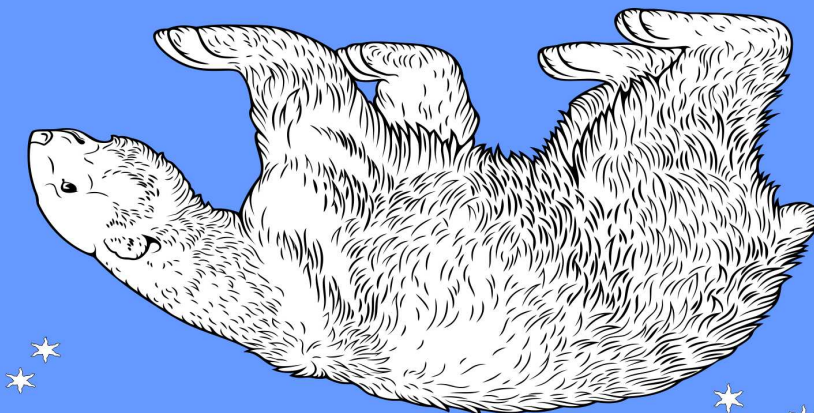
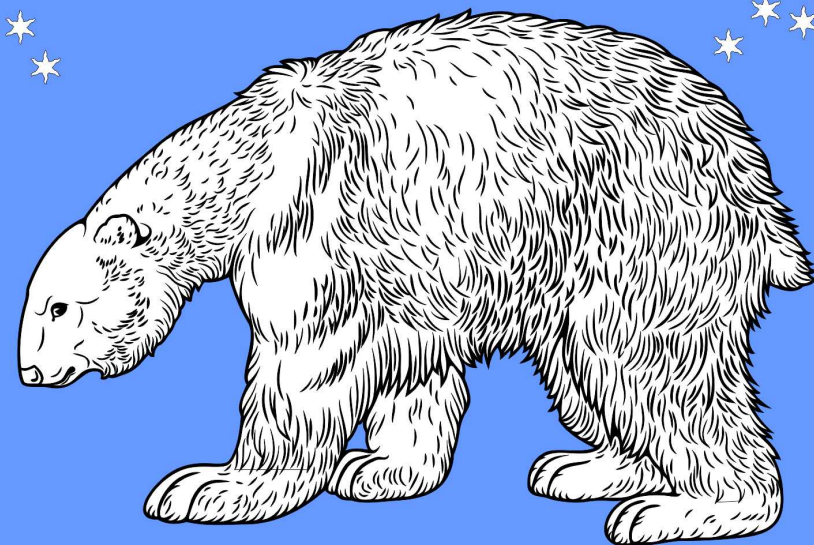


The Gatekeeper

The Newsletter of the Barony of Winter's Gate
College of St. Boniface, and Canton Bjarnarstrond



Time to Reflect

Summer, Anno Societatus LVII
(2022 Gregorian)



Greetings from the New Baron and Baroness!

We hope this finds you well, and eager to return to abnormal!

Changeover was a terrific event, although not all went as planned, it went well, was well-attended, and lots of stuff happened. We were honored to host King Miles and Queen Jitka, and their traveling head of court. Also present were our Oerthan Prince and Princess Crusius and Vicana, as well as Baron Gavin and Baroness Celestria of Eskalya.

We thank our outgoing Baron and Baroness Hans and Elena, now Baron of the Court Hans, and Baroness of the Court Elena – so you can keep calling them “Your Excellency”. Their 4 years were magnificent! We can only hope to keep the standards up!

Many knights and other peers were present, and the fighters had an amazing time crossing swords with Their Majesties and His Highness, and everyone enjoyed viewing the crossing of swords, in the afternoon.

Feast was amazing, thanks to Fionnguala and her crew.

Words of the Baron and Baroness, Khevron and Merewyn

A highlight of the event was the well-deserved elevation of our own Baroness Cempestra to the Order of the Pelican.

Our first court was somewhat truncated due to the time, but we’ll find our feet. A huge thanks to Talorc and her crew for making this event happen, and moving event dates around to accommodate the King and Queen’s schedule.

Since then we’ve had a **Collegium**; thanks to Ellisif and Talorc for making that happen. Classes were held by Neil, Mistress Margery, Mistress Tama, Mistress Gisla, Baron Khevron, and there was armor/slow fighter work.

Newcomers/Baroness’ Champion event was a lovely, picnic event the weekend of June 4-5 in Pioneer Park, event hosted by Mistress Margery. We moved the Baroness’ Champion heavy tournament to Sunday to accommodate the fighters, and Lucius and Floki fought out 5 full rounds of varied weapons styles, and Floki came out on top!

We welcome into the Barony some new/not new SCA folk! Mistress Jacqueline de Lioncourt and her partner Madog moved here from Artemisia, Lucius Cassius Maris moved his Lady Anne FitzRichard up from the Mists, and Lady Seanan the Beleaguered (an Eskalyan/Oerthan from the 80’s) moved up from An Tir! We also have new folk from our Comicon Demo and others who attended newcomers who we hope to see regularly!

We’re planning to a Demo at the Tanana Valley Fair this year – details to be posted. “Sheep-herder in Paradise”, Red, Orange and Yellow are the themes.

(Cont'd on next page)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Words of the Baron and Baroness, Khevron and Merewyn, Cont'd.

We are looking forward to the **Fall Tavern Games & Fall Tournaments** event Labor Day weekend — September 3-5, camping in Anderson, AK! We sincerely hope many folk will travel the 73 miles South to have a couple of days away from the usual grind, in the cooling of Autumn, to set the precedent of attendance for further events.

Speaking of further events, Mistress Margery is heading a **Michaelmas Feast** in Late October, and we have **Yule** scheduled- please, if you have ideas for events in 2023, don't be shy, come forward! While we have 'the usual' event dates, we don't have to stick with those themes necessarily. In February, it can be Heart's Revel or not. March usually has an open/unique event. April, we hope for a Fool's Revel- Fool's Con or other theme. Then Spring Tournaments/Newcomers/Baroness' Champion.

Let's hope the dread plague is behind us and we can get on with our plans! Your Baron and Baroness plan to travel some, beyond Coronets to perhaps Twelfth Night and other Kingdom events, but we'll see how the year turns out.

In Service to the Dream,

-Khevron & Merewyn / June 2022

July 9 Knights' Fighter Training & Arts/Sewing Day
Walden 10-6! (Winter's Gate)

July 16 Sunday Fighter Practice at North Pole 5th
Avenue Park 1pm til ? (Winter's Gate)

July 16 Rainbow Girls Renaissance Faire Demo in
Earngyld

July 22-24 Summer Coronet (Oertha - Palmer, AK)

July 29-Aug 14 Pennsic War (East)

July 30 Tanana Valley Fair Demo (2-6 pm)

August 6 Tanana Valley Fair Demo (2-6 pm)

August 19-21 Mist-Cynagua War (West)

August 26-28 Purgatorio Coronation (West)

September 3-5 Fall Tavern Games & Fall Tournaments
Anderson Campground (Hans) (Winter's Gate)

September 30-Oct 2 October Crown (West)

October 4-10 Great Western War (CAID)

October 29 Michaelmas Feast (Margery)(Winter's Gate)

November 12 St. Boniface Collegium (Winter's Gate)

December 17 Winter's Gate Yule

January 6-8 Twelfth Night Coronation (West)

January 20-22 Winter Coronet (Oertha)

SUMMER FIGHTER PRACTICE SCHEDULE:

ALTERNATING WEEKENDS: 1 pm until 4
North Pole: 1 & 3rd
Fairbanks: 2nd & 4th is in Fairbanks
5th determined by last fighter standing

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL TAVERN GAMES & CAPTAINCY CAMPING EVENT AT ANDERSON

Attention drinkers of sweet libations and cravers of tavern based adventures. Join us September third through the fifth for some tavern games. Multiple tavern based games will be offered during the three day event, which may include throwing axe competitions, games of skill, tavern brawling (heavy and rapier), and many others. The event is camping available but should be no more than an hour out of Fairbanks for those who wish to day trip. More competitions and games will be added as we get closer and confirm equipment and marshals for all the activities we wish to have. Whims will be announced at a later date as will the final location of the event.



KNIGHT'S PRACTICE AND CRAFT/SEWING DAY

Sat. July 9th

10:00 to 6:00 PM

At Walden Estates, 1108 Hampstead Ave

THIS WILL BE A FIGHTER'S PRACTICE NOT TO MISS!

We welcome:

**Sir Verica, Sir Gregor,
Sir Cyrus (His Royal Highness)
and Sir Bartram**

Need to make garb? Want help or just the company?

Need room to lay out fabric and work? Come to the Walden Estates Community Center to get it done! There is lots of room for laying out fabric, setting up sewing machines, and getting some clothes made. Get help getting measured and patterned.

For those who wish to focus on fighting, there is ample space available to work with our Southern Visitors.

For anyone who is not wanting to sew garb or fight, you are welcome to just come hang out with us.

POTLUCK at 1 pm. At Her Excellency's request, there will be a luncheon potluck. There is a kitchen, and lots of plug-ins, for making food. Please bring something to share. For the sake of our friends with food issues, please attach a 3x5 card, with a list of your dish ingredients, to your contribution.

Let's get together and have some fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/604635748036970>

EVENT REPORT: CHANGEOVER.

Over 72 in attendance.

Hans and Elena Changeover Court:

4/16/2022 (Saturday) -- Winter's Gate Baronial Changeover

Margery Garret	Estoile
Talorc Caer Arienrhold	Estoile
Gisla Æðikollr	Silver Swan
Patrick Willoughby	Silver Swan

Khevron and Merewyn Changeover Court:

Our Retinue court:

Morgana yr Oerfa- Protocol advisor, Aurelia daCanal -Baroness' Lady, Fionnghuala inghean Raghnaill- Artisan, and Neil MacNyven, Baroness' guard. (Belt Favors). We will be trusting advice from all our prior Barons and Baronesses as well, informally.

We thanked the artisans who dressed Us. Cempestra, Ellisif, Elena Fionnghuala, Talorc, Aurelia, Katla and- they Transformed us in our 20 years old garb to "THIS!"

And Gisla for casting Her Excellency's Favor badges!

To Hans and Elena: to thank them for steering this barony for the last 5 years, and re-igniting the flame after 2 years of Covid. Presentation to Hans of a Sword.

Thank you to Eilis, Hans and Lucius for the day's Heralding.

Courts at Changeover

Courts of King Miles and Queen Jitka

Cempestrae of Winter's Gate	Pelican
Aurelia daCanal	Rose Leaf
Katla Auðardóttir	Leaf of Merit
Elena verch Rhys	Baroness
Hans Shaffer	Baron
Celestria Textrix	Crown's Favor
Gavin Woodward	Crown's Favor
Khevron Oktavii	Crown's Favor
Lucius Cassius Maris	Crown's Favor
Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth	Crown's Favor

Court of Prince Cruscillus & Princess Vicana

Evelyn FitzRolf	Princess' Riband
Jitka Pavlova	Princess' Riband
Sibylla of Winter's Gate	Princess' Escort

Thanks from Talorc & Event summary:

It was WONDERFUL to enjoy the day with everyone, and to see people together and reveling in our hobby / family. I am exceedingly grateful for all of the people who put in hard work to help this event come together!

First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for coming out and joining us for our celebration. Seriously! There were people there who I haven't seen in a long time, and there were people who I was able to meet and talk to for the first time. Having this extensive combination of populace gather for the day was the BEST thing of the day. Thank you all so very much for joining us!

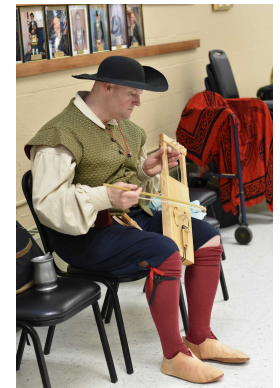
Meleri Gyfford, without you this event would not have been half of what it was. Your ideas were inspired and fun. The site tokens you made were beautiful & took a good bit of time to make.

Fionnghuala and Iriniia, again you guys worked magic in the kitchen! The feast you guys presented was nothing less than ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!! The DESSERTS !! Oh the desserts! Simply heavenly!! Fionnghuala, I am so deeply grateful for the planning, decision making, researching options food options.

House Tundra Weasel, Thank you so very much for providing libations & wonderful conversation! Your contribution to the day was absolutely invaluable!

Also thanks to: Lucius, Floki, Unna, Patrick, Cru & Vicana, Nate, and all those who sang.

Richard, my introvert partner. Thank you for everything, including all the support. Coming back to the site after midnight to help me load the final items.



Newcomer's and Baroness' Champion Pioneer Park

Thanks for all who came out to our Newcomer's and Baroness' Champion Event.

We had Lucius and Floki in the Baroness' Champion tournament, which was 3 out of 5, each round 2 out of 3, different weapons/off-hand combinations. Floki emerged as winner, the tournament taking all 5 rounds!

Ellisif and Nathan worked on rapier. Thanks to Margery for the Kumihimo and Viking whipcording classes!

Recognized several newcomers and moved-to's, and Margery held an intro to Page School for several of us. Ellisif Heralded Court and Ann filled in a bit for the Recs.

COURT -- we paid our officers in coins (ask!), and awarded Ellisif & Margery with Baroness' Recognitions. There was an AMAZING scroll from the Baron & Baroness of Darkwood recommending Lucius and Anne - calligraphy by His Excellency of Darkwood. Photo to follow. Bracelets were given to newcomers.

Again, amazing weather and company! For all who couldn't be there, due to work, or the plague, or other reasons, You Were Missed.

--Baron Khevron



WELCOME OUR NEW PELICAN!



Cempestrae is given her Pelican at Changeover

Newcomer's and Baroness' Champion, Cont'd

Thank you to everyone who came to the Newcomer's event. It was beautiful weather, great company, and a very relaxing time. It was a pleasure to meet our new imports, Ann and her lord Lucius, Jacqueline and her lord Madog (who fed us amazing food!), as well as Tess, Gretta, and several others who are new to our group--at least 22 people.

Lucius and Floki both fought with honor in the tourney, and attracted a good bit of attention in the park. Congratulations to Floki for taking the day!

Thank you to Ellisif and Nathan who worked on rapier which garnered its own share of attention, and just may have gotten one or two to thinking about shaking the dust off their gear and getting back into the game.

Thank you to all who partook in the Kumihimo and Viking whipcording classes. Thank you to Althea for finally getting my brain to understand the lucet.

There are probably way more thank yous I should give, but even though it may not be typed here, know that I appreciate all of you!
--Mistress Margery



Getting Started as a Scribe

by Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva, HHO, OP
Shire of Pavlok Gorod

Recently I traveled to the fair banks of the Barony of Winter's Gate to learn from others and teach in turn. Her Excellency, Baroness Merewyn, has asked for a summary of the class I taught so that the joys and frustrations of scribal arts can be spread amongst Her Populace. So herein is my best recollections.

We moved the scribal layout class to Sunday there being many busy with other classes and projects during the original time. Instead, I spent the time Saturday sharing how to use goache paints with a select few of the Barony's youth. Luckily we had just finished attending a toy making class and plenty of outlines were available. That gave us a chance to focus entirely on painting techniques.

I explained that goache, when mixed with a bit of gum Arabic to prevent cracking, can be left overnight to dry. Then it can be applied in thin layers as a watercolor. If thicker coverage is wanted, similar to oils, goache can be used straight out of a tube. Dabs the size of a pea can last a great while, especially when dried. While mixing period pigments is possible, and enjoyable, goache travels well, looks reasonably period, and even the nicer brands aren't horrendously expensive (if you consider that a tube will last years)!

Scribe: Getting Started, Pt. 2

My favorites are Windsor and Newton or Schminke goache
<https://www.dickblick.com/search/?q=Goache>

I like to use a sable round brush as the fine tips give me excellent lines and details. I had several with me and the young artists did excellent work with them. I do also travel with an angle brush which I use primarily for painted calligraphy.



On Sunday I began the class by passing around pergamenta I had recently received from John Neal: <https://www.johnnealbooks.com/>

I then demonstrated how to rub in pounce using a small bag. Pounce is generally made of cuttlefish bone or gum sandarac. See <https://seattleauthor.com/2016/07/06/paper-ink-sand-pounce/amp/> for a fun discussion about pounce!

Next we went into a little bit about types of rulers, guides, and other miscellany. I love my mother's old quilting ruler that is alternating red and green marks every half inch. It's long enough to pencil in borders on an 11x14 document - although my preference is 8x10.

There are several reasons I prefer to stick with this standard photo size. I store most of the scrolls I've received in a binder in plastic sleeves. It makes them easy to view and they stay clean, neat, and in the order in which I received them.

I also like this size because it is easy for people to find frames if I stick with standard frame sizes, and mat openings when I put borders on. I keep a chart such as this one nearby to help

Scribe: Getting Started, Pt. 3

me with measurements: <https://www.frameusa.com/mat-openings> Please keep in mind that there is an incredible amount of variation in how matting can be sized!!

If you want a more in-depth discussion of how mats and frames work check out:
<https://www.framedestination.com/picture-frame-info.html>

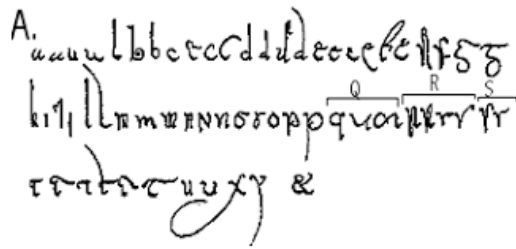
Once I have all my tools in place I create myself an outline draft. The first draft is all of the words, borders, and very rough art, including space for signatures. I do this very quickly, and except for the lines, it is all freehand pencil. This helps me figure out what size nib I'll need and how many lines it will take for the text.

Next I do an inked outline on thin paper that I can tape to my light board. It contains the border where I expect the mat to lay, space for any artwork I plan to paint, and lines of 5 nibs height for the wording I will be using.

Then I begin practicing. This can take me 2, 3, or many more times if the exemplar I'm using is a hand I don't use often. For my current project - a Snowy Owl for my collection of Principality "blanks" - I had to practice gothic many, many times. Oh for the lovely curves of uncial!

But I digress.

John Wilson's exemplary book "Learning to Draft and Create Original Scrolls" has given me new insights into not only layout of scrolls but the process of choosing and working with exemplars. I had felt bogged down by trying to re-create existing pieces. His writing clarified a great deal for me, making it fun again.



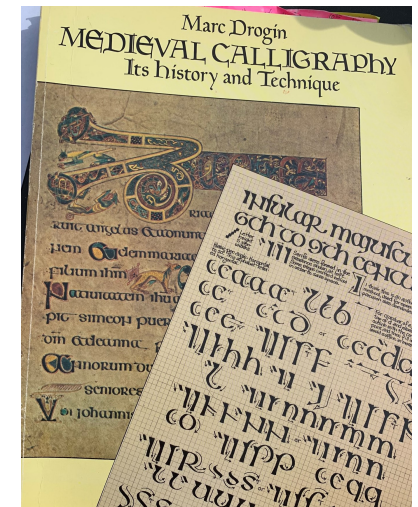
Scribe: Getting Started, Pt. 4

While the Snowy Owl is based on 'Books of hours in Latin c. 1500' from Janice Anderson's book "Illuminated Manuscripts", I have made it Oerthan. The white butterfly is now an owl, the illuminated D changed to an O, and the border of flowers and birds is now entirely Alaskan wildflowers.

I will make copies of the original so that anyone who receives it can see the exemplar. This gives them a historical reference to look at and they can see what I've changed. And what I've kept.

To continue...

When I finally have a version of the calligraphy I'm happy with, I pencil sketch the art on it. Then I carefully go over the artwork in black with the smallest nib I own. I leave it to dry, erase the pencil, and huzzah! I have a "blank" which I can put on my light board, or a handy sunny window, and copy over.



I like to keep blanks for awards because I can paint them to look specific and individual by the choice of colors and small additions into and around existing art.

If you'd like to see some of the scrolls I've done... Or my library of book covers... please visit Clarion Call Scribal on Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081594521585>

Many thanks for your patience with my rambles -
Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva, HHO, OP
Shire of Pavlok Gorod

COLLEGIUM REPORT, May 14 & 15TH

Collegium was held at the North Pole Library with the Sunday fighter practice at Growden Park. A big thanks to Ellisif and Talorc for putting this event together. Classes included:

- Planning layouts for scrollwork (Mistress Tama)
- Gilt Leather Applique (Margery)
- Making Leather Breastplate Armor (Niell)
- How to Herald Court (Khevron)
- Basic Embroidery and Making Stuffed Animals! (Ceara)

During Khevron's heraldry class, we held a real court and awarded Talorc the Baroness' Recognition.



PAGE SCHOOL For kids and adults!

At the recent Newcomer's Revel, an introductory class was held about the Oerthan Page School. This is a wonderful program that was developed by Viscountess Rhiannon of the Seas, to teach various Arts and Sciences, service opportunities, and the structure (society studies) of the SCA. While it was created for children 8 years and older, it's structure is such that it easily adapts to whatever ability level is of the students. Thus it can be made to challenge anyone, including adults. Viscountess Tama Katerina Evstokh'eva completed the Page School as Princess, and was the first adult to do so.

The Page School is a great, well rounded, way to learn about a lot of the different things the SCA has to offer. There are three main "tracks" that you learn on. Each track teaches about a different art of the SCA.

Arts and Sciences. This track allows you to sample many different topics that are as wide ranging as needlework, clothing making, armor/fighting styles, cooking, and even animals.

Service. This track exposes you to lots of ways to help in the SCA, like volunteering as a page to officers, helping fighters, bringing dishes to events, or even participating in a bardic.

Society Studies. This track teaches you all about how the SCA is structured, and how it works. So often, this is an area that many of us tend not to be aware of, but it is one of the most important. The best way to function and grow in a group is to actually know how it works in the first place.

The Page School is open to anyone who is interested. If you would like to know more about the Page School, or if you would like to sign up, please feel free to contact Mistress Margery Garret at akbee@westkingdom.org.



THE BARONS AND BARONESSSES OF WINTER'S GATE



Hans, Elena, Taran, Khevron, Merewyn,
Cemper, Braun, Morgana and Margery



**JOIN US FOR THE DEMO
AT THE TANANA VALLEY FAIR
"Sheep-herder in Paradise"**

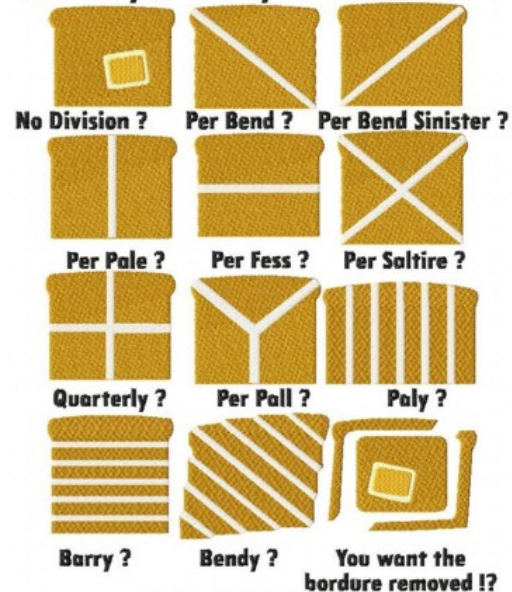
July 30th; time 2-6 pm
August 6th; time 2-6 pm
Contact Khevron or Merewyn to volunteer.

CYRUS WINS CROWN FOR CAITRIONA! First Resident Oerthan to Win Crown! They will be invested at Purgatorio in August.

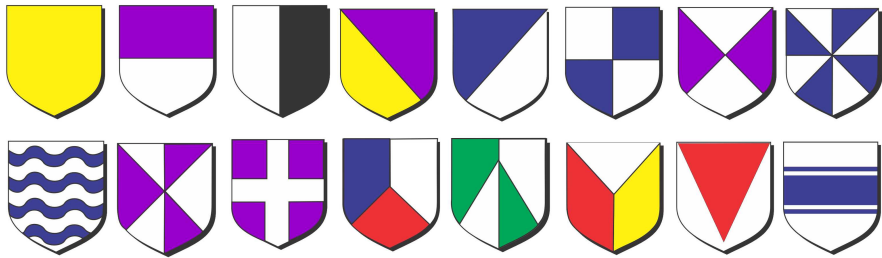


Getting out of your Principality office the hard way...

How do you want your toast sliced ?



WWW.KHEVRON.COM



Heraldry!

By Baron Khevron, Estoile Pursuivant

There are 2 basic aspects of Heraldry.

Voice Heraldry - Courts, Tournaments, and Duty cries.

Book Heraldry - Development of Names and Armory.

Voice is often divided to Court and Field. Court heralds are the voice of the Crown or Coronet - They plan out the way court will be held, starting/ending courts, Calling forth recipients and persons making announcements, and reading the proclamations. The Court Master of Ceremony. Field, or Duty heralds Call out the rounds and names in tournaments, and announce the victors. They also 'call the camp' with announcements during events.

Book heralds help people with developing a name and device. I say developing, because it's not 'choosing' so much as researching and negotiating. It can take time.

A Name should be one which may have existed in your chosen time period and culture, but not an historical figure. It's what people will be calling you close and from across a room or field, so you should like the sound of it.

A Device, (or Arms, when you have an Award of Arms), identifies you in the hall or on the field. It has to have 2 Distinctive Changes from any other registered arms in the SCA or any famous arms of real people in history. Your arms should be unique and as simple as possible.

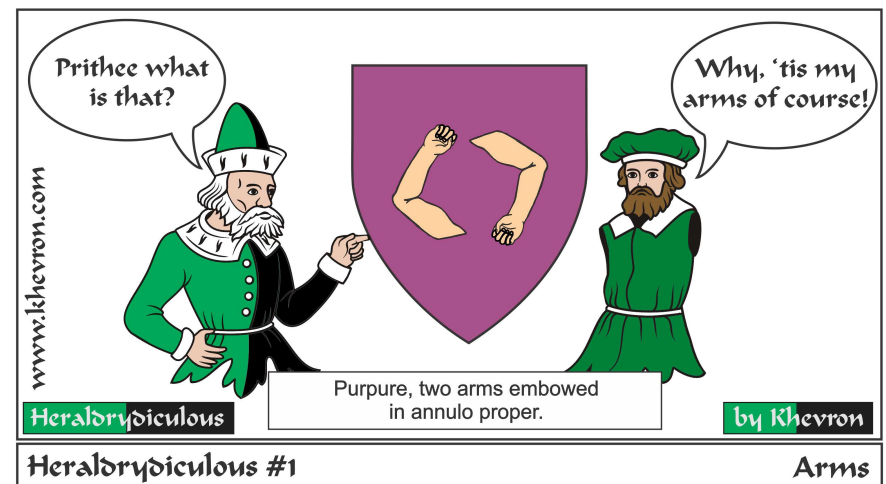
Heraldry (cont'd)

A Badge, is what you identify your property with. Neither the name or Arms registration required you to be a member, or have an Award of Arms. There is a small fee to cover Submission costs for registration, and re-submissions are always free in the West Kingdom. You are not required to register, but registration protects the name/arms from others using it.

Fun Fact - the heralds in period (pre-1600's) never had to develop names for people as they were born with names. So SCA heralds have more than twice the duties as period heralds - thought with internet resources, it may be somewhat easier in many ways.

Consult with your local herald, or myself and let's get started!

In Service,
-Baron Khevron, Estoile Pursuivant



HERALDRYDICULOUS!

www.khevron.com

APRIL 28, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

THE ALL-THING: do we want to participate in the Viking All-thing in June in Ester Park? Some discussion about the nature of this group, and we did not decide to participate.

HIGH SCHOOL CLUB. (Niell). Said he could start a club at the high school he's at and then we could use the gym, but he'd have to be there every single time; but if there was a tourney, then he would have to organize field trips for students. Maybe a place for fighter practice in winter.

WRITTEN FINANCIAL POLICY. Meleri asked if we had one and Hallbiorn said he could help put it together. Maybe have a 3rd person as a signer. Emergency exchequer should be warranted. Can we get the Baronial charter? We agreed to make a financial policy.

FINANCES. Meleri would like budgets for upcoming events. She may need a replacement, if she has to move. Kingdom was up and the books looked good. India has done a great job.

DEI (Cemper) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. (Not officers but deputies). Vicana, is Oertha's DEI office. Sanctuary, social anxiety. Allergies, cooking safe, accommodating all people with food allergies. FEASTS. We discussed the need to have ingredient lists available for all the foods, and to avoid cross-contamination of allergy foods.

MARSHALL. Heavy, (Lucius). Hans and Lucius will become senior marshals (decided at crown)

CONSTABLE. Margery. Reports went to kingdom for changeover. Got a long email from gate deputy that this is not how it should be done. Event went well.

ST. BONIFACE. (Liam). Took vote of student organization and they voted against gatherings using UAF facilities. Revisit this in fall.

GATEKEEPER. Discussed upcoming events and getting the Gatekeeper out.

CHANGEOVER. Maybe not plan to move tables before dinner. Ventilation, next time have fans.

EVENT TOTE. A lot of supplies bought for event. Maybe get plastic tote with cleaning supplies, notepad and pen, extra sign in sheets. The tote could go to the autocrat of the next event.

TRIFOLD FLYERS. Get some to the Fairbanks Arts Association (assuming we kept our membership).

JUNE 30, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

We decided we like the North Pole Library area; worked well for our Collegium event. Pioneer Park will now be \$4 an hour, in stead of \$25 a day.

We spent most of the time setting a calendar for 2023, as it is due very soon. See below.

Hastilude was suggested as a name for our camping / fighting event, suggested by Meleri.

Hastilude is defined as a generic term used in the Middle Ages to refer to many kinds of martial games.

Knight's Practice will be at Walden center along with a sewing and craft day.

We are looking into doing a bid for Winter Coronet 2024, in the Centennial Center, hopefully as a camping event.

We settled on doing 2 SCA demos at the Tanana Valley Fair: July 30 & Aug 5th, 2-6 pm.

We need a budget for: Tavern Games & Michaelmas

Fighter Practice will alternate: No. Pole on 1st & 3rd Sun; Fairbanks at Growden Park on the 2nd & 4th Sun. 5th determined by last fighter standing.

TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2023

We are requesting these dates for events.

Feb 25 Heart's Revel

April 1 Fool's Con

May 27-29 Hastilude, Tourney Weekend

June 24 Newcomers & Baroness' Champion Event

September 2-4 Hastilude Pt 2; Tourney Weekend

Sept 30/ Oct. 1 St Boniface newcomers

Oct 28 Samhain or Michaelmas Feast

Nov 11-12 St Boniface Collegium

Dec 9 Yule



MICHAELMAS

Spanish Feast

October 29th

9:00 AM to 10:00 PM

Have you ever wanted to learn about medieval cooking? Do you want to learn about how a feast is prepared and served? Save the date!

This October, we will be delving into the world of 15-16th century Spanish food! This feast will be prepared on site, and is an opportunity for all interested folk who wish to participate in the cooking. This is a teaching event that culminates in a delicious meal to be shared by all!

Keep watching this space as there will be several planning meetings to decide the menu, research the recipes, and even test out recipes beforehand.

Principality Officers Listing

Seneschale: Kinehild le librari (Claire Knudsen-Latta)

(907) 575-1983 e-mail: cynehild@westkingdom.org

Marshal: Hans Shaffer (John Duncan)

(907) 687-3032, e-mail: primesupreme@yahoo.com

Stellanordica Herald: Eilis O'Boirne (Lee Forge)

(510) 918-0633, e-mail: baroness_eilis@juno.com

Exchequer & Equestrian: Clare Elena de Montfort (Kerri Geppert)

(907) 301-3393; email: clareelena@westkingdom.org

Arts & Sciences: Cempestrae of Winter's Gate (Cempestrae Yggdrasill)

(907) 688-4483; email: emster@alaska.net

Chronicler: Halfdan Ozurrson (Travis Abe-Thomas)

(907) 746-4134, e-mail: thomassorngrym@yahoo.com

Constable: Ciara Der Alcan (Jennifer Rynerson)

(907) 317-1089, e-mail: ciara.deralcan@gmail.com

Lists: Anne FitzRichard (Kate McKowen-taves)

(831) 262-9668) annefitzrichard@westkingdom.org

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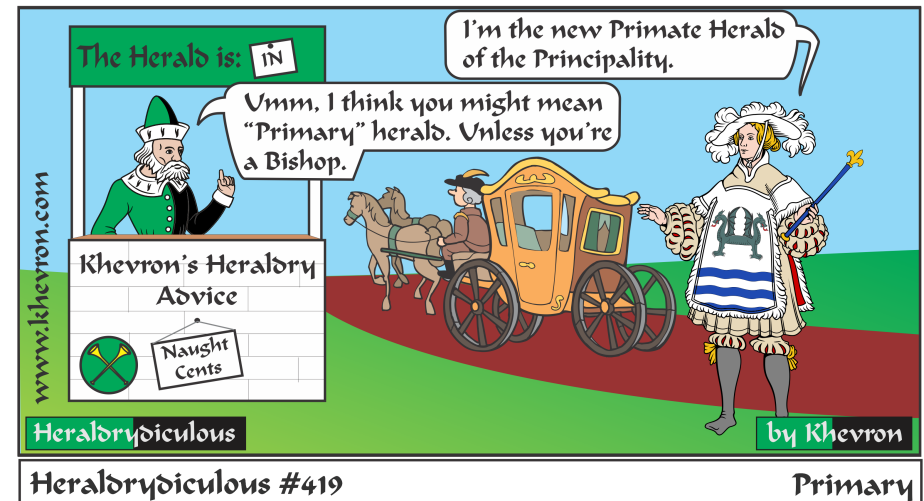
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Da'ud Bob Movie Review: The Northman

Now I will have to admit right off the bat that, frankly, my expectations for this movie were not very high. Admittedly, at least some of my reticence may have been based on other movies that I have reviewed in the past based on the same general story (yes, I'm looking at you, *Royal Deceit*). And the previews that I had seen also failed to disabuse me of my preconceptions. But our motto is, "We watch 'em so you don't have to", and thus it was that I set off for the theater (by myself. Anna Sue was unable to articulate just how very much she didn't want to see this flick) on a recent Monday, sat down in the darkened auditorium, bided my time through way too many previews (only a couple of which attracted my interest), and finally got to pull out my patented Movie Review Form™, and as the opening credits started to roll, began taking copious notes that I could later condense down right here to give you my impressions this month's movie. I will say that this film managed to both exceed my expectations and fail to live up to them. But that's sometimes the way it goes in the world of film-making and film reviewing. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you director Robert Eggers' most recent, and biggest budget to date, film, **The Northman**.

Starring Alexander Skarsgård as our erstwhile anti-hero Amleth, Nicole Kidman as Queen Gudrún, Claes Bang as Fjölur the Brotherless, Ethan Hawke as King Aurvandil War-Raven, Anya Taylor-Joy as Olga of the Birch Forest, Gustav Lindh as Thórir the Proud, Elliott Rose as Gunnar, Willem Dafoe as Heimir the Fool, Phill Martin as Hallgrímur Half-Troll, Eldar Skar as Finnur the Nose-Stub, Olwen Fouéré as Áshildur Hofgythja, Edgar Abram as Hersveinn Battle Hard, Jack Walsh as Hallur Freymundur, Björk as the Seeress, and Ian Whyte as the Mound Dweller, please do not, under any circumstances, confuse this movie with the 1978 move *The Norseman* (always pronounced with a "z", *The Norzeman*) starring Lee Majors! This movie is not that movie! The brief synopsis of this movie says that it "is an epic revenge thriller that explores how far a Viking prince will go to seek justice for his murdered father." Does that sound like *Hamlet*? Well, it's based on the same story that Shakespeare based his version of *Hamlet* on, with more historical accuracy, as well as elements from *Star Wars* and *Excalibur* thrown in for good measure.



Good points: They actually did a fair bit of real historical research in creating this film. The banners. The spangenhelms. The chain links. Real chain mail. The round shields. The white horse. Card weaving. The dragon-prowed longships.

Bad points: The weird underground kingly succession ritual. The Berserker ceremony. Does we thatch really burn that easily? The modern-looking quilt. The Darth Vader moment ("together we will rule ... as father and son"). The fight to the death in the volcano (highly reminiscent of Obi-Wan and Anakin). The magical sword. Stirrups on the horses' saddles (not in the early 10th Century!). Only the rich folks had their clothing hemmed. There's a lot more mud and dirt on people than I would have expected to see; other folks used to talk about the actual Norse of the period because they took baths and washed their hair so often.

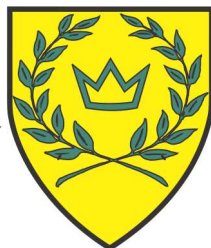
Zero breasts, but two naked butts (one male, one female). Six gallons of blood. 42 dead bodies (not counting the 29 on the Tree of Kings), plus two dead horses. Arrow fu. Sword fu. Dagger fu. Axe fu. Drug/mushroom fu. Club fu. Heads roll. Waves roll. Gratuitous magical sword. Gratuitous valkyrie. Gratuitous volcano. Gratuitous mud. Gratuitous ravens. Gratuitous tapestry. Gratuitous sex in the woods. Gratuitous mummified head. Gratuitous snarling. Gratuitous intestines. Gratuitous hurdy gurdy music. Gratuitous dancing. A 92 on the Vomit Meter. Two stars. Da'ud Bob says, "This ain't your grandpappy's *Hamlet*, even though it ends similarly, with nearly all of the main characters dead at the end. And it's violent, bloody, and gory from beginning to end. Check it out!"

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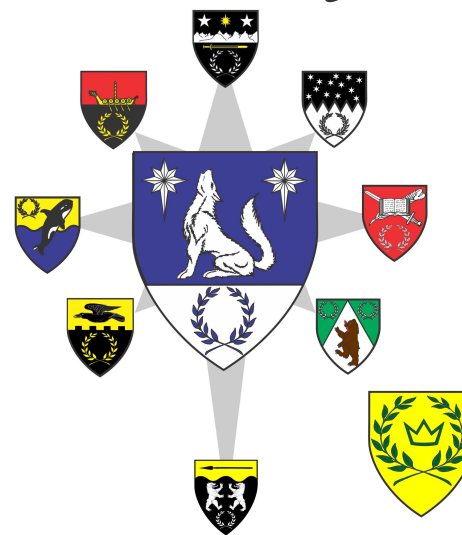
Greetings Winter's Gateans:

Here is the Summer issue of the Gatekeeper, the first issue since we stepped up as Baron and Baroness, so we are looking forward to all the fun that will bring! If you have an idea for an article, or if you do any art or illumination or if you write songs or poetry: think about sending it in to the next issue of the Gatekeeper!

Thanks!

Merewyn lareena@warpmail.net.

The Oerthan Royal History & Heraldic Colouring Boke



By Baron Khevron Oktavii Tilkhikovich Vorotnikov, O.P.
June, LVII (2022) Edition

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This is the Summer, 2022, issue of the GATEKEEPER, a publication of the Barony of Winter's Gate (Northern Alaska), College of St Boniface (UAF) and Bjarnsarstrond (Coastal AK), of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The GATEKEEPER is available from Lareena Goertz: 607 Old Steese Hwy. Suite B-353 Fairbanks, AK 99701. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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