



The Althing

A quarterly publication of the
Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands
in the
Kingdom of Æthelmearc

Located in these modern times in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and surrounding areas

From the Baronage

A missive from Their Excellencies of The Debatable Lands

Hello Debatable Lands! Salve Accolens!

As we write this, the weather is warming up, the sun is expected to shine, and things are looking up!

By the time you read this, we will have seen many of you at our Special Fight Practice and Court, and also the Coronation of our own King Byron and Queen Ariella! Vivant! Congratulations to Their Majesties, and also Sir Boden and Master Elena for their elevations, as well as the others who received both Kingdom and Baronial accolades on those days!

The Baroness wishes to thank the staff of the Fight Practice, including Master Alaric, Lady Forveleth, Lord Niall, THL Guillaume, Baroness Gabrielle, Lady Vika, Lady Niamh, Baroness Muirgheal, and all others that helped, including Sir Boden, Sir Bors, and Master Jacob! Forgive us if we've missed anyone! And thanks to the many, many folks that ran Coronation here in the Debatable Lands, particularly the event stewards Baroness Muirgheal and Mistress Arianna!

The Stellar Tournaments are happening again! It's been a little difficult to schedule them, but we had a Sun (Heavy) and Moon (Rapier) Tourney in February! Congratulations to THL Rhys for successfully defending the Sun, and to Lord Robert McEwan for winning the Moon, and for winning a rapier contest at Ice Dragon. Kudos to those Barony folks that entered the Arts Competition and Martial Tourneys at Ice Dragon, too!

Pennsic is happening this year!! VIVAT! Please don't forget to pre-register. The Baronial camp is open to any Barony members, but pre-registration is required. You must pre-reg. More on Pennsic later. It's going to be a great time!



photo credit: Silence de Cherbourg

We will see everyone the first Saturday in June at the Iris Festival and Iron Comet event. There's still time to write in folks for awards, both Baronial and Kingdom!

Stay safe out there, friends and neighbors! Remember that we always follow Kingdom, Baronial and mundane laws and policies. As always, our door, emails, texts, and DMs are open to you all!

In Levitate et Caritate, and Cheers,

Baroness Hilda & Baron Brandubh

From the Seneschal

Greetings unto the noble populace of The Barony-Marche of the Debatable Lands,

I am so pleased to see the summer months upon us and new life breathed into our lands giving us opportunities to visit with each other and enjoy events and activities once more.

And with those new activities and events.... We will have Court, which is when we recognize the arts, service, and martial endeavors of our populace. Our Baron and Baroness and Our Beloved King and Queen need Award Recommendations! Just take a second, tell us who is doing cool stuff! It's nearly painless, you get to throw your friends under the bus, and.... they get art! Who wouldn't love it? Seriously.... Brag on your friends for the good of the realm!

Baronial Form:

<http://debatablelands.org/award-recommendation.php>

Kingdom Form:

<https://aethelmearc.org/award-recommendation-form/>

Don't know what they have? Check the Order of Precedence:

<http://heraldry.aethelmearc.org/precedence/>

Worried that you don't have enough clout? There is NO SUCH THING! Our Baron and Baroness and Our King and Queen want to hear from all Their People in ALL Their Lands!

Now then, what is The Order of Precedence? It's the list of all the awards that have ever been granted to the members of The Kingdom of Æthelmearc. The Order of Precedence tells us many things and the Golden Alce Herald has been working to include helpful information for our Scribes and Heralds.

If you wish it, you may contact the Golden Alce Herald to have your preferred awarded title updated, add your preferred pronouns, and any former names you may have received awards in or your registered names. You can also update awards, add awards received from other kingdoms or groups, correct misinformation, and generally make sure that your good and worthy deeds are among the feats of your Kingdom!



photo credit: Schneider Photography

<http://heraldry.aethelmearc.org/precedence/>

Contact the Golden Alce Herald:

goldenalceherald@heraldry.aethelmearc.org

And, while we are talking about acts of service you can perform for your Kingdom, if you happen to be awarded a Grant Level award or higher, you are a member of a polling order.

It is important that you help advise Their Majesties and Their Highnesses in the creation of new order members. It is also a great help to order members that may not get to your area that you advise them as well. Joining your order lists and helping to provide this vital information is a service to your community and part of your job as a member of the order. Please make sure that you are on the order mailing lists for those orders to which you belong. If you aren't on an order email list, and you think that you should be, you can reach your order clerk by looking up their emails here:

<https://aethelmearc.org/groups/polling-orders/>

If the great pestilence has taught us anything, it's that it is never too soon to speak up and remind each other that we appreciate each other's efforts!

(cont.)

From the Seneschal (cont.)

Which brings me to a request to our beloved Scribes, Calligraphers, and Illuminators: with award recommendations and courts come new changes to show off your skills and bring joy to your Barony and Kingdom.

We are blessed with so many talented artisans as a Barony; seeing your works gifted to the populace of the Debatablelands and Æthelmearc brings pride and joy to all of our hearts. If you wish to assist our Barony with award scrolls, please contact Her Ladyship Rachel Dalicieux via email at:

signet@debatablelands.org

[Signet (noun): The person that makes lists about who is creating a scroll or art for each award to be given at court.]

We have recently changed Kingdom Signets; if you would be able or willing to help create the scrolls and awards that are gifted to The Kingdom Populace, please contact The Kingdom Signet, Master Jonathan Blaecstan by email at:

signet@aethelmearc.org

If you are able and willing to do scrolls for the Upcoming Events and the Summer Reign, please also contact Master Jonathan Blaecstan. It takes an army of artists to beautify Our Kingdom.

Now for the Policy updates:

There have been many updates and changes with the Covid-19 policies from the Board of Directors for the SCA and the Kingdom of Æthelmearc; please take a moment to review the information on the next page in regard to the Pestilence that has long troubled Our Kingdom as sent by our Kingdom Seneschal, Master Illadore.

[Master Illadore's open letter to the kingdom has been reproduced in full on the following page.

-Silence, Chronicler]

Thank you all for taking to heart the safety of our Barony and the Kingdom; it is a great blessing for all of us to be able to continue to meet and have fellowship during this period of long rest. You have made my job less of a hardship by doing your best to follow all the rules in good faith and bringing me questions before activities. "Thank you" does not cover my gratitude to the populace of the Debatable Lands in this matter.

I so look forward to seeing all of you and the memories that we will create together.

In Service,

Muirgheal

She/her

muirgheall@gmail.com

address and phone number in the dark pages

Letter from the Kingdom Seneschal regarding COVID

Hello Æthelmearc. It is March 23rd, 2022.

I want to go over Æthelmearc's current COVID policies again, as we are starting to come into eventing season, and this pandemic is not over. We have two major policies in place in AE: the SCA's COVID Safe policy and Æthelmearc's Mask policy.

SCA's COVIDSafe policy - at every single event, gathering, practice, official thing we do in where we gather together in real space (not virtual or online), we need to follow the COVIDSafe policy. This means everyone, over the age of 5, must show their ID (or blue card) if they're over 18 *and* either their vaccine card or electronic record, showing they are fully vaccinated OR a negative covid test within 72 hours of the start of the event, done by a medical facility. Individuals must then sign the attestation form (parents can sign for their children, of course.) This needs to be done *before* you step onto the event. Before you set up, before you go to troll, etc. Get checked in, then go about your day. We have had issues with this, with people blowing past troll to set up. This is not permitted. You must go through the COVIDSafe check first.

Next up - Æthelmearc's mask policy. This has caused some confusion so let's break it down. First, if a person is unvaccinated, they must wear a mask at all times. Duke Christopher, the Deputy Kingdom Seneschal for Pandemics, and I will reconsider the policy when our Kingdom's covid transmission rates are at low. Right now, that's not happening so we're sticking with this part of the policy for now. Also, when transmission rates are high or substantial, everyone has to wear a mask inside. Our current determination on whether or not transmission rates are high or substantial comes from the CDC Data Tracker for *TRANSMISSIONS*. Let me footstomp this - it's the transmission data we are looking at, not the newest CDC map on community levels. If you see green on the map, it's the wrong map. I have included the correct map in the comments below in this Youtube video, as well as posting it on the AE website, and on social media. It's part of the CDC's Covid Data Tracker, and you can find it by looking up your county's transmission rate.

Æthelmearc's mask policies are stricter than some local and state guidelines, and even stricter than some other Kingdoms (tho, some are stiffer than ours.) The reason for this is primarily because both Duke Christopher and I are risk averse, especially when it comes to our SCA population, which trends a bit older than the general population, and we have folks who have other risk factors, such as being immunocompromised, or having other health issues. Also our core activities are outside the norm - especially in things like fighting and fencing. Finally, each of you are precious to me and the Kingdom, and as someone who has lost friends and family and knows that loss, I want to minimize that risk to our people as much as possible, while still allowing us to safely gather when we can.

Have a good evening, and see you soon!

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=all_states&list_select_county=all_counties&data-type=Risk

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/vdNPRGre1ks>

Monica Gaudio
Kingdom Seneschal
Æthelmearc

Illadore de Bedegrayne
Pronouns: She/Her

From the Exchequer: Financial Report for 2021

The Barony approximately broke even this year, with our main source of income being the Agincourt event. I look forward to an exciting 2022!

THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM-PENNSYLVANIA, INC. FINANCIAL REPORT					
Branch: Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands		Period: *01/01/2021 to *12/31/2021			
COMPARATIVE BALANCE STATEMENT					
For Cumulative Quarterly Reports, use last year's Comparative Balance Sheet (End) amounts for the (Start) amounts.					
For Sequential Quarterly Reports, use last report's Comparative Balance Sheet (End) amounts for the (Start) amounts.					
For Year-end Reports, the (Start) numbers will be provided to you by the Kingdom Exchequer. The numbers may have changed from what was submitted last year because of transfer reconciliation between your account and other accounts.					
The Year-end Report must be signed by the person preparing the report.					
(START) FIGURES MAY NOT BE CHANGED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!					
			USD \$	USD \$	
I. ASSETS		(from page)	Start	End	Diff
a) Undeposited and Non-Interest Bearing Cash		(2,5a)	12,424.59	11,694.98	(729.61)
b) Cash Earning Interest		(2)		0.00	0.00
c) Receivables		(5a)	166.12	1,109.02	942.90
d) Inventory For Sale (Major Inventory)		(6)	0.00	0.00	0.00
e) Regalia & Non-Depreciated Equipment		(7)	0.00	0.00	0.00
f) Depreciated Equipment		(8)	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00
g) MINUS Accumulated Depreciation		(8)	(1,820.00)	(2,492.00)	(672.00)
h) Prepaid Expenses		(5a)	300.00	0.00	(300.00)
i) Other Assets		(5a)	0.00	200.00	200.00
j) TOTAL ASSETS	Add a through f, subtract g, then add h and i		14,570.71	14,012.00	(558.71)
II. LIABILITIES					
a) Newsletter Subscriptions Due		(15)		0.00	0.00
b) Deferred Revenue		(5b)	0.00	0.00	0.00
c) Payables		(5b)	0.00	0.00	0.00
d) Other Liabilities		(5b)	0.00	0.00	0.00
e) TOTAL LIABILITIES	Add a through d		0.00	0.00	0.00
III. NET WORTH		Line I.i minus Line II.d		14,570.71	14,012.00
Proof:	Change in Net Worth	III(End) - III(Start)	(A)	(558.71)	(A = B) ? If NO, the report is incomplete.
	Net Income	Income Statement Line 32	(B)	(558.71)	



THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM-PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Branch: Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

Period: *01/01/2021

to *12/31/2021

INCOME STATEMENT

USD \$

INCOME	(from page)	Gross	Cost	Amount
1a Fund Raising: Non-medieval activities to earn income (car washes, bake sales, etc.)	(11a)	INTERNAL		0.00
1b	(11a)	EXTERNAL		0.00
2 Direct Contributions/Donations: No activity	(11a)			0.00
3a Activity Related: Medieval activities to earn income (events, demos, heraldry fees)	(11a)	Income from Demos and Activity Fees		0.00
3b	(11b)	Adjusted Gross Event Income		2,392.00
4a Funds Transferred In from Another SCA Account	(9)	WITHIN KINGDOM		0.00
4b	(9)	OUTSIDE KINGDOM		0.00
5 Interest Earned				
6 Net Inventory Sales Income	(6)	Gross-Cost=Net	0.00	0.00
7 Other Sales Income	(7)			0.00
8 Adjusted Gross Newsletter Income	(15)			0.00
9 Net Advertising Income	(11b)	Gross-Cost=Net	0.00	0.00
10 Other Income	(11b)			0.00
11 TOTAL GROSS INCOME		(Sum of Lines 1 through 9)		2,392.00

SCA, Inc. Stock Clerk expenses are General Supplies!

EXPENSES	(from page)	Office & Admin.	Activity Related	Fund Raising	Total
12 Advertising (NON-SCA)	(12a)		0.00		0.00
13 Bad Debts	(12a)	0.00	132.83	0.00	132.83
14 Bank Service Charges		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15 Depreciation	(8)	0.00	672.00	0.00	672.00
16 Equipment Rental & Maintenance			150.00		150.00
17 Fees & Honoraria	(12a)	20.17	33.27	0.00	53.44
18 Food			666.24		666.24
19 General Supplies			117.20		117.20
20 Insurance (NON-SCA)	(12b)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21 Occupancy & Site Charges			950.00		950.00
22 Postage & Shipping, PO Box Rental					0.00
23 Printing & Publications					0.00
24 Released Equipment/Assets	(7)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25 Telephone					0.00
26 Travel (Gas, Tolls, Airfare)					0.00
27 SUB-TOTAL (Lines 12-26)		20.17	2,721.54	0.00	2,741.71
28 Other Expenses				(12b)	0.00
29 Donations to Other 501(c)(3) [Nonprofit] Organizations				(12b)	0.00
30a Funds Transferred Out to Another SCA Account		WITHIN KINGDOM		(10)	209.00
30b		OUTSIDE KINGDOM		(10)	0.00
31 TOTAL EXPENSES		(Line 27 TOTAL + Lines 28 to 30b)			2,950.71
32 NET INCOME (MUST MATCH Change in Net Worth)		(Line 11 Minus Line 31)			(558.71)

From the Chronicler

Greetings to the Barony! I'm delighted to step up as the new Chronicler and look forward to publishing all the wonderful things occurring in our fair Debatable Lands. I welcome any reports on local activities, articles of any sort, illumination, photos, stories, poetry, recipes, upcoming event announcements, anything that might be of interest to the populace! While this issue is all officer reports, you do not have to be an officer to submit content to the newsletter. If I see you doing something interesting, I may ask you to send in a small write-up to share! For my term as Chronicler, I intend to publish quarterly. Submissions may be sent directly to me at chronicler@debatablelands.org, to be submitted by the 15th of the last month of the quarter (March, June, September, and December). Any photography or artwork must be in the public domain or have written permission from the creator to be included; contact me for details or any questions.

As this newsletter is only published quarterly, I would like to direct attention to a few other resources for more timely information. For starters, we have a web log called Stófréttir. You can find the blog and much more information at our website: <http://www.debatablelands.org>

We also have an active Facebook community at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/49997156241> where many of our members are present and share information about various activities going on, and ask and answer all manners of questions.



photo credit: Silence de Cherbourg

Our official email list is open to any who wish to subscribe, and bonus, it receives a copy of any information that is posted to Stófréttir: <https://lists.andrew.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/sca-bmdl>

After a long period of primarily virtual gatherings and communication, we are starting to return to in-person events, practices, and guild meetings. I would love to record that these are happening and publish times and dates for newcomers who may wish to join us. Please consider writing about any upcoming gatherings and/or reporting on previous ones, and submitting to the Althing! This is our newsletter and can only be as good as the content we, the Barony, provide.

In Service and Song,

Silence de Cherbourg

Their Excellencies of the Debatable Lands

Baron Brandubh Ó Donnghaile
baron@debatablelands.org

Baroness Hilderun Hügelmann
baroness@debatablelands.org



Their Royal Magesties of Æthelmearc

King Gareth Kíncaid
ae.king@aethlmearc.org

Queen Juliana Delamere
ae.queen@aethlmearc.org

Their Royal Highnesses of Æthelmearc

Prince Thomas Byron of Haverford
ae.prince@aethlmearc.org

Princess Ariella of Thornbury
ae.princess@aethlmearc.org

Officers of the Debatable Lands

Seneschale

Muirgheal inghean Dubhghaill
seneschal@debatablelands.org

Exchequer

Forveleth Dundee
exchequer@debatablelands.org

Chronicler

Silence de Cherbourg
chronicler@debatablelands.org

Comet Pursuivant

Kieran MacRae
herald@debatablelands.org

Arts and Sciences Master

Ishiyhama Gentarou Yori'ie
ansminister@debatablelands.org

Chatelaine

Rónán Ó Conaill
chatelaine@debatablelands.org

Webminister

Reinhard Regenbogen
webminister@debatablelands.org

Mistress of the Lists

Vika Vyborskaia
lists@debatablelands.org

Knight Marshal

Guillaume le Noire de Bordeaux
knightmarshal@debatablelands.org

Baronial Positions and Deputies

Captain of the Archers

Rónán Ó Conaill
archerymarshal@debatablelands.org

Marshal of the Fence

Jorundr hinn Rotinn
fencingmarshal@debatablelands.org

Thrown Weapons Marshal

Kumagaya Kentarou Masamoto
thrownweapons@debatablelands.org

Equestrian Marshal

Gesa Von Wellanstein
equestrian@debatablelands.org

Youth Fighting Marshal

Jasmine of Tarn Clan
youthcombat@debatablelands.org

Steward

Alaric MacConnal
steward@debatablelands.org

Baronial Signet

Rachel Dalicieux
signet@debatablelands.org

Editor of the Dark Pages

Arianna of Wynthrope
darkpages@debatablelands.org

Historian

Ts'vee'a'bas Tseepora Levi
historian@debatablelands.org

Gold Key (Loaner Garb)

Nicola Beese
goldkey@debatablelands.org

Iron Key (Loaner Fighting Equipment)

Guillaume le Noir du Bordeaux
ironkey@debatablelands.org

DISCLAIMER

This is the Q1 2022 issue of 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. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

PUBLICATION

The Althing is generally published quarterly with content from Stórfreittir and/or that has been published through the Chronicler officer. The Althing is available for free on the Barony website, www.debatablelands.org. Paper copies are available for those without Internet access. Please contact the Chronicler to have a paper copy mailed to you. Image of Halley's Comet from the Bayeux Tapestry from Wikipedia Commons and is in the public domain.

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 Althing's submission deadline is generally the 15th of the last month of the quarter (March, June, September, December). Send your contributions to chronicler@debatablelands.org for inclusion in the next issue.