

The Althing



September
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THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

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Rosalia Iuliana Andreere

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 emailing list, go to <http://lists.andrew.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/sca-bmdl>, and follow the instructions on the page.

Art Work

Cover Art: Lady Myfanwy ferch Rhiannon © 2009

Other pictures: Mythological and Fantastical Creatures CD-ROM and Book, Dover Publications © 2002

Greetings from the Baron and Baroness

Unto the populace of the Debatable Lands do Byron and Ariella, Baron and Baroness, send Fond Greetings.

With the armies of the East and Middle Kingdoms returned to their own lands, we look forward to a period of peace and prosperity for our Barony. We would like to thank Gabriel Hawkes and his staff for a successful Children's Crusade. And our congratulations go out to our new champions, Gabriel Hawkes in rattan combat, and Don Clewin Kupferhelbelinc in fencing. We give our thanks and praise to their predecessors, Sir Graedwyn mab Teyrnnon and William Parris.

The harvest months shall bear many events within the Kingdom and within our Lands. We look forward to seeing you and speaking with you at these gatherings. After the Coronation of our new King and Queen, Henri and Elena, archers from around the kingdom will join us for the traditional Archers to the Wald event in our Canton of Steltonwald.

October bring the Queen's Rapier championship in our neighboring Shire of Sunderoak, as well as the Crown Tournament to choose our next Prince and Princess, and also the Battle of Agincourt here in our Barony.

The fall is also a time when newcomers seek out our group. Please teach these new gentles about our Society, and bring them to meet us so that we may welcome them personally.

As always, we seek recommendations for Baronial awards. When you see a gentle performing a service or creating a worthwhile object of art, let us know so that we may recognize their works. We would like to hear from all members of the populace.



In Service,
Byron and Ariella

Greetings from Cour d'Or!

This is the season for connecting with the students at Pitt and CMU, which is done at each school's Activities Fair.

First, my thanks to Pavel Dudoladov, Roana d'Evreux, Charles de Cayeux, Galfrid atte Grene, and Oswyn de Wulferton for agreeing to help me try a different demo format.

Thank you all for your patience while organizing for the Pitt Activities Fair Demo. A smaller, younger crowd generated a comparable number of emails to previous years, and I've already had two people ask for more information. I would like to try this format again next year with a couple adjustments.

First, I would like to have a pair of fencers and a pair of fighters who have good looking gear and garb, and who will be able to field questions about what it is they do.

Second, I would like to expand the slide-show to portray a wider array of activities that focus on our local people. If you have high quality photos that you would like to contribute, please get in touch with me.

Third, I was pleased with the work of the six people we had at the table and think that between 4-6 non-fighting individuals is a good number for this new setup.

And finally, my term as Seneschal is up in November and I do not seek a third term. The incoming Seneschal needs to keep tabs on the status of the Medieval Interest Group at Pitt and the SCA at CMU. He or she also will be required to file quarterly reports with the kingdom Seneschal. The position is as much or as little as you make it, for it holds great potential. If you would like more information or have a question, please email (arcapps@gmail.com) or call (412-916-4802).

Yours in service,

Rosalia Iuliana Andere

Seneschal

Sylvan Iron Ring Challenge

"The Iron Ring is a meritocratic challenge in celebration of prowess in rapier combat. All who fight for the challenge are important to the pursuit of excellence, and their efforts warrant recognition"

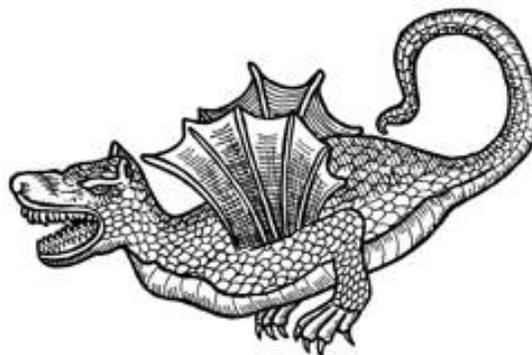
-aerapier.org

I am currently in possession of the Sylvan Iron Ring, and encourage all interested rapier fighters to attempt to win it away from me. It is my desire that people seek me out for these challenges using the rules provided here: <http://www.aerapier.org/ironringrules.html>. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to look for me at BMDL practice or one of the following events: Children's Crusade, Fall Coronation, Harvest Raid, Queen's Rapier Championship, and Agincourt. It is your participation that makes this fun and I thank you in advance.

YIS

Don Clewin Kupferhelbelinc

Baronial Rapier Marshal



Greetings from the Baronial Rapier Marshal

As you know, fall brings an end to the current (and fantastic) reign of Their Majesties Maynard and Liadain. It also means that Their Highnesses, Henri and Elena, will soon be stepping up to serve us all as King and Queen.

Among their tasks is the choosing of various kingdom champions for their reign. In that regard, there will be an event on October 3rd at Cooper's Lake campground to determine the next Queen's Rapier Champion, hosted by the Shire of Sunderoak. The pageantry and competition at the event should prove to be strong. All authorized rapier fighters are encouraged to enter, even if you cannot serve as the next rapier champion. I hope to see you there, and remember that the person selected will be the face of our entire rapier community for that reign. You can have a say in that by entering.

By the time you read this, our Baronial rapier champion will have been determined at the Children's Crusade. Among the duties of this person will be to represent our barony at the 7 Pearls rapier tournament next year. If you attended, I hope you enjoyed it. Pictures from the event, taken by multiple people, will also be online - contact me for where to look.

We must also look into the near future and think about where to hold practice in the winter. If you have any ideas or leads for somewhere to have practice, please send the information to me. We will be having our last practice of the season at Washington Blvd Park at the end of October.

Also, at the end of the year, I will be taking over the regional rapier marshal job from Don Corwin Montgomery. That means I will step down as baronial rapier marshal and turn the position over to Lord Will Parris. He will then put out a call for letters to see if anyone is interested in the position. If not, then he will still need someone as a drop-dead deputy, so if you are interested please let me know.

YIS

Don Clewin Kupferhelbelinc

A Schedule from the Captain of Archers

There will be archery practice at the Washington Boulevard Park site on these dates:

September 29th - Regular practice, probably, depends on how Archers to the Wald goes.

The directions to the site are on www.debatablelands.org. Watch the mailing list for any updates.

In service to the Barony-Marche,

Urho Waltterinen

Greetings, good gentles, from the new Archery Captain for Steltonwald

I send word of Archery Practice to be held in the fair Canton of Steltonwald on Wednesdays, and invite all to join us to sharpen their skills! Newcomers are always welcome!

This month, practice will be held on September 23 and 30, 2009. In October, the schedule should be October 7, 14, and 28, 2009. There will be no practice on the third Wednesday of any month because that is when the Canton's Business Meeting is held.

Archery Practice will begin at 6pm and run until 9 pm at the Beaver Valley Archery Club, 277 Rothart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066. All gentles are welcome! We will shoot outside as long as the weather is fair and the light is good. The price per archer is a \$6 dollar donation for the indoor range and \$3 for the outdoor range.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on my cell at 724-622-7240. No calls after 10 pm.

Yours in service,

Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill

(muirgheall@gmail.com)

mka Heather Hupp

Canton website www.steltonwald.org

CHAT Guild Meeting

September 30th is the fifth Wednesday of the month, so there is a meeting of the CHAT guild. The CHAT guild meets on fifth Wednesdays for a pot-luck supper followed by a discussion and presentations on a set topic. This meeting's topic is 'scavengers'. Interpret it as broadly or as loosely as you like.

Supper is at 7pm, with talk to follow. The meeting is at Baroness Achren's house. For directions, or for more information, see the Barony's web site or the Althing for CHAT contacts or email Achren of the Debatable Lands at achren2 at aol.com for more information.

Vikingr Study Group Returns

Master Leonard the Younger wishes all it to be known to all that the Vikingr Study Group will be resuming activities after the winter holidays, and that all are welcome to join him in learning and study. To indicate your interest or to ask questions, please contact Baron Len directly via telephone at 412.241-2105, as he does not use electronic media.

Greetings from the Chronicler!

There is much news to tell you about this month!

First:

Please take special note of the illustration on the cover of this month's Althing – this amazing artwork was created by Lady Myfanwy ferch Rhiannon, and it is based on a work by Hans Suess von Kulmbach entitled "Girl Making a Garland", ca. 1510 (the reverse of "Portrait of a Young Man"), tempera and oil on wood, from the Metropolitan Museum of Art (and previously attributed to Albrecht Dürer).

Second:

Make this the last time you need to go to the Barony website and type in the security code to read the Althing – join the Yahoo group called BMDL_ALTHING and get each issue delivered straight to your email inbox.

You don't need to be a member of the SCA, or even reside here in the Barony to read the Althing. You just need to be interested in what is going on, where to find things, and who to call or email for more information. And all of that information is right here in the Althing. So sign up today!

Third:

Do you like paper in your hands when you read? Do you stick with your persona all the time so you don't need to go near the computer when you come home from work? Are you really at heart a Luddite? Don't despair! You CAN have the Althing on paper! Just send me a letter either electronic or good old fashioned parchment or paper to ensure that I have your correct address, and I will be most happy to send the Althing directly to your regular mailbox. My name and address are on the last page; my phone number is on page 2. Feel free to call if you don't mind using a phone!

Fourth:

Show your black-and-gold pride with the new Baronial Car Decals! They depict the Barony emblem with the words Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands, and are suitable for mounting on any window – such as your car windshields, your side windows, your game room windows, or wherever you'd like to put it. Available for only ~~-\$3-~~ from the Chronicler at any event.

Yours in Service.

Lady Elss of Augsburg

Chronicler

Introductory price of only \$2!



Thrown Weapons Practice Schedule

Lady Porfinna hrogn Josepsdottir, BMDL Thrown Weapons Marshall, announces that Thrown Weapons Practice will be held at the Washington Boulevard site on **October 11th**, from 11 AM until 1 PM. There are now several targets – more throwing, less waiting!

Please contact her at rojosephine at yahoo.com with questions.

Arts & Science Meetings:

BMDL will now have two A&S Meetings per month! From 6-9 pm, the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. The next meetings are scheduled for **September 22nd, October 13th, October 27th, November 10th, and November 24th.**

Projects are subject to change due to instructor availability and or materials availability.

IS,

Pavla de la Satu Mare

ansminister at debatablelands.org



Important Dates Coming Up!

Archers to the Wald

September 26, 2007 at the Beaver Valley Archery (BVA) Club

October Officers Meeting

October 7th at 8pm. CMU campus. Exact location is yet to be determined.

Agincourt

October 24, 2009 at Their Excellencies' Castle.

November Barony Meeting

2nd week of November, details (time, date, location) to be determined and announced.
Suggestions welcome!

December Officers Meeting

December 2nd at 8pm. CMU campus. Exact location yet to be determined.

January Barony Meeting

It'd be nice to have it at Baronial 12th Night

BMDL Twelfth Night

January 30, 2010 at the Lodge in North Park – Details to be announced soon!

Baronial Court Report from Pennsic

A record of the Court of their Excellencies Baron Thomas Byron of Haverford and Baroness Ariella of Thornberry, held at the 38th Pennsic War on the 2nd day of August, Anno Societatis 44, reporting herald Lord Pavel Dudoladov.

Their Excellencies first called forth Elss of Augsburg. She announced the winners of the Althing art contest, Leah Branstetter and Paige Anne Corbin. Afterwards, Their Excellencies requested for her to remain, and proceeded to induct her into the Order of the Comet Or for her service to the Barony, including her work as Chronicler, giving to her a scroll with calligraphy and illumination by Mistress Aidan ni Leir.

Their Excellencies then requested the presence of Lady Thorfinna hrogn Josepsdottir and presented her with a scroll, by Aiden ni Leir, inducting her into the Order of the Comet Or for her service to the Barony in organizing thrown weapons practices, originally awarded at Baronial 12th Night A.S. 43 with a scroll by Mistress Aidan ni Leir.

Next, Their Excellencies summoned Lara Sukhudrov. She however was not in attendance, but in recognition of her service to the Barony, including being a retainer to Their Excellencies, while no longer residing within its physical confines, she was inducted into the Order of the Comet Vert' a scroll had been prepared by Mistress Aidan ni Leir.

Lastly, the Debatable Choir was called into Their Excellencies' presence. In recognition of their skill as choral musicians, They inducted the choir and all its members into the Order of the Comet Azure-Argent, presenting them with a scroll by Mistress Aidan ni Leir.

There being no further business their Excellencies thanked the Old Baron's Rest Home for the marvelous food, which had been provided for the baronial reception, and court was closed.

NEW Monthly Medieval Cooking Gathering

Starting in October, on the first Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m., there will be a medieval cooking gathering at Odriana's home. This is open to anyone that would like to attend.

The first meeting, on Friday, 2 October, 2009 will be a casual, get-to-know-you event with a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to pass, preferably one from a period recipe. If you are new to medieval cooking, you can find some wonderful recipes at Godecooking.com. Please bring a card with the recipe and ingredients list for your dish. Please contact Odriana for directions to her home by sending her email to [jenn.strobel \(at\) gmail \(dot\) com](mailto:jenn.strobel@gmail.com).

October 2 - Potluck Gathering

November 6 - Soteltes [subtletys], A discussion on soteltes in the context of Western Europe during the Middle Ages, both savoury and sweet. We will make marzipan and use it to create small soteltes for everyone to take home.

December 4 - Eating in Winter during the Middle Ages. How did people prepare their food stores for the winter and what kinds of dishes would you expect to eat during the winter months during the Middle Ages in Western Europe? We will discuss this and make a dish based on winter eating.

Warmly,

Odriana

NEW Wednesday Scriptoria

There will be a twice-monthly scriptorium held at Odriana's home in Hampton Township. The scriptorium will be held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m., with the first scriptorium being held on Wednesday, **16 September 2009**. The schedule will then be:

7 & 21 October

4 & 18 November

2 & 16 December

6 & 20 January, 2010, and so on

Scribes of all levels of experience are welcome, new scribes especially so. For directions, please contact Odriana vander Brugghe by sending email to jenn.strobel@gmail.com.

Coming Event: Archers to the Wald

Beaver Valley Archery Club

September 26, 2009

You stand waiting, focused downrange, fingers lightly touching the string of your bow. The range is declared clear and permission is given shoot. You take aim and watch as the arrow streaks toward its intended target, striking home.

Please come out and join us for Archers to the Wald on September 26th, a day which promises to be filled with flinging pointy things downrange at a variety of targets both with bow and hand.

The Canton of Steltonwald promises to be a place that the Archers of our Kingdom dream about as we again invite one and all to come and fling your arrows and bolts at this year's Archers to the Wald. It promises to be an exciting day filled with several roving, novelty and long distance ranges as well as the traditional practice ranges to get in that next Royal Round. We have taken steps to ensure that you have more than enough to shoot at. As well as shooting, Members of the Scarlet Guard have agreed to make themselves available for one-on-one coaching, as well as tips and techniques sessions throughout the day. So come out and enjoy a day filled with fun!

Further, we will have the pleasure of hosting the Aethelmearc Kingdom Archery Championship this day with what I am sure will be a challenging shoot put on by our current Kingdom Archery Champion, Muirghen Gealbhain. So bring your bows to compete against the best of the best and win the honor of representing our Kingdom.

This year we will also have the pleasure of hosting the Baronial Archery Championship, the Youth Archery Championship and Thrown Weapons Championship for the BMDL. Come out and impress their Excellencies, Byron and Ariella, with your skills with bow and hand.

In addition to all things pointy, there is plenty of space for other activities to be held. We welcome merchants, but please contact the Autocrat as inside/table space is limited.

The day will end with a fabulous feast created by none other than Countess Aidan ni Leir. Feast is limited to 48. Please pre-register for this event as the final numbers for feast will be based on our pre-registration numbers. If you have any special dietary concerns, please contact Aidan at 724-203-4014 (Please no calls after 10 pm) or [helen.pinto \(AT\) comcast.net](mailto:helen.pinto(AT)comcast.net)

This event will be held on September 26, 2007 at the Beaver Valley Archery (BVA) Club, 277 Rothart Dr, New Brighton, PA 15066. The BVA Club is a mundane archery club featuring over 53 acres available for shooting. The site opens at 10 am and closes at 10 pm., and is discretely damp.

Site Fees for this event are \$9.00 for adults, \$4 for children 6-17 and free for babes in arms (5 and under). Site fee includes a light lunch. Feast fee is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 17. The autocrat for this event is Maestra Gianna di Aurelio (Dawn Smoot) 2259 Todd Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001, 724-857-0994 (Please no calls after 10 pm), giannadiaurelio (AT) comcast.net.

Please send reservations to Muirgheal inghen Dubhghaill (Heather Hupp) 509 Hillcrest Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010, 724-622-7240, katlyne_macroth(AT) hotmail.com. Reservations need to be received by September 21, 2007. Please make checks payable to SCA Inc. – Canton of Steltonwald.

Coming Event: Agincourt

Their Excellencies' Castle

October 24, 2009

O noble English! that could entertain
With half their forces the full pride of France,
And let another half stand laughing by,
All out of work, and cold for action!

Attend one and all, within the fields of the Debatable Lands, The Feast of Saint Crispin will be upon us and a noble fight will be at hand.

A day of Archery, Fighting, Fencing and Feasting for all to enjoy. A true celebration of the honour and chivalry of our society. This event will take place on October the 24th, a.s. 44 at the McCandless-Branstetter Castle in the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands.

A magnificent feast is being prepared for one and all by Lady Odriana vander Brugghe and a lovely lunch by Lady Elss of Augsburg. For dietary restrictions contact Lady Odriana (Odriana(at)Gmail.com)

Reservations should be mailed to THL Hildarun Hugelmann (Krista Cogan) 3815 Baytree Street, Pittsburgh PA 15214, Reservations should be received by Saturday, October 17.

Site Fees including lunch are as follows: Adults \$8.00, Children (6-12) \$4.00. 5 and Under, Free. Feast will be limited to 60 people for a fee of \$7.00.

Coming Event: Twelfth Night Celebration

The Lodge at North Park

January 30, 2010

Rejoice in the Holiday Season at the celebration of Twelfth Night in the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands!

All are Welcome for this day of Fighting, Fun, Frivolity and Food! There will be music and song, fighting for young and old, gift giving and getting, all accompanied by the good food of a potluck dinner and the company of good friends!

Mark your calendars now for the BMDL Twelfth Night Celebration on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the Lodge at North Park.

THE CANTON OF STELTONWALD OFFICERS AND MEETINGS
(Beaver County)

Seneschal

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Knight Marshal

Lord Gabriel Hawkes
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Arts & Science

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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

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Els of Augsburg
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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