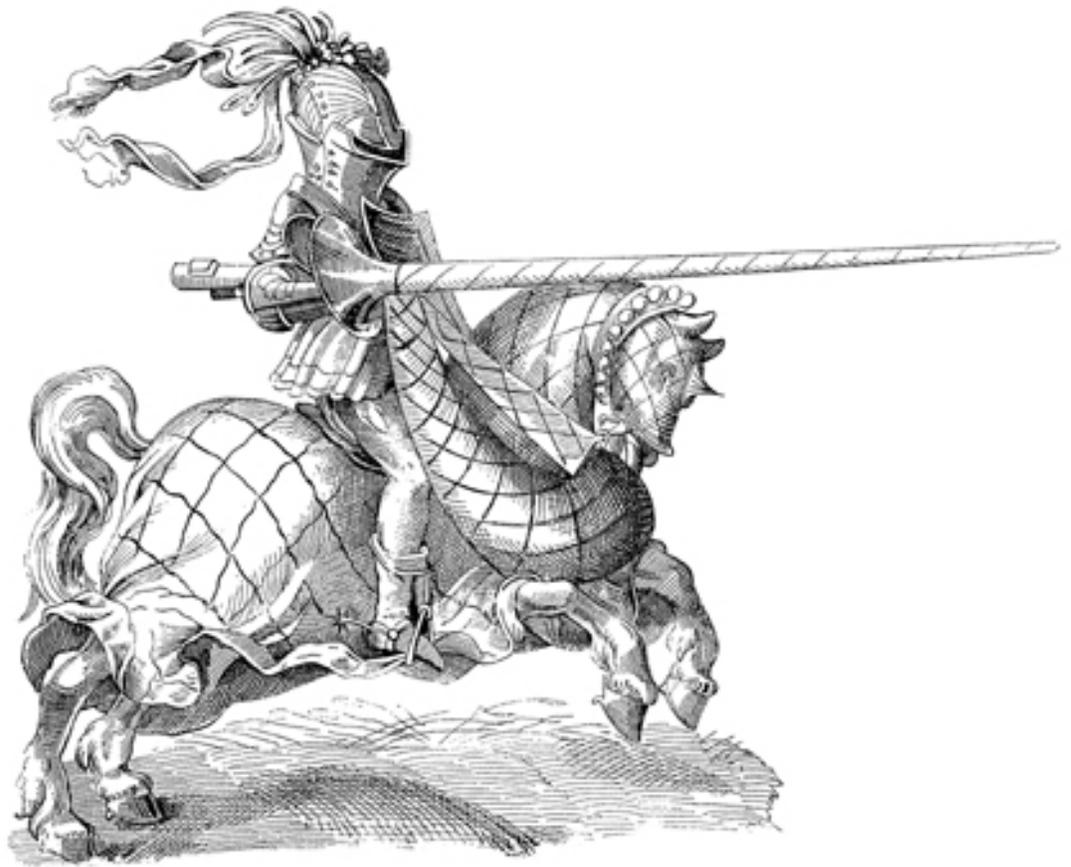


The Althing



February as xliii

THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

Thomas Byron of Haverford and Ariella of Thornbury
baron@debatablelands.org
baroness@debatablelands.org

Their Royal Majesties of Æthelmearc
Sir Christopher Rawlins and Morgen of Rye
ae.king@aethelmearc.org
ae.queen@aethelmearc.org

Their Royal Highnesses of Æthelmearc
Sir Maynard von dem Steine and
Líadain ní Dheirdre Chaomhánaigh
ae.prince@aethelmearc.org
ae.princess@aethelmearc.org

OFFICERS OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

Seneschal (03/10)
Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen
seneschal@debatablelands.org

Marshal of Fence (11/10)
Clewin Kupferhelbelinc
fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org

Exchequer (07/09)
Hildarun Hugelman
exchequer@debatablelands.org

Captain of Archers (09/10)
Urho Walterinen
archerymarshal@debatablelands.org

Herald (01/11)
Pavel Dudoladov
herald@debatablelands.org

Knight Marshal (06/09)
Bors of Rouen
knightmarshal@debatablelands.org
Deputy for Youth Combat: Zoe Akropolitina

Chronicler (12/10)
Elss of Augsburg (Rocky Hayeslip)
chronicler@debatablelands.org, 412-366-5844

Chatelaine (09/08)
Helewyse Spynnere
chatelaine@debatablelands.org

Minister of Arts & Science
Currently vacant
ansminister@debatablelands.org

Minister of Youth
Vacant. Please see Seneschal if interested.

Chirurgeon Liaison (11/09)
Liam Mac anTsaoir
chirurgeon@debatablelands.org

Cour d'Or Seneschal (11/09)
Rosalia Iuliana Andreere

Minister of Lists (11/09)
Alonzio of the Peacemakers
lists@debatablelands.org

Steltonwald Seneschal
Lady Madeleine de l'Este
madeleinedlest at yahoo.com

The Althing's submissions deadline is the first Friday of the month – send your contributions to Elss at chronicler@debatablelands.org.

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Disclaimer

This is the Althing, a publication of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands of the Society of Creative Anachronism, Inc. It is not a corporate publication of the Society of Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies. Opinions are those of the authors and may not reflect or imply the view of the Althing or any member of its staff. Content is used with permission.

Publication

The Althing is published every month except August, with an Arts and Sciences issue published once a year. It is available for free on the Barony web site www.debatablelands.org. Paper copies are available for those without Internet access. Please contact the chronicler with an address for a paper copy to be mailed to you.

Submissions

Any gentle wishing to submit articles, artwork, poetry, etc, to the Althing is invited to do so. Please send your work to the chronicler. All material in the Althing is copyrighted to the individual contributors. The chronicler reserves the right to edit, refuse, or reprint any submissions. The submission deadline for the Althing is the first Wednesday of the month.

Baronial Discussion E-List

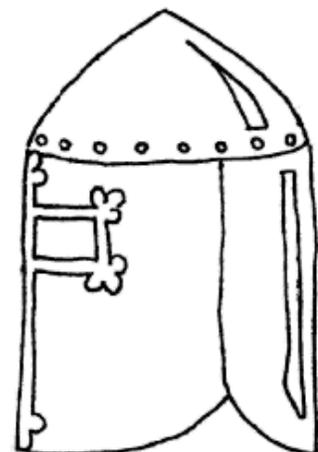
Need more info on an upcoming baronial event? Just want to chat? To subscribe to the barony discussion list, send an email to majordomo@lists.andrew.cmu.edu with the line `subscribe sca-bmdl` as the message text. In the confirmation email, you will be asked to confirm your subscription; just follow the instructions.

Art Work

Cover Art:
Arms and Armor CD-ROM and Book, Dover Publications, 2004

Interior art:

The Pennsic Traceable Art Project, © 2004-2009, Erin E Childs (Ailis Linne)
Medieval Illustrations CD-ROM and Book, Dover Publications, 2001
Medieval Life and People CD-ROM and Book, Dover Publications, 2007
Mythological and Fantastical Creatures CD-ROM and Book, Dover Publications, 2002

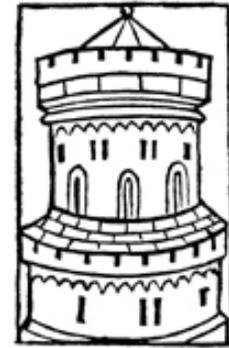


From the Baron and Baroness

Unto the Good Populace of our Barony Marche of Debatable Lands do Byron and Ariella, Baron and Baroness, Send Warm Greetings!

The season of Twelfth Night celebrations has come to a close, but we recall fondly the events of the last month, and we thank those gentles who gave of their time to support the winter events. As we look forward, the next local event we shall attend is our regional fighting muster on February 15, which may have passed by the time these words reach you. Then, we shall ready our Eastern garb for the Minohi festival at the end of February.

Our next Barony meeting will be on Sunday, March 8. We welcome all members and friends of the Barony to join us at our castle in Wexford (without garb) for this get-together. Fighting and fencing practices will also be held as part of this event, so we hope that all members of the barony will find something fun and educational to do here that Sunday. TRH Liadain and Maynard will be visiting us that weekend, so that seamstresses from our Barony can assist Their Royal Highnesses by making garb for their upcoming reign. Additional sewing help is welcome. Please come to make Their Highnesses feel welcome in our Barony.



We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to Elss of Augsburg, our new Baronial Chronicler. If you have not yet met her, please ask one of us to point her out to you, and take a moment to introduce yourself. She is a wonderful and creative person, and a welcome addition to our team of Baronial Officers. As proof of this creativity, Elss has already begun a children's art competition for the Althing. Those readers who are (or who have) children should take note. Our own children will look forward to superlative competition from the younger members of the Barony.

Those of you who attended the 12th-night celebration in Steltonwald were treated to our first court with our new Baronial Herald, Pavel Dudoladov. Pavel is already well known to you from his work with the Choir and that traveling troupe of wastrels, I Genesisii. Even as we look back fondly on the service of our outstanding outgoing herald Brandubh O'Donnghaile, so to do we look forward to Pavel's excellent voice as he speaks our words in our Courts to come.

We welcome also Clewin Kupferhelbelinc as our new Marshall of Fence. Our Barony's strong presence on the rapier field continues in the capable hands of our Kingdom Champion.

There are several Baronial Officers whose terms will be ending soon. We seek motivated and interested individuals to help to continue our noble traditions and to serve their Barony by seeking office. Please contact us or our Seneschal for details.



In anticipation of glorious events to come,

Byron and Ariella

Baron and Baroness of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands

Greetings from Your Friendly Neighborhood Exchequer!

Important Announcement the First:

The Barony is now actively searching for a new Exchequer, who will formally take office in July. From now until that time, I would welcome the opportunity to work with the incoming Officer for as long as possible to ensure their complete success. This a great job for someone who can't get to a lot of events, but who still wants to contribute their talents and help the Barony run smoothly.

Simply stated, the Exchequer of a local SCA group is responsible for the group's money. The duties and responsibilities of the position are not difficult or hard to learn: there are quarterly reports to prepare and submit, deposits, receipts and checks to handle, event reports to read and adjust, and the budget meeting to lead once a year. (See below for more information on this exciting event!)

Please contact me if you'd like more information, or just submit a Letter of Intent describing yourself to the Seneschal and me as soon as you can.

Important Announcement the Second:

The April 1st Officers' Meeting is our annual budget meeting. Or, as I like to call it, the Annual Happy Fun Budget Meeting of LOVE! Anyway, it is on CMU's campus in Porter Hall A19. The budget meeting, as with all Officers' Meetings, is open to the General Populace.

If you are an Officer, Guild Head, or other interested party, and you think you will need to use Baronial Funds in the next 14 months (to benefit the Barony, non-personal purposes), please submit a budget proposal to me in writing (email is OK) before March 21st. If an individual or a group is thinking of holding an event, this is the place to start.

All events do not need to be put into the annual budget. However, it would be good to do so if you are thinking about an event that is not meant to make a profit or break even. In that way, the expenditure for the event can be properly tracked.

I would of course be happy to answer any questions about the position of Exchequer, or about budget proposals or other details. My email is [exchequer at debatablelands.org](mailto:exchequer@debatablelands.org)

~Hilda



From the Captain of Archers, Greetings!

Winter is not a good time to be an archer, what with all that equipment just sitting around. I've managed to do a few things - I made some new arrows for the loaner kit using materials donated by Lady Alana, made some new strings for my crossbow, and made some new bolts - but little shooting. If anyone out there would like to come to my place to fix arrows or strings, I'd be happy to have you.

Lord Bovi has given me some dates that the Beaver Archery Club will be available for our practices. They are:

March 1, 29

April 5, 12, 19, 26

Times are from 10:00 to 1:30. I hope to get to some of these. Please contact Bovi if you plan to attend.

His Excellency Byron and I managed to shoot one weekend at the castle, trying out his new crossbow, and hope to do that some more, before fighting practice starts.

We're hoping to have another Region Archery Muster at the Castle sometime in early April. Watch the mailing list for dates as we get closer to the event.

In Service to the Barony-Marche,

Urho Waltterinen

Greetings from the Webminister!

My term of office is at an end, and I will not be seeking a second term. The Webminister is the person who maintains the Baronial web site and email addresses. Any parties interested in becoming the new Debatable Lands Webminister should send letters of intent to me ([webminister at debatablelands.org](mailto:webminister@debatablelands.org)) and to the BMDL Seneschal ([seneschal at debatablelands.org](mailto:seneschal@debatablelands.org)).

The duties of the Webminister include maintaining the BMDL web site and Baronial email addresses, as well as publishing the Althing online (as it becomes available from the Chronicler). The Webminister is responsible for adhering to Kingdom and Society electronic publication policies, and as such should be familiar with them. The applicable policies can be found at the following links:

[http://www.aethelme arc.org/download s/webminister/ webministers_ policy.pdf](http://www.aethelme.arc.org/download/s/webminister/webministers_policy.pdf)

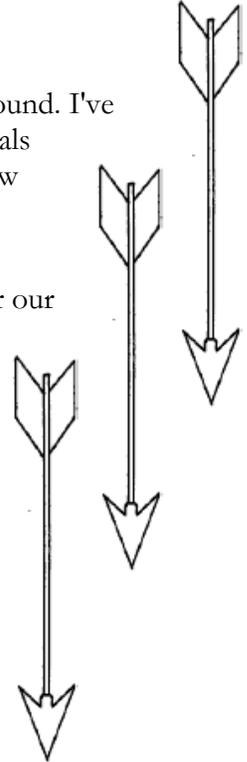
[http://www.sca.org/officers/ chronicler/ ChronPolicy. pdf](http://www.sca.org/officers/chronicler/ChronPolicy.pdf)

Knowledge of HTML is required and knowledge of PHP would be helpful, as a bit of PHP is currently used on the web site. Knowledge of other web technologies may certainly be helpful, so please mention any relevant information in your letter.

In Service,

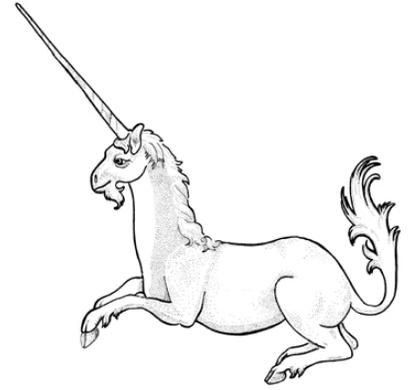
Lord Clemente de Warrewyk

BMDL Webminister



Greetings from Your Seneschal:

The Barony needs your help! Judging from the last polling for Baron and Baroness, the vast majority of Barony members would like to stay a barony. Unfortunately, this cannot happen without people stepping up to become officers for the Barony. Lately there have been very few people expressing interest in any of the available positions. Here is a list of officers seeking replacements or a drop dead deputy interested in taking up the office in the future:



Positions Open Now or Soon:

Chatelaine

Minister of Arts

Webminister

Minister of Lists

Knight Marshal

Positions Open This Summer:

Exchequer

Seneschal

Being an officer does not require a very large investment of time. The people who hold these offices are responsible for supporting and encouraging activities in their fields of interest, attending meetings, and filing reports. If you have any interest in any of the offices and would like more information, contact either me or the current officer in that position.

YIS,

Fredeburg

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences, Greetings and Farewell from Margretha!

This will be the last missive from me as I will be seeking new adventures in the windy lands of the Shire of Rokkeheaden in a few weeks.

It's been a fun five years in the Barony, I can easily attest that my SCA experience will forever be compared to the high standards that BMDL sustains; the friendliness and hospitality of the people, the quality of craftsmanship, service and martial prowess that everyone has demonstrated, the fact that whatever job I undertook was easy as a breeze because if I didn't know how something was done, someone always knew the way and point it to me.

For all that I am grateful. You will all be greatly missed, but at least the distance is not as long as one would deem it unjourneable - one day, we shall meet again.

Fondly,

Lady Margretha La Fauvelle



From the Chronicler: An Art Competition for the Youth of the Barony!

If it be Your Desire to enter this Contest, choose one of the black-and-white images in this Althing as your model, and draw it in pencil or marker or with pen and ink. You must Not trace the image, Nor scan it, neither may you project it onto your paper. Contestants must make a fair, freehand drawing as looks as much like the original image as may be, though it can be larger or smaller.

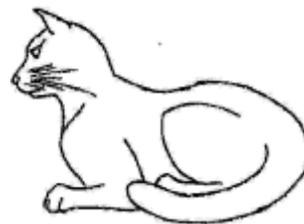


There are Many Images contained in this publication, and more will appear in future issues of the Althing. Some will be simple and some will be complex. Choose as your Subject one that pleases you, and make your best drawing. In truth, make as many drawings as you wish – there is no Limit to the number of Entries you may submit.

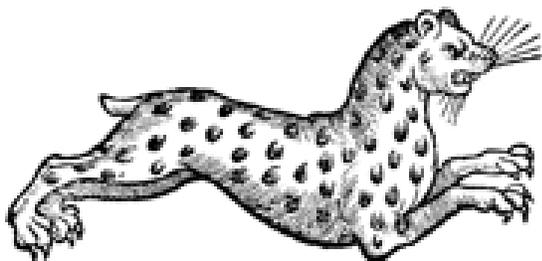
Original entries shall be submitted on 8½ “ by 11” white or cream paper. Include with each entry a note of the contestant’s mundane and SCA names (as applicable), home address, phone, age, grade, and the date the drawing was completed.

Submit as many entries as desired by mailing them to:

Els of Augsburg, BMDL Chronicler
Rocky Hayeslip
221 Pine Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237



By submitting an entry, the contestant and their parent(s) or legal guardian do agree that the drawn image can be freely reproduced in the BMDL Althing.



Here is my favorite collection of animals for you to Draw, and many other Images on all the Pages herein. Do your Best Work, and send it to me – I am eagerly awaiting your entries!



Entries shall be grouped according to these rules so that all may be:

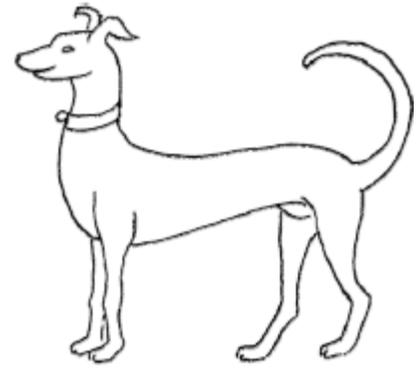
Children who are not yet attending first grade

Those children presently in first, second or third grade

All children who are in fourth, fifth or sixth grade

Any entrants who are in seventh or eighth grades

All drawings shall be Displayed at a future Barony event, so as to garner the Admiration of All. At that occasion, Prizes shall be awarded for the drawing in each Group that most closely resembles the Original image.



Best of all, the Winning four drawings will Each be featured on the Cover of the Althing!!

All questions about the Contest may be directed to chronicler@debatablelands.org

Best Wishes for Success to All who Enter!

Elss of Augsburg

Chronicler

Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

Greetings from the College of Cour d'Or

Please permit me to take a few brief moments to explain what the Seneschal of the College of Cour d'Or does. My most important duty is keeping in touch with the liaisons to the Universities where we hold club status, that is, at CMU and at Pitt.

By communicating with the liaisons at the Universities, the Seneschal ensures that the SCA/Barony maintains club status and is aware of upcoming Student Activities Fairs. In this way, the members of the Barony are able to participate in these events by displaying their arms, armor, skills, and accomplishments to the delight and interest of the student populace.

It isn't officially the job of the Seneschal to orchestrate the SCA's involvement at the Student Activities Fairs, but it happens, partly at least, because the Seneschal is most privy to the information of when and where the Fairs will happen.

As with any of the Official Positions, the Seneschal must have a paid membership, and must submit quarterly reports to the Kingdom Seneschal. These keep track of the activities in the College.

That said, my term is up in November, and I would like to begin working with my successor as soon as possible. I know this seems a bit early to be pointing it out, but if being the Seneschal of Cour d'Or is something that you might like to do, please don't hesitate to ask me about it.

In service,
Rosalia Iuliana Andere
Seneschal
College of Cour d'Or



Important News!

The Dark Pages Come Back to the Light

The Online Dark Pages, which is the barony's phone and address list, has been updated. You can access the Dark Pages from the Barony website (www.debatablelands.org) through the Links page, or directly at <http://sites.google.com/site/ariannaofwynthrope/>

Please take a moment to check your entry and verify that it is up-to-date and accurate. If not, please send me your changes and I will be happy to correct your listing.

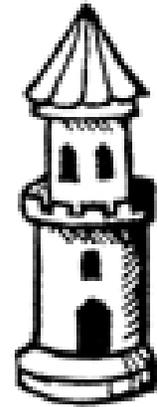
In service to the Barony-Marche,

Arianna of Wynthrope

Fighting at the Castle

Greetings all Good Gentles! We will be hosting fighting and fencing at our house most Sundays until we start outside in April. Here are the dates:

- March 1st : NO PRACTICE
(day after Minohi event- fight and fence there!)
- March 8th : practice after Barony meeting at 1PM
- March 15th : practice at the castle
- March 22nd : practice at the castle
- March 29th : NO PRACTICE
(day after Ice Dragon event)



Our address is 755 Stonegate Drive, Wexford, PA, 15090, and our phone number is 724 933 4661 if you need to call with any questions. We have only three more practices until we go back outside to fight in April. Hope to see everyone here!

Yours,

Ariella and Byron

Steltonwald Archery Practice NOT on These Dates

Attention Steltonwald Archers and Friends! I will NOT be holding archery practice due to conflict with the Beaver Valley Archery Club's schedule on these dates:

- March 8th, 15th, 22nd
- May 17th



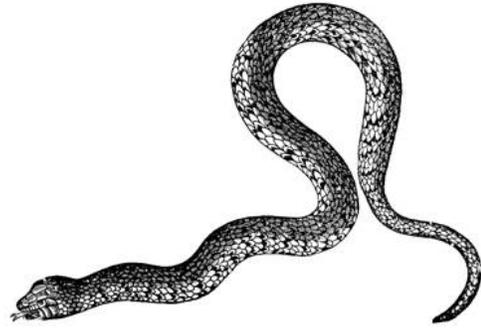
On all other Sundays through May, there will be archery practice from 10 AM till 1:30 PM. If you have any question, feel free to email me [david_black42](mailto:david_black42@yahoo.com) at yahoo.com or call 724 312-9364.

Lord Bovi

Event

Mi-no-Hi Festival
February 28, 2009

Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands
The Lodge at North Park, Allison Park, PA



When the harsh Lady of winter, Yuki-Onna, lays her bleak mantle over the land, join Their Sylvan Majesties, Christopher and Morgen, as they celebrate Mi-no-Hi, the Japanese midwinter Festival of the Snake.

Come one, come all as the year and the fervor of warriors and artists are renewed in friendly competition. Fighters and fencers, bring your blades and purify them in the cold fire of battle and be rewarded with treasures from the Silk Road and beyond.

Good gentles come display your talents in venues of costuming, bardic and artistic contest. Indulge in the ceremony of tea and view Asian fashions on display. Bring the whole clan to rejoice in the warm heart of Aethelmearc's oriental splendor whilst winter spends her fury outside.

The Festival will be held February 28, 2009 at North Park Lodge Facility, North Rd, Allison Park, PA in the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands. The site opens at 10:00 am and closes at 9:00 pm. The site is damp and open flames are permitted.

Warriors, cry your death poem for entry, and prizes, to the Shieldless Tourney. Muster your comrades in arms for the Three Man Spear Unit Tourney, with a Royal prize for the best unit heraldic device. There can be only one in the Cut to Kill Fencing Tourney. Youth fighters demonstrate your prowess in a Shieldless Tourney.

Artisans show your skill in the Arts and Sciences Competition with a concentration in Japanese calligraphy. Seamstresses, present your finest creations to TRM in the Silk Road Garb Show with a concentration in Japanese garb. Bards bring your nimble wit 'n wiles to a Bardic Bear Pit, form to be announced in the morning, theme to be chosen by TRM. Learned Sensi and students: A&S classes await you. Families, throughout the day there are activities for all ages. Marvel as I Genesis stomps the boards in a traditional Kyogen performance.

Fees and Reservations:

Fees for the day are \$7.00 adults.

Feast fees are \$8.00. The feast will be prepared by Odzu Kintarou Nagamasa, mentored by Mistress Aoibheil of DunHolen. Children's discounts: under 18 half price, 5 and under free.



Please make check or money order payable to "SCA, Inc. - BMDL". Reservations are taken by Hilda Hugelmann - Send to: Krista Cogan, 3815 Baytree St, Pittsburgh, PA 15214. Reservations must include payment. Include modern names of all people you are paying for with the reservation. Troll will close at 3pm. Any feast spaces paid for but not claimed by 3 pm the day of the event will be sold to those on the waiting list. Please let the reservationist know ahead of time if you will be arriving after 3pm. Refunds requested before the day of the event will be honored. Refunds requested the day of the event or after will be considered but not guaranteed.



For this Day of Festivities your Autocrat is Lord Ogami Arashimoto no Shirou, mentored by THL Allesandra d' Avignon (kardasl at pitt.edu). Please direct any questions to shironokaminari at gmail.com. Please include "MinoHi" in the subject line.

Mi no Hi Website: <http://yamakaminari.com/minohi/>

Directions from Pittsburgh:

279 N to exit 11 for McKnight Rd/US 19 N

Merge onto McKnight Rd (4.5 mi). Take a slight right toward Babcock Blvd.

Stay right on Babcock Blvd, pass La Roche College on the right.

TURN LEFT onto Pierce Mill Rd.

TURN RIGHT onto N. Ridge Rd. (or listed as North Rd)

This will be the FIRST RIGHT off of Pierce Mill Rd.

(You will see a sign directing you to the Lodge). N. Ridge Rd. is a long and winding road. The Lodge entrance will be on your RIGHT.

If you miss the turn onto N. Ridge Rd., STAY ON Pierce Mill Rd. and make the FIRST RIGHT AFTER Marshall Lake. This is also N. Ridge Road and will loop you back around. The Lodge entrance will be on your LEFT.

Directions from the North and East:

Take Route 8 N to Wildwood Road and turn left.

2.9 mi. Turn right at Babcock Blvd.

0.2 mi. Turn left at Pierce Mill Rd.

0.2 mi. Slight right at North Rd. Watch for Lodge signs.

Turn right toward N Ridge Dr.



Directions from the South and West:

Take 79 North to the Wexford Exit.

At the end of the ramp, turn right/East on Route 910/Wexford Bayne Road.

Turn right at Pearce Mill Rd.

Sharp left at North Rd. Watch for Lodge signs. Turn right toward N Ridge Dr.

THE CANTON OF STELTONWALD OFFICERS AND MEETINGS
(Beaver County)

Seneschal

Lady Madeleine de l'Este
madeleinedlest at yahoo.com

Knight Marshal

Lord Gabriel Hawkes
battalion73 at yahoo.com

Arts & Science

Bonita of Steltonwald
novakbonnie at hotmail.com

Exchequer

Baron Master Geoffrey fitz David
chinaex at ccia.com

Captain of Archers

Lord Bóvi Farmaðr
david_black42 at yahoo.com

Castelain

Lord Bóvi Farmaðr
david_black42 at yahoo.com

Web Minister

Maestra Gianna di Aurelio
giannadiaurelio at comcast.net

Minister of Youth

Tomasia da Collina Ventuso

Canton Meeting

Third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.
Beaver County Courthouse
madeleinedlest at yahoo.com

A&S - Every Thursday

Bonita of Steltonwald
novakbonnie at hotmail.com

Archery

Sundays, 10 AM to 1:30 PM
Lord Bóvi Farmaðr
Beaver Valley Archery Club
captainofarchers at steltonwald.org

Fight practice

Every Tuesday, 6pm, at the Economy Grange
Contact Geoffrey

Sewing

Aoibheil of Dun Holen

<http://www.steltonwald.org/>

THE COLLEGE OF COUR D'OR OFFICERS AND MEETINGS
(Pittsburgh area colleges and universities)

Seneschal

Rosalia Iuliana Andreere

Pursuivant

Roana d'Evreux (Sara Gryger)

Knight Marshal

Maghnus de Cnoc an Iora

Thistle (CMU) Liaison to Cour d'Or

open

Deputy Thistle

Arslan ibn Da'ud

Four Towers (Pitt) Liaison to Cour d'Or

Brandubh O'Donngaile

The Mystic Scrolls (Web minister)

Filip of the Marche

Web site:

<http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~sca>

Email: sca+@andrew.cmu.edu

D-list: sca-courdor@lists.andrew.cmu.edu

Pitt Medievalists Club meeting

vacant

CMU Rooms Reservationist

Margaret Makafee

Els of Augsburg
c/o Rocky Hayeslip
221 Pine Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237



The Althing is the newsletter of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands.

February Issue AS XLIII (2009) Vol. 31. No. 7

FIRST CLASS MAIL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY