

The Guardian

Of Oertha



Spring 2007

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Words from the Seneschal

Greetings Oertha!

Spring is slow in coming this year and I am more than ready for camping season to begin. In the interim, while the snow melts, I can catch up on paperwork and attend warm indoor events with lots of cocoa. Here is a quick overview of what's going on in the Principality Seneschal's world.

The Board of Directors signed off on Hrafnafjordr's new shire status so they so they are legally a Shire! Way to go guys!

Coronet plans are moving along and it sounds like we'll have quite a few visitors from Outside this summer. Watch the lists for further information on reservations and site instructions.

Our first Principality yearly A&S calendar has been posted to both the Oertha list and the Page so that our Artisans can plan ahead for participating in contests.

There are a variety of rapier marshalling classes happening this spring and the heavy fighters are hosting a whole slew of practices throughout the week. If you want to play contact Margaret-Anne or Georg and they'll get you lined out.

Earngyld will be hosting their first official event with all new officers on May 12. The event will include a feast, a cordial contest and lots of dancing.

YIS,
Alienor Fitzhenry
Principality Seneschal

From the Office of the Knight Marshal

The summer season is fast approaching! Winter snows and biting winds will soon be replaced by warm sunshine and gentle breezes before you know it (yes, really, it happens every year)! Okay, mud and rain come first, but hey, think positive!!! And that means that the tournament and war season will soon be upon us here in the Far North. So now is the perfect time to check your gear, dust off your armor, check and retape your weapons, and get yourself into fighting shape. Summer Coronet is after all only four months away... If you haven't been to fighter practice lately, come on out, the company is fine. And it's not just for fighters - we need marshals, water bearers, and, most important of all, good gentles to come out and encourage our great fighters by cheering them on. So come on out and make an afternoon or evening of it - you don't know that your missing. You may even want to put some loaner armor on and try it yourself!

Regarding weapons, West Kingdom has started an official "experimental program" for Low Profile Thrusting Tips 3/4 to 1 inch high. The tip will still have a 1 1/4" diameter, have no rattan felt across the face of the tip and have 1/2" of give, but will be 3/4 to 1 inch high foam after taping, instead of 1 1/4". All swords and single handed weapons using this tip must be marked with a 6 inch band of alternating green and red tape below the red LPTT to distinguish it as "experimental". If you do use the experimental tip, remember to announce it to your opponent; they have the right to refuse to fight against it, as stated in Armored Combat rules 2006 version regarding experimental weapons. Branch marshals - please report their use in your monthly and quarterly reports. And if there are any problems with thrusting tips being less than 1 1/4", please let me know at [\[Removed\]](#) so that I can pass it on to Mari, Kingdom Earl Marshal. She needs real data regarding their use and any problems relating to their use. The "experimental program" will run from now until the December quarter.

For the Knight Marshal
Lord Magda Oshitkanova
Principality Deputy Knight Marshal

From the Oerthan Equestrian Marshall

It has been a quiet winter for equestrian activities in Oertha. An Introduction to SCA Equestrian mini-class was held at Oertha Winter Coronet and was attended by 5 people. There continues to be interest in equestrian activities but again with winter in full swing, travel has been limited.

On the horizon is the first Oertha Equestrian Event which has been rescheduled to August 10 - 11.

As the days grow longer and the temperatures warm (here's hoping this late cold snap soon departs) we're looking forward to getting outdoors and riding more. It is sometimes very difficult to get motivated when the thermometer is hovering around 20 below. Even the horses are getting tired of the indoor arena routine.

I am pleased to report that the support for EQ activities in Oertha remains constant. Even those who do not ride are taking up the mantle of grounds crew so that we are able to move forward with planning for demonstrating the equestrian arts to both Oerthan's and the public.

In Service,

Mistress Clare Elena de Montfort

Oertha Equestrian Marshal

The Exchequer's Report

Our lands appear to be growing profitable, even in the cold days of winter that are now behind us. At the end of the last year our coffers contained \$6504.12 up by \$671.81 from the beginning of the year. Of which \$2221.47 belongs to our 3 incipient shires, Pavlovsk Gavan, Earngyld, and Hrafnafjorðr. I wish to say a great thanks to all of our group exchequers for getting your doomsday reports in on time. This has given Oertha great praise from the Kingdom Exchequer.

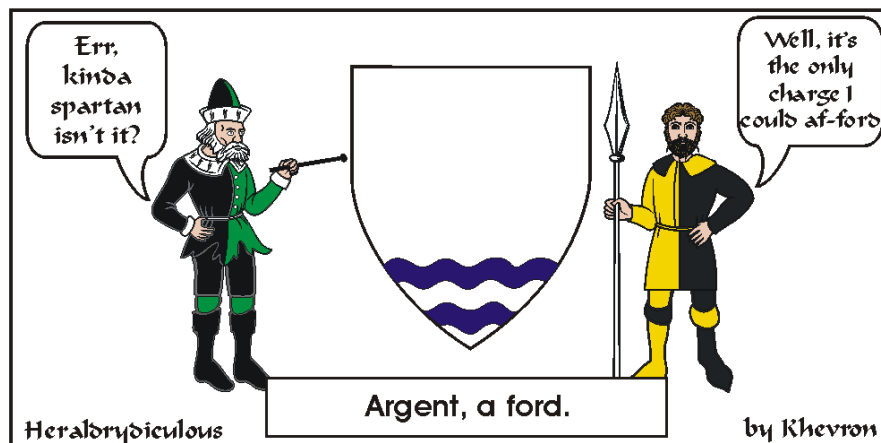
Winter Coronet was a great success. We had 86 adults and 24 children for a total attendance of 110. We made a profit of \$290.00 for the event: a job well done by those who worked so hard to create this event, in order to enrich our lands.

Summer Coronet will be hosted by Hrafnafjorðr. I ask the populace to help them to create an outstanding event, so that we may leave great impressions upon those visiting.

May the sun always shine on the road ahead and the wind blow at your back.

In Service

Etain O'Rowarke



Greetings from Stellanordica Herald.

This Summer Coronet I will be passing the office to my successor, Isabel de la Hay who's going to be one of our primary Sejant Wolf heralds doing courts for Their Highnesses. I will, however, be continuing to be doing name and device consults as I have been. This is a completely free service, and I encourage everyone to contact me with their ideas or notions, or even just favorite colors to start working up possibilities. I make speculative art with my clip-art and send you a .gif picture to print or otherwise view and comment on. I've done anywhere from 1 to 50 samples for any one client - so don't be shy! Visit my web-site for more information:
<http://www.khevron.com/>

I also want to list some on-line resources for names and device ideas. The earlier new folk find good names, the less problem they'll have with changing it later. Please don't use fantasy names or made-up names. Even historical fiction is suspect as a source. Baby Name books are almost universally bad for our purposes. You're unlikely to find period sources to enable registration. Registration protects your name from anyone else in the SCA using it, and ensures you have a likely name for someone in the SCA period. Devices help identify you, and add to the pageantry and fun of medieval recreation.

<http://www.s-gabriel.org/> - The Academy of St. Gabriel - Good lists and advice
<http://www.s-gabriel.org/names/> - The Medieval Names Archive
<http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names.html> - SCA.org Names (Note: "Name resources that do not need photocopies" means the commenting heralds probably have or have access to these books. It does not mean everything in those books are acceptable for our use. The "Annotated Name Book List" article comments on actual books, good or bad.

<http://www2.kumc.edu/itc/staff/rknight/heraldry.htm> - Modar's Heraldry page. Huge resource for all aspects of heraldry. Links to many specific articles.

SCA Rolls of Arms for examples of what you can do:
<http://rolls.westkingdom.org/> - West Kingdom Roll of arms
<http://www.aeheralds.net/rolls/index.php> - Æthelmearc Roll of Arms
<http://heraldry.griffin-dor.org/Caid/index.php> - Caid Roll of Arms
<http://www.geocities.com/dakea/> - Calontir Armorial
<http://www.sca.org.au/herald/LRoA/index.php> - Lochac Roll of Arms
<http://wharrow.outlandsheralds.org/> - Outlands Roll of Arms
<http://elizabethan.org/heraldry/index.html> - Elizabethan Heraldry
<http://elizabethan.org/heraldry/primer.html> - Excellent primer about designing arms.

For Service,
Baron Khevron

Information on the Chirurgeon Submitted by Master Breock of Whitby Principality Chirurgeon

What is a Chirurgeon?

A Chirurgeon is a member of The Chirurgeon which is the volunteer first-aid organization of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Chirurgeons are both volunteer first aiders and warranted at-large officers of the SCA. A Chirurgeon is fully warranted and sanctioned to provide volunteer first aid at SCA events and serve in Chirurgeon-specific offices.

What do Chirurgeon's do?

First, Chirurgeons CANNOT force a conscious person to accept treatment without his or her consent. We provide basic first aid. All service in the Chirurgeonate is on a volunteer basis. No one can place a Chirurgeon on duty as a first-aid provider for any portion of an event if they are unwilling to work as a first aider at that time. If a Chirurgeon is available, willing, and designated to give first aid at an event, they must provide that first aid to any and all who request it. Chirurgeons do not function as "health care providers" or "medical care providers", any care they provided beyond basic first aid is done so outside the bounds of the SCA and is under the auspices of that individuals legal medical license.

How do I become a Chirurgeon?

In order to become a fully warranted Chirurgeon, you must meet the following conditions (as outlined in the SCA's [Chirurgeon's Handbook](http://www.sca.org/officers/chirurgeon/ChirurgeonsHandbook2007.txt) which can be located at the following web location: <http://www.sca.org/officers/chirurgeon/ChirurgeonsHandbook2007.txt>)

- You must serve an observation period as a Chirurgeon-in-Training for evaluation of attitude, demeanor, and training in SCA-specific knowledge such as the rules for armored combat and the contents of the Chirurgeon's Handbook.
- You must be as old or older than the legal age of majority in the state, province, territory, and/or country where you live.
- You must possess a current first-aid certification or acceptable alternative
- You must possess a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification
- You must be a member of the SCA. The type of membership must provide immediate access to your Kingdom newsletter.
- You must provide the following to your Kingdom Chirurgeon:
 - Proof of age of majority (a copy of your driver's license should suffice)
 - A copy of your first-aid or medical credentials
 - A copy of your CPR certification
 - Proof of SCA membership

How many warranted Chirurgeon's do we have in Oertha? Two.

Are Chirurgeons required officers for branches?

Only for Principalities and above. It would be nice to have one for each Barony & Shire in Oertha, if we can find people who meet the above qualifications and are willing to serve.

Who can I contact for more information?

Breock of Whitby (S. Breck Spencer, [Removed], Anchorage AK 99504;
907-[Removed]; greenviking2001@yahoo.com)

Or if you're shy...The Society Chirurgeonate web presence:

<http://www.sca.org/officers/chirurgeon/welcome.html>

Or Chirurgeon's Point, an unofficial point of reference:

<http://www.chirurgeon.org/index.shtml>



Greetings from the Barony of Winter's Gate.

This past winter has seen a great deal of growth and change for our little Barony. We have added new members, had new people change officer positions, and had a new Stronghold begin forming down in the Clear area. We have new heavy fighters training and building gear, a growing interest in rapier fighting and a slowly building interest in renewing archery up here. With this growth and change has come a cry for volunteers willing to teach, train and assist in any way that is needed. In response to this cry; there are classes being taught, project nights being held, guilds being resurrected and all of this is being done with an energy that is a pleasure to behold. We invite anyone to come and join us for any kind of even and share in this blooming. We would love to have you visit.

However, we do have a challenge for everyone, not just in our Barony but in the whole principality, to try something new...learn a new skill, make a new project, teach a class, autocrat an event or maybe even volunteer as a deputy or as an officer. Every group in the Principality could use the boost that comes from new people trying new things. All of us, in all our endeavors, make our principality work. No group can do without the people that form it. Our principality has amazing people and we are glad to say; we are very proud to be Oerthans.

Griffin Garret Margery Garret

Baron and Baroness of Winters gate



From the Shire of Hrafnfjörðr

Low and behold we are not incipient any more!!! Huzzah. The people in the Shire have been quite busy this year. We had two Fighters enter into the Winter Coronet List, and look forward to having 4 in the Summer List. Gunnar is doing a fine job building upon our heavy weapons fighters. Ragn on the other hand is attempting to assemble a rapier corps; only time will tell just how successful he is going to be in that endeavor. Lady Tsirona and Lady Amber are hard at work designing and making site tokens for Summer Coronet. Yes, it is just around the corner. Every time I look around it seems that the people in the Shire are busy doing something to promote growth of our Shire and our Principality! This past month the Shire held a tournament to select a new champion. The new Shire of Hrafnfjörðr Champion is Grisalus Hillarious Gladius. Later this month we will be holding an A&S Collegium, providing the people another opportunity to learn and to share what we have learned.

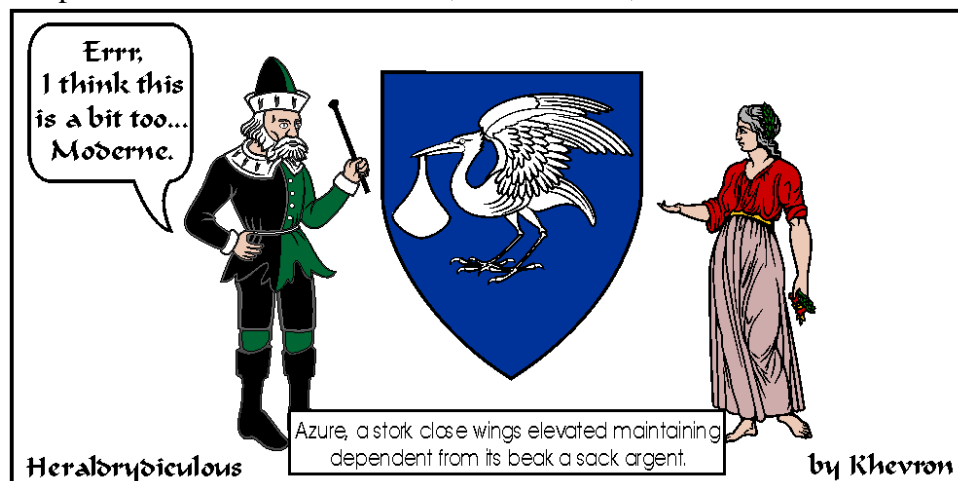
For the Shire,
Ragnsteinn fra Andressmyri
Chronicler

From the Incipient Shire of Pavlovsk Gavan

The Incipient Shire of Pavlovsk Gavan continues questing towards official status, having just celebrated our Fifth Anniversary as a functional group. The last, and apparently greatest, hurdle is our name approval. While all experts thus far consulted say that our name construction appears to be correct and appropriate, there is a regrettable lack of hard evidence to support our claim. The Heralds have suggested several options and a poll of those was recently conducted by our membership. We will be resubmitting very shortly with a name change to Pavel Gorod. While not nearly as historic and well-fitting for our community, we can at least get on the books as an official group. Upcoming we have our fourth annual Fairytale Fete. We are expecting several guests from Oertha to be present. We also look forward to our first official rapier sword tournament as well as the playing of Tama's prize for freescholar in the West Kingdom Royal Guild of Fence. It should be a wonderful weekend of Fairytale fun.

Lady Tama

Seneschal, Incipient Shire of Pavlovsk Gavan, Pavel-Gorod, Pavlok Gorod...



From The Tournaments Illuminated Editor

Greetings!

Tournaments Illuminated Undergoes Remodeling!

Several features are being added to Tournaments Illuminated, and contributors are needed. The additional items we are looking to include are:

"MERRY TALES" - Humorous essays about life in the SCA.

"MEDIEVAL DESTINATIONS" - Two to four original photographs plus limited text featuring a medieval castle, monument, road, building...

"SHORTS" - Small articles featuring anything from a bit of period trivia to an original recipe based on a period dish.

"PHOTOGRAPHS" - Send an individual picture of an interesting, odd, amazing, or humorous medieval site, artifact, or SCA event with a caption. (A question to keep in mind with the SCA event picture is: Would this picture be intriguing to members in the other eighteen kingdoms who do not necessarily know the members involved?)

Just in case you are worried, we are keeping the articles and book reviews, but there are some modifications in the submission guidelines that authors will want to review. For all of these items, please go to www.sca.org/ti/ and check out the editorial policy, deadlines and revised guidelines.

In service,

Thank you for your effort,

Mistress DoriaTecla

Incoming Tournaments Illuminated Editor

[Removed]

SEEK ADVENTURE!

AUTOCRAT WINTER '08 CORONET

Bids due July 15, 2007

For information contact the Oerthan Seneschal at

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A letter to the People of Oertha

All my brothers and sisters in the great Principality of Oertha do I, Lord Gunnar Olfuss send greetings!

I have become inspired and I wish to share it with all of you. As I celebrated Chinese New Year yesterday my thoughts drifted back to one of my heroes, the late great Bruce Lee.

There is one quote of his that stands out in my mind more than any of the others.

"To know is not enough, we must apply. To will is not enough, we must do." Now I think this applies to us very much. By now I'm sure that you all have heard that this summer's Coronet will be very big with lots of out-of-state visitors. We all want to do our best to make it a great event and impress our guests. However, I think the most impressive thing we can do, is to have the most glorious list we have ever had. Last month, we only had five fighters enter the Coronet List. I don't see any reason that we can't have as many fighters enter the list as there were present at Border Wars. Maybe a few didn't enter because they do not want the job as Prince and Princess. Well I can respect that. You should want to do the job if you are going to enter the list, but I spoke with several people who did not enter the list because they didn't think they could win. What is up with that? Talk about your self-fulfilling prophecy! They were right, because they didn't even try!!

"To will is not enough, we must do."

That means besides just wanting it, you have to at least try. You have to do it. Nothing will ever fall into your lap.

"To know is not enough, we must apply."

Apply? Apply what?

Well for starters, how about the golden rule that Viscount Sir Sagan Von Ostensee taught us. "That on any given day, any given fighter, with any given combination of arms can best any other given fighter." Or how about, "No amount of skill can overcome dumb luck."

Are these just quaint little slogans, or are these the very pearls of wisdom that we want and need to hear. If we don't APPLY these philosophies to our fighting game, than we haven't learned anything from Sir Sagan. No amount of fundraising, no amount of one on one time with great teachers like Sir Sagan and Duke Hauoc will amount to a hill of beans if we do not apply the the information they present to us. No one else can apply the stuff for you or to you. We must be the ones that apply it, ourselves.

Recently I came to a revelation about my successes and failures in my fighting. I realized that for a long time I have made excuses, even when I thought that I wasn't. I would use my location in the world as an excuse. When ever I would ask myself, why am I not as good of a fighter as Sir Georg, Sir Cyrus and Sir Deitrich? I would answer that I would be as good as them if I lived closer to Anchorage and could train with them more, but I live in Kenai and cannot train with knights and so that is why I'm not getting better, etc... Or I could ask, 'Why am I not as Good as Sir Gemini, Duke Hauoc, Duke Fabian etc.. The answer was the same. Well, it's because I live in Alaska and I don't have alot of exposure to Dukes and the wide variety of knights that I could get if I lived in California.

This has been a common mentality across all of Oertha, not just in me. Poor us.

Noble lords and ladies have repeatedly traveled up here to help us improve the size and caliber of our heavy fighter pool, in the hopes that we can have a Coronet list with more than five fighters in it.

I will always remember the kindness of these good folk who over and over again have come to help us train, but I have reached a point where I know that I will be ashamed of myself if Duke Hauoc has to teach me the same stuff this summer as he taught last summer, and the summer before that, the winter before that. Well, you get the picture.

You see, "To know is not enough, we must Apply."

Whether 'it' is a fighting technique or a very beneficial fighting philosophy like the Sir Sagan examples quoted earlier, we must apply these to our individual games, practices, and combats.

There is no magic move, no magic knight, Duke or teacher/master that is going to make us great fighters. Only we can make ourselves great, and the way that we do that is hard, hard work. Diligent training. Take what has been shown to us and apply it to yourself. I can spend weeks with Sir Sagan and Duke Haouc soaking up all the neat little moves and combos, but if I never apply any of it later, to my pell post, at my fighter practices, or in the way I think then I won't get anywhere, ever.

If we want to impress out Kingdom visitors, than let us apply what we have been taught, let us rise up and take the responsibility of making us better as our own, the burden of Oertha's future sits on our shoulders, no one else's.

Let us hold the most glorious tournament Oertha has ever seen!

May all with arms, take up their kit and answer the call to find good and noble successors for Prince Cyrus and Princess Caitríona!

We did it at Border War, let us do it again! Let us make ourselves proud Oertha!

In service to Oertha and the West 'till swords part and the stars shatter.

Lord Gunnar Olfuss

Fighter's Bill of Rights

Fighters in the Society are in many ways like the Air Force flyers I take care of in my mundane job: very independent - not wanting anyone to tell them what to do. This gets to be a real touchy situation in the Lists when a fighter is injured and does not want to leave the field, even though continuing may cause the injury to become worse. Society Law prohibits the Chirurgeon from removing a fighter from the field against their will. To help fighters and Chirurgeons work better together, let me present the "Fighter's Bill of Rights" as written and presented at a Chirurgeon's conference at Estrella War by Lady Selena D'Ambra in AS XXX, formulated as a statement from the fighter to the Chirurgeon:

If I refuse care and I am oriented and coherent (even if annoyed, preoccupied or angry), that is my LEGAL RIGHT.

It is up to me whether or not I go back to fighting. I am an adult with a signed waiver. If you feel I am in danger to other fighters or myself, tell a marshal of your concerns. But quietly please, so if either of us is wrong, neither of us will be embarrassed.

If I am injured, ask questions of and listen to me and my friends and family. Like me, they also know what is normal for me and how my armor goes on and comes off.

Before you do anything, from slapping a cool cloth on my neck to cutting my armor, ask me. Maybe I'll like it, maybe I'll club you like a baby harp seal.

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A social hot spot **Ragnsteinn fra Andressmyri**

Roman baths were a fundamental part of Roman social life, as well as a way for the citizens of Rome to stay clean and healthy. Roman baths were found in almost all Roman cities. Far from simply being a place for people to wash themselves, Roman baths presented an opportunity for citizens to mingle, exercise, and relax after a day's or in some cases weeks work. Today, some of the larger earliest Roman baths can still be viewed at a variety of locations with the largest and most spectacular bath being found in Bath, England.

The history of the Roman bath started during the height of the Roman Empire. Roman baths served numerous communities and social functions within Roman society. Everyone in Rome used Roman public baths, in spite of socioeconomic class. Rich folk tended to use the Roman public baths daily, while poorer folk generally visited the Roman public baths on a weekly basis. Entrance fees to the Roman bathhouses were moderate, ½ to one copper. While most of these houses were owned and operated by the government, prosperous patrons were known to own some too.

Roman bathhouses were an achievement of engineering at the time. Drawing on natural hot springs, wherever they existed, and the heated water was brought up from beneath the ground by a system of pumps then directed into pool areas of various sizes. Heaters were also fashioned to maintain warm temperatures in the baths. Roman bathhouses were intended to be used by everyone, in some cases there were separate houses designated for men and women and in other places regulations were in place to keep bathing between the sexes separate. This separation was commonly accomplished by varying bathing hours for men and women.

For the most part, the history of the Roman bath reveals the idea that the baths were a community meeting place. Many bathhouses had workout equipment nearby for men to strength train with weights. Men also brought and used oils after bathing, and those in the upper classes brought along servants to carry their towels, oils, and clothing. Most bathhouses were quite large and theft was always a possibility so, wealthier patrons would have servants watch over their possessions, or hire slaves at the bathhouse.

Bathhouses were not simply a single room with a pool of incredible hot water. Some had what we would see as a steam room, dry saunas and cool plunges.

While I have not found any Roman bathhouses still in operation, there are several around the world open for viewing as tourist attractions.

Ref: and places to look for more information:

http://www.channel4.com/history/microsites/T/timeteam/snapshot_rom_bath.html

http://www.historyonthenet.com/Romans/bath_house.htm

<http://www.vroma.org/~bmcmanus/baths.html>

<http://www.destination360.com/europe/uk/roman-baths.php>

*****Principality A&S Opportunities*****

These are posted in due time to give everyone the opportunity and time to plan and execute their projects.

Also we intend to have an Arts & Sciences display at this Summer Coronet. So keep that in mind as well as you work on your projects this spring.

Summer Coronet (July)-

Fine Arts- Illumination beginner- less than 1 year;

Intermediate- anyone with more than 1 year experience

Performing Arts- Poems of honor

Equestrian Event (Aug. 10-12) -

Technical Science - Favors or Tokens in Any mode

Practical Sciences - Period camp foods

Fall A&S Collegium (Nov)

Fine Art: Book covers- any form

Performing Art: War Songs

Technical Science: Redacting a Recipe - entries must specifically describe the process so this will require some form of documentation if only in the form of a write up on what the entrant did.

Practical Science: Woven Trim- 1 yard minimum (this could include Kumihimo, table weaving, inkle, loom, finger braiding, etc)

Thank you all for all your efforts, I look forward to seeing the works of the Artisans of Oertha.

Yours in Service,
THL Bianca Rose Byrnes
Principality A&S Officer

*Friends, Romans
Countrymen...
Lend me your
Peer!*

TO AUTOCRAT WINTER CORONET

Bids due July 15, 2007

*For information contact
The Oerthan Seneschal
at [Removed]*

What Did You Call Me?

**A study of the roles that we play at an event whether on the field
or around the table or campfire.**

Lord Ruaidhri Mac Diarmada

As a part of being involved in the SCA, there is a small expectation that you develop a persona. To what extent you develop that persona is up to you, but it is my hope to inspire those present to represent their persona more thoroughly at events and on the field of battle to better immerse all concerned. But before we go into what you will be doing for the feel of a middle age gathering, let us explore what the development of your persona does for you.

The simplest thing being in persona can do, is make you feel like you are not out of place at an event. This is the first level of having a persona, you pick a name and you put on some period clothing. You may have done a little bit of research about what culture your garb is from and why you are a fighter or a bard, that effects who you are at events. But this is the most that some people will ever do, and that is fine, and still helps add to the festivities.

The next stage of persona development is something that I would highly encourage, due to the foundation being set down so quickly in the SCA of who you are. I hope that most have or will do some historical research to figure out what time in history appeals to them and what your personas social position might have been, in your given culture. Personally these factors are what made my persona and therefore I feel I will always be happy with it. So, if you develop your persona to this degree, it is less likely you will want to change it as your SCA experience evolves. Though changing your persona or having multiple personas is not discouraged, it can be difficult to change other peoples perception of who you are.

The third stage of persona development is the roll playing stage. This require an in-depth knowledge of what the world that your persona lived in was like. Now it may be possible to take this type of persona into an event and make it up as you go, not being too concerned about specific details about your life but more what reactions your persona would have to the other participants. I refer to this as filtering the experience of the event through your personas eyes. This can make it easier to get into character, and as your knowledge of your particular era of the middle ages increases or you find ways to implement the research you have done, you will be able to start putting pieces of this into what you are adorned with. The second and third stage

combined will truly create a persona that easily immerses yourself and all those around you into the current middle ages. I have been told of a good lord in the lower Kingdoms that comes to feast in his best attire, and though the garb he wears presents him well as someone of stature, it is also quite evident that he has worked hard to achieve his position. This good lord is very outgoing and once involved in courtly conversations, he is quick to point out that he has been given an Award of Arms, and that he has been given honors by the King himself to be at all such functions. Then proceeds to explain that in his pride, he had the Scribes draft him a document to let all know who he is, and what honor he holds with his King. He is so proud of this document that he carries it everywhere with him, and offers it to the respective people that he has issued this proclamation to. Upon reading the document the holder feels that the Lord has mistakenly given him the wrong document, due to the document telling nothing about the gentleman in question, in fact the document doesn't really say anything coherent. But when the document is questioned, the Lord protests that the document reads as he has stated, and that maybe the reader is not versed well of his language or has failing vision, quite pompously. Saying nothing of this behavior he quickly puts away the document. It turns out that his persona can not read, and a Scribe has played a cruel joke on him, but his belief in the document and the fact that he carries it and announces it with such ferocity, lets those that engage him learn something about his persona with out him leaving character.

These latter stages of persona development are hard to achieve without a persona story. A persona story may not always be an explanation for something that may seem out of place, like a Byzantine Roman who has taken to living with a Viking, but can often serve this purpose. The persona story can be something that has happened or will happen in your personas life, In my case it is both, and these events are based on historical references that I have researched. The way that your persona reacts to the fact that we are in the modern day amongst a group of people spanning 1000 years and from all parts of the world may also lie in your persona story. But the most benefit a persona story has, is to give you that filter to examine the world from your personas perspective, and give you a way to deal with new factors of engagement. I can only offer a personal experience as an example, it was not at an event, but just as applicable. When asked how it is that a Scotsman (that would be me) and some guy that just stepped out of the Matrix could be conversing while at a party I quickly looked for a cloaked gentlemen that I had been talking with earlier. I proceeded to ask the Druid what this place "Matrix" is, and whether the green gods could keep me safe from being stolen away to this place. I pointed out that the man from "Matrix" has likely already stolen my soul with his eyes, and showed how I could see it squirming around in there (in his sunglasses). But he reassured me that all would be well, and that my soul would return to me stronger. See how I got someone else to get into character as well.

The easiest way to show some persona flair is by presenting your Arms or Device. I mean easy, in that it does not take getting into character or a whole lot of research, because your arms are just a representation of you not who you are. The heralds have the most opportunity to immerse the participants of an event with this display, but you can do your part by displaying your arms/banner when you are present at your camp and taking it down or with you in your roving adventures.

I have read an article entitled "*Field Heraldry*" by Taran of Windy Hill of the Kingdom of Trimaris. This article discusses the roll that heralds took in tourneys and wars during the middle ages. It discusses the fact that heralds can encourage the use of heraldry in tournaments to inspire people to get Arms registered and use armorial showing as a way to add flair and organization to a tournament while aiding the List Master/Mistress in keeping things moving and less announcements needing to be made. The article went on to explain how the herald was considered both a military officer of sorts and ambassador of the war field. The heralds could take stock of what forces were waged on both sides by the show of heraldry in banners tabards and shields, and were in attendance to witness heroic deeds and signs of cowardice from a position that may have put them in consult with heralds of the opposing side. Taran goes on

present a battle in which King Henry called upon the French herald, Montjoye King at Arms. He asked which side had been the victor that day, and it was the herald's response that the English had taken the field, he then asked what the closest castle was, to which the herald replied Agincourt, and thus the battle was named.

The presentation that we offer everyone who comes to an SCA event is an important facet of what makes being at an SCA event different from being at a Renaissance Faire. We want the SCA, to most of all be an escape from the modern life, or as the SCA forefathers/mothers may have even felt, a protest to the modern technological age we live in. But with that escape, it becomes necessary to keep things fun, and not be too particular about someone's portrayal of period activity. I only hope that I have inspired the fighters to find and display Arms, and the heralds to help get the populous armed. I know I can find many good reasons for the rest of the populous to get their Name and Device registered, but the paramount one is to get into your persona. And it will be easier to get a Name passed with a Device than to do the process twice.

*****PUBLIC NOTICE*****

Greetings unto Oertha

I am hosting a work party to make roses for the Roses Tourney at this summers Coronet. All those who would like to help, (and learn how to create the ribbon roses), join us on the following dates. I have scheduled about 2 work parties a month and I will bring supplies to events as well, for any wishing to help out. All dates are Fridays, 7pm - 9ish

May 4th / June 1st / June 22nd / July 13th

I have teas and coffee, Feel free to bring snacks if you would like.

If you would like to donate additional supplies that would be grand as well.

Green floral tape 1 ¼" width to 1 ½" width satin ribbon – colors: white, blue, silver, gold, red, and green (for the leaves).

Please note parking is extremely limited, carpooling is good.

Phone number is 907-[Removed].

Thank you most kindly for your time, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

In Service to the Princess,

Viresse' de Lighthaven

*****From the Principality Rapier Marshal*****

Greetings to Oertha,

I and several of the senior marshals have agreed to be available at the following events to hold authorizations for rapier. If you are a rapier fighter who needs to authorize or a marshal that needs to authorize we will be available to facilitate that for you. The following dates are when and where we will be, they are all at events and are split out among the entire Principality.

May 12th at Selviergard

May 18th at Eskalya

May 26th at Winter's Gate

July 21 at Hrafnsfjodr

IF you can not make any of these dates and need to authorize please contact me and we will try to arrange a time and place for authorizations.

Thank you,

Margaret Anne of Somerset,

Oerthan Rapier Marshal

Attention Marshals and any others holding fighter training !!!!

I would like to advertise the “normal” dates, times and locations of your training opportunities. So if you are holding a “fighter practice” and have the time to drop me a message, I will include it in the summer and subsequent issues of the Guardian. Please let me know if it is heavy, rapier or cut and thrust. Please send your information to [Removed].

Thank you
Ragn

Fighter Practices in the Greater Anchorage and surrounding areas:

**Eskalya fighter practice: Thursday nights from 6:30 - 8:30 at Smurfit recycling 6161 Rose Wood
Selviargard fighter practice: Every other Sunday at Lord Fathir Lady Etain’s Home.**

[Removed] in Wasilla,

Opposing Sundays Sir Cyrus holds practice at Smurfit (address above) starts from 12-3

A Special Thank You

Greetings:

Almost two years ago, Khevron and I stepped down as Baron and Baroness of Winter's Gate. It is hard to believe that much time has already passed. For myself, it was the end of many years of service as founding Seneschale and Baroness, which I would not trade for any of my other memories.

At the time I received a wealth of lovely gifts from needlework to mead, jewelry to music cds, and items in between. I attempted to keep track of who gave me what, but my list went walkabout shortly after, and has not yet reappeared.

So I would like to take this time to give belated thanks to all of you who thought of me at that time, and to let you know how much pleasure I get out of the gifts -- although the tasty mead did not last longer than that night (G).

Thank you all, again, for helping make that event so memorable!
Morgana, retired (sort of)

*******Special Person's Note*******

Greetings,

While checking scores this evening(26 Feb2007), I found that Elizabeth Grenewode (aka Elizabeth of Eskalya) is currently in fifth place in the Intermediate Division of the InterKingdom Equestrian Competition!

I just wanted to share the news.

In Service,

**Mistress Clare Elena de Montfort
Oertha Equestrian Marshal
(and proud mother of Elizabeth)**

VALDEZ DEMO INFO

May 26th 2007

We are holding a demo in Valdez, Saturday May 26th 2007. We would really enjoy a great turn out and are in the process of working out the details. For now I would like to mention that I have worked out a group rate with the Aspen hotel. Rooms are going fast we are already 55% booked for that week end, as of March 1, 2007. You will need to make reservations soon if you plan on staying at the hotel. There are other options if you would like to camp, we have property here. Our house is also available for people to stay at but we are smokers and have a kitty. Let us know if you would like to stay with us we would be delighted.

Room rates are as follows:

Regular room 2 double beds \$125.

Family room 1 king bed, 2 kids beds (bunk beds) 1 fold out couch/bed \$155

Extended suit 1 king bed, 1 fold out couch/bed \$155

this suit comes with a stove top for cooking

Spa room 1 king bed \$155

The prices listed are good for 2 people. extra people over 2 years is \$10. each.

I know it may not seem like it but these are really good deals for Valdez. To make your reservations call the hotel @ (907) [Removed] or [Removed].

Tell them that you are with the SCA and the day or days you want to stay and the room and price you see above. If the person for some reason hasn't gotten the message, ask to speak with Jammie. She is the GM and will help you.

Please be extra nice as this is my work place.

If money is an issue please let me know ASAP. We will find a way.

If I don't hear anything back in a week or two I will have to release the rooms to the tours that are coming through Valdez and the rates will no longer be good so please let me now or make your reservations soon.

Ciara inghean MacEgan

Kaysea C Choate.

Hrafnshjorðr Beltane Collegium

28 April 2007

Moose Family Lodge

Kenai, Alaska

10 am - 10 pm

Site Fees: \$4.00 Adults, \$2.00 Children 6-12 Under 6 free- \$3.00 NMS fee

Direct questions to the Autocrat: Lady Adísra hrafín Úlfisdóttir MKA Debbie Jackson P.O. Box [Removed], Sterling, AK 99672 907-[Removed] (1pm - 12am); or [Removed]

Join the Shire of Hrafnshjorðr (Ravensfjord) as we host our Spring Collegium.

Hot beverages will be provided. This is a wet site with drinks that can be bought in the bar through your Autocrat, and her assistant. I'm sorry to say that the Bar is off limits to all but Moose Members, that means "No one else is allowed in the bar to buy drinks or hangout". No liquor is allowed to be brought from the outside into the building. We will be having a finger food pot luck that will be held through the whole Collegium. We will be ending the evening with a Bardic Practice so, please bring your song books and instruments to join in.

We are working on putting together a Heavy Fighter and Rapier Demo / instruction. Mistress Sorcha, The West Kingdom Guild of Defense Mistress will be offering sword and Buckler training. Our Highnesses will be present at the Collegium, and I will be checking with them about this soon.

We are hoping to have the following classes : Period Shoes; Basket Weaving; Silk Roses; Egyptian Spiral Chain Jewelry; Chivalry; Beads; Coiled Baskets, Trichinopoly (Viking Wire jewelry) Mosaics ; Beginning and Advanced Garb; What You Need to Know to be a SCA Officer; SCA Documentation ; Naalbinding ; Simple Roman Garb and many more! As the event gets closer I will request RSVP's on the class lists so, we know how many classes to hold.

There may be a small fee to be paid to the teachers, and I will have that information as we get closer to the event. Also I am hoping to add more classes as we get closer to the event. If you would be interested in teaching a class please contact Adísra.

I would like to have an A & S display so please bring anything you are working on, completed, was gifted or bought. I would love to show case the talents of Oertha, and also give other people ideas on things they can make, or get help making the things they have already started. Please make a small name tag to go along with your items displayed

Directions to site: Take your best route to the Soldotna. Turn right at the Spur Highway, or what is known as the "Y" in Soldotna, Follow the Spur Highway through the City of Kenai. The Moose Lodge is on the right side of the road. I am hoping to have signs out to follow.

Finger Food Potluck by Your Birth Month

Jan-Feb- Desserts

March-April -Vegetables

May-June- Breads, Crackers

July-August- Sandwiches

September-October - Meats

November-December- Cheese, Spreads, Dressings

There is a kitchen if we need to heat anything up. However, there are several plugs for crock-pots (Ragn don't forget the extension cords and surge protectors) and there is also limited refrigerator space.

Hope to see everyone there...

Lady Adísra hrafín Úlfisdóttir

~Spring Offensive ~
May 12, 2007
Barony of Selviergard

O, how tacky can you get? Selviergard's annual springtime ritual is back! The site this year is between a cemetery and a farm... so we can wake the dead just so long as we don't rattle the cattle!

Three – count `em – Three Offensive Contests! –Awards will be given for the most offensive garb, (PG-13, please) Hat and Shakespearean-style Insult (must be done from memory!) Here's your chance to use that purple boa or that gosh awful psychedelic fabric that's been hiding in the bottom of your closet for years or that weird topper Aunt Marge knitted when you were 12.

Truly Tacky Tourneys – Heavy and Rapier - devised by those fiends Georg and Alaryn. A Baronial fundraiser – Teams will bid on their favorite fighter who they will "dress", after armor inspection, in whatever theme they wish (bring your own!). The only rule is that it must not hinder their movement or sight, anything else goes! And Rapier fighters - word has it that the Offensive Cup is back for the taking!

Then the Junk Garb Wars – Three teams will receive one roll of duct tape and a bundle of the craziest eye-poppingest fabrics imaginable. Participants will have one hour to "dress" their live model.

Feast is Potluck - Stew and bread will be provided. Bring a dish that will serve 8-10 people by birth month: January to April – veggies; May to August – desserts; September to December – side dish.

Site info: Bodenberg Baptist Church, Mile 12.5 Old Glenn Hwy, Palmer, AK.

Site is open 10 am to 10 pm.

Site fee: \$20.00 for families, \$5.00 children ages 4 - 12, members \$8.00, non-members \$11.

Site is DRY.

Directions: From Anchorage or Wasilla: follow the New Glenn Hwy to Palmer. Turn right on W. Arctic Avenue (Old Glenn Hwy/Palmer Alternate) (at the Tesoro station on the North end of town) continue on for 5 miles. Bodenberg Baptist Church is on the right just past the Valley Memorial Cemetery.

Autocrat: Helen of Avebury (Barb Smith) [Removed],
Palmer, Alaska 99645, 907-[Removed], [Removed]

Eskalya's Annual Newcomers Event
Centennial Park, Anchorage, AK
June 30th

Oyez, Oyez, Oyez!

The Barony of Eskalya shall hold their Annual Newcomers Event the weekend of 30 June 2007. The theme is the Tres Riche Heurs of the Duke du Barry!

Activities Include:

Camping* and an award for the Grandest campsite

Two A&S competitions: Your Best Illumination and the Zodiac in Any Mode

Two tournaments: An Armored Treasure Tournament and a Pas d' Armes for the Rapier with the prize going to he or she who accumulates the highest number of wins.

A Feast and an Inn

Site will open Friday evening and close Sunday morning.

*Camping and site location are dependent on getting in at Centennial.

Autocrats: Clare de Norwude, Clare Elena, and Jadwiga

Summer Coronet
20-22 July 2007

Prince Cyrus and Princess Caitriona invite the populous to journey down south to the Shire of Hrafnafjorðr where we will await the outcome of the Coronet List for the determination of Their Heirs. In honor of His Highness, it will be a Roman-themed Coronet. The chosen site is a secluded lakeside setting with much room for pageantry both large and small. Bring your banners, your Roman 'bling' and your imaginations!

A&S Competitions will be as follows:

Autocrat's whim will be best Roman hairstyles;

His Highness' whim is period garb with documentation;

Her Highness' whim will be cream cordials (if you would like a start-up recipe, please contact Her Highness!).

Fine arts- Illumination Beginning- less than 1 year; Intermediate- anyone with more than 1 year experience

Performing Arts- Poems of honor

Feast and Food

Soup and Roman rolls will be available to sate weary travelers on Friday evening.

Piedpowder house will be serving a fundraiser breakfast on Saturday morning at an additional cost

Lunch on Saturday will be a stunning array of light Roman finger foods

Saturday evening will be a chance to relax at day's end while feast is served.

Sunday will see a spread of pickings from the weekend's feasting.

Site info:

While the lake will provide a gorgeous backdrop for our event, it is not part of the site. Parents should be mindful of the whereabouts of their smalls at all times! There is playground equipment available for use, however.

*The site is a cozy Roman camp; therefore it is necessary for EVERYONE attending to RSVP to the head of the setup committee, Gunnar Olfuss, either by e-mail at [Removed] or by phone at 907-[Removed] as soon as they suspect they will be coming! All those intending to camp, whether in a period pavilion or a mundane tent, must be prepared to give the approximate dimensions.

Because of space concerns, carpooling is encouraged, and we need to know if you plan to bring an RV (RV reservations will be subject to an additional \$10 parking fee).*

Site will open Friday afternoon and close Sunday evening. (more details on exact times later...)

Site fee: \$15 for adults (12 and up); \$10 for children 6-11; under 6 free; \$3 NMS

For more information, please contact the autocrat, Lady Amber of Ravensfjord/ Amber Gardner/ [Removed], Kenai, AK 99611/ 907-[Removed] / [Removed]

Directions to site: Make your best way to Kenai, continue north on the Spur Hwy. approx. 8 miles from the last stoplight to South Miller Loop (if you reach the refinery, you've gone too far!). Turn right on S. Miller, follow past the sharp corner to the left, and continue to Holt-Lamplight on the right side (right before the Stop N Go cafe). Turn right on Holt-Lamplight; follow past the school and look for SCA signs.

****Expect to be asked to sign in as soon as you arrive at the site (before you leave your car), and then directed to your setup area.****

<><><>In Closing<><><>

While it has been quite an adventure for me editing this issue of the Guardian, the news letter is not mine. For those who have not read the Hrafnfjodr Crier, it appears at times to be my personal soap box to stand upon and preach or praise the things that are going on in the Shire and Principality alike. The Guardian is your news letter. While there are guidelines which must be followed, the vast majority of the content is up to you the people of Oertha. It can be boring and drab with only a miniscule amount of real information or we can make it a truly resourceful publication that people want to read. The results are up to you. I see before us a chance to make something truly informative and useful to the people of Oertha, today and for many years to come. Any errors found with in this newsletter are the responsibility of the Deputy Chronicler. If you see something that requires correction please let me know so they can be corrected in future issues.

Serving the Principality
Ragnsteinn fra Andressmyri
Deputy Chronicler, Oertha

Regnum

Rex and Regina Occidentalis: Uther and Kara, [Removed].

Prince and Princess of Oertha: Cyrus and Cairíona, [Removed].

Principality of Oertha

Seneschal: Alienor Fitzhenry (Nicole Putname), [Removed], Anchorage 99507, [Removed] hm, [Removed] cell, both before 9 pm, [Removed].

Winter's Gate

Baron and Baroness: Griffin and Margery Garret (Gary and Mikki Griffin), [Removed], Fairbanks 99712, [Removed], [Removed] (Margery).

Seneschal: Adelaide Webster (Deanna Lazarus), Box [Removed] UAF, Fairbanks, 99775, [Removed] hm, [Removed].

Canton of Ynys Taltraeth:

Seneschal/Herald/Gold Key: Khevron Oktavii Tikhovich Vorotnikov, Box [Removed], Kotzebue 99752, [Removed] home, [Removed].

College of St. Boniface:

Seneschal/Web Minister: Johannes von der Pfalz (Jason Lazarus), Box [Removed] UAF, Fairbanks, 99775, [Removed] hm.

Barony of Eskalya

Baron and Baroness: Breock & Margaret Anne (Stephen & Meghan Spencer), [Removed], Anchorage 99504, [Removed] before 9 pm, [Removed]

Seneschal/Web Minister: Rosaline Hiver (Rei Martini), [Removed], Anchorage 99504, [Removed] before 11 pm, [Removed].

Barony of Selviergard

Baron and Baroness: Georg and Katarzina (Charlie and Elaine Presler), [Removed], Anchorage 99504, [Removed] before 10 pm, [Removed].

Seneschal: Helen of Avebury (Barb Smith), Box [Removed], Palmer 99645, [Removed] before 9 pm, [Removed].

Shire of Hrafnafjorðr

Seneschal: Lasairiona of the Lake (Breezy Stevens), [Removed], Soldotna 99669, [Removed], [Removed].

Pavlovsk Gavan:

Seneschal: Tamitsa Katerina Evstokh'eva (Tamie Fogle), Box [Removed], Kodiak, 99615, [Removed] hm, [Removed].