



The North Wind

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How to Get Ahead at Odin's Playground
Photo by Thérèse de Merc

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Meet the Candidates - J&R



Within the SCA, I am active as a heavy fighter and Sargeant of Lions Gate. I am head of the mercenary household Haus von Werner and am a Yeoman applicant to the Baroness of Lions Gate. I have a great passion for the history of arms and armour. In my spare time, I build armour and experiment with leather and metal. I hold monthly armouring and fighting workshops at my home in Delta.

In service to the Barony, I regularly attend demos at schools and other local public venues, and take my role as Sargeant very seriously. I believe it is important as a Sargeant to assist the Baron/ess in maintaining "the show" for the rest of the populace, whether in the pomp and circumstance of court or in boldly encouraging Lions Gate on the field of battle. While it has been a great joy to fight and play with my peers in the eric and on the war field, I would be deeply honoured to lead Lions Gate forward as Baron.

Jayson Werner of Haus von Werner

Sargeant, Lions Gate AS 42

Award of Arms AS 43

Order of the Lions Claw AS 42

Baroness' Combat Inspiration AS 41

Since Joining the SCA in 2003, I have served as Demo Coordinator of Lions Gate, took over the running of the Middle Eastern dance practice that used to run at the Masonic Hall during the monthly Bransles 2006-2007, and achieved Yeoman at SYGC AS41.

While I have not been actively playing since joining at a broader Kingdom-wide level, the SCA is always near and dear to my heart. I have always felt that maintaining the joy and enthusiasm at a local level to be of the utmost importance to the continuation of the SCA, as this is where we draw in those new and curious about the SCA. My lord husband and I hold monthly, sometimes weekly armouring and fighting workshops at our home for those of our household and beyond.

I have recently spent some time away from the SCA due to personal challenges. During this time I encouraged my husband and children to attend as many events as possible. At this time, I greatly look forward to completing my new suit of armour and returning to the war field for my Barony. I have the greatest level of respect for the Barony and I would consider it a great honour and responsibility to be chosen to sit as a representative of the people of Lions Gate.

Rahil Al'Zarqa Humaa of Haus von Werner

Yeoman, Lions Gate AS 41

Award of Arms AS 41

Baroness' Archery Inspiration AS 41

Lions Claw AS 42

Lions Gate Demo Coordinator AS 40-41



Meet the Candidates - U&C



We are **Uilliam mac Fearchair mhic Gille Aindrias** (WILL-yum mak FAR-kar vik gill-eh AHN-drahs) and **Caitrina inghean Aindriasa**, (ka-TREE-na in-yen ahn-DRAH-sha), known also as Uilliam and Caitrina MacAndrew, and we are seeking the honour of serving as your Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate.

We have been active in the Barony, the Principality, and the Kingdom, since we joined the SCA. Uilliam joined in 1988, and took on his first office (Baronial Gamesmaster) in 1990. Caitrina joined in 2004, and became deputy Baronial herald weeks later at her second event. Since taking that first office, we've continuously held one position or another. We have both served as the Barony's Sable Loat Pursuivant, as well as the Baronial Seneschal, two offices involved in very different aspects of an SCA branch.

Our love for our fair Barony is surpassed only by the love we have for each other, which is why we could have imagined no better place to be legally wed than the Lions Gate SYGC trials in August of 2006, one of our favourite events. The overwhelming feeling of family and camaraderie we find in the barony reflects that of our own families, and we receive great joy and enthusiasm from the diverse folk of Lions Gate.

We believe that, as Baron and Baroness, one of our main goals would be that of recruiting and keeping new members. However, it is equally as important as finding ways to inspire past members to come back to the Barony. The mightiest trees of any forest need growth to stay in the sun but also need strong roots to survive.

Recently we've been asked why we want to be Baron and Baroness. We can honestly say that throughout our time in the Society, we've never taken an office because we "wanted" the position.* We both feel that, if there is an office or job that needs to be done – and we think that we can do it – we have a duty to try. Should Your Royal Majesties choose us to be the next Baron and Baroness of Lions Gate, we would be honoured to take up this mantle of office, and do our best to serve You and the Barony and People of Lions Gate; supporting, leading, inspiring, and growing our magnificent community.

In hopeful and humble service to the Barony, the Principality, the Kingdom, and the Dream of the Society,



Uilliam and Caitrina



(*NOTE: However, it is true that Uilliam once wrote a ... demanding letter, "stongly suggesting" that the office of Baronial Gamesmaster be returned to him and the clutches of the Clan MacAndrew Games Consortium. It didn't work... right away.)



Editor's Letter



Big changes are in store for Lions Gate, and big changes are in store for me, personally. Lions Gate will shortly get a new Baron and Baroness to lead us over the next three or so years, and after three years as your Chronicler I am stepping down to focus more on the family I'm starting inside me.

In some ways, being Chronicler has been a joy, and in some ways it's been a struggle. I've always preferred working on the North Wind to taking the monthly Council minutes, but it's been a struggle each issue to rustle up enough content to make a worthy edition.

Still, somehow it always seems to pull together in the end, and I've generally been proud of the issues I've produced over the years. This issue should either be my last, or my penultimate, because I originally took over from James Wolfden and did the last issue of the year of that year. There needs to be one more issue for 2013, but I don't know if I'm going to be the one to edit it.

As this issue is also the transitional issue between baronial couples, I decided not to include a note from our baron. I feel that both our baron and baroness spoke about their experiences last issue, and that it would be nice to have just the candidates statements in this issue. Next issue – whether by my hand or no – will start with an address from our new baron.

While I hope I won't have to stay on as Chronicler much past the end of my current term, as of this writing I don't think we've had anyone express interest in it. As I said, it can be challenging but I've also found it rewarding to showcase our Barony's (and friends) accomplishments in each issue of the North Wind, and to be able to disseminate some of the discussions and decisions from Council every month to the populace. Even if Chronicler doesn't strike you as really your thing, we have many fine officer positions vacant, or about to become vacant, in our barony including:

- Baronial Bard (Vacant)
- Baronial Archer (Vacant)
- Baronial Rapier (Blades) (Term ending Feb2014)
- Chronicler (Term ending Nov2013)
- Dance (Vacant)
- Deputy Exchequer (Term ending Nov2013)
- Family Activities Coordinator (Vacant)
- Games (Term ending Dec2013)
- Gold Key (Vacant)
- Librarian (Term ending Nov2013)

If interested, the contact information for each officer is on the baronial webpage at: <http://lionsgate.tirrih.org/officers.html> Please contact them to learn what each office entails.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your Chronicler. I hope I leave this office in as good or better a state and reputation as I found it.

In Service,











- Wymarcha Hektanah Doiron, AOA, Lions Claw

About the North Wind: This is the Oct. 2013 issue of The North Wind, a publication of the **Barony of Lions Gate**, of the **Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.** (SCA, Inc.) The North Wind is available from the Chronicler, Marissa Fischer (Lady Wymarcha Hektanah Doiron), chronicler@lionsgate.antir.sca.org and is also available from the Barony's website <http://lionsgate.antir.sca.org/public/>.






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Lions Gate Calendar of Events

November 2013

Date		Branch	Event
Fri - Sun	1-3		Tir Righ Coronet Tournament
Sat	30		Baroness' Memorial Tournament
Wed	27		Baronial Council
Mon	25		Archery Practice
Thu	14, 28		
Thu	7, 14, 21, 28		Cut and Thrust Practice
Tue	5, 12, 19, 26		Heavy Practice
Thu	7, 14, 21, 28		
Mon	11		Dance Practice
Tue	5, 12, 19, 26		Rapier Practice
Thu	7, 14, 21, 28		
Sat	9		Equestrian Practice
Sun	24		
Fri	1		Newcomer's Information Session

December 2013

Date		Branch	Event
No	meeting		Baronial Council
Mon	23		Archery Practice
Thu	12, 26		
Tue	3, 10, 17, 24, 31		Cut and Thrust Practice
Tue	2, 9, 16, 23, 30		Heavy Practice
Thu	4, 11, 18, 25		
Mon	9		Dance Practice
Tue	2, 9, 16, 23, 30		Rapier Practice
Thu	4, 11, 18, 25		
Sat	7		Equestrian Practice
Sun	15		North Wind Content Submission Deadline Issue #354

Upcoming Events

Imaginarium Fantasticus - 2-day demo opportunity this November!

Greetings my Ladies and Lords,

There will be a 2-day demo opportunity during the 3rd annual Imaginarium Fantasticus!

Saturday Nov. 16th & Sunday Nov. 17th, 2013

Noon - 20:00 (Saturday there will be a small party at a nearby restaurant)

Location: International Village Mall (Tinsel Town) in Vancouver's Chinatown

Saturday - Fighting demo (we have 40+ min on stage. It would be great to have a mock Court before hand)

- A&S displays and demos (bards and anyone interested are welcome to preform on stage)

Sunday - A&S displays and demos

There are some opportunities to get paid as a wandering bard or crier. Additionally, merchants are welcome to sell their goods.

For more information or to get involved, please contact: Eithne Rose at sharpbellsca@gmail.com

Event Website: <http://imaginariumfantasticus.com>



Baroness' Inspiration Tournament & Baronial Change-Over

Event Steward: Duke Ulfr Blodfotur Fallgrson – chris.grant@hall.net

Nov. 30, 2013 - 08:00 - 23:30

Maritime Labour Centre
1880 Triumph St.
Vancouver, BC

Join Their Royal Majesties Ieuan and Gwyneth, Their Highness' Tir Righ Ulfgar and Juahara and Their Excellencies Lions Gate James and Margaret to celebrate the Baroness' Inspirational Tourney in Lions Gate on November 30, 2013.

In addition to the traditional unbelted Heavy Combat tourney and the Gerhard's Riposte rapier tourney there will be an additional rapier tourney. We will also have games being played and taught all day as well as additional youth activities throughout the day. There will also be A & S classes scheduled during the day so come and join us and take part in the festivities. We have merchants coming to share their wares as well so set aside some time for shopping.

In the evening we will have a tavern in the hall and food options will be available for dinner. There will be music and dancing late into the evening so come join us all for a wonderful day and evening of celebration.

Ask Our Alchemist



Photo by: Ylas Anasdoter

Dear Dr. Carus,

Hauling heavy loads is such a drag, and my arms ache from the strain. I swear they're getting longer, inch by inch. How can I ease my tired muscles, and still move a sizable load? Is there some new contraption that could help?

Beast O'Burden

My Lord Beast,

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

Indeed, there are several ways one can do such work smarter, not harder.

In the days of Adam — or at least, of our hunting & gathering ancestors — it was not often necessary to transport more at a time than what one could carry alone, or with a friend or two, from a berry-bush or a kill to the tribe's camp (when an area's resources began to run out, the tribe itself would move). Large pieces could be carried in the hands, or over one or both shoulders, or by straps to same, or balanced on the head or from a band across the top of the head (the tumpline, good for hundreds of pounds), or on a pole between two people (see also litters & palanquins), or dragged on a sledge or travois (the front ends of whose runners have been lifted off the ground); a mass of small items could be loaded into a basket or bag woven of reed, cane, vine, split wood, grass or other fibre that could then be carried in the same way; ditto for liquids after pouring into skins or clay pots. The domestication of animals meant less to move, since the animals could move themselves from field to field to slaughter, as well as carry packs that were tied onto them, or dragged behind. But with settled agriculture, more had to be hauled at a time from harvest to storage; with urbanization, from farms & mines & forests to cities and back again (ex. manure); and with massed warfare, in following armies on manoeuvre from one engagement to the next. Though cities were often situated near natural watercourses for easy boat and barge transport (one more reason that the Nile, the Indus and the Huang He were the “cradles” of their respective civilizations) — canals even were built for the purpose by the Chinese in the 5th C BC, the Greeks (with locks) from 3rd C BC, the Romans in the 2nd C BC and again in Europe from the 8th C under Charlemagne — much overland moving still had to be done.

Enter the wheel — and the axle and cart to mount it on, and the smoothed road to run it on — near-simultaneously in Europe and the Middle East (it seemed to have got around), about 3500 BC. It reached China in the second millennium BC, by which time solid wood disks had given way to lighter spoked versions, especially in war-chariots (eventually to be superseded by mounted cavalry); the Celts developed the iron rim a thousand years later. Sizes ranged from one-person handcarts and wheelbarrows (the latter known to the ancient Greeks and Romans, but then lost to Europe until the 13th C), to large wagons drawn by teams of animals. Oxen were originally used for the heaviest loads, since their high backs allowed wooden frames (“yokes”) to be easily set at their shoulders, while horses tended to be choked by most harness arrangements under the same conditions. This greatly changed with the appearance of the rigid and padded horse collar in 5th C China, and 9th C Europe: a horse could now pull up to three times what it did before, 50% faster than an ox and for more hours of the day. Such improvement was even more important for ploughing than carting, particularly of the heavier soils of northern Europe, and led to massive expansion of arable land through clearing of forests and draining of swamps (particularly by the Benedictines, Monks of the Wild Frontier), and accompanying industrial and social revolution.

Ask Our Alchemist

In summary, over long distances, one large domestic animal (with its associated feed and other costs) can pack about 100 kg, pull about 500 kg on wheels over soft ground (far more on Roman roads of flat stones on deep-packed aggregate, or on tar-paved roads of 8th C Baghdad, or on wooden rail “waggonways” connecting British mines to rivers from about 1600), and 30,000 kg on water from a towpath. Steam-engine trains on iron rails largely took over in the early 19th C, then internal-combustion cars and trucks on macadam & asphalt in the 20th.

The wheel never really got rolling in the New World, mainly due to the lack of suitable draft animals, except (with llamas) in terrain whose trails were too steep for carts.

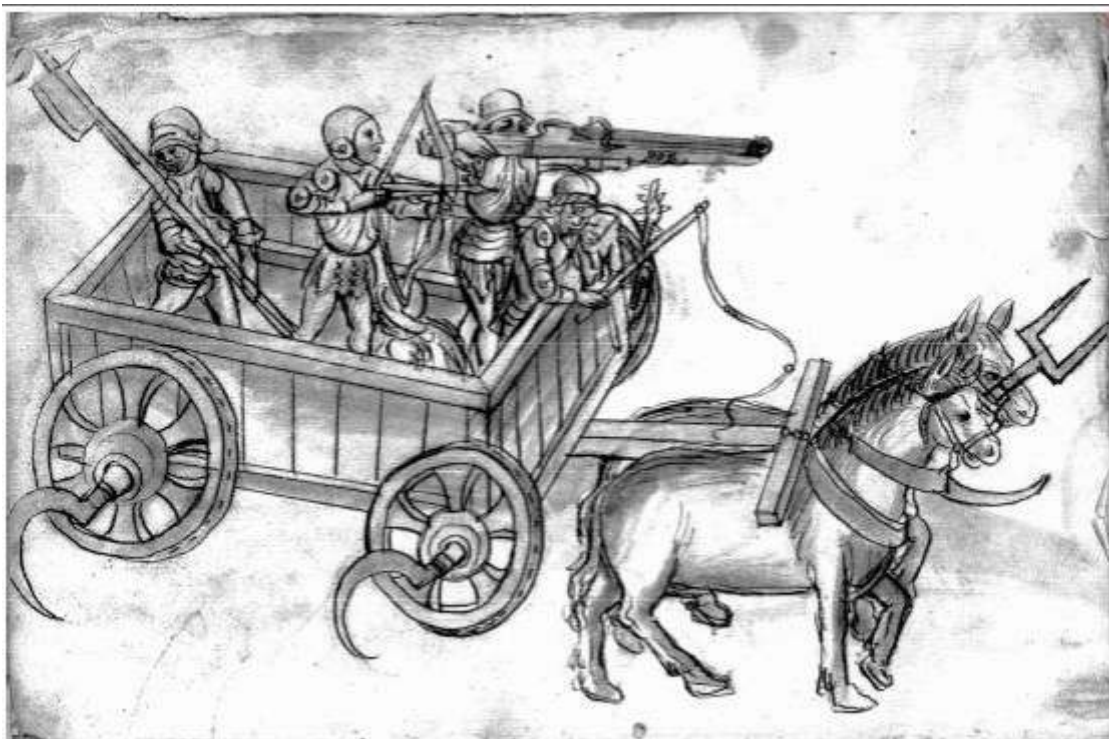
For Further Reading:

Diamond, J. *Guns, Germs & Steel*, 1999.

de Camp, L.S. *The Ancient Engineers*, 1963.

Gies, F.&J. *Cathedral, Forge and Waterwheel*, 1994.

Dr. Carus (<http://medieval.GrahamJDarling.com/>) answers your questions on Medieval Science & Technology in every issue of the North Wind: email them to him at gjdATgrahamjdarlingDOTcom, or to the Chronicler.



Yes, the Middle Ages had tanks! From Johannes Formschneider *Feuerwerks- und Büchsenmeisterbuch / Fireworks and Armourer-guide-book*, 1451, p 183. Note the horse-collar, iron-studded wheels, and representative weapons. Other versions had hinged panels, pierced with loop holes, that could be swung up to form high walls or roofs. A train of such wagons could be quickly circled (with diagonal parking to protect the horses) and chained to make a mobile fortress (“wagenburg”), from which cavalry could make sorties. Such warwagons were used with great success by the Hussites of Bohemia (modern Czech Republic) in their rebellion of 1419-1434: one of these would typically be crewed by 4-8 crossbowmen, 2 handgunners, 6-8 infantry with pikes or flails, 2 shield carriers and 2 drivers.

Odin's Playground



Above & Bottom: Shot put the Viking way. Middle: Archery. All photos by: Thérèse de Merc.



Scroll of the Month

As the evening's revelry draws to a close and the hall grows quiet, the wisest among Our court do speak of the great principality of Tir Aigh. In hushed voices, the names and deeds of our bravest and best are noted, and the people do wonder who shall spring forth to bear the torch as new leaders.

Deuan, gracious Prince and Gwyneth, radiant Princess would be so bold

as to recognise

as one such youth

on this day of

AS

. We enter

name with Our firm hand and seal into the great book

asa Silver

Spark of Tir Aigh.



Silver Spark #2 - Designed by Elke, Calligraphed by HL Alienor sans Argent, Painted by Sionann InUi Fhlaithbheartaig

Crown & Council



Their Royal Majesties of An Tir - Ieuan Gower II & Gwyneth Gower II
(king@antir.sca.org, queen@antir.sca.org).



Their Highnesses of Tir Righ - Christian Bane & Heléne d'Anjou
(prince@tirrigh.org, princess@tirrigh.org).



Baron & Baroness of Lions Gate - Their Excellencies James Wolfden and Margaret Hamilton
(baron@lionsgate.tirrigh.org, baroness@lionsgate.tirrigh.org).

Baronial Council

Seneschale - Caitrina inghean Aindriasa, seneschal@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Contingency Deputy - Brigitte die Arrogante
Watch - VACANT|

Chancellor of the Exchequer - Asny Ravnsdottir, exchequer@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Deputy Exchequer - Ylas Anasdoter, deputyexchequer@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Chamberlain - Johanna, chamberlain@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Sable Loat Pursuivant (Herald) - Garet Doiron, herald@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Minister of Stables - Griffin, stables@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Archery - Jaqueline Lefleur, archery@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Master of Blades (Rapier, and Cut & Thrust) - Mitaias, blades@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Lists - Caitrin ni Cingeadh, lists@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Chronicler - Wymarcha Hektanah Doiron, chronicler@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Librarian - Ylas, librarian@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences - Aelana Cordovera, artsandsciences@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Contingency Deputy - Dr. Carus

Bardic Arts - Azure Mary Macgregor, bardicarts@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Dance - Rhiannon ap Gwynedd of Clan McBeighn, dance@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Games - Uilliam MacAndrew, games@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Chatelaine - Tamsyn le Rous, chatelaine@lionsgate.tirrigh.org

Baronial Scribe - Marie de Cheriseye la foret, scribe@lionsgate.tirrigh.org
Deputy - Miles FitzHubert

Baronial Webminister - Solveig
Deputy (Webspinner) - Dreng