

The Banner

for the Barony of Blackstone Mountain

Bylaws Edition

From the Chronicler:

Greetings from The Honorable Lady Erzebet;

As in years past, the Barony of Blackstone Mountain published its regular newsletter, *The Banner*, to inform the populace of the goings-on of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain. This tradition shall recommence immediately and at a rate of once per quarter. As per the current *By-Laws of The Barony of Blackstone Mountain* and at the direction of the Seneschal, Baron Marek Viachedrago. the recommencement of the publication of *The Banner* shall begin with the publication of the *By-Laws of The Barony of Blackstone Mountain*. This publication supersedes all other publications, both electronic and in print. As a special note, nothing published to <http://www.facebook.com> is consider an official publication of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain and is not to be held as a matter of record.

If you have suggestions, wish to see something included in the newsletter, please let me know. It is my intention to have a quarterly newsletter at this time. Submissions are due 2 weeks before the publishing date of the next newsletter which at this time will be June 9, 2019.

This first newsletter of the year contains the Baronial Bylaws.

In Service to Kingdom and Barony,

The Honorable Lady Erzebet Fauconneau

Distribution

The Banner is available online via The Barony of Blackstone Mountain's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/158713750818631/>) and the Barony's official website (<http://www.blackstonemountain.org>).

Disclaimer

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Welcome to the Barony of Blackstone Mountain

New to the SCA? New to the Area? New to the Kingdom? Then check out our kingdom's [Newcomer's Guide page](#)! It has all kinds of wonderful information to get you in touch with the people you need! Or, if you just want to touch base before jumping in, you can fill out this [Newcomer's Form](#). We also have a [Facebook page](#) which is used for announcements and general populace interaction.

Have you noticed someone who maybe does a lot in an art or science or service or is a really up and coming fighter with promise? There are awards for these things! You can recommend people for an award by filling out [this form](#). It's fast, it's easy and someone you know might finally get the recognition you thought they already had!

[Upcoming Events](#) This is where the good stuff happens. That part where you get to be a part of the book you create. Be the character you want to be in the time you have always wanted to visit. The kingdom event calendar can be found here! This is kingdom wide. For the full Monty, visit the [Kingdom of Aethelmearc](#) website.

Local Events This is where our barony shines. Come visit us. See what we do, become a part of what we love. We hope you'll chose to stay a while.

The [Tournament of the White Hart](#) hosted by the Shire of Port Oasis. Held at Cabell County 4-H Camp, 6040 Booten Creek Road, Barboursville, WV 25504. March 1-2, 2019. This is pageantry, honor, courtesy and joy in a fun filled day of archery, fencing, fighting, feasting and gaming. Friends old and new come together for a magical day and evening.

[BlackStone Raids 28](#) Hosted by the Barony of Blackstone Mountain. Held at mp Sheppard 4-H Camp 78 Camp Sheppard Ln Gandeeville, WV 25243. The western fields and their fair planes of black stones have played out. The armies of the society now retreat to the interior of Aethelmearc. New mines must be made to fuel the forges of war. The raids. the raids never change; just the field and its fighters. Now the armies who battle over the resources will have new ground to make their mettle, make their merry, and find their steel after a bitter winter slumber.

Meet the Baronial Officers:

Seneschal - Sir Marek Viachedrago (Brian Rumberg)

Chatelaine – Pending - The Honorable Lady Astrid (Kelly West)

Herald – Lady Mathilda De Crepelgate (Marlette Carter)

Knight's Marshal – still looking

Exchequer - The Honorable Lady Odette D'Artois (Misty Rouse)

Arts and Sciences officer – Baroness Cerridwen De Skene (Dorrane Bernard)

Chronicler - The Honorable Lady Erzebet Fauconneau (Liz Orwig)

Archery – Cedric De Lothian (Russell Vickers)

Baron and Baroness - Ichijo Honen (Brett Bernard), Cerridwen De Skene (Dorrane Bernard)

Officers Reports:

From the Seneschal:

Greetings to the Populace of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain,

For those of you who don't know, I am Baron Marek Viachedrago, KSCA. I assumed the Seneschal position in January and am looking forward to working and serving with you in continuing to build "the Dream" here in the southern reaches of Aethelmarc.

We are still looking for a full-time Knight-Marshal to oversee the Barony's martial activities. If you are interested in this position, feel free to contact me. There are two potential locations and dates for Baronial Fight Practices in the works, one in Elkview (Thursday evenings) and the other in North Charleston (Sunday afternoons). Both locations will have space available for people interested in working on projects to set up.

-Marek.

From the Exchequer:

Greetings;

Things are well finance wise. Moving forward all event bids should focus on lower break even attendance and tighter budgeting. This will make it easier to break even or have a small profit margin. We need to make enough extra to spread around for all our events to cover operating expenses. There are few items we should discuss as a group in regards to the purchase of a baronial laptop in order to facilitate financial reporting. A storage trailer is another topic which requires discussion as well.

Please also welcome my new deputy, Crotos, who will be learning the ins and outs of financialreporting and running troll for events.

In Service,

The Honorable Lady Odette d'Arques

From the Archery Marshall in Training:

Greetings from Cedric;

At this time the focus is on procuring 3 new straw archery targets from overseas. Once they arrive I will be crafting 3 new target stands to meet the target archery Guidelines. Once I take the marshal's test, I plan to hold weekly practices and submit weekly royal round shot scores for all who are interested.

In Service, Cedric

From the Herald:

OY-yay from Lady Mathilda;

Currently the OP needs updated, will be working on that. Three members of the barony had heraldry submissions sent off to kingdom and are awaiting a reply. If anyone needs help with heraldry submissions please contact the herald's office.

In Service,

Lady Mathilda

From the Arts and Sciences Officer:

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences;

Once again our valiant forces were able to stem the flow of dragons and turn them back to Sun Goes Down. Great fun was had and though I didn't get it as organized as I'd like we did have several classes and an A&S display. Most sincere thanks to those who gave of their time to teach this year, and as many thanks to those who participated in the display. Plans are in the works to have the return of displays and competitions in hopes for more classes to be available in the future. So, remember; more for next year. I have some ideas but will also take suggestions for themes or requests for classes. Remember there are numerous upcoming opportunities to display your wares and demonstrate your craft! Upcoming A&S opportunities include War Practice and the Saint Albans Ren Fair Muster and Demo. See the Kingdom Calendar for even more chances to participate in the Arts and Sciences!

Yours In Service,

Baroness Cerridwen

From the Baron and Baroness of Blackstone Mountain:

Old Man Winter has (hopefully), retired at last and the warmth of Spring brings the beauty of new growth flowering over the mountains. With the warm weather came the forces of the Midrealm on their annual incursion to gather more of the precious Blackstones. A great many gathered on the field of battle to hold back the throngs of invaders and more still designed many a quest for those wielding weapons of the lighter variety. As in the tales of Valhalla, those slain on the battlefield rose in jubilation and celebrated with those who they had battled with that day. A wonderful time was had and each year

Raids gets even better and more exciting. Many thanks to all those whose hard work and dedication make Blackstone Raids possible.

Yours In Service to Kingdom and Barony

Baron Ichijo Honen and Baroness Cerridwen de Skene

Letters of Intent for the new Baron and Baroness:

Greetings to each member of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain and Kingdom of Aethelmearc,

After much thought, reflection and discussion We, Baron Cunedda Kell and Baroness Alana of the Horse Clans would like to submit this Letter of Intent to run as your Landed Baron and Baroness of Blackstone Mountain in the upcoming election.

As the Second Baron and Baroness of Blackstone Mountain, it was our privilege to serve and watch as this great Barony grew and prospered. It was not easy but some of our fondest memories and “No &@\$! There I was” stories had their beginning during those years.

We look forward to what the future holds for these great lands and would consider it an honor to once again serve the local populace and Kingdom of Aethelmearc in this capacity.

Yours In Service,
Cunedda and Alana

Baronial Bylaws

The By-Laws of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain

As Accepted on 9/14/2008

The people of the barony do hereby ordain and establish these By-laws, subject to the approval of the Kingdom Seneschal and at the pleasure of their majesties.

These rules and policies apply only to the populace who make their primary residence within the Barony's geographic boundaries. It shall be understood that these Rules and Policies are implemented subject to federal, state, and local, and The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Order of Precedence of Law Stated in Corpora.

I. Policy Changes

- A. Only an officer of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain, Kingdom of Aethelmearc, or the Society for Creative Anachronism may call for a change in the Baronial By-Laws.
- B. Proposed changes must be read at the regular Baronial meeting and published in ***The Banner***.
- C. Vote on said changes will take place at the following regular Baronial business meeting.
- D. Voting is covered under Article III, Section B.

II. Officers

A. Officers of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain Offices required by Corpora and Kingdom are as follows:

- 1. Seneschal
- 2. Exchequer

3. Knight Marshal
4. Minister of Arts and Sciences
5. Herald
6. Chronicler
7. Chatelaine / Castellan
8. Minister of Lists

B. Requirements to hold Baronial Office

1. Baronial offices are as defined by Corpora and Kingdom law and policy, and Baronial needs.
2. Additional officers are subject to Kingdom approval.
3. All officers must be make their principal residence within the geographical boundaries of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain.
4. All officers must maintain a current sustaining or family membership as defined by Corpora for the duration of their term.

C. Responsibilities of Officers.

1. Officer's responsibilities shall be those outlined in corpora and Kingdom Law and policy.
2. Additional responsibilities.
 - a. Seneschal, their deputy or an appointed representative, shall hold Baronial meetings at least once a month.
 - b. Seneschal, their deputy or an appointed representative, shall hold baronial meetings at a site and time to be announced no later than the previous Baronial meeting.
 - c. The Seneschal or designates has the sole right to call a halt to debate when it becomes heated or personal.
 - d. Meeting attendance.
 - i. All officers are required to attend or send a representative with a report to all baronial business meetings.
 - ii. Failure to report for two consecutive meetings will be deemed a voluntary resignation.
 - f. Each officer is responsible for the promotion of activities inherent to their office.
 - g. All officers must submit quarterly updates to *The Banner*.

D. Deputies.

1. Any office required by Kingdom Law is required to have a deputy.
2. An officer may appoint as their deputy anyone who meets the requirements listed herein for that office.
3. Deputies are to be knowledgeable in the responsibilities of the office and prepared to assume these responsibilities at any time.
4. Should an officer resign, or become unable to perform he required duties, the deputy shall take over the office until the original officer can resume or until the regular election date.

E. Term of Officer.

1. Term of office shall be for 24 months per elected term.
2. No officer may serve for more than two consecutive elected terms.

F. Succession of Officers.

1. Officer resignation/removal.
 - a. If the office has a deputy, then the deputy shall assume the duties of +-the absentee officer.
 - b. If there is no deputy, the Seneschal may appoint a volunteer to hold office until the regular election date or until the original officer can resume. Individuals must meet the requirements set forth in Article II B
2. Officer election procedure is outlined under Article VIII, Section A.

3. Whenever an office changes hands it is the responsibility of the outgoing officer to transfer all files and Baronial Property relating to the office to the successor or to the Seneschal, at or before that business meeting and to notify the Kingdom supervisor of the change in office.

III Business Process

A. Meetings

1. The Barony of Blackstone Mountain will hold a business meeting monthly except for the month of August due to Pennsic War.
2. Meetings shall be held at a set location to be determined at the previous months meeting.
3. The location, date, and time of the meeting will be announced on the Baronial List serve and at the preceding meeting.
4. Proxy or Absentee votes are not permitted.
5. Simple issues may be settled by a show of hands unless objected to by someone in attendance.

B. All Business meetings shall be open to all comers.

C. Business may be performed at a meeting only in the presence of a majority of the baronial officers or their deputies.

D. The Baronial Seneschal has the prerogative to call for closed officer's meetings.

IV. Publication

A. The Barony will have a newsletter for the dissemination of news and other information of interest to the Barony.

B. The Baronial newsletter shall be known as *The Banner*.

C. The construction, editing, publishing, and distribution of *The Banner* shall be the responsibility of the Baronial Chronicler.

D. Every October on even years these By-Laws of the Barony of Blackstone Mountain will be published in *The Banner* in their entirety. Any addendums will be published electronically between printings.

V. Finances

A. The finance Committee shall be the Exchequer, Seneschal, and a third officer selected by them.

B. Expenditures.

1. Expenditures of \$75.00 or less may be authorized buy the Finance Committee.
2. Expenditures of over \$75.00 must be approved by a majority of the baronial officers.
3. All Expenditures must be reported at the following baronial meeting.

4. Events

a. Officers will not approve expenditures for proposed events unless they are presented with a written event bid.

b. All funds from events must be turned over to the Baronial Exchequer or Baronial Seneschal.

c. All funds from events must be deposited to the proper account within 7 calendar days from the end of the event.

C. Reimbursements.

1. Reimbursements require a receipt or copy of the original invoice.

2. All reimbursements of \$75.00 or less can be authorized jointly by the Baronial Seneschal and Exchequer.

3. All reimbursements of over \$75.00 must be approved by a majority of the Baronial officers.

4. All event related reimbursements must be submitted within 14 days after the end of the event.

5. Any non-event related reimbursements must be submitted within 30 days.

6. All reimbursements must be reported at the following baronial meeting.

D. Signatures.

1. All Baronial checks will require two signatures.

2. People to be on the signature card.

a. The Seneschal

- b. The Exchequer
- c. The Kingdom Exchequer
- d. A third officer of the barony, selected jointly by the Financial Committee

VI. Events

A. Bids submission.

1. All bids for baronial events must be submitted at a baronial meeting.
2. The Seneschal must call for prospective autocrats to submit a bid for annual baronial events no later than nine months before the event date for events with budgets in excess of \$ 1,000.00 and six months before all others.
3. The deadline for submissions will be set by the seneschal.
4. The choosing and acceptance of an event bid will be decided by a vote as outlined under Article III section E.
5. All event bids submitted in advance of the deadline defined by the seneschal shall be held by the seneschal until the deadline, when all bids will be considered by the Barony members and the winning bid selected.
6. The Bid must be submitted in writing on the kingdom event bid form.

B. Event finances and reporting are covered under Article V.

VII. Awards.

A. There shall be baronial orders that may be given at the discretion of Their Excellency's.

B. Their Excellency's may create additional orders at any time.

C. Adding an order to these policies does not require a vote.

D. Orders.

1. Order of the Sable Anvil

- a. This order is given for excellence in the Arts and Sciences.
- b. Companions of this Order may display its badge as registered by the College of Arms.

2. Order of the Onyx

- a. This order is given for excellence in service to the Barony.
- b. Companions of this order may display its badge as registered by the College of Arms.

3. Order of the Sable Bear

- a. This order is given for excellence in the Martial Arts.
- b. Companions of this order may display its badge as registered by the College of Arms.

VIII. Election Procedures

A. Election of Officers

1. Dates of Elections.

- a. The officer voting process will be at the September meeting.
- b. On even numbered years the Seneschal, Herald, Minister of the Lists, and Knight Marshal shall be voted on. c. On odd numbered years the Arts and Sciences, Exchequer, Chatelaine, and Chronicler shall be voted upon.

2. Offices not filled by acclimation will be voted upon by secret ballot.

3. The officers not being voted on in the election will count the ballots.

4. To vote you must be able to present proof of paid membership to the Society for Creative Anachronism in the form of a membership card, proof of membership or the mailing label from the kingdom newsletter or confirmation letter from the Society.

5. To vote you must be at least 14 years of age and be able to provide proof of age.

6. The Candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast will hold the office.

7. All other voting procedures are covered under Article III, Section E.

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.

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. 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.

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.

IX. Baron and/or Baroness of Blackstone Mountain

This position is subject to the residency requirements for officers set forth in Corpora and Kingdom law and policy and shall serve at the pleasure of the Crown.

A. Rights.

1. To give Baronial awards as outlined under Article VII.

2. To display the arms of the barony as registered with the College of Arms.

3. To Delegate the Carrying of the baronial arms.

4. To appoint a baronial Guard who will serve at their Excellencies pleasure.

B. Tenure

1. The term of office shall be three years beginning the date of investiture by the Crown.

2. No one may run for more two consecutive terms.

C. Resignation/Succession

1. The Baron/Baroness has the right to resign at any time.

2. When resignation leaves the Barony without a titular head.

a. Intent to resign must be announced at a baronial meeting.

b. A written letter of resignation must be submitted to the Crown, Kingdom Seneschal, and Baronial Seneschal.

c. All baronial regalia must be turned over to the Baronial Seneschal, or an appointed representative.

d. The Crown can choose to appoint a vicar to manage their lands until a new election and investiture are completed.

