



## Their Royal Majesties

## Their Royal Highnesses

## Yngvar inn Heppni III & Isabella Beatrice della Rosa

trm@northshield.org, (701)306-7629, no calls after 9pm.

(Melissa Wobig) trm@northshield.org, (507)292-0962, Phone calls only between 6pm & 9pm on weekdays please.

> Chamberlain/Chief of Staff Jehanette de Provins (Chamberlain37.northshield@gmail.com )

Gwenhwyvar verch Owen ap Morgan (gwenhwyvar.owen@gmail.com)



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> Chamberlain/Chief of Staff Scyid Del Aquilla (ChamberBats@gmail.com)

Sandrine Kleinschmidt (excellence.s.kleinschmidt@gmail.com)

## The Stallari Qouncil of Northshield



Kingdom Seneschal seneschal@northshield.org

Sorcha Bhuidhe (Sarah Oldenburg Garcia) (715)497-9767



Kingdom Polaris Herald herald@northshield.org Ysolt Pais de cuer (Laura Knappenberger) (414)761-9603 (Please call before 9:30pm)



**Kingdom Exchequer** exchequer@northshield.org Æsa Gilsdottir (Angie Gilmore) (608)825-6768



Kingdom Chronicler chronicler@northshield.org Arnbjørn Karlsson (B Wesley Adams II) (414)326-5197



Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences moas@northshield.org Farolfus filius Richardi (Sebastian Renfield)



Kingdom Earl Marshal kem@northshield.org Siegfried von Kulmbach (Chris Kalmbach) (608)301-5566



## Landed Barons and Baronesses



Barony of Clacr Anterth Mawr Abelard die Elster (Paul Knappenberger)

baron@caeranterth.org; (414)761-9603 (No calls after 10pm)

**Ysolt Pais de cuer** (Laura Knappenberger) baroness@caeranterth.org; (414)761-9603 (*No calls after 9:30pm*)



### Barony of Qastel Rouge

Gabriel De Lion (Michael DeLine) dj\_archangel@hotmail.com; (204)979-0550 (*No calls after 9pm*)

Nadrah al-Zahara (Amy Pickard) nadrahsca@gmail.com

## Barony of Jararvellir

Athelyna de Chestre (Ty Patterson) athelyna@jararvellir.org; (715)781-3833

Jois Corbet (Deena Patterson) baroness@jararvellir.org; (608)628-5059 (No calls before 9am or after 10pm, unless emergency)



Barony of Nordskogen Gabriel Kjotvason (Patrick Anderson)

baron@nordskogen.org; (952)412-4112

Caoilfhionn inghen Cheallaigh uí Mhórdha (Kellie Hultgren) baroness@nordskogen.org; (612)804-1159



Barony of CCIndhaven Hamish de Nisbet of the Clan Nisbet hamish2@hotmail.com; (920)284-7807

Markéta Barfussin (Melissa Heenan) mgaywont@gmail.com; (920)265-4023 (Please call between 9am & 10pm)

The Northwatch – December 2023

# Northshield Quent Qalendar

NOTICE: All events are subject to being canceled if, at the time the event is to be held, modern civil authorities have issued restrictive orders related to public gatherings pursuant to their COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

Although the SCA 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.

November 2023 (AS LVIII) 20 ......Deadline for January 2024 Northwatch (Supernatural) December 2023 (AS LVIII) 2.....Danze del Verro (Dance of the Boar), Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr (West Bend, WI) 堂 🖄 20 ......Deadline for February 2024 Northwatch (Early Attempts) January 2024 (AS LVIII) 13-14.....Twelfth Night & Nordskogen 50th Anniversary, Barony of Nordskogen (Ramsey, MN) 堂 🖄 **20** .....**A Midwinter's Day Feast,** Shire of Schattentor (Rapid City, SD) 20 ......Deadline for March 2024 *Northwatch* (Showing Pride) 27 ...... Wacky Garb Ball: Supernatural, Barony of Jararvellir (Stoughton, WI) 🖄 February 2024 (AS LVIII) 3.....The Most Excellent Winter Archery Extravaganza and Clinic, Shire of Korsväg (Portland, ND) 17 ...... Fighter's School, Barony of Windhaven (Fond du Lac, WI) 🖄 20 .....Deadline for April 2023 Northwatch (Fun Facts) March 2024 (AS LVIII) 2.....Hertzkrieg XXVII, College of Svatý Sebesta (Vermillion, SD) 🖄 🖄 9-17..... Gulf Wars, Kingdom of Gleann Abhann (Lumberton, MS) 🖄 🖄 15-17.....That Moot Thingy XXIV: The Compass Rose Always Points Home!, Canton of Coille Stoirmeil (Tomah, WI) 20 .....Deadline for May 2023 Northwatch (TBD) April 2024 (AS LVIII) 13 ......Northshield Spring Coronation, (TBD) 🖄 🖄 👑 🖄 20 .....Deadline for June 2024 Northwatch (TBD) 26-27.....Provost Challenge, Shire of Coldedernhale (Ft. Pierre, SD)

Listing your event on the calendar does not place an ad in the *Northwatch*. To submit your event advertisement for publication in the *Northwatch*, submit the required information to the Event Information Officer (calendar@northshield.org) before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the month of publication (i.e., May 15<sup>th</sup> for the July issue). To contact the Northshield Event Information Officer, send a message to calendar@ northshield.org.

#### QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings start at 10:00 am. Note: Attendees are asked to wear modern clothing to Board meetings. (Agenda deadlines are first of month of meeting.) \*\*Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the following locations; however, depending on "safer-in-place" regulations in effect, meetings may be handled by VoIP. January 2024 meeting: Virtual (Tentative). April 2024 meeting: Virtual (Tentative). July 2024 meeting: Virtual (Tentative).

## SQA Contacts

#### **Society Seneschal**

Lis Schraer (Elasait ingen Diarmata) (314)941-0831; seneschal@sca.org

Northshield Ombudsman Jennifer Krochmal (Duchess Kalisa Aleksandrovna) jkrochmal@director.sca.org

Society Registrar (Memberships/Insurance) Louise du Cray (800)789-7486 x202; louise@sca.org

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Friedrich von Augsburg (Windhaven) and Osric of Fayrehope

(Castel Rouge). Nameplate by Brynjolf Hrafnsson (Orlova

Dolina). Cover image is a baking platter with oatcakes

and cooking pot with barley pottage created by Farolfus

filius Richardi. Image on p. 2 by Hara Hana (formerly of

Svatý Šebesta). "Dear Abbess" image on p. 8 from Lucca

Codex of the 'Liber divinorum operum' courtesy of Biblioteca

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For more information about the Society for Creative Anachronism and the Kingdom of Northshield, please visit our websites:

Northshield: www.northshield.org

SCA: www.sca.org

This is the December 2023 issue of the *Northwatch*, the official newsletter of the Kingdom of Northshield. Northshield is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the *Northwatch* is published as a service to the SCA's membership. Subscriptions are available only to members. Memberships are available from the Member Services Office, SCA, Inc., P.O. Box 360789, Milpitas, CA 95036-0789. Online version of the newsletter can be found at enewsletter.sca.org. All changes of address or questions about subscriptions should be sent to the Corporate Office. Membership information and a subscription form are included in the *Northwatch* as possible.

**Advertising rates:** \$50 for 1/2 page, \$30 for 1/4 page, \$25 for 1/8 page. All advertising is on a pre-paid space-available basis. Checks should be payable to "SCA, Inc. – Kingdom of Northshield."

For details, contact the *Northwatch* Editor at northwatch@northshield.org or visit http:// northshield.org/Posts/Display.aspx?ID=2477.

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## Their Royal Dajesties

Holiday greetings do We, Isabella and Yngvar, send unto Our populace!

Winter winds blow across our lands and midwinter holidays are upon us. As we reflect on the close of one year and the beginning of a new one, we count our blessings at the talents and treasure of all of you. We serve the Griffin throne because you believe and we take the trust you have in us to heart. Both His Majesty and I wish you to know that we are open to the ideas and suggestions of Our people. If there is something you would like to see at an event, or a way We can make your experience better, please feel free to approach Us or Our Chamberlains with that request.

We also look forward to some wonderful feasts we are sure to have during the winter event season. Since this month's Northwatch theme is Cooking and Food, we hope that our cooks, brewers, and vintners shine brightly and share their culinary talents with everyone! One of my favorite things to do is to read period recipes and then attempt to discern what their directions mean. You are hard pressed to trust what a "goodly amount" is or how long "just so" might be. For those stepping into these gastric waters, please make sure to reach out to others, especially Our culinary Laurels. They have a wealth of knowledge, and We know them to be most willing to help translate these recipes into modern directions!

We also are so pleased to announce we have Heirs! We wish to welcome Prince Hans and Princess Genevieve to the Royal Family and are excited to continue our Royal duties with them. We also look forward to attending Boar's Head in Our Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr. I am specifically looking forward to the Dance Ball and encourage all who attend to try their hand at dancing!

Finally, We wish to highlight one of Our newest Champions. Congratulations to

Katja Borsukska in accepting Our request to be Our Equestrian Champion. Please be sure to seek her out and ask her what she would like to see in this role. It is Our hope that she helps others to find their passion in the equestrian world and we hope Our populace knows that those in the equestrian world are extremely friendly and willing to share their joy with others!

We wish a happy and safe holiday season to all, filled with good company, good food, and good stories.

Yours Ever in Service to the Dream and to the Kingdom of Northshield,

Isabella & Yngvar

## Their Royal Highnesses

No missive this month.





I would like to announce that our next Kingdom Seneschal will be THL Morgaine Scott Blood (Heather Wisner). I will be stepping down at April Coronation and Morgaine will step up.

Vivat!





#### Greetings!

I am looking for an emergency deputy. If you are interested in how the Kingdom Exchequer job works, please consider applying. While it can be the case that the Emergency Deputy then steps up as Kingdom Exchequer, this is not a requirement for the position. It is expected that the Emergency Deputy accept that possible responsibility on a temporary basis should I vacate the office suddenly. (I do not expect to vacate the office suddenly.)

For more information, please look up the job description on page 7 of this issue of the *Northwatch*. The Emergency Deputy doesn't have formal responsibilities and basically gets to read email and learn, with no deadlines or responsibility.

Otherwise, things are fairly quiet in the world of Exchequers. If you haven't already, please prepare 2024 budgets for your group and get those approved in December if possible.

In service,



Greetings unto the populace of Northshield from the Minister of Regalia,

As part of our upcoming celebration of Northshield's 20th anniversary as a Kingdom, I would like to share some of our regalia that is not often seen. The first item I would like to share with you is a special set of Griffin thrones that were commissioned during our time as a Principality (see photo). They were commissioned during the reign of Siegfried and Therica. Beyond that I'm unsure of the actual story behind these thrones. There is only a set of two for these thrones (i.e., no Heir thrones of this style).



If there are others in the Kingdom that know more of the history of these thrones, please let me know so that I can document it further. I hope you all enjoy looking into the history of our Kingdom's regalia and I look forward to sharing more with you in upcoming articles.

In Service,

## Geoffrey of Warwick



No missive this month.



#### Greetings!

This year we had an incredible number of class submissions for the Stellar University of Northshield. This gave us the opportunity to offer our first hybrid event with both in-person and virtual content and transformed what is usually a single day into almost a week. Let's keep that exuberance going year-round! Over the coming months, I am happy to assist folks in offering online class content and promoting it, and if you have something you would like to teach in person, you don't need to wait until SUN rolls around next November! Many of our events have opportunities to offer a couple of classes, and depending on the nature of your class there might be an event that would be an especially good fit. So do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if you want to share your knowledge and aren't sure where or how to do it.

#### Farolfus



Greetings unto the populace of Northshield,

This issue should come out mid-November, so, as a reminder, all local chroniclers, webministers, and social media officers need to submit their annual Domesday reports. These are due by Saturday, November 25th. The online forms can be found on the kingdom website at http://northshield.org/ Officers/Reports/Schedule.aspx?Officers . All chroniclers, webministers, and SMOs must report to maintain their warrants.

As part of our countdown to Northshield's 20th kingdom anniversary, I want to thank Master Geoffrey, Regalia Minister, for starting a series of articles on Northshield regalia. I encourage people to submit articles, photos, artwork, songs, and poems commemorating not only our twenty years as a kingdom, but also eight years as a territorial principality, almost three years as a crown principality, and decade and a half as a region.

We have a lot of open positions in the Chronicler's office. Please check out the Help Wanted section elsewhere in the *Northwatch*.

Lastly, my term as Kingdom Chronicler expires in six months, on June 1, 2024. I would like to receive letters of intent by March 1, 2024, to provide time for Stallari to review the applicants and provide training for my successor. If anyone has any interest in serving in this office, please let me know. I am always glad to talk about all that is involved in the office.

Ever in service to Crown, Kingdom, and you,

Arnbjørn



Cén scéal? What's the news?

What's cooking, friends? Our upcoming newsletter themes are as follows, but please submit art and articles on any topic for the edification of the kingdom.

- November 20 The Supernatural Help enliven the winter months with some stories to shiver the blood! The annual Wacky Garb Ball will feature some startling supernatural costumes this year, so share some inspiration.
- December 20 Early Attempts Share some of your first garb, A&S, fighting kit, or other projects from starting out in the SCA. What are some things you did/would do differently? What parts are you still proud of?
- January 20 Showing Pride Celebrate LGBTQIA+ Pride with stories and photos.
- February 20 Fun Facts Share a fun historical fact! It can be a fact about medieval/early life, OR a fact that medieval people would know that... may not be entirely accurate to our understanding of the world.

Please send all questions or submissions to northwatch@northshield.org.





No missive this month:



#### PEOPLE ON THE MOVE – DIRECTOR ELECT SEAT B

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of Megan O'Shea (THL Sumayya al Ghaziyya) as the Director-Elect for Seat B. She will assume the position from Director Ross Roegner at the close of the October 2023 quarterly meeting.

Megan O'Shea is a psychologist who works primarily with rural clients. Completing her doctorate in 2019, she has researched the negative impact of stereotypes on military populations. She's lived in various places along the East Coast (with a side quest in Ohio for her internship) before finding a great home with happy bats in the NW panhandle of West Virginia. When she's not at an SCA event, she can be found spending time with her husband Marcus and their dogs, doing random art, or buying Halloween decorations.

Sumayya al Ghaziyya is an Ottoman from 16th century Istanbul. Living on the coast she often spent time with Corsairs when they came to trade, though she also spends significant time helping family and friends. She has found joy in creating obscure arts and learning different techniques that people use to make themselves more aesthetically pleasing. Her motto is "for the joy of it is sacred" and she has taken this to heart in all of the activities she participates in.

As new Directors are seated each April and October, candidates for the Board are continually being solicited. SCA Inc or affiliate individuals may be nominated by SCA members and participants or can be selfnominated. No special experience is required, and candidates do not need to have specialized modern degrees. They also need not be peers – experience from every aspect of the Society is desired.

To make a nomination, (or to nominate yourself), please forward a Modern Name, SCA Name, and email address to recruiting@ sca.org

#### COMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD QUARTER 3 2023

The following is a summary of the good gentles of Northshield commended for their efforts to the SCA Inc. Board of Directors at the October 2023 Quarterly Meeting.

From the Kingdom Seneschal of Northshield:

• All the quiet workers that keep our kingdom running. There are many, who never share their name, never tell the world the good work they are doing, that care about keeping the SCA alive

#### Publications:

• *Compleat Anachronist* (Art Director Elashava bas Riva)

#### Compleat Anachronist

 Elashava bas Riva will apply her usual layout and design magic to produce the best-looking booklet possible

#### Chronicler:

• To kingdom chroniclers for upping the number submitting on time

#### Exchequer

 Continued thanks to all local and Kingdom Exchequers for their neverending service – this includes gate staff

#### Arts and Sciences

 Kingdom and local Arts and Sciences officers for their good work in bringing in person Arts and Sciences activities to an active level

- Kingdom of Atlantia University staff including Signora Beatrice Domenici della Campana
- THL Hlif Askasmidr and THL Aine ingen MaelPatraic who represented Northshield well at the Pennsic A&S Competitio
- Duchess Petranella (the event steward), SUN chancellor
- THL Thomas of Rivenwood Tower, Baron Bazyli Bolesław z Krakowa, and other Nordskogen people involved in the emergency relocation of the annual University event

Communications

- Myah Tree who served as a phenomenal Video Deputy throughout the pandemic, bringing skill and creativity to a challenging role, enjoy your rest
- All the amazing content creators across the Known World who continue to communicate the opportunities and benefits inherent in our community

To our volunteers around the Known World we say – THANK YOU.

#### APPLICATIONS OPEN – SOCIETY SENESCHAL/VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is seeking candidates for the position of Society Seneschal/Vice President for Operations.

The Society Seneschal is considered both a Society and Corporate officer, and is responsible for coordinating the administration of the Society's historical re-creation. This involves directing the activities of the Kingdom Seneschals and of Society-level deputies. Where questions arise concerning the intent of Corpora, the Board specifically authorizes the Society Seneschal to make interpretations and clarifications. The Society Seneschal is also responsible for reviewing all sanction related activities.

This is a part-time stipend position requiring a minimum of 25 hours per week, often more.

Applicants must possess strong communication skills and be capable of interacting with unique SCA personalities without regard to rank or position in the organization. The ability to process and distill large amounts of information from multiple sources is required. Organizational and problem-solving skills are essential. Having held a Kingdom Seneschal position, while not required, is preferred. Applicants must be capable of maintaining a home office space, have access to internet, PC/ tablet, printer, and possess word processing skills. Proficiency with Microsoft Office and Adobe Pro is a plus. Ready access to postal service for the mailing of trackable documents is required.

Required skills or background:

- Prior experience in positions of leadership within the SCA or in leading volunteer organizations
- Excellent working knowledge of current SCA corporate documents and handbooks
- Ability to research issues surrounding kingdom and Society rules and policies
- Understanding of how the SCA's sanction and investigative procedures work; direct experience with these procedures is preferred
- Ability to maintain confidentiality of investigations and other confidential material
- Ability to manage multiple projects and oversee volunteers on both Society and Kingdom levels
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- The ability and willingness to communicate via email, phone, and videoconferencing on a regular basis
- Ability to explain policies, delegate projects, and build consensus

The Society Seneschal is responsible for the following duties:

- Oversee directly and indirectly the planning and implementation of all "game side" activities.
- Dealwithlargeamountsofcorrespondence with many individuals, including but not limited to all kingdom seneschals, royalty,

officers, especially the President, VP for Corporate Operations, and Executive Assistant to the Board of Directors.

- Meet via videoconference and/or phone with kingdom seneschals, Directors, and other corporate and Society officers several times a month.
- Provide training and advice to kingdom seneschals on a regular basis.
- Present sanction packets to the Board and provide oversight of investigations related to possible sanctions.
- Interpret Corpora and other SCA policies as needed; revise policies and create new policies as needed to facilitate SCA activities.
- Evaluate and create documentation as needed to facilitate a positive experience for SCA participants.
- Quarterly review of all Kingdom Seneschal reports, respond to reports, and refer Kingdom Seneschal requests or questions to the appropriate Society or Corporate officer for assistance as needed.
- Submit detailed quarterly reports to the President and Board, and supplemental reports as needed.
- Attend all quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors, mid-quarter conference call meetings, and other meetings as required.
- Other duties and projects may be assigned by the Board or President.

The Society Seneschal must be available for the four quarterly Board meetings, typically held over a Friday and Saturday or a Saturday and Sunday. These meetings may be held via videoconference or in person. In-person meetings require travel, typically on a Thursday and Sunday. In addition, the Society Seneschal must be available for conference call meetings of the Board four to twelve times a year, typically on weekday evenings, and meetings or calls with officers or directors on an as-needed basis. Additional travel besides the quarterly meetings may be required, typically around SCA events.

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, together with modern and SCA qualifications, via email, to resumes@sca.org.

Applications are being accepted through January 15, 2024.



Silver Spoon, part of a Utensil Set Attributed to Antonio Gentili, Italy, late 16th c. CE. Courtesy of the Met Museum (NY)

*The Northwatch – December 2023* 



## HAUSTBLOT

Here follows the Court Report of His Majesty Yngvar from Haustblot held on September 23, 2023, in the Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr. Herald of Record: Tatiana Marana Melville; Signet: Tatiana Marana Melville; Seneschal of Record: Arnbjorn Karlsson.

RECIPIENT	HONOR	SCRIBES		
Balthazar fitz Gryphon	Award of the Cygnus	Geirráðr hersir Kolbeinsson		
Rhys ap Ismael Llygad Ryfedd	Award of the Pantheon of Northshield	Margaret Malise de Kyrkyntolaghe		
Arthur Angus	Ordo Circini Vitruvii	Hermina Matilda de Ainesleah of Meredene & Jarla Heri		
<u>Arnbjørn Karlsson</u>	Award of the Bravura	Abelard die Elster & Ysolt Pais de cuer		
		🔆 🔅		
FALL CROWN TOURNAMENT				

A Report from the Court of Northshield held the 14th Day of October, Anno Societatis 58, in the Shire of Border Downs, at the Crown Tournament of Isabella and Yngvar.

Herald of Record: Katerinka Lvovicha; Heralds: Síthmaith Eccnaidh, Abelard die Elster, Derbáil ingen Néill, Decimus Marius Tacticus Ajax; Signet: Sofonisba Vespasiana Gabrielli, Seneschal: Sorcha Bhuidhe, Síthmaith Eccnaidh.

RECIPIENT	HONOR	SCRIBES	
Hans Volsch	Prince	No scroll	
Genevieve MacArtne	Princess	No scroll	
Torren Asketill	Griffin & Sword	Theodweard l'Archier	
Talaitha Nyfferyn	Griffin & Sword	Judith of Northwode, Paige of Northwode	
Fergus the Lost	Griffin & Sword	ord Tancorix inigena Bivaidonas & Síthmaith Eccnaidh	
Scyd del Aquilla	Aquilla et Fulman	quilla et Fulman Decimus Marius Tacitus Ajax	
<u>Gazenda de la Rocha</u>	Black Bolt	Kaydian Bladebreaker	
Thorfinn the Hunter	Black Griffin	Geirráðr hersir Kolbeinsson	
Dauid the Restful	Hand of Tyr	Hellen of Haldane	
Muirenn Bhallach	Hand of Tyr	Eystein Meinfritr	
Mary of Carrigart	Crwth	Farolfus filius Richardi	

## DRAFT EMERGENCY DEPUTY EXCHEQUER JOB DESCRIPTION REV 9-23

The Emergency Deputy Exchequer is a Deputy to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is responsible for learning the duties of the Kingdom Exchequer, and has the ability and willingness to take over the position in case of an emergency which would prevent the Chancellor of the Exchequer from performing in this capacity.

Please refer to the Kingdom Exchequer job description for a detailed description of those duties. The Emergency Deputy Exchequer may take on Exchequer-related duties and tasks as assigned by the Kingdom Exchequer. Time Commitments: Workload will vary but expect to put in an average of 2 hours a week. Meeting-travel is not required for this position.

This is a warranted position which requires Stallari consultation and approval of the Crown. Warranted officers must be paid members of SCA, Inc.

Required for this position are:

- Dependable email access.
- Dependable phone access.

- Dependable internet access capable of supporting Zoom or similar meeting software.
- Moderate proficiency with Microsoft Excel and similar spreadsheet applications.
- Moderate proficiency with Microsoft Word and similar word processing applications.
- Ability to clearly communicate verbally and in writing, i.e., in person and via email, phone, and in written reports.

# HELP WANTED

See the Kingdom website at http://northshield.org/Posts/Display.aspx?ID=5722 or email the contact below for complete descriptions of the following positions; see email addresses on page 2.

- Kingdom Chronicler: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Anticipated changeover is Jan. 2024.
- Kingdom Arts & Sciences Event Deputy: Job description here: http://www.northshield.org/Officers/Display.aspx?ID=111151 Inquiries & applications should go to the KMOAS at moas@northshield by November 15.
- Lakes Regional Deputy Seneschal: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Open until filled.
- Woodlands A&S Regional Deputy: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Minister of Arts and Sciences. Open until filled.
- Stellar University of Northshield (SUN) Chancellor: Job description at http://northshield.org/Resources/PDF/JobDesc/ KingdomSUNChancellorjobdesc.pdf. Inquiries & applications should go to the KMOAS at moas@northshield. Open until filled.
- Kingdom Youth Officer: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Seneschal. Open until filled.
- Regalia Minister: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Exchequer. The anticipated changeover is ASAP.
- Emergency Deputy Kingdom Chronicler: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- Emergency Deputy Kingdom Exchequer: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Exchequer. Open until filled.
- Kingdom Archivist/Historian: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- Media Relations Deputy: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- **Deputy** *Northwatch* Editor: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- Western Regional Deputy, Central Regional Deputy, and Eastern Regional Deputy SMOs: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- TikTok Deputy SMO: Inquiries & applications should be sent to the Kingdom Chronicler. Open until filled.
- See Kingdom Directory for other current vacancies.

#### Dear Abbess:

My neighbor has recently returned from a journey to Vienna and is obsessed with a strange new beverage that he encountered there. He tells me it involves roasting beans, crushing them, and steeping them in boiling water, then drinking this concoction. He brought back a small quantity of these magic beans and has been guarding them most zealously, as he claims they come from the Ottoman Sultan's lands. He extolls the virtues of the drink and says it makes him more industrious, quickening both the mind and digestion. He has even gone so far as to have a local potter craft him tankards bearing witticisms about this beverage and his love for it. I would love to experience these benefits for myself and have tried roasting many types of dried beans, crushing them, and steeping them, but it



always turns out like dreadful-tasting pottage. What am I doing wrong?

—Beanless in Bremen

#### Dear Beanless,

Your neighbor has encountered the drink called "coffee," and although he describes them as beans, my understanding is that they are the seeds of a fruit cultivated in the northeastern part of Africa. Indeed, there are few other substances that can produce the sense of alertness that this beverage can induce, and I suspect that in centuries to come, most of Europe will find itself in thrall to this socalled bean. Your homemade pottages fail due to your lack of the correct raw material, not any fault in the preparation--there are many methods of doing so, and I also predict that future centuries will witness the debate over exactly how to prepare coffee. As with religion, everyone will claim that there is only one true way to make it, and eschew all other methods as worthless adulteration, unnecessary spice, and so on. In the meantime, you may be able to obtain small quantities of the coffee bean through foreign trade, and if you are able to acquire some, I suggest introducing small quantities of the same spice blend you might use in a pie, such as cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and cloves.

-Abbess

To learn more about the rise of coffee culture, pick up Coffee and Coffeehouses: The Origins of a Social Beverage in the Medieval Near East by Ralph Hattox at your local library.

Do you have Medieval Problems? Ask Dear Abbess by writing to Northwatch@northshield.org, putting "Dear Abbess" in the subject.

## A History of the Beginnings of Northshield, Part 1

#### Note

By Caradoc Llew Du ap Morgan<sup>1</sup> <ross\_qd@hotmail.com>

There is a detailed history of Northshield on the Kingdom website under "About," at http://northshield.org/Posts/Display. aspx?ID=7. It includes a link to archives of the principality's Kingdom Exploratory Group.

Dates will be given here as Anno Societatis (AS), with the modern year after in parentheses.

#### Northshield as a region

Once upon a distant time, the Baronies of Castel Rouge,<sup>2</sup> the Great Bear, and Jararvellir were the only recognized groups in the Middle Kingdom to the north and west of Illinois. The Great Bear ceased to exist, later replaced by the Shire of Nordskogen, but other groups were making strong beginnings, like the Shire of Caer Anterth.

As early as A.S. XI (1976), there was a vision that the groups in this fringe area of the Middle Kingdom would benefit from closer cooperation. At that time, the first steps were the creation of newsletters,<sup>3</sup> beginning in Jararvellir as the *Nordrljos* and the *Pibroch*, which soon merged into the *Nordrljos-Pibroch*, which later became the *Northwatch*. Other groups contributed their own news and calendars, widening the coverage. Over time, newsletters, especially the *Northwatch*, became a primary tool for building a regional identity. On Duke Merowald's popular maps of the Knowne World it was labeled "Great Northern Marches," and the area just south was the "Great Western Steppes."

Amid these discussions, the Shire of Nordskogen hosted a Midrealm Crown Tournament on May 28, AS XII (1977). During the royal court that evening, Geoffri of Wareine and others presented a petition to recognize their part of the Kingdom as the region of Calontir.<sup>4</sup> Apparently, this was a thing that could be done. Later that year, a meeting of our proto-region's seneschals met to discuss newsletter finances and names for the region.

Over time we watched the progress of Calontir, and especially their "cycles of support and indifference from the Midrealm Curia and Crowns."<sup>5</sup> Obviously, there were limits to the pressure that could be applied on our side, and the reactions were not always predictable. We had the same ongoing concerns as they, particularly about recognition the farther one lived from Tree-Girt-Sea.

### Name that region

In AS XIII to XIV (1978) the *Nordrljos-Pibroch* published a "Name the Region" contest. As described in the Northshield website's history:

Finalists in the first run-off are March of the Midnight Fire, (Great) Northern Marches, Saxum Antiquum, and Northshield. Because of close voting, a second run-off is held between (Great) Northern Marches and Northshield.

"Northshield" was announced the winner at a regional officer's meeting in November AS XIV (1978). Elasaid nic Phearsoinn

was named regional chronicler, our first officer. Rory O'Tomrair, Midrealm Seneschal, reminded us that "region" was not an official status, but a convenient administrative term, and a possible prelude to advancement. He warned that Northshield's advancement would require viable groups in places such as Fargo, Duluth, Sioux Falls, and other places in Minnesota and the Dakotas. For many years, this was held as the official word from the Midrealm.

Over the next years, more regional officers were appointed, as individual Kingdom officers chose to appoint them, for the region as a separate entity. In AS XIV (1979) they were Charles of the Red Oaks as regional herald, Master Thorbjorn the Greysides as regional marshal, and Caradoc Llew Du ap Morgan as regional seneschal. That same year, Caer Anterth Mawr became a Barony in September and Nordskogen in October.

#### The region expands

In the winter of AS XIV (1980), the shire of Myrgan Wood in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, decided to join the Middle Kingdom and Northshield.<sup>6</sup>

Of course, not everyone liked the idea of a region. For those on the eastern edge, it seemed like pulling away from the Kingdom they had joined. The example of Calontir was always there, and many in the rest of the Kingdom seemed to expect us to follow that. As a general thing, most of the people appointed as Northshield regional officers seemed to embrace the idea of regions, but we were always aware of the range of preferences among our people. Nevertheless, in AS XV (1980), as a regional project, Northshield hosted the Midrealm Crown Tourney at the DeKoven Foundation near Caer Anterth Mawr.

### The principality question, again

By popular demand, the Corporate-level requirements for a principality were published in the *Northwatch* in AS XVI (late 1981) and another list in December AS XVII (1982).

Also in December, the regional officers held a meeting at the Boar's Head event. There were petitions both for and against applying for principality status. The officers discussed the article on requirements for advancement in that month's *Northwatch*. It was determined that the paperwork would require at least a year, and that the next meeting should be about principality laws.

## The falcon flies

On February 18, AS XVIII (1984), Calontir held its first Crown Tournament. Its struggles on the path to that day would seem to affect the judgment of Midrealm officers for some time.

### Fun with numbers

In November AS XX (1985), the *Northwatch* announced that Northshield made up 55% of the Midrealm's land area, 15% of its modern population, and 18% of its SCA membership. Many prominent and apparently intelligent folks in the rest of the Kingdom expressed disquiet that the Middle could cease to be the largest Kingdom. In North America, maybe, but the unhappiness is puzzling.

### Regions are banned

In April of AS XX (1986), King Alen and Queen Isabella introduced a kingdom law that forbade the use of regional names and titles. Somehow, any emphasis on regions was seen to use up resources (?) or energy (?) better spent purely on our beloved Kingdom itself. To keep going, the *Northwatch* now became a specialty arts and sciences newsletter, with no mention of "region" or "Northshield." Aside from provoking an angry reaction, The Ban quickly became a target of derision, mocking alternative descriptions that officials had to use, like "geographic construct for administrative purposes only." It would soon occur to the Curia members that they also needed to reallocate their deputy kingdom officers, so that no entire geographic construct would have the same boundaries as any former region. As a final touch, the Kingdom (not Corporate) requirements to form a principality were greatly increased.

This probably hit Ealdormere harder than Northshield, since they had progressed much further and had more widespread popular support. It was apparent, too, that the two regions most affected were the only ones with Canadian territory.<sup>7</sup>

Over time, of course, people kept chiseling away. The land mass formerly known as Northshield was frequently referred to as the "Northwestern Territories." Eventually, too, other parts of the Middle<sup>8</sup> came to organize local-area entities. By the time we had a Northshield Peers Retreat, for example, similar gatherings were already happening elsewhere. After all, any group of peers (or anyone else) can simply choose to gather for their common interests, and the anti-region crackdown made that all the more obvious.

Northshield continued to have deputy kingdom officers whose jurisdictions covered parts of the former region after the ban was lifted and the name could be used.

The ban remained official until Pennsic 17 in AS XXIII (1988), where King Corwyn and Queen Shana of the Middle made Ealdormere a Crown Principality. During that period, the Crown Principality was ruled by the successive Princes and Princesses of the Middle.

### Post-ban events

In May of AS XXII (1987), Myrgan Wood returned to shire status, and in January of AS XXIII (1989), it was transferred to the Kingdom of An Tir.

In July of AS XXIV (1989), the Midrealm chose to celebrate its 20th year in southern Wisconsin, where it began. The event had to close early, due to the storms (and nearby tornadoes) that hit the Bong Recreational Area.

Northshield Bardic Madness made its first appearance on March 9, AS XXV (1991), hosted by Lord Owen Alun.

### The region is back, and so is principality talk

Northshield was again referred to as a region in the January AS XXIV (1990) issue of the *Northwatch*, with the various regional officers listed. In the May AS XXV (1990) issue, an essay on the pros and cons of becoming a principality appeared, along

with an unofficial poll with open-ended questions to determine support. In July, the Deputy Kingdom Seneschal's office was reassigned to again cover all of Northshield. In August, the *Northwatch* reprinted the unofficial poll and questionnaire. In September, the initial returns from Caer Anterth Mawr and Castel Rouge showed negative responses on principality.

It was proposed that Northshielders favoring advancement should wear burgundy to the Midrealm Crown Tourney held on October 27, AS XXV (1990), in Nordskogen. Afterwards, the regional deputy seneschal sent a mailed informal poll to each local seneschal in an attempt to gauge levels of favorable, unfavorable, and neutral response.<sup>9</sup>

In January AS XXVI (1992), Ivan Kalinin was named the new deputy kingdom seneschal for the Wisconsin part of Northshield.

#### Momentum is building

The poll results, printed in the February AS XXV (1991) issue of the *Northwatch*, showed that of the 26 groups polled, 15 were strongly or moderately in favor of pursuing principality status, 3 were strongly or moderately opposed, 1 was undecided, and 7 didn't respond. This was taken as sufficient approval to start a principality push.

In May AS XXVII (1992), Nordskogen hosted the Midrealm Crown Tournament, in which Finn and Garlanda were the victors. A principality interest meeting was held afterwards, with some groups supporting principality and some not. However, in September, there was a meeting of seneschals of the region after a demo in Wadena, Minnesota, where several shires expressed interest in principality. The decision was made to issue, again, an unofficial straw poll to determine popular support. The Regional and Kingdom Seneschals authorized this straw poll on the spot. The position of the Barony of Castel Rouge attending was to support the region's movement toward greater cooperation and cohesion, while refraining from interest in principality status itself.

There were informational meetings in several groups, while the straw poll was disseminated to the local groups. The straw poll was tabulated at an event in Silfren Mere on March 6, AS XXVII (1993). In court, King Finn announced the positive vote and his intention to create the Crown Principality of Northshield at the upcoming Northshield Forum event in Border Downs.

In April of AS XXVII (1993) Lady Kathleen Cordelia ni Mhaille was named kingdom deputy seneschal for Northshield except Wisconsin.

## Northshield as a Crown Principality

On April 17, AS XXVII (1993), at the Northshield Forum event in Border Downs, King Finn and Queen Garlanda created the Crown Principality of Northshield. The rulers of the Crown Principality would be the successive Midrealm monarchs, so Their Majesties were the first of the line. A committee, called the Stallari (meaning "counselors") was created to oversee the eventual transition to full Principality.

### The Stallari, version I: Crown Principality

As of AS XXVIII (May 1993), the Stallari of the Crown

Principality of Northshield were Kathleen Cordelia ni Mhaille as Chair, Ivan Kalinen, Geoffrey of Warwick, Alys van Schaak, Kurgen Khan, and Josceline Levesque. Later, they were joined by Berwyn Æthelbryght of Ackley, Caradoc Llew Du ap Morgan, and Rathlin Trilam'han. The Stallari formed subcommittees for Laws, Fundraising, Regalia, Communications, Coronet Tourney Rules, and Heraldry.

Speaking of heraldry, the September AS XXVIII (1993) issue of the *Northwatch* printed the first of a number of solicitations and polls for the principality name and device. In March of AS XXVIII (1994) the name "Northshield" was endorsed by popular vote as the name of the principality, and in May AS XXIX (1994) the populace had selected and endorsed the arms.

From this point on, the members of the Stallari traveled widely throughout Northshield, paying special attention to the less populous parts of the new Principality, where there might have been less opportunity for information to make its preinternet way quickly. They recorded concerns and suggestions, answered questions as they could, researched and reported the answers. When pressed for predictions, they made answers they individually thought sensible, even if different from each other.

These sessions helped shape the various polls that came out later, such as the very detailed ones about the laws. This procedure continued to be done all the way to the proposed Kingdom laws, much later. For example, here is a poll question from the era of getting ready to go Kingdom, since I didn't have texts from the Principality days:

a) The Baronage serves at the pleasure and will of the Crown, to be appointed and removed at the whim of the Crown, without set terms.

b) Baronies will provide their own term limits and succession traditions, as long as they acceptable to the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal.

c) The kingdom seneschallate shall govern terms and oversee the succession of Baronies, the term limit being set at 3 years, with the possibility of the sitting baronage running for further terms.

d) The kingdom seneschallate shall govern terms and oversee the succession of Baronies, the term limit being set at 4 years, with the possibility of the sitting baronage running for further terms.

e) The kingdom seneschallate shall govern terms and oversee the succession of Baronies, the term limit being set at 5 years, with the possibility of the sitting baronage running for further terms.

f) The kingdom seneschallate shall govern terms and oversee the succession of Baronies, the term limit being set at 6 years, after which the sitting baronage may not run for further terms.

Responses:

1			
Null	0	Α	8
В	195	С	57
D	28	Ε	67
F	9		

(MK = then-current Midrealm law. Remember, in real SCA life, no "law" can contradict a higher authority.)

#### Sadness and loss at the brink

Well on the road to full Principality status, we lost two of our beloved members of the Chivalry, exemplars of service to Northshield and to the Society. In July of AS XXVIII (1993), Sir Angus Ulrich, tireless teacher and friend to all, passed away. Then in October of AS XXX (1995) Master Thorbjorn the Greysides, longtime Northshield officer and generous soul, and recently elevated to the Order of the Pelican at the first WW, also passed away.

#### Transitions

The Baronies of Jararvellir and Nordskogen combined their two largest traditional summer events into Warriors and Warlords Day (WW) in July XXIX (1994). This event has been a success from the start, becoming the Principality's largest event.

#### Territorial Principality

From June to December of AS XXIX (1994), the Middle Kingdom conducted an official poll on Principality status, and then re-conducted it because of mail delays and address confusions. The Midrealm Seneschal found the response rate sufficient and the result positive.

In September, the SCA Board of Directors and the Midrealm Curia decided to include the Barony of Castel Rouge in the Territorial Principality of Northshield. In November, a referendum in the Shire of Mare Amethystinum in Ontario resulted in a petition to transfer from the Principality of Ealdormere to join Northshield. Then in December, the Canton of Mistig Waetru in the Michigan Upper Peninsula petitioned to leave the Barony of Andelcrag (Western MI) and join Northshield as a shire.

Lord Adrien de Troyes assembled Northshield's bid for advancement to Territorial Principality status, and on February 8, AS XXIX (1995), Lady Kathleen Cordelia ni Mhaille submitted it to the Midrealm Curia.

In August AS XXX (1995), the Midrealm approved Northshield's advancement to territorial principality status

On October 21, AS XXX (1995), the SCA Board of Directors approved the Northshield petition for advancement, at its meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.

### Next: Northshield as a Territorial Principality

#### Endnotes:

1. Also known as Ross Quinn-Davis. While I have tried to verify dates and information, the memory of a septuagenarian is not infallible. Please forgive any errors.

2. The SCA Board of Directors had encouraged the folk of Castel Rouge to organize as the Earldom of the North, an entity separate from the current Kingdoms. Given the difficulty and expense of separate incorporation, they eventually opted to become a Barony of the Midrealm.

3. Those of younger years must recall that the major means of communication in this era were written, printed (see the term "apazine"), and spoken. As a Duke who was there at the time once told me, the

How shall Northshield provide for the succession of Baronage? (MK—allows all but (a), with (e) as the limit)



Service at Table, WW, August LVIII Photo by Grainne Dhonn

A History... Endnotes, continued:

SCA was originally structured to support Kingdoms of perhaps 100 members.

4. The petition apparently asked simply that the "Great Western Steppes" be "renamed" to Calontir, making a fictional name to a real one. They told Rory O'Tomrair, the Midrealm Kingdom Seneschal, that they were just starting an unofficial region. This may explain the skepticism that greeted Northshield and Ealdormere's self-descriptions.

5. As described in Master Andrixos's history at https://www.calontir.org/history-of-calontir/

6. As I understood it then, when the Middle first became the third SCA kingdom it included Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Montana, all then without SCA populations.

7. A fuller account can be found at https://wiki.ealdormere.ca/ doku.php?id=history:ban\_on\_regions

8. The parts once referred to by a Midrealm King, sitting on his throne in his Barony of Castel Rouge, as "the main Kingdom", referring to loyalty. It's on my list of Things Not to Say to Parts of Your Kingdom You Want to Keep.

9. From personal experience as a previous regional seneschal, not all groups had regular meetings, and some seneschals were personally opposed, to the point of not asking or not replying.



Lord of Life Church 14501 Nowthen Blvd NW Ramsey, MN 55303 USA

Site open Friday 6-8:30 for set up. Site opens Saturday 7am for set up, 9am for populace. Site closes 10pm (hard deadline).

Fees:				
Adult (18+) \$20	Youth 17 and under free			
Adult Member \$15	Lunch tickets \$5			

Make checks payable to: SCA Inc-Barony of Nordskogen. Preregistration available, incl. Paypal. Watch event site for updates.

**Planned Activities:** Armored Combat, Rapier Combat, Youth Boffer Combat. Populace/presence space available. Merchant space available. Site is accessible.

Bone-dry site. We will be holding a jumble sale. Dancing, games, A&S Display, & Nordskogen History Display planned.

Event Stewards Alex Olfson (Aleksander Valahul) alexolfson@gmail.com Trevor Gersch (Aelfwine)

http://northshield.org/Events/EventAd.aspx?ID=4672

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Vilku Urvas, Shire (Grand Rapids) Branne O Conchobair (Melissa Ihus) melissa.plonis@gmail.com northshield.org/vilkuurvas/

NORTH DAKOTA

Dreibrucken, Shire (Bismark) Uznik Okunnigr (Matthew Kennedy) (701)516-7222 www.dreibrucken.org

To report a change of officer or contact info (address, phone, etc.), please contact your kingdom superior - the Change of Officer form on the website is only for new, incoming officers. **New seneschals** must also send the appropriate paperwork to the Kingdom Seneschal to be listed. Korsväg, Shire (Fargo) Sandrine Kleinschmidt

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

Border Downs, Shire (Sioux Falls) Eadmund Sweordhwíta (Sandon Sharpe) (605)360-9921

**Coldedernhale, Shire** (*Pierre*) Síthmaith Eccnaidh (Kimberly Drennon) (931)422-8061 *texts only during business hours*, kimberly.c.drennon@gmail.com https://pierresca.org/

Schattentor, Shire (Pennington Cty) Heledd of Mathrafal (Barbara J Dunfee) (605)787-2338, starwefter@aim.com www.schattentor.org

Svatý Šebesta, College (Vermillion) Elis Godbeare (Anne Hinseth) (605)624-3792 No calls after 10 pm; mistressofdoom@gmail.com

Trewint, Shire (Huron-Roberts-Clark-Grant-Brookings area) Julio Galva'n (James Kruse) (605)680-3848, james.kruse@venturecomm.net

Terracotta woman baking bread Cypriot, c. 600-480 BCE. Courtesy of the Mat Museum, NY.

#### WISCONSIN

Caer Anterth Mawr, Barony (Milwaukee metro area) Magnus Vargsson (Rob Alsten) justmagnus@hotmail.com caeranterth.org

Coille Stoirmeil, Canton (Monroe and Juneau counties) Daniel the Dangerously Devoted (Daniel Topp) (608)387-3289, dan@toppstorm.me www.coillestoirmeilonline.org

Darkstone, Shire (Ashland and Bayfield counties) Christian Blood (Chris Wisner) (715)209-2159 www.shireofdarkstone.org

Falcon's Keep, Shire (Marathon, Portage and Wood counties) Ralik Ravenwolf (Douglas Hizer) (715)697-9268 www.falconskeep.org/

Jararvellir, Barony (Madison) Evelein Jantz aneira612@gmail.com www.jararvellir.org

Rokeclif, Shire (LaCrosse and Trempealeau Cty) Merdyne Thorburn (Laura Springer) (608)385-1177 www.rokeclif.org

Windhaven, Barony (NE Wisconsin) Iohannes Glenfidanus (Jonathan Foster) housesevenfountains@gmail.com www.baronyofwindhaven.org



The Northwatch – December 2023

## Parallax by Duchess Kaylah the Cheerful

