

The Banner

for the Barony of Blackstone Mountain



Forget-Me-Not
Master Claude de France Book of Flower Studies, c1500-1515

Spring 2026
A.S. LX



Baronage of Blackstone Mountain

Their Excellencies

Cunedda Kell and Alana Horsecroft

baronageblackstonemountain@aethelmearc.org

Officers

Seneschal

THL Ulrych Volkhart

blackstonemountain@aethelmearc.org

Exchequer

Lady Noella de Feuer

h.humphey@gmail.com

Chronicler

Mästarinna Astridr vigaskegg

astridrvigaskegg@gmail.com

Herald

THL Verena von Talhain

vmartin2304@gmail.com

A&S Minister

Lady Mary Thomas

Chatelaine

Baroness Katherine Wert

Cvsayre@gmail.com

Knight Marshal

Syr Rhys of Myles Ende

rhysofmylesende@aethelmearc.org

Fencing Marshal

Baroness Cerridwen de Skene

dorranebernard@gmail.com

Archery Captain

THL Cedric de Lothian

Cedricdelothian@gmail.com

Thrown Weapons

THL Ulrych Volkhart

ulrych.volckhart@gmail.com

Minister of the Lists

Lady Dagny Skaldadottir

lainey6947@gmail.com

Webminister

THL Cedric de Lothian

Cedricdelothian@gmail.com

Calendar

Upcoming Events

Spring Crown Tournament

May 2, 2026

Wellsville Rod and Gun Club

Wellsville, NY

Queen's Rapier Championship

May 9, 2026

Our Lady of Mt Carmel

Silver Creek, NY

AE War Practice

May 14-17, 2026

Cooper's Lake Campground

Slippery Rock, PA

Scarlet Guard Inn

June 5-8, 2026

Fraternal Order of Eagles

Brockway, PA

Spring Aecademy

June 20, 2026

Clarion Inn

Harpers Ferry, WV

Upcoming Meetings

May 3rd @ 1:30pm

Astralis Arts Temple of Tools

2377 Sissonville Dr.

Charleston, WV, 25387

Local Practices

Rattan Fighting

Mondays @ 5:30pm

Winter Praticce Site

(Email Knight Marshal or check

FB for directions!)

Fencing

Wednesdays @ 5:00pm

Hawk's Nest Lodge Conference

Room

Archery & Thrown Weapons

No winter practice

Election Announcement

After discussion with the Kingdom Seneschal, it has been determined that group status polling and an election for Baron and Baroness will take place in 2026. At this time we are calling for letters of intent for Baron and Baroness. This election will move the investiture to Blackstone Raid 2027. The deadline for letters of intent will be Wednesday May 12, 2026. Letters delivered postmarked after the above date will not be considered. Below is the Election Procedure as it appears in the Current Bylaws.

B. Election of the Baron and Baroness

1. General Policies

- a. Baronial election will determine the next titular head of the Barony.
- b. Baronial Elections will be carried out in accordance with kingdom law.
- c. The Baronial polling/election will be a mailed poll requiring a mailed return to the Kingdom Seneschal or appointed representative, postmarked by the deadline stated on the printed ballot. No poll will be accepted by hand delivery.
- d. The Baronial seneschal oversees baronial elections.
- e. The Baronial seneschal may not be a candidate in the baronial election.
- f. The baronial election will also include a poll to determine group status.
 - i. Remain a barony.
 - ii. Become a province.
 - iii. Dissolve into shires
 - iv. Dissolve completely
- g. To vote you must be at least 14 years of age, and be able to provide proof of age.
- h. Any candidate for Baron and Baroness must be at least 21 years of age by the date of the Baronial investiture.
- I. The Candidate(s) receiving a majority of the votes cast will assume the office.
- j. the Baronial polling/election must be completed at least six months before the end of the current Baron/Baroness term.

Election Announcement

2. Selection Process

- a. The Baronial Seneschal; will announce the availability of the office of Baron and Baroness twelve months prior to the end of the term.
- b. The announcement will be made at a regularly scheduled Baronial meeting and shall be published in The Banner.
- c. The Baronial Seneschal will ask for letters of intent from those Gentles that wish to become Baron or Baroness. The letter must contain:
 - i. SCAdian Names(s)
 - ii. Mundane Names(s)
 - iii. Address
 - iv. Telephone number
 - v. The candidate's reason for running
 - vi. Proof of current paid Society for Creative Anachronism membership must be attached to the letter.
- d. The letters of intent must be submitted to the Baronial Seneschal within one month of the published announcement.
- e. The Baronial Seneschal will be responsible for sending copies of each candidate's letter of intent to the Crown and the Kingdom Seneschal.
- f. The letters of intent shall be published in The Banner.
- g. The Baronial Seneschal will request mailing labels from kingdom and oversee mailing of the ballots.
- h. Ballots will be returned to the individual designated by kingdom.
- i. The Ballots will be mailed no later than two months after the letters of intent have been published in The Banner. The deadline will be clearly printed on the ballot and announced at the meeting prior to the mailing.
- j. Counting of the votes.
 - i. The ballots will remain sealed until the meeting.
 - ii. The polls will be counted at the regularly scheduled baronial meeting following the ballot deadline.
 - iii. The Status poll vote will be counted first followed by the baronial poll. Status votes of members do not negate their choice of Baron and Baroness.
 - iv. The Kingdom Seneschal, or appointed representative, the current Baron and/or Baroness, and the Baronial Seneschal will count the votes.
 - v. If any of the above are candidates in the election then a replacement shall be selected by a majority vote of the Baronial officers.

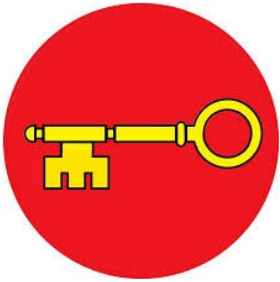
Election Announcement

m. Upon completion of the election, a petition must be prepared by the Baronial Seneschal requesting investiture of the elected candidates that shall be sent to crown, and to the Kingdom Seneschal.

3. Obtaining a ballot

- a. It is the responsibility of each member to ensure his or her current address is correctly listed with the office of the registry.
- b. It is the responsibility of the individual to contact the Baronial Seneschal. No later than seven days before the deadline if they did not receive a ballot.
- c. If the individual does not want their second ballot mailed they must arrange to pick it up at the Seneschal's convenience.
- d. A third ballot will not be issued.

Officer Reports



From the Seneschal

Greetings from the Seneschal.

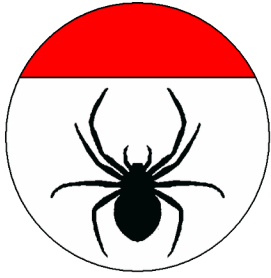
As we head into 2026 we have a busy schedule ahead. In April we will be hosting Blackstone Raid 32. Then at the end of May we will be holding the Baronial Championships to determine our Champions. Lastly, we have a new event in November with the Tournament of the Wickerman.

In addition to all of the events we have going on this upcoming year, we will also hold elections for new Baronage, as Baron Cunedda Kell and Baroness Alana Horsecroft will wrap up their baronial reign. Please make sure that your membership is up to date and that your address is correct. That way you will show up on our list of active members, and when ballots are mailed out yours is not delayed.

As the groups seneschal, my door is always open. If you have any issues or questions, please feel free to reach out to me. I will help come up with a solution or find someone more qualified who can help.

THL Ulrych Volkhart

Officer Reports



From the Webminister

Greetings unto the populace.

The Baronial website continues to be tended and updated, and I humbly ask the assistance of the populace in helping keep it current and ever growing.

First, I gladly welcome photographs from events which may be shared upon the Baronial website. Should you send photographs, please be certain to include permission for their use upon the site when submitting them. If you would like credit listed for your photographs, please include how you would like that credit to appear.

I would also ask that those whose heraldry appears upon the website take a moment to review their displayed arms or badges. If corrections or changes are needed, please let me know. Furthermore, if you are willing, I would be delighted to include a brief account of your heraldry — the meaning behind your chosen colors, charges, and devices — so that the stories behind the arms of our populace may also be shared.

A reminder as well that the Awards Recommendation Form upon the website is active and working. If you know someone worthy of recognition, I encourage you to submit a recommendation, especially with Blackstone Raid drawing near.

Lastly, as we prepare for Blackstone Raid, I ask that those hosting classes, tournaments, or activities please send along their detailed schedules so they may be properly posted upon the event website. If you are hosting a tournament or activity, a short description of it would also be greatly appreciated.

My thanks to all who help keep the Baronial websites informative and reflective of the spirit of our community.

In service,

The Webminister

Officer Reports



From the Herald

Greetings one and all. I am THL Verena von Talhain the Herald for The Barony of Blackstone Mountain. If you, or someone you know, is looking for help working up and/or submitting Heraldry, please contact me at vmartin2304@gmail.com.

Officer Reports



From Thrown Weapons

Now that the weather is starting to improve, we will start holding thrown weapons practices for the year. When we do start to hold practices Royal Round targets will be available. To get a ranking in each of the thrown weapon forms you need to have 3 Royal Round scores recorded within a 12 month period in a particular form. Currently, the Barony only has 2 throwers with a current ranking. Let's try to increase those numbers in the upcoming year.

For thrown weapons practices this year, I would like to rotate the location so more people can come out and throw. Watch the Baronial Facebook group for practice announcements.

THL Ulrych Volkhart

Officer Reports



From Archery

Scarlet Guard Challenge – Baronial Representative Needed

The Kingdom Scarlet Guard Challenge will be held on June 6th. As a member of the Scarlet Guard, I am not eligible to compete in the challenge to represent the Barony this year.

Our Baronial Archery Championship will take place on May 30th, and the Baronial Champion is traditionally the archer who represents the Barony at the Scarlet Guard Challenge. Archers interested in representing the Barony are encouraged to participate in the championship shoot.

If you are interested in representing the Barony at the Scarlet Guard Challenge, please consider competing in the upcoming Baronial Championship.

Call for Archers

The Barony is always happy to welcome new archers to the range. If you have ever been curious about archery in the SCA, practices are a great opportunity to learn. Experienced archers are also encouraged to attend and help strengthen the archery community within the Barony.

Archery Practice Announcement

Archery practice will be announced weekly and held weather permitting. Archers of all skill levels are welcome to attend, including newcomers interested in learning more about target archery in the SCA. Loaner equipment and guidance are available for those who would like to try shooting for the first time.

Please watch for the weekly announcements for practice times and location. If you have questions about equipment or would like to try archery for the first time, feel free to reach out ahead of practice.

Event Reports

Tournament of the White Hart

On Saturday, March 7th, The Shire of Port Oasis (assisted by members of the Barony, put on the 26th annual Tournament of the White Hart at the Cabell County 4-H Camp. By all accounts, the event was a rousing success and attendees and staff alike had a wonderful time. Various tournaments were held to determine our new champions in Rapier, Archery, Thrown Weapons, Arts and Sciences, and Heavy Combat. A new Lord and Lady of the White Hart were also chosen from amongst the Heavy Weapons combatants. Kara Ivarsdottir and Tarl McLave will have the honor of running the Heavy Tournament at next year's event as its new Lord and Lady. The event also boasted merchants, scribal play time, children's activities, a silent auction and an amazing feast. This year's Tournament of the White Hart truly captured the magic of the S.C.A in all the best ways. Great memories were made and we truly hope you will join us again next year for even more great times with amazing people.

In service,

THL Verena von Talhain (autocrat)

Event Reports

Tournament of the White Hart

White Hart Archery Report

Archery at White Hart was well attended throughout the day, with approximately 15–20 archers participating at various times. The day was unseasonably warm, with occasional breezes and a brief passing rain, but conditions remained favorable for shooting. Several youth archers and newer participants also joined the line, making for a welcoming and active range.

THL Cedric de Lothian served as Marshal-in-Charge of the range, assisting with setup and running the shooting line, including a Royal Round range that many archers enjoyed throughout the day.

The Yeoman of the White Hart Tournament, organized and run by last year's winner Marina Aragones de Navarre, began with a qualifier round before moving to a final shoot-off between the top four archers: THL Juan Miguel, THL Cedric, Gaelan Clarke, and Michael Bjarki. After a tie in the final round with Michael, Cedric secured the deciding shot in the shoot-off to claim the title of Yeoman of the White Hart for the coming year.

Additional shooting activities were offered throughout the day, including a three-station competition hosted by the Kingdom Archer General. Juan Miguel claimed victory in that competition and was also the first to successfully strike the Archer General's "X Marks the Spot" challenge target.

Many individuals assisted with the range during the day, helping with marshaling duties, equipment checks, instruction for newer archers, and range setup and tear-down. Their efforts helped ensure the range operated safely and smoothly for all participants.

Online Resources

Visit The Barony of Blackstone Mountain online at
<https://blackstonemountain.aethelmearc.org/>

Visit The Barony of Blackstone Mountain on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/SCABlackstoneMountain>

This is the Spring 2026 issue of The Banner, a publication of The Barony of Blackstone Mountain of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Banner is available from Kelly West/Astridr vigaskegg - astridrvigaskegg@gmail.com. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2025 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. 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.