

# *The* **Æstel**



The Newsletter of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc March 2024 A.S. VIII



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## The Æstel

This is the Æstel, Volume 30, Number 03, March A.S. LVIII (2024). The Æstel is the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc. Æthelmearc is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the Æstel is published as a service to the SCA’s membership. Subscriptions are available only to members. Memberships are available from the Member Services Office, SCA, Inc., PO Box 611928 San Jose, CA 95161 or at [sca.org/members/](https://sca.org/members/). All changes of address or questions about subscriptions should be sent to the Corporate Office. This newsletter is available online at:

<https://members.sca.org/apps/#Newsletters>

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For information on reprinting articles and artwork from this publication, please contact the Kingdom Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece.

Æthelmearc Kingdom Law and Officer Policies may be found on the Kingdom website:

<http://aethelmearc.org/>

Please look there for the most up-to-date Kingdom documents. If there is a discrepancy is found between any printed editions of Kingdom Law/Officer Policy or copies found on other websites and what is published on the Kingdom website, precedence will be given to the most recent edition published on the Kingdom website. Please do not copy or host Kingdom Law and Policy to any other website. Instead, please link directly to our original so that as changes are made, your version will automatically be updated when the Kingdom updates its original. Anyone needing accessible versions of any Kingdom document may request these from the Kingdom Seneschal.

**For more information on the Kingdom of Æthelmearc visit:**

**<https://aethelmearc.org>**

## THE SCA PROHIBITS HARASSMENT AND BULYING OF ALL INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS.

The SCA prohibits bullying and harassment of all individuals and groups. Bullying is systematic and unwelcome behavior which involves the use of influence, threat, intimidation, or coercion to cause hurt or harm to another person or group of people. When the bullying behavior is based on a protected class (1), that behavior is defined as harassment.

(1) race, sex, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability.

Bullying and Harassment may be **overt**, as in the following non-inclusive list of examples:

- Verbal abuse, including using racial, homophobic, transphobic, ableist epithets, etc.
- Non-consensual physical contact, violence, or threatening gestures.
- Displaying material that is offensive, degrading, or threatening to a protected class.
- Consistent demeaning remarks or malicious teasing - Stalking or predatory behavior

### Covert:

- Spreading rumors or innuendo with malicious intent
- Deliberate exclusion, isolation, or alienation of an individual without just cause
- Using rank, title, or office to intimidate others

Provided that the behavior does not rise to the criteria listed above, bullying and harassment is not:

- Single episodes of social rejection, dislike, tactlessness, or forgetfulness.
- Mutual arguments, disagreements, or fights.
- The termination, mutual or not, of a romantic relationship or friendship.
- Reasonable constructive feedback or critique.

The test for bullying is the reasonableness of the behavior and the impact of that behavior on the recipient. Participants engaging in bullying/harassment are subject to appropriate sanctions. If an individual believes they have been subjected to or have witnessed harassment, bullying, or retaliation, that person should contact a senechal, the President of the SCA, or that kingdom's Board Ombudsman.

## SCA CORPORATE OFFICE

### Contact:

SCA, Inc., PO Box 611928 San Jose, CA 95161, 800-789-7486 or 408-263-9305 (Mon-Thur 9am-4pm PT)  
Fax: 408-263-0641

### Society Seneschal:

- Lis Schraer (Mistress Elasaite ingen Diarmata), 314-941-0831 before 10 pm Central Time; seneschal@sca.org

### Vice-President for Corporate Operations (Registrar):

- Louise Du Cray, 800-789-7486, 408-263-9305; - ext/ 202 Fax: 408-263-0641; membership@sca.org

### Ombudsmen:

Directors are assigned duties as Ombudsmen for Society Officers, Board Committees, and Kingdoms. They represent those individuals and groups to the Board, and promote communication and coordination between the Board and the functional personnel of the Society. SCA participants with concerns about a particular Kingdom, or Corporate office or function should contact the ombudsman responsible for that area

### Æthelmearc Ombudsperson:

Gabrielle Fisher (Duchess Adrielle Kerrec)  
gfisher@director.sca.org

For more information on board meetings go to:

<https://www.sca.org/board-meetings>

### PLEASE NOTE:

Virtual quarterly meetings are held on Sundays, Live quarterly meetings are held on Saturdays to accommodate necessary travel. Saturday meetings will still be both streamed live and recorded for viewing at a later date. All meetings dates are tentative and subject to possible change.

Groups interested in hosting a meeting should contact the Executive Assistant (ea@sca.org) for information on meeting requirements and how to submit a bid.

### 2024 Quarterly Board Meetings

January 28, 2024 — Virtual

April 21, 2024 – Virtual (Tentative)

July 21, 2024 – Virtual (Tentative)

October 20, 2024 – Virtual (Tentative)

# Æthelmearc Royalty

## Their Royal Majesties

Gareth Kincaid and Julianna Delamere



king@aethelmearc.org - queen@aethelmearc.org

## Their Royal Highnesses

Murdoch Bayne and Ríoghnach ní Rose



prince@aethelmearc.org - princess@aethelmearc.org

# Æthelmearc Kingdom Champions

### Queen's Rapier Champion:

Baron Salvadore de la Torres

### Cut and Thrust:

Don Robert MacEwin of Thornhill

### Regalo de las Rosas

Maestro Orlando di Bene del Vinta

### Heavy Weapons Champion:

THL Gareth Whytebull

### Archery Champion:

Lord Yakub Al-Musafir

### Thrown Weapons Champion:

THL Kumagaya Kentarou Masamoto

### King's Equestrian Champion:

Lord Joel Geraldson

### Queen's Equestrian Champion:

Noble Megis Elmanou

### Shield of Chivalry:

THL Halfdan Dansson

### King's Bardic Champion (Dexter):

Master Donnan MacDubhsidhe

### Queen's Bardic Champion (Sinister):

Maighstir Liam MacantSaoir

### Kingdom Arts and Sciences Champion:

Casimir zeleny z Strasna Skala

### Youth Arts and Sciences Champion:

John Robert

### Youth Combat Champion:

Division 2 - Felix and Division 3 - Ragnar in Ronde

### Brewing Champion:

Master Robert of Ferness

### Youth Arts and Science Champion:

John Robert

# Landed Barons & Baronesses of Æthelmearc

## Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

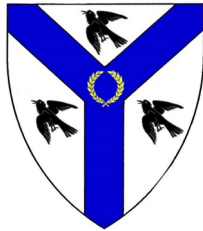
Violeta de Valencia and Aurelia Argentia Prima



Baron@debatablelands.org, Baroness@debatablelands.org

## Barony of Thescorre

Andriú mac Domnaill and Nuzha bint Saleem



Baron@thescorre.org, Baroness@thescorre.org

## Barony of the Rhydderich Hael

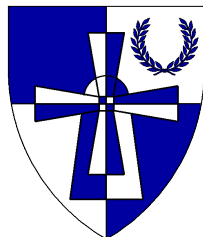
Magnus de Lyons and Thalia Papillon



Baron@wnysca.org, Baroness@wnysca.org

## Barony of Delftwood

Thorbjorn Inn Havi and Oðindisa Býkona



Baron@delftwood.org, Baroness@delftwood.org

## Barony of Blackstone Mountain

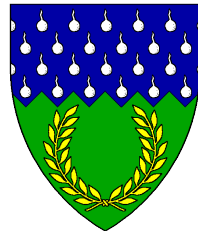
Cunedda Kell and Alana Horsecroft



Baron@blackstonemountain.org,  
Baroness@blackstonemountain.org

## Barony of Endless Hills

Nicolo dei Gaetani and Magge Illfosterc



baron@endlesshills.aethelmearc.org,  
baroness@endlesshills.aethelmearc.org

## Barony of St. Swithin's Bog

Jean Phillippe Dit La Barbe Rousse and Caterine de Troyes



Baron@stswithinsbog.aethelmearc.org  
Baroness@stswithinsbog.aethelmearc.org

For more information on the Baronies of Æthelmearc, known as the "Seven Pearls" visit:

<https://aethelmearc.org/groups/local-groups/the-seven-pearls>



# From Their Majesties Gareth & Juliana



Greetings Citizens of Sylvan Æthelmearc. March is going to be an active time in Æthelmearc.

We will see you at The Tournament of the White Hart on March 1 in the recently returned Shire of Port Oasis.

Then it is time to journey south to Gulf Wars (March 9-17). A chance to win renown in the Kingdoms of the South. Sharpen your weapons, polish your armor, remember oaths given and stand beside your companions in the shield wall. We will come back with new songs and stories of the valor and the prowess of Æthelmearc.

Beer, Bacon Bash is a favorite of ours and we look forward to this year as well on March 23 come take a turn in the list and fear the might of the rubber chicken.



The Donnan party will be an exceptional party this year as Master Donnan decides on elevation to the Order of Defense on March 30. Don't forget to turn in your AE passports for your pilgrimage badge.

Regional musters and practices are happening. Come out and take part as much as you can. No one can be at everything, none the less it is important to reach out of your area of interest so we can be a society which is more than a bunch of people with their own interests that happen to share a space.

Cheer each other on. Learn something new. Try more parts of the SCA. The Dream is a big place.

Gareth IV and Juliana IV  
Rex and Regina Æthelmearc

## Help recognize the hardworking people of the Kingdom!

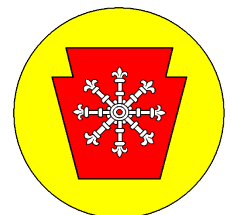
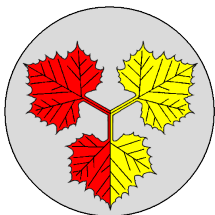
Please consider submitting an award recommendation!

A complete listing of the awards and orders of Æthelmearc can be found here:

<http://heraldry.aethelmearc.org/resources/armory.html>

The award recommendation form can be found here:

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

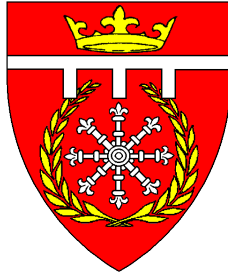


# Officer Reports

## From Their Royal Highnesses

Greetings to the noble populace of Æthelmearc.

The Twelfth Night celebrations have passed, the event season has begun, and the year's schedules begin to fill. As we all travel and gather for the host of activities in the coming year, please have a care for your own health and well-being as well as that of all who you would meet along the way.



As We approach Our ascension to the Sylvan Thrones, We find ourselves looking forward to one particular right and responsibility of the Crown, the recognition of those worthy gentles that populate this fair Kingdom. With this in mind, We have asked the various clerks of Æthelmearc's polling orders to gather information to pass to us, and We would ask the members of those various Orders to respond to those polls so we may be appraised of the opinions of as many members as possible. We would also encourage everyone in the Kingdom to look around for those gentles worthy of recognition. Send recommendations, speak to us about the deeds, works, and skills of our people, encourage others to do the same.

There are many events, practices and gatherings in the upcoming months and We would meet and speak with as many of you as we can.

For Æthelmearc

Murdoch & Ríognach  
Æ Prince and Princess

## From the Kingdom Chronicler

Hello Æthelmearc,

Sylvan Quills and the William Blackfox awards A.S. 57. The annual Master William Blackfox Awards recognize excellence in the work of Chroniclers and newsletter contributors. Newsletters provide a valuable resource and communication tool for SCA members around the world! Each year, the Kingdom Chroniclers have the distinct pleasure of nominating Chroniclers for one of several Blackfox award categories. These nominations are sent to the Society who then determines the winners of each category.



In Æthelmearc, these nominations also include recognition with a "Sylvan Quill". Like the Blackfox awards, the Sylvan Quill recognizes excellence in the work of Chroniclers and newsletters contributors but on a Kingdom level. This year my office was pleased to nominate the following Chroniclers for Blackfox awards and as such also award them Sylvan Quills.

**Best Overall newsletter:** Catherine of Aksu  
Catherine E. McLean. The Hunter's Horn, The Shire of Hunters Home.

**Best Layout and design:** Baroness Katja Davidova Orlova Khazarina Chris Adler-France. FEWMET, Barony of the Thescore.

**Best Special interest:** Dame Olyf Moorcroft Jennifer Ja Bahor, The Score - Q4 - December issue 3. The Quarterly newsletter of the Æthelmearc Minister of the List.

I have prepared Sylvan Quill scrolls for each and will present them in person when time allows. Please join me in Congratulating them! The Society Chronicler informed me they hope to have a final decision on the Blackfox awards in the next couple months. I wish each of the nominee's luck! I will post the results as soon as I have official word. My thanks go out to all the Chroniclers of Æthelmearc for their hard work. Please do not take a lack of a nomination as absence of appreciation. The job of a Chronicler is not an easy one.

**Also of note:** Last year, A.S. 56, a Blackfox commendation was awarded to Jennifer Sadler for Best Special Interest Newsletter. This category recognizes guild newsletters, research newsletters, and Arts & Science focus newsletters. Awarded to for: Apothecary and Herbal Newsletter, December 2021, Guild. While I did announce the Commendation, I was negligent in also awarding a Sylvan Quill for this achievement and do so now. I will also have a scroll for this and will present it in person when time allows.

To learn more about the William Blackfox awards and see a list of past winners go to:

<https://www.sca.org/the-william-blackfox-awards>

Please remember the deadline for the Æstel is the 5th of each month (unless a notice is sent to the Official Kingdom Mailing list indicating an earlier date). It is important to note that this deadline is for the following month's issue. For example, the deadline for the April issue of the Æstel is March 5th. The finalized newsletter must go to Corporate by the 10th of each month. Why is this important? When submitting events to the calendar if you submit event information after the deadline it is not going to make it into the Æstel for the proper month. Any updates to a current event submitted after the deadline will also not

# Officer Reports

make it into the Æstel. Life happens and we will always work to accommodate people, but if your group can meet and decide on information, and meet Æstel deadlines, that is appreciated (looking at you Kingdom officers as well).

Magnus de Lyons

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## From the Kingdom Rapier

### Marshal

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Greetings from your new Kingdom Rapier Marshal.

First, I want to thank the outgoing Kingdom Rapier Marshal, Master Simon Caminante, for helping us manage through a particularly difficult few years. His knowledge has helped and will continue to help me and my marshal staff navigate changes.



Speaking of changes - As of 01 Feb 2024 the Society Rapier Rules have been updated and are in place. This document can be found online here:

[https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Fencing-Marshals-Handbook\\_Jan2024.pdf](https://www.sca.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Fencing-Marshals-Handbook_Jan2024.pdf)

There are 3 categories of adult fencing in the SCA: light rapier, rapier, and cut & thrust. All mentions of "rapier" or "rapier fighter" here means the adult rapier category in Society terms. Rapier is still the default form in Æthelmearc. There has been some adjustment of allowed weapons, but the most notable and obvious change is the armor standard's reduction in coverage needed.

The rapier fighter's back of the head now only requires abrasion resistant material. (This is not the same as for light rapier, nor for cut & thrust.) A rapier fighter can now fence with bare arms, legs, and feet. While gloves and something on the feet are not required, I personally \*highly recommend\* both.

The cut & thrust rapier fighter armor standards have also changed, and it is the only place we will remain more restrictive than Society. That means a requirement of rigid elbows and knees stays.

Please see the Society document for their body/armor diagram with details, and our updated rules for Æthelmearc-specific changes.

Note: Society has granted Æthelmearc a 4 month variance, with limitations, on using flexi-dagger blades in adult

rapier, which have been removed from all use in the rules update. Flexi-dagger blades are not allowed for the youth rapier program.

The relevant links to the kingdom documents mentioned above are available here:

<https://rapier.aethelmearc.org/Marshallate/PoliciesAndForms.html>

I am always willing to answer questions, either in person or via email. Both are preferred over texts or various app messages. I look forward to seeing people more as spring approaches!

YIS

Master Clewin Kupferhelbelinc, Æ KMoF

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## From the Chancellors of the Æcademy

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We had a very successful Virtual Æcademy on February 4th with 26 classes taught by 20 teachers.

We would like to thank all the teachers who put together and presented a wide variety of classes. Special thanks to Mistress Alicia Langland for stepping in and covering a class when the teacher was unable to make it at the last minute.

Thank you to all the students for signing in and attending the classes presented.

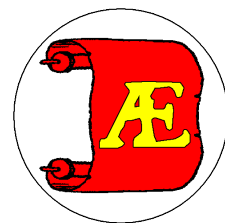
Special thanks to our zoomerators: THL Antoinette DeLorraine, Lord Dalibor Vilcekov Syn, Julie of Baldwinsville, Dame Elsbeth Anne Roth, Lady Cassia Carataca, and Master Hrolfr a Fjarfelli.

And we could not have done this without our Zoom Guru Baroness Elena de la Palma, who made sure we looked like we knew what we were doing and kept everything running smoothly.

The classes that were recorded will be put on the Æthelmearc YouTube Channel and we will communicate when that happens.

Class registration for the June Æcademy on June 15th in the Shore of Herontir will open soon.

Finally, this will be our last year as Chancellors. We have thoroughly enjoyed the job but will be stepping down in January of 2025. We would like to have our successor in place before the November Æcademy in order to provide





# From the Board of Directors

a smooth transition into the office. Letters of application should be submitted to THL Maggie Rue, Minister of Arts and Sciences, and to Their current Highnesses Murdoch and Rioghnach.

In service,

Baron Fridrikr Tomasson & Baroness Orianna Fridrikskona  
Chancellors of the AECademy

Hersir Marek Viachedrago  
Dean of the War College

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## Request for commentary - Chatelaine and DEIB offices

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The Board of Directors is currently considering changes to Corpora. It invites commentary from the membership and participants.

These changes aim to enhance recruitment and member retention in the SCA. They also aim to further support these goals. They elevate the Society Chatelaine to a greater Society Officer.

They align local and regional chatelaines to this same structure. It is a strategic move. It aims to support the implementation of comprehensive recruitment and retention strategies. It also aims to align the office to a clear vision.

The Board also approved proposed wording. It supports the creation of a Society Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Officer. They also approved aligning local and regional DEIB officers into one structure. Like the proposed Chatelaine changes, it aims to support an aligned Society vision. It also aims to support the implementation of strategy in this space.

Finally, the Board approved changing the name and scope of the Corporate Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging Office. It is now the Office of Inclusive Programs. This office will handle the implementation of large scale, heavy-lift projects. This work will move inclusivity in the SCA forward. It will also transition leadership and management of game facing DEIB work to the newly created Society DEIB Officer. This office will support all corporate and society officers. It will also serve as a primary DEIB advisor to the Board.

Note: Changes to corporate offices don't require changes in Corpora or public commentary. Understanding the changes to the Corporate DEIB Office will add context for the proposed changes to Corpora. It will also provide clarity for the realignment of responsibilities among these offices. This restructuring aligns with better practice for

organizations that aim to improve recruiting and retention by creating welcoming and inclusive environments.

**Recruiting and Retention structural changes for member commentary and verbiage change to Corpora.**

• **Section VI. Society Officers**

o **Add:**

**I. Chatelaine:**

**The Chatelaine is responsible for promoting and supporting recruitment initiatives and guiding retention practices.**

**J. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Officer:  
The Society DEIB Officer is responsible for overseeing the development, implementation, and maintenance of game-facing DEIB initiatives and education.**

**Change:**

**Renumber I. Reservations to the Board, to K. Reservations to the Board, with no changes in Content.**

Corpora, including the By-Laws, can be found in its entirety can be found here: <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/govdocs/>.

Please email all commentary to SCA-Comments@sca.org and use the title "Chatelaine and DEIB Changes" in the subject line.

**NOTE: Do not use attachments in your commentary. Attachments will mark your message as spam and it will be rejected by the server.**

You can also send commentary by mail, Postage-Prepaid, to:

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
RE: Chatelaine and DEIB  
Changes  
P.O. Box 611928  
San Jose, CA 95161

**Commentary regarding this proposed Corpora change, must be received by the Board no later than March 1, 2024.**

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## Request for Feedback - Proposed Omnibus Peerage Proposal

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# From the Board of Directors

<https://www.sca.org/news/commentary-request-draft-corpora-wording-omnibus-peerage-proposal>

Currently approximately 8000 people around the Knowne World actively participate in target archery, combat archery, siege weapons, thrown weapons and equestrian martial activities. While no ultimate decision has yet been made the Board believes that a proposal of a path to peerage for these individuals is worthy of deep consideration. Having received advice from the Peerage Committee, Directors have discussed the matter and following some minor amendments to language which align the proposed draft of Corpora wording to the existing patent orders, the Board feels that the proposal has matured to the point where commentary on the proposed Corpora wording from members is requested. This commentary will assist the Board in forming further decisions relevant to its consideration of this matter.

**The draft Corpora language approved for commentary is:**

## **VIII.A.4:**

### **e. The Order of <Name>**

**(i) Members of the Order of <Name> may choose to swear fealty but are not required to do so. The candidate must have attained the standard of excellence in skill and/or knowledge equal to that of their prospective peers in a pre-17th century martial pursuit as practiced in the SCA, including, and limited to, target archery, combat archery, thrown weapons, equestrian activities, and siege engineers. The candidate must have applied this skill and/or knowledge for the instruction of members and service to the kingdom to an extent above and beyond that normally expected of members of the Society.**

**(ii) The duties of the members of the order are as follows:**

**(a) To set an example of courtesy and chivalrous conduct on and off the field of honor.**

**(b) To respect the Crown of the kingdom; to support and uphold the laws of the kingdom and Corpora.**

**(c) If in fealty, to support and uphold the Crown of their kingdom.**

**(d) To enrich the kingdom by sharing their knowledge and skills.**

**(e) To enhance the renown and defend the honor of the peer's Lady or Lord.**

**(f) To advise the Crown on the advancement of candidates for the Order of <Name>.**

**(other sections re-numbered as needed)**

**Knowing exactly what the people who work, study, and play in the Society want a potential new peerage to achieve and do will be key to moving forward in this discussion. The Board welcomes any additional context that people feel may be of use to the discussion.**

We are looking for your feedback – as you begin to type up your comments please feel free to include your thoughts on the following questions:

Does this language fill the gap I personally feel exists in the paths to peerage, why or why not?

What is my ideal vision of a new peerage and its members? What virtue will they embody?

EDIT: If you are a financial member of the SCA, please include the relevant information.

The expertise of our community is invaluable, and these responses will contribute significantly to an outcome that positions our Society to meet its goals and future opportunities.

Corpora, including the By-Laws, can be found in its entirety here: <https://www.sca.org/resources/document-library/govdocs/>.

Please email all commentary to [SCA-Comments@sca.org](mailto:SCA-Comments@sca.org) and use the title "Omnibus Peerage Proposal" in the subject line.

**NOTE: Do not use attachments in your commentary. Attachments will mark your message as spam and it will be rejected by the server.**

You can also send commentary by mail, Postage-Prepaid, to:

Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
RE: Omnibus Peerage Proposal  
P.O. Box 611928  
San Jose, CA 95161

**Commentary regarding this proposed Corpora change, must be received by the Board no later than April 2, 2024.**

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to:  
SCA Inc.  
P.O. Box 611928  
San Jose, CA. 95161

You may also email: [SCA-comments@sca.org](mailto:SCA-comments@sca.org).

This announcement is an official informational release by the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Permission is granted to reproduce this announcement in its entirety in newsletters, websites and electronic mailing lists.

# From the Board of Directors

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## Announcement - Increase in membership fees and non-member registration fees for events

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<https://www.sca.org/news/membership-fee-increase-effective-february-15-2024>

The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.) is announcing an increase in membership fees and non-member registration fees for events.

This decision comes after careful consideration and extensive discussion among the Board of Directors, office staff, and Corporate officers. The effects of inflation across all sectors of operation, as well as other factors impacting the organization's operational costs, including insurance premiums, legal expenses, and general business expenses, necessitated a comprehensive review of membership rates. Annual membership fees have not been adjusted in over a dozen years, and non-member registration fees have not increased in over 15 years.

In response to the evolving financial environment, the organization streamlined operations during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and significantly reduced corporate expenditures. The relocation of the office to San Jose, CA resulted in an annual savings of over \$35,000, and upgrades to software and CRM systems have netted a further savings of over \$100,000 annually. While membership numbers have rebounded post-pandemic, operational costs continue to rise.

SCA, Inc. Corporate is solely funded by membership fees, including the Non-Member Registration fee, and does not currently seek operational funds from its Kingdoms or subsidiary organizations, including those overseeing Pennsic and Gulf Wars.

At the January 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board approved the following changes, effective February 15, 2024:

Raise the Sustaining membership price from \$45 a year to \$55 a year (This represents an \$0.83 cents per-month increase over the previous monthly rate.)

Raise the Associate membership price from \$30 to \$40 a year. (This represents an \$0.83 cents per-month increase over the previous monthly rate.)

Raise the Family membership price from \$10 a year to \$15 a year, per person. (This represents an \$0.42 cents per-month increase over the previous monthly rate.)

No changes to Canadian or International memberships have been announced at this time.

Note: this change will take effect for all renewal transactions processed on or after February 15, 2024. Renewal transactions prior to that date will be processed at the previous rate, regardless of membership expiration date.

The Board also approved the following changes to Non-Member Registration fees, effective April 1, 2024:

Raise the Non-Member Registration Fee from \$5 to \$10 per event. As always, this only applies whenever there is an actual event fee charged.

Both Sustaining and International Membership allow subscriptions to printed publications, as well as the ability to add Family memberships.

It should be noted that these increases remain less than the cumulative U.S. inflation increase of 36.5% which has occurred since 2011.

(Data calculated using the US Inflation Calculator).

SCA, Inc. emphasizes its commitment to transparency and sustaining a vibrant community. These fee adjustments aim to ensure the organization's fiscal health, support ambitious initiatives in 2024 and beyond, and keep the Knowne World thriving and dreaming for years to come.

For more information, please contact John Fulton at [president@sca.org](mailto:president@sca.org).

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to:

SCA Inc.  
P.O. Box 611928  
San Jose, CA. 95161

You may also email: [SCA-comments@sca.org](mailto:SCA-comments@sca.org).

This announcement is an official informational release by the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Permission is granted to reproduce this announcement in its entirety in newsletters, websites and electronic mailing lists.

## **YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER** **NEEDS YOU!**

Content is always welcome for the  
Æstel, but space is often limited.  
Please remember to contribute to your  
local and independent newsletters.  
They need your help.

# Kingdom & Other Events

## Tournament of the White Hart

March 1st-3rd, 2024

Hosted by the Shire of Port Oasis

Contained Flames, Damp/Discreet, Not Wheelchair Accessible, Pets Allowed, R1

In the days leading up to the legendary hunt for the White Hart, the populace of Port Oasis prepares a feast and celebration in their local lodge. These festivities meant to prepare them for the long days ahead, tracking the ever elusive and elegant White Hart, will take place over several days. It will begin on Friday, March 1st, A.S. LVIII, by welcoming travelers from far and wide with some warm and filling food and drink, and a good night's rest.

Early morning on Saturday, March 2nd, the day's events will begin with a hearty breakfast and lunch intermingled with tournaments and activities for all. A magnificent feast will be had in the evening, followed by more merriment. On the morning of Sunday, March 3rd, we will send forth our hunters until next year.

The Lord and Lady of the White Hart, Lord Samuel of Great Oaks and Lady Fina the Huntress, would like to invite the Known World to join them in a celebration of rebirth, adventure, love, and chivalry at the Tournament of the White Hart XXIV in the Shire of Port Oasis, where they will again host a tournament of swords and pageantry and would challenge all comers to display their honor, their love, and their arms for all the Known World to see.

Competitions will be held for the Champion in heavy fighting, the Defender in fencing, the Yeoman in archery, and for the Artisan in A&S.

Join the Shire of Port Oasis on March 1st, 2024, 5:00pm thru March 3rd, 2024, 12:00pm at the Barbourville 4-H Camp, 6040 Booten Creek Rd., Barbourville, WV 25504

### Autocrat & Reservations:

THL Máirin Ó Nialláin (Deborah Preston). 3723 Crane Ave, Huntington, WV, 25705, Phone: (304) 416-5248  
Email: mairin\_o\_niallain@yahoo.com  
Please direct all questions to the Autocrat via email

Send all Pre-registrations, Feast and

Cabin reservations to the Autocrat at the above address. Make checks payable to: SCA WV, Inc – Shire of Port Oasis.

Pre-registration/Reservations must be received no later than February 14th, 2024 to allow for processing in time for the event.

### Event Fees (Includes Saturday Day-board):

Members Discounted Site Fees:  
Pre-registration – \$13; At the Door – \$15  
Non-Members Site Fees:  
Pre-registration – \$18; At the Door – \$20  
Children Site Fees:  
Under 5 – Free; 5 to 12: \$5; 12 to 17 \$10

### Lodging:

Single bunks are available on a first come first served basis in the Women only & Co-Ed dorm rooms off the main hall for \$5/night – no reservations available for the bunks

4 Cabins are available for \$135/ea for the weekend and sleep up to 18 – Email the Autocrat about cabin availability PRIOR to sending reservation monies as they go fast.

Free Camping space available upon request.

Assorted local hotels nearby

**Feast:** The Feast menu is TBD and will be updated as soon as we have more details available. There are only 70 seats available for feast, so please reserve early – Adults – \$10; children 5 to 12 – \$5; under 5 – free

Additional Notes on Alcohol Policy: All alcohol must be in period containers only.

Additional Notes on Pet Policy: All pets must be on leashes at all times.

Additional Notes on Flames: Fire allowed only in designated fireplaces and fire pits.

## Gulf Wars XXXII

March 9th-17th, 2024

\*\*out of Kingdom\*\*

Out of Kingdom Event. For more information visit:

<https://www.gulfwars.org>

## Bears Event

March 9th, 2024

Hosted by the Shire of Hunters Home

Contained Flames, Wet, Service animals only, Weapons allowed.

An early spring has roused the Bears from hibernation, and they are ready to rumble!

Please join us at the St Francis Xavier social hall (8880 Main St McKean, PA 16426) in the north lands of Hunters Home for a day of tournaments. We will be holding the traditional double elimination tournament, followed by a bearpit tournament.

The Bears kitchen and classes are closed this time! Our cooks and artisans will be busy preparing for an early Beer and Bacon Bash occurring a mere 2 weeks after Bears. There will be refreshments available, but we are recommending that you prepare for a potluck or pack a lunch. Site opens at 9am and closes at 6pm

### Costs:

Adult registration: \$20  
Adult member discount registration: \$10  
Children 11-17 registration: free  
Children 10 and under free

Make checks payable to SCA-PA, Inc – Shire of Hunters Home. Reservations may be sent to the Autocrat.

**Autocrat:** Otilige von Rappoltsweiler (Tracie Whitney, 1022 West 8th St, Erie PA, 16502) [ottilige4sca@gmail.com](mailto:ottilige4sca@gmail.com) 814.218.9865

**Co-Autocrat:** Thorfinnr y Elsfjord (Tod Elford, PO Box 1, Utica, PA 16362) [Thorfinnr.Elsfjord@gmail.com](mailto:Thorfinnr.Elsfjord@gmail.com)

## Brewing & Bacon Bash IX –

Fancy Bacon

March 23rd, 2024

Hosted by the Shire of Hunters Home

Contained Flames, Not Wheelchair Accessible, Service Animals Only / No Pets, Wet

Brewing & Bacon Bash IX – Fancy Bacon Shire of Hunter's Home, March 23rd,

# Kingdom & Other Events

2023. 9:00am – 6:00pm

Utica Volunteer Firehall,  
3860 Academy Street, Utica, PA

**THE BASHING:** This will be our “traditional” Heavy Combat Random Weapons Bearpit at the nearby Borderwatch Training Hall. You and your opponent will have to roll a D20 to determine what weapon you will use in the list. You have to roll the dice with every fight! It might be a spear, a dagger, a sword, a chicken... We will also provide the rubber chicken if you happen to roll the unlucky “13”. You need to hit them in the face with the chicken if you want to win that fight. We will have a supply of pre-inspected weapons you can borrow if you roll a weapon you didn't bring yourself.

**THE BACONFORGE:** Look for registration links for the eating at the Baconforge to arrive by the beginning of February. Pricing for the Baconforge will be added then.

**THE BREWING:** The sampling for the competition will be held in the firehall. This competition will be for beer/ale, cider, and wine/mead. Judging will begin at 2 PM.

**ARTS & SCIENCES:** Baroness Mistress Constance Waite (constancew@zoominternet.net) is organizing classes for the event. Please contact her if you wish to be put on the schedule.

**MERCHANTS:** We have indoor space for seven 3x8ft tables for merchants. There is no additional fee for set up. Please contact our Merchant coordinator Catherine Lumhalghs (Cathyanloomis@gmail.com)

**THROWN WEAPONS:** Our MIC in charge of thrown weapons is Edward of Freehold

FACEBOOK EVENT SITE: <https://www.facebook.com/events/212642131863600>

WEBSITE EVENT LISTING: <http://huntershome.aethelmearc.org/brewingbaconbash/>

Adult Event Registration is \$10,  
Adult Member Discount Event Registration is \$5,  
Children 11-17: \$5,

Children 10 and under: Free.

Make checks payable to SCA-PA, Inc. – Shire of Hunters Home. Reservations may be sent to the Autocrat.

AUTOCRAT for this event will be Thorfinnr y Elsfjord (Tod Elford) PO Box 1, Utica, PA 16362, 814-720-9017, [thorfinnr.elsfiord@gmail.com](mailto:thorfinnr.elsfiord@gmail.com)  
CO-AUTOCRAT is Baroness Mistress Constance Waite (Lois Am-ent) [constancew@zoominternet.net](mailto:constancew@zoominternet.net)

Additional notes on Wheelchair Accessibility: Parking lot pavement has been resurfaced to gravel. Maneuvering into restrooms can be a challenge but they do have support bars.

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## Mudthaw XLIII \*\*out of Kingdom\*\*

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Mudthaw XLIII ,March 23 @ 9:00 am - 8:30 pm.

Hosted by Barony of Settmour Swamp, Kingdom of the East  
For more information, please visit:

<https://www.eastkingdom.org/event-details/?eid=4244>

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## Donnan Party March 30th, 2024 Hosted by Silva Vulcani

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Dry, No Flames, No Weapons, R2, Service Animals Only / No Pets, Wheelchair Accessible

Do you hear the sounds of battle in the distance? The clatter of swords, the bashing of shields? Know ye well that the tides of war draw nigh as the heat of summer approaches! Will the fencers of Æthelmearc answer? And will they answer by practicing their skills against the might of Donnan MacDubhsidhe? Come ye all to Silva Vulcani to celebrate the Donnan Party with us!

Please join us March 30th, 2024 for The Donnan Party! The site opens at 9:00 am and closes at 5:00 pm. Anyone who is here after 5:00 will be forced to enroll in classes at PennWest.

Address: 250 University Avenue/  
California, PA 15419 Take your best route to PennWest University California, at the address listed. (more directions <https://www.facebook.com/events/518193623538095>)

How much will such a day cost?  
Site fee: 15.00 for non members  
10:00 for members.

Members of our fine community who are under 17 are guests and pay nothing.

**Food:** As we are hosting on a University Campus, then we must pay for food through AVI. You can absolutely bring your own food! But if you want the convenience of a quick boxed lunch, please consider the following choices:

Roast Turkey and Cheese on Kaiser Roll  
Ham and Cheese on Kaiser Roll  
Veggie Sub  
Chicken Salad  
Egg Salad

All boxed lunches are 9.25 dollars and come with Chips, Whole Fruit, Cookies, Choice of Sandwich, Bottled Water. You MUST pre-reg to guarantee food, and guarantee your choice.

All other questions may be directed to your loyal autocrat, Mathias Ben AITabai (Derek Coldren) ([Fletcher1996.dc@gmail.com](mailto:Fletcher1996.dc@gmail.com))

Other staff include your kind class coordinator, Gabrielle de Winter (Cindy Speer) ([Gabbywinter@gmail.com](mailto:Gabbywinter@gmail.com))  
And your fierce mic, Niccolo Loredan da Venezia (Tony Sarver) ([niccolo\\_loredan@yahoo.com](mailto:niccolo_loredan@yahoo.com))

Please write your checks out to: The Shire of Kings Crossing, and send them to James Boyd, 222 Stone Church RD. Brownsville pa 15417.  
Pre reg deadline February 26th, 2024

# Æthelmearc by Region

## Æthelmearc by Region

### Region 1 (West Virginia)

#### Barony of Blackstone Mountain

(South-Central)  
Sir Marek Vicheldrago (Brian Rumberg)  
brumberg@hospicecarewv.org  
Newsletter: The Banner -THL Elizabeth Fauconneau  
(Liz Orwig), littlehawk1@hotmail.com  
www.blackstonemountain.org

#### Shire of Misty Highlands

(North-Central)  
Baron Arias Beltran del Valle (Alex Hines)  
ariasbdv@yahoo.com  
Newsletter: The Claymore  
www.mistyhighlands.org

#### Shire of Port Oasis

(Huntington)  
Luca di Cola (Amy Reich)  
lucaseyacht@gmail.com

#### Shire of Sylvan Glen

(Eastern Panhandle)  
Sir Kjartan Kolgrimsson  
seneschal@sylvanglen.org

#### Shire of Ballachlagan

(Wheeling, WV)  
Don Markus skalpr Grimsson  
seneschal@ballachlagan

#### Incipient College of Arx Collis

West Liberty University, WV  
Lord Julius Gautieri  
arxcollis@aethelmearc.org

### Region 2 (Western PA)

#### Barony Marche of the Debatable Lands

(Greater Pittsburgh)  
THL Muirgheal inghean Dubghaill (Heather H. Cogan)  
seneschal@debatablelands.org  
Newsletter: Althing - Silence de Cherbourg  
silencethebard@gmail.com  
www.debatablelands.org

#### Shire of Hunter's Home

Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Lawrence, Venango, Clarion  
and Forest Counties of PA  
THL Thorfinnr y Elsfjord (Tod Elford)  
thorfinnr.elsfjord@gmail.com  
Newsletter: The Hunter's Horn  
Catherine of Aksu (Catherine McLean)  
http://huntershome.aethelmearc.org/huntershorn

#### Shire of Kings Crossing

(Washington and Greene Counties)  
Lord Heinrich Holtzapfel von Herxheim  
Troy.holsopple(at)gmail.com  
Web: www.kingscrossing.aethelmearc.net  
Newsletter: The Compass Rose

#### College of Sylvi Vulcanin

Lord Robert Hawksworth  
haz6008@calu.edu

#### Shire of Steltonwald

(Beaver County)  
Aidan Gunn of Steltonwald  
(Michael Robson)  
http://www.steltonwald.net

#### Shire of Sunderoak

(Butler and Armstrong Counties)  
Lady Fenna Riout  
megan.renee.list@gmail.com  
Newsletter: At Branches Reach -Tommasa Isolana  
(Melissa Carpender), tommasa@me.com  
http://sunderoak.aethelmearc.org

### Region 3 (Eastern PA)

#### Shire of Abhainn Ciach Ghlais

(Clinton, Lycoming, Snyder Counties)  
THL Deirdre Kildare  
deirsprite@gmail.com  
www.abhainnciachghlais.org

#### Barony of Endless Hills

(Northeastern PA)  
THL Julianna Woolworth (Mary-Frances Rigelwood)  
mfrigelwood@gmail.com  
Newsletter: Across the Hills-Leo the Ronin (Mike  
Brown), ehchronicler@endlesshills.info  
http://endlesshills.aethelmearc.org/

#### Shire of Nithgaard

(State College)  
Baroness Elena de la Palma (Dawn Sauer)  
elenadelapalma@gmail.com  
www.nithgaard.org

#### Barony of St. Swithin's Bog

(Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Westmorland Counties)  
Lord Arvik Hyttonen  
seneschal@stswithinsbog.org  
Newsletter: The Sentinel-Lady Ragnhilda Mannadottir  
(Melanie Mayse), Rangnhildamanadottir@gmail.com  
http://stswithinsbog.org

### Region 4 (Western NY)

#### Shire of Hartstone

(Allegany & Steuben Counties)  
Liz Walsh (They\Them)  
elizabethwalsh3.14@gmail.com

#### Shire of Heronter

(Jamestown / Chautauqua region)  
Duchess Dorinda Courtenay (Dorinda Courtine-  
White)  
dcourtinewhite@stny.rr.com  
www.heronter.org

#### Shire of Blackwater

(Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties)  
Lord Raadjgier Katla (Charles Schappacher II)  
topdrake@yahoo.com

#### Barony of the Rhydderich Hael

(Greater Buffalo area)  
THL Abdullah Al-Rashid (Frank Conner)  
seneschal@wnysca.org  
Newsletter: The Ice Dragon- Baron (Brother) Riobard  
Michel Padraig Timothy Seamus o'Suilleabhain  
(Robert Bajak) - chronicler@wnysca.org

#### Canton of Beau Fleuve

(Niagara Falls)  
Baron Caleb Reynolds  
http://beaufleuve.aethelmearc.org

#### Barony of Thescorre

(Rochester)  
Baroness Bronwyn nic Gregor (Wendy Sardella)  
3catssejant@gmail.com  
Newsletter: Fewmet - Baroness Katja Davidova Orlo-  
va Khazarina (Chris Adler-France)  
www.thescorre.org

### Region 5 (Eastern NY)

#### Shire of Angel's Keep

(Auburn)  
Lady Fenris McGill (Victoria Sampson)  
ladyfenris@verizon.net  
www.angelskeep.net

#### Shire of Coppertree

(Rome & Utica)  
Mistress Mathilde des Pyrenées, (Barbara L. Evans)  
Mathilde51@yahoo.com  
Newsletter: Windfall - Aerin (Euron) Wen  
(Jennifer DeVincenzo), chronicler@coppertree.aethelmearc.org  
http://coppertree.aethelmearc.net

#### Shire of Courtlandslot

(Cortland County)  
Seneschal Mordax (Charles MacTavish)  
courtlandslot@aethelmearc.org  
https://courtlandslot.aethelmearc.org

#### Barony of Delftwood

(Syracuse)  
Don Michael Gladwyne  
seneschal@delftwood.org  
Newsletter: Full Tiit -Ana Sirena de Valbuena (Stacey  
Rohling)  
chronicler@delftwood.org  
www.delftwood.org

#### Canton of Dunloch

Oswego County, NY  
Lady Ana Sirena de Valbuena  
dunloch@aethelmearc.org

#### Dominion of Myrkfaelinn

(Ithaca)  
Don Matteo Pesci  
mkeary@gmail.com  
http://myrkfaelinn.aethelmearc.org

#### Shire of Sterlyngvayle

(Binghamton)  
Mistress Nest ferch Rys  
nestverchrys@gmail.com  
www.sterlyngevayle.aethelmearc.org

#### Shire of Wynterset (Dormant)

(Watertown and Ft. Drum)  
Teresa Giani (Christie Terry)  
christie69@gmail.com  
http://wyntersetthome.org

# Æthelmearc Kingdom Officers

## Kingdom Officers

### SENESCHAL:

Barún Pádraig Ó Branduibh (Patrick DeWind)  
716-812-1421 (Texts welcome)  
seneschal@aethelmearc.org

### DEPUTY SENESCHAL:

Mistress Hilderun Hugelmann  
deputy@aethelmearc.org

### DEPUTY SENESCHAL/DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:

Mistress Gytha Oggdottier (Lori Drake)  
dei@aethelmearc.org

### LAW & POLICY DEPUTY:

Master Diego Miguel Munoz de Castilla  
policy@aethelmearc.org

### DEPUTY –SPECIAL PROJECTS

Mistress Kelda Jurgensdocktir  
specialprojects@aethelmearc.org

### WAIVER SECRETARY/ARCHIVIST:

THL Catherine O'Herlihy (Kate Turnbole)  
archivist@aethelmearc.org  
Please send all waivers to:  
Kate Turnbole 551 North Ave Apt. 2  
Pittsburgh, PA. 15209

### PORTER (Disability Services):

Lady Teresa Giani (Christie Terry)  
porter@aethelmearc.org

### CHANCELLOR OF YOUTH:

Baroness Antoinette DeLorraine  
youth@aethelmearc.org

### MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE:

Baron Arias Beltrandel Valle  
media@aethelmearc.org

### SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICER

Mästarinna Astridrig vigaskegg  
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### EVENT COORDINATOR:

Baron Tassin Tresseaul  
events@aethelmearc.org

### CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER:

Sir Tigernach mac Cathail  
exchequer@aethelmearc.org

### NMS DEPUTY:

Magdalena Txoperenade  
de Guerra (Andrea Choperena Guerra)  
nmr@aethelmearc.org

### SILVER BUCCLE HERALD:

Don Jorundr hinn rotinn  
herald@aethelmearc.org

### SIGIL HERALD (Deputy):

Baron Arias Beltran del Valle  
sigil@aethelmearc.org

### JEWEL HERALD:

Baron Arias Beltran del Valle  
jewelherald@aethelmearc.org

### GOLDEN ALCE HERALD :

(Order of Precedence)  
Lady Dorothea Stark Schutz

### GARNET HERALD (Submissions):

THL Alianora Bronhulle  
garnet@aethelmearc.org

### CORNELIAN HERALD (Sub. Deputy):

Vacant  
cornelian@aethelmearc.org

### EARL MARSHAL:

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marshal@aethelmearc.org

### RATTAN MARSHAL:

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rattanmarshal@aethelmearc.org

### ARCHER GENERAL:

Master Juan Miguel Cezar  
archery.deputy@aethelmearc.org

### YOUTH COMBAT MARSHAL:

THL Metheus Weasel  
youthcombatmarshal@aethelmearc.org

### COMBAT ARCHERY MARSHAL:

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combatarchery@aethelmearc.org

### EQUESTRIAN MARSHAL:

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equestrian@ aethelmearc.org

### FENCING MARSHAL:

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### MINISTER OF THE LISTS:

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mol@aethelmearc.org

### AUTHORIZATION CLERK:

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authorization@aethelmearc.org

### SEIGE MARSHAL:

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### THROWN WEAPONS MARSHAL:

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twmarshal@aethelmearc.org

### MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES:

THL Maggie Rue  
ans@aethelmearc.org

### DEPUTY MINISTER OF ARTS & SCIENCES:

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ansdeputy@aethelmearc.org

### CHANCELLOR OF THE ÆCADEMY:

Master Fridrikr Tomasson and Mistress Orianna  
Fridrikskona  
aeademy@aethelmearc.org

### DEAN OF THE WAR COLLEGE:

Sir Marek Viachedrago  
warcollege@aethelmearc.org

### HOUNDMISTRESS:

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hounds@aethelmearc.org

**CHRONICLER:** Master Magnus de Lyons (Lance  
Kazmark), chronicler@aethelmearc.org

### DEPUTY CHRONICLER:

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chroniclerdeputy@aethelmearc.org

### HISTORIAN:

Lady Revna Lunaris  
historian@aethelmearc.org

### CHAMBERLAIN:

Baron Tassin Tresseaul  
chamberlain@aethelmearc.org

### SYLVAN SIGNET:

(Minister of Scrolls): Mistress Roberta McMorland  
signet@aethelmearc.org

### CHATELAINE:

Lady Elizabeth (Libby) Parker  
chatelaine@aethelmearc.org

### WEBMINISTER:

Baroness Amalie Reinhardt (Peri Nelson-Sukert)  
webminister@aethelmearc.org

**FOR A FULL LIST OF KINGDOM OFFICERS GO TO,**

<https://aethelmearc.org/officers>

## Events - “at a glance” March 2024

**March 1st-3rd, 2024** Tournament of the White Hart, Hosted by the Shire of Port Oasis

**March 9th-17th, 2024** Gulf Wars XXXII, \*\*out of Kingdom\*\*

**March 9th, 2024** Bears Event, Hosted by the Shire of Hunters Home

**March 23rd, 2024** Brewing & Bacon Bash IX – Fancy Bacon, Hosted by the Shire of Hunters Home

**March 23rd, 2024** Mudthaw XLIII ,March 23, Hosted by Barony of Settmour Swamp, Kingdom of the East \*\*out of Kingdom\*\*

**March 30th, 2024** Donnan Party, Hosted by Silva Vulcani



# The Æstel

The newsletter of the Kingdom of Æthelmearc—March 2024 A.S. LVIII