



# The Barony of Settmour Swamp

## The MudPuppy

Summer 2021 Edition  
A.S. 56

### Letter from the Baron and Baroness

Unto the Barony, do we Charis and Orlando send greetings.

We're baaaack! The time is nigh for our Swamp family to gather anew. We will be holding our first live event in a year and a half on July 30th, and by the time you are reading this, we hope it was a great success with four new baronial champions!

As we look forward to our next event, Quest, on Labor Day weekend, we ask that everyone come out and enjoy our activities. Please continue to consider everybody's health by being cautious, getting vaccinated if possible, and masking when necessary.

To encourage membership in the Society, we need a cast and crew to put together some short promotional and informational videos highlighting activities that will catch people's interest. To that end, we are seeking a young and diverse group of SCAdians to help out. "How To" videos are needed for the Swamp YouTube channel as well, so if you have been documenting a project, please send it to Elizabeth Talbot.

Speaking of crafters, we are also seeking those who might be willing to mass produce items for both Baronial largess and newcomer starter bags. Finally, we seek the talent of those gifted with pen and brush, to calligraph and illuminate scrolls for deserving members of the Barony. Please contact us via our baronial emails if you would like to lend a hand.

Until next month, start warming up those bodies and brains to compete in Settmour Swamp's Quest for Wit and Wisdom. See you all there!

# List of Officers

|   |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Baron<br>baron@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Baron Orlando Sforza      | Invested: March 2021<br>Expires: March 2025         |
| Baroness<br>baroness@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Baroness Charis Accipiter | Invested: March 2021<br>Expires: March 2025         |
| Seneschal<br><a href="mailto:seneschal@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org">seneschal@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org</a> | Natal'ia Bolotnikova      | Invested: October 2019<br>Expires: October 2021     |
| Deputy Seneschal  | Judith bas Rabbi Mendel   | Volunteered: October 2019                           |
| Exchequer<br>exchequer@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Phelippe le Vigneron      | Invested: April 2020<br>Expires: April 2022         |
| Chamberlain<br>chamberlain@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Galefridus Peregrinus     | Invested: April 2019<br>Expires: October 2021       |
| Chatelaine<br>chatelaine@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Gwenhoivar of Lindley     | Invested: September 2020<br>Expires: September 2022 |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Deputy Chatelaine   | Emeline la Chauciere                             | Volunteered: September 2020                          |
| Sinking Tower Pursuivant (Herald)<br>herald@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org   | Alexander MacGregor                              | Invested: November 2018<br>Expires: November 2023    |
| Deputy Herald (voice)   | Ceara MacKeiran of Arundel                       | Volunteered: February 2018                           |
| Minister of Arts & Sciences<br>moas@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org   | Elizabeth Talbot                                 | Invested: April 2020<br>Expires: April 2022          |
| Deputy Minister of Arts and Sciences  | Raela a Bheithir                                 | Volunteered: April 2018                              |
| Deputy Minister of Arts and Sciences  | Dumnona  | Volunteered January 2021                             |
| Chronicler<br>chronicler@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Lillian Hutchinson                               | Invested: October 2020<br>Expires: October 2022      |
| Deputy Chronicler   | Judith bas Rabbi Mendel<br>Hrefna Sigurðardóttir | Volunteered: October 2019<br>Volunteered: March 2021 |
| Webminister<br>webminister@settmourseamp.eastkingdom.org  | Dalek Bolotnikov is Kabanov                      | Invested: October 2010<br>Expires: May 2022          |
| Deputy Webminister  | Ursula of North Woods                            | Volunteered: March 2017                              |
| Knight Marshal<br>marshal@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org   | Ögurr Aðalbrandarson                             | Invested: March 2016<br>Expires: April 2022          |
| Marshal of Fence<br>rapier@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org  | Wulfgar Silfraharr                               | Invested: June 2020<br>Expires: June 2022            |
| <b>Gryphonwald</b>  |  |  |
| Seneschal<br>seneschal@gryphonwald.eastkingdom.org  | Stephanie MacGregor                              | Invested: July 2019                                  |
| Exchequer<br>exchequer@gryphonwald.eastkingdom.org  | Eleanor Callaghan                                | Invested: January 2018                               |
| Minister of Arts & Sciences<br><a href="mailto:moas@gryphonwald.eastkingdom.org">moas@gryphonwald.eastkingdom.org</a> | Dalek Bolotnikov iz Kabanov                      | Invested: March 2008                                 |
|   |  |  |

# Minutes

## Summary of Baronial Business Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2021

Held virtually

Present: Natal'ia Bolotnikova (chairing), Judith bas Rabbi Mendel (taking notes), Teresa Ana Perez (taking notes), Alexander MacGregor, Ceara MacKieran of Arundel, Charis Accipiter, Ciaran Ua Meic Thire, Dalek Bolotnikov iz Kabanov, Elizabeth Talbot of Meath, Emeline la Chauciere, Freydis, Galefridus Peregrinus, Gráinne MacLeod, Hrefna Sigurðartóttir, Lillian Hutchinson, Ögurr Aðalbrandarson, Orlando Sforza, Oskar, Phelippe le Vigneron, Sigurd, Silvanus Woodwose, Wulfgar

The officers voted to approve the minutes and summary of the March 12<sup>th</sup> baronial meeting.

**Mudthaw** -- The event was hugely successful. People were enthusiastic and had great fun. The A&S segment was well done, and the break-out rooms worked well. Charis commented she couldn't say 'thank you' enough. Oskar's performance at the ending of the investiture video segment was stellar. We have the Greek Orthodox church reserved for next year.

**Pennsic** -- At the last meeting, we agreed to discuss Swamp Camp after Mudthaw. What is the status of Pennsic? We should hear by May 19 about whether Pennsic is going to take place. We discussed what to put up on our baronial website and Facebook page about Pennsic.

**Demos** -- The Parsippany Library contacted Emeline and wants a virtual demo this summer, geared to 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade. They'd like something 30-35 minutes long, maybe with 15 minutes of presentation and the rest of time responding to questions. Please contact Emeline if you are interested in participating. Oskar reminded us that we should make it different from remote school programs.

**Concordia's Storage Unit Fire** -- The Barony of Concordia lost everything they had in their storage unit when the place burned, and they are still trying to figure out what they need. Their best estimate is that it will cost them \$30,000 to replace what they lost—it includes their pavilions. A form is on their Facebook page that people can fill out if they want to help. Charis suggested we give them some of our Gold Key clothing. What we

would face in similar circumstances. The monthly rent we pay for the storage units includes \$10 of insurance.

**Quest --** We have the Clinton Elks' site for Labor Day Weekend (September 4-6). There will be no overnight camping, per SCA directive. We agreed that this event should be smaller and baronial-focused. What do we want the event to look like? Ceara said she had some ideas about a quest. We could do a virtual one if we can't manage an event. We agreed to wait until we heard more from the SCA Board of Directorrs about what the SCA was allowing people to do—the next update is expected in June.

**Regional Crown Tourney --** Orlando asked if we would like to host one of the regional crown tourneys. This year they are having a number of smaller, feeder tourneys instead of a big event. The winners of those regional tourneys will face each other. It is likely the regional competition would be ten fighters, with their consorts, and no spectators. We discussed what we would need to make this type of event work. We would have to make sure the site had wifi and the ability to stream. These regional tourneys should take place during the first couple of weeks of July.

**Baronial Championships --** Their excellencies would like to hold the championships this year at practices soon. Orlando is currently the baronial archery and fencing champion, in addition to also being baron.

### **Baronial Business Meeting Minutes**

**May 12, 2021**

**Held virtually**

Present: Natal'ia Bolotnikova (chairing), Judith bas Rabbi Mendel (taking notes), Teresa Ana Perez (taking notes), Alexander MacGregor, Anne L., Ceara MacKieran of Arundel, Charis Accipiter, Cuilean MacFhionnlaigh, Dalek Bolotnikov iz Kabanov, Elizabeth Talbot of Meath, Galefridus Peregrinus, Gráinne MacLeod, Gwenhoivar of Lindley, Hrefna Sigurðartóttir, Jonathan Miles, Lillian Hutchinson, Markus Farmaðr, Ögurr Aðalbrandarson, Orlando Sforza, Renwick, Wulfgar

The officers voted to approve the minutes and summary of the last baronial meeting, held April 14, 2021.

**Mudthaw**

We still need to get the contract for 2022. We're already on their calendar for the March 26 2022 date. Barefoot Contessa video is still in a holding pattern.

### **Quest**

Cancelled for Memorial Day Weekend because the SCA moratorium on live events.

### **Pennsic**

Has been cancelled. Armistice is not an SCA event.

### **Labor Day Weekend**

We're starting the work to plan an event then. We have the Clinton Elks site reserved. We're thinking of a 1 or 2 single day event (no camping overnight). The SCA is not allowing camping events yet. Dalek will post a call for someone to autocrat. We discussed making that event be Quest. We should also post the search for a questocrat. Ceara will submit a bid. We don't plan to do a feast. What we can do may change as we get closer to the date, depending on changing state and SCA rules. How long should the event be? If we make it at least 2 days we could spread out the activities. We agreed to decide on the length of the event next month when we have an autocrat.

### **Day of Champions**

Orlando and Charis would like to hold this event in July at the Newark Life Camp, located on McCane Road. They will need an autocrat. They do not plan to serve any food. Charis will check with the camp on its availability on two weekends.

### **Crown Tourney**

Do we want to host one of the feeder tournaments? Probably not because we are having difficulty finding places to hold practices.

### **Helping Concordia**

We are still waiting to hear how we can help Concordia since their storage locker burned.

### **Vote for Chamberlain**

Galefridus' term has ended; the position has been posted. Two people have both expressed interest in the position. Alexander recommended the officers vote that Galefridus continue as chamberlain for a few more months, at least to the end of September. This would allow him to show others what is involved in being a

chamberlain. We haven't hosted an event for 18 months. The officers voted to extend his term.

### **Other Business**

Renwick asked who to talk about regarding making videos. We referred him to Elizabeth Talbot. Wulfgar mentioned that Treannah will be elevated to the Pelican. The virtual vigil is taking place on Friday, May 21 from 6-9 pm.

### **Officer Reports**

Chatelaine: Elisabetta de Roma would like to donate some fabric to Gold Key. Judith has purchased some new garment bags since the ones they borrowed are breaking. Gwenhoivar said she is still getting emails from people interested in the SCA. She will be sending in her quarterly report soon. Emeline is following up with the library about the demo they'd like.

Rapier: Wulfgar has found a possible place to hold practices, located in Ironbound near the cultural center of Newark. It looks like it has potential. Wulfgar is also looking into other places.

Heavy: Oguur said that while Nutley hasn't started practices yet, Rusted Woodlands has.

A&S: Elizabeth Talbot reported that she is still looking for YouTube content. She is working on a survey on Facebook about what people missed most during the pandemic for the Mudpuppy.

Exchequer: Charis is helping Phelippe finish up the financial report that is due. We have money.

Webminister: Dalek said he had no updates. He is getting back to work on the box of code. He will post that the barony is looking for an autocrat and a questocrat.

Chamberlain: Galefridus now has two deputies. Nothing more to report. He visited the storage lockers, and everything looks okay.

Herald: Alexander has submitted his quarterly report. A couple of submissions are in process.

Chronicler: The Mudpuppy is done, and it is being reviewed. Emeline did the layout, but she would like to pass on that job. We should put out a call for someone who would be interested. She will teach them the Adobe Illustrator skills needed. Devon and Wulfgar both expressed interest. Dalek will post.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.** The link will be posted on website and Facebook, like usual.

The meeting adjourned.

## **Baronial Business Meeting Minutes**

**June 9, 2021**

**Held virtually**

Present: Natal'ia Bolotnikova (chairing), Judith bas Rabbi Mendel (taking notes), Teresa Ana Perez (taking notes), Ceara MacKieran of Arundel, Charis Accipiter, Cuilean MacFhionnlaigh, Dalek Bolotnikov iz Kabanov, Elizabeth Talbot of Meath, Freydis Josepsdotter, Galefridus Peregrinus, Gwenhoivar of Lindley, Hrefna Sigurðartóttir, Jonathan Miles, Jojo Kibbles, Markus Farmaðr, Ögurr Aðalbrandarson, Orlando Sforza, Oskar, Phelippe le Vigneron, Silvanus Woodwose, Treannah, Wulfgar

The officers voted to approve the minutes and summary of the last baronial meeting, held May 12, 2021, with two corrections to the heading.

### **Mudthaw**

Judith has been trying to work out the arrangements with the Greek Orthodox Church, and has spoken with the church administrator. We agreed back in November on the date of March 26<sup>th</sup> and okayed that date with The Crossing to use their parking lot. St. Nicholas's church council is meeting to decide the date of their Greek Independence Day celebration, which may be on the weekend we'd like to do Mudthaw. We agreed that our first choice of date is March 26<sup>th</sup>, with March 19<sup>th</sup> as the alternative. We need to put up a placeholder on the EK calendar, but can't until the date has been finalized.

### **Labor Day (of Love) Event (Quest)**

New SCA rules have been issued about gatherings, and they specify that no shared food should be served. Markus and Jonathan have volunteered to autocrat and submitted a bid. The budget has money for a feast if we can do one. Brian is interested. Caera has volunteered to do the quest. The officers did not vote on the questocrat because the plans are not firm. We can vote on this by email or hold a special meeting, so we don't need to wait until next month's business meeting.

### **Day of Champions**

Natal'is is waiting to hear back from the Clinton Elks about holding the event there. The ideal date for us is July 24th, with either the 25<sup>th</sup> or the 11<sup>th</sup> as alternatives. We will hold the martial competitions at this event, with the A&S, brewing, and bardic competitions at Quest. We could hold a special meeting to vote on autocrats.

We discussed the issue of masks. Some people will not come unless they are sure everyone is masked; they may have health reasons for this. We need to make very clear our expectation that everyone wear masks. At Southern Region War Camp everyone was masked. We should rent some hand-washing stands. We can use PayPal for preregistrations; people can also send checks to Phelippe. Preregistration is required.

### **Potluck/Swamp Stomp/Next Business Meeting**

We voted to hold the next business meeting (open to all) on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.

### **Borrowed Garb**

The Gold Key garb borrowed by a school drama production has been returned. Some items were repaired, and broken garment bags and hangars were replaced before returning. Everything was laundered.

### **Conventions/Demos/Canal Days**

Orlando would love to have a Swamp presence at cons and other places. Canal Days is August 20<sup>th</sup>. Are we ready to do this? We will have done our first event in 1 ½ years and be getting ready for our second. Canal Days takes a lot of work to pull off. Do we do it? The sentiment was to go for it. We need an autocrat.

We're talking about having events! Very exciting!

### **Officer Reports:**

Chatelaine: Gwenhoivar has received a couple of emails from interested people and has been in touch with them.



Webministry: Dalek has lots of updates and announcements to do.

Heraldry: Markus said work is being done. Judith mentioned needing a token for the baronial A&S. The symbol for A&S has changed and doesn't merge easily with our tower.

Exchequer: Phelippe said all is quiet. We have money.

Chamberlain: Galefridus said Gold Key is back.

Heavy: Ogurr said no official fighting is happening yet, but less sadness is in sight.

A&S: Elizabeth reported by email that the bi-yearly report has been submitted.

**Next meeting: In person on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.**