

The Althing



Early June
as xliv

THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

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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 at 412-366-5844.

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

The Pennsic Traceable Art Project, © 2004-2009, Erin E Childs (Ailis Linne)

From the Baron and Baroness

Unto the good people of the Debatable Lands do Baron Byron and Baroness Ariella send fair greetings.

Spring has come to our Sylvan Lands, and the call of the outdoors is ringing in our ears. Combined marshal activities are once again happening at the Washington Blvd site on Sundays. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our sincere thanks go out to all the gentles who attended the Barony meeting at Washington Blvd. We are glad to see that the new format for the Barony meeting has attracted more attendants! We are grateful to our officers for the progress they have made on the new format, and we welcome any comments or suggestions for how we may improve the format further and make Barony meetings a fun and desirable part of the local SCA community. This month we hope to see many Barony members at the upcoming War Practice event and the Siege of Harlech Castle.

Congratulations to our new Prince and Princess, Henri and Elena. The BMDL is once again blessed with local royalty. But let not the reputation of the Barony-Marche lie only in its strength on the list fields! It is volunteerism that truly defines us. To this end, we encourage all members of the Barony to offer their time and assistance to Henri and Elena over the coming year; for we know that Aethelmearc will be strong and prosperous under their leadership.

In Service,

Byron and Ariella

Written this Feast Day of St. Peter of Tarentaise, AS XLIV

Next General Barony Meeting

July 19, 2009 at 1:00pm

This meeting will be held at the Washington Boulevard site, where fighter practice is held.

Greetings from your Seneschal!

With summer quickly approaching (it certainly felt like it at Blackstone Raids, even if it is raining again today), we have a number of events approaching. Aside from War Practice, we also have two Barony events in the next few weeks: Siege of Harlech Castle and War College. I expect a good turnout at both events which have many activities planned.

Clewin and I are expecting our first child any day now, so I am not sure what events we'll be at in the near future. I will, however, still be available if anyone needs to contact me for whatever reason.

Also, there are still Baronial officers looking for replacements. If you are interested in the offices of Knight Marshal or Minister of the Lists, please contact me. Several officers are also looking for deputies. Please contact the officers if you are interested in learning more about an office.

YIS,

Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen

Greetings from your Local Herald!

Now, some of you may be wondering: who is this person and what do they do in the barony? The herald has several duties, one of which is running court.

As the Comet Pursuivant, the official title of the Herald of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands, I run baronial court: announcing their Excellencies, calling court to order, and summoning people to appear before the court. The herald serves as the public voice of the throne, reading proclamations and leading expressions of thanks and congratulations. The herald can be identified at court by the tabard that they wear, bearing the arms of those for whom they speak. After court, it is the herald's responsibility to submit reports to the kingdom to ensure proper acknowledgement of all that occurred.

I hope to see you all at their Excellencies' next court.

Additionally, I wish to congratulate THLord Brandubh o Donnghaile on his elevation to the position of Silver Buccle, as the Kingdom of Aethelmearc's Herald.

Yours in Service

ПАВЕЛ ДУДОЛАДОВ
Pavel Dudoladov

Court Report

A record of the Court of their Excellencies Baron Thomas Byron of Haverford and Baroness Ariella of Thornberry, held by leave of their Majesties Christopher and Morgan, King and Queen of Aethelmearc, at the Twelfth Night Celebration in the Canton of Steltonwald on the thirty-first day of January, Anno Societatis 43, reporting herald Lord Pavel Dudoladov.

Upon their Majesties leave did their Excellencies open court. First they called before them Muirgheal inghen Dubhghaill and in recognition to her great service to the Barony and to the Canton of Steltonwald they did induct her into the Order of the Comet d'Or.

Their Excellencies then requested the presence of Wolfgang of Steltonwald and inducted him into the Order of the Comet Gules for his skills as a fighter.

Lastly, Mistress Tsveea bas Tseepora Levi was called into their Excellencies' presence. In recognition of her great skill as a seamstress they inducted her into the Order of the Comet Azure-Argent.

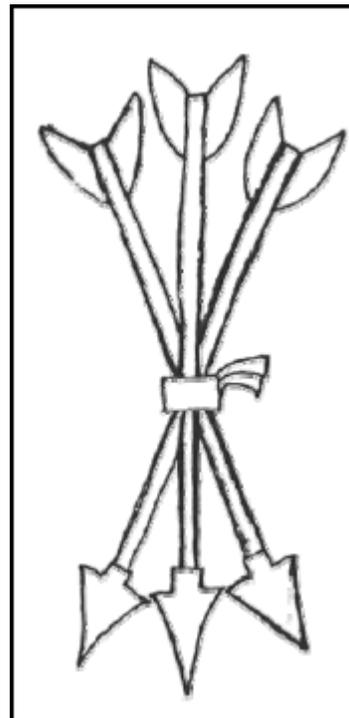
There being no further business the court of their Excellencies was closed and their Majesties' court resumed.

Important Archery News

Excerpt from the Court Report of King Maynard and Queen Liadain at War Practice, held on the 16th day of the month of May, Anno Societatis 44:

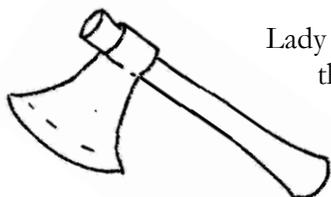
King Maynard called for his Archery Champion Master Jacopo di Niccolo to attend him. His Majesty first thanked Jacopo for his service to king and kingdom as Archery Champion and also as autocrat for this event. Jacopo set his bow and quiver at His Majesty's feet and proclaimed that there was a new Champion to stand for the defense of Aethelmearc's King, and called forward Lady Muirghein Gealbhain of the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands to take up the regalia of the King's Archery Champion.

Queen Liadain noted that this was an auspicious occasion as Lady Muirghein was the first Lady to ever claim the honor of being the King's Archery Champion.



Vivat to Lady Muirghein!

Thrown Weapons Practice



Lady Porfinna hrogn Josepsdottir, BMDL Thrown Weapons Marshall, announces that Thrown Weapons Practice will be held at the Washington Boulevard site on June 7th and June 28th, from 11 AM until 1 PM. Please contact her at rojosephine at yahoo.com with questions.

News from the Troll at Pennsic!

The Pennsic War 38 staff has been notified that due to increasing fraud, Cooper's Lake Campground will no longer be able to accept Traveler's Checks or Money Orders to pay for entrance fees at Pennsic War.

Only cash and credit cards will be accepted as methods to pay for your gate fees. And, as always, personal checks will NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please adjust your plans as needed.

Should you have any questions, please contact:

Viscount Edward Zifran of Gendy
Public Information, Pennsic War 38
Publicinfo@pennsicwar.org

From the Chronicler: An Apology!

Due to circumstances beyond my control and which I do not fully understand, the computer ate much of the May Althing. Please accept this abbreviated edition as the Early June issue, and look forward to a more robust Late June issue, if the electronics gods smile upon me.

Sincerely,

Els of Augsburg

Chronicler, BMDL

Greetings to the New Minister of Arts & Science

It is with great pleasure that we announce the arrival of the new Minister of Arts and Science, Pavla de la Satu Mare! She has had a long and arduous journey to her new home here in the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands, and it is good news indeed that she and her family are now in their home at last. It is to be hoped that her words will grace these pages in future, after she has recovered from the move.

In the meantime, WELCOME!

Els of Augsburg

Barony Court Report from May 3rd

Greetings Unto all Good Gentles in our Fair Barony Marche of Debatable Lands! We want to thank all those who came out for the afternoon at Washington Boulevard yesterday, enjoying good weather and good company.

Thank you to those like Aibell, our new Youth Minister, who set up a table with activities and snacks; the toddlers seemed to enjoy the playpen. Thanks to Zoe who had a great turnout for boffer fighting! Thanks for the Officers who gave of their time for an Officers' meeting.

Els, our Chronicler, mentioned she would be happy to send a paper Althing to your address if you find it harder to get around to reading it online; please contact her with this request.

Of note when upcoming events were announced, there is one Arts and Sciences event coming up, the Dark Ages Schola in Hornwood on June 13th, that some Barony members are attending and supporting. War Practice has classes and an Arts and Sciences forum and Myfawnwy's fiber forum.

Other upcoming events are largely fighting-focused: Siege of Harlech, War College, Steltonwald's Children's Crusade in August, and Agincourt in October. Let's consider, in a Barony so rich in the Arts and Sciences, plans for upcoming events that focus on the arts as well.

Again, vivat to all who attended a wonderful Barony gathering yesterday! Our next one is Sunday July 19th in the same site, Washington Blvd, at 1pm. Hope to see everyone there!

Yours In Service,

Byron and Ariella

Important News on the Search for Lord Stanley's Cup!

That all may know of the nobility of our cousins in Atlantia, I would share with the populace of the Debatable Lands these letters that were exchanged between me and my noble cousin, the Baron of Windmaster's Hill.--Byron

Greetings Your Excellencies,

We all know there is but one sport of Kings, armored combat. We can also agree that there is one sport of gentlemen, dueling with the rapier. However, there is one sport for true thugs - Ice Hockey.

As of last night, the subjects of my fine Barony have committed themselves to make at least two visits (probably only two visits) to your lands to play the subjects of your Barony in a best of seven series. May I propose a simple wager. To the Baron of the winning team, the other Baron will deliver a case of good beer or ale, on or before Tuesday afternoon of War week at the Great Pennsic War. Beer should be delivered to the winner's camp (we camp at N31).

If this sounds like a fair wager to Your Excellencies, please reply. In either case, I look forward to seeing you at Pennsic.

Yours,

Baron Girard of Windmasters' Hill (Central NC)

PS - Do watch out for Lord Clewin, he may not be rooting for the team you think he is...

Greetings, Noble Cousin!

Your proposal is indeed full of merit, as we look forward to seeing our warriors take to their chosen field of combat.

I accept your wager, as an agreement between gentlemen, and I wish only that we might see this combat together. But alas, our meeting may need to wait until War brings you into our Lands.

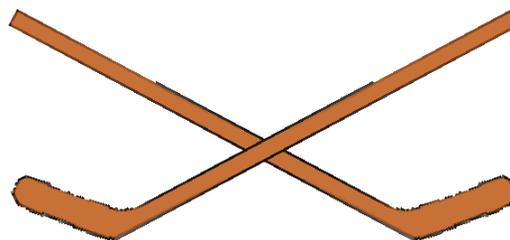
I have no delusions about THL Clewin's feelings on this matter. In fact, I have spoken to him already, and informed him that no matter which side is victorious, I shall expect him to personally carry the spoils to the camp of the victor.

And let us also agree that whichever side emerges victorious, we shall both cheer that team as they continue their search for Stanley's Grail.

I look forward to our meeting at War.

With warm respect,

Byron, Baron of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands



Your Excellency,

Well and good then, the wager is on. I think that THL Clewin delivering the spoils is indeed well and fitting, providing his new child does not require him otherwise.

Once the series is concluded, I would be honored to back your fine subjects should they win. I find the other remaining teams to be most objectionable. Especially the one from the Barony of the Roaring Wastes.

Hopefully our Kings will see fit that we shall fight on the same side.

Yours,

Baron Girard

To the Baron of the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands does Baron Girard of Windmasters' Hill send greetings.

Your Excellency, judging by the way people were streaming out of the Arena last night, it's highly probable that I am not the first person to bring last night's contest to your attention. It would seem that your subjects, the "Penguins", had an answer for anything and everything my folks could come up with. I haven't seen that much scoring in the Barony since stopping by the Minister of the List's table at our last Tournament.

As a Frenchman, and an Atlantian, I promise I will not Welsh on my bet: One case of fine ale or beer, to be delivered to your camp. Lord Clewin's son was born just last night as well, so perhaps we can toast young Karl at that time.

May the Penguins have a long rest at home, and defeat the team from the Midrealm, bringing home Lord Stanley's Cup.

Yours,

Baron Girard of Windmasters' Hill.

My most noble cousin,

I do look forward to the beverages, but I look forward far more to the opportunity to meet you in person. I hope that you will bring an entourage of friends, so that we might all partake of the terms of the wager and forge new friendships in the midst of War.

With admiration,

Baron Byron of the Debatable Lands



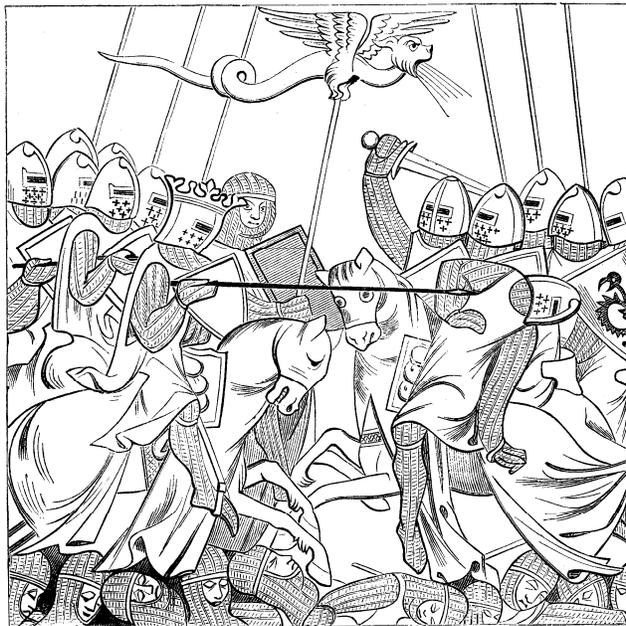
Event

Æthelmearc War College

June 6, AS xlv (2009)

Dorseyville Fire Department Social Hall
100 Charles Street
Pittsburgh PA 15238

As Æthelmerc sees war on the horizon, the soldiers gather to learn new tactics and tried and true formations that will guarantee a swift victory. This year the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands opens their gates for the armies of Æthelmearc to gather and prepare.



Morning sessions will provide for training in combat arts; classes are being coordinated by Lord Liam MacanTsaoir (agincourt_bmdl@yahoo.com). On the noon hour, all will gather for a lunch to nourish even the largest man. The afternoon will allow ample time to hone the skills that all soldiers learned in the morning sessions. The Southern Regional Command will run melees until the last man collapses from exhaustion.

We welcome you to join us in these Debatable Lands on this day, and invite you to prepare yourselves for the glorious battles to come with these instructions:

Basic Training: Understanding your place in the Army - Lord Liam MacanTsaoir

Shieldwall Tactics - Lord Grizzly of Black Talon

Spearfighting in Field and Bridge Battle - Baron Sir Alonzio of the Peacemakers

Youth Fighting All Day Round Table - Lady Zoe Akropolantina

Fighting Two Sword - Baroness Ariella of Thornbury

Waterbearing 101 - Lady Sarab bint Alima and Lady Ruaidri MacAoidh

Preparing for Pennsic: A guide for new SCA campers - TH Lady Constance Glyn Dwr

War According to Torvaldr - Hersir (Baron) Torvaldr Torgarson

Additionally there will be an open archery field all day, and fencers will have plenty of open space in which to hone their skills.

Cooking at War College

As the warriors of the Kingdom meet at War College to learn and improve their skills in the Arts of War, join Odriana vander Brugghe to learn the Art of Feeding the Hungry Warrior. There will be hands-on cooking classes, including the Steel Chef Challenge, offered throughout the day. The focus of the classes will be on the cuisine of the Middle East and Andalusia during our period of study. We will be working with available primary source material including the Al Andalus.

The Steel Chef Challenge is where a number of ingredients will be provided, along with several recipes from primary sources. Participants will be split into two teams who will then select a dish, create it, and the final product will be served to the event attendees.

There will also be the regular cooking activities happening through the day and are separate from the learning opportunity. All levels of skill are welcome to participate and those at the beginner level are particularly encouraged to attend.

Please contact me, Odriana vander Brugghe (jenn.strobel(at)gmail(dot)com), if you have any questions or if you are interested in participating. Also, lunch is being prepared by me, Odriana vander Brugghe (jenn.strobel (at) gmail.com); please contact me regarding dietary restrictions.

War College Menu

Lunch will be served at noon. There will be bread, almond cheese (one savory one sweet), butter, seasonal berries, cheese curds, and honey at the dining tables.

Lozenges

This is a dish of layered pasta and cheese.

Onion Pea Soup

Onion and pea puree garnished with lemon juice and parsley.

Camaline Meat Brewet

Beef pickled in vinegar with ginger, cloves, and a number of other spices, served cold.

Crustade of Flesh

A single-crustad pie with chicken cooked in verjuice and chicken broth with saffron and currants.

Pot-herbs with Almonds

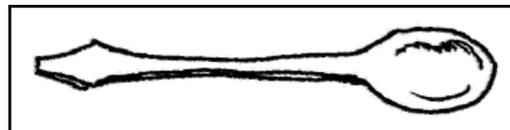
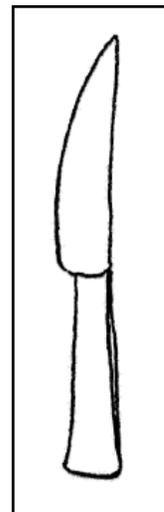
Spinach and chard mixed with ground almonds.

Lenten Slices

A bread pudding with almond milk, cake pieces, raisins, and dates.

Other desserts, TBD

If you have any questions or have dietary concerns, please contact Odriana vander Brugghe via email at jenn.strobel(at)gmail(dot)com.



Directions to War College:

From the East: Take I-76 (Pa Turnpike) to Exit 48 (Allegheny Valley), Off of the exit turn Right onto Freeport Road, Go 0.5 miles, Turn Right onto PA-910 (Indianola Road). Follow PA-910 approx. 5.0 miles to Saxonburg Blvd. Turn left onto Saxonburg Blvd., Go 0.6 miles, turn Right onto Charles Street. Dorseyville Fire Department is on the immediate right.

From the North: Take I-79 South to exit 73 (Wexford), Take PA-910 East, go approx. 12 miles, Turn right onto Saxonburg Blvd., Go 0.6 miles, turn Right onto Charles Street. Dorseyville Fire Department is on the immediate right.

From The South: Take I-79 North to I-279 North, follow I-279 through downtown Pittsburgh, exit onto PA Route 28, follow Route 28 north approx. 6 miles merge onto PA-8 North, Go approx. 1 mile, turn right onto Saxonburg Blvd. go approx. 6 miles, turn left onto Charles Street. Dorseyville Fire Department is on the immediate right.

Reservations

For this day of fighting and food, the charges are as follows:

Adults \$7.00, Children 6-12 \$3.00, Under 6 are free.
All prices include lunch; there will be no feast.

Reservations are being taken by Lady Helewys Spynnere (chatelaine (at) debatablelands.org)
209 Avenue F, Pittsburgh PA 15221.



THE CANTON OF STELTONWALD OFFICERS AND MEETINGS

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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 Andrerere

Pursuivant

Roana d'Evreux (Sara Gryger)

Knight Marshal

Maghnus de Cnoc an Iora

Thistle (CMU) Liaison to Cour d'Or

Dmitriy Shelomin (dvryaboy@gmail.com)

Deputy Thistle

Arslan ibn Da'ud

Four Towers (Pitt) Liaison to Cour d'Or

Richardt von Wien (physica@yahoo.com)

CMU Rooms Reservationist

Margaret Makafee

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

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FIRST CLASS MAIL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY