

MoonLite

Province Status Discussion • Issue 1 • Giggleswick • October 22, 2015

Notes from the first discussion regarding the status of Malagenita

by Christiana Crane

These notes were taken at the October 22 meeting in Giggleswick. There were 19 people in attendance. The comments and questions are paraphrased from the meeting and not a direct transcript. If you were at the meeting and I have misrepresented your questions or comments, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can make corrections so that these records are as accurate as they can possibly be.

I have left off the names of the commentators partly because some of the questions and comments overlap and also to keep focus on the discussion.

Opening Remarks

From Christian Woolfe: This is the first of a series of Town Hall Meetings on the question concerning Malagentia status as either a Province or a Barony.

The reasons involve history, traditions and what we perceive Malagentia to be. Before beginning the conversation, please remember the chivalric nature of our organization and that we need to uphold these values as this discussion continues. Please take the time to listen to other people's opinions and remember that it is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.

The rules for these Town Hall meetings are as follows: Speakers will speak in a first come, first served order. Speakers will be limited to 10 minutes to offer comments and questions. When speakers approach their timelimit, they will be signaled first and then a gavel will sound when their time is up, because gavels are fun.

We will be relying on Kingdom law

for answers to tonight's questions. If you have questions or comments you would like to offer, but prefer not to speak before the group, please write them down and they will be read in the order in which they are received.

Even though you may know the answer to a question, please refrain from speaking out of turn. This can slow down the flow of the meeting and can lead to people talking over one another.

There will be no votes and no motions offered this evening. This meeting is simply for discussion alone.

Question/Comment: Why should or shouldn't we become a Barony? Speaker would like to hear as many voices as possible.

Response: Back at the dawn of time, Deormund and the Veasellurds formed the shire of Malagentia. When the population had grown to the point where there was a desire to become a Barony/Province, it was decided at that time to become a Province.

Q: What brought this up now? And who is dictating the terms of "chivalric behavior"?

Answer: Individuals have been coming forward to ask why we are not a Barony. There have been enough people asking the question that it seemed an appropriate time to start talking about the subject. As for the chivalric behavior, less than chivalric behavior against people asking the question has been witnessed. It is important that everyone has a chance to be heard in a fair and open dialogue.

Follow-up Question: Regarding some of the specific wording used in the "terms

of chivalric behavior" at the beginning of the meeting and where those terms came from.

A: The terms have been set by the Seneschal and supported by Kingdom no matter the outcome of the discussions.

FQ: Does this discussion have an audience then?

A: Yes, we are keeping Kingdom informed of our discussions.

Q: Is there a pros and cons list?

A: There is a published list (*see page 4*) of the differences between Baronies and Provinces on the Malagentia website. This list was developed by other groups who have gone through this process. There is language in the list that doesn't necessarily apply to Malagentia, so please forgive things that seem out of place.

Q: Are there obstacles to a Province having awards?

A: Yes, there are rules on the books at Corporate that prohibit this.

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<http://malagentia.eastkingdom.org/main/category/newsletter/>

Q: How many Provinces are there?

R: There are eight total in the Known World. There are currently two in the East Kingdom, **Malagentia** and the **Crown Province of Ostgardr** in Greater NYC. The remaining 6 are **Mooneshadowe** in Ansteoria (OK and eastern TX), **Arrows' Flight** in Artemesia (MT, southern ID, UT, western CO, and Western WY), **Golden Rivers** and **Silver Desert** in the Principality of Cynagua (Sierras in CA and Northwest NV), and **Southern Shores** and **The Mists** in the Principality of the Mists (San Francisco area).

Q: What happens from here?

A: We are currently only discussing the idea. If we decide to take further actions, a polling will go out to paid members of the SCA who live in the zip codes that belong to Malagentia, Giggleswick, and Ravensbridge to vote on if we want to change status.

Comment: Communication and transparency helped in the forming of the Barony of Stonemarche.

Response: Communication and transparency in this process are key.

Q: When does a Baron/Baroness get chosen?

A: The Seneschal pages 16-18 of the EK Law (*see page 5*) discuss this process. If a Barony is approved, there is a period of 18 months in which to complete the process. This includes writing the bylaws and electing a Baron and/or Baroness.

Q: Are there qualifications to become Baron/Baroness?

A: There are no requirements (such as a peerage) for someone to be elected Baron/Baroness. The process is similar to the officer election process - there are nominations and then a vote.

Q: If Malagentia became a Barony, what happens to the Ridings?

A: The Riding title gets changed to Canton. Nothing else changes.

C: If we have a Baron/Baroness, we need to make sure that communication remains strong with the Ridings.

R: We are continually working on keeping communication lines open and improving the process. Communication is how we live and breathe.

C: The question amounts to whether or not to insert an additional layer of infrastructure with the pro that there would be an additional layer of infrastructure and the con that there

would be the need to support that additional layer and the changing of the status quo.

C: We have not been a Barony for a long time. Malagentia is the last of the Great Independents. There have been periods where there was concern over people in Portland running everything and leaving others behind. There have been periods when people were concerned over who would fill the role of Baron/Baroness. The reasons why becoming a Barony hasn't happened before now come from more than just an infrastructure issue.

C: Regardless of the outcome of these discussions, we should take this opportunity to strengthen what we're already doing and to change things that aren't working. We need to have better succession planning, not just for a Baron/Baroness but also for officer positions. If we are going to be a Barony, we need to be a sustaining Barony so that we last another 30 years.

R: When you take an office, you should have a plan for who is going to take your place when you step down.

C: A Baron/Baroness is not a vaulted position but is the figurehead of the group. The seneschal is the business side of a Barony, but the Baron/Baroness is the representative of all of Malagentia. The person/persons chosen cannot take sides in any of the petty differences in the group and must treat everyone fairly. This is not a "come serve me waifs" position but they are the biggest servants of the group. It is an investment in both personal time and expense.

C: Talk with some of the Barons/Baronesses and the officers living in Baronies, both local and around the Known World, and ask what their experiences with this process have been. We are different people, so the process will be different for us, but it's always good to get an idea of how it went for other groups.

R: Talk to surrounding groups personally. Talk to the current heads, but also previous ones. Ask about the process. Ask Deormund about the early history of Malagentia and see what his thoughts are on how we came to be where we are now.

C: Commentator has lived in Baronies until there were no Barons to step up and fill the role. Without people willing to do the work, the project will be unsustainable.

C: Opposition to becoming a Barony. There is only one thing in being a



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For the latest goings on in Malagentia this month, please visit our website <http://malagentia.eastkingdom.org>

barony that we cannot do as a Province. There has been pomp and circumstance. There has been some great shtick over the years. We have an unofficial head of the group in the seneschal. We can give honors instead of awards. The only thing we can't do is participate in Runnymede. There have been some dark times related to the Baronial discussion in Malagentia. Imagine the person you can't stand becoming the Baron. With the new term limits for Barons/Baronesses, there is a possibility that they could become your representative. The process of becoming a Barony is more taxing than being a Barony. You cannot be Baron/

Baroness while being an officer. This takes some of our organizers out of their officer positions and do we have replacements for them? Someone has to bear the cost of coronets, regalia, and gifts. This is less of a burden for us, but still not inconsiderable.

Q: What is Runnymede?

A: Runnymede is a household and a discussion group for seated, landed Barons where issues are discussed, alliances are formed, and shtick is developed.

C: Regardless of the outcome of these discussions, we should strive to end up stronger for this process.

C: We should work with what we've currently got. We are currently the only Province in the East. If we stay where we are, we can always play with the shtick without becoming a Barony.

C: Talk to Baron Harold in Stonemarche. He was instrumental in orchestrating the dance of becoming a Barony and is open to discussing the process.

Q: What about becoming a Crown Province rather than just a Province?

R: The answer was unknown at the time of the meeting. There is research being done on the answer.

C: We can recognize people locally with honors, but there is something different about being recognized at a Kingdom level of representation. Getting an opportunity to be addressed by someone who is in a position of honor can be a thrill. We have talented artisans in this area for things like gifts and all artisans incur costs. It can be hard to let go of an identity, but if that is the way we go, we will still be the Bad People. We don't let go of who we are by changing from a Province to a Barony.

C: Recognition is important to a lot of people. Kingdom-level awards and some of that pomp and circumstance are what they want to be a part of.

Q: Why don't we just do those other things that a Barony can do without changing status?

A: Malagentia has Provincial Honors in the works.

F: With honors, what is the context for those being awarded if we do not have courts?

A: A proposal regarding all (*see page 10*) of this is available on the Malagentia website and will be presented at the November Province Meeting,

FQ: There needs to be an impetus from within to get these things running and keep them going. It is possible to have that without a sitting Baron/Baroness. A Baronial process has a built in structure to keep it running. However we go, we need to continue building momentum as a group so we can offer a wider range of experiences.

C: Not everyone can make many Kingdom events. Although (the commentator) has been around for many years, it feels like I don't know anyone in the group. (The commentator) doesn't care about Kingdom awards, but being honored by local people holds a lot more value than awards given by people on a throne far away.

Q: Do any job titles change? Do we need different officer requirements for a Barony?

A: Nothing changes in terms of which officers are required. Some groups use different titles, but the positions themselves are essentially the same.

C: We need to mature as a group to where we have the people to be a steady stream of officer potentials. We should work toward that steady stream.

Q: If we don't go Barony, is there anything preventing us from having this discussion again 5 years from now?

A: No.

Q: Can we do a spin-up as a test run before deciding to put a figurehead in place?

R: We currently have everything required to become a Barony. A Province is not lower in status than a Barony, it simply doesn't have a figurehead.

Follow-up Comment: Runnymede had been contacted to see if we could participate as a Province but we were not able to do so.

C: In favor of becoming a Barony. While there have been dark times in Malagentia's past concerning the issue of becoming a Barony, it seems as though Baronies can create a sense of community. There are people in our area who should be members of the SCA, but when they have tried to join in, they feel like they are unable to crack the code of the group and just go away discouraged. After attending courts in Endeweard and Stonemarche, it seems like they get everyone out of their households for a moment to become a unified group centered around a figurehead. People



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Chatelain

LORD EDWARD MIDNIGHT
Exchequer

DUCHESS SABINE DE ROUEN
Chronicler

are recognized in a smaller setting with other local folks around. There is a definite sense of community.

C: Awards are recognition from one's peers. If we are doing the work of a Barony anyway, is it because we want to be a Barony?

Q: Who is in charge of deciding who gets Provincial Honors?

A: That is covered in the proposal on the Honors (*see page 10*) which can be found on the website. The short answer is the officers.

Province Status Discussion

Posted on October 13th, 2015 by Colonel Christian Woolfe

Hello Everyone,

We have been receiving feedback regarding the upcoming group status discussion.

The lists below are by no means a complete accounting for concerns and opportunities but it is at least a good start towards our discussion. I have broken down these items that impact individuals and the group as a greater whole. Many of the items listed could fall under either category, but the overall impact was used to determine which category they are listed under.

As mentioned through previous postings and announcements at meetings, we will be holding several "town hall" meetings throughout the Province so that individuals can freely and openly discuss these ideas. During each of these meetings only the best most respectful behavior, that our society is built upon, will be expected and appreciated.

Thank you to Lord Otto Gottlieb of the Barony of Endeweard for providing many of these talking points that I've adapted specifically for our group.

Moving to Barony

Individual Reasons:

- Baronial Court can provide a place for Heralds, Guards, and Champions to learn the ropes in a less stressful environment, in case they ever take on the same role in Royal Court.
- Baronial Awards are recorded in the OP.
- Baronial Court can provide a display of pageantry for local folks who rarely see Royal Court.
- Being able to hold baronial court means that awards can be presented to members of the local populace who don't travel or are less known on a kingdom level.
- The process of recommending people for Baronial awards and having local polling orders helps maintain involvement and interest in the SCA by local members who might not otherwise get drawn into the SCA at a Kingdom level for some time, if ever.
- Our game is not all about tallying an award score, it is potentially worthwhile to be able to acknowledge

individuals efforts and achievements and contributions to the group.

- Baronial Championship Tournaments & Challenges now do more than recognize the skills of the participants; they have the winner take on a position in the Court.

Group Reasons:

- Creating scrolls or other physical tokens of recognition for Baronial Awards can help create and maintain continued interest in the SCA by local members by getting them involved with arts & sciences.
- The right Baronage can help act as an advocate for all the local talent to a Kingdom level, and help get Kingdom or Society level recognition for those deserving. (This isn't to say that this doesn't already happen through local Peers and other advocates doing the same, but it can act as yet another avenue for information to flow.)
- Local courts and a landed Baronage can add to the medieval feel we're trying to recreate.
- A baronage might become a focal point for group activities and direction.
- Baronial investiture creates a more or less certain royal progress to the area.
- This is not necessarily true but potentially true. Investitures are sometimes combined with other regional events to reduce the amount of travel required of monarchs. This will become more evident as the new term limits on baronages is implemented.
- Baronies can form subgroups such as cantons and strongholds which allows for growth and organization of the group outside of the central Bangor area without further carving up the territory over time.
- Note that Malagentia currently has two active and thriving Ridings that would continue if Malagentia is a Province or a Barony.

Staying a Province

Individual Reasons:

- People worry about being ostracized for disagreeing with or

speaking out against the Baronage.

- There may be additional workload for some members
- Storing, making, transporting, and maintaining regalia.

Group Reasons:

- Losing our identity
- Malagentia is one of the few if not only Province in the East Kingdom
- Politics: The selection process for a Baronage, and re-selection in the future could be stressful times that create division, instead of bringing the group together.
- Factions and rifts could be created. How adult we are as a whole will depend on how and if these wounds can be healed.
- This is heavily dependent on how we, as members of the Society, comport our own behavior.
- Burnout: Having local Courts, regalia, awards, champions, and the events to support them is more work, and that means more volunteers or more volunteerism by those who already do the volunteering. This can lead to burnout if not carefully managed.
- This also falls on the number of officers. Adding one or two baronages potentially pulls from the officer numbers as well.
- Concern that the wrong Baronage could create division within the local group
- The expense of creating and maintaining regalia.
- Additional bureaucracy.

In Service,

Christian
Seneschal, Malagentia

This document can also be found online at www.malagentia.org under the title "Province Status Discussion"

Laws of the East Kingdom

Pages 16-20 from <http://seneschal.eastkingdom.org/docs/EKLAW.pdf>

B. Reporting to Kingdom Officers.

1. Every Local Officer must file reports as required by the corresponding Kingdom Officer and/or their Regional Deputy.
2. Failure to file required reports within thirty days after the reporting deadline may be grounds for suspension of the branch, their ability to publish in Pikestaff, and/or replacement of the non-reporting Officer.

C. Polling Procedures

The Crown may poll any land group at any given time for any reason they see fit. The Heirs may poll any land group at any given time for any reason they see fit with the permission of The Crown. Polling processes mandated by East Kingdom Law must adhere to the following criteria.

1. A gentle may participate in the polling who:
 - a. Holds a current Society membership. Any gentle who joins the SCA or cures a lapse in Society membership during a polling process will not be sent a ballot but may obtain one from the Officer administering the poll, if they provide proof of Society membership and residence.
 - b. Resides within the formally approved boundaries of the branch.
2. Ballots and the Polling Process
 - a. The members of a branch must be polled by ballots mailed via the postal system.
 - i. Ballots must be prepared by the Local Seneschal in accordance with one of the Kingdom ballot templates (available on the Documents page of the Kingdom Seneschal's website), and be approved by the Kingdom Seneschal or his appointed Deputy.
 - ii. Expenses of preparing and mailing the ballots will be borne by the branch. However, a branch may petition the Kingdom Seneschal and the East Kingdom Council of the Exchequer to have the costs covered by the Kingdom.
 - iii. Ballots must be mailed to the voting members no less than 30 days but no more than 45 days before the closing date of the polling.
 - iv. A voting member may obtain a ballot from the Local Seneschal if one was not received by mail.
 - b. Ballots must be printed with:
 - i. A statement of the purpose of the polling.
 - ii. The closing date of the polling.
 - iii. Instructions for completing and returning the ballot.
 - iv. The recipient and address to which the completed ballots must be returned.
 - v. A choice of statements allowing the ballot recipient to certify whether or not they are at least fourteen years of age.
 - vi. A list of candidates or choices, including the option to abstain.
 - vii. Spaces for the ballot recipient to fill in their Society membership number and legal name.
 - viii. A space for the ballot recipient's legal signature.
 - c. For ballots to be counted, they must:
 - i. Be returned to the Branch Polling Deputy and received, in a sealed envelope, by the closing date of the polling as printed on the ballot.
 - ii. Be properly completed and signed with the voting member's legal name legibly printed on it.
 - d. At a minimum, ballots will be tallied by the Branch Polling Deputy, a Regional Seneschal, and the Kingdom Seneschal (or designate). Talliers must not reside in the branch conducting the polling or have any other conflict of interest regarding the polling. Returned ballots may only be viewed by the talliers, the Kingdom Seneschal and/or the Kingdom Seneschal's designates, and The Crown.
 - e. At least one-half (50%) of the polled members must respond to the polling for a polling to be considered valid. If a polling fails to be valid by this criterion, the disposition of the polling falls to The Crown.
 - i. Properly executed ballots from members less than 14 years old shall count to establish the polling validity.
 - ii. Only properly executed ballots from members 14 years old or more shall count toward the preference tally.
 - iii. Any ballot returned by a member which is not properly executed shall be declared invalid and shall not count at all.
 - f. The outcome of the polling will be determined by a simple majority of valid returned ballots. If a polling fails to result in such a simple majority, the disposition of the polling falls to The Crown.

- g. The results of the polling must be reported to The Crown and Kingdom Seneschal within three weeks of the closing date of the polling.
 - h. Upon The Crown's receipt of the results of the polling, The Crown has four weeks to inform the Kingdom Seneschal, the Seneschal of the polled barony, the polled barony's current Territorial Baron/Baroness, and the newly-selected successor(s) which of the candidate(s) presented in the poll has been selected to be the next Baron/Baroness. Should the four-week period overlap the Coronation of Their Heirs, the current Crown may either make the selection, or defer to the Heirs. If the selection is deferred, the new Crown shall make the selection within four weeks after their Coronation.
 - i. The selection of a Baronial Seat once made shall be binding regardless of the date of the Baronial Investiture.
 - j. If the Kingdom Seneschal and The Crown agree that a variance from this process is reasonable and will not impact the integrity of the process, one may be granted.
3. Proxies
- a. Proxies are not valid for use in any polling mandated by East Kingdom Law.
 - b. The use of proxies in local voting is discouraged. However, if local policy or custom allows their use, proxies must:
 - i. Be signed and legibly printed with the signatory's legal name.
 - ii. Be dated.
 - iii. Be worded for use for one or several specific issues that will be addressed at a specific date or meeting.
 - iv. Be accompanied by proof of the signatory's Society membership, if local policy or custom requires Society membership for the matter being voted upon.

D. Change of branch status:

1. A branch may choose to begin change of status proceedings when sixty percent (60%) of the required officers of the current branch vote in favor of such change. The officers in favor of the change of status are to sign a petition that is to be delivered to the Kingdom Seneschal within three months of signature.
 - a. "Required officers" are those officers required for the respective branch as outlined in East Kingdom Law. When a branch may have a choice of required officers, all of those officer positions filled at the time of the vote are to be included in the vote.
2. Once the Kingdom Seneschal receives the signed Petition from the required officers, the Kingdom Seneschal will then work with the Society Seneschal and the Board of Directors of the Society as necessary to affect the desired change.
 - a. A change of branch status proceeding must include a polling of the voting members as set forth in Section VII.C.
3. Should a branch choose to change its status to that of a Barony, the selection of a Baron/Baroness as outlined in Section VII.F.6.a. must take place within eighteen months after the Board of Directors' approval of the change of status to Barony.
4. Except in extraordinary circumstances, a branch may not begin change of status proceedings within eighteen months of a previous change of status polling.

E. Principalities

A Principality is a branch or grouping of branches of at least one hundred Society members in a geographically contiguous area, forming a subdivision of the Kingdom, which selects a reigning Prince and Princess by armored combat.

1. Principalities are required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Herald
 - c. Knight Marshal
 - d. Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - e. Chronicler
 - f. Minister of Arts and Sciences
 - g. Minister of the Lists
 - h. Chatelaine
2. Duties and Rights of Territorial Princes and Princesses
 - a. Territorial Princes and Princesses may bestow Awards of Arms upon Their subjects.
 - b. Territorial Princes and Princesses may bestow such Peerages and East Kingdom Orders and Awards, in the name of The Crown, as have been specifically delegated to Them by The Crown in writing.

- i. Each of the above awards will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
 - ii. Polling for Orders which require it will be conducted in accordance with East Kingdom Law.
 - c. Territorial Princes and Princesses may bestow Principality Awards, and induct gentles of merit into Polling Orders of the Principality.
 - d. At Their discretion, The Crown may suspend the privilege of Territorial Princes and Princesses to bestow armigerous awards.
3. The Creation of a Principality
- a. At the time Principality status is granted, the first Coronet Tourney will be scheduled to be held under the supervision of The Crown of the East Kingdom. This Coronet Tourney will be open to all eligible entrants, as defined in proposed Principality Law, who reside within the boundaries of the incipient Principality.
 - b. The Crown of the East Kingdom will invest the first Coronet of the new Principality. Thereafter, Investitures will take place in accordance with the customs of the Principality.
4. The Separation of a Principality
- a. At the time Kingdom status is granted, the next scheduled Coronet Tourney will become the first Crown Tourney of the incipient Kingdom and will be held under the supervision of The Crown of the East Kingdom. This Crown Tourney will be open to all eligible entrants, as defined in Principality Law, who reside within the boundaries of the incipient Kingdom.
 - b. A treaty will be negotiated between The Crown of the East Kingdom and the Heirs to the incipient Kingdom to determine territorial boundaries, in accordance with the wishes of the subjects resident within the areas under discussion, and any other provisions as deemed necessary.
 - c. At the time of separation, the Coronet will personally return the Principality to the East Kingdom, and take Their rightful places among the Viscounty, if appropriate. If the Coronet is unable to attend the Coronation of the first Crown of the new Kingdom, They will return the Principality to the East Kingdom via The Crown Prince and Princess of the incipient Kingdom.
 - d. Once the Principality has been returned to the East Kingdom, The Crown of the East Kingdom will crown the Heirs to the incipient Kingdom as its first Sovereign and Consort. At that time, the respective Crowns will formally sign the treaty into effect.

F. Crown Principality

The Crown Principality of Tir Mara is a ceremonial geographic subdivision within the East Kingdom comprising all areas with modern Canadian Postal Codes. Tir Mara does not have rights, obligations, authority, or responsibilities different from or greater than any other administrative region within the East Kingdom. All references to 'Region' in East Kingdom Law shall be read as including Tir Mara. All Tir Mara officers are regional deputies to the respective East Kingdom officers and serve at the pleasure of said officer.

G. Baronies

A Barony is a branch of at least twenty-five Society members in a geographically contiguous area which has an appointed ceremonial head. In all circumstances, The Crown Province of Østgardr will be treated as a Barony.

1. A Barony may contain subordinate Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Cantons.
2. A Barony may hold funds for its Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Cantons.
3. A Barony may as act as a sponsoring branch for incipient Shires, Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Cantons.
4. Baronies are required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Herald
 - c. Knight Marshal
 - d. Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - e. Chronicler
 - f. Minister of Arts and Sciences
 - g. Minister of Lists
 - h. Chatelaine
5. Rights and Responsibilities of Territorial Barons/Baronesses
 - a. They hold their Baronies in fealty to The Crown.
 - b. They serve at the discretion of The Crown and are invested, suspended, or removed by The Crown in accordance with East Kingdom Law and the Governing Documents of the Society.
 - c. They have the right to bestow Baronial titles, awards and positions of honor.

- d. They may serve less than the required term limitation, as provided for by Baronial charter or custom.
 - e. The Viceroy/Vicereine of Østgardr have all the rights, privileges and obligations pertaining to Barons/Baronesses.
6. Appointment and Investiture of Territorial Barons/Baronesses
- a. New candidate(s) for Territorial Barons/Baronesses must be selected for presentation to The Crown using the polling procedures as set forth in Section VII.C.
 - b. A Barony has the option, at any time, to choose a Baroness/Baron to rule with its current sole Baron/Baroness.
 - i. The new (additional) Baron/Baroness will be selected for presentation to The Crown using the polling procedures as set forth in Section VII.C.
 - ii. The new (additional) Baron/Baroness will share the current full or partial term of the currently-seated Baron/Baroness, and the terms will end concurrently.
 - iii. The Crown is not required to attend the investiture of an additional Baron/Baroness, but must announce the investiture of the new (additional) Baron/Baroness in a Royal Court prior to the date of investiture.
 - c. The Crown will work with the incoming Baron/Baroness, the current Territorial Baron/Baroness, and that barony's Seneschal to determine a mutually-convenient time and place for the investiture.
 - d. A candidate for any Baronial Seat must:
 - i. Be at least eighteen years of age.
 - ii. Hold a current Society membership throughout the course of the Baronial Seat selection process.
 - iii. Reside within the formally approved boundaries of the branch.
 - iv. Not hold any Baronial Office during the course of their candidacy, except at the discretion of The Crown.
7. Limitation of Baronial Seat Terms
- a. A Territorial Baron/Baroness may sit for a period not to exceed six consecutive years.
 - i. Unless provided otherwise by baronial charter, Territorial Barons and Baronesses will sit for a term of three years (default term), which begins the date of investiture.
 - ii. A second (consecutive) three-year term may be granted if affirmed by a vote of confidence of the baronial officers.
 - iii. A barony may provide, by charter, for term(s) other than three years; however, the sum of such term(s) may not exceed six years.
Upon investiture, the Territorial Baron/Baroness is required to notify the Chronicler of the date the term will expire to be listed in the Regnum of the Pikestaff.
 - b. In the final year of the Territorial Baron/Baroness's term, the Barony will commence selection of its heir(s) in accordance with Polling Procedures (Section VII.C.).
 - c. The Territorial Baron/Baroness may not succeed themselves after having sat for a maximum of six years. A minimum interval of two years must elapse before the former Baron/Baroness may seek to resume the seat.
 - d. Residents of a Barony may at any time submit written comments to The Crown regarding the performance of their Baron/Baroness. Likewise, The Crown may at any time choose to take action against the Baron/Baroness of a Barony, in accordance with the Governing Documents of the Society.
 - i. In order to be considered, letters must be signed and contain contact information for the sender. An electronic signature in the form of /s/ before the sender's legal name will be deemed acceptable.
8. Replacement of Territorial Barons/Baronesses
- a. If a Baronial Seat is to be relinquished voluntarily, the outgoing Baron/Baroness may continue to hold the Baronial Seat until the investiture of their successors.
 - b. If a Barony is left without a ruling Baron/Baroness, these procedures must be followed.
 - i. The out-going Baron/Baroness will appoint a Vicar as a temporary replacement, after consultation with The Crown. If circumstances so warrant, the Vicar may be appointed by The Crown. The Vicar must reside in the Barony, and under no circumstances may the Vicar be a Baronial Officer.
 - ii. Within six months of the appointment of a Vicar, the voting members of the branch will be polled using the polling procedures as set forth in Section VII.C., to determine the future status of the branch: to remain a Barony, to transfer to a Province, to be lowered to Shire status, or to dissolve the branch. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of The Crown.

- iii. Should the Barony choose to continue as a Barony, the selection of a new Baron/Baroness must take place within the next eighteen months.

H. Provinces

A Province is a branch of at least twenty-five Society members in a geographically contiguous area that is of equivalent status to a Barony, but which has no ceremonial head.

1. A Province may contain subordinate Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Ridings.
2. A Province may hold funds for its Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Ridings.
3. A Province may as act as a sponsor branch for incipient Shires, Colleges, Strongholds, Ports, and Ridings.
4. Provinces are required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Herald
 - c. Knight Marshal
 - d. Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - e. Chronicler
 - f. Minister of Arts and Sciences
 - g. Minister of Lists
 - h. Chatelaine
5. A Province, because it has no ceremonial head, may give no awards, but may bestow Provincial honors.

I. Shires

A Shire is a branch of at least five Society members that is geographically independent of a Barony or Province.

1. A Shire may not contain subordinate branches.
2. A Shire may as act as a sponsor branch for incipient Shires, Colleges, Strongholds, and Ports.
3. Shires are required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Herald and/or Knight Marshal and/or Minister of Arts and Sciences
 - c. Chancellor of the Exchequer
4. If a Shire does not have a separate Chatelaine, an Officer must be designated to assume all Chatelaine duties.

J. Colleges, Strongholds and Ports

A College is a branch of at least five Society members that exists at an educational institution. A Stronghold or Port is a branch of at least five Society members that exists at a military installation. Colleges, Strongholds and Ports may become dormant because of seasonal changes in student population or troop movement.

1. Colleges, Strongholds and Ports may either be subordinate to or independent of a Barony or Province.
2. A College, Stronghold or Port is required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - c. Herald and/or Knight Marshal and/or Minister of Arts and Sciences
3. If a College, Stronghold or Port does not have a separate Chatelaine, an Officer must be designated to assume all Chatelaine duties.

K. Cantons and Ridings

A Canton is a branch of at least five Society members that is geographically or organizationally subordinate to a Barony. A Riding is a branch of at least five Society members that is geographically or organizationally subordinate to a Province.

1. A Canton or Riding is required to have, at minimum, the following Officers.
 - a. Seneschal
 - b. Chancellor of the Exchequer
 - c. Herald and/or Knight Marshal and/or Minister of Arts and Sciences
2. If a Canton or Riding does not have a separate Chatelaine, an Officer must be designated to assume all Chatelaine duties.

Proposal for the Establishment of Provincial Honors for the Province Of Malagentia

In accordance with the expressed wishes of the members of the Province of Malagentia, to enact some method of recognizing the skills, deeds, and services of their local residents. As such actions are allowed under East Kingdom law. (Darius and Etheldreda 5/31/15 Section VII. Branches, Subsection H, Provinces: 5. A Province, because it has no ceremonial head, may give no awards, but may bestow Provincial honors.) This document is intended to serve as a proposal for the establishment of said honors, their symbols, definitions, requirements, and methods of bestowal.

Honors

In accordance with Kingdom Law, and to avoid uncertainty about their nature, all Provincial honors shall be referred to as Malagentian Honors.

There shall be four varieties of Malagentian Honors. In no particular order they are.

- Martial
- Arts, and Sciences
- Service
- Courtesy

The Symbols for the Provincial honors shall be as follows.

- Martial: (On a shield purpure a moon in her compliment)
- Arts and Sciences: (A roundel argent bordered purpure a torch of knowledge purpure)
- Service: (Purpure A moon in its plenitude argent)
- Courtesy: (On a chalice purpure inverted charged with a moon in her compliment inverted argent)

Definitions

Martial: Efforts in any martial activity worthy of attention.

Arts and Sciences: Efforts in the Arts or Sciences worthy of attention.

Service: Services or labors worthy of attention.

Courtesy: Any action or activity that displays a level of personal generosity worthy of attention.

Bestowal

Any person may recommend a person to receive a Malagentian Honor. To do so, that person only needs to communicate that recommendation to any officer of the Province. That officer should then bring that persons recommendation to the full complement of officers, whatever that is at the time. They can then discuss the merits of the recommendation based on the definition of the honor.

A vote should then be taken. A simple majority of affirmative votes shall be sufficient to qualify the candidate for the honor recommended. The officers, or those specifically tasked in accordance to the needs of the award in question, shall make whatever arrangements are necessary to bestow the honor at a positive and convenient time and place.

Section VII. Branches, Subsection G. Provinces:

5. A Province, because it has no ceremonial head, may give no awards, but may bestow Provincial honors. Section VII. Branches, Subsection G. Provinces: