

To the Dream. To the West. Oertha Forever.



The Guardian

Newsletter for the Principality of Oertha, Kingdom of the West

From the Prince of Oertha...

This is the Fall 2015 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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To all who hear these words I send greetings and warm thoughts!

As our seasons change we focus our efforts toward succession, by Right of Arms! As is the tradition within our great lands I have placed much thought into how we should choose the Fighter who shall represent Oertha as the 63rd Prince or Princess. In true Norse culture, the ax was a weapon feared by all. Able to cut an opponent with a single blow, leaving no doubt as to the ferocity of its blow. Clean, brutal, and definitive. True Oerthan style!

Each fighter shall have weapon style of choice, as long as it is an Ax. Two hand, two weapon, great weapon, pole weapon, or even a purple weapon, as long as it is an ax. There will be no obligation to match weapon style with your opponent. You will have the option to change weapon styles at anytime during the tournament but will be committed to that style for the duration of that bout. All bouts will be two out of three, with double elimination (2 bout loss) ending a fighters movement in the list. All fights will involve "Mass Weapons" and involve increased killing zones that will be in play. They are axes after all. All weapons Axes...shall of course be legal to Kingdom standards for compression, thrusting tips, lengths etc.

Shields shall not exceed 30" wide or 40" in height. This should be an average of most fighter shields. The general rule is if you are attempting to hide behind the neighbors garage door...learn to fight and not hide. Oerthans do not hide behind shields in fear of an Ax! The final round will be fought with axes as well.

Questions can be sent to me directly, and Good Luck to all!

Duncan

Prinz of Oertha



Michaelmas

October 17, 2015
Barony of Winter's Gate

Bonjour!!! Welcome to the Kitchens of 14th century France! It is getting close the feast of St. Michael, traditionally a time to celebrate the end of the harvest and the beginning of the winter. Join us as we learn what goes into the making of tasty medieval dishes so as to celebrate appropriately. Since there is interest, we will go over the intricacies of reading and making redacted recipes from the original recipes. Along with the ability to join in and help make the wonderful dishes for the feast, there will be a couple other classes. One will be on what goes into the planning for a feast. And there will be a "kids of all ages" activity making marzipan subtleties with Mistress Margery Garret.

This is a teaching and learning event so please come prepared to learn and to share your own information as we all contain knowledge and questions that can help us all grow as a community.

Site Information: Fairbanks Masonic Center 402 11th Ave, Fairbanks Alaska 99701. Site opens at 10AM and closes at 10PM.

Event Fee: Adults: \$10. Children: (under 12) \$.50 per year of age. \$5 non-member surcharge applies.

Autocrat: Lady Iriniia Myschkenova and Floyd of Winters Gate

"The College of St. Boniface (formerly Wizard's Keep) debuted at September Captaincy, A.S. XVI."

- From "Oerthan Firsts" written by Countess Berengaria de Montfort of Carcassone and found in an Arts and Sciences issue of The Guardian, the Principality newsletter, which was published in January of AS XIX (1985)

Samhain

October 17, 2015
Barony of Eskalya

The Theme is Heroes and Villians! Make your favorite character into a medieval/renaissance persona! 12th century Yoda! Captain America in Germans! Renaissance Batman! The possibilities are endless. There will be contests focused around your character's recreation in the medieval/renaissance time periods: Best character representation, best period accessory that relates to your character (Light saber sword? Cap's shield? get creative!).

Above all, this event will be host to the first fundraiser tournament to benefit the Providence Children's Hospital. Entry fee for each fighter wishing to fight in the tournament will be \$10. There will be a tournament for both Rapier and Heavy. Prizes will go to the entrant who makes the highest donation, the most inspirational consort, the most chivalric fighter and the overall tournament winner for each discipline. Each combatant will receive a special entry token.

Please bring a dish or snack for the grazing table.

Site Information: Anchor Lutheran School 8100 Arctic Blvd., Anchorage, AK 99518. Site opens at NOON and closes at 8PM.

Event fee: Adults: \$5, Under 15: Free. \$5 non-member surcharge applies.

Event Steward: Anna di Caterina Neri (Georgia Pfile)



Minstrels. From the nave of St. Mary's Church, Beverly

Samhain

October 31, 2015
Barony of Selviergard

Come! Join the populace of Selviergard as we celebrate the end of the old year and bring in the new. Samhain is the time of harvest and plenty. Brush up on your Celtic mythology and legends. We will have games, both traditional and some silly. Enter the contests for Harvest Desserts and Best Storytelling. Bring your own pumpkin and enter the best Jack-o-Lantern contest.

Site Information: LaVerne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp, 4495 Little Rain Rd., Wasilla AK 99629. Site opens at 10AM and closes at 9PM.

Event Fee: Adults: \$10, Children: (ages 6-12) \$5, Under 6: Free. Family Cap: \$30. \$5 non-member surcharge applies. Please make checks payable to SCA, Inc. - Barony of Selviergard

Autocrat: Baroness Aislynn Dennard of Dragon's Lair (Lynn Phipps).



Please note that in some cases the event copies were formatted for publication. In all cases the important information is included. Please check with the Yahoo Groups or Facebook for more up-to-date information regarding a particular event or contact the Autocrat.

Calendar

November

November 7 A&S Extravaganza
Selviergard

November 14 Collegium
St. Boniface

December

December 5 Yule
Eskalya

December 12 Yule
Selviergard

December 17 Yule
Winter's Gate

January

January 8-10 12th Night
West Kingdom

January 15-17 Winter Coronet
Principality of Oertha

Future events will be published when the West Kingdom Calendar is finished.

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

Principality Arts and Sciences Champion Information

Greetings Oertha! It is my honor and privilege to announce the beginning of the Principality-wide Arts and Sciences Championship. The championship will last over the course of a year, in the future from Summer Coronet to Summer Coronet and events will be spread across all three baronies. The first set of contests will be as follows:

10/31/2015 - Samhain-SEL –
Calligraphy (Studio Art)

12/5/2015 – Eskalyan Yule – ESK –
Board Games (Domestic Arts and Sciences)

1/16/2016 – Winter Coronet – PRIN –
Original Morality Story or Play (Performing Art)

2/13/2016 – Death by Chocolate – ESK –
Needlebooks (Textile)

4/2/2016 – Bi-Baronial Collegium – ESK/SEL –
Open Topic (Research Paper)

5/?/2016 – Spring Captaincy – WG –
Chain or Chainmail (Technological)

The contests are being drawn from six categories (one contest representing each category): Textile - Clothing, weaving, needlework, etc. Domestic Arts and Sciences - Small items, cooking, herbcraft, brewing, etc. Technological - Armor, casting, metal working, skeletal materials, etc. Studio Arts - Bookbinding, glass work, calligraphy.

* Contestants for the championship must enter at least four of the categories.

* Contestants may enter only one item per event (no double dipping).

* Incomplete projects may be entered, so long as the part of the project being judged is complete. For example, if you want to enter a scroll in the calligraphy contest but the illumination isn't complete, you may enter it so long as the calligraphy is complete.

* At least minimal documentation is required. Minimal documentation will be considered one 3x5 card and one primary source. More documentation is suggested.

Research papers should be between 1,500 and 2,500 words, or four to six pages, double spaced. Papers should be submitted by email one week before the event, to allow judges sufficient time to review the paper.

If there are three or more entrants in a competition, the winner is the entry with the highest score. If there are fewer than three entries, the winner is the entry with the highest score over 66% of the available points. If there is only one entry, the entry will be judged, but there will be no competition – however, the points will count towards the Championship. Whoever racks up the most total points wins.

Please send any questions or concerns to clairemagery@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing the talent and skill of Oertha's Artisans and wish all the entrants the very best of luck!

Juvo,

Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor
Craeftwicnestre Oerthas

***You Know You Are in the SCA When your spell checker knows
"marchpane", "cothardie", and "bransle".***

Chronicles

Written by Kimmel Sablesire (1979)

In honor of the Society for Creative Anachronism's fiftieth year the following is from an issue of The Eskalya Chronicle, published in July of AS XIV (1979). It chronicles the first Lord Defender of the North Tournament; the precursor to our modern Coronet.

The first semi-annual Lord Defender of the North Tournament was held on June 30th and July 1st, A.S.XIV. Eklutna Lake and the Chugach Mountains made an excellent setting for two beautiful days of fighting, fantasy, fun, and feasting. Thanks to a Witch who resides in Eklutna, the weather was warm and pleasant.

Sir Einrich Dwarf Armpitsbane held opening court early Saturday afternoon, welcoming Selveirgard, Eskalya, Wintersgate, and all Freemen to enjoy true Viking hospitality. Due to the relaxed atmosphere of the occasion, only four of the five scheduled Dwarven Olympix events were run. The full armor run was thankfully forfeited. The winners of the event were:

Caber Toss: Kylson of Shadowwood

Chain Toss: Kylson of Shadowwood

Axe of Knife throw: Alanbane

Archery: Lord Dairuin of Gwynedd

After the Dwarven Olympix all settled down to relax, exchange tales, drink much ale, and enjoy the fine day. At dusk, the Beast Feast began. True to Barbarian custom, most of the warriors ate and drank more than enough and retired early to prepare for the marrow's fighting.

The fight for the title of Lord Defender of the North was a double elimination. After five rounds of fighting, only three of the original thirteen fighters were left. It was decided that they must compete in a round robin. The results:

1. Kylson of Shadowwood vs. Lord Dairuin of Gwynedd - won by Kylson
2. Lord Ulrich von Matanuska vs. Kylson of Shadowwood - won by Lord Ulrich
3. Lord Ulrich von Matanuska vs. Lord Dairuin of Gwynedd - won by Lord Ulrich
4. Lord Ulrich von Matanuska vs. Kylson of Shadowwood - won by Lord Ulrich

Lord Ulrich von Matanuska of Haus Van Daug is now the Holder of the Key and shall be circletted as the First Lord Defender of the North.

There was almost as much excitement in the camp after the fighting as there was on the field as seven ladies received a good deal of pleasure judging the Comely Legs Contest. Alas, their contentment was surmounted by a goodly number of gentlemen, especially those who choose to enter the contest. There were two rounds of competition, the first based solely on looks and the second based on the texture of the thighs and calves. Sable Mortum was declared the winner and received kisses from three of the judges. He was assured that he would receive a more tangible prize at the Birch Grove Tourney in August.

Lade Sunday afternoon Sir Einrich held his closing court. Micheil Younger of An Alltan was herald for the processional and for all the events of the Tournament. For this he has all of our thanks and Sir Einrich presented him with a Decoupage plaque. Rondel was awarded a shawl for her story on the origin of the Irish potatoe. His Excellency Baron Hugh was awarded a plaque with swords mounted on it for his story on the wants and desires of a woman. The award for best costume was presented to Micheil Younger of An

Continued on page 6...

Chronicles; continued from Page 5

Alltan. The costumes were judged on look and authenticity. For his costume he received a cash prize donated by Lady Larissa of House Winterhaven. Kylson of Shadowwood was awarded a Morning star for his best showing at the Dwarven Olympix.

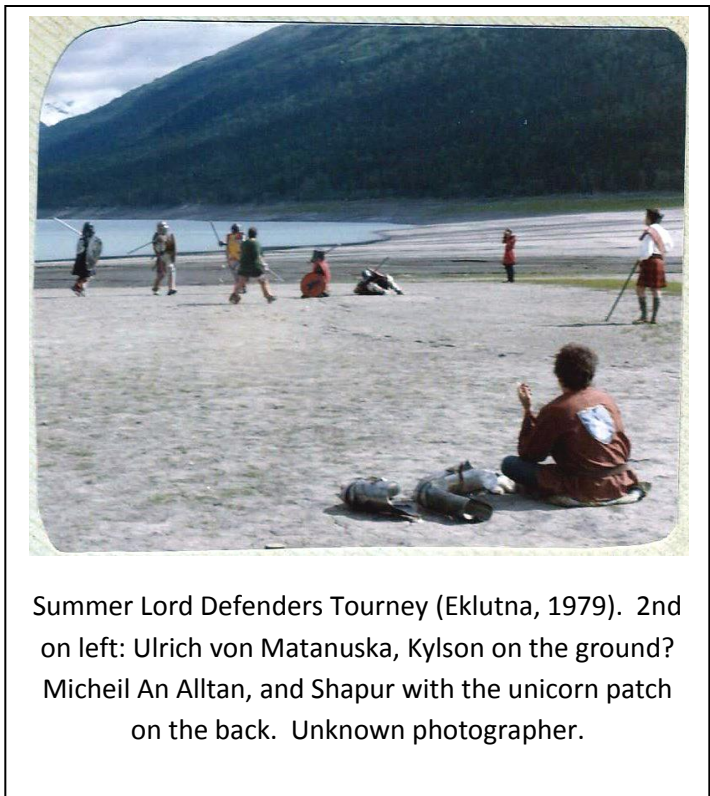
After Closing Court everyone cleaned up the campsite and prepared for the trek back down the mountain. We give our thanks and praise to Oden for a truly enjoyable Tourney.

- From The Eskalya Chronicle, volume IV, issue 7 (July AS XIV).

Historian's Note: This is the first time that this event report has been published since 1979 to the best of my knowledge. All spelling and punctuation has been left intact from the original document.

Additionally, though not noted in the original text, Keziah Fairhair was the inspiration of Lord Ulrich and was named as Queen of Love and Beauty of the North [West Kingdom History website].

Many thanks to Kimmel Sablesire who was inspired to write this report down in the Eskalya Chronicle many years ago so that one day it might be remembered by all and take its place in the History of Oertha.



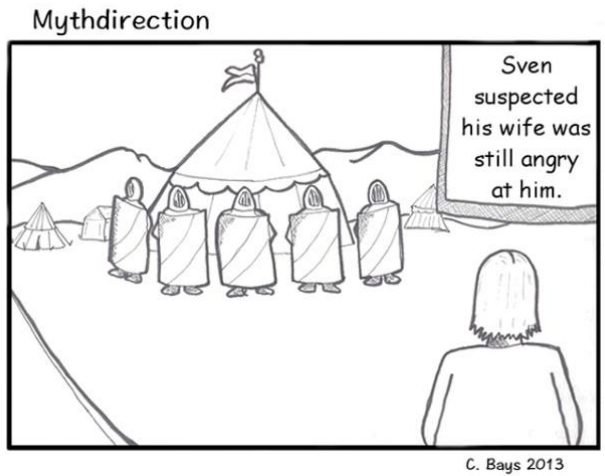
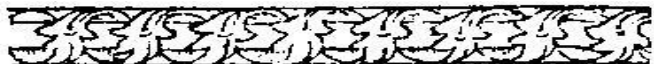
Summer Lord Defenders Tourney (Eklutna, 1979). 2nd on left: Ulrich von Matanuska, Kylson on the ground? Micheil An Alltan, and Shapur with the unicorn patch on the back. Unknown photographer.



LAW CHANGE FOR THE PRINCIPALITY OF OERTHA

Section 2.20 The Shield of Chivalry
The Shield of Chivalry will be presented by the Consort during His/Her final court to the fighter who has displayed outstanding chivalry both on and off the field, during the Coronet tournament. The recipient of the shield will carry and maintain it until the next Coronet lists, at which time it will be returned to the Consort. The token of this honor is a shield decorated as the Coronet sees fit.

Added to the Laws of Oertha by Shawn and Arabella in July AS L



Mythdirection.com - @christopherbays

A Founder's Song

Frederick of Holland
September, AS XXXVII

I dreamed of an age when the weak were defended,
When lovers were true, and foefs were well-tended.
I thought that I found it, but now it seems ended,
So I guess I'll return to my dream.

Old Arthur of Britain he had a bold plan;
At the great Table Round none would be the first man,
And the duty of Knights was above kin or clan,
And this was the root of my dream.

I dreamed of that age and I found it, I thought,
Where honor and chivalry ne'er could be bought,
And princes and nobles each did as they ought,
And so I let go of my dream.

We frolicked and kissed and we played silly games
Of kingship and peerage and titles and names.
But the nobles and peasants had each equal claims
To making the real from the dream.

And some gave their labor and some gave their gold
To build a cathedral as in days of old.
Both of them equal; 'twas not bought or sold.
That rock was the foot of the dream.

And so it was built and it grew through the years,
Not all of them happy, there were a few tears.
But the great shouts of joy drowned out the few jeers.
The joy was the child of the dream.

But lately it seems that there are a few churls,
And some of them sadly are dukes, Kings and earls,
Who feel that their rank earns them nothing but pearls.
That never was part of our dream.

And others see power in office and ranks,
Tell others to do, and they measure their thanks.
To them it is just corporations and banks,
And these were not part of my dream.

And last there are those who would have it put forth
That gold, only gold, is the measure of worth;
That labor is not worth its sweat on the earth,
And cash is the king of the dream.

I dreamed of an age when the weak were defended,
When lovers were true, and foefs were well-tended.
I thought I had found it, but now it seems ended,
So I'll have to return to my dream.

But I don't want to leave what I've found in the light
And return to my dreaming in sweet darkest night.
I'd rather take blade and defend what is right;
This too, is a part of my dream.

I will find a few people who think as I do.
I know there is me and I'll count upon you.
And we'll build up our dream by the deeds that we do,
For to do is to make real the dream.

We shall gather together to sing and to feast
And to bow and to dance and to slice the roast beast.
And the greatest of us is as good as the least
In adding her share to the dream.

So let corporate folk try to make us behave
And the churls and the louts try to spoil our fine rave.
We'll tell them, "No thanks," then we'll dance on their grave
And we'll dance and we'll live in our dream.

For we dreamed of an age when the weak were defended
When lovers were true, and foefs were well-tended.
We found it, we'll keep it, and we won't see it ended!
We don't want to return to a dream.

We prefer "to be real", to "the dream."



Tourteletes in fryture

PERIOD: England, 14th century

SOURCE: Forme of Cury

DESCRIPTION: Small fig pies basted with honey

ORIGINAL RECEIPT:

157. Tourteletes in fryture. Take figus & grynde hem smal; do þerin saffron & powdur fort. Close hem in foyles of dowe, & frye hem in oyle. Claryfye hony & flamme hem þerwyt; ete hem hote or colde.

GODE COOKERY TRANSLATION:

Take figs & grind them small; do there-in saffron & powder fort. Close them in foils of dough, & fry them in oil. Clarify honey & baste them there-with; eat them hot or cold.

INGREDIENTS:

- Figs
- Saffron
- Powder fort - a Medieval blend of strong spices, almost always containing pepper (and never sugar). A nice mix might consist of such spices as black pepper, white pepper, cardamom, ginger, cubeb, clove, etc.
- Pastry dough
- Oil
- Honey

DIRECTIONS:

Finely dice the figs as small as possible by hand or purée with a processor; mix in the saffron and the powder fort spice mixture - use to taste. Roll out the pastry dough and cut into medium-sized circles. On one pastry circle place a spoonful of figs, then cover with another circle of dough; seal the edges well. Fry the pie(s) in hot oil until lightly browned & crispy; remove from heat and allow to drain. In a pot, heat the honey, skimming off any scum that rises. As soon as the pie(s) have drained, brush on the honey. Eat hot or cold.



"The first visiting monarch to a Northern event (LS January XIII) was King Steven [MacEanruig]. Also at that event were Mistress Hilary of Serendip and Sir William the Lucky. At that event, Eskalya was made a Barony, with Hugh McGlammoraga of the North and Selenia of Silverwood as founding Baron and Baroness; and House Van Dag requested permission to form the Freehold of Selveirgard."

- From "Oerthan Firsts" written by Countess Berengaria de Montfort of Carcassone and found in an Arts and Sciences issue of The Guardian, the Principality newsletter, which was published in January of AS XIX (1985)

The Guardian will publish historical items from The Kingdom of the West and The Principality of Oertha for the duration of the Fifty Year Celebration. If you have a story about your first event, an old photograph, or any other historical item you would like to share please send your contribution to the Principality Chronicler for publication.



**50
YEARS**

THE SOCIETY FOR
CREATIVE ANACHRONISM

The Oerthan History Guild

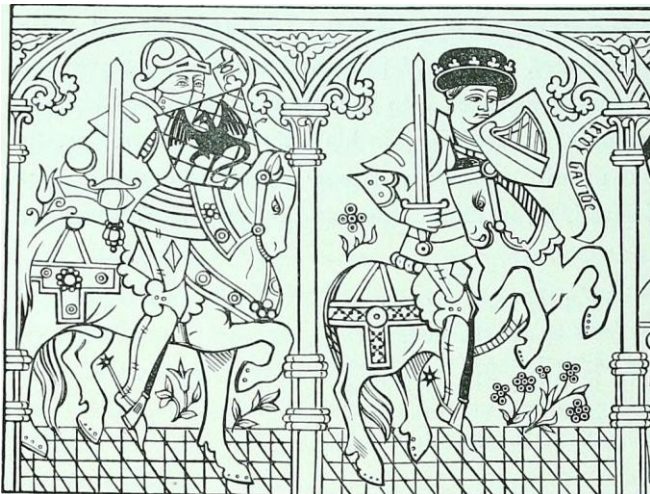
The Oertha History Guild is for folk endeavoring to recover and preserve the glorious history of our Principality and all the Branches. Such work is important; preserving our own history is vital to understanding who we are today and where we are going in the future.

As history is ongoing it is important to not only collect and curate the information from older events but from more recent ones as well. Information from recent events, such as photographs and event reports, are always welcome.

To help assist in collecting information a Facebook page has been set up; utilizing modern technology to ease the burden of such a lofty goal of collecting information from multiple persons.

Members are asked to write at least one 'event report' or upload photos to the Kingdom History Page each year. These can be current events or in the distant past. Help in finding, scanning, and harvesting information from newsletters, person correspondence, and even e-mail is also appreciated.

The Oertha History Guild is active and on can be found at www.facebook.com/groups/OerthaHistory/



From the Chronicler...

Fall is here; and with it the promise of winter months ahead. It is time to enjoy the indoors with friends and family in warm halls with story, song, and good food. Indoor events are wonderful; being warm, cozy, and full of mirth as we enjoy events together as a family.

As many of you know; our History is important to me. As such, I continue to publish interesting and hard to find historical information as we celebrate fifty years as a Society. Your help is needed as I desperately search for more material to publish and share with others. Please send photographs, old event reports, or other items of interest to me. These items will also be made available to the Oerthan History Guild so that the items that you contribute can be ultimately preserved for all time.

The Guardian is published four times a year, twice in hard copy and twice in digital format. This gives ample opportunity for you, gentle reader, to contribute to this publication so that others can grow and learn in *The Dream*. Please take a moment to consider what you would like to share with your Cousins in Oertha.

In Service,

Despotes Halfdan Ôzurrson,
Chronicler of Oertha

"The first Lord Defender of Oertha was Brendan Shimmeringstar in January XVI, with Danpira Snowsong as the one and only Queen of Love and Beauty of Oertha. One reign later, the title became Lady of the Snows with Decembre Eitel as the first holder."

- From "Oerthan Firsts" written by Countess Berengaria de Montfort of Carcassone and found in an Arts and Sciences issue of The Guardian, the Principality newsletter, which was published in January of AS XIX (1985)



Come and witness the choosing of the new Heirs to the Thrones of Oertha by Right of Arms and celebrate, feast, and sing with family and friends.

Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture will be held on January 15-17, 2015 at St. Therese's Camp in Wasilla, Alaska.

Regnum



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Duncan and Violet
Prince & Princess of Oertha
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Halfdan "Two Bears" Ôzzurson
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*Long live the King and Queen of the West!
Long Live the Prince and Princess of
Oertha!*



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