



The Gatekeeper

Barony of Winter's Gate

Calendar

Aug. 31-Sept. 1 -- Harvest Captaincy (Elena and Margery)

Sept. 14 -- Fall Collegium (Eskalya)

Sept. 21 -- Harvest Fair (Earngyld)

Oct. 4-6 -- October Crown (West)

Oct. 12 -- Newcomer's Feast (Pavlok Gorod)

Oct. 19 -- Samhein (Eskalya)

Oct. 26-27 -- Michaelmass

Nov. 9 -- Collegium Occidentalis (West)

Nov. 16-17 -- St. Boniface Collegium

Nov. 30 -- Yule (Selviergard)

Dec. 7 -- Yule (Eskalya)

Dec. 21 -- Yule

Dec. 21 -- Yule (Earngyld)

Dec. 28 -- St. Stephen's Day Revel (Pavlok Gorod)

Jan. 3-4 -- 12th Night (West)

Jan. 18-19 -- Midwinter Coronet (Oertha/Eskalya)

Feb. 15 -- Heart's Revel

Feb. 25-Mar. 3 -- Estrella War (Atenveldt)
April 16 -- Fool's Revel (Margery)
Mar. 7-9 -- West Coast Culinary Symposium (West)
Mar. 21-23 -- March Crown (West)
May 2--4 -- Beltane (West)
May 24-25 -- Spring Captaincy
June 14 -- Games Day & Hunt (Cemper)
June 20-22 -- June Crown (West)
July 4-7 -- West-An Tir War (West)
July 19-21 -- Midsummer Coronet (Oertha)
July 25-Aug 8 -- Pennsic War (East)
Aug. 2 & 9 -- Tanana Valley Fair Demos
Aug. 30-31 -- Harvest Captaincy
Oct. 18 -- Michaelmass Feast (Margery)
Nov. 15-16 -- St. Boniface Collegium
Dec. 20 -- Yule
June 17-27, 2016 -- 50 Year Celebration (Midrealm, Danville IN)

The baronial event dates listed above, after Jan. 1, are still tentative and subject to change before approval from central Kingdom. Also please be aware that it is likely that Midsummer Coronet will take place in Pavlok Gorod (Kodiak). So if you plan to attend, start saving your vacation time and money, and making travel plans: the only way to get there is by ferry (the 'best' way) or plane.

Fighter practices have been held at Growden Park this summer on Sunday afternoons. Practice this weekend will be combined with the dyeing workshop, the second day of Harvest Captaincy. After that will be in flux, as the weather will be chilling and the university will be gearing up for the fall semester. Keep an eye on the elist for specific instructions.

All are welcome to attend fighter practices. If you're a noncombatant, you can cheer the fighters on or work on projects. Bring your own chairs if you can.

All other activities (A&S activities, guild meetings, scribal sessions, etc.) are subject to change and will be posted to the baronial email list. The above calendar includes events throughout the principality, as well as important kingdom events and wars. Those events without a listed location and in bold are local.

If you're interested in the workings of the barony, come to the monthly business meetings! They are now held at fighter practice. Keep an eye on the elist, or contact the seneschal close to the date, as it may change. (If you attend you might win an event fee waiver!)

From the Prince and Princess:

Greetings unto Our beloved populace!

Looking back on the whirlwind time since the tourney and our step up, we are deeply grateful to Our populace as a whole, and in particular those diverse individuals who made the opening days of Our Reign so much easier and smoother.

It particular, We would like to thank the Autocrat for such a great weekend, and all the principality officers for all their work. We would like to thank Viscount Kenric and Viscountess Tama for helping us from the moment We won the tourney, and particularly His Excellency Kenric and of the wonderful gentles who took the time from packing their own gear to make down the principality pavilion and other regalia after the event. We are indebted to you. A particular note of thanks to Mistress Clare Elena who offered up her house to Us so we might get offsite, shower, and organize Ourselves.

As many of you know, the week following coronet We as a principality had the privilege of hosting Sir Sagan, know as "The Kingmaker," to teach heavy and rapier combat. Everyone We have spoke to has expressed nothing but praise for the training, and we both found Sir Sagan to be an excellent instructor. Sir Viresse was instrumental in organizing both Sir Sagan's presence and the training sessions. We are extremely grateful for her efforts. They truly resulted in the enrichment of Our Principality.

Congratulations to Our newest Mistress of the Pelican, Mistress Anna de Caterina Neri, and our newest Western White Scarf, Mistress Etain O'Rowarke.

We are conscious of the fact that many, many people helped Us during this period, and there is no way We can recognize you all here. But know that your help has not gone unnoticed, or is unappreciated.

Yours in Service to Oertha and The West,
Nathan and Lilla, Prince and Princess of Oertha

From the Baron and Baroness:

SCA...Organization?

I will never forget our first SCA gathering in Alaska. There were so many people! Yet, everyone was friendly and kind, interesting and full of information and wearing those strange but interesting clothes.

Although Lord Braun and I have transitioned from baby SCAers, one of things that is contradictory in the Barony, is the term, SCA - nonprofit organization. We beg to differ.

"One can be as involved as one wishes" were the words that we heard when first joining. Tis very true; however, the more one puts in, the more one receives. We have received much 'profit' from the SCA. (No, no one is skimming from the till.) We have received encouragement, support, warmth and concern. We are not alone. People reach out to each other and give of each other.

Which leads to the second point. Organization? We would call it more family. Ours is a seed barony. Many times, in many stories, we hear tales that begin, "Well, Sir/Lady Knight yonder, began his or her days with the Barony of Winter's Gate. Now he (or she is King/Queen/Prince/Princess in..." These individuals are still spoken of as if they were still here and not out having adventures.

Like all family, we all have our parts and roles. We do not always see eye-to-eye, but we are all still family. Our Baronial family reaches out to others from across distances and we send ambassadors out to others.

As we scrambled toward our Investiture, the dependency on others was immense and we appreciate everything everyone did to assist us. We had to rely upon our family. During our first week or so, we have come to realize that it takes a Barony to raise a Baron/Baroness. Each person in the Barony is important to the life of the Barony and

each person brings with him or her gifts that contribute to the vitality of the Barony. No two people have the same gifts. Everyone is important.

As part of our oath to the Barony, we asked for some changes to the oath. One of them was "as baron and baroness, we pledge to be both servants and representatives of our barony." We will continually strive to uphold that oath. As we learn our office, we are fortunate that we have many family members with great ideas and with great gifts.

Our goal for the barony is pageantry, puns, fun, mirth and celebration. We will be instituting a Summer court, called Oak Court, June to Yule, and a Winter Court, named the Holly Court, from Yule to June (with the exception of our first court which ends next June).

That means that the members of the court will change. Obviously, we did not have an event in June and so we return to our Games Day. Next year's June event will be a Hunt. We will also be adding to the court a Privy Councilor, a Minister of Regalia, and others.

We also encourage players to keep in character during events. Most of us have spent much time on the history and development of our characters and that effort deserves verve. We want to see the Barony grow; however, more than that, we want to see the Barony's gifts grow. We are open to new ideas. Although we may not be able to "squeeze everything onto the plate," we hope that much of the ideas that our family proposes, come to life. We believe that all have a place in the Barony and that all are important to the life of the Barony.

Yours in Service,

Braun and Cemper, Baron and Baroness

PS: Switching genres: When asked if he wanted to contribute any other words to the Barony, Lord Braun's comment was, "I am to misbehave." I harrumphed, "Anything else?" He thought, then added, "Things are about to get interesting." Keeping in the parameters of *Serenity*, "Define interesting." "Oh god! Oh god! We're all gonna...have fun." "I don't recall that part." "I changed the script."

From the Chatelaine

The Fair Demos were a HUGE success! Many people were intrigued by all the A&S projects going on, Thanks to all who provided A&S projects that could be man-handled or touched. Fair attendees came to talk, to contribute their knowledge, ask questions and in general were interested in both the fighting and the A&S projects.

Thank you to all who participated and all who answered questions, monitored the swords, spoke to attendees, etc. Thanks to the fighters who donned armour and fought, did slow work, rapiered, and answered questions.

Special thanks to Merewyn and Lisa who regaled us with music during the demo. What a wonderful addition! Thanks to Zoe who tackled Gold Key in case anyone wanted to try on garb. Khevron brought a wonderful display of heraldry. Thanks to Griffin and Margery for bringing the sunshade and to Greteke who demonstrated Viking wire knitting, which complemented Genevieve's chainmail making.

Winter's Gate would like to especially welcome the McAfee family, Vern, Lisa, Zoe and Morgan! The McAfee family recently moved into the barony. A big thank you for their immediate participation in the Fair Demos. Lisa played the bongos, Vern displayed

his armour and feats of slow work bravery on the field, Zoe assisted with Gold Key and Morgan's laughter and good nature provided much joy.

We had about 50 people stop just to ask questions and to ask about the activities. I believe that the Demos this year were some of the most successful, and the entire demonstration turned into a mini-fighter practice. There was much laughter, fun and music! Everyone was wonderful and we were so pleased with the turnout! In the vernacular... Everyone rocked!!

YIS,

Cempestra (Cemper) O'Breoniann, Chatelaine

From the Chronicler:

I am always looking for short articles (A&S projects, history, adventures in period cooking, etc.) and stories of people and events to include in the newsletter. Especially stories! We are losing our history of past events, and current events become past events all too soon. I encourage you to make a contribution to the newsletter from time to time. Send them to me offlist.

Most who receive newsletter are members of the barony and its outlying groups, honorary citizens, members now in exile, and friends of the barony. Others receive this because you are our neighbors, including the territorial barons and baronesses, seneschals and chroniclers (and their kingdom counterparts). If sent to you in error, please let me know.

The Gatekeeper now goes out only electronically. If you do not wish to receive it, please email me at morgana@gci.net and you will be removed. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter as an attachment in the future, please also let me know.

Copy for nonlocal events is usually picked up from other newsletters and elist postings. Unless otherwise noted, local event reports were written by the chronicler and corrections and complaints should be addressed thereto. The chronicler welcomes words from any baronial officers, and guildmasters or mistresses, as well as reports of events and activities, as her mind holds only so many details and memories.

--Morgana yr Oerfa

Harvest Captaincy

Barony of Winter's Gate

Aug. 31-Sept. 1

Come join us in the Far North as we once again choose a mighty Captain for Winter's Gate's brave militia under the happy attention of new Baron and Baroness! Find out who will succeed our handsome and dashing Captain of the Militia or he manages to fend off all comers! Participate in our varied competitions and partake of yummy food and company!

Saturday activities run from 10 am to 10 pm at Pioneer Park. Sunday activities take place from 10 am 5 pm.

On Saturday, there will be a heavy tourney to determine the new Captain that is open to all fighters. The only rule is that either the fighter or the consort must be a member of the Winter's Gate populace. After the heavy tourney, there will be a rapier

tourney to determine the new Commander of the Cavaliers, which has the same residence requirement. If there is interest and time after those tourneys, there will be a flower tourney open to all fighters.

The competitions are as follows: the Arts and Sciences competition is for preserved foods; the Baroness' Whim is for clothing accessories (belts, fans, gloves, pouches, jewelry, etc.); the Autocrat's Whim is for items dyed using period dyes and techniques. As always, these competitions are for items that have not been entered in competitions before and documentation is strongly encouraged. If documentation scares you, or you have questions, please contact Margery at motherchaos@gci.net.

Saturday dinner will be a potluck feast with a few items provided by the barony (especially a meat dish). Dinner will be held around 6 pm, and even though there is not a kitchen, there are lots of plug-ins and a deep sink available. Please bring a dish that will serve 8-10. Since there are many varied allergies in our Barony, we ask that you please bring a card listing ingredients in your dish(es).

Also on Saturday there will be a silent auction to add to the baronial coffers for such things as travel funds for teachers, new banners, etc. So please go through your Society stash and see what you're not using, and someone else might like, to donate to the auction. Or pledge a handmade item or service.

The Saturday site is the Centennial Center for the Arts at Pioneer Park, on the corner of Airport Way and Peger Road, Fairbanks, Alaska. Event fee is \$7 for members (\$12 for non-members), ages 6-17 are \$3, children 5 and younger are free. Checks should be made to "SCA Inc - Winter's Gate."

Directions: make your best way to Airport Road. Pioneer Park is at the corner of Airport Way and Peger Road. As we will be inside the Centennial Center (the large room on the ground floor), the best place to park is in the front lot. You can drive into the park to unload, but must have your car out before 11 am. Driving back on at the end of the event will probably not be possible, so plan accordingly.

If you have any questions about Saturday, please contact the autocrats, Elena Verch Rhys (Jessica Duncan), 687-4012, jessicaeringrahn@yahoo.com, and Margery Garret (Mikki Griffin), 456-2492, motherchaos@gci.net.

Sunday Activities

On Sunday, fighter practice will take place at the same time and location as the Dyeing Workshop, in the front yard far away from the dye stuffs (G). If you want to come but are not a fighter or don't want to dye stuff, there is space inside to chat and work on small projects. Come join us!

Sunday activities are 10 am to 5 pm. This is a smoke-free, DEET-free (allergy) site, but there are dogs. DEET-free bug dope will be provided and the Therma-cells will be going.

Come experience and play hands-on with period dyes and techniques on the banks of the Chena River. The focus this session will be on mordants and fixatives, how to make your own and how mordants affect colours, dyes, fabrics and afterbaths. We will also explore some of the Alaskan native dyes. A fee of \$30 should have been prepaid to Ellisif or Cemper by Aug. 15 for full participation, which is nonrefundable due to ordering of dyes from England, etc. Cost includes mordants, dyes, soaks and a "goodie basket." Contact Cemper for further fees information.

Those working with urine will need: your own urine (one gallon stale urine, stale meaning two weeks old), eye protection, rubber kitchen gloves, two buckets, your own stainless steel pot, tongs, cloth, face mask if you want it (urine is smelly). ALL urine must stay outside.

You will need to dress comfortably. Most of the dyeing and class will be outside and on the deck.

You will also need: rubber gloves (dishwashing gloves are best), eye protection, and one square yard per person per vat or the equivalent in fiber or other dyeables (there will be approximately 7-10 vats).

All cloth materials should be prewashed without fabric softeners; natural soaps are recommended. Suggested fabrics are silk, cotton, wool, linen, and other natural fibers such as wooden or bone beads or buttons, ribbon, yarn, cloth shoes, socks, 100% cotton t-shirts (you can tie-dye if you wish), lampshades or roman shades, hats, scarves, just about anything that is all natural fibers. Different fibers are affected differently by the same vat and different fixatives and mordants.

Suggested: a three-ring binder with some paper and plastic sheets for notes and samples. Some handouts will be provided.

Since this is also a full-day activity, there will be another potluck. Please bring a dish to share (with ingredients card again). Baron Braun will have the grill going with hot dogs, but if you prefer something else grilled, feel free to bring it. Please contact Cemper if you have any unusual allergies (like peanuts or lettuce), other than the usual baronial suspects, wheat, onions, etc.

Site location is 446 Steamboat Landing in North Pole. Directions: make your best way to the first exit of Badger Road. Take the exit toward Ft. Wainwright. Turn right onto Holmes away from the Ft. Wainwright gate. At the stop sign, go straight through and cross Badger Road (Badger Gas will be on your left). At the next stop sign, turn left onto Nordale. Go about 2 miles until you see construction signs and a yellow diamond cross street sign. Turn right onto Freeman and continue down to the cul-de-sac where you will see mailboxes on your left. At the end of the cul-de-sac Freeman swings to your left (be careful, it is a blind curve). Once past the curve, take the second right, Mark Twain. Follow Mark Twain down to the end of the road and turn left onto Steamboat Landing. Go 1/4 mile and the house is the two-story cedar house with a Moose Flag hanging near the front door and a VW bug in the driveway. You can park in the driveway or the street, as there are only three houses on our section of the road.

For more information contact Cemper at 385-1084, tolkienscholar@yahoo.com.

Event Reports and Thanks:

Fool's Revel Report

Fool's Revel was a great success and thanks to all who participated!

Our Boffer Tourney contestants battled in the snow with boffers of bravery. Lady Magda was crowned the Rule of the Feast of Fools! We were regaled with tales of Bears, Medieval Mad-Libs, Bear-Spray, and a Pink Opossum during our feast.

The Ministry of Silly Dances (a subsidiary of the Ministry of Silly Walks) was taught by Lady Sapphira and provided ample dancing, twisting and twirling opportunities.

The first Masque performance in the Principality of Oertha, *Oberon the Fairy Prince*, by Ben Jonson, was performed brilliantly by none other than the attendees themselves. Songs were sung on the spot, belying a magical tone, and the entire Masque was enthralling and exciting. The fairyland was brought to life by the beautiful tapestries created and painted by Genevieve Beauvais. Other feats of acting were witnessed by all as Satyrs sprung, Fairies fluttered, Prince Oberon oversaw, and the Greek Gods gazed.

Thanks to all who participated and made the day exciting and fun, including our Head Cook Ellisif, autocrats Sapphira and Genevieve, and all who participated in the fun. --Reported by Cemper

Autocrat Sapphira the Navigator reports the following: boffer contestants were Aoife, Genevieve, James, Magda, Nicole, Sebastian and Tempest and the winner was Genevieve, with Tempest receiving an Honorable Mention. Magda won the fool's competition and was named the Big Bird of Fools. The best female performer in the Masque was Aine Barleg, and the best male performer was Sebastian. Both were Satyrs. Khevron's Fool's Whim of medievaloid bardic was won by Sapphira, and the Baroness' Whim for open bardic was won by Aine Barleg. Approximately 25 people attended.

Midsummer Coronet News

For those of you unable to attend Midsummer Coronet, you missed a lovely event. Unlike recent summer events, the weather was gorgeous, warm with blue skies, and no bears.

The tourney had a good turnout, and semi-finalists were Nathan Hartman inspired by Lilla aet Sceaphylle, Sebastian Agafangilovich Golytsin inspired by Angela of Eskalya, and Soren j Alborg inspired by Alienor Fitzhenry. After a quite lively and chivalrous finals (as was the entire tourney) between Nathan and Soren, Nathan was victorious and He and Lilla were crowned Prince and Princess of Oertha on Sunday.

Other entrants into the coronet lists and who they were inspired by were Ciaran O Cearbhaill (Aine O Cearbhaill), Fergus MacThomais (Margarita de la Calvi), Hakon Adulwolfeson (Ulfhildr Sverradottir), Hallbiorn Erlaendar son (Ellisif a Reikiavik), Karl Helweg (Elisa von Sophey), Lamorak d'Pellinore (Anna di Caterina Neri), Sebastian Agafangilovich Golytsin (Angela of Eskalya), Sextus Valerius Cruscillus (Nemonna Vicana), Ulfgar Toorkson (Leona the Mouse), and Viresse de Lighthaven (Astrin Straightarrow).

During Saturday afternoon court, Her Excellency Gwyneth, Baroness of Winter's Gate, stepped down, and Braun and Cempestra were invested as the new Baron and Baroness.

Many people were honored with awards during the weekend.

During Their Saturday court, Thorfinn and Etain awarded Etain O'Rowarke with a Western White Scarf, and elevated Anna di Caterina Neri to the Order of the Pelican.

On Saturday, Prince Kenric and Princess Tama honored the following: Leaves of Merit to Elisa von Sophey, Karl Helweg and Mairghread Dubh inghean Alasdair; Snowy Owl to Angela of Eskalya; Oerthan Order of Grace to Trava Zapadova; Silver Ulu to Mella Cassandra de la Selva; Raven's Heart to Kyle Burns; and Argent Flames to Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov and Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth.

On Sunday, Their Majesties' Thorfinn and Etain awarded Crowns' Favors to Bjarni Edwardarson i Jorvik, Gwyneth Rhiannon of the Sea and Sorchia Careman.

Also on Sunday, Tama awarded Princess' Ribands to Angelina Tiana Bezova, Brann mac Finnchad, Dagmar the Red, Elizabeth Anne de Gresse, Erin of Pavlok Gorod, Griffin Garret, Margery Garret, Richard Stewart of St. Andrews and Rolyndda of the Azure Stone. And Ellisif a Reikiavik, Margery Garret and Sapphira the Navigator received Coronet's Favors from Kenric and Tama.

At the first court of Nathan and Lilla on Sunday, Tama Katerina Evstok'eva was granted the title of Viscountess.

Those appointed to Their Court include Alienor Fitzhenry, Head of Court; Ladies of the Chamber Aine O Cearbhaill, Celestria Textrix, Dagmar the Red, Elisa von Sophey, Erin of Pavlok Gorod, Greteke inn Little and Ulfhildr Sverradottir; Captain of the Princess' Guard Sebastian Agafangilovich Golytsin; Princess' Escort/Guard members Brendan Doyle, Ciaran O Cearbhaill, Fearghus Mac Ronan, Rafial Viaschlav, Roland of the Normandy Hills and Witt MacHerryn. Heavy Champion, Soren j Alborg, Rapier Champion Sorcha Careman, Knight Counselor Cyrus Aurelius, Royal Bard Gwyneth Rhiannon of the Sea, Royal Advisor Caitriona inghean ui Chionaodha, Laurel Counselor Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor, and Artisans Brann mac Finnchad and Margery Garret.

On Sunday, Nathan and Lilla acknowledged Soren j Alborg and Alienor FitzHenry as Lord and Lady Guardian.

The winner of the Prince's Whim, runes in any mode, was Ciara O Cearbhaill; winner of the Princess' Whim, mead, was won by Aine O Cearbhaill for her apple pie mead. The winners of the principality A&S competition, period spices, were Elisa von Sophey and Celestria Textrix.

Midsummer Coronet Thanks

Greetings Good Gentles of Oertha,

It is with grateful heart that I wish to thank the Principality of Oertha for putting on such a fantastic show this weekend. I award you all five points! Thank you for policing your camps, dousing your fires, heeding the laws of the land, and, most importantly, being good to each. Without you there would be no Coronet, no Principality, and no SCA. Thank you.

I would also like to offer specific thanks, if I may.

To Alienor, Catriona, Gwyneth and Princess Lilla, thank you for lifting the weight off my shoulders when it got too heavy, often before I realized it had begun to weight me down in the first place. You are the dearest friends a person could ever wish for and you have done me and this Principality a great service. Thank you.

To Cyrus and Soren, thank you for being the brute squad, for hauling things around and setting things up. Soren, thank you for arriving on site before me and helping me with the initial set up. Cyrus, thank you for running and fetching things even though our camp was in the back end of beyond. Thank you both for all the things you did that I am forgetting now (and I know these are many). You are both the most excellent of friends and you have done me and this Principality a great service. Thank you.

Clare Elena, the help you rendered me was just what I needed, when I needed it. Thank you for taking over things I had promised when I realized I was running short of both time and energy. Thank you also for staying on site with me until all the stragglers had made it out. Though I am your student no longer, you are a constant inspiration to me. Thank you.

Sorcha, thank you for the use of your pavilion when our encampment was unavailable. It was unplanned and you rolled with it with the same grace you display in everything you do. Thank you also for the eclairs, they were delicious. Thank you.

Prince Nathan, thank you for your aid in setting up and striking camp. Thank you for your help both Saturday and Sunday, even when you were busy you still made time to help where you could and it was greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Colyne, thank you for your service as constable. Thank you for keeping the parking situation under control, for keeping the gate open all night, and for taking care of the ill among us. Thank you.

Cruscillus, thank you for helping police the campsite and for making the trash run. It is stinky duty, but you did it. Thank you also for Ben for helping with the trash run. Thank you.

Aine, thank you for picking up trash after much of the rest of the Principality had departed. You are a most excellent example to the rest of us of how to serve with a happy heart. Thank you.

Janeek, thank you for helping out around camp, with setup and teardown. Despite not knowing any of us before this weekend, you put up with our harassment with a smile and didn't even run for the hills. Thank you also for helping me tear down my tent when my knee suddenly decided it didn't want to kneel anymore. Thank you.

Finally, a heartfelt and earnest thank you to all those who sat gate all night, who kept their camps tidy, who ran things back and forward for me, who cried camp, who helped Their Highnesses and Their Majesties, and who I have forgotten here in my haze of exhaustion and over-stimulation. Thank you.

Congratulations to Nathan and Lilla, Prince and Princess of Oertha! May you have a happy and prosperous reign!

Juvo, *Cynehild*, Autocrat

Miscellaneous

From Their Highnesses

Their Highnesses' Progress

Greetings to Our great populace,

We are happy to announce that after much deliberation with the powersthatbe (municipal and federal governments), We have planned Our Progress.

Her Highness will attend Harvest Captaincy in Winter's Gate, Aug. 31-Sep. 1, Harvest Fair in Earngyld, Sept. 21, Selvieryard Yule Nov. 30 (tentatively with His Highness), and St Stephen's Day Revel in Pavlok Gorod Dec. 28.

His Highness will attend Eskalya Fall Collegium, Sept. 14.

We will both attend October Crown Oct. 4-6, Great Western War Oct. 9-13, and Midwinter Coronet in Eskalya, Jan 18-19.

Please note that Our travels may be subject to change at whims of the fates. Our lovely Head of Court, Mistress Alienor, may contact your group to see if hospitality is available and to help organize the court during Our stay.

Thank you for your patience while We have petitioned the fates and higher powers

to provide for Our passage.

The Coronets' Whims

After much consideration, We have chosen Our whims for Midwinter Coronet.

Her Highness derives great pleasure from the simple white rose, so Her whim will be white roses in any form.

His Highness would dearly like to see a selection of Our local armorers' work, so His whim will be armor in any mode. He is looking for locally made pieces, and added consideration will be given to period designs with documentation.

We look forward with great anticipation to seeing the works of Our skilled populace!

Award Recommendations

Greetings!

It is the joy and privilege of The Coronets to recognize those among their peoples who merit such recognition. With that in mind and considering Our Progress over the coming months, We would be greatly appreciative if any among you who are so inclined would submit award recommendations to the Coronets' email (see Regnum below). We will be delighted to take your recommendations under advisement.

Thank you one and all.

In Service to Oertha and The West,

Nathan and Lilla, Prince and Princess of Oertha

Oertha Archery

Greetings to all archers and all who wish to be archers.

I have set up two resources for folks to share information. First is the Oerthan Archery yahoo group. To subscribe, send an email to OerthanArchery-subscribe@yahoo.com.

The other is a Facebook group, also called OerthanArchery. It is also an open forum for anyone interested in archery in the principality. (Note: I set up a Facebook 'page' before realizing I couldn't post documents to that. The 'page' will go away shortly. The 'group' is the one I plan to keep.)

Both of these resource locations have a variety of useful documents you can access, such as handbooks, equipment construction directions, etc. Please feel free to use them to post anything of interest to the archery community, to include archery practices or events with archery activities.

In Service,

Elisa von Sophey, Archery Marshal of Oertha

Principality Largesesse

Greetings Unto the Principality of Oertha.

Their Highnesses will be traveling to Central West Kingdom to witness October Crown and Great Western War. Our Principality has the opportunity to assist Them and celebrate our artisans at the same time by gifting largesse to Their Highnesses for distribution to the other Royals. We would appreciate help from all interested Oerthans in this endeavor. If you would like to contribute to the gift baskets, please coordinate with me at Fishfood43@yahoo.com, 230-4099.

In Service, *Alienor FitzHenry*

Fighter Challenge

Greetings Unto Fighters of Oertha.

So I have a challenge for you. Recently Sir Sagan came up and taught a class. Sadly, I did not have the chance to make it this year, but I have had the chance to attend them in the past. They don't call him the Kingmaker for no reason. His principles and teaching have helped many people in the Society.

Now that I have piqued your interest, let's get into the details of this challenge. This challenge is open to knights and unbelts alike. Using the principles that were learned from Sir Sagan, I wish to gift a great prize to the "most improved fighter." The winner will be chosen by the very fighters that enter into this challenge.

To give people time to train and put the tools Sir Sagan provided into action, I believe that by next coronet, the participants will be ready to choose the winner. Remember, this is for most improved fighter, taking into account your current level and see how you have improved in the past six months.

The prize will be a \$500 gift certificate you can use to purchase any kind of custom-made armor from us. Believe me, I will make this very special for the winner.

I want those who are not into this for personal gain to know that if they are so inclined, they can donate their prize to whomever they want. Think of how much fun it would be to donate the prize to your Barony or Principality. I know a few are very interested, but they are interested because they want to share the knowledge, but want nothing in return. So I say to these fighters: train just as hard, improve your skill level, and if you are chosen by your fellow fighters as the winner, you're more than welcome to brighten up someone else's day by donating the prize to them (G).

Thoughts? For more information, contact me (Michael Snyder) at 717-5904 (cell), hawkes-leatherworks@hotmail.com. --*Viscount Gregor Hawke*

Oertha Artisans

To my Dear Artisans of Oertha,

As some of you know, I have been trying to put together a database of the members of the populace that teach various subjects. My goal here is to create a source that anyone—whether autocrat, officer, or newcomer—can reference when they want to know who may be willing to teach a given subject. While this is a longer term project, I would like to get started on it as soon as I can and hope that the database will be in use, helping those who wish to learn, for many years.

I'm looking for classes on any subject within the Society, whether it's an Art (or Science), making things, research topics, etc. Fighting related—hitting things, stabbing things, chivalry, etc. Service of Others—autocratting, performing offices, chivalry again. Providing this information is not a promise that you will teach at a specific event, but just saying what you are willing to share your knowledge at some date, perhaps in the far future. I would be greatly appreciative if you could send this information to me, along with any questions you might have.

Information requested: Name. List of Classes you are willing to teach (whether generic like Basic Jewelry Making or more specific like Styles of Anglo-Saxon Brooches),

I would also like to know your preferred teaching format(s)—i.e. roundtable, one-on-one, small classes, and whether you are willing to spend time teaching at events or would prefer an A&S day dedicated to your subject:

I would also, if possible, like to know what subjects people would be interested in learning and attending—who knows—maybe it'll happen...

Yours in Service,

Bránn mac Finnchad, Arts & Sciences Minister, Oertha, beorn_se_becaire@yahoo.com.

Regnum

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Webminister: Francisco.

And now for something entirely different:

“My Lord, Won't You Find Me, the SCA”

[mostly] by Khevron, sung at Spring Captaincy

with apologies to Janis

original in “The Fat Guy Songbook”, Drachenwald 1998

My Lord, won't you find me, the SCA

A branch in Alaska

My, it's a long way!

My cart in Albuquerque, a left turn I did make

My Lord won't you find me, the SCA.

My Lord, you can find me at Captaincy please

Rapier or Heavy,

I'll set you at your ease

A few fighters fielded, no knights to here sneeze

My lord, you can find me at Captaincy please.

My Lord, don't you make me the Seneschal

It just may affect

The local morale

My body my break with one big Grand Mal

My lord, don't you make me the Seneschal.

My Lord, don't you make me, the local Baron

My persona I left

In West Lebannon

I'd rather go boating with one called Charon

My Lord, don't you make me, the local Baron.

*Oh Lord, won't you help me to pass my device
I've done all the research,
And paid the price
Sadly the heralds have sent it back twice
My Lord, won't you help me to pass my device.*

*My Lord, let's go build us a grand feast hall
Events there could simulate
Norway or Gaul
We'll put up raw timber and eschew dry wall
My Lord, let's go build us a grand feast hall!*

* * * * *

Du'ad Bob Review

So I'd been waiting for this movie to be released for at least a year now. First, I'd heard that it had been filmed. Then, that it was being promoted at the Toronto Film Festival in search of a distributor. Then that it had been picked up by a distributor. Then that it was going to be released, but probably in limited release. Then that it was going to be released in even more limited release two weeks before that date. (Unfortunately, the area where I live was not included in that.) And finally, that it was going to play at two theaters in my area. So the weekend it opened, Anna Sue and I put on our traveling shoes and drove to the theater. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you Joss "I tired of working on The Avengers so I'm going to get a bunch of my friends together and film something at my house in Santa Monica in just twelve days" Whedon's take on William Shakespeare's ***Much Ado About Nothing***.

Starring Amy Acker as Beatrice, Alexis Denisof as Benedick, Jillian Morgese as Hero, Fran Kranz as Claudio, Reed Diamond as Don Pedro, Clark Gregg as Leonato, Emma Bates as Ursula, Sean Maher as Don John, Ashley Johnson as Margaret, Spencer Treat Clark as Borachio, Riki Lindhome as Conrade, and Nathan Fillion as Dogberry, this is the story of two people in love, a man and his accomplices trying to break them up for his own amusement (and to get back at his brother), two other people definitely not in love with several people trying to get them together, and a man "too cunning to be understood." It is, of course, a comedy, since no one dies. (In a Shakespearean tragedy, you begin to wonder if there's going to be anybody left standing by the end.)

Good points: It's Shakespeare's words. Benedick and Claudio in a girl's bedroom while discussing marriage. The actions and gestures of the actors match the words they are speaking, which both adds to the comprehension of them and increases their humorosity. (Is that a real word? No matter.) Benedick hiding behind a small branch. The fist bump. All of the small touches that help to show the character of the individuals, as when Don John takes a cupcake as he walks past. Joss Whedon has a really nice house.

Bad points: There was a mental disconnect for me watching “Agent Colson” of SHIELD speaking Shakespearean English. It’s hard to see Sean Maher as a real villain; he seems more bored than evil here. Nathan Fillion seems a little bland as Dogberry to me; I think I prefer Michael Keaton’s more over-the-top portrayal in Kenneth Branagh’s 1993 version of the play. The character is speaking nonsense, whether or not he realizes it; I felt like Fillion was underplaying him unnecessarily.

Zero breasts. No blood. Zero dead bodies. (See? It’s a Shakespearean comedy!) Plots roll. Benedick rolls. Beatrice rolls down the stairs. Gratuitous acrobats. Gratuitous pushups and stretches. Gratuitous burning marshmallow. Academy Award nominations to Alexis Denisof as Benedick for matching his gestures and cadence so well to Shakespeare’s words, making them sound almost natural in a 21st Century setting, and to Joss Whedon for putting together a movie that, in spite of its perceived limitations – being shot in black and white, in a private home, in twelve days, with a bunch of non-Shakespearean actors – can hold its own very easily, even compared to Shakespearean stalwarts like Laurence Olivier and Kenneth Branagh. A mere 42 on the Vomit Meter. Four stars. Da’ud Bob says, “Am I going to buy this for myself the day it is released on DVD? You bet your sweet bippy I am! Check it out!”

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