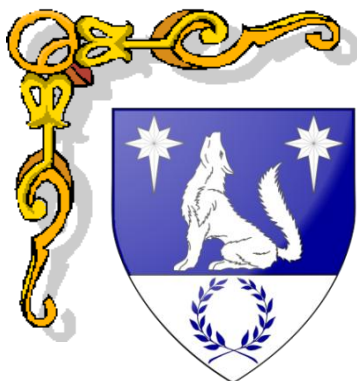


To the Dream. To the West. Oertha Forever.



The Guardian

Newsletter for the Principality of Oertha, Kingdom of the West

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This is the Spring 2014 issue of The Guardian, a publication of the Principality of Oertha of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Guardian is available from the Principality Chronicler. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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From Baroness Ellisif a Reikiavik, Seneschale of Oertha...

Many greetings to the most noble Populace of Oertha!

Many wonderful things have been happening this Spring, and I'm very happy to be able to give the official word about one of them.

Oerthans made such a great impression upon Their Majesties at Coronet, that when Her Majesty found She had a long weekend free, and that there were not one, but two events occurring in Her lands to the north, that She gleefully took the opportunity to ask if we would be willing and able to host Her for a friendly visit! (Of course, there was no answer but yes!) As marvelous as that was, it got better. After hearing about the proposed journey, His Majesty asked if He could accompany Her!

They plan to attend the Prince's Prize Tourney in Selviargard on Friday evening the 25th, then journey through the night and attend Fool's Revel in Winter's Gate on Saturday afternoon the 26th.

My utmost and greatest thanks to everyone who has made such an fantastic and unexpected visit possible, from arranging airline logistics, transport, and housing to the smallest donation to the fundraisers that have made this doable. My even greater and most humble thanks to Their Majesties for giving our beloved Principality such a singular honor.

Baroness Ellisif a Reikiavik
Seneschale of Oertha



Prince's Prize Tournament

April 25-27, 2014
Principality of Oertha

Missing your armor? Have an urge to enter an A&S contest? Long winter got you down? Not to worry! Your Prince has heard your plight and offers entertainments to enliven the spring and prepare the armies of Oertha for tourney season!

Sharpen your swords and rapiers, fletch your arrows and put quill to parchment with your bardic skills; pull out your banners and prepare to dress your camp in all its pageantry. His Highness desires to see Oertha in all its finery, taste of its best desserts and brewed drinks, and play games of skill and chance. He offers prizes for many tourneys, games and contests – with feasting and bardic to celebrate it all.

Join Him: attend classes, celebrate Chivalry and earn points toward a grand prize, while toasting the inspiration of your consort and the future in our small Treasures.

The festivities begin on Friday night, with Tyr's Torchlight Tourney, and conclude on Sunday, with a Teddy Bear Tea, sponsored by Her Highness Dagmar, for the delight of the Treasures. See the list of entertainments below and plan to enter many to win points and glory.

PRIZES: A sampling of AWESOME items, worthy of gifting by His Highness, many hand-crafted by Oerthan artisans, given by His Highness to enrich the populace.

Contests and Entertainments:

Heavy fighting: Tyr's Torchlight Tourney, Prize Tourney (with points awarded for period kit, chivalry, display of knightly virtues) and the Viscountess' Brunch Tourney on Sunday morning.

Rapier fighting: Prize Tourney (with points awarded for period kit, chivalry, display of knightly virtues) and other tourneys to be announced.

Archery: William Tell Shoot, target shooting.

A&S Contests: Period "tourney" garb; bardic arts: original song/story/poem; brewing competitions; and Tasty Desserts competition! Other ADULT competitions on Saturday night will be announced at court.

Children's games: Dragon Feet races, "Toss Across" and boffer spear throwing, etc. The Teddy Bear Tea on Sunday will keep them busy while adults break down/pack – snacks will be provided.

Needful information: Lunch on Saturday will be soups & breads; Feast on Saturday will be a sponsored potluck, with His Highness providing the meat, and other items potluck, by mundane last name:

A-L Vegetable side dish
M-R Starchy side dish
S-Z Breads and Spreads

Allergen Note: No Fish, No Onions, No Jalapenos

Site information: Camp Carlquist Boy Scout Camp (Edmonds Lake: 23001 Gorsuch Rd., Chugiak)

Event Fee: \$10/adult (over 12 years), \$5 Treasures (2-12 years), Babes in Arms = FREE; Family \$30

Autocrat: Margarita di Calvi (Gretchen Thompson), on behalf of His Highness Kenric.



Oerthan Summer Coronet

July 18-20, 2014
Principality of Oertha

Join us as we celebrate the reign of Prince Kenric and Princess Dagmar and the selection of Their Heirs. Enjoy the salt air and nearby beach, revel in the mountains, shop at the Saturday market, and walk along the trails between the pastures.

The site opens at Noon on Friday. Soup and bread will be available starting around 4 or 5pm.

Children's activities are being coordinated. More to come on that front. Archery classes will be taught against the mountainside.

The Shield Tree will be up for the Fighters and Consorts in the list – please bring your Shields! Roses Tournament will commence for heavy and rapier fighters immediately following the Coronet tournament upon the Eric.

Saturday night is potluck.

Dona Etain Rapier Tournament after dinner. Bardic bonfire Saturday evening.

There will be an A&S Display. Please bring lots of things. Show off all the hours you've worked over the long winter months!! *A&S Competition:* Period headwear. *Their Highnesses Whim:* Viking clothing. Fabric is available for those who are making the items specifically for Their Highnesses to keep. *Autocrat's Whim:* displayed representations of the chivalric virtues. *Herbal and Leechcraft Guild Competition:* a first aid item, with documentation explaining its uses in period and current efficacy in the Knowne World.

Dogs are okay. Must be on leash.

Please bring your leather or wooden dishes. Glass is not allowed out of vehicles due to horses, cows and goats.

Site is wet. Carefully police age restrictions. Fires are allowed in above ground containers at camp sites and a bonfire will occur Saturday if the fire danger sign is green. Guns may not be carried about openly. Bears should be reported to the Fairgrounds caretaker.

We look forward to seeing you upon our fair shores!!

Site Information: The Kodiak Fairgrounds / Kodiak, AK. Directions from the Airport: Turn left onto Rezanof Drive. Drive about five minutes. Watch for the Kodiak Fairgrounds and Raceway sign. Turn right. Directions from the ferry dock: Turn left, follow the curve around until you reach the one and only stoplight. Turn left onto Rezanof Drive. Follow the road for about 10-15 minutes until you pass the airport. Drive about five more minutes. Watch for the Kodiak Fairgrounds and Raceway sign. Turn right.

Site opens at Noon on Friday and closes around 5PM on Sunday.

Site fee: \$22 for 12 and up , \$12 for 6-11, 5 and under free! Family cap is \$65.

Autocrat: Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva (Tamie Everton Fogle)

Calendar

May

- May 2-4 Beltane Coronation
Kingdom of the West
- May 17-18 Spring Offensive
Selviergard
- May 24-25 Spring Captaincy
Winter's Gate

June

- June 6-8 Outdoor Event
Earngyld
- June 7-8 Three Baron's Fair
Eskalya
- June 14-15 Three Baron's Fair
Eskalya
- June 14 Frolic in the Forest
Winter's Gate
- June 28-29 Summer Hunt
Selviergard

July

- July 18-20 Summer Coronet
Principality of Oertha

Autocrats and Seneschals: it is important to advertise your event! Please ensure that your local events are posted on the Kingdom Calendar.

Foole's Revel

April 26, 2014
Barony of Winter's Gate

Spring has sprung and cabin fever is running rampant through the Barony! Come join us as we shake off the last bits of winter and rush forward to enjoy the warmth of summer! Wear your funniest garb creations, dust off your old jokes, prepare your silly walks, and let us bring in the new season together!

Activities will include a Fool's Pas for both heavy and rapier fighters, a competition for the new Fool of Winter's Gate (a best skit or recitation under 2 minutes), the Baroness' whim of the best "You Know You're in the SCA When" story, The Baron's Whim of Green Pea dishes (to be judged by the Baroness...who is NOT a pea fan!), and the A&S competition of the best period looking silly garb (a florescent Viking or a Tie-dyed Tudor for example). Dinner will be aimed for 6pm and will be a traditional Winter's Gate Potluck. Please bring a labeled dish that will feed at least 8.

Come, have fun, and let silliness reign!

Site Information: Walden Estates Community Center, 1108 Hampstead Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

Site is open from Noon till 10pm.

Site Fee: \$5 for adults (+ \$5 for adult non-members), \$3 for ages 6- 16, and 5 and under are free; \$15 family cap. Please make checks out to "SCA, Inc -Barony of Winters Gate".

Autocrat: Margery Garret (Michele Griffin).

Regarding The Three Baron's Renaissance Fair

June 7-8 & 14-15, 2014
Barony of Eskalya

The Three Baron's Fair, the Renaissance festival in Anchorage during the first two weekends in June, is almost upon us! Now is the time to start thinking about how we all can assist the Barony of Eskalya in their annual recruitment and demonstration opportunity for the entire Principality of Oertha.

For those that have participated in the demonstration at the Three Baron's Renaissance Fair you may know what to expect. For those that have not done so before: you can expect to have fun! Fighters, people that can talk about the SCA, artisans, heralds, and all people are welcomed and needed to make the efforts at this year's Renaissance Fair count.

The format for the Three Baron's Fair involves fighting demonstrations, showcasing our Arts and Sciences efforts, and general 'ambiance' at the Fair. Additionally, there are times when we can walk around the Renaissance Fair and enjoy the sights and shows, shop, and eat. We take part in the Three Baron's Fair, but are not the main attraction; we simply are a group that shows off what we do in the Society.

Bring your armor! Bring your banners! Bring your sense of adventure! Bring your enthusiasm!

More information will be posted by Eskalyans as we come closer to the Fair dates. But let us take a moment and think how we can support the Barony of Eskalya and share the SCA with all people who may attend the Renaissance Fair.

From the Minister of Arts and Sciences...

To the Artisans of Oertha,

Just a reminder that the Arts and Sciences competition at Summer Coronet, in Pavlok Gorod, will be PERIOD Headgear. Whatever period--from the Norse four/six panel hats to Elizabethan tall hats--, or style—including coifs and hoods. Documentation is part of the judging...so please supply at least a photograph of the inspiring piece (or a nice write-up).

Even if you are unable to attend Summer Coronet, I would encourage you to send your work down with somebody.

Yours in Service,

Tiarna Bránn mac Finnchad,
Minister of Arts and Sciences, Oertha

Did You Know?

"My earliest recollection of saluting the empty thrones was during one of Henrik's early reigns when he preferred to be riding a horse to sitting on the throne. When the fighters complained that it was hard to locate him to salute at the beginning of each fight, he placed the crown on the throne and told them to salute that. The populace semi-mockingly got into the spirit of the ruse - bowing/curtseying if they happened to pass in front of "The Royal Presence". The fiction was so useful that it quickly became custom then formally part of the pre-combat litany shortly thereafter."

**—Remembered by Kevin Peregrynne
via the West Kingdom History Website**

Tumblr for the Anachronist

By: Halfdan "Two Bears" Ózurrson

This article is the second part of the "Social Media for Anachronist" series which discusses the merits of utilizing modern-day social media applications for study and fun within the Society for Creative Anachronism.

Tumblr, while not a blogging platform in the historical context, has managed to redefine blogging for many people. Blogging is great, but many of us do not have time to sit down and write out what inspires us, what objects we have created, or what we saw that was amazing at the last event. Tumblr is perfect for people who just want to post a photograph or write out something really quick to share it with the rest of the world.

With Tumblr, you can post videos, text, or links about your SCA life, but the simple reality is that Tumblr is all about images. Pictures can be posted singularly or in groups; allowing you to show off one item or a series of them. You can attach descriptions with no limits to the photograph, unlike Twitter and Pinterest which limit the amount of characters you can use.

While Tumblr is used to put up photo or text posts, a powerful and often used ability is to 'reblog' other people's posts. This effectively allows you to collect other posts that inspire you and shares them with other people...your followers.

Tumblr is a for everyone. So if you are a fighter that likes posting pictures of yourself at practice, a bard with original work that you want to share, or even a Laurel showing off your specialty; there's a place for you on Tumblr.

Tips and Tricks

* Be sure to use the tag feature when posting something on Tumblr. This ensures that other people will be able to find your post when they use the search tool. Be as specific as you like, but general terms such as "history," "SCA," and "armored combat" are fine too.

* Utilize the search tool to find other people that you may want to follow. Tumblr's search feature is powerful and you can find almost anything you are after.

* Don't be afraid to reblog another person's post on things that interest you. They are aware when you reblog their item, and will most likely start following you; effectively the start of a community of like-minded individuals.

* While you can post text and other items, remember that photographs are the most popular blog post on Tumblr. However, you can write unlimited amount of text that accompanies the photograph (or series of photographs) so use this to your full advantage.

As with many of the social media's out there; Tumblr is free to use with minimal advertisement (consisting of a 'sponsored post' in your feed but unobtrusive). Signing up is easy and quite painless. Additionally, Tumblr allows you to create your own online identity, effectively making you anonymous if you so choose. As an added bonus, Tumblr can also be used to redirect people back to your traditional blog.

Take a moment to explore Tumblr, enjoy the community it offers, and revel in the easy way to share your version of *The Dream* with everybody.

From the Chronicler...

Greetings to the Populace of Oertha

Spring is right around the corner here in the lands of Oertha. It is time to get the camping gear out, brush up on your bear safety, and celebrate the season out-of-doors with banners, pavilions, and bardics around a campfire.

I am always looking for submissions for this newsletter; articles on your interests, officer missives, your rhymes and songs, and other items that would be either important or interesting to the readers. Please take a moment to consider contributing to this newsletter.

Submissions for the Summer edition of *The Guardian* must be received no later than **July 7th, 2014** to ensure proper placement.

The next edition of *The Guardian* will be available at Summer Coronet which is being held in the lands of Pavlok Gorod in July. Printed copies will be offered, and the PDF version will be made public shortly afterwards.

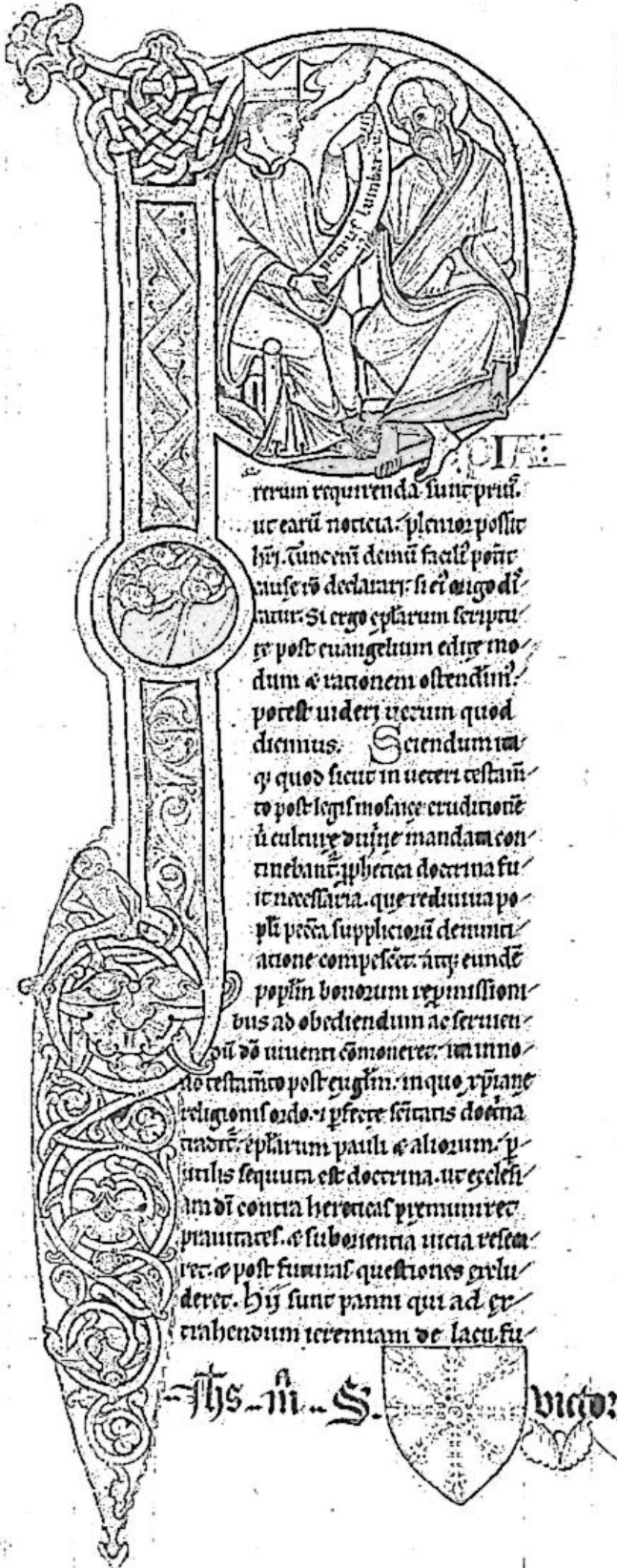
Despotes Halfdan "Two Bears" Ôzurrson
Chronicler, Principality of Oertha



**You Know You're in
the SCA when...**

You automatically bow to the cashier
when she says "have a nice day!"

From Sister Gwynnaeth the White, The Page (August 1982)



Initial letter from a manuscript attributed to Petrus Lombardus 1175-1200 CE

Spring Offensive: A Viking Raid on the English Coast

May 17-18, 2014
Barony of Selviergard

Following long tradition in Selviergard, it is time for the armies to gather and train for war. We will host war maneuvers using fun scenarios to challenge the warriors of Oertha. So come to Selviergard with your armor and weapons, dust off the camping gear and be ready for fighting, games and competitions in the best traditions of the land.

“The Raid on Lindisfarne”

Welcome to 793 AD, the spring tides are just right for our ships to sail the great sea and seek out new lands and riches. Let the bards sing of glory and our foemen’s despair as we head to the English coast.

War Scenarios: (Heavy and Rapier): Viking Ship Battle: ship outlines, fight ship to ship, if you fall overboard-you drown! Bridge Battle: narrow bridge/causeway, 3 fighters wide. Gate Battle: fight at the gate into town. Village Battle: street fight to monastery and plunder. Escape to the ships: enemy troops on the beach blocking the way.

Archery Competition: Target – Butts/ bull’s-eye: standard SCA bulls-eye targets. Target – Warriors: cardboard shapes of men w/ shields. Target – Hunt for meat: animal targets. “meat prize” (win your dinner!

Thrown Weapons Competition: Hand axes – block: points as shown. Hand axes – faithful wife?

Balloon head with braids, cut the braids without hitting balloon. Throwing spears.

A & S Competitions and Games: Beermaids of Valhalla: (adults) A Viking Obstacle Course (for kids: carrying age-appropriate items). Best Viking Garb: men-women-children. Offensive Garb team competition: aka GARB WARS. Bardic competition: Sagas in the Viking Style, to be performed at bardic. Viking Crafts: Viking jewelry, drinking horns, embroidery. Viking Illumination (for children). Cooking: Best Viking Sweet, Best Viking Savory – judged by the populace. Children’s Games: Dragon Feet races, ROCK, etc.

Feast: Bring your own meat to grill AND a potluck dish to share: (by mundane last name):

A – G: Breads & Spreads,

H – R: Side Dishes,

S – Z: Desserts.

Site Information: Little Susitna River Camp Ground, Houston, AK

Site Fee: \$10.00/adult (12 & up), \$5/child; nuclear family \$30 + NMS, as applicable Camp Fee: Separate per tent fee, payable to city of Houston.

Site opens at ?

Autocrat: Fergus MacThomais (George Thompson)



Officer Positions Available

Herein is my Last Official Notice for any applicants to be considered for my successor as the next Seneschal of Oertha.

In addition, we are still looking for a permanent Principality Exchequer.

For either office, please contact me at seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org.

Thank you,
Ellisif

Missed an issue of *The Guardian*? Master Khevron has taken the time to collect and share past newsletters, including this publication, for historical purposes. You can view them on his website at:

<http://khevron.tripod.com/guardian/index.html>

Do you have old copies of *The Guardian* or other newsletter publications you would like to share? Consider sending Baron Khevron a copy so that this and other fine publications can be archived for future generations.

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*Long live the King and Queen of the West! Long
Live the Prince and Princess of Oertha!*