

# THE GATEKEEPER

Newsletter of the Barony of Winter's Gate,  
Principality of Oertha  
Kingdom of the West



Summer: Anno Societatus LIX  
(2024 Gregorian)

# Words of the Baron and Baroness, Khevron and Merewyn

Greetings from your Baron and Baroness!

It's SUMMER! We're trading the white stuff for GREEN!

Next event is Winter's Gate Spring Championships! Be sure to plan ahead for June Crown in Palmer this year, and Summer Coronet in Anderson! Let's see who's next for a Western Throne! And we will be visiting Earngyld (Juneau) for the first week of July.

Between events, please take some time to attend Fighter Practice, for both for combat and arts! Practice is now outdoors for the summer, switching between Growden Park in Fairbanks and North Pole 5th Avenue Park.

Next Business Meeting is May 23rd. All are welcome. Please influence the next year of event ideas and dates! The zoom link is usually posted on the barony Facebook page and sent out over the .io list.

Find a way to stay in touch. Watch the [wintersgate@groups.io](mailto:wintersgate@groups.io) mailing list, Facebook and this newsletter for activities! There will be more crafts, bardics, fighter Chat or Musician chat etc and special meetings at private residences. Coordinate with the Baroness if you want to host a bardic, A&S or Movie Night!

Please send us (and the Prince and Princess, AND the King and Queen!) award recommendations! What cool stuff are people doing, Fighting, Service or Arts? See you soon!

*Baron Khevron and  
Baroness Merewyn*



## Calendar of Events

Including Local Oertha Events and Inter-Kingdom Wars

### Anno Societatus LIX (59)

May 3-12 Double Wars (Drachenwald)

May 4 May Revel (Eskalya)

May 15 Newcomers (Eskalya)

May 24-27 Spring Offensive (Selviargard)

—★ **June 1 Spring Championships** ★—

June 1-2, 8-9 Three Baron's Fair (Eskalya)

June 8 Hrafnfjörðr Feast of St. Columba

June 9-17 War of the Lilies (Calontir)

★ **June 21-23 June Crown Tournament (Oertha - Palmer)** ★

July 2-7 An Tir West War (An Tir)

July 3-7 Battlemoor XII (Outlands)

July 4 Earngyld Id4 Beach Demo

★ **July 19-21 Summer Coronet (Oertha - Anderson)** ★

July-August Pennsic War LI (Æthelmearc)

August 3 Swords and Needles (Pavlok Gorod)

August 10 All Thing (Hrafnfjörðr)

August 17 Warlords Tournament (Selviargard)

August 24 Baroness's Champions (Eskalya)

—★ **August 31 Autumn Tournaments** ★—

August 31 Harvest Festival (Earngyld)

September 7 Fabric Wars (Selviargard)

October Great Western War (Caid)

—★ **October 12 Michaelmas Feast** ★—

—★ **December 7 Yule** ★—



**2025**



January 17-19 Oerthan Winter Coronet

★ = Baron & Baroness Plan to Attend — Local in bold —  
See official Calendar at [www.westkingdom.org](http://www.westkingdom.org)



# Spring Championships

Saturday June 1st, 2024

Pioneer Park, Wilderness Pavilion

10 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Gate Fee: donation only

The northern cold has lifted it's hold on Winter's Gate and Her Excellency Merewyn is in need of champions! Come prove your worth to be the next Champions of Winter's Gate.

**FIGHTER CHAMPIONS.** Heavy and Rapier, arm yourselves and come show your prowess on the fighting fields.

**ARCHERS:** See next page.

**ARTISAN & SCIENCE CHAMPION:** her Excellency keenly feels the lack of having one of you as her Champion.

Bring a selection of your works and projects that she may view them and chose from among you to represent her Arts & Sciences Champion. Artisan's Here are the Rules,

1. You Must let the Baronial A&S Minister Ellisif know you wish to participate via facebook message or email [ellisif\(at\)westkingdom.org](mailto:ellisif(at)westkingdom.org)
2. Display space will be half of a standard plastic folding 4-foot table, as well as the ground directly in front to lean something on. Bring what items to showcase your talents and crafts.
3. Displays will be judged by the populace and by a panel of handpicked judges. The judges will advise the Baroness of those they feel most worthy for Her consideration. The voice of the people will also be considered as part of Her Excellencies choice for her New Champion.
4. The A&S Champion will serve for one year as Champion and will be one of the judges to chose their successor.
5. The Champion's duties are to help foster and encourage the arts & sciences and may be called upon to teach at an event.

**DINNER.** Will be potluck, bring something to share, and also plates and utensils.

**Music.** If you wish to perform a song or musical instrument, ask Patrick, our Bard of Oertha, about a performance badge.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BARONIAL ARCHERY CHAMPION SHOOTS

Your bows will be needed, but the Spring Championship site will not accommodate your skills-- come to the archery champion shoots in the weeks before and announce your intent to vie to be the Baronial Archery Champion!



We'll meet in the weeks before the event at the archery range. Shoots will last about an hour.

May 16 (Thurs) 6:00 pm

May 20 (Mon) 6:00 pm

May 25 (Sat) 2:00 pm

Bring a bow. If you need a loaner bow, contact Khevron.

Site: UAF Archery range. Directions: On Farmers Loop Rd, go past Ballaine Lake and park at Range Road, walk a third of a mile and there is the archery range.

Contact: Baron Khevron: [Khevron\(at\)warpmail.net](mailto:Khevron(at)warpmail.net)



#### Current Honors in Winter's Gate



Captain & Heart  
Hans and Gisla

Fool of Winter's Gate:  
Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth

Commander & Light  
Kollr and Katla

Artisans:  
Fionnghuala inghean Raghnaill

Baroness' Heavy Champion  
Hans Shaffer

Attendants/Ladies:  
Aurelia daCanal  
Ceara ingen Ailchon  
Ellisif í Reykiarvik  
Kaye of Winter's Gate  
Morgana yr Oerfa

Baroness' Rapier Champion  
Hallbiorn Erlandar son

Baroness' Guardsman:  
Gisla Æðikollr

Pages:  
Alex, Calliope, Thomas



# HAPPENINGS

## SUMMER BARONY GET TOGETHERS

We are looking for members to host some casual get togethers at their house for either Arts and Sciences or Bardics. Let me know if you want to teach a class or host something and I'll put it in the list.

### SUMMER A & S CALENDAR:

May 18 (Sat) Tent repair / at Fionnghuala & Fearghus

May 23 (Thurs) Business Meeting; virtual, link on the F.B. page or email Daniel Parrish

<[wgseneschal\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:wgseneschal@gmail.com)> for the meeting link.

May 25 (Sat) Archery at 2 pm & Medieval Movie night at 6 pm. Contact: [Khevron\(at\)warpmail.net](mailto:Khevron(at)warpmail.net)

June 13 (Thurs) A & S Largesse party; Come help make largesse. Merewyn hosts; Contact:

[lareena\(at\)warpmail.net](mailto:lareena(at)warpmail.net)

June 29 (Sat) A & S Get together at Chris & Ariel's. Bring your A & S and see their new house!

July 13 (Sat) A & S Day; work on garb for Coronet or fix your armor if you need a few rivets. Ellisif hosts;

Contact: [ellisif\(at\)westkingdom.org](mailto:ellisif(at)westkingdom.org)

July 26 (Fri) First day of Fair

July 27 (Sat) maybe Fair demo

August 3 (Sat) maybe Fair demo

August 8 (Thurs) Movie night /Khevron hosts

August 15 (Thurs) Bardic /Merewyn hosts; Contact:

[lareena\(at\)warpmail.net](mailto:lareena(at)warpmail.net)

August 24 (Sat) A & S day (needs a host)



## Fix the Tundra Weasel Tent Sewing Party!

May 18th

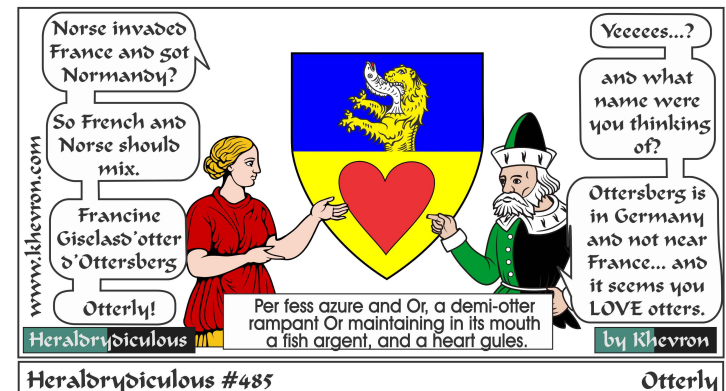
11 am-6 pm

2070 Beth Ann Rd NP, AK  
At Fionnghuala & Feargus's

Questions, contact: Fionnghuaha (Jenny) at [jencargle\(at\)aol.com](mailto:jencargle(at)aol.com). If you plan to come, let them know.

"Hello everyone I wanted to let everyone know that the 18th of May is when I'd like to get together to do the sewing on the tavern panels....we will be grilling some burgers and a couple of sides."

--Fionnghuala





## FIGHTER PRACTICES SUMMER SUNDAYS 1 - 5 PM

For the summer we will alternate between the Fifth Avenue Park in North Pole and Growden Park in Fairbanks, but sometimes this schedule changes.

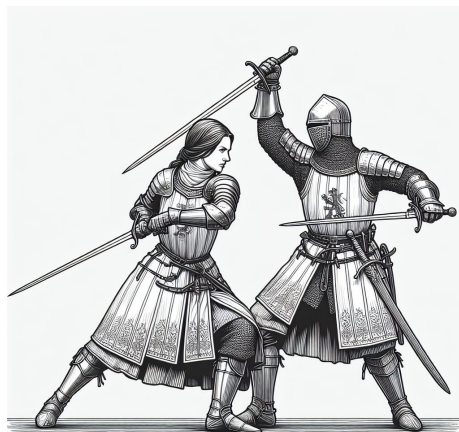
Check the Facebook page or message Baron Khevron (Donovan Goertz)  
khevron(at)warpmail.net) if you have questions.

### FACEBOOK CHAT GROUPS:

We have two chat lists on Facebook to discuss our weekly activities. If you are interested, please ask and we can add you.

#### Fighter Chat:

Talk about whether or not to cancel the practice due to weather and who's going. Ask John Duncan (Hans) or Daniel Parrish (Hallbiorn) to get added.



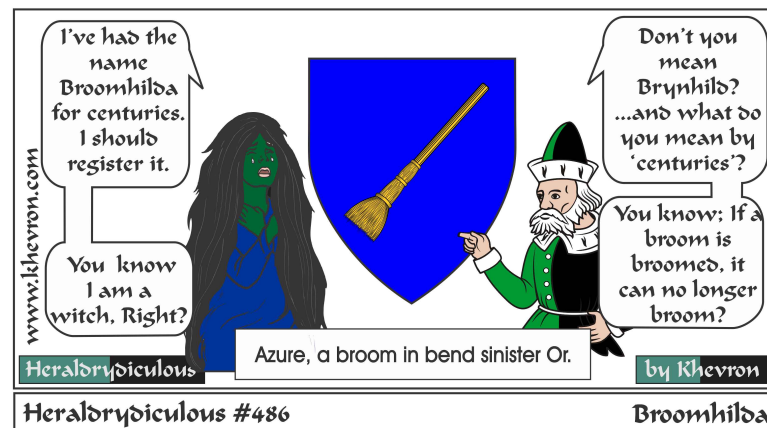
#### Musician chat:

Songs we are working on, music links and whose coming to practice. Ask Patrick Willoughby, Ellisif or Baroness Merewyn to get added.

## COUNTESS CAITRIONA TAKES OVER PRODUCTION OF THE OERTHA DIRECTORY

The Oertha Directory, which was produced for years by Morgana, will now be produced by Caitríona inghean ui Chionaodha.

Please contact her by June 12th if you want to be included. Email:  
caitriona(at)westkingdom.org



# 40 YEAR CELEBRATION

## Event Report

Thanks to everyone who came to Winter's Gate 40 year! The event was well attended, with Their Highnesses Hans and Elena, and Sir Bartram, many of Our populace and some folks we haven't seen in a while and some new people we hope to see more of! Thanks to Patrick, Ellsif and Argrim for live music!

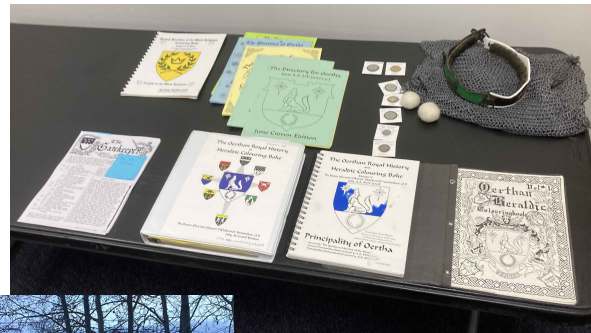
We probably planned too many activities, so the Bear Pit Tournament and Paleo Hobby Horse races went a little long, so we never did dance, and just finished a hair late with court. The Pot Luck was delicious!

Thanks to everyone for helping clean up and clearing out. We cleaned the site up as we always do. Thanks to the JP Jones Center for the extra room thrown in for free! We needed it!

--Baron Khevron, Event Steward



Hans called Sapphira the Navigator on video phone during the Principality court to name her as a Prince's Huscarl, which she accepted. It was fun to hear her voice again. She intends to attend Antir West War with His Highness.

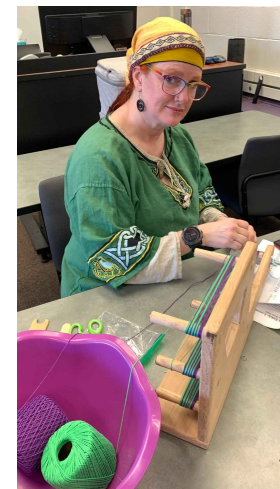


### **Baroness's Recognitions given:**

These were given for helping at Comicon in February, since the Baroness had to be out of town to visit family.

Anne FitzRichard, Lucius Cassius Maris, Chris of Pavlok Gorod, Elena verch Rhys, Flóki inn írski, Onóra Sparrow, Gisla Æðikollr, Hans Shaffer, & Margery Garret.





## EVENT REPORT: Spring Collegium

My greatest thanks to everyone who made our Collegium such a wonderful weekend: the teachers (Alex, Anne, Cemper, Chloe, Gisla, Hans, Kaye, Khevron, Lyneya, Margery, Merewyn, and Sir Bartram), my fellow musicians (Patrick and Merewyn), my lovely and most capable co-autocrat and cat herder Baroness Merewyn, and mostly all of you lovely people who took the time to attend.

Especial thanks go to Lyneya and Sir Bartram who travelled from far lands, to Chloe and Kaye who taught their first classes to rave reviews and great enthusiasm, and to Alex for being our first ever Youth Instructor!

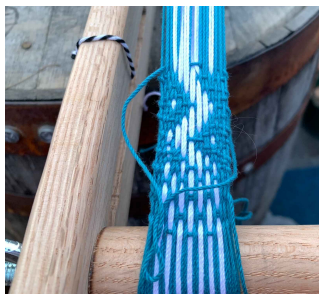
Thank you all. It wouldn't have happened without everybody.

--Ellisif





# A & S IN WINTER'S GATE



Lyre made by Patrick

"I started this new Inkle loom weaving at Collegium. I like these colors."  
--Baroness Merewyn

## DIGITAL A & S CONTEST

### How it works:

Work on and complete a "Summer" themed A & S project and submit it to Rebecca Toms. Details will be dropping in June and the contest will be at the end of July. ("if you wanted to get a head start on something, start now.... Hint hint" -- Faustina).

All the entries will be finalized into one pdf and the populace will vote for their favorites via Facebook poll.

### Entry Requirements:

- 1 -2 pictures of your progress
- 1 -2 pictures of your finished piece with brief description
- send pictures via Facebook messenger to Faustina de Firenze (Rebecca Toms).

A fun opportunity to showcase Oertha's Amazing Artisans!



VIRTUAL BARDIC ON FRIDAYS  
Hosted by the Kingdom of Meridies  
4:30 PM (AK time) to 7:30 PM

Like to sing and tell stories? Come meet around the virtual campfire for an evening of stories, songs, and laughter. Every Friday.

Please feel free to drop by and enjoy the performances, whether or not you want to perform yourself. There's no pressure, and audience members are always appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Facebook event page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1065831377911736/1172739737220899/>



SCA Discord server

# **JUNE CROWN at the Palmer Fairgrounds, AK! June 21-23**

Come experience the majesty of the West's northernmost Principality at June Crown in Oertha! Held over Solstice weekend, witness the selection of the heirs to the Occidental Throne under the Midnight Sun.

Site opens June 21st at noon. Site closes on June 23rd at 3:00 pm

Up-to-date information can be found at <https://sites.google.com/westkingdom.org/junecrown2024>

**Site Fee:** Non-member site fee: \$35, member fee: \$25  
Children 17 and under are free.

Pre-register here: <https://sites.google.com/westkingdom.org/epay/2024-west-kingdom-june-crown-june-21-23> Registration closes Wednesday, June 12th, at Noon. Pre-registration not required. You can register on arrival.

Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1038717060524853>



# *Autumn Tournaments*

**August 31st & September 1st**

**Site TBA**

**Gate Fee: donation only**

Come join us in Winter's Gate for our Captaincy (heavy) and Commander tournament (rapier). We will have a pot luck dinner, so bring enough to share for 6 to 8 people, and also plates and utensils.

We will have music and maybe some dancing!

Music. Do you sing or play an instrument? Patrick will give out tokens to people who are willing to perform a song or story. If you see someone wearing the token, you can ask them to perform anytime.

## **A & S CONTEST: FOOD in any mode**

Real (edible) food, paintings of food, embroidered napkins, decorated dishes, ceramic dishes, handmade knives, a song, a story ... if it has to do with food, we want to see it.

Event steward: Khevron Goertz, contact at [khevron@warppmail.net](mailto:khevron@warppmail.net)  
For more details, see the Facebook event page.

**SAVE THE DATE!**



# SUMMER CORONET

July 19 - 21, 2024

In Anderson

## *Good Gentles of the Known World!*

The time has come to choose the heirs to the Boreal Thrones! Come join Their Highnesses Hans and Elena to witness the tournament to choose Their heirs and celebrate Their Investiture.

Following the tournament and roses field, there will be a Tavern Brawl. Tavern Brawls will be held for both Heavy and Rapier fighters. Fighters bring your armor and fun! There will be games and dancing on the list field in the evening!

Please be aware of Wildlife, Bears and Moose in the area and be prepared for Mosquitoes. Wheelchair Accessible.

**Site Fee:** \$30 (non-member), \$20 (member); children 17 and under free. RV Parking slots have Electric Hook ups, fee to be paid directly to the City of Anderson.

Event Steward: Anne Fitzrichard. Contact: [annefitzrichard\(at\)westkingdom.org](mailto:annefitzrichard@westkingdom.org) (Kathryn McKowen-Taves)

Begins July 19 at noon, until the 31st at 4 pm.

## PRE-REGISTER FOR CORONET.

Pre-Registration is strongly encouraged and is live. (Not required)

Please double check you are submitting registration for the correct event. There are multiple events listed on the webpage. Registrations are non-transferable.

Click here to pre-pay: <https://sites.google.com/.../2024-oertha-coronet-investiture>

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Parks Highway, turn Right on Clear Highway. Go about a mile and turn right on Anderson Road and follow it about 5 miles to the city of Anderson (and it becomes 1st). It is a small town. Please be very conscientious of your speed when driving through town. Follow that to the end of town. Turn Left at the sign for the campground.

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/802052388130700/>







## Court Reports:

*Featuring Local Populace*



### 40 Year Celebration

by Khevron & Merewyn, Baron & Baroness



#### Baroness' Recognitions

Gisla Æðikollr, Margery Garret,  
Lucius Cassius Maris, Anne FitzRichard,  
Floki inn Irski, Chris of Pavlok Gorod,  
Hans Shaffer, Elena verch Rhys, Calliope, Onora Sparrow



### 40 Year Celebration

by Hans and Elena, Prince and Princess of Oertha

Prince's Huscarl

Sapphira the Navigator



#### Princess' Heavy Champion

Arngrim of the North

#### Princesses Escort

Hakim al-Basim ibn Rashid

#### Ursa Major

Merewyn of Ynys Taltraeth

#### Order of the Glove

Hallbiörn Erlændar son

### Winter's Gate Collegium

by Khevron & Merewyn, Baron & Baroness



#### Friends of the Barony

Lyneya of the Burnt Wood



#### Baroness' Recognition

Ellisif í Reykiarvik

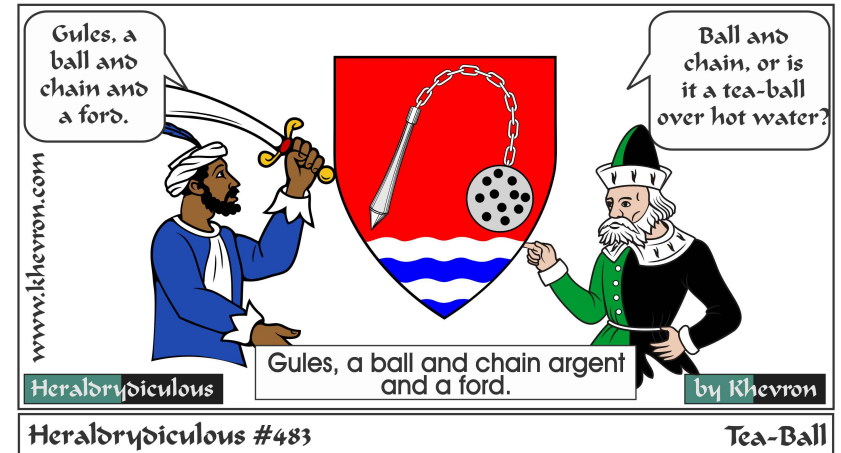
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by Hans and Elena, Prince and Princess of Oertha

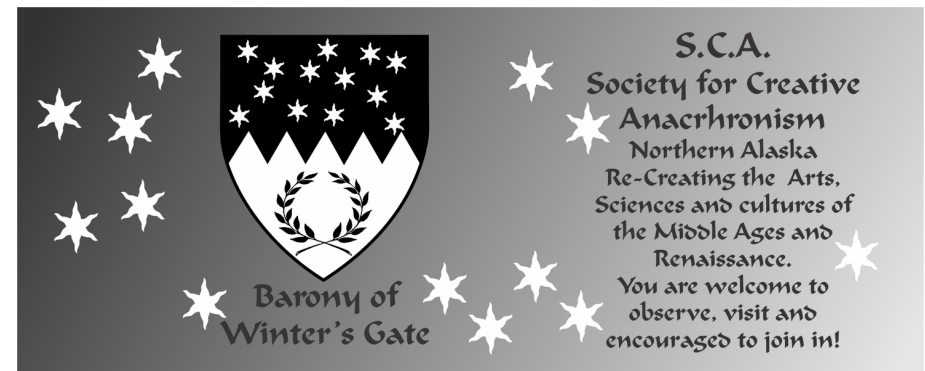


#### Bard of Oertha #14

Patrick Willoughby



## A NEW PUBLIC FACEBOOK BARONY PAGE



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092223264729>



## RECIPE CORNER

### Beef Y-Stywyd

*This has been the "barony-provided" meat dish at many events. Somehow, there's never any left at the end of the evening ...*

*(Hint: this is much easier to understand (and more fun) if you read it aloud)*

*Original: Take fayre beef of the rybbys of the fore quarterys, an smyte in fayre pecys, and wasche the beef in-to a fayre potte; than take the water that the beef was sothin yn, an strayne it thorw a straynowr, an seethe the same water and beef in a potte, an let hem boyle to-gederys; than take canel, cloves, maces, graynys of parise, quibibes, and oynons y-mynced, perceli, an sawge, an caste ther-to, an let hem boyle to-gederys; an than take a lof of brede, an stepe it with brothe an venegre, an than draw it thorw a straynore, and let it be styлле; an whan it is nere y-now, caste the lycour ther-to, but nowt to moche, an than let boyle onys, an cast safroun ther-to a quantyte; than take salt an venegre, an cast ther-to, an loke that it be poynount y-now, and serue forth.*

*--from Harlein MS 279 (1430), published in Take a Thousand Eggs or More, Vol. 1 (Cindy Renfrow, 2003)*

### Beef Stew: Modern Version

1 lb stew beef cut in cubes  
1 onion, chopped  
1 Tbsp olive oil  
½ tsp salt  
5 cups water  
11 cubebs, crushed  
¾ tsp grains of paradise, crushed  
¼ tsp mace powder  
1 tsp dried sage  
¼ tsp cinnamon  
6 whole cloves  
1 Tbsp dried parsley  
2 pinches saffron  
½ cup breadcrumbs  
1 Tbsp vinegar (preferably red wine or apple cider vinegar)

Brown the beef cubes about 3 min per side in a shallow pan, then remove. Dump in 1 cup water to get the lovely browned bits off the pan. Put beef and water in your stewing pot.

Add the oil to the pan, then onion and salt. Let the onion cook until it starts to brown. Add it to the stewing pot.

To the stewing pot, add the rest of the water and spices, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and let simmer for 1-1/2 to 2 hours or until meat is tender. (OR cook in Instant Pot under pressure for 30 minutes, OR cook in Crockpot on low for 7-8 hours).

Pick out the meat and put it into a bowl. Bring the broth to a boil. Add breadcrumbs and vinegar. Let it boil until the volume is reduced by half. It will thicken a bit. Remove the cloves and put the meat back into the broth. Serve it forth.

(great additions: potatoes and mushrooms)

Recipe provided by Ellisif

## Business Meeting, March 7th, 2024

BARONIAL BIRTHDAY There were 36 in attendance: 13 non-members, 7 non member adults; 6 of them at first (or 2nd event, Amber's bro, 1st event). Event was donation only. Income Of \$336, site fee \$133.51. Reimbursement check for deposit received..

People didn't share many stories, but we had a lot of other stuff going on. Fighting, Horse races.

-For dancing, Anne wants to have a core of maybe 4 or 5 people who each know a few dances so that in case someone is late or absent (the one person who knows the dances) someone else can lead the dances.

COLLEGIUM. No cost to us for the Saturday: have rooms in Gruening building. And one classroom on Sunday.. We can't charge for the event.

UPDATE THE W.K. CALENDAR: (on Collegium)

Write [communications@westkingdom.org](mailto:communications@westkingdom.org) (Khevron knows where the link is)

TEACHERS: Hans and Bartram; Bartram will be up in April, and possibly can come up for collegium and do a class or two. Hans will do a class on making a glaive and fighting with one. Lyneya will do another weaving class. Under and over extra pick up.

SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP: Event Steward will be Anne. Pioneer Park is booked, need site.

Still no event steward for:

AUTUMN TOURNEY, MICHAELMAS & YULE.

BJARNARSTROND

-Is internet good enough to include them in the business meeting zoom? They have been invited but haven't yet attended.

## Business Meeting, March 7th, Cont'd

SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP We will have A & S championship CHARTER. Hallbiorn has gotten an update; we still need to write ceremonies and think up tokens for the new awards EXCHEQUER: Anne will be covering for Elena, not sure if paperwork has gone through yet. Require minutes of meetings.

CONSTABLE. Happy, things going well. The slightly mocked multiple clipboards for signing in have spread and are being used elsewhere now.

A & S. New A & S person is Ellisif.

MARSHAL. Paperwork, regnum changes (but forgot physical signed warrants with Arngrim (heavy) and Chris (rapier).

New rapier fighter authorized: Floki. & 16 year old.

CHATELAINE (Floki). Khevron sent emails to all the people that signed up at comicon. And also sent Gatekeepers to all who left a physical address.

SENESCHAL. Annual report due in April (for all officers).

Send Hallbiorn the member # and mundane name.

GOLDKEY. Not sure anyone used it. Didn't require it at 40 Year. A few newcomers didn't wear it.

LISTMINISTER. Didn't have a listminister at bear pit, except Khevron marking wins. (We did have a meeting quorum here today-because of India).

SPRING CHAMPION. Anne still doesn't have a site. Tanana Lakes rec area. Off of south Cushman and North lake lane. Some discussion of sites.

CORONET at Anderson. Anne is running it; German theme. If anyone wants to learn how to help run coronet. Friday night soups for those who come in. Tundra Weasel will be there. Site token idea; she'll make a sample over the weekend to see how it works. Idea for a German market stall for coronet, using it for the list table. Try it at June crown.



## Business Meeting, April 24, 2024

**Baronial Charter.** The king said he approved the changes but that it is with the Kingdom seneschal and then it goes to the Principality seneschal.

**Collegium Update:** Merewyn will send out an email to barony.

**Discussion of sites** for Michaelmas or Yule. Try Chena Lakes for Fall Championship? Camping event, less wind (Hallbiorn) (Chris) maybe not windy and rainy at same time. Camping yes. Less stressful.

### OFFICER'S REPORT

Seneschal (Hallbiorn): Forgot to submit the officer reports on the 1st. Sent in all the warrants that were sign; all submitted now.

Exchequer (Hallbiorn): Over \$6000 in the checking account. Anne may not have been added yet to account but Elena can still sign checks.

Constable/Chatelaine: No report.

Marshals (Chris): filed two damaged equipment reports (practice); no injuries.

Herald (Khevron): reports were done for previous event. Next heraldry submission date is May 8th for next mtg.

Gatekeeper (Merewyn): Planning to put Gatekeeper out in mid-May.

Goldkey: Might need to review all the old goldkey and plan upgrades or repair. Maybe have a Saturday goldkey day; get it all out. Sew it. Tabards, tunics. Pick a day. Especially once yard has thawed out, maybe at Ellisif's house. (two)

List minister: if Anne is not here spring championship.

Margery is only other person who knows how.

Bjarnarstrond. Not much report.

Anne is getting back on Sunday.

## THREE BARONS FAIR

Anchorage, Alaska

June 1-2 (Pirate Themed) &

June 8-9 (Fantasy Themed)

Noon to 8pm

New Location - 801 Pine Street  
Russian Jack Springs Park North - in  
Anchorage

There is an SCA demo there, if you are  
interested in going.

<https://3barons.org/>

## Business Meeting, April 24, 2024, Cont'd

### Events & Event Stewards:

June 1st	Baroness's Champion	Anne / Talorc
Aug 31st	Autumn Championship	Khevron / Merewyn
Oct 12th	Michaelmas	Hallbiorn & Ellisif
Dec 7th	Yule	Merewyn / Khevron

Upcoming Business Meetings:

(Held at 6:45 pm via Zoom)

May 23rd & June 27th

Everyone welcome to attend.

See the link on the F.B. page or email Daniel Parrish  
wgsgeneschal(at)gmail.com for the meeting link.

## DIGITAL GATEKEEPER ARCHIVE:

Find digital color copies of the latest newsletters and some additional materials. Also, historical scanned copies.  
<https://khevron.tripod.com/wgnewsletters/>  
or from [www.khevron.com](http://www.khevron.com)

## Web- Links:

Society for Creative Anachronism  
[www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)

Barony of Winter's Gate  
[www.wintersgate.org](http://www.wintersgate.org)

New Members of the West Kingdom  
<https://www.westkingdom.org/content/new-members>

SCA Research Links  
<https://www.sca.org/resources/research-links/>

Modar's Heraldry pages  
<http://www.modaruniversity.org/Heraldry.htm>

SCA Merchant Mall  
<https://scamerchantmall.com/merchants-2/>

Stefan's Florilegium  
<http://www.florilegium.org/>

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## HAMLET

### Da'ud Bob Movie Review

Let me start out by saying that I am, to say the least, not a big fan of modern music composed by people who think that discordant notes with little to no trace of an actual melody. Indeed, I have never really understood, nor liked, such "Arty with a capital A" music. I find it pretentious, affected, and hard to listen to. This is not to say that I dislike music in general; I was raised on, and played both in band and orchestra, all kinds of music, from popular through classical through folk and more. But you need to be aware of my bias against such music going in to this month's movie review, because it is an opera written in just such a style. Not that I have a problem with opera per se. I don't. I am familiar with, and have enjoyed watching, a wide variety of operas, from Madame Butterfly, though Turandot, to Pagliacci, to Carmen (which Anna Sue has an issue with; she believes that Carmen takes way too long to die!), and even P.D.Q. Bach's The Abduction of Figaro.



## HAMLET, Pt 2, Cont'd Da'ud Bob Review

But this production is not like any of those. And clearly, not everyone shares my bias; the Classical Music Critic for the New York Times extolled it. (You can find his review on-line at <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/15/arts/music/hamlet-opera-met.html>) But this review is going to be from my perspective, not his, as this month, Da'ud Bob reviews the PBS Great Performances airing of the Metropolitan Opera's presentation of Brett Dean's Hamlet.

Starring Allan Clayton in the title role, with Brenda Rae as Ophelia, Rod Gilfrey as Claudius, Sarah Connelly as Gertrude, William Burden as Polonius, John Relyea as the Ghost (as well as playing the King of the players and the Gravedigger), David Butt Philip as Laertes, Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and Christopher Lowrey as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, and Jacques Imbrailo, the basic story here is the same as in every other production of Hamlet, the biggest difference is that everyone is singing nearly everything, and some of the scenes, lines, and characters have been rearranged to show up in different places.

## HAMLET, Pt 3, Cont'd Da'ud Bob Review,

For example, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern show up both earlier and later in the action here than they do in the Shakespearean play.

Bad points: Well, we don't have Shakespeare's words, so there's that. And, frankly, I rather missed both the Fool and "poor Tom. (And yet, neither one was truly necessary in this film version of the play).

One breast. No blood. No (on-screen) dead bodies. (Two were mentioned.) Fist fu. Lawyer fu. There was a lot more emotional abuse than physical. Truck rolls. Harvester reaps. Gratuitous discussion about organic farming. Gratuitous clothes folding. Gratuitous vegetarianism.

It was basically an All-Star cast, so every main actor gets an Academy Award nomination: Jason Robards for being so over-bearing and irascible; Jessica Lange for the subtle changes that Ginny goes through; Michelle Pfeiffer for being willing to look so thoroughly ill at the end; Jennifer Jason Leigh for being so naive about her father and her sisters; Colin Firth for being so un-Mr. Darcy-like; and Keith Carradine for having another role where he gets to play Keith Carradine. A mere 37 on the Vomit Meter. 3½ Stars. Da'ud Bob says, "It's not often that you get this many major, and upcoming, stars in what is effectively another Shakespearean movie. Check it out!"



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# FROM THE CHRONICLER'S PEN:

Greetings,



I missed the Spring issue of 2024 because I had to go to Utah to visit my brother, Kelvin, who found out that he had pancreatic cancer. He died of a heart attack while I was there visiting. But Khevron filled in and did the last Gatekeeper for me, and I thank him for that. I also missed Comiccon.

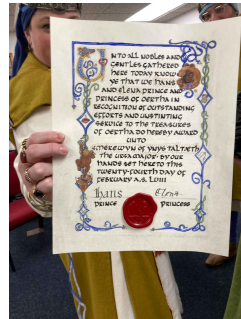
On a brighter note: I am retiring from my full time job at

the elementary

school where I work as a SPED aide. I've done that for 10 years (13 years altogether). I will have more time to devote to hobbies, arts and crafts, and relaxation!

*Baroness Merewyn*

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[lareena@warpmail.net](mailto:lareena@warpmail.net).



Got this cool scroll for the  
Ursa Major award!  
(Service to Treasures)

This is the Summer 2024 (May) issue of the GATEKEEPER, a publication of the Barony of Winter's Gate (Northern Alaska), 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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