

Imperial Hospitaller's report for the March Imperial Estates 2005

In my time as the Imperial Hospitaller, it has been my objective to set both for this office and myself several goals.

The first was to develop and write a subdivision startup guide, a Hospitaller's manual, several forms to be used by this ministry, and to improve communications within and without the Empire.

The first three have been successfully completed, the latter is not a goal that has an end but of course is an ongoing endeavor.

The next set of goals deals with the following area of concern: growth.

While, yes the Empire has experienced growth, it is not where one would expect it to be for a national organization that has been in existence for as long as the Adrian Empire.

Specifically, I would like to address getting the word out that the Adrian Empire exists to the Multitudes that have no clue to our existence by developing a nation-wide Recruitment Drive with the purpose of enlarging existing subdivisions and opening the doors to new ones.

It has been the tradition to leave recruitment and advertising to the individual subdivisions in the past. I would like to propose that we change this to some degree. In the business world there is national advertising and local advertising, outside of our Web site we currently do not engage in any national advertisement. I would like to facilitate this change if it receives the approval of the Imperial Crowns, the BOD, and the Imperial Estates to create a department in the Hospitaller's office to oversee such a project.

The Project would have two objectives: 1) to create a national campaign for advertisement and recruitment; 2) to develop and institute annual Empire wide recruitment drives in the individual subdivisions.

For the first aspect of this project, I must defer to someone who has experience and qualifications that I do not have. While I am aware of the basics, such as advertising say in Smithsonian Magazine, putting together a documentary for PBS/History channel, or advertising on cable, I do not have the knowledge of where to start or how to figure costs.

The second Phase I do have experience with that would tie into phase one.

On a subdivision level, goals would be established and set by this office working with a subdivision's crowns based on population densities of individual subdivisions. Standardized recruitment materials could be developed by this office, which could be used as is or adapted by individual subdivisions.

Awards and recognition would be developed for the subdivisions as well as individual recruiters.

For example: a set of inexpensive ribbons could be developed in blue, red, and white which could be displayed on the specific banner of the individual subdivisions just as campaign ribbons were.

Individual awards and recognition could be awarded on an Imperial and subdivision level recognizing individual recruitment effort.

Another project I would like to spearhead is producing training videos with each subdivision, new and old, having access. These videos would cover a wide range of subjects from "How to run basic Ceremonies and Coronations" to individual Ministry videos on basic operating procedures. To my knowledge, monies were at one time earmarked for this, but had no one to head the project at the time.

The last project I would like to address is one that several individuals, including myself, have suggested for sometime: creating Imperial training teams.

Starting a new subdivision is a very daunting task. This is compounded when you consider the isolation many of these fledgling groups have to deal with being some distance from established areas of the Empire. While the manuals, e-mails and telephone calls do help to some degree, nothing works better than hands-on training.

If it pleases Their Imperial Majesties and the Imperial Estates, I would ask that a fund be created to help facilitate such teams becoming a reality. These teams would consist of volunteers willing to travel to these areas with experience and expertise in the various areas of Ministry; the fund would help to offset costs of the volunteers. As the Imperial Hospitaler, I would be more than willing to travel for the Empire if the cost of a bus ticket could be provided.

As always I serve at the pleasure of the Imperial Crowns.

Yours in Service,
Sir Auberon dela'Reve
Imperial Hospitaler