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Issue

631

The Kingdom of An Tir brings you...

# The Crier

## Eat This Book!

V Eduardo reviews *The Oldest Cuisine in the World: Cooking in Mesopotamia!*

## Spotlight Scribe!

Raven Qara fon is in the spotlight in our engaging column!

## "Esperance" and Peerage Order Names!

B Cormac Mor, OP gives background on the newest order's name!

## Greater Offices of An Tir



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### Reporting Calendar of An Tir

		Report Due
Q1	Jan-Mar	May 1st
Q2	Apr-Jun	August 1st
Q3	July-Sep	November 1st
Q4	Oct-Dec	February 1st

## The Royal Court



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### *Their Royal Highnesses*

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### *Their Alpine Highnesses of the Summits*

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### *Their Alpine Heirs*

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## Royal Champions

Champion of An Tir	C Rauokinn Eyverska Starradottir, KSCA, OP	July Coronation
Kingdom Protector	Drekah Thoreson	September Crown
Queen's Rapier Champion	Godfrey von Ravensburg, MOD	Kingdom A&S
Arts & Sciences Champion	L Matittiyahu von Modin	Kingdom A&S
Bardic Champion	HL Margaret ingen Domnaill	Collegium
Equestrian Champion	D Angharad Banadaspus Drakenhefd	Twelfth Night

## Health and Safety



Although the SCA (Society of Creative Anachronism) complies with all applicable laws to ensure the health and safety of our event participants, we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure to infectious diseases during in-person events. By participating in the in-person events of the SCA, you acknowledge and accept the potential risks. You agree to take any additional steps to protect your own health and safety and those under your control as you believe to be necessary.

# Notices

## From the ATWW Financial Committee

### EVENT STEWARDS AND SEARCH FOR A WAR EXCHEQUER

We are excited to announce the Event Stewards for An Tir West War 2025 are to be Evren Ankaravi from the West Kingdom and Cassandra Deveroux from the Kingdom of An Tir! Thank you both for stepping up to make An Tir West War 2025 a great event!

Additionally, the An Tir West War Financial Committee is looking for those interested in being the War Exchequer or Deputy for An Tir West War.

The War Exchequer is responsible for managing the ATWW funds, providing financial reports, and running the Financial Committee meetings. We are treating this as a Kingdom level office for both the West Kingdom and An Tir with a 2 year term.

If you are interested in being the War Exchequer or Deputy, please submit your SCA resume to [antirwestwarfinancial@antirwestwar.org](mailto:antirwestwarfinancial@antirwestwar.org), [seneschal@antir.org](mailto:seneschal@antir.org) and [seneschal@westkingdom.org](mailto:seneschal@westkingdom.org) by February 14th, 2025.

This resume does not need to be comprehensive, simply an overview of past exchequer or relevant modern-day financial management experience you would like to include. Some exchequers or society law experience is preferred, but not required to apply.

We are also looking for Department Heads, deputies and other volunteers for ATWW 2025. We would love to see a mix of experienced and new leaders from the West and An Tir working together to make this War amazing! A quick overview of some roles can be found at <https://antirwestwar.org/staff/>

Please contact the event stewards at [EventStewards@antirwestwar.org](mailto:EventStewards@antirwestwar.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

## From the Royal Largesse Coordinator

Please email [kingdom.largesse@antir.org](mailto:kingdom.largesse@antir.org) with any questions or if arrangement of hand-off/

delivery is needed.

### BASIC GUIDELINES FOR DONATION:

- ◆ Handmade is fantastic but not required, just that it's as period as possible (exceptions are in place for children's items – period preferred but NOT required, period adjacent or 'thematic' is great [examples: magical creatures, a modern puzzle with jousting scene, etc.]).
- ◆ PLEASE label each of your items with your SCA Name, SCA Branch, and what the item is/can be used for. UPDATED: If you wish to remain anonymous, that's fine! Just include your branch and the item description.
- ◆ ANYONE can donate largesse, in ANY quantity (Yes, even just one thing)!
- ◆ NO scented items please!
- ◆ NO perishable items please!
- ◆ NO items that can melt please! (If you are unsure, leave it in your car on a 90 degree day and see if it melts)
- ◆ If you are unsure what to donate, please reach out!
- ◆ Items we always need: Caps/Hats/Coifs; Veils; Cups; Toys/Games/Crafts/Stuffies for Children and Teens.

### CURRENT NEEDS:

- ◆ Cups (ceramic or wood)
- ◆ Veils (simple linen, circle/half-circle/rectangle)
- ◆ Gender neutral items and items traditionally geared toward masculine presenting folks

### SPECIFIC REQUESTS FROM OUR UPCOMING CROWN/TRHs:

For General Largesse

- ◆ Items Teens Can Use/Play With  
Some ideas: Smaller size/capacity haversacks, small leather-bound books, simple period craft kits, stuffies, wooden dice, small painted wooden boxes for trinkets, simple/cute block printing stamps, medi-

eval playing cards, tabletop games, 3D wooden puzzles, higher complexity coloring books, etc. Basically, anything rated 13+!

- ◆ Quality Over Quantity When Possible  
What does this mean? If you have time to make one 16th Century Pocket or 15 Needlebooks, lean towards the pocket. This does NOT mean that we don't want needlebooks ☐ We love needlebooks! If churning out lots of little things is your main jam, please continue to donate those, we still need bulk items and we are so grateful for the generosity and time used to create those as well!

### FOR PERSONAL GIFTS

- ◆ Usable Items Over Trinkets
- ◆ NO Food or Drink Including/Containing the Following: Beer, Wine, Onions, Coffee, Peat, Licorice, Celery, Lemon, Mushrooms, Seafood
- ◆ HRH Ana's Persona: Mid-14th Century French  
Heraldic Colors: Green, Gold, Black  
Symbols: Bees  
Favorite Color: Dark Green  
Preferred Colors: Dark Green, Gold, Black, Burgundy  
General Interests: Heraldic Displays, Painting (esp. Silk), Armored Combat, Thrown Weapons
- ◆ HRH Nicolai's Persona: 11th Century Norman  
Heraldic Colors: Green, Black, White  
Symbols: Raven, Stag  
Favorite Color: Deep Navy  
Color Preferences: Dark Blue, White, Purple, Dark Green, Gold  
General Interests: Armored Combat, Medieval Games, Wordsmithing, Cider

Their Heraldry and Reign Symbols are pictured for reference and free use.

YIS,  
Sibylla de Waryn, OL  
Kingdom/Royal Largesse Coordinator



## From the Black Lion Herald

### NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

Black Lion Herald is seeking applications for a successor to Black Lion Herald.

Black Lion is the Principal Herald of the Kingdom of An Tir, responsible for the administration of the An Tir College of Heralds and the promotion and exercise of heraldic activity throughout the kingdom and its principalities. Black Lion reports to the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, serving at the pleasure of both the Crown of An Tir and the Laurel office.

This is a high-profile leadership position, with direct supervision of over two dozen officers and every local branch pursuivant, as well as general guidance of many heralds-at-large.

A full description for the office of Black Lion may be found at:

<https://antirheralds.org/document/view/staff/black-lion-job-desc>

Letters of Intent with SCA resumes and mundane resumes need to be emailed to [blacklion@antir.org](mailto:blacklion@antir.org), [crown@antir.org](mailto:crown@antir.org), [heirs@antir.org](mailto:heirs@antir.org), and [seneschal@antir.org](mailto:seneschal@antir.org).

In Service,

Fina Black Lion

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QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS  
PLEASE NOTE: UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, VIRTUAL, QUARTERLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS. LIVE, QUARTERLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON SATURDAYS TO ACCOMMODATE NECESSARY TRAVEL. SATURDAY MEETINGS WILL STILL BE BOTH STREAMED LIVE AND RECORDED FOR VIEWING AT A LATER DATE. ALL MEETING DATES ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE CHANGE.

Groups interested in hosting a meeting should contact the Executive Assistant ([ea@sca.org](mailto:ea@sca.org)) for information on meeting requirements and how to submit a bid.

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- a) January 25 and 26, 2025, Quarterly Board Meeting – Virtual
- b) April 12 and 13, 2025 Quarterly Board Meeting – Live



- c) July 12 and 13, 2025 Quarterly Board Meeting – Virtual
- d) October 18 and 19, 2025 Quarterly Board Meeting – Live

**MID-QUARTER CONFERENCE CALL – TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

Monday, December 16, 2024

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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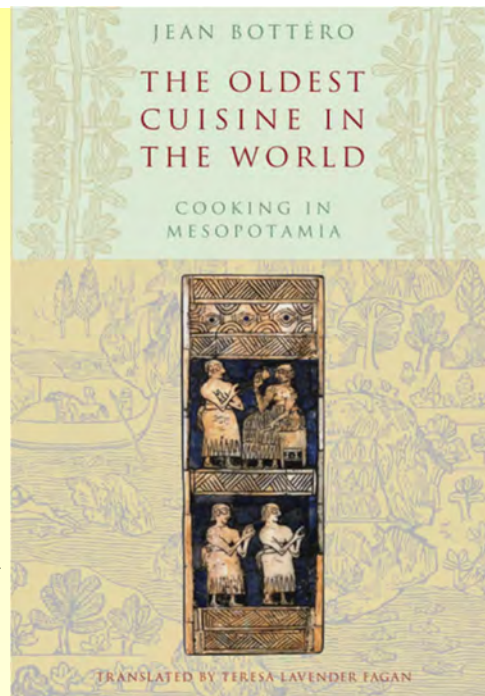
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**continued on page 14**

The book we will explore this month IS NOT A COOKBOOK, it is a research book about “The Oldest Cuisine in the World: Cooking in Mesopotamia” by Jean Bottero, translated by Teresa Lavender Fagan, The University of Chicago Press, 2004, originally published in French by Editios Louis Audibert, 2002. But even though it is not a cookbook I have to tell you right from the start I took more notes, was more fascinated and wanted so much more on this topic by the end of this book. Jean Bottero frames his exploration into Mesopotamian cuisine by saying, “There is nothing more commonplace than eating and drinking. And certainly nothing can acquaint us better with the representatives of a culture than joining them for a moment or two in these activities.” We might not all cook, but we all, everyone on the planet now and for millennium into the past, eat and drink. It connects us to the history and the people who lived before us in a very immediate way. Bottero goes on to comment

time. In the 1940’s, Marry Hussey, a researcher studying the tablets, thought they might actually be recipes and not medical texts. Her research was disregarded. It wasn’t until Jean Bottero started his research and translation efforts on these and other tablets that the Yale tablets were confirmed to include over 40 culinary recipes. Before the Yale tablets were “re-discovered” there was only one brief Mesopotamian recipe “dating from around 400 B.C.E. for a sort of court-bouillon”. Bottero also uses many of the more than half a million cuneiform tablets in public and private collections around the world to enhance the information in the book. These tablets contain “news items about people’s lives, private or public; their customs; facts and events in social, economic, administrative, political, juridical, and military history; but also, about their multiple creations in literature and the arts, their knowledge of technical matters and technology, as well as their folklore, morality, mythology, and religion. And, of primary im-



portance here, these documents can provide information about eating and drinking.” Bottero brilliantly weaves together these details along with the recipes included in the Yale tablet to tell the story of this interesting culture and their food ways.

The history of the Mesopotamian region, modern day Iraq, Iran and the surrounding area, was one of huge advances. The fertile soil along with the invention of irrigation converged to create an agricultural bonanza. Communication evolved into a written language and produced the cuneiform tablets discussed earlier. And economics started to evolve first as a barter economy then developing rapidly into an exchange economy. The agricultural advances produced many products innumbrated in “The Oldest Cuisine”. This list is just some of the products: pistachios, bread, both leaven and un-leaven, flour, course and fine, semolina, bean flour, barley, groats, fish, shell fish, fish sauce, beef, mutton and lamb, other meats, both fresh and salted, beer, wine, vinegar, oil, honey, sesame seeds, salted meat, liver, heart, geese, ducks, wild pigeons, turtledoves, onions, garlic, leeks, dates, figs, raisins, flowers, apples, peas, lentils, milk, cumin, coriander, watercress, cucumbers, mint, dill, rue, butter, blood, etc. There is no pork listed and one tablet says, “The pig is not clean.”

Disregarding the translator’s short note, the abbreviations chart on manuscripts, tablets and archives, the notes section and the bibliography “The Oldest Cuisine” has 18 chapters or sections of the book. These include an overview of “the pleasure of the table in Ancient Mesopotamia”, the “Food and Eating” the importance of “Fire, “Culinary Traditions”, “Drinks”, and much more. On page 11 and 12 you will find a wonderful chart on the history of Mesopotamia from the six millennium Pre-

# Eat This Book

about the people of Mesopotamia, “everything in their daily lives, including their religious behavior, their concepts of life and death, were necessarily, and strongly, integrated into the cycle of eating and drinking.” A very bold and overarching statement, but we can look to many different cultures and find a similar sentiment. The ancient and modern Jewish cultural practices are similar. What would Passover Seder be without the ritual food products incorporated into the ceremony, and of course, the family feast afterwards. Or Purim without hamantashen (Haman Hats or Ears), or donuts and other fried foods for Hanukkah?

The sources Jean Bottero’s uses to support his work in “The Oldest Cuisine” start with the Yale tablets. It is unclear how long these clay cuneiform tablets have been in possession of Yale University, but in the 1920’s these tablets were thought to have been medical in nature and were not discussed in much detail at the

The modern, popular, press including NPR, BBC, the NY and LA Times, and others seems to be all over Mesopotamian Cuisine since the first three cuneiform tablets were uncovered in the Yale Babylonian Collection. A group of Yale scholars published three recipes they had redacted and those along with the many mention of beer in the existing Mesopotamian corpus set off a press frenzy! But these articles only touched on the full and rich food ways of the Mesopotamian people which makes up “The Oldest Cuisine”. One quote from the book is especially enlightening:

*“The House where beer is never lacking:  
She is there!  
The house rich in soup:  
That is her place!  
The house where there is bread in abundance:  
She is the one who cooks it!”*



Photo by Ylva Annarsdottir

historic era through to the end of the Mesopotamian era and the beginning of the Parthian era in 130 C.E. Unfortunately, the translator's note does not give us any insight into her methodology or approach to the work. Bottero on the other hand speaks several times about how he has translated the ancient Sumerian and Akkadian as close as possible to the original text and layout of the recipes and that he approaches this work from an anthropological standpoint, not a historical or textual perspective. This approach lends itself well to exploration in cooking, but in one or two cases engaging more from a historical cook's perspective would have helped. For instance, more could have been made of the link between this ancient cuisine's use of fish and seafood sauce with the Ancient Roman condiment garum and the Southeast Asian fish sauces used today. Or the use of coals and embers to cook root vegetables instead of assuming vegetables are far to tender to cook in the fire and can only be boiled. But in the grand scheme of things these are minor nits.

Most of the recipes found in the Yale tablets are for meat and vegetable broths. There are also several different poultry pies, some roasted poultry, a few porridges, and other recipes, both simple and very complex. This recipe for

a lamb stew is very easy to re-create. "Samidu" is likely fine semolina. "Suhutinnu" is a root vegetable of some sort, probably a turnip, parsnip or an early carrot.

### Tuh'u beet broth

Lamb meat is used. Prepare water; add fat. Peel the vegetables. Add salt; beer; onion; arugula; coriander, samidu; cumin and the beets. Assemble all the ingredients in the cooking vessel and add mashed leeks and garlic. Sprinkle the cooked mixture with coriander, and suhutinnu.

Jean Bottero (1914 – 2007) was a noted scholar on all things Mesopotamian. He was the chair and director of Assyriology at the École pratique des hautes études in Paris. Besides "The Oldest Cuisine" Jean Bottero also published several other books that were translated into English by Teresa Lavender Fagen and published by The University of Chicago press. They are "Ancestor of the West: Writing, Reasoning, and Religion in Mesopotamia, Elam, and Greece" (2000), "Everyday Life in Ancient Mesopotamia" (2001), "Religion in Ancient Mesopotamia" (2001) and one, "Birth of God: The Bible and the Historian" translated by Kees W. Bolle and published by Penn State Press posthumously in 2010.

"Eat this book" is a column produced for An-Tir's Kingdom newsletter, The Crier. I hope help you build your food history library. If you have a book, a country, or a time period you would like explored please write to me at: [info@vastrepast.com](mailto:info@vastrepast.com)



Photo by Tessina

Visconti Eduardo Lucrezia is a mid-15th Century Italian Renaissance Court and Kitchen Punk. He is obsessed with the food from the Iberian Peninsula, specifically the recipes of Mar-

tino and Platina. He is a member of the Order of the Laurel, the order of the Pelican, and a Lion of AnTir.

David Huffman-Walddon owns a technology consulting company, Renaissance Strategic Consulting, Inc., and an Arbonne health and wellness business. He has written on food history for The Journal of Italian Food and Wine and Petits Propos Culinaires. He has given papers on the food of the Italian Renaissance at the Oxford Symposium on Food and Cookery and the Renaissance Society of America. His weekly food history and tradition column, The Vast Repast, was syndicated in Washington, Oregon, California and British Columbia.



### What is your SCA name?

Raven Qara ton

### How long have you been a scribe?

37 years (started in High School).

### Have you ever held an office/ position as a Scribe?

Yes, I was the first Summits Principality Scribe for the first seven years that the Principality existed (I also functioned as Summits scribe during some of the pre-Principality years, and Adiantum Baronial scribe for several years). At that time there were only about 3-4 active scribes in Summits at any given time, scattered across southern Oregon. I painted many, many, many charters. I made many, many, many wax seals and burned my fingers a lot. I kept records, taught classes, brought a traveling 'library' of scribal reference books to events (there was no or very little internet access at that point), and helped other scribes whenever I could. I also learned that in a pinch, you can attach a pre-made wax seal to a scroll with chewing gum! That only happened once, but ... if it won't come off of your shoe, it won't come off of the scroll! I was also the coordinator for the Summits portion of the Thirtieth Year Domesday Book, which was quite an undertaking. I calligraphed and illuminated four

pages and calligraphed about 7 more. Getting everyone's pages back together from all over Summits was challenging, but they all made it into the book!

### tricks, or techniques that you use or have learned through your scribal journey?

Often people think they're bad at art when they really just have bad materials; it's worth paying a bit more to get the best results. Kolin-sky sable brushes are the best, but the Princeton 4050 synthetic brush is a close second and costs a lot less. The Hunt 102 nib by Speedball is my absolute favorite nib for inking illumination on scrolls; it takes a light hand but is incredibly expressive. Ink your outlines, paint them in, and ink them again (sounds tedious, but it really makes a difference). My favorite ink is Calli, my favorite nibs are Brause and Mitchell. When inking or calligraphing, always scribble on scratch paper between dipping the pen and marking the scroll; this prevents a big blobby mark that makes it obvious when you dipped. To avoid smearing, allow inked illumination and calligraphy to dry overnight before erasing any pencil marks. My favorite paint is Holbein watercolor and gouache (expensive, but so worth it). My favorite metallic paints are Finetec. On many illumination styles, titanium white highlights are what makes the magic happen. If you need to paint out a flub on off-white watercolor paper, a tiny bit of yellow ochre in your titanium white will help match the color of the paper. When you're making wax seals in advance, keep an ice pack handy so you can cool the signet (and your fingers) in between impressions. If your hand tends to sweat, work with a piece of scrap paper between your hand and the scroll to avoid smudging. If you have to calligraph a long text, take breaks, and if your hand gets sore/cramped, run it under warm water to relax it.

# Spotlight Scribe Raven Qara ton

### What is your

### How did you become a scribe?

By looking at pictures in books and trying it. I learned blackletter from looking at my AoA promissory (what they gave before charters were a thing). The first full-fledged piece I did was an invitation for King Steingrim to an Adiantum Midwinters Feast. I started doing local award scrolls maybe 2 or 3 years later.

### What do you enjoy most about being a scribe?

Getting to create something both gorgeous and historically plausible that is also carefully tailored to the recipient's likes, emblems, activities, heraldry, and other elements of personal meaning. Also: getting to play with gold--lots and lots of gold. It's so shiny!

### scribal pet peeve?

Faux language fonts (e.g. pretends to be Russian but is actually English modified to kinda look like Russian). They can sometimes be done well, but mostly they just make my head hurt.

### Was there anyone what helped you along your scribal journey that you would like to acknowledge?

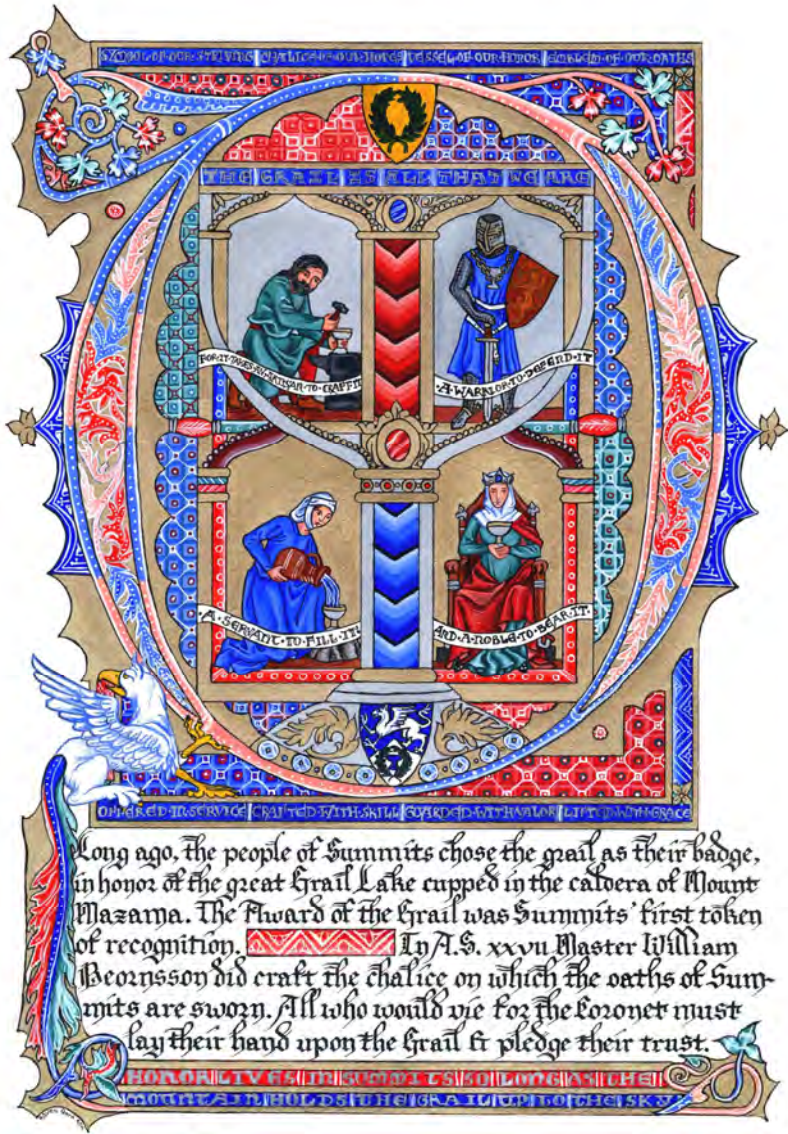
For help too extensive to describe: Mistress Keterlin von dem Drachen, Dame Tamlyn of Wyntersea, Duchess Hlutwige Wolfkiller, and all the folks who worked on Summits and Adiantum scrolls and charters in the early days.

### Do you have any special tips.

### Have you ever done an original award? If so, what did you learn through the process? Do you have any advice you would pass on to someone new to original work?

Yes, various (including one made from scratch in two hours on site at a camping event, which I don't recommend). If at all possible, try to learn something about the recipient so you can customize the scroll: favorite colors, persona, pets, activities, anything you can glean from their friends, social media, etc. Tip: rather than





3. "Never sneeze while holding a loaded pen."
4. "Don't sigh when you're laying gold leaf."

**Is there anything that you would say to your younger scribal self just starting out on this path?**

1. "Any rule can be broken well." (Yseult of Broceliande.)
2. "Always start with the period sources."
3. "I know it seems crazy to ink things twice, before AND after painting, but it really is worth it."
4. "Use smaller brushes."
5. "Use bigger margins."
6. "Always make your scroll to fit a standard frame."
7. "Blackletter is based on a hexagon. Once you know that, you will know how to improve it."

**Is there anything else that you would like to say or add as an An Tir Spotlight Scribe?**

To create a scroll is a unique honor and privilege. It allows us to please ourselves, as artists; our royalty, as patrons and bestowers of joy; our recipients, as people worthy of commemoration; and our society, as a place in which everyday people receive handcrafted works of art and where merit through hard work and exemplary behavior is rewarded. To be a scribe is to be given opportunity to excel, to practice kindness and thoughtfulness, to give delight, to serve selflessly, to earn renown, and to expand what is possible. A scroll is an act of trust and its result is a gift to all who see it. When hand, eye, mind, and tool combine, great works are possible, and words and images bloom to richly represent both past and present. Let us always be mindful of the possibilities.

**If you have a candidate you would like to nominate for the Spotlight Scribe series, please feel free to reach out to the Chronicler's office at [criereditor@antir.org](mailto:criereditor@antir.org). Include "Spotlight Scribe Nominee" in your subject line.**

penciling your illumination directly on the final paper, draw it on a separate piece of paper and then transfer it to your final paper using a light table, window, or other transfer method. This will keep the final paper much cleaner. Another tip: leave plenty of room for the seal and the signatures.

**What is your favorite Kingdom Award that you have painted, calligraphed, or designed? Why is that your favorite?**

It's a tie between the illumination I did on the Lion Scroll for Yseult of Broceliande and the illumination I did on the Pelican Scroll for Elisabetta Tomaso de Carducci. The Lion scroll was my first piece on animal parchment, a bucket list item for me, and also incorporated gilding, which I love. Of all my work, I think it

is the piece that most closely resembles the period original in the Second Bible of Charles the Bald. I also had the pleasure of knowing it was the style and colors she would like best. The Pelican Scroll was based on the very extravagant Italian Bible of Borso d'Este, so I could really go over the top on decoration. I especially enjoyed the complex shading of the flowers and being able to incorporate her personal symbols, as well as her cats!

**What is the best or most impactful piece of advice you have ever received through your scribal journey?**

1. "Done is beautiful."
2. "The perfect is the enemy of the good."



Photo by Ylva Annarsdottir

# "Esperance" and Peerage Order Names

*The following was originally published on Facebook on August 9, 2024. The spelling "Esperance" is left intact from the original post, though the name currently in process as of August 16, 2025, is "Esperance." I tend to write more formally and evenly for this site than I do on social media or my opinion pieces hosted on the main Poore House site, so I hope that you will forgive the more playful tone I take here. -Cormac*

**P**eerage Order Names. Let's talk about them.

A number of people are dissatisfied with the name "Order of Esperance" because they feel it doesn't reflect the identity of the ranged weapons community.

And they're right, it doesn't. And that's because it hasn't been used by the ranged weapons community yet. They haven't wrapped their identity around the word and claimed it as their own.

Consider:

A **laurel** wreath is a symbol of triumph from Ancient Greece. They were given to victors in the Olympics and were worn by commanders during Roman triumphal marches. Only in the SCA do we think of laurel wreaths as a symbol of Arts & Sciences, specifically.

A **pelican** in its piety is a symbol of death and resurrection. In early Christian semiotics, the pelican was described as killing her young, lamenting for three days, then reviving them with blood from her own breast, mirroring G-d's wrath and Jesus' sacrifice. Only in the SCA do we think of pelicans as a symbol of Service, specifically.

Historic **rose** symbology is all over the place, from being icons of both Aphrodite and the Virgin Mary to more modern associations; anything from love and passion to English nationalism and Socialism. As Umberto Eco said about his book *The Name of the Rose*: "the rose is a symbolic figure so rich in meanings that by now it hardly has any meaning left." There's a definite feminine association with roses from early history, but only in the SCA do we associate wreaths or chaplets of roses with former royal consorts, specifically.

(Yes, I am cribbing from Wikipedia. And if you noticed, you're reading along with me, so hush.)

But those are three Orders with abstract names and symbols, and they're not the martial orders. Perhaps those who don't like "Esperance" want something closer to what the fighting peers have.

Now, Chivalry is certainly tied to both medieval warrior culture and fighting with swords in suits of armor, so the **Order of Chivalry** can certainly be said to have a name that had ties to its activity before it was chosen. But "Order of Chivalry" is a blanket group consisting of two different Orders, each with their own names. And...friends, the names are painfully on the nose.

First let's talk about the **Order of Knighthood**. Chivalric orders in period all had names and symbols attached to them. The Order of the

Garter, the *Ordre de la Toison d'Or*, the Order of the Star, the Knights of the Round Table, and so on.

What do we have in the SCA? The Order of Knighthood. Who are they? Knights. Knights of what, exactly? Uhhh, Knights of the Order of Knighthood! While the phrase "Knight of the Society for Creative Anachronism" is a protected phrase, in order to actually be a Knight of the SCA, the registered name would have to be "The Order of the Society for Creative Anachronism," or at least "The Order/Society of/for Creative Anachronism." But no, it was important enough to the knights in the early days of the Society that no one else in the SCA ever be known as Knights that they named their Order "Knighthood." One could not imagine a more generic name for an order of armored combatants.

That is, until we get to the **Order of Mastery of Arms**. Literally "The Order of being the best at fighting with weapons." There is no symbolism here, no poetry, no greater vision. Like the Order of Knighthood, the name Order of Mastery of Arms is bland and generic. More importantly, both of these names were chosen within the first year and a half of the Society, before there was a College of Arms and any sort of research into what Order names in period looked like.

And their blandness shows in how little anyone actually uses them. Despite having different titles, forms of address, regalia, and requirements for entry, the Order of Knighthood and the Order of Mastery of Arms are almost never referred to by name, but instead are always called "The Chivalry."

The **Order of Defense** is a little bit more subtle in its naming than Knighthood or Mastery of Arms. The name is intended to evoke the Company of the Masters of Defence (commonly known as the London Masters of Defence), a group of fencing instructors in Tudor England who founded a guild to protect their livelihoods.

However, the choice of the phrase "Masters of Defence" by the Tudor Company followed not a chivalric order pattern, but instead a guild pattern, like the Worshipful Company of Grocers or the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers. It was a choice that was handed to the heralds by the Board of Directors, with no acknowledgment or understanding of the rules for Order names that the Board themselves approved in SENA. And the actual documenta-



tion for the name in the submission doesn't mention the London Masters at all; it's stunt-documented to follow the pattern of "Order of [the name of either the founder or inspiration of the Order]," with the name Elizabeth Defence (buried 1593, St. Botolph Aldgate, London, England) providing sufficient evidence that the Order could be called "Order of Defence."

Several lessons were learned in the way that the Board handled the creation of the Order of Defense. And chief among them was "don't tell the heralds what you want and then demand that they make it fit within their rules. Instead, trust them to be the subject matter experts that they are and come up with the best name they can."

And so after careful deliberation, the heralds presented for consideration of the Society the "Order of Esperance." It shares its name with the Ordre d'Esperance, a chivalric order from Bourbon founded in the 14th century. The Percys, Earls (and later Dukes) of Northumberland had Esperance Herald as the herald of their household, and "Esperance!" was the battle cry of their armies. Like the word chivalry, esperance has several meanings, including hope, confidence, and trust.

The heralds involved in this deliberation and decision are ones who care deeply about the success of this Order, and include target archers, combat archers, throwers, and siege engineers. We are a part of the ranged martial community.

Could we have found an Order name that followed our rules while better describing the skills, weaponry, or actions of the ranged weapons community? Possibly...but what? Nearly every iteration of "Order of the [weapon or piece of equipment]" was rejected because it excluded potential members. Order of the Arrow would exclude thrown weapons and siege engines, Order of the Target would exclude combat archers and siege engineers, and so forth.

And if the name wasn't exclusive, chances are it was already taken. The College of Arms has registered ~60,000 items in its time, and has 20 kingdoms, 8 principalities, and 185 baronies who have all been trying to register names for their ranged martial artists over the course of 60 years. This is in addition to groups outside of the SCA whose name and fame (or infamy) are sufficient enough that we are obliged to protect them from presumption.

So, Esperance is the Order name on the table. It's not the only name we considered, and there are backups in case the Board rejects the first.

But importantly, whatever name gets chosen will, through time and use in ceremony and culture, become as closely associated with ranged martial pursuits as the Pelican is to service and the Laurel is to arts and sciences.



Photo by Ghislaine Triest



Thegn Cormac Mór is a very loud person who, for his sins, served a time as Wreath King of Arms. He is best best known by his appellation "the Voice of the War," which he earned by serving as cry herald for wars across the Known World. He has been described by at least three knights as the embodiment of everything that is wrong with the Society.

Kevin Rhodes is a business systems analyst living in the Golden Medina of Portland, Oregon. He has no spare time.

# Kingdom Calendar

## January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

## Upcoming Events

Twelfth Night Coronation	January 10-12	Barony of Three Mountains
Kingdom A&S and QRC	March 7-9	
May Crown	May 16-18	
July Coronation	July 18-20	
William Tell Archery 38	August 8-10	
September Crown	August 29-September 1	

## January

### Krakafjord's Post Yule Gathering/Practice 2025

January 4, 12pm — 4pm

Shire of Krakafjord

Event Steward(s): HL Mairin NiCaoinean (hlmairinnicaoinlean@yahoo.com)

Event Fee: Free. Donations accepted. Make donation checks payable to SCA, Inc., Shire of Krakafjord.

Site Address: Armstrong Seniors Activity Centre, 2520 Patterson Ave, Armstrong BC V0E 1B0

Activities include:

- ◆ *Fighter Practices. (Heavy Fighters will not be able to take a knee, unfortunately, unless in the yard outside)*  
*There will be Various A&S mediums and instruction offered, suitable for all ages*
- ◆ *A few basic Dances will be taught, suitable for all ages.*
- ◆ *"What does Bardic include & how does it work?" discussion, as well as some Bardic Practice*
- ◆ *Medieval Wares Exchange Table: Bring your excess Garb, Feast Gear, Fabric or Fighting Gear or Decor to brighten up some other Gentles' New Year. Pick up something to freshen up your Persona's New Year!*
- ◆ *More offerings of A&S opportunities for learning and discussion (for a delightful respite after the busy holidays), are being discussed.*

For more details and updates, look under the Shire of Krakafjord's Facebook Page, & un-

der Krakafjord Post-Yule Gathering 2025 Page

### Yule Feast 2025

January 4, 9am — 4pm

Barony of Vulcanfeldt

Event Steward(s): HE Rurik Gjafuldsson (rurik1@earthlink.net), HL Ionamyst V. Reginasdottir (ionamyst@gmail.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$20. Youth 17 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Vulcanfeldt.

Site Address: Grandview Community Event Center, 812 Wallace Way, Grandview, WA 98930

Directions:

Make your best way to I-82 near Grandview, WA.

I-82 Westbound (from Prosser/Tri-Cities) - Take EXIT 73 for Stover Rd.

Turn Left on Wine Country Rd. Turn Right at the light towards Stover Rd/Wallace Way.

Turn Left on Wallace Way. Proceed about .2 miles on Wallace Way. The Grandview Community Center is on the right.

I-82 Eastbound (from Yakima) - Take EXIT 73 for Stover Rd. Proceed straight through the light towards Stover Rd/Wallace Way. Turn Left on Wallace Way. Proceed about .2 miles on Wallace Way. The Grandview Community Center is on the right.

Please join us to celebrate Yule and the New Year. We will look forward to seeing the competitors that will be vying for our Arts & Sciences and Bardic Championships. We will also be hosting prize competitions for Largesse, Heavy Combat and Rapier Combat.

Please see the An Tir Kingdom Calendar or the Facebook event page "Yule Feast 2025" for more detailed event information.

### An Tir Twelfth Night Coronation and Bardic Championship

January 10, 3pm — January 12, 1pm  
Barony of Three Mountains

Event Steward(s): Selene Trioros (Selene\_Trioros@comcast.net)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$40. Youth 17 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Three Mountains. Credit and Debit cards will also be accepted via Zelle at Gate.

Site Address: DoubleTree by Hilton—Portland, 1000 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, OR 97232

Directions from I-5: Take Exit 302A to Weidler Street. Turn eastbound onto Weidler Street. Turn right (south) onto NE 9th Avenue. Hotel entrance will be on the left 1 half block south of Multnomah Street.

From I-84 Westbound: Take Exit 1 to Lloyd Center. Turn right onto NE 9th Avenue. Hotel entrance will be 1 block north on the right. *The Barony of Three Mountains is proud to host An Tir's Twelfth Night Coronation on the weekend of January 10-12, 2025. There will be much rejoicing and merriment as we celebrate the wintry changing of the monarchs of An Tir, the Kingdom Bardic Championship, Black Lion Masked Ball, Peer's Auction, Heraldic Consultation, a full merchant hall, several*

elevation vigils and many other activities for all to enjoy!

Detailed and current information including schedule, activities and merchant information can be found on the event website: <https://robinwright0.wixsite.com/antir12thnight2025>

## Mid-Winter's Feast

January 18, 9am — 10pm

Barony of Aquaterra

Event Steward(s): Donald Doublerose (ddansdill@gmail.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$30. Youth 12-17 \$10. Children 12 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Aquaterra.

Site Address: Irving Grange #377, 1011 Irvington Dr, Eugene, OR 97404

*This is a Dry site (No alcohol allowed, per event site). ADA compliant.*

*Smoking/ Vaping allowed in designated areas (Outside away from building per event site).*

*Come join us for our Baronial Arts & Sciences Championship, Courts, Classes, and a Potluck to close out the evening. Gold Key will be available.*

## Ursalmas

January 24, 3pm — January 26, 3pm

Barony of Aquaterra

Event Steward(s): Sabina di Zorzi (SabinadiZorzi@yahoo.com), Conchobhar Ciúin and Ileana Escocru

Event Fee: Adult non-members weekend \$45 / day \$35. Youth 13-17 weekend \$15 / day \$10. Children 12 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Aquaterra.

Site Address: Evergreen State Fairgrounds, 14405 - 179th Ave SE Monroe, WA 98272

*The Barony of Aquaterra invites you to Ursalmas, a demo event open to the public on the 25th and 26th of January, 2025! Prepare to be awestruck by many exhilarating prize tournaments, immerse yourself in various Arts and Sciences in Ursulwyck Medieval Village, and embark on a quest through the bustling Marketplace. Youth are invited to partake in our Youth Armored Combat program, where they will learn the noble arts of chivalry and experience the thrill of friendly competition. From the spirited competitions of armored warriors, agile fencers, skilled archers, and thrown weapons specialists to the enthusiastic perfor-*

*mances by entertainers and musicians, there is no shortage of adventure.*

*Notes for Ursulmas 2025: There will not be a sleeping hall due to increased event expenses. Please see the Kingdom Calendar for all event information and e-mail the Event Steward with any questions. Ursulmas.com and the Facebook event page are geared towards our modern guests.*

## Janeltis Natal Day

January 25, 9am — 11pm

Barony of Three Mountains

Event Steward(s): Hlutwige (hlutwige@gmail.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$35. Children 17 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Three Mountains.

Site Address: East Gate/Parkrose Lodge, 4812 NE 102nd, Portland OR

*A day of celebration in honour of the Dowager Princess Janeltis with food, fun and frivolity.*

*There will be a few competitions to occupy your mind as well as classes.*

*Inspired by Her love of embroidery, there will be a competition and display of "Heraldic Embroidery". This may be any heraldic representation in any style of embroidery. The only requirement for the competition is that the object be complete. For instance, if you choose to create a small bag with your personal arms depicted, the entire piece should be complete.*

*Embroideries for display can be "in progress".*

*More information and updates are also available on the Book of Faces; [https://www.facebook.com/events/996170729205894/?acontext=%7B%22event\\_action\\_history%22%3A%7B%22extra\\_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22edit\\_dialog%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra\\_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22permalink%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra\\_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22edit\\_dialog%22%7D%2C%22ref\\_notif\\_type%22%3Anull%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/996170729205894/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22edit_dialog%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22permalink%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22edit_dialog%22%7D%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D)*

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## February

### As You Like It | Disting Feast

February 1, 10am — 7pm

Canton of Akornebir

Event Steward(s): HL Mairghread of Wastekeep (Mkimber61@outlook.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$20. Youth 17 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Canton of Akornebir.

Site Address: Waitsburg Town Hall, 121 Main Street, Waitsburg, WA (corner of Main Street and Highway 124)

*Join the Canton of Akornebir as we revive our winter feast. There will be a tournament to determine Rapier as well as Arts & Sciences Defenders, a Tavern Brawl to determine the Master/Mistress of Skullduggery, and a served German Feast. Feast tickets are only available in advance - please see the Kingdom Calendar and/or Facebook event for those details.*

## Combined Candlemas

February 2, 9am — 9pm

Barony of Dragon's Laire and Blatha An Oir

Event Steward(s): Jessy "Jess" Gateman (jessy.gateman@gmail.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-member Day \$30, Feast Fee: \$10 (WILL SELL OUT), Youth Day & Feast: \$0. Members will receive a \$10 discount on the event fee. PayPal available for Pre-Registration, On-Site Credit/Debit Card available, Checks made payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Dragon's Laire.

Site Address: Key Peninsula Civic Center, 17010 South Vaughn Rd NW, Vaughn, WA. 98394

*Welcome, joyous revealers to the Combined Dragon's Laire/Blatha An Oir Candlemas! The planned activities so far include classes, games, a crow party where delights are exchanged, heavy fighting, family activities, court for both Baronies, and a delicious feast.*

## Lions Gate Baronial Banquet

February 8, 4pm — 11pm

Barony of Lion's Gate

Event Steward(s): Pak Nammo (nathalieandstephen2018@gmail.com)

Event Fee: Adult non-members \$30. Youth 17 and under are free. Members will receive a \$10 discount. Make checks payable to SCA, Inc., Barony of Lion's Gate.

Site Address: Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall 12460 Harris Rd, Pitt Meadows, BC

## 설날

*Seollal!*

*The Lunar New Year is upon the mountains of Lions Gate, and we are celebrating this ancient festival with a feast: the Jewels of the Palace!*

*Pak Nammo is your steward to this experience, and Courtier Briana Cassia heads the kitchen, to humbly bring you an unforgettable evening of company, conviviality, and delicious and exotic food! Come and enjoy their labours, and the company of your fellow citizens of Lions Gate, as well as attend the first full Court of their Excellencies, Malyss and Brynja!*

*The menu features inspired cuisine from the Silla and Joseung periods of the Korean middle ages, with fine sauces and spices to tempt every noble palate. There will be dances, games, and ways to honour those who have come before, as well as the myriad cultures that make up our glorious Barony! Keep your eyes open for many posts exploring this rich culture, and several classes all through January to learn how to make some of the dishes!*

**IKD**  
**continued from page 5**

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Photo by Ylva Annarsdottir



# An Tir Seneschals – Your Local Leaders

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Pendale, Shire (Sandpoint, Bonner &  
Boundary Co., ID)

Silverhart, Canton of Wealdsmere  
(Kootenai Co., ID)

DORMANT BRANCHES

Bearwood, Canton of Aquaterra (E  
Snohomish Co., WA) IN SUSPENSION

Cáe Mór, Shire (Kitimat and Terrace,  
BC) INACTIVE

Crickstow-On-Sea, Port (CFB Esqui-  
malt, BC) DORMANT

Druim Doineann, Shire (Port Angeles-  
Clallam & Jefferson Co., WA) DIS-  
SOLVED

Earnrokke, Shire (Whidbey Island,  
WA) DORMANT

False Isle, Shire (Powell River, BC) DIS-  
BANDED, see SHIRE OF HARTWOOD

Fjordland, Shire (Sunshine Coast, BC)  
IN SUSPENSION

Rath an Oir, stronghold of Blatha an Oir  
(Ft Lewis, WA) DORMANT

Saint Bunstable, College (University of  
Washington, WA) INACTIVE

St. Giles, College (University of Victo-  
ria, BC) DORMANT

Windwic, Shire (Klickitat Co., WA)  
DORMANT

Wittanhaven, College (The Evergreen  
State College, Olympia, WA)  
DORMANT

Midhaven, Shire (Skagit, San Juan & N  
Island Co., WA) DISSOLVED



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### Quarterly Board Meetings

The Board of Directors is considering the possibility of a return to live meetings in late 2023. Groups interested in hosting a meeting should contact the Executive Assistant (ea@sca.org) for information on meeting requirements and how to submit a bid.

### Meeting Schedule:

*Meetings will be held online until further notice.*  
Second Quarter 2023—April 23, 2023  
Third Quarter 2023—July 23, 2023  
Fourth Quarter 2023—October 22, 2023