

Local Chaîne Officers: Description of Duties and Responsibilities

The Bailli

The Bailli, who is elected by the membership, is in charge of all activities of the Bailliage, working with a Board of Directors he or she appoints. Membership development and event planning are the two main areas of concentration.

The Bailli should possess integrity, maturity, natural curiosity and superior judgment and should be powerfully motivated to succeed. Business and organizational acumen, people skills and the ability to delegate well are also necessary attributes.

As a voting member of the National Council of the Bailliage des Etats-Unis, it is expected that each Bailli will participate in the future planning and growth of the National Society by attending National Council meetings. Participation is also expected at Regional Assemblages, which promote the exchange of ideas and information with other Baillis and officers.

While it is true that it is the Bailli who is responsible for being sure that the Bailliage thrives, the most successful Baillis delegate a good share of the responsibility to Bailliage officers they are authorized to select. The exact duties of each officer are at the discretion of the Bailli.

Baillis are charged with recognizing the work that individuals and establishments contribute by awarding certificates and certain medals. They are rewarded themselves with the satisfaction of seeing a successful program unfold, by the attaining of special standing in their communities, and by respect within the Bailliage and the larger Chaîne world.

The Vice Chancellor-Argentier

There are two parts of this office. As Vice Chancellor, this officer is second in command, the one who represents the Bailli in his or her absence. As Argentier, or Treasurer, this person is responsible for keeping track of the Bailliage's finances. It is this person who, along with the Bailli, must make sure that the Bailliage follows National requirements, is run in a businesslike manner, and is a proper steward of Bailliage funds.

The Vice Conseiller Gastronomique

This officer, a non-professional, is responsible for seeking out potential venues, developing menus, selecting wines, and generally seeing that events run smoothly. This officer often chairs or co-chairs a Dinner Committee, naming committee members and calling on the assistance of other officers according to their talents. When food and/or wine commentary are desired, it is this officer's responsibility to assign someone this responsibility.

The Vice Conseiller Culinaire

This officer, who must be a professional member, works as a liaison with other professionals, sometimes helping with professional member recruitment as well as identifying possible candidates for competitions. This person usually is asked to serve on event committees. In this capacity, he or she often is asked for ideas for events and menus and is invited to pre-event dinners.

The Vice Chargé(e) de Missions

This person may be asked to take on any special tasks but is generally the officer responsible for membership development. As such, this person may be asked to maintain the membership database, liaise with the membership secretary at the National Office to ensure accuracy, publish a member directory, ensure the completion of all required paperwork for new members, and take responsibility for the logistics at induction ceremonies.

Vice Chargé(e) de Presse

This officer is in charge of public relations and communications, is responsible for local press releases regarding Bailliage activities, and provides reports of the Bailliage's activities, with photographs, as requested, for National publications. To ensure accurate and effective reporting, it is suggested this officer be invited to pre-event dinners.

Vice Echanson

This officer is in charge of activities, functions, and administration relating to Société Mondiale du Vin. He sometimes assists in the selection of wines (and seeks out sources of supply) for Bailliage functions and is generally responsible for the maintenance of a Bailliage wine cellar, if one exists.