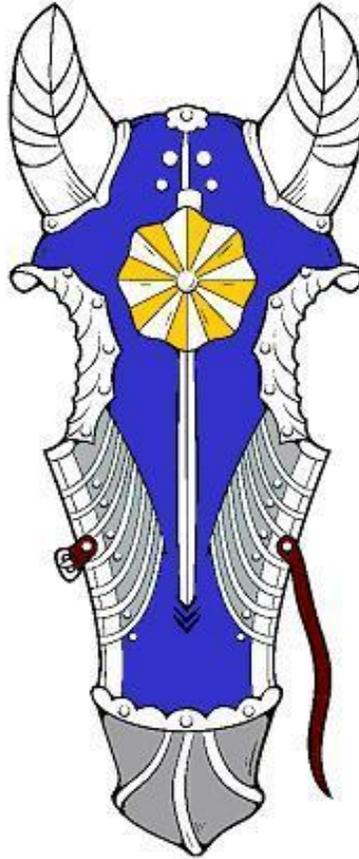


# The Guardian

The Newsletter of Oertha



*Summer A.S. LXIII*

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To Our loyal subjects in Oertha,

We are greatly pleased that We are able to attend Coronet and Investiture, and are only saddened that the press of War in foreign lands necessitates that Our stay be short. But We know that Our welcome will be as warm as the Oerthan sun, and We fully intend to make use of every hour of the long, long day to fit as much into Our visit as We can.

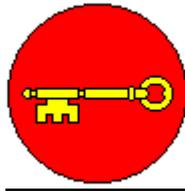
We look forward to spending time with Cyrus and Gwyneth, our Prince and Princess, and to welcoming Their Heirs, and to having a chance to speak with all of our old friends and to make new ones. If We do not know you, please be sure to come up and introduce yourselves!

And thank you all for your hospitality!

In service,

--- Titus, King of the West

--- Eilis, Queen of the West



Greetings Oertha~

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Principality Seneschal for the last two years. As a group, we are truly blessed with a strong volunteer base and officer corps. Working with these individuals has made my job both easier and enjoyable. I look forward to seeing what new directions Oertha grows in the future.

Please take a moment to welcome my successor (or perhaps touch the Key?), Heleyne de Aveberia, to the Seneschals position. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this position and will do an excellent job in her new role.

In Service,

Alienor Fitzhenry

Principality Seneschal

**Bids for Summer Coronet 2009 are due to the Seneschal  
the week before Winter Coronet!!!!**



"Thank you to everyone who has supported the Principality fundraisers this year!

The Cookbooks are over half-way to sold out, so if you haven't gotten a copy yet, contact Alienor or Caitriona to get yours! Just \$12 will get you a wonderful collection of yummy recipes from around the Known World, in a sturdy hard-bound binder! They make great gifts for the cooks in your life. The fundraiser cooler has also been successful - thank you to everyone who has donated ice, sodas, and time to making this project possible. The cooler should continue to make appearances throughout the summer event season.

If you have any fundraiser ideas, please let Etain or myself know. Also, suggestions for expenditures are welcome: instructors you'd like to see brought up, regalia you think the Principality should get, etc. These suggestions should go to the Financial Committee (the Seneschal, Exchequer, and Coronets).

In service,

Caitriona inghean ui Chionaodha

Deputy Exchequer and fundraising junkie"



## Greetings from Eskalya

My thanks to those of you who came out to the Esklayan Newcomers event this past Saturday (28 June ). It was wonderful to see all of the newcomers that came out in the morning though many were blown away by the prodigious winds that graced us all day. Thanks to Mistress Jenvyr for her marvelous stew that was tasty and was so very warming. The persanimal auction was a resounding success and the animals seemed to resemble several of the members of the Barony. His Highness seems to have found a small mini-me in the auction. Thanks again to the fighters that came out and had lots of fun and to all of the visitors from Selviergard.

My personal thanks to those who waited with me until His Excellency could retrieve me, so that I did not have to wait alone. Your presence and conversation was a blessing and a gift. Lord Alaryn will be stepping up as the new rapier champion at our next event and we will look forwards to the year with him.

Again thank you all who attended and braved the strong winds and its sharp bite. Many thanks to the autocrat- Celestria for making this event possible, and to Mistress Sorcha for running such a fine melee tournament.

Margaret Anne of Somerset  
Baroness of Eskalya



## News from Selviergard,

Hail all Oerthan's and visitors. It is time once again to choose by mighty battle the new Heavy weapons champion for Selviergard's lovely Baroness Katarzina.

Please bring your skills and weapons, camp gear and song books to the Houston camp ground pavilion area on the weekend of August 15-17, 2008 from 4 PM Friday until 7 PM Sunday and be ready to do battle, dance and sing. We will have a demo close to the Houston firehouse on Saturday the 16th of August after we participate in the parade to entice the populace to wander into the Pavilion area to witness the Real battle for supremacy and the Title. We will also have a Fencing bout for a prize from my own crafty hands. An afternoon of dancing and music will follow the tournaments. For more information, see complete event announcement later in this newsletter.



Greetings from the Shire of Hrafnafjorðr,

WOW! is all I can say about the more than wonderful job EVERYONE did at the 4th of July Booth Demo. I am proud of each and every person who pitched in a helped out, Oh yeah that was all of us!!!! Adisa, Ragn, Shanna, Duncan, Grisulas, Skythia, Jane, Lasairiona and all the others out there that carried things for people they didn't even know.

I hope that we inspired people enough to get into contact with our group and play with us. I think if we advertise for our next event August 9, 10 we can get them to come as well. I can't thank you enough for all of the work and patience you put into making that event as great and wonderful success. The Chamber people that ran the event, wanted to be sure we were planning to attend next year! I hope it works into our schedule.

Amber of Hrafnafjorðr  
Seneschal



**The Collage of Saint Guinefort, has an official name and device!!!!**

## West Kingdom Needle Workers Guild

First, I'd like to thank everyone who braved the withering heat to attend the Guild activities at Crown. We appreciate your support!

The Guild's display in the A&S pavilion was well-received. We had a number of people who volunteered to loan their cloaks, coats, and mantles for the display, including Mistress Catherine Lorraine, Duchess Kaaren Hakonsdottir, Duchess Ginevra da Ravenna, Duchess Eliana Fraser, Mistress Rowan of Hakesleah, Duchess Siobhan of Cloverdell, Duchess Mari Alexander, Duchess Constantina von Ravenna, Viscount Roric Skogan, and Phaelan ua Hoegan. Also thanks go out to Ceinwen ferch Belyn for bringing some smaller items for the display. Photos were taken of the display items, and we'll get them up on the Guild's website in the near future.

The Pennsic Silent Auction was a great success; we had 2 large tables overflowing with items embroidered by our Guild members, plus several last-minute contributions from the populace at large. Altogether, the Auction brought in \$861.00. At the Guild meeting, the members who contributed to the Pennsic Auction were presented with a little goodie bag in appreciation of their contributions. Those members who could not make it to the meeting will have their bags mailed to them in the next week.

Also at the meeting, the names of 2 of the 3 recipients of this year's Guild Service Award were announced: Theiadora Groves & Isela di Bari. The third recipient was unable to make it to this event; her name will be announced at the next Guild meeting. Their arms are now displayed on the Service Banner (well, 2 of them are, anyway -- the 3rd will remain covered until the next meeting).

We had a few more people sign up for the Guild's 2009 service project of scissors cases; we still need 7 more volunteers to meet our goal. If you're interested in helping with this project, please contact me.

Yours In Service,  
Felicia Amondesham  
Guild Minister

## MAY REVEL

### Greetings unto the Populace!

The Battle of Maldon during our May Revel has come and gone under glorious skies, with only a sacrifice of Clare's car! We would like to announce:

Canute was the victor of the Heavy Fighting

His Excellency Baron Brock was the winner of the Rapier

"Merrily Merrily Merrily" was the undisputed winner of the Viking ship races

Lady Isabel's book won for the Anti-Viking in any mode

Keagan won the auction game for his small roundel of cardboard

A fine time was had by many, and the Vikings were called many names by the Gallery (Thank You Seneschal/Peanut Gallery).

The Autocrat and Minion would like to thank: His Highness for gracing us with his presence even though he was not feeling well Their Excellencies of Selvargard for their attendance. Our guests from Valdez for traveling so far Mistresses Anne, Sorcha, and Rolynda for their pavilions which made our site much happier Mistress Jenvyr for all her help.

Thank you for everyone coming to make our May Revel merry and thank you for all your help!

A Very Sleepy Autocrat and her Minion  
Lady Clare and Lady Lilandra

## Princesses Artisan's

As one of the Princesses Artisan's I was charged with creating and researching an A&S topic related to my area of interest (string!). As a result, my final project centered on creating some woven trim to be used to edge a garment.

The intent of this project was to replicate examples of typical spun wool goods commonly available in 11<sup>th</sup> century Iceland for weaving. By the middle of the 10<sup>th</sup> century at least 10,000 people had immigrated to Iceland from Scandinavia and Scandinavian influence settlements in Northern Europe.<sup>i</sup> The brought with them a mixed maritime and agricultural economy in which sheep and their wool played an important part. By the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century raw wool and homespun cloth would make up the bulk of Iceland's export goods.<sup>ii</sup>

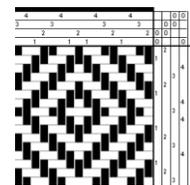
The spinning fiber selected for this project was from the shoulder of a Shetland wool fleece. The most important consideration for selection was fiber characteristics; the intent was to select a breed of sheep with fiber closely resembling what the average Nordic settler would have had available to spin. Shetland sheep were a natural choice as this breed possesses the characteristic dual coat found in many primitive breeds and in surviving textiles from this region and period.<sup>iii</sup> In addition the fiber was locally available and occurs in a variety of natural colors.

In preparing the fiber for spinning, the wool was first scoured and then picked out by hand. Although traditional methods for scouring wool use stale urine (as urine is an alkaline which when heated forms a detergent).<sup>iv</sup>, this project used Tide laundry detergent to scour the wool. Wool fiber felts when subjected to rapid changes in temperature so scouring the wool required controlled conditions. The wool was soaked in 140degree F water with the detergent and then rinsed in water of the same temperature before being spread out to dry. Once the fiber was dry, each lock was picked apart by hand to allow much of the vegetable matter to fall out before the spinning process. As this fleece contained little vegetable matter, I chose to spin the fiber from the lock instead of combing out the fiber into roving. This required extreme care during spinning to produce a worsted type yarn of uniform diameter. Additionally this method allowed for the undercoat (called the *tog*.<sup>v</sup>) to be retained resulting in a softer yarn which could be used against the skin.

The fiber was spun using a soapstone hand spindle finished in the style of a typical Scandinavian spindle. Surviving spindle whorls range in size from 1 to 2 inches in diameter and 0.35 to 1 ounces weight with a spindle shaft from 7.5 to 12 inches in length. The spindle for this project had a 1.5 inch diameter whorl, weighed .48 ounces and had a 10-inch walnut spindle shaft used in the low whorl position.

Surviving examples of yarn from Greenland provided the specifications to which the wool for this project was spun. The weaving yarn is spun as a Z-twist single, roughly 1 mm in thickness with a 35 degree twist.<sup>vi</sup> While woven examples from this period typically utilize singles yarn, this trim is made up of a 2-ply yarn. The 2-ply yarn will be longer wearing than a singles yarn when this trim is utilized along the edge of garment.

The weave selected for these items was herringbone twill set at epi (ends per inch) which is typical of weaving from this period. This type of twill and set is a typical weave found throughout Viking influenced regions from the 9<sup>th</sup> century onward.<sup>vii</sup> An example of the pattern is shown at right.



The yarn was warped, threaded and woven on a treadle jack loom. Based on evidence from archeological sites in Iceland and Greenland, it appears that a standing warp-weighted loom was the tool most utilized for weaving through the 13<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>viii</sup> While there is no evidence to suggest a jack loom was in use in Iceland prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, records of horizontal treadle looms have been found in Hedeby, York, Opole and

Gdansk dating from the 11<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>ix</sup> Lastly, although warp faced bands (tablet weaving, inkle-style) are more prevalent in surviving examples, twill woven trim has been found in Greenland, Opole and Great Britain.<sup>x</sup>

The finished band is 1.25 inches wide by 72 inches long. Total shrinkage during the finishing process was 18 percent which is typical for the Shetland breed. From start to finish it took 41 hours to complete roughly 2 yards of trim.

We take for granted the variety of woven cloth we use on a daily basis in modern life. Our linen closets are full of bed sheets made from fine cottons, table linens, and dishtowels and our closets are full of clothing and coats. Today, we have the option of spinning and weaving purely for enjoyment and not to ensure the survival for our family. This project illustrated just how much labor the average Icelandic settler needed to invest in preparing and spinning the fiber for something as simple as trim. This labor when coupled with that needed to actually weave the fiber into cloth (with both take-up and shrinkage) illustrates that the manufacture of clothing was a very labor intensive undertaking and would have represented a significant investment of scarce time and materials.

### References

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Ewing, Thor. Viking Clothing. Gloucestershire: Tempus Publishing Limited; 2006. 192 pgs.

Ostergard, Else & Stergard, Else. Woven into the Earth: Textiles from Norse Greenland. Aarhus Universitetsforlag; 2007. 296 pgs. Primary source material reviewing 410 spindles.

Oklahoma State University. *Breeds of Livestock Project: Shetland Sheep*, OSU: Stillwater; 2000. 5pgs.

Priest- Dorman, Carolyn. *Medieval North European Spindles and Whorls*. 2000.

<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~capriest/spindles.html>. 2-14-2007. This article reviews six primary sources cataloguing over 1300 spindle whorls and spindles from Scandinavia or areas of Scandinavian influence. Includes quantifiable measurements, but no picture (EDITORS NOTE: foot notes are on last page of newsletter)

### Are you looking for pictures?

Has anyone out there been thinking lately " I wish I had a picture or two of so and so, or even myself that time I did not bring my picture taker with me"?

If you have had that thought go through your mind lately please email me when you get a chance ,and I will check through the many pictures I have taken in the last six years here while living in Oertha.

I have to many pictures to put on a website, however, I would be happy to check through my hard copies and digital ones for anyone who contacts me at [\[Removed\]](#)

In Service to the West, Oertha, and the Dream

Lady Adisa

MOAS Hrafnafjorðr

## **TURNAGAIN WAKE**

Good Populous of Oertha,

The weather held out nicely for those who graced the war fields of Turnagain on Saturday the 21st. It seems that it was one of few sunny places in Oertha that day. The lack of participants made it difficult to do any of the planned activities, but hopefully with better planning and earlier announcement, these activities can take place another day. His Highness did notice that while there were only three fighters on the field, we were representing the three different groups that had graced the field two years prior; Sir Cyrus: Eskalya, Duncan: Hrafnafjodr, and Ruaidhri': Selviergard. We also had guest from Caid that showed skill on the Kubb field, and other newcomers and genuinely interested folks came by to visit. A good time was had by all and thoughts of those on Crusade were with us.

Thank you to all those who responded, even if it was to say that you could not make it, I understand how busy things get, trying to cram everything in to an Oerthaen Summer, especially this year. And a special thanks to those who came out, we really enjoyed. Lastly, it looks like the real victors this day were the flying beast hordes; since I lick more of their wounds, than those provided by His Highness or Lord Duncan.

***Ruaidhri'***

My Friend Lord Ruaidhri'

I wanted to say thank-you... Lord Scrymgar, Lady Ciara and You did a wonderful job taking a well executed plan and changing it due to a small showing. Thank-you for making such a long trip here to put on such an informative, and fun event.

I also wanted to say thank-you to Prince Cyrus, and Viscountess Caitriona for coming and supporting another Hrafnafjodr event.

I believe everyone had a great and memorable time. The weather was truly amazing, and just think for one nano second we almost did not make the trip figuring the weather would be awful .Once I shook the bug, the day and night was well worth the trip. I also want you to know we have been in Oertha for 6 yrs now, and never got the chance to celebrate a Summer Solstice. So, sitting at the camp fire watching the beautiful sky, listening to the awesome music,eating campy food( including the amazing pot roast made on the open fire by Lady Ciara ),and enjoying the fantastic company while listening to the stories of Oertha was well worth the wait. The only thing that would have made it more perfect was if we could have spent the night there at the camp ground with His Highness, Viscountess Caitriona, and your beautiful lady. However, we did not even get home till around 3 am, and what a beautiful drive it was. You know I was told a long time ago "it does not matter how many people show up to your event, it just matters how much they enjoyed themselves when they did".I look forward to the next time we can get together and sit around and swap stories and friendship.

In Service to All and the Dream

***Adisa***

I'd like to echo the sentiments voiced already - even though the event was small, the company was excellent, and it was a great day. Thank you to everyone who made it possible! Those of you who weren't there - you missed a lot of fun, and probably the best weather in the state that day!

***Caitriona inghean ui Chionaodha***

(still recovering from Saturday's sunburn!)

## **Volcanalia**

August 9-10, 2008

Shire of Hrafnafjorðr (Kenai, AK)

The Romans sacrificed annually to Vulcan, god of fire, so that he would avert harmful fires to their crops. Vulcan is considered to be the manufacturer of armor for the gods and heroes; he also made the thrones for the other gods on Mount Olympus. Come join the Shire of Hrafnafjorðr as we fight, feast, and build fire. The tourneys will be gladiator style, with Roman weapons. Rapier is more than welcome. Arts and Science competition will be most creative fire (materials will be provided on site). Feast meat will be provided, please bring your favorite Roman dish to share. There is plenty room for camping.

### **Site Information:**

Address - 36745 Short Lane,

Site opens at 6:00 pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Closes at 2:00 pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

Site fees \$6.00 for members \$+3 for non members

NO fee for children 12 years and younger

Please make checks payable to "SCA, Inc.- Shire of Hrafnafjorðr.

Autocrat: Grisulas Hilarious Gladius (MKN Gene Gardner)

[Removed] /Keani, AK 99611/ 907-[Removed] [Removed]

Directions: Make your best way to Soldotna; take a right turn on K-Beach road. Pass straight through the Poppy Lane & Bridge Access lights. Turn left on East Way (Follow signs), Turn right Patrick Drive. Turn left onto Short Lane. Second drive on the right.

## **CHANGE IN ESTRELLA WAR XXV PRINCIPAL KINGDOMS (FROM THE WEST LIST)**

TRM Phelan and Amirah, King and Queen of Atenveldt, announced today that TRM Reinmar and Albreda, King and Queen of Artemisia, have notified Them that the Kingdom of Artemisia will withdraw as a Principal Kingdom for Estrella War XXV (Feb 9-16, 2009). In several cordial phone and email communications, TRM of Artemisia explained that Their decision is based on Artemisia's concerns that rising costs and the state of the local economy have made it increasingly difficult for Artemisia to perform the tasks expected of a Principal Kingdom in good standing.

TRM Reinmar and Albreda continued by saying "We are forever grateful to Atenveldt for their continued trust and support, and by the deep Honor they have bestowed upon Us in the past. So too are we forever Grateful to the Kingdoms of the Caid and the Outlands for standing beside us on the field of war as allies and brothers in arms. In this time, strong bonds of friendship and fraternity have grown. So strong that not even the heavy sword of war could sever them." TRM of Artemisia continued by stating, "We hope for the best in the upcoming War, and know all that We will attend Estrella War. Not as a Principal, but hopefully as an allied Kingdom, and brother in arms to all." (SNIPPED)

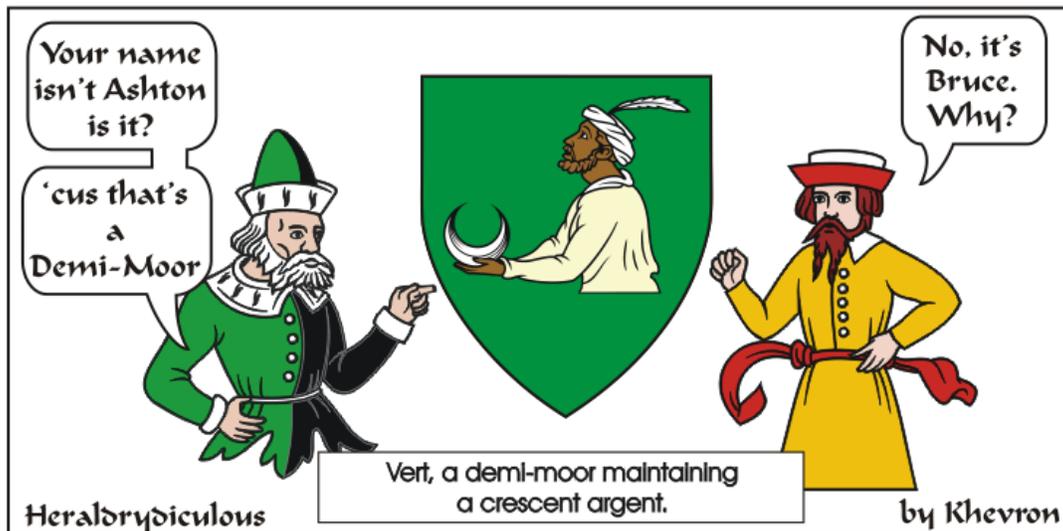
Dame Anita de Challis, OP (Anita Challis)

SCA Internal Publicity for Estrella War XXV

[Removed]

Estrella War XXV 25 years of Celebrating the Dream

February 9-16 2009 [www.estrellawar.org](http://www.estrellawar.org)



## Houston Founders Day Selviergard's Baroness Champion August 15-17

Hail all Oerthans and visitors. It is time once again to choose by mighty battle the new Heavy weapons champion for Selviergard's lovely Baroness Katarzina.

Please bring your skills and weapons, camp gear and song books to the Houston camp ground pavilion area on the weekend of August 15-17, 2008 from 4 PM Friday until 7 PM Sunday and be ready to do battle, dance and sing. We will have a demo close to the Houston firehouse on Saturday the 16th of August after we participate in the parade to entice the populace to wander into the Pavilion area to witness the Real battle for supremacy and the Title. We will also have a Fencing bout for a prize from my own crafty hands.

An afternoon of dancing and music will follow the tournaments. A hunt and possibly a woods battle will be offered for your enjoyment on Sunday with prizes for the best Hunting Hounds mask, but be ware the prey this year will be for the Wily Tortoise so watch your ankles. There will be a wood sprite hunt Saturday for our treasures (of all ages) to have fun with. Oh, and don't be surprised if there is a Viking raid or two. Booty supplied.

We will clear the Pavilion of all camp ground tables to allow for plenty of room for Courts followed by our smaller personal tables and chairs thus getting more of us under the protected area for feasting in case of unpopular weather. Then tables can be moved to the sides to make room for a fire pit Bardic before and after the fireworks display. A&S contest will be for Period style lighting implements to brighten our hall when the sun goes down.

Feast will consist of Barony provided grilled meats and breads and potluck dishes (that serve 8 or more) that you bring. For those between ages 15-30 bring starch foods, 31 to 40 bring vegetables, 40-50 fruits and cheeses; over 50 get the desserts (because we earned them). All other meals will be whatever you bring for your families. A Sunday breakfast will be offered for donations.

Watch for any unforeseen or whimsical changes on our local Oerthan and Baronial list sites.

**SITE FEES:** 17 and over – \$10, 7-16 – \$5, under 7 free, \$3.00 non-member fee applies. Make checks payable to SCA Inc.– Selviergard.

**Directions:** Houston Camp Grounds Mile 54 Parks Highway, Houston, Alaska

Autocrat: Rolinda T. Standridge, (Rolyndda of the Azure Stone) 907-[Removed], [Removed], Wasilla, Alaska 99654, [Removed].

## **COME TO THE FAIR!**

We are again doing a 2-day Demonstration at the Alaska Palmer State Fair on August 30th & 31st, setting up an Encampment where we will have an ongoing living re-creation of the Middle Ages.

Our encampment area will be the same as last year's. It's about half a football field off the beaten path, next to the ball field, a nice open grassy area. The Fair will put up signs pointing the way and include us in the daily schedule of events so that Fairgoers easily can find us.

There will be combat demos in the Corral on Saturday; 2 - one hour long slots for both heavy and rapier in the Mat Maid Corral and marching in the on-grounds Parade. The rest of the time, feel free to tour the Fair in garb or hang out at the encampment demonstrating our various handcrafts and skills. Then after 8 pm we can settle in for schmoozing, Bardic and maybe even dancing!

## **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!**

### **MORE FAIR INFO**

Contact Baron Breock: [Removed], Elizabeth deGresse: [Removed] or Heleyne de Aveberia: [Removed] There is free admission for those participating in the Parade and demos. If you want to get in free, you MUST participate!

We need folks who are willing to be part of a living display... working on your A&S projects and answering questions about everyday life in the Middle Ages, the social classes, the chivalry ideals and customs of the time, etc. at the encampment. Artisans, musicians, armorers, weavers, lucet and kumihimo makers, scribes, calligraphers... the more the merrier!

SIGN UP DEADLINE is Sunday, July 27th, one week after Summer Coronet! When you sign up indicate Saturday and/or Sunday, how many are in your party, whether you are planning on camping overnight, either at the encampment or on the Fair's campground, and parking needs, (overnight parking requires a special pass).

We will be onsite from 7 PM on Friday to erect the pavilions and set up our encampment. Bring your banners and ribbon streamers to add color and to carry in the Parade; your songbooks and a light source for Bardic. If you are only coming on Saturday, be there by 11 AM, early enough to be ready for the first demo at 12:30. Fighters: Armor inspection at 12 Noon.

Sorry, NO mundane tents in the encampment. There is a tent camping area close to the Red Gate. It requires a permit from the Pass Office. The Pass Office is open 9 AM – 7 PM. The Fair Office Main number is [Removed] or [Removed]. Fee is \$5 a night.

Shower facilities are located next to the Hoskins Building. Showers are \$3 and shower times during the duration of the Fair is 6 AM – noon. Shower passes are available at the Pass Office or at the shower facility.

If you have any other questions or concerns feel free to contact me. My home phone is [Removed] and if I don't know the answers, I know whom to ask.

Yours in service,  
Heleyne de Aveberia

**Bids for Summer Coronet 2009 are due to the Seneschal  
the week before Winter Coronet!!!!**

## **Why Play in the SCA**

With the rising price to feed our beasts for travel, I am reminded why the SCA is important. Oh to be a part of something worldwide, to learn about history, and to enjoy the company of those who share this common purpose. Through out the known world we are studying many different cultures of past history. In my studies I have found that if you are willing to ask, there are more people willing to help. Our Society would not be able to flourish as it has with out the help of the volunteers, like you and I.

I am Dena'ina Athabascan, and I have been working to bringing this culture into my persona. I decided to write about some of the artifacts found and their uses. Most common are the rocks that have a smooth wearing shape around the circumference. These rocks were used as weights for the fishing nets in the many rivers around Alaska to include our Kenai River.

Many different kinds of beads, needles and other tools have been found in Archeological digs on the Kenai Peninsula. Most are Russian trade beads, while some others discovered seem to be of European origin. Most of the needles are made from bone. Some of the hunting tools used were also recovered. House pits to the untrained eye look like just dips in the ground. However, if you knew that the fire was located in the center of the Ancient Dena'ina houses, then you would know to look for a tree growing in or near the center. This is after all a very fertile place.

The Dena'ina believe that all living things be returned to their respective place the earth or water. One thing that stands out in my mind is the lack of written events. Until the Russian Missionaries came to Alaska in the 1700's, the only form of history was oral. We still know how to tell if the weather is going to be good for hunting, fishing, and berry picking. In some ways oral history can be stronger than written.

Amber of Hrafnafjörðr

## **The Final Blow**

My Brothers and Sisters of Oertha,

I would like to thank everybody who was able to take the time to make a submission for the newsletter, especially our most wonderful King and Queen. The newsletter would not be possible without all the great information everybody supplies to the Principality Yahoo List and that sent directly to me. It takes alot for people to put a piece of themselves out there for the entire Principality to see. My hat is off to each and every one of you, especially Lady Alienor for her fantastic "technical submission" and Lady Amber for expressing her personal viewpoint along with the information on the Dena'ina.

I look forward to bringing together the next edition.

Serving the Principality

Ragnsteinn fra Andressmyri

Chronicler

**Bids for Summer Coronet 2009 are due to the Seneschal  
the week before Winter Coronet!!!!**

# Regium of the Principality of Oertha

(Unless otherwise noted, please do not call after 10 PM Alaska time.)

<http://oertha.westkingdom.org/>

## **Royalty**

Cyrus & Gwyneth

Prince and Princess of Oertha

(DJ Wilson) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99508 / 907-[Removed]

(Gerri Withers) PO Box [Removed]/ Fairbanks AK 99708 / H: 907 [Removed] / C:907[Removed] / [Removed]

## **Greater Officers**

**Arts & Sciences:** Bianca Rose Byrnes (Darlene Cullor[Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99504 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Chirurgeon:** Breock of Whitby (S. Breck Spencer) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99504 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Chronicler:** Ragnsteinn Fra Andressmyri (Andrew Jackson) PO Box [Removed] / Sterling AK 99672 / [Removed] [Removed]

**Constable:** Gunner Olfuss (Ben Stevens) [Removed]/ Soldotna AK 99669 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Exchequer:** Etain O'Rowarke (Crystal Nelson)  
[Removed]/ Wasilla AK 99654 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Marshal:** Magdalena Georg-eva Oshitkanova (E.L. Ozzie Oszustowski) [Removed]/ Fairbanks, AK 99701 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Rapier Marshal (Deputy):** Margaret Anne of Somerset (Meg Spencer)  
[Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99503 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Missile Combat (Deputy):** \*\*\*\*VACANT\*\*\*\*

**Seneschal:** Alienor Fitzhenry (Nicole Putnam)  
[Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99507 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Deputy:** Helyene d'Avebury (Barb Smith) [Removed]/ Palmer AK 99645 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Web Minister:** Bianca Rose Byrnes (Darlene Cullor) [Removed]  
/ Anchorage AK 99504 / 907-[Removed]

**Stellanordica Herald:** Isabel de la Hay (Corey Chivers) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99504 / 907-[Removed] [Removed]

## **Lesser Officers**

**Chatelaine:** Elizabeth De Grasse (Elizabeth Branscum ) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99502 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Equestrian Minister:** Clare Elena de Montfort (Kerri Geppert) [Removed]/ Chugiak AK 99567 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Lists:** Kiera (Lynn Shook) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99507 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Regalia:** Caitriona inghean ui Chionaodha (Cathe Heroy) PO Box [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99521 / C: 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Stellanordica Scribe:** Gwyneth Rhiannon of the Sea (Gerri Withers) PO Box [Removed]/ Fairbanks AK 99708 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Waterbearing Guildmistress:** Clare de Norwude (Claire Knudsen-Latta) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99517 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Earngyld, Shire** (Incipient) (Juneau): Elisa von Sophey (Lisa Marx) [Removed]Rd / Juneau AK 99801 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Eskalya, Barony** (Anchorage): Elizabeth de Gresse (Elizabeth Branscum) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99502 / 907- [Removed]; C: 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Baron and Baroness:** Breock & Margret-Anne (Breck & Megan Spencer) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99504 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Chatelaine:** Breock of Whitby (Stephen B Spencer)

[Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99504 /  
907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

Fighter practice (heavy and light) will be held on Sundays at 11 am at Goose Lake Park.

**Hrafnafjorðr, Shire** (Kenai Peninsula):

Amber of Hrafnafjorðr (Amber Gardner) [Removed]/ Kenai AK 99611 / 907-[Removed]/

[Removed]

**Pavlok Gorod, Shire** (Incipient) (Kodiak Island):

Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva (Tamie Fogle) PO Box [Removed]/ Kodiak AK 99615 / 907-[Removed]/

[Removed]

**Saint Boniface, College** (Incipient) (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Johannes von der Pfalz (Jason Lazarus) 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Saint Guinefort, College** (Incipient) (University of Alaska, Anchorage): Clare de Norwude (Claire Knutsen-Latta) [Removed]/ Anchorage AK 99517 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]/

[www.geocities.com/eskalya/guinefort/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/eskalya/guinefort/index.html)

**Selveirgard, Barony** (Eagle River & Matanuska-Susitna Valley): Helen of Avenbury (Barb Smith) [Removed]/ Palmer AK 99645 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

**Baron and Baroness:** Georg and Katarzina (Charlie and Elaine Presler) PO Box [Removed] / Eagle River AK 99577 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

Monthly Business Meetings are the 3rd weekend of the month alternating between the different areas of the Barony during non-event weekends. During event weekends, the meeting will be held on site. Fighter practices are held Friday evenings at the home of the Canute. Please contact the Seneschal for details.

**Winter's Gate, Barony** (Fairbanks): Adeladie Webster (Deanna I Lazarus) POB [Removed]/ Fairbanks AK 99775-0881 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]or [Removed]

**Baron and Baroness:** Griffin & Margery Garret (Gary & Michelle Griffin) 907-[Removed]/

[Removed]

*Chatelaine:* Daithi' Conri' (Zack Sherman) 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

Business Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7 pm /

Fighter Practice: Sundays 3 pm /

A&S Night: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

**Ynys Taltraeth, Canton** (Kotzebue): Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov (Don Goertz) Box [Removed] / Kotzebue AK 99752 / 907-[Removed]/ [Removed]

All changes to the Principality Law are in **bold**, removals have a ~~strike through~~, while additions have been **underlined**. I reduced the font on all areas of the Law, except the changes, to conserve space / paper. Any person wanting a copy sent to their e-mail may request a copy from the Principality Seneschal or the Chronicler.

## Laws of the Principality of Oertha

Current as of April A.S. XLI

As proclaimed by Kylson and Anne in March A.S. XIX, and amended by Eric and Eryn in July A.S. XXI, Nickolai and Annora in July-January A.S. XXII, Brendan and Aryana in A.S. XXIV, Phelan and Vanora in A.S. XXV, Brendan and Aryana in A.S. XXVII, Morbran and Margarita in January-July A.S. XXVII, Georg and Katarzina in July-January A.S. XXVII, Gregor and Alicianne in July-January A.S. XXX, Morban and Margarita in A.S. XXX, Gregor and Alicianne in July-January A.S. XXXI, Georg and Katarzina in January-July A.S. XXXII, Fergus and Margarita in July - January A.S. XXXVII, and Cyrus and Caitriona in January-July A.S. XLI., **Dietrich and Bianca July – January A.S. XLII**

## **ARTICLE I: LAW AND THE WORD OF THE CORONET**

### **Section 1**

The Word of the Coronet is Law, subject only to the Word of the Crown and the order of precedence established in the governing documents of the S.C.A., Inc.

### **Section 2**

Any proclamation of the Coronet becomes the Law of the Principality from the moment it is spoken by the Coronet at court, subject only to the Word of the Crown and the order of precedence established in the governing documents of the S.C.A., Inc.

### **Section 3**

Until a proclamation of the Coronet has been printed in the Kingdom newsletter, no subject of the Coronet shall be considered to be breaking the law if acting, through ignorance, contrary to that proclamation.

### **Section 4**

Only those proclamations of the Coronet approved by the Crown and published in the official kingdom newsletter shall become permanent amendments to Principality Law. All other proclamations are understood to be in effect only for the duration of the Coronet's reign, and shall lapse with the investiture of a successor.

### **Section 5**

The laws of the Principality of Oertha shall be published once a year in the official Principality newsletters. The Seneschal shall be responsible for providing the Chronicler with the current laws.

### **Section 6**

If any officer of the Principality of Oertha receives instruction, directions, or orders, save only routine administrative directives, from anyone not having the authority by these laws to give such, that officer shall take no action without attempting to consult the Coronet as to its pleasure in the matter.

## **ARTICLE II: THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING THE CORONET, AND THE RIGHTS OF FEALTY BETWEEN THE CORONET AND THE POPULACE**

### **Section 1**

The Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort shall attain their Coronets in the following manner:

#### **Section 1.1**

The Princely Sovereign shall have won by combat the list at a duly authorized Coronet Tournament. The Princely Consort shall have been the inspiration of the Princely Sovereign at that tourney.

#### **Section 1.2**

Upon Investiture, the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort-elect shall swear their fealty to the people of the Principality of Oertha, and to uphold the laws of the Principality of Oertha and the laws of the Kingdom of the West, and that oath shall be given to the reigning Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort, or their representatives and be witnessed by the Principality Seneschal, Principality Herald, or their representatives, and the Principality Marshal or such members of the marshallate and Chivalry of the West as have witnessed the Coronet lists and will bear witness to the validity of the claims of the tournament winner and consort.

### **Section 2**

It shall be the right of the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort of Oertha to present the following awards:

#### **Section 2.1 Armigerous Awards**

Any such armigerous awards as may be approved by the Crown of the West.

#### **Section 2.2**

The Companions of the Diamond Willow to any of Their subjects who have performed outstanding service to the Principality. The token for this award shall be a diamond willow pendant hung from a cord in Principality colors.

#### **Section 2.3**

The Order of the Snowy Owl to any of Their subjects who have notably enriched the Principality in the fields of Arts and Sciences. The token for this award shall be a blue glass bead etched with a feather, or a snowy owl in flight, hung from a cord in Principality colors.

#### **Section 2.4**

The Oerthan Order of Grace to any of Their subjects who display commendably courteous or chivalrous behavior. The token for this award shall be a silver snowflake pendant hung from a cord in Principality colors.

### **Section 2.5**

The Princess' Riband to any of Her subjects whose talents and unstinting service have uniquely enriched the Princess' reign. The Riband holds no precedence and may be given to the same person as many times as various princesses deem he or she is worthy. The token for this award shall be uniquely determined by the Princess bestowing it.

### **Section 2.6**

The Order of the Oerthan Sword for martial prowess and chivalrous behavior on and off the field. This award is presented from the hand of the Princess, usually upon the consideration of candidates proposed by the Knights Council. The token for this order shall be a belt sword ring made of blue leather and metal.

### **Section 2.7**

The Order of the Raven's Heart to their younger subjects (under 17 years of age) for exceptional contributions to the Principality. The token for this order shall be a heart within a circle, both made of hematite. This award may be given to the same person as many times as various Coronets deem he or she is worthy.

### **Section 2.8**

The Order of the Polaris to Their subjects who foster tradition and teach the customs and ways of the Society to the populace. The token of this award shall be a sphere of interlocking pearls suspended on a blue silk ribbon.

### **Section 2.9**

The Order of the Silver Ulu for notable achievements in the practice and research of the culinary arts. The token for this award shall be a silver ulu pendant hung from a cord of Principality colors.

### **Section 2.10**

The Order of the Bards of Oertha.

The Coronet may elevate any of Their subjects to the Order of the Bards of Oertha, who have notably enriched the Principality in the bardic arts. The Coronet may decide to present this recognition directly, or may determine the individual to be awarded through a contest. The token of this award shall be a golden harp pendant hung from a cord of Principality colors.

### **Section 2.11**

The Order of the Argent Stylus

The Order of the Argent Stylus is given to Their subjects who have made notable achievements in the art and service of scribing.

### **Section 2.12**

Order of the Glove

The Order of the Glove to Their subjects who have displayed chivalry and prowess on the rapier field and possess the qualities of a courtier. The token for this award shall be a blue leather glove decorated with the white Oerthan wolf.

### **Section 2.13**

The Ursa Minor

The Ursa Minor may be given upon successful completion of the Oertha Page School program, in recognition of the service and knowledge gained through the program. The Page School officer shall maintain the program, and will advise the Coronet of participants who, through service and learning, have shown maturity in the customs of the Society and Principality. The token for this award shall be a bear charm, hung from a cord of Principality colors.

### **Section 2.14**

#### **The Argent Flame**

**The Argent Flame is given to those who show true Oerthan hospitality to strangers and friends to our fair Principality. Who through their generosity and charity provide for the needs of newcomers and members alike. The token is a silver flame formed into a pendant.**

### **Section 3**

In recognition of the fact that fealty is a reciprocal oath, and that the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort are considered by the Coronet oath to be Liege Lord and Lady to each and every subject of Oertha; the following shall be the rights of every subject of Oertha as granted by the Coronet and law:

#### **Section 3.1**

The Right of Complaint to the Coronet. It shall be the right of every subject of Oertha to address grievances directly to the Coronet.

#### **Section 3.2 The Right to Sport Combat.**

It shall be the privilege of the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort, should He or She either choose, to take the field of honor to sport in combat, at pleasure in His or Her own name and honor, subject to only that He or She does not enter the Coronet List to succeed Himself or Herself, and subject to the normal rules of the List of the West Kingdom. Striking the Prince or Princess Coronet Sovereign or Consort in this sport shall in no way be conceived of as treasonous to their Person. Should the combatant choose, he or she may request, in courtesy to the Coronet, that the Prince or Princess Coronet Sovereign or Consort acknowledge a

"killing" blow verbally rather than, as is customary, allowing them to fall to the ground but failure to make the request shall not be construed as disrespect to the Person or Title of Prince or Princess.

#### **Section 4 - Curia Princeps**

##### **Section 4.1**

It shall be the right and privilege of the Coronet to convene and hold a Curia Princeps for the purpose of hearing counsel, discussing, or making pronouncements on any issue of concern to the Principality of Oertha.

##### **Section 4.2**

The Curia Princeps shall consist of the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort who convene the court and preside over it, any Ministers as may be concerned with the subject of the court, and other persons as the Coronet may desire to include in a particular meeting of the court.

##### **Section 4.3**

Any subject of the Coronet of Oertha may attend the sessions of this court and may petition the Coronet upon matters relevant and appropriate.

##### **Section 4.4**

Decisions of the court shall be made by the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort after hearing the advice of the Ministers and the populace present. All decisions of the court must be printed in the next newsletter to be considered official.

##### **Section 4.5**

When the Coronet has declared a Principality investigation complete and the decision final, no officer may reopen the investigation or overrule the decision, save at the direction of the Crown of the West or the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism.

##### **Section 4.6**

Notice of a Curia Princeps must be printed in the Guardian before the meeting, with an agenda of topics to be considered and the time and location of the court.

##### **Section 4.7**

The business of the Principality of Oertha is not secret from the subjects of the Coronet.

#### **Section 5**

Should the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort for any reason whatsoever be unable to complete their reign, a Regency Council composed of the Principality Seneschal, Marshal, and Exchequer shall be created. The Council shall act in all ways as the Coronet subject to the following limitations:

##### **Section 5.1**

All actions of the Council must be taken under unanimous agreement of its members.

##### **Section 5.2**

The Council shall have the power to change the laws of the Principality only to the extent required to correct any contradictions between the laws of the Principality, and the Kingdom laws, the governing documents of the S.C.A., Inc., or mundane law.

##### **Section 5.3**

Any changes enacted by a Regency Council must be publicly confirmed by the next Prince and Princess Sovereign and Consort of Oertha or they shall be automatically rescinded.

##### **Section 5.4**

A Regency Council shall have no power to grant awards.

##### **Section 5.5**

The reign of the Council shall cease upon the investiture of a Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort who have been selected via the usual manner as prescribed in these Laws.

### **ARTICLE III: OFFICERS AND GUILDS**

#### **Section 1**

~~The Officers of the Principality of Oertha are the Seneschal, the Stellanordica Herald, the Knight Marshal, the Rapier Marshal, the Archery Marshal, the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chronicler, the Chirurgeon, the Chatelaine, the Clerk of Regalia, the Constable,~~

The Greater Officers of the Principality of Oertha are the Seneschal, the Stellanordica Herald, the Knight Marshal, the Minister of Arts and Sciences, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chronicler, the Chirurgeon, and the Constable. Lesser Officers of the Principality need not swear direct fealty during the Coronet Investiture, and include the Chatelaine, the Clerk of Regalia, the Rapier Marshal, the Archery Marshal, the Minister of Lists, and the Stellanordica Scribe.

#### **Section 2**

These officers shall have the same duties within the Principality as do their superior officers in the Kingdom of

the West, except that they shall directly obey the Coronet, subject to the ultimate obedience of all subjects to the Crown of the West.

### **Section 2.1**

Each **greater** officer shall swear fealty to the Coronet of Oertha at each Investiture. If it is impossible for an officer to attend the event a written oath of Fealty should be sent to the Principality Herald or with their deputy to be read at Investiture.

### **Section 2.2**

Each officer of the Principality is responsible for encouraging and assisting their subordinate officers in the performance of their required duties to ensure the smooth functioning of the Principality. As part of this responsibility, each officer shall maintain regular communications with their subordinates.

### **Section 2.3**

With sufficient evidence that an officer is not fulfilling the duties of that office, the Coronet may petition their Kingdom officer for removal and replacement.

### **Section 3**

The officers of the Principality shall inform the Prince and Princess Coronet of the state of the Principality in writing at Investiture. Failure to do so may result in removal from office at the Coronet's discretion, subject to Article III, Section 2.3.

### **Section 4**

Each officer will appoint one deputy capable of assuming the office at anytime. This deputy need not be the replacement in cases where a replacement for the officer is needed. Each officer may appoint deputies to serve specific functions of the office.

### **Section 5**

Each officer shall submit a roster of local officers and Principality deputies at least a month before each Kingdom Coronation to the Coronet for signature.

### **Section 6**

There shall be an Exchequer's Council consisting of the Prince and Princess Coronet Sovereign and Consort, the Seneschal, and the Exchequer. All expenditures shall have approval of the Council.

### **Section 7**

Only guilds recognized by the Coronet may hold contests at Principality events. All others are subject to Section 8.

### **Section 7.1**

A guild shall become an official Oerthan guild upon submitting a charter and a minimum of six signatures, of which at least one shall be from each geographic area. New groups will be placed in the appropriate area for guild determination. A guild shall remain official and active by submitting a minimum of six signatures, of which at least one must be from each area, on a dated roster to the incoming Prince and Princess at Their Investiture. ~~Failure to do so could result in the guild losing official status.~~ One half of the active guilds in Oertha shall report at Summer Coronet, and the other half shall report at Winter Coronet. Guilds shall maintain a contact with the Seneschal, who shall determine which guilds submit a roster at which Investiture. Failure to submit a roster could result in the guild losing official status. It is the right of the Coronet to accept or deny a guild's petition of official or continuing status.

### **Section 8**

The Principality arts and sciences competitions will be administered by the Minister of Arts and Sciences. All other contests at Coronet Tournaments and Investitures will be held at the discretion of the Autocrat.

### **Section 9**

The Coronet of Oertha shall be notified in writing about all gifts to Principality Regalia before it is made or presented. All gifts given without prior notice shall be returned to the donor at which time the donor can clarify whether the gift is regalia or a personal gift.

### **Section 10**

All monies collected through auctions, shilling, donation, etc. that are "ear-marked" for Oerthan coffers shall be turned in to the Oerthan Exchequer within thirty (30) days of the event at which they are collected.

### **Section 11**

There shall be a Commission of Regalia. The Commission shall consist of the Prince and Princess, the Seneschal, the Stellanordica Herald, and the Clerk of Regalia or their designated representatives.

### **Section 11.1**

The duties of the Clerk of Regalia shall include the following: The Clerk shall maintain an inventory listing of all Principality regalia including the declared value of each item and the name of the individual in possession of each item. The Clerk shall store items of regalia that are retired or used only for special purposes, communicate

to the Principality Chancellor of the Exchequer the inventory information for financial reporting purposes, and make efforts that the Principality Commission of Regalia meet at least once during each Coronet reign. Upon the Investiture of a new Prince and Princess of Oertha, the Clerk shall conduct an inventory of all items of regalia prior to its transfer to the incoming Coronet, and afterwards shall make a written report to the Commission of Regalia and both incoming and outgoing Coronets.

### **Section 11.2**

The duties of the Commission of Regalia shall include the following: The Commission shall advise the Coronet on the merit and value of Principality regalia and approve the specific acquisition, retirement or disposal thereof. At least once during each Coronet reign, the Commission shall meet and examine the regalia inventory report prepared by the Clerk of Regalia. The Commission shall determine if the outgoing Coronet or other individuals will be held financially responsible for loss or damage of regalia entrusted to their care. **The incoming Sovereign and Consort will accept custody of regalia to be placed in Their care by signature receipt of the completed inventory, as acknowledgement of their financial responsibility for the care and custody of Principality property. A copy of the inventory shall be kept by each member of the Commission.**

### **Section 12**

All items of regalia are the property of the Principality and may be disposed of only with the approval of the Commission of Regalia. If the item has sufficient value to be declared in the Principality's annual financial report, then the approval of the Principality Exchequer Council shall also be obtained before disposal. Principality regalia shall be considered not only those items commonly used by the Coronet, but also items in the possession of Principality officers which are of substantial monetary, historical or ceremonial value.

## **ARTICLE IV: SUCCESSION, TOURNAMENTS, AND CONDUCT OF COMBAT**

### **Section 1**

#### **Section 1.1**

The fighter who achieves victory in the Coronet lists shall be invested as Prince or Princess, as the case may be. His/Her consort shall be invested as Prince or Princess Consort (See Article II).

#### **Section 1.2**

The fighter who placed second in the Coronet Lists shall, at the same event, be invested as the Lord or Lady Guardian. This title shall ordinarily hold no essential rights or privileges. Their Highnesses shall expect the Guardian and his/her consort to observe the procedures and bearing of the Coronet, so that they might be conversant in its ways should they, one day, be Prince and Princess in their own right.

### **Section 2**

#### **Section 2.1**

No fighter or consort may succeed themselves.

#### **Section 2.2**

Should the Sovereign- and Consort-elect not intend to reign, and sufficient evidence of their failure be presented to the Coronet, or should they be unable to reign due to circumstance, the couple who placed second in the Coronet Lists shall be invested as Prince and Princess in their place.

#### **Section 2.3**

If during the reign the Consort is unable or unwilling to continue the reign, the position shall remain vacant for the remainder of the reign.

#### **Section 2.4**

Should the Sovereign become unable or unwilling to complete his or her reign, the Consort shall act as Regent and retain all the power of the Coronet.

#### **Section 2.5**

Should the Sovereign be unable to attend the Investiture of his/her successor, the Consort shall act as Regent.

### **Section 3.0**

There shall be two Coronet Tournaments a year, held approximately the third weekends in January and July. The Coronet Investitures shall be held within thirty hours of the tournament. The responsibility for selecting the dates for the Coronet Tournaments and Investitures shall rest with the Seneschal. Dates will be announced at the first of each year. The locations will be rotated throughout the regions, with any group eligible to place bids.

#### **Section 3.1**

Coronet Tournaments locations shall be selected using the priority bid system described in Sections 3.2 and 3.3.

#### **Section 3.2**

Branches wishing to host a Coronet event must submit a written bid to the Coronet and Seneschal. This bid must provide the specifics of autocrat, date, location, and accommodations for the List and Investiture. Final bid approval will be verified by the Coronet who will be reigning during the event.

**The following points will be considered with regard to bids:**

- A) Any group within the Principality that meets Society, Kingdom and Principality Law for hosting a fighting event may place a bid.
- B) Bids, once accepted, can only be changed by agreement of the Coronet, the Seneschal, the hosting branch, and the autocrat except as may be necessary to meet Society, Kingdom, or previously existing Principality law.
- C) In consideration of the possible remoteness of some branches, the Coronet or Seneschal may request the bid to provide reasonable evidence that enough authorized fighters can be expected to attend so that the minimum List requirements set forward in Society, Kingdom, and Principality Law can be met.
- D) In the unlikely case that no qualifying bid is received, the Coronet and the Seneschal shall select either the largest branch in the Principality or the branch that has not hosted a Coronet event in the longest time and request that group to prepare an event that meets at least the minimum requirements set forward in Law.
  - 1) If no acceptable bid can be developed, the Coronet shall direct the Seneschal to autocrat the Event and the Principality Officers shall complete the Autocrat Team.

**Section 3.3**

A branch that has not held a Coronet event in as many times as there are eligible branches may submit a bid that asserts priority. In the case of multiple priority bids, the branch that has not held a Coronet event in the longest time shall receive higher priority. A priority bid that meets the standards set forth in these Laws shall be strongly considered in preference to any other bid. The final decision for the winning bid will rest with the Seneschal.

The following points will be considered with regard to bids:

- A) Baronies and Shires are eligible for priority ranking. Other branches may receive priority ranking only by bidding through the nearest barony or shire.
- B) For a bid to receive priority consideration, it must be submitted no later than one week prior to the Coronet event preceding the event for which the bid is written (6 months and one week before the event).
- C) For purposes of priority, new groups shall be counted as if they held the Coronet event immediately prior to their establishment. In the case that this creates a tie for priority, the event shall be awarded to the new group.

**Section 3.4**

The Principality Seneschal shall have primary responsibility for working with the hosting branch. The autocrat of the Coronet event shall be responsible to the Seneschal, who is in turn responsible to the Coronet in all matters involving the Coronet Tourney and Investiture. Any decision to replace the appointed autocrat will be made by the Seneschal after consultation with the Coronet.

**Section 4**

All authorized Oerthan fighters have the right to compete in the Coronet Lists of the Principality of Oertha unless they are in violation of the rules of the lists, the Bylaws and governing documents of the Society, or the laws of the Principality or Kingdom. All fighters must be acceptable to the Coronet of Oertha.

**Section 4.1**

By entering the Coronet Lists, a fighter declares his or her loyalty to the Coronet, the Principality Laws, the Populace of Oertha, and the Crown of the West.

**Section 4.2**

~~**Fighters and consorts must have physically resided and participated on a regular basis (three times during the most recent reign; for example: attended fighter practice, local events, officer or guild meetings, etc.) in the Principality three months prior to that tournament and agree to reside for the duration of their reign.**~~

**Section 4.2**

**Fighters and consorts must have physically resided and participated on a regular basis in the Principality during the most recent reign. Regular participation shall be defined as attendance at three or more published activities, such as: fighter practices, local events, officer or guild meetings. Fighters and consorts must agree to reside in the Principality for the duration of their reign.**

**Section 4.3**

Each fighter, by entering the Coronet Lists, declares the he or she will be able to attend his or her Investiture, the following Coronet Tournament, and the Investiture of his/her successor, for no one shall compete for the Coronet of Oertha without intending to reign, should he or she win. Each person entering the Coronet Lists shall fight for some person of the opposite sex, whom he or she shall name as Consort Princess or Consort Prince should he or she win. This person shall be willing and able to attend his or her Investiture, the following Coronet Tournament, and the Investiture of his or her successor.

#### **Section 4.4**

The conduct of combat, rules of the lists, and the requirements for arms and armor shall be exactly as stated in the laws of the Kingdom of the West except that the Prince, Princess, and the Knight Marshal of the Principality shall act in the place of the King, Queen, and Earl Marshal where so stated. The final responsibility for the lists will rest with the Principality Marshal.

#### **Section 5**

The Coronet Lists shall have present representatives of the Principality Seneschal, Herald, and Marshal in addition to either Sovereign or Consort. Combat will not be held unless five fighters enter the list. Should any of these conditions not exist on the weekend appointed for the Coronet Lists, a Regency Council will be convened to reschedule the tournament at the first reasonable opportunity. The Council shall consist of the Prince and Princess, Seneschal, Marshal, and Exchequer and shall be subject to the limitations of Article II, Section 5.

### **ARTICLE V: BRANCHES**

#### **Section 1**

Elevation of any branch to the status of Barony or Province shall be in accord with the Laws of the West and the governing documents of the SCA, Inc. However, the petition for such status may be forwarded through the Coronet of Oertha and the Principality Seneschal to the Crown.

#### **Section 2**

A new branch below the level of Barony or Province may be founded within the Principality when such a proposed branch has at least five subscribing members of the Society for Creative Anachronism, a seneschal-elect, a herald, a chosen arts and sciences officer or a knight marshal, and when such a proposed branch shall find favor with the Prince and Princess of Oertha, and be granted existence by the Crown of the West. If such a branch shall require proficiency in any office, most especially the marshallate (due to considerations of safety in combat), it may request that a deputy of that office be sought of the corresponding Principality officer who will give what aid and training may be practical until a branch member is qualified to receive appointment within that office.

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- <sup>i</sup> Byock, 9
  - <sup>ii</sup> Clements, 263
  - <sup>iii</sup> OSU, 3
  - <sup>iv</sup> Ostergard & Stergard, 44
  - <sup>v</sup> OSU, 3
  - <sup>vi</sup> Ostergard & Stergard, 52
  - <sup>vii</sup> Ewing, 143
  - <sup>viii</sup> Ostergard & Stergard, 48
  - <sup>ix</sup> Ewing, 141
  - <sup>x</sup> Ostergard & Stergard, 121 & Hald 48.