (rainwater) suspended from a hemp cord.
10. Order of the Red Thread (established by Baroness Medbh, A.S. , C.E.). This is awarded to those gentles who have excelled in stitch work and bears with it a recommendation for a Rose Leaf. The token is a goddess suspended from a read thread or ribbon.
11. Any members of polling orders shall be rostered and maintained by the Minister of Regalia.

Section E.

The Honors of the Barony are as follows:

1. Sea Lion's Tooth (established by Baron Wahlen Secheo and Baroness Judith LaFoncee, A.S. XXIII, c.e. 1989). This is given to honor those warriors who have displayed a notable act of bravery or prowess in battle. The token for the Honor is a sea lion's tooth suspended from a colored ribbon.
2. The Rank of Thegn (established by Baron Elriin of Hrassvelg and Baroness Marisol, A.S. XXIV, c.e. 1990). This is given to recognize those who equip a fighter as an authorized member of the House of Allyshia. Up to three people may contribute to the maintenance of one fighter. All three may then be confirmed as Thegn in their own right. The token of this honor is a wall certificate.
3. Pillar of Allyshia (established by Baron Janos Michaly and Katerina Vespucci, A.S. XXVI, c.e. 1992). This is given to recognize those who offer shelter and comfort to the populace engaging in Baronial activities. The token of this honor is a wall certificate.
4. Baron's Token. This is given to honor those who have served the Baron during his reign. The token is by the Baron's own design.
5. Baroness' Token. This is given to honor those who have served the Baroness during her reign. The token is by the Baroness' own design.
6. Warrior of Allyshia (established by Baron Elriin of Hrassvelg and Baroness Marisol, A.S. XXIV, c.e. 1990). This is given to honor those fighters who fight for Allyshia in a war. The token is a wall certificate.
7. Partier Extraordinaire (established by Baroness Morgana, A.S. XXII, c.e. 1988). This is given to recognize those who have excelled in revel and merriment to the entertainment of the populace. The token is a wall certificate.
8. Order of the Seashell (established by Baron Wahlen Secheo and Baroness Judith LaFoncee, A.S. XXIII, c.e. 1989). This is given to honor those who volunteer and help the Barony.

Section F.

The non-combatant Coronet may choose champions through tournament or other process. Winner of the Heavy Fighting Competition will be named Dandelion Lord or Lady. Winner of the Rapier Competition will be named Lotus Lord or Lady. Each Lord/Lady shall receive a favor bearing a symbol of their honor during the reign for which they are champion.

Article XIV. - Baronial Heraldic Insignia and Display

Section A.

The arms of the Palatine Barony of Allyshia are: azure, a sea lion rampant, in chief argent three laurel wreaths vert.

1. The Baronial arms may be displayed by the Coronet as it deems appropriate.

Section B.

The badge of the Palatine Barony of Allyshia is still to be determined.

1. The populace may display the Baronial badge, and are encouraged to do so.
2. Baronial guards and the Baronial champion may wear a tabard or sash "per pale azure and argent" with the badge over the left breast.

Section C.

The ensign of the Palatine Barony of Allyshia is still to be determined.

1. The populace may fly the ensign of the Barony, and are encouraged to do so, at all functions.

Section D.

Each local branch of the Barony shall register its name and device with the College of Arms. Local arms may be displayed to serve as a rallying point for the group.

1. The arms of the College of St. Brendan are: azure, in cross five mullets of eight points, on a chief argent three laurel wreaths vert.

Article XV. - Changes to This Document

Section A.

The Coronet shall review the Codex once per reign to make such changes, additions, and deletions as they deem appropriate after consultation with the Baronial officers and gaining the approval of the Crown of the West, and the Baronial and Kingdom Seneschals.

Section B.

Before such changes can be put into effect, they must be published in the Baronial newsletter The Scribe, and announced at an official event as defined by the governing documents of the SCA, Inc.

Revised A.S. , C.E. 2007

Seelie Brianna Sutherland, Seneschal, Barony of Allyshia