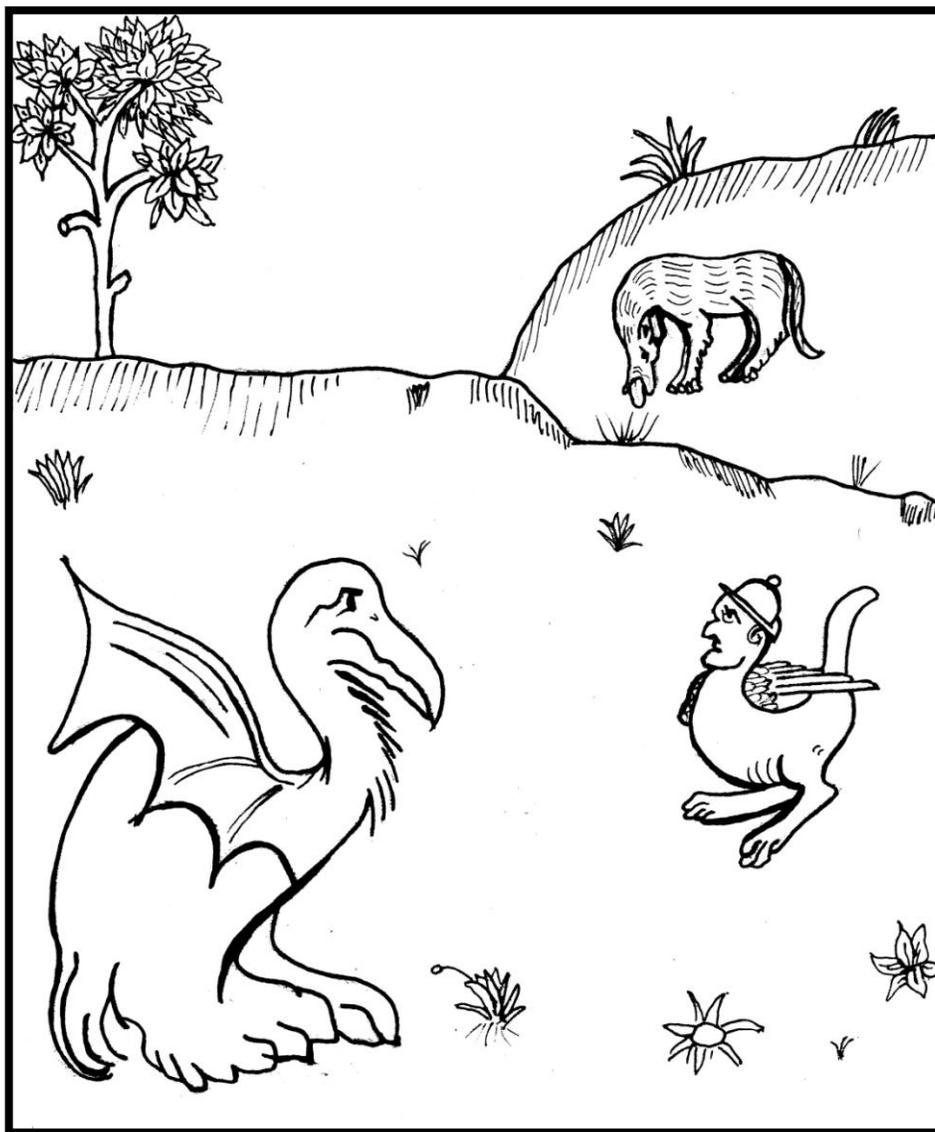


# *The Althing*



*March*  
*as xxxiiii*

## THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

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

**Their Royal Majesties of Æthelmearc**

Henri d'Artois & Elena du Tailleir  
 ae.king@aethelmearc.org  
 ae.queen@aethelmearc.org

**Their Royal Highnesses of Æthelmearc**

Malcolm MacEoghain & Tessa the Huntress  
 ae.prince@aethelmearc.org  
 ae.princess@aethelmearc.org

## OFFICERS OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

**Seneschale (02/12)**

Hilda Hugelman  
 seneschal@debatablelands.org

**Comet Pursuivant (12/10)**

Pavel Dudoladov  
 herald@debatablelands.org

**Knight Marshal (10/11)**

Ogami Arashimoto no Shirou  
 knightmarshal@debatablelands.org

**Minister of Arts & Science (02/11)**

Pavla de la Satu Mare  
 ansminister@debatablelands.org

**Chronicler (12/10)**

Elss of Augsburg (Rocky Hayeslip)  
 chronicler@debatablelands.org  
 412-366-5844

**Exchequer (06/11)**

Tofi Kerthjalfadsson  
 exchequer@debatablelands.org

**Chirurgeon Liaison (04/10)**

Liam Mac anTsaoir  
 chirurgeon@debatablelands.org

**Minister of Lists (02/12)**

Aileen ingen Proinnsias  
 lists@debatablelands.org

**Marshal of Fence**

VACANT  
 fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org

**Captain of Archers (10/10)**

Urho Waltterinen  
 archerymarshal@debatablelands.org

**Chatelaine (10/11)**

Asceline la Dieciere  
 chatelaine@debatablelands.org

**Webminister (02/11)**

Cai o'r Llyn  
 webminister@debatablelands.org

**Cour d'Or Seneschal (10/11)**

Dormant

**Steltonwald Seneschal**

Lady Madeleine de l'Este  
 madeleinedlest@yahoo.com



## BARONIAL POSITIONS AND DEPUTIES

**College Liaison**

Rosalia Iuliana Andere

**Chancellor of Youth**

Aibell ingen Chernachain

**Gold Key (Loaner Garb)**

Roana d'Evreux

**Iron Key (Loaner Heavy Weapons Equipment)**

Ogami Arashimoto no Shirou

**Steward**

Michelina Cenomani da Trento

**Recording Secretary**

Vacant

**Baronial Signet**

Aidan ni Leir

**Dark Pages Editor**

Arianna of Wynthrope

**Historian**

Ts'vee'a bas Tseepora Levi

**Precedence Editor (Deputy to Comet Pursuivant)**

Pavel Dudoladov

**Youth Fighting Marshal (Deputy to Knight Marshal)**

Ceindrech verch Elen

**Thrown Weapons Marshal (Deputy to Knight Marshal)**

Thorfinna hrogn Josepsdottir

## *Contents*

Baronial Contacts .....	2
Letters from the Barony Officers .....	4
Officers' Meeting Minutes .....	5
Proposed Policy Changes.....	6
Important Dates .....	13
Events .....	13
Steltonwald and Cour d'Or Contacts .....	Inside Back Cover

## *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. If you'd like to join the Althing mailing list and receive your newsletter by e-mail, you can do so here: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmdl\\_althing/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmdl_althing/) or it is available for free on the Barony web site [www.debatablelands.org](http://www.debatablelands.org). Paper copies are available for those without Internet access. Please contact the chronicler with an address to have a paper copy mailed to you at 412-366-5844. If you would prefer to write, the address is on the outside cover.

## *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 Elss of Augsburg, © 2010

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

## *Greetings from your Seneschal!*

Now that the Ice Dragon retreats to her snowy den and the crocuses begin to emerge into the warm spring air, I hope this missive finds you all vibrant and well. First, I would like to announce that the [debatablelands.org](http://debatablelands.org) website has a brand-new calendar! This calendar will have all of the activities that are happening in and around the Barony. If you know of an activity that is not on the calendar and should be, please email our webminister, Lord Cai o'r Llyn at [webminister@debatablelands.org](mailto:webminister@debatablelands.org). And a big THANKS to Lord Cai for implementing this handy tool.

Second, we are still looking to fill the Vacant Office of Captain of Fence. Duties of the Office include making sure regular fencing practices happen, encouraging the health of the fencing community, being point of first contact for new fencers, and representing the fencing community at Officers and Barony Meetings. If you are interested, please contact me for more information.

Third, I am asking that you please read the Proposed Policy Changes found within this publication and send me your feedback on them. Besides a few minor changes, there is also an addition of an event refund policy, as well as changes to Baronial election policy (mainly how we tally votes). If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact me at [seneschale@debatablelands.org](mailto:seneschale@debatablelands.org), or at 412-606-6258 in the evening or weekends. A Word document is also available if you would like to do a mark-up; please email me, and I will send it to you.

Fourth, I want to thank everyone who participated in the theme of March Barony Meeting - our first Guild Hall. Many activities were represented, interesting plans began to brew, and lots and lots of fun was had. It was an excellent afternoon, and it would not have happened without you. So thanks! As for May... I want to have some fun with Barony Meetings, so May will also have a theme: A&S Wars!! Yup, the May Barony meeting is going to feature a fun team challenge. The basic idea is that an A&S group will sponsor a team of four people: a Heavy Fighter, a Fencer, an Archer, and a Thrower. Whichever team scores the highest for their A&S sponsor wins! Why do such a thing? For fun and GLORY! Also booty (prizes)! More details later. It should be very amusing.

Fifth, just a reminder that April Officers' Meeting is on Wednesday, April 7th, at 8pm on CMU's campus in Porter Hall A18C. Contact me for directions. Agenda will include event bids, this year's budget, and discussion of the Policy Changes found elsewhere in the Althing. Officers' Meeting is our regular business meeting and is open to the populace.

Lastly, I want to encourage each of you to seek me out and tell me your ideas. What would you like to see in our Barony? What is good? What could be better? I welcome all kinds of feedback.

And thank you all for making this such a wonderful game.

~Hilda

Seneschale, Debatable Lands

## *Report of the Meeting of the Officers of the BMDL*

The Officers Meetings are held to discuss and decide upon the business matters of the Barony, and these are the minutes of that meeting held recently.

### *Officers' Meeting Minutes, March 7, 2010.*

- Officers attending: Baron & Baroness (Byron & Ariella), Seneschale (Hilda), Exchequer (Tofi), Knight Marshal (Shiro), Minister of A&S (Pavla), Chronicler (Elss), Captain of Archers (Urho), Chirurgeon (Liam), Webminister (Cai).
- Officers proxied: Herald (Pavel proxied by Jorundr, Pavel joined later), MOL (Aileen proxied by Hilda). Steltonwald Seneschal (Madeleine proxied by Hilda).
- Others attending: Aibell (Youth Minister), Ts'vee'a, Fran, Clewin, Fredeburg, Karl

### ***Introductory Announcements***

1. Hilda has an emergency deputy (Hrefna). If Hilda does vacate the office suddenly before her term, Hrefna will just solicit bids for new seneschal
2. The Barony is looking for a fencing deputy.
3. The budget meeting is in April.
4. Cai has set up a web calendar for baronial activities.

### ***Crown Tourney Bid***

- Issue with price for bid 10 / 5 / free / family cap 25. Family Cap approved by voice vote. Want to budget additional \$50 for rooms at the site. Budget approved by vote.

### ***Event Bid – Post-Pennsic Picnic***

- There was some discussion about the NMS. The event bid was approved by voice vote. Sent note to Tofi with link to NMS web page.

### ***Zoo Demo***

- Rufina is asking about sponsoring the Zoo Demo again next year. Baron proposed a motion for the Barony to sponsor the zoo demo. Motion approved. One opposed. The demo will be on Father's Day weekend.

### ***Baronial Election Policies***

- Byron gave a short explanation of the current election policies and why he feels they don't work. He then went through his proposed election procedures.
- Shiro requested the floor to encourage the Barony to take the time to make the best system to work, and to think about what the best system would be.
- Tofi responded favorably response to Shiro's generalities and Byron's specifics.
- Motion to approve Section V (Baronial Selection Policy) with the additions of "numeric" and a summary of tallying, to be sent to the populace for comment – motion approved with one opposed.

## ***Other Policies***

- Policy section IV.C – after much discussion approved as written (with change of final “written” to “completed”).
- Motion to send out to populace (other polices). Motion approved.

## ***Proposed Changes to the POLICIES of the BARONY-MARCHE OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS***

The complete set of policies for the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands was published in the September 2008 Althing, and can be found at <http://www.debatablelands.org/althing/>. If you require a paper copy, please contact the Chronicler to have one mailed to you.

PROPOSED CHANGES MARCH 2010:

additions are in *red italic*, deletions are in ~~red with strikethrough~~.

I. The Barony's policies must be published in the Althing in full at least once every two years and published online at least once a year. When published in the Althing, they supersede all former Baronial policies. Changes or additions to these policies become official upon their publication in the Althing. Baronial policy is subordinate to Kingdom Law & Policy, Corpora, and civil law. It may not contradict them and need not duplicate them.

### II. Officers

A) The Officers of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands are those required by Kingdom Law, the office of the Baron/ess, the Seneschals of the Barony's *active* subsidiary groups, the Captain of Archers, the Marshal of Fence, the Chirurgeon Liaison, *and the Webminister*. These officers constitute the financial committee of the Barony for the purpose of setting financial policy and approving financial activities.

B) Unless otherwise stated, decisions of the officers are by consensus of the people attending a scheduled officers meeting at which a majority of the Officers are present. Officers may be represented by proxy. ~~However, o~~ Only the members of the Financial Committee may vote on financial decisions. Any Officer may call for an Officer Only vote, in which case each Office gets one vote, with a simple majority of the votes cast deciding the issue.

C) Officers serve for a term of twenty-four months from the officers' meeting at which their appointment was approved. Notification of an Officer's intent to renew or resign must be published in the Althing at least two months before the end of the Officer's term. This notification must solicit letters of intent for a successor. Letters of intent must be sent to the Officer in question, as well as the baronial seneschal; if the office is the seneschalate, a letter must also be sent to the Baron/ess. Whether an officer decides to serve another term or a successor takes the office, either choice must be ratified by the officers. If no acceptable candidates are set forward, the Office shall remain vacant if allowed by Kingdom Law.

D) If an Office becomes vacant, the Drop-Dead Deputy will take over the duties of the office, and solicit letters of intent for a successor. Subsidiary groups are not required to follow this policy in choosing their seneschals and officers. A two-thirds majority of Baronial Officers may petition his/her Kingdom Superior to remove any Officer, or person in a Baronial position, though a proposal to do so must appear on the officers' meeting agenda and in the previous Althing. In this circumstance, the agenda should be published *via print or electronic media* for the populace at least 48 hours before the meeting (~~electronic media are acceptable~~). Should an Officer be absent and not represented at three consecutive Officers meetings, his/her Kingdom Superior may be petitioned by the Officers to have him/her removed.

E) Whenever an Office or baronial position changes hands, the outgoing Officer is responsible for transferring all files and baronial property related to the office to his or her successor in a timely fashion. An inventory report must be filed with the Chamberlain or Exchequer at this time so the change of property can be verified. In the event of a vacant office, the Officers shall determine which Barony member shall temporarily take possession of the files and property of the vacant Office.

III. Baronial policies may be created or changed by the officers. Proposed additions or changes to Baronial policies must appear on the agenda of the officers' meeting at which they are ratified, and in the previous Althing. In this circumstance, the agenda should be published *via print or electronic media* for the populace at least 48 hours before the meeting (~~electronic media are acceptable~~).

#### IV. Financial

A) Expenditures greater than \$75 must be approved by a simple majority of the Financial Committee. Expenditures of \$75 or under may be authorized jointly by the Baronial Seneschal and Exchequer. Such expenditures must be reported at the following officers meeting. The Seneschal and Exchequer must be represented at any meeting of the financial committee.

B) Officers will not approve expenditures for proposed events unless they are presented with a written event bid which contains, at a minimum, the names of the autocrat and the head cook, a site, a date, a break-even analysis, and a budget (if baronial funds are to be used). The event budget shall include estimates for income and for expenses by category based upon expected attendance, rates charged and any free admissions. After-budget expenditures are to be approved or disapproved at the Financial Committee's discretion. If an event bid is declined at the Kingdom or Society level, the event bid is void.

C) Event refund requests: Event refunds will be issued ~~to those that request them~~ upon request before the day of the event. Event refunds requested on the day of the event and before the event report is ~~written~~ completed will be considered but not guaranteed. Refunds requested after the event report is ~~written~~ completed will not be issued.

## V. Baronial Succession

A. Requirements of office: The Baron and/or Baroness (hereafter referred to as Baron/ess) must meet the requirements stated in Corpora and Kingdom Law. He or she must be a paid member of the SCA, 18 years of age or older, may not hold the office of Baronial Seneschal, and must be a resident in the territory of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands. The position of Territorial Baron/ess of the Debatable Lands is not subject to a term limit.

B. When Selection of a New Baron/ess Will Occur: Selection will take place when a Baron/ess is removed, expresses a desire to retire, or wishes to take a consort.

C. Removal of a Baron/ess: A majority of the Barony's Officers may call for the removal of the Baron or Baroness. The motion must appear on the officers' meeting agenda and in the previous issue of the Althing. If the motion passes, the result will be announced at the next Barony meeting and in the next issue of the Althing. At the Barony meeting after that, those attending the meeting will decide, by majority vote, whether to petition the Crown for the removal of the Baron or Baroness.

D. The Vicar: If a Vicar is appointed, the Vicar may not give Baronial Awards but may otherwise preside over Baronial Courts and functions.

E. The Selection Committee: The Selection Committee is responsible for overseeing the election process. The selection committee consists of the Baron/ess (if there is one), the Vicar (if there is one), and enough officers in precedence order to bring the total to 5 with the Baron and/or Baroness together counting as one seat. If a member of the committee accepts a baronial nomination, ~~or is planning to step down from his office~~ *or if his term is over* and he is not planning to renew *before the election process is over*, he is replaced by the next officer in precedence order. Notification of the election and these policies will be printed in the first Althing following the appointment of the selection committee. The Committee members will elect a Chairman from among their members by simple majority vote.

### F. The Selection Process

1. Eligible Voters: Any person residing in the zip codes of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands who is 17 years of age or older (*as of the day the votes are to be tallied*) and is on the corporate membership list may vote. Under exceptional circumstances, the Selection Committee may consider a written request for a ballot from a person who would not otherwise receive one. *Such a request must be received by the Chair of the Selection Committee by the date of the Nominating Meeting.*

#### 2. Timing of the Selection Process:

- 1) Announcement of upcoming election
- 2) Approximately one month later, nominations\*
- 3) Approximately one month later, acceptance of nominations
- 4) Two months later, ballots counted

\*Note: Additional general Barony meetings may be called to facilitate the timing of this process.

3. The Nominating Meeting: A Nominating meeting will be held as part of a general Barony meeting one month after the announcement of the election appears in the Althing and is given at a general Barony meeting. The announcement is given at a general Barony meeting. Candidates will be nominated by petition of the populace, either in writing or by voice at the nominating meeting. Written nominations must be received by the Chair of the Selection Committee at or before the nomination meeting. The committee must notify candidates within one week of the nominations. To be considered, candidates must accept nominations in writing to the Chair of the Selection committee within one month of the nominating meeting. Individuals or couples may be nominated, but no individual can occur on the ballot more than once.

4. The Voting: A written ballot with the list *of all candidates (a candidate pair is considered to be "a candidate" in this document) of nominees* will be distributed by mail to all eligible voters. Each ballot shall be numbered and a record kept of the total number of ballots mailed, but no record shall be kept of which numbers were mailed to which voters. Voting will be as follows:

a. Voters will mark those candidates they consider ~~not~~ unacceptable as *UA NA*. All other candidates are to be ranked in order of preference, with "1" being the voter's first choice, "2" the second choice, and so on. *Any candidate may be left blank (unranked)*. A group status poll will appear on the election ballots; voters will mark their preferred option.

b. Voters will have until the beginning of the next general barony meeting at least one month after the ballots were mailed to vote. Voters may return their ballots by mail or in person to the Selection Committee Chairman. Voters shall not be required to write their names on the ballots. The Committee Chairman will hold the ballots unopened until the Committee meets to count the ballots.

c. Tallying the ballots: The Selection Committee will meet during the general barony meeting of the voting deadline to open and count the ballots. *Only ballots that remain unopened until tallying begins will be valid*. Ballots will be tallied in the following sequence:

*i.* Ballot numbers will be checked off on the master list. If any duplicate ballot numbers or numbers which are not on the list of those mailed are found, those ballots will be discarded. The group status poll will be counted first. If a majority of the voters choose not to remain a Barony, then the Baronial election process will be terminated and the election ballots will not be tallied.

*ii.* A valid ballot will include legible ranking of listed candidates as directed in section V.F.4.a., including UA or blank responses. If an altered, ambiguous, or incorrectly-marked ballot is received and

the listed candidates are not ranked as directed, then the ballot will be considered invalid and no part of the ballot will be counted. If an altered, ambiguous, or incorrectly-marked ballot is received, but the listed candidates are ranked as directed, then the ballot will remain valid.

*iii. Any candidate receiving “unacceptable” (UA) votes from more than 33% of the received ballots shall be declared inactive. ~~Any candidate receiving votes of NA on 33% or more of the ballots received shall be eliminated from consideration. The remaining candidates on each ballot will be re-ranked accordingly~~*

*iv. The election committee shall tally each ballot as a single vote for the highest-ranked active candidate on the ballot. If any candidate has a majority (more than 50%) of the received ballots, that candidate shall be declared the winner. Otherwise, the candidate with the fewest votes will be declared inactive, and the votes for that candidate will be redistributed to the highest-ranked active candidate on each ballot. (Any ballot that does not include a numeric rank for any active candidate will not be considered a “received ballot” for the purpose of calculating the number of votes needed for majority.) Repeat this sequence until a majority candidate is found. The majority candidate will be declared the winner.*

~~*iii. If any remaining candidate receives a majority (greater than 50%) of first place votes, that candidate will immediately be declared the winner.*~~

*v. If there is a tie between candidates for the fewest votes in a round, both candidates will be declared inactive. If there is a tie between the final two (or more) active candidates, the candidate with the fewest number of unacceptable (UA) votes on ALL valid ballots (not just those that have ranked an active candidate) will be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, all tied candidates will be presented to the Crown as acceptable, and the Crown of Aethelmearc shall be asked to choose between them.*

*vi: General Summary of Tallying. The voters rank candidates from most favorite to least favorite. Take the ballots and you make a pile for each candidate, based on just the first-place votes (ignoring all the other rankings on the ballots). Then eliminate the candidate with the fewest votes and re-distribute those ballots to the other piles, using the second-place votes. Keep eliminating the candidate with the fewest votes until you have one candidate left. This is a summary only; actual tallying process will follow steps i - v.*

~~iv. If no remaining candidate receives a majority of first place votes, all remaining candidates shall receive a score based on the numerical placement table below:~~

~~1st place = 5 points~~

~~2nd place = 4 points~~

~~3rd place = 3 points~~

~~4th place = 2 points~~

~~5th place = 1 point~~

~~6th place or lower = 0 points~~

~~No vote = 0 points~~

~~NA = -1 points~~

~~v. The candidate with the highest aggregate score shall be declared the winner. If there is a tie for first, a runoff election will be held starting from V.F.4. with only the tied candidates on the ballot.~~

5. The Petition: The Selection Committee Chairman will produce a petition in accordance with kingdom law.

#### 6. Special *Se* Elections

a. If an existing solo Baron/ess desires to take a consort, a vote on the Baron/ess's chosen consort will be held at the general Barony meeting *scheduled for approximately one month* after an announcement of the vote appears in the Althing and is given at a general Barony meeting. Should the consort be accepted by the populace, a petition will be prepared as in V.F.5. above.

b. If one member of a couple serving jointly as Baron and Baroness resigns, is removed or is unable to serve, the remaining Baron/ess may continue in the position alone if s/he desires, providing s/he passes a vote of confidence from the Barony. This vote will take place at the general Barony meeting *scheduled to occur* at least one month after an announcement of the vote appears in the Althing and is given at a general Barony meeting, and not more than 6 months after the vacancy occurs.

c. In either case, written ballots will be distributed, collected and counted by the Selection Committee at the Barony meeting, with the results to be announced that night. The proposal will be decided by majority vote of those attending the meeting, plus proxies. Written proxy ballots will be permitted.

VI. The autocrat of an event may require any person behaving disruptively to leave the event. If a minor is behaving disruptively at an event, the autocrat may require the adult(s) responsible for that minor to leave the event as well. It is the responsibility of the autocrat of any event for which the Nonmember Surcharge must be collected to determine the means of collection.

VII. The Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands does not serve alcoholic beverages.

VIII. Anyone that holds, stores, or maintains Baronial property, not to include files, must inventory it at least once per calendar year. The report should be given to the Chamberlain or Exchequer during the first two weeks of November. The report shall contain at the minimum: the name of the item(s), quantity on hand, a statement about the condition of the item(s) and location of where the item(s) are stored.

IX. The Barony reserves the right to accept or refuse any donation. Non-monetary donations (e.g.: equipment, supplies, items for resale) with a value over \$100 require the approval of the Exchequer, who will issue the receipt. The donor is solely responsible for setting the value of the donation. No non-monetary item should be accepted prior to seeing the item.

### **Event Bid Policy**

Event bids may be submitted by any member of the BMDL who wishes to autocrat an event. Event bids must also be submitted by members of other local groups who want the BMDL to sponsor their event. Event bids must be presented at a Baronial Officers' meeting (or, in special cases, at a regular Barony meeting, by pre-arrangement with the Seneschal) in order to be approved. Ideally, all event bids should be submitted six to twelve months in advance.

All event bids must include the following:

- Completed Event Bid form (available to download from Baronial website) or equivalent.
- Proof of SCA membership for the Autocrat. This must prove membership at the time of the event; if the proposed Autocrat's membership expires prior to the event, he or she must renew promptly and show proof of renewal to the Seneschal as soon as feasible.

Ideal event bids should also include the following:

- Resumes for the Autocrat and Head Cook
- List of facilities available at the site (classrooms, fighting areas, extra rooms, etc.)
- Proposed event announcement including directions that conform to the guidelines set forth by the Kingdom Chronicler.
- Full list of sub-autocrats and their assistants.

Please note:

The Officers of the Barony are very interested in your comments on the proposed changes as shown above. If you have any questions at all about the proposed changes, please contact the Seneschale at [seneschale@debatablelands.org](mailto:seneschale@debatablelands.org), or at 412-606-6258 in the evening or weekends. A Word document is also available for those who would like to do a mark-up; please email the Seneschale to request it.

## *Important Dates Coming Up!*

### **April BMDL Officers Meeting**

April 7, 2010 at 8pm on CMU's campus in Porter Hall A18C – Agenda includes the budget.

### **May Barony Meeting**

May 16, 2010 at 1 PM – to be held at the Washington Boulevard practice site.

### **July Barony Meeting**

July 18, 2010 at 1 PM – to be held at the Washington Boulevard practice site.

## *Event Teaser!*

Mark your calendars now for the Post Pennsic Picnic to be held on August 28, 2010.

## *A Regional Archery Practice at the Castle April 11, 2010*

The primary goal at this practice will allow everyone who wishes to shoot for the Gwyntarian Winter Challenge which closes soon after this date. Last year we had 44 archers from our Kingdom and 14 from the immediate area alone. We would like to conduct this as our morning project and leave the afternoon for everything else.

We will have novelty targets and anything that we can think of that is safe to shoot at. Space permitting and pending marshal availability, there may be some individual training. Of course, we will have archery from the Castle parapets. Further, if I can convince *certain archers*, I'm sure we will have interesting and bizarre targets to shoot at.

The Barony-Marche loaner gear will be available.

Food will be pot luck. Bring hot and cold meals, side dishes, desserts, and snacks as you wish. Try out something new – archers are hardy souls. Soft drinks will be provided.

Their Excellencies ask that everyone wear garb for the day. We hope to take pictures.

This is a free event, but donations will be gladly accepted to assist one of our Barony Grand Masters and Silver Buccle Herald in his traveling duties for the Kingdom.

The Castle address is 755 Stonegate Drive, Wexford PA 15090 and a map can be found at:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Wexford&state=PA&address=755+Stonegate+Dr&zipcode=15090-7593&country=US&latitude=40.62952&longitude=-80.10511&geocode=ADDRESS>

Please contact Urho Waltterinen with any questions and requests.

In Service to the Kingdom,

Urho Waltterinen  
[archerymarshal@debatablelands.org](mailto:archerymarshal@debatablelands.org)

Per valde mustache adveho valde officium

## *Coming Event:*

### *Spring Coronation*

### *April 10, 2010*

It is with pleasure that we announce the Coronation of Malcolm and Tessa, the twenty-sixth Crowns of Æthelmarc, and invite you to come and celebrate the continuity of the Royal Family and enjoy the hospitality and friendship of the Shire of Misty Highlands at South Middle School, 500 East Parkway Drive, Morgantown WV, 26501. A Grand Coronation feast shall be laid out for those in attendance, the preparations thereby overseen by the Head Cook, Lady Ailionora inghean Fiachrach. (ailionora AT yahoo DOT com)

Be it also known that Malcolm and Tessa are enamored of things Noble, as well as of Acts Chivalry and the encouragement of our youth, and thus They will hold the contest for their Youth Combat Champion upon that day, and they look forward to seeing many courageous young fighters demonstrate their prowess and chivalry. (In the event of bad weather, soft sole shoes will be required of the combatants.)

There will be an A&S display at Spring Coronation. Being that Spring is a season of rebirth, the artisans of Aethelmarc are encouraged to try something new. All artists, young and old, are asked to try something they haven't done before. At the end of the display we will have an artisans 'Meet & Greet' so that the artists can get together and discuss what they've learned and share the knowledge they've gained.

There will be a raffle to benefit the youth combat program during the day.

The site is DRY, as it is a school, and no open flames can be permitted. The only animals permitted on the grounds will be those trained as service animals. The site shall open at 9 am and will close at 9 pm.

The autocrats are Master Valgardr Gunnarsson and Mistress Juliana Delamere. (Scott and Debra Hofer, 1103 Morgantown Ave, Fairmont, WV, 26554, 304-685-6915, valgardr AT siriustech DOT net; deb AT debrahofer DOT com) The site fee is \$10, youth ages 6-17: \$5 and 5 and under will be the guests of the Crown. The non-member surcharge will be an additional \$3. The feast fee is \$8 for adults, \$4 for those aged 6-17 and complimentary for those aged 5 and under. Please send your reservations to the autocrats (see above for address) and make checks payable to "SCA, Inc, Misty Highlands".

Directions: From I-68:

Take Exit 1 Downtown Morgantown on I-68. From either exit ramp, make a left onto Rt 119 (towards downtown) and go approximately 2 miles. At the 2nd stoplight, which is on a hill, (Huntington National Bank on your left) make a Right turn onto Greenbag Road (Rt 857). Go through a stoplight, past the Giant Eagle and at the bottom of the hill turn left onto M-Tech Road. Make a right onto Vo-tech drive, the site is at the end of this street.

# *Blackstone Raid XIX*

## *April 22 - 25, 2010*

### *Barony of Blackstone Mountain*

Friends and allies of Aethelmearc heed our call!!!

The Dragon of the Kingdom of the Midrealm stirs from its winter slumber and will soon raid the Barony of Blackstone Mountain within the Sylvan Lands of the Kingdom of Aethelmearc for its coveted black stones. The Dragon of the Midrealm will send forth its forces to wrest the precious black stones from our lands. The time is growing near to be counted among those that stood against the might of the Midrealm! Come stand united in the southern lands of Aethelmearc, deny them the treasure they seek, and drive them beyond our borders.

Blackstone Raid XIX will open at 12:00 PM on April 22nd, 2010 and close at 12:00 PM on April 25th, 2010 at the beautiful Cedar Lakes - Conference Center, HC 88, Box 21 Ripley, WV 25271, (304) 372-7860, [www.cedarlakes.com](http://www.cedarlakes.com), April 22nd – 25th, 2010.

The autocrats are THL Alaxandair O'Conchobhair, Christopher Conner, 1612 Bigley Ave, Charleston, WV 25302, (304) 932-1037, [alaxandair@gmail.com](mailto:alaxandair@gmail.com) and Lord Marek Severian Vitsdrag, Brian Rumberg, Rt 10 Box 108 Charleston, WV 25312, (304) 746-0172, [marekbsm@yahoo.com](mailto:marekbsm@yahoo.com)

The event website is [www.blackstoneraid.org](http://www.blackstoneraid.org)

**PREREGISTRATION:** We ask the consideration of \$18. Those between the ages of 7 and 17 will be \$9. Those the age of 6 or under are free. There is a family cap of \$54.

**REGISTRATION:** We ask the consideration of \$20. Those between the ages of 7 and 17 will be \$10. Those the age of 6 or under are free. There is a family cap of \$60.

**DAY TRIP:** Please note day trip rates begin at 12:00 PM April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. If you arrive before then you will be charged the normal registration rate. We ask the consideration of \$10. Those between the ages of 7 and 17 will be \$5. Those the age of 6 or under are free.

**HOTEL ROOMS:** Contact Cedar Lakes directly (304) 372-7860, [www.cedarlakes.com](http://www.cedarlakes.com)

**DORM BEDS:** We ask the consideration of \$5 per night per person. Those the age of 6 or under are free. This is not included in the family cap price and will be additional.

**CAMPING:** Free

**FAMILY CAP:** A family cap should be 2 adults, 2 minors - all other minors of that family, free.

Note: "Family" does not include SCA households or roommates - there must be a mundane relation. No more than two adults in a family group can qualify for the family cap price; all others of that family must be related minor-aged children. NMS is not included in the family cap price and will be additional.

The reservation clerk is Baroness Gwyneth Olafsdottir, Rici Tegarden, (304) 727-4427, [blackstoneraid@verizon.net](mailto:blackstoneraid@verizon.net)

#### TO MAKE RESERVATIONS:

Please include the SCA and modern names for everyone, including children 6 and under with your reservation. Please note April 10th, 2010 is the last date to request refunds.

Make checks payable to, "SCA Inc. – Barony of Blackstone Mountain", and send to BSR Preregistration XIX, P.O. Box 11548, Charleston, WV, 25339. Please be mindful that per corporate policy, a \$3.00 non-member surcharge will be added on top of all other fees for those gentles age 18 and over who are not members of the SCA. This may be sent with your reservation or paid at the door.

#### DIRECTIONS:

Take your best route to I-77.

#### From the North:

Take Exit 132 on I-77, at the bottom of the ramp, turn left onto Route 21 North, make the first right onto Cedar Lakes Drive (you will see the Burger King), Cedar Lakes Conference Center is approximately 3.5 miles on the right.

#### From the South:

Take Exit 132 on I-77, at the bottom of the ramp, turn right onto Route 21 North, make the first right onto Cedar Lakes Drive (you will see the Burger King), Cedar Lakes Conference Center is approximately 3.5 miles on the right.

## *Æthelmearc Crown Tournament*

*May 8th, 2010*

### *Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills*

Unto the citizens of Æthelmearc and their friends do Don Clewin Kupferhelbelinc and Freifrau Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen bid greetings! The Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands is pleased to host the next Crown Tournament of Æthelmearc, to determine the Heirs for Their Sylvan Highnesses Malcolm and Tessa.

Crown Tournament will be held outside, rain or shine, on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills (UUCNH, 2359 W. Ingomar Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.) The site opens at 10am and closes at 7pm.

A procession of entrants will be planned for noon, with a scheduled 1pm start of the tournament. Remember that this is our kingdom's Crown Tournament, so finery and heraldry are encouraged.

There will be an all-day sideboard by the hand of Master Creador Twinedragon (Douglas Dillon, ebisu80 (AT) hotmail (DOT) com) available starting at 11am. Please email the head cook with any special dietary needs.

All those wishing to set up pavilions around the field should contact Lord Ogami Arashimoto no Shirou aka Shiro (David Jones, Shironokaminari (AT) gmail (DOT) com) for arrangements. Priority will be given to those participating in the tournament.

There should be ample parking, including an overflow lot nearby, but please direct all parking questions to the autocrats. In addition, all those willing to help with cleanup are welcome to stay and assist after the event is over. The site is dry so please respect those wishes. Open flames are allowed.

Additional notes: There is plenty of indoor space, and children's activities have been added inside the main hall. Vendors are welcome, but please contact the autocrats to arrange space.

The event fee for the day is \$10 for adults (6-17 half price, 5 and under free, family cap of \$25) with proof of SCA membership. A non-member surcharge of \$3 per person will be charged for those 18 and older who do not show proof of SCA membership at the door. Troll will open at 10am and close at 2pm. Combatants and their Consorts will be given priority at the gate and are invited move to the front of the line if there is one.

The autocrats can be reached at (Wayne and Karen Canne) 3371 Maple Dr, South Park, PA 15129, wcanne (AT) gmail (DOT) com), fredeburg (AT) gmail (DOT) com, 412-983-5984) with mentoring by Mistress Arianna of Wynthrope (Karen Kasper).

Reservations can be sent to THL Hilderun Hugelmann (Krista Cogan, 3815 Baytree St, Pittsburgh, PA 15214, 412-606-6258) with a cutoff date of May 1st. Do not include the \$3 NMS. Please make checks payable to "SCA Inc - Debatable Lands."

## *Aethelmearc War Practice*

### *May 20 - May 23, 2010*

### *Cooper's Lake Campground*

It is time once again to prepare for the prospect of War, and to properly prepare, the Canton of Steltonwald would like to invite all to join us for War Practice XXI. We will be mustering once again at Cooper's Lake Campground, 205 Currie Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057. The event will run from noon on Thursday May 20, 2010 through Sunday May 23, 2010 at 3:00 PM.

Troll will close on Saturday at 3:00 PM; all participants must be registered before that time or access to the site will not be granted. The weekend will include many types of marshal activities, including Heavy Weapons, Combat Archery, Fencing Thrown Weapons, Archery and Youth fighting. Among the peaceful pursuits we will include Classes, Meetings, Shopping and More.

The Autocrat for this event is THLady Ysabell Graver (Jane Cummins) 120 Kyle Rd. New Castle, PA 16102 ([ysabell\\_graver AT yahoo.com](mailto:ysabell_graver@AT.yahoo.com)), 727-667-9727. There is no pre-reservation for this event. Waivers and more information will be on the website at <http://warpractice.steltonwald.org/> and here. Please watch for updates.

Cost:

	<b>3 nights</b>	<b>2 nights</b>	<b>1 night</b>	<b>Day Fee</b>
<b>Adult</b>	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$13.00	\$12.00
<b>Children 6 – 17</b>	\$ 9.00	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$4.00
<b>Children under 5</b>	free	free	free	free
<i>There will be a \$3.00 non member surcharge.</i>				

**Very important: Troll will close at 3 pm on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, NO ONE will be admitted to the site without a receipt after this time.**

#### DIRECTIONS:

From the North: **\*\*Take Interstate 79 South to Exit 99, New Castle/Butler. Make a left at the end of the ramp onto 422 West towards New Castle. Travel about ¼ mile and turn right onto Currie Road (between the signs for 422 Auto Auction/McClymonds Transport). Follow Currie Road for one mile.**

From the east or west via Interstate 80: Take your best route to Interstate 79 South and follow from **\*\*above.**

From the West: Take your best route to 422 East. When you go under the Route 19 underpass, you are getting very close. Make the left onto Currie Road (between the signs for 422 Auto Sales/McClymonds Transport). Follow Currie Road for one mile.

From the East: Take your best route to 422 West. When you pass the Moraine State Park South Shore exit, you are getting very close. Go under the Interstate 79 overpass, travel approximately ¼ mile and turn onto Currie Road (between the signs for 422 Auto Sales/McClymonds Transport). Follow Currie Road for one mile.

THE CANTON OF STELTONWALD OFFICERS AND MEETINGS

(Beaver County)

**Seneschal**

Lady Madeleine de l'Este  
madeleinedlest at yahoo.com

**Knight Marshal**

THL Robert Marston  
kardasl+@pitt.edu

**Arts & Science**

Bonita of Steltonwald  
novakbonnie at hotmail.com

**Exchequer**

Baron Master Geoffrey fitz David  
chinaex at ccia.com

**Captain of Archers**

Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill  
captainofarchers at steltonwald.org

**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**

Wednesdays, 6 PM - 9 PM,  
except the third Wednesday of any month  
Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill  
Beaver Valley Archery Club  
captainofarchers at steltonwald.org

**Fight practice**

Every Tuesday, 6pm, at the Economy Grange  
Contact THL Robert Marston

**Sewing**

Aoibheil of Dun Holen

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

THE COLLEGE OF COUR D'OR

The College of Cour d'Or is currently dormant. For information regarding local colleges and Universities, contact the Baronial College Liaison

**College Liason**

Rosalia Iuliana Andreere

**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 XLIV (2010) Vol. 31. No. 7

**FIRST CLASS MAIL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

Sign up on the Althing mailing list to have the Althing emailed to you every month at  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmdl\\_althing/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bmdl_althing/)

Download or read the Althing every month at <http://www.debatablelands.org/althing/>

Subscribe to the Barony mailing list at <http://lists.andrew.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/sca-bmdl>

Find the Barony home page at <http://www.debatablelands.org/>