

To the Dream. To the West. Oertha Forever.



The Guardian

The newsletter for the Principality of Oertha, Kingdom of the West

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This is the Spring 2018 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 the Prince and Princess...

Greetings Wonderful Oertha,

Spring is in the air! As the sun warms and the ice begins to melt, Tourney season will soon be in full swing! The event schedule increases and we begin to travel more in order to meet the populace and celebrate the successes of their works.

We also would like to congratulate Their Royal Highnesses of The West for Their victory in March Crown! We look forward to hosting them should they decide to visit us this summer for Coronet!

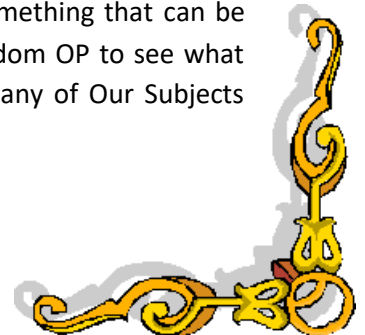
This month we are particularly pleased to be attending The Shire of Pavlok Gorod on April 14th and 15th! For one, this will be Our first time ever visiting these lands! And secondly, Our focus will be RAPIER! We have heard a good deal of the Rapier community growing within The Shire of Pavlok Gorod so, Master Sorcha and Ourselves will be holding tournaments on Saturday as well as training and then doing training and critique sessions on Sunday.

And for those keeping track I believe this will be part of the Pieces of Eight Rapier competition for the year.

We would like to thank those who have sent in award recommendations over the past two months! It is wonderful to be able to reward the efforts of Oertha's populace!

Lately across all of the SCA there has been sentiment that folks need to be in the SCA for a certain amount of time to recommend awards OR to be recognized for awards. Let me say this loud and clear, THIS IS NOT TRUE!!!!!! Anyone can recommend anyone for an award! And should those folks be found worthy, they most certainly will be awarded! Something that can be fun anyways is looking up those folks on the West Kingdom OP to see what awards they may or may not have? We have found many of Our Subjects

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WORDS; CONTINUED

have been extremely productive and perhaps worthy of recognition on a Kingdom level?! YES, Even at Kingdom level ANYONE can recommend folks for awards!!!

Lastly, as the Spring sets in, so do the bountiful runs of fish! Chances are very likely that there will be a fishing tournament during Our Reign!! We have been brainstorming on how we would like to see this happen.

Skeggi

Prince of Oertha

Kharkhan

Princess Oertha



Here recognize Skeggi and Kharkhan, the 67th Prince and Princess of Oertha!

Fantastic Fairytale Fete

April 14, 2018
Shire of Pavlok Gorod

Once upon a time, a small group of dedicated individuals came together in hopes of creating something new. Please join the Shire of Pavlok Gorod, as we welcome members of our community, Principality, and Kingdom to our annual Fantastic Fairytale Fete to celebrate 15 years of arts, sciences, combat, service, and education. Artists from around the principality will be present to show off their work and teach classes. Some of the finest fencers in Oertha will test their skills on the field. There will be food and fun for all.

Fantastic Fairytale Foods Competition: Serve it forth! Your best interpretation of a fairytale food. Please note whether edible or decorative. Include documentation, if available. If edible, please include ingredients list.

Russian Fairytale Competition: Russian fairytales in any mode. Items will be scored on Presentation/Mode, Quality, Creativity and Documentation.

Site information: Springhill Hall at Kodiak Lutheran Church 3077 E Rezanof Dr. Kodiak, AK 99615

Site opens at 9AM and closes at 7PM.

Event Registration: There is no fee for this event.

Lodging for off-island cousins: Limited lodging, local transportation, and hospitality will be joyfully provided to off island guests in the homes of our populace. Please contact the seneschal as soon as possible with your travel plans.

Feast Information: Feast is potluck. Please bring your favorite Medieval/Renaissance food to share, along with the written ingredients. All contributions that are fairytale themed can be added to the Fantastic Fairytale Foods competition.

Autocrat: Thomas McEwan (Jonathon Clary)

Law Change for the Principality of Oertha

Dated this 20th day of January, A.S. LII

A section shall be added: Article 1, Section 2.24

Section 2.24: The Order of the Princess' Patrons Offered by the Princess to those individuals or groups who, by their consistent efforts in creating various works and providing such items to the Coronets to use as gifts to others, greatly contribute to the Coronet's ability to show largesse. The token for this award shall be chosen by the Princess granting the recognition.

Oertha's Summer Coronet and Investiture will be hosted by the Shire of Hrafnafjorðr

July 20-22, 2018

at the Soldotna Rodeo Grounds in Soldotna, Alaska

More information on this event can be found on Facebook and this newsletter.



Calendar

April

- April 14 **Fantastic Fairytale Fete**
Shire of Pavlok Gorod
- April 21 **Herculean Pas d'Armes**
Barony of Eskalya
- April 28 **Fool's Revel**
Barony of Winter's Gate

May

- May 4-6 Beltane Coronation
Kingdom of the West
- May 12 Rapier Symposium
Principality of Oertha
- May 19 Newcomers
Shire of Hrafnafjorðr
- May 25-28 **15 Year Anniversary**
Barony of Selviergard

June

- June 2-3 Three Baron's Fair
Barony of Eskalya
- June 9-10 Three Baron's Fair
Barony of Eskalya
- June 16 **Captaincy**
Barony of Winter's Gate
- June 22-25 Newcomers
Barony of Eskalya
- June 23-25 June Crown
Kingdom of the West

Bolded items have event copies in this newsletter.





"Final Round"

Original artwork by Lord Colum Mac Eoghain Uí Niall

Hurculean Pas d'Armes

April 21, 2018
Barony of Eskalya

Join the Barony of Eskalya and the Sister Baroness' as we hold a Labors of Hercules inspired Pas d'Arms! We would love to see as much heraldry as possible at this glorious event. After all what is a Pas without colors and the beauty that is our heraldry. The colors can only serve to further inspire our Fighters... As the Fighters are challenged!

There will be five different trials to test fighter's skills, strength, and stamina! Face off with the Nemean Lion and its near impenetrable hide! The Hydra who had Nine deadly heads. Capture and return the Ceryneian Hind. Face off with the Amazon Princess and her Guards! Last, but not least, bear the weight of the world as Atlas retrieves the Apples you need to journey on.

Come forth and test your skills and strength! We look forward to seeing the feats of Glory!

Site Information: Jewel Lake Parish -3833 Strawberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99502

Site opens at 11AM and closes at 8PM.

Directions: Take your best route to Minnesota Dr/Walter J. Hickel Pkwy; Take the Raspberry Rd exit keeping right at the fork; Turn left onto Jewel Lake Rd; Turn left onto Strawberry Rd; the Parish will be on the left.

Event Registration: \$10.00, Adult (Member Discount Event Registration: \$5.00) Children (15 and younger): \$FREE, Family Cap: \$30.00

Autocrat: Isabella Hawke (Melissa Snyder)



Fool's Revel

April 28, 2018
Barony of Winter's Gate

Good gentles, it is time again to pass on the mantle of the Fool of Winter's Gate. This year's event is Disney/Pixar themed, so bring out your best heroes and villains, princes and princesses, monsters and adorable sidekicks! For inspiration, consider movies, shows, and Disneyland attractions.

The Fool will be chosen by a contest of wit – retell a Disney story from a different point of view. How would the villain see the story? Or a side character? Or an animal sidekick? The story can be written (story, essay, poem, play...), performed (monologue, song, acted scene with director, interpretive dance...), or illustrated (illuminated calligraphy, painting or drawing, embroidery, diorama...).

Autocrats' whims: Disney related subtleties and Disney garb contest (this can be a medieval interpretation of a character's costume or something inspired by a movie, character, or attraction. Please bring a picture of your inspiration). For Treasures: draw a picture of your favorite Disney character; write (with adult help if appropriate) why you like the character.

Baron's whim: best interpretation of a villain. Baroness' whim: best use of silk or silk like fabric on garb.

A&S: Mace in any mode. The Constable needs a mace, but it's Fools' Revel – how will the Constable use the mace provided? The artisan decides!

The next challenge of the Principality A&S Championship will also be judged at the event: jewelry to be worn around the neck (pendants, collars, necklaces). Entrants must provide at least 3x5 card of documentation.

Site Information: Walden Community Center (1108 Hampstead Ave. Fairbanks, AK)

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FOOL'S REVEL; CONTINUED

Site opens at NOON and closes at 10PM.

Event Registration: \$15.00, Adult (Member Discount Event Registration: \$10.00) Children (ages 5-17): \$3.

Feast Information: Feast is potluck. Please bring a dish to feed 6 or more people, with accompanying ingredient list (if you bring something prepackaged, please save the list)

Autocrats: Aurelia de Canal (Shondra Smyth) and Katla Auðardóttir (Grete Mjolsnes).



Oerthan Victory

By Colum Mac Eoghain

Pray attend grinning King and fighting Queen
A Frosted Battle to rule Northern lands
Winter Coronet legend fighters seen
Contested glory tradition demands.

Flashing, clashing, ringing steel blades clatter
Crunching white crystal heated breath like steam
In frozen moment nothing else matters
Honorable Combat, Vivat! The Dream!

Circle swing lunge and thrust matched skill displayed
Sword and shield raised against powerful glaive
Hush, pause, then sudden flurry blurry blade
Destiny in balance, who will Fate save?

Sir Cullan falling with the setting sun
Prince Skegi, Oerthan Victory Won!



From the Chronicler

The Guardian is the newsletter for the Principality of Oertha, and as such, I need your help in keeping it full of information, articles, and such. If you are an autocrat of an event please consider sending your event information to the Chroniclers (both the Principality and the local branches) so that others may have the opportunity to attend your event.

Thank you to everybody who sends artwork, poems, songs, and articles—you help make this newsletter a great publication for this Principality. If you would like to contribute items for publication please let me know.

The *Guardian* is published quarterly; twice in paper edition and twice in electronic form. The deadline for submissions for the Summer edition of *The Guardian* will be July 1st.

In Service,

Halfdan "Two Bears" Ozurrson
Principality Chronicler

Are you interested to learn more of the history of the Great Principality of Oertha? Do you have items from our past that you would like to share?

Join the Oertha History Guild Today!

The Oertha History Guild is for people endeavoring to recover and preserve the glorious history of our Principality and all its Branches.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OerthaHistory/>

Fifteen Year Anniversary

May 25-28, 2018
Barony of Selviergard

Greetings to the Known World, come and join the Barony of Selviergard as we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of be-coming a Barony. There will be activities never before held in Selviergard for all to take part in. This event will be held on a spectacular farmstead in Talkeetna Alaska, with open fields for camping and a central fire pit with benches. The site has ample parking and a place for Tin Castles.

We will be having heavy and rapier tournaments, archery contests, thrown weapons and a Siege Weapon display and competition. The site has a long-range facility for shooting arrows at long range targets like "Strip the Willow" and a Running Boar target to name a few. The Siege Weapons will compete for accuracy and range against a variety of targets there will be several classes of weapons that can be used, full scale (SCA Legal), small scale 2' to 3' size and table top models. There will be games like Dragon Feet Races, Rock, Kubb and others. The tournaments will be based on the Book of Five Rings.

Merchants are welcome to display their wares to all comers.

There will be cooking contests and A&S displays along with a History of Selviergard Tent to bring back the memories of the past.

Other activities include: Fighting Activities (five tournaments that include Polearms and Great Weapons, Florentine, Bear Pit, Off-hand single sword, and blindfolded single sword for both heavy and rapier fighters), Thrown weapons (Bullseye and Hawk Block, Cut the String, and Big to Small), Archery (IKAC, Royal Rounds, Novelty Targets, Strip the Willow, Running Boar), Siege Weapons (demonstration, Long Range, Accuracy Challenge), Arts and Sciences (Dutch Oven Cooking-Meat Dish and Dessert, Making Butter on Site, Camp Furniture), a variety of classes, Children's

Activities (Dragon Feet, Kubb for Kids, Bull Roar Making, Candle Making, Fire Starters, Flint and Steel use), as well as bardics and evening activities.

Site information: Talkeetna, AK 99676

Site opens at 2PM on Friday and closes at 5PM on Monday.

The site is remote yet accessible with services 6 miles away, grocery store, medical clinic, gas station and Subway. Firewood and porta-can's will be available. The water onsite is from a spring fed stream that is tested each year, (I have been drinking it since 1995) otherwise be prepared to bring your own water. We will have firewood available on site, ground fires are OK and must be filled in after use. Be aware that there are bears in the area periodically along with moose. There is no electricity available on site so be prepared. Cell service can be sporadic on site but works well down the road.

Directions: Take the Parks Highway to the Talkeetna Spur Road, head towards Talkeetna go 3 miles and turn right on Yoder Road, go down Yoder for 3.25 miles site is on the right. Follow the signs.

Event Registration: \$25.00, Adult (Member Discount Event Registration: \$5.00) Children (17 and younger): \$15.00, Children under 12 are FREE. Family Cap: \$60.00 (\$50.00 cap for members).

Autocrat: Fergus mac Thomais (George Thompson) and Delphina de Grenada (Meghan Thompson).



From the Icy Cold A New Prince Is Found

Event Report for the Principality of Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture

The Principality of Oertha, Kingdom of the West—The icy grip of winter held the land for all it was worth and snow lay thick on the ground; but the great hall where the Principality of Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture was held was warm and brightly lit—a wonderful space to celebrate the reign of Prince Duncan and Princess Violet and welcome Their successors. With esteemed visitors such as Hans and Helga, the King and Queen of the West and Prince Tuomas and Prince Snorri of the Mists in attendance, as well as welcomed visitors from various places in the West and even a few from faraway An Tir, the hall was filled with good cheer and much visiting as all eagerly awaited the events and activities for the weekend.

A brief court opened the event and it was here that Their Majesties accepted Fealty from those who wished to do so—including populace members who were invited to give homage to the King and Queen of the West in which many took the opportunity.



Members of the Principality of Oertha pay homage to the King and Queen of the West. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson. January 20, 2018.

In his opening statement; Prince Duncan of Oertha welcomed everybody in attendance and made it known that he was very happy to see so many people and that

he looked forward to the event with great anticipation. After welcoming Their Majesties as well as the Princes of the Mist it was time for some business in court before the Invocation of the Lists could commence.

As is law, every new award created by the Prince and Princess of Oertha must be read in court. It was here at this event that the newest award, the Order of the Princess' Patrons, was proclaimed by the Principality Seneschal Mistress Anna di Caterina Neri. This award was created by Their Highnesses to recognize those who create items of largess that they so graciously donate to the royalty. Additionally, the Principality Arts and Sciences Minister was also called forward for her announcement regarding the ongoing Principality-level competition of which the next category, Stories of Courtly Love, were to be presented later that evening during feast.

The Autocrats of the day, Baroness Cynehild of Eskalya and Duke Skeggi Newcombe, welcomed all to the event and talked briefly about what to expect for the weekend. They closed stating that they wished for everyone to have fun and looked forward to enjoying the weekend with everybody.

The last business before the Invocation of the Lists was the presentation from the Barony of Flaming Gryphon in the Middle Kingdom. The Baron and Baroness' Ambassador, Lady Marjorie de ffeyrefeld, gave welcomes and well-wishes to all present and gifted chocolates made in her home Barony to the sitting royalty as well as the populace of the Principality of Oertha.

With no more announcements it was time for the Invocation ceremony to begin. All the competitors to the Tournament lists were called forward, each in their own turn, to announce their intentions alongside their inspiration. Upon swearing the oath on the Great Axe of Oertha the participants to the Coronet Lists then

challenged each the other for the first round of the tournament. With the ceremony concluded the court was finished and the preparations for the Coronet Tournament were quickly underway.

After the opening court the Broken Arrow Inn was open for lunch. Such delicacies as Chicken and Leek pies, Pies of Paris, Apple Muse, Wardonys in Syrup, and even a charcuterie board were available to the populace. Many took the opportunity to sample these fine delicacies provided by the Inn eliciting “oohs” and “ahhs” as people sampled what the Inn had to offer—all made and prepared by Baroness Clare Elana and her kitchen crew; Lady Leonia the Mouse and Lord Adam of Eskalya.

The tournament was about to begin and had seven combatants in total. While the weather was chilly and there was ample amount of snow; there were plenty of people bundled up warmly and outside along the side of the list field to witness the tournament. For those not inclined to spend the time outside; the hall had large windows overlooking the tournament field so that they could still enjoy the tournament.



Combatants prepare to enter the Coronet List.

Photograph by Halfdan Ôzurrson. January 20, 2018.

The style of the tournament was best two fights out of three and double elimination—a standard Tournament list. There were plenty of acts of chivalry, unrivaled prowess, and amazing skill displayed from all

combatants that day on the field of honor as each fighter vied for the win.

As the tournament progressed the number of entrants on the field dwindled down and, as with all tournaments, the finals were quickly upon those witnessing the tournament. The last two fighters on the field were Duke Skeggi Newcombe, fighting for the Honorable Lady Kharakan Saran, and Syr Culan mac Cianain, fighting for Baroness Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr. Continuing the best two fights out of three the fighters tested their mettle, prowess, and skill against the other in competition to win the Coronets of Oertha and elevate their inspiration as the Lady of the Snows; the Princess of Oertha.

The first fight went to Syr Culan mac Cianain while the second fight went to His Grace, Duke Skeggi Newcombe. The final fight would choose the winner and the new Heirs to the Lupine Thrones. In the end, with an elegant shot to his foe, it was His Grace, Duke Skeggi Newcombe that won the fight and was named as Lord Borealis alongside The Honorable Lady Kharakan Saran as Lady Borealis. The assembled populace had many cheers before heading back inside where it was warm.



Duke Skeggi Newcombe and the Honorable Lady Kharakan Saran are proclaimed the Lord and Lady Borealis. Photograph by Halfdan Ôzurrson. January 20, 2018.

After the Coronet Tournament there were several activities that took place. The Rapier community took the opportunity to not only showcase their skill but to have fun as well. With three fighters the matches were quick and decisive and overall a nice example of Rapier fighting. Many people took the opportunity to watch to bouts and witness daring swordplay. It was also during this time that various guild meetings were held in which the arts and sciences were discussed by guild members and interested persons and the bonds of friendship within the guilds were renewed.

After these activities, and towards the end of the evening, a court was held. After several announcements; awards and recognitions were presented to numerous individuals for their hard work and efforts not only throughout the Principality of Oertha but the Kingdom of the West as well.

Lord Rin McCray was acknowledged for his artistic works, most notably his skill in creating memorable site tokens, and awarded with the Order of the Snowy Owl—the Principality award for arts and sciences. Additionally, Baroness Cynehild of Eskalya, Baroness Elena of Winter's Gate, Baroness Celestria Textrix, and Mistress Anna di Caterina Neri were awarded the Order of the Princess' Patrons; the new award recognizing the diverse works of individuals who create largess.

From there; after many years of exemplary grace and nobility, the Prince and Princess of Oertha recognized Master Gavin Woodward worthy of great honor and admitted him to the Oerthan Order of Grace—much to the cheering of all those present.

The Prince and Princess also wished to acknowledge individuals who showed great hospitality during Their reign and awarded Master Joel the Brewer and Baroness Kasey of the Westermark with the Oerthan Order of Hospitality. While those recognized were not present, Baroness Elena of Winter's Gate accepted the awards on their behalf.

The Princess' Patrons award was also bestowed upon members of House Comitatus as well as the West

Kingdom Guild of Defense for their continued support and amazing abilities in producing large amounts of remarkable largess.

It was here that there was a brief pause in the Principality court so that Their Majesties could conduct business as well. Sir Kenric Maur was called before King Hans and Queen Helga and awarded with the Rose Leaf of Merit. The Queen herself gave examples of great service shown by this individual and the award was humbly received by Sir Kenric Maur.

The next business in court of King Hans and Queen Helga was a presentation of gifts and largess by the 501st Gladiatorial Legion; a household with members throughout the Principality of Oertha. The gift of decorated moose antlers as a personal gift to Their Majesties was extremely well received alongside various items of largess presented by members of the household.

After the gift of largess, the Queen of the West chose to thank and recognize several individuals with the Order of the Queen's Treasure. This award is to recognize and reward those who consistently create various works and greatly contribute to the Crown's ability to show largess. The following individuals were called before Her Majesty and welcomed into the Order: Viscountess Alienor Fitzhenry, Mistress Anna di Caterina Neri, Baroness Cempestra Sidda, Lady Gisla Ćeðikollr, Mistress Margery Garret, and Midfjodr Dalla.

It was in the final bit of this court in the evening that Hans, the King of the West, reiterated the love between those of the Central Kingdom and that of the lands of Oertha. "Oertha is the West" he stated several times while addressing the populace. It was here that King Hans made the announcement that next year's June Crown would be held in the lands of the Principality of Oertha—much to the cheering of all in attendance.



King Hans and Queen Helga of the West address the populace. Photograph by Halfdan Ôzurrson. January 20, 2018.

From there, the court went back to the Prince and Princess who had some more recognitions and awards to bestow. The first part of business was to call forward Baroness Clare Elena of Eskalya and recognize her with the Boreal Fireweed; an award given to those who consistently contribute to teaching knowledge of the arts and sciences and, as such, strengthen and enhance the Principality of Oertha.

From there, several members of the populace were called forward and bestowed the Order of the Orion—the Principality award for archery. The color of the award is representative of the skills shown by the individual; an Or Orion is for fostering archery while an Argent Orion is for target archery and the Azure Orion is used for recognizing combat archery. The first to be called was Donna Étaín O'Rowarke who was given an Argent Orion. The next individual recognized was Master Bran Mac Fynin who also received an Argent Orion. Lord Hraði Kǫttr was then called forward and offered both the Argent and the Or Orion, and finally Baron Stephen de le Bere was called forward and offered the Or Orion. Surly, the archers of the Principality were well recognized for all their skill and dedication in the art of archery.

The Coronet's Favor was also awarded to several individuals; Sir Kenric Maur and Viscountess Dagmar

the Red were recognized thusly for their continued works and efforts in supporting the Prince and Princess of Oertha. Additionally, Baroness Elena of Winter's Gate, Mistress Sapphira the Navigator, and Baroness Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr were also acknowledged for their support of the Coronets and bestowed with this award.

The Princes of the Mists, Tuomas and Snorri, also had some business in court in which they took the opportunity to recognize several individuals who were of great help during Their stay in the wintry lands of the Principality of Oertha. The Order of the Pegasus, an award for youth whose behavior and service are exemplary, was bestowed upon Lady Rainna Fathirsdottir and Tristan Duncansson. The Princes of the Mists also called forward several individuals who were of noted assistance to the Their Persons: Syr Culan mac Cianain, Baroness Cynehild and Baroness Clare Elana of Eskalya, as well as Baroness Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr, Baroness Celestria Textrix, Master Gavin Woodward, and Lord Sevastian Agafangilovich Golytsin were recognized with the Coronets Favor from the hands of Prince Tuomas and Prince Snorri of the Mists.

Additionally, the Honor of the Coeur d'Azur, given to those individuals who wherever situate, have shown great courage, service or courtesy that has enriched the Principality and inspired the Populace of the Mists, was bestowed not only to Prince Duncan and Princess Violet, but Baronesses Clare Elena and Cynehild of Eskalya as well. The Princes thanked these individuals profusely citing many examples as to why they were inducted into this Honor.

With three cheers the court of the Mists ended and the Court of the Prince and Princess of Oertha began once again. Princess' Ribands, a token given to those who were of great assistance to the Princess during her reign, were bestowed upon the following members of the populace: Prince Duncan, Duchess Eilis ni Roibeard O'Boirne, Baroness Cynehild of Eskalya, Baroness Elena of Winter's Gate, Viscountess Dagmar the Red, Mistress Sapphira the Navigator, the Honorable Lady

Kharakhan Saran, Baroness Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr, Lady Talorc Caer Arienrhold, and Drifa in rauða.

From there, additional recognitions of the Princess' Patrons were named; Mistress Saphirra the Navigator, Viscount Nathan Hartman, Baroness Cempestra Sidda, Yama No Yuki-san, and Lady Ally of Selviargard were recognized for this honor for their hard works and amazing skill at crafting.

With business concluded in court and with three cheers and "Long live the King and Queen of the West" still ringing throughout the hall; it was time to eat. A potluck was provided by the populace alongside baked chickens from the Broken Arrow Tavern, and people made their way to waiting tables to enjoy wondrous foods and delights with friends and family.

It was during feast that the Oerthan Arts and Sciences competition was held. This six-part yearly competition is always anticipated and the theme for this event was quite fun. The contest was a performing arts piece involving Courtly Love and garnered three contestants that took part in it. The first was Lord Colum Mac Eoghain Uí Niall, the second entrant was Baronesses Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr, and the third and final contestant was Lord Rin McCray. The stories expounded on Courtly Love and entertained all during the feast with tales of romantic chivalry and daring deeds.



Queen Helga of the West intently listens to the stories of Courtly Love. Photograph by Halfdan Ózurrson. January 20, 2018.

With the end of the day; celebrants made their way to warm cabins with awaiting beds. The next day would bring even more wonders and honors as the Lord and Lady Borealis would ascend the Lupin Thrones to become the next Prince and Princess of Oertha.

The next morning brought people back together again in the hall as the event continued. Today would be the day that the Lord and Lady Borealis would step up as the Prince and Princess of Oertha. The morning was filled with a series of Peerage meetings as well as the Principality Business Meeting—after that a small amount of time was given before the proceedings of the day to visit. The final court of Duncan and Violet would take place which would feature the investiture of the new Prince and Princess.

Soon the call for the final court of the event rang through the hall. After all were seated and in attendance there were several announcements given in court. The first was from the Autocrats who thanked everybody for attending and gave final instructions on cleaning the site at the end of the event. The Principality Seneschal, Mistress Anna di Caterina Neri, here made the announcement that Summer Coronet and Investiture would be held in the lands of the Shire of Hrafnafjordr in mid-July—an announcement met with great cheering in the hall. The last notice was

from the Principality Arts and Sciences Minister, Baroness Elena of Winter's Gate, who thanked everybody who entered the various competitions at the event—noting that there was a prize for the Nifty Nine Contest in which Mistress Anna di Caterina Neri was awarded for her set of pinch-pots entered in the competition.

The Prince and Princess had several more awards in which to bestow to worthy individuals. Mikael auraprestr, also known as Juan Miguel Esteban Alfredo de Valencia, was bestowed the Oerthan Order of Grace. Master Rodrigo de Reinosa was then called forward and recognized with the Order of the Orion Or for his skill in target archery. In addition, Lord Rin McCray was recognized with the Order of the Princess' Patrons for his work in crafting largess. Last, but not least, Delphine de Grenada was acknowledged with an Award of Arms for her continued service to the Society for Creative Anachronism, the Kingdom of the West, and the Principality of Oertha.

The Princes of the Mists, Tuomas & Snorri, also had some business in court; taking the opportunity to recognize another individual who was of great service to them and who was not present at the Evening Court on Saturday. Rosalinda Lopez was called forward and presented the Order of the Pegasus, an award given to youth whose service and behavior are exemplary.

Prince Duncan also had a presentation for His Highness of the Mists: a gift of a fox fur in which to help keep the Prince warm during the rest of his stay in the lands of Oertha. The gift was well received by the Prince of the Mists.

After the awards and presentations; Their Highnesses of Oertha gave final words to the assembled populace. With the end of Their court in sight it was here that Prince Duncan and Princess Violet once again thanked everybody for a memorable and enjoyable reign. It was also here that they made the official announcement that in the Summer they would be leaving the lands of the Principality of Oertha but, Their

Highnesses assured the populace, they would always be Oerthans at heart.



Prince Duncan and Princess Violet of Oertha address the populace. Photograph by Halfdan Ôzurrson. January 21, 2018.

Before the transfer of the Coronets to Their Heirs; the court of Prince Duncan and Princess Violet had to be released. Members of the Prince and Princesses court, such as the guards, the champions, and the ladies of the chamber, were released as the time for a new Prince and Princess was upon them. Words of thanks and praise were given to all individuals for their works and efforts in helping Prince Duncan and Princess Violet during Their reign.

It was here, according to tradition, that Duke Skeggi and the Honorable Lady Kharakan, Lord and Lady Borealis, came into court in a procession and were proclaimed the Prince and Princess of Oertha and crowned accordingly. From there, the swearing of Fealty from Peers, Officers, and the populace commenced. Afterwards, Prince Skeggi and Princess Kharakan swore fealty to the King and Queen of the West.

From there, several members of the populace were asked to join in the court of Prince Skeggi and Princess Kharakan taking up important positions that would help make the running of the Court that much easier. Princess' Guards, Ladies of the Chamber, Champions,

and Captains were announced and gratefully accepted by those called before Their Highnesses.

Prince Skeggi of Oertha took the opportunity to thank the populace of Oertha and made known some of his plans for Their reign. It was here too, toward the end of the court, that Prince Skeggi made known that instead of “Huzzah,” commonly heard at the end of a proclamation or award, that he preferred “sounds of joy” and hoped to hear it often during his reign as Prince of Oertha.

One item of business had been forgotten in the final court of Duncan and Violet, and the two asked Prince Skeggi and Princess Kharakan if they would be able to acknowledge a member of the populace with Their Highnesses consent. It was here that Sir Kenric Maur was awarded the Shield of Chivalry as his skill, prowess, and chivalry were evident especially during their reign. Prince Skeggi and Princess Kharahkan agreed and the shield was passed unto Sir Kenric Maur.

Viscount Sir Duncan ap Llywellyn had one final piece of business before court that day, asking upon Prince Skeggi to reaffirm his earlier proclamation that Potatoes would, indeed, be considered a period food item. Prince Skeggi, in his munificence, reaffirmed the proclamation. His Majesty, King Hans, was asked for a proclamation as well in which he agreed. Congratulations to potatoes being a period food item for, at least, another reign.

An emissary from the Kingdom of An Tir, Prince Skeggi’s homeland, gave kind words of congratulations as well as a gift showing the good will from the people of the Kingdom of An Tir. The gift was well received by Their Highnesses.

With the Principality court concluded; the Court of the King and Queen of the West took place. The King and Queen of the West, Hans and Helga, called forward Master Sextus Valerius Crusillus who was bestowed the Rose Leaf by the hands of the Queen herself. This award is given to individuals who excel at the arts and sciences and is one of the three leaves of achievement

in the Kingdom of the West.

From there, Viscount Nathan Hartman was asked to join the Queen’s Guards—a great honor in the lands of the Principality of Oertha. Additionally, Lord Sevastian Agafangilovich Golytsin and Lady Gisla Æðikollr were summoned in court and were asked to join the ranks of the Queen’s Artisans.

The Order of the Western Lily is bestowed to those individuals that the Crown finds deserving of great honor for both their individual accomplishments and for constant contributions to teaching others their skill and knowledge of the arts, sciences, and other activities that strengthen and enhance the Kingdom. The Crowns of the West saw it fitting to recognize Lord Sevastian Agafangilovich Golytsin with this great honor.



Lord Sevastian Agafangilovich Golytsin is inducted into the Order of the Western Lily. Photograph by Halfdan Ôzurrson. January 21, 2018.

There was a presentation to Their Majesties in court as well. A signed charter was presented to the King and Queen of the West with forty-five signatures, collected in two days, asking that the Guild of the Silver Spindle be reactivated in the Kingdom of the West. The King and Queen, astonished with so many interested people and in such a short amount of time, agreed that the Guild should be reactivated within the kingdom.

Viscountess Violet Tailyeaour was then called before Their Majesties and offered a Rose Leaf; one of the

Achievements within the Kingdom of the West and the one that recognizes expertise in the arts and sciences.

Before the end of court, Master Rodrigo de Reinosa was called forward and admitted into the Royal Missile Company—an award granted to those who excel in the use of archery and other forms of missile weaponry in both times of peace and times of war. The award grants the title of Yeoman of the West and is a great honor to receive. Master Rodrigo de Reinosa would join Viscount Fergus mac Thomais as the second to receive this award in the Principality of Oertha.

The end of court also saw the end of the event. Travelers packed their belongings, braving the bitter cold weather to race out to waiting vehicles, and before leaving gave hugs and handshakes to those who they might not see until the next Principality event.

A wonderful time was had by all, and while it was very cold outside; the hearts of Oerthans warm any event that they attend. Coronets are special times where all the Principality of Oertha can come together to celebrate, to rekindle friendships, and to have fun. This Winter Coronet was no different and one that will be fondly remembered for many years to come.

The Selviergard Associated Press



Spring Captaincy

June 15, 2018

The Barony of Winter's Gate

It is with great excitement that the plans are coming together for an EPIC weekend! The weekend of June 16, and the Anderson Campground, come join us for a celebration of Winter's Gate 40 Year Anniversary and our Spring Captaincy tournament.

The plans that are coming together include:

- * Baroness's Champion tournament, as a bear pit under the midnight sun! This may include a heavy fighter bear pit and a rapier fighting bear pit, close to midnight – because we can see just fine! :)
- * For the youth and the young at heart the Page School will have activities and rewards for accomplishments.
- * Winter's Gate Captaincy tournament. (separate from the Baroness's Champion)
- * A mighty quest! For small groups, including a youth, a fighter / champion, a scholar and a “cleric”. (More details will come)
- * Brush off your songs and stories of Winter's Gate and Your SCA as a whole and share the dream in our bardic around the fire. There might be a surprise performance!!
- * There will be food, drink and shenanigans available.
- * On Sunday court will be scheduled before lunch time.

Many things are still being ironed out, but this will be an amazing event! Not to be missed! More details will be broadcast as they are decided.

Site Information: Anderson Campground / Anderson, AK.

Autocrats: Lady Talorc (India Brinkerhoff) and Lord Raiden Dean (Richard Brinkerhoff)



Summer Coronet and Investiture

July 20-22, 2018

The Principality of Oertha

Come explore the Silk Road as the Great Principality in the North hosts her Coronet tournament and Investiture! Throughout the weekend, enjoy such activities as Amoring, Yoga, Kumihimo, Jewelry making, Candle making, an Arts and Science display, Pottery and more! Special activities will also be provided for the younger participants.

A special activity will be provided: It will start with your site token. At seven other activity stations, you will receive a token representing one of the groups belonging to Oertha that can be added to the site token.

Fighters, be prepared to win roses for your consorts!

Site information: Soldotna Rodeo Grounds / Milepost 22, K-Beach Road / Soldotna, AK 99669.

Site opens at 5PM on Friday and closes at 8PM on Sunday.

The site is discreetly wet, so make sure you have your period drink ware to hold any alcoholic beverages in.

Directions: From Anchorage: From Seward Highway, take a right at the "Y" onto the Sterling Highway. Follow the Sterling Highway into Soldotna. Once you pass over the Soldotna Bridge, you will turn right on to Kalifornsky Beach Road (often shortened to K-Beach Road), which is the first right available after the bridge. Travel about 1/4 mile down and turn right onto Rodeo Grounds Loop. Our site is right outside of the actual Rodeo Grounds, so you will pull up, get your spot from the traffic director, unload and then park your car across the way in the parking lot.

Special notes for the event: While it is unlikely that there will be bears attending our event (except a certain Baron), moose do frequent the area and bears are sometimes present during the summer in this area. Be sure to be bear aware.

If you are a vendor, please contact Lord Rin McCray. If you are an Artisan, please contact Lord Hradthi for an arts and science display. If you are a group who would like to host a fundraiser breakfast or lunch, please let Baroness Sheva know as soon as possible.

There will be camping area for mundane and period tents. Please contact the Autocrat with your size requirements for either.

Bardic will be held Friday and Saturday nights if it is so wished. A fire pit will be provided. Any fires must be in an above ground container that you provide.

RV's will park in regular parking. There are no hookups available.

Event Registration: Adults: \$15 for members (\$20 for non-members), children under 17 are \$10, and the family cap is \$50.

Feast Information: Taste the wonders of a locally raised pig and pies from along the silk road. Feast on Saturday will be included in the event fee. Sunday morning, wake up with traditionally made Turkish Coffee! Donations accepted, proceeds will go to the Shire of Hrafnafjodr.

Autocrat: Sylvia of Thrace (Ris Notter)



Award Recommendations: what are they, and why are they important?

Baroness Konstantia Kaloethina, Barony of Forgotten Sea, Calontir

One of the things that the SCA does is grant awards to our participants, much like any other group. In a sense, each SCA event is like the OSCARS, BAFTAs or the Tonys – we recognize in court as a Society excellence (in a few tiers, that is) in four main groups: martial skill (in both armoured and rapier/cut and thrust), arts and sciences, and service. Unlike modern awards (which usually go through a jury process), SCA awards are granted by royal whim.

Side note: I have overheard some people congratulate others on “earning” an award. If (and it’s a big if) this were Scouting or something of its ilk (which uses an awards system with set rubrics indicating if an award guideline has been met), I would be inclined to agree. The SCA, though, uses a different system – awards are granted by the Crown/Coronets/Baronial Coronets, so even if an Order doesn’t agree (and yes, that does come with ramifications – so bear this in mind, those who aspire to wear the crowns of their kingdom or coronets of their principality or barony), a Crown can grant the award to whoever They wish. So, yes, whim is part of the reason an award is granted (and yes, it does put a burden on those in the Big Chairs to see that Their populace is thus recognized). Depending on kingdom, Orders may be polling or consulting orders, which is another difference, so please check with your local kingdom. The core of a polling/consulting order does involve discussion about a candidate, but again, those who wear the Crowns/Coronets make the ultimate decision. (In short, this is really me arguing about semantics.)

Tackling the why question first: awards can help in the sense of belonging to a group within the SCA. They show that a gentle has a certain skill or promise of a skill. Awards, though, because they are granted at the whim of the Crown/Coronet, may not match up to

when you think a person should be granted an award. (Also, another side note: do things in the SCA because you think they’re fun and not to rack up the awards – you will set yourself up for burnout very quickly. It can be hard to fight the jealousy monster, but remember that awards are also not a pie – there will always be more awards granted, and someone else receiving an award does not diminish the value of yours.) On a note of psychology, yes, it absolutely feels great to have one’s work validated by the folks in the Big Chairs, and it helps create theatre for those who are assisting in presenting courts at events. It allows scribes to create beautiful works of art and wordsmiths to stretch their poetic muscles. It adds to the events of the day. In a volunteer management sense, awards help to reward commitment to the SCA as a construct. (That being said, do not rely on the Crown/Coronets to thank someone for a job well done. Please express your appreciation often to thank people for what they bring to our world. I cannot emphasize this enough.)

Onto the how-tos. Every kingdom/principality/barony handles award recommendations a bit differently, though most (if not all) kingdoms have a way to recommend someone for an award on their website. Again, please check with your local kingdom/principality/barony to see how award recommendations are handled.

When it comes to writing an award recommendation, your first stop should be the kingdom’s Order of Precedence. The Order of Precedence (or OP, as it gets truncated to) is a sequential hierarchy of nominal ranking of persons within the SCA. It comes in handy when making toasts at feasts, but it also comes in handy when making sure that the person you’re writing

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AWARDS; CONTINUED

an award recommendation for doesn't already have the award that you're writing them in for. If you need assistance in looking up a person in your group's OP, reach out to a herald!

A few things to be aware of when you're recommending an award:

- Anyone can recommend anybody for anything. You do not need to be a member of an order to recommend someone. Additionally, you can also recommend people for awards even if you don't have any. Some kingdoms require membership in the SCA to suggest awards, so, again, please check your local kingdom.
- Be clear but succinct. Tell the Crown what good works you've seen a gentle do, but don't go on for pages and pages. The Crown is busy – please respect their time!
- Be specific and give details, e.g. skill levels, positions held, events attended, classes taught, articles published, presentation, personal qualities. Are they really great at the underwater basketweaving of Upper Flibonia? Do they teach it? Are they kind? Indicate this to the Crown!
- Keep a record of who you've suggested. Depending on how you recommend (and the system that the kingdom/principality/barony has), you may have an option to get the award recommendation you've written copied to your email.
- Be respectful. I feel this should go without saying, however, I can understand how frustrating it can be.
- Be honest. Exaggerating can be easy to do, but

state just the facts. Explain why you think that someone should receive a specific award.

- If the Crown hasn't acted on an award recommendation, wait until the next reign, and write a new one. Sometimes things happen behind the scenes. Still, don't stop writing award recommendations.

So, let's put all of this together and write a sample letter. I have a tendency to not go with terribly flowery language (see directly below), with a noted exception of if I am writing to out of kingdom royals. Names and important details have been changed to protect the not-so-innocent.

Truly Gentlesdottir makes a crapton of lucet. And I mean a crapton. She teaches people (including me!) how to manipulate string, and she does an amazing job with it. I tangle string, and even with that, she managed to teach me. It is for these reasons that I commend her for inclusion into the Leather Mallet.

A more flowery one could be written as such (it's an out of kingdom one, so mind the IKA, too!):

I write to you today of Pelagia McAwesome and the works of her hand that she has continued to excel in through three different kingdoms – Flibonia, Lacava, and now Scipio Fortress. When I met Pelagia some 20 years ago, she was with her glass, finishing up some works and then teaching others how to play with enamels. I learned from her own hand almost a full decade ago how better to blend colours with brushes that didn't quite behave (no easy task)! If you were one of the lucky ones in Lacava, you received a scroll made by Pelagia – though, lucky for us, she made many, many, many beautiful pieces that now live across the land.

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AWARDS; CONTINUED

Her current work is with creating her tools and other items and then creating incredible, beautiful works for some lucky person to display in their home. She has also done some incredible stained glass, and best off, she will willingly teach, even while balancing being a mom.

I do only hope that this out-of-kingdom's visitor's voice only shows to see the impact of Your subject Pelagia, and that You see it fit to add her to your garden of Flowers. I feel so very strongly that she is so very, very, very overdue.

In service to the Society,

*Baroness Konstantia Kaloethina
CB, CCC, CGCS, AOA
Calontir*

As you can see, there's a couple ways to do it, but it's something that needs to be done. I make it a habit to write a few award recommendations a week when possible.

So, there you have it – you should be able to look at writing award recommendations. I challenge you to think of who you think should be recognized and write those recommendations. The Crown appreciates it – I promise!



What Can You Contribute to The Guardian

Sometimes people ask me “What do you need for the newsletter?” and my simple response is “anything.” I am always looking for artwork, “how-to” articles, event reports, poems, recipes, stories, research material, and more. Basically, anything that somebody might find interesting can be added to this newsletter, which reaches a wide audience.

Autocrats of events are always encouraged to send the Chronicler event copies directly. A lot of my time is spent searching for these items and ensuring that I have the correct edition or data. Event copies are always welcome as long as it is before the deadline. I want to make sure that your event is well advertised!

The Guardian, published four times a year, has more space in the online, PDF versions (produced in Spring and Fall) than the printed versions (for Summer and Winter Coronet.) Please consider submitting items for the Spring and Fall editions if you have a large article or epic saga you would like to submit.

--Halfdan, Chronicler

Oerthan Officers Seeking Deputies or Successors

Stellanordica Herald

(Deputy / Successor)

Exchequer

(Successor)

Rapier Marshal

(Successor)

List Minister

(Deputy / Successor)

Regnum

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Prince and Princess of Oertha
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Selviargard
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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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