West An Tir War Report 2010 Ysabella Dolfin, Autocrat

Site:

Lyle really struggled with equipment issues this year, but as always was unflappable and flexible and still managed to get things done. I would recommend a conversation with him prior to next war to discuss his changing needs as the event has grown. Does he need to rent some equipment? Does he need bodies on hand to help move things or mow? We ended up using three additional areas this year: the paddock area, the new overflow parking area and the large An Tir overflow camping area. With the continued growth of the war, Lyle may need additional help getting the increased land needs ready going forward.

It came to my attention after the war that a group of people urinated on the war hay bales in the middle of the night. Lyle was contacted about this and said the hay bales were ok.

We had to purchase additional hay bales to use for the muddy areas after Thursday nights rain. Two people got stuck briefly in the mud but were quickly rescued. We needed hay in front of the Autocrats camp, in the parking lot and at gate. A total of 6 hay bales.

Water:

Water was very challenging this year. When Lyle was bringing the two large water buffaloes onto site, they slid off the trailer and exploded at gate. We secured a 2000 gallon water truck and a 250 gallon water buffalo and had the site rewatered within about 2 hours. We have been paying \$100 per 800 gallons of water each year. This year we used roughly 12500 gallons of water. Lyle has looked into getting a water filtration system for the site, which would cost about \$3000.00, but it could solve our longer term water needs. It might be worthwhile to discuss with An Tir the splitting of the cost for this filtration system. Having a water buffalo near waterbearing is also really important, especially with the uneven ground at the site. Lyle very kindly moved the 250 gal water buffalo next to waterbearing this year and that was a life saver!

Water would have been twice as much, due to the mishap with the water buffaloes, but the utility district did not have the meter turned on when Lyle went to go refill.

Merchant Vendors:

(see attached report from Merchant Coordinator)

Mistress Elspeth did a wonderful job wrangling the merchants this year. I would recommend expanding the merchants area a bit for some overflow and last minute merchants.

Marshalate and Fighting:

Our Kingdom Earl Marshal assigned a MIC initially what was unable (due to family crisis) to fulfill the duties. After this the Earl Marshal was unresponsive to requests for another MIC for the war but one did volunteer, Sir Brion of Bellatrix, about 6 weeks before the war was to commence as we felt it would be a detriment to the War to wait any longer to fill the post. The Kingdom marshalling equipment did not make it to the war and some items had to be purchased on site. At future events, it would be helpful to have the involvement of the kingdom officer to ensure that kingdom-owned equipment is made available to the war staff and that the marshalate for the event was adequately staffed within a reasonable time prior to the war. A Special thank you goes out to Sir Brion of Bellatrix and Master Artus Quintus for making sure things went smoothly and stepping in take care of these things.

Sir Brion of Bellatrix and Master Artus Quintus did their best to make accommodations to get people authorized and fighting, as our Kingdom officer did not ensure a Senior Marshal would be present and prepared to do authorizations. Please see attached Marshal Report.

Vendors:

Once again Roto Rooter was a champ and kept the port-o-potties clean and serviced. We ended up needing 10 more port-a potties for the expanded camping areas. I would not recommend getting hand washing stations next year as they were constantly an eyesore with regards to debris and paper trash, plus people saw the trash and started leaving their household garbage at the hand washing stations.

We contracted with B&D Mobile for the shower units for two 8 hour stints on Saturday and Sunday. They have always stayed open the whole day, which is nice! They typically use 10000 gallons of water and Roto Rooter does the grey water removal, also for a fee. The cost difference between having them open for the whole war (\$12000.00) and for just two half days (\$3000.00) is substantial enough that I recommend still having them open for the shorter period of time. The contracts from these vendors are attached with their full cost and parameters.

We had 70 cubic yards for garbage and while I have not heard from Roto Rooter yet, they were all full (and then some) to capacity so I will not be surprised if we are charged an additional fee for that extra garbage. I will add that information to the report as I get it. I would also recommend 100 cubic yards next year.

Arts and Sciences: We had a very successful A&S program this year! Mistress Sabrina did a fantastic job of wrangling teachers and accommodating last minute changes. Duchess Juana did a spectacular job with the Foodie area. I would recommend in future years that a large sunshade or dragonwing be made available to the food area. See attached report from Sabrina. This aspect of the war is my favorite addition since we started adding it two years ago! People LOVE it and I hope to see it continue in the future. We utilized 4 large pavilions for classes and this seemed to work well. We also have roaming classes.

In conclusion, while this war was unusually challenging this year (multiple equipment failures etc), the staff and Lyle had such a great attitude that the guests did not notice (at least I hope so!). I want to especially thank Mistress Khalja, Mistress Nedezda and Countess Leisel for helping with An Tir's land allocation. This was a huge job. I did recommend they be given Defenders of the West. I also want to thank Mistress Ula for being our Royalty liaison and for a million things she did to help at the war including marshal all of the fighting days.

I want to thank the Rapier and Heavy Marshals for how seamlessly and easily they worked together to share the fields and especially Nyshade for stepping in at a somewhat late hour to do an AWESOME job as the RMIC. He was a pleasure to work with! Sir Brion also did a really amazing job stepping in at a somewhat late hour to coordinate battles. I had many people compliment the marshals for a very even handed job. It makes such a positive difference in the "flavor" of the event and fighting. Katherine of Sky, Artus Quintus and many others spent quite a bit of time marshaling this event.

I want to thank the Constabulary for being light years from the pop-up with a clip board we often see at events. The setup was professional, comprehensive, well organized and thoughtful to the needs of our guests. It was everything I would have hoped for and more. Master Sven went far over and above expectation!

Mistress Sauenn was extremely helpful and dedicated to making the event go off without a hitch and worked tirelessly to smooth out rough edges. I could not have done this event without Sauenn, Artus and Sir Brion. They worked as hard as I did the whole weekend.

I want to thank the EQ community and especially Gwen for making this such an amazing and diverse equestrian showcase for our Kingdom. The horses were visible and accessible. Plus, they just did some SUPER COOL

STUFF! The Equestrian minister from An Tir said she was "totally inspired" to do a few new things up in An Tir by the events at the war.

I am still not sure what our exact numbers were but I would guess about 1600 people attended this event this year. Msitress Catherine of Wessex can fill you in on the numbers when she gets back from Pennsic.

Once again, thanks to everyone for the many many efforts on behalf of the war. A war of this size cannot be successful without the help of many hands.

In Service Ysabella Dolfin