



# The Gatekeeper

Barony of Winter's Gate

## Calendar

- April 26 -- Fool's Revel** (Margery autocrat)  
April 25-27 -- Prince's Prize Tourney (Selviergard)  
April 26 -- Fantastic Fairytale Fete (Pavlok Gorod)  
May 2-4 -- Beltane (West)  
May 17-18 -- Spring Offensive (Selviergard)  
**May 24-25 -- Spring Captaincy** (Eillsif autocrat)  
June 6-8 -- Outdoor Event (Earngyld)  
June 7-8 & 14-15 -- Three Baron's Fair demos (Eskalya)  
**June 14 -- Games Day & Hunt** (Cemper autocrat)  
June 20-22 -- June Crown (West)  
June 28-29 -- Summer Hunt (Selviergard)  
July 4-7 -- West-An Tir War (West)  
July 19-21 -- Midsummer Coronet (Oertha, Kodiak)  
July 25-Aug 8 -- Pennsic War (East)  
**Aug. 2 & 9 -- Tanana Valley Fair Demos**  
Aug. 23 -- William Tell Event (Eskalya)  
**Aug. 30-31 -- Harvest Captaincy** (Hallbiorn autocrat)

**Sept. 7 -- UAF Club Fair**

**Oct. 18 -- Michaelmass Feast** (Margery autocrat)

**Nov. 15-16 -- St. Boniface Collegium**

**Dec. 20 -- Yule** (Bran and Cemper, autocrats)

June 17-27, 2016 -- 50 Year Celebration (Midrealm, Danville IN)

Fight practices are currently on Sundays from 11am to 2 pm at University Park School on University Avenue. Go in the back entrance by the dumpsters; the gym is directly to the left. 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 have them, and a project to work on.

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 for the exact date. (If you attend you might win an event fee waiver!)

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### *Business Meeting Notes:*

Following is what was reported to the chronicler after the March 30 baronial business meeting, after Sunday's fighter practice.

Attending the meeting were Sapphira the Navigator (seneschale), Hannah, Iriniia Myschkenova, Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov, Glen, Haelgath, Jeremy, Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr and Tiana.

The officers reported that "life is good," "no injuries."

Margery, the autocrat of Fool's Revel, reported there was a request for more in-depth information from Selvieregard for the event, as apparently a group of them wish to participate in the foolishness. She also reported the Baron's Whim is peas for the Baroness (G); dinner will be potluck with the barony providing meat dishes; the site is Walden Estate Community Center and that the back patio, if snow keeps melting at current rate, should be clear for fighting.

It was reported that the location for Spring Captaincy may be the Park although St. Boniface is also looking into available space, and there will be a fundraiser lunch.

It was also reported that Winter's Gate will have a contingency attending Midsummer Coronet in Pavlok Gorod (Kodiak).

Elisheva volunteered to coordinate the demos at the Tanana Valley Fair in early August.

Hallbiorn volunteered to be autocrat at Harvest Captaincy.

Margery reported that Michaelmass has been moved to the end of October and she will be the autocrat; the head cook will be Ellisif.

Spring Fest (April 24-26) at St. Boniface (UAF) was discussed. They would like to do a picture booth on Thursday and Friday, and possibly fighting demos (depending on number of available fighters, marshals and UAF). Saturday activities would conflict with Fool's Revel.

(Thanks to Elisheva for relaying this info to the Chronicler. Any errors must be transcription errors on the part of the Chronicler.)

*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

*Upcoming Events:*

**Fool's Revel**

*Barony of Winter's Gate*

*April 26*

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

**Their Majesties Are Coming!**

\*\*\*Newsflash: Their Majesties, Thorfinn and Violante, are coming! They will be joining us for the event and teaching a few classes. They will also be a fighter practice on Sunday! Even more reasons to have fun!\*\*\*

There will be a Fool's Pas for both heavy and rapier fighters. Bring all of your weapons and be prepared for anything! Bridge, barrica de, cavalry, and even odd weapon choices may be decided with the draw of a chip. Who knows what hilarity might ensue!

As a fundraiser for the Barony to bring up future teachers, we will be auctioning off those fighters willing to sacrifice themselves for the cause. We will not be auctioning them off as slaves. Oh no, we will be auctioning off the ability to *decorate* the fighter in a foolish manner for the Tourney! While the autocrat will have some things available for

decorating, she suggests you bring any feathers, toys, garb, ribbons, bows and gee-gaws you would like to use to decorate a fighter. Both rapier and heavy-suit fighters will be put up for bid. They are being such good souls! Main rules: decorations may NOT be permanent or cause a safety risk on the field.

And as yet another fundraiser, there will be a Silent Auction. If you would like to contribute to this Auction, please contact the autocrat and let her know what you will be donating. All objects (and future services) will be appreciated.

There will be a competition for the new Fool of Winter's Gate, to be decided by the best skit or recitation under two minutes, and will be judged by Their Excellencies. Please remember that we are family friendly and adjust your performance for that audience.

Competitions include the Baroness' Whim of the best "You Know You're In the SCA When" story, the Baron's Whim of Green Pea dishes (to be judged by the Baroness, who is *not* a peas fan -- hide them in cake, add them to a dish in puree form, be creative and perhaps get her to like them!). The Arts & Sciences competition will be the best period-looking silly garb (a fluorescent Viking or a Tie-dyed Tudor for example).

Kids' activities will include fun games, a shield-making craft activity, and a boffer tournament.

Dinner will be a traditional potluck. Please bring dish that will feed at least 8 people, with an ingredient lists for those with allergies. Lunch and potluck meats will be provided by the barony to start things off.

Come, have fun, and let silliness reign!

The site is the Walden Community Center, 1108 Hampstead Avenue (where Michaelmass was held). The site opens at 11 am and closes at 10 pm: unless you wish to help set up and decorate the site, please so not arrive sooner than 11. Event fee is \$5 for adults (+\$5 for non-members), \$3 for ages 6-16, children under 6 years are free. The family cap is \$15. Please make checks out to "SCA Inc - Barony of Winter's Gate."

Directions to the site: make your best way to Danby Street, turn onto either Hampstead or Bainbridge. The Community Center is located where the two streets meet.

If you have questions, or need more information, contact the autocrat Margery Garret (Michele Griffin), motherchaos@gci.net, 590-0868 (cell). Margery is working long days and can't easily return calls, so texts are the best way to reach her.

Following is the schedule for the day: there is lots of fun to have, and activities to take place, so expect them to begin promptly at 12:30 pm. And if we want to do all of them, please be prepared for the autocrat to ring a gong, if need be, to make sure things move along when needed!

### **Saturday**

12 noon -- lunch (salmon chowder, gluten-free and regular breads)

\*\*Silent auction opens

12:30 -- Fighter Auction!

1:00 -- Rapier tourney/children's shield-making activity

2:00 -- Heavy tourney/children's boffer tourney

4:00 -- Class: SCA Myths and Interkingdom Anthropology taught by Her Majesty

5:00 -- "Make a Mummy" battles!

6:30 -- Dinner, during which will include the Baronial Fool's Contest (skits of two minutes max), Baroness' Whim ("You Know You're in the SCA When..." stories), Baron's Whim (pea dishes for Her Excellency), and A&S Competition (best period-ish Silly Garb Fashion Show)

7:45 -- Silent Auction closes

8:00 -- Courts

10:00 -- Site Clean-Up/closes

Bardic, if desired, to follow at the home of Griffin and Margery

### **Sunday (at UPark School)**

11:00 -- fighter practice

12:00 -- Class: Handsewing and Seam Treatments/Embroidery, taught by Her Majesty

2:00 -- Site closes (but closing time is NOT set in stone -- unless another class comes in for the space, we can stay later if desired)

## **Prince's Prize Tourney**

*Chugiak, Alaska*

*April 25-26*

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

Sharpen your swords and rapiers, fletch your arrows and put quill to parchment with your bardic skills. Pull out your banners and prepare to dress your camp in all its pageantry.

His Highness desires to see Oertha in all its finery, taste of its best desserts and brewed drinks, and play games of skill and chance. He offers prizes for many tourneys, games and contests, with feasting and bardic to celebrate it all. Join Him, attend classes, celebrate chivalry and earn points toward a grant prize, while toasting the inspiration of your consort and the future of our small Treasures.

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

### **Contests and Entertainments**

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

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

Archery -- William Tell Shoot, target shooting.

A&S contests -- period 'tourney' garb, bardic arts (original song/story/poem), brewing, Tasty Desserts. Other adult competitions for Saturday night will be announced at court.

Children's games -- dragon feet races, "toss across" and boffer spear throwing. The Teddy Bear Tea on Sunday will keep them busy while adults break camp and snacks will be provided.

Lunch on Saturday will be soups and breads. Feast on Saturday will be a sponsored potluck, with His Highness providing the meat. All other items will be potluck, by modern last name: A-L -- vegetable side dish, M-R -- starchy side dish, S-Z -- breads and spreads. Allergen note: No fish, no onions, no jalapenos!

Site is the Camp Carlquist Boy Scout Camp (Edmonds Lake), 23001 Gorsuch Road, Chugiak.

Event fee is \$10 for adults over 12 years (+\$5 for nonmembers), \$5 for children 2-12 years, family cap of \$30.

If you have questions, or need more information, contact the autocrat Margarita de la Calvi (Gretchen Thompson), [viscountessmargarita@yahoo.com](mailto:viscountessmargarita@yahoo.com), 244-6543.

## **Spring Offensive**

### *Barony of Selviergard*

### *May 17-18*

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

#### **The Raid on Lindisfarne**

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

#### **War Scenarios for Heavy and Rapier**

Viking Ship Battle: Ship outlines, fight ship to ship. If you fall overboard, you drown!  
Bridge Battle: Narrow bridge/causeways, three fighters wide; Gate Battle: Fight at the gate into town; Village Battle: Street fight to monastery and plunder; Escape to the Ships: Enemy troops on the beach blocking the way.

#### **Archery Competitions**

Target-Butts/Bull's-Eye: Standard SCA bulls-eye targets; Target-Warriors: Cardboard shapes of men with shields; Target-Hunt for Meat: Animal targets, with "meat prize" (win your dinner!).

#### **Thrown Weapons Competitions**

Hand Axes-Block: Points as shown; Hand Axes-Faithful Wife? Balloon head with braids, cut the braids without hitting the balloon; and Throwing Spears.

#### **Arts & Sciences Competitions**

Beermaids of Valhalla (adults): a viking obstacle course (for kids: carrying age-appropriate items); Best Viking Garb: men-women-children; Offensive Garb: team competition, aka Garb Wars; Bardic: sagas in the viking style, to be performed at bardic; Viking Crafts: jewelry, drinking horns, embroidery; Viking Illumination (for children); Cooking: best Viking Sweet, Best Viking Savory (judged by the populace); Children's Games: dragon feet races, rock, etc.

### **Feast**

Bring your own meat to grill and a potluck dish to share (by modern last name): A-G -- breads & spreads, H-R -- side dishes, S-Z -- desserts.

Site is the Little Susitna River Campground, Houston. Event fee is \$10 for adults 12 years and older, \$5 for children, nuclear family \$30. Non-member surcharge of \$5 when applicable. Camping fee per tent, payable to the City of Houston.

For more information, contact the autocrat Fergus MacThomais (George Thompson), 892-0718 home, 440-4539 cell (preferred), flintlock75@yahoo.com.

### **Three Barons Fair**

*Barony of Eskalya*

*June 7-8, 14-15*

Three Barons Fair is almost upon us! Now is the time to start thinking about how we as Oerthans can assist the Barony of Eskalya in their annual recruitment and demonstration opportunity. As the Fair entertains people not only in Anchorage, but in the Mat-Su, this means that recruitment efforts benefit not only Eskalya, but Selviergard as well. Additionally, the more people in our Principality as a whole means more people to meet, have with with, and learn from.

For those who have participated in the demonstrations at Three Barons Fair, you will know what to expect. For those who have not done so before, you can expect to have lots of fun! Fighters, people who can talk about the SCA, artisans, heralds, and all people are welcome and needed.

The format for the Fair involves fighting demonstrations, showcasing our arts and sciences efforts, and the general 'ambiance' of the Fair. Additionally, there are some times when we can walk around and enjoy the sights and shows, shops, and eat. We take part in the Fair, but are not the main attraction: we are simply a group that shows off what we do in the Society.

More information will be posted by Leonia the Mouse as we come closer to the Fair dates. But let us take a moment and think how we can support our neighbor and share the SCA with all people who may attend the Fair.

### **Midsummer Coronet News**

*Pavlok Gorod*

*July 19-21*

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

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

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

Saturday night is potluck.

Dona Etain's Rapier Tournament will take place after dinner, followed by a Bardic bonfire in the evening.

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

Dogs are okay. Must be on a leash.

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

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

Site is the Kodiak Fairgrounds. Directions from the airport: turn left onto Rezanof Drive. Drive about five minutes. Watch for the Kodiak Fairgrounds and Raceway sign. Turn right. Directions from the ferry dock: turn left, follow the curve around until you reach the one and only stoplight. Turn left onto Rezanof Drive. Follow the road for about 10-15 minutes until you pass the airport. Follow above directions after that.

Site opens at noon on Friday and closes around 5 pm on Sunday. Soup and bread will be available Friday evening starting around 4 or 5 pm.

Event fee: \$22 for 12 years and up, \$12 for 6-11 years, 5 and under free. Family cap is \$65. Nonmember surcharge of \$5 where applicable.

#### **Hotel Information**

Everything listed does not include the hotel taxes and sales taxes. Add 12%. If you plan to stay at a hotel, please get it booked right away. Between construction, tourists, and the Coast Guard transfer season, rooms will go fast. And then rates will go up! Two have offered us group rates if we book 10 or more rooms.

The Best Western Kodiak Inn, 486-5712, is the nicest in town but has prices to match: \$152.99 for a queen and \$161.50 for two double beds. They jump to \$184.99 and \$194.99 respectively if we book less than 10.

The second group rate is at the Shelikof Lodge, 486-4141. I worked there as a maid one summer. It's not top line but not totally appalling either. If we get 10 or more rooms booked, it is \$100 for a double plus a twin or for a queen. If we have less than 10, it is \$130. I told them we'd have people book as group Oertha. What's really cool is that their shuttle would be available to run people to the Fairgrounds and back if you make prior arrangements.

The least expensive is the Russian Heritage Inn from \$95 for a double to \$135 for a king suite with three twins. Their number is 486-5657. They also have kitchenettes at \$125. The full kitchen suites are \$155 with four extra-long twins. Usually those are rented by construction guys, so call early!

The closest hotel to the site is the Comfort Inn, 487-2700, at the Buskin. Literally a walk across the very small airport parking lot. That said, site is less than 10-15 minutes from the other three hotels, so it's not a huge advantage. They are usually packed in July with Coast Guard transfers, but they said their rates are \$170-\$190 a night.

There are also an insane number of Bed & Breakfasts in the area which are usually considerably lower in price than the hotels. Tripadvisor has an extensive list.

Lady Angelina plans to run shuttle duty with my Explorer at set times each day, but we haven't worked all those details out quite yet. And there are car rental counters available at the airport as well. Don't use taxis: they are not reliable and tend to be expensive. More information to follow about registration.

### **Viking Clothing Competition Clarification**

Their Highnesses are holding a Viking Clothing competition. You may enter your own garb, or if you wish to make clothing for Their Highnesses, material is available, so only your time and talent will be used. If you wish to make Viking clothes for Their Highnesses, please contact Her Highness Dagmar for a time and place to receive the material. She will be attending events and fighter practices with material in hand. The competition will be judged Saturday at Midsummer Coronet. The winner will be announced at court and the prize awarded and if made for Them, Their Highnesses will wear the competition winner at Investiture Court on Sunday. If you wish to compete, but will be unable to attend coronet, arrangements can be made to transport your items.

### **Camping Information**

Want to camp mundanely before or after Coronet? Those arriving early, or staying loner, who would like to camp have three strong options. While it used to be that I would say, put up on such and such a beach, many of those access roads are now owned by Native Corporations and I'm not savvy with who owns what, what they charge and what's been totally blocked off. However, we do have three State or National Parks with camping.

Fort Abercrombie State Historical Park, about a mile and a half, or half-hour walk, northeast of my house/the eric, has a bucket ton of pathways (it is where our cross country team trains) and there is a WWII museum in the old bunker on Miller Point. <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/kodiak/ftaber.htm>.

Buskin River State Recreation Site is between town and the airport, about 7 miles southwest of my house/the eric, and four and a half miles northeast of the site at the Kodiak State Fairgrounds. The beach is stunning and the walk upstream to the weir is reasonable. We've had events at one of the buildings on this property as well, so some of you may recognize it. <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/kodiak/buskin.htm>.

Pasagshak State Recreation Site would be the place to go if you really want to just get away from it all. This is 41 miles southeast on the Chiniak Highway. With the twists and turns, it's about a 1-1.5 hour drive. Fossil beach is amazing. The seals, sea otters and whales are often around in July and, since the installation of the Rocket facility, the road surfaces are great. <http://www.google.com/maps/m?authuser=0&hl=en>.

For more information, contact the autocrat Тама Книагиниа Kniaginia (knyah-gee-nyah), (Tamie Fogle), Box 3809, Kodiak 99615, [tamfogle@ptialaska.net](mailto:tamfogle@ptialaska.net), 486-6259 before 10 pm.

## **William Tell Event**

*Barony of Eskalya*

*August 23*

The time has come to test our archery, endurance, and marksmanship as our ancestors of old used to, in games of skill that challenge our abilities.

Come join us at the Ruth Arcan Park for the day, from 10 am to 10 pm.

There will be a Baroness' Championship Gauntlet-style tourney for both heavy and rapier fighters. Tourney will be based on a point system for each contestant:

Gauntlet obstacle course -- engage guardian of the bridge; run the bridge and at the end throw a spear at the troll; circle the 'lake' jumping from stone to stone, at the end of the stones shoot bow at the poisoned apple; dance one dance with the 'lady of the lake.'

This will be followed with 30-minute bearpit fighting, one for rapier and one for heavy.

Archery contest.

Playing a game of strategy at the tables.

Dancing.

Your consort and family can earn you points by entering into any of the challenges as well.

There will be available for all to participate in: archery contest for adults, children's archery contest, tables will be set up for games of strategy (9 man morris checkers, mancala, etc), and dancing (note to fighters -- you get points for dancing).

Feast -- your choice of potluck, bring enough to feed 8-10 people with ingredient list for any allergies.

Court and bardic are included in the activities.

Dress warm and in layers in the chance the weather is contradictory.

Event fee is \$10 for adults (+\$5 for nonmembers), \$5 for children 10-15, children under 10 are free.

For more information, contact the autocrat, Syr Verica de Lighthaven (Kathy Judge), 338-6355 (home), 223-2407 (cell), wingedcup3@yahoo.com.

### *Event Reports and Thanks:*

#### OLIO

Wow, what a fun day. An olio of people turned out to share their talents. Projects were worked on, and Gold Key got sorted out a bit. Fighter fought a bit. Heraldry happened. There was a class on make up, and a class on music. We had a show and tell on old garb. People cooked. People ate. People ate some more. Deeply appreciative thanks to all those who attended (I hope you had a good time), especially to those who helped clean up so we could all get home...and digest all that wonderful food. Sincerely,

*Sapphira, Autocrat*

\* \* \* \* \*

Huzzah for Olleo! What an event!

Relaxing, chill-axing, and laid back. Our illustrious Autocrat outdid herself. Very big thank you to our lovely autocrat, who spent most of the beginning running and getting all the things we forgot. Second, a huge thanks for the lovely class she provided. Mayhaps we will have the Winter's Gate Magic Flute...Recorder...Symphony in due time? Thank you, Sapphira, for all your hard work, dedication and attention to detail.

A big welcome to all our new attendees, St. Boniface and our visitors who brought visitors!

A tasty thank you to all who spent time in the kitchen: Her Excellency Head Cook Ellisif and her assistance, and a full-belly gratitude to all those who made tasty dishes and brought wonderful food. Thank you to Thorgrim who helped provide lunch in a

method jealously guarded by Iron Chef. Iron Chef SCA??? Lunch was wonderful and artfully composed.

Thanks to Tianna who during clean-up masterfully took control of the kitchen dishes and ran everyone out so she could "work without interruption...everyone's done a lot already." The work in about the kitchen reminds me of a dance in which the final moment is...feasting with voracity!

Thanks to your children who displayed fun and frivolity with a center on good manners, courtseying, thank you's, yes mam's, and ate dinner with the finest eating manners in the West!

The event was a great time to artfully display our old garb wit a hilarious fashion show. The originality of the garments actually shows how creative most of us were when we started and how we really tried. Although the garments were interesting and historical in nature, I was reminded of the days in which I was one of the Newbies and started my own travel down Garb Lane. Most people start somewhere. When Newbies come into the Land of Ice and Snow, no one says anything, but remark instead on the attempt and the first experience, and then compliment the person. A proud Huzzah to Winter's Gate!

Yours in Service,  
*Cemper, Baroness*

### **Bi-Baronial Collegium**

This year's collegium has come to a close, and what a weekend it was! Two days full of classes. I know we are still processing all that we learned, and practicing new skills.

First off, thank you to all of the instructors who taught classes at the first Bi-Baronial Collegium. What a glorious range of knowledge and skills you passed on to the rest of us.

A huge "thank you" to Duchess Etain, who traveled from Central Kingdom to share her knowledge and wisdom. If you had a chance to go to any of her 5 classes, you were in for a real treat. We hope to have her back for future classes!

Thank you to everyone who attended this event, and made it wonderfully successful. Without you, there would be no one to learn what our instructors have to share.

Thank you to all those who helped to set up, tear down, sit constab, helped with random little tasks, and in general just made the weekend a glorious one. We were exhausted, but filled with joy and looking forward to next year's collegium!

In Service,  
*Nemonna Vicana and Anna de Caterina Neri, Autocrats*

\* \* \* \* \*

Home safe after an absolutely wonderful weekend! A very big thank you to Isabela and Gregory Hawke for their extremely comfy bed and gracious hospitality. I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with you (and Jager) and your patience when I just had to sleep and sleep and sleep.

We spent our drive home talking about the great classes and how excited we were to learn new skills. Thanks you to Duchess Etain for her attendance! A special thank you to all who had to teach me skills in their classes. I believe a step toward being a Laurel is having to attempt to teach Lady Cemper something. Know that you are wonderful teachers and were so very patient!

T'was great to see so many SCA family members and spend time outside a Coronet with ya'll. I made new friends and connected with old ones. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Pavlok Gorod's Coronet and hope to display some of my new skills at the Apprentice Table.

Thank you to Eskalya and Selviergard, the Barons and Baronesses and autocrats, for such a wonderful Collegium, and the teachers who put aside time to teach. I am hooked on Viking Wire Knitting now and I am greatly inspired from all the other classes.

May all Live Long and Prosper!

*Lady Cemper, Baroness of Winter's Gate*

## Miscellaneous

### Coronet Bids Law Change Proposal

Greetings to all the gentle folk of Oertha!

Their Highnesses and I are contemplating a change in Oerthan Law regarding the Coronet bid process. The idea is to have Coronet bids settled mid-reign, so that well before any given Coronet, we will all know where the next TWO will be held, and the whole process won't have to be dealt with in the chaos that Coronet tends to be. It is also becoming more difficult to find good indoor sites in some areas, and reserving them farther in advance is probably going to become an issue.

My request is twofold. First, a trial run. As was done last fall, we would like to have Coronet bids for Winter 2015 done early, and be sent to me by the end of May. We will have a decision in early June.

Second, I would like public input. Is this something that we would all like to see on a permanent basis? Was last fall's slightly earlier decision helpful? Fighters and consorts, would it be a Great Thing for you if you knew well before entering the Lists where your step-down would be should you win? Potential autocrats, would extra planning time be helpful, and would it be easier to call about campground reservations before they close for the winter? Travelers, would extra time to arrange work schedules and travel funds be useful?

Please, all, let me know what you think at [seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org](mailto:seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org).

Thank you!

Ellisif, Seneschale of Oertha

### Submissions Herald

Khevron, the new Wolfhound Herald (principality submissions deputy) would like to help anyone who needs it with their name and device development and submissions. Contact email: [khevron@warpmail.net](mailto:khevron@warpmail.net).

### Midsummer Coronet A&S Competition

To the Artisans of Oertha,

Just a reminder that the Arts and Sciences competition at Midsummer Coronet is period headgear. Any period, from the Norse four/six panel hats to Elizabethan tall hats, or any style, including coifs and hoods.

Documentation is part of the judging, so please supply at least a photograph of the inspiring piece (or a nice write-up). Even if you are unable to attend the event, I would

encourage you to send your work down with somebody.  
*Bránn mac Finnchad, Oertha A&S Minister*

### Selviergard Polling News

Our neighbor, the Barony of Selviergard, is in the process of picking a new Baron and Baroness. Letters of Intent were received from Ciaran O Cearbhaill and Aine Inghean Lochlann and Halfdan Ozurrson and Rolynda of the Azure Stone. If you're curious, you can read the Letters, which are posted on the baronial website and were published in the latest Dragon Tale. The polling will be taking place April 4-20, and Selviergardians are urged to make sure the seneschale knows how to reach you electronically, and that your membership is current. For more information, contact the principality seneschale, Ellisif a Reikiavik, [seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org](mailto:seneschal@oertha.westkingdom.org).

### Request for Coronet Competitions

Are there any guilds interested in sponsoring competitions for Midsummer Coronet? For example, the Herbal and Leechcraft guild competition is a first aid item, with documentation, explaining its uses in period and current efficacy in the Knowne World.

Do any of the other guilds want to come up with something? If so, please contact Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva (Tamie Fogle), [tamfogle@ptialaska.net](mailto:tamfogle@ptialaska.net), 486-6259 before 10 pm.

### Oertha History Guild

The Oertha History Guild is active and we're collecting any details of past events, and ask members to submit a review, recap, thoughts of one event per year, recent or ancient. The Oertha History Guild is active and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/OerthaHistory/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/OerthaHistory/).

Photos posted to the West Kingdom History Pages are encouraged. <http://history.westkingdom.org>.

Everyone should check their information on the Who's Who website as well, and you can add to your SCA resume, including offices (primary or deputy) held and events hosted or cooked for, and other achievements.

*--Khevron Oktavii Tikhovich Vorotnikov*

\* \* \* \* \*

### Regnum

Rex and Regina Occidentalis: Thorfinn and Violante, [crown@westkingdom.org](mailto:crown@westkingdom.org).

Crown Prince and Princess: Connor and Isa, [heirs@westkingdom.org](mailto:heirs@westkingdom.org).

Prince and Princess of Oertha: Kennric and Dagmar, [royals@oertha.westkingdom.org](mailto:royals@oertha.westkingdom.org).

### Winter's Gate

Baron and Baroness: Bran and Cempestra (Boyd Robinson and Alys Johns-Robinson, Box 56642, North Pole 99705, 385-1084 home, [boydrobinson@yahoo.com](mailto:boydrobinson@yahoo.com) (Braun), [tolkienscholar@yahoo.com](mailto:tolkienscholar@yahoo.com) (Cemper).

Captain of the Militia & Heart of Winter's Gate: Barak the Hunter and Morgana yr Oerfa.

Commander of the Cavaliers & Light of Winter's Gate: Sevastian Agafangilovich Golyitsia and Genevieve Beauvais.

Baroness' Champion: Hallbiorn Erlændar son.

Seneschale: Sapphira the Navigator (Vicki Wyan), 1308 Hampstead Ave., Fairbanks 99701, 374-0212 home, 910-723-6793 cell, vicwyan@hotmail.com.

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Exchequer: Hallbiorn Erlændar son (Dan Parrish), 2477 Sunflower Loop, North Pole 99705, parrish@mosquitonet.com, 488-3986 home.

A&S/Lists: Margery Garret (Mikki Griffin), 4523 Stanford, Fairbanks 99712, 456-2492, motherchaos@gci.net.

Marshal/Regalia: Griffin Garret (Gary Griffin), 4523 Stanford, Fairbanks 99712, 456-2492, motherchaos@gci.net.

Rapier Marshal/A&S Deputy: Ellisif a Reikiavik (Kaari Parrish), 2477 Sunflower Loop, North Pole 99705, 488-3986 (not before 9 am), kparrish@mosquitonet.com.

Constable: Bran Sparrowhawk (Boyd Robinson), 385-1084, boydrobinson@yahoo.com.

Chatelaine/Gold Key: Elena verch Rhys (Jessica Grahn), jessicaeringrahn@yahoo.com, 687-4012. Deputy Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr (Sheva Corning), 888-0040 cell, elishevacorning@yahoo.com.

Web Minister/Deputy Herald: Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov (Don Goertz), 607 Old Steese Hwy, Suite B-353, Fairbanks 99701, khevron@warppmail.net, 347-2632 (cell). Baronial website: www.wintersgate.org.

### *College of St. Boniface:*

Champion and Inspiration: Felix Emmanuel (Daniel Remillard) and Morgana yr Oerfa (452-2274, morgana@gci.net).

Seneschal: Rafail Vlaschlav (Galyn Griffin), 4523 Stanford Drive 99709 (mailing), 687-1295 (10am-midnight), alaskanarcangel@yahoo.com

Exchequer: Aine Barleg of Mynydd Seren (Rebecca Young), 812-322-8458, rebecca.young@alumni.iu.edu. Deputy: Rafail Vtoroi.

### **Principality of Oertha**

Seneschale: Ellisif a Reikiavik (Kaari Parrish), 2477 Sunflower Loop, North Pole 99705, 488-3986 (not before 9 am), kparrish@mosquitonet.com.

Stellanordica Herald: Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor (Claire Knudsen-Latta), 3402 W. 31st Avenue, Anchorage 99517, 575-1983 (cell), clairemargery@gmail.com. Wolfhound Herald (submissions deputy): Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov (Don Goertz), khevron@warppmail.net, 347-2632.

Marshal: Sextus Valerius Cruscillus (Josh Sampson), Box 974416, Wasilla 99687, 602-680-0188 (home), crusillus.the.dark@gmail.com.

Archery Marshal: Elisa von Sophey (Lisa Marx), 1245 Mendenhall Peninsula Road, Juneau 99801, 789-2871 home (before 9 pm), shusmarx@yahoo.com.

Rapier Marshal: Étaín O'Rowarke (Crystal Nelson), 2301 N. Beanie St., Wasilla 99654, 357-1434, b3nelsons@gci.net.

Equestrian Marshal/Deputy Seneschale: Clare Elena de Montfort (Kerri Geppert), 22444 Deer Park Dr., Chugiak 99567, 688-4483 (before 10 pm), 301-3393 cell, emster@gci.net.

A&S: Brann mac Finnchada (John Frey), 189 E Nelson Avenue, PMB 135, Wasilla 99654 (mailing), 775-7993 (not the wee hours), beorn\_se\_bacaire@yahoo.com.

Exchequer: Alienor Fitzhenry (Nicole Putnam), 230-4099 (cell), Fishfood4@yahoo.com.

Chronicler: Halfdan "Two Bears" Ozurrson (Travis Abe-Thomas), Box 2254, Palmer 99645, 746-4137 (home), thomassorngrym@yahoo.com.

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### **Barony of Eskalya**

Baroness: Elspeth (Jackie Frederick), 510-A Creekside St., Anchorage 99504, 337-9389 home, 240-3759 cell, both before 9 pm, edenwild@acsalaska.net.

Seneschale: Anna di Caterina Neri (Georgia Judge), 8050 Pioneer #608, Anchorage, 99504, annahnarie@gmail.com, 242-5606.

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Exchequer: Celestria Tatrix (Dawn Quick), 229-8417, exchequer@eskalya.org.

Peregrine Pursuivant: Viresse de Lighthaven (Kathy Judge), 338-6355 (home), 223-2407 (cell), wingedcup3@yahoo.com.

A&S: Leonia the Mouse (Elizabeth Schuerch), 1324 Nelchina, Anchorage 99501, 727-5676, arts.and.sciences@eskalya.org.

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Constable/Archery Marshal: Gavan Woodward (Thomas Bates), constable@eskalya.org, 349-1534.

Chatelaine: Lamorak D'Pellinore (Brian Halcom), bh2boxer@gmail.com.

### **Barony of Selvieregard**

Baron and Baroness: Fathir and Etain (Bryan & Crystal Nelson), 2301 N. Beanie St., Wasilla 99654, 357-1434 (before 10 pm), b3nelsons@gci.net.

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Herald: Halfdan "Two Bears" Ozurrson, herald2selvieregard.westkingdom.org.

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Exchequer: Rolynda of the Azure Stone (Rolinda Standridge), Box 874416, Wasilla 99687, 892-2252 (noon-midnight), exchequer@selvieregard.westkingdom.org.

Chronicler: Margarita de la Calvi (Gretchen Thomas),  
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Web Minister: Sextus Valerius Cruscillus, webminister@selvieregard.westkingdom.org.

### **Shire of Earngyld**

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Herald: Alberic Haak (Paul Caldwell), Box 35305, Juneau, AK 99803, 789-7801, albie@gci.net.  
Marshal: Karl Helweg (Karl Marx), 1245 Mendenhall Peninsula Road, Juneau 99801, 789-2871, THEKarlMarx@acs.com.  
A&S/Archery Marshal: Elisa von Sophey (Lisa Marx), 1245 Mendenhall Peninsula Road, Juneau 99801, 789-2871 home (before 9 pm), shusmarx@yahoo.com.  
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Web Minister: Irial Blackthorn.

### **Shire of Pavlok Gorod**

Seneschale: Mairghread Dubh inghean Alasdair (Sonia Clary), 2042B Aviation Loop, Kodiak, AK 99615, mausconbluecurls@yahoo.com, s.e.clary12@gmail.com, 487-2114.  
Exchequer: Rowena de las Flores (CeCe Esparza), Box 3813, Kodiak 99615, cece@ptialaska.net.  
A&S/Marshal/Herald: Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva (Tamie Fogle), Box 3809, Kodiak 99615, 486-6259 before 10 pm, tamfogle@ptialaska.net.  
Chatelaine: Gwenhyvar Ferch Rinn (Jennifer Hansen), jenniferhansen@gci.net.  
Webminister: Francisco.

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*And now for something entirely different:*

### **Du'ad Bob Review**

So, you may have heard that Ragnarök was supposed to have happened a little while ago. Ragnarök, for those of you unschooled in Norse mythology, is a series of events of literally world-shaking consequence: a great battle foretold to ultimately result in the death of a number of major figures (including the gods Odin, Thor, Tyr, Freyr, Heimdallr, and Loki), the occurrence of various natural disasters, and the subsequent submersion of the world in water. Oh, yeah, and Fenrir the wolf was going to eat the sun. Afterward, the world would resurface anew and fertile, the surviving and returning gods will meet, and the world will be repopulated by two human survivors. And it was all supposed to happen on February 22, 2014. So in anticipation of this unique event, Anna Sue and I had found, and recorded, a movie that we thought might bear some relation-

ship to the end of the world, and sat down to watch it on that Saturday. Alas, this “end of the world” bore every resemblance to every other “end of the world” events of recent years. That is to say, nothing much happened. Certainly nothing of global or universal destruction happened. In a way, that’s good, because means that you get to read all about this particular movie, as Da’ud Bob reviews for you 2009’s ***Valhalla Rising***.

Starring Mads Mikkelsen as One Eye (an Odin-like figure), Maarten Stevenson as Are, the boy, Gary Lewis as Kare, Jamie Sives as Gorm, Gary McCormack as Hauk, and Alexander Morton as Barde, the synopsis of this Danish-UK co-production explains the movie this way: “In A.D. 1000, a one-eyed warrior escapes his captivity at the hands of a Norse tribe and boards a Viking ship headed to Jerusalem to fight in the Crusades.” A more detailed, and only slightly more accurate, plot summary can be found on IMDb: “1000 AD, for years, One Eye, a mute warrior of supernatural strength, has been held prisoner by the Norse chieftain Barde. Aided by Are, a boy slave, One Eye slays his captor and together he and Are escape, beginning a journey into the heart of darkness. On their flight, One Eye and Are board a Viking vessel, but the ship is soon engulfed by an endless fog that clears only as the crew sights an unknown land. As the new world reveals its secrets and the Vikings confront their terrible and bloody fate, One Eye discovers his true self.”

Good points: It’s only 93 minutes long. There’s not a whole lot of dialogue in it; indeed, One Eye never says anything for the entire movie. The axes are nice.

Bad points: The longboat drifting upstream. What kind of drug was in that jug? (My best guess? Some mead that had gone really, really bad.) The shillelagh. As nearly as I can tell from the names of the actors, the American Indians were all played by south Asians. (No, really! Lhassam Gedun, Pasang Manor, Wangdu Dorjee, Tenzin Jigdal, Nagwang Kunchak, and Tashi Sangpo Murik, with others of similar names, all played “Indians.”) The closing credits note that they had a Historical Consultant, Dr. Allan MacQuarrie. I really didn’t see any evidence of it.

One breast. 2½ gallons of blood. 13 dead bodies. Fist fu. Rope fu. Stone fu. Axe fu. Arrow fu. Knife fu. Club fu. Arrowhead fu. Dagger fu. Mud fu. Fighters roll. Gratuitous mud. Gratuitous head bashing with brain spillage. Gratuitous disembowelment. Gratuitous head on a spike. Gratuitous squelching sounds. Writer/director Nicolas Winding Refn conceived the film as some sort of acid trip. (That I saw evidence of!) The idea of One Eye being a mute came to him in a dream, where One Eye could not talk. He phoned up co-writer Ray Jacobsen and told him about the idea. (I can believe that, too!) Anna Sue says “It’s more surreal than Fellini.” And she should know; she’s seen all of Fellini’s films. A 72 on the Vomit Meter. One star. Da’ud Bob says, “I kept expecting to see, rising from the lake, the arm of a lady, clothed in purest samite, holding aloft a sword. Like Ragnarök, alas, it never happened. Check it out!”

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