

# The Allthing



September as xliii (2008)

**Their Excellencies of the Debatable Lands**

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

**Their Royal Majesties of Æthelmearc**

Sir Khalek Shurrage Od &  
Branwyn Ferch Gwythir  
ae.king@aethelmearc.org  
ae.queen@aethelmearc.org

**Their Royal Highnesses of Æthelmearc**

Sir Christopher Rawlins & Morgen of Rye  
ae.prince@aethelmearc.org  
ae.princess@aethelmearc.org

**OFFICERS OF THE  
DEBATABLE LANDS****Seneschal (03/10)**

Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen  
seneschal@debatablelands.org

**Comet Pursuivant (01/09)**

Brandubh Ó Donnghaile  
herald@debatablelands.org,

**Knight Marshal (06/09)**

Bors of Rouen  
knightmarshal@debatablelands.org  
Deputy for Youth Combat: Zoe Akropolitina

**Exchequer (07/09)**

Hildarun Hugelman  
exchequer@debatablelands.org

**Chronicler (03/09)**

Anna Malakina (Ann Kopchik)  
chronicler@debatablelands.org, 412-366-5775

**Minister of A&S (01/09)**

Margretha La Fauvelle (Margarita T. Rankin)  
ansminister@debatablelands.org,

**Chirurgeon Liaison (11/09)**

Liam Mac an'Tsaoir  
chirurgeon@debatablelands.org

**Minister of Lists (11/08)**

Zianna beguy urdina de Zabaleta  
lists@debatablelands.org,

**Marshal of Fence (11/08)**

Charles de Cayeux  
fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org

**Captain of Archers (09/10)**

Urho Waltterinen  
archerymarshal@debatablelands.org

**Chatelaine (09/08)**

Helewyse Spynner  
chatelaine@debatablelands.org,

**Minister of Youth**

Vacant. Please see Seneschal if interested.

**Cour d'Or Seneschal (11/09)**

Rosalia Iuliana Andrer

**Steltonwald Seneschal**

Madelienne de L'Este

Cover Art by S. Lovechild

Interior art by S. Lovechild, Margretha La Fauvelle, and Fredeburg von Katzenellenbogen



## Contents

|                                |        |                                               |
|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Baronial Contact.....          | Covers | Incorporating Heraldry into Period            |
| Letters from the Officers..... | 2      | Illumination Styles..... 24                   |
| Baronial Court Report.....     | 5      | English Land Tenure: Customary Rents.....28   |
| Baronial Policies.....         | 7      | Calendar.....30                               |
| Event Bid Policies.....        | 12     | Baronial Workshops, Meetings, Positions... 32 |
| Web Minister Policies.....     | 13     | Steltonwald Contacts.....33                   |
| Events.....                    | 15     | Cour d'Or Contacts..... 33                    |

The Althing's submissions deadline is the first Wednesday of the month – contact Anna at [chronicler@debatablelands.org](mailto:chronicler@debatablelands.org).

## 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: <http://www.debatablelands.org/>. Paper copies are available for those without Internet access. Please contact the chronicler with an address for a paper copy to be mailed to you.

## Submissions

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

## Baronial Discussion E-List

Need more info on an upcoming baronial event? Just want to chat? To subscribe to the barony discussion list, send mail to [majordomo@lists.andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:majordomo@lists.andrew.cmu.edu) with the line subscribe sca-bmdl in the body. You will be asked to confirm your subscription; follow the instructions in the confirmation letter.



## from the Baron and Baroness

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

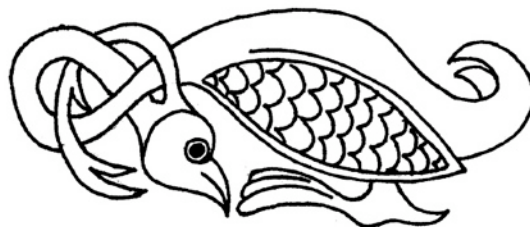
As Pennsic begins to fade into memory, we look back longingly on our days at the War. We wish to give our most heartfelt thanks to those who helped us with the Baronial encampment, and helped to keep us on track with our Baronial responsibilities at War. We were so very pleased with the artistic performances we witnessed, both by our renown groups and by individuals from our Barony. The Baronial Reception was a particular treat for us, and we were gladdened to see it so well captured in Darter's photos. (If you haven't seen them yet, take a moment to Google "Darter photos Pennsic 37").

The new school year is upon us, and we wish to focus our efforts once again on recruitment of new members. We extend our thanks to those who helped with the recruitment drives at the Cour d'Or campuses. Let us all consider how our guilds and groups might be made more open to college students and others who might be interested but are unsure how to find us or approach us. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

The coming months are rich with SCA events. We look forward to seeing you at the coronation of Christopher and Morgen, at the Crown tournament to select their heirs, at Steltonwald's Archers to the Wald event, at the Harvest Raids, at the Agincourt event (at which most of our Baronial champions will be selected), and at the Amethyst tourney, which will bring many of Æthelmearc's best fighters to the Debatable Lands for a thrilling heraldic tournament sure to interest combatants and spectators alike.

We remain in Service to you and to the Dream,  
Byron and Ariella

Written this third day after the feast of St. Gregory, AS XLIII



## from the Seneschal

Greetings from your Seneschal!

I hope everyone who had a chance to go to Pennsic had a great time. A number of Barony members received well deserved recognition (including the Baron and Baroness). Congratulations to all. I certainly saw a lot of people having a good time. We also have a number of events coming up this fall, so there's still plenty to do even if you don't have last minute Pennsic projects to finish.

As you are aware, we have completed an overhaul of the Baronial Policies. Most changes were slight changes of wording. The main change is the wording of the timing of elections to allow for a change in Barony meetings. We are changing the Barony meeting format to provide a more social setting instead of repeating business to a dwindling number of attendees. As such Barony meeting will occur bimonthly. There will be no October Barony meeting. The November meeting will likely be combined with dancing, but details have not been solidified. Please look for upcoming announcements on the topic.

Also, there are a number of officers looking for replacements or deputies interested in taking the office within the next year. If any baronial offices or positions sound interesting, please talk with the officers.

YIS,  
Fredeburg

## from the Comet Pursuivant

Greetings from Brandubh, Comet Pursuivant,

Has it been nearly 4 years already? They pass so quickly when you're having fun, but alas they have passed and my term of office expires in January. I am calling for letters for my successor to be sent to myself, and the Seneschale, Lady Fredeburg. I would encourage anyone who is interested to meet with me and Their Excellencies so as to get better acquainted with the duties of the office. It has been a pleasure to serve.

Sincerely,  
Brandubh O'Donnghaile

## from the Chronicler

Greetings!

Once again, I come in seek of cover art and a deputy. Please contact me with regard to either.

Also, Margretha La Fauvelle is coordinating the A&S issue of the Althing, and she is seeking articles, art, stories, and poetry. Please contact her if you would like to submit or help with th A&S issue.

In service,  
Anna Malakina

## from the Minister of Lists

Greetings Friends,

As The Barony Marches Minister of Lists I am looking for a replacement. I will gladly help them learn the basics and help write reports as necessary. This is a fairly simple duty and gives you the best seat in the house for tournaments.

Please feel free to contact me or send a letter to our Seneschal if you are interested.

Alonzio

## from the Debatable Consort

After serving as the leader of the Consort for many years, Roana Devreux is pleased to be handing the reins to Margretha la Fauvelle. Her energy and expertise will serve us well. Thank you, Margretha!



## Baronial Court Report

The Report of the Court of Their Excellencies Byron and Ariella, Baron and Baroness of the Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands, Court held Sunday evening the 3rd day of August as 43 during the Baronial Reception held at the Aethelmearc Royal Camp at the 37th occurrence of the Great Pennsic War, reporting Herald Brandubh O'Donnghaile with vocal assistance of Pavel Dudoladov.

Their Excellencies opened court with a moment of silence to remember all those whose friends and families had passed away during the past year since the last War. They did also ask that our thoughts and prayers go out to those among who could not be at the war due to health concerns.

The Baron and Baroness had heard a tale that Master Gwilym o'r Tair Afon had come into possession of a relic of sorts that he needed gift. They did invite him forward and he asked that he be joined by Lord Charles de Cayeux. Master Gwilym did then produce a tabard which he had held for many a year, and told its tale. This tabard was given to him decades ago when he was the Regional Fencing Marshal for the Kingdom of the East, in fact he was the first Fencing Marshal ever in this region. He then gifted the tabard to Lord Charles as he is the current Marshal of Fence in the Barony-Marche.

Byron and Ariella next called for the attendance of Their Heavy Weapons Champion Lord Gabriel Hawkes. They said to him that a fighter in his station requires a sturdy blade to uphold the peace of the Barony and with which to protect the personage of Her Excellency, and they did invest him with new regalia in the form of a sword that he and the future champions might hold it in defense of our fair lands.

Their Excellencies invited Jake of the Debatable Lands before them. They spoke kind words to Jake thanking him for all of his service to the Baronial camp at Pennsic, and Pennsics past, for his valiant skills at Youth Combat, and for further teacher youth combat to others who wished to learn. So They awarded him a Comet Purpure on this day, Scroll by THLady Allesandra d'Avignon.

The Baron and Baroness next invited Lady Margretha La Fauvelle to enter Their Court. They spoke many words of praise of the artistic accomplishments of this fine lady, her participation in the Debatable Choir and Debatable Consort, for playing music for courts and acting as the Arts and Sciences Minister of the Barony and so they awarded her a Comet Azure-Argent for these endeavors, Scroll by Hrefna Fruthekona.

Lady Rosalia Iuliana Andere was next called before Their Excellencies. They noted that her prowess on the field of combat had become well known, she made her Knight proud by venturing to far off lands to gain glory for the Barony, and They awarded her a Comet Gules for all her accomplishments of the field of valor, Scroll by THLady Allesandra d'Avignon.

Their Excellencies did spy in the back of the crowd a familiar face in Her Excellency Ardis Bluemantel, They invited her to come closer and reminded her that they had not forgotten about her gift to Them at the last Pennsic War. However They wished to address a different matter this day, They reminded her that she had often been spied into the kitchens of late, and that her skills there in were well known to many in the barony, so well known that Their Excellencies had no choice but to award her a Comet Or, Scroll by Lady Lara Sukhadrev.

The Baron and Baroness being struck by an odd mood then demanded the presence of the Comedia Del Arte Troupe I Genesisii. They noted that the troupe had been a landmark of entertainment at the War and oft times at the local events within the barony as the Greatest Comedia Troupe in the World. I Genesisii had rightfully earned a reputation of putting on a smart funny and period show and so They rewarded the Troupe I Genesisii with the Award of the Comet Azure-Argent and did further confirm the award upon its members THLord Brandubh O'Donnghaile, THLord Cadell Blaidd du, Lady Catriona MacKinnon, Lord Charles de Cayeux, Lord Clement de Warrewyk, Lord Clewin Kupferhelbelinc, THLady Hilderun Hugelmann, Lord Pavel Dudoladov, and THLady Roana d'Evreux, Scroll by the Hand of Countess Aidan ni Lier.

Bonhethwyr Cinnion map Liuelin map Higuel had previously begged for a moment of time in Their Excellencies' court and They invited him forward at this time to take it. Lord Cinnion proclaimed himself to have a reputation as a practical joker, but what he had to say today was no laughing matter. He asked if Lady Caitriona inghean ui Bhraonain would join him before all assembled. He then dropped to one knee and produced a ring which he explained was a hole in his heart which he would most fervently wish her to fill as his wife. Lady Cat through her tears did reply that yes she would marry him.

The Baron and Baroness then looked upon the crowd and saw that it was good, they thanked all those who had worked so hard to put on the reception, the Cooks, the brewers, the set up crew, the clean up crew and many others for without them the party would not have happened.

There being no further business before Them, the Court of Their Excellencies was closed.

## Updated Baronial Policies

The following are the updated version of the Baronial policies.

### **BARONY-MARCHE OF THE DEBATABLE LANDS POLICIES**

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 subsidiary groups, the Captain of Archers, the Marshal of Fence, and the Chirurgeon Liaison. 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, 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

## The Althing

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 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 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.

### 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, 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 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.

#### 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 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 acceptable as 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. 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. 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. 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.

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

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 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 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 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.

## Debatable Lands Web Minister Policies

The following is provided as a statement of the Web Site editor's current practices. Your comments and suggestions are of course encouraged.

Clemente de Warrewyk

### Debatable Lands Website Editorial Policy

#### General Objectives

The Debatable Land website has three primary objectives, in approximate descending order of priority:

- To provide a means for people outside the SCA looking for information on the Pittsburgh group to find it.
- To provide a means for people inside the SCA but outside the Barony to find out potentially time-sensitive information on Debatable Lands events they might want to attend.
- To provide a means for disseminating time-sensitive information to local SCA members, as a supplement to the monthly newsletter the Althing.

Anything outside of those categories will be less of a priority, and may get passed over altogether to avoid diluting the site's effectiveness at these three goals.

Along those lines, and in answer to a frequently-asked question, the Debatable Lands website will not make an effort to provide an omnibus portal to the many medieval resources that are online; there are other sites with the dedicated maintenance resources to do a far better job.

Similarly, the Debatable Lands website does not accept commercial advertising.

### Website Updates

Update requests are to be submitted to the webminister either by email or by handwritten request. No content will be updated without express request except in the case of grammatical, spelling, or key error. Updates will be processed as soon as practical after receipt. However, this may take up to a week in some cases. All emergency requests must also be followed up with a message to the BMDL mailing list by the requestor.

### Event Announcement Editorial Policy

I encourage event organizers to provide online event information for me to link to the event listing. If event organizers email me the text of an announcement, I will be glad to format and host it at this server. I am equally willing to link to event announcements at other sites, if preferred.

I also am happy to assist event organizers who wish to put information on line beyond the newsletter announcement, such as competition rules, class schedules, menus, etc. I particularly encourage and am willing to assist with using the web site to broadcast information such as remaining reservation counts that can not be kept effectively up to date by newsletter.

Event announcements will be kept online until the month following the event to allow people to find contact information for lost-and-found, etc.

### Design Considerations

The emphasis of the website will be on providing rich content and accessibility, with formatting chosen to accent the content as unobtrusively as possible. All pages may be tested against commonly-available releases of Netscape, Explorer, and Lynx, and must not fail catastrophically in any of those environments.

This is for four reasons:

- Per the site's mandate: to provide useful information, not to showcase the maintainer's clever HTML/Javascript/Java skills.
- To support a large and varied audience by avoiding reliance on features that are exclusive to one browser.
- To increase usability by limiting download time per page through simple HTML and limited graphics.
- To support adaptive solutions for people with impaired vision in cases where easily adapted design alternatives are available.

Per SCA Inc. policy, this site is designed with attention to the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

#### Email, Privacy, Intellectual Property Rights

The Debatable Lands website editor collects various aggregate site traffic statistics for the website, which are used to gauge which parts of the site are getting particular attention. These measures do not include individually-identifying information. The Debatable Lands website editor does not collect personal information of any sort on the site's individual users.

The info@debatablelands.org mailing address is forwarded to the Baronial Chatelaine, who will forward messages on to the appropriate contact. Current practice is that the website editor responds to site-specific concerns and the seneschal responds to people seeking information on the local group. Mail received may be stored by the appropriate officer per policies regarding correspondence, but we do not use it to create mailing lists nor will it be distributed to a third party for such purposes.

Per stated policy of the SCA Inc. No modern personal information will be published on this site except with the written permission, minimally by email, of the person(s) identified. It is my practice to keep personally identifiable information on this website to a minimum. However, I will list modern name, email, phone, even home address for officers or event contacts at their request, but caution you to consider the wide audience and the common practice of "mining" web pages for junk email lists in deciding what you would like me to publish.



## Events

### Summer's End

September 13, 2008

Canton of Beau Fleuve

The Canton of Beau Fleuve would like to invite the populace of the Glorious Kingdom of Æthelmearc to celebrate the end of the hot days of summer. Join us on September 13, 2008, at St. John LaSalle Church, 8469 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304. The site opens at 9 am and closes at 8 pm. The event is discreetly damp, has plenty of parking and is handicapped accessible. Summer's End is sponsored by the Spanish Inquisition.

The Inquisition presents the following activities: fighting, fencing, thrown weapons, youth fighting, and youth fencing. There is a quest for El Dorado. Come! Join the expedition! Celebrate the Glories of Spain, the richness of her colonies, and the treasures captured by her conquistadors.

There will be a luncheon sideboard prepared by Lord Wilhelm Smydle, which is included in the site fee. A splendid feast will be prepared by Lord Constantine of Blackhart (Please contact him for dietary concerns. There are only 60 seats available. Open flames are permitted at feast.

The autocrat for the event is Lady Magdalena Binder. The reservations clerk is Mistress Cori Ghora.

**Site fees are as follows:** day \$9, on board \$17. Children ages 6-17 are half price and 5 and younger are free. There is a \$3 non-member surcharge, so please be prepared to show proof of membership. Please make checks payable to: SCA Inc.-Beau Fleuve.

For contact information, please see [http://www.geocities.com/thecoribird/Canton\\_of\\_Beau\\_Fleuve.html](http://www.geocities.com/thecoribird/Canton_of_Beau_Fleuve.html).

**Directions:** From Buffalo, NY, take the I-190 North over the Grand Island bridges. Exit at Buffalo Ave. Turn right and follow Buffalo Avenue to the Church. It will be on the right.



## **Æthelmearc Coronation**

**September 20, 2008**

**Shire of Heronter (Randolph, NY)**

The Coronation of Christopher Rawlyns and Morgen of Rye will be held on September 20th in the Shire of Heronter. In addition to the Last Court of Khalek and Branwyn, and the Coronation and First Court of Christopher and Morgen, the day will include tournaments to select the new Rapier Champion, Youth Combat Champion, and a competition at which Christopher and Morgen will select their Arts and Sciences Champion.

We are thrilled to have access to Camp Timbercrest (11169 Moore Rd, Randolph, NY 14772). The site will open at 9:00am Saturday morning and close at 10:00pm. The site is very DRY and open flames are permitted during feast. There is also no smoking on site. No pets are allowed; service animals must be leashed.

The event steward and reservation clerk is Baroness Margerite. All questions can be sent to her.

Please include the modern names of everyone for whom you are sending a reservation. Please note if your child/babe in arms will require their own seat at feast. If you require confirmation of your reservation please include an email address or a self-addressed envelope. All checks should be made payable to SCA Inc. Shire of Heronter. As always, the only good reservation is a paid reservation, and the reservation deadline is September 10th 2008.

The head cook for Coronation is Baroness Katja. Any dietary accommodations can be communicated to her. Please note that any special dietary accommodations should be arranged with her no later than September 10, 2008.

Merchants are always welcome, all merchants will be outside, so please be prepared with your own shade and furniture. There is no fee, but merchants are encouraged to provide an item for our silent auction. Please contact the Event Steward with any questions.

For contact information, please see <http://www.heronter.org/Events/coronation2008.html>.

### Fees are as follows:

Site Fee: \$10.00 Adults

Feast Fee: \$8.00 Adults

Children (5-12) are half price, those younger than 5 are free (but please list them in your reservation should they require a seat at feast so we may reserve one for them). Students age 12-17 will be discounted to half price for the day fee, but knowing how many of them eat, we must ask the full adult feast price for those who wish to stay for dinner. The site fee includes a sideboard lunch. A family cap will be set at \$60.00 (2 adults and their children).

**Directions:** Take Route 86 East, Take Randolph Exit #16. Turn left onto Main Street and take Main Street approximately 2 miles. Turn right on Coldspring Road. This is the 2nd right after railroad tracks by Moonrise Farms.

After Turning onto Coldspring Road: Take Coldspring Road until you reach a stop sign (you will be driving parallel to Route 86 on your right). At the stop sign continue straight (do not turn left and follow Coldspring Rd any longer). Follow Corbett Hill Road approx. 2 miles and turn left onto Moore Road; follow signs to camp.



### 13th Annual Siege of Glengary

September 26-28, 2008

Shire of Sylvan Glen (Hedgesville, WV)

Last summer was a time of great hope in the Shire of Sylvan Glen. After months of intense negotiations and diplomacy, we had reached an agreement with our long time enemy, the Barony of Highland Foorde in the Kingdom of Atlantia. We entered into an alliance with our former nemesis with the goal of ridding our respective lands of the bold and brash brigands menacing our highways and byways.

In the fall, we marched onto the field of battle to face the hooligans who had been cornered. We felt that victory was close at hand only to find bitter betrayal as the Barony of Highland Foorde and those fighting with her turned on us and joined forces with the bandits in an audacious ploy to regain the Sylver Apple of Sylvan Glen for themselves. Fortunately for us, a few quick witted shire folk realized what was happening and spirited the Apple away to safety before the overwhelming numbers of Atlantians had won the battle.

After such shocking defeat, the populace of Sylvan Glen feared that Highland Foorde, flush with their victory, though deprived of the Apple, may embolden the marauders to make yet another grab for our treasured talisman. It looked as if a very dark time was about to descend upon the shire, but then rumbles of war from the distant north began to reach our ears. As the rumbling grew louder, we saw a lifting of the dark foreboding that had settled over the shire. This great loud noise heralded the rise of a new power and an immense army began to amass on the borders of Highland Foorde. As this army has continued to grow, Highland Foorde has called upon every able-bodied fighter to attend to the defense of her eastern and northern borders, and so now they have little time or energy to spare on our small shire.

Our joy over this turn of events, which briefly offered us the hope of peace, was short lived as reports of small groups of raiders hitting our farms and orchards to the south started to trickle in. Our intelligence gathers have learned that this new enemy believes that the way to great treasure lies hidden within the the monastery in Glengary, the Abbey of St. Nameless, and they are preparing to raid this cherished repository of knowledge. There are a great many secrets large and small hidden within the chambers of this building though they are of a far different sort than these new raiders seek. We must not let these secrets fall into the wrong hands. The safety and security of Sylvan Glen and, indeed, the very Kingdom of Æthelmearc are at stake. So once again, we find ourselves calling to our friends, our allies, and the Great Sylver Stag to come to our aid as we defend the gateway to Æthelmearc from a new threat.

The day's activities will include heavy fighting, youth fighting, thrown weapons, archery, bardic and A&S, and a feast for 100. Join us the Camp Frame 4-H Camp (No street address) in Hedgesville, WV 25427. The autocrat for this event is Lady Hrefna Ulfvarinnisdottir (siege@sylvanglen.org).

### **Fees:**

Camping: \$12.00

Day trip, \$8.00

Children ages 6-17 camping, \$7.00

Children ages 6-17 day trip, \$3.00

Children 5 and younger attend as guests of the shire but please pre-register them.

A family cap of \$22.00 applies for day trip and \$30.00 for camping.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided Saturday and is included in the site fees. Feast is an additional \$7.00 for adults, and an additional \$3.00 for children ages 6-17. Children age 5 and under feast as our guests, but please register them. There is a \$3.00 surcharge for non-members. A Travelers Repast will be served on Friday evening.

Pre-registration is encouraged, especially for those wishing to feast, as at-the-door feast slots will be limited. Feast will once again be prepared by Master Huen Damebridge. Please make checks payable to "SCA, Inc.-Shire of Sylvan Glen." Kindly send reservations by September 15, 2008 to Lady Marija Kotok. When sending payment for a group, please include both SCA and mundane names of gentles attending. For contact information, please see: <http://sylvanglen.org/local/siege.html>

**Directions:** Take your best route to I-81. Take exit 16W in West Virginia. This merges onto Rt. 9. Follow Rt. 9 through the town of Hedgesville, WV. Once you pass the Hedgesville Fire Dept., it's approximately 3 miles to Camp Frame Rd. Turn right on to Camp Frame Rd. Continue on this road, staying to the right. Camp Frame is at the end of it.



### Archers to the Wald

September 27, 2008

Canton of Steltonwald (New Brighton, PA)

The Canton of Steltonwald invites one and all to come and fling your arrows and other sharp pointy objects at this year's Archers to the Wald. Many of the well-known marshals of our Kingdom including many Scarlet Guard members will be running various ranges throughout the day, including several roving, novelty and long distance ranges. There will even be some archery classes offered. Many of the Scarlet Guard members have also agreed to make themselves available for one-on-one coaching, tips and techniques throughout the day. After feast there may even be a flaming arrow shoot to behold!

In addition to all things archery, there is plenty of space for a thrown weapons range, heavy weapons and fencing as well. 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 Aid an ni Leir. Feast is limited to 64. Please consider pre-registering for this event as the numbers for feast will be based on our preregistration numbers. If you have any special dietary concerns, please contact Aidan. For contact information, see: <http://www.steltonwald.org/archers.shtml>.

This event will be held on September 27, 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:** \$9.00 for adults, \$4 for children 6-17 and free for babes in arms (5 and younger). Site fee includes a light lunch. Feast fee is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children younger than 17.

The autocrat for this event is THL Gianna di Aurelio. Please send reservations to Muirgheal inghen Dubhghaill Reservations need to be received by September 22, 2007. Please make checks payable to SCA Inc. - Canton of Steltonwald. For contact information, see: <http://www.steltonwald.org/archers.shtml>.

**Directions:** Make your best way to I-79 N. Take exit 87 for PA-68 toward Zelienople. Turn left at end of exit ramp onto at Evans City Rd/PA-68. Continue to follow PA-68. You will make a Left turn onto N Main St/PA-68 ( approx 1 mile). Turn right at W Beaver St/PA-68 (approx 1/4 mile)(Please note there is a 7Eleven on the far right corner of this intersection). Continue to follow PA-68 for about 6 miles. You will make a right onto Rothart Road. There is a large metal sign for the Archery Club on the corner. Follow Rothart Road for about 1 mile. Turn Left into the Archery Club.



## **Fall Crown Tournament**

**October 4, 2008**

**Barony of Blackstone Mountain (Ansted, WV)**

Fall is upon Æthelmearc and the beauty of our Kingdom one again shines bright as foliage radiates with vibrant colors of the seasons change. Our southern lands are home to some of the most breath taking and exotic sites our fair Kingdom offers with the seasons change.

To celebrate the seasons change the Barony of Blackstone Mountain will host this years Fall Crown Tournament the weekend of October 4th, 2008. The event site is Hawk's Nest State Park, Route 60, (no street address), Ansted, WV 25812. This is a dry site as per park regulations.

We will greet the day's visitors at 9:00 AM with gracious hospitality befitting the day. Visitors found wondering our lands after 10:00 PM will be pressed into hard labor mining our black stones!

## The Alþing

For a glorious day of combat and honor we levy the tax of \$10. An all day sideboard will be included for your pleasure, as well as an evening sideboard sure to please even the weariest of combatants from the day. Please note that, as per Society policy, a \$3 non-member surcharge will be charged on top of all other fees for those gentles age 18 and over who are not members of the SCA. Those between the ages of 6 and 17 will be taxed \$8. The Baron and Baroness have asked we not tax those the age of 5 or under, as they hold a fondness in their hearts.

Reservations may be sent to: Baroness Gwyneth Olafsdottir. Reservations should be sent no later than September 26th, 2008. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc. - Barony of Blackstone Mountain.

The Head Cook is Lady Erzebet Fauconneau. Any special dietary accommodations should be arranged with her no later than September 26th, 2008.

The Event Steward is THL Alaxandair O'Conchobhair.

For contact information, please see: <http://www.blackstonemountain.net/index.asp>

**Accommodations:** Hawks Nest Lodge, 177 West Main Street, Ansted, WV 25812 (1.6 miles from site). A price range from \$64.80 - \$80.10 plus tax per night, and does not include the Deluxe Suite. You must ask for the "SCA" block to receive this discounted pricing. Additional accommodations are available in Summersville, WV (25 miles to the north of site) and in Fayetteville, WV (16 miles to the south of site).

**Directions:** Take your best route to I-79 South. Take Exit 57 to/for US-19 South toward Beckley, WV. After approximately 44 miles, take the US-60/Midland Trail Exit/Ramp to/for Gauley Bridge/Rainelle and bear right onto US-60. Approximately 8 miles arrive at site.



### Harvest Raid XV

October 10-12, 2008

Shire of Heronter (Bemus Point, NY)

The good folk of Heronter invite everyone to join them October 10 - 12, 2008 for their 15th annual Harvest Raid! We are thrilled to host three Royal Championships! -- Heavy Weapons, Archery, & Thrown Weapons.

As is tradition, we are privileged to have access to the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Camp on Route 430 (no street address) in Bemus Point, New York on beautiful Chautauqua Lake.

The site will open at 5pm Friday afternoon and closes at noon on Sunday. The site is very discretely damp and open flames are permitted during feast. Cabins (with electricity) are available, but there is also plenty of space for tents for those who prefer their privacy. Showers are available in two bathhouses. The site is not fully handicap accessible, but is fairly flat. No pets are allowed; service animals must be leashed.

The event stewards are Mistress Dorinda Courtenay and Baroness Margerite. All questions can be sent to either Baroness Margerite, [eventsteward@heronter.org](mailto:eventsteward@heronter.org) or to Her Grace, [fencing@heronter.org](mailto:fencing@heronter.org). All reservations should be sent to Mistress Dorinda Courtenay. For more contact information, see: <http://www.heronter.org/Events/harvest2008.html>

Please include the modern names of everyone for whom you are sending a reservation. Please note if your child/babe in arms will require their own seat at feast or their own bed in a cabin. If you require confirmation of your reservation please include an email address or a self-addressed envelope. All checks should be made payable to SCA Inc. - Shire of Heronter. As always, the only good reservation is a paid reservation, and the reservation deadline is September 30th 2008.

As always, we will try our best to accommodate all cabin requests, however we cannot make any guarantees.

The head cook for Harvest Raid is Lord Ian Kennoven. Any dietary accommodations can be communicated to him at [harvestraidcook@heronter.org](mailto:harvestraidcook@heronter.org). Please note that any special dietary accommodations should be arranged with him no later than September 15, 2007.

Merchants are always welcome, but renovations to the hall will require all merchants to be outside, so please be prepared with your own shade and furniture. There is no fee, but merchants are encouraged to provide an item for our silent auction.

Fees are as follows:

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Site Fee:            | \$8.00 Adults           |
| Feast Fee:           | \$7.00 Adults           |
| Cabin Fee (Cabins):  | \$6.00 Adults (Weekend) |
| Camping Fee (Tents): | \$1.00 Adults (Weekend) |

Thus, an adult wishing to eat the feast and stay in a cabin would pay \$21.00 for the weekend. Children (5-12) are half price, those under 5 are free (but please list them in your reservation should they require a bed or a seat at feast so we may reserve one for them). Students, age 13-17, will be discounted to half price for the day fee, but knowing how many of them eat, we must ask the full adult feast price for those who wish to stay for dinner.

The site fee includes a sideboard lunch and the camping/cabin fees include a light breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. A family cap will be set at \$63.00 (2 adults and their minor children).

Please note that, as per Society policy, a \$3 non-member surcharge will be charged on top of all other fees for those gentles age 18 and over who are not members of the SCA.

**Directions:** Take your best route to I-86 (former Route 17). Take Exit 10 (Westfield/Mayville) to get to Route 430 West. (From the West it is marked only as Route 430 West. Do not take exit 9 to Bemus Point). Follow the signs for Route 430 West towards Westfield and Mayville. From the exit, it will be several miles to the site (3 or 4 miles depending on where you start counting). You will pass Long Point Park and Midway Park before seeing the Lutheran Camp on your left. The camp is at the top of a long hill next to a huge tree. The sign is difficult to spot, so we will try to mark the spot well. The camp is across the road from a restaurant now called "Kadan's Place".



## Incorporating Heraldry into Period Illumination Styles

By Mistress Arianna of Wynthrope

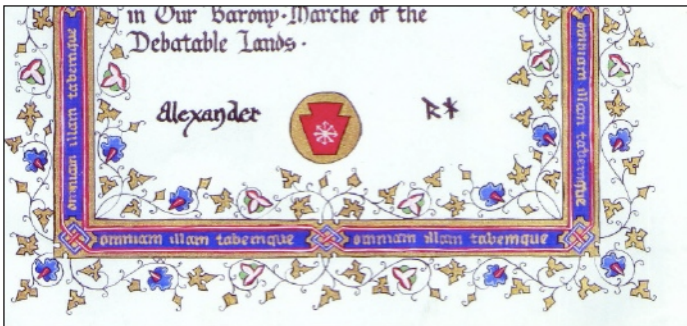
Most SCA scrolls convey Arms, whether by Award, Grant or Patent, or else they bestow an Order, which usually has a badge. Either way, that means scribes need to incorporate heraldry into their scrolls. Here are some methods which do and don't work.

### Common Methods which don't work well

1. Plop it in the middle of the text, as in the scroll at right. This can work but often detracts from both the illumination and the heraldry. See period examples from Fox-Davies for good design. .



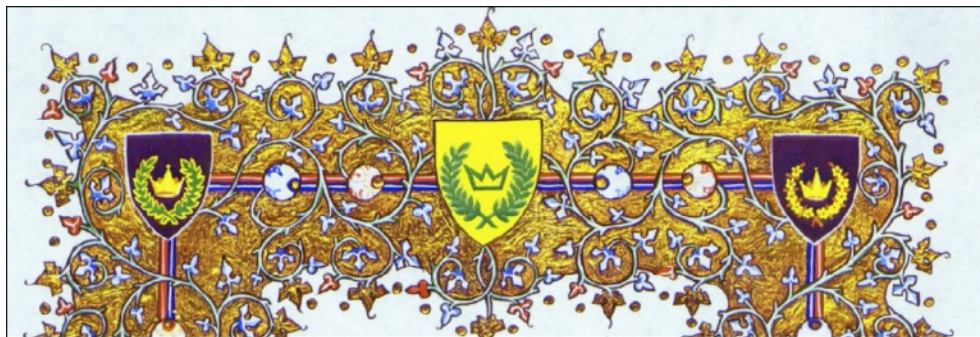
2. Include it somewhere in the border, interrupting the illumination or placing the shield where the illumination isn't. Again, can work if treated carefully, but often jars the eye and disrupts the design.



3. Place the heraldry outside the illumination, as in the scroll at left. Usually ends up looking like a piece of foreign matter which accidentally adhered to the scroll

### Better methods

1. Select designs which already have shield shapes, etc. available. Look at the Visconti hours, which are (surprise!) sprinkled with the Arms of the Visconti family. There are shields and rondels everywhere, into which you can substitute the arms of the recipient, as in the sample below. But don't stop there - use as much heraldry as you can justify - order badges, royal badges, baronial or shire arms, household or guild insignia. In period, they used a lot of representational insignia, including religious symbolism, where heraldry would be perfectly appropriate in our designs.

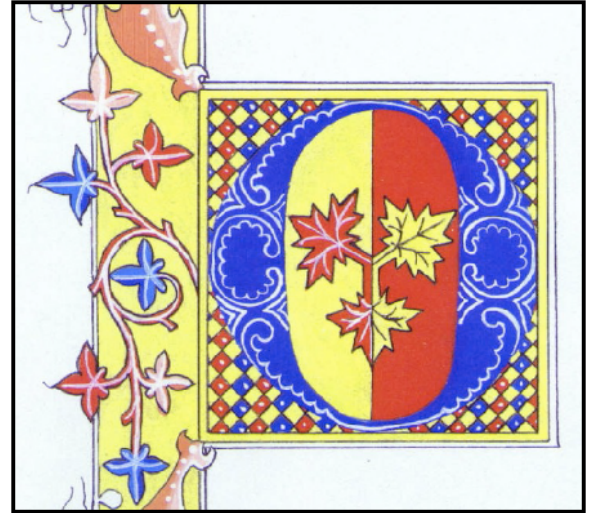


2. Place heraldry in geometric shapes where the original has abstract designs or miniatures. For example, some Romanesque or Winchester school manuscripts have big floral bits in the four corners with a diamond or other geometric shape as the center. You can place your heraldry there, as in this Viscounty scroll.



## The Althing

3. Use the Initial. Where the original might have vines or a miniature within the large initial, you can place your heraldry. Be careful what letters you choose (O, D, P, Q, C work well, A, B, E, F, G, H, M, N, R, U, V and W can be made to work, and letters like I, J, and L are very tricky. Try to avoid initial K's - they didn't generally occur in medieval alphabets, and they look funny as initials). Try to balance the colors carefully - for example, if the heraldry has argent in it but you're using a lot of gold in the scroll, you may find the argent looks best as white rather than silver.



4. Turn the heraldry into props for figures in miniatures to hold. This works especially well in the high gothic German style, like the Manesse codex (all those guys in chainmail and ladies with long curly hair). It can also be a lot of fun.
5. Sneak the heraldry into the illumination. Looks best in miniatures. Have a group of people in a field in front of a castle, a la Tres Riches Heures, flying the arms of the recipient off a turret.



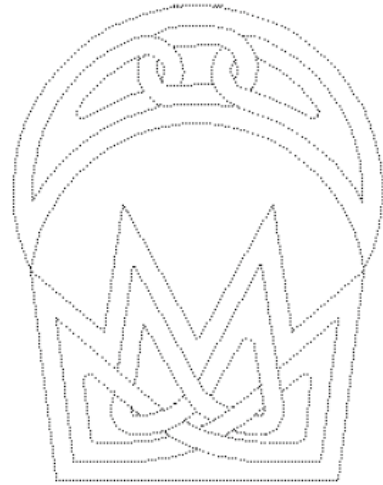
**Pelican in its piety as part of illumination**

6. Make the heraldry your main illuminated feature. This can look a little severe but it is very period. In these cases, do up the supporters, crest, mantling, etc. to really showcase the recipient's arms.

## How to deal with really tricky stuff

Here is where you get to be really creative...

Celtic or Viking: Heraldry is by nature very representational and our drawings of it tend to be somewhat late period in feel. These designs can really jar when mixed with the more primitive, abstract forms of Celtic knotwork and spirals. Try to "Celtify" your heraldry or at least simplify your depictions of the charges. A friend of mine from the Barony of Stonemarche, Lady Amethysta of Kensington, did this marvelous Celtic Silver Crescent badge (the East Kingdom equivalent of a Keystone) by making the crown and crescent both out of knotwork.



Japanese: If you have people in your illumination, you can depict the heraldry as mon placed in the traditional places on the figures' kimonos or other clothing, or you can have a samurai in battle with a banner pole attached to the back of his armor. Here is a Golden Alce scroll I did for Sir Koredono, with the Alce badge on the shoulders of the rider's jinbaori, or coat.



## English Land Tenure: Customary Rents

By Dani of the Seven Wells

The Normans freed the slaves. We are not told that they were grateful. The slaves became serfs – given tenancy of small plots of land and expected to do much the same work they had done before. Many previously-free small holders and even lesser gentry also became serfs. (The Normans were great levelers.) What a serf paid in exchange for the use of the land varied widely from place to place and time to time. It also depended on your Lord: As a rule of thumb, the king's serfs were best off and the church's serfs were worst off. Typical payment included:

**Rent.** The serf owed a cash rent. An average rent for a virgate-holding serf in the late thirteenth century was about half a pound a year, at a time when a day's wage was about a penny. Rents were regressive, with virgate holders paying about half as much per acre as quarter-virgate holders, on the average, and serfs paying about twice as much per acre as freeholders.

**Gersuma.** The serf paid an entry fee when taking over a holding. (This is similar in spirit to the “key money” that is paid to acquire an apartment in places where rents have been controlled for a long time.) Rents tended to be stable, but gersuma tended to reflect a market sensibility of peasants' demand for land.<sup>1</sup>

**Tithes.** The church got one tenth of the crop off the top. When reading records of the time, note that the yields they report are often yields after tithes.

**Labor.** A serf might owe as much as half his work time. The requirement was particularly heavy at harvest time – precisely when the serf most needed to be seeing to his own harvest. It is worth noting that, while the serf owed a certain amount of labor, he wasn't required to show up personally. That is, he could hire or appoint a substitute. It is also worth noting that most tenures allowed the lord to require cash in lieu of labor, at the lord's choice. The lord often so chose.

**Court fines.** Justice was considered a valuable franchise. If you ran the local court, you collected all the fines – and made sure that there were all sorts of occasions for fines. (One of the defining characteristics of serfdom was that serfs had no recourse to royal courts, and freeholders did.) Courts also collected the fines for permission to leave the manor. You also got to pay court costs if you wished to take another serf to court or to register a contract. In the larger holdings, courts were a major source of revenue.

Miscellaneous – but adding up to a lot: Carting services. Charges for use of the mill. Obligation to sell produce to the lord at a special price. Petty rents for use of the woods or marsh or bog. Heriot – the serf's best animal, payable to the lord on the serf's death. Merchet – a 'fine' payable for permission to marry off a daughter. Leyrwite – a fine for fornication. Special assessments at the lord's need.

On the average, the goods and services and non-rent cash payments were worth about as much as the rent itself.

---

<sup>1</sup> Unlike continental peasants, English peasants weren't strongly attached to particular plots of land. There was an active market in land, peasant were reasonably mobile, and most serfs did not farm the land their great grandfathers had farmed.

Reference: Raftis, J.A., "Tenure and Mobility", Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto, 1964.



| Sunday                            | Monday                                             | Tuesday                                                               | Wednesday                                     | Thursday                                               | Friday | Saturday                                   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------|
|                                   | 1                                                  | 2 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                   | 3 Officer's<br>meeting                        | 4                                                      | 5      | 6                                          |
| 7 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery  | 8 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts  | 9 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                   | 10 Barony<br>Meeting                          | 11                                                     | 12     | 13 Summer's End<br>(Beau Fleuve)           |
| 14 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery | 15 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 16 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Brewing Guild<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing | 17 Steltonwald<br>Meeting<br>Heraldry Meeting | 18 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S | 19     | 20 Æthelmearc<br>Coronation<br>(Heronter)  |
| 21 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery | 22 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 23 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                  | 24                                            | 25 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S | 26     | 27 Archers to the<br>Wald<br>(SteltonWald) |
| 28 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery | 29 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 30 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                  | <i>September AS XLIII (2008)</i>              |                                                        |        |                                            |
|                                   |                                                    |                                                                       |                                               |                                                        |        |                                            |

| Sunday                                                                                                                   | Monday                                             | Tuesday                                                               | Wednesday                                     | Thursday                                               | Friday                        | Saturday                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>October AS XLIII<br/>(2008)</i>                                                                                       |                                                    |                                                                       | 1                                             | 2 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S  | 3                             | 4 Fall Crown<br>(Blackstone<br>Mountain)                                                |
| 5 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery                                                                                         | 6 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts  | 7 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                   | 8                                             | 9 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S  | 10 Harvest Raid<br>(Heronter) | 11<br> |
| 12 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery<br> | 13 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 14 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                  | 15 Steltonwald<br>Meeting<br>Heraldry Meeting | 16 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S | 17                            | 18 Veturnætur<br>(Myrkfaelinn)                                                          |
| 19 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery                                                                                        | 20 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 21 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Brewing Guild<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing | 22                                            | 23 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S | 24                            | 25 Agincourt<br>(Debatable<br>Lands)                                                    |
| 26 Fencing<br>Fighting<br>Archery                                                                                        | 27 Choir<br>Steltonwald<br>Archery<br>Scribal Arts | 28 Steltonwald<br>Fighting<br>Scribal Arts<br>Sewing                  | 29 C.H.A.T.<br>Guild                          | 30 Consort<br>Dance<br>Scribal Arts<br>Steltonwald A&S | 31                            |                                                                                         |

## MONTHLY BARONIAL MEETINGS

**Barony meeting** - second Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. at CMU

**Officers meeting** - first Wednesday of odd months at 8 p.m. (January, March, May, July, September, and November) near Porter 125B at CMU

## REGULAR WEEKLY PRACTICES AND WORKSHOPS

### Sunday

Fight practice – contact Bors of Rouen, [knightmarshal@debatablelands.org](mailto:knightmarshal@debatablelands.org)

Fencing practice – contact Charles de Cayeux, [fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org](mailto:fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org)

Archery practice – contact Urho Waltterinen, [archerymarshal@debatablelands.org](mailto:archerymarshal@debatablelands.org)

### Monday

Steltonwald archery practice - 6 pm at Beaver Valley Archery Club, contact Finton [captainofarchers@steltonwald.org](mailto:captainofarchers@steltonwald.org)

Choir practice – contact Arianna

### Tuesday

Fencing practice – 6:30 p.m. at Frick Environmental Center (Beechwood Boulevard), contact Charles de Cayeux [fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org](mailto:fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org)

### Thursday

Instrumental music – 7 p.m. at CMU's Porter A19, contact Roana.

Dance practice – 8 to 10 p.m. in Porter Hall A18B at CMU contact Cai

Steltonwald A&S – contact Bonita of Steltonwald

## BARONIAL POSITIONS

### Gold Key

Roana d'Evreux  
[goldkey@debatablelands.org](mailto:goldkey@debatablelands.org)

### Steward

Michelina Cenomani da Trento

### Recording Secretary

Helewys Spynnere

### Baronial Signet

Countess Aidan ni Leir

### Dark Pages Editor

Arianna of Wynthrope  
[darkpages@debatablelands.org](mailto:darkpages@debatablelands.org)

### Historian

Ts'vee'a bas Tseepora Levi (

### Precedence Editor

Brandubh Ó Donnghaile  
[precedence@debatablelands.org](mailto:precedence@debatablelands.org)

### Web Site Editor

Clemente de Warrewyk (Matt Zofchak)  
[webminister@debatablelands.org](mailto:webminister@debatablelands.org), 412-512-5250

Visit the barony on the Web!

<http://www.debatablelands.org>  
[info@debatablelands.org](mailto:info@debatablelands.org)



**OFFICERS AND MEETINGS OF THE  
CANTON OF STELTONWALD**  
(Beaver County)

**Seneschal**  
Cionaodh Gunn (

**Knight Marshal**  
Gabriel Hawkes

**Arts & Science**  
Bonita of Steltonwald

**Exchequer**  
Ysabell Graver

**Captain of Archers**  
Fintan na Colled

**Castelain**  
Bóvi Farmaðr

**Web Minister**  
Gianna di Aurelio  
<http://www.steltonwald.org/>

**Minister of Youth**  
Tomasia da Collina Ventuso

**Canton meeting**  
Third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Beaver  
County Courthouse

**A&S** - Every Thursday  
Bonita of Steltonwald

**Archery** - Mondays at 6 p.m.  
Finton  
[captainofarchers@steltonwald.org](mailto:captainofarchers@steltonwald.org)

**Fight practice** - Every Tuesday at the Economy  
Grange. Contact Geoffrey.

**Sewing**  
Aoibheil of Dun Holen,

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

**Seneschal**  
Rosalia Iuliana Andreere

**Pursuivant**  
Roana d'Evreux (Sara Gryger)

**Knight Marshal**  
Maghnus de Cnoc an Iora (

**Thistle (CMU) Liaison to Cour d'Or**  
open

**Deputy Thistle**  
Arslan ibn Da'ud

**Four Towers (Pitt) Liaison to Cour d'Or**  
Brandubh O'Donnghaile

**The Mystic Scrolls (Web minister)**  
Filip of the Marche  
Web site: <http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~sca>  
Email: [sca+@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:sca+@andrew.cmu.edu)  
D-list: [sca-courdor@lists.andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:sca-courdor@lists.andrew.cmu.edu)

**Pitt Medievalists Club meeting**  
vacant

**CMU Rooms Reservatonist**  
Margaret Makafee

To make changes to this information, please contact  
Anna Malakina



## **BARONIAL GUILDS AND GROUP MEETINGS AND CONTACTS**

### **Armoring Guild**

Langdon of Greymome

### **Brewers Guild**

4th Tuesday of the month  
Brandubh Ó Donnghaile

### **C.H.A.T. Guild**

5th Wednesday of the month  
John the Artificer  
Achren

### **Chandlers' Guild**

by appointment  
Filip of the Marche

### **Choral Music Guild**

Mondays at 7:30 pm  
Arianna of Wynthrope

### **Culinary Guild**

Michelina Cenomani da Trento

### **Dismal Players**

Achren

### **Heraldic Commentary**

3rd Wednesday of the month  
Cadell Blaidd du

### **Instrumental Music Guild**

Every Thursday at 7 pm in Porter Hall A19A  
Margretha La Fauvelle (Margarita T. Rankin)  
[ansminister@debatablelands.org](mailto:ansminister@debatablelands.org)

### **Jewelers Guild**

Karl von Elfstein der Schmuckmaker

### **Jongleurs Guild**

Esperanza Halevi of Venice

### **Medieval Dance Guild**

Every Thursday at 8 pm, Porter Hall A18B  
Cai o'r Llyn

### **Needleworkers and Lace Guild**

Aerin Teine

### **Poetry Guild**

Michael Alewright

### **Scribes' Guild**

Kris Gilibari

### **Scribes workshops**

Every Tuesday  
Antoinette de la Croix,

Every Thursday  
Anna Eisenkopf,

1st Friday of the month with gaming  
Arianna of Wynthrope

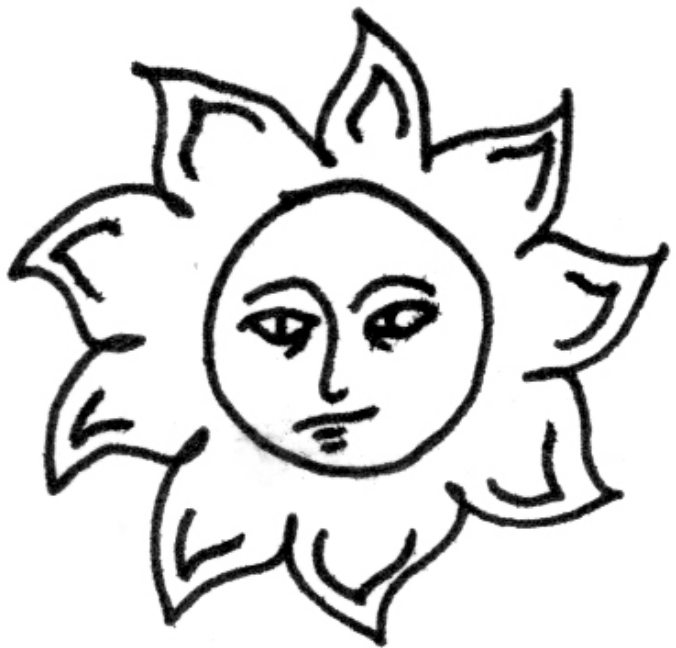
### **Sewing Circles**

In Debatable Lands, contact  
Ts'vee'a bas Tseepora Levi (

In Stelton Wald: Most weekends.  
Contact Marian

### **Vikingr Guild**

Baron Len



Anna Malakina  
c/o Ann Kopchik  
805 Jefferson Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229-1206

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

September Issue AS XLIII (2008) Vol. 31. No. 6

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