



The Gatekeeper

Barony of Winter's Gate

Calendar

- 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 13-15 -- 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. 8-10 -- Baronial Investiture & Champion Tourney (Selviergard)
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. 8 -- Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs (Eskalya)
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 Growden Park, across from the Carlson Center at the end of First Avenue (drive behind the Panners Ballpark and look for us. 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 and small tables if you want to sit, 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!)

Business Meeting Notes:

Following is what was reported to the chronicler after the May 4 baronial business meeting, after Sunday's fighter practice.

Sapphira (Seneschale) reported that Captaincy event copy was due to her, and that business meeting notes will be available in The Gatekeeper and Yahoo folder. Margery (Exchequer) reported we have over \$5,000 in the coffers. As A&S officer she reported that when fighter practice moves to Growden Park on May 18, there will be a class on Persona Development.

Morgana (Estoille Pursuivant reported (via Khevron), that both she and Khevron are on the kingdom roster of heralds. Khevron reported that he will soon be reported the baronial awards given at Fool's Revel. As Webminister, Khevron reported he's adding things to the baronial webpages all the time.

Morgana (Chronicler) reported (via Khevron), that she's working on the May newsletter, and calls for officer's reports or announcements.

Ellisif (Rapier Marshal, for the marshallate in general) reported we now have a resident senior marshal (who can authorize fighters). There are lots of fighters. Impromptu practices don't need a waiver, if not posted on Yahoo. Facebook is still unofficial practice. There are six rapier fighters, sharing three person's gear. The barony needs a senior rapier marshal. Archers are meeting unofficially on Saturday evenings at Elisheva's abode around 5-7 pm. She stated the green line bus goes by her house. There is a grill available to fire up if people wish to bring food and charcoal.

Fighter practice: expected to move to Growden Park at this time, although other parks and locations are being looked into, including using UPark during the summer.

Elisheva (Chatelaine) reported there are new people, including India, Richard and Elizabeth from Utah.

Gold Key needs early period loaner simple clothes (tunics, sideless surcotes, etc.). Fitted garb has been removed. Pewter Key (loaner feast gear) exists. Regarding loaner armor, Sevastian plans to donate some demi's and leg parts. Barony can help with materials.

Constable (Bran) thanked all the people who sat constab. Fool's was the third event in a row when everything balanced correctly and all membership numbers were included.

Lists (Margery) is looking for a deputy.

Fool's Revel report: all activities happened. 54 people signed in. Queen Violante enjoyed herself. Event went long; and we were charged \$50 for cleaning due to a spill. Keeping the door open all day was a no-no, though we should have turned off the heat. We were a bit short on tables for the numbers. Regarding travel tickets: King Thorfinn couldn't make it, and may change the ticket to a fall fighter collegium. General note: should have a designated 'head cook,' even for potluck events to have someone in the kitchen to supervise activities therein.

Spring Captaincy will be held at Moose Creek Pavilion at Pioneer Park on Saturday and Sunday. There will be a 'box lunch' baronial fundraiser auction. Sunday activities will be fighter practice and classes. A call-out for instructors was announced. There is a rumor that visitors from our southern neighbors may be coming up.

Games Day in June will be held at Chena Lakes Park. Park fees are \$5/day per carload (\$1/military) or \$10/night per tent. Event fee will be 2 cans of food for Food Bank plus optional donation. Autocrat is looking into a group discount.

St. Boniface reported its Seneschal is Haelgath, and its Exchequer is Hanna. St. Boniface activities are suspended until school starts up in the fall (except for possible fighter practice coordination). St. Boniface members said they'll see people at fighter practices.

In other news, Margery announced that their household is moving to Rosebud Dr. starting this week. There will be a major garage sale at the Stanford location, for which SCA people get first pick.

(Thanks to Khevron 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:

May Captaincy
Barony of Winter's Gate
May 24-25

Spring is upon us once again and it's time to gather for the battle to become the next Captain of the mighty Winter's Gate Militia!

Join us as we journey to the uncharted, newly-discovered lands of the Inca and indulge in strange new foods. The Baron has developed a great fondness for the spicy "fire fruit" that grows there, and His Whim is to find a dish so spicy and flavorful that he starts to hiccup. The Baroness' Whim is wire work.

There will be a fundraiser 'box lunch' auction, during which hungry people can bid on lunches prepared by the talented cooks of the barony. If you have been to our recent feasts, you know of which we speak. Those with the heartiest appetites (and deepest pockets) will increase the baronial coffers while munching on tasty treats.

Other activities include the Captaincy Tourney, rapier fighting, baronial court, classes and games.

Dinner will be a potluck. Please bring enough food to feed 6-8, and bring a list of ingredients so we can properly appreciate your skills (and the allergic know what to avoid). Use of unusual New World foods is encouraged.

On Sunday after fighter practice, the 14th Century Comes to Winter's Gate -- a whirlwind journey through the events, figures, and clothing of the 14th Century. Come watch as Cynechild talks as fast as she can about subjects she's too excited about to sleep! Be there or be a 13th Century square!

Site is the Moose Creek Pavilion at Pioneer Park on Airport Road. Event fee is \$5 for adults 18 and up (\$5 nonmember surcharge), \$3 for ages 12-17, and under 12 are free. The site hours are noon-8 pm Saturday, noon-5 pm Sunday.

Directions: make your best way to Fairbanks. Head down Airport Road (the main central road running through town) to Pioneer Park (about halfway between town and Airport Road). The pavilion is in the back left corner of the park from the main parking lot. Easiest access for unloading is in the kayak rental area, the first right on Peger Road after the parking lot entrances and just before the river). You can drive into the park and unload before 11 am, but all cars must be out of the park by then.

For more information, contact the autocrat Ellisif a Reikiavik (Kaari Parrish), 488-3986, ellisif3@yahoo.com.

Three Barons Fair
Barony of Eskalya
June 7-8, 14-15

Greetings to the fine Populace of Oertha (and friends),

First, this year the Three Baron's Faire is trying to encourage even more audience participation. They have created the following concept: The Barons are assembled in Hillshire to compete for the Spear of Hillthelstan the Bold. The winner of this spear will be determined at the end of each day, selected by "votes" cast by the patrons. Citizens of Hillshire (that's us) are given an allotment of engraved wooden token that we then distribute the faire-goers as we see reasonable.

In addition to our usual fighting demonstrations, I would like to announce our A&S Demonstration Table (chair included). Donated ribbon roses are welcome and will be for sale again. Also, we will be making felt pennants in the faire's colors of blue, green and green. Information about when and where work parties will be for pennants will be forthcoming.

Please remember, this a highly public event that plans to host an estimated 10,000 patrons per year. Keep this in mind when selecting which garb to wear (this is a good chance to show off), deciding whether to bring your children with you (no babysitting services are provided), and if you are willing to commit a couple hours to work for the group in some way (fighting demos, time at the A&S table, answering questions from the general public, etc.). Even if you can only come out and play for a few hours on one day, it's a lot of fun and a good chance to show everyone some of the things we do.

For readers in Winter's Gate, please contact Baroness Elisheva (Sheva, 888-0040 cell, elishevacorning@yahoo.com) for the participation form required. In Selviergard, please see Despotes Halfdan (thomassorngrym@yahoo.com). Also, in Eskalya questions can be directed to Baroness Elspeth (edenwild@ascalaska.net), Mistress Anna di Caterina (annaharie@gmail.com), and myself, Leonia the Mouse (arts.and.sciences@eskalya.org). --*Leonia the Mouse*

Great Hunt of the Stag

Barony of Winter's Gate

June 13-15

The Hunt is on! Come hunt the Horned One as he or she cavorts through the mysterious woods of Chena Lakes. Our hunt will include the Stag and several hunting Dogs. Be warned of mysterious beasts such as squirrels and dragons that have been known to inhabit the Area.

We will set up a community tent upon the Green where children of all ages may play on the playground. Viking Long Boats (PDFs, kayaks and canoes) will be provided for those who are brave enough to battle the Sea Monsters in the Lakes. Whims and more information will be forthcoming and many of the specifics will be provided through various sources (including our website, yahoo groups, the elist, and the Book of Faces).

We will be camping at Chena Lake Recreation Area and have 9 tent sites reserved (tents only please). Each site can have three pavilions or tents. we will also make merry upon the Green and have access to the Lake.

We will have games and frivolity as we say goodbye to the baronial Holly Court and enter into our new court, the Oak Court. All are invited to tent camp and enjoy the late night festivities. A Saturday night potluck will be available for all. Please bring a side dish.

The Recreation Area will be collecting a camping/usage fee at their gate. Day trippers are \$5/carload per day (military is \$1/carload per day; check for the senior discount). Campers (tents only) are \$10/night. The barony is not charging a fee for this event, although we will gleefully accept any monetary or canned food donations (food will go to a local food bank). Site opens Friday at 4 pm and closes Sunday at 4 pm.

Directions to the Chena Lake Recreation Area, 37800 Laurance Road, North Pole: take your best route to North Pole on the Richardson Highway. From Fairbanks, take the Dawson Road exit (past North Pole), go left and under the overpass, then take a right turn onto Laurance Road. From Eielson AFB and points south: take the Laurance Road exit and turn right. The Recreation Area is approximately 5.5 miles from the exits. Watch for the brown Chena Lake Recreation Area signs. Park entrance will be on your left. Directions to our specific location within the Park will be available via updates to our various internet sites, and by following maps and signage in the park.

For more information, contact the autocrat Baroness Cemper (Alys Johns-Robinson), 385-1084, tolkienscholar@yahoo.com.

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.

Reservations are now open for coronet. Please send the following information to tamfogle@gci.net. Funds are not due until you arrive on island and check in at Constab. Information needed: date of arrival, date of departure, where you will be staying (during event, if arriving early, if staying past event), those camping onsite (what is the footprint of your campsite, is it period or modern). Who is in your group (and will you or they be participating in Friday set up, sit constab, fight in coronet, joining Saturday potluck)? Do you have any special needs or concerns we should be aware of (food allergies, handicapped status, visiting royalty, etc.)?

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 longer, 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 Книагиниа (knyah-gee-nyah), (Tamie Fogle), Box 3809, Kodiak 99615, tamfogle@ptialaska.net, 486-6259 before 10 pm.

Investiture & Baron's Champion Tourney

Barony of Selviergard

August 8-10

To the populace of Selviergard, does Fathir and Etain, Freiherr and Banbharun of Selviergard send word,

After talking with Their Majesties and the Kingdom Seneschal, we have news upon who will be our Successor. Our congratulations go out to Halfdan (Two-Bears) Ozurrson, the next Baron of Selviergard. The changeover shall take place at Selviergard's Champion event.

Join us in giving a toast to our Heir and may his reign be blessed and peaceful. Three cheers for Halfdan, the soon to be next Baron of Selviergard: Hip Hip Huzzah; Hip Hip Huzzah; Hip Hip Huzzah!

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.

Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs
Barony of Eskalya
November 8

Mistress Cynehild is planning a fabulous 14th Century Feast. She is very excited about it! She has planned a series of classes and discussions to prepare those who wish to join her on this evening, which will delight the senses, from the food to clothing, manners and hall decorations. To date, these are the planned classes:

Sunday, May 24 -- The 14th Century Comes to Winter's Gate. A whirlwind journey through the events, figures, and clothing of the 14th Century. Come watch as Cynehild talks as fast as she can about subjects she's too excited about to sleep! This class will be held at fighter practice after Captaincy. Be there or be a 13th Century square!

Wednesday, June 4 -- 14th Century Life and Times. War, famine, plague, and death. The 14th Century had it all! Come learn about some of the major events (like the plague) and key players (people who died [or not] of the plague) in 14th Century Europe. Topics discussed will include the Black Death that ravaged Europe, the Little Ice Age that killed crops in the north, the minor family squabble otherwise known as the

Hundred Years' War, the other minor family squabble known as the Great Western Schism, and the oncoming train we call the Italian Renaissance! This class will be held at the home of Cynehild Cynesidesdohtor, unless overwhelming interest (which there should be because stuff is AWESOME!!) requires it be held elsewhere.

Saturday, June 21 -- Women's and Girl's Clothing (design and patterning). Women's clothing of the 14th Century epitomizes simple elegance, a basic gown and a few accessories is all you need to look 14th Century fabulous. Working from manuscript illuminations and extant garments, this class will examine the parts of a 14th Century lady's wardrobe and put students on the path to making their own reproduction. We will discuss undergarments, gowns, head coverings, outerwear, and accessories and work on a pattern for the gown. Patterns for some simple accessories will (hopefully) also be available. Location: TBD.

Wednesday, July 9 -- Men's and Boy's Clothing (design and patterning). The basic medieval men's uniform of shirt, tunic and hosen gets an update for the 14th Century. Working from manuscript illuminations and extant garments, this class will examine the parts of a 14th Century gentleman's wardrobe and put students on the path to making their own reproduction. We will discuss undergarments, tunics, head coverings, outerwear, and accessories and work on a pattern for the tunic and instructions for patterning hose. Patterns for some simple accessories will (hopefully) also be available. This may spill into a second night depending on time and interest. Location TBD.

Saturday, July 26 -- Clothing Workshop (bring your patterns and we'll sew away!). So you've got your pattern, you've got your fabric, now it's time to put it all together! Sewing help will be provided as long as needed throughout the day. This class will be held at the home of Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor, unless overwhelming interest requires it be held elsewhere.

Saturday, August 16 -- Medieval Manners. Looking at a number of extant texts from the 13th-15th Centuries, including the Duenna's Advice on Table Manners from the Romance of the Rose, Vrbanitatis, and the Book of Curtasye, we will discuss (and practice) the etiquette surrounding a medieval feast. From the minute you enter the hall through your last bite, come learn how best to behave in polite medieval society. Location TBD.

Saturday, September 6 -- Hall decoration workshop. Come help make decorations for the Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs! Location TBD.

Wednesday, September 17 -- a 14th Century Menu. Mistress Clare Elena will lead this delicious class on setting a menu for a 14th Century feast.

November 8 -- So you've learned everything you can, now you get to put it to the test by joining the Barony of Eskalya at the Feast of the Four Crowned Martyrs! More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

If you have questions about classes, please contact Cynehild at cynehild@gci.net.

Event Reports and Thanks:

Fools' Revel

A lively group of residents and travelers, including Queen Violante, gathered to celebrate the coming of Spring and sunlight in typical baronial fashion. Activities began with the fundraising auction to decorate fighters, resulting in colorful rapier and

traditional tourneys. Rapier fighters were Angela of Eskalya, Brann mac Finnchad, Rafial Vlaschlav and Sevastian, with Sevastian taking the win. Traditional fighters were Conall, Haelgath, Peter Godwin, Sevastian, and Sextus Cruscillus, with Cruscillus taking the win. Other foolish activities included Khevron successfully defending his title as Fool of Winter's Gate, with his routine as the Devil welcoming various SCA personages (heralds, cooks, barons, etc.) as they arrive in Hell.

There was a sumptuous, scrumptious feast, preceded by Baroness Cemper judging the 'Peas in Any Mode' competition and Baron's Whim. There were many entries and she had to try them all, which just shows what a good sport she is, considering she is not a fan of peas. She declared that if one must eat peas, the brownies were the way to eat them (entered by Margery Garret).

After everyone was stuffed with good food, there were courts. At the court of Bran and Cemper, Khevron was [re]appointed the Fool of Winter's Gate, Baronial Recognitions were awarded to Camshron mac Gille Finnan, Floyd of Winter's Gate and Griffin Garret. Friends of the Barony Angela of Eskalya, Annora de Montfort of Shadowood, Eðvarðarson í Jórvík and Sevastian Agafangelovich Golystin and were declared Honorary Citizens. And for their deaths on the field, Gilded Lilies were awarded to Angela of Eskalya, Conall of Winter's Gate, Leonia the Mouse, Rafial Vlaschlav and Sevastian Agafangelovich Golystin. Griffin and Floyd were specifically thanked for their quick work to finish the new baronial thrones in time for this event.

During Kingdom Court, Queen Violante granted Awards of Arms to Hannah Caitlin Carey and Tiana of Winter's Gate, an Ash Leaf to Brann mac Finnchad, Leaves of Merit to Iriniia Myschkinova and Sybilla von Lichtenstein, and made Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov and Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth West Kingdom Paragons of Merriment. Anna de Caterina Neri was granted a Queen's Cypher, Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr was made a Baroness, and Margery Garret and Morgana yr Oerfa were given Augmentations of Arms.

All still standing then made clean the hall amid continuing good company and merriment.

Foolish Thank You

What a wonderful weekend full of merriment and joy! With sad news I announced the retirement of last year's fool, Lord Khevron. With gladness I announce the installation of Winter's Gate's new Fool for the next year, through the Oak and Holly Courts, Lord Khevron....who seems to moonlight as "Toby" in the evenings in an Infernal Place filled with screaming souls and recycles Heralds and gathers the Doomed.

A very big thank you to the autocrat, Mistress Margery who hosted an event filled with fun! Our fighters were decorated with enough colours and adornment which would make a peacock jealous! The fighters who fought in rapier, heavy and boffer tourneys displayed feats of prowess, skill....and death scenes. We must be careful though not to kill the audience with the "magical" bows of Nerf that shot missiles again. We may need those individuals.

We were able to enjoy the event with the new thrones provided through the dedicated work of Lord Griffin and Floyd. Thank you!

Thanks to all who brought food. Thank you for your delicious contributions! A very big thanks to Leonia the Mouse and her paramour who visited our Barony and then

worked hard in the kitchen; after which Leonia was then granted a boon to "die in battle" during court.

Thanks to those who provided largess and a very very big thank you to Our Treasures who created the best and most stunning gifts in all the Barony of Winter's Gate for her Majesty. None can compare and the one-of-a-kind picturesque illustrated manuscripts look beautiful on the frames.

The Heraldry created by the Treasures during the event were amazing and new "Arms" were creative and colourful!

Thanks to those who worked to bring up the Queen and work around schedules, Ellisif and Hallbiorn, and Anna di Caterina. Thanks to all who made the journey up to the event from Eskalya including Baroness Elspeth. The Baronial and Majestic visits together were a treat.

A very special Thank You to Queen Violante who attended our event, and taught two classes over two days. Her reward was to see the end of a departing moose and a beautiful view of the Aurora. Thank you for Your dedication to the Barony of Winter's Gate and Your graciousness. We will miss You as You step down but know that You are always welcome in our barony.

If we have missed anyone please know that you are in our hearts and minds and that we appreciate your assistance and participation in the event.

Yours In Service,

Bran and Cemper, Baron and 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.

Thank you!

Ellisif, Seneschale of Oertha

Fantastic Fairytale Fete XI

Congratulations to Johan (Jon Velasco) for successfully autocrating his first event! Not only did he keep us on schedule down here in the Shire (wow!), but he also had a great mix of fighting, classes, food, games and prizes mixed throughout the day. There was something for everyone.

Hip, hip, huzzah!!!
Tama Katerina

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.

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

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, 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/.

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 Tikhikovich Vorotnikov

* * * * *

Regnum

Rex and Regina Occidentalis: Connor and Isa, crown@westkingdom.org.

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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 (Braun), 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.

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

Seneschal: Haelgath

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Stellanordica Herald: Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor (Claire Knudsen-Latta), 3402 W. 31st Avenue, Anchorage 99517, 575-1983 (cell), clairemargery@gmail.com. Wolfhound

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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.

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Barony of Selviergard

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

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Chatelaine: Mary of the White Wolves, 586-9052, stonewolf99801@yahoo.com.

Web Minister: Irial Blackthorn.

Shire of Pavlok Gorod

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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.

And now for something entirely different:

Du'ad Bob Review

I just love it when I run across the combination of an Elizabethan play and one of the best Shakespearean actors of the day. It's a lot like getting a "two-fer." You did know that there were other playwrights besides William Shakespeare ("the player," as one of the heralds of the day wrote derogatorily of him, in the apparent belief that one could not be an actor and also be a gentleman and thus entitled to bear a coat of arms) during Elizabethan and early Jacobean times, didn't you? There were, and some of them were quite successful, too, though none any longer have reached the fame of Shakespeare. Anyway, I ran across this DVD of one of the historical plays of Christopher Marlowe, starring one of the premier Shakespearean actors of our day, and just had to buy it and review it for you. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews this 1970 production Marlowe's tale of the son and heir of Edward Longshanks, ***Edward II***.

Starring Ian McKellen in the title role, with James Laurensen as Piers Gaveston, Diane Fletcher as Queen Isabella, Timothy West as Young Mortimer, Michael Spice as Old Mortimer (Young Mortimer's father), Robert Eddison as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Paul Hardwick as the Earl of Warwick, Trevor Martin as the Earl of Lancaster, Stephen Greif as the Earl of Pembroke, Colin Fisher as the Earl of Arundel, Richard Morant as the Earl of Leicester, Michael Godfrey as the Bishop of Coventry, and Myles Reithermann as Prince Edward (the future Edward III), this is the story of strong barons, a weak king, and of that king's love for another man. The storyline as given in IMDb.com, is: "The reign of Edward II, King of England, is troubled from the start when he brings his male lover, hated by the nobles, out of exile." This production is a film version of the stage play, which has both its advantages (for one, it's a lot cheaper to film) and disadvantages (some stuff that looks really good to someone sitting somewhere on the audience floor or in the balcony looks pretty tacky in close up).

Good points: Marlowe was a good writer. Ian McKellen is superb in this role.

Bad points: The costumes! (Like I said, they probably look a lot better from the balcony than up close.) Metallic-looking pallium and collars. (They looked to be made out of leather than had been painted silver.) Tie-dyed (or spray painted) cloaks and tabards. Big, ugly square-link chains. Metal pennants. Net overdress. Macrame over cloak. Mesh shirt festooned with short chains. The square-link chain rear curtain. The fight choreography.

Zero breasts. One and a half gallons of blood. Four dead bodies. Dagger fu. Sword fu. Polearm fu. Table fu. Red hot poker fu. Heads roll. Gratuitous codpieces. Gratuitous huge sword. Gratuitous bandying about of words. Gratuitous dangling chains everywhere. Gratuitous huge bishop's miters. Is the name "Mortimer" really derived from "dead sea," as Marlowe notes?* Academy Award nomination to Ian McKellen as King Edward II for bringing to life what could easily have been a mere caricature. A 53 on the Vomit Meter. Two and a half stars. Da'ud Bob says, "It ain't Shakespeare, but it's close. Check it out!"

* No, it isn't, though many think it is, because the name was Latinized as *Mortuo Mari*, that is, "dead sea," and for this reason it was thought to have sprung from the Crusader era. In fact, however, the castle and barony of Mortemer lie in the *arrondissement* of Neufchatel in Normandy.

This is the May-June AS XLIX (2014) issue of The Gatekeeper, published by and for the members and friends of the Barony of Winter's Gate of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA). It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, nor does it delineate SCA policies. For information on reprinting photographs, articles or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler (see above), who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece.

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