



BARONY OF RISING WATERS

Moot

We have been having problems with a lack of people coming out to practices and events, as well as complaints about how things are being done, and lack of volunteers to run events and step up as officers.

It seems this is not a problem that is limited to our group, but happening in many different organizations while people cocoon at home. As well, Niagara Region has been hit hard by economic difficulties. We do have enough paid members to continue being a Barony, but those members are coming out to fewer things. As well, many members of our Barony cannot currently afford memberships.

We need to find ways to encourage all of our members to come out. Some of the suggestions included having separate meeting nights for all of the activities, reducing the number of meetings, or making them special in some way, or perhaps having a potluck just for socializing.

It was also suggested that we organize meetings for when the majority of people can come out, ie 6 out of 7 fighters can make it on a Tuesday night, so fight practices will be on Tuesday nights. We already do that for A&S nights, which are held every other Monday.

Also, we have a number of members that do not drive. We can set up a car pool database for those who need rides and those who can give them. People also need to stick by their commitments. If they've said that they will be there, then they should really try to be there. That being said, everyone recognizes that life interferes sometimes. However, cancelling practices or meetings at the last minute is bad because not everyone is on Facebook or checks their email all the time. Also, not everyone has access to a computer. Creating a Baronial Communications Officer who can have a phone tree for those not on the Net would help make sure everyone is up to date.

This Barony is a family and families sometimes squabble. We need to focus on what makes our family strong, and encourage those who have a problem to come forward so that problems can be resolved. At the same time, those from outside of the Barony who have been criticizing us need to be confronted. We should be asking them what their perceived issue is, and what they would like to see done about it. People from our Barony are frequently there to help others, but we always do it in the background. Perhaps we need to promote ourselves more so that people know who we are. Wearing the Baronial emblem might be a good start.

It would also be a good idea if people knew who does what in the Barony. If Bob wants to learn embroidery, who should he go to? Creating a directory of people and talents would be a good way to let everyone know that.

We currently just change hats when someone wants to step down from an Officer position. Encouraging members to come out would help increase the pool of people



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available to be officers. People don't want to do things they don't understand, so having classes about each officer's position would allow them to learn about them, which might encourage them to volunteer. Currently, no one has a deputy, so more transitional support would also be helpful. And finally, thanking the people who give their time to do these jobs would be really nice.