



# The Gatekeeper

Barony of Winter's Gate

## Calendar

Aug. 19-21 -- Chicken Wars V (Selviergard)  
**Sept. 2-5 -- Harvest Captaincy**  
**Sept 10 -- Cook's Workshop (Clare Elena)**  
**Oct. 15-16 -- Michaelmas Feast**  
**Nov. 11-13 or 18 -- St. Boniface Collegium**  
**Dec. 19 -- Yule**  
Midwinter Coronet (Oertha)  
**Feb. 18 -- Heart Revel**  
**March 4 -- OLIO (St. Boniface)**  
**April 29 -- Fools' Revel**  
**May 26-29 -- Captaincy and War**  
July 15-16 -- Midsummer Coronet  
**Sept 2-3 -- Harvest Captaincy**  
**Oct. 14 -- Michaelmass**  
**Nov. 18 -- Collegium (St. Boniface)**  
**Dec. 16 -- Yule**

All 2017 dates are tentative. They were agreed upon at the principality scheduling meeting at Midsummer Coronet, but must still be calendared at kingdom.

Fight practices are currently on Sundays 1-5 pm at Upark gym. All are welcome to attend fighter practices. If you're a noncombatant, there is a comfy lounge to sit, chat, and work on projects (bring your own chair if you have one). Keep an eye on the elist and Facebook for changes.

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 Facebook, the elist, or contact the seneschal for the exact date.

\*\*\*\*\*

*From the Baron and Baroness:*

Greetings Unto the Populace!

Coronet was a wonderful opportunity to share with our fair Cousins to the South, mingle with friends and family, and witness the winning of the Coronet by Prince Kenric and Princess Dagmar. Long live the Prince and Princess!

As summer winds down and we launch into fall, we have witnessed some leaves turning yellow, which the Baron assures the Populace is an effect of the rain. Changes are in the wind.

Winter's Gate will host a Captaincy Camping Event, Friday Sept. 2 through Sunday Sept. 4th. Rapier will be fighting for the Commander of the Cavaliers and Heavy Combatants will be fighting for the Captain of the Guard. Some changes will come into effect at the conclusion of the tournaments. Our Commander of the Cavaliers will hold his or her position for a full year and the next Commander tournament will be in the Fall of 2017. The Captain of the Guard will hold his or her position until Spring Captaincy, at which time the next Captain will be chosen, and will serve for a year, until Spring 2017. These changes will allow both the Commander and Captain the opportunity to complete fighting and training goals and provide each to center on specific fighting skills that are inherent to each fighter, therefore enriching Our Fighters. These changes begin the annual cycles of Captaincy tourney in the spring and Commander in the fall.

Michaelmass, which has been transformed into a two-day event, Oct. 15-16, will also herald a few changes. The Feast, a three-course sit-down feast, and Festivities including dancing (some of the dances will be taught at Captaincy) and music, will commence on Saturday, Oct. 15 with an immersion into the Medieval and Renaissance Venetian Culture.

On Sunday, Oct. 16, classes regarding Venetian Culture will be held that span cultural influences between clothing and Rapier Fighting, including a class taught by Baroness Etàin. At the end of the weekend, participants will have experienced as much Venetian Culture as possible within a two-day span.

This past week, we had the fortune to host Mistress Saige of the Kingdom of Artemesia who taught a class on Passame trim braiding. Her patience was great and the newly-acquired skill may possibly be a Baroness' whim at Yule. As announced at the business meeting, we have a tentative possibility of hosting Duke Sean from the Kingdom of Artemesia, who may be gracing us with new fighting techniques and other skills in November. Stay tuned for updates on His arrival!

Our Yule, Dec. 17th, celebration will be graced by Her Majesty Queen Eilis. During the festivities, Baron Braun and Baroness Cemper will be renewing their 20-year wedding vows. All are invited to participate.

Change is sometimes difficult but can be a welcome and fun time to experience new and exciting things! However, the unique people in our Populace is still the focus of the Barony. The current growth of our Fighting Force has been very welcome and we have new Heavy and Rapier Fighters, and our Archery Group is currently striving to establish Combat Archery. These opportunities provide the Populace chances to experience other elements of the medieval world.

The uniqueness of the Barony of Winter's Gate is a wonderful element to the Principality. We are different, as we are family. We represent different cultures and most of us dance to the beat of our own trumpet. Those differences do not divide us, they make us stronger and unify us as a strong and loving Populace. Although the changes can affect our baronial activities, they do not change our heart. Baron Braun and I are, as always, proud to be Your Servants and Your Baron and Baroness.

Yours in Service,  
*Baron Braun and Baroness Cemper*

*From the Chronicler:*

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](mailto: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:

**Chicken Wars V**  
*Barony of Selviergard*  
*August 19-21*

Beware the Red Scarfed Bandit, "You killed my chicken, prepare to scramble." Set your calendars, and plan to load up your wagons and trek to the fair lands of Selviergard for a weekend of fighting fun and frivolity all wrapped around a crazy chicken!

Come for an 'egg-citing' weekend all wrapped up in the Musketeer era. Bring your banners to add color and ambiance to this the Fifth Chicken War celebration.

Activities: we will scramble on the fields both Heavy and Fence, for the Cracked Egg tourney and the Red Bandit Melee; Spear the Chicken for both children and adults; Egg Toss for adults and children; Capture the Egg (balloon stomp), adults and children.

Contests: Late Period (musketeer style) garb, research a plus; Red Bandit Eye Mask; Red Bandit Egg tale, story or song; Egg dish; 'Egg' in Any Mode (other than food). There will also be an A&S table for craftsmen to display projects they are working on or have completed.

Site is the Lake Lucille Soccer Fields and group campground. Tentatively the site opens at 5 pm on Friday and closes at 6 pm on Sunday. It is suggested to your own drinking water as there is limited potable water on site.

Dogs are allowed, but must be on a leash or under control at all times and owners are responsible for clean up and disposal of waste. Everyone is responsible for taking care of and hauling out their own trash.

Only period canvas pavillions will be allowed on the soccer fields. Modern tents must camp in the group camping area for an additional \$10 per night. This fee is separate from event fee and is the campers' own responsibility to settle directly with the campground.

The site is very discreetly wet. *No* visible containers, and *absolutely no underage drinking!!! Zero tolerance on this issue.*

Event fees: adult member, \$15; adult non-member, \$20; children 5-15 years, \$5, children under 5 years, free; family cap, \$55.

For more information, contact the autocrats Viresse de Lighthaven, 223-2407 (cell), 338-6355 (home, before 10 pm please), wingedcup@yahoo.com, and Clare Elena de Montfort, kginalaska@gmail.com.


Yours in Service, the Fates, Graces, Virtues, Vices, Monkey Women,  
M. Clare, M. Sorcha, and M Viresse

**Harvest Captaincy**  
*Barony of Winter's Gate*  
*September 2-5*

Come one, Come all! Join the Barony of Winter's Gate for the Labor Day weekend as the new baronial armored and rapier champions are chosen by

combat.

The event schedule is still being finalized, so if you would like to teach a class that is appropriate to a rustic site, please contact the autocrat.

 Site is the Anderson Riverside Park, Anderson, Alaska. There is a good amount of space, but the autocrat would prefer if you would RSVP with your space requirements to ensure that the vision of the dream is best fulfilled. Site opens at noon Friday and closes 6 pm on Monday.

There are RV hookups available, although there may be fees in addition to event fees that will be paid directly to the site owner. Potable water is available. There are flushies and showers available in a bathhouse in addition to portables located around the site. There is a covered pavillion with picnic benches and a fireplace. It is recommended you bring sunshades to set up near the eric. There is a children's playground located near the bathhouse and covered pavillion.

There is a nearby inn with limited rooms charging resort prices for offsite lodging. The site is approximately 80 miles from Fairbanks, so please plan ahead and bring all needed food, ice, adult beverages, toiletries, etc. There is a small gas station and convenience store in Nenana, approximately 30 miles away.

Event fees: adult member, \$15; adult nonmember, \$20; children 6-17 years, \$10; children under 6 years are free; family cap is \$45.

For more information contact Violet Tailyeaour (Danielle M. Dewey), 619-602-9332, [danielle.m.dewey@gmail.com](mailto:danielle.m.dewey@gmail.com).

**Cook's Workshop**  
*Barony of Winter's Gate*  
*September 10*

Desirous of fostering period cookery and the cooking guild of Oertha, Measure for Measure, Mistress Clare Elena de Montfort will be visiting and holding a cook's workshop. It is will be held at the JP Jones Community Center, 2400 Rickert Street, Fairbanks. More details will be forthcoming.

**Michaelmass Italian Feast and Masked Ball**  
*Barony of Winter's Gate*  
*October 15-16*

Goditi la vita! Feste e Festival! Enjoy life! Feasting and Festival!  
Come and join Winter's Gate for a weekend of Festivities, as we immerse ourselves in the Italian Culture. Eat! Drink! Be Merry! Learn! Create!

On Saturday, join Winter's Gate as we celebrate Michaelmas with a Three-Course Italian Feast, Desserts, Music, Merriment, Festival and Ball. Festivities include appetizers served during the course of the evening. Other event festivities will be announced.

Menu coming soon to a posting near you! Feast Menu and appetizers will include both dishes that are allergin-free and those that contain all the allergies.

Please contact Feastocrat Lady Taylorc regarding food allergies at [india.brink@gmail.com](mailto:india.brink@gmail.com).

Competitions are: Autocrat's Whim -- Italian Garb (any century); Baron's

Whim -- Italian Art depicted in any form; Feastocrat's Whim -- Liqueurs.

On Sunday there will be classes and heavy fighting practice. A simple lunch of potato soup, salad and bread will be served, as well as any feast leftovers. Attendees are encouraged to bring a side dish to share.

Classes will be Italian-focused and will include:

Creating a Perfect Italian Bodice (Mistress Margery, 11:30-12:30);

Italian Fencing and Dagger Work -- attacking with the sword and dagger using the methods of Fabris (Guildmistress Etain, 12:45-2:00);

Creating a Balza -- the Italians wore interesting headwear. Learn how to make one with simple techniques. Cost for materials, \$3. (Mistress Sapphira, 2:15-3:15);

Italian Sleeves (Viscountess Margarita Cathrine di Calvi);

History of Masks and Mask Making, both Venetian Leather and Italian Muslin styles. Masks were popular items that hid the identity of the wearer for a variety of reasons...some sneaky and nefarious! Learn about the impact of masks and make a mask in either the Italian or Venetian Style in Leather or Cloth. Cost: \$5 for leather, \$3 for cloth. (Baroness Cemper, 3:30-4:30).

Site for Saturday's feast and ball is the Masonic Lodge, 402 11th Avenue, Fairbanks. Site at noon on Saturday and closes at 9 pm. The site is wet.

The Site for Sunday's classes and activities is University Park School, 1000 University Avenue, Fairbanks. Site will be open from 11 am to 5 pm.

Event fees for Saturday are: adult members, \$22 per person; adult non-members, \$27 per person; youths 13-17 years, \$15 per person; children 6-12, \$5; children 5 years and younger are free; member family cap, \$50. This fee includes site, feast, classes (excepting specific class materials fees), and lunch on Sunday.

For more information contact the autocrats, Baroness Cemper (Alys Johns-Robinson, Box 56642, North Pole 99705, 385-1084 home, [tolkienscholar@yahoo.com](mailto:tolkienscholar@yahoo.com)) and Lady Elena (Jessica Grahn, [jessicaeringrahn@yahoo.com](mailto:jessicaeringrahn@yahoo.com), 687-4012).

### *Miscellaneous*

#### Baronial Family Evenings

Greetings Unto the Populace!

One of the wonderful traits of Winter's Gate is that we are more than SCA, we are family. We embrace many unique talents, people, those who live an SCA lifestyle, those who see it as a hobby, newcomers, and those that are our living history. We are all different, but those differences make us stronger. Yes, we squabble, but ultimately, we squabble like family and love each other all the more for it. When we rejoice, we rejoice as Family. When we are saddened, we have a support system. When Baron Braun and I first became members of Winter's Gate, we did not know we were becoming members of an extended family. We loved the attitude that everyone is welcome! 'Tis been a while since our Winter's Gate Family gathered as a family outside events. We miss everyone.

As part of embracing the family we miss, we are implementing Baronial Family Evenings. Barring work schedules, we will be there. (Baron Braun is on

Crusade part of the week...those pesky Franks).

These evenings will be dedicated to providing opportunities to learn new skills, revisit old skills, chat, talk, eat, gather and be who we are, a Family. Baronial Family Evenings will be comprised of two elements. Activities/Skills will focus on Winter's Gate people who gather to brew, learn metalwork, dye clothing, make meat pies...or whatever skill the host is wanting to teach. All people regardless of skill are invited, hosts will provide a list of materials and hey! you may just learn how to make the best mead in the world! Gathering Evenings will be focused upon gathering and working on projects, getting input on said projects and just hanging out. Not everyone will be able to go to all of them; however, you will be missed. Days are determined by the person who wants to host and yes, you can either share a meal or not, or suggest a pot-luck or brown-bag. The focus is *us*. We are a talented and wonderful group of people and we deserve to share each other's lives. That is what makes us different and that is what makes us Winter's Gate and full of pride for our barony.

Please sign-up on the page labeled "Baronial Family Night" or <https://www.facebook.com/notes/73215821126/Baronial%20Family%20Evenings/10153714239726127/>.

For those not on Facebook, a file will be sent via email, please cut and past your desired date. I will then make sure that I add your name to the Facebook page and the dates on the Facebook page to the elist. That means there may be a few dates conflicting. If so, I will put those who want the same date in touch with each other so they can reach a compromise.

Yours in Service,

*Baron Braun and Baroness Cemper*

### A&S Principality Championship

Greeting's Oertha!

First, it my absolute honor to recognize our first Principality Arts and Sciences Champion, Lord Camshron mac Gille Finnan! He entered all but one contest and produced a wide range of excellent entries. And all from Kotzebue! Please join me in recognizing Lord Camshron's accomplishment!

Second, it's a new year and time for a new championship! The schedule for the 2016/2017 tournament is below. The last two dates will be finalized when they have been added to the Kingdom calendar. If you have any questions about the schedule or how to enter, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Sept 3, 2016 – Fall Captaincy, Winter's Gate – Illumination (Studio Art),  
Oct. 22, 2016 – Samhain, Eskalya – Syrups (Domestic Arts and Sciences),  
Dec. 3, 2016 – Yule, Selviargard – A small item of clothing (e.g. a coif, braies, a hood, etc.) (Textile),

Jan. 21, 2017– Winter Coronet, Oertha – A Story of a Hero, Saint, or God (Performing Arts),

March 2017 – March Madness, Eskalya – Open Topic (Research Paper),  
May 2017 – Spring Captaincy, Winter's Gate – Bone, Antler, or Wooden Combs (Technological).

The contests are being drawn from six categories (one contest representing

each category): Textile - Clothing, weaving, needlework, etc; Domestic Arts and Sciences - Small items, cooking, herbcraft, brewing, etc; Technological - Armor, casting, metal working, skeletal materials, etc; Studio Arts - Bookbinding, glass work, calligraphy, illumination, paper making, etc; Performing Arts - Arts which are performed; and Research – Research papers and presentations.

Individuals who wish to enter an item but will not be able to make the event, may mail items to Claire Knudsen-Latta, 917 W. 75th Ave, Apt. 2, Anchorage, AK 99518. Please email me at [clairemargery@gmail.com](mailto:clairemargery@gmail.com) to let me know items are coming. Items will be returned by mail with judging sheets within one week of the event.

Contestants for the championship must enter at least four of the categories. Contestants may enter only one item per event (no double dipping). Incomplete projects may be entered, so long as the part of the project being judged is complete. For example, if you want to enter a scroll in the calligraphy contest but the illumination isn't complete, you may enter it so long as the calligraphy is complete.

At least minimal documentation is required. Minimal documentation will be considered one 3x5 card and one primary source. More documentation is suggested. Research papers should be between 1,500 and 2,500 words, or four to six pages, double spaced. Papers should be submitted by email one week before the event, to allow judges sufficient time to review the paper.

If there are three or more entrants in a competition, the winner is the entry with the highest score. If there are fewer than three entries, the winner is the entry with the highest score over 66 percent of the available points. If there is only one entry, the entry will be judged, but there will be no competition – however, the points will count towards the Championship. Whoever racks up the most total points wins!

Please send any questions or concerns to [clairemargery@gmail.com](mailto:clairemargery@gmail.com).

I look forward to seeing the talent and skill of Oertha's artisans and wish all the entrants the very best of luck!

Juvo,

*Cynehild Cynesigesdohtor*

Craeftwicnestre Oerthas

### Submissions Herald

Khevron, 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).

### 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 Tikhikovich Vorotnikov*

\* \* \* \* \*

## Regnum

Rex and Regina Occidentalis: Hans and Ivone, crown@westkingdom.org.

Crown Prince and Princess: Alfarr and Eilis, heirs@westkingdom.org.

Prince and Princess of Oertha: Kenric and Dagmar, oerthan@oertha.

westkingdom.org.

## Winter's Gate

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

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

Estoille Pursuivant: Morgana yr Oerfa (Sharron Albert), 1717 Tamarack Street, Fairbanks 99709, 452-2274 home, morgana@gci.net. Deputy: Elisheva bint Sitt al-Sirr (Sheva Corning), 888-0040 cell, elishevacorning@yahoo.com.

Exchequer: Violet Tailyeaour (Danielle M. Dewey), 619-602-9332, danielle.m.dewey@gmail.com.

Marshal: Nathan Hartman (Nate Webb), 4730 Princeton Dr., Fairbanks, 99709, 515-7717 (cell), nwebb@alumni.unity.ed. 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.

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

Chronicler: Morgana yr Oerfa (Sharron Albert), 1717 Tamarack Street, Fairbanks 99709, 452-2274 home, morgana@gci.net. Deputy: Greteke inn Little.

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

Chatelaine/Gold Key: Elena verch Rhys (Jessica Grahn), jessicaeringrahn@yahoo.com, 687-4012.

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: Liam the Archer.

### Principality of Oertha

Seneschale: Anna di Caterina Neri (Georgia Pfile), 2090 W Kathy Circle #B, Wasilla 99654, 242-5606, annahnarie@gmail.com.

Stellanordica Herald: Rodrigo de Reinosa (Bryan Nelson), 2301 N Beanie St., Wasilla 99654, 357-1434 hm, b4nelson@gci.net. Wolfhound Herald (submissions deputy): Khevron Oktavii Tikhikovich Vorotnikov (Don Goertz), khevron@warppmail.net, 347-2632.

Marshal: Cyrus Aurelius (DJ Wilson), 231-5907 cell, lordcyrus@gci.net.

A&S: Cynehilde Cynesigesdohtor (Claire Knudsen-Latta), 575-1983 cell, clairmargery@gmail.com.

### Barony of Eskalya

Baroness: Elspeth (Jackie Frederick), 510-A Creekside St., Anchorage 99504, 337-9389 home, 240-3759 cell, both before 9 pm, edenwild205@gmail.com.

Seneschale: Celestria Textrix (Dawn Bates), c\_textrix@yahoo.com, 229-8417 cell.

### Barony of Selviargard

Baron: Halfdan (Travis Abe-Thomas), 746-4137 home (before 8 pm), thomassorngrym@yahoo.com

Seneschale: Clare Elena de Montfort (Kerri Geppert), 301-3393 cell, kginalaska@gmail.com. Deputy: Margarita Cathrine di Calvi (Gretchen Thompson), viscountessmargarita@yahoo.com, 244-6543 cell.

\*\*\*\*\*

*And now for something entirely different:*

### Du'ad Bob Review

I hadn't recalled seeing this month's flick in the theaters, and you'd think that I would have, since it was released fairly recently, in May 2015. Of course, that release was in Great Britain, and my suspicion is that it never made it to the theaters here in the U.S., or as I prefer to think of it, Greater Lonestarorra. Checking its release dates on IMDb, it was released only in Serbia, Kuwait, the Philippines, and Japan before hitting the DVD market. So I hadn't missed it here, which was a relief to me, since I try to keep track of this sort of movie when they hit the theaters, and I was afraid that I might becoming senile or something. (Hey, it's a possibility! You watch some of the movies I've had to over the years and you can start losing brain cells from it.) Anyway, we'd found it on our new best friend, Netflix, and queued it up. Well, we had to, you know. The picture for the film had a guy in some kind of leather armor holding a sword, which meant that it was almost certainly a film I needed to check out for you. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews 2015's almost-straight-to-video action movie set in newly-Norman England, **Sword of Vengeance**.

Starring Stanley Weber as Shadow Walker (yeah, there's a good "Norman" name for you!), Peter Chaffey as Lucan, Gianni Giardinelli as Artus, Milica Jevtic

as Udela, Dave Legeno as Osgar, Kristina Jovanovic as Kwen, Edward Akroust as Romain, Misa Beric as Marin, Karel Roden as Durant, and Ed Skrein as Treden, the basic plot - if it can be called that - is that of any and all of the old Clint Eastwood "Man With No Name" spaghetti westerns, only this time set in what is supposed to be newly-conquered Norman England. The blurb for it on Netflix gave the synopsis as: "Freed from slavery, a Norman prince returns home to lead a group of exiled farmers in battle against their shared enemy - his father's murderer." Except that that's not really it, either. Why not? Well, first of all, he wasn't a Norman "prince," since there was not such thing then; he was the son of a Norman lord. He wasn't leading a group of exiled farmers; he aided some of the Saxons in order to use them in his quest to avenge his father's death by killing his uncle, who had murdered his father and sold him into slavery. And some of the settings were entirely incorrect for early Norman England; those huge stone castles didn't begin to show up until the reign of Edward I, nearly 200 years after the Conquest of 1066. But who am I to quibble about such things?

Good points: The Norman nasal helms. The Norman kite shields. Some of the chain mail was real.

Bad points: The Saxon round shields were too small. The sound effects. The soundtrack music, which went from "weird" to "annoying" to "okay, now it's just distracting it's so out of place." Shadow Walker's haircut, complete with cornrows and topknot. Most of the armor, both "Norman" and "Saxon." The costumes. The five-foot-long ladle. The "Saxon" face masks. Insufficient thatching for a roof. (What they used was in no way sufficient to even begin to keep out the rain or much of anything else.) The veil of chain mail or whatever it was supposed to be under the Norman helm. We never find out that our erstwhile anti-hero is called Shadow Walker.

Zero breasts. Eight gallons of blood. 98 dead bodies. Sword fu. Dagger fu. Rock fu. Aikido fu. Battle-ax fu. Fire fu. Noose fu. Arrow fu. Fire arrow fu. Spiked pit fu. Hands roll. Normans roll. Saxons roll. Gratuitous rain. (Even for what was supposed to be England, it was way too much.) Gratuitous, and graphic, throat-slitting. Gratuitous crow. Gratuitous fog. Gratuitous head butting. Gratuitous intestinal spillage. Gratuitous self-administered eye gouging. Gratuitous dirt and mud. Gratuitous katas. Gratuitous drool. Gratuitous candlelight sex scene. Gratuitous slo-mo. Gratuitous berserkers. A 97 on the Vomit Meter. ½ star. Da'ud Bob says, "There's not a lot of dialogue to get in the way of the plot. And not a lot of plot to get in the way of the movie. Check it out!"

---

This is the August AS V (2016) 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. Please respect the legal rights of contributors.