

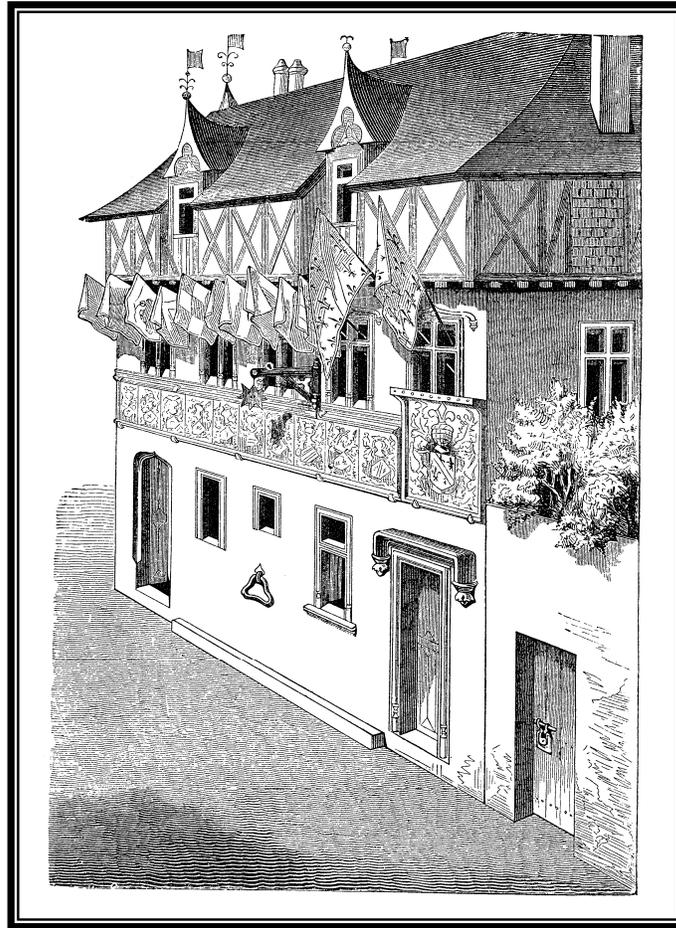
# The Althing

*Herein is contained all of the news and tidings that have accumulated in my hands, held there by the snow and cold of Winter, and by the work I have undertaken, but which is now free to fly to all in our Barony.*

*Many missives from both the Baron and the Baroness are to be found in these pages, on topics from Twelfth Night to the Barony Army, Pennsic, awards, and manners.*

*See also the wondrous news about Thrown Weapons!!*

*Look forward to these Upcoming Events: the Regional Archery Practice at the Castle and the Barony Birthday Party, now with QRC added!*



*Lords and Barons exhibit their nobility by displaying their banners and coats-of-arms from the windows of the Herald's Lodge. Many heraldic displays are included herein.*

*Being written and printed by the Chronicler, Elss of Augsburg, wishing to record and proclaim the events and activities relating to the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands, both past and to come, in the middle of this Month of March, in the glorious start of Spring in the Barony, far above the Three Rivers.*

## March a.s. xlvi

## THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

William Mac an Tsaoir and Constance Glyn Dŵr  
 baron@debatablelands.org and baroness@debatablelands.org  
<http://bmdllbandb.webs.com/>

**Their Royal Majesties of Æthelmearc**

Isenwulf Thorolfssone & Rosalinda of Castile  
 ae.king@aethelmearc.org  
 ae.queen@aethelmearc.org

**Their Royal Highnesses of Æthelmearc**

Andreas Morgan and Kallista Morganova  
 ae.prince@aethelmearc.org  
 ae.princess@aethelmearc.org

## OFFICERS OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS

**Seneschale (02/14)**

Hilda Hugelman  
 seneschal@debatablelands.org

**Comet Pursuivant (12/12)**

Pavel Dudoladov  
 herald@debatablelands.org

**Knight Marshal (10/13)**

Ogami Arashimoto no Shirou  
 knightmarshal@debatablelands.org

**Minister of Arts & Science (02/13)**

Will Langdon of Greymorne  
 ansminister@debatablelands.org

**Chronicler (12/12)**

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

**Exchequer (06/13)**

Tofi Kerthjalfadsson  
 exchequer@debatablelands.org

**Chirurgien Liaison (06/12)**

Liam Mac anTsaoir  
 chirurgien@debatablelands.org

**Minister of Lists (02/14)**

Katherine Sinclair  
 lists@debatablelands.org

**Marshal of Fence (04/12)**

Irene von Schmetterling  
 fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org

**Captain of Archers (10/12)**

Urho Waltterinen  
 archerymarshal@debatablelands.org

**Chatelaine (06/12)**

Anna Leigh  
 chatelaine@debatablelands.org

**Deputy Chatelaine**

Rosalia Iuliana Andere

**Webminister (04/13)**

Cai o'r Llyn  
 webminister@debatablelands.org

**Cour d'Or Seneschal**

Dormant

**Steltonwald Seneschal**

Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill  
 Muirgheall at gmail.com



## BARONIAL POSITIONS AND DEPUTIES

**College Liaison**

Rosalia Iuliana Andere

**Chancellor of Youth**

Aibell ingen Chernachain

**Gold Key (Loaner Garb)**

Anna Leigh

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

Vacant

**Steward**

Michelina Cenomani da Trento

**Recording Secretary**

Vacant

**Baronial Signet**

Odriana vander Brugghe

**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)**

Arianna of Wynthrope

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

Thorfinna hrogn Josepsdottir

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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. 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 and Interior Pages: Medieval Life and People CD-ROM and Book Dover Publications ©2007 and Microsoft Clip Art.

The Althing’s submissions deadline is fluid – send your contributions to Elss at [chronicler@debatablelands.org](mailto:chronicler@debatablelands.org) for inclusion in the next issue.

## From the Baron and Baroness:

U nto the Populace of the Barony Marche do Baron Liam and Baroness Constance send greetings!

We greatly enjoyed the celebrations of 12th Night, it was great to sit and spend time with so many of you. We want to thank all of you that sent your warm thoughts and prayers to Master Huon, I have no doubt that your support helped him make a speedy recovery. As we all prepare for all that the spring has to offer with bright and sunny days and the warmth of new life, we must also prepare for what may come with the spring and summer.

During afternoon court at BMDL12th Night, His Grace Henri d'Artois and the Knights Bannerette issued a challenge, a challenge to put 300 warriors on the field this Pennsic. Today, I issue you all a challenge: my goal is to put 150 warriors on the field for Pennsic including Heavy Fighters, Youth Fighters, Fencers, Archers and Thrown Weapons.

The East Kingdom and the Midrealm intend to invade our sovereign lands, not just our Kingdom, but the back yard of this Barony! We will not stand for this!

We must also prepare for the challenge that Sir Bear has issued questioning our sovereign rights to this land!

If you are a Heavy Fighter and live in this Barony, we expect to see you at Sunday Practices, we understand that some have other obligations on Sundays but we want you there at least once a month. After speaking to the Knight Marshal, we will be working on a Melee drill every week until War.

If you are a Target Archer and ever wanted to learn about Combat Archery, THL Zoe has volunteered to assist in teaching people about Combat Archery and its usefulness in combat scenarios. Her Excellency and I would like to see a baronial combat archery unit on the field for Pennsic.

If anyone has plans for or the ability to build a siege engine and would like to volunteer for Baronial Service, we will help you find a crew to crew it.

If you would like to learn to be a heavy fighter and help Your Barony and Your Kingdom, please come to Sunday Practice -- there is loaner armor that we can get you into to see if Heavy Fighting or Combat Archery is something you would like to do. (You will need to bring your own groin protection, and elbow pads and knee pads are also suggested.)

If you are a Fencer, Mistress Irene is holding practices every Sunday along side Heavy Practice. If you would like to learn to fence, Mistress Irene can instruct and bring loaner equipment for you to use.

If you are an Archer or would like to be an Archer, the Baronial Archers travel to Steltonwald Practice on Wednesdays through the winter, please visit their website for info:  
<http://www.steltonwald.org/calendar.shtml>

If you are a Youth Fighter, or are the parent of a child that would like to learn youth fighting, Youth Fighter practice is held on Sundays along side Heavy and Fencing practice. Mistress Arianna is there to instruct and marshal, and there is loaner equipment available as well.

If you are a Thrower or would like to learn thrown weapons, there are currently no practices scheduled due to the weather. Please check the Barony Calendar for the start of outdoor practices.

If you are a former fighter or fencer and would like to lend your old armor to the cause, please contact me so that we can put it to use.

If you are unable to fight and would still like to support your army, there is always a need for Waterbearers. If you can help in that way, contact Baroness Constance through email at LiamandConstance (at) Gmail (dot) com.

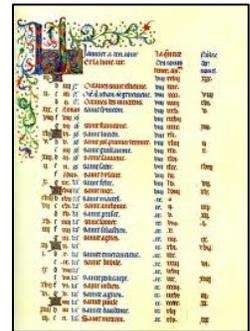
Regular Sunday Practice is held at the Pittsburgh Chinese Church, 8711 Old Perry Highway, Pittsburgh PA 15237 from 2-6 pm.

We hope that you will take this challenge and support Your Kingdom and Your Barony! Ad Glorium! Aethelmearc!!

--  
Baron Uilliam Mac-an-tSaoir  
and  
Baroness Constance Glyn Dwr

Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

<http://bmdlbandb.webs.com/>



## Important Dates Coming Up!

### BMDL Archery Practice Starts – April 1, 2012

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, weather permitting, starting at 11 AM, archery practice resumes at the Washington Boulevard site. No practice on April 8<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday.

### Regional Archery Practice – April 15, 2012

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10 AM, archery practice moves to the Castle for the Regional Archery Practice. Also, Youth Fighter Practice will be held at the Castle, as probably will Thrown Weapons practice. See announcement further down in this Althing.

### April Officers Meeting – April 4, 2012

Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 8pm at CMU, Porter Hall in Room A19(no letter). This will be the annual budget meeting.

### May Barony Meeting – May 6, 2012

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at the Washington Boulevard practice site, at 2 PM.

### Baronial Birthday and Queen’s Rapier

Saturday, May 26, 2012 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills, 2359 West Ingomar Rd., Franklin Park, PA 15237. Site opens at 9am and closes at 9pm.

### June Officers Meeting – June 6, 2012

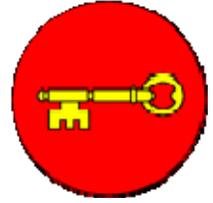
Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 8pm at CMU, Porter Hall, specific room to be announced.

### July Barony Meeting – July 8, 2012

Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, location and time to be announced.

## From the Seneschale:

Hello from the Balmy South! Oh, hm, we're still in the Debatable Lands, aren't we? I hope you're enjoying this Debatable weather as you prepare for Gulf Wars and Ice Dragon.



A big Thank You goes to Lady Elss of Augsburg, the autocrat of Barony 12th Night, and her event staff - it was a most enjoyable event in many ways. Also congratulations to our Canton of Steltonwald and Lady Muirgheal and Mistress Alessandra for hosting quite a fun 12th Night - most enjoyable as always.

I'd also like to thank all the Officers and position-holders of the Barony for their work and dedication to making our exceptional group go. Without them, the wonderful activities we all enjoy simply would not happen. If you are interesting in giving back to the people of the Barony by serving as a Deputy to an Officer, or a Position holder, contact me or the holder of the Office you're interested in. We are specifically looking for a Deputy to the Chronicler and Gold Key currently, but other Officers may be accepting deputies as well. Thank you to our outgoing MoL, Lady Aileen, and to our incoming MoL, Lady Katherine Sinclair. Vivant!

As always, I love questions and comments. If you're unhappy about something, we can't address it unless we know. If you have a question, we can't answer unless you ask it. Or, if you're happy, tell us that, too!

In Levitate et Caritate,

Mistress Hilderun Hugelmann

Seneschale, Debatable Lands

## An Important Message from the Interim Baronial Rapier Marshal

Barony Members,

I have been the interim Rapier marshal for the past year, and my term in office is up in April. I have decided that I am willing to take on a term as Baronial Rapier Marshal. If anyone else is interested in taking on the office please send a letter to me and to the Barony Seneschale.

Thank you.

Mistress Irene von Schmetterling



## From the Captain of Archers

Spring is almost here and it's time to start up the outdoor archery practices again.

Weather permitting, our first practice will be on Sunday, April 1st starting at 11:00 at the Washington Boulevard/Allegheny River Boulevard site as usual. I have inspected the site and the construction work down there will not affect us at this time. This is still plenty of room for all our activities.

There will be no official practice on Sunday, April 8th as that is Easter Sunday and many of us have other obligations.

Watch for news about practice on Sunday, April 15th.

As always, I will have the archery loaner gear with me for anyone who would like to try archery, but does not have the equipment.

In Service to the Barony-Marche,  
THL Urho Waltterinen



Per valde mustache adveho valde officium

## Regional Archery Practice

Good gentles of the Barony-Marche!

By the kindness and generosity of Byron and Ariella, we will once again hold the annual Regional Archery Practice at their Castle home.

This will be on Sunday, April 15th, the day after Coronation. We will be setting up the lower range beginning at 10:00 and hope to be shooting soon after that. THL Deryk Archer is once again preparing a hillside target range so we can shoot from the Castle turrets.

This will be the last opportunity to shoot for the Gwyntarian Winter Challenge. Once again the Barony is leading the Kingdom in participation.

Mistress Arianna will be moving youth fighting practice to the Castle for that day.

I am in negotiations with the Thrown Weapons marshals to move their practice there as well. They have joined us in the past, so I hope it will happen again.

Byron and Ariella have asked that we participate in garb to lend a greater air of authenticity to this event-which-is-not-an-event.

I also ask that we make this a pot luck snack event. Since we will be there all day, providing some food for each other will be a good thing.

Even if none of these sports is yours, please come out and spend the day together with us.

For further information, please contact me at the address on the officer's page.

In Service to the Barony-Marche,  
THL Urho Waltterinen

Per valde mustache adveho valde officium

## Youth Fighting Schedule:

The BMDL Youth Combat practice schedule for the next month is as follows:

- March 18 - FIRST OUTDOOR PRACTICE in the park at Washington Blvd. & Allegheny River Blvd. in the East End
- March 25 - LAST INDOOR PRACTICE at the Chinese Church this season, Ceindrech will be marshalling as I will be at Ice Dragon
- April 1 - OUTDOOR PRACTICE in the park at Washington Blvd. & Allegheny River Blvd. in the East End
- April 8 - NO PRACTICE - Easter Sunday
- April 15 - Practice at Byron & Ariella's castle in Wexford, in conjunction with the regional archery muster
- April 22 - Practice in the park at Washington Blvd.
- April 29 - NO YOUTH COMBAT PRACTICE, as no youth marshals are available this weekend

BMDL youth fighting practice will be held on one more Sunday from 2-5pm at the Pittsburgh Chinese Church in the North Hills at 8711 Old Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA15237. Parking: Park in the down-slope lot off of Highland Rd, walk around the side of the building, enter the first door, and walk up to the room on the 3rd floor. Helpful picture at <http://tinyurl.com/72mmqpc> (entrance at the green arrow)

We'll have loaner gear for any new fighters who need it. Remember to bring a water bottle - the fountain on the floor where we practice is not working.

IF YOU NEED YOUTH RATTAN, please let me know. I have 9 ft. staves of youth dimension rattan for \$11/stave. Please let me know BEFORE fighter practice if you want me to bring some for you on Sunday, as I will not be transporting it unless there is a demand.

I hope to see you all on Sundays!

Arianna

## Winners: Cookie Competition at BMDL Twelfth Night!

THL Urho Waltterinen again ran a very successful Cookie Competition, with entries submitted by ten competitors. Each one was v-e-r-y carefully tasted and evaluated by each judge, and the final favorites were selected:

- ❖ King, King of Misrule, Queen of Misrule Choices:  
Lady Megan – Meringue Mushrooms
- ❖ Queen, Prince, Baroness Choices:  
Baroness Ariella – Magic Seven Layer Bars
- ❖ Princess' Choice:  
THL Myfanwy – Lavender Rose Cookies
- ❖ Baron' Choice:  
Mistress Alea – Bacon Chocolate Chip Cookies



Congratulations and thank you to all who participated, and to all who brought cookies for the populace to enjoy!

## A Letter from the Baronial Signet

To Mistress Hildarun Hugelman, seneschal; Their Excellencies, Liam and Constance; and the Officers of the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands does Odriana vander Brugghe, Signet, bid greetings.

Today I wish to bring to your attention the hard work done by the many talented individuals who illuminate and calligraph the scrolls that are given to commemorate the bestowing of a Baronial Award.

Currently, there are eighteen scribes and calligraphers who have volunteered to make scrolls for the Barony. One of those scribes is not a resident of the BMDL, but a resident of Sunderoak who has generously provided blanks to be used for Baronial scrolls and has recently delivered her first Baronial scroll assignment. Those eighteen scribes created 37 scrolls, all of which were delivered on time and all of those scrolls were complete. To give you an idea of the actual effort of these scribes: Assuming that each scroll took an average of 12 hours to complete, the scrolls produced represent a total of 156 hours of work – that’s six and a half days.

In order to recognize the hard work, time, and effort of the scribes of the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands – I ask that their names be read into the official record along with this report. Without their generosity, scrolls would not be created, and an important part of our culture – the creation and distribution of original works of art - would be lost.

The volunteer scribes of the BMDL are:

Aidan ni Leir	Anna Leigh	Kameshima Zentarou Umakai
Alaric MacConnell	Avanell Ravensdottir	Kieran MacRae
Alethea Cowle	Elss von Augsburg	Kris Gilibari
Alexandra dei Campagnella	Gianna di Aurelio	Raven Whitehart
Alexandra of Corofin	Hrefna in heppna	Zhang Ming Li
Alime	Þorgrimsdottir	Isabel Fleuretan

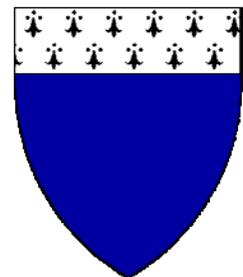
Because I could not attend a few events THL Kameshima Zentarou Umakai, Baroness Alexandra dei Campagnella, and Mistress Gianna di Aurelio stepped in and acted as the Signet of the Day and helped to ensure that everything went smoothly with getting the scrolls to their intended recipients.

I also wish to let the officers know that there is now a Deputy Signet. Madame Isabel Fleuretan has generously volunteered to act in this capacity. At this time her primary duty is to take over the office of Signet in the event that I am not able to execute my duties, however, we are in discussion to expand her responsibilities to best serve the community.

I continue to be awed by the absolute blessing of abundance in all things in the Barony Marche and am humbled by being in such esteemed company. It is with the greatest of respect and true affection I do request these things and appreciate your consideration and time.

Written at Hampton the first of February mmxii.

OVB



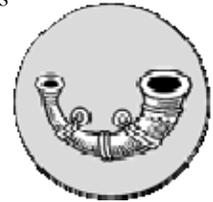
## Thrown Weapons News!!

There will be a Thrown Weapons War point at Pennsic this year. The Kingdom Thrown Weapons Champion has challenged us to join in solidifying the Aethelmearc Thrown Weapons army.

“This Pennsic is an extremely exciting for the Thrown Weapons community. At Pennsic this year there will be a Thrown Weapons War Point! The War Point is for a champions tourney. They are still hammering out exactly what it will look like, but this is huge for the community! (So if you see Their Highnesses - thank them!)”.....Gytha

I wholeheartedly agree with General Gytha, Kingdom Thrown Weapons Marshal!

This year marks a watershed moment, not just for our Glorious Æthelmearc, but specifically for Thrown Weapons. For those who have not heard, the past month has had a huge effect on our community. Besides being part of the first 300 year where Mother Æthelmearc stands at war with enemies to both sides. Besides Thrown weapons FINALLY being allowed to contribute to such a great overwhelming victory (and it will be a victory), but also Their Royal Majesties Isenwulf and Rosalinda have ensured our growth by granting us (Thrown Weapons) our own grant level award! That’s right! From this moment on The Order of the White Horn is strictly Thrown Weapons!



So it with great pride that I offer the Hael Thrown Weapons Team to lead the ‘charge’ on the range and hereby challenge all other groups to join us on the range at Pennsic with a badge unifying your group and thus solidifying the Æthelmearc Thrown Weapons Army.

This is finally your chance to prove Thrown Weapons is a valued part of this Kingdom and you are a valued part of the war effort.

Yours In Service,

THL Augusto Giuseppe da San Donato  
Kingdom Thrown Weapons Champion and Captain,  
Hael Thrown Weapons Team



## Barony Birthday Bash & ARC Teaser

The Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands invites one and all to help celebrate the epic battle to find the next Queen's Rapier Champion and...our Baronial Birthday! In store is a day filled with fencing, fighting, throwing, and painting capped off with a sumptuous Scottish feast in honor of our Scottish Baron. Bring your best displays of pageantry to decorate the fields in a glorious array fit for a Queen!

Join us on May 26, 2012 at The Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills, 2359 West Ingomar Rd., Franklin Park, PA 15237. Site opens at 9am and closes at 9pm.

Fighters, prepare yourselves for a 3 on 3 tournament and choose a Laurel or Pelican team sponsor to provide a favor for each combatant. Artisans, please bring your finest to enter the A&S Competition. Let our glorious barony provide the inspiration for your entry! Throwers, look forward to bringing your best for our birthday inspired range. Need a break from the martial fun? Come inside and make yourself a BMDL belt favor to wear with pride.

Questions can be directed to the autocrat for the day, Lady Isabel Fleuretan (Jackie Lockhart) at [isabellemaurienne@gmail.com](mailto:isabellemaurienne@gmail.com) or 724-448-3269.

## Awards Announcement

Unto the populace do Liam and Constance send greetings:

Her Excellency and I find ourselves at a loss! In the recent past, we had a steady stream of award recommendations coming in. It now seems that the well has run dry! So we ask you all: Who in this Barony have you seen that is doing good works? Who do you believe deserves an award for their dedication to the Barony, the Canton of Steltonwald, and to the Society?

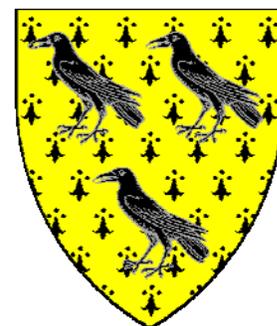
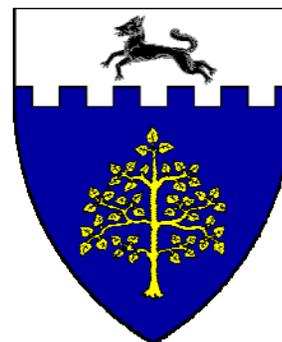
We make it very easy to submit award recommendations to us:

- ❖ First: Our Website, where there is an easy form to fill out:  
<http://bmdlbandb.webs.com/awardrecommendation.htm>
- ❖ Second: You can simply e-mail us: LiamandConstance (at) Gmail.com.
- ❖ Third: If you are unsure what award to give, you can either refer to our website:  
<http://bmdlbandb.webs.com/baronialawards.htm>, or simply write us and tell us of the person's work and we will make a determination on which award is best.

We thank you in advance for your help in recognizing members of the society.

In service to the Crown,

Baron Liam MacanTsoir (SCA)  
Baron of the Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands  
Dean of Aethelmearc War College  
In Omnia Paratus



## Words from Her Excellency on A&S

The festivities of Baronial 12th Night were joyous and filled with many delights. Among those grand celebrations was the first Arts and Sciences championship the Barony has had in many years. I would like to thank all those that participated for sharing their amazing talents with us:

- ❖ Ishiyama Gen'tarou Yori'ie who painstakingly created Japanese braiding demonstrating 12 different styles of 8-strand braids, showing the variety of patterns and profiles.
- ❖ THL Myfanway ferch Rhiannon created a sugar paste subtlety copied from a 14th C bronze and enamel knight's medallion in the British Museum that looked too beautiful to even consider eating!
- ❖ Lady Aibell ingen Chernachain formed intricate leather masks based on *Commedia dell'arte*, and she also helped the members of I Genesisii to make their own masks.
- ❖ Dona Sasha Gray crafted two beautifully and detailed scrolls with the calligraphy and illumination from the Heures l'usage de Reims, France c. 1470.
- ❖ Mistress Irene von Schmetterling entered a Hungarian Szur felted wool coat, made for the elevation of a friend in Trimaris. It was so intricately done it brought oohs and aahs to everyone that looked upon it.

- ❖ Last but not absolutely not least, Jorundr hinn Rotin made a round of Gouda cheese which was as delicious as it was impressive. He had also made this cheese and a Muenster for both elevations happening at 12th Night.

Though every single entry was worthy of being our A&S champion, in the end we had to choose one. The winner was Dona Sasha Gray for her illumination and calligraphy.

Thank you to all who participated and a special thank you to Baron Will Langdon of Greymorne who set up the competition and helped us judge all the amazing entrants.

Baroness Constance  
Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

## Regarding Silva Vulcani A&S

I just wanted to let you all know that we've set up a few Sunday dates for general A&S practice. We intend to have individual demos on some Tuesdays this semester, but the Sundays are generally for practicing what we feel like and for trying new things.

A&S Practices run from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm in Carter Hall. If you look at the map, here <http://www.calu.edu/parking/files/fall-2011-parking-map.pdf> you will see that Carter Hall is near the number 20. I will attempt to get parking passes, and thus would really appreciate knowing ahead of time if you might come! That way I know what to ask for. \*grins\*.

For directions, type 250 University Avenue, California PA 15417 into your GPS or Google maps. Or contact me and I will try and give you good directions.

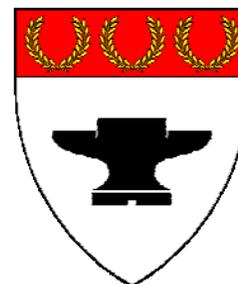
The dates:

- ❖ April 8th
- ❖ April 22nd

The ladies and gentlemen of Silva Vulcani are interested in many things. We have enough space for dancing, tables for scribal, and more. We have borrowed the kitchen area so can heat up some tea or even teach something cooking related. If you have ideas for something you'd like to do, please...email away. I'll send the information on to our A&S officer. You can also just come down and hang out...this is very informal.

My email is gabbywinter @ gmail dot com.

YIS,  
Gabby



## **BMDL Court Report - Steltonwald Twelfth Night**

Here begins the court report of Liam and Constance, Baron and Baroness of the Debatable Lands at Steltonwald Twelfth Night, January 28, A.S.46. Lord Jorundr hinn Rotinn, reporting herald.

Their Excellencies called Elizabeth Wilbur to attend Them. Their Excellencies commented on Elizabeth's skill in archery, being named one of Their champions, as well as her willingness to help out in kitchens at many events. For this they named her a member of the Order of the Purple Comet. Scroll illumination by Canicdricca verch Elider and calligraphy by Kieran MacRae.

Then Their Excellencies called upon Lord Marcus du Coer; His Excellency noted that He felt that there should be another individual present at this time, and thus THLord Fintan na Coiled was called to attend Their Excellencies. Her Excellency then remarked that there was yet another whose presence was required, and so Mistress Gianna di Aurelio was also called to attend Their Excellencies. Their Excellencies talked of the service of these individuals, and how they as a family contributed much to both the Barony and the Kingdom, and so made them all members of the Order of the Gold Comet, Marcus with a scroll by Odriana vander Brugghe, Fintan's scroll illuminated by Alaric MacConal and calligraphed by Kieran MacRae, and Gianna's scroll also by Odriana vander Brugghe.

Their Excellencies asked to be attended by Countess Aidan ni Lear. His Excellency remarked upon the long service that Aidan has done, reaching back to His second event, where He remembers seeing Aidan working at War Practice. He also remarked on her recent service where she has cooked many feasts, and has served her Barony as Signet. For these and many more things, Their Excellencies were pleased to induct Countess Aidan into the Order of the Gold Comet. Scroll illumination by Isabel Fleuretan and calligraphy by Kameshima Zentarou Umakai.

Next Their Excellencies were pleased to be attended by Mistress Bonita of Steltonwald. His Excellency remarked once again that Bonita's service has been long indeed, reaching back to His second event, where He remembers seeing Bonita working at War Practice troll. He remarked on her continued service as troll as well as her assistance in kitchens, for which Mistress Bonita was inducted into the Order of the Gold Comet. Scroll illumination by Isabel Fleuretan and calligraphy by Kameshima Zentarou Umakai.

Their Excellencies would then have the attendance of THLady Ysabell Graver. His Excellency remarked that He was starting to sound like a broken record (whatever this strange device may be), yet Ysabell was working in troll at His second event (which as we all know was War Practice), in addition to this, Ysabell has helped in many kitchens, and is currently the exchequer of Steltonwald. This is why Ysabell was added to the rolls of the Order of the Gold Comet. Scroll illuminated by Alaric MacConal and calligraphed by Kieran MacRae. Their Excellencies bade Ysabell stay but a moment longer as They had further business with her, and also with Lady Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill. Their Excellencies remarked on Steltonwald being part of the Debatable Lands, and of the generosity of the Canton to offer their winter practice site for archery to the shooters of the Debatable Lands, and so as a Twelfth Night gift, the officers of the Barony decided to pay some of the rental of the practice site, and so delivered the check to the Seneschale and Exchequer of Steltonwald.

Their Excellencies then announced that it was a certain Lady's birthday this day, and so called THLady Cailin of the Debatable Lands to appear before them, and bade the populace to join her in singing Happy Birthday.

Their Excellencies invited the autocrats of the event, Mistress Alessandra d'Avignon and Lady Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill to appear before them. The autocrats thanked all who attended the event, which was the largest that the event had ever been, and then announced that the time for choosing of the King and Queen of Misrule had arrived, and asked all attendees to take a token.

Her Excellency wished that the attendees of the event would have fun, party hardy, and drink safely.

Court Suspended.

Their Excellencies wished to be attended by Lord Roland of Foxes Glen. They remarked on how long They had been searching for him, which went back to Their investiture, and having now gotten Their hands on him, They wished to have some words with him. They talked of how long they had known Roland, since he was but a child in fact, and that he had been consistently serving at War Practice, as general help and golf cart driver. For all this They named him a member of the Order of the Gold Comet. Scroll illuminated by Zoe Tager with calligraphy by Kieran MacRae.

Court Closed.

## Arts and Sciences Announcement for the Coronation of Prince Andreas Morgana and Princess Kallista Morgunoba

At the Twelfth Night Celebration of BMDL, TRH stated that they wish to have an arts and sciences display at every event they attend this year. TRH have made it known that they will be choosing one entry from each of these displays to be shown in the Arts and Sciences barn at Pennsic this year.

The arts and sciences display for coronation will be: BOUNTY OF THE FOREST.

Well, just what does that mean? you may ask. We are looking for anything made from something found in the forest (wooden bowls to venison stew) or representative of anything found in the forest (avian theme metal cloak clasps to acanthus motif scrolls).

To the arts and sciences officers of the dominion, baronies, and shires of Æthelmearc, I offer table space for the display. Please encourage your group to participate. If your group will be bringing many items for the display, please contact me to reserve a table (or more) for your group.

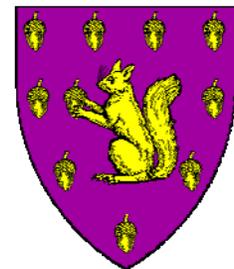
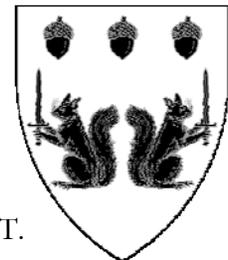
I look forward to the great and numerous works of Æthelmearc's artisans.

Questions & comments may be sent to:

Ylaire Sainte Claire

304.951.5694

[YlaireSainteClaire@yahoo.com](mailto:YlaireSainteClaire@yahoo.com)



## Three Messages from the Board of Directors:

### Opt for E-Newsletters

Do you know if your current kingdom newsletter is in your garage with the armor, in the glove compartment with the site tokens, or in your feast basket? Sign up by January 31, 2012, to be one of the first to go solely electronic and have your kingdom newsletter as close as your computer! Go to <http://www.sca.org/members/optout.cgi> to opt out of paper newsletters, no matter where you are in your membership cycle, and receive your newsletters electronically at <http://newsletter.sca.org/> beginning with the March 2012 issue.

If you choose the electronic-only option, you will have access to all kingdom newsletters, not just your kingdom of residence. Although no refunds or discounts for either production or postage costs will be forthcoming, we do thank you profusely!

The adoption of e-newsletters is a part of the long-term solution to rising costs. Signing up now helps save the Society money immediately. All Sustaining and International members will have access to the newsletter website, whether or not they currently receive paper copies, so discontinuing paper newsletters is not a requirement for having access to the online versions. To continue receiving paper newsletters through the balance of your current membership cycle, no action is needed.

Please freely cross-post this announcement. If you have questions, please check out the updated FAQ at <http://sca.org/BOD/announcements/E-NewsFAQs.pdf> or contact the Publications Manager at [pubmanager@sca.org](mailto:pubmanager@sca.org). If you have comments, please e-mail them to [comments@sca.org](mailto:comments@sca.org).

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to:

SCA Inc.  
Box 360789  
Milpitas, CA 95036

### Same-Gender Consort Proposal -- Please Read

At the October 2011 Board meeting, in response to a formal request from An Tir and a substantial amount of related correspondence from our membership, we committed to crafting proposed language to allow same-gender consorts at the Crown/Coronet List level to send out for commentary. This topic is clearly emotionally charged for many people, whether for or against the change. We do not have clear direction from a majority of participants based on either the Census data or the correspondence received to date.

The Board therefore solicits commentary on the following potential language change to its governing documents in hopes of eliciting commentary and direction from the membership

Current language:

Each competitor in a Royal Lists must be fighting for a consort of the opposite gender.

Proposed Language:

Each competitor in a Royal Lists must be fighting for a consort of the opposite gender. Crowns may permit entry into the Royal Lists by same-gender couples.

Comments on this proposal are due by April 1, 2012.

Please use the title "Same-Gender Consort Proposal" in the Subject line.

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to: SCA Inc. Box 360789 Milpitas, CA 95036. You may also email [comments@lists.sca.org](mailto:comments@lists.sca.org).

## Potential New Peerage Exploratory Committee

Based on input from the Census results, as well as an examination of the breadth and depth of participation across the Known World and the unique subculture, ethos, and goals it has developed within the Society, the Board of Directors intends to explore the possibility of creating a new peerage to recognize as peers those participants who meet the general requirements for a patent of arms and who demonstrate prowess in Rapier / Cut and Thrust Combat. As this would potentially be the first additional peerage for the SCA in many decades, input and feedback from the Known World throughout the exploratory process is essential.

The SCA's Board of Directors is seeking individuals interested in participating in an Exploratory Committee focused on developing a set of options for potential implementation of a new peerage for Rapier Combat and/or Cut and Thrust Combat. This committee would be responsible for developing sets of recommendations for heraldry, regalia, corpora changes and identifying and addressing associated issues around creating and implementing such a peerage, and would consist of representatives of the following categories:

- ❖ One recognized Rapier Fencer or Rapier Fencing Official
- ❖ One recognized C&T Fencer or C&T Fencing Official
- ❖ One Fencing Laurel (recognized for Fence)
- ❖ One Fencing Pelican (recognized for Fence)
- ❖ One Fencing Knight/Master at Arms
- ❖ Two Heralds
- ❖ One Non-Fencing Pelican
- ❖ One Non-Fencing Laurel
- ❖ One Non-Fencing Knight/Master at Arms
- ❖ One Lady of the Rose
- ❖ One expert in Corpora (e.g., Seneschal)
- ❖ One SCA Archivist or Historian

Please submit Letters of Intent by July 1st, 2012 and identify to which of the above categories you are specifically applying. Those individuals who have expressed interest already via the Comments email address or the Directors email address will be considered.

Hard copies of resumes (both professional and SCA related, including offices held and honors) must be sent to the attention of The Board of Directors, SCA, Inc., P.O. Box 360789, Milpitas, CA 95036-0789. Electronic courtesy copies should also be sent to [peerageexploratorycommittee@sca.org](mailto:peerageexploratorycommittee@sca.org) and [resumes@sca.org](mailto:resumes@sca.org).

The exploration into a new stand-alone Peerage for Rapier / Cut and Thrust is driven not only by what the Board of Directors perceives to be a very high level of support across the organization, but also because it expresses a defined and specific culture that is unique and separate from chivalric armoured combat, other martial arts, and the unique and separate cultures of the Arts and Sciences and Service communities.

The results of this Exploratory Committee, along with comments from the populace about those results, will then be reviewed by a much larger and more representative Review Committee. The Review Committee will be established later by the Board of Directors and will be comprised of representatives selected by the relevant groups and organizations within and across the Society (e.g., the Kingdoms, Peerages, Heralds, Seneschals, Grand Council, Rapier Fencing Community, and C&T Fencing Community) as a final input into the process. The Board will be working with those organizations to request their nominees following the formation of the Exploratory Committee. The Board welcomes all commentary throughout this exploratory process from the populace at large. Please send commentary to [Comments@sca.org](mailto:Comments@sca.org) and include Potential New Peerage in the subject line.

THE CANTON OF STELTONWALD OFFICERS AND MEETINGS

(Beaver County)

**Seneschal**

Lady Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill  
Muirgheall at gmail.com

**Knight Marshal**

Lord Marcus du Coeur  
marcussmoot.jr at gmail.com

**Minister of Arts and Sciences**

Maestro Jacopo di Niccolo  
joc4a\_s at yahoo.com

**Exchequer**

THLady Ysabell Graver

**Captain of Archers**

Maestro Jacopo di Niccolo  
captainofarchers at steltonwald.org

**Castelain**

Lord Bóvi Farmaðr  
david\_black42 at yahoo.com

**Web Mistress**

Maestra Gianna di Aurelio  
giannadiaurelio at comcast.net

**Canton Meeting**

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

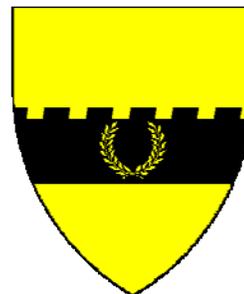
**Archery**

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

**Fight practice**

Every Tuesday, 5 pm, at the Hopewell  
Township Community Park, Pavilion 4  
Contact THL Robert Marston  
kardasl+@pitt.edu

<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 Andrerre

**CMU Rooms Reservationist**

Margaret Makafee

Elsa 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.

March Issue AS XLVII (2012) Vol. 34. No. 10

**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 online 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/>.

College student? Join the [SCA-medieval-interest@googlegroups.com](mailto:SCA-medieval-interest@googlegroups.com) mailing list for announcements of campus and local activities.

Need a ride? <http://groups.google.com/group/bmdlrideboard> is the Google group for ride sharing to events and practices.