



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 2020 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...

Unto the Principality of Oertha,

We hope these words finds you all in good health. We long for the return to normalcy and being able to see you all once again at events. Each of you are in Our thoughts and hope you and yours are staying safe in these times. Until We see you again,

Soren and Alienor

Prince and Princess of Oertha



Spring Captaincy

May 30-31, 2020
Barony of Winter's Gate

This year's Captaincy weekend will be full of activities! For the actual Captaincy tournament, the fighters will need one additional weapon in order to exercise a different fighting style. Consort Games! There will be a competition for the consorts; getting fighters into armor, making armor fixes on the side of the field (duct tape or p-cord), giving fighters water while they're in armor, making favors for their fighters out of materials we provide, and more.

There will also be an EPIC Quarantine A&S Displays!! At each entrant's "front porch" area of their tent or encampment we would like to see a display of the A&S projects a person learned, finished, started, etc while we have all been attending our wonderful virtual classes and gatherings. Additionally, there will be a competition of making children's toys! Entrants should bring children's toys, at least five of one type of toy and we will have the attending children play with them and then give their vote on which ones should win.

In addition to the Captaincy Tournament there will be a two-round prize tournament!!

There will be a feast on Saturday evening as a part of the event and the Tundra Weasel Tavern will be there for the enjoyment of all.

Site Information: Anderson Campground, Anderson AK

Event Registration: Adult Registration \$25, Adult Member Registration \$20, \$10 for children ages 17-10. IF anyone is having financial challenges and the site fee is the only thing keeping them from joining this wonderful event, please reach out to the co-autocrat, Baroness Talorc, to work out an accommodation

Event Stewards: Fionnghuala inghean Raghnaill (Jenny White-Teets) and Talorc Caer Arienhold (India Brink)

Oertha Cooks Playdate

July 25, 2020
Principality of Oertha

Period Food is Yummy! Come spend a day experimenting with period cooking and then enjoy the fruits of your labors! This event is modeled after the Cook's Play Date held at West/An Tir War. Bring recipes, ingredients, and supplies and cook over coals or experiment with dishes in a modern kitchen. At the end of the day, sit down for a communal meal to share the day's work.

Cook one dish or cook four! The day is all about experimenting, learning, and having fun with period cooking. An outdoor cook space with coals will be available as well as space in a modern kitchen. Some pipkins and other pots will be available as well. Bring what you have to share as well.

For the non-cooks, come out and enjoy a day with friends. Both heavy and rapier fighters will have space to practice, work on armor, or simply sit and tell glorious tales of war. Work on an art project or play a game. The day will end with samples of the cook's efforts being shared. Because: Period Food is Yummy!



COVID-19 Update

As of March 16, 2020, all events scheduled in the Northern California and Northern Nevada regions of the West Kingdom are cancelled, per the Crown of the West. This is in compliance with current Federal restrictions applying to the lower-48 states against gatherings of 50 people or more, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Edit: As of 2:30 p.m. 3/16/2020 - Per the Crown: all fighter practices and other gatherings of ten or more people are suspended.

The Principality of Oertha (Alaska) and the Barony of the Far West (Japan, South Korea, Thailand, and Guam) should follow their local, state, and federal guidelines during this period and act within those rules.

There is no definitive timeline for resuming Kingdom events yet but anticipate the ban to last at least through mid-May 2020. More information will be forthcoming about how this will affect Western Crown Tourney and Mists Coronet Tourney in the immediate future, as well as other events in the coming months.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and the Western Crown and Kingdom Seneschal are working closely together and monitoring information released from State and Federal officials. They are acting in the best interests of the West Kingdom, and the health, safety, and well-being of the Populace is foremost in their minds. Please continue to support them as they face these difficult decisions going forward.

Calendar

APRIL

All events in April have been cancelled or rescheduled

MAY

All events through to mid-May have been cancelled or rescheduled

May 30-31 **Spring Captaincy**
Barony of Winter's Gate

JUNE

The Three Baron's Faire has been cancelled this year

June 20 **Newcomer's**
Barony of Eskalya

June 27-28 **See the Sea**
Shire of Pavlok Gorod

JULY

July 17-19 **Summer Coronet**
Principality of Oertha

July 25 **Oertha Cooks Playdate**
Principality of Oertha

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the current health crisis; future events may be cancelled. Please visit the West Kingdom website to verify if an event has been cancelled or not.

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 more. If you are an autocrat of an event, please consider sending your event information directly to the Chroniclers (both the Principality and the local branches) so that they can ensure that your event information is published. If you have wisdom to share such as an article or research paper; please consider submitting it to the newsletter so that others can learn as well.

The deadline for submissions for the Summer edition of *The Guardian* will be July 1st.

With the Pandemic we have witnessed some cancelled events on our calendar. While this is indeed sad we should take heart in the knowledge that we are helping to ensure the safety of others as well as ourselves. Let us take this time to prepare ourselves so that when things get back to normal, we are ready for the events!

I am currently looking for a deputy for the position of Principality Chronicler. The deputy will receive training in crafting a newsletter and other items related to this position. The deputy will eventually succeed me sometime in the future. While I do love this position; I have been Chronicler for a long time. Please contact me at an event or through e-mail or Facebook if you are interested or would like to learn more about the Office of the Chronicler.

In Service,

Halfdan "Two Bears" Ôzurrson, Chronicler



Plague Survival When Hunkered Down

Well by now we have been locked away from the outside world for some time. In order to make the best of the situation we all need to keep busy, cleaning the castle, sweeping out the hovel, (Afterall the servants are at home too.) All the things you did not have the time for are waiting for your attention now that you have time.

On the fun side many of us do crafts, and now is the time to finish an old project or start something new. Most of what we do can be done indoors so choose your craft and make something, use this to take your mind off the outside world and relax and make something fun and or useful.

1. Everyone who sews has scrap fabric, with shortages of certain commodities those scraps could become valuable trade goods.
2. Remember the low-tech solutions, Swords never run out of bullets.
3. For those who stocked up on flour, don't forget the baking powder and yeast, flatbread gets old after a while.
4. Sourdough starter recipes are on the internet, useful and tasty.
5. If you brew, now is the time to get a batch going, when this is all over you will have a beer to remember,
6. Fighters, now you have time to fix that armor and check your strapping, when we get the all clear we can jump right back in.
7. Find a good book you love and read it again if you have it,
8. Be safe, call friends, stay in touch you are not alone.
9. Pull out your camping gear and make those repairs that you have been putting off for lack of time.
10. Paint details on your pavilion canvas or make running wall panels to spruce up your camp.

From The DragonTale, the Newsletter for the Barony of Selvieregard. (April 2020)



Oerthan Summer Coronet and Investiture

July 17-19, 2020

The Principality of Oertha

Their Highnesses Søren j'Alborg and Her Highness Alienor invite you to journey with them across the Mediterranean on Crusade. Visit the lands of Spain, Portugal, Tripoli, Greece, Rome, Edessa the Principal of Antioch and Jerusalem. At journey's end, they will witness the Coronet Tournament to determine their heirs.

Artisans! There will be several opportunities to participate in A&S. Competitions for Largess Display, Whims, Guilds. The Largess Competition is a Thrifty Three (can enter multiple times). The Autocrats Whim Competition is Crusade Essentials In Any Mode where documentation is strongly encouraged. Finally, the Guild Competition is from the Apothecary and Leechcraft Guild and is Medieval Medical Treatments where documentation is strongly encouraged.

Site Information: Trapper Creek Community Center Park (Trapper Creek, AK).

Site opens at 4PM on Friday and closes at 5PM on Sunday.

Feast Saturday Night! Tastes of the Mediterranean. Menu currently being created. Feast cost is separate from Registration fee.

Site is Dry from 7AM until 5PM. After 5PM, site is extremely discreetly wet. No alcohol bottles can be evident in pavilions, in garbage, on the green or under awnings.

There is no potable water.

Well behaved and leashed dogs are welcome. Please keep all "Puppy Piles" cleaned up.

RV Parking with no hook-ups is available on-site. R.V. Parking with hook-ups are available at the Trapper Creek R.V Park, which is not a part of the event. Reservations must be made for hook-ups separately.

Directions: Make your way north or south on Parks Hwy towards Trapper Creek. Turn right at Park Circle. Take Park Circle to the end of the road. Park on the green past the building. Please do not park in front of the building.

Event Registration: \$25.00 for adults 18 and older, includes the \$5 member discount. Youth under 18 are free.

Autocrat: Cemper (Aly Johns-Robinson) and Ciara der Alcan (Jennifer Ryerson)



Oerthan Winter Coronet Celebrated

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

The time had come to celebrate the reign of Prince Gregor and Princess Bella and welcome Their Heirs as determined by Right of Combat within the lands of Oertha at the Winter Coronet and Investiture event. The cold winds blew across the icy lake and the snow was deep in many places; but that didn't seem to stop travelers from afar as they converged together in the lands of the Barony of Selviergard to celebrate and make merry.

The hall was festooned with colorful decorations, and the tables were set in preparation of welcoming visitors from lands far and near. As guests arrived, they were greeted warmly by friends and family and the overall atmosphere of the event was readily apparent to all—cheer and warmth.

While many populace members arrived on Friday evening; it was Saturday morning in which the event officially started. In the opening court of Gregor and Bella, Prince and Princess of Oertha, there was some business to be had before the start of the tournament. Here in court Lady Hawise de Pevensey was awarded with the Order of the Snowy Owl for her continued excellence in the arts. From there, Lord Alric Skegglauss was recognized with the Order of the Oerthan Sword which is given for prowess in combat and chivalrous conduct. Last, but not least, Lord Hrađi Kqtrr was presented with the Oerthan Order of Grace for his outstanding courtesy, chivalry, honor and grace. From there, the Autocrat of the event, Mistress Margarita di Calvi, made announcements about what to expect for the weekend.

After Principality Court, the Queen of the West held her own court in which Her Majesty started off by accepting the Fealty from the Prince and Princess of

Oertha. The next item of business to be had was the elevation of Mistress Étaín O'Rowarke to the Order of Defense—a great honor indeed and witnessed by all.



Donna Étaín O'Rowarke is inducted into the Order of Defense by the hands of the Queen of the West at the Oerthan Winter Coronet and Investiture. January 18, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson.

After awards and recognitions in court, the ceremony commenced for the Lists for the Coronet Tournament began. It was here that the fighters, alongside their consorts, introduced themselves to the Prince and Princess of Oertha and asked to be admitted into the Lists. After their presentation, the fighters were invited to choose their first pairings for the tournament and the populace was given leave to prepare for the Coronet tourney.

The day was chilly as the tournament started. Witnesses bundled up as best they could to watch the tournament for the Coronets of Oertha, but with the biting wind many could not stay outdoors for very long. Eventually the tournament was moved to the other side of the building, down by the lake, and it was much easier to watch the proceedings without freezing.

The tournament was well fought, with honor and chivalry proudly displayed on the field by all combatants of all stations and degrees. Sword clashed against shield, great weapons locked together, and exuberant shouts sounded over the Eric. However, as tournaments progress, there can be only one victor in the end.



The tournament for the Coronets of Oertha begins at the Oerthan Winter Coronet and Investiture. January 18, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson.

Eventually, the final bout was in sight. It was here that Sir Søren j'Alborgh and Viscount Fergus mac Thomais faced each other on the field of battle. With the litany read and their ladies looking on, the best two out of three fights would determine the winner of the tournament and the new Prince and Princess of Oertha. The fights were clean and impressive, with each fighter putting the most of his skill into each blow and feint.

In the end it was Sir Søren j'Alborgh who won the day and was named as Lord Borealis with his lady, Mistress Alienor Fitzhenry, named as Lady Borealis; both to be crowned as Prince and Princess of Oertha on the next day.



Søren and Alienor are proclaimed as Lord and Lady Borealis at Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture. January 18, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson.

In between the tournament and the final court of the day there were many things to do. Classes were offered, dancing took place, a Roses Tournament was enjoyed, and people visited with each other while gathered around tables laden with snacks.

Towards the evening, and before feast, it was time for Court. Here Prince Gregor and Princess Bella, alongside the other Royalty of the West, took opportunity to acknowledge individuals for their great achievements and accomplishments. The Prince and Princess of Oertha called forward Kiesha of Eskalya and bestowed her with an Award of Arms for her continued works and deeds. From there, Vincent of Eskalya was recognized with the Order of the Raven's Heart. Last, but not least, Lady Ceara der Alcan was admitted to the Order of the Boreal Fireweed for her consistent contributions in teaching others.

Next, Her Majesty also had some business to attend to and thus a Kingdom court was opened. It was in this court that Xander of Eskalya was called forward and made a Royal Page of the West. Additionally, Ulrich Gregorsson was bestowed with the Bone Acorn; a youth award given for service.

With other Royalty present there were several recognitions that they too wished to give out as well and each of the Principalities were offered time in

court to do so.

Heinrich and Else, the Prince and Princess of Cynagua, called forward Mistress Kinehild le library and presented her with the Coronet's Favor for her continued good works and deeds for the Prince and Princess of Cynagua. Additionally, Sara, Princess of the Mists, presented Baron Gavin of Eskalya, Baroness Celestria of Eskalya, Mistress Nemmona Vicana, and Master Sextus Valerius Cruscillus with the Coeur d'Azur—an award given to those who have shown great courage, service and courtesy that has enriched the Principality of the Mists and inspired the Populace in the Kingdom of the West. The Evening Court concluded with an epic indoor snowball fight.

Feast took place directly after court. It was here that delicious dishes were presented with flair to the hungry populace with recipes gleaned from the pages of the famed *A Forme of Cury*. The first remove was a delightful soup with bread and cheeses. From there, the second remove was brought out and consisted of personal chicken pies and a lovely salad. After the dishes were cleared the next course was presented: roasted pork with root vegetables. Finally, for dessert, winter fruit pies were offered alongside an amazing castle subtlety much to the delight of all present.



A castle good enough to eat at the Principality of Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture. January 18, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson.

After the grand feast, revelers gathered in groups in the main hall, or attended Mistress Étaín O'Rowarke's Vigil, or made their way to cabins for the night to play games or visit with each other. Others took the opportunity to get some sleep in order to get an early start for the next day.

Sunday brought Peerage meetings and a light breakfast. Celebrants of the event gathered and prepared to witness the final court of Prince Gregor and Princess Bella and the elevation of the Lord and Lady Borealis to the Lupine Thrones of Oertha.

Her Majesty, Queen Vera of the Kingdom of the West, had some business in the final court. It was here that she bestowed the Order of the Silver Nib to both Baron Fearghus mac Gyllfynnan and Lord Hraði Kōttr for their spectacular works in crafting scrolls for the Principality of Oertha and the Kingdom of the West.



Queen Vera of the Kingdom of the West at the Principality of Oertha's Winter Coronet and Investiture. January 19, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozurrson.

From there Her Majesty thanked the populace of Oertha for a wonderful time and stated that she hoped to return to the lands of Oertha one day soon.

After Her Majesty's court it was time for the last court of Prince Gregor and Princess Bella. The first order of business was to call forward the Autocrat of the event, Mistress Margarita di Calvi, for her final announcements and Her Excellency was thanked

abundantly for her skill and efforts by the Prince and Princess of Oertha.

A somewhat new tradition in the Principality of Oertha was then observed; the passing of the Shield of Chivalry which was bestowed unto Viscount Fergus mac Thomais from the hands of Her Highness.

Lady Ceara der Alcan was then called forward and presented with the Coronet's Favor for her diverse assistance during the Prince and Princess' reign.

Next, Princess Bella called forward several individuals and thanked them for their services given during her reign. Mistress Catherine of Wessex, Lady Ceara der Alcan, Baroness Cempestra Sidda O'Breoniann, and Baron Halfdan of Selviargard were awarded with the Princess' Riband.

The Paws of the Prince and Princess, Baron Halfdan of Selviargard and Lord Sigurd of Eskalya were then called forward and released from their duties with thanks from both Prince Gregor and Princess Bella for their great deeds, advice, and service as Their Highnesses' Paws.

From there, the Court members of Prince Gregor and Princess Bella were released alongside the champions and given thanks and tokens of esteem by Their Highnesses as the Prince and Princess themselves prepared to step down.

It was here, as is tradition and custom, that the winner of the Tournament and his Inspiration come forward to claim the Coronets of Oertha. Sir Søren j'Alborgh and Mistress Alienor Fitzhenry processed in and, with great ceremony, were crowned as the Prince and Princess of Oertha. After the elevation, the Great Officers, Landed Barons and Baronesses, and Peers came forward to swear fealty to the new Prince and Princess and, afterwards, the Prince and Princess swore fealty to the Crowns of the Kingdom of the West thus completing the chain of fealty.

Champions were chosen for the new court and

included Sir Cyrus Aurelius Heavy Champion, Mistress Étaín O'Rowarke as Rapier Champion, and Sir Bartum Sinclair as Archery Champion. Court members were also appointed to positions in the new Court with many skilled and helpful members of the populace being retained.

With three cheers celebrating the new Prince and Princess of Oertha the event was officially over and it was time to pack up and head back to warm halls and homes with fond memories of friendships renewed, heroic deeds, good food, and cheer. The Great Hall was packed very quickly, and everybody made it home safely.

The cold weather and wind chill did not keep many away from a wonderful event held in the lands of the Principality of Oertha. A new Prince and Princess have been elevated and celebrated, and laughter and song rang throughout the hall all weekend. With another Coronet now past us; it is time that we look forward to the coming six months and the many events that Prince Søren and Princess Alienor will attend with us.



Prince Søren and Princess Alienor, 71st Prince and Princess of Oertha. January 19, 2020. Photograph by Halfdan Ozursson.

The Selviargard Associated Press

SCA Board Announcement

Greetings from the Board of Directors, Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

Re: Corporate Guidance on Event Cancellations

The authority within the SCA to cancel, reschedule, or postpone events lies with the group hosting the event (Kingdom(s), Barony, Shire, etc.). Event planners should take into account directives from legal authorities (municipal, county, state, federal) and current guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) when making such a decision.

If the event in question is required by SCA Corpora, please follow the guidelines therein for requesting a variance to postpone the event through your Kingdom Seneschal. Any such requests will be reviewed in an expeditious manner at the corporate level.

The SCA remains supportive of Kingdoms and groups who continue to hold events as well as those that must cancel, reschedule, or postpone events for safety reasons or who have been directed to cancel events by modern civil authorities. Our primary concern must always be the health and safety of our members and participants. The Board will continue to monitor the situation and will communicate further when needed

PPF: Beyond the Wall

November 7, 2020
Principality of Oertha

On November 7, 2020, we will gather in the Barony of Eskalya (Anchorage, Alaska) and step back in time to the tenth century and around the world to the southern Jutland peninsula.

Our feast will take place at the home of a wealthy landmaðr in coastal southern Denmark. A landmaðr (lit. landed man) fell in the stratified Norse society somewhere between the free farmers and noble jarls. The inscription on the Swedish rune stone Sö 338 used landmaðr to identify Thorsteinn, who "fell in the east in Garðar (Russia), commander of the retinue, the best of landholders." We will join the landmaðr and his húsfrú (mistress of the house) and their sveit (company, comrades) to welcome their honored guests, local farmers, and traders from near and far and celebrate a winter feast.

To learn more, please visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/westkingdom.org/ppf-2020>

You can also find our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ppf2020>



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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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